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News Release

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USDA Awards \$341,063 Community Facilities Disaster Relief Grant to Tuftonboro for New Police Station

MONTPELIER, May 25, 2021 – Today, Acting State Director for USDA Rural Development in New Hampshire, Cheryl Ducharme, announced the agency has awarded \$341,063 to the town of Tuftonboro to build a new police station through a <u>Community Facilities Disaster Relief grant</u>. The Tuftonboro Police Department will be built back better, stronger and safer through the implementation of 21st century technology, critical expansion of processing and storage areas, and essential efficiency upgrades.

"Tuftonboro shines bright as a community that truly values its institutions and is willing to invest in its future by building infrastructure to last generations," said Ducharme. "This funding will improve the quality of life in the community by making more space, comfort and accommodations available for inmates and visitors to the police station, as well as those tasked with their processing and care. This project reflects the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to implementing sound infrastructure solutions in our rural communities."

In September 2019, the USDA made \$150 million in grants available through the <u>Community Facilities Program</u> to help rural communities recover from the devastating effects of natural disasters. The Tuftonboro police station was located in a flood disaster area in 2018 and 2019. In addition to the grant funding, the town is contributing \$1,430,937.

The 5,000 square-foot building will help satisfy all the current and anticipated operational needs for a minimum of 20 years, with the ability for future expansion. Improved functional areas and features include a private entry for crime victims, witnesses and suspects; a secure booking area and entry sally port; a compound for large evidence/vehicle storage, a secure lobby with a transaction window; a dedicated administrative area; meeting and training space; a locker room and break room; arms storage and maintenance; video surveillance and ADA accessibility. Town leaders envision the new facility serving as an Emergency Operations Center if needed.

Under the Biden-Harris Administration, Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities, create jobs and improve the quality of life for millions of Americans in rural areas. This assistance supports housing, infrastructure improvements, business development, high-speed internet access, and community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care. For more information, visit www.rd.usda.gov. If you'd like to subscribe to USDA Rural Development updates, visit our GovDelivery subscriber page.