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

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chairwoman  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

I am requesting funding for the Martin Luther King Jr. Library Improvements Project in Fiscal Year 2023. This request is for the Economic Development Initiative account under the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The entity to receive funding for the project is the City of Aurora located at 15151 E. Alameda Parkway, Aurora, CO 80012.

The City of Aurora is seeking \$2,500,000 million to renovate and make improvements to the Martin Luther King Jr. Library, creating a safe place for vulnerable youth. The library renovations will include the creation of a Library Maker Space, focusing on high-quality STEM programming and educational opportunities, as well as a computer lab with 3-D printers, virtual reality technology, a video production lab, and camera/microphone/lighting equipment. Expanding and improving library infrastructure and services with a new Maker Space and upgrading the public computing center will have a positive impact on underserved populations in Aurora. The computer lab will connect the residents that do not have access to broadband and lack computer skills, supporting activities such as applying for jobs, and attending online schooling.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds. This project will expand upon important infrastructure in a low-income, high-priority community in Northwest Aurora serving primarily low income and vulnerable youth. Northwest Aurora has seen an increase in violent crime, and this project will provide a safe haven for youth. This project will support these communities by providing a safe space for youth to gather and engaging residents in this area will fuel positive community interactions through an enhanced library experience. This investment will result in educational opportunities for underserved youth, economic and equity benefits in Aurora, supporting the community and the neighborhood.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project. I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jason Crow".

Jason Crow  
Member of Congress