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

RANKING MEMBER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4317

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May 17, 2022

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0005

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0005

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

1. Please provide a funding level of $1,000,000 for the **Lake Waco Embankment Study** as a community project funding request in fiscal year 2023. The entity intended to receive funding is the City of Waco, 300 Austin Avenue, Waco, Texas 76702. This project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because the results of this Lake Waco Embankment Study would help forestall any extensive property damage or personal injury for both the city and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as well as preventing a detour or loss of a major regional throughfare, as well as prevent future water quality concerns and decreased access to Lake Waco. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family have any financial interest in this project.

2. Please provide a funding level of $3,700,000 for the **Yards of Cameron** as a community project funding request in fiscal year 2023. The entity intended to receive funding is the Cameron Future Foundation, located at 108 E 2nd Street, Cameron, Texas 76520. This project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would be used to build a 42-acre multi-field sports complex located in the City of Cameron that will encourage additional economic development in Milam County, diversifying the 17th Congressional District's economic base and promote rural economic resiliency. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

3. Please provide a funding level of $3,300,000 for the **Capital Metro North Austin ADA Paratransit Base** project as a community project funding request in fiscal year 2023. The entity intended to receive funding is the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority, located at 2910 E. 5th Street, Austin, Texas 78702. This project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would be used to add to the current fleet at the North Austin ADA Paratransit base, which is not equipped to fully address the needs of all people with disabilities, as only a portion of the fleet is currently wheelchair accessible. Additionally, wheelchair-accessible vehicles for service in Capital Metro's North Austin ADA Paratransit base will improve the performance, quality, comfort, and accessibility of service for those with disabilities. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

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4. Please provide a funding level of $1,760,000 for the **Speegleville Road Bridge at Middle Bosque River** project as a community project funding request in fiscal year 2023. The entity intended to receive funding is the City of Waco, located at 300 Austin Avenue, Waco, Texas 76702. This project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would be used to replace the existing Speegleville Road Bridge at Middle Bosque River which is currently classified as functionally obsolete, and as a result does not adequately or safely serve the traveling public. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

5. Please provide a funding level of $3,000,000 for the **Doris Miller STEM Center Development** project as a community project funding request in fiscal year 2023. The entity intended to receive funding is the City of Waco, located at 300 Austin Avenue, Waco, Texas 76702. This project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will used to increase access to STEM focused field-based learning experiences to Waco-area students, many of whom are underserved and lack sufficient Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) opportunities that can lead to intellectual enrichment, better-paying jobs, future stability, career advancement, and the attraction of enterprises to the 17th Congressional District of Texas that are looking for a pool of potential employees from which to build a STEM-educated workforce. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

6. Please provide a funding level of $865,000 for the **Connecting Communities Through Bus Stop Infrastructure** project as a community project funding request in fiscal year 2023. The entity intended to receive funding is the Brazos Transit District located at 2117 Nuches Lane in Bryan, Texas 77803. This project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because modernization of this transit system through the addition of shelters and designated stops is a low-cost and highly visible way to improve the infrastructure for ADA accessibility on the roadways in the cities of College Station, Bryan, Lufkin and Nacogdoches. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

7. Please provide a funding level of $3,000,000 for the **Bull Hide Regional Reclamation Plant** as a community project funding request in fiscal year 2023. The entity intended to receive funding is the City of Waco, located at 300 Austin Avenue, Waco, Texas 76702. This project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would increase capacity to treat wastewater to high quality at less conveyance cost, reduce carbon emissions, and enhance the opportunity for reuse of the treated effluent. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

8. Please provide a funding level of $1,500,000 for a **Cyber Range and Research Complex at Baylor University** as a community project funding request in fiscal year 2023. The entity intended to receive funding is Baylor University, located at One Bear Place #97133 in Waco, Texas 76798-7133. This project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would be used to develop a workforce pipeline by enhancing secondary and post-secondary curricula that will help close readiness gaps in cybersecurity as well as generate high-paying jobs and economic development. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

9. Please provide a funding level of $1,100,000 for a **McLennan Community College Health Professions Simulation Lab Technology and Equipment Upgrade** as a community project funding request in fiscal year 2023. The entity intended to receive funding is McLennan Community College,

located at 1400 College Drive in Waco, Texas 76708-1402. This project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would be used for a hands-on classroom for students in McLennan's associate degree and vocational nursing programs, multiple allied health programs, residents in the Waco Family Medicine residency program, Tarleton State University Nursing students, and Baylor University Occupational Therapy students. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

10. Please provide a funding level of $3,000,000 for a **City of Thorndale Water Supply and Water Distribution Project** as a community project funding request in fiscal year 2023. The entity intended to receive funding is the City of Thorndale, located at 105 N Main Street, Thorndale, Texas 76577. This project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would be used to build a new distribution system for treated drinking water in Thorndale that will allow this area of the 17th Congressional District to meet projected growth demands of its municipal water system. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

11. Please provide a funding level of $4,000,000 from Space Hub Space Force PE 1206616SF (line 4 in FY23 budget) for a **Space Research Hub at Texas A&M University** as a community project funding request in fiscal year 2023 to assist the U.S. Space Force in meeting its long-term science and technology goals. The entity intended to receive funding is The Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) located at 1111 RELLIS Parkway, Suite 5226, Bryan, Texas 77807. This project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would be used to advance national space power in command and control, information, intelligence, fires, movement and maneuver, sustainment, and protection. Texas A&M University has world renowned faculty working in each of these areas that is ready and eager to do this work, and as a result I am confident forming a Space Research Hub at Texas A&M University to take advantage of this fact would dramatically accelerate the United States Space Force's development of national space power. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

12. Please provide a funding level of $3,185,000 for an **Electric Power Program at the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service** as a community project funding request in fiscal year 2023. The entity intended to receive funding is The Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX), located at 200 Technology Way in College Station, Texas 77845-3424. This project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would be used to provide skilled workers and support tower technician training to prepare workers to replace Huawei and ZTE equipment on existing cell towers, fiber optic training, and electric vehicle troubleshooting, maintenance, and repair training. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

13. Please provide a funding level of $635,500 for **Critical Treatment and Recovery Services in Waco, Texas** as a community project funding request in fiscal year 2023. The entity intended to receive funding is the Cenikor Foundation located at 3015 Herring Avenue in Waco, Texas 76708-3238. This project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would be used to provide access to evidence-based treatment, followed by recovery support services to greatly reduce the risk of recidivism in the criminal justice system in and around Waco, Texas. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

14. Please provide a funding level of $1,600,000 for **Preparing the Texas Power Grid for Vehicle Electrification** at the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) as a community project funding request in fiscal year 2023. The entity intended to receive funding is the Texas A&M Transportation Institute, located at 1111 RELLIS Parkway in College Station, Texas 77807. This project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would be used to strengthen the electric distribution grid in Texas. As electric vehicles become more widely accepted and used, they will have an even greater impact on our electric grid in Texas, and therefore it is of utmost importance that any large-scale electric vehicle adoption is done correctly to avoid the difficulties and hardships associated with grid failures. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

15. Please provide a funding level of $585,000 for **Kosse Volunteer Fire Department Building and Facilities** as a community project funding request in fiscal year 2023. The entity intended to receive funding is the Kosse Volunteer Fire Department, located at 109 S. Narcissus St., Kosse, Texas 76653. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would be used to build a new volunteer fire station in Kosse. This area of the 17th Congressional District of Texas is also experiencing rapid growth and demand for services continues to increase, and a new fire station in Kosse will replace a 40-year-old building and will meet current needs and provide space for safety, training, and acquisition of additional equipment necessary for the future. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Pete Sessions
Member of Congress