RUBEN GALLEGO 3RD DISTRICT, ARIZONA COMMITTEES: ARMED SERVICES SUBCOMMITTES: RANKING MEMBER, INTELLIGENCE AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS TACTICAL ABR AND LAND FORCES

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NATURAL RESOURCES

SUBCOMMITTEES: INDIAN AND INSULAR AFFAIRS WATER, WILDLIFE, AND FISHERIES OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

> The Honorable Tom Cole Chair 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

May 10, 2024

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Sewer Pipe Inspection and Replacement, Mesa, AZ project in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona, on behalf of the City of Mesa, AZ, located at 20 E. Main St., Mesa, AZ, 85201.

The funding would be used for the inspection and replacement of sewer pipes in lower-income areas throughout Mesa where the 50+ year old infrastructure is most vulnerable to breaks, leaks, overflows and equipment and pipe failure. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will allow for emergency repairs prior to any infrastructure failures, which result in sanitary sewer overflows that can release raw sewage into roads and storm drains – ultimately exposing waterways and the aquifer to biological waste contaminants. The results are compromised water quality, sewer back-ups into homes and streets, property damage, and compromised public health. The City of Mesa provides wastewater services to nearly half a million people each day, and proper management of wastewater infrastructure requires ongoing system evaluation to determine when repair, replacement, or upgrades are necessary.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Title VI of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C 1381 et seq.

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

Sincerely,

Ruben Gallego

MEMBER OF CONGRESS