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The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
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

March 27, 2026

Dear Chair Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Five Cities Fire Authority Aerial Ladder Truck Purchase Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is located at 140 Traffic Way, Arroyo Grande, CA 93420. The requested federal funding will be used to purchase an aerial ladder truck to enhance emergency response capabilities across Arroyo Grande, Grover Beach, and nearby unincorporated areas of San Luis Obispo County. FCFA serves approximately 37,000 residents within a 10-square-mile area and operates three fire stations that respond to more than 4,500 calls each year, including structure fires, wildland fires, vehicle collisions, and technical rescues. This funding would support acquisition of the region's first aerial ladder truck, a specialized apparatus designed for effective operation in dense neighborhoods, coastal environments, and areas with narrow or constrained access.

This project is a good use of taxpayer dollars because it replaces aging equipment with a modern, high-capability ladder truck that improves emergency response and firefighter safety while reducing long-term maintenance costs and delivering millions in projected savings over its service life.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S.O. Carbajal".

Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress