

March 19th, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, The Capitol
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth H.O.B.
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the **UPRM Center for the use of GenAI for Coastal Zone Monitoring and Assessment** in fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of Puerto Rico-Mayagüez (UPRM), located at 259 North Blvd. Alfonso Valdés Cobián, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico 00680. The funding will be used to address Puerto Rico's coastal vulnerabilities through advanced strategies leveraging artificial intelligence. This initiative will advance the planning, protection, and restoration of coastal resources through an open-source, data-driven decision-support Hub.

The project is a good use of taxpayer funds because it will allow numerous users (i.e., the tourism industry, fishers, coastal planners, municipalities, and policymakers) to respond effectively to extreme events and prepare for long-term climate variability, thereby supporting the long-term environmental and economic resilience of Puerto Rico coastal communities.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 302 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. § 1451).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
RANKING MEMBER

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND INSURANCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND
MONETARY POLICY

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

NYDIA M. VELAZQUEZ

7TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

March 19th, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS

CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS FOR
WOMEN'S ISSUES

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Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the **Advancing Parole Excellence (APEX) Initiative** in fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this is Research Foundation of CUNY o/b/o John Jay College of Criminal Justice and CUNY Law School, located at 230 W 41st St #7, New York, NY 10036.

The funding will be used to develop and deploy a comprehensive support system for parole officers and the individuals they supervise in Queens and Brooklyn. Central to this effort is the APEX Navigator, an innovative digital platform designed to help frontline parole officers quickly identify and connect people on parole to critical stabilizing resources like housing, employment, and behavioral health services. Overall, this initiative will strengthen parole supervision practices, improve service coordination, and enhance public safety outcomes for New Yorkers.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will enhance public safety by improving the effectiveness of existing supervision systems. By strengthening coordination between parole officers and service providers, this project will reduce unnecessary returns to prison and improve public safety outcomes throughout NY 07.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.



Sincerely,

Nydia M. Velázquez
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Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for **NYPD - Community Youth Stability and Public Safety Partnership** in fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this is Queens Together Inc. located at 3347 14th street - 7B, Long Island City, NY 11106. The funding would be used to create a precinct-based NYPD community partnership delivering food access, mentorship, and youth engagement to stabilize families, reduce recidivism and justice involvement, strengthen public safety, and build stronger relationships between law enforcement and the communities they serve in public housing neighborhoods.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the program will connect teens to small business owners and community leaders who serve as mentors through structured youth engagement programs led by precinct teams. These relationships provide consistent guidance, exposure to career pathways, and positive community connections that reduce the likelihood of justice involvement and repeat offenses. The program strengthens ties between precincts and the community by creating consistent, positive engagement outside of enforcement. Through regular presence in schools and community spaces, officers build trust, improve communication, and become visible partners in neighborhood well-being.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.



Sincerely,

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Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for **Southside United HDFC's Neighborhood Safety Coalition Project** in fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this is Southside United Housing Development Fund Corporation, located at 434 South 5th Street, Brooklyn NY 11211. The funding would be used for expanding its comprehensive Community Violence Intervention strategy program to prevent shootings, reduce retaliation, and strengthen collaboration between community organizations and law enforcement partners.

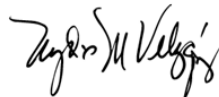
The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it addresses periodic increases in shootings and firearm-related incidents in Bushwick and surrounding areas, especially among young people ages 16 to 29. Research indicates that a small number of individuals and social networks are disproportionately involved in gun violence, often shaped by cycles of retaliation, unresolved conflict, and exposure to trauma. Community violence intervention models can support law enforcement in addressing this challenge.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

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Member of Congress



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Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for **Boricua College Project Embrace: Crime Prevention and Recidivism** in fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this is located in 9 Graham Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11206. The funding would be used to develop, implement, and expand a comprehensive training and support program for justice-involved individuals and their families. The initiative will provide a holistic set of services that include educational and social support, workforce opportunities and mental health counseling, and assistance navigating legal requirements within the justice system.

The project is a good use of taxpayer funds because it addresses a critical need in New York's 7th Congressional District, where many families experience the economic and social impacts of justice-system involvement. The program will expand access to education, workforce preparation, mental health counseling, and legal navigation services for justice-involved individuals and their families in communities across NY -07

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Nydia M. Velázquez

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Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for **Grand Street Settlement's Culinary Workforce Program for Justice-Involved Youth at Marcy Houses** in fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this is Grand Street Settlement, Inc. located at 80 Pitt Street, New York, NY 10002. The funding would be used to support economic mobility and reentry success for 20 justice-involved young adults, ages 18–25, through a proven culinary training model implemented by Drive Change, equipping participants with industry-recognized credentials for careers in New York City's food service sector.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it addresses root causes of criminal justice involvement, including unemployment and lack of credentials, through structured, skills-based programming that supports successful, long-term reintegration. Stable employment and vocational training are among the most effective tools for reducing recidivism, and this program will strengthen and achieve law enforcement goals of keeping communities safe by promoting economic stability among justice-involved young adults in Marcy Houses, one of Brooklyn's largest NYCHA developments.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



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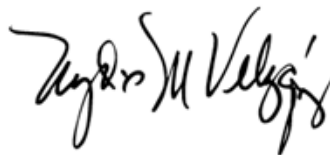
I am requesting funding for **Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow's Pathways to Opportunity** workforce development project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow, located at 882 3rd Avenue, Suite 10-10NE, Unit 18 Brooklyn, New York 11232.

The funding would be used for a workforce development program for previously incarcerated individuals. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it addresses a need to reduce recidivism and support law enforcement in building safer communities.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Nydia M. Velázquez

Member of Congress

March 18th, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth H.O.B.
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for **Community Safety and Smart Surveillance Initiative** in fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this is the Municipality of Yabucoa in Puerto Rico, located Calle Catalina Morales, Yabucoa, P.R. The funding would be used to establish an integrated, technology-driven surveillance network that combines fiber optic infrastructure, wireless communication systems, and strategically deployed high-resolution cameras to create a resilient and scalable public safety platform.

The project is a good use of taxpayer funds because it will aim to reduce crime, improve response times, and enhance coordination among public safety agencies. The project is designed with scalability in mind, allowing for future expansion and integration with additional smart city technologies. Ultimately, this initiative represents a critical investment in community safety, resilience, and the modernization of municipal public safety systems.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

The Honorable Tom Cole
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Ranking Member
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1036 Longworth H.O.B.
U.S. House of Representatives
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Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the **Shop Local Brooklyn & Queens** project in fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the New York City Department of Small Business Services, located at 1 Liberty Plaza, 11th Floor, New York, NY, 10006.

The funding would invest \$5 million in targeted commercial revitalization efforts within a designated local congressional district to strengthen neighborhood business corridors and improve the public realm. Programming could include holiday lighting, public art and murals, wayfinding signage, and supplemental sanitation services. These interventions are intended to increase foot traffic, enhance neighborhood identity, and create more welcoming and vibrant commercial corridors for residents, visitors, and small businesses.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it delivers broad, community-wide economic benefits. Small businesses are key drivers of job creation and local tax revenue, and their success contributes to neighborhood stability and growth. Enhancing commercial districts also improves public safety, supports tourism, and fosters community pride without requiring large-scale infrastructure spending.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

March 26th, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
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1036 Longworth H.O.B.
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the **Upgrade Auditorium and PS System** project in fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the NYC Department of Education, located at 52 Chambers St Room 320, New York, NY, 10007.

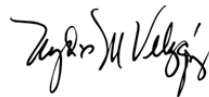
The funding would help PS 60 fully renovate the auditorium (chairs, lighting, sound system, screen and projector, air conditioning, windows, curtains, & flooring) and public announcement system, which is imperative for students, teacher, and staff safety.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because students need an area where they can gather for assembly meetings, participate in school plays, and welcome community members in for special events. The public announcement system at P.S. 60 goes in and out often with multiple requested repairs throughout the past several school years; we need a PA system where all stakeholders within PS 60 can hear important announcements.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

March 27th, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth H.O.B.
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the **Calvary Cemetery Stormwater Infrastructure, Western Queens** project in fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the New York City Department of Environmental Protection located at 59-17 Junction Blvd, Flushing, NY, 11373.

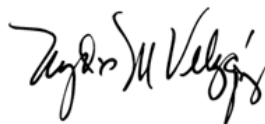
The funding would be used to provide investment in stormwater management infrastructure within Calvary Cemetery located in Sunnyside, Maspeth, and Woodside, Queens. The New York City Department of Environmental Protection will work closely with Calvary Cemetery on designing and implementing stormwater practices to infiltrate or store stormwater and improve drainage on the site, which has the added benefit of reducing stormwater runoff leaving the cemetery.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because community groups, elected officials and residents have highlighted significant localized flooding at and around the sites in Queens that affect the health, quality of life and property of residents there. The project directly addresses flood risk in the area and improves water quality in nearby waterbodies.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

March 26, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
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H-305, the Capitol
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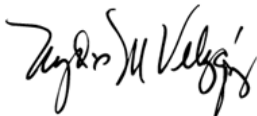
The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth H.O.B.
U.S. House of Representatives
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Dear Chairman Tom Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for **Safety and Security Project – Woodside Houses** for the fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is **New York City Housing Authority** located at 90 Church Street, New York, New York, 10007. The funding will support the installation of one or more of the following scope items: CCTV cameras, layered access entrance system, storefront entrance, intercom system, and interior and/or exterior lighting around building entrances. The detailed scope of work is determined based on the budget, engagement of stakeholders, and specific needs and design of the site.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because public housing residents have expressed concerns about safety and security and would benefit from lighting upgrades. The installation of CCTV cameras will provide residents and community members living in the surrounding area with a sense of safety and security. The exterior lighting will be present as potential crime deterrents, and they will be strategically placed to provide better lighting on campus.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4). I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.



Sincerely, Nydia M. Velázquez

Member of Congress

March 26, 2026

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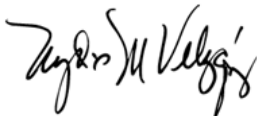
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U.S. House of Representatives
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Dear Chairman Tom Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for **Building Line Initiative – Plumbing Stack Replacement – Queensbridge South Houses** for the fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is **New York City Housing Authority** located at 90 Church Street, New York, New York, 10007. The funding will support The New York City Housing Authority Building Line Initiative (BLI) is a targeted, data-driven capital program that fully replaces aging plumbing systems in the highest-need building lines—addressing chronic leaks, condensation, and mold at their source while completing comprehensive bathroom and kitchen renovations.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because replacing lines and performing full mold remediation, BLI delivers permanent repairs that improve resident health and safety, reduce repeat emergency work orders, and extend the life of critical infrastructure. Grant funding will enable NYCHA to accelerate this proven approach in developments where decades-old plumbing continues to contribute to persistent maintenance challenges and quality-of-life concerns.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4). I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.



Sincerely, Nydia M. Velázquez

Member of Congress

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Dear Chairman Tom Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

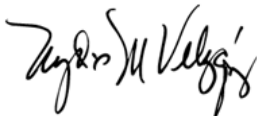
I am requesting funding for **Safety and Security Project – Bushwick Houses** for the fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is **New York City Housing Authority** located at 90 Church Street, New York, New York, 10007. The funding will support the installation of one or more of the following scope items: CCTV cameras, layered access entrance system, storefront entrance, intercom system, and interior and/or exterior lighting around building entrances.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because public housing residents have expressed concerns about safety and security and would benefit from lighting upgrades. The installation of lighting and CCTV at NYCHA's Bushwick Houses will provide residents and community members living in the surrounding area with a sense of safety and security. The exterior lighting will be present as potential crime deterrents, and they will be strategically placed to provide better lighting on campus.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4). I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

Nydia M. Velázquez



Member of Congress