



CLAY HIGGINS

3RD DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

MEMBER, HOUSE FREEDOM CAUCUS

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
CHAIRMAN BORDER SECURITY AND ENFORCEMENT
TRANSPORTATION AND MARITIME SECURITY

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND
THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE
NATIONAL SECURITY, THE
BORDER, AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

May 3, 2024

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

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Iberia Parish Municipal Evacuation Center in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is Iberia Parish Government, located at Courthouse Building, Suite 400, 300 Iberia Street, New Iberia, LA 70560. The funding would be used to construct a 20,000-25,000 square foot facility to meet the community's need for a purpose-built space for conducting mandatory evacuations during normal and pandemic conditions. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because Iberia Parish Government emergency plans must currently rely on a patchwork of inadequate facilities to execute the various activities called for in the Parish Emergency Operations Plan. Iberia Parish residents will be safer, and disaster response and recovery actions will be more effective, with a purpose-built facility to support all of these activities.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 614 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5196c), as amended by section 202 of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (9/11 Act).

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

Respectfully,

Clay Higgins
Member of Congress