

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
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

May 2, 2025

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:


I am requesting funding for Roadway Fire Hazard Mitigation in Jefferson County, Colorado, in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is Jefferson County Parks and Conservation, located at 700 Jefferson County Parkway, Suite 100.

This Community Project Funding request would allow Jefferson County Parks and Conservation to perform hazardous fuels reduction along high-priority roadways in Jefferson County to create a fuel break buffer on either side of the road. These fuel breaks help decrease the risk of wildfire, mitigate the effects of wildfire and increase resident safety on emergency and evacuation routes. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because wildfires have resulted in enormous costs to the state of Colorado. The estimated cost of fire suppression in Colorado in 2020 was more than \$220 million. The December 2021 Marshall fire in Boulder County, which adjoins Jefferson County, resulted in more than \$2 billion in losses. In Colorado, 30.1 – 45% of houses are in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) – areas that are high risk fire landscapes – but in Jefferson County that number leaps to more than 67%.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 203 of the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. 5133), as amended by Section 1234, National Public Infrastructure Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation, of the Disaster Recovery Reform Act (DRRA) of 2018.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Brittany Pettersen", written over a horizontal line.

Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress

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