

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-3215**

March 28, 2023

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

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

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for BronxWorks McLaughlin Center HVAC System Upgrades in fiscal year 2024.

The entity to receive funding for this project is BronxWorks, located at 1130 Grand Concourse, Bronx, New York 10456.

The funding would be used to replace the antiquated heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system of a five-story, 42,500 square foot community facility used daily by 200 neighborhood residents. The HVAC upgrade will ensure effective heat distribution in the winter, cool air distribution in the summer, and proper air flow in all seasons to reduce the spread of airborne particulate matter throughout the building, especially in high-traffic areas like the McLaughlin Center's second and fourth floors. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the McLaughlin Center includes a gym, dining room, senior center, four classrooms used for pre-GED and GED classes, and offices all used for youth and senior programming. Improving the HVAC system is essential to BronxWorks' ability to deliver high quality, neighborhood-resident focused services throughout the year for a population with poverty rates as high as 50%.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program: 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

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

Sincerely,



Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress