

December 19, 2022

The Honorable Brian Schatz  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Schatz and Ranking Member Collins:

The purpose of this letter is to request technical corrections to Fiscal Year 2022 Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) projects in the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies bill, listed below. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest in any of the Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) items that I have requested, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate. The reasons for these necessary corrections are the unforeseen restrictions imposed by discrepancies between the official title of the project listed in last year's appropriations bill and the actual scope of the project that was laid out in the respective requests from my constituents. Further details on these projects are below.

**Account funded in:** HUD EDI

**Project Name in the FY22 JES:** Bluefield Historic District Restoration

**Recipient Name in the FY22 JES:** Bluefield WV Economic Development Authority

**Project Purpose as originally requested in Legimate:** This project will create a fund for the City of Bluefield to support renovations to historic district building restoration.

**Request for technical change:** The FY22 JES listed the project name as "Bluefield Historic District Restoration"; however, the Project Justification on the Legimate Request makes clear that this program was intended to address blight in the greater Bluefield area, stating, "The Bluefield WV Economic Development Authority (BEDA) aims to provide an incentive to make physical changes to the city's streetscape that complement the efforts of existing revitalization projects" and that BEDA will "create an application for locations within city limits." Unfortunately, as a result of the overly prescriptive title, the recipient would be forced to restrict the use of these funds to the much smaller area within the historic district, whereas the project was intended to address blight across the city. Since this is consistent with the original intent of the CDS request, I request a technical modification to the project name: "Bluefield Restoration."

**Account funded in:** DOT CRISI

**Project Name in the FY22 JES:** Port of West Virginia Railroad Bridge Improvements

**Recipient Name in the FY22 JES:** Brooke County Commission

**Project Purpose as originally requested in Legimate:** This funding will support rail infrastructure and safety improvement in Brooke County, WV.

**Request for technical change:** The initial project title in the Legimate Request was “Port of West Virginia” and was intended to address a range of rail improvements at the site; however, the JES listed the project as “Port of West Virginia Railroad Bridge Improvements”. There have been constraints imposed by DOT due to the unnecessarily restrictive title tying the project specifically to railroad bridge improvements rather than general rail improvements. I request a technical modification to the name change to “Port of West Virginia Railroad Improvements,” which would address any inconsistencies between the initial project justification and the project title.

With warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joe Manchin III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Joe Manchin III  
United States Senator