

PRESS ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Scott Vanhorne, (909) 387-4833



County's Campaign Finance Reform Effort Moves Forward with New Law

SAN BERNARDINO—July 24, 2012—Gov. Jerry Brown signed a bill today that allows the California Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) to enforce campaign finance rules adopted by the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors.

“This legislation provides the County with an effective and affordable means of policing campaign contribution and spending rules,” said San Bernardino County Second District Supervisor Janice Rutherford, who proposed the idea of contracting with the state agency in September. “Now the Board can move forward with adopting campaign finance rules that limit campaign contributions and help thwart influence peddling by deep-pocket donors.”

Assemblyman Paul Cook introduced Assembly Bill 2146 at the request of the Board of Supervisors.

“This is a major victory for the public and for voters in San Bernardino County,” Cook said. “This law will provide much more transparency in county government. I’d like to thank Supervisor Rutherford and the County of San Bernardino for bringing this bill to me and for working closely with my office to get it signed into law.”

Rutherford proposed contracting with the FPPC as an alternative to creating an internal ethics commission to enforce campaign finance rules.

“There’s no need to form another layer of County government when there’s already a State agency that is more than capable of enforcing these rules,” Rutherford said. “In addition, contracting with the FPPC helps us avoid the conflict of interest issues that come with ethics panels appointed by the elected officials they are trying to police.”

In September, Rutherford proposed that the County develop campaign contribution limits based on the current limits for California Legislature candidates. The current limit is \$3,900 from a single source—including corporations, special interest groups, and individuals—per election cycle. The limits would apply to all candidates seeking any County elected office including, the Board of Supervisors, Sheriff, District Attorney, Assessor-Recorder, Auditor-Controller, and Superintendent of Schools.

Rutherford made the proposal after conferring with a group of former elected officials and local civic leaders she asked to consider and recommend ways to improve ethical accountability in San Bernardino County government.

“I appreciated the thoughtful discussions the group had about this issue, and I am pleased that my colleagues on the Board of Supervisors have been supportive the campaign finance recommendations they offered,” Rutherford said.

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TRUDY RAYMUNDO
Assistant Director of Public Health

MAXWELL OHIKHUARE, M.D.
Health Officer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 19, 2012
PSA #12-31

CONTACT: Dale Parker
Health Educator
(800) 472-5609

Heat Safety Tips for Pet Owners

San Bernardino: The San Bernardino County Animal Care & Control Program would like to remind pet owners to be extra watchful of pets when temperatures rise this summer. Pets are vulnerable to high temperatures, especially during a heat wave, and are unable to cool down their bodies as humans can. Animals left outside in high heat temperatures can suffer from heat-related stress, burned paws, sunburn, and even death. Pet owners are advised to follow these simple hot weather tips to keep their pets healthy, safe, and alive.

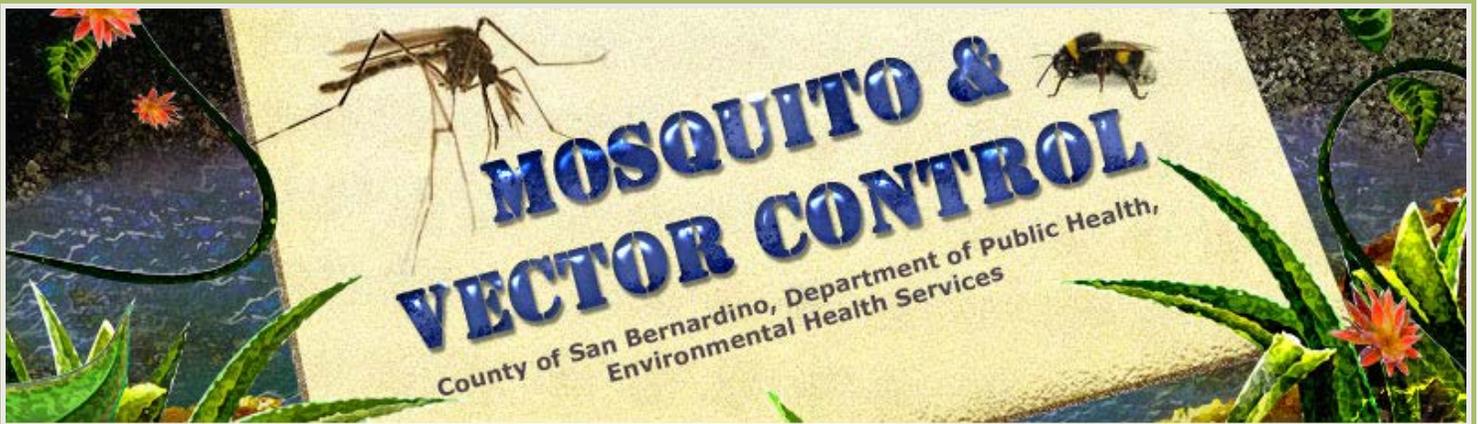
- Make sure pets have plenty of fresh clean water every day, and that the water container is stable to avoid tipping over. If traveling or leaving the household with a pet, always carry sufficient drinking water for it.
- Bring pets inside during the hottest part of the day and let them rest in the cool part of the house.
- Make sure pets have plenty of shade if they are to be kept outside. Remember, the shade your pets have in the morning will either change or diminish as the sun moves throughout the day and may not protect them.
- Never leave pets in a parked vehicle, even in the shade with the windows cracked open. Temperatures can reach a dangerous 120 degrees inside a vehicle and quickly turn it into a furnace that can kill any animal!
- Don't force animals to exercise when it is hot and humid. Exercise pets early in the morning or late in the evening.
- In extremely hot weather, do not let pets stand on sidewalks or hot asphalt to avoid burning their paws.
- Pets can get sunburned too! Keep pets out of the sun during the peak hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Put sunscreen on pet's unprotected areas such as the tips of noses and ears, especially on short haired fair-colored pets.

Remember pets can suffer heat-related stress and injury just as humans can, so take extra precautions during the summer's rising temperatures and protect them. For additional information, please call the San Bernardino County Animal Care and Control Program at 1 (800) 472-5609 or visit their website at www.sbcounty.gov/acc.

###

GREGORY C. DEVEREAUX
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
BRAD MITZELFELT, VICE-CHAIRMAN...First District
JANICE RUTHERFORD.....Second District
JOSIE GONZALES, CHAIR.....Fifth District
NEIL DERRY.....Third District
GARY C. OVITT.....Fourth District



July 2012
Volume 2, Issue 2



Bed Bugs: A Nightmare You Want to Avoid

Bed bugs (parasitic insects that feed on blood from humans) are unfortunately on the rise throughout the United States, including here in San Bernardino County. The County of San Bernardino, Department of Public Health, Division of Environmental Health Services – Mosquito and Vector Control Program has been tracking bed bug complaints over the past several years, and complaints are steadily rising.



If you answer yes to any of the following questions, you could be at risk of getting bed bugs and bringing them into your home. Have you ever:

- Had guests spend the night?
- Stayed in a hotel?
- Been to an airport or flown on a plane?
- Had a child in daycare, school or camp?
- Hosted a slumber party?
- Been to a movie theater?
- Had furniture or new mattress delivered?
- Shopped at a thrift store or garage sale?

Make sure you don't get bed bugs! Whenever staying in a hotel, peel back the sheet covers and do a thorough check of the entire mattress and around the headboard, baseboard, etc. Bed bugs are small and very good at hiding, so you must look closely to see if there is an infestation. Don't put your clothing into the dressers / bureaus provided, as this increases your risk of getting bed bugs. If the hotel room has a musty smell, that is a tell-tale sign of a possible infestation.

Check out the CDC's Bed Bugs FAQs page at <http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/bedbugs/faqs.html> for more information on what bed bugs are, the signs and symptoms of a bed bug infestation, and how to know if you've been bitten by a bed bug.

Preventing West Nile Virus

So far this year, two samples of mosquitoes have tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV) in San Bernardino County. It's important for people to practice the 5 D's to prevent infection with WNV.



- **Drain or Dump** – Remove any standing water around your property where mosquitoes could lay eggs. Examples include birdbaths, old tires, green swimming pools, ponds, clogged gutters, buckets, and puddles from leaky sprinklers.
- **Doors** – Ensure that your doors and windows have tight-fitting screens. Be sure to replace or repair screens that have holes or tears in them to prevent mosquitoes from entering your home.
- **Dawn and Dusk** – As much as possible, avoid spending time outside when mosquitoes are the most active.
- **Dress** – If you do have to be outside around dawn or dusk, be sure to wear socks, shoes, long pants, and long-sleeved shirts that are loose-fitting and light-colored.
- **DEET** – Use insect repellent containing DEET according to manufacturer's directions.

For more information about how to prevent WNV, visit the CDC's website at www.cdc.gov/westnile or the California Department of Public Health's website at <http://westnile.ca.gov>. If you have questions about WNV and vector control, you can call the County of San Bernardino, Department of Public Health, Division of Environmental Health Services – Mosquito and Vector Control Program at (909) 388-4600.

Mobile Website for the Division of Environmental Health Services (DEHS)

Did you know we have a mobile website? You can now access DEHS resources even if you're away from your home/office by visiting <http://m.sbcounty.gov/dehs> on your smartphone. Use your iPhone, Android or Blackberry to see the latest news from DEHS, or submit a complaint while information is still fresh in your mind. Our mobile website won a 2012 National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Award for Information Technology. Check out our mobile website today!



Find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter

County of San Bernardino, Environmental Health Services is on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). Join the conversation about pool safety, foodborne illness prevention, vector control and more.



If you have any questions or comments, please contact Amanda Gaspard, Health Education Specialist, at 909-387-4608 or Amanda.Gaspard@dph.sbcounty.gov.



New Telephone Number for DEHS

We now have a new toll-free number for DEHS! It is 1-800-442-2283. You can reach all of our offices (Rancho Cucamonga, Hesperia, San Bernardino, and San Bernardino Mosquito & Vector Control) by calling our new number. This single number replaces all previous telephone numbers, which have now been inactivated. If you call an old number, you will only reach a message giving you our new 800 number.



Mobile Website for the Division of Environmental Health Services (DEHS)

Did you know we have a mobile website? You can now access DEHS resources even if you're away from your home/office by visiting <http://m.sbcounty.gov/dehs> on your smartphone. Use your iPhone, Android or Blackberry to locate a restaurant and view its rating by the health department, or submit a complaint while information is still fresh in your mind. You can also see the latest news from DEHS and view information about food recalls. Our mobile website won a 2012 National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Award for Information Technology. Check out our mobile website today!



Find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter

We are on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). Join the conversation about pool safety, foodborne illness prevention, vector control and more. We now are on [Facebook en Español](#) and [Twitter en Español](#).



If you have any questions or comments, please contact Amanda Gaspard, Health Education Specialist, at 800-442-2283 or Amanda.Gaspard@dph.sbcounty.gov.



We appreciate the effort you make to protect the public's health in our County.

Rancho Cucamonga Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) Skills Refresher Training Day.

On Saturday June 30th 2012 the City of Rancho Cucamonga Emergency Management Program hosted a regional CERT/ACS skills refresher training day. Held at Jersey Fire Station 174, this second annual event brought together CERT and ACS trained members from across Southern California and provided an opportunity to practice their disaster skills in the critical window before disaster strikes. Seventy CERT and ACS members participated in this valuable training, with the majority of the participants from Rancho Cucamonga. However, CERT and ACS trained members from Hesperia, Lake Arrowhead, Antelope Valley and some from even as far away as Granada Hills were also able to attend. The addition of members from other communities helps to increase regional disaster resiliency and reinforces how we are all neighbors, no matter where we live.

A realistic mass casualty scenario was used for the training day. Modules included live fire training, search and rescue, triage and treatment of “victims”, as well as organization and disaster psychology. ACS members were assigned to each CERT team to facilitate disaster communications.

The CERT program trains citizens to be better prepared for a major disaster and to assist their community when first responders are not available. CERT training includes; disaster preparedness, fire safety, advanced first aid, triage, light search and rescue, disaster psychology and other skills that will be valuable in the event of a major disaster.

The Auxiliary Communications Service provides disaster communications to the Cities of Rancho Cucamonga, Montclair and Upland. They also provide radio training and FCC license testing for those who are interested in becoming amateur radio operators.

For further information on the CERT and ACS programs, please contact the Rancho Cucamonga Emergency Management Program at (909) 477-2700.



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*Mark A. Hartwig
Fire Chief*

DATE: *July 26, 2012*
CONTACT: *Tracey Martinez, Public Information Officer
(909) 387-5950, 800-426-8689, pager #3307*

County Fire Hand Crew Ready to Respond

It is with pride that San Bernardino County Fire Department announces the creation of the first County Fire Hand Crew. The 18 person Hand Crew is comprised of Paid-Call Firefighters (PCF) who volunteered for this assignment. Team members go through rigorous training including wildland fire behavior, advance wildland firefighting tactics, saw and hand tool techniques, helicopter operations, confined space awareness, structure protection techniques and Haz-Mat responder functions. All members are Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) or first-responder trained.

For the past six months, Crew 40 as they are being called, have trained hard to obtain their local certification as a Type 2 Hand Crew. Over the past three months alone, Crew 40 has put in over 100 hours of training and has already seen its share of action, playing an active role in several emergency responses.

Under the leadership of two full-time firefighters, Crew 40 are ready to provide assistance and support on all incidents within San Bernardino County, including vegetation fires, structure fires, floods, search & rescues, and other all-risk incidents. Crew 40 may be available to relieve company fire crews on extended assignments, allowing those units to go back into service. The Crew is available 24 hours and ready to assist local agencies, including local federal and state agencies.

"There is a need for a Hand Crew to be readily available within our County at all times. Crew 40 will help meet this need and is an additional County Fire resource of trained firefighters who are available to respond wherever needed in the County; providing additional manpower not only to fight wildland fires but assist with any all-risk department response", stated Fire Chief Mark Hartwig. "The Hand Crew Program is another step in providing the citizens we serve with premier services".

To be a member of the County Fire Hand Crew Team, you must be a San Bernardino County Fire Paid-Call Firefighter. The PCF Program is an opportunity for those wishing to become a career firefighter to gain on the job experience and learn by firsthand experience what it takes to become a full-time professional firefighter. In many areas of our County, communities still cannot afford to provide for full-time firefighter response, but have citizens that still want to help in their respective community and make their hometown a safer place to live – these are our San Bernardino County Fire Department Paid-Call Firefighters. The foundational concept for these PCF companies is that these are citizen firefighters that are there to help their fellow residents within their community and within our County any time there is a need. Trained and responding many times from their own home, these firefighters come together to assist our communities against fire and accidents, and to provide emergency medical aid as needed. San Bernardino County Fire Department currently has over 260 PCFs valiantly serving their community and the County.

Photos of Crew 40 are available at www.sbcfire.org under latest news.

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July 2012
Volume 2, Issue 3

Resources for Pool Operators

The [Pool Safely](#) website has many helpful resources for industry professionals. Pool and spa operators can access information on requirements for public pools, customer safety, pool and spa safety equipment, and equipment recalls by clicking [here](#).



Drowning Statistics from the CDC

Did you know that drowning is the leading cause of unintentional injury death worldwide? Sadly, the highest rate of drowning is among children. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently released a report on drowning incidents in the United States during 2005 to 2009. An average of 3,880 people died each year during this time period. According to CDC, "children aged ≤ 4 years had the highest rates of both fatal and nonfatal drowning, and the death rate for males was approximately four times the rate for females." (Source: CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report Vol. 61, No. 19)



If you have a small child or grandchild that you care for, please practice the [ABCs of water safety!](#) The article below also contains some helpful drowning prevention tips.

Drowning is Silent

Drowning deaths are silent. There are no splashing sounds or warning sounds associated with a drowning incident. Remember the acronym SILENT to help prevent drownings and keep your family safe this summer.

S – Swimming pools in backyards account for over 50% of the drowning deaths of children 0-5 years.

I – Install alarms on house windows and doors leading to the pool area.

L – Layers of protection are necessary to help prevent drowning incidents. Examples of redundant layers of protection include gates, latches, fences, safety pool covers, alarms, throwing aids, rescue techniques, and active adult supervision.

E – Eye. Adults must constantly keep their eyes on children near or in any type of water. This includes pools, spas, ponds, toilets, buckets, and bathtubs.

N – Never leave a child alone near water. If a child is missing, check the pool first!



T – Touch. Designate an adult to be close enough to reach out and touch a child under 4 years of age while they are being supervised in the water.

This information was taken from the California Department of Public Health, the California Department of Developmental Services, and the Drowning Prevention Foundation.

New Spanish Language Social Media Sites Launched

The Division of Environmental Health Services (DEHS) has launched Facebook and Twitter pages en Español! All of the content posted on the English language social media sites will now also be posted in Spanish. The link for our Facebook page in Spanish is www.facebook.com/sbehsEsp. The link for our Twitter page in Spanish is <https://twitter.com/sbehsEsp>.



New Telephone Number for DEHS

We now have a new toll-free number for DEHS! It is 1-800-442-2283. You can reach all of our offices (Rancho Cucamonga, Hesperia, San Bernardino, and San Bernardino Mosquito & Vector Control) by calling our new number. This single number replaces all previous telephone numbers, which have now been inactivated. If you call an old number, you will only reach a message giving you our new 800 number.



Find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter

We are on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). Join the conversation about pool safety, foodborne illness prevention, vector control and more. We now are on [Facebook en Español](#) and [Twitter en Español](#).

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If you have any questions or comments, please contact Amanda Gaspard, Health Education Specialist, at 800-442-2283 or Amanda.Gaspard@dph.sbcounty.gov.

STREET SMART



Newsletter and Meeting Summary of the SANBAG Board of Directors

www.sanbag.ca.gov

San Bernardino Associated Governments ■ 1170 W. 3rd St., 2nd Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92410 ■ (909) 884-8276

AUGUST BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA:

The complete SANBAG Board of Directors Meeting Agenda is online at:

 www.sanbag.ca.gov/about/agenda.html

► Board Briefs

• Interstate 215 - Washington/Mt. Vernon Interchange Project

The Board approved an award for preparation of the Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Document, with an option for the preparation of Plans, Specifications, and Estimates, for a lump sum amount of approximately \$2.8 million. The new interchange will improve operations, increase capacity, and reduce congestion.

• Transportation Development Act Unmet Transit Needs

Two public hearings are proposed for this year to discuss Unmet Transit Needs at locations in the Morongo Basin and Victor Valley. The meetings are planned as follows:

Mon., Sep. 17, 2012, 9:30 am
Victor Valley Transit Authority
 17150 Smoketree Street
 Hesperia, CA 92345

Thu., Sep. 27, 2012, 5:00 pm
Helen Gray Center
 6601 White Feather Road
 Joshua Tree, CA 92252

• Lenwood Road Grade Separation Project, Barstow

Acting as the Commission, the Board approved the date and time of **September 5, 2012** at 10:00 am for a hearing to consider Resolutions of Necessity for properties required for this project. This represents the first step of the eminent domain process, but allows for continued negotiations between agents and the property owners.

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

► Workshop to Focus on the Role of the Council of Governments

SANBAG was created in 1973 as a Joint Powers Authority to be the Council of Governments (COG) for San Bernardino County. The initial focus was to provide a forum to collectively work on issues that crossed political boundaries in regions or the County as a whole. In 1976, SANBAG was designated as the County Transportation Commission to coordinate Transportation Improvement Programs and coordinate mass transit services. In 1989, SANBAG became the County Transportation Authority with the passage of Measure I, the 1/2 cent sales tax measure specifically for transportation improvements in the county. While SANBAG has continued as a COG, the majority of SANBAG's resources are focused on transportation issues today, since most of the agency's revenue is derived from federal, state, and Measure I funding sources. The SANBAG Board expressed an interest in reinvigorating its role as a COG and will address goals and funding at a Board Workshop on **August 22, 2012**, at SANBAG.

MAKING PROGRESS



LA MESA/NISQUALLI INTERCHANGE

Crews are shown placing girders across the northbound lanes of I-15 in Victorville. Work was scheduled to take four nights of full, directional freeway closures, but crews completed the effort in just two nights.



N. MILLIKEN GRADE SEPARATION

Union Pacific Railroad sent the first train across the new bridge over Milliken Avenue in Ontario on Sunday, July 22. Construction began in January 2011. Construction continues on the second track, which is scheduled to be completed in 2013.

AUGUST 2012

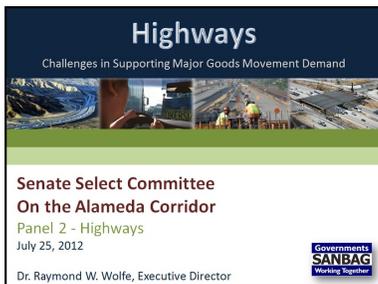
BOARD OF DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

AUG 8	Administrative Comm.	9:00 am
AUG 9	Major Projects Comm.	9:00 am
AUG 15	Plans/Progs. Comm.	12:00 pm
AUG 16	Commuter Rail / Transit	12:00 pm
AUG 17	Mountain / Desert	9:00 am

PUBLIC EVENTS CALENDAR

AUG 22	COG Workshop SANBAG Offices 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
AUG 30	I-10/Tippecanoe Public Meeting Loma Linda City Hall 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

► SANBAG Highlights Role and Readiness at Senate Hearing on the Alameda Corridor



SANBAG Executive Director, Dr. Ray Wolfe, testified before Senator McLeod on the role and readiness of the agency in times of crises.

On July 25, Senator Gloria Negrete McLeod held a hearing on emergency preparedness along the Alameda Corridor. Three panels focusing on rail, highway, and interagency preparedness included representatives from public and private agencies. SANBAG Executive Director Dr. Ray Wolfe testified that as a public agency

tasked with planning and constructing capital improvement projects, our role is to identify the trouble areas and to work with other agencies in delivering projects to minimize the risk of catastrophe. Dr. Wolfe highlighted the IE511 system, a partnership with the Riverside County Transportation Commission, as a significant communication tool that can reach large scale audiences with real-time information during a crisis. Senator McLeod's District (32) covers a significant amount of the western portion of the valley. Dr. Wolfe commented on the large number of distribution centers within this region and the burden that goods movement places on our local roads and highways. He emphasized the need for support from both state and federal funding sources for maintaining the highway infrastructure. "Our roads are in a state of disrepair," Wolfe said. "We need to invest in the maintenance of our roads and bridges."



Highlighted are the Goods Movement demands on our highways.

► Anna Aldana recognized for 20 years

SANBAG's Assistant to the Clerk of the Board (left) Anna Aldana received a pin for her 20 years of service to SANBAG from President Janice Rutherford at the August 1, 2012, Board Meeting. Anna started in 1992 as a receptionist under then-Executive Director Wes McDaniel.



► Mobility 21 Provides Support to SANBAG

SANBAG is a member of Mobility 21, a coalition that brings together public, business, and community stakeholders to pursue regional solutions to the transportation challenges facing the seven counties in Southern California, including San Bernardino County. Marnie Primmer, Executive Director for Mobility 21, shared that they deliver a unified voice for the region's transportation priorities and seek to improve mobility in the region. Mobility 21 works to advance the cause of transportation in our region by mobilizing regional support for transportation funding and other legislative priorities at the federal and state levels and by uniting political, community, and business leaders around common priorities for transportation. Mobility 21 organizes trips to Washington, D.C. and Sacramento to advocate for the region, utilizes various methods of communication to stakeholders about important issues surrounding transportation, and educates stakeholders through meetings and workshops. The 11th Annual Mobility 21 Summit will be held on September 28, 2012, in Anaheim.



► High Desert Corridor Offers Interactive Online Tool for Public Involvement in Project

The High Desert Corridor (HDC) project proposes the construction of a new, approximately 63-mile, east-west freeway/expressway linking State Route (SR)-14 in Los Angeles County with SR-18 in San Bernardino County. This new connection



will link some of the fastest residential, commercial, and industrial growth areas in Southern California. The HDC project will also address traffic safety and support the projected increase in moving goods through the region. The HDC is currently in the Environmental Impact Statement/Report preparation phase. To assist with public outreach to inform people about the project and potential impacts, a [Route Alternative Interactive Map](http://interactive.metro.net/projects/high-desert-corridor/#) is now available online at:

<http://interactive.metro.net/projects/high-desert-corridor/#>



July 30, 2012

Company Press Release

SOURCE: **CALIFORNIA STEEL INDUSTRIES, INC.**

Contact: Brett Guge

Executive Vice President, Finance & Administration

909-350-6208

California Steel Industries, Inc. Announces New Pipe Mill

California Steel Industries, Inc. (CSI) today announced plans for a new pipe mill on the Company's site near Fontana, California.

Cost of the state-of-the art equipment, including installation, is expected to exceed \$100 million.

The mill will produce high-strength electrical resistance welded (ERW) pipe, up to 24 inches in diameter and up to 80 feet in length. The Company's existing pipe mill is limited to 16-inch diameter and 60-foot lengths.

Using induction welding technology, the new mill will be capable of increased wall thicknesses and improved yields. Annual production capacity is expected to be approximately 400,000 net tons, bringing CSI's total tubular product capacity to over 600,000 tons. The Company also produces hot rolled, cold rolled and galvanized sheet products, with a total rolling capacity approaching 3 million tons.

President and CEO Vicente Wright, who will be rotating from his current position in August to become Chairman of the Board for CSI, thanked the Company's Board and its shareholders, JFE Steel Corporation of Japan, and Vale S.A. (Vale) for their votes of confidence in CSI.

"This will be the largest single capital investment in CSI history, and we have invested about a billion dollars since the Company was formed in 1983," said Mr. Wright. "This is a testimony to the Company's continued resilience in the tough economic times we are in, and is a tribute to CSI's shareholders and our employees, customers and suppliers."

More

Installation of the new mill equipment is expected to begin in Third Quarter 2012 and be concluded by end of 2014. At capacity, the new pipe mill's additional tonnage is expected to generate approximately 100 new production and logistics jobs at CSI, which currently employs nearly 1,000 people.

CSI is the leading producer of steel products in the western United States (the 11 states located west of the Rocky Mountains) based on tonnage billed.

For more information on CSI, please visit our website at www.californiasteel.com.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 25, 2012

CONTACT:

Ann Newton
818-760-2121

**GOVERNOR BROWN AND SECRETARY SALAZAR ANNOUNCE PROJECT
FRAMEWORK FOR BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN**

Pair of Tunnels Identified as Centerpiece of Bay Delta Conservation Plan

Los Angeles, CA--Governor Brown and Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar today announced the project framework for the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP), which will enhance statewide water supply reliability and restore the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) ecosystem. The project will include a set of two 35-mile long tunnels, with three intakes along the Sacramento River, funneling a portion of water around the Delta rather than through it. The tunnels would be the centerpiece of the BDCP, a multi-faceted Habitat Conservation Plan developed by the Brown and Obama Administrations. BDCP also includes other significant habitat restoration efforts.

"The Southern California Water Committee joins organizations and leaders throughout the state in congratulating Governor Brown and Secretary Salazar in reaching this milestone. We thank them for diligently working to advance the Bay Delta Conservation Plan," said Charles Wilson, chairman of the Southern California Water Committee. "We look forward to advancing the plan and the environmental review process, knowing that it will bring new reliability to our statewide water supply while protecting a critical ecosystem."

The framework announced today is based on six years of comprehensive scientific research, costing over \$150 million, and more than 300 public meetings. The plan seeks to accomplish the co-equal goals of environmental restoration and water supply reliability for the 25 million Californians, three million acres of farmland and countless businesses that rely on Delta water.

"Since the infancy of the BDCP six years ago, we've known that this process would be arduous but ultimately a worthwhile and necessary investment," added Wilson. "We pause to acknowledge this significant milestone, knowing that the hard work will continue tomorrow."

The situation in the Delta has become more tenuous over the years and today we face the perfect storm of risks. The U.S. Geological Survey has warned that there is a 63 percent chance of an earthquake occurring in the Bay Area that could trigger levee breaks along the Delta, allowing saltwater to rush in and contaminate our freshwater supply. Environmental conditions in the Delta have been of increasing





concern as fish populations decline and natural habitat is altered. Water agencies throughout the state have faced uncertainty over the years as regulatory conditions have fluctuated. The BDCP addresses these concerns, removing the risk of saltwater contamination due to earthquake, restoring thousands of acres of habitat and providing a greater level of water supply reliability.

“State and federal leaders have a responsibility to take swift action to address the mounting threats we face in the Delta. With all we know today about how an earthquake could disrupt water supplies, on top of the great cost of physical damage, implementing a comprehensive solution is of the utmost importance,” added Wilson.

Following today’s announcement, state and federal leaders will continue to further develop the BDCP. For more information, please visit www.baydeltaconservationplan.com.

###

What Southern California Leaders Are Saying About BDCP...

“In addition to Delta ecosystem enhancement and increased statewide water supply reliability, the BDCP provides profound local benefits to the Castaic Lake Water Agency’s service area. Our over 270,000 customers would benefit from increased State Water Project supply reliability, decreased seismic risk to a significant portion of their water supply and improved recycled water quality from reduced salt in imported water.”

**Dan Masnada, General Manager
Castaic Lake Water Agency**

“We are acutely aware of the possibility of a massive failure of the levees in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the impact on the State Water Project that delivers water to 23 million Californians who live south of the San Francisco Bay. The State Water Project and its federal equivalent, the Central Valley Project, are dependent upon fresh water in the southern end of the Delta to move water west and south to farms, towns and businesses from Silicon Valley to the Mexican border...We commend Gov. Brown and Secretary Salazar for taking political risks and providing the leadership across many state and federal agencies with their own points of view.”

**Gary Toebben, President & CEO
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce**





“Orange County has made great strides in implementing innovative water efficiency programs and recycling projects during the past decade. However, our region is largely reliant on imported water supplies that pass through the ailing Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, so progress on the Bay Delta Conservation Plan is crucial. I applaud our state and federal counterparts for the progress made to date and encourage them to press ahead on this important project that will help restore water reliability for Orange County.”

**Supervisor Shawn Nelson
County of Orange**

“The Building Industry of Association of Southern California is a strong supporter of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan and addressing the challenges with the Bay-Delta. We recognize and support the co-equal goals of improving water supply reliability and eco-system restoration. Providing homes for California families is our mission – one that is only possible with an affordable and reliable supply of water. This time is now to advance this important project.”

**Mark Grey, Director of Environmental Affairs
Building Industry of Association of Southern California**

“Agriculture is one of California’s most important enterprises, feeding our families through the Golden State and around the world. However, farming cannot be sustained without a high quality and affordable water supply. Given the vulnerabilities in the state’s primary water delivery system, we strongly encourage continued progress on the much-needed Bay Delta Conservation Program.”

**Eric Larson, Executive Director
San Diego Farm Bureau**

“The science is clear that a major earthquake in Northern California could severely impact our state’s primary water delivery system, which currently relies on 100-year old man-made levees that are weak and vulnerable. A seismic event could have devastating impacts on our regional water supply and the state’s overall economy. It’s crucial the state move forward with a Delta solution that is based on sound science and collaboration. The Bay Delta Conservation Plan is on track to reduce that seismic risk, ensure greater water supply reliability and invest in restoring the Delta environment.”

**Supervisor Marion Ashley
County of Riverside**





“The Bay Delta Conservation Plan stands to be one of the most important investments in our state’s history. Through the BDCP, California will protect the water supply for 25 million people while restoring critical habitat in the Delta. Completion of the BDCP is a priority for us here in the Coachella Valley and throughout Southern California.”

**Jim Barrett, Assistant General Manager
Coachella Valley Water District**

“California agriculture feeds the nation and here in Orange County our growers require an affordable, high quality and reliable water supply for our crops. The Delta, our primary water supply hub, is at risk of failure and the eco-system is in crisis. We need to press forward with the Bay Delta Conservation Plan as it offers the entire state, as well as our region, the best chance at securing a reliable water supply for the future.”

**Robert Seat, Director
Orange County Farm Bureau**

“The well-being of California is directly tied to the water the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta provides. It is crucial that the Bay Delta Conservation Plan moves forward to ensure this water supply remains intact for decades to come. Without this plan in place, the Delta, and in turn California’s water supply, remain too vulnerable to the threats of natural disasters. Three Valleys Municipal Water District fully supports the BDCP.”

**Rick Hansen, General Manager
Three Valleys Municipal Water District**

“Southern California local agencies have done an excellent job in conserving and using water more efficiently – holding the line on water consumption while our population has increased. Reuse, recycling desalination, groundwater recharge and other local supply projects are crucial components in our region’s water supply portfolio. However, imported water will remain a primary water supply source for millions of Southern Californians so it is paramount that we advance the Bay Delta Conservation Plan to insure against future risk from earthquake and climate change and protect our water supply reliability.”

**Bert Hack, City Councilmember
City of Laguna Woods**





“The Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta is a crucial water supply hub for the state and an important ecosystem. Our region relies heavily on imported water that passes through the Delta and its channels of weak levees. The Bay Delta Conservation Plan is a much-needed project that will restore the West Coast’s largest estuary and construct a new water delivery system to provide water for residents, farms and businesses in Southern California as well as the Bay Area and Central Valley. I urge continued, thoughtful progress on this effort.”

**Supervisor Janice Rutherford
County of San Bernardino**

“25 million Californians and businesses throughout the state depend on the Delta for water and it is critical that we protect this resource. The Bay Delta Conservation Plan will provide a roadmap to protecting this freshwater supply against earthquakes and climate change, while making critical investments to restore Delta habitat. The Longer we wait to invest in this project, the greater the risk. We urge California and federal leaders to move forward with the BDCP.”

Chambers of Commerce Alliance of Ventura & Santa Barbara Counties

“An important milestone was achieved today when Governor Brown and Secretary Salazar announced the core policy framework for the Bay Delta Conservation Plan, further advancing an important effort to restore the Delta eco-system and improve our water supply reliability. We recognize today’s announcement reflects years of hard work, scientific analysis, collaboration and compromise among stakeholders and we encourage continued progress by both administrations on this important retrofit of our state’s primary water delivery system.”

**Kevin Wattier, General Manager
Long Beach Water Department**

“California has taken decisive action to solve the Delta’s chronic problems to avoid the Delta’s continuing deterioration as a reliable pathway for water. The Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) is the key action plan for state and federal agencies to guide the necessary ecosystem and water system improvements in the Delta.”

Orange County Business Council





"As a business organization seeking to revive the California economy, we are keenly aware that the status quo in the Delta is unsustainable...While inaction places us in danger, moving forward on conveyance improvements in the Delta will generate as many as 130,000 direct jobs for California...We urge you to support the BDCP."

**Daymond Rice, (former) Chairman, and Stuart Waldman, President
Valley Industry & Commerce Association**

"In light of the serious number of droughts occurring around the world over the past decade, how sad that we can't seem to learn from the misery of others and fix our own imperiled California water systems, especially the Bay Delta system we in agriculture so rely on."

**A.G. Kawamura
Former California Secretary of Food & Agriculture**

"Adequate resources are essential to a healthy economy. The state and federal governments must take action to ensure people and businesses have a reliable water supply, which is why the South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce supports the Bay Delta Conservation Plan. In addition to ongoing water conservation efforts and local water supply improvements, the infrastructure investments proposed by the BDCP are critical to the protection of our imported water supplies."

South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce

"Water is often an avocado grower's single largest input cost and, at today's rates, can be as high as 70% of these costs. Equally important to growers is water quality and sufficient State Water Project supplies are critical to maintaining reasonable salinity levels in key avocado growing regions. The more reliable and higher-quality supplies made possible under the BDCP will be invaluable not to just avocado growers but to all Californians."

**Tom Bellamore, President and Charley Wolk, Water Committee Chair
California Avocado Commission**





“Now is the time to move the Bay Delta Conservation Plan forward... The risk of inaction is unacceptable. An earthquake could cut off a key water supply to 25 million people in the state and more than 3 million acres of prime farmland, hurting families, businesses, communities and our economy. An updated Delta conveyance system is the only way to avoid this threat of severe shortages for communities that would have a devastating impact on California’s economy.”

R.E.A.L. Coalition

(The R.E.A.L Coalition is comprised of 20 of the most influential business associations in the state, stretching from Sacramento to San Diego)

Established in 1984, the Southern California Water Committee is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, public education partnership dedicated to informing Southern Californians about our water needs and our state’s water resources. Spanning Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, San Bernardino, Imperial, Riverside, Ventura and Kern Counties, the SCWC’s members include representatives from business, government, agriculture, water agencies, labor and the general public. Visit us at www.socalwater.org and find us on Facebook. In 2011, SCWC launched a statewide public education program -- “Delta Disrupted” -- designed to educate opinion leaders and the public on the vulnerabilities in the Delta posed by an earthquake and the solutions presented by BDCP. More information is available at <http://www.socalwater.org/delta-disrupted>.

