

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 Building Line Initiative - Plumbing Stack Replacement at Melrose Houses in Fiscal Year 2027.

The entity to receive funding for this project is New York City Housing Authority, located at 90 Church Street, New York, NY 10007.

The funding would be used to support the New York City Housing Authority's Building Line Initiative (BLI) at Melrose Houses in the South Bronx. The BLI is a targeted capital program that fully replaces aging plumbing systems in the highest-need residential buildings, addressing chronic leaks, condensation, and mold at their source through comprehensive repairs including replacement of vertical waste risers, vent lines, branch lines, and domestic water supply lines, as well as full mold remediation and bathroom and kitchen renovations. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because delivering comprehensive rehabilitation now, reduces long-term maintenance costs, extends the useful life of critical housing infrastructure, and improves quality of life for low-income residents in one of the most economically disadvantaged congressional districts in the nation.

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

