

**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Rep. Sharice L. Davids**  
**Kansas Third District**

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-305, 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 City of Ottawa Marais des Cygne River Crossing Structure Replacement for Circuits #8 and #10 in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is City of Ottawa, located at 101 South Hickory St., Ottawa, KS 66067. The funding would be used to replace aging electrical river crossing structures supporting Circuits #8 and #10 across the Marais des Cygne River. These circuits serve a significant portion of Ottawa's residential load north of the river and provide primary electric service to the city's North Industrial Park employment corridor, which is home to major employers other manufacturing and logistics operations that rely on uninterrupted power to maintain production, payroll, and supply-chain commitments. The north side of Ottawa is located within a federally designated disadvantaged Census tract, where infrastructure disruptions have disproportionate impacts on workers, households, and small businesses. During a severe storm event in 2023, the existing river crossing structures failed, resulting in prolonged power outages. Following this event, an engineering assessment identified the river crossings as a critical point of system vulnerability requiring replacement to restore long-term reliability and resilience. The project will replace the existing structures with modern, resilient monopole crossings designed to withstand flooding, high winds, and extreme weather events. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will provide clear and measurable public benefits by:

- Improving electric reliability and system resilience for customers north of the river
- Protecting major employers and their workforce from prolonged outages that interrupt production and wages
- Supporting economic stability within a disadvantaged Census tract
- Strengthening emergency preparedness, ensuring reliable power delivery to circuits connected to the City's backup generation system

This targeted infrastructure investment addresses a documented system weakness and ensures reliable electric service to a key employment and residential area of the community.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Davids', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress