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UNITED STATES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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SENIOR DEMOCRATIC WHIP

April 29, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chair  
House Appropriations Committee  
H-130 Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Twin Cities.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Twin Cities, located at 507 Asbury St, #207, St. Paul, MN 55104.

The funding would be used to allow LISC to support four community partners working in cultural districts. LISC has a history of investing in communities of color, as we work to close the gap in housing, education, lending, and creative activities. LISC's support for the St. Paul cultural and creative districts goes back decades, and this project builds on that long history of investment and support. Deliverables: a) 4-5 grants of \$200,000-250,000 to key cultural district and community organization partners in St. Paul; b) creation of small business incubator space, affordable commercial space, community arts and event space, and access to fresh and healthy food; c) culturally focused business development & technical assistance for BIPOC entrepreneurs and community organizations; d) 3-5 artist-led business-boosting activities or pop-up projects; e) a guide for businesses on using the arts to boost business and work with artists, with a flip side for artists on working with businesses.

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

Sincerely,

Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress