

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Project Name: Eastgate Area Improvements, Clermont County, Ohio

Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: "Clermont County Transportation Improvement District"

Address of Requesting Entity: 175 E. Main Street—Suite 150, Batavia, OH 45103

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$570,000 for Eastgate Area Improvements (Local Network Improvements-Segments IV and IVa) including Preliminary Engineering/Environmental Impact Studies (PE/EIS) and related activities to develop and construct projects consistent with appropriate federal project development and ODOT requirements. Total project cost is \$2.5 million. Seeking \$2 million in federal support with non-federal/local match of \$500,000. This request is consistent with the authorized purpose of the Transportation, Community, and System Preservation account.

Requesting Member: Congresswoman JEAN SCHMIDT

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Project Name: Village of Morrow, Morrow, Ohio

Account: Economic Development Initiatives

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: "Village of Morrow"

Address of Requesting Entity: 150 E Pike Street, Morrow, Ohio 45152

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$237,500 for streetscape improvements to help revitalize Morrow's central business district and support economic development. Elements of the project include funding for street lighting (\$27,500), signage-façade (\$2,500), removal of existing walk (\$3,850), curb and gutter removal (\$4,950), removal and reinstallation of traffic signs (\$2,625), storm pipe removal (\$8,800), engineering and design (\$34,000), relocate street utilities (\$25,000), pipe culverts (\$44,000), misc pipe culvert for drain basin (\$8,000), underdrains (\$7,040), ODOT Type 2 curb and gutter (\$22,000), concrete sidewalk (\$45,000), construction observation-inspection (\$10,000), seeding and mulching (\$2,775), and misc approaches—ADA ramps (\$12,500). The Village is prepared to provide \$25,000 or a 5 percent match of total project costs. This request is consistent with the authorized purpose of the Economic Development Initiatives account.

Requesting Member: Congresswoman JEAN SCHMIDT

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Project Name: Central Riverfront Street Grid

Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: "City of Cincinnati"

Address of Requesting Entity: Department of Transportation and Engineering, 801 Plum Street, City Hall, Room 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$475,000 to design and construct pedestrian facilities, utility infrastructure, and other street improvements on Race Street in downtown Cincinnati. The CRF Street Grid Project provides the streets, sidewalks and utility infrastructure necessary to support the new Central Riverfront redevelopment, including the Paul Brown Stadium, the Great American Ballpark, the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, Central Riverfront Park, and The

Banks mixed-use development. The project augments Fort Washington Way by increasing mobility and providing roadway connections to accommodate localized access to and from Cincinnati's Central Business District and Central Riverfront areas, as well as the Northern Kentucky Riverfront. This request is consistent with the authorized purpose of the Transportation, Community, and System Preservation account.

TRIBUTE TO MR. DAN SHERMAN

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 6, 2009

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a compassionate labor leader and tireless worker, Dan Sherman, who has given 36 years of service to Wisconsin's energy industry.

Dan Sherman has worked as Forester, Line-man and Trouble Shooter for Wisconsin Electric Power Company. Mr. Sherman has given unprecedented service to Local 2150 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and during his tenure has served as Business Representative, Assistant Business Manager, and Business Manager for Local 2150.

Since 1987, Mr. Sherman has been a member of the State AFL-CIO Executive Board where his leadership has led to greater cooperation within organized labor, and forged stronger relationships with local, state, and federal officials on the importance of issues affecting working families. Mr. Sherman served on the Missouri Valley Board of Trustees that contributed to strong labor-management regarding industry performance, training and safety issues.

Mr. Sherman is a veteran having proudly served as a United States Marine. He is also a devoted family man, who together with his wife, Chris, has raised four children and has been blessed with seven grandchildren.

On March 13, 2009, Dan Sherman will be recognized and thanked for his many contributions to the citizens of Wisconsin and all of Wisconsin by family, friends and colleagues. In fact, Mr. Sherman continues to set a strong example to us all by displaying humor, grace and goodwill to all, in spite of extreme challenges to his own health.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to Mr. Dan Sherman for his contributions to the Fourth Congressional District and the State of Wisconsin. He has helped transform the lives of many people in our community.

CELEBRATING THE ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE SPRINTER

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 6, 2009

Mr. BILBRAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the North County Transit District and the successful completion of the first year of service by the Sprinter. The Sprinter is a light commuter rail line operating between Oceanside and Escondido, California, United States.

The Sprinter is operated by the North County Transit District of Oceanside, the area's public transit agency and is the first passenger train service of any kind along the Escondido Branch since the Santa Fe Railroad discontinued passenger service in 1946. The Sprinter service has helped the San Diego region battle traffic congestion and pollution while providing a critical 22-mile route from Oceanside to Escondido, with 15 stops along the way.

The light rail on average services 7,300 weekday riders and ridership is increasing steadily. The Sprinter had over 2.3 million passengers in its very first year and has maintained a 99 percent on time performance. I am especially proud of the Sprinter's success during these difficult economic times. My congratulations go out to the entire Sprinter family and the North County Transit District team!

RECOGNIZING BEVERLY ECKERT'S SERVICE

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 6, 2009

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, today I rise in support of H. Res. 201, recognizing the service of 9/11 widow Beverly Eckert who was killed aboard Continental Flight 3407 last month.

This resolution is a fitting memorial to the life and service of Beverly Eckert. After her husband, Sean Rooney, was killed in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, Beverly dedicated her life to keeping alive the memories of Sean and the nearly 3,000 others killed that day. It was my privilege in the dark days following 9/11 to meet Beverly and work with her to obtain justice for the families of those who were murdered.

I was deeply saddened to learn about the death of Beverly and so many others on that flight to Buffalo last month. She was truly an advocate for the 9/11 families, and her strength and resolve will be missed.

IN HONOR OF REV. DR. ANDREW DURGAN

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 6, 2009

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to extend my deepest sympathy in the passing of my dear friend Rev. Dr. Andrew Durgan. Over 60 years ago, Rev. Durgan began his radio ministry over the airways of my family's radio station, WWNR, becoming the first African American to host a weekly program. I am proud that my father created an opportunity which Rev. Durgan used as a launching pad for his ministry. Joining together with my dear friend, the late Helen Dobson, made them both a powerhouse in the community.

I was honored to be with Rev. Durgan as guest speaker for his 60th Anniversary of Broadcast Ministry and remember fondly the testimonies he shared concerning the goodness of the Lord. Rev. Durgan recounted the

seven battles he had witnessed during his time in the service and although he never knew if he would make it out alive, he held fast to the words of the old hymn, "The Lord will make a way Somehow." And though he may have had many storms in his life, he would say to his soul, Precious Lord, take my hand and lead me on, let me stand.

Now, Rev. Durgan has another testimony, his living was not in vain, because he helped somebody as he traveled along this way, all because of God's Amazing Grace. Rev. Durgan's legacy will live on for years to come to inspire others to Hold On to God's Unchanging Hand.

May God's blessing of peace be with you and may the memories of Rev. Durgan bring joy to your hearts.

CHINA'S ABUSES KNOW NO LIMITS

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 6, 2009

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I bring to the attention of the House an interview conducted by the non-governmental organization (NGO) Human Rights in China. Upon her release from prison, Shaung Shuying, the 77-year old mother of house church pastor Hua Huiqi, recounted that she endured beatings and electric shock at the hands of her captors. She was the oldest inmate at Beijing Women's Prison where she served a two-year sentence.

This severe treatment of an elderly woman is evidence that the Chinese government is indiscriminate in its human rights abuses. Chinese officials truly know no limits.

[Feb. 13, 2009]

CASE UPDATE: ELDERLY ACTIVIST SHUANG SHUYING RELEASED; REPORTS ABUSES IN PRISON

Shuang Shuying, 77, evictions activist and mother of house church pastor Hua Huiqi, was released from the Beijing Women's Prison on Sunday morning, February 8, 2009. In an interview with HRIC on the day of her release, Shuang recounted the abuses she suffered in prison.

Shuang served a full two-year term on conviction of "intentional damage of public and private property" for striking an on-coming police car with a cane during a 2007 visit to a local government office to protest her son's detention.

On the afternoon of her release, Shuang went to visit her ailing husband, Hua Zaichen, 89, hospitalized at the Beijing Electricity Hospital since February 5. Hua passed away at 7:50 am the following morning, February 9, 2009.

Shuang and her family are longtime rights activists. She and her husband have spoken out against Reeducation-Through-Labor (RTL) and religious persecution. Their son, Hua Huiqi, has suffered numerous detentions, beatings, and threats for his activities as a house church pastor. In 2002, Shuang saw her Beijing home demolished to make way for Olympics redevelopment. Subsequently, the family had to relocate eight times.

At Beijing Women's Prison, Shuang was the oldest inmate, and endured beatings and electric shock. She suffered from diabetes, high blood pressure, cataracts, heart disease, and arthritis, but prison authorities denied her request for medical parole. According to her husband in 2008, Shuang was almost completely blind in both eyes due to the abuses inflicted upon her.

The following is Shuang's account of the abuses she suffered in prison.

[From HRIC interview with Shuang Shuying, Feb. 8, 2009]

SHUANG SHUYING: PRISON EXPERIENCE (Translation by HRIC)

When I first arrived at Block 11 of Beijing Women's Prison, officers from the Beijing Public Security Bureau came to ask me whether I thought the sentence was just. I said no.

During interrogations, I had to sit upright. If I sat a little askew, "pa!"—I would get slapped. The person who hit me was a 30-something female prison guard. There was also another prison guard, a 50-something woman named Yang. I had a sore on my buttocks, and it hurt a lot when I was sitting on a chair. If moved even slightly, they would pinch me and twist [my arms]. I still have marks on my arm.

Later, they stripped me completely naked and put me in a large room. Prison guard Yang said to me, "We just want to show your old, skanky skin."

During interrogations, if a mosquito bit my face, and I tried to swat it away with my hand, that 30-something prison guard would tell me not to move. They wouldn't allow me to explain. They would just say, "Where is it? How come we don't see anything?" And they would take the opportunity to slap my face.

After I was beaten by them, they wouldn't allow me to tell my son about the beating. They said, "When your son visits you, you'd better not talk nonsense. If you do, we'll stop your family visits. If you disobey us, we'll put you into the 'squatting cell' [solitary confinement], where it's hot in the summer and cold in the winter." Soon afterwards, they took me on a tour of a "squatting cell." The cell was extremely small; you cannot stand up or sit in there. And you eat, drink and shit in there. After that, I simply didn't dare tell my son about the beatings, as I was afraid that they would send me to the "squatting cell."

There were seven other prisoners in my cell. Sometimes, prison guard Yang would wake me up in middle of the night and say I was snoring, and that I shouldn't sleep. I'd say I wasn't snoring, but she wouldn't allow any talk back. One day, a cellmate beat me, and I asked: "Why did you beat me?" Prison guard Yang answered, next to us, "Hey, you're getting away easy this time. You don't have to ask her. She beat you because we ordered her to."

One day, Yang said, "Didn't you say you thought your sentence was not just? There are seven people in your cell. They are taking turns to torment you. We are not going to stop until you're tormented to death." Afterwards, when they let us go out for air, and I saw there were a lot of people upstairs and downstairs, I said to the people who were also let out for air: "Hey, fellow prisoners, listen up, there are seven people in our cell. If they torture me to death, don't forget to tell my family when you get out."

Prison guard Yang was incensed. She took her electric baton and shocked me.

After that, I was transferred to Block 9 of the Beijing Women's Prison, and my situation improved, little by little.

[On the day she was released from prison, Shuang Shuying went to the Beijing Electricity Hospital to visit her seriously ill husband, Hua Zaichen.]

My husband didn't recognize me at all. He worried about me and our family all these years, and his health worsened day by day.

[Interviewer's notes: Shuang Shuying's voice was strong and clear, and her tone was calm. I wished her and her family good health, safety, and happiness. She said, with a laugh, "All of us relied completely upon the blessing and protection of our Lord Jesus Christ. I also want to thank Human Rights in China for your concern, and for the Lunar New Year card that you sent us."]

COMMENDING DANNY COTTRELL FOR LAUNCHING HIS OWN ECO- NOMIC STIMULUS IN ESCAMBIA COUNTY, ALABAMA

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 6, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I am proud to rise today to commend Danny Cottrell for his generosity in creating his very own economic stimulus package for Escambia County, Alabama.

As a way to thank his employees and give back to his community, Danny gave each of his full-time employees at his pharmacies in Brewton and Atmore an envelope of \$2 bills worth \$700, and his part-time employees each received \$300. They were asked to donate 15 percent to charity and spend the rest of the money locally at shops and restaurants. The \$2 bills were used so the community could see how the money circulates.

The \$16,000 that Danny distributed to his employees—the "country boy's stimulus package" as he calls it—has served as a wonderful example of generosity in these difficult economic times. Local business owners have noticed the \$2 bills being spent, and one business owner is even saving the \$2 bills to spend at Danny's pharmacy.

As the Brewton Standard recently noted on its editorial page, Danny's stipulation that 15 percent of the money be given to charity "is an example of the kind of generosity most needed right now, when many people don't have a lot of extra money to give to those in need."

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of Escambia County and, indeed, all of Alabama's First Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Danny Cottrell for his tremendous example of generosity. I know his family, his many friends, his employees, and his loyal customers join me in praising his accomplishments and good deeds.