

MARIO DIAZ-BALART  
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Congress of the United States  
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May 1, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Village of Virginia Gardens' Law Enforcement Technology Upgrade Project in fiscal year 2025.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Village of Virginia Gardens located at 6498 NW 38<sup>th</sup> Terrace, Virginia Gardens, Florida 33166. The funding would be used to upgrade technology infrastructure including communication systems, surveillance equipment, and data analytics tools to improve officer coordination and efficiency; replacing and upgrading essential equipment such as body cameras and protective gear, as well as purchasing red dot sights to enhance officer accuracy and efficiency, particularly in areas surrounding Miami International Airport. This project is aimed at enhance the capabilities of the law enforcement department through the implementation of cutting-edge technology and equipment upgrades.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds as these resources will serve as a primarily public purpose to engage in public safety and ensure law enforcement is ready and able to keep our community safe.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes described in section 1701(b)(8) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10381(b)(8)).

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

Sincerely,



Mario Diaz-Balart  
Member of Congress