**Office of Congresswoman Deborah K. Ross**

**FY2026 Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations**

**Community Project Request Form**

Return completed form and required documentation to: CommunityProjects.Ross@mail.house.gov

**Due Date for this Request Form: Thursday, April 24, 2025 at 6:00PM EST**

**Due Date for Letters/Evidence of Community Support (in a single PDF): Monday, April 28, 2025 6:00PM EST**

*Note: Only non-profit entities, public institutions, and state and local government entities are eligible to request projects. Projects cannot be designated for private individuals or for-profit entities. Memorials, museums, and commemoratives will not be considered. The Subcommittee will only accept legally eligible requests under the following accounts:*

* *Department of Commerce—National Institute of Standards and Technology—Scientific and Technical Research and Services*
* *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)—Coastal Zone Management*
* *Department of Justice—Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG)*
* *Department of Justice—Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Technology and Equipment*
* *National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)—Safety, Security and Mission Services*

*To be considered, the project must be legally eligible for grants under these accounts and comply with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations related to the specific grant program. If you have questions about the appropriations community project submission process, please contact* *Tom.Koester@mail.house.gov* *to discuss. Incomplete project requests will not be considered by the Committee.*

**Entity Requesting Funds** (legal name of the non-federal project sponsor, no abbreviations; non-profits must attach evidence that the organization is a registered non-profit under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986):

**Primary Point of Contact** (name, email, phone number, organization address):

**Project Priority** (if non-federal sponsor is submitting more than 1 project):

**Legally Eligible Account for Project Request** (Byrne JAG, COPS T&E, NOAA, NIST, or NASA SSMS):

**Short description of the project to appear in the report** (eg**:** $95,000 for an Esparza Beach Police Department body camera project)**:**

**Complete Description of Project** (limit 1000 characters, including spaces):

**Total Project Cost** (including breakdown of federal/non-federal shares):

**Requested Amount:**

**Provide detailed budget information as to how the funding is anticipated to be spent** (attach budget if necessary).

**Explanation of the request, including an explanation of why this is a good use of taxpayer funds:**

**Please provide a specific legal citation of the authorization in law of this project and include a written statement describing the federal nexus for the requested project.**

**Please indicate whether you have submitted a request for this same project to any other Member of Congress, if so, please list the Members and staff points-of-contact:**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**NIST Scientific and Technical Research and Services (STRS)**

NIST Scientific and Technical Research projects support standards-related research and technology development.

Funding must be for activities consistent with, and supportive of, NIST’s mission and aligned with one or more of the functions and activities described in section 272 of title 15, United States Code. Funding for building construction or renovation projects is not an eligible use of NIST Scientific and Technical Research

Supplemental Questions:

1. **Is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986? [yes/no]**
2. **Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.**
3. **Are you aware of another Member making a request for this same project?**
4. **Please provide the location of this project, in the format ‘City (or County), State’.**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coastal Zone Management**

Coastal Zone Management projects support the protection, restoration, and responsible development of our nation’s diverse coastal communities and resources.

Funding must be for activities consistent with, and supportive of, NOAA’s mission and aligned with one or more of the purposes described in the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq.). **Coastal Zone Management projects are subject to any applicable cost-share required by law under the Coastal Zone Management Program.**

Supplemental Questions:

1. **Is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986? [yes/no]**
2. **Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.**
3. **Are you aware of another Member making a request for this same project?**
4. **Please provide the location of this project, in the format ‘City (or County), State’.**

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**State and Local Justice Assistance—Byrne Justice Assistance Grants Office of Justice Programs**

Byrne Justice projects assist state, local, and Tribal law enforcement efforts to enforce laws, address violent crime, increase prosecutions, improve the criminal justice system (including the correctional system), provide victims’ services, and other related activities.

Funding must be for activities consistent with, and supportive of, the Office of Justice Programs’ mission and aligned with one or more of the purposes described in the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) program, section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

Awarded grants will be subject to the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 and the DOJ Grants Financial Guide. Below are the links to the Department’s guidance and frequently asked questions regarding the Byrne-JAG program, which may help guide you in gauging the eligibility of a proposed Byrne project:

* <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/jag/overview>
* <https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/jag-faqs.pdf>.

Allowable costs are those costs consistent with the principles set out in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E, and those permitted by the grant program’s authorizing legislation.

Prohibited uses of funding: 34 US.C. 10152(d) provides:

*(d) Prohibited uses*

*Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no funds provided under this part may be used, directly or indirectly, to provide any of the following matters:*

*(1) Any security enhancements or any equipment to any nongovernmental entity that is not engaged in criminal justice or public safety.*

*(2) Unless the Attorney General certifies that extraordinary and exigent circumstances exist that make the use of such funds to provide such matters essential to the maintenance of public safety and good order-*

*(A) vehicles (excluding police cruisers), vessels (excluding police boats), or aircraft (excluding police helicopters);*

*(B) luxury items;*

*(C) real estate;*

*(D) construction projects (other than penal or correctional institutions); or*

*(E) any similar matters.*

In addition, the Chair will not support the use of Byrne Justice Community Project Funding for the following:

• Initiatives that involve the distribution of drug paraphernalia.

• Initiatives that undermine the 2nd Amendment or infringe upon rights guaranteed by the Constitution without due process of law.

• Initiatives that appear to be anti-law enforcement or unrelated to criminal justice.

• Larger projects for the construction or renovation of penal or correctional institutions that will exceed the capability of single-year funding.

Supplemental Questions:

1. **Is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986? [yes/no]**
2. **Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.**
3. **Is the purpose of this request the construction or renovation of a building? [yes/no]**
4. **Are you aware of another Member making a request for this same project? [yes/no]**
5. **Please provide the location of this project, in the format ‘City (or County), State’.**

**Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) – Technology and Equipment**

COPS Technology and Equipment projects support state, local, and Tribal law enforcement efforts to develop and procure the technology and equipment needed to respond more quickly and effectively, improve officer safety, increase transparency and enhance community relations.

Funding must be aligned with the purposes of section 1701(b)(8) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10381(b)(8)). As such, the Chairman will consider projects to develop and/or acquire technologies and equipment, including interoperable communications technologies, modernized criminal record technology, and forensic technology, to assist State, Tribal, and local law enforcement agencies, including by reorienting the emphasis of their activities from reacting to crime to preventing crime and training law enforcement officers to use such technologies.

Eligible recipients for COPS Technology and Equipment Community Project Funding are State, Tribal, and local law enforcement agencies. Funding for building construction or renovation projects is not an eligible use of COPS Technology and Equipment Community Project Funding.

Supplemental Questions:

1. **Is the recipient a State, Tribal, or local law enforcement agency?**
2. **Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.**
3. **Is the purpose of this request the construction or renovation of a building? [yes/no]**
4. **Are you aware of another Member making a request for this same project? [yes/no]**
5. **Please provide the location of this project, in the format ‘City (or County), State’.**

**NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA)**

**NASA Safety, Security, and Mission Services**

NASA Safety, Security and Mission Services projects support science education, research, and technology development related to NASA’s mission.

Funding must be for activities advancing the purposes described in section 20102 of title 51, United States Code. Projects should focus on science, education, research, and technology development related to NASA’s mission. Building construction or renovation projects and medical research projects will not be considered for funding.

Supplemental Questions:

1. **Is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986? [yes/no]**
2. **Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.**
3. **Is the purpose of this request the construction or renovation of a building? [yes/no]**
4. **Are you aware of another Member making a request for this same project? [yes/no]**
5. **Please provide the location of this project, in the format ‘City (or County), State’.**