



# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 383  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012  
(213) 974-1411 • FAX (213) 633-5100

February 18, 2016

PATRICK OGAWA  
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

The Honorable Karen Bass  
U.S. House of Representatives  
408 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Bass:

We are writing to ask that the Secretary of the Army be requested to provide a report assessing the outstanding maintenance needs within the Army Corps-maintained portion of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area system; the cost of bringing the Corps-maintained portions of the system up to federal standards for flood protection; and opportunities for local maintenance of the Corps-maintained portions of the system. We also urge your support for legislation to increase local water supply sustainability, including by changing the operation of Corps dams as quickly as possible to maximize stormwater capture for groundwater replenishment.

The Army Corps of Engineers and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District ("District") together operate a wide network of dams and major waterways throughout the Los Angeles area, which is called the Los Angeles County Drainage Area (LACDA) system. It encompasses more than 3,000 square miles, and provides flood risk management for approximately 10 million residents and 2.1 million parcels with a value of more than \$1 trillion. As part of the LACDA system, the District also operates groundwater recharge facilities, which conserve stormwater and contribute upwards of one-third of the area's local water supply.

The District and the Corps each are responsible for the operation and maintenance of portions of the LACDA system, much of which was constructed with federal funding. The District is responsible for 14 major dams and roughly 500 miles of open channels, while the Corps is responsible for four major dams and about 40 miles of open channels. Both agencies must engage in maintenance and rehabilitation activities in order for the system to operate effectively. The District has extensively maintained its facilities over the years to ensure that they continue to perform as designed.

The Corps, however, has not been able to provide the needed level of maintenance for its facilities due to intermittent and insufficient federal funding. As a consequence, the Corps' LACDA facilities provide a lower level of flood protection, which is especially problematic under the current El Niño conditions. Much of the area served by the LACDA system is highly urbanized. Therefore, if these facilities fail to provide sufficient flood protection, numerous lives and properties are placed in jeopardy.

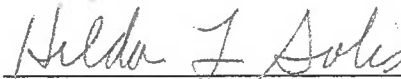
The Honorable Karen Bass  
February 18, 2016  
Page 2

In addition, the State of California, including Los Angeles County, has been facing one of the most severe droughts on record, resulting in critical reductions in water supplies and increased efforts among numerous agencies, including the County of Los Angeles, to conserve more water. In order to increase the sustainability of the local water supply, the District has been working with the Corps for many years to modify the operation of its dams to increase their ability to capture storm water for groundwater replenishment.

There has been some positive changes, but more changes are needed. We, therefore, urge your support for legislation to increase local water supply sustainability, including changing the operation of the Corps' dams, and for the Secretary of the Army to provide reports with assessments and information that would be helpful in making needed improvements in the operation and maintenance of the current Corps-maintained portions of the LACDA system.

Your assistance on these important matters is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



HILDA L. SOLIS  
Chair of the Board  
Supervisor, First District



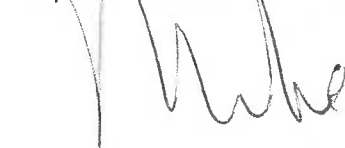
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
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DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

The Honorable Xavier Becerra  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1226 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Becerra:

We are writing to ask that the Secretary of the Army be requested to provide a report assessing the outstanding maintenance needs within the Army Corps-maintained portion of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area system; the cost of bringing the Corps-maintained portions of the system up to federal standards for flood protection; and opportunities for local maintenance of the Corps-maintained portions of the system. We also urge your support for legislation to increase local water supply sustainability, including by changing the operation of Corps dams as quickly as possible to maximize stormwater capture for groundwater replenishment.

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The Honorable Xavier Becerra  
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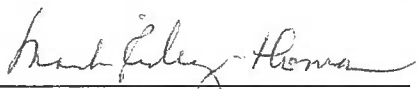
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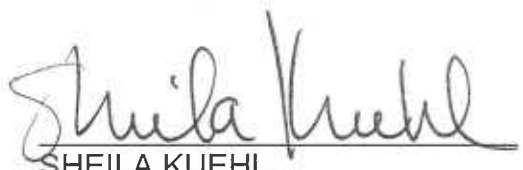
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The Honorable Barbara Boxer  
United States Senate  
SH-112 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Boxer:

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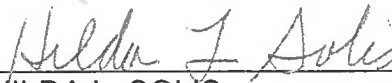
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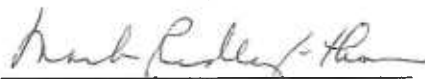
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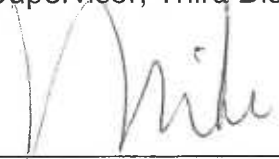
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DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

The Honorable Julia Brownley  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1019 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Brownley:

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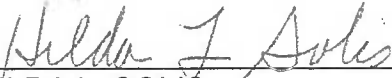
The Honorable Julia Brownley  
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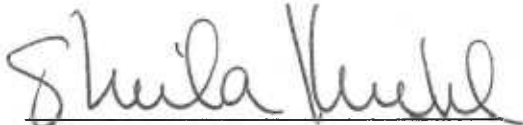
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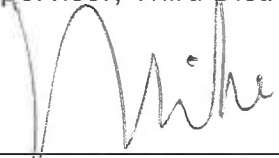
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DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

The Honorable Tony Cardenas  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1510 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Cardenas:

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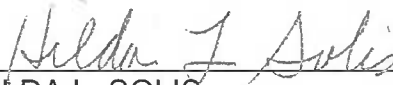
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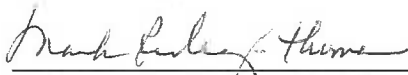
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U.S. House of Representatives  
2423 Rayburn House Office Building  
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The Honorable Judy Chu  
February 18, 2016  
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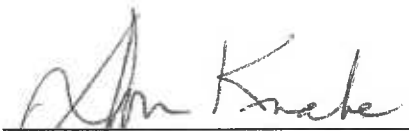
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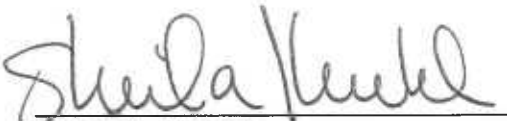
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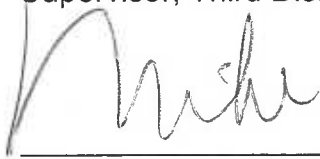
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The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senate  
SH-331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

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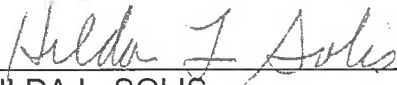
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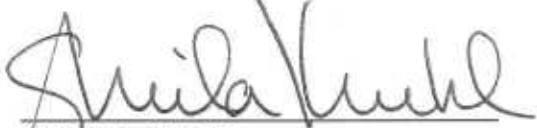
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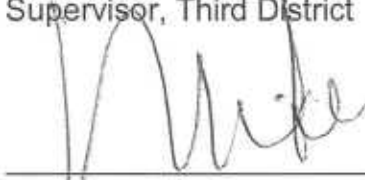
Sincerely,

  
HILDA L. SOLIS  
Chair of the Board  
Supervisor, First District

  
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
Supervisor, Second District

  
DON KNABE  
Supervisor, Fourth District

  
SHEILA KUEHL  
Supervisor, Third District

  
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Supervisor, Fifth District



# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 383  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012  
(213) 974-1411 • FAX (213) 633-5100

February 18, 2016

PATRICK OGAWA  
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

The Honorable Janice Hahn  
U.S. House of Representatives  
404 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Hahn:

We are writing to ask that the Secretary of the Army be requested to provide a report assessing the outstanding maintenance needs within the Army Corps-maintained portion of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area system; the cost of bringing the Corps-maintained portions of the system up to federal standards for flood protection; and opportunities for local maintenance of the Corps-maintained portions of the system. We also urge your support for legislation to increase local water supply sustainability, including by changing the operation of Corps dams as quickly as possible to maximize stormwater capture for groundwater replenishment.

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The District and the Corps each are responsible for the operation and maintenance of portions of the LACDA system, much of which was constructed with federal funding. The District is responsible for 14 major dams and roughly 500 miles of open channels, while the Corps is responsible for four major dams and about 40 miles of open channels. Both agencies must engage in maintenance and rehabilitation activities in order for the system to operate effectively. The District has extensively maintained its facilities over the years to ensure that they continue to perform as designed.

The Corps, however, has not been able to provide the needed level of maintenance for its facilities due to intermittent and insufficient federal funding. As a consequence, the Corps' LACDA facilities provide a lower level of flood protection, which is especially problematic under the current El Niño conditions. Much of the area served by the LACDA system is highly urbanized. Therefore, if these facilities fail to provide sufficient flood protection, numerous lives and properties are placed in jeopardy.

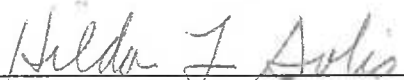
The Honorable Janice Hahn  
February 18, 2016  
Page 2


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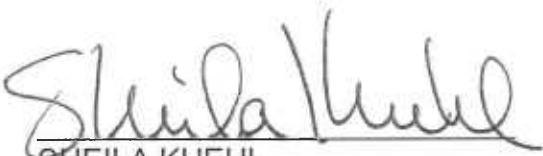
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Supervisor, First District

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
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February 18, 2016

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ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

The Honorable Steve Knight  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1023 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Knight:

We are writing to ask that the Secretary of the Army be requested to provide a report assessing the outstanding maintenance needs within the Army Corps-maintained portion of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area system; the cost of bringing the Corps-maintained portions of the system up to federal standards for flood protection; and opportunities for local maintenance of the Corps-maintained portions of the system. We also urge your support for legislation to increase local water supply sustainability, including by changing the operation of Corps dams as quickly as possible to maximize stormwater capture for groundwater replenishment.

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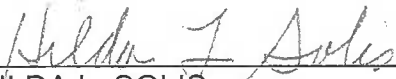
The Honorable Steve Knight  
February 18, 2016  
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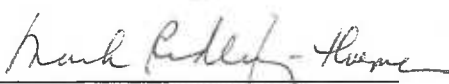
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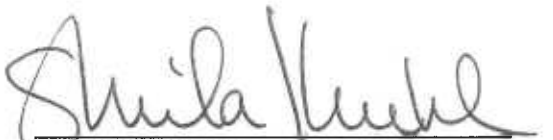
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Supervisor, First District

  
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
Supervisor, Second District

  
SHEILA KUEHL  
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MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
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PATRICK OGAWA  
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

The Honorable Ted Lieu  
U.S. House of Representatives  
415 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Lieu:

We are writing to ask that the Secretary of the Army be requested to provide a report assessing the outstanding maintenance needs within the Army Corps-maintained portion of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area system; the cost of bringing the Corps-maintained portions of the system up to federal standards for flood protection; and opportunities for local maintenance of the Corps-maintained portions of the system. We also urge your support for legislation to increase local water supply sustainability, including by changing the operation of Corps dams as quickly as possible to maximize stormwater capture for groundwater replenishment.

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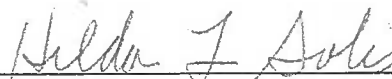
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February 18, 2016  
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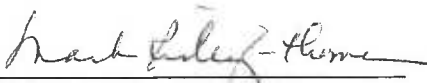
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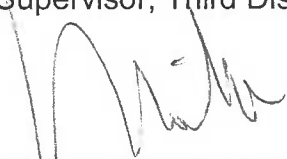
Sincerely,

  
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Supervisor, First District

  
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
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SHEILA KUEHL  
Supervisor, Third District

  
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Supervisor, Fifth District



# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012  
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February 18, 2016

PATRICK OGAWA  
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

The Honorable Alan Lowenthal  
U.S. House of Representatives  
108 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Lowenthal:

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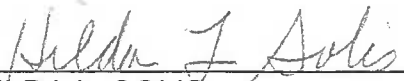
The Honorable Alan Lowenthal  
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Page 2


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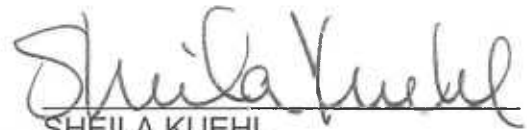
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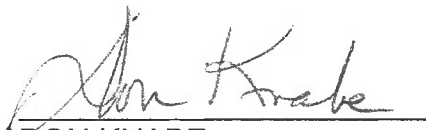
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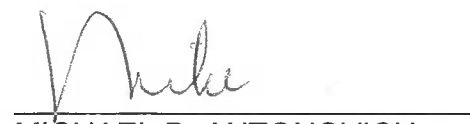
Sincerely,

  
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Chair of the Board  
Supervisor, First District

  
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
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# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 383  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012  
(213) 974-1411 • FAX (213) 633-5100

February 18, 2016

PATRICK OGAWA  
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2421 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Majority Leader McCarthy:

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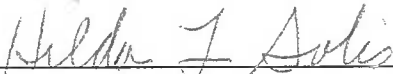
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February 18, 2016  
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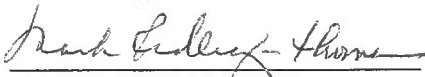
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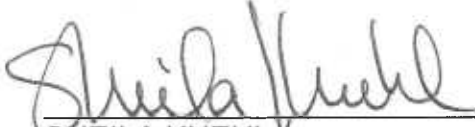
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February 18, 2016

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ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

The Honorable Grace F. Napolitano  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1610 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Napolitano:

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The Honorable Grace F. Napolitano  
February 18, 2016  
Page 2

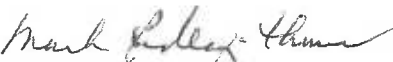
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February 18, 2016

PATRICK OGAWA  
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS

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SHEILA KUEHL

DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2330 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Roybal-Allard:

We are writing to ask that the Secretary of the Army be requested to provide a report assessing the outstanding maintenance needs within the Army Corps-maintained portion of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area system; the cost of bringing the Corps-maintained portions of the system up to federal standards for flood protection; and opportunities for local maintenance of the Corps-maintained portions of the system. We also urge your support for legislation to increase local water supply sustainability, including by changing the operation of Corps dams as quickly as possible to maximize stormwater capture for groundwater replenishment.

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The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard  
February 18, 2016  
Page 2


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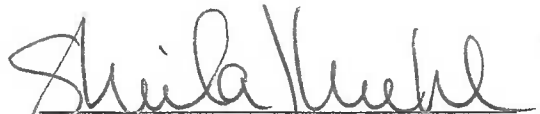
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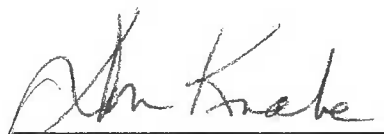
Your assistance on these important matters is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
HILDA L. SOLIS  
Chair of the Board  
Supervisor, First District

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
Supervisor, Second District

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SHEILA KUEHL  
Supervisor, Third District

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DON KNABE  
Supervisor, Fourth District

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Supervisor, Fifth District



# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 383  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012  
(213) 974-1411 • FAX (213) 633-5100

February 18, 2016

PATRICK OGAWA  
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

The Honorable Ed Royce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2310 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Royce:

We are writing to ask that the Secretary of the Army be requested to provide a report assessing the outstanding maintenance needs within the Army Corps-maintained portion of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area system; the cost of bringing the Corps-maintained portions of the system up to federal standards for flood protection; and opportunities for local maintenance of the Corps-maintained portions of the system. We also urge your support for legislation to increase local water supply sustainability, including by changing the operation of Corps dams as quickly as possible to maximize stormwater capture for groundwater replenishment.

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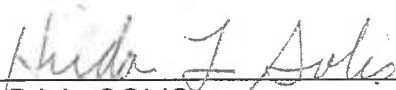
The Honorable Ed Royce  
February 18, 2016  
Page 2


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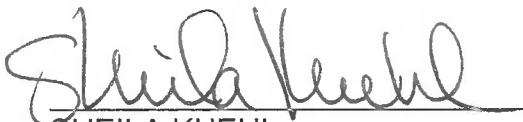
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Supervisor, First District

  
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MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
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MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Supervisor, Fifth District



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February 18, 2016

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ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

The Honorable Linda Sánchez  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2329 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Sánchez:

We are writing to ask that the Secretary of the Army be requested to provide a report assessing the outstanding maintenance needs within the Army Corps-maintained portion of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area system; the cost of bringing the Corps-maintained portions of the system up to federal standards for flood protection; and opportunities for local maintenance of the Corps-maintained portions of the system. We also urge your support for legislation to increase local water supply sustainability, including by changing the operation of Corps dams as quickly as possible to maximize stormwater capture for groundwater replenishment.

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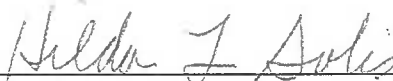
The Honorable Linda Sánchez  
February 18, 2016  
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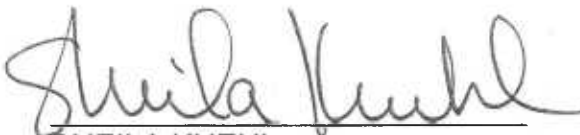
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MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
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February 18, 2016

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ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

The Honorable Adam Schiff  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2411 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Schiff:

We are writing to ask that the Secretary of the Army be requested to provide a report assessing the outstanding maintenance needs within the Army Corps-maintained portion of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area system; the cost of bringing the Corps-maintained portions of the system up to federal standards for flood protection; and opportunities for local maintenance of the Corps-maintained portions of the system. We also urge your support for legislation to increase local water supply sustainability, including by changing the operation of Corps dams as quickly as possible to maximize stormwater capture for groundwater replenishment.

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The Honorable Adam Schiff  
February 18, 2016  
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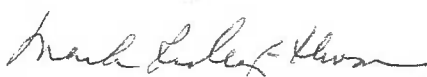
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MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Supervisor, Fifth District



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February 18, 2016

PATRICK OGAWA  
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

The Honorable Brad Sherman  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2242 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Sherman:

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The Honorable Brad Sherman  
February 18, 2016  
Page 2


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# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 383  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012  
(213) 974-1411 • FAX (213) 633-5100

February 18, 2016

PATRICK OGAWA  
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

The Honorable Norma Torres  
U.S. House of Representatives  
516 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Torres:

We are writing to ask that the Secretary of the Army be requested to provide a report assessing the outstanding maintenance needs within the Army Corps-maintained portion of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area system; the cost of bringing the Corps-maintained portions of the system up to federal standards for flood protection; and opportunities for local maintenance of the Corps-maintained portions of the system. We also urge your support for legislation to increase local water supply sustainability, including by changing the operation of Corps dams as quickly as possible to maximize stormwater capture for groundwater replenishment.

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The Honorable Norma Torres  
February 18, 2016  
Page 2


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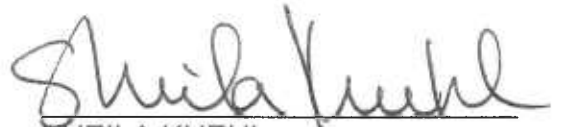
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DON KNABE  
Supervisor, Fourth District

  
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Supervisor, Fifth District



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SHEILA KUEHL

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MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

**PATRICK OGAWA**  
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

February 18, 2016

The Honorable Maxine Waters  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2221 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Waters:

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The Honorable Maxine Waters  
February 18, 2016  
Page 2


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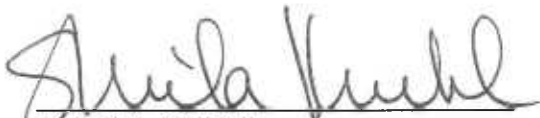
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MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Supervisor, Fifth District