Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

"I am requesting funding for the Southgate Redevelopment Stormwater System Upgrade Project in fiscal year 2023.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Borough of Chambersburg 100 South 2nd St Chambersburg, PA 17201.

Franklin County, located in Southcentral Pennsylvania, is home to over 155,000 residents and is considered one of the fastest growing counties in the Commonwealth. The Borough of Chambersburg, the Franklin County municipal seat, has also seen its share of population growth over the last several years. Between 2010 and 2020, Franklin County’s population grew by more than four percent (4%) and is forecasted to increase another sixteen percent (16%) by 2025. With general population growth, there is an increase in civic needs. These civic needs may include new and improved infrastructure (such as this stormwater Project), an increased need for health care services, emergency medical services, housing, and recreational opportunities. Ultimately, the Borough is committed to the well-being of all individuals that live, work, and play in its community and envisions the Project as an ideal opportunity to practice environmental stewardship. The Southgate redevelopment, which hinges on the completion of stormwater infrastructure improvements, will benefit the entire community – a community that is comprised of all ages, races, and socioeconomic backgrounds.

The Borough of Chambersburg and its community partners have embarked on redevelopment of an urban infill site known as the Southgate Shopping Center (Southgate). In order to realize the positive economic and community impacts of this redevelopment, several necessary and costly public infrastructure improvements must be completed first. Construction of new stormwater management infrastructure is the first step in the critical path to Southgate’s redevelopment, as the current system cannot support further development in this area.

The upgrades include replacement of a main line that conveys approximately one-third of the Borough’s stormwater directly through the site; establishment of a bio-retention area (a DEP-recognized BMP); and development of a shared stormwater management system operated by the Borough for the benefit of both the public infrastructure and eventual development of the site.
Implementation of this Project will provide numerous ecological, economic, and regulatory benefits. The conveyance currently receives stormwater runoff from a variety of industrial and manufacturing users. The conveyance then empties into the Conococheague Creek (Creek), which is an 80-mile long tributary and a free-flowing stream that originates in Pennsylvania and empties into the Potomac River in Maryland, ultimately flowing into the Chesapeake Bay. This project will be a good use of taxpayer funds.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.”

Sincerely,

John Joyce

John Joyce, M.D.
Member of Congress