

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 22, 2023

Chairwoman Granger
Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

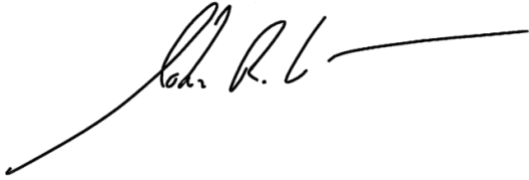
Ranking Member DeLauro
Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Historic Downtown and Sage Block Improvements, Vernal City, Uintah County in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Vernal City, located at 374 East Main Street Vernal, UT 84078. The funding would be used for improving public infrastructure in the historic Vernal downtown with much needed enhancements to pedestrian safety, mobility, drainage, public transit access, transit station, bike lanes, streetscape and lighting. This project is located in a traditional downtown, supports local small businesses and provides an economic boost to an economically distressed area. The project follows the Downtown Vernal Plan developed in 2021 with robust community support. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the Sage Block Improvements are a key element in support of the revitalization and accessibility of historic downtown Vernal. The project will help revive a struggling rural economy, strengthen small local businesses and diversify the economy. The public infrastructure project will dramatically improve pedestrian and traffic safety, mobility, public transit access, transit station, drainage, crosswalks, bike lanes and business district streetscapes. Downtown Vernal is seeing an uptick in potential development projects, including much needed mixed-use housing developments. Sage Block is adjacent to Main Street (US Highway 40) and Vernal Avenue (State Route 191).

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2). I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Curtis", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

John R. Curtis
Member of Congress