

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4007

May 23, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
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 Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Crooked Creek Channel Improvements Project in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the South Carolina Office of Resilience, located at 632 Rosewood Drive, Columbia, SC 29201. This funding will be used to remove 2-3 feet of silt and sediment that has filled in the bottom of Crooked Creek in Marlboro County and re-establish the original bottom of the creek. This project will also remove debris and overgrowth along the banks (approximately 13 acres) that restrict the flow of the creek. Both activities will allow the creek to flow the maximum amount possible, which should have a positive impact on the flash flooding storm events. Without drainage improvements, the lack of recreational amenities, residential development, infrastructure improvements, and conservation efforts will hinder the Town of Bennettsville's overall well-being and economic growth.

This is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding as the project will significantly impact Bennettsville's economic landscape. This will benefit infrastructure resilience, increase property values and residential development, allow for tourism to flourish, and protect small businesses that are susceptible to flooding during heavy rain events.

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

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

Sincerely,



Russell Fry
Member of Congress