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OFFICE OF: Mayor

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April 17, 2024

The Honorable Ken Calvert 2205 Rayburn Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Calvert,

On behalf of the City of Corona, we respectfully request your assistance with several Community Funded Project submissions for Fiscal Year 2025.

Our top priority request is for \$2,207,250 from the Fiscal Year 2025 Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill, Economic Development Initiative account for the Park Improvements and ADA Accessibility Project, which will allow us to complete ADA improvements, equitable park amenities, and shade structures throughout the City's parks in accordance with the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Since the adoption of the 1989 Parks and Recreation Master Plan (PRMP), the City of Corona has experienced significant shifts in demographics, recreation, development, community health, and economics that have placed complex and growing demands on the City's Park system. Fundamentally, needs have outpaced funding, creating a backlog of deferred maintenance projects and the need to prioritize funding for parks and programs over the next ten years.

Parks and recreation facilities provide communal spaces to gather, play, and relax, creating innumerable benefits for the community. ADA and shade improvements will expand access to these benefits to a wider range of our residents.

Our second priority request is for \$1 million from the Fiscal Year 2025 Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill, Economic Development Initiative account for the Historic Civic Center (HCC) renovation, which will fund several key system improvements to the 100-year-old building to bring it up to a modern standard of use, including accessibility, modern technology, and preservation.

As you know, the HCC is in Corona's downtown, an area on the cusp of revitalization and beautification. The HCC served as Corona's second high school and later as the city's City Hall. The site is registered as a National Historic Site on the National Parks Service registry. The HCC represents historical pride and community for Coronans. Today, the City of Corona maintains the structure, providing a space for the arts, subsidized fee-based community groups, theater, and special events. The iconic structure continues to serve as a symbol of Corona's unique heritage, while still inspiring new generations.

The HCC needs renovation to keep up with on-going uses within the building for the public. Several significant infrastructure, safety, and technologic elements are required. Areas of focus include updated electric, data lines, HVAC, security, lighting controls, structural assessment and/or replacement (ex. pergolas over walkways), sustainable landscape, upgraded theater technology, as well as signage to communicate services, and events taking place within the facility. This project also is a catalyst project in the City's Downtown Revitalization Plan.

Our third priority request is for \$1.7 million from the Fiscal Year 2025 Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill, Economic Development Initiative account for our Trails Improvement Project. This funding will allow us to make a variety of trailhead improvements and provide amenities that will allow more pedestrian and bike opportunities, preserve, and improve trail access, close gaps in the City's trail system, connect residents with nature, promote active transportation, and increase the physical activity and health of residents of all abilities through increased accessibility to open spaces.

The suite of projects funded by this request will improve connectivity to both internal and regional trails outside the City, improve connectivity to schools, parks, neighborhoods, open space, downtown and the Cleveland National Forest. These trails will connect disadvantaged communities to the Cleveland National Forest as well as commercial properties, schools, businesses and industrial uses, parks, and to the two Metrolink Rail Commuter stations located within Corona, providing safe, equitable access to jobs, education, healthcare, food. The trails within the City of Corona are fundamental in improving active transportation, reducing greenhouse emissions, increasing community health, safety, and cohesion.

Finally, our fourth priority request is for \$1,545,400 from the Fiscal Year 2025 Commerce Justice State Appropriations bill, COPS Tech account for the development of a Real Time Information Center. This funding will allow our Police Department to to procure up-to-date, industry standard hardware and computer-aided technology for the development of a Real Time Information Center to address the need for critical information for police while they are in the field.

The Real Time Information Center will enhance situational awareness, allowing the Department to monitor and respond to incidents more effectively, leading to quicker response times, improved coordination among officers, and better decision-making. The center will facilitate the sharing of critical information with other agencies, enabling a more comprehensive and coordinated response to emergencies. The Real Time Information Center will greatly enhance public safety in Corona by leveraging technology to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of police operations.

Thank you for all you do on behalf of our community; we greatly appreciate it.

Sincerely,

Tom Richins Mayor, District 3

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DISTRICT OFFICES

24640 JEFFERSON AVENUE, SUITE 202 MURRIETA, CA 92562 (951) 894-2220

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March 15th, 2024

California State Senate

## SENATOR **KELLY SEYARTO**

THIRTY-SECOND SENATE DISTRICT



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TRANSPORTATION

Congressman Ken Calvert 2205 Rayburn Building Washington, DC 20515

## Congressman Calvert:

I would like to express my support for the Congressionally Direct Spending (CDS) request for the City of Corona's Artificial Intelligence Resources/ Criminal Investigations Real Time Information Center project to be included in the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies CDS appropriations.

The City of Corona is located in the northwestern region of Riverside County bordered by the cities of Riverside, Anaheim, Norco, and Chino Hills. Being one of the more residential cities in the Inland Empire, the 2020 U.S. Census reports that 157,154 people reside in Corona with the following demographics: 48.4% Hispanic or Latino, 46.3% White, 13.4% Two or more races, 10.9% Asian, and 5.9% Black. The median household income is \$103,727 with 8.5% of the population living in poverty.

Safety is one of the top concerns of the City and its Police Department (PD). As technology improves, the need for enhanced artificial intelligence (AI) has become a priority to assist law enforcement in identifying criminals and solving crimes. This is why the procurement of up-todate, industry standard artificial intelligence/computer-aided technology for the City's police department - in coordination with the creation of a Real Time Information Center - is of up most importance for the City. Currently, PD uses the programs Flock Inc., BriefCam, GenTec, Spillman CAD, and Axon, which all have elements of AI. Bringing these sources together in one interface will allow for a quicker response to incidents to ensure the safety of the community. Additional computer-aided technology will allow the Police Department to conduct more efficient investigations, facilitate the sharing of critical information with other agencies, and enhance public safety in Corona by leveraging technology to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of police operations.

As a smaller municipality with limited financial resources, I respectfully ask you to give serious consideration to recommending the requested appropriation of \$1,545,400 to the City of Corona community. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Kelly Seyarto

State Senator, 32nd District

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