2725 JUDGE FRAN JAMIESON WAY BUILDING C MELBOURNE, FL 32940 (321) 632-1776

## **Congress of the United States** House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

May 22, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole Chairman Committee on Appropriations H-307, the Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations 1036 Longworth HOB Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Cocoa Multi-Modal Passenger Station Project in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Cocoa, located at 65 Stone Street, Cocoa, Florida 32922.

The funding will be used to support the design and construction of a future Multi-Modal Passenger Rail Station in the City of Cocoa. The vision for this project captures the multimodal transportation needs of a growing community that is integral to the rapidly expanding public and private space industry, the cruise port, and expanding technology companies.

The project is an appropriate use of Federal funds because it contributes to efficient and accessible public transportation and helps achieve reduced congestion on public roads and highways and decreasing the air quality impacts associated with such congestion. The community and state rely heavily on the tourism generated by people visiting the area. A station would greatly enhance access to the area and make the location more attractive as a destination. Florida's population is projected to grow by 4.8 million by 2040. In addition to the growing population, Florida's economy is fueled by corporate relocations and tourism, with the Space Coast receiving over 2.5 million visitors annually.

The project has a federal nexus because it is an eligible capital project under the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements program. The funding provided is for the purposes as defined in Section 22907 of Title 49, USC.

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

Sincerely,

Mike Horidopalas

Mike Haridopolos Member of Congress