

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-0926

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March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chair  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Big Pine Key Activity Center Project in Fiscal Year 2027.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Monroe County Florida located at 1100 Simonton Street, Key West, Florida 33040.

The funding would be used for the construction of a new Big Pine Key Activity Center. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because Monroe County has received 41 federal disaster declarations, including 22 hurricanes. Big Pine Key's geographic isolation — accessible by a single highway corridor — makes emergency preparedness programming especially vital. A fully operational Activity Center with emergency management programming directly strengthens the community's capacity to prepare for and recover from future storms, and ensures that the county's most vulnerable residents are not left behind in evacuation and recovery planning.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

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

Sincerely,



Congressman Carlos A. Gimenez