

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 27, 2026

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for Recreation Park Bandshell Improvements in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Long Beach, located at 411 West Ocean Blvd, Long Beach CA, 90802.

Community Project Funding would be used to address structural challenges and replace the existing roof. Funding would also be used to install shade structures and improve seating opportunities. The Bandshell is one of Recreation Park's most recognizable historic structures. Investing in roof and structural repairs prevents further deterioration, protects original architectural elements, and ensures the site remains safe and usable. Deferred maintenance leads to higher future costs, so stabilizing the structure now is a cost-effective approach to long-term preservation. Visible investments in public gathering spaces support neighborhood pride and reinforce Long Beach's reputation for valuing parks, recreation, and cultural amenities.

The Bandshell serves as a venue for community gatherings, youth programs, fitness classes, and cultural events. A safe, functional, and comfortable facility increases the City's capacity to activate the park with free or low-cost programming that benefits residents citywide. Adding shade structures and benches directly addresses community feedback. Shade makes the site usable during warmer months, supports seniors and families, and encourages longer, healthier use of public space. Updated seating improves accessibility and helps the park better serve diverse users. Structural repairs and site improvements reduce safety risks, improve visibility and comfort, and help create a more inviting public space. Well-maintained facilities also help deter vandalism and increase positive activity in the park.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and 5305(a)(5).

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

Sincerely,



Robert Garcia
Member of Congress