

**MICHAEL R. TURNER**

TENTH DISTRICT, OHIO

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES  
RANKING MEMBER  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON INTELLIGENCE

ASSISTANT MINORITY WHIP



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 27, 2021

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Rosa L. DeLauro  
Chairwoman  
House Appropriations Committee  
H-307 The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

I am requesting \$500,000 in funding for Former Trotwood Salem Mall Redevelopment in fiscal year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Trotwood Community Improvement Corporation, located at 3035 Olive Road, Trotwood, OH 45426.

Funding requested would support renovation of the 126,000 square foot former Sears building and redevelopment of the surrounding 56 acres making up the former Trotwood Salem Mall property, which was the first enclosed shopping center in the Dayton, Ohio, area and closed in 2005. Renovation will allow reuse of the building and land for productive job creation, workforce development programming, and access to healthy food for residents. This funding will be used to leverage additional funding sources and secure financing for capital improvements related to the full redevelopment of the former Sears building and surrounding mall property.

This project is a top priority for the community as it stands to significantly benefit the residents of the city of Trotwood in multiple facets, through promoting access to healthy food and job training services in order to improve the opportunities and overall quality of life for Trotwood residents. Trotwood was on the long road of economic recovery from the Great Recession when it was devastated by the 2019 Memorial Day F-4 Tornado that damaged 731 homes and 1105 apartments with an estimated \$5 million in damages to Trotwood businesses, according to the ODSA CDBG-DR disaster recovery plan. Despite a strong immediate recovery from the Tornado, the onset of COVID-19 set back development plans and recovery efforts for the community, including for this specific redevelopment.

The benefits of this project will be many, in that the primary goal of this redevelopment is to bring access to needs currently being under-served in the Trotwood community. First, since Trotwood is identified as a "food desert," a top priority of this project is to bring access to healthy food through a multi-pronged approach of working with institutional grocery stores to

bring a store to the site and, also to create opportunity for local food entrepreneurs to sell and serve residents at this location. Second, to continue to strengthen the local workforce and meet the skilled needs of local businesses, this project looks to facilitate workforce development programming to increase the job readiness of Trotwood's workers. Additionally, working with regional and institutional partners, a focus on supporting and training entrepreneurs starting or growing their own businesses. Finally, this funding will seed capital infusion to be used to redevelop this long dormant and underutilized site at the former Salem Mall, creating a local economic engine that will empower residents and the community through providing access to resources and opportunities currently not available in the community.

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 "Michael R. Turner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent "M" and "T".

Michael R. Turner  
Member of Congress