



RANDY WEBER
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
FOURTEENTH DISTRICT, TEXAS
May 3, 2024

The Honorable Mark Amodei
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations,
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Henry Cuellar
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations,
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Amodei and Ranking Member Cuellar:

I am requesting funding for City of Galveston Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program (PDM) in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Galveston, Texas, located at 3016 Market Street Galveston, Texas 77550.

The funding would be used for a Galveston Island Multi-Agency Dual-Use First Responder Safe Room and Fire Station Replacement. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because storm facilities meeting International Code Council (ICC) criteria may provide some constituents protection. A structure designed and constructed in accordance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) P-361 guidance is a "Safe Room" providing near-absolute life protection. Currently, the only facility on Galveston Island designed and constructed to meet FEMA's P-361 standard is the 59th Street Pump Station, which has limited capabilities for housing first responders/critical services personnel (houses approximately 4 persons).

This first responder safe room environment would be capable of housing multiple agencies and ensure their safety and capabilities to provide rapid emergency response following an emergency/disaster event. The project is a critical use of taxpayer funds because the project:

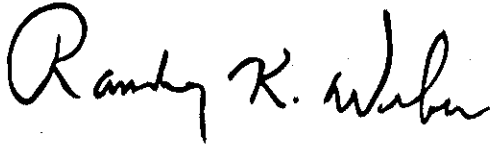
- Protects University of Texas Medical Branch personnel and provides emergency medical services and safety for patients that cannot be moved.
- Lowers future emergency housing cost reimbursements for personnel housed in the safe room.
- Provides the replacement of the fire apparatus bay for Fire Station #2, which is at the end of its useful life (built in the 1960s).
- Houses firefighting staff, vehicles, and equipment, including EMS personnel and vehicles.

- Dual-use safe room to house potentially large number of personnel, including firefighters, EMS personnel, Emergency Management, and Beach Patrol.
- Houses University of Texas Medical Branch law enforcement personnel in multi-agency dual-use first responder safe room (currently housed in hospital space).
- Provides storage needs for holding areas for emergency provisions.

This project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 203 of the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. 5133), as amended by Section 1234, National Public Infrastructure Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation, of the Disaster Recovery Reform Act (DRRA) of 2018.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, nor does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy K. Weber". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

RANDY K. WEBER
United States Representative

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