MONDAY MORNING GROUP OF WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY ANNUAL ADVOCACY TRIP – WASHINGTON, DC APRIL 25 – 27, 2023

PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT COMMUNICATIONS LABORATORY NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER, CORONA DIVISION

ISSUE: The Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division (NSWC Corona) Performance Assessment personnel currently occupy undersized and inadequately configured laboratory space that negatively impacts their ability to support the warfighter. NSWC Corona performs objective assessment spanning several key Department of the Navy programs. Due to mission growth over the past decade, personnel perform much of the data communications and network engineering support mission in unsheltered areas, which are exposed to the elements, using shipping containers for equipment storage.

Existing lab space within Building 505 was never designed to facilitate this unique mission support function and is inadequate for personnel to work and operate in classified spaces. Originally constructed as part of the Naval Hospital in 1944, it has extra wide corridors, defined by load-bearing walls on both sides, which prevent proper reconfiguration to support required electrical and communications systems engineering spaces. Currently, these spaces cannot adequately support data collection or satellite communication equipment. Further, mechanical systems are unable to properly heat or cool the labs and equipment, and classified and unclassified servers are currently located in open lab spaces instead of designated server rooms.

NSWC Corona has invested \$1.2 million to produce a contract-award-ready Performance Assessment Communications Laboratory (PAC Lab) design that will be ready for construction and is compliant with the State Historic Preservation Office. The design was awarded in FY22, with expected design completion in FY23. However, NSWC Corona will be unable to award the construction phase due to the current Independent Government Cost Estimate exceeding the Minor Construction limit of \$9.99 million, including an Area Cost Factor of 11%.

<u>ACTION:</u> Congressional direction is needed to appropriate \$15 million for Commander, Navy Installations Command, Navy Region Southwest for this Military Construction (MILCON) project, which was authorized in the FY23 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) but did not receive Congressional funding.

BACKGROUND: The proposed PAC Lab would be a purpose-built, 10,200 square foot facility. This single-story classified facility is designed to facilitate classified and unclassified functions, secure server rooms, interior and exterior antenna staging areas, project design spaces, and efficiently organized project turnover spaces. The laboratory will have natural-light-filled spaces in a safe and secure classified setting with a clear axis of circulation.

