

**RAUL RUIZ, M.D.**

36TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0536**

February 25, 2020

The Honorable Brenda Burman  
Commissioner  
Bureau of Reclamation  
1849 C Street, Northwest  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Commissioner Burman:

I write in support of the City of Banning and its application for a WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grant with the Bureau of Reclamation. Funding from this grant would enable the City of Banning to improve water efficiency and modernize existing water infrastructure through its Pressure Zone Separation and Water Loss Reduction Project.

Through its Pressure Zone Separation and Water Loss Reduction Project, the City would install a variable speed drive (VSD) to activate pressure relief valves (PRVs), rezone the City's main water zone, and install technology upgrades. This would ultimately reduce leak flow rates and bring much-needed upgrades to the City's water infrastructure.

Funding from the WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grant would allow the City to continue its modernization of public utility infrastructure. In its initial phase of modernization, the City converted electric utility meters to advanced metering infrastructure, then transformed their utility provision with updated systems that provide real-time leak detection. The City hopes to build on that momentum by applying pressure management that has the potential to save more than 100 acres of water per year, decreasing water losses by 47 percent.

The families and individuals I serve and represent stand to benefit a great deal from the City's Pressure Zone Separation and Water Loss Reduction Project. By modernizing the City's water system for water management, the City would improve water conservation to ensure the sustainability of our resources.

I support the City of Banning and its application, and I urge full and fair consideration, consistent with all relevant program rules and regulations. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact my Washington, D.C. office at (202) 225-5330.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Raul Ruiz".

Raul Ruiz, M.D.  
Member of Congress