Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

May 1, 2024

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting \$629,300 in funding for Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Houston Capital Improvements Project in Wharton County located in TX-22. The entity to receive funding for this project is Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Houston, located at 2120 N. Newton Street, Wharton, TX 77488.

The funding would be used to repair and upgrade the Wharton Dobson Club and Wharton Teen Scene Club located at 2120 Newton St., Wharton TX 77488. The project is also located in a rural area as specified in 7 CFR 3570.53. Allocating taxpayer funds for these capital improvements would greatly contribute to their mission of providing exceptional after-school and summer programming for young people in the district. Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Houston (BGCGH) serves more than 1,879 Wharton and Fort Bend County youth by surrounding them with positive role models, proven social emotional learning programming and consistent guidance and support.

Specifically, the project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because of three important reasons. The Wharton Dobson Club and Teen Scene are aging facilities often in need of repairs. With 28 years of running programming in the facilities, the everyday wear and tear are taking a toll on the facilities. A strong learning environment begins with physical structure. Community Project funding will help BGCGH provide this optimal learning environment for Wharton Club members. These improvements will make the Club safer and will also prevent further structural damage in the future, saving the organization even greater expenses that would take away from funding to be used directly for youth development programming.

This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a). I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

Troy E. Nehls

Member of Congress