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COMMITTEE ON ENERGY
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Congress of the United States
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March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the I-73 Right-of-Way Acquisition for the Horry County Corridor Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Horry County Government, located at 1301 Second Avenue, Conway, South Carolina 29526. The funding would be used to complete the right-of-way acquisition for the I-73 corridor in Horry County, South Carolina.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because I-73 is a federally designated interstate highway corridor that will connect the Myrtle Beach metropolitan area — the largest population center in South Carolina without direct interstate access — to the national highway system. The corridor runs through the interior of Horry County and is essential to addressing the region's severe transportation infrastructure gap. Horry County has experienced 53.5% population growth since 2010 and is projected to reach 500,000 residents by 2030. The Myrtle Beach area has been designated the fastest-growing metropolitan area in the United States for three consecutive years. This explosive growth has outpaced the region's highway infrastructure, creating dangerous congestion on US-501, US-17, and other arterial roads that serve as the primary routes into and out of the coastal area. I-73 will serve three critical functions: (1) provide a direct interstate connection for freight, commerce, and daily commuters; (2) dramatically improve hurricane evacuation capacity for the more than 400,000 county residents and millions of annual tourists who currently depend on a limited road network to evacuate; and (3) support continued economic development by connecting the region to national supply chains and reduce travel times to inland markets.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 23 U.S.C. 133.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, nor does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Russell Fry
Member of Congress