ROBERT E. LATTA
5TH DISTRICT, OHIO

**DEPUTY WHIP** 

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY CHAIRMAN

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY, CLIMATE AND GRID SECURITY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515—3505

May 3, 2024

WASHINGTON OFFICE: 2467 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING (202) 225–6405

DISTRICT OFFICES!

1045 NORTH MAIN STREET SUITE 6 BOWLING GREEN, OH 43402 (419) 354–8700

> 318 DORNEY PLAZA ROOM 302 FINDLAY, OH 45840 (419) 422–7791

226 MIDDLE AVENUE 5TH FLOOR ELYRIA, OH 44035 (440) 406–5010

The Honorable Tom Cole Chair House Committee on Appropriations H-218, The Capitol Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro Ranking Member House Committee on Appropriations H-218, The Capitol Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the \$1,102,843 for the Seneca County Agriculture Service Center in Tiffin, OH in FY 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Seneca County Commissioners.

In February 2023, the current Seneca County Agricultural Services Center (Ag Center) was closed to the public as the building possesses significant health and safety hazards to the personnel and those who visit the building. The Commissioners purchased agreement the property located at 320 Nelson St. in Tiffin to house the new Ag Center. The USDA, Rural Development, Community Facilities Grant funding will assist with renovating a new Seneca County Agricultural Service Center. Housed within the Ag Center are USDA staff. The USDA, Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff meet to discuss ways USDA can help farmers within the surrounding communities. The FSA provides disaster assistance, safety net, farm loan, and conservation programs and is the go-to agency for many USDA records. The FSA members assist with registering farms and depending on what the farmer is raising or growing, staff can assist with filing an acreage report each season which can ensure eligibility for many USDA programs.

The project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code Section 1926(a).

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Latta Member of Congress

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