

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

May 1, 2025

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 31 W Garden Ave, 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.

Lake Apopka is a significant body of water in the State of Florida and a focal point for numerous surrounding communities in West Orange, including the City of Winter Garden. Once lined with dozens of fish camps, Lake Apopka was formerly recognized as the bass fishing capital of the Eastern U.S. However, chronic nutrient overloading from agriculture runoff has led to degradation in water quality, toxic algal blooms, muck buildup, die offs of healthy, native submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV), and the proliferation of Hydrilla, one of the fastest growing and most invasive species of nuisance plants that can clog canals and cause flooding of the city and other surrounding communities. These issues left unaddressed threaten 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 is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

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