

EMANUEL CLEAVER, II

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

HOUSING AND INSURANCE SUBCOMMITTEE  
RANKING MEMBER

CAPITAL MARKETS SUBCOMMITTEE



FIFTH DISTRICT, MISSOURI

COMMISSION ON SECURITY  
AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE  
(HELSINKI COMMISSION)

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

March 19, 2026

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

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for rehabilitation of the R D Mize bridge over Little Blue Trace Trail in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the municipal government of Independence, Missouri, located at 20201 E Jackson Dr, Independence, MO 64057. The funding would be used for the rehabilitation of the existing R D Mize bridge over Little Blue Trace Trail, which has deteriorated and caused a portion of the Little Blue Trace trail to be closed. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the closure of the popular Little Blue Trace Trail disrupts safe, continuous access for the many pedestrians and cyclists that traverse the trail each day. This project will reestablish trail connectivity and improve public safety.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

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 "Emanuel Cleaver, II".

Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress

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