

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 15, 2025

The Honorable Steve Womack
Chair
Subcommittee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515


The Honorable James Clyburn
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Womack and Ranking Member Clyburn:

I write to you to request \$2,000,000 in Fiscal Year 2026 funding for Phase 2 of Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area's New Day Palisades Rehabilitation project. Between phases one and two, the New Day Palisades project is a \$15.8 million dollar collaborative effort by the Cumberland Community Improvement District and U.S. National Park Service. The Paces Mill Park and Palisades Trail System were first incorporated into the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area (CRNRA) during the Carter Administration and have remained in their current state ever since. The Cumberland District of Cobb County, where the park and trail are located, was once on the distant outskirts of Atlanta, but has now grown into a sprawling urban and suburban business core with nearly 3,300 businesses including some of the largest in the southeastern United States. In all, the district has a \$26.3 billion annual impact on Georgia's economy, and an \$18 billion annual impact on Cobb County's economy.

The Paces Mill/Palisades unit of the park is, in its current state, a relic of an era marked by stagnation. Given its federal connection and the tremendous private and philanthropic investment in the project, I believe it is important to the Federal Government share a small portion of the cost. The funding that I am requesting would be used to build facilities comparable to other parks in the National Park System. Despite its outdated infrastructure, the park is still one of the most popular in Metro Atlanta, with extensive community support. I look forward to seeing this park improved, and the tremendous recreational and commercial benefits it brings to the community.

Sincerely,


Barry Loudermilk
Member of Congress