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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Juan Vargas
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COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES
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AND ECONOMIC PROSPERITY
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ILLICIT FINANCE, AND INTERNATIONAL
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Calle Primera Affordable Family Housing Energy Efficiency & Property Upgrades project in fiscal year 2027, in the amount of \$2,000,000. The entity to receive the funding is the San Diego Housing Commission, located at 1122 Broadway, Ste. 300, San Diego, CA 92101.

The proposed project is to support needed energy efficiency and other property upgrades and renovations at a deed-restricted affordable housing apartment community that serves families in the San Ysidro neighborhood of the City of San Diego (City). The property, located at 178 Calle Primera, provides 71 affordable rental housing units for households with low income in the City, defined as those earning up to 80 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI) -- currently \$132,400 for a family of four. It is owned and managed by the San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC), the City's public housing agency. The property consists entirely of 2- and 3-bedroom units, meeting a crucial need among San Diego families with children for housing that they can afford. It also is among many SDHC-managed properties to have certification through the Crime-free Multi-housing Program. These 71 family-sized affordable units represent an irreplaceable community resource in a region where affordable housing options are limited and the risk of displacement is high. Among the needed renovations are plumbing, roofing, and Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems replacement; asphalt repairs; utility door replacements; accessibility upgrades; laundry room improvements; and in-unit replacements of items such as cabinetry, countertop, and flooring.

This project is a good use of federal funds because improving energy efficiency will also help to lower operating costs and keep rents affordable over time. By helping to preserve existing affordable housing at a fraction of the cost of building new affordable units, this project will help to strengthen long-term stability, safety, and well-being among low-income families in the San Ysidro community. Investment in the needed maintenance and preservation of this affordable housing property ensures that families may continue to have a secure, affordable place to call home and remain connected to schools, employment, healthcare, and other community services that support an overall high quality of life.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. §§ 5305(a)(2), (4) & (5).

This project has broad support from a large network of partners and stakeholders, including San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria and the Yes In My Back Yard (YIMBY) Democrats of San Diego County.

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

Thank you for your consideration of funding for these programs. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact my Senior Legislative Assistant, Michael Rivas, at michael.rivas@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Juan Vargas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Juan Vargas
Member of Congress