3.5Rep. Don Bacon FY '26 Community Funding Project Request Form

Sponsors must demonstrate the merits of their projects by completing this form. In addition, sponsors must submit a demonstration of community support. ***Please ensure your request meets the respective subcommittee guidance in the links at the bottom of the form.*** *We recommend sponsors review the relevant subcommittee guidance before beginning this form.*

*A list of Community Project Funding FY '26 eligible accounts can be found at the end of this document***.**

Deadline: Friday April, 25, 2025
Please e-mail form to Matthew Duglin in Rep. Don Bacon's office at
Matthew.Duglin@mail.house.gov

Project Name	Gretna Hwy 6/31 Overpass
Subcommittee	
Agency or Department	Transportation
Account	
Amount Requested	$3.5 million total
Previous Federal Funding	None for this project. The City of Gretna received $5 million for Transportation project (204th & Schram Road) in the FY 2024 CPF cycle.
Previous Funding Request	None for this project.
Name of Recipient	City of Gretna, Nebraska
Mailing Address of Recipient	204 N. McKenna, Avenue PO Box 69 Gretna, NE 68028
Federal Nexus Statement	The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code, as amended by title III of division A of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Itemized Budget		FFY of TIP/STIP	Federal	Local Match	Nonparticipating	Other	Total
	PE Phase	2026					
	a. PE		165,000.00	40,000.00			205,000.00
	b. NEPA		30,000.00	10,000.00			40,000.00
	c. Final Design	2026	50,000.00	10,000.00			60,000.00
	d. RC		0.00	0.00			0.00
	e. NDOT		0.00	0.00			0.00
	PE Subtotal		**$245,000.00**	**$60,000.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$305,000.00**
	ROW	2026	100,000.00	50,000.00			150,000.00
	Utilities	2026	100,000.00	50,000.00			150,000.00
	Construction	2027	2,200,000.00	500,000.00			2,700,000.00
	CE Phase						
	a. CE		155,000.00	40,000.00			195,000.00
	b. RC		0.00	0.00			0.00
	c. NDOT		0.00	0.00			0.00
	CE Total		**$155,000.00**	**$40,000.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$195,000.00**
	TOTAL		**$2,800,000.00**	**$700,000.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$3,500,000.00**
Request Contact Information (Please include name of organization, point of contact, street and e-mail address and phone number	City of Gretna, Nebraska Paula J. Dennison City Administrator 204 N. McKenna Avenue Gretna, NE 68028 paula@cityofgretna.com 402-332-3336, ext 1204 (office) 402-681-3017 (cell)						
Federal Share of Projects Total Budget	80% or $2,800,000 of the total estimated cost of $3.5 million						

Summary	Gretna, Nebraska is one of the fastest growing communities in the State of Nebraska and is located in the western portion of Sarpy County, the smallest yet one of the fastest growing counties in the State of Nebraska. Since its incorporation in 1889, the City has evolved from modest railroad town beginnings into a forward-thinking municipality recognized as one of the first to establish a Good Life Transformation District. Despite a population of under 10,000, Gretna is increasingly expected to deliver infrastructure and services typically associated with larger urban areas. In response to these pressures and opportunities, the City is pursuing federal support for a project that represents a generational investment in connectivity and public safety. To serve its residents well into the future, the City of Gretna is developing a new Community Complex on City-owned land east of US Highway 6/NE Highway 31 (Hwy 6/31), which is a major transportation corridor currently configured as a four-lane highway with dedicated turn lanes. The Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) has plans to expand the highway to six lanes in the near future, further intensifying the divide it creates within the city. The Community Complex, scheduled for completion in late 2026 or early 2027, will house essential public institutions including City Hall, the Gretna Public Library, a dedicated Children's Library, and a Community Center. This new civic hub sits adjacent to Gretna Crossing Park, a 157-acre regional park that opened in 2023 and has quickly become a centerpiece of community life. However, Hwy 6/31 currently serves as a physical barrier that cuts through the heart of the community, limiting access to these key public assets for residents located on the west side of the highway. The City is therefore requesting federal assistance to design and construct a pedestrian overpass that will restore safe, non-vehicular access across this critical corridor. Without such an investment, the growth and functionality of Gretna's public infrastructure will remain constrained by mobility and safety challenges. To support this request is the following information: • Traffic volumes for Hwy 6/31 are at construction year ADT of 18,500 and design year ADT of 33,400 with projections to continue increasing; • Gretna Fire Department (GFD) Station #1 is located immediately southwest of this property. GFD saw 1,764 calls in 2024 from the two stations; • A recent housing assessment identified 1482, 1- & 2-family housing units, and 15 apartment parcels located on the west side of the highway, many residents without safe pedestrian routes to public facilities (detailed maps attached); • Gretna exceeds neighboring communities in household size, percent of "family raising" age cohort, and population under the age of 18; • Generation Z (ages 7-24) and Millennials (ages 25-42) make up more than half (53%) of Gretna's population with 48% of households including children; • In 2024, nearly 15,000 individuals participated in public programs hosted by the Gretna Public Library, with most arriving by vehicle due to a lack of pedestrian infrastructure.

	• Hwy 6/31 also experiences significant surges in traffic during Nebraska Husker football home games and functions as a commercial truck route, accounting for 3% of traffic data; and • Currently, no pedestrian infrastructure exists to cross Hwy 6/31, leaving residents entirely reliant on vehicle access for community participation. The proposed overpass addresses this situation directly by prioritizing four core values: safety, by reducing conflict between pedestrians and high-speed vehicular traffic; connectivity, by linking both sides of the city and allowing for active transportation options; wellness, by promoting physical activity and access to outdoor and civic amenities; and accessibility, by removing barriers for residents who are elderly, disabled, or without vehicles. Community support for the project is extensive, as reflected in the attached letters from local institutions, nonprofits, and regional planning agencies. The project is also consistent with the City's 2022 *Crossings Corridor Master Plan* and the newly adopted 2025 *Gretna Comprehensive Plan: Gretna, It Matters*. The construction of a pedestrian bridge across Hwy 6/31 represents a strategic opportunity to foster inclusion, catalyze economic activity, and enhance regional livability. It enables residents of all ages and income levels to walk for leisure or a purpose, reaching a park, attending a library program, accessing city services, or connecting with neighbors on the other side of the highway. It will also enhance Gretna's capacity to serve as a regional hub, supporting tourism, business, and cultural engagement throughout the Omaha Metro and beyond. The City of Gretna is committed to addressing the needs of our current and future population, business environment, and visitors, as demonstrated by the new Community Complex facility and the recently opened Gretna Crossing Park. We understand and appreciate the financial obligations we have to our taxpayers. Overall, the City of Gretna and the Gretna community ask for your financial assistance in this Gretna Hwy 6/31 Overpass Project, leading to a better overall quality of life for those in the Gretna community and the state of Nebraska.
Why is this project important for Nebraska's Second Congressional District?	The proposed Hwy 6/31 Overpass Project represents a strategic and transformative infrastructure investment with broad implications for residents, businesses, and visitors across Nebraska's Second Congressional District. Gretna, one of the fastest-growing communities in the Omaha metropolitan area, is experiencing rapid residential and commercial development that require deliberate, forward-thinking solutions. This project addresses a pressing need: safe, equitable access across a major highway that currently divides the city, restricts mobility, and compromises public safety. US Highway 6/31 is a heavily traveled corridor with high vehicle speeds and no existing pedestrian infrastructure. The lack of safe crossing options creates hazardous conditions for individuals on foot or bicycle, particularly children, older adults, and residents with disabilities or without access to a vehicle. The overpass will eliminate these risks by providing a grade-separated route that prevents pedestrian-vehicle conflict, enhances visibility, and improves emergency response efficiency, particularly for the nearby Gretna Fire Station.

	More than a physical connector, the overpass will unify a community currently split by highway infrastructure. Its construction will allow residents to safely walk or bike between neighborhoods, schools, parks, and civic destinations, including the new Community Complex and the 157-acre Gretna Crossing Park. It will link families and individuals to cultural resources, recreational programming, and public services, fostering community cohesion and strengthening Gretna's identity as a connected, inclusive city. The project also promotes healthier lifestyles by making it easier for residents to incorporate physical activity into their daily routines. Individuals walking to a library program, biking to a park, or commuting on foot to the community center will have a safe and reliable alternative to car travel. For a growing city where nearly half of the households include children and the population of seniors is increasing, this infrastructure ensures that wellness is accessible, not reserved for those with private transportation. The overpass will also help close longstanding access gaps. Many residents west of Hwy 6/31 lack the ability to reach community services due to the absence of pedestrian-friendly crossings. The proposed structure ensures that all individuals, regardless of age, income, or physical ability, can access essential destinations such as the public library, schools, and parks. The project is strongly aligned with local and regional planning priorities. It supports the vision and implementation goals in the Crossings Corridor Master Plan and the City's newly adopted Comprehensive Plan, *"Gretna, It Matters."* Both documents emphasize connectivity, walkability, and sustainable development. The overpass also advances regional objectives established by the Metropolitan Area Planning Agency (MAPA), including enhanced multimodal access, reduced car dependency, and integrated infrastructure that supports long-term population growth. Finally, the overpass is an economic and tourism catalyst. Gretna Crossing Park and the Community Complex are rapidly becoming regional draws for visitors, hosting sporting events, cultural programs, and public gatherings. Improved connectivity will increase foot traffic to these destinations, support local business development, and position Gretna as a dynamic destination within the Omaha Metro. The benefits extend beyond city limits, contributing to regional economic activity and reinforcing Nebraska's broader infrastructure and tourism goals.
NE02 Community Support	This project has garnered significant and diverse community support. Attached to this application are formal letters of support from key public institutions, planning agencies, and community organizations that represent the voices of residents, businesses, families, and civic leaders across Nebraska's Second Congressional District. Some examples of the vast community support include: • Gretna Public School District- The District emphasizes the importance of safe, non-vehicular access for students and families. With many students residing west of Hwy 6/31 and attending school or extracurricular activities on the east side, the overpass would provide a vital link for walking and biking safely to school-related destinations. • Gretna Chamber of Commerce- The Chamber recognizes the overpass as a strategic infrastructure improvement that will boost commercial activity and encourage continued business investment in the area. The project is expected to strengthen the economic vitality of Gretna's growing

	business community by improving access between residential neighborhoods and commercial, civic, and recreational destinations. • Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District (NRD)- The NRD's support highlights the alignment between the overpass project and regional environmental and mobility goals. The overpass complements the District's commitment to sustainable development, conservation, and expanding access to outdoor recreational resources such as trails, parks, and green spaces that promote wellness and community engagement. • YMCA of Greater Omaha (Metro YMCA) - As a provider of youth development and health and wellness programs, the YMCA supports the project's potential to eliminate access barriers for youth and families. The organization serves a growing population in the Gretna area and recognizes the need for infrastructure that promotes equitable access to physical activity, especially for families without reliable transportation. • Metropolitan Area Planning Agency (MAPA)- MAPA, the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Omaha-Council Bluffs region, identifies the project as consistent with regional transportation priorities. The overpass supports key goals in MAPA's Long-Range Transportation Plan, including improving pedestrian safety, enhancing multimodal access, and reducing community fragmentation caused by highway infrastructure.
Private and Public funding	The City of Gretna will provide $700,000 (20%) in match from the Gretna Street Fund. There is no additional public or private funding currently identified.