

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

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MIKE BOST  
12TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
RANKING MEMBER

TRANSPORTATION &  
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

April 29, 2021

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro  
Chairwoman  
House Committee on Appropriations  
H-307, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting \$1,000,000 for Police Station and Emergency Operations Center – Mt. Vernon in fiscal year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Mt. Vernon, located at Logan and 27<sup>th</sup> Street Mt. Vernon, IL 62864.

The funding would be used to replace an outdated Police Station and deficient Emergency Operations Center with a new 20,000 SF facility. The Mt Vernon Police Department currently partners with social service agencies like DCFS, Kids Hope United, Lutheran Child and Family Services, and SAFE to provide a safe environment for the social workers to assist troubled youth who need authoritative intervention. Currently, these agencies must use a small patrol office that is an office for officers also. This environment can be considered a "hard" environment that is not productive when trying to gain trust or communicate effectively. The Mt. Vernon Police Department would like to incorporate a "soft" room in the new building to allow them to continue to partner with social agencies through a room designed to provide security and a relaxed environment for troubled youth and victims. At this time, they do not have a space to accommodate all of the agencies they collaborate with in the event of a disaster or significant emergency event. This facility will provide a multipurpose room that can be used for officer training, the Citizens Police Academy, as well as hardened space for an Emergency Operations Center. The City wants to provide a modern space to accommodate current policing strategies, significantly improve the interaction with juveniles, and, have a secure space to work from during a disaster or serious public event.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to have the following benefits. It is in the interest of the residents for the police to have a space to accommodate new strategies, programs, and training for the officers. And, Mt. Vernon realized during a serious water disaster in 2018 that it needed a modern emergency operations center to collaborate with all of the agencies, manage public relations and public resources, and safety issues during a disaster.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Bost". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mike Bost  
Member of Congress