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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3205

January 24, 2017

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

Dear Administrator Fenton,

I write in support of the application submitted by the City of Norwich Fire Department for funding from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program through the Federal Emergency Management Agency. This funding will be used to purchase a vehicle exhaust extraction system.

Located in Chenango County, the City of Norwich Fire Department serves a 65-square-mile district that includes the Chenango County seat as well as prominent manufacturing headquarters including Chobani Yogurt and Norwich Pharma Services. Norwich Department firefighters provide nearly 16,000 district residents with emergency fire, medical, and other emergency fire services. In 2015, the Department responded to over 3,000 requests for service.

The requested funding will be used to purchase a vehicle exhaust extraction system for the Department's main truck bay. The City of Norwich Fire Department currently lacks an exhaust capture system. As a result, Department firefighters are exposed to hazardous diesel emissions from fire apparatuses. Installing a vehicle exhaust extraction system will ensure that all vehicle exhaust is captured at the point of generation, eliminating the risk posed to Department firefighters and ensuring their health and safety.

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 Senator