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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0545

March 20, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Water Storage Facility & Helicopter Hydrant Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Lakewood, located at 5050 Clark Ave., Lakewood CA, 90712.

The funding would be used for the design and development of a new 1-million-gallon water storage facility and an incorporated 10,000-gallon helicopter hydrant firefighting system. This permanent, rapid-fill water tank is specifically designed for firefighting helicopters, allowing up to three CH-47 Chinook aircraft to refill simultaneously in under two minutes. By placing this resource in a strategically accessible urban location, the project eliminates the need for pilots to fly to distant water sources, significantly cutting response times during the critical early stages of a fire. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it safeguards a core public utility, reduces long-term disaster recovery costs, and protects property values and lives through proactive modernization.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. 300j-12.

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

Sincerely,



Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress