April 29, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chair  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-307 The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for 61605 Sidewalk Upgrades in fiscal year 2023.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Peoria, located at 419 Fulton Street, Peoria, IL 61602.

The funding would be used to add sidewalks along residential and commercial streets in the 61605-zip code. Currently the project is in the planning stage to determine the placement and implementation of the sidewalks. The City of Peoria plans to spend $150,000 in 2023 towards sidewalks in the 61605-zip code. This project requires additional federal funding to ensure that the network of sidewalks is a comprehensive and cohesive addition to the transportation network of the Southside of Peoria.

The Economic Investment Group lists the 61605-zip code as one of the most distressed zip codes in the nation with contributing factors such as high poverty, a high unemployment rate and high vacancies. The city continues to make substantial investments in the area to improve infrastructure, but more is needed to improve the lives of the residents in 61605. Investing taxpayer dollars in sidewalks supports walkability, increases vibrancy and accessibility, and builds community connectivity. This kind of investment is particularly important to communities like the Southside of Peoria where many residents rely on a combination of walking and public transit.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Cheri Bustos  
Member of Congress