



*Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515*

*Anna G. Eshoo
Sixteenth District
California*

March 29, 2023

The Honorable Dave Joyce,
Chairman
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
House Appropriations Committee
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Henry Cuellar,
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Joyce and Ranking Member Cuellar,

As you begin your critical work on the Fiscal Year 2024 Homeland Security Appropriations bill, I request that you include \$2,250,000 for the Town of Atherton's Upper Atherton Channel Flood Mitigation Project. This request for Community Project Funding is associated with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Pre-Disaster Mitigation account.

The requested funding will allow the Town to improve flood protection along the upper portion of the Atherton Channel by installing a stormwater detention system, increasing the capacity of the culvert under Alameda de las Pulgas, and installing flow monitoring devices to provide real-time data on water elevations at critical locations. The recent winter storms that inundated much of California caused the channel to overflow, flooding nearby properties including the elementary school which closed several of its classrooms for repair. The channel also overflowed in 2022, closing Alameda de las Pulgas to traffic.

This project will also reduce flood risks for communities along the channel downstream of Atherton, including Menlo Park and the unincorporated community of North Fair Oaks, an underserved community historically subject to flooding from the Atherton Channel.

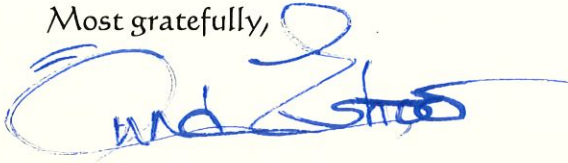
Improving the capacity of the channel is a priority of the City and was first identified in the Town's Drainage Master Plan Update prepared in 2014. The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, the State Administrative Agency, has also provided a letter confirming the project's eligibility for FEMA's Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program. As a further indication of community support, I've

enclosed letters of support from the following local elected officials and community leaders:

- Mayor Bill Widmer, Town of Atherton
- Superintendent Beth Polito, Las Lomas Elementary School

If enacted, this request would help reduce flooding risks for nearby communities, an elementary school, and a major road, and it's why I wholeheartedly support this Community Project Funding request and ask that you do so as well.

Most gratefully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anna Eshoo", with a large, stylized flourish above the name.

Anna G. Eshoo

Enclosures