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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4611

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May 10, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Fairfax County Emergency Vehicle Preemption (EVP) Program in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is Fairfax County Government, located at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA, 22035.

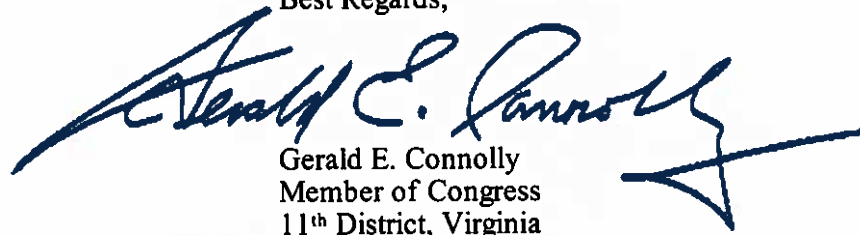
Project: Fairfax County Emergency Vehicle Preemption (EVP) Program
Recipient: Fairfax County Government, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA, 22035
Amount: \$3,300,000

Background: This project will fund the procurement and installation of vehicle preemption devices on designated traffic signals along primary travel routes; reducing accidents involving emergency vehicles and civilians and improving emergency response times. This project will improve safety for Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department (FRD) employees and civilians on heavily trafficked roads by changing signals for emergency vehicles, avoiding confusion instead of relying on drivers to know when to stop and/or pull over for emergency vehicles. By ensuring green lights for emergency vehicles, response times will improve. Shorter response times mean FRD can begin their work more quickly, which is important in dangerous situations like fires and car accidents. It also means first responders will arrive sooner to provide life-saving care, increasing the number of lives saved. This project is a good use of taxpayer dollars, because it will protect people from injury and save lives. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, vehicle crashes cost the United States more than \$340 billion annually, including \$30 billion or \$230 per person in additional taxes. Safer streets free up public dollars for other critical investments.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(2).

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

Best Regards,


Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress
11th District, Virginia