

DEPUTY REPUBLICAN WHIP

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY & COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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April 22, 2021

Chairman Peter A. DeFazio
Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Sam Graves
Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

I am requesting funding for Riverside Boulevard Reconstruction and Widening (Phase II and III) in the surface transportation reauthorization legislation.

The project sponsor for this project is the Winnebago County Highway Department, and is cosponsored by City of Loves Park, City of Rockford, and State of Illinois. The project is located in Loves Park and Rockford, Illinois, 61111 and 61114.

The funding is designated to widen Riverside Boulevard to six lanes from Material Avenue to Sage Drive, including a connector road along the north side of Riverside west of Sage Drive. The modernization would include updating the geometrics of signalized intersections as well as turn lanes.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and would complement current work on Alpine Road north of Riverside Boulevard being done by the City of Loves Park. Proposed improvements will relieve congestion in the area, improve public safety, promote economic development, and enhance the region's transportation system on this important corridor that provides direct access to 1-90. The 40 plus year old pavement structure for Riverside Boulevard has lived its useful life and it is in need of major reconstruction and rehabilitation. This project will enhance traffic flow and the movement of goods, regional commerce, while providing reasonable and safe access to the local businesses. This project is consistent with the local, regional, and state economic development plans, as evidenced with the recent growth along the Riverside corridor especially around the 1-90 interchange. The Riverside Modernization will address the need for pedestrian facilities. In coordination with the cities of Loves Park and Rockford, by providing sidewalks, ADA ramps, pedestrian traffic signal crossings and crosswalks, the area will allow for significant pedestrian accessibility which is currently lacking. A multi-use path on one side of Riverside will be studied as an alternative to a sidewalk and in accordance to the region's bicycle and pedestrian path plan. Sections of the roadway that do not currently have streetlights will also gain new streetlights in conjunction with the project.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and your continued leadership of the Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Adam Kinzinger
Member of Congress