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

April 27, 2022

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
LIVESTOCK AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURE

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
INTELLIGENCE AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
SEAPOWERS AND PROJECTION FORCES

COMMITTEE ON BUDGET

COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

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

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the **New Fire Station** through the Community Facilities account in fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Pontotoc, located at 116 North Main Street, Pontotoc, MS 38863.

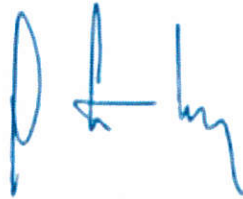
This funding would be used to fund a new Fire Station for the City of Pontotoc, MS. The City of Pontotoc has two stations strategically located to serve our community with both full and volunteer staff. The City of Pontotoc serve approximately 6,400 residents inside the municipal limits of Pontotoc City, and The City of Pontotoc also has a Pontotoc County response district that extends approximately a 5-mile radius outside the Municipal limits. This county district has around 7,000 residents who are solely our responsibility. Additionally, The City of Pontotoc are the primary rescue services for entire Pontotoc County.

The downtown fire station (Station 1) is the base of all the above mentioned services provided. The City of Pontotoc currently share a building with City Hall and are directly across the street from Pontotoc High School and adjacent to Pontotoc Jr High campuses. Furthermore, the primary school athletic facilities for the school district is located behind the FD. As an additional complication, The City of Pontotoc has a crosswalk for Main Street (MS HWY 9) within 8 feet of our engine bays that has a constant flow of teacher and student foot traffic traveling between campuses during and after the school day.

While most crosswalks are at an intersection or have some other type of traffic control device to regulate movement, ours does not. During my tenure as Chief, I've watched the congestion of foot traffic, school traffic, and commercial traffic increase to the point of serious safety concerns for our students and residents from our emergency apparatus responding to and returning to quarters. It is often necessary for fire fighters or police officers to temporarily stop the flow of traffic in front of our station on a state highway so that The City of Pontotoc can leave or return to the station. This congestion greatly inhibits our response to calls where minutes and seconds can positively or negatively impact outcomes.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in these projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Trent Kelly'. The signature is stylized, with a large 'T' and 'K'.

Trent Kelly
Member of Congress