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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
JIMMY GOMEZ
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ASSISTANT WHIP

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Nueva Maravilla Public Housing-Community Green Space, Smart Irrigation and Senior Garden Plots project in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is County of Los Angeles located at 700 West Main Street, Alhambra 91801. The funding would be used for establishing a park like space at the Nueva Maravilla Housing Development by upgrading and replacing the irrigation system to a weather-based smart irrigation system, with signal-based controllers for weather patterns as well as a smart system with leak detection for irrigation lines. Capital improvements will include shade structures, outdoor improvements, garden plots and seating areas.

The project will be on-site at the Nueva Maravilla Public Housing Development and focus on community improvements, utility cost saving, as well as upgrading infrastructure and irrigation. The outdoor improvement project will be coupled with several other resources to include community training and workshops for a larger effort to develop the community with not only capital improvements, but also include a resident engagement and job training component. The improvements will not only benefit residents, but the surrounding community as well.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it benefits the Los Angeles County Development Authority who owns and operates the site as well as taxpayers, by upgrading irrigation system which converts to cost savings in utility bills (water). The smart irrigation system will detect weather changes and will only water when necessary. The Nueva Maravilla Housing Development sits on 54 acres and the irrigation and xeriscaping improvements are estimated to save the agency 25% on water. The community engagement and training program will also assist residents in becoming self-sufficient and graduating from public assistance.

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

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jimmy Gomez". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress