

RAÚL M. GRIJALVA
3RD DISTRICT, ARIZONA

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April 25, 2022

David E. Price
Chairman
Subcommittee on THUD, Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives

Mario Diaz-Balart
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on THUD, Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Chair Price and Ranking Member Diaz-Balart,

I am requesting \$2,947,000 under the FY 23 Economic Development Initiative program for the City of Tucson's Mission Manor Aquatic Complex proposal to provide recreational opportunities in the form of a year-round therapeutic multi-use pool, splash playground, bathhouse, and plaza space in a low-income neighborhood.

Mission Manor Pool has been closed for 13 years due to facility conditions preventing it from providing the benefits and enjoyment of a neighborhood pool during hot summer months. By designing and building an Aquatic Complex, the City of Tucson can correct inequity in accessibility to a resource that provides recreation, fitness and therapeutic benefits for the community. The Aquatic complex will also offer the benefits of a splash playground and plaza type space to connections for user and community gatherings, and to allow transition between pools and promote multigenerational use of space at the same time.

The budget includes: \$2,500,000 new recreation pool and therapy pool, \$400,000 Splash Playground, \$500,000 new bathhouse, \$100,000 heating element to allow year-round recreation pool use, \$250,000 Shade structures, seating (benches/tables), aquatic fitness equipment storage and plaza space, \$320,000 design and permit fees.

Aquatic Complex Total Cost: \$4,070,000

Matching dollars have already been committed including: Prop 407 bond funding - \$889,000, Tohono O'odham Gaming Grant - \$150,000 (awarded for splashpad), Impact Fees - \$84,000

Community Funding Project requests the remaining amount: \$2,947,000

Mission Manor pool is located within a low-income neighborhood with limited resources for recreation, fitness, or therapeutic activities. Building a new Aquatic Complex would not only rebuild the pool but provide the added features of a therapeutic pool and a splash playground. The project will provide equitable access to the ability to learn-to-swim, enjoy recreation swim,

participate in low impact water fitness classes and also benefit from a destination within walking distance to get relief from the hot Tucson summer days that range in 100 degrees or higher. Most families do not have the benefit of a pool in their backyard or the resources to travel to other area pools for this type of benefit. By investing in an aquatic complex, the community benefits from added recreation opportunities in their area park and the City of Tucson is able to serve a wider audience thru an added aquatic amenity. This project is an ideal example of neighborhood revitalization and addressing pervasive inequities that exist between wealthy and low-income neighborhoods throughout our nation.

This is a shovel-ready capital project, and the additional funding has already been committed, showing strong community support. The funds can be expended in the appropriate time frame, a limited environmental review may be required, and the City's Housing and Community Development department has the technical capability to complete this review prior to construction to keep the project on a 12-month completion timeframe, and it will primarily serve low-income individuals. I greatly appreciate your consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Raúl M. Grijalva". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'R' at the beginning.

Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress