

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
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GENERAL GOVERNMENT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY



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April 3, 2009

The Honorable David E. Price
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
B-307 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Price and Ranking Member Rogers:

As you begin drafting the FY2010 Homeland Security Appropriations bill, I respectfully request your support for the following projects in or near the 7th district of Texas. I have ranked these requests in priority order and attempted to limit the amount of each request to reflect the project's need and to simplify your difficult task.

To simplify your task and to help control federal spending, I apply a rigorous filter to every spending request I receive. I tell everyone who asks me for federal funding that the starting answer is "no" and that "yes" is very hard to earn. I will not even consider a request from a private individual or a private company because I think it will unavoidably lead to problems. Then it must be an absolutely essential project of great public benefit that falls within the confines of the U.S. Constitution's grant of authority to Congress, and it must be in dire need of federal funding to assure the continuation of the work in question. Even if these conditions are met, I still filter out quite a few projects because of the dangerously large federal deficit and the unsustainable national debt. After all these filters are applied, I then try to limit the projects I consider to medical or scientific research at the Texas Medical Center or NASA, critical flood control or transportation projects, or defending our borders and our national security.



White Oak Bayou tributary. Near Highway 290 Northwest Freeway and Jones Road.

1. Harris County Flood Control District:

\$1,000,000 in the Department of Homeland Security, FEMA, Predisaster Mitigation account for the voluntary acquisition and demolition of approximately 38 homes located deep in the floodway and floodplain of the White Oak Watershed of Harris County, Texas. The Harris

County Flood Control District is charged with devising the flood damage reduction plans for the county, implementing the plans, and maintaining the infrastructure covering a 1,756 square mile area.

Additionally, I am supportive of fully funding the President's FY2010 budget request for Customs and Border Protection and Immigration and Customs Enforcement to implement Operation Streamline from Brownsville to San Diego. Operation Streamline is currently in effect in the Laredo, Del Rio, and Yuma Border Patrol Sectors and successfully prosecutes under existing law all drug smugglers and illegal aliens apprehended by the Border Patrol.

Should your office need any additional information, please contact Jeff Morehouse at 5-2571.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Culberson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

John Culberson
Member of Congress