

**LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
FOR SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY**

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DATE : NOVEMBER 26, 2018 
FROM: SAMUEL MARTINEZ, Executive Officer
TO: LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Agenda Item #5 – Approval of Letter of Support for the California WaterFix

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission authorize the Vice Chair to sign the Letter of Support and direct staff to forward to the Governor and other stakeholders.

BACKGROUND:

At the October 17, 2018 hearing, the Commission approved—in concept—its support for the California WaterFix but requested that staff draft the letter for consideration by the Commission (as a consent item) at its December hearing.

Attached is the draft support letter for the California WaterFix, which is generally consistent with the “proposed statement” recommended by Mr. Charley Wilson, Executive Director and CEO of the Southern California Water Coalition, who requested that the Southern Region LAFCOs take a support position for the California WaterFix.

CONCLUSION:

Staff is recommending that the Commission approve the support letter for the California WaterFix, make any additional changes, if any, and authorize the Vice Chair to sign the letter for distribution.

Attachment: Draft Letter of Support



LAFCO

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SAMUEL MARTINEZ

LEGAL COUNSEL

PAULA DE SOUSA MILLS

December 5, 2018

Via fax and regular mail

Governor Edmund G. Brown
c/o State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

The Local Agency Formation Commission for San Bernardino County took an action today, December 5, 2018, to express its support for the California WaterFix. We support the modernization of the state's aging water delivery system to ensure a reliable water supply for our region's future.

Roughly 30 percent of the water that flows out of taps in Southern California comes from Northern California via the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. However, the Delta's delivery system is antiquated, a problem compounded both by a declining ecosystem and 1,100-mile levee system that are increasingly vulnerable.

California WaterFix is a comprehensive solution proposed by state and federal agencies to ensure our state has a reliable water supply for many years to come. It would modernize the decades-old delivery system through the building of three new intakes in the northern Delta along with two tunnels to carry water to the existing aqueduct system in the southern Delta.

We believe that California WaterFix will provide LAFCO and its stakeholders the opportunity to demonstrate vision and leadership in tackling one of our region's most important issues. In addition, this project will facilitate changes in local water supply development and improve the future delivery of municipal water services.

Sincerely,

James V. Curatalo, Vice Chair

cc: Governor-Elect Gavin Newsom
Speaker Anthony Rendon, California State Assembly
John Laird, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency
Karla Nemeth, Director, California Department of Water Resources
Randy Record, Chairman, Metropolitan Water District of
Southern California
Charley Wilson, Executive Director and CEO, Southern
California Water Coalition