April 28, 2022

Hon. Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
House Appropriations Committee
2413 RHOB
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Kay Granger
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1026 LHOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting $300,754.52 in community project funding for the Windsor Heights P25 Radio Replacement Project in fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Windsor Heights Police and Fire Department, located at 1133 66th Street, Windsor Heights, IA 50324.

Windsor Heights Police and Fire Department current P25 radios are over 10 years old and in need of replacement. These radios are used by police, fire fighters, and emergency medical services personnel who respond to emergency situations within the City of Windsor Heights as well as in surrounding counties through mutual aid agreement. Windsor Heights recently moved to a new Public Safety Answering Point to better align their police and fire teams with their neighbors. Unfortunately, this transition did not include new communications equipment, and the Department is still using P25 public safety radios that are beyond their service life and lack critical new technology.

Each year, the Departments respond to thousands of calls, and the community is growing rapidly. In 2020, they responded to 6,660 police, fire, and EMS calls; in 2021, that number grew to 8,428. In these emergency situations, clear and effective communication can make all the difference. Ensuring first responders and law enforcement have up-to-date, interoperable technology will help the Windsor Heights Police and Fire Department better fulfill their mission to “safeguard the lives and property of the people we serve, reduce the incidence and fear of crime, and to enhance public safety while working with the community to improve their quality of life.”

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Cynthia Axne
Member of Congress IA-03