

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 31, 2023

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting \$3,000,000 in funding for the City of Shakopee Innovation Hub in Fiscal Year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Shakopee, 485 Gorman Street, Shakopee, MN 55379.

The funding would be used to construct a Regional Innovation Hub of 30,000 square feet that will promote entrepreneurship, innovation and workforce development for a region that has more than 800,000 people. The facility will specialize in hard-tech companies – those companies that will manufacture a product that can be exported to other areas of the United States and the world. The facility is a unique partnership for the region including Scott County, Carver County and the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community along with Minnesota State University – Mankato. The facility will have maker spaces for product prototyping, training spaces for local companies and support for our growing entrepreneurial network. Over the past two years, fourteen companies, including four minority and women-owned businesses, have joined the network that provides professional and mentor support to fast growing companies. One of these companies has already located its manufacturing facilities in Shakopee.

This project is a valuable use of taxpayer money because it leverages additional funding from the State of Minnesota and the local community to build a foundation of economic development in the community. It will lead to increased opportunity, jobs and education for the region and allow growing companies in Minnesota to stay in and employ people from the community and provide stable employment and a solid tax base for further community and economic development.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C 5305(a)(1).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Angie Craig". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Angie" and last name "Craig" clearly distinguishable.

Angie Craig  
Member of Congress