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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senators Bob Dole and James Pearson announced that the Senate Appropriations Committee yesterday amended the 1973 Second Supplemental Appropriations Bill to include a provision that would permit the expenditure of up to \$18,000 by the Agriculture Research Service for improvements on Dickens Avenue in Manhattan.

Both Senators had requested that these funds be made available to help defer the cost of paving Dickens Avenue since they felt the deterioration of the street had largely resulted from the Grain Marketing Lab construction.

A similar provision was deleted from last fall's supplemental appropriations bill by House conferees who felt there was not legislative authority for such an appropriation.

"I have, however, been in contact with the Department of Agriculture and have been informed that they feel the specific authorization now included in the supplemental bill will be adequate to justify the expenditure of these funds on Dickens Avenue. Similar appropriations have previously been approved for off-site improvements near ARS projects in other states. In view of this, the Agriculture Marketing Service has agreed to allocate the funds to Manhattan if the appropriation is approved.

I will be in touch with Senate and House members who will be considering this matter in the coming weeks, relaying the concern expressed by Mayor Hanks and many citizens of Manhattan. I am hopeful that these funds will soon be available for the badly needed improvements.