

Project Name:

Sanders County Noxon Bridge Replacement Project Phase 1

Recipient:

Sanders County, Montana

Address:

P.O. Box 519, Thompson Falls, Montana 59875

Amount Required:

\$10,000,000

Project Description:

This funding would replace a failing 102-year-old bridge that is on an important emergency service, school bus, and commodity transportation route. The 102-year-old structure is now facing serious structural concerns, leading to its indefinite closure. This is the only bridge which links Highway 200 to the town of Noxon, and has developed cracks in its foundation and holes in the roadbed have opened, prompting urgent safety evaluations. The Sanders County Commissioners commissioned a study to assess the bridge's condition, with findings recommending full replacement rather than rehabilitation. The closure has already disrupted daily life, affecting food deliveries, emergency services, and local businesses. School busses fully loaded are unable to traverse the bridge. Due to budget constraints of a small taxbase, the county is unable to fund the project alone. With its historical significance and essential role in local infrastructure, restoring the Noxon Bridge remains a top priority for both county and state officials. Securing the necessary funding remains a challenge, leaving the community in limbo as they await further action.

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

May 23, 2025

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: Sanders County Noxon Bridge Replacement Project Phase I

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Sanders County Noxon Bridge Replacement Project in Fiscal Year 2026.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Sanders County Montana Noxon Bridge located at Klakken Rd, Noxon, MT 59853.

To replace a failing 102-year-old bridge that is on an important emergency service, school bus, and commodity transportation route. The 102-year-old structure is now facing serious structural concerns, leading to its indefinite closure. This is the only bridge which links Highway 200 to the town of Noxon and has developed cracks in its foundation and holes in the roadbed have opened, prompting urgent safety evaluations. The Sanders County Commissioners commissioned a study to assess the bridge's condition, with findings recommending full replacement rather than rehabilitation. The closure has already disrupted daily life, affecting food deliveries, emergency services, and local businesses. Due to budget constraints of a small tax base, the county is unable to fund the project alone. With its historical significance and essential role in local infrastructure, restoring the Noxon Bridge remains a top priority for both county and state officials.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code.

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