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Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, **DC** 20515-1317

May 26, 2022

Office of Acquisition and Grants Management

Federal Highway Administration U.S. Department of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Ave SE

Washington, DC 20590

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to urge prompt consideration for the Mississippi River Parkway Commission's grant application for the Federal Highway Administration's National Scenic Byways Program.

The Mississippi River Parkway Commission (MRPC) is an organization responsible for preserving and promoting the Great River Road, an All-American road that follows the Mississippi River as it passes through Illinois (and nine other states) on its way from Minnesota to Louisiana.

The Great River Road is a popular travel destination in our state and a key driver of the economy in the communities along the river. If the MPRC is awarded the grant funding, it well help a larger audience learn more about the Great River Road in Illinois and see the wide range of urban and rural amenities we have to offer visitors and residents alike.

This grant will also show the important of the Great River Road and the Mississippi River to the region as a whole, highlighting all ten river states and encouraging their participation on a local and federal level, which will benefit travelers and communities along the river.

Again, I would like to urge full and fair consideration for the Mississippi River Parkway Commission grant application. Thank you and I look forward to your favorable review.

Sincerely,

Cheri Bustos

Member of Congress

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