

March 31, 2023

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

Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Auditorium Improvements at the Carver Center project in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Culpeper County, located at 302 North Main Street, Culpeper, Virginia 22701. The funding would be used to renovate the Carver Center auditorium to fully utilize the existing main school building. The improvements include additional fixed seating, lighting, stage repairs, and audio-visual improvements necessary to fully utilize the space to hold educational and community events. The auditorium improvements would provide a community gathering space for education and events not just for the current users of the Carver Center but for all of Culpeper County.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the improvements will create a space for educational and community events. The Carver Center already serves as a hub for educational, non-profit, and agricultural organizations in Culpeper and surrounding counties, including the Carver Agricultural Research Center, Virginia Cooperative Extension offices, 4-H Club programming areas, and metalworking CTE courses, and the activities of the Carver Center support job growth and investment in the community. The improvements to the auditorium will create a community gathering space to be utilized by organizations on site as well as the entire rural community. An estimated 5,000 people are expected to use the auditorium annually.

This project is eligible under 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2) of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), which states that eligible activities include “the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or installation (including design features and improvements with respect to such construction, reconstruction, or installation that promote energy efficiency) of public works, facilities (except for buildings for the general conduct of government), and site or other improvements.”

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

Sincerely,



Abigail Spanberger
Member of Congress