

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3218
March 24, 2016

Mr. Brian E. Kamoie
Grants Program Directorate
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20472

RE: EMW-2015-FH-00136

Dear Mr. Kamoie:

I am writing to express my support for the application submitted by the City of Newburgh Fire Department (NFD) to the Assistance to Firefighter grant program.

As you may be aware, the demand placed upon NFD has increased significantly, while the resources provided to it by the City of Newburgh have decreased. The rehabilitation of old structures along with new construction in the City has created a challenging and dangerous environment for first responders. Unfortunately, the NFD has lost nearly ten paid positions in 2015 due to potential lay-offs. Your assistance is needed in order to increase the size-of-force and guarantee the Department remains adequately staffed.

Award of this application will allow the NFD to strengthen and improve its staffing levels, and in doing so ensure that the City and surrounding region remain safe. The City of Newburgh is unable to increase staffing in the Fire Department due to financial constraints, which in turn will only grow as the fiscal year continues. At this time, it is expected that the City will be forced to lay-off additional firefighters before the end of the year that will cause the Department to be at the lowest level of staffing it has ever seen. Your assistance in this matter is critical, and will not only support the Newburgh Fire Department but will also fortify public safety throughout the region.

Therefore, I fully support this application and urge your serious consideration of this request. In order to keep my office informed about this opportunity during the allocation process, or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my Deputy District Director, Joseph Donat by phone at (845) 561-1295 or via e-mail at Joseph.Donat@mail.house.gov. Thank you in advance for your time and careful consideration of this request as both are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress