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Committee on House Administration
Ranking Member

Committee on Appropriations
Vice Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies
Subcommittee on Defense

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

March 27, 2026

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Henrietta Dome Arena Community Center project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Town of Henrietta, located at 475 Calkins Road, Rochester, NY 14623.

The funding would be used to acquire, rehabilitate, and preserve the historic Dome Arena Complex and convert it into a multi-use Community Center and Recreation Facility. This project will transform a partially dilapidated, historically significant property into a modern public asset while preventing its potential demolition. The project includes the acquisition of the Dome Arena and the renovation of Minett Hall into a comprehensive community space. Planned amenities within the renovated facility include over 17,000 square feet of dedicated gymnastics space, including a new addition to accommodate expanded programming and a specialized activities area. Altogether, the project will create approximately 97,863 square feet of new community and recreational space, addressing overcrowding in existing facilities and meeting the needs of Henrietta's growing population. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because this project represents a highly cost-effective investment that delivers substantial and wide-ranging public benefits to residents of Henrietta and the surrounding region. By rehabilitating an existing structure rather than constructing a new facility, the Town can create nearly 100,000 square feet of community and recreational space for approximately \$14 million, about \$140 per square foot. This is significantly lower than recent municipal construction costs, which have exceeded \$630 per square foot for much smaller facilities. The project maximizes the value of taxpayer dollars by serving multiple public needs within a single facility. It will provide expanded recreational opportunities for youth, as well as enhanced amenities for seniors.

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), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joseph D. Morelle".

Joseph Morelle
Member of Congress