

MADELEINE DEAN  
4TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

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Congress of the United States  
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March 31, 2023

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Transportation,  
HUD, and Related Agencies  
2207 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Quigley  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Transportation,  
HUD, and Related Agencies  
2039 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

**Re: Community Project Funding Request for Ursinus College**

Dear Chair Cole and Ranking Member Quigley:

I am requesting \$3,000,000 in funding for the Revitalization of the 400 Block of Main Street project in fiscal year 2024 through the Housing - CDBG, Economic Development Initiative (EDI) account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Ursinus College, located at 601 East Main Street, Collegeville, PA, 19426.

This project will provide infrastructure needed to support downtown Collegeville's expansion. Core components include parking lot construction, streetscape/beautification upgrades, street lighting and sidewalks. The project is located in a Qualified Census Tract, traditional downtown, and will lessen the financial burden on downtown property owners that have been hard hit by economic circumstances that would otherwise have to cover higher project costs for parking lot work by way of a special assessment. The project is aligned to the borough's recent planning with Ursinus College on a number of strategic efforts to expand community offerings and re- envision Main Street as a thriving economic and social corridor. Ursinus College is confident the project is shovel ready and could be completed within the identified project period.

This project is a good use of taxpayer dollars because Downtown Collegeville, Ursinus College and other area entities are at a critical tipping point. Despite the challenges over the past two years related to the pandemic, the downtown is seeing an uptick in potential development projects. In order for these projects to be successful, the increased demand for parking and public amenities that is being created must be satisfied. A revitalized 400 block of Main Street will provide the infrastructure needed to support further downtown expansion.

Together, the borough and the college have been awarded \$3 million from a Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Redevelopment Assistance Capital Projects Grant (RACP) to move Borough Hall, create a shared Town Center, and establish adequate parking to support retail and denser residential options at the corners of 5th Avenue and Main Street. Completely united in its vision for economic development and revitalization, the leadership of the borough and the college now seek a federal grant for \$3 million to match the RACP funding and to allow for the revitalization of Collegeville's main corridor to continue, ultimately connecting the campus community with a reinvigorated downtown business district that will attract and retain both students and more economically diverse borough residents.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

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 that reads "Madeleine Dean". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress