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City of *Imperial*

May 18, 2021

The Honorable Juan Vargas
United States House of Representatives
2244 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Vargas:

The City of Imperial writes to you today in support of the County of Imperial's ("County") efforts to submit a Community Project Funding recommendation for the upcoming fiscal year 2022 appropriations process. Imperial County is requesting $650,000 in federal assistance to address long-standing, systemic water infrastructure and pollution issues in and around the New River.

For many years, the County and cities of this region have aggressively sounded the alarm on the ecological, environmental, and public health disasters occurring in and around the New River. Though some efforts have been made over the years to address this issue, to this day, sewage, waste, industrial chemicals, and other toxic contaminants continue to poison the river and the surrounding watershed.

The federal funding requested in the County's proposed project would be used to develop a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) – in coordination and consultation with the Army Corps of Engineers – that includes a hydrologic analysis, as well as comprehensive water quality sampling and analysis. A PER will also help identify a recommended course of action and viable alternatives. Following the PER, funding will be utilized for project design and permitting.

The City of Imperial is confident that this project has merit and would be a good use of taxpayer dollars. Thank you in advance for your consideration. If you have any questions or if you need any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Karin Eugenio, Mayor

CC: Geoff Dale, Mayor Pro Tem
       Robert Amparano, Councilmember
       Katie Burnworth, Councilmember
       James Tucker, Councilmember