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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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FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

May 23, 2025

The Honorable Steve Womack
Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development, and Related
Agencies
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable James E. Clyburn
Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development, and Related
Agencies
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Womack and Ranking Member Clyburn,

I am requesting funding for the “Utility and Water Improvements at San Diego College of Continuing Education - Phase 2” project in fiscal year 2026, in the amount of \$1,854,735. The entity to receive the funding is the San Diego Community College District, located at 4343 Ocean View Blvd, San Diego, CA 92113.

This project would complete the second phase of rehabilitating and improving facilities at the San Diego College of Continuing Education to execute critical ADA accessibility upgrades. These updates would include installing ADA compliant elevators and barrier-free exterior ramps; modernizing restrooms with accessible fixtures and turning radii; widening interior corridors and doorways for mobility devices clearance; and upgrading emergency egress routes. The current facilities—which were constructed in the 1970s—are not only inefficient and use far more energy and water than necessary, they also do not meet current ADA standards.

This is a good use of taxpayer resources because there are substantial gains to a local community college by upgrading its facilities. Installing low-flow toilets, faucets, and showerheads would reduce water usage by up to 50%, leading to significant cost savings. Similarly, replacing the 1970s-era elevator with an energy-efficient model and LED lighting will also trim electricity consumption and lead to cost savings. Ensuring ADA compliance is also critical. By making the campus more accessible to individuals with disabilities, the project will create a more inclusive and welcoming environment for all community members. This will, in turn, allow individuals with disabilities to participate in campus life fully, access all the campus areas, and pursue their educational and career goals without barriers.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2) and (a)(5).

This project has broad support from the community, including from County Supervisor Monica Montgomery Steppe 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