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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-3221**

March 25, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
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 Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Oneida County Fire and Rescue Training Tower Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Oneida County Emergency Services, located in Utica, New York.

The funding would be used to construct a regional fire and rescue training tower and classroom facility supporting structural firefighting, search and rescue operations, firefighter survival training, ventilation and forcible entry instruction, and rapid intervention team readiness. Although the facility will be located in Whitestown, it will serve all 47 fire departments across Oneida County, including those serving communities within New York's 21st Congressional District.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it strengthens regional emergency response coordination, improves firefighter readiness, and enhances mutual aid capabilities supporting residents across NY-21 and surrounding jurisdictions.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. § 5305(a).

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

Sincerely,



Elise M. Stefanik  
Member of Congress

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