

wishes to you and your family in these difficult times. I hope you will never hesitate to call on me or my staff if we may be of service in the future.

TRIBUTE TO BRIAN AND CONNIE
VERMEULEN

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2009

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a couple from my congressional district who have spent their lives giving back to their community in Orange County, California. Brian and Connie Vermeulen are dedicated public servants, fully committed to improving the quality of life in the City of San Juan Capistrano for both neighbors and visitors. I was happy to learn that their selfless commitment to the values, ideals and traditions that this country was founded upon has earned them recognition from the San Juan Capistrano Chamber of Commerce as Man and Woman of the Year.

Brian and Connie both moved with their families to the Capistrano Valley in the early 1960s. They also both attended the parish grammar school and have remained members of the San Juan Mission parish ever since. Over the years, while busy running a business and raising children and grandchildren, they have never missed an opportunity to get involved with the community.

Together, Brian and Connie have become champions for a number of cherished local organizations, such as the Boys and Girls Club and the Fiesta Association. They have logged countless hours as yearly volunteers for the San Juan Historical Society and the Capistrano 4-H Rangers. Aside from their joint ventures, the Vermeulens also pursue their passions individually. Brian volunteers his time and talent as a Little League Coach and Connie is involved with religious education programs at the Mission parish.

The Vermeulens are the kind of citizens that this country can be proud of; humble and hardworking, they truly represent the heart of America. I want to thank Brian and Connie Vermeulen not just for their tremendous sacrifice and remarkable accomplishment, but for providing us all with a glowing example of what it means to be an American.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2009

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I, KAY GRANGER, submit the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3288, the Department of Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year 2010.

For the project titled "Henderson Street Bridge Construction at the Trinity River, City of Fort Worth, TX," which received \$1.35 million in H.R. 3288, Surface Transportation Priorities,

the legal name and address of the receiving entity is the City of Fort Worth, Texas, 1000 Throckmorton Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102. The City of Fort Worth, Texas, will use this funding for the design, engineering and construction of SH 199 (Henderson Street) through the Trinity Uptown area of the Trinity River Vision. The aging levee system is no longer adequate to provide protection for an area adjacent to downtown Fort Worth that is undergoing revitalization. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recommends in the final Environmental Impact Statement an integrated, comprehensive solution for flood control in this area to include transportation, environmental restoration and community redevelopment components in constructing a 1.5 mile flood-control bypass channel. Local cost share is \$23.5 million.

For the project titled "Alliance Airport Runway Extension Program, TX," which received \$750,000 in H.R. 3288, Airport Improvement Program, the legal name and address of the receiving entity is Alliance Air Services, City of Fort Worth, TX, 2221 Alliance Boulevard, Suite 100, Fort Worth, TX 76177. Funds will be used to extend the existing main runway. The extension project includes lengthening the runway by 1,400 feet to 11,000 feet and includes extension of taxiways, relocation of FM Road 156, relocation of BNSF main line, and extension of Eagle Parkway, at a total cost of \$212 million. Local match is \$50 to \$60 million.

For the project titled "CNG Bus Replacement," The Fort Worth Transportation Authority, Fort Worth, TX, which received \$750,000 in H.R. 3288, Buses and Bus Facilities, the legal name and address of the receiving entity is the Fort Worth Transportation Authority, 1600 E. Lancaster Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76102. These funds will continue the replacement of the T's aging bus fleet and pay for the cost of replacing buses. When the total project is completed, the fleet will be 100 percent wheel chair accessible and complete with security cameras for driver and passenger safety. Local cost match is 20 percent.

For the project titled "Interstate-20 Interchanges, Parker County, TX," which received \$500,000 in H.R. 3288, Interstate Maintenance Discretionary, the legal name and address of the receiving entity is Parker County, TX, One Courthouse Square, Weatherford, TX 76086. Parker County, TX, approved an \$80 million transportation bond program that would improve its roadway systems, decrease congestion and provide additional capacity for the heavy truck traffic. This project would upgrade two IH-20 interchanges: the Western Loop and the FM 1187 interchanges. The amount requested will be utilized for environmental studies involved with the planning and design, engineering design, surveys, geotechnical studies for the bridge structure, and right-of-way acquisition for the two IH-20 interchanges at FM 1187 and at the Western Loop. This bond program was approved in November 2008 with a 64 percent approval. In the lead up to the vote, Parker County created a public website on the package, held at least 12 public outreach meetings. Parker County is working with the Federal Highway Administration, TXDOT and the local regional transportation council.

For the project titled "Fort Worth Transportation Authority Southwest-to-Northeast Rail Corridor, TX," which received \$4 million in

H.R. 3288, Capital Improvement Grants, the legal name and address of the receiving entity is Fort Worth Transportation Authority, 1600 E. Lancaster Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76102. The Fort Worth Transportation Authority has developed plans for a rail line across Tarrant County. This project is a 37-mile commuter rail project linking Southwest Fort Worth with downtown (with interface to existing Trinity Rail Express), northeast Tarrant County, and D/FW International Airport. This project would create a western light rail loop into the metroplex's major airport, and complement an eastern rail loop being developed by DART. The draft environmental impact statement was recently completed, and it is in the engineering level range. The local and state match is 50 percent through the T's dedicated sales tax funds as well as other municipal sales tax funds. Federal CMAQ funds have also been used for a portion of this project.

For the project titled "Trinity River Vision Land Acquisition," which received \$500,000 in H.R. 3288, Economic Development Initiative, the legal name and address of the receiving entity is the City of Fort Worth, Texas, 1000 Throckmorton Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102. The aging levee system is no longer adequate to provide protection for an area adjacent to downtown Fort Worth that is undergoing revitalization. The Army Corps of Engineers recommends in the final Environmental Impact Statement an integrated, comprehensive solution for flood control in this area to include transportation, environmental restoration and community redevelopment components in constructing a 1.5 mile flood-control bypass channel. These funds will be used for property acquisition for land that will be needed to construct the bypass channel and bridges over the Trinity River. Local cost share is \$15 million.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF COMMANDER MARK MESERVEY OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2009

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the accomplishments and contributions of Commander Mark Meservey of the United States Coast Guard for his professional and credible service to the United States Congress.

A native of Chatham, Massachusetts, Commander Meservey has served as Director of the Coast Guard's House of Representatives Liaison Office with distinction since July 2006. In this capacity, he worked directly with Member offices resolving hundreds of constituent issues as well as with the Coast Guard's appropriations and authorizing committees to ensure the Service received the necessary resources and legislative authorities to effectively execute its eleven congressionally-mandated missions. CDR Meservey's precise attention to detail, tested operational experience as a military aviator, and selfless dedication to the U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. House of Representatives made him an invaluable asset to both Members and Staff. I personally came to

rely on his professionalism and responsiveness.

Upon graduation from Chatham High School in Massachusetts, Commander Meservey attended Norwich University as an Army Reserve Officer Training Corps scholar, graduating magna cum laude and with a commission as an Army Aviation officer in 1985. He completed flight training at Fort Rucker, AL in 1986 and served as a Black Hawk helicopter pilot through the last days of the Cold War in Cyprus and Germany. Assignments included serving as a Flight Platoon Leader, aviation Company Executive Officer, and United States Embassy Liaison Officer to a classified State Department mission. While in Europe, he deployed to Ethiopia to participate in an internationally sensitive search and rescue operation for the late Congressman Mickey Leland and planned Return of Forces to Germany 1990 for an aviation battalion. For his efforts working with the U.S. Air Force in Ethiopia, he was personally decorated by the Army's Chief of Staff, General Carl Vuono. Upon his return to the United States, he graduated from the U.S. Army's Aviation Officer Advanced Course as an Honor Graduate.

In 1990, Commander Meservey accepted a direct commission in the U.S. Coast Guard as a Lieutenant Junior Grade and initially served at Air Station Clearwater, FL as an HH-3F and HH-60J search and rescue pilot and flew in support of Operation Bahamas and Turks and Caicos, working closely with the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Department of Defense, and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas Drug Enforcement Unit to stem the flow of illegal drugs entering the United States through the Caribbean.

In 1994, he transferred to Air Station Cape Cod and served as an HH-60J Instructor Pilot and Flight Examiner. While serving as the unit's Public Affairs officer, he earned back-to-back CDR Jim Simpson awards for excellence in media relations. He participated in numerous hazardous weather search and rescue operations and planned and provided air security for Constitution Sail 200, the USS CONSTITUTION's first sail alone in over 116 years.

In 1998, he attended Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs as a full graduate scholar, earning a Master of Public Administration degree. Following graduate school, Commander Meservey completed a two-year assignment with the U.S. Department of Transportation in Washington, DC in the Office of the Secretary of Transportation as the lead budget analyst for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) responsible for developing and justifying FTA's multi-billion dollar budgets to the President's Office of Management and Budget and the United States Congress.

Commander Meservey returned to Coast Guard aviation in 2001, serving as Deputy Executive Officer and Gulfstream I fixed wing VIP and logistics pilot at Air Station Miami, one of the Coast Guard's largest aviation units. In 2004, he transferred to Air Station Washington where he served as Executive Officer flying the C-37A Gulfstream V executive jet across the globe for Department of Homeland Security Secretaries Ridge and Chertoff and Coast Guard Commandants Collins and Allen. In this assignment, he gained additional international experience working closely with the State Department and foreign militaries and governments ranging from Malaysia to the United Kingdom.

He's recently completed the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's prestigious Seminar XXI, a year-long Washington, DC-based program in foreign politics and international relations.

Commander Meservey has earned numerous military decorations thus far in his twenty-four years of active duty service, including Naval and Army Aviator Wings, the two Meritorious Service Medals, three Coast Guard Commendation Medals, two Army Commendation Medals, two Coast Guard Achievement Medals, the Army Achievement Medal, the Commandant's Letter of Commendation, and a variety of other personal, team and unit commendations.

This week, Commander Meservey will leave his post on the Hill to assume a newly created position as liaison to the Federal Aviation Administration's Unmanned Aircraft Program Office where he will serve as the Coast Guard's voice on all matters relating to unmanned aerial systems in particular and aviation in general.

I am honored to pay tribute to Commander Meservey in the United States Congress, and on behalf of the Representatives and staff who have been fortunate enough to work with him over the past three years. I wish him, his wife Kathleen, and his three children, Nicole, Maura and Seth, the best in their future endeavors.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3288, the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman MIKE ROGERS (MI-08)

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Interstate Maintenance Discretionary

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Howell

Address of Requesting Entity: Michigan Department of Transportation, 425 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, Michigan, USA

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$500,000 to purchase the right of ways necessary to complete the construction of an interchange and overpass at the interchange of Interstate 96 and Laston Road. The purpose of this project is to provide the eastern and western sides of Livingston County access to the major interstate of I-96 and the remainder of Livingston County. 40 percent of this funding will be used to purchase the right of ways and 60 percent will be used for construction.

Requesting Member: Congressman MIKE ROGERS (MI-08)

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Buses & Bus Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Capitol Area Transportation Authority

Address of Requesting Entity: Capitol Area Transportation Authority, 4615 Tranter Street, Lansing, Michigan, USA

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$500,000 for bus purchases, facility renovations, and planning studies. The purpose of this project is to continue to provide citizens of the greater Lansing area with jobs, a vital connection to employers, safe equipment for transportation, and planning studies that may lead to future advanced public transportation projects. 80 percent of the funds will be used to replace old, less-efficient busses with buses that offer greater fuel efficiency, lower cost of maintenance, and omit fewer emissions and 20 percent of the funds will be used to conduct a study to find more efficient, improved public transportation alternatives.

Requesting Member: Congressman MIKE ROGERS (MI-08)

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Economic Development Initiatives (EDI)

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Cleary University—Livingston Campus

Address of Requesting Entity: Cleary University, 3750 Cleary Drive, Howell, Michigan, USA

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$250,000 to renovate the Livingston Campus Community Center. This facility is used by the community service agencies, local school districts, and government agencies providing services to low and moderate income individuals. 80 percent of these funds will be used for necessary renovations and upgrades, and 20 percent will be used to enhance energy efficiency.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. THOMAS J. ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2009

Mr. ROONEY. 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. 3288—Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

One request was funded in this bill and is a previously Congressionally authorized project.

\$800,000: State Road (SR) 80, Hendry County, Florida. The entity to receive the funds for the project is Hendry County, Florida located at Courthouse Square, 165 S. Lee Street, La Belle, Florida 33975. SAFETEA-LU, Item 1487 authorized the widening of SR 80 in Hendry County, Florida. SR 80 serves as a major route for the movement of freight and agriculture products throughout the county, as well as a connector between Florida's east and west coast counties. It is the nearest cross-state highway north of I-75, extending from eastern Palm Beach County to Fort Myers on Florida's west coast. Funds will be used to further widen the road from two lanes to four.

All of my projects are Congressionally authorized and go only to public government agencies.