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March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Vista Grande Park Project in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of La Habra, located at 110 East La Habra Boulevard, La Habra, CA 90631. The funding would be used for the redevelopment of Vista Grande Park, the last significant undeveloped City-owned open space left in LaHabra.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because This project will increase the health and wellbeing of the community, create a safe, accessible, and free recreational opportunity for this low-income community. There is a lack of universally accessible playground and outdoor community spaces in North Orange County.

This project would create one of the first, if not the first universally accessible playground, and would touch both North Orange County and East Los Angeles County. Universally accessible playgrounds have just begun to be more common in the last 10-20 years. Based on research, City staff found only three of these types of playgrounds in the County, all located more than 15 miles away in South Orange County. The lack of a universally accessible playground in La Habra and North Orange County results in a lack of safe recreational playground areas for children with disabilities. For example, most playgrounds are not fenced in and are located close to streets. This would not be a safe option for children with autism, who are known to wander off at times. Children in wheelchairs or crutches are not able to participate at all or at great risk if they attempt to use existing equipment. Down Syndrome children may not have the same grip strength as other children and certain existing playground designs with thicker handlebars may not be as safe for them to use. The lack of universally accessible playgrounds for these and other types of children contribute to a lack of safe community focused recreational opportunities in La Habra and surrounding communities. Vista Grande Park will provide this missing opportunity to the community.

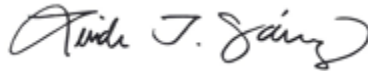
This project will address limited access for low-income communities by providing a recreational feature that the community has asked for and has played a significant role in designing. This is a

true community led project, with significant community input, and this funding would directly serve the community in providing them with a resource to improve their health, wellbeing, and quality of life.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2). I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Linda T. Sánchez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, stylized initial "L".

Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress