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SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE  
ON WEAPONIZATION



JOHN GARAMENDI  
UNITED STATES CONGRESS

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March 30, 2023

Dear Chairwoman Granger, Ranking Member DeLauro, Chairman Cole, and Ranking Member Quigley,

I am requesting funding for the Heritage Point Grocery Store project in the fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Community Housing Development Corporation of North Richmond, located 1540 Fred Jackson Way, Suite A, Richmond, CA 94801. Funding would be used to construct the shell of a grocery store for a community with a range of economic problems including the highest rates of poverty and unemployment in Contra Costa County. The community, known as North Richmond, does not have access to fresh food and is widely considered a food desert. The project sponsor Community Housing Development Corporation (CHDC) is an experienced developer of affordable housing and community development services in North Richmond and already owns the site and would use the funding to construct the building. They would then work with local non-profits and charge below market rent to a cooperative operator who would be required to accept WIC and EBIT and precluded from selling tobacco or alcohol.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it would provide for increased economic viability and potential health benefits in a very low-income area. The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized: 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2). I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Garamendi".

JOHN GARAMENDI  
Member of Congress