

VICENTE GONZALEZ
34TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CAPITAL MARKETS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY,
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4315

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May 2, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Laguna Madre Nature Center Phase 1 project in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is Cameron County, located at 1100 E. Monroe Street, Brownsville, Texas 77820.

The funding would be used to construct Phase 1 of the Laguna Madre Nature Center. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will provide a diverse array of both educational and recreational opportunities for the community and visitors alike. Indoor facilities will include a nature center, classrooms, exhibit spaces, and meeting areas. Outdoor facilities will feature nature trails, access to natural coastal areas, open spaces for educational programs. This center will promote healthier lifestyles through the expanded trails and recreational opportunities and drive economic development by supporting ecotourism in the region.

This project has a Federal nexus as it is for the same purposes authorized in Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a). I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress