



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

May 3, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairwoman
House Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the West Mead #1 Volunteer Fire Company – New Engine Project. The entity to receive funding for this project is West Mead #1 Volunteer Fire Company, located at 10482 Liberty Street, Meadville, PA 16335. The funding would be used to assist in purchasing a new pumper/tanker. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the current pumper is 30 years old and services mutual aid partners in areas that do not have access to a municipal water system (fire hydrants). A new pumper/tanker, which would increase capacity from 1000 gallons of water on the current pumper to 2500 gallons, with the ability to inject a foam solution into the water that would increase effectiveness by 3-5 times according to the National Institute of Standards and Technology, would enhance public safety and fire response in areas with and without a municipal water supply. Call volume at West Mead #1 volunteer Fire Company has increased 25% between 2021 and 2023 while volunteerism has been down. This project would maximize the ability of firefighters to minimize damage, reduce apparatus on the roadways, and increase the safety of the community.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a).

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

Sincerely,

Mike Kelly
Member of Congress