



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0916**

May 1, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting \$3 million in funding for the Manatee County Government. This funding is for construction of at least two lanes of a future four-lane roadway extension of 51st Street West from 53rd Avenue West to El Conquistador Pkwy that will include at a minimum two general purpose lanes, street lighting, and bicycle/pedestrian facilities to tie together key corridors to enhance economic development and revitalization goals for the Southwest District of Manatee County. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will help provide multimodal connectivity to employment centers, educational facilities, tourism destinations, sports venues, and beaches. The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Subsection 1 of 23 USC 133(b).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Vern Buchanan".

Vern Buchanan  
Member of Congress