

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

May 23, 2025

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Simms Park Community Center Renovation Project in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Bellflower, located at 16600 Civic Center Drive, 90706, California, 90706.

This project involves a comprehensive renovation and modernization of the Simms Park Community Center, a key facility in Bellflower that supports a wide range of recreational programs and community services. It houses essential operations such as the Volunteer Center, City Store, BRIM (Bellflower Recreation in Motion), Park Patrol, and various special events. A major component of the renovation is the transformation of the existing auditorium into a versatile, multi-purpose room with a 300-person capacity, designed to host large gatherings, special events, and diverse community programming.

The project also includes several critical upgrades to enhance the center's functionality and community impact. These improvements include new and reconfigured recreation rooms to support a variety of classes and activities, a central courtyard to encourage indoor-outdoor interaction, and a redesigned lobby with secure, controlled access. Additional enhancements feature a modernized kitchen, upgraded restrooms, expanded storage, improved staff workspaces, durable and visually appealing finishes, energy-efficient lighting, and full ADA compliance. Safety and security improvements, particularly in the lobby and access control systems, are a core part of the plan.

Exterior upgrades will align the Community Center's design with the adjacent Oak Center, creating a cohesive visual identity across the civic campus. The overall design emphasizes functionality, safety, sustainability, and inclusivity—key goals that reflect the City of Bellflower's commitment to providing high-quality recreational facilities and creating welcoming, accessible spaces for all residents.

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