

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0403

March 31, 2023

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

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

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am respectfully requesting funding for the City of Eureka Springs' Black Bass Dam Rehabilitation in the fiscal year 2024.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Eureka Springs. The city's address is 44 Main Street Eureka Springs, Arkansas, 72632.

The Black Bass Dam at Black Bass Lake City Park is in severe need of rehabilitation. Over the last ten years, the dam has deteriorated radically. Most of the surface material of the dam has eroded and is laying at the bottom of the dam, exposing the core of the dam. The erosion of the core material and earth makes the dam prone to flooding. This project would allow the city to restore and repair the dam by building stone retaining walls in a stairstep structure, which would diverge water flow into an expanded spillway in the event of flooding. If the dam were to fail and flooding occurred, the rush of water would destroy a pump station that provides all the water for the western part of Eureka Springs.

The rehabilitation of the dam will greatly improve the vitality of the residents of City of Eureka Springs and surrounding areas as well as the 1.4 million tourists that visit Eureka Springs annually. This project is a priority because it would ensure that the major water supply system for the city's residents and businesses is protected, medical and fire services for regional residents and tourists remain operable and inevitable infrastructure damage that would cost taxpayers dearly, is avoided. Additionally, by addressing this need, it would ensure that the community is prepared for the rapid economic growth the city and region is experiencing.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1).

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

STEPHEN A. WOMACK
THIRD DISTRICT, ARKANSAS

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Sincerely,



Steve Womack

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