

**RAÚL M. GRIJALVA**  
7TH DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
RANKING MEMBER

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD, ELEMENTARY, AND  
SECONDARY EDUCATION

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS  
CHAIR EMERITUS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

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March 24, 2023

The Honorable Andy Harris  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural  
Development, Food and Drug  
Administration  
H-307 The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sanford Bishop, Jr.  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural  
Development, Food and Drug  
Administration  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Harris and Ranking Member Bishop,

I am requesting \$525,000 under the FY 24 Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Community Facilities Grants program for the Santa Cruz County's Animal Shelter proposal which would fund the expansion of its current animal shelter.

The project consists of retrofitting an existing county building for the purpose of converting it into an animal shelter with the capacity to effectively provide the highest level of animal services within the jurisdiction. The current shelter has surpassed its ability to accommodate the shelter needs of the county. There are currently only 20 kennels, and their capacity is usually at 90% to 100% and no dedicated area for felines. In addition, there is no lobby/waiting room for customers or space to accommodate veterinarians at times resulting in premature euthanasia.

The new shelter will provide 47 kennels, 6 quarantine kennels, and a designated area for felines. In addition, it will provide a veterinarian lab, a customer lobby, offices, and meeting rooms, along with a much-needed designated parking area. The new shelter will empower Santa Cruz County Animal Control to continue to protect its constituents and animals, by enforcing state and local laws and providing the highest level of animal services, without restrictions.

Santa Cruz County estimates that this project will cost a total of \$1,500,000, this account has a cost share requirement, therefore Santa Cruz County is requesting \$525,000 which will be used to demolish existing walls and construct additional kennels, laboratories, offices, and a customer service lobby. The retrofitting will also require electrical, plumbing and mechanical installations to meet building standards.

The budget breakdown for the cost estimate for this request is as follows:

- Mobilization - \$50,000.00
- Demolition and Disposal- \$50,000.00
- Construction - \$1,200,000.00
- Construction Contingency - (15%) \$195,000.00

Santa Cruz county stands ready to meet all necessary cost-share requirements. This investment in the Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter will support the growing needs of this community by expanding its current capacity. This project meets all eligibility requirements and is ready to begin and obligate funds within a year.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,



Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress