

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

May 23, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, D. C. 20515

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for **Bell Park Improvements** in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Chicago Park District, located at 3020 N. Oak Park Ave. Chicago, IL 60634.

The funding would be used to build a new, accessible field house open to the public (approximately 11,000 sq.ft.) with an indoor club room, restrooms, and gymnasium. This field house would provide a community space for the Montclare and Dunning neighborhoods, and would increase overall engagement and activities for residents in Bell Park.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will provide a space for the community to gather and activate public space. Research shows that recreational activities and activation of public spaces decrease the likelihood of neighborhood violence, and a new field house would allow neighbors to utilize Bell Park more fully.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

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

Sincerely,



Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress