BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project
$274,881 requested from the Bureau of Reclamation
Funding will be used to improve the quality of Bay Area water supplies delivered from the Delta as well as improve the reliability of Bay Area water supplies especially during droughts, emergencies, and regulatory and environmental restrictions. It will also be used to develop water supplies to support fish protection, habitat management and other environmental water needs.

Mokelumne River Regional Water Storage and Conjunctive Use Project
$1,000,000 requested from the Bureau of Reclamation
Funding will be used to capture unappropriated flows from the Mokelumne River and regulate supply to an integrated system of conjunctive use projects. This will provide additional water supply and reliability for San Joaquin County and potentially for an even larger area.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Alameda Creek Watershed Project
$1,750,000 requested from the Department of Agriculture
Funding will be used to demonstrate the use of bioengineered stream restoration practices, focusing on the control of stream flow and restoration of the Arroyo de la Laguna tributary to the Alameda Creek.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Automated, Portable DNA-based Human Identification System
$1,500,000 requested from the Department of Defense
Funding will be used to generate a portable, luggable prototype instrument that can process DNA and report DNA profiles for human identification and biometrics to meet the needs of DOD and the intelligence community.

Complete Molten Carbonate Fuel Cell Demonstrator, Parks Reserve Forces Training Area
$4,000,000 requested from the Department of Defense
Funding will be used for the installation of a one megawatt renewable fuel cell. This will enable Parks Reserve Forces Training Area to generate a significant portion of its power consumption needs at or below the cost of purchased power.

Develop Manufacturing Technology for Advanced Components of High Power Solid-State Lasers
$3,200,000 requested from the Department of Defense
Funding will be used for further development, on an increased scale, of Adhesive-Free Bond laser components, which are critical to increasing the output and viability of HEL, IRCM, ISR and infrared targeting pod windows for military and commercial applications.

**Electronic Warfare Concept Demonstrator for the Littoral Combat Ship**  
$4,100,000 requested from the Department of Defense  
Funding will be used to create the Electronic Warfare Concept Demonstrator (EWCD), which will integrate commercial off the shelf Electronic Warfare antenna/receiver technology, the ES 3701 Tactical ESM System, with the Navy current display and control systems.

**Homeland-Defense Operational Planning System (HOPS)**  
$4,000,000 requested from the Department of Defense  
Funding will be used to allow the California National Guard to draft response plans to a terrorist attack or natural disaster in defense of critical U.S. infrastructure. Funding will also be used to conduct trainings and exercises in executing those plans.

**M109A6 Paladin Virtual System Development and Modernization**  
$5,000,000 requested from the Department of Defense  
Funding will be used for the development of real-time virtual simulation models and system re-architecture to support the Paladin Integrated Management (PIM). This will enable the evolution of Paladin electronics to modern digital architectures, reducing the size, weight, heat, and power consumption while providing more responsive electronics.

**Measuring and Protecting Against Traumatic Brain Injury from Improvised Explosive Devices**  
$6,000,000 requested from the Department of Defense  
Funding will be used to model the effect of blast waves from IED explosions on the brain (rather than traditional impact analysis). This will provide DOD with a tool to develop protective equipment and devices to mitigate brain damage to U.S. troops caused by blast waves.

**Nonlinear Optics for Microelectronics Memory Inspection (NOME)**  
$2,000,000 requested from the Department of Defense  
Funding will be used to develop very short wavelength lasers and component technologies, which in turn will be integrated into a memory inspection and high speed automated defect detection tool.

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**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**Give Every Child A Chance**  
$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Education  
Funding will be used to expand the free, volunteer-led tutoring, mentoring and after school programs run by GECAC in San Joaquin County. GECAC provides several services to the
community, in partnership with school districts and community organizations that house GECAC centers.

Lodi Public Library Technology Upgrades
$100,000 requested from the Department of Education
Funding will be used to upgrade the Lodi Public Library’s cabling to accommodate new computers and other technology.

San Ramon Valley Unified School District
$200,000 requested from the Department of Education
Funding will be used for the creation of a High School Resource Officer Program for the San Ramon Valley Unified School District.

Stockton-San Joaquin County Public Library
$600,000 requested from the Department of Education
Funding will help establish a strategic partnership between San Joaquin County schools and the Library system, including creation of staff development and curriculum planning opportunities, and training to integrate the more than 1.2 million volumes of reference materials in the Library collections to help teachers meet state and federal reading standards.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment Facility
$300,000 requested from the Department of Health and Human Services
Funding will be used to assist in planning, constructing and furnishing an Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment Facility to fight the disproportionate rate of methamphetamine and alcohol abuse by youth in San Joaquin County.

Digital Mammography Equipment, St. Joseph's Medical Center
$500,000 requested from the Department of Health and Human Services
Funding will be used to purchase mammography equipment that will be installed into separately purchased vans to act as mobile mammography units.

Electronic Health Records System
$900,000 requested from the Department of Health and Human Services
Funding will be used to procure and install an Electronic Health Records System for the San Joaquin County Health Care Services Agency. The system will allow for online test and procedure ordering and real-time patient medical record access.

Safe and Bright Futures for Children, Contra Costa County
$750,000 requested from the Department of Health and Human Services
Funding will create a county-wide system to treat children who have experienced child abuse. The goal of the program is to prevent abuse, injury, and molestation, which studies show is cyclically passed on from generation to generation.
San Joaquin County Public Health Care Facility
$500,000 requested from the Department of Health and Human Services
Funding will be used to assist with the construction of a County Public Health Care Facility to replace the existing 45-year-old facility that provides examination, immunization and general health screening services.

San Joaquin County Public Health Laboratory
$500,000 requested from the Department of Health and Human Services
Funding will be used to assist with the construction and equipping of a County Public Health Laboratory. The San Joaquin County Public Health Laboratory is the only Level B laboratory in the area. The existing facility is not sufficient to meet the demand for high level services such as anthrax, WMDs, and other bio-weaponry detection.

Women’s Center of San Joaquin County
$350,000 requested from the Department of Health & Human Services
Funding will be used for the creation of a Sexual Assault Children’s Response Team. This response team will provide crisis intervention, counseling, advocacy and hospital accompaniment for over 500 new child victims who have not been able to disclose their abuse or receive help.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Central Valley Regional Events Center
$750,000 requested from the Department of Transportation
Funding will be used for architectural, engineering, and construction costs of the Central Valley Regional Events Center in Manteca. The events center will feature a hall, museum, outdoor theater and office building to attract more tourism to the region.

Juvenile Detention Facility Improvements
$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Housing and Urban Development
Funding will be used to expand the existing San Joaquin County juvenile facility which lacks needed bed capacity, programming space, and the ability to house females. San Joaquin County continues to experience a high juvenile crime rate.

San Joaquin County Historical Society Museum
$200,000 requested from the Department of Housing and Urban Development
Funding will be used to build and outfit a building that will properly store and conserve the San Joaquin County Historical Society Museum’s artifact collections.

Tri-Valley Housing Opportunity Center
$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Housing and Urban Development
Funding will be for a region-wide program to aid and educate residents in avoiding foreclosure and weathering the effects of the subprime mortgage crisis. The Cities of Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon and Town of Danville operate the Tri-Valley Housing Opportunity Center, a housing counseling organization that addresses the issue of affordable housing in the Tri-Valley area.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

East Bay Regional Interoperability Communications System
$3,000,000 requested from the Department of Justice
Funding will be used to purchase equipment for a digital communication system that will allow for shared public safety-related communications between the five Tri-Valley cities in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties: Danville, Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton, and San Ramon. Additionally, the proposed system will allow for communications with emergency service personnel in San Francisco and Oakland.

First Responders Communications System Upgrades, San Joaquin County
$2,000,000 requested from the Department of Justice
Funding will be used to upgrade communications equipment allowing for increased coordination of existing law enforcement and emergency services in San Joaquin County.

Gang Suppression Enforcement Team
$350,000 requested from the Department of Justice
Funding will be used to support the California Department of Justice and the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement in their effort to identify and break up gang leadership, infrastructure, and hierarchy, to completely disable a gang’s operations and prevent it from reestablishing itself in San Joaquin County.

Integrated Justice System
$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Justice
Funding will be used for information technology equipment to share criminal information between law enforcement entities and first responders in Contra Costa County. This system will connect 25 Contra Costa County law enforcement agencies, 23 agencies in Alameda County, and 16 more agencies in Solano and San Joaquin County.

Interoperable Communications System Upgrades, Lodi
$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Justice
Funding will be used to upgrade communications equipment to allow for interoperability among public safety officers and first responders within Lodi.

Interoperable Communications System Upgrades, San Joaquin County Sheriff
$800,000 requested from the Department of Justice
Funding will be used to upgrade communications equipment to allow for interoperability among public safety officers and first responders within San Joaquin County.
Law Enforcement Equipment, Lodi
$250,000 requested from the Department of Justice
Funding will be used by the Lodi Police Department to acquire an armored vehicle with the capacity to protect law enforcement officers against high-powered weapons.

Methamphetamine Suppression Project
$250,000 requested from the Department of Justice
Funding will be used to support the Stockton Police Department in the investigation, arrest, and prosecution of those involved in the manufacture, distribution, and sales of methamphetamine in Stockton.

Operation Peacekeeper Youth Gang Outreach Program
$500,000 requested from the Department of Justice
Funding will be used to operate an anti-gang initiative. The Stockton Police Department helps youth identify career opportunities and safe recreational activities in the community, and encourages them to stay away from any gang affiliation.

San Joaquin Valley Methamphetamine Recovery Project
$240,000 requested from the Department of Justice
Funding will be used to support the Social Welfare Education, Research and Training effort to identify, plan, fund, implement, and sustain community-specific solutions to deal with the abuse of methamphetamine in the San Joaquin Valley.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Bus Rapid Transit Project
$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation
Funding will be used for the construction of a dedicated route for a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line that will connect the Dublin/Pleasanton BART station and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, running adjacent to I-580. The project is expected to take 400,000 cars off the road annually.

Construction of Interstate 205/Lammers Road Interchange
$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation
Funding will be used for architectural, engineering, and right-of-way acquisition costs associated with the construction of a new I-205 interchange at Lammers Road. The project is necessary to relieve traffic congestion from the I-205 corridor to Tracy and Mountain House.

Construction of Interstate 580 High Occupancy Vehicle Lanes
$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation
Funding will be used to add HOV lanes and make other operational improvements to the Livermore Valley section of the I-580 corridor.
Downtown Stockton Improvement Project
$400,000 requested from the Department of Transportation
Funding will be used for the construction of a promenade, bridge and marina in downtown Stockton. The project will support the momentum of recent downtown revitalization and create new opportunities for waterfront development and support visitation to area attractions by the boating public via the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta.

East Bay Regional Park Trail Connection
$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation
Funding will be used for roadway and a retaining wall construction to connect Dublin’s Alamo Canal Trail and Pleasanton’s Centennial Trail underneath I-580 along the Alamo Canal. The trails are operated by the East Bay Regional Park District.

Eastern Contra Costa Transit Authority Transit Facility
$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation
Funding will be used for a new 1.5 acre transit facility. The creation of this facility will provide residents a convenient location to park and access county bus service. The project is estimated to take over 76,000 commuters off the road annually.

Extension of State Route 4 to the Port of Stockton
$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation
Funding will be used to extend SR-4 to the Port of Stockton which will allow heavy truck traffic to easily access the Port instead of having to maneuver through the adjacent Boggs Tract residential area.

Improvements to Airport Way/State Route 120 Interchange
$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation
Funding will be used for costs related to the reconstruction of the Airport Way/SR-120 interchange which will replace the existing two lane structure with a five to six lane structure, reconstructing both ramps and ramp intersections as well as add auxiliary lanes to SR-120.

Improvements to Brentwood Boulevard/State Route 4
$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation
Funding will be used to eliminate a two lane bottleneck on SR-4. SR-4 (Brentwood Boulevard section) passes through the center of both Oakley and Brentwood and is the responsible for much of the traffic congestion in both cities.

Improvements to DeWitt Avenue, Santa Clara County
$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation
Funding will be used to straighten an S-Curve on DeWitt Avenue to enhance the line of sight for motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians, thereby improving overall safety. This location has been the site of three fatalities and multiple automobile accidents.

Improvements to State Route 4, San Joaquin County
$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation
Funding will be used for making improvements to SR-4 in and near San Joaquin County, including adding lanes.

**Improvements to State Route 12, San Joaquin County**

$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation

Funding will be used to support the SR-12 Corridor Improvements Project which will widen the roadway, including bridges, from two to four travel lanes. Since 2000, more than 60 people have been killed on SR-12, giving it the nickname “Blood Alley.”

**Improvements to State Route 152, Santa Clara County**

$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation

Funding will be used for costs related to the construction of a new alignment for SR-152 between U.S. 101 south of Gilroy and the intersection of SR-152/SR-156 near the Santa Clara/San Benito County line. SR-152 is a narrow two-lane rural roadway between these intersections and cannot accommodate the significant volume of commercial truck and automobile traffic.

**Lockeford Bypass Improvements**

$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation

Funding will improve efficiency, including adding lanes, on SR-12 and SR-88 (known as the Lockeford Bypass). Due to rapid population growth in California’s Central Valley, the Lockeford Bypass can no longer handle the volume of traffic that passes through it.

**Reconstruction of the French Camp/I-5 Interchange and Sperry Road Extension**

$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation

Funding will be used to reconstruct the French Camp/I-5 Interchange and connect Sperry Road from Performance Drive to French Camp Road east of I-5. Reconstructing the freeway interchange and extending Sperry Road to meet it will provide for a more efficient flow of goods and services to and from the Stockton Metropolitan Airport, the Port of Stockton, and a large and growing commercial and industrial area.

**Reconstruction of Interstate 205/MacArthur Drive Interchange**

$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation

Funding will be used to the reconstruct the I-205 interchange at MacArthur Drive in Tracy. The existing I-205/MacArthur Drive interchange needs improvements to permit the safe movement of trucks that serve the industrial area in northeast Tracy.

**Reconstruction State Route 99/Harney Lane Interchange**

$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation

Funding will be used for construction of the interchange at State Route 99 and Harney Lane. The existing interchange is an outdated design and can no longer serve the volume of traffic that passes through it.

**Reconstruction of State Route 120/State Route 99 Interchange at Austin Road**

$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation
Funding will be used for costs related to the construction of a new SR-99/SR-120 Interchange. Ramps at the interchange are substandard and cannot handle the volume of traffic that uses them daily.

**Regional Operations Facility for San Joaquin Regional Transit District**  
$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation  
Funding will be used for the construction of the San Joaquin Regional Transit District (RTD) Operations Facility. This centralized facility will make public transportation more efficient, increase RTD’s fleet capacity, and cut administrative costs.

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**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**Clean Fuel Locomotive Feasibility Study**  
$300,000 requested from the Environmental Protection Agency  
Funding will be used to assist the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission (SJRRC) conduct a feasibility study for its efforts to replace one of its diesel locomotives with a clean fuel locomotive. This study will evaluate all the available technology, assess the commuter rail system, and recommend the most practical, near-term, and cost-effective clean fuel locomotive technology to pursue.

**Ripon Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements**  
$750,000 requested from the Environmental Protection Agency  
Funding will be used to construct a new wastewater treatment system for the City of Ripon that meets the city’s planned growth, improves environmental protection and compliance, and also may allow the conversion of the land where the existing plant is located to a more beneficial use to the city and its residents.

**San Joaquin Valley Emissions Reduction Program**  
$10,000,000 requested from the Environmental Protection Agency  
Funding will be used for incentive programs administered by the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District that provide for mobile source reductions. Funding will allow for incentives to facilitate the replacement of diesel engines to improve air quality in the San Joaquin Valley.

**Transit Sustainability Implementation Guidelines**  
$400,000 from the Environmental Protection Agency  
Funding will be used to develop a set of Sustainability Implementation Guidelines for transit systems in the Bay Area and nationally. Specifically, the project will be undertaken by Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART).

**Wastewater Infrastructure Improvements**  
$275,000 from the Environmental Protection Agency  
Funding will be used to study the feasibility and benefits of regionalizing wastewater treatment services throughout southern San Joaquin County.
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

Aircraft Landing System for the Stockton Metropolitan Airport
$1,000,000 requested from the Department of Transportation
Funding will be utilized to upgrade the Stockton Metropolitan Airport’s Instrument Landing System from Level I to Level II, which will allow far more aircraft to land at the airport than are currently unable to do so. Moreover, with Level II capability, the Stockton Metropolitan Airport will be better able to attract tenants requiring low visibility operations, specifically air cargo and passenger airlines.

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

CALFED Delta Levee Stability Project
$5,000,000 requested from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Funding will be used to identify and prioritize levee stability projects in the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta as part of the ongoing CALFED Levee Stability Program. The intent of the Delta Levee Feasibility study is to provide funding for 54 previously approved flood protection projects that will benefit businesses and homeowners in the San Joaquin Delta.

Contra Costa Canal Improvements Project
$2,000,000 requested from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
The project will eliminate eight miles of levees and replace the unlined portion of the federally-owned Contra Costa Canal with a buried pipeline. The recent failure of a federal levee and unlined canal in Nevada provides an example of the potential effects that are caused by the failure of levees similar to those associated with the unlined portion of the Canal.

Coyote Creek Watershed Study
$100,000 requested from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
The Coyote Creek Watershed study will examine ways to provide flood protection for San Jose, Milpitas, and Morgan Hill. The project will include a major portion of the Silicon Valley’s high-tech area, in an environmentally acceptable way that maximizes stream and environmental restoration and recreational opportunities, safeguarding the community from potential flood damages.

Farmington Groundwater Recharge
$2,000,000 requested from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Funding will be used for the development of a conveyance-distribution system to provide surface water to selected sites as part of the Farmington Groundwater Recharge Project, underway in Eastern San Joaquin County.

Llagas Creek Project
$1,800,000 requested from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Funding will be used as part of the Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project to provide flood protection for 1,100 homes, 500 businesses, and over 1,300 acres of agricultural land in Santa Clara County; protect and improve water quality; and preserve the river’s habitat, fish, and wildlife. Specifically, funding will be used to modify and construct a channel that provides flood protection capacity.

**Lower San Joaquin River Projects Study**  
* $1,300,000 requested from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Funding will be used for the large-scale Lower San Joaquin River Reconnaissance Study which will determine a wide range of necessary projects in the San Joaquin Delta, such as flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration, shoreline, or streambank protection, and water quality enhancement. The Delta is the predominant source of potable and agricultural water for more than 25 million Californians.

**Mount Diablo Mercury Mine Project**  
* $483,000 requested from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Funding will be used to complete the preliminary design and planning studies for cleaning up the Mount Diablo Mercury Mine in the Marsh Creek watershed in eastern Contra Costa County. Remediation of the mine will dramatically reduce levels of mercury washed into the Marsh Creek Watershed communities of Brentwood and Oakley and downstream into the San Francisco Bay. This phase of the project will result in model agreements and processes that can be utilized by other mine clean-up projects throughout the nation.

**Pinole Shoal Management Study**  
* $1,000,000 requested from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Funding will be used to establish a sediment management permitting office and initiate studies to provide more certainty in the permitting process for levee repair and environmental restoration in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

**Port of Stockton and Rough and Ready Island Infrastructure Development**  
* $3,000,000 requested from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Funding will be used for planning, design, and construction assistance for wastewater infrastructure at the Port of Stockton’s Rough and Ready Island.

**Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins Comprehensive Study**  
* $500,000 requested from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Funding will be used for a study to develop a system-wide, comprehensive flood management plan for the Central Valley to reduce flood damage and to integrate ecosystem restoration. In addition to developing ways to reduce the flood risk to people, their property, and the state and federal infrastructure within the Central Valley, the will also develop a sustainable flood management system.

**San Francisco Bay to Stockton Project**  
* $1,400,000 requested from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Funding will be used to continue environmental studies on the navigation channels extending from the San Francisco Bay entrance to the Port of Stockton. The channels comprise a major
waterborne transportation artery for all deep draft vessel traffic through the Golden Gate into the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta. Currently, many deep-draft vessels using the existing navigation channels must carry only partial loads, partially off-load into smaller vessels, or wait for favorable tides before transiting the channels - all of which result in increased transportation costs. Deepening the channel will allow for more efficient use of the channel, and will subsequently decrease truck traffic on congested roadways.

**San Ramon Valley Recycled Water Project**  
$4,000,000 requested from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Funding will be used for the design and construction of distribution pipelines to supply recycled water for the San Ramon Valley Recycled Water Project, an ongoing construction project to create a reliable alternative recycled water source that will supply water to 30,000 people in Contra Costa and Alameda counties.

**Stockton Metropolitan Area Flood Control Reimbursement Project**  
$2,000,000 requested from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Funding will be used to reimburse expenditures on the Stockton Metropolitan Area Flood Control Project which was completed in 1998 and included 40 miles of levee and floodwall improvements, modifications to 24 bridges, and the addition of 2 major excavated facilities.

**Stockton Ship Channel Maintenance**  
$5,411,000 requested from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Funding will be used to conduct maintenance dredging and riverbank protection along the 35-feet deep Stockton Ship Channel on the San Joaquin River, which extends from Suisun Bay to the turning basin at the Port of Stockton and includes the California counties of Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, and Solano.

**Stockton Water Infrastructure Improvement Project**  
$1,000,000 requested from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Funding will be used to develop a new supplemental water supply for the Stockton Metropolitan Area. This project will replace declining surface water resources, protect groundwater supplies, and provide for current and future water needs in the Stockton Metropolitan Area.

**South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Study**  
$1,000,000 requested from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Funding will be used to conduct a feasibility study for flood protection along the South San Francisco Bay in conjunction with the South San Francisco Bay Salt Ponds Restoration Project.

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**SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

**Tracy Business Innovation Park**  
$200,000 requested from the Small Business Administration
Funding will be used for architectural and engineering costs for a multifaceted entrepreneurial training and economic advancement center which would increase local business development and job opportunities by partnering entrepreneurs with educational institutions.

**University of the Pacific Business Forecasting Center**

*$500,000 requested from the Small Business Administration*

Funding will enhance the Center’s research capabilities and its ability to supply regional economic analysis that helps business and government entities quickly respond to challenges and predict future economic conditions.