

BOB FILNER
51ST DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
COMMITTEE

AVIATION

HIGHWAY AND TRANSIT

WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

December 3, 2009

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515
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website: www.house.gov/filner

The Honorable James L. Oberstar
Chairman

Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John L. Mica
Ranking Member

Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
2163 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Oberstar and Ranking Member Mica:

I am writing to respectfully request that the following legislative proposals and projects be included in the Water Resources Development Act of 2010. I appreciate consideration of the following projects:

- Project 111-CA-51st-001: Expand Salton Sea Species Conservation Habitat and provide recreational opportunities: interpretive trails, bird watching, public info/education.
- Project 111-CA-51st-002: Authorize the Keystone Regional Water Reclamation Facility & Wastewater Collection System and associated environmental infrastructure.
- Project 111-CA-51st-003: The Tijuana River Valley Wetlands Mitigation Project will protect 40 acres of habitat for the federally endangered least Bell's vireo.
- Project 111-CA-51st-004: Feasibility study to address flood, environmental, and water quality in Tijuana River Valley, including pollution originating from Mexico.
- Project 111-CA-51st-005: Expand and upgrade the existing Wastewater Treatment Plant located at 298 E. Second Street, Calexico, California.
- Project 111-CA-51st-006: Replacement of sewer lines in City of Calexico.
- Project 111-CA-51st-007: Waterline replacement in the City of Calexico.
- Project 111-CA-51st-008: Rehabilitate a 3 MGD water storage tank at the Water Treatment Plant in the City of Calexico.
- Project 111-CA-51st-009: Installation of new clarifier and four filters at the Water Treatment Plant in the City of Calexico.
- Project 111-CA-51st-010: Cleanup of New River Basin within Imperial County's Calexico Solid Waste Site.
- Project 111-CA-51st-011: Closure of Imperial County's Brawley Solid Waste Site.
- Project 111-CA-51st-012: Perimeter road and steamed improvements at Imperial County's Imperial Solid Waste Site along New River.

The Honorable James L. Oberstar

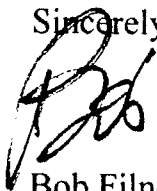
December 3, 2009

Page 2

Enclosed you will find two Congressional Earmark Certification forms with original signatures for each project that I have requested, a letter of support from the local project sponsor, and a copy of the receipt. Finally, I have also enclosed draft language for each of these requests.

If I can provide you with anymore information, please feel free to contact my Legislative Director, Sharon Wagener, at 202-225-8045.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Filner". The signature is stylized and written over the word "Sincerely,".

Bob Filner
Member of Congress

Enclosures

November 18, 2009

Michael O'Connor
Executive Director
Salton Sea Authority
44-199 Monroe Street, Suite C
Indio, CA 92201

Reference: Water Resources Development Act Funding for Salton Sea Projects

Mr. O'Connor,

As you know the State is in the process of developing the Species Conservation Habitat (SCH) Project at the Salton Sea. The initial phase of the project is expected to involve up to 2,400 acres of wetland habitat constructed on the exposed Sea bed. The various alternatives for restoration of the Sea that have been developed by the State include much larger habitat areas. The State's long term goal is to develop significantly more habitat than the SCH Project. For the 2,400-acre SCH Project, we intend to begin the design and environmental compliance process in January 2010 with construction expected to begin in 2011.

We consider the SCH Project to be a very important, time critical project. Rapidly rising salinity and shrinking water levels in the Salton Sea, California's largest lake, are threatening its fish population, including the endangered desert pupfish. The fish serve as a critically important food source for the millions of birds that use the Sea as they migrate along the Pacific Flyway. If action is not taken soon, this food source and the tremendous avian diversity the Sea supports, over 300 species of birds, will go away.

Federal funding through the Water Resources Development Act of 2009 would provide multiple benefits. These benefits could include expansion of the project footprint, technical assistance from the Corps of Engineers, and assistance from the Corps as a Federal lead agency. We support your efforts to authorize funding for Salton Sea habitat projects through the Water Resources Development Act of 2009 and look forward to working with you on this and future projects.

Sincerely,



Cliff Feldheim
Staff Environmental Scientist
California Department of Water Resources
Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program
1416 Ninth Street, room 1148

CITY COUNCIL
Doug Cox - Mayor
Rick Breland - Mayor Pro - Tem
Geoff Dale - Council Member
Mark Gran - Council Member
Betty Sampson - Council Member

CITY CLERK
Debra Jackson

CITY TREASURER
Stacey Cox

CITY OF IMPERIAL

INCORPORATED 1904



CITY HALL
420 South Imperial Avenue
Imperial, California 92251
City Hall (760) 355-4371
Fax (760) 355-4718
<http://www.imperial.ca.gov>

CITY ATTORNEY
Dennis Morita
Dennis H. Morita A.P.C.

November 18, 2009

The Honorable Bob Filner
2438 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Congressman Filner,

The City of Imperial strongly supports consideration of the Keystone Regional Water Reclamation Facility as a Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) project. The project will be the first of its kind in southeastern California that generates Title 22 quality water and will aid in the efforts to reduce municipal impacts on the environment through the use of reclaimed water rather than other sources of treated water from the Colorado River. Ultimately this project will assist with cleaning and balancing source water that drains to the Salton Sea.

The project will provide the first regional efforts to centralize wastewater treatment services for two cities, (Imperial and Brawley), and unincorporated areas of Imperial County that are supported by the local raw water provider, the Imperial Irrigation District. The Keystone project will not only provide support for the environmental clean-up of the Salton Sea, but also provides dramatic economic benefit with a potential of over 2,000 construction jobs and over 700 business positions in development projects hinged on the construction and operation of this critical wastewater reclamation project.

Your positive consideration of the Keystone Regional Water Reclamation Facility as a WRDA qualified project will further the environmental support for the Alamo River and the Salton Sea, as well as provide the critical mass project that will foster economic enhancement in the range of \$7.2 billion to a border region with nearly the highest unemployment and poverty rates in the nation.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Douglas A. Cox".

Douglas A. Cox
Mayor, City of Imperial



San Diego County Water Authority

4677 Overland Avenue • San Diego, California 92123-1233
(858) 522-6600 FAX (858) 522-6568 www.sdcwa.org

November 18, 2009

The Honorable Bob Filner
U.S. House of Representatives
2428 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

MEMBER AGENCIES

- Carlsbad Municipal Water District
- City of Del Mar
- City of Escondido
- City of National City
- City of Oceanside
- City of Poway
- City of San Diego
- Fallbrook Public Utility District
- Helix Water District
- Lakeside Water District
- Olivenhain Municipal Water District
- Otay Water District
- Podre Dam Municipal Water District
- Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base
- Rainbow Municipal Water District
- Ramona Municipal Water District
- Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District
- San Dieguito Water District
- Santa Fe Irrigation District
- South Bay Irrigation District
- Vallecitos Water District
- Valley Center Municipal Water District
- Vista Irrigation District
- Yuima Municipal Water District

OTHER REPRESENTATIVE

County of San Diego

Re: Submission of Request for Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2010: Tijuana River Valley Wetlands Mitigation Project

Dear Congressman Filner:

The San Diego County Water Authority (Water Authority) respectfully submits this request for project authorization for the Tijuana River Valley Wetlands Mitigation Project for inclusion in the Water Resources Development Act of 2010. The required project questionnaire is included with this submittal.

The Tijuana River Valley Wetlands Mitigation project is a significant ecological restoration project that will create and protect approximately 40-acres of wetlands wildlife habitat. The project site is located in the City of San Diego (51st Congressional District), within the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park.

The benefits of this project are far reaching. It would be one of the first restoration projects to be implemented in coordination with the Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team. This team is working to resolve more than 70 years of degradation to the lower Tijuana River. The funding of this project will support efforts to implement projects that will mitigate the negative effects of water pollution that have plagued this portion of the river valley for decades, while providing the additional benefits of creating and managing endangered species habitat in perpetuity, increasing groundwater recharge, reducing (localized) flood elevations, and providing integrated recreational trails.

The Water Authority commits to finance the non-federal cost share of this project, as specified in Section 219 of the Water Resources Development Act. We ask for your support to include this project in the 2010 WRDA project authorizations.

Sincerely,

Maureen A. Stapleton
General Manager

Enclosure

A public agency providing a safe and reliable water supply to the San Diego region



JERRY SANDERS
MAYOR

December 1, 2009

The Honorable Bob Filner
U.S. House of Representatives
2428 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Filner:

On behalf of the City of San Diego, I write to support inclusion of the Tijuana River Environmental Restoration feasibility study in the Water Resources Development Act of 2010, currently under development by the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

The City of San Diego will be the non-federal sponsor of the project. The City is prepared to enter a cost-sharing agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers in order to undertake the work. The City already is funding related studies and interventions in the watershed.

Specifically, authorization is sought for the Army Corps to complete a feasibility study to address flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration, and water quality problems in the Tijuana River Valley, including abatement of polluted water flows originating in Mexico. The Tijuana River drains about 1,700 square miles of land straddling the U.S.-Mexico border in the southern portion of San Diego County and the City of San Diego. Ongoing development and urbanization, particularly in Mexico, continue to degrade beneficial uses and functions of the river, causing reductions in flood water conveyance, degradation of native habitat, impairment of water quality, intensified sedimentation, and deposition of debris and trash. Flooding is increasingly prevalent during the winter rainy season. Sensitive ecological areas are threatened, including those with a federal interest as part of the protected National Estuarine Research Reserve System.

An initial Section 905b Analysis completed in August 1998 – as authorized by the Senate Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure under Senate Docket 2508 on September 12, 1996 – identified Federal interest to proceed into the feasibility phase of the study process. However, the study was designated inactive because the original local sponsors lacked the financial capability to execute an agreement for the cost-shared feasibility phase. Under a new, refined authorization, the City of San Diego is committed to assume that responsibility and advance this critical project.

Thank you for your consideration of the San Diego region's needs and the notable federal interests to be addressed by authorizing the Tijuana River Environmental Restoration feasibility study.

Sincerely,

JERRY SANDERS
Mayor

JS/jn



CITY OF CALEXICO

608 Heber Ave.
Calexico, CA 92231-2840
Tel: 760 768 2180
Fax: 760.357-5864
www.calexico.ca.gov
e-mail:utilityservices@calexico.ca.gov

November 17, 2009

The Honorable Bob Filner
United States House of Representatives
2428 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Priority Ranking for the City of Calexico's Water Resources Development Act Projects

Dear Representative Filner:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit the City of Calexico's project requests for the Water Resources Development Act. Your support has been instrumental to our success.

As you are aware, the City of Calexico has grown tremendously over the past few decades from a border town into a burgeoning area for industry and commerce. More than 18.9 million vehicles and pedestrians cross into the United States through Calexico's two Ports-of-Entry. The population of Calexico is 38,000 and rapidly growing, but swells to as much as 150,000 during the day due to cross-border travel. The growth in Calexico has outstripped infrastructure.

As we seek funding from the Water Resources Development Act, the City of Calexico is committed to identifying and applying for funding from other local, county and state sources to bring these important projects to reality including the possibility of using bonds to address some of our critical infrastructure needs.

We are submitting for your consideration, and request your support, for the following projects in priority rank:

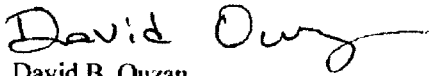
Priority	Project	Brief Description
1 of 5	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades	The total cost to upgrade the existing Wastewater Treatment Plant is \$30,000,000. Project includes upgrading the existing capacity of the Wastewater Treatment Plant by 6 million gallons per day. The project consists of replacing the existing 40-year-old equipment.
2 of 5	Sewer Line Replacement	The total project cost to replace the antiquated sewer lines which are prone to backups and overflows is \$5,000,000. This critical infrastructure supports portions of the specific residential neighborhoods in Calexico. In the last five years we have had 11 sewer line and manhole collapse negatively impacting our health and safety.
3 of 5	Waterline replacement	The total project cost to replace the old, antiquated waterlines totals is \$514,267. Funding would finance replacement of approximately 5,900 linear feet of 8" waterlines that directly distribute water to residential areas.
4 of 5	3 Million Gallon Storage Tank	The total project cost to rehabilitate the storage tank is \$1,700,000. The work includes partial demolition, construction of a new steel tank reservoir, piping, electrical and structural work.
5 of 5	Installation of a new clarifier and four filters at the Water Treatment Plant	The total project cost for the purchase and installation of a new clarifier and four filters is \$5,600,000. The clarifier is used to treat the water before it is distributed throughout the City.

As you know, the age of Calexico's infrastructure coupled with extreme heat reduces the useful life of our infrastructure. Our city is rapidly expanding, causing even more stress on infrastructure. Your continued leadership and support of Calexico attributes dramatically to our growth and improvements but also to our success of being a wonderful city in which to live and work.

Thank you very much for your consideration. If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact our office at 760/768-2110.

Sincerely,

CITY OF CALEXICO

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Ouzan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

David B. Ouzan
Mayor



Public Works works for the Public

COUNTY OF
IMPERIAL

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS

1101 AIRPORT ROAD
IMPERIAL, CA
92251

TEL: (760) 340-4444
FAX: (760) 340-1879

November 12, 2009

Representative Bob Filner
c/o Community Office
1101 Airport Road, Suite D
Imperial, CA 92251

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for Cleanup Project of New River Basin at Calexico
Solid Waste Site in Imperial County

Dear Representative Filner:

As you are aware, the New River is one of the most polluted rivers in the Nation. Unregulated waste flows through Imperial County as the River mends its way to the Salton Sea. For years, the issue of waste in and along the banks of the New River has been a concern of international gravity.

The County of Imperial operates several municipal solid waste sites for its residents. One site, near the City of Calexico, is impacted by the New River flowing through the waste site's property boundary. Illegal dumping as well as waste normally carried by the River has deposited within the River's basin area at the solid waste site. The County is under a Notice and Order from the California Environmental Protection Agency's Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) to remove all waste from the basin area within the waste site's boundary. Additionally, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers has concurred with the LEA's requirement to install a screen across the New River at this location and conduct periodic removal of collected waste.

The cleanup project is a huge undertaking as it not only requires permitting from various entities, it also poses a health and safety risk to the personnel actually doing the work. Huge costs will be realized by the need for provision of protective clothing for the workers. Additional costs will be incurred as much of the waste to be collected, as well as the waste collected from periodic cleaning of the required screen, will be hazardous and will require transportation to a hazardous waste site. The nearest operating hazardous waste site is approximately 120 miles away.

Preliminary estimates reveal a potential cost for this project of \$1,000,000. Additionally, the design, development, and construction of the required screen assembly are estimated to cost approximately \$900,000.

Total Project Cost - \$1,900,000

Cleanup of River Basin - \$1,000,000

Design and Construction of Screen Assembly - \$900,000

Mr. Bob Filner

-2-

November 12, 2009

While the County of Imperial is very much concerned for the safety and well being of its residents, the low population of the County through its solid waste land use fees barely covers routine operations and maintenance of the solid waste sites. It is imperative that the County obtain support for a project of this gravity and size.

It is for these above reasons that the Board of Supervisors of the County supports the submittal of this Project Questionnaire, and as the non-federal sponsor of the project commit to contributing the required local funding match. In the interest of time, please accept this letter of support until a Board Resolution supporting this project can be approved and signed by the County Board of Supervisors, and a copy provided to your office. Should you have any questions or if I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact myself. Thank you.

Respectfully,



William S. Brunet, P. E.
Director of Public Works
County of Imperial

ED/ga

File No. 3020.23h9b



Public Works works for the Public

COUNTY OF
IMPERIAL

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS

155 S. 1ST Street
El Centro, CA
92539

Tel: (760) 488-4448
Fax: (760) 362-1372

November 10, 2009

Representative Bob Filner
c/o Community Office
1101 Airport Road, Suite D
Imperial, CA 92251

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for Improvements to Brawley Solid Waste Site in Imperial County

Dear Representative Filner:

As you are aware, the New River is one of the most polluted rivers in the Nation. Unregulated waste flows through Imperial County as the River mends its way to the Salton Sea. Posing a problem for the County is the proximity of the New River to the County's municipal solid waste sites.

The County of Imperial operates several municipal solid waste sites for its residents. One site, near the City of Brawley, is impacted by the New River flowing near the facility's northern perimeter boundary. The Brawley Solid Waste Site (BSWS) has been in varying stages of final closure since 2007. The final closure design submitted in 2008 was submitted to CIWMB for approval. At that stage, United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and California Department of Fish and Game met with Imperial County Department of Public Works (ICDPW) at the site. Army Corps informed that the design would not meet their "green" directive as concrete rip rap would be added to the slope and into the river. USACE is requiring a design that would incorporate biological elements and would not be intrusive to the river. ICDPW issued an Request for Proposals for a firm to complete the Final Closure Post Closure Maintenance Plan and to develop a design for the protection of the BSWS north slope. The current design includes bendway weirs for river training, re-vegetation, longitudinal stone to protect the bank, a trench filled revetment, and landfill slope protection.

The County is under a Notice and Order from the California Environmental Protection Agency's Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) to complete the final closure of the site. The project will require coordination and permitting with several entities, one of them being the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Preliminary estimates reveal a cost for the Final Closure of the Solid Waste Site and the north slope protection including the retraining and protection at the river \$7,077,948. This figure includes:

Mr. Bob Filner

-2-

November 12, 2009

Total Project Cost – \$7,077,948

Engineering Design – \$1,377,948.00

Construction in River – \$1,500,000

Final Closure Construction – \$3,700,000

While the County of Imperial is very much concerned for the safety and well being of its residents, the low population of the County through its solid waste land use fees barely covers routine operations and maintenance of the solid waste sites. It is imperative that the County obtain support for a project of this gravity and size.

It is for these above reasons that the Board of Supervisors of the County supports the submittal of this Project Questionnaire, and as the non-federal sponsor of the project commit to contributing the required local funding match. In the interest of time, please accept this letter of support until a Board Resolution supporting this project can be approved and signed by the County Board of Supervisors, and a copy provided to your office. Should you have any questions or if I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact myself. Thank you.

Respectfully



William S. Brunet, P. E.
Director of Public Works

ED/ga

File No. 3020.23h9a



Public Works works for the Public

COUNTY OF IMPERIAL
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
1465 11th Street
Imperial, CA 92251
Tel: (760) 939-7000
Fax: (760) 939-7000

November 10, 2009

Representative Bob Filner
c/o Community Office
1101 Airport Road, Suite D
Imperial, CA 92251

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for Improvements to Imperial Solid Waste Site in Imperial County

Dear Representative Filner:

As you are aware, the New River is one of the most polluted rivers in the Nation. Unregulated waste flows through Imperial County as the River wends its way to the Salton Sea. Posing a problem for the County is the proximity of the New River to the County's municipal solid waste sites.

The County of Imperial operates several municipal solid waste sites for its residents. One site, near the City of Imperial, is impacted by the New River flowing near the facility's western perimeter boundary. As the facility abuts the New River's flood basin, the vegetation has overgrown a portion of the facility's perimeter road on the western side of the site. The County is under a Notice and Order from the California Environmental Protection Agency's Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) to replace the perimeter road to operational status. Additionally, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers has concurred with the LEA's requirement to review the area for potential mitigation of vegetation and the flood plain as the road is reconstructed.

The project will require coordination and permitting with several entities, one of them being the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. After a site visit, the Corps requested that the County provide a review of mitigation efforts to address the loss of vegetation. Additionally, support for the River's banks may be required in the form of armor plating or the implementation of weirs to redirect the River's current.

Preliminary estimates reveal a potential cost for the reestablishment of the road to be approximately \$1,000,000. Additionally, the study, design, permitting, and implementation measures are estimated to cost approximately \$900,000.

Total Project Cost - \$1,900,000

Reestablishment of Perimeter Road - \$1,000,000

Streambed Improvements to New River - \$900,000

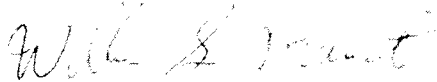
Mr. Bob Filner

-2-

While the County of Imperial is very much concerned for the safety and well being of its residents, the low population of the County through its solid waste land use fees barely covers routine operations and maintenance of the solid waste sites. It is imperative that the County obtain support for a project of this gravity and size.

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Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William S. Brunet".

William S. Brunet, P. E.
Director of Public Works
County of Imperial

ED/ga