

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