

**Project Name:**

North Fork Road Guardrails

**Recipient:**

Flathead County

**Address:**

800 South Main Street, Room 302, Kalispell, MT 59901

**Amount Requested:**

\$1,936,170

**Project Explanation:**

The significance of the North Fork Road cannot be overstated. It provides crucial access for residents, U.S. Customs and Border Protection operations along the Canadian border, year-round recreational activities, and timber industry operations. It also serves as the route for approximately 150,000 annual visitors to Glacier National Park that access the park through the Camas and Polebridge entrances. The North Fork Road plays a pivotal role in the economic and recreational vitality of the region. Despite its significance, the North Fork Road poses safety concerns. Composed of a mostly gravel surface and winding in nature, it has numerous roadside hazards, including sections of roadway with steep side slopes descending to the river below. The existing guardrail along this section of road have surpassed their service life and due to their poor condition, have reduced ability to function as intended. The project will add or replace guardrail to improve safety along 3.71 miles of roadway.

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-2601**

May 8, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Committee  
H-307, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**Re: North Fork Road Guardrails**

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for North Fork Road Guardrails in Fiscal Year 2025.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Flathead County, located at 800 South Main Street, Room 302, Kalispell, MT 59901.

The significance of the North Fork Road cannot be overstated. The North Fork Road plays a pivotal role in the economic and recreational vitality of the region. Despite its significance, the North Fork Road poses safety concerns. Composed of a mostly gravel surface and winding in nature, it has numerous roadside hazards, including sections of roadway with steep side slopes descending to the river below. The existing guardrail along this section of road have surpassed their service life and due to their poor condition, have reduced ability to function as intended. The funding would add or replace guardrail to improve safety along 3.71 miles of roadway.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the road provides crucial access for residents, U.S. Customs and Border Protection operations along the Canadian border, year-round recreational activities, and timber industry operations. It also serves as the route for approximately 150,000 annual visitors to Glacier National Park that access the park through the Camas and Polebridge entrances.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

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

Sincerely,



Ryan Zinke  
Member of Congress