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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Juan Vargas

52nd District, California

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CAPITAL MARKETS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS AND MONETARY POLICY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY,
ILLICIT FINANCE, AND INTERNATIONAL
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the “Marie Widman Memorial Park Improvements” project in fiscal year 2024, in the amount of \$4,000,000. The entity to receive the funding is the City of San Diego located at 202 C Street, Floor 11, San Diego, CA 92101.

This project would complete the design and construction of enhancements to increase the usage of Marie Widman Park and activity along the corridor, spurring economic development and sustainability for a historically under-resourced community. The Park is one of the foundational aspects of the newly designated Black Culture District. The improvements to the park include: upgrading the tot lot to meet state and federal requirements, repurposing the gymnasium for exhibits/events, hardscape/landscape, foot trails and gardens, park playground equipment upgrades, comfort station upgrades, lighting and electrical/wi-fi upgrades, crosswalk upgrades with specific design, streetscape and signage, bus shelter upgrades, and public artwork.

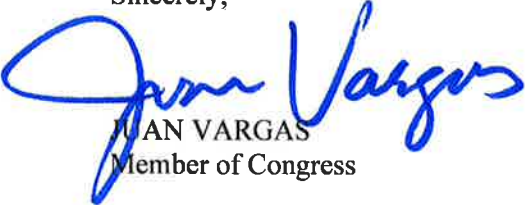
The project is a good use of taxpayer resources because the Marie Widman Memorial Park is in disrepair and needs rehabilitation to increase use and provide this historically disadvantaged community with an inviting outdoor recreation space. The Park is one of the foundational aspects of the newly designated Black Culture District and is a central component of the City’s economic development revitalization strategy for the area.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

This project has received written support from SD City Mayor Todd Gloria, Chair of the SD County Board of Supervisors Nora Vargas, and SD City Council President pro Tempore Monica Montgomery Steppe.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



JUAN VARGAS
Member of Congress