

VERONICA ESCOBAR
16TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY CONSTRUCTION,
VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEE



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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NEW DEMOCRAT COALITION
CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS
CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS
DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CAUCUS

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Rio Vista Workforce Development Center in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Socorro, Texas, located at 124 Horizon Blvd., Socorro, Texas 79927

The funding would be used for The Rio Vista Workforce Development Center to rehabilitate and reuse two (2) buildings at Rio Vista Farm as modern workforce training classrooms. This project will create the first local workforce development hub in Socorro, providing residents with access to skills training, certifications, and career pathways that currently do not exist within the community. It represents a critical investment in expanding economic opportunity and supporting upward mobility for a historically underserved population.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it leverages an existing City owned historic asset, converts underutilized space into productive classrooms, and generates measurable economic returns: increased job readiness, higher credential attainment, improved job retention, new job creation, and attraction of private investment. These outcomes build the regional talent pipeline and reduce costs associated with unemployment and underemployment. Moreover, the rehabilitation preserves an irreplaceable cultural resource—the former Bracero Reception Center—while aligning federal priorities in equitable economic development, workforce access, and historic preservation.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S. Code § 5305(a)(4).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Veronica Escobar".

Member of Congress