

**JOHN B. LARSON**  
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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0701**

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

Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for The Hockanum River Linear Park Trail in fiscal year 2022. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Town of East Hartford, located 740 Main Street, East Hartford, CT 06108.

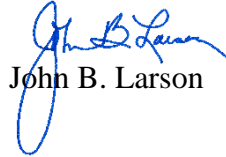
The funding would be used for the Rehabilitation of Hockanum River Linear Park Trail. The Hockanum River Linear Park Trail (HRLPT), 3.5-mile boardwalk and stone dust trail extending roughly from the Charter Oak Bridge east-northeast to the Manchester town line. The trail, which will ultimately run 4.6 miles, connects key Town assets, including Great River Park, the Charter Oak Greenway, Town Hall, two parks, open space areas, and the East Hartford Middle School. Parking facilities are located at Hillside Street, Chipper Drive, Labor Field, Martin Park, Elm Street and Town Hall. In Martin Park, a long-span pedestrian bridge is used to cross over the Hockanum River.

The existing trail sections were constructed in the 1990s using a grant from the Connecticut Department of Environmental (DEP, now DEEP). Wooden decking has deteriorated from exposure to the elements, submersion in floodwater, and vandalism.

This request for funding would provide replacement wooden decking for existing trail sections primarily located between Ecology Drive and a point approximately 1,000 feet east of Hillside Street, where wooden decking currently ends. Replaced wooden decking sections will be anchored to prevent uplift by floodwater, most likely using helical anchors to tie the sections to existing grade (even in wetland soils areas). Stone dust trail sections will be widened to the original five foot width and refreshed with new stone dust. The bridge at Martin Park will receive new wood decking and replacement handrails (removed by vandals). Sections of wood stairs will be rehabilitated as necessary. Trail signs will be replaced and refreshed. Last, trail markers will be installed to allow callers to identify their location along the trail when making emergency service calls, and emergency "blue light" phones will be installed at select locations along the trail and the parking areas to improve safety for all trail users.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John B. Larson". The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John B. Larson