

North Branford Police Department

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Chief Kevin Halloran

July 6, 2021

To whom it may concern:

The Town of North Branford has applied for federal funding FY2022 Homeland Security Community Project Funding Request; specifically, the Emergency Operations Center Grant Program. The timing of this grant coincides with the proposed construction of a new police facility which houses the town's Emergency Operations Center (EOC). North Branford is a small rural town in Connecticut with a modest tax base, represented mostly by residential properties.

The prospect of securing federal funds to offset the cost is more crucial than ever. The increase costs of building materials and skilled laborers have skyrocketed due to pandemic fueled labor shortages. Town Council members are struggling with the comparison of pre-pandemic costs to build a new facility compared to the current cost to build the facility which is approximately \$3 million more than pre-pandemic estimates.

We believe this is vital to the safety of the community of North Branford, based on the recent aftermath of severe weather events have had on North Branford. Our current EOC is antiquated with vintage technology which experienced a loss of all communications for approximately 48 hours during storm ISAIAS. Additionally, a new EOC will be designed as a multi-purpose room which will allow us to form community partnerships through community educational programs as well as provide a space for mental health and addiction counselors, when the EOC is not activated for disasters and or public health emergencies.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Halloran".

Kevin Halloran
Chief of Police