

PETE SESSIONS  
17TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY,  
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND  
MONETARY POLICY

TASK FORCE ON FINANCIAL TECHNOLOGY

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT  
AND REFORM

SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
CIVIL RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-4317

2204 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4317  
(202) 225-6105

400 AUSTIN AVE., STE 302  
WACO, TX 76701-2139  
(254) 633-4500

2700 EARL RUDDER FWY  
SOUTH HIGHWAY 6, STE 4500  
COLLEGE STATION, TX 77845-2804  
(979) 431-6340

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-307, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I respectfully request funding for City of Waco STEM Center at Bledsoe-Miller Community Center in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive this funding is the City of Waco, Texas, located at 300 Austin Avenue, Waco, TX 76702.

This funding would be used to retrofit the existing Bledsoe-Miller Recreational Center on the Brazos River to house a new STEM Center. This STEM Center would increase access to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics focused field-based learning experiences. In addition to the K-12 after-school programming linked to STEM careers, the new STEM Center will support Title I school activities to include as field trips, encouraging citizen science projects, and integrated maker activities. This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the funding will be used to facilitate the rehabilitation and reuse of an existing public building for the purpose of enriching the City's ability to provide high-quality science, technology, engineering, and mathematics related activities. This will not only enrich public education opportunities, it will also enable the city to train and meet growing regional demand for a highly skilled technical workforce. The need for the STEM Center was identified as the result of an assessment and public outreach process that the City conducted in 2021. My community project funding request for this project is \$5,000,000.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2), the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pete Sessions", written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

Pete Sessions  
Member of Congress