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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

GREGORY W. MEEKS
5TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

RANKING MEMBER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FINANCIAL SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CAPITAL MARKETS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND
MONETARY POLICY

May 23, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC, 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC, 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Bayswater Pedestrian Improvements Project in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the New York City Department of Transportation located at Beach Channel Drive (Intersections of Beach 35th Street, Seagirt Boulevard and Rockaway Freeway), 11691.

The funding would be used for improvements to create safer pedestrian and bicycle crossings, while improving connectivity to community facilities and public spaces. This intersection was first identified for improvements in the 2018 TIGER-funded Access to Opportunity report that highlighted potential transportation projects in the Rockaways. While the intersection is bound by a public park and residential neighborhoods including a senior housing complex, its design is very dangerous and circuitous pedestrian crossings. The improvements would create safer pedestrian and bicycle crossings, while improving connectivity to community facilities and public spaces.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the project will fully reconstruct the intersection of Beach Channel Drive, Seagirt Boulevard, and Beach 35th Street. Simplify travel movements and provide shorter, safer, accessible pedestrian crossings through the intersection. Curb/sidewalk reconstruction, pedestrian crossings, signal timing changes, bus stop improvements. Includes the complex intersection of Beach Channel Drive, Beach 35th Street, Rockaway Freeway, Edgemere Avenue, Seagirt Boulevard, and Far Rockaway Boulevard. The reconstruction will realign and normalize roadway and slip lanes to create shorter crossings and additional pedestrian space.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gregory W. Meeks". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial 'G' and a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress