



# New Mexico State Senate

State Capitol  
Santa Fe

## SENATOR GEORGE K. MUÑOZ

D-Cibola, McKinley & San Juan-4

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August 1, 2018

National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA)  
22377 Belmont Ridge Road  
Ashburn, VA 20148-4501

RE: Mirabal Park, Milan, NM Application  
Great Urban Parks Campaign, Green Stormwater Infrastructure Projects in Parks Program

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This letter showcases my support for this application and the overall improvement of Mirabal Park for area residents. As a State Senator, I represent many impoverished communities in both McKinley and Cibola counties, almost 20% of households in my District lack basic infrastructure, such as running water and electricity. So while, at times it is overwhelming addressing these needs, I appreciate those proactive communities that work together, perform good planning, and actual follow those plans to get projects done. The Village is my poster child, when I outreach to communities in my District. Milan not only talks the talk but walks the walk, and over a 15-year span completed various road, drainage, water, and sewer projects on time and under budget.

In our region, we experience seasonal monsoons that cause severe annual damage. The Village has done comprehensive planning in addressing this proactively in building resilient projects rather than band-aiding damage year after year. Rather than building a facility that is only designed as a stormwater facility, the Village realizes that this Park is useable 300 days a year. They are taking a visionary approach to solve two problems of a needed regional flood control facility and park, and by designing this solution to imitate natural processes to prevent, capture, and filter flood waters.

Further, it is critical that the park will be accessible and accommodate all ages and abilities. This is very important to the health and well-being of the community. The park also is across the street from the Milan Elementary School, which has limited options for physical fitness and recreation. This facility will also provide:

- A positive release and safe place to play for our youth. It will be an outlet and opportunity to have our children get and stay fit;
- It will be a foundation and hub for individual expression and creativity for our young people;
- It will provide a first-class amenities helping to hone the skills of athletes and provide a venue for events and competitions;
- It will help provide the vibrancy that our community needs to revitalize our Village; and
- It will instill a sense of pride and hope for our youth and enrich their futures.

I have partnered with several other Legislators and lobbied the State for project funding to the tune of \$208,000 that is available now for the project.

We will continue to support this project and hope you will invest as well,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Munoz', written over a horizontal line.

George K. Munoz, Senator  
District 4, New Mexico