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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

May 9, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
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 Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the "Monument Road Bridge and Replacement" project in fiscal year 2025, in the amount of \$4,750,000. The entity to receive the funding is the County of San Diego, located at 1600 Pacific Highway San Diego, CA 92101.

This project would replace the existing culvert which is regularly subject to flooding and contributes significantly to the trash and sediment buildup of the Tijuana River tributary at Smuggler's Gulch. San Diego County is seeking funding from Congress for the planning, design, and environmental analysis for the construction of a bridge over Monument Road. The bridge would be implemented as part of a large-scale effort to address trash, sediment build-up, and flooding within the Tijuana River Valley. Monument Road's current configuration is often closed due to flooding. As a key access point to Tijuana River Valley Regional Park, the road's closure can cause public safety concerns.

This project is a good use of taxpayer resources because a new Monument Road bridge would accommodate a larger flood event and provide year-round access to existing recreational amenities within the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 23 U.S.C. 133(b)(1). Monument Road also connects I-5 with SR 905, and Border Patrol and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services rely on the road for operational purposes.

This project has broad support from San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria and State Senator Stephen Padilla.

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