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The Honorable Kay Granger  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-305, the Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

COMMITTEE ON  
OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
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COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA  
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for "Capital Area Food Bank's Lorton, VA Facility Reconstruction" in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Adam LaRose, located at 4900 Puerto Rico Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20017. The funding would be used for the project below.

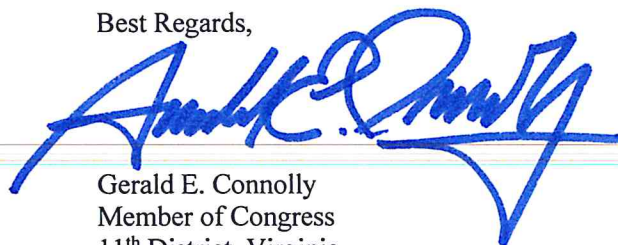
Project: Capital Area Food Bank's Lorton, VA Facility Reconstruction  
Recipient: Capital Area Food Bank, 4900 Puerto Rico Ave. NE, Washington, District of Columbia, 20017  
Amount: \$1,680,999

Justification: The Capital Area Food Bank (CAFB) is critical to Northern Virginia's hunger relief infrastructure. The food bank's warehouse in Lorton, Virginia is the vital food distribution hub for a network of 165 nonprofit partners and 158,000 food insecure individuals. However, the warehouse desperately requires modernization to keep up with the demand of the region. Therefore, the food bank is engaging in a reconstruction of the facility. The current Lorton facility was built in 1982 by Frito Lay. At just 12,000 square feet, the warehouse was never retrofitted to meet the food bank's operational needs following acquisition in 1998, with severely inadequate pallet storage and truck bays. There is no volunteer space, and the building is not ADA accessible. Further, to meet the continued heightened community need, the food bank is renting a second temporary facility in Virginia. Given these inadequacies, the food bank is reconstructing a modernized facility. CAFB is demolishing the current facility in April 2023, breaking ground in May 2023, and plan for project completion by late summer 2024. A feasibility study determined that demolishing and rebuilding on the current plot of land is the most cost-efficient and effective path forward as the food bank owns the land and it is within 10 miles of over 75 percent of our partner organizations. CAFB has obtained proper permitting for demolition and reconstruction, and operations out of the Lorton facility have fully shifted to the secondary, temporary Virginia facility as of April 2022. Service to the community will remain fully functional out of this temporary facility until completion of the reconstruction. The new facility will have 42,000 square feet of warehouse space, in addition to 3,000 square feet of newly dedicated volunteer space. The new facility will have nearly eight times the amount of pallet racks (1,700), and four times the amount of truck bays (8) than the current facility. The facility will meet LEED Silver designation and ADA accessibility guidelines. This project will allow the food bank to deliver 300 percent more food to Northern Virginia partners and clients.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2) and 5305(a)(4), and it meets the National Objectives of the CDBG program by primarily benefiting low- and moderate-income persons or communities.

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  
11<sup>th</sup> District, Virginia