

DIANA HARSHBARGER  
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COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & COMMERCE



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

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March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Committee  
H-307 The Capitol  
Washington DC, 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
1036 Longworth HOB  
Washington DC, 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting \$207,500 in funding for Elizabethton Police Department Radio System Integration in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Elizabethton Police Department, located at 511 East F Street, Elizabethton, TN 37643. The funding is a critical need for the Elizabethton Police Department to provide modernized communication equipment to ensure the Department achieves full operability and integration with the statewide interoperable radio system. Vehicle mounted radios are an indispensable tool for law enforcement personnel, providing essential communication capabilities during emergency responses, promoting public safety, and ensuring effective, proactive operations for law enforcement. The requested grant funding will build upon the substantial progress the Elizabethton Police Department and City of Elizabethton has already achieved, building a radio site in November 2025 and procuring other radio equipment. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will replace the current radio system, which is isolated and lacks regional interoperability, to help prevent costly communication failures and fully integrate the Department with Tennessee's statewide public safety communications backbone.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized section 1701(b)(9) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10381(b)(9)) – to develop new technologies, including interoperable communications technologies [...] to assist State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies in reorienting the emphasis of their activities from reacting to crime to preventing crime and to train law enforcement officers to use such technologies.

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 "Diana Harshbarger".

Diana Harshbarger  
Member of Congress