

Project Name:

Five-County Law Enforcement Resilience Project

Recipient:

Beaverhead, Lake, Lincoln, Mineral and Sanders Counties

Address:

Mineral County- P.O. Box 550, 300 River Street, Superior, MT 59872

Amount Required:

\$2,889,500

Project Description:

Provides a funding level of \$2,889,500 for Mineral County, located at P.O. Box 99, 310 River Street, Superior, MT 58972. To reduce cost to the taxpayer and promote equipment continuity in the event of a multi-county response to an incident, Mineral, Lake, Beaverhead, Lincoln, and Sanders counties have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to purchase much needed vehicles and equipment in bulk for bolstered law enforcement and public safety. The 2021-2025 crisis at the southwest border turned every state into a border state – including Montana. Five rural counties with a combined population of less than 80,000 are experiencing the lingering effects of the border crisis with criminal aliens still at large. These five counties have formed a joint purchasing agreement to purchase desperately needed equipment and vehicles in bulk to save tens to hundreds of thousands of dollars per county. The funding will purchase patrol vehicles, body scanners, radios and telecom equipment, rifles, vests, and fund safety upgrades.

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-2601

May 2, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Five-County Law Enforcement Resilience Project

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Five-County Law Enforcement Resilience Project in Fiscal Year 2026.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Mineral County, located at P.O. Box 99, 310 River Street, Superior, MT 58972.

To reduce cost to the taxpayer and promote equipment continuity in the event of a multi-county response to an incident, Mineral, Lake, Beaverhead, Lincoln, and Sanders counties have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to purchase much needed vehicles and equipment in bulk for bolstered law enforcement and public safety. The crisis at the southern border has turned every state into a border state – including Montana. Five rural counties with a combined population of less than 80,000 are experiencing exponential increases in human trafficking, drug trafficking, overdoses, and crime, directly related to the border crisis. These five counties have formed a joint purchasing agreement to purchase desperately needed equipment and vehicles in bulk to save tens- to hundreds of thousands of dollars per county. The funding will purchase patrol vehicles, body scanners, radios and telecom equipment, rifles, vests, and fund safety upgrades.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

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

Sincerely,



Ryan Zinke
Member of Congress