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23RD DISTRICT, TEXAS

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March 31, 2023

Chairwoman Granger
Appropriations Committee
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Ranking Member DeLauro
Appropriations Committee
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Far West Texas: Regional Efforts to Improve Interoperable Emergency Radio Equipment project in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Rio Grande Council of Governments (RGCG), located at 8037 Lockheed Dr., Ste. 100, El Paso, TX 70025. This project would improve primary interoperable emergency radio communications infrastructure which will include upgrading radios, repeaters, and antennas to expand the region's capability in connecting to a regional or statewide communication system. This project would be a responsible use of taxpayer funds because the complex geography of west Texas terrain and sparse populations in the region makes it challenging to invest in achieving and maintaining communications interoperability. At a time when the border is not secure and illegal immigration is becoming an increasing concern, it is critical that these jurisdictions have operable emergency communications. The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 1701(b)(8) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10381(b)(8)). I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

Member of Congress

