

June 22, 2023

Mr. Patrick O'Brien  
Director, Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation  
2231 Crystal Drive, Suite 520  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Mr. O'Brien,

I proudly support the New Boston Fire Department's application for \$9.2 million from the fiscal year 2023 Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program. The New Boston Fire Department is operated by dedicated fire personnel. Their sacrifice and hard work pay valuable dividends to the small rural community they serve as well as the resilience and readiness of the United States Military, New Boston Space Force Station, and 23rd Space Operations Squadron.

Since 1973, New Boston Fire Department has operated out of the same station despite a substantial increase in call volume, larger apparatus, and changes in the staffing model. The station has one bathroom, no shower or decontamination facilities, and no living quarters for the on-duty personnel — greatly limiting the agency's scope. In an effort to provide sleeping quarters for on-duty responders, the Fire Department rents an apartment down the road from the station. When crews are dispatched to an emergency, they have to run to the station to get in the truck—needless to say, this is very unusual and delays response time.

Since the 1990s, New Boston Fire Department has also provided essential fire, rescue, wildland, hazmat, and emergency medical service to New Boston Space Force Station. With over 100 civilian employees, five full-time military personnel, \$11 billion in U.S. Military assets spread over the 3,000-acre facility, and no dedicated on-site emergency responders, the New Boston Fire Department is serving as a critical partner to the station's operational success and the 24/7 situational awareness of the U.S. Military.

Supporting New Boston Fire Department's \$9.2 million grant application will be a significant step in modernizing the antiquated station, increasing its readiness, and bolstering the resilience of the New Boston Space Force Station— meeting the mission of the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation. I strongly support the New Boston Fire Department's grant application and urge you to give full and fair consideration to this proposal. If you have any questions, please contact Ryan Hyde in my office at [ryan.hyde@mail.house.gov](mailto:ryan.hyde@mail.house.gov) or (603) 595-2006.

Sincerely,



Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress