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Congress of the United States
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INVESTIGATIONS

REGIONAL WHIP, NEW YORK STATE

CO-CHAIR, NORTHERN BORDER CAUCUS

March 27, 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 City of Buffalo's Blighted Structure Demolition and Removal for Infill Housing project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding is the City of Buffalo, located at 65 Niagara Square, Buffalo, New York 14202. The funding would be used for the acquisition and stabilization of tax-foreclosed commercial structures, blight removal through demolition of unsavable vacant structures with environmental remediation, and streetscape integration via complete streets infrastructure along the Jefferson Avenue and Bailey Avenue corridors in Buffalo, New York.

This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will eliminate blighted and dangerous vacant properties in neighborhoods with poverty rates of 35 percent, preparing shovel-ready parcels for affordable infill housing and community-serving commercial space. By utilizing funds for the front-end costs of demolition and remediation, the City will lower barriers for developers to build affordable housing, increasing neighborhood density and safety while directly benefiting low- and moderate-income residents across the Jefferson Avenue and Bailey Avenue corridors.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), and 5305(a)(4).

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

Sincerely,

Timothy M. Kennedy
Member of Congress