

April 25, 2024

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Congressman, District 41
2205 Rayburn
Washington, DC 20515

RE: ACCESS Indian Canyon Drive – Support

Dear Congressman Calvert:

On behalf of the City of Desert Hot Springs, I write in strong support of the Coachella Valley Association of Government's Addressing Climate Change, Emergencies and Sand Storms (ACCESS) Indian Canyon Drive project nomination for FY 2025 Community Project Funding. This project will address frequent and prolonged road closures on Indian Canyon Drive due to flooding and blowsand, which negatively impacts residents and visitors in the Coachella Valley.

The City of Desert Hot Springs has been prone to flash flooding and natural sand migration. These natural events cause complete road closures, paralyzing travel for our community. This project is critical for the entire Desert Hot Springs community and its surrounding region.

Located in the north part of the City of Palm Springs, Indian Canyon Drive is critical arterial road that directly connects to Interstate 10 and connects communities on both sides of the freeway. Residents in Desert Hot Springs rely on this road to access jobs, schools and daily essentials. In 2023, it was closed for a total of 87 days due to flooding and blowsand. Tropical Storm Hilary highlighted the vulnerability of this road. Frequent road closures on Indian Canyon Drive congests local roads, increasing idling times, vehicles miles traveled and poor air quality and negatively impacting the regional economy. With your support, CVAG will implement measures to keep the road open. Ultimately, this will not only enhance the efficiency of our road network but also improve the overall quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

When this road closes, people lose direct access to jobs centers, schools, childcare, essential goods and medical services, including the region's only Level 1 Trauma Center, Desert Regional Medical Center. For medical emergencies, this can be a matter of life or death due to detours that increase travel time for public safety personnel. CVAG's ACCESS Indian Canyon Drive project will help keep enhance accessibility to key destinations, integrate active transportation and provide a connection to Amtrak's Palm Springs Station. This will improve connectivity and mobility options for individuals of all ages and abilities, especially those from disadvantaged communities.

We look forward to your favorable consideration of CVAG's request. By investing in hardening the region's transportation infrastructure, we can create a more vibrant and resilient community for generations to come. If you have any questions, please feel free to City Manager, Frank J. Luckino at fluckino@cityofdhsd.org or at 760-329-6411, ext. 101.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Matas", written over a horizontal line.

Scott Matas, Mayor
City of Desert Hot Springs

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0047
(916) 319-2047
FAX (916) 319-2147

DISTRICT OFFICE
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Assemblymember.Wallis@assembly.ca.gov
<https://ad47.assembly.org/>



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EDUCATION IN CALIFORNIA
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS IN SAN
BERNARDINO COUNTY
JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE ARTS

April 30, 2024

The Honorable Ken Calvert
United States House of Representatives
2205 Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Subject: ACCESS Indian Canyon Drive – Support

Dear Congressman Calvert:

As the Assemblymember for the 47th Assembly District, I write in strong support of the Coachella Valley Association of Government's Addressing Climate Change, Emergencies and Sand Storms (ACCESS) Indian Canyon Drive project nomination for FY 2025 Community Project Funding. This project in my district will address frequent and prolonged road closures on Indian Canyon Drive due flooding and blowsand, which negatively impacts residents and visitors in the Coachella Valley.

Located in the north part of the City of Palm Springs, Indian Canyon Drive is critical arterial road that directly connects to Interstate 10 and connects communities on both sides of the freeway. In 2023, it was closed for a total of 87 days due to flooding and blowsand. Tropical Storm Hilary highlighted the vulnerability of this road. Frequent road closures on Indian Canyon Drive congests local roads, increasing idling times, vehicles miles traveled and poor air quality and negatively impacting the regional economy. With your support, CVAG will implement measures to keep the road open. Ultimately, this will not only enhance the efficiency of our road network but also improve the overall quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

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Hon. Ken Calvert

March 8, 2024

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accessibility to key destinations, integrate active transportation and provide a connection to Amtrak's Palm Springs Station. This will improve connectivity and mobility options for individuals of all ages and abilities, especially those from disadvantaged communities.

I look forward to your favorable consideration of CVAG's request. By investing in hardening the region's transportation infrastructure, we can create a more vibrant and resilient community for generations to come.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office at Assemblymember.Wallis@assembly.ca.gov or 760-346-6342.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G Wallis', is positioned above the printed name.

GREG WALLIS

Assemblymember, 47th District

GW:cb

COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

73-710 Fred Waring Dr., Suite 200, Palm Desert, CA 92260 · (760) 346-1127 · www.cvag.org



April 30, 2024

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Congressman, District 41
2205 Rayburn
Washington, DC 20515

RE: ACCESS Indian Canyon Drive – Support

Dear Congressman Calvert:

As Executive Director of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG), I write in strong support of the Coachella Valley Association of Government's Addressing Climate Change, Emergencies and Sand Storms (ACCESS) Indian Canyon Drive project nomination for FY 2025 Community Project Funding. This project will address frequent and prolonged road closures on Indian Canyon Drive due flooding and blowsand, which negatively impacts residents and visitors in the Coachella Valley.

CVAG is a joint powers authority comprised of the nine Coachella Valley cities, the City of Blythe, four local Tribal Nations, and the County of Riverside. As a regional transportation planning agency, CVAG funds and builds regional projects that improve mobility, decrease congestion and associated emissions, and increase alternative transportation modes. For example, CVAG's CV Link is a 40-plus mile active transportation pathway that spans the Coachella Valley and provides multiple benefits that create healthier communities. Given the regional importance of Indian Canyon Drive, addressing frequent and prolonged road closures is a priority for CVAG and the region.

When this road closes, people lose direct access to jobs centers, schools, childcare, essential goods and medical services, including the region's only Level 1 Trauma Center, Desert Regional Medical Center. For medical emergencies, this can be a matter of life or death due to detours that increase travel time for public safety personnel. CVAG's ACCESS Indian Canyon Drive project will help keep enhance accessibility to key destinations, integrate active transportation and provide a connection to Amtrak's Palm Springs Station. This will improve connectivity and mobility options for individuals of all ages and abilities, especially those from disadvantaged communities.

I look forward to your favorable consideration of CVAG's request. By investing in hardening the region's transportation infrastructure, we can create a more vibrant and resilient community for generations to come. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at 760-346-1127 or tkirk@cvag.org.

Sincerely,

Tom Kirk
Executive Director

COACHELLA VALLEY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

74-199 El Paseo, Suite 100, Palm Desert, CA 92260 • (760) 346-1127 • www.cvmshcp.org

April 29, 2024

Congressman Ken Calvert
2205 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515



Re: CVAG's Community Project Funding request

Dear Congressman Calvert,

As the Chair of the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission, I am writing in strong support of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments' (CVAG) application to the Community Project Funding (CPF) request. CVAG's proposed project will help provide multi-benefits that include protecting at-risk transportation infrastructure, improving the quality of life for disadvantaged communities, and advancing environmental protection goals for endangered and protected species in the project area.

The Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (CVMSHCP) provides for balanced growth by conserving our natural resources while also building a strong economy vital to our future. The CVMSHCP protects 240,000 acres of open space as well as 27 species and their habitats, including the Whitewater Floodplain Preserve Conservation Area where the proposed project is located. This sandy dune ecosystem is a critical sand-transport area and habitat for listed species including the Coachella Valley fringed-toed lizard and the Coachella Valley milkvetch. This unique environment and conveyance of sand for habitat is essential for the continued persistence of their populations.

By allowing the conveyance of flood waters and blowsand under bridges at low water crossings, the natural resources of the Whitewater Floodplain Preserve will be better protected. The bridges' culverts will facilitate the flow of sand and provide a critical linkage for protected species at the project location. As such, the proposed project strongly aligns with the objectives of the CVMSHCP, which state in Section 9.6.2.3 that a bridge with large culverts should be considered to allow animal and sand movement while keeping the road open for motorists during flood events.

CVAG's CPF project provides multi-benefits that increase the resilience of Indian Canyon Drive, local disadvantaged communities, and endangered and protected species. For these reasons, CVCC stands in strong support of CVAG's application and looks forward to your favorable consideration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact CVCC Director of Conservation Kathleen Brundige at kbrundige@cvag.org or at 760-346-1127.

Sincerely,

Gary Gardner

Chair, Coachella Valley Conservation Commission



City of Palm Springs

Jeffrey Bernstein, Mayor

3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way • Palm Springs, California 92262
Tel: 760.323.8200 • Fax: 760.323.8207 • E-Mail: Jeffrey.Bernstein@palmspringsca.gov

April 29, 2024

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Congressman, District 41
2205 Rayburn
Washington, DC 20515

RE: ACCESS Indian Canyon Drive – Support

Dear Congressman Calvert:

On behalf of the City of Palm Springs, I write in strong support of the Coachella Valley Association of Government's Addressing Climate Change, Emergencies and Sand Storms (ACCESS) Indian Canyon Drive project nomination for FY 2025 Community Project Funding. This project will address frequent and prolonged road closures on Indian Canyon Drive due to flooding and blowsand, which negatively impacts residents and visitors in the Coachella Valley.

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City of Palm Springs

Jeffrey Bernstein, Mayor

3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way • Palm Springs, California 92262
Tel: 760.323.8200 • Fax: 760.323.8207 • E-Mail: Jeffrey.Bernstein@palmspringsca.gov

We look forward to your favorable consideration of CVAG's request. By investing in hardening the region's transportation infrastructure, we can create a more vibrant and resilient community for generations to come. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at Jeffrey.Bernstein@palmspringsca.gov.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Bernstein
Mayor, City of Palm Springs

County of Riverside

RIVERSIDE OFFICE:
4080 Lemon Street, 5th Floor
Riverside, CA 92502-1647
(951) 955-1040
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DISTRICT OFFICE/MAILING ADDRESS
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(760) 863-8211
Fax (760) 863-8905

April 30, 2024

SUPERVISOR V. MANUEL PEREZ **FOURTH DISTRICT**

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Congressman, District 41
2205 Rayburn
Washington, DC 20515

RE: ACCESS Indian Canyon Drive – Support

Dear Congressman Calvert:

As the Supervisor for the County of Riverside's 4th District, I write in strong support of the Coachella Valley Association of Government's Addressing Climate Change, Emergencies and Sand Storms (ACCESS) Indian Canyon Drive project nomination for FY 2025 Community Project Funding. This project will address frequent and prolonged road closures on Indian Canyon Drive due flooding and blowsand, which negatively impacts residents and visitors in the Coachella Valley.

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I look forward to your favorable consideration of CVAG's request. By investing in hardening the region's transportation infrastructure, we can create a more vibrant and resilient community for generations to come. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office at v.mperrez@rivco.org or at 760-863-8211.

Sincerely,

V. Manuel Perez
Supervisor, 4th District.
VMP: sv