

NICK LALOTA  
NEW YORK'S FIRST DISTRICT

122 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3201  
(202) 225-3826

515 ROUTE 111, SUITE 3B  
HAUPPAUGE, NY 11788  
(631) 289-1097

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

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AND INFRASTRUCTURE - CHAIRMAN

March 19, 2026

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 Office of the Suffolk County Sheriff Law Enforcement Equipment and Police Cruiser Fleet Acquisition project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Office of the Suffolk County Sheriff, located at 100 Center Drive, Riverhead, New York 11901.

The funding would be used to acquire 13 police cruisers, mobile anti-vehicle barriers, and rifle-rated ballistic shields for the Office of the Suffolk County Sheriff, and to redistribute the remaining funds to support the following local police departments: the Town of Southampton Police Department (12 new police cruisers), the Town of Shelter Island Police Department (2 new police cruisers), the Village of Southampton Police Department (4 new police cruisers), the Village of Westhampton Beach Police Department (3 new police cruisers), the Village of Sag Harbor Police Department (2 new police cruisers), the Village of East Hampton Police Department (13 new police cruisers), and the Town of Riverhead Police Department (3 new police cruisers). All police cruisers will replace aging fleet assets that have reached the end of their operational life.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the Office of the Suffolk County Sheriff is the largest suburban Sheriff's Office in New York State, with countywide jurisdiction serving more than 1.5 million residents across 420 miles of county roadways and 1,000 miles of coastline. The Sheriff's Response Team — a specialized tactical unit within the Special Operations Bureau — responds to active shooter events, high-risk warrants, barricaded subjects, and dignitary protection operations throughout the region, serving as a shared resource for partner law enforcement agencies across Suffolk County. Equipping the Response Team with mobile anti-vehicle barriers and rifle-rated ballistic shields will directly protect Deputy Sheriffs and partner agency personnel during high-threat enforcement operations, while modernizing police cruiser fleets across eight agencies will enhance officer safety, reliability, and operational readiness throughout the county.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

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