

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

WEBSITE: <http://grijalva.house.gov/>

1203 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515  
Phone (202) 225-2435 | Fax (202) 225-1541

101 W. Irvington Rd, Building 4  
Tucson, AZ 85714  
Phone: (520) 622-6788 | Fax (520) 622-0198

146 N. State Ave.  
P. O. Box 4105  
Somerton, AZ 85350  
Phone: (928) 343-7933 | Fax (928) 343-7949

Virtual Office  
Tolleson, AZ 85353  
Phone: (623) 536-3388

May 1, 2024

The Honorable Steve Womack  
Chairman  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Subcommittee on Transportation, and  
Housing and Urban Development

The Honorable Mike Quigley  
Ranking Member  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Subcommittee on Transportation, and  
Housing and Urban Development

Dear Chair Womack and Ranking Member Quigley,

I am requesting \$2,711,125 under Fiscal Year 25 for the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) under the Department of Transportation (DOT) Highway Infrastructure Projects for the International Port of Entry Connector Road in Cochise County, Arizona.

The funding will be used for a Connector Road that will link the new International Land Port of Entry (IPOE) to State Route 80 and safely accommodate commercial truck traffic that will be utilizing the IPOE. Currently, there is no roadway that connects SR 80 to the proposed IPOE.

The new Douglas IPOE, proposed by the U.S. General Services Administration, provides regional economic, mobility and safety benefits to the area and requires a connector road to State Route 80. By relocating the commercial traffic away from the current Castro IPOE, this will decrease wait times for non-commercial traffic, thereby reducing congestion and emissions in a significantly impacted disadvantaged rural community. The current POE in Douglas is no longer able to accommodate traffic demands and U.S. Customs and Border Protection requirements. Due to the major mining and smelter developments in Mexico, there is a large amount of oversized and overweight vehicles continuously traveling through Douglas. The new Douglas IPOE will process the commercial vehicles, thereby, reducing the disruption to traffic in the City of Douglas, reduce environmental threats from mining materials, reduce vehicle emissions and wait times at the current POE. Transportation and public safety in the city will be increased. Safety for the Commercial Vehicles, their drivers, port workers of all types will be substantially improved. The economic benefits will be reaped in the City of Douglas with the reduction in vehicle traffic congestion, due to ease of access to businesses. Economic benefits will increase at or near the new IPOE as new jobs are created, new businesses develop within the port facility and the plans for the Industrial Park are developed. Mobility and productivity will improve as international and regional needs are addressed such as the connectivity to SR-80 which is part of the Freight Network.

This is a capital project, including project-specific planning and design, that clearly falls within the eligibility requirements of 23 U.S.C. § 133(b) Surface Transportation Block Grant Program.

Thank you for your consideration of this important proposal.

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' and 'G'.

Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress