

**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 New York City Public Schools Rooftop Greenhouse Restoration at PS 121 Throop in Fiscal Year 2027.

The entity to receive funding for this project is New York City Public Schools, located at 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007.

The funding would be used to fund the renovation and refurbishment of the existing rooftop greenhouse at PS 121 Throop in the Bronx. The greenhouse, which once served as a hands-on agricultural education space for students, has fallen into disrepair and is no longer accessible or usable. This project will restore the greenhouse to full working condition, creating an active learning environment where students can study agriculture, food systems, and climate science. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it delivers lasting educational benefits to public school children in one of the most underserved communities in the nation. Once completed, the space will be available to other local public school children and the surrounding community. In the long term, the greenhouse has the potential to produce food for the surrounding neighborhood, extending its impact well beyond the classroom.

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

