NICK LALOTA
NEW YORK'S FIRST DISTRICT

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515–3201

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May 3, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-307
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Suffolk County Emergency Operations Center project in Fiscal Year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Suffolk County Department of Fire Rescue and Emergency Services, located at 102 East Avenue, Yaphank, New York 11980.

The funding would be used to aid in constructing an extension of the County's Emergency Operations Center. These funds will be utilized to construct a building extension to accommodate the increase in space needed for an adequate and flexible response for all Emergency Support Functions in a regional incident.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because this project will drastically improve overall emergency management and preparedness capabilities by supporting flexible, sustainable, secure, strategically located, and fully functioning interoperable Emergency Operations Center. A fully capable and functional Emergency Operations Facility for Suffolk County is an essential element of a comprehensive local, state, and national emergency management system and is necessary to ensure coordination and unity of effort among and across all jurisdictions during a major disaster or emergency.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 614 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5196c), as amended by section 202 of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (9/11 Act).

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