

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

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for DFTA BronxWorks Carolyn McLaughlin Center Gym HVAC Upgrade & Penthouse Renovation in Fiscal Year 2027.

The entity to receive funding for this project is New York City Department for the Aging, located at 2 Lafayette St, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10007.

The funding would be used to fund two critical capital improvements at the BronxWorks Carolyn McLaughlin Community Center. The first component involves the renovation of a fifth-floor penthouse space. Renovating this space will convert it into active program space for the community, with a portion of funds allocated to extending the existing ADA-compliant elevator to the fifth floor to ensure full accessibility. The second component involves the full replacement of the gym's HVAC system. The failing system limits fresh air circulation and compromises the comfort and safety of participants and staff. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it expands program capacity and modernizes critical building infrastructure at one of the South Bronx's most established and heavily utilized community centers, ensuring it can continue to meet the growing needs of the surrounding community for generations to come.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by and consistent with the goals of one or more of the following eligible uses of the Community Development Fund (CDF): 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2), 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(4), and 42 U.S.C. 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

