April 29, 2022

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting $1,500,000 in funding for the City of Shakopee Regional Innovation Hub in fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Shakopee, 485 Gorman St., Shakopee, MN 55379.

The funding would be used for constructing the Regional Innovation Hub, a state-of-the-art facility for job training and/or advancement, post-secondary education (in cooperation with Minnesota State University, Mankato), research and development, and entrepreneurship programs. It will function as an activity center including space for co-working, entrepreneurs, commercial kitchen, events, and classroom and practical training.

The project will benefit the region by functioning as a nexus of education, workforce training, and innovation to support economic development and opportunity. The Hub will act as an incubator, accelerator, and education center for the counties of Scott, Carver, Dakota, Rice, Le Sueur, Blue Earth, and parts of Hennepin. This economically important seven county area has no centralized facility like The Hub for residents, business leaders, and innovators to convene, collaborate, create, and learn. It will provide significant and essential solutions to the region’s manufacturing, educational, and entrepreneurial workforce needs. If funded, the City of Shakopee will match the $1,500,000 in funding to complete the project.

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

Sincerely,

Angie Craig

Member of Congress