

DANIEL WEBSTER
11TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL
RESOURCES

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE,
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0911

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May 10, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-307, the 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 funding for the Lake Apopka Shoreline Restoration Project in Fiscal Year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Winter Garden, located at 300 W. Plant St., Winter Garden, FL 34787. The funding would be used to support Phase 1 of a multi-phase dredging project to restore a portion of the Lake Apopka shoreline.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it addresses critical environmental concerns in Lake Apopka, preserves water quality, and safeguards the wellbeing of local residents and ecosystems.

a significant body of water in the State of Florida and a focal point for numerous surrounding communities, including the City of Winter Garden. Chronic nutrient overloading from agricultural runoff has severely impacted the lake's water quality, leading to toxic algal blooms, muck accumulation, the decline of native vegetation, and the inability for scientists to regrow native vegetation critical for the surrounding ecosystem's health. Additionally, the proliferation of invasive species including Hydrilla – one of the fastest spreading invasive species – poses threats to both the ecological balance of the lake and the surrounding communities, including potential flooding, canal clogging, and destruction. The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided for purposes authorized by the Community Development Fund (CDF): 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1).

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

Sincerely,



Daniel Webster
Member of Congress