

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 the **Patrick Henry School Playground and Infrastructure Project** in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Chicago Board of Education, located at 4250 N. St. Louis St., Chicago, 60618.

The funding would be used to fully renovate a severely deteriorated elementary school playground that has not been upgraded in more than a decade. While limited emergency repairs have been made, the existing space remains 70% concrete and lacks safe, developmentally appropriate equipment. The project will replace outdated surfaces and structures, incorporate permeable materials to address flooding and environmental impact, and create a safe outdoor space for over 500 students during the school day and the neighborhood outside of school hours.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it improves safety, functionality, and accessibility for students and the surrounding community, and addresses a long-standing infrastructure deficiency in a high-need area. It also provides measurable public benefits beyond the school's population by enhancing the quality of shared open space.

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