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April 25, 2022

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Chairwoman
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Appropriations

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

I am requesting \$1,200,000 for Pima County to construct a 2100 linear feet storm drain to address flooding and drainage impacts in the underserved communities of Elvira, Sunnyside and Barrio Nopal for fiscal year 2023. The project would gather flood flows from Tucson International Airport, a civil-military airport owned by the City of Tucson and convey them in a storm drain to the improved El Vado Wash channel. The storm drain will tie into the culvert beneath Nogales Highway connecting to an existing system within El Vado Road thereby out letting to El Vado Wash downstream of South Sixth Avenue.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Pima County located at 130 W. Congress St, Tucson, AZ 85701. The location of the project is El Vado Road at Nogales Highway in Tucson, AZ 85756.

The public, as well as 40 homes, will benefit greatly from the project due to reduced risk of flooding, improved transportation reliability, and the potential for additional open space. The project lies in one of Pima County's higher-concentration census tracts of poverty and racial and ethnic minority representation. One in three individuals in this Census Tract had incomes below the poverty level before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The use of storm water infrastructure provides an opportunity to revegetate the area, with benefits including shade, better water quality, traffic calming, community gathering space, and reduced urban heat generation, making the area more resilient with respect to future climate scenarios.

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

Sincerely,



Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress