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April 30, 2021

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

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the Multimodal Connections to Otay Mesa East Port of Entry Feasibility Study in fiscal year 2022, in the amount of \$1,000,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is the California Department of Transportation, located at 4050 Taylor Street, San Diego, CA 92110.

The multimodal feasibility study will be a \$1.2 million feasibility study to provide critical input into the appropriate multimodal connections (transit, bike, and pedestrian) to and from the Otay Mesa East Port of Entry. These multimodal connections are intended to help to reduce emissions in an area where border delays resulted in an average of 457 metric tons of carbon dioxide emitted per day in 2016. Thus, the project aims to reduce emissions and improve quality of life in border communities.

The larger State Route 11/Otay Mesa East Port of Entry (POE) project has been highlighted as a key project by the State of California. The new border crossing on which the feasibility study is focused proposes to implement strategies identified in the National Freight Strategic Plan, 2021 California-Baja California Border Master Plan, California Freight Mobility Plan 2020, and California Sustainable Freight Action Plan.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

JUAN VARGAS Member of Congress