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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Juan Vargas

51st District, California

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

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MIDDLE EAST, NORTH AFRICA,
AND INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

April 28, 2022

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 "Beyer Park Phase II Construction" project in fiscal year 2023, 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 provides for the design and construction of approximately eight useable acres, out of approximately 43 total acres, of a community and neighborhood park on Beyer Boulevard. The project is split into two phases, with Phase I expected to include a children's play area with rock climbing wall, skate park, community gathering space, sports courts, and amphitheater seating. Phase II includes a pedestrian walkway, dog park, comfort station, parking lot, exercise stations, and athletic fields. Phase II is the phase requested for this funding. Phase 1 will be funded separately. The property is currently an open space that is fenced off from public use. The City owns the property but has not been able to develop the land due to a lack of funding within the community. There is one parcel that is owned by the County and is a natural preserve. Once completed, the project will deliver a much-needed park in a historically disadvantaged community.

Families in San Ysidro have less opportunity to access recreational spaces than residents of other San Diego neighborhoods. Once completed, Beyer Park will be the first new public park in San Ysidro in more than 25 years. The City of San Diego's funding request of \$4,000,000 will help the City complete Phase II construction of the park, which includes a pedestrian walkway, dog park, comfort station, parking lot, exercise stations, and athletic fields. Increasing access to spaces conducive to healthy, free, outdoor, public activities for the community directly benefits resident health. This is especially true in San Ysidro where the design of the park incorporates elements that work to reduce the airborne pollutants that the community is exposed to from surrounding vehicular traffic levels which are the State's highest due to proximity to the San Diego/Tijuana border crossing. The park will be able to host parties, community outings/events, and sporting events. Additionally, the park supports the social and emotional development of children and creates spaces for productive outdoor recreational activities, which reduces crime in the community. Investing in parks that are accessible and incorporate elements that improve local air quality means that as families grow, they have an incentive to stay and invest in San Ysidro rather than leaving, which increases economic benefit over time to residents and the surrounding neighborhood.

This project has received written support from San Diego City Council President Sean Elo-Rivera and San Diego County Board of Supervisors Chairman Nathan Fletcher.

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

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