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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES
AND ENVIRONMENT

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE,
AND TECHNOLOGY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SPACE AND AERONAUTICS

The Honorable Sean Duffy
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Duffy:

I write to respectfully request that you provide full and fair consideration for the Incorporated Village of Hempstead's application for a USDOT FY25 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Planning and Demonstration Grant.

The Village of Hempstead, located in New York's Fourth Congressional District, is the largest village in the state and faces serious traffic safety challenges due to its aging infrastructure, high pedestrian activity, and limited non-automobile access routes. This community struggles with persistent traffic hazards at high-risk intersections and corridors. According to a traffic accident index report compiled by the Hempstead Police Department, the Village had 51 traffic fatalities between 2018 and 2022. This preventable loss of life stems from significant risk areas in the Village, including the Hempstead Turnpike, which was responsible for 19 fatalities between 2016 and 2020. A recent report in *Newsday* found that the intersection between North Franklin Street and Jackson Street in the Village is one of the five most dangerous intersections on Long Island, with a tragic 183 crashes and two fatalities in a ten-year period. These statistics underscore the Village's pressing need for enhanced traffic safety measures, particularly along high-risk corridors such as Hempstead Turnpike.

Increasing road safety on Long Island is one of my top priorities in Congress as a member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Hempstead Village intends to develop and implement a comprehensive Safety Action Plan, which will produce critical safety recommendations to reduce lane widths, extend curbs, and implement automatic pedestrian signals. I applaud the Village's commitment to reducing traffic-related injuries and fatalities, and I am confident in their ability to make use of SS4A grant funding to implement innovative safety strategies.

Thank you for your consideration of the Village of Hempstead's application for a FY25 SS4A grant to help prevent future traffic accidents. Please do not hesitate to contact my office if I can be of additional assistance.

Regards,

Laura A. Gillen
Member of Congress