

Funding Would Support Energy Efficiency Improvements, First Responder Equipment

Washington, D.C. – Rep. Rush Holt (NJ-12) today announced that key House panels have approved his funding requests for three community initiatives that would benefit East Brunswick and South Brunswick, providing for communications equipment upgrades and energy efficiency improvements in Middlesex County. The funding next needs approval from the full Appropriations Committee.

“Especially when our communities face difficult budgetary situations, I will continue to secure funding for key investments. These investments, which local officials requested, would upgrade the equipment first responders use and support an initiative to save on energy costs, saving taxpayers money in the long term,” Holt said.

The House Appropriations Subcommittees approved the following funding:

\$500,000 for East Brunswick Municipal Library to make energy efficiency improvements.

With the goal of lowering energy costs and reducing the financial burden on the township, the East Brunswick Municipal library would use the funding to implement solar panels on its roof. Currently the Municipal Library is electric powered and has high energy bills. Improvements would save East Brunswick \$15,000 annually in taxpayer money.

\$300,000 for the Township of East Brunswick to upgrade its public safety

communications equipment. The Township of East Brunswick Public Safety does not currently meet Federal Communications Commission standards, as per the narrow banding mandate, effective on January 1, 2013. The \$300,000 approved by the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, and State would help fund the federally required switch to the narrow band range, and eliminate the use of other frequencies.

\$200,000 for the South Brunswick Police Department to upgrade its equipment. In order to provide reliable and consistent 9-1-1 services, Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) require a direct “trunk connection” to the main 9-1-1 grid. Currently, the South Brunswick PSAP system is 30-years-old and running on used parts. The \$200,000 in funding would help overhaul the trunk lines, ensuring the continued efficiency of the South Brunswick PSAP and the Township’s safety efforts. The replacement would allow South Brunswick to host a regionalized 9-1-1 dispatch center, serving Southern Middlesex county and helping to reduce duplicated costs.

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