

DONALD S. BEYER JR.
8TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
(CHAIRMAN)

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

COMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY
(CHAIR, SPACE AND AERONAUTICS SUBCOMMITTEE)

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4608

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April 29, 2022

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the Oakwood Senior Residences – Exterior Amenities project in fiscal year 2023, located at 5815 S Van Dorn St, Alexandria, VA 22310. The entity to receive this funding is Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing (APAH), located at 4318 N Carlin Springs Road, Arlington, VA 22203.

The creation of senior affordable housing is a key goal for Fairfax County, as identified in the Housing Blueprint (FY2020 Housing Blueprint). The Oakwood Senior Housing project is focused on addressing these needs. The project will create 150 affordable homes for low-income households through a partnership with the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority. Of the 150 units included in this project, 73 will be available at 60%AMI, 62 at 50%AMI, and 15 at 30%AMI. Furthermore, the project will include a substantial number of smaller units focused on single-person senior households, with 107 1-bedroom units and 43 2-bedroom units, which is ideal for leasing and retaining tenants in the senior housing market.

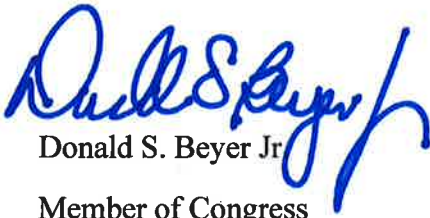
Given the need outlined above, the creation of 150 units of affordable housing for seniors benefits the public and should be considered a priority for the people of Virginia because it provides a critical boost to Fairfax County's supply of high-quality affordable senior housing stock, delivering opportunities for older adults to remain in their communities, age in place, and gain access to service-enriched housing options.

The project will do a lot to provide safe, high-quality homes for low-income seniors, and the indoor facilities will host gathering spaces for them to access programming and to socialize. However, there was not sufficient funds available to include outdoor amenity spaces at the building. The COVID pandemic has only reinforced the critical importance of outdoor gathering places for all people, especially older people more at risk for infection, and also more at risk for loneliness and disconnection.

To meet this critical need for outdoor gathering space, APAH requests Community Project Funds to design and construct exterior amenities on the large greenspace behind the project's main building. The added areas will activate the outdoor space by providing zones for programs to enrich the living experience of our elderly community. It also offers a COVID-safe space for social interactions. Making sure residents feel safe during these unprecedented times are of high importance to APAH, especially for senior residents. The Oakwood project currently has plans to include some basic outdoor areas of respite and recreation. But the CPF award will provide an opportunity to increase the impact of outdoor amenities for residents.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Donald S. Beyer Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Donald S. Beyer Jr

Member of Congress