

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
2467 RAYBURN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-8045  
FAX: (202) 225-2772

CHULA VISTA OFFICE  
333 F STREET, SUITE A  
CHULA VISTA, CA 91910  
(619) 422-5963  
FAX: (619) 422-7290



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

**Juan Vargas**

52nd District, California

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

RANKING MEMBER, TASK FORCE ON  
MONETARY POLICY, TREASURY MARKET RESILIENCE,  
AND ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CAPITAL MARKETS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY,  
ILLICIT FINANCE, AND INTERNATIONAL  
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

May 2, 2025

The Honorable Mike Simpson  
Chair  
Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior,  
Environment, and Related Agencies Washington,  
D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chellie Pingree  
Ranking Member  
Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior,  
Environment, and Related Agencies  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Simpson and Ranking Member Pingree,

I am requesting funding for the “Jamacha Drainage Channel Upgrade Storm Water Drain Project” project in fiscal year 2026, in the amount of \$5,100,000. The entity to receive the funding is the City of San Diego, located at 202 C Street, Floor 11, San Diego, CA 92101.

The City of San Diego is requesting \$5,100,000 to partially fund the Jamacha Drainage Channel Upgrade Storm Water Drain Project construction phase. The Project is in the Skyline/Paradise Hills community within the Chollas Creek Watershed. This area is prone to frequent floods during small storm events. This condition creates a health and safety issue for residents as well as impacting the natural habitat of adjacent areas and nearby public amenities. The implementation of this project will provide opportunities to restore the natural habitat by re-vegetating the adjacent area. The proposed improvements include culvert improvements at Cadman and Woodman Street, upsizing the existing storm drain system upstream of Beacon Drive, widening the existing stream channel in multiple locations, upsizing culverts at 68th Street and 69th Street, and creating wetlands for habitat restoration.

This project is a good use of taxpayer resources because restoring the channel and establishing wetlands have significant direct benefits to water quality by filtering pollutants and contaminants from stormwater runoff. Additionally, wetlands provide significant ecological benefits by supporting diverse wildlife habitats, improving air quality by carbon sequestration, and reducing flood risk by absorbing large amounts of water. These additional flood benefits are especially important because in January 2024 San Diego County saw record flooding that prompted President Biden to issue a Major Disaster Declaration for San Diego.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Title VI of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C 1381 et seq.

This project has broad support from local leaders, including San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria and County Supervisor Monica Montgomery Steppe.

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 Deputy Chief of Staff, Erin Chapman at [erin.chapman@mail.house.gov](mailto:erin.chapman@mail.house.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Juan Vargas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Juan" and last name "Vargas" clearly distinguishable.

Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress