



## City of Westminster

8200 Westminster Boulevard, Westminster, CA 92683 714.898.3311  
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August 28, 2017

The Honorable Jerry Brown  
Office of the Governor  
State Capitol Building, Ste. 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

Water has historically played a crucial role in Orange County, from our start as farmland and ranches through our growth as a residential suburb, to our current gross county product of \$223.2 billion economy powered by technology, life sciences, tourism and other sectors.

Recognizing water's great value, Orange County has done a tremendous job using water wisely, especially throughout the drought. Today, the County uses about the same amount of water as it did in the early 1980s, even though we've added more than 1 million residents since then.

The City of Westminster has worked tirelessly during the drought to educate residents on the value of water and has had impressive results. Since June 2015, Westminster water customers have saved approximately 1.5 billion gallons of water proving that Westminster residents are dedicated to preserving the valuable resource. The City has increased its outreach efforts, sending direct mail, holding Town Halls and participating in community events, educating on the importance of water for future generations. Our residents understand the importance of water infrastructure and support sustainable water for years to come.

But 25 percent of the water that fuels Orange County's economy and our quality of life flows through the State Water Project. That is why the California WaterFix and EcoRestore are critical to Orange County, and all of Southern California.

A 2016 Orange County Water Reliability Study led by the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) revealed that without new supply and system investments by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MET), MET's member agencies and Orange County projected water shortages would be too frequent and overall reliability would not be sustainable by as early as 2030.

The study determined Orange County should continue to support and strongly advocate for the implementation of the California WaterFix and EcoRestore proposal, as it represents the most cost-effective large-scale reliability solution to improving regional water supply reliability for Southern California and hence the reliability for Orange County.

TRI TA  
Mayor

TYLER DIEP  
Mayor Pro Tem

SERGIO CONTRERAS  
Council Member

KIMBERLY HO  
Council Member

MARGIE L. RICE  
Council Member

EDDIE MANFRO  
City Manager



The California WaterFix, which would build twin tunnels beneath the Delta, and California EcoRestore proposal provide a framework of how best to approach the management of the Delta's combined water and land resources in a manner that will realistically achieve improvements in both water supply reliability and ecosystem protection for the Delta by balancing the many competing demands.

The California WaterFix and EcoRestore will help with water supply reliability by improving essential ecosystem functions so that populations of protected and commercially imported aquatic species will be strengthened. Our use of the water resources is fundamentally tied to the health of the fish populations. Experts agree the Delta in its current state is not sustainable and will fail.

The twin tunnels that make up the WaterFix project would also protect the key infrastructure from earthquake and other natural disasters and provides the most cost-efficient project solution. The MWDOC Board of Directors in December unanimously passed a resolution of support for the California WaterFix and EcoRestore, and the City of Westminster's City Council strongly joins them in urging timely completion of the WaterFix and EcoRestore.

It is well understood that water is life; we at the City of Westminster know well that a reliable water supply is critical to economic survival and growth, as well.

Sincerely,



Tri Ta  
Mayor

cc:

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The Honorable Kamala Harris  
U.S. Senator  
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The Honorable Travis Allen  
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The Honorable Andrew Do  
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