

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4007

March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the City of Hartsville Police Department Vehicles Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Hartsville, located at 100 E Carolina Ave, Hartsville, South Carolina 29550. The funding would be used to replace seven aging police vehicles that have exceeded their recommended service life and are becoming increasingly costly for the city to maintain.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it directly supports frontline law enforcement operations, improves officer safety, and enhances public safety outcomes in Hartsville. The current fleet has exceeded its useful life, resulting in rising maintenance costs, reduced reliability, and increased risk to officers and the public. Investing in replacement vehicles reduces long-term costs by eliminating frequent repairs and preventing service disruptions caused by vehicle failures. Reliable vehicles allow officers—particularly School Resource Officers—to respond quickly to emergencies, maintain a visible presence, and engage proactively with students and the community. Additionally, these vehicles support broader public safety across Darlington County by improving coordination and response capabilities with partner agencies. Community leaders and stakeholders have demonstrated strong support for this investment, recognizing that modern, dependable equipment is essential to effective policing and community trust. By prioritizing durable, mission-critical equipment, this request ensures that federal funds are used efficiently to deliver immediate, measurable public safety benefits while avoiding higher future costs associated with maintaining an aging fleet.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) program, section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, nor does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Russell Fry
Member of Congress