

http://www.house.gov/dingell/appropriations_requests.shtml

From the Desk of Congressman John D. Dingell

Over the past several years, there has been a growing concern over the skyrocketing number of legislative provisions directing spending and other benefits to individual entities, commonly referred to as “earmarking.” Though I agree that wasteful spending exists, I whole-heartedly believe that one of my jobs in Washington is to vote for things which will benefit the citizens of Michigan’s 15th Congressional District. For that reason, I have attempted to get funding for projects like Michigan’s roads, which I am sure you will agree need all the help they can get. Although earmarks have, at times, been misused by some Members of Congress, they are principally a very positive part of the legislative process. They help to stimulate state and local economies by appropriating funds for investment in businesses, hospitals, education, infrastructure revitalization, and much more. Moreover, with state and local funding decreasing because of budget constraints, local communities increasingly have to come to the federal government for help with essential projects. With that said, reform of the earmark process has brought greater transparency into government and I believe a transparent government is far more likely to be an honest one.

My Democratic colleagues and I worked hard to bring about much needed reforms to the earmarking process since we regained the majority in the U.S. House of Representatives in January of 2007. The new process provides for disclosure, competition, review, limits and even the power to rescind funding for any boondoggle discovered after enactment.

In the 110th Congress, I complied with a request from the Detroit Free Press to disclose the earmarks I requested. The paper printed some of these earmarks and posted a full list on its website. [I am happy to announce that I will now be posting this information directly on my Congressional website.](#) My office has broken these requests down by the 12 subcommittees that fund different parts of the federal government. To see the requests I have submitted, please click on the section heading. If I have made any requests in that area, a list will drop down and from there you can click on the individual items to get more information. **Please note: these requests are not listed in any particular order.** Each item on the list includes a link to more information about each project, including its value to Michigan’s 15th Congressional District and the American taxpayer. I trust disclosure of these requests will protect the integrity of the process, provide more public accountability and make sure American taxpayer dollars are used wisely.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

John D. Dingell
Member of Congress