

GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

8TH DISTRICT, ARIZONA

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2542

DISTRICT OFFICES:

TUCSON OFFICE
1661 NORTH SWAN, SUITE 112
TUCSON, AZ 85712
(520) 881-3588

COCHISE COUNTY OFFICE
77 CALLE PORTAL, SUITE B-160
SIERRA VISTA, AZ 85635
(520) 459-3115



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0308

COMMITTEES:

ARMED SERVICES

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LAND FORCES

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THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE

May 23, 2007

Ms. Maria Araiza Troutner

Dear Ms. Troutner,

Thank you for contacting me with your concerns regarding the possible construction of an I-10 bypass construction through the Cascabel and San Pedro River Valley and enclosing the reading materials.

As a State Senator, I was a strong advocate for environmental preservation and protection and I will continue to fight for our natural resources in the U.S. House of Representatives.


Furthermore, I continue to work with other members of the Arizona delegation, from both the House and the Senate, to ensure the flow of the San Pedro River.

The San Pedro riparian area is a unique remnant of what once stretched across the Southwestern United States and must be preserved for future generations. As one of the few remaining perennially flowing rivers in our region, the maintenance of the viability of the San Pedro River is one of my top priorities.

As you know, Arizona is now the fastest growing nation in the state. As such, transportation issues stemming from our increasing population will continue to come into conflict with environmental preservation. Arizona's highway network must also be able to accommodate our growing population, but it is our job as responsible citizens to mitigate the encroachment of such development on already diminishing rural environments.

I will continue to work with the Arizona Department of Transportation on this issue to ensure the safety of this important natural resource. Thank you for keeping me informed on this issue and please don't hesitate to call my offices with any issues or concerns.

Sincerely Yours,


Gabrielle Giffords
Member of Congress

GG/LB