

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1503

March 31, 2023

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

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

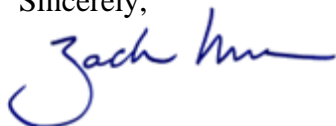
Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting that the Appropriations Committee provide a funding level of \$4,800,000 for Appanoose County, IA Rail Spur Project. The entity to receive funding for this project is Appanoose County Community Railroad (community-owned), located at 101 E Van Buren St, Centerville, IA 52544. This project would build a 6-mile rail line to enable 100-car trains to pull in and load / unload. This capacity does not currently exist and would enable the construction of further economic development projects in the region, including two major economic development projects in Appanoose County that themselves have a value of ~\$2.5 billion combined and represent a significant economic investment in the region. Appanoose County, Iowa, and its county peer, Centerville, are one of Iowa's rural, at-risk counties. The Appanoose County, IA Rail Spur Project would provide the necessary infrastructure to support existing and additional agricultural facilities, bringing much-needed prosperity to the entire Southern Iowa region. As a public-private partnership, the federal investment in the rail project would be repaid quickly by the taxes on the products that would be sold from the plant. This project will cut transport costs significantly for all farmers in our region. This project is a good use of taxpayer funds as it would support public-private partnerships squarely focused on improving US food security (with soybean meal) and creating a renewable domestic fuel supply (soybean oil). With far over 200 million bushels of soybeans left over after all uses this last year (USDA data), the raw materials exist; all that is lacking is the right federal investment.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 22907 of title 49 of the United States Code.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Zach Nunn
Member of Congress