

KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND

NEW YORK

SENATOR

RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
SUITE 478  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3205  
202-224-4451

COMMITTEES:  
ARMED SERVICES  
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS  
AGRICULTURE  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3205

March 28, 2017

Mr. Robert J. Fenton, Jr.  
Administrator  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
500 C Street S. W.  
Washington, D.C. 20472

Dear Administrator Fenton,

I write in support of the application submitted by the City of Kingston Fire Department for funding from the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response program through the Federal Emergency Management Agency. This funding will help to retain career and volunteer firefighters.

The Kingston Fire Department operates out of seven stations across the City of Kingston, and provides fire suppression, rescue, and emergency services to residents of the City. The Department responds to approximately 5,000 emergency incidents per year, and often relies on the efforts of volunteer firefighters in surrounding communities. However, the Department has seen a decrease in revenue and active firefighters as a result of the City's diminishing tax base, while the number of calls for service throughout the City continue to rise.

The requested funding will allow the Kingston Fire Department to support an additional four firefighters, increasing the Department's compliancy with NFPA standards and requirements. Additional members of the Kingston Fire Department will enable the Department to promote a safer working environment for their firefighters while enhancing the Department's ability to serve the community. This funding will also help ease the burden on volunteer fire departments in surrounding communities upon which the City of Kingston relies.

I ask that you please give this application your full consideration. If you have any questions, or desire further information, please do not hesitate to contact my staff member, Laura Driscoll, at (202) 224-4451.

Sincerely,



Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senate