

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

May 3, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Fairmont Utility Department Vehicle Replacement project in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Town of Fairmont, located at 421 S. Main St, Fairmont, NC 28340. The funding would be used for the replacement of public works vehicles that serve the Regional Wastewater System for the Town of Fairmont and four municipalities (Proctorville, Fair Bluff, Cerro Gordo, and Boardman). This project will replace the oldest vehicles in the Public Works Department Fleet and help remove the Town of Fairmont from the state's Distressed Utility List.

This project is a valuable use of taxpayer dollars it allows the Utility Department to upgrade and update necessary equipment without passing those costs on to taxpayers in the service areas. This is especially valuable to the communities, as the Town of Fairmont is a disadvantaged community within a qualified census tract and Tier 1 county in NC. The town is on the state's Unit Assistance List (UAL), based on FY 2022 Audit findings and is also on the Distressed Utility List because of the financial standing of the Regional Wastewater System. This project would help solidify the town's finances and possible removal from both lists.

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 neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

