



Garden City Fire Department

347 STEWART AVENUE GARDEN CITY, NEW YORK 11530 TEL: 516-465-4130 FAX: 516-746-1533

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

JAMES R. TAUNTON
CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT

JONATHAN F. PARRELLA
1ST ASSISTANT CHIEF

DANIEL L. ROEPER
2ND ASSISTANT CHIEF

MATTHEW C. CARROLL
3RD ASSISTANT CHIEF

May 23, 2025

The Honorable Laura A. Gillen
U.S. House of Representatives
428 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Gillen:

As Chief of the Garden City Fire Department, I am writing in full support of the Incorporated Village of Garden City's request for FY 2026 Community Project Funding for the Edgemere Fire Station 2 Renovation & Structural Repairs project.

This project is essential to ensuring that we can continue delivering effective, timely emergency services to our residents. Edgemere Firehouse, nearly a century old, no longer meets the operational needs of a modern fire department. It was not built to accommodate today's larger fire apparatus or the expanded scope of emergency services we provide.

Renovating this facility will allow us to improve response capabilities, add critical infrastructure like decontamination areas and emergency shelter space for volunteers, and bring the building into compliance with current safety and ADA standards. These upgrades are not only necessary for our operations, they will enhance public safety, promote community resilience, and protect a valuable historic asset in our downtown.

The Edgemere Firehouse is a key part of our emergency response network and our community's identity. Its renovation is a priority in the Village's development plan and a crucial investment in the safety and well-being of Garden City.

I strongly support this project and respectfully urge your full consideration and approval of this funding request.

Sincerely,

James Taunton

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Taunton".

Chief of the Department
Garden City Fire Department