



152 W. Cedar Street, Sequim, WA 98382  
PH (360) 683-4139 FAX (360) 681-3448

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May 28, 2020

Representative, 6<sup>th</sup> District Derek Kilmer  
1410 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

**SUBJECT:** Direct Federal Assistance – COVID-19 Pandemic

Dear Representative Kilmer:

As Congress considers additional federal assistance packages in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is critical that you include direct relief to cities, towns and villages.

Businesses and community organizations across our country depend on the economic strength and vitality of municipalities. Not only do our nation's cities provide an anchor for local economic development, they also provide the essential services that businesses depend on to ensure we remain competitive, including access to clean water, public safety, reliable infrastructure and a strong workforce base. Without a lifeline to recover and restore local economic activity, cities, towns and villages will be forced to make cuts to essential services that will have a ripple effect across the public and private sectors.

For organizations such as the City of Sequim, Washington it is because of our strong community partnership that we can thrive. The strong leadership of our local elected officials, and the partnership they have provided to local businesses is critical to our success. If cities fail to thrive, we all fail to thrive.

We know that you understand the importance of this relationship in Washington State and we hope that we can rely on your support for legislation that includes:

- \$500 billion over two years of federal aid for local governments;
- Fair and direct funding allocations to each and every local government, with no exclusions based on population;
- Equal funding overall for municipal governments and county governments; and
- Maximum flexibility for the eligible use of funds to address the budget consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Respectfully,

William Armacost  
Mayor, City of Sequim on behalf of the Sequim City Council