NICK LALOTA
New York's First District

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3201

May 10, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Riverhead Brownfield Remediation project in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is Suffolk County, located at 100 Veterans Memorial Way, Hauppauge, New York 11788.

The funding would be used to remove a tank and contaminated soil at an abandoned and tax-delinquent brownfield site to prepare the site for redevelopment as affordable housing. 225 Pulaski St. is a former service station that has been abandoned and tax delinquent since 1995. A Phase II environmental investigation determined that a large deteriorating fuel tank remains buried at the site and that the soil surrounding it is contaminated, indicating that the tank is slowly leaking.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will help restore a vacant, tax-delinquent brownfield into a productive site that contributes to greater Riverhead's redevelopment and revitalization efforts. The subject parcel is located just two blocks from the Riverhead Long Island Rail Road Station, site of a major proposed transit-oriented mixed-use development currently making its way through the zoning and land use approval process. Remediation of this brownfield site will remove a major obstacle to redevelopment with a community-supportive use. This project directly benefits local taxpayers by returning this site to the tax rolls, and benefits New York State by complementing Governor Hochul's announcement of $10 million in funding for Riverhead under the Downtown Revitalization Initiative..

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(2).

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

Sincerely,

Nick LaLota
Member of Congress