

JAY OBERNOLTE
EIGHTH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

**COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE,
AND TECHNOLOGY**
INVESTIGATIONS AND OVERSIGHT, RANKING
MEMBER

**COMMITTEE ON NATURAL
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COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET



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House of Representatives

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April 28, 2022

Chair Rosa DeLauro
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Ranking Member Kay Granger
House Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the Wildwood Canyon Interchange in fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Yucaipa, located at 34272 Yucaipa Blvd. Yucaipa, CA 92399

The funding will be used to improve access to the city, address traffic congestion on the mainline, address future traffic volumes, as well as current and future logistical travel demands on I-10. Local population and employment growth is expected to increase in the area based on information from the Community Design and Land Use Element in the City's General Plan (April 2016), which identifies planned business/commercial and residential housing north and south of I-10 along the extension of Wildwood Canyon Road near the Wildwood Safety Roadside Rest Area (SRRA).

The proposed interchange is considered a priority for the City; sustained growth and development in the area has increased commuter traffic and caused inadequate queuing capacity at adjacent interchanges. According to preliminary traffic analysis for the proposed Project heavy peak hour traffic movements are expected to occur in the AM from southbound (SB) Wildwood Canyon Road to the I-10 westbound (WB) on-ramp, and in the PM from the I-10 eastbound (EB) off-ramp to northbound (NB) Wildwood Canyon Road. Therefore, the storage capacity at these ramps will be maximized to the extent possible, creating a significant safety issue for the residents of Yucaipa and the public. The amount of traffic utilizing the adjacent interchanges is expected to increase substantially by year 2050, and the existing configuration and access points to I-10 at these adjacent interchanges will not accommodate this projected traffic growth. In addition, focused improvements capable of handling large peaks in directional flows would be beneficial to the community and region. To address existing local circulation issues and to accommodate projected growth and operational needs within the Project area and along the I-10 corridor, the Project PID will evaluate the improvements needed to enhance operational efficiency and multimodal access for this newly proposed connection to I-10.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Obernolte". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jay" being more prominent and stylized than the last name "Obernolte".

Jay Obernolte
Member of Congress