WASHINGTON, DC- Today, Congressman Jim Costa (D-Fresno) announced that a grant of $500,000 has been awarded to the City of Parlier for business assistance and micro-enterprise loans. This grant is being awarded through the Economic Development Enterprise Fund Allocation of the State Community Development Block Grant Program. Funds will be used to provide micro-enterprises low-interest loans and technical assistance to businesses located within the city limits.

"This is great news for Parlier," said Costa. "Small business makes up 51% of the employment in our nation and helps add jobs to our economy. This grant will help Parlier's small businesses prosper and give the local economy a sorely-needed boost."

The California Department of Housing and Community Development works with California's small cities and rural counties to promote economic development. Enterprise Fund dollars can be used by towns and cities for infrastructure projects, and to develop technical assistance and lending programs to support local small businesses and micro-enterprises.