

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 Myrtle Beach Police Gunshot Detection Expansion Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Myrtle Beach Police Department, located at 1101 North Oak Street, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29577. The funding would be used to expand the Myrtle Beach Police Department's ShotSpotter gunshot detection project.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it leverages proven technology to improve law enforcement effectiveness, reduce investigative inefficiencies, and enhance public safety outcomes. Current data clearly demonstrates that in areas without coverage, officers frequently respond to weapon discharge calls without locating evidence, victims, or suspects—resulting in significant time and resource expenditures with limited outcomes. In contrast, the existing gunshot detection system has produced measurable results, including arrests, evidence recovery, and life-saving interventions, by providing precise, real-time intelligence. Expanding this system will allow the Myrtle Beach Police Department to shift from reactive policing based on incomplete information to proactive, data-driven response. This improves deployment efficiency by reducing unnecessary canvassing, allowing officers to focus resources on confirmed gunfire. It also increases the likelihood of rapid victim aid and successful apprehension of suspects. Additionally, this investment reduces long-term costs associated with unresolved incidents, repeat calls for service, and inefficient patrol deployment. By improving response accuracy and outcomes, the project maximizes the impact of existing personnel and resources without requiring ongoing increases in staffing. Given Myrtle Beach's significant resident and tourist population, this project supports a safer community and strengthens confidence in local law enforcement. Overall, it represents a targeted, evidence-based investment that delivers measurable public safety benefits and strong value for taxpayers.

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