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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 "Safe Parking SD Expansion" in fiscal year 2024, in the amount of \$1,200,000. 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 fund the expansion of the City of San Diego's Safe Parking Program to provide overnight Safe Parking for unhoused San Diegans sleeping in their vehicles. The City has seen a significant increase in its unhoused population living in cars/vans and would like to expand this successful model to other sites throughout the City of San Diego. The City currently operates three Safe Parking sites and this funding will allow the City to expand this model to additional sites to serve vulnerable San Diegans.

The funds will be utilized for capital costs to adapt identified sites for use as a Safe Parking facility. Specifically, the use of funds for site preparation include: trenching and connecting shower trailers to water and sewer lines, installation permanent electrical connections to support items such as lighting, power for office trailers, and Wi-Fi; installing security features such as fencing; purchasing storage containers and other start up supplies; and designating the layout appropriate striping of the parking lot for vehicle spaces.

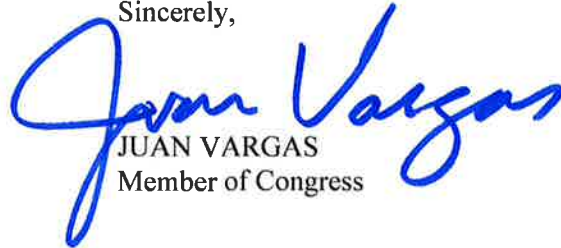
This request is a good use of taxpayer funds because the City has seen a substantial increase in its unhoused population living in vehicles. As these individuals and families work to lift themselves up out of a difficult situation, many are making a nightly choice between buying food or purchasing gas to get to work and/or school. We know that many of these people are in this situation because of the pandemic, which has exacerbated income inequality, and due to increased housing costs across Southern California. With three existing sites currently in operation throughout the City, the Safe Parking Program provides a welcoming environment, meaningful resources and tools, and dignified support to help families stabilize and transition back into permanent housing.

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, SD City Council President Sean Elo Rivera, Tamera Kohler, CEO, of the Regional Task Force on the Homeless, and Jeff Davis, Interim CEO, San Diego Housing Commission.

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