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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

April 1, 2009

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WALLA WALLA
WHITMAN

The Honorable David Obey
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-218, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jerry Lewis
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
H-218, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Obey and Ranking Member Lewis,

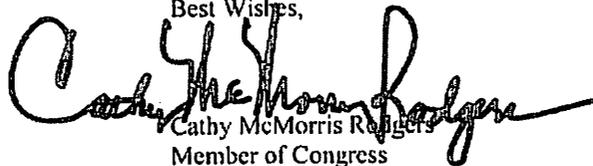
I am requesting funding for the U.S. Highway 12, Burbank to Walla Walla, Phase 7 project in the FY10 Transportation-HUD Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$2,000,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Port of Walla Walla, located at 310 A Street, Walla Walla, WA 99362.

This request seeks funding for right-of-way acquisition for Phase 7A of the Highway 12 Project which is being constructed from Burbank to Walla Walla, Washington. This project phase is the fifth of seven construction phases on corridor improvement project that will upgrade the U.S. 12 corridor. Expanding U.S. 12 from two lanes to a four-lane, divided highway is critical for improving safety, fostering economic development throughout southeast Washington, and addressing growing congestion.

I hereby certify that this request will be made publicly available on my Official Website as required by Chairman Obey's new Committee policy that only posted requests will be considered. I also attest that this project does not have a direct or foreseeable effect on the financial interests of me or my spouse.

Consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge the request: (1) is not directed to any entity or program that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress (2) is not intended to be used by an entity to secure funds for other entities unless the use of funding is consistent with the specified purpose of the earmark; and (3) meets or exceeds all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable. I further certify that should this request be included in the bill, I will place a statement in the *Congressional Record* describing how the funds will be spent and justifying the use of federal taxpayer funds.

Best Wishes,


Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Member of Congress

CMC/ah

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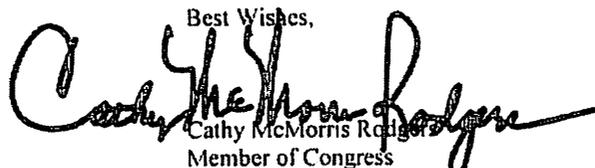
I am requesting funding for the U.S. 195 Cheney-Spokane Road Interchange project in the FY10 Transportation-HUD Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$1,000,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Washington State Department of Transportation, located at 310 Maple Park Drive, SE, Olympia, WA 98504.

This project will help construct an interchange at the crossing of Cheney-Spokane Road and U.S. 195. It will include improvements to the city arterial system. Residential development is projected to be heavy on in this area during the next several years. The city of Spokane's comprehensive land use plan is targeting 50% of the residential development in the next 20 years to be located in this area. The improvements will enhance safety and improve traffic flow on U.S. 195. The completed project eliminates a conflict point where a significant number of accidents occur by constructing an interchange at Cheney-Spokane Road eliminating the existing at-grade intersection. As part of the National Highway System, U.S. 195 is a key regional transportation link of people and goods between Spokane and Lewiston, ID as well as a link between the Washington State University campuses in Pullman and Spokane, Washington.

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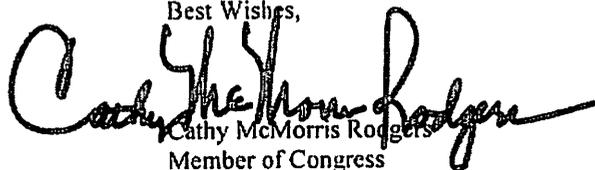
I am requesting funding for the U.S. 395 North Spokane Corridor project in the FY10 Transportation-HUD Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$5,000,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Washington State Department of Transportation, located at 310 Maple Park Drive, SE, Olympia, WA 98504.

It is my understanding that this funding will help advance project design, purchase critical right of ways and supplement project construction in the corridor from Interstate 90 to U.S. 395 at Wandermere in Spokane, Washington. When completed, this 60 mile per hour freeway facility will connect Interstate 90 on the South with U.S. 2 and U.S. 395 north of Spokane. The U.S. 395 North Spokane Corridor will move freight and other traffic off of existing congested surface streets. The completed facility will accommodate the current and growing freight traffic annually through Spokane.

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Dear Chairman Obey and Ranking Member Lewis,

I am requesting funding for the Fleshman Way/State Route 129 Interchange Improvements Projects project in the FY10 Transportation-HUD Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$1,000,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Asotin County, located at 135 2nd Street, Asotin, WA 99402.

The Fleshman Way/ State Route 129 Interchange will complete the right-of-way acquisition and project construction that enhances safety, passenger and freight mobility, and reduces congestion by implementing design that was funded under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). The project will result in substantial safety and mobility improvements for the regional traveling public, and resolve a bottleneck along the corridor that serves a bi-state region, regional airport and other facilities resulting in addressing concerns in the federal interests.

I hereby certify that this request will be made publicly available on my Official Website as required by Chairman Obey's new Committee policy that only posted requests will be considered. I also attest that this project does not have a direct or foreseeable effect on the financial interests of me or my spouse.

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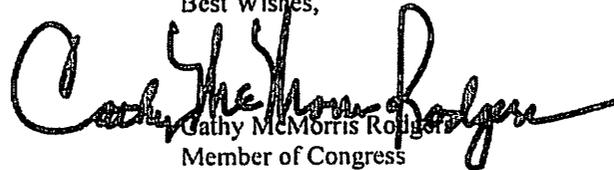
I am requesting funding for the City of Colville Airport Project in the FY10 Transportation-HUD Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$500,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is City of Colville, located at 170 South Oak Street, Colville, WA 99114.

It is my understanding that for decades, Colville, Washington has been attempting to establish a new business and commuter small jet airport that will enable the cities and counties of northeastern Washington to increase business, light industry, tourism, and other contemporary airborne services. Funding will be used to construct a Northeastern Washington Regional Airport on 374 acres of land including airport facilities, utilities, and associated infrastructure. The need for an airport that will accommodate business and commuter small jet aircraft for this region has been identified and prioritized within the Northeastern Washington Regional Transportation Plan. This airport will help develop a progressive regional economy and a key criterion for expanding employment opportunities.

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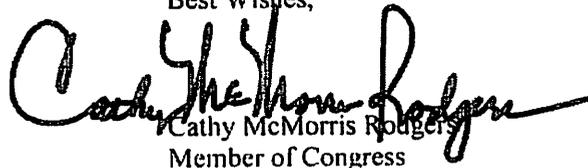
I am requesting funding for the Potholes Reservoir Supplemental Feed Route project in the FY10 Energy and Water Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$1,000,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Columbia Basin Development Grid, located at 8582 Road K SW, Royal City, WA 99357.

The Columbia Basin Project was designed so that return flows from irrigation could be captured in Potholes Reservoir and be used to supply the land. It is necessary to assure adequate water supplies and dedicate a portion of the operational capacity to directly feed water to the Potholes Reservoir. It is paramount to conserve this critical resource.

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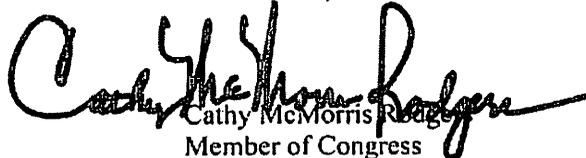
I am requesting funding for the Power Grid Reliability Study project in the FY10 Energy and Water Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$2,000,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Washington State University, located at the French Administration Building, Room 324, Pullman, WA 99164.

The existing power grid is highly unstable and vulnerable to natural and man-made interruptions, as well as being inadequate for increased power throughout and transmission speed. Making the power grid more reliable, capable, and secure requires development on several "software" fronts in order to make a "smart grid" possible. The U.S. government has stated the need to develop a new smart grid.

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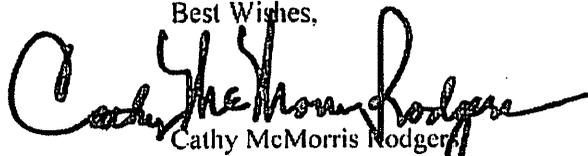
I am requesting funding for the Columbia River Channel Improvement Project project in the FY10 Energy and Water Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$25,000,0000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Columbia River Channel Coalition, located at 6566 SE Lake Road, Suite C, Milwaukie, OR 97222.

This project would deepen the federal navigation channel of the Columbia and provide environmental restoration by creating or enhancing tidal marsh, wetlands, shallows, and fish access to spawning streams. Deepening the navigation channel will also allow ships calling on Columbia River ports to load more cargo and aid with transportation cost savings for U.S. exporters. The project is critical to sustain international trade, jobs, and the transportation infrastructure for the region.

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