

Leslie Campione County Commissioner, District 4

March 31, 2025

The Honorable Daniel Webster 2184 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Webster,

Please accept this letter of support for the Town of Montverde CR 455 Complete Street Project.

I am writing to express my strong support for Lake County's proposed infrastructure improvements project on CR 455, a major collector roadway, through a two-mile segment in the rural Town of Montverde. This project will improve motorist, bicycle, and pedestrian safety by designing and constructing a Complete Street for all users.

The Town of Montverde and Lake County have been working on solutions to control the speed of vehicles for many years including reducing speed limits, adding safety signage and radar feedback signs. The central focus of the Town of Montverde is Montverde Academy, a college preparatory school of over 1,200, which is split by the road. Montverde Academy students cross this road multiple times a day. The school has added crosswalks with speed tables to help improve the safety of students. However, even with crossing guards present there is additional work that needs to be completed on the corridor. The project is proposed to provide bike lanes, multi-use trail, sidewalk, improved street crossing, traffic calming and drainage improvements.

Traffic volumes and speeds, combined with the presence of school walkers, cyclists, and shoppers visiting commercial and retail establishments, have been a growing concern for the community. Complete Street improvements will enhance safety, provide multimodal accommodations and operational efficiency of CR 455.

The use of federal resources for this project is appropriate as it improves student safety, enhances tourism, encourages local business development, improves mobility, and promotes long term sustainability of the region.

I hope you will support the Town of Montverde CR 455 Complete Street Project. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Leslie Campione, Chairman

Lake County Board of Commissioners

Lulu Corre

Enclosure



Lake County

Sumter County

Town of Astatula

City of Bushnell

City of Center Hill

City of Clermont

City of Coleman

City of Eustis

City of Fruitland Park

City of Groveland

Town of Howey-in-the-Hills

Town of Lady Lake

City of Leesburg

City of Mascotte

City of Minneola

Town of Montverde

City of Mount Dora

City of Tavares

City of Umatilla

City of Webster

City of Wildwood

Central Florida Expressway Authority

> Florida Central Railroad

Lake County Schools

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

The Honorable Daniel Webster

United States Congressman, 11th Congressional District

2184 Rayburn HOB

Washington, DC 20515

Town of Montverde CR 455 Complete Street Project Grant Application

Dear Congressman Webster

I am writing to extend my support for the Federal grant application submitted by the Lake County Board of County Commissions for the Town of Montverde, CR 455 Complete Street Project. This project aims to upgrade critical roadway infrastructure in the Town of Montverde, enhancing safety, multimodal accommodations and operational efficiency.

CR 455 is a major collector roadway in Lake County that passes through the rural Town of Montverde. The town has significant vehicular, bicycle and pedestrian traffic. The central focus of the Town is the Montverde Academy. Montverde Academy is a diverse college preparatory school of 1,200 students founded in 1912. This area of Lake County is extremely popular with bicycling. CR 455 is a popular bicycling route for events and private use. With Montverde Academy split by the road, there is a significant volume of pedestrian traffic crossing this road daily. The project is proposed to provide bike lanes, multi-use trail, sidewalk, improved street crossing, traffic calming, and drainage improvements.

In the previous 5 years there have been 11 vehicle crashes within the project limits. There and additional 10 vehicle crashes on CR 455 within  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile of the project limits. The Town of Montverde and Lake County have been working on solutions to control speed of vehicles for many years including reducing speed limits, adding safety signage and radar feedback signs. The School has added crosswalks with speed tables. The School as 1,200 students that cross the road multiple times of the day. Crossing guards are present but there is additional work that needs to be completed on the corridor to ensure that the downtown area of Montverde is a safe corridor for all users.

By supporting this project, we are not only enhancing the operational capabilities of the CR 455 but also promoting economic growth, reducing potential safety risks, and improving the overall quality of transportation services in the region.

I strongly endorse this project application for this grant and urge the US Department of Transportation Administration to provide the necessary funding to realize this critical infrastructure improvements.

Sincerely,

MU WOOS

Michael Woods, Executive Director

Lake~Sumter MPO

"Promoting Regional Transportation Partnerships" www.LakeSumterMPO.com

1300 Citizens Blvd., Suite 175, Leesburg, Florida 34748 Phone (352) 315-0170 Cindy Newton 19025 Lake Swatara Drive Eustis, Florida, 32736 cindynewton01@gmail.com 352-636-1158 March 27, 2025

The Honorable Daniel Webster United States Congressman, 11th Congressional District 2184 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Webster,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Montverde Complete Street Project. This initiative is critical to improving the safety, accessibility, and overall quality of life for residents and visitors in Montverde and the surrounding areas.

Montverde is a small town that does not have a police department. In response to safety concerns, the community has formed a volunteer Public Safety Committee to help address public safety issues. The Complete Street Project would greatly enhance safety and accessibility for residents and visitors by creating a more secure and pedestrian-friendly environment.

The Complete Street Project aims to create a safer and more efficient roadway infrastructure by incorporating pedestrian-friendly pathways, improved lighting, and enhanced traffic control measures. These upgrades will benefit not only motorists but also cyclists and pedestrians, fostering a more connected and accessible community. Additionally, the project aligns with broader transportation goals by promoting sustainability and supporting economic growth through increased accessibility to local businesses.

Investing in this project will significantly enhance public safety by reducing traffic congestion and improving walkability, which is essential for residents, schoolchildren, and elderly community members. Furthermore, it will encourage economic development by making the area more attractive to businesses and residents alike.

I urge you to support funding and legislative efforts that will facilitate the successful completion of this project. Your leadership and advocacy are vital to ensuring that our community receives the necessary resources to implement these much-needed improvements.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate your ongoing commitment to the betterment of our district, and I look forward to your support of the Montverde Complete Street Project.

Sincerely, Cindy Newton