

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

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May 2, 2024

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Chairman
Subcommittee on CJS
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Matthew Cartwright
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on CJS
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Cartwright,

I am requesting funding for the City of Sweetwater Policing Equipment and Safety Project in Fiscal Year 2025.

The entity to receive funding for this project is The City of Sweetwater, located at 500 SW 109 Avenue, Sweetwater, Florida 33174.

The funding would be used to update an array of policing equipment to best meet the needs of its residents and visitors. The project would include a new closed-caption camera system and license plate reader. The systems aid in crime prevention, monitoring vehicular movement and allowing police to quickly identify and apprehend suspects by cross referencing license plate information with databases. The project would also include a new Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) system and Records Management System (RMS) to assist with faster response times and facilitate the analysis of crime trends within jurisdictions. The project would provide for a Mobile Command post to ensure swift and effective response to law enforcement situations. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because of Sweetwater's recent growth, the Police Department is not properly equipped to deal with the influx of added people and crime. CCTV & LPR contribute to crime prevention, traffic management, resource allocation, situational awareness, and intelligence gathering. The CAD & RMS systems enhance public safety, improve efficiency, foster accountability, make records available, and promote integration within the broader public safety ecosystem. A MCP would aid in situations such as an active shooter response, crime scenes, natural disasters, preventive operations, agency collaboration, and community outreach. This bolsters the police department's ability to operate and react to situations that require standalone capacity.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized in section 1701(b)(8) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10381(b)(8)).

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, appearing to read 'Gimenez', with a stylized, cursive script.

Congressman Carlos A. Gimenez
Florida's 28th Congressional District