



10844 Ellis Avenue
 Fountain Valley, CA 92708
 714.962.2411
 www.ocsan.gov

April 5, 2021

The Honorable Michelle Steel
 U.S. House of Representatives
 1113 Longworth House Office Building
 Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Steel:

On behalf of the Orange County Sanitation District (OC San), I write to request your support of an important clean water community project. Specifically, OC San is proceeding to undertake an ambitious construction project known as the Headworks Rehabilitation Project at Plant No. 1. This project will ensure the long-term sustainability of critical public health and environmental services, including affordable wastewater services to disadvantaged communities within the OC San service area.

OC San provides wastewater collection, treatment, and recycling for approximately 2.6 million people in central and northwest Orange County, CA. OC San’s primary mission is to protect public health and the environment through its services.

We hope that you will communicate your support of this community project for federal assistance as Congress develops the Fiscal Year 2022 appropriations bill for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). OC San is seeking \$10,000,000 as part of the Fiscal Year 2022 appropriations through the USEPA.

The proposed project would modernize the removal of inorganic pollutants, sanitary products and other large materials before OC San can treat the wastewater that is then relied upon as the feedstock for recycled water supply that is vital to Orange County’s drought security to produce a resilient water supply. The project has the added benefits of increasing the efficiency of the treatment process, reducing air emissions and odors, and continue efforts to safeguard fence line communities. Project construction is scheduled to commence in the summer of 2021. The total construction cost of the project is \$222,000,000.

OC San understands that the House Committee on Appropriations has requested that Members submit requests for Community Project Assistance as part of the fiscal year 2022 appropriations process. The enclosed information details the Headworks Rehabilitation Project. The project is, under the Committee on Appropriations’ guidelines, eligible for community project assistance. OC San seeks federal assistance through the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations bill and specifically under USEPA’s State and Tribal Assistance Grants Account; Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF).

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- Midway City Sanitary District
- Irvine Ranch Water District
- Yorba Linda Water District

Page 2

We understand that the Community Projects selection process will be highly competitive, and the enclosed information was developed consistent with the Committee on Appropriations request for documentation of the benefits to the OC San community. If you believe additional information is necessary, please let me know and we will be pleased to provide the necessary follow-up.

Again, we are hopeful that you will support this important funding request that will help OC San comply with federal mandates, safeguard Orange County's citizens, and advance our shared commitment to ensure a safe and reliable water supply. Please do not hesitate to contact Jennifer Cabral, OC San Administration Manager at (714) 593-7581 or via email at JCabral@ocsan.gov should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



David John Shawver
Board Chairman