



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0916**

March 13, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the City Park Development Project in Fiscal Year 2027.

The entity to receive funding for this project is City of Bradenton, located at 101 12th Street West, Bradenton, Florida 34205. The funding would be used to create a 42-acre community complex anchored by Bradenton's long baseball tradition and located near LECOM Park. The project includes developing multiple baseball fields, stadium lighting, concessions, restrooms, and a unified stormwater system across numerous parcels. The Park will support youth tournaments, community events such as festivals, and year-round recreational activities. In addition to enhancing recreational opportunities, the project is expected to generate significant economic impact through tourism, commercial development, and job creation.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it is expected to stimulate up to \$129.6 million in catalytic development. Furthermore, this project represents a significant opportunity for Bradenton to capture existing unmet demand while generating new visitor traffic and providing a community gathering area. The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1).

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 "Vern Buchanan".

Vern Buchanan  
Member of Congress