

In a large effort to honor their parents, Javier worked with Corona City Councilman Eugene Montanez to create a special park in Corona to honor his parents' accomplishments and to be a place they could enjoy with their grandchildren. Their vision materialized this past August when the Citrus Park splash zone opened to throngs of happy families. I'm proud to say that the Citrus-themed playground is Corona's first ever water park and was designed based on Corona's proud citrus history. The water park is yet another successful venture of the Vasquez family and a testament to their continued willingness to give back to the community.

Mike and Maria's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of Corona, California. Volunteerism is a major part of the Vasquez's life and from their business, they support many non-profit organizations and schools. For more than 35 years, the Vasquez family has achieved success by focusing on the things that matter: community, family, and tradition. I am proud to call Mike and Maria fellow neighbors, Americans and friends. I know that many community members are grateful for their service and we salute them in their recent award.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. BUCHANAN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009:

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Justice—COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Manatee Community College

Address of Requesting Entity: 5840 26th Street West, Bradenton FL 34207

Description of Request: I secured \$200,000 for an Emergency Notification System using VOIP at Manatee Community College.

VOIP technology offers many advantages; one of the biggest is the convergence between voice and data, which offers possibilities beyond regular telephone or e-mail services. A good example is using VOIP for mass notifications, in which a user can send an alert message simultaneously to a large audience in multiple ways such as text messaging, voice mail and e-mail. Funds will be used to purchase equipment and the one-time cost of installation and set-up.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Economic Development Initiatives

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Sarasota Housing Authority

Address of Requesting Entity: 1300 Blvd. of the Arts, Sarasota, FL 34236

Description of Request: I secured \$237,500 for the Sarasota Housing Authority to build a LEED Certified community center.

Redevelopment is already underway. Plans call for a community center to be built to serve as a property management office as well as a resident services center that will be used to provide training and services to residents to become self sufficient. This center is slated to be a LEED Certified as a green building.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Manatee and Sarasota Counties

Address of Requesting Entity: 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, FL 34205 (Manatee County) 1660 Ringling Blvd. Sarasota, FL 34236 (Sarasota County)

Description of Request: I secured \$475,000 Intelligent Transportation (ITS) project in Manatee and Sarasota Counties.

The counties are upgrading their signal systems in order to deploy a more advanced traffic management system. This project also complements a programmed State of Florida project to deploy ITS for the purpose of incident management on 1-75. It is expected to reduce vehicular delay by 9.5 million hours per year and reduce fuel consumption by 3.8 million gallons per year.

The counties have been coordinating their efforts. Manatee County will incur a greater cost on this project; as a result funding should be split 60-40 between the counties.

Manatee County's project is called Advanced Traffic management System (ATMS), while Sarasota County has designated theirs ITS.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Hardee County

Address of Requesting Entity: 412 West Orange Street, Room 103, Wauchula, FL 33873
Description of Request: I secured \$332,500 for Bridge costs on US-17.

Funds will be utilized to construct a 500' by 43' bridge in the Hardee County Line/CR 634 segment. The project is an important component of the larger project to four-lane US-17 in Hardee County.

This larger project is important for safety and economic reasons. US-17 four laned entirely will be a valuable evacuation route during hurricanes. Also, it would provide an economic boom as many businesses are looking to the area in their future plans.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Alternative Analysis

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Sarasota County

Address of Requesting Entity: 1660 Ringling Blvd. Sarasota, FL 34236

Description of Request: I secured \$1,009,375 Sarasota County Bus Rapid Transit.

Sarasota County is expanding its transit system with the most fuel-efficient vehicles and the latest ITS technology. The Bus Rapid Transit Corridor Project will: connect areas of highest transit ridership access for key employment sites; improve the operating efficiency of transit services, and support regional long-term land use goals.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on member requests, I am submitting the following information regarding the earmarks I received as part of H.R. 1105, the FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill:

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: Special Research Grants

Project Name: Drought Mitigation

Amount: \$469,000

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: University of Nebraska-Lincoln located at 202 Agricultural Hall, Lincoln, Nebraska 68583

Description: This funding is for the National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC) which conducts research and educational programs on drought mitigation and planning for drought. The project has assisted numerous states and municipalities in developing drought plans and implementing drought response action teams. The Center has received national visibility for providing information on the severity of drought throughout the United States. Both print and electronic mass media routinely use Center produced materials in their news stories on the drought.

The NDMC's program is directed at lessening societal vulnerability to drought through a risk-based management approach. The NDMC works with local, state, and tribal governments, federal agencies, and non-governmental organizations. The objectives of the NDMC are: (1) to develop and evaluate existing drought policies and plans in the United States and elsewhere with the goal of improving drought-coping capacity and (2) to develop and evaluate new techniques and methodologies for monitoring drought severity and its impacts, identifying and classifying users in the United States and elsewhere.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: Buildings and facilities

Project Name: Systems Biology Research Facility

Amount: \$1,088,000

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: University of Nebraska-Lincoln located at 202 Agricultural Hall, Lincoln, Nebraska 68583

Description: This funding will be used toward construction of a University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL)/Agricultural Research Service (ARS) Research Facility. This facility would provide critically needed space for UNL and ARS research addressing two areas of national concern: renewable energy and water resource conservation and management. Agriculture is expected to provide almost 40 percent of the nation's liquid fuels within 30 years. This will further intensify demands on our soil and water resources. UNL and ARS scientists have been collaborating at UNL since the 1930s. Very strong collaborative programs continue today, including the ARS program at UNL that has been developing improved switchgrass varieties for 30 years and