

Congress of the United States
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0904
May 10, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

On behalf of the Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA), I am requesting \$5 million for the Philips Highway Corridor Complete Street Project through the Highway Infrastructure Projects account in the Fiscal Year 2025 Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill. With this funding, the JTA would leverage the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) resurfacing project along SR 5 (US 1/Phillips Highway) from SR 152 (Baymeadows Road) to SR 109 (University Boulevard) to utilize the requested federal funds to implement complete streets improvements, including sidewalk gaps, bicycle connectivity, American with Disabilities Act augmentations, and other infrastructure enhancements that improve safety.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because this project would allow a much needed and already scheduled taxpayer-funded highway project to begin sooner and reach completion earlier. In 2021, the City of Jacksonville City Council approved the extension of a 30-year Local Option Gas Tax program (LOGT) to fund local infrastructure projects, and the Philips Highway Corridor Complete Street Project is included on the list of projects to receive funding through this 30-year pay go. However, the project is not scheduled until later year. The JTA would use the requested funding to cover the local match and help move this project forward sooner.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding requested is for purposes authorized by 23 USC 133(b) for highway infrastructure. I certify that I have no financial interest in this project and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



John H. Rutherford
Member of Congress