

VERONICA ESCOBAR
16TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY CONSTRUCTION,
VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEE



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

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NEW DEMOCRAT COALITION
CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS
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May 2, 2025

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

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Regional Interoperable Communications project in fiscal year 2026.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Rio Grande Council of Governments, located at 8037 Lockheed, Ste. 100, El Paso, TX 79925. This funding will allow jurisdictions and public safety entities within El Paso County to replace end-of-life or upgrade mobile and portable radios, also known as subscriber units. This will drastically improve interoperable communications by providing reliable, timely communications among public safety responders and between public safety agencies and citizens, to effectively carry out public safety missions, as well as save lives.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it encourages interagency collaboration, planning, and engagement, while supporting law enforcement officers and agencies in ensuring community and officers' safety.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 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,

Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress