

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
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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May 3, 2024

Representative Tom Cole
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representative Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Tolleson Multi-modal Path Lighting project in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Tolleson, located at 85th Ave & Van Buren, Tolleson, Arizona 85353. The funding would be used for the installation of LED path lighting along a multi-modal path near the center of the City of Tolleson. This path can be utilized for walking, jogging, biking, and horseback riding. The lighting will allow the pathway to be utilized as it gets dark which will increase the usefulness of the pathway. With the heat in Arizona, having a path that can be used when the sun is down is a benefit to the City.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because introducing canal lighting to establish a multi-modal path for walking, jogging, biking, and horseback riding is imperative, especially in a predominantly Hispanic community that comprises 81% of the population. In areas where diabetes rates are notably high among Latino communities, accessible and safe recreational spaces become crucial. Multi-modal paths along the canals encourage residents to engage in physical activities, healthier lifestyles and observe combating the prevalence of diabetes. The addition of canal lighting enhances safety and accessibility, enabling community members to utilize these paths during early mornings or evenings, when visibility may be limited. Moreover, offering diverse recreational options caters to the preferences and needs of individuals, promoting inclusivity and community engagement.

Overall, investing in walkable multi-modal paths not only addresses public health concerns but also promotes a sense of community well-being and vitality. This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Raúl M. Grijalva". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "R".

Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress