

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

August 5, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Leader Schumer:

We greatly appreciate the time and effort members of the Senate have put into creating the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal (BID), as we believe such a bill is essential to boosting the economy, creating jobs, and making much-needed improvements to our nation's transportation and infrastructure. While we understand that not all of the provisions of the House-passed INVEST in America Act were able to be included in the BID, we strongly request that the Member Designated Projects be included. These projects would represent a relatively small amount within the overall bill—but would have a huge impact on their communities.

Projects were submitted by 314 House Members, including both Democrats and Republicans. These 1,473 Member Designated Projects represent \$5.66 billion that would go toward critical improvements in the nation's transportation infrastructure. Together, we represent the City of Philadelphia—a racially diverse city with nearly 25 percent poverty. Our projects illustrate the essential needs of our community—as well as the needs of cities across the nation.

Member Designated Projects are essential for improving accessibility to public transit for the disabled, connecting underinvested communities to economic opportunities, and making roads and intersections safer for pedestrians and bicyclists. One such project in Philadelphia, Cobbs Creek Parkway Multimodal Safety Improvements, would increase access for a predominately Black, immigrant community to commercial establishments, economic opportunities, recreation, playgrounds, and trails. The project would create up to five new pedestrian crossings over busy Cobbs Creek Parkway—a highway that physically separates the city's largest and most beautiful park systems. In addition, it would increase the safety of the highway, which saw 155 crashes between 2012 and 2016, along with a young mother struck and killed by a hit and run in 2020.

Another important project in Philadelphia, the Erie Station Accessibility Improvement project, is essential for making a busy public transit station compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act by installing elevators and improving surrounding sidewalks. This station, **which currently has no disability access**, provides access to local, express, and regional subway and rail lines—making it a critical hub for transportation for North Philadelphia, which is home to many people of color. Our other projects include improvements and upgrades around the city to make streets,

transit, and bridges safer for pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers, as well as connecting communities with chronic disinvestment to economic opportunities.

Our projects, along with the projects submitted by hundreds of other House Members, represent our dedication to improving the communities we represent and responding to the concerns of our constituents. The approved projects represent thousands of hours put in by the staffs of personal offices, along with the staff of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and includes time speaking with local officials, state and local transportation agencies, and constituents; as well as collecting, submitting, and reviewing hundreds of pages of documentation.

We appreciate the hard work you and your colleagues have put into crafting the BID and respectfully request the inclusion of Member Designated Projects. These projects are a critical investment in communities that have suffered from decades of disinvestment, as well as an essential component of Building Back Better. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress

CC: The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., President of the United States  
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House