

HENRY CUELLAR, PH.D.
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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March 19, 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 House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Port Laredo Logistics Ecosystem, Laredo, in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Texas A&M International University, located at 5201 University Boulevard, Laredo, TX, 78041.

The Community Project Funding would be used in partnership with the Texas A&M Transportation Institute to establish a Digital Twin and Logistics Resilience Lab at the Port Laredo trade corridor. This project will deploy integrated applications of artificial intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT) sensor networks, and blockchain-enabled data systems to improve real-time visibility into freight operations, identify chokepoints, and enable predictive risk detection. The project will benefit the district by expanding opportunities for workforce development, applied research, and technology deployment in the district, positioning the region as a national leader in advanced logistics and supply chain innovation.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it improves the security, efficiency, and resilience of a corridor that carries a substantial share of U.S. trade. The project will enable proactive disruption management, strengthen cybersecurity protections for freight systems, and reduce inefficiencies in the movement of goods, delivering measurable economic and national security benefits.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in Section 272 of title 15, United States Code.

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

Sincerely,



Henry Cuellar
U.S. Congressman
28th District of Texas