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COMMITTEES  
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BUDGET  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GROWTH,  
AND HOUSEHOLD IMPACT  
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION  
UTILITIES AND ENERGY  
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 3 ON  
EDUCATION FINANCE  
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 5 ON  
STATE ADMINISTRATION

April 14, 2025

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

**RE: 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 2026 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.

Located in the district I represent, 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. Since 2024, it has closed an additional 175 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.


Congressman Calvert

April 14, 2025

Page 2

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 do not hesitate to contact my office at [Assemblymember.Wallis@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.Wallis@assembly.ca.gov) or at 760-346-6342.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Greg Wallis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

GREG WALLIS

Assemblymember, 47<sup>th</sup> District

GW:fo

**April 15, 2025**

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

**RE: Support for CVAG's ACCESS Indian Canyon Drive Project**

Dear Congressman Calvert,

On behalf of the City of Desert Hot Springs, I am writing to express our strong support for the Coachella Valley Association of Governments' (CVAG) nomination of the *Addressing Climate Change Emergencies, and Sandstorms (ACCESS) Indian Canyon Drive* project for FY 2026 Community Project Funding.

This vital infrastructure initiative aims to address the persistent and disruptive closures of Indian Canyon Drive caused by flooding and blowsand—conditions that significantly impact residents, commuters, and visitors throughout the Coachella Valley.

Desert Hot Springs and the broader region are increasingly affected by flash flooding and natural sand migration. These events often result in complete road closures, severely limiting mobility and straining local resources. Indian Canyon Drive is a critical north-south arterial road connecting Interstate 10 to the City of Palm Springs and surrounding communities. Residents depend on this corridor for access to employment, education, essential goods, and medical care.

In 2023 alone, Indian Canyon Drive was closed for a total of 87 days due to weather-related conditions. In 2024, it has already experienced 175 days of closures, underscoring the urgency of this issue. Tropical Storm Hilary further highlighted the road's vulnerability and the broader impacts of climate-related disruptions on our transportation network.

These closures not only hinder regional mobility but also increase vehicle miles traveled, contribute to poor air quality, and strain alternate roadways. Most critically, they delay emergency response times and block access to vital facilities like Desert Regional Medical Center—the region's only Level 1 Trauma Center.

The ACCESS Indian Canyon Drive project will improve roadway reliability and resilience, support active transportation, and enhance connectivity to key destinations, including Amtrak's Palm Springs Station. This effort is especially important for disadvantaged communities that rely on safe, consistent access to regional services and opportunities.

We respectfully urge your support of CVAG's funding request. Investing in this project will strengthen our transportation infrastructure, support regional economic vitality, and ensure safer, more sustainable travel for residents and visitors alike.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at [smatas@cityofdhs.org](mailto:smatas@cityofdhs.org) or (760) 329-6411.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this critical matter.

Sincerely,

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

Scott Matas, Mayor  
City of Desert Hot Springs

# County of Riverside

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## SUPERVISOR V. MANUEL PEREZ FOURTH DISTRICT

April 15, 2025

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2205 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Calvert:

I am writing in strong support for the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) in its request for community project funding for the association's Addressing Climate Change, Emergencies and Sandstorms (ACCESS) Indian Canyon Drive project.

The project would 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.

Indian Canyon Drive is a critical arterial road in the north part of the City of Palm Springs 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. Since 2024, it has closed an additional 175 days due to flooding and blowsand. Frequent road closures on Indian Canyon Drive congests local roads, increasing idling times, vehicle miles traveled and poor air quality, and negatively impacting the regional economy.

When this road closes, people lose direct access to job centers, schools, childcare, and 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.

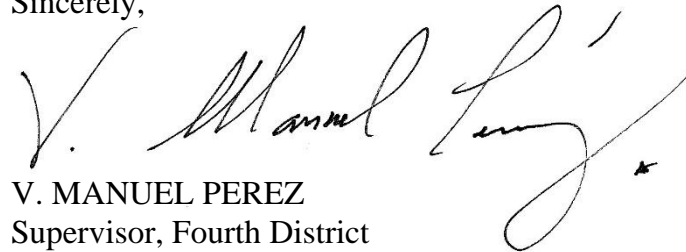
If awarded this funding, CVAG will implement measures to keep the road open. Ultimately, this would not only enhance the efficiency of our road network but also improve the overall quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
April 15, 2025  
Page 2

As supervisor for Riverside County's Fourth District, representing eastern Riverside County and the mountain communities, and also as a board member of CVAG, I strongly support CVAG's request for this funding, an important investment in resilient and reliable transportation infrastructure for our region.

If you have any questions about my support for this funding request, please don't hesitate to contact me at (760) 863-8211. Thank you for your consideration and dedication to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. Manuel Perez", with a stylized flourish at the end.

V. MANUEL PEREZ  
Supervisor, Fourth District

VMP:das