



Congress created the opportunity for Representatives to submit “Member Designated Projects” for funding consideration as part of federal surface transportation reauthorization. If your member submitted a project proposal(s) that will support trails and active transportation in your community, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy encourages you to activate your network to thank your member for submitting this project, and to ask them to co-sponsor the [Connecting America’s Active Transportation Systems Act \(H.R.2991\)](#). Support for [H.R.2991](#) will help communities like yours fully leverage the benefits of trails, walking and biking through dedicated federal funding for the planning and construction of active transportation systems.

You can use the template below to share with your networks for both thanking members for submitting a trail/active transportation project request and asking them to co-sponsor [H.R.2991](#).

Check the congressional database here <https://transportation.house.gov/committee-activity/issue/member-designated-projects> for specific project information. It is organized alphabetically by last name and most Members submitted multiple projects so check thoroughly.

TEMPLATE

Dear Rep. **XX**,

Thank you for including significant funding for **[insert project(s) from congressional data base]** in your Member Dedicated Project requests to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. We are grateful that you have submitted **(this/these)** project(s) and recognize the potential benefits provided to **[Congressional district/county/city/etc]**.

[Insert one or two sentences that highlight specific benefits of one or more of the projects, focusing on connectivity and its relation to jobs/environment/equity/etc.]

Please take the next step to extend these benefits beyond this specific project and join as a cosponsor of [H.R. 2991](#), the Connecting America’s Active Transportation System Act.

The bill would dedicate \$500 million per year for five years for planning and construction of active transportation systems that connect people to key destinations within and between communities. Our community needs significant additional funding to complete trail networks. This investment will bring new jobs and positive economic impacts while connecting people safely to jobs, shops, essential services, transit and more.

Demand for safe places to walk and bike has skyrocketed around the country, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, and studies have shown that people use trails and active transportation infrastructure most when it connects to the destinations they travel to every day.

Thank you again for your leadership and consideration of supporting [H.R. 2991](#).

Sincerely,

[NAME]