

MIKE THOMPSON

5TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT REVENUE MEASURES

CHAIRMAN

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

April 28, 2021

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The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding in fiscal year 2022 for the following Community Funded Projects for proposals critical to the health, safety and economic well-being of the people of the 5th Congressional District of California.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies:

Napa County Public Safety Radio and Communication (PSRC) Upgrade Project

I request \$1,800,000 for the County of Napa (955 School St, Napa, CA 94559) to support a countywide project that will benefit the City of Napa, the City of St. Helena, and the City of Calistoga by upgrading public safety radio and communication equipment. This technology upgrade would fulfill a mandate by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the California Department of Justice (DOJ). The following law enforcement will use Community Project Funding to purchase new equipment: Napa County Sheriff's Office, City of Napa Police Department, City of St. Helena Police Department, City of Calistoga Police Department.

This project is a good use of taxpayer funding because it fulfills state and federal mandates to improve the protection of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) in public safety radio communication. Napers are guaranteed certain rights regarding the confidentiality of information tied to legal or law enforcement-related action. For years, regional law enforcement in the Napa Valley has not been able to meet the privacy recommendations related to PII under all communications. The County and all cities are committed to meeting FBI and California DOJ requirements and have put forth local resources to start this multi-year process.

Federal support for the upgrade project will allow all jurisdictions to purchase individual radio equipment and related software, which is considered an "on the ground" requirement for this change. Completing this phase of the project will allow the jurisdictions to more quickly begin the next phase of the project, focusing on the communication infrastructure. The second phase ensures the communities information is protected, and provides law enforcement officers with the opportunity to freely and safely communicate while fulfilling their duty to protect and serve.



In addition, unencrypted communications can be hacked, which may cause communications failures that put the lives of community members and first responders at risk.

Vallejo Police Department Community Mobile Mental Health Response Unit Pilot Project

I request \$900,000 for the City of Vallejo Police Department (VPD) (111 Amador Street, Vallejo, CA 94590) to fund a Mobile Mental Health Response Unit Pilot Project. This program will provide trauma-informed mental health response and linkages to social services and reduce arrests in Vallejo, California, through the VPD and its community partners. The Mobile Mental Health Response unit will be staffed by civilian and clinical personnel to better respond to individuals experiencing mental health crises, as well as those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

This project is a good use of taxpayer resources because the program would provide appropriate response and trauma-informed services to the hundreds of residents experiencing a mental health crisis while freeing up VPD officers to respond to criminal incidents. Mobile Mental Health Response Unit members would respond to emergency calls without needing an officer present as long as no violence or weapons are reported. Over the past two years, VPD has experienced a significant increase in mental health-related calls for service. From 2018 to 2019, calls for service for mental health crises rose from 1200 to 1461. The numbers held steady for 2020 with 1,441 calls taken for mental health services, with 1,150 requiring police response. Officers are responding to roughly 100 mental health-related calls for service per month, an average that has been consistent for the last four years.

However, law enforcement officers are limited in their options when responding to a mental health-related call, often having to choose between transporting the individual experiencing a crisis to a mental hospital, arrest them, or resolve the matter informally. The VPD recognizes the importance of using a collaborative approach when responding to intellectual and developmental disabilities and mental health-related calls that includes mental health and medical professionals as well as trauma-informed civilians with lived experience to fully address residents' mental health needs

Subcommittee on Homeland Security:

City of Santa Rosa - Permanent Emergency Operations Center

I request \$1,000,000 for the City of Santa Rosa, California (100 Santa Rosa Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95404) to create a permanent Emergency Operations Center (EOC). In 2017, the Tubbs Fire ravaged Santa Rosa. At the time, it was the most destructive wildfire California had ever seen, doing over \$1 billion in damages. In an independent after action report, Witt O'Brien's auditors recommended the City research the appropriate size and cost of a full-time, standalone EOC because it took City staff almost 45 minutes to get the EOC from "cold" to "hot." The City has identified an existing City-owned facility that, with renovations, could house a "hot" EOC which would enable staff to respond to disasters in a more timely manner. A permanent EOC would also serve regional needs. For example, Windsor used space at the temporary Santa Rosa EOC during the Kincade Fire.

The project is a good use of taxpayer funds because a permanent EOC would improve the speed of response to disasters and improve coordination. Since 2017, the City has activated its emergency operations center 11 times in response to wildfire or other natural disaster events. When disaster strikes, government agencies must coordinate their response immediately. Protection of life, property and overall public safety depends on fire, police, water and public works professionals being equipped to do their job in a coordinated fashion. A “hot” EOC will provide continuity of operations and communications throughout any incident by ensuring field personnel have the proper resources, data and situational awareness to effectively accomplish their missions.

Subcommittee on the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies:

Lake County Full Circle Effluent Pipeline Preliminary Design Report Update

I request \$320,000 for Lake County, California (255 N. Forbes Street, Lakeport, CA 95453) to complete the Full Circle Effluent Pipeline Preliminary Design Report Update (PDR Update). The project would evaluate which of the existing wastewater treatment facilities in the project area would provide source water for the effluent pipeline the planned project features. With technological advances made since the completion of the 2004 Preliminary Design Report, this project will review alternatives for the final use of the treated effluent including geothermal energy production and agriculture irrigation.

The scope of the PDR Update consists of:

- Evaluating which of the existing wastewater treatment facilities in the project area would provide source water for the effluent pipeline the planned project features. Evaluation would include general plant design features, treatment schemes, design influent flows and loads, effluent quality, and current plant flows and current waste discharge requirements and permits.
- Reviewing existing data from state, regional, and local agencies regarding existing population and land use in the project area as well as land use plans and population projections to assess anticipated wastewater flows to be served by the resulting project.
- Review the 2004 Preliminary Design Report to reevaluate alternatives considered at that time. In light of new technologies consider additional project alternatives for final use of the treated effluent not limited to; connection to existing Southeast Geysers Effluent Pipeline, agricultural irrigation uses in the Big Valley area, alternative effluent pipeline to different geothermal energy producers, etc. Identify and describe features and requirements of the various components of the Effluent Pipeline and develop alternatives, where appropriate, for those components.
- Provide preliminary design for the alternatives.
- Identify the preferred alternative and assess design and construction considerations.
- Development of Preliminary Design Report.

This project is a good use of taxpayer funds because it will evaluate options for the Full Circle Effluent Pipeline to increase the production of geothermal power to help offset our reliance on less environmentally friendly forms of power generation. Another studied potential use for the treated and recycled wastewater would be to supply agriculture needs in the Big Valley

groundwater basin, which would lessen the demand on groundwater sources and provide greater resiliency against drought.

Napa County Deer Park/St. Helena Water System Request

I request \$1,840,000 for Adventist Health St. Helena Hospital (10 Woodland Road, St. Helena, CA 94574), a non-profit, to improve water infrastructure and increase onsite water storage. Adventist Health St. Helena Hospital owns and operates water storage, treatment, and distribution facilities that provide potable water to approximately 660 residents and hospital facilities. The water system has 213 active connections distributed throughout three (3) pressure zones, which serve St. Helena Hospital and its facilities, 186 residences in the immediate vicinity of the hospital and two (2) vineyards. The water utility is a subset of the hospital's maintenance department. The water system is regulated by the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB).

During fire season, the hospital provides firefighting water. Last year while fighting the Glass Fire, the water supply was depleted and the community is interested in increasing its water supply for emergency situations.

The water system serves a critical healthcare facility, and is currently at high risk of failure. The system provides emergency water supplies when available to the City of St. Helena and Napa County. An evaluation of the system's infrastructure established the following main risk factors and potential damages resulting from the failure of the system's vulnerable facilities:

- Critical water system facilities and water supplies are at risk of potential failure in the event of a drought event, fire, seismic event, heavy storm, or as a result of wear and tear.
- The water system does not have adequate infrastructure to protect its facilities against drought, including sufficient storage and properly sized distribution system mains to deliver water in the event of drought-induced fire events.
- Water system failure could result in interruption of water service for consumption and firefighting, hospital shutdown, and loss of life and property.

Adventist Health St. Helena has identified the following improvements to address the system's risk factors and vulnerabilities:

- Replacement of Critical Sections of Transmission System Piping- Replacement of approximately 2,800 linear feet of piping to increase the reliability of the system and minimize water losses. (\$420,000)
- Construction of Two (2) 60,000-gallon Storage Tanks in Zone 1 - The addition of two (2) 60,000-gallon tanks on the hill would provide critical storage to Zone 1 and increase the reliability of the water system. The tanks would be able to gravity feed all of the distribution system and remove the need for the existing booster pump, improving system resiliency. Maintaining adequate storage in all zones of the SHH system is critical for drought resiliency, as it enables each zone to not depend directly on source production to meet demand. Each welded steel tank would be approximately 20-feet tall and 24-feet in diameter. A new dedicated water main would be installed to connect the tanks directly to Zone 1. (\$360,000)
- Installation of Emergency Power at Key Facilities - Emergency power is essential to the reliability of the system; it ensures that the water facilities remain operational during

power outages and limits potential interruptions of water service to the customers. The proposed emergency power systems would be stationary propane-powered generators. (\$60,000)

- Replacement of Critical Sections of Distribution System Piping - consists of replacement of approximately 6,200 linear feet of distributing piping to maintain the integrity of the distribution system and ensure the public health of the users. (\$930,000)
- Rehabilitation of Booster Pump Station – Stabilize and weatherize pump station to address seismic vulnerability and wear and tear. (\$70,000)
- Design and construction management costs associated with the above improvements. (Cost included in above costs)

I understand that the project sponsor is flexible to working with the Committee should funding for some of the components not be available.

This request is a good use of taxpayer funds because it will strengthen the communities water supply, and address maintenance of Safe Drinking Water Act Standards.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies:

Accessing Coordinated Care and Empowering Self Sufficiency (ACCESS)

I request \$1,600,000 for Sonoma County's (100 Santa Rosa Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95404) Accessing Coordinated Care and Empowering Self Sufficiency (ACCESS) project. These funds will allow the county to expand the existing ACCESS Sonoma initiative Interdepartmental Multidisciplinary Team (IMDT) cohorts to respond to the most vulnerable residents to address the impact resulting from the repeated wildfires, floods, and power shutoff events with the pandemic serving as the proverbial straw.

This project is a good use of taxpayer funding because it will expand access to safety net services for the most at-risk individuals in the community. Patients served by ACCESS are typically those individuals who most commonly rely on safety net services, and the ACCESS program streamlines collaboration between those services in an effort to promote independence and reduce reliance on services. In addition, ACCESS works to address the intersection of mental and behavioral health services, social services, and the criminal justice system. Among other improvements, the funds requested would allow ACCESS to provide counseling, housing services, mental and behavioral health services, and substance use screening to a greater number of people, and would allow the program to serve more young misdemeanants in an effort to prevent future recidivism.

Contra Costa County Collaborative Care Implementation

I request \$900,000 for Country Costa County, California (2500 Alhambra Avenue, Martinez, CA 94553) for a project that expands an ongoing effort aiming to facilitate the education and training for behavioral health staff, implement a standardized treatment model across 11 Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) clinics within the Contra Costa Regional Medical Center and Health Centers (CCRMC-HC) system, and build electronic health record (EHR) systems to support coordination of care.

The project is a good use of taxpayer funds because the funds will be used to improve the delivery of primary and mental / behavioral health care to tens of thousands of patients, many of whom are Medicaid enrollees. Specifically, the requested \$900,000 will be used to implement a Collaborative Care Model through the Contra Costa Regional Medical Center and its satellite clinics. CCRMC is a county hospital, and would use the funds to streamline the delivery of primary, mental and behavioral health care services, including by expanding screening and improving collaboration between different providers.

Petaluma Health Center, Inc.

I request \$1,000,000 for the Petaluma Health Center, Inc. (5900 State Farm Dr, Rohnert Park, CA 94928), a Non-Profit 501(c), to renovate its Rohnert Park Health Center site and to purchase capital equipment to build out and equip an additional 6 medical exam rooms.

The project is a good use of funds because it will enable the Rohnert Park Health Center to care for an additional 5,000 people. Over the last year, the Petaluma Health Center identified over 10,000 individuals in Sonoma County who do not have a trusted source of primary care. Most of these individuals are people of color and essential workers. This project would increase access to prevention-focused health care and health equity, which would help our local economy by ensuring essential workers are able to get access to timely care.

Touro University California - Increasing Health Equity By Improving Diversity in Healthcare and Education Through Targeted Programmatic Growth

I request \$1,000,000 for Touro University California (1310 Club Drive, Mare Island, Vallejo, CA 94592) for the rehabilitation and construction, repair, and improvement of historic Truett Hall H71 at Touro University California. TUC has outgrown their current space capacity and are unable to increase class sizes in their healthcare programs to meet the current and future medical needs of our regional communities. This project will increase diversity in education and expand healthcare training for educators. The improved facility will be used for training in rural health, telehealth, substance abuse prevention and treatment and mental health. With the class size increase TUC will be adding a minimum of an additional 40 primary care providers each year and likely more as they can also increase their Physician Assistance and Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) class sizes.

This project request is a good use of taxpayer funds as it would have long-lasting effects not just on the Touro Campus, but for health care in the entire region. Touro University has well established relationships with regional schools, colleges, universities, hospitals, non-profit partners, community-based programs and internships, etc. This project will help solidify their pipeline of students who take their medical training directly to our community, improving our collective health. Touro University graduates the highest numbers of Primary Care Physicians in California, from any medical school. TUC graduates a total of 233 Primary Care Providers per year, including 90 medical students, 48 Physician Assistant Students, 10 Doctor of Nursing Practice/FNP students and 85 Pharmacy students per year.

Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies:

Lake County Kelseyville Sidewalk Project

I request \$450,000 for Lake County (255 N. Forbes Street, Lakeport, CA 95453) to assist the town of Kelseyville to implement the recently completed countywide Safe Routes to School Plan. The funding will help achieve the goal of the plan to facilitate safe routes to schools and encourage students to walk and bike to school. Specifically, this project will create one continuous sidewalk along the south side of Konocti Road in the town of Kelseyville. This is the primary route for vehicle traffic traveling from downtown to the local elementary and middle schools. School aged children currently walk along the narrow curb next to the bike lane. The existing shoulder provides no physical separation between school children and other pedestrians, which creates an immediate risk for potential injuries and fatalities. This project will focus on a physical barrier separating pedestrians from vehicular traffic.

This project request is a good use of taxpayer funds because it provides a healthy and safe option for children who are going to and from school.

Thank you for your consideration of these projects which will benefit the people of the 5th Congressional District of California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Thompson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mike" and last name "Thompson" clearly legible.

MIKE THOMPSON
Member of Congress