

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 10th, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting \$4,000,000 in funding for the MUSD Workplace Development Center. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Milpitas Unified School District, located at 1331 E Calaveras Blvd, Milpitas, CA 95035.

This funding will be used to build a Workplace Redevelopment Center to retool and reinvigorate a low-income area in Milpitas. At the crossroads of Hwy 237 and Hwy 680 in Milpitas lies the "Triangle of Greatest Need," where more than 50% of the residents are low income and working one paycheck away from becoming unhoused; the residents need workforce development to fuel the heart of the advanced manufacturing industry. Currently a 70-year-old building lies unused due to its certification as an occupational hazard with seismic dangers; however, once it is either demolished or renovated, the MUSD Workforce Development Center equipped with advanced manufacturing and tech labs for the purposes of retooling the workforce will exist in its place. 49% of all workers in the service area who live in District 17 lost their jobs during the last economic crisis while the other industries saw a growth of jobs that went unfilled by local residents who are not skilled for the careers that fuel advanced manufacturing -- one of the largest industries in Milpitas. The project will include demolition of existing structures, site work for underground infrastructure, carpentry, masonry, HVAC, roofing, flooring, electrical, paint, fire alarms, lab outfitting for robotics and advanced manufacturing, and hazardous materials removal. This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it supports the construction of buildings consistent with community development and federally authorized programs.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(4).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ro Khanna", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ro Khanna
Member of Congress