

MADELEINE DEAN
4TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Berks County WWII Base Industrial Reuse Project- BerksIDA Berks Park 183 in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Berks County Industrial Development Authority, located at 400 East Wyomissing Avenue, Mohnton, PA 19540.

The funding would be used to make Lots A, F and G at Berks Park 183 pad-ready. BP 183 is a former WWII base that sat vacant for generations until BerksIDA began redevelopment. Leveraging \$5M in state funds to date, the site now generates over \$1M annually in new property taxes and hosts over 200 jobs. BerksIDA is now in the final planning stages to finish the site, and requests CPF support to get it done. Lots A, F and G comprise 11.04 acres and represent property in high demand but with low ability to develop in Berks County. BerksIDA applied for and was awarded \$7M in state 60/40 loan/grant funds to bridge the gap. Unfortunately, when starting the final development phase this year they found even with state support these lots are insufficient size to achieve the economies of scale that allowed success with the other BP 183 lots. For this reason, we seek CPF funding to bridge the gap and make these lots productive once again for Berks County.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because this project helps create jobs in the population center of Berks County and returns land to the tax rolls in Bern Township, having an immediate and positive ROI on taxpayer dollar investment. With federal lands in Blue Marsh Lake, the County airport, and the county prison and nursing home, Bern Township has more tax-free land than any other municipality in Berks County. It is also one of the most central, bordering the City of Reading and the majority of the County's population. This redevelopment impacts the majority of the Berks County population, especially Bern Township, and is a fantastic use of taxpayer dollars as it will be used to return land to productive economic use, generating benefits in taxpayer relief and job creation.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 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 style with a prominent initial "M".

Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress