

JESÚS "CHUY" GARCÍA

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MATERIALS

# Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC

March 25, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-305, U.S. 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 \$3,000,000 of funding for the Taft Avenue Metra Access Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Village of Berkeley located at 5819 Electric Ave, Berkeley, IL 60163. The funding would be used to address aging roadway conditions and surrounding infrastructure while improving and expanding pedestrian and bicyclist access along Taft Avenue. The project also responds to the growing need for safe bicycle lanes and walking paths that connect to public transportation in a community experiencing increased development activity. Proposed improvements include street lighting enhancements and the addition of bicycle storage facilities. This will be achieved through new pedestrian walkways and designated bicycle lanes. These improvements will extend to the Metra Station portion of the project, where aging 30-year-old asphalt parking lots will be replaced with durable green infrastructure. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it addresses critical infrastructure deficiencies, enhances multimodal transportation access, and improves safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and transit users. By investing in durable, long-term improvements, the project supports daily mobility needs for residents while also accommodating visitors traveling through the region. These improvements will strengthen connectivity, support economic activity, and deliver lasting public benefits that extend beyond the immediate project area.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by chapter 53 of title 49 of the United States Code.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.  
Sincerely,



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