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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 \$1,016,458 for the Tohono O'odham Nation for the construction of two turn lanes (right and left) at the Baboquivari High School South Driveway, to address safety concerns created by increased traffic volumes and speeding in the area.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Tohono O'odham Nation located at P.O. Box 837 Sells, AZ 85634. The location of the project is Tohono O'odham Nation BIA Route 19, Mile Marker 19.5, Topawa, AZ 85634.

The Tohono O'odham Nation Reservation encompasses about 2.8 million acres and includes over 734 miles of BIA roads, including BIA Route 19, which runs east of the front of the Nation's Baboquivari High School that serves children from ten of the Nation's eleven Districts. The construction of two turn lanes (right and left) at the Baboquivari High School South Driveway would address safety concerns created by increased traffic volumes and speeding in the area. Funds are needed because the BIA tribal transportation program has been chronically underfunded for years, with a current (FY 2022) estimated BIA maintenance backlog in excess of \$300 million and annual appropriations and additional funding in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law remaining inadequate. This project is a high priority for the Nation, as it will substantially reduce the danger for motorists, including school buses, students and teachers, resulting from potential collisions with vehicles turning into the school. During the initial work performed for a Road Safety Assessment, concerns about speeding were expressed and speeders were observed. Turning lanes (both south and north bound) would separate turning movements from through traffic and would provide operational and safety benefits for school buses, teachers, students and other drivers attempting to turn into Baboquivari High School, as well as those driving past the school, especially during busy school opening and closing times.

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

Sincerely,



Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress