

**JOHN R. CARTER**

31ST DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

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AND RELATED AGENCIES

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
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April 27, 2021

The Honorable Peter DeFazio  
Chairman  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
2165 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sam Graves  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
2164 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

I am requesting funding for the FM 3349/US 79 Railroad Grade Separation project in surface transportation reauthorization legislation. The sponsor for this project is Williamson County, and the project is located at FM 3349 and US 79, Hutto and Taylor, TX, 78634 and 76574.

The funding is designated for construction of an improved interchange with grade separated travel over the Union Pacific Railroad between FM 3349 and US 79. This project is a segment of a larger Williamson County transportation corridor, connecting SH 130 with US 79 to IH 35, which is identified in the Williamson County Long-Range Transportation Plan and the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization 2045 Regional Transportation Plan.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to have the following benefits:

- The railroad grade separation will improve safety, as well as enhance economic growth and development in eastern Williamson County by providing improved access between state roadways and multimodal economic generators and by increasing connectivity between housing and employment centers.
- The project also allows freight traffic, Williamson County residents and commuters to bypass US 79 within the City of Hutto, where severe traffic congestion and delays occur up to 20 times daily due to passing freight trains.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John R. Carter".

Member of Congress