

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

March 19, 2026

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 House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Fellsmere Water Control District Historical Agricultural Drainage and Conveyance Restoration Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Fellsmere Water Control District, located at 109 N. Willow Street, Fellsmere, FL 32948.

The funding will be used to reduce flooding risk to farms, roads, and family-owned businesses in the rural community of Fellsmere, Florida, by increasing the water conveyance capacity of the watershed canal system which discharges into a federally designated estuary of national significance, and where there is already significant federal investment.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it is a watershed solution with multiple benefits to a rural flooding problem. It aligns with the USDA NRCS Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations Program (PL-566), by increasing water conveyance capacity thereby reducing the flood risk of productive farmland, improving resilience for a rural community and ultimately enhancing water quality in an ecologically significant watershed.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by the Soil Conservation and Allotment Domestic Act of 1935, 16 U.S. Code sections 590a-590d and 590f-g.

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

Respectfully,



Mike Haridopolos  
Member of Congress