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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1304

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
NATIONAL SECURITY, INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT AND MONETARY POLICY
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION &
INFRASTRUCTURE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RAILROADS, PIPELINES,
AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

April 27, 2021

Dear Chair DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

I am requesting funding for Ogden Junction (CREATE Project WA1) in surface transportation reauthorization legislation.

The project sponsor for this project is the City of Chicago and the Chicago Department of Transportation and the project is located between W Carroll Ave., W 19th St., Western Ave., S Troy St.

The funding is designated for This project will install computerized Traffic Control System signaling technology, upgrade to power switches and make structural improvements to multiple bridges. These bridges are more than 100 years old and in need of replacement. New computerized signaling and switching systems will improve train speed, reliability, and capacity. The new signalization and alignment of track will allow speeds to be increased from restricted speed to 25 mph.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to have the following benefits: by replacing the bridges, these communities will no longer experience the infrastructure disrepair. Moreover, because trains will move more efficiently throughout the project area, communities will benefit from a reduction in train emissions, thus advancing environmental justice. Also, reduced delays on the Metra Union Pacific-West Line will benefit riders from economically disadvantaged communities served by the line. This project promotes transportation equity by improving the commuter rail service for people who often rely upon rail to reach employment.

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

Sincerely,



Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress
Illinois' 4th Congressional District