

TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY
26TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

WASHINGTON OFFICE
423 CANNON HOB
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3306

DISTRICT OFFICE
726 EXCHANGE STREET, SUITE 601
BUFFALO, NY 14210
(716) 852-3501

800 MAIN STREET, SUITE 3C
NIAGARA FALLS, 14301
(716) 282-1274



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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND
INVESTIGATIONS

REGIONAL WHIP, NEW YORK STATE

CO-CHAIR, NORTHERN BORDER CAUCUS

March 19, 2026

Chairman Tom Cole
2207 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro
2413 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Town of Amherst in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Town of Amherst, located at 5583 Main Street, Williamsville, New York 14221. The funding would be used for the Town of Amherst Critical Responder Radio Acquisition Project to purchase portable and mobile radio units for front-line first responders.

This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it directly enhances public safety and maximizes the value of prior federal investments. In FY2023, the Town received a \$900,000 COPS grant to upgrade back-end dispatch infrastructure. This request funds the subscriber radios necessary to complete that ecosystem — ensuring those backend upgrades translate into tangible, life-saving communication reliability for officers in the field. Rather than building a duplicative network, Amherst is acquiring the end-user equipment needed to plug into the broader Western New York interoperability framework, enabling seamless communication with neighboring jurisdictions and mutual aid partners during multi-agency emergencies.

Deploying these units will guarantee compliance with the town's 3.0 Delivered Audio Quality (DAQ) mandate, eliminating dangerous communication dead zones and ensuring Amherst first responders can communicate instantaneously during critical incidents.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized under the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program, as authorized by the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, as amended (34 U.S.C. § 10381 et seq.).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy M. Kennedy".

Timothy M. Kennedy
Member of Congress