



March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

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

Re: Panama Road Rehabilitation Project

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Panama Road Rehabilitation Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the County of Kern, located at 1115 Truxtun Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93301.

The Panama Road Rehabilitation Project will improve a five-mile segment of Panama Road from South Union Avenue east to its intersection with SR184 and Main Street in Lamont. It will rehabilitate and reconstruct the roadway using hot mix asphalt overlay, targeted dig-outs, and full road reconstruction where needed. The project will improve safety by restoring pavement conditions, strengthening structural integrity, and providing clear and durable pavement markings that reduce collision risks for drivers, farm workers, school buses, and freight vehicles traveling between Lamont and Bakersfield. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will also support economic activity by improving a key corridor used to move agricultural products, equipment, and supplies throughout one of the most productive farming regions in the country, reducing vehicle wear and lowering transportation costs for employers and workers.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 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, appearing to read "David G. Valadao".

David G. Valadao
Member of Congress