

News from U.S. Rep. John Spratt (D-SC)

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US House of Representatives – Washington, DC

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Spratt Secures \$500,000 for Emergency Command Vehicle for Florence

WASHINGTON – U.S. Rep. John Spratt (D-SC) announced today that he has secured \$500,000 for a mobile emergency operations command vehicle for the City of Florence. The money was included in the omnibus spending bill that Congress passed on November 20.

“This bus will be equipped with specialized communications equipment in addition to various wireless technology, such as computers, GIS mapping system, and a satellite communication system,” said Spratt. It will help the various Emergency Management Response Teams – police, fire, and others - to effectively respond to critical security and emergency needs of Greater Florence and surrounding counties.”

Spratt said the vehicle is significant to Florence because the city is the largest in the northeastern coastal plain of South Carolina, situated in the heart of eight counties between the Piedmont and Coastal regions.

“Florence’s location makes it vulnerable to both natural disasters such as hurricanes as well as those emergencies associated with homeland security,” said Spratt. “In addition, two major regional hospitals and a regional airport are located in Florence. The emergency command vehicle would provide a 24-hour field operational incident command center.”

Spratt said the total cost of this vehicle comes to \$1.1 million, with Florence contributing \$300,000. “This is a worthwhile project, and I am delighted we were able to get the federal government to pick up most of the cost,” Spratt said.

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