April 27, 2022

Dear Appropriations Committee Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting $4,050,000 in funding for the King Solomon Village (phase two) program in fiscal year 2023.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Ward Economic Development Corporation, located at P.O. Box 7231 1177 W. Adams Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90007. The project location is 1300 W. Slauson Avenue, Los Angeles, California, 90044

Ward EDC King Solomon Village Interim Housing (KSV) will provide long term shelter and sanitary living environment to persons currently unhoused, until permanent housing can be built at the location. Residents of KSV will be able to stay for 5 years. The pods will be reusable once when WEDC begins construction for permanent housing at this site.

The cost of living in Los Angeles causes families with children and single adults to seek shelter in temporary and makeshift housing throughout the community. Los Angeles has been labeled as the homeless capital of the nation. Encampments have become the norm in Los Angeles, especially in low-income communities like South Los Angeles, where KSV is located.

This is an excellent use of taxpayer funds because phase two of KSV will provide an immediate opportunity for those who are unhoused to have immediate housing and long-term housing in the future. The funding and success of KSV will contribute to the increased public trust in government re-investment in local problem solving by community focused organizations and it will reduce homelessness in a region of Los Angeles that has the highest concentration of persons living out-doors and on the streets.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Karen Bass  
Member of Congress