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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-3011  
April 4, 2017

Honorable Kevin J. Ryan  
Mayor  
Township of Verona  
600 Bloomfield Avenue  
Verona, NJ 07044-1822

Dear Mayor Ryan:

Thank you for contacting me to express concerns with the President's Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Budget blueprint as it relates to Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). I appreciate having the benefit of your views and share them.

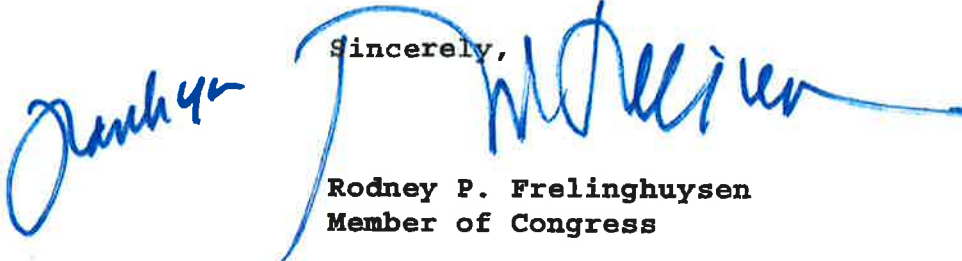
I want you to know I understand your support for CDBG as it provides community development funding for Verona and Essex County.

The House Committee on Appropriations is carefully reviewing the President's FY 2018 proposal. As directed under the Constitution, Congress has the power of the purse. While the President may offer proposals, Congress must review his requests to assure the wise investment of taxpayer dollars.

Rest assured that I will remember your support for the program as Congress continues the FY18 appropriations process.

Again, thank you for contacting me.

Sincerely,



Rodney P. Frelinghuysen  
Member of Congress

RPF:td