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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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May 10, 2024

Chairman Tom Cole  
Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro  
House Committee on Appropriations  
H-307  
U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting \$3,853,430 for a community project funding request for the University of Idaho Water Center in the FY 25 Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development Appropriations Bill.

The intended recipient is the University of Idaho. The applicant is located at 322 E. Front Street Boise, Idaho, 83203.

Funding would be used to develop the Idaho Water Center which would become a comprehensive data collection and data center in Boise.

The project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because funds would be used to upgrade infrastructure and equipment for the Idaho Water Center. These improvements are necessary for the center's success as a data center for water activities across Idaho. The upgraded center and data facility will be managed by researchers at the University of Idaho and will aid communities by helping address issues related to flooding, stream erosion through agricultural land and urban areas, river infrastructure, fish habitat assessment, evaluation of groundwater and surface water interactions for water availability, and the filling of reservoirs with sediment that reduces their power generating capacity, flood control, and irrigation water storage potential. Data will be provided from facilities installed both in the Water Center and throughout Southern Idaho. This project will also make needed room and facility upgrades while also building adjacencies that will allow the Idaho Water Data Center to provide data to stakeholders in order to make informed water decisions for the state of Idaho.

This project has a federal nexus because it is for the purpose authorized in 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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Simpson" with "M.C." written in small letters at the end.

Mike Simpson  
Member of Congress