

1124 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
202-225-4061
202-225-5603 (FAX)
3742 WEST IRVING PARK ROAD
CHICAGO, IL 60618
773-267-5926
773-267-6583 (FAX)



COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT
TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT,
AND RELATED AGENCIES

MIKE QUIGLEY
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
5TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

September 26, 2014

Brian E. Kamoie
Assistant Administrator, Grant Program Directorate Federal Emergency Management Agency
800 K Street NW, 9th Floor North Tower
Washington, DC. 20001

Dear Mr. Kamoie:

I am writing to express my support for the City of Elmhurst's grant application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to replace the existing Self Contained Breathing Apparatuses (SCBA) currently utilized by Elmhurst Fire Department members.

The SCBA are worn by firefighters when they enter hazardous atmospheres that can be immediately dangerous to life and health. The carcinogens in the smoke that are produced from today's fires have caused an increase in cancer rates for firefighters. I believe that it is more important than ever to have the most current and up-to-date breathing apparatus to protect them.

I understand the SCBAs currently in use by Elmhurst firefighters do not meet current NFPA standards. Malfunctions are occurring more frequently, resulting in more repairs and higher upkeep costs. The funds from this grant would help purchase 35 SCBA and 68 air bottles, which will cost an estimated \$262,000.

I understand that during 2013, the Elmhurst Fire Department responded to over 6,000 calls, while serving a population of 44,121 spread over 10.25 square miles.

I believe the safety of our first responders should be a top priority. I ask that your agency give Elmhurst's application receive all full and fair consideration.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact my staff member, Robert Becker, at RobertC.Becker@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

Mike Quigley
Congressman, Illinois 5th District