
Santa Ana River Wash Plan Land Exchange Act

*Supported by Public Officials, Organizations, and Stakeholder Groups from
across California and the Nation.*

PUBLIC OFFICIALS & LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- San Bernardino County
- City of Highland
- City of Redlands

WATER DISTRICTS

- San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
- East Valley Water District

ENVIRONMENTALISTS

- Endangered Habitats League

LOCAL BUSINESSES

- Cemex Construction Materials Pacific, LLC
- Robertson's Ready Mix

CIVIC GROUPS

- Inland Action



County Administrative Office
Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

March 31, 2015

The Honorable Paul Cook
1222 Longworth HOB
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Pete Aguilar
1223 Longworth HOB
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: Support for Wash Plan Land Exchange Bill

Dear Congressmen Cook and Aguilar:

As you are aware, the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District and the Upper Santa Ana River Wash Plan Task Force have been working on the Wash Plan Habitat Conservation Plan for many years, with full participation and support from the County of San Bernardino and the San Bernardino County Flood Control District. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the US Bureau of Land Management recently noticed their intent to prepare the environmental documents to complete this comprehensive, long-term conservation program.

The County of San Bernardino supports the Wash Plan implementation and your sponsorship of legislation to facilitate the land exchange necessary for the completion of this project. This multi-agency collaborative project is designed to provide thoughtful land use on one of the largest open areas in the eastern San Bernardino Valley, totaling more than 4,500 acres. The plan will provide protection for 1,347 acres of habitat important for a number of threatened and endangered species; it allows the development of 15 miles of new public use trails, supports the recharge of local groundwater aquifers through the operation of more than 77 recharge basins, and allows the production of local aggregate, with continued mining yielding \$36 million in local annual payroll and over \$8.5 million in local community infrastructure construction.

If you have any questions, please contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Ramos".

JAMES RAMOS
Board of Supervisors Chairman
Third District Supervisor
County of San Bernardino

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ROBERT A. LOVINGOOD
Vice Chairman, First District

JANICE RUTHERFORD
Second District

JAMES RAMOS
Chairman, Third District

CURT HAGMAN
Fourth District

JOSE GONZALES
Fifth District

GREGORY C. DEVEREAUX
Chief Executive Officer



March 25, 2015

The Honorable Paul Cook
1222 Longworth HOB
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Pete Aguilar
1223 Longworth HOB
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: Support for Wash Plan Land Exchange Bill

Dear Congressmen Cook and Aguilar:

As you are aware, the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District and the Upper Santa Ana River Wash Plan Task Force have been working on the Wash Plan Habitat Conservation Plan for many years. The US Fish and Wildlife Service and the US Bureau of Land Management recently noticed their intent to prepare the environmental documents to complete this comprehensive long term conservation program.

The City of Highland strongly supports the Wash Plan implementation and your sponsorship of legislation to facilitate the land exchange necessary for the completion of this project. This multi-agency collaborative project is designed to provide thoughtful land use on one of the largest open areas in the eastern San Bernardino Valley totaling over 4500 acres. The Wash Plan area is located at the confluence of the Santa Ana River and Mill Creek. The plan will provide protection for 1,347 acres of habitat important for a number of Endangered Species, as well as, allows the development of 15 miles of new public use trails; supports the recharge of local groundwater aquifers through the operation of more than 77 recharge basins, and allows the production of local aggregate with continued mining yielding \$36 M in local annual payroll and over \$8.5 M in local community infrastructure construction.

Sincerely,


Larry McCallon
Mayor, City of Highland

cc: Highland City Council
Joseph Hughes, Highland City Manager
Daniel Cozad, dcozad@sbywcd.org
Angie Quiroga, aquiroga@sbywcd.org

c:\users\bhughes\documents\my documents\cityofficials\wash plan land exchange support.docx

Mayor
Larry McCallon

Mayor Pro Tem
Penny Lilburn

City Council
Sam J. Racadio

City Council
Jody Scott

City Council
John P. Timmer

City Manager
Joseph A. Hughes

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-006

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND,
CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING H.R. 4024, THE SANTA ANA RIVER
WASH PLAN LAND EXCHANGE ACT**

WHEREAS, the Santa Ana River Wash Plan will provide for habitat protection, commercial mining, recreation, and additional water recharge development in the Santa Ana Wash; and

WHEREAS, the plan will support local industries to take root and flourish while preserving our environment and regional wildlife habitat; and

WHEREAS, the plan protects and manages rare habitat communities along Santa Ana River while simultaneously ensuring compatible economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, the plan will provide for greater public access by the opportunity to establish trails to connect and complete the Santa Ana River Trail; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Ana River Wash Plan Land Exchange Act, will complete the land exchange between the Bureau of Land Management and the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District critical to the success of the plan; and

WHEREAS, this land swap will align local land ownership with appropriate uses, setting aside already disturbed nearby land for aggregate mining and preserving and improving important habitat for conservation of Federally endangered species; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Paul Cook and Congressman Pete Aguilar introduced the Santa Ana Wash Plan Land Exchange Act to complete this important plan that has been 15 years in the making.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND,
CALIFORNIA HEREBY RESOLVES, FINDS AND DETERMINES AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. The City Council hereby specifically finds that all of the facts set forth in this Resolution are true and correct and resolves that they support H.R. 4024, the Santa Ana River Wash Land Exchange Act.

Section 2. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution and deliver a copy to the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District and Congressman Paul Cook.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 9th day of February, 2016.


Larry McCallon
Mayor

ATTEST:


Betty Hughes, MMC
City Clerk

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO)
CITY OF HIGHLAND)

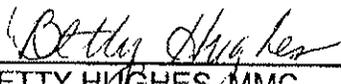
I, BETTY HUGHES, City Clerk of the City of Highland, California, do hereby certify Resolution No. 2016 - 006 was duly and regularly adopted by the City Council of the City of Highland, California, at a regular meeting thereof held on the 9th day of February, 2016, by the following vote:

AYES: Lilburn, McCallon, Racadio, Timmer

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Scott



BETTY HUGHES, MMC
CITY CLERK



PAUL W. FOSTER
Mayor

City of
REDLANDS

Incorporated 1888
35 Cajon Street, Redlands, CA 92373
909-798-7533
pfoster@cityofredlands.org

JON HARRISON
Mayor Pro Tem

PAT GILBREATH
Council Member

PAUL BARICH
Council Member

JOHN E. JAMES
Council Member

March 17, 2015

The Honorable Paul Cook
1222 Longworth HOB
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Pete Aguilar
1223 Longworth HOB
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: Support for Wash Plan Land Exchange Bill

Dear Congressmen Cook and Aguilar:

As you are aware, the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District and the Upper Santa Ana River Wash Plan Task Force have been working on the Wash Plan Habitat Conservation Plan for many years. The US Fish and Wildlife Service and the US Bureau of Land Management recently noticed their intent to prepare the environmental documents to complete this comprehensive long term conservation program.

The City of Redlands strongly supports the Wash Plan implementation and your sponsorship of legislation to facilitate the land exchange necessary for the completion of this project. This multi-agency collaborative project is designed to provide thoughtful land use on one of the largest open areas in the eastern San Bernardino Valley totaling over 4500 acres. The Wash Plan area is located at the confluence of the Santa Ana River and Mill Creek. The plan will provide protection for 1,347 acres of habitat important for a number of Endangered Species, as well as, allows the development of 15 miles of new public use trails; supports the recharge of local groundwater aquifers through the operation of more than 77 recharge basins, and allows the production of local aggregate with continued mining yielding \$36 M in local annual payroll and over \$8.5 M in local community infrastructure construction.

Sincerely,

Paul W. Foster
Mayor City of Redlands



380 East Vanderbilt Way
San Bernardino, CA 92408
phone: 909.387.9200
fax: 909.387.9247
www.sbvawd.com

March 17, 2015

The Honorable Paul Cook
1222 Longworth HOB
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Pete Aguilar
1223 Longworth HOB
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: Support for Wash Plan Land Exchange Bill

Dear Congressmen Cook and Aguilar

As you are aware, the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District and the Upper Santa Ana River Wash Plan Task Force have been working on the Wash Plan Habitat Conservation Plan for many years. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management recently noticed their intent to prepare the environmental documents to complete this comprehensive long term conservation program.

The San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District strongly supports the Wash Plan implementation and your sponsorship of legislation to facilitate the land exchange necessary for the completion of this project. This multi-agency collaborative project is designed to provide thoughtful land use on one of the largest open areas in the eastern San Bernardino Valley totaling over 4,500 acres. The Wash Plan area is located at the confluence of the Santa Ana River and Mill Creek. The plan provides protection for 1,347 acres of habitat important for a number of endangered species, allow the development of 15 miles of new public use trails; supports the recharge of local groundwater aquifers through the operation of more than 77 recharge basins, and allows the production of local aggregate with continued mining yielding \$36 M in local annual payroll and over \$8.5 M in local community infrastructure construction.

Sincerely,

Douglas D. Headrick
General Manager

Board of Directors and Officers

ED KILLGORE
Division 1

GIL NAVARRO
Division 2

SUSAN LONGVILLE
Division 3

MARK BULOT
Division 4

STEVE COPELAN
Division 5

DOUGLAS D. HEADRICK
General Manager

RESOLUTION NO. 1036**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER
DISTRICT IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 4024, THE SANTA ANA
RIVER WASH PLAN LAND EXCHANGE ACT**

WHEREAS, the Santa Ana River Wash Plan will provide for habitat protection, commercial mining, recreation, and additional water recharge development in the Santa Ana Wash; and

WHEREAS, the plan will support local industries to take root and flourish while preserving our environment and regional wildlife habitat; and

WHEREAS, the plan protects and manages rare habitat communities along Santa Ana River while simultaneously ensuring compatible economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, the plan will provide for greater public access by the opportunity to establish trails to connect and complete the Santa Ana River Trail; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Ana River Wash Plan Land Exchange Act, will complete the land exchange between the Bureau of Land Management and the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District critical to the success of the plan; and

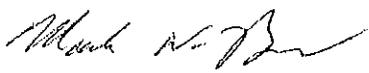
WHEREAS, this land swap will align local land ownership with appropriate uses, setting aside already disturbed nearby land for aggregate mining and preserving and improving important habitat for conservation of Federally endangered species; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Paul Cook and Congressman Pete Aguilar introduced the Santa Ana Wash Plan Land Exchange Act to complete this important plan that has been 15 years in the making.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District Board of Directors support H.R. 4024, the Santa Ana River Wash Land Exchange Act.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District Board of Directors held on February 16, 2016.

San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

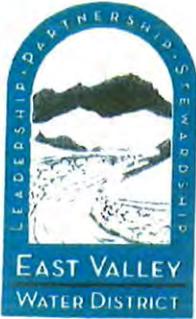
By: 

Mark Bulot
President

ATTEST:



Gil Navarro
Secretary



EAST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

LEADERSHIP • PARTNERSHIP • STEWARDSHIP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ronald L. Coats
President

Chris Carrillo
Vice President

James Morales, Jr.
Director

Nanette Shelton
Director

David E. Smith
Director

John Mura, General Manager/CEO

February 19, 2016

Re: H.R. 4024
Position: Support

Dear Congressman Cook:

East Valley Water District (EVWD) supports H.R. 4024, as proposed.

The current drought emergency highlights the importance of responsible groundwater recharge. As an area with remaining open spaces that can be utilized by various entities, the proposed land exchange could result in a fair agreement to benefit the community.

EVWD is a California Special District that provides water and wastewater service to over 101,000 residents within its 27.7 square mile service area. EVWD was formed in 1954 through an election of local residents to have water service provided by a public water agency. With a water supply mix including groundwater, surface water from the Santa Ana River, and imported State Project Water, EVWD has a unique level of water service reliability.

The goal of H.R. 4024 is to authorize an exchange of land between the Bureau of Land Management and the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District (Conservation District). As an agency located within the service area of the Conservation District, we work in cooperation to recharge the Bunker Hill Groundwater Basin. As the District's primary source of water supply we recognizes the importance of ensuring responsible recharge and ensuring that available land be put to the most beneficial use. This item is an example of two public service organizations working together to maximize resources for the greater good.

Please contact me with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

John Mura
General Manager/CEO

ENDANGERED HABITATS LEAGUE

DEDICATED TO ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABLE LAND USE



March 19, 2015

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

The Honorable Paul Cook
1222 Longworth HOB
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Pete Aguilar
1223 Longworth HOB
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support for Wash Plan Land Exchange Bill

Dear Congressmen Cook and Aguilar:

As you are aware, the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District and the Upper Santa Ana River Wash Plan Task Force have been working on the Wash Plan Habitat Conservation Plan for many years. The US Fish and Wildlife Service and the US Bureau of Land Management recently noticed their intent to prepare the environmental documents to complete this comprehensive long term conservation program.

Endangered Habitats League, Southern California's only regional conservation group, strongly supports the Wash Plan implementation and your sponsorship of legislation to facilitate the land exchange necessary for the completion of this project.

This multi-agency collaborative project is designed to provide thoughtful land use on one of the largest open areas in the eastern San Bernardino Valley totaling over 4500 acres. The Wash Plan area is located at the confluence of the Santa Ana River and Mill Creek. The plan will provide protection for 1,347 acres of habitat important for a number of Endangered Species, as well as, allows the development of 15 miles of new public use trails; supports the recharge of local groundwater aquifers through the operation of more than 77 recharge basins, and allows the production of local aggregate with continued mining yielding \$36 M in local annual payroll and over \$8.5 M in local community infrastructure construction.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,



Dan Silver
Executive Director



March 25, 2015

The Honorable Paul Cook
1222 Longworth HOB
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Pete Aguilar
1223 Longworth HOB
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: Support for Wash Plan Land Exchange Bill

Dear Congressmen Cook and Aguilar

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CEMEX Construction Materials Pacific, LLC strongly supports the Wash Plan implementation and your sponsorship of legislation to facilitate the land exchange necessary for the completion of this project. This multi-agency collaborative project is designed to provide thoughtful land use on one of the largest open areas in the eastern San Bernardino Valley totaling over 4500 acres. The Wash Plan area is located at the confluence of the Santa Ana River and Mill Creek. The plan will provide protection for 1,347 acres of habitat important for a number of Endangered Species, as well as, allow for the development of 15 miles of new public use trails; support the recharge of local groundwater aquifers through the operation of more than 77 recharge basins, and allow for the production of local aggregate with continued mining yielding \$36 M in local annual payroll and over \$8.5 M in local community infrastructure construction.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at 909-974-5471 or by email at christinem.jones@cemex.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christine Jones".

Christine Jones
Permit Manager

cc: Daniel Cozad, SBVWCD

Southern California Operations

3990 E. Concourse Street, Suite 200, Ontario, CA 91764, (909) 974-5500, Dispatch (800) 801-HOCK, Fax (909) 974-5524

ROBERTSON'S

ROCK • SAND • BASE MATERIALS
READY MIX CONCRETE

March 16, 2015

The Honorable Paul Cook
1222 Longworth HOB
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Pete Aguilar
1223 Longworth HOB
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: Support for Wash Plan Land Exchange Bill

Dear Congressmen Cook and Aguilar

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The Robertson's strongly supports the Wash Plan implementation and your sponsorship of legislation to facilitate the land exchange necessary for the completion of this project. This multi-agency collaborative project is designed to provide thoughtful land use on one of the largest open areas in the eastern San Bernardino Valley totaling over 4500 acres. The Wash Plan area is located at the confluence of the Santa Ana River and Mill Creek. The plan will provide protection for 1,347 acres of habitat important for a number of Endangered Species, as well as, allows the development of 15 miles of new public use trails; supports the recharge of local groundwater aquifers through the operation of more than 77 recharge basins, and allows the production of local aggregate with continued mining yielding \$36 M in local annual payroll and over \$8.5 M in local community infrastructure construction.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Christine Goeyvaerts at Robertson's.

Christineg@rrmca.com (e-mail)

(951) 760-4241 (Cell) or

(951) 685-4600 Xt 6283 (office)



Christine Goeyvaerts
Property Manager
Robertson's

February 2, 2016

Senator Dianne Feinstein
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein,

The members of Inland Action ask for your support of the Santa Ana River Wash Plan. We believe the Wash Plan Task Force has found balance in the Upper Santa Ana River Wash Plan. This plan calls for a land exchange in order to create habitat for sensitive and endangered species, to allow for future mining, to facilitate benefits for local infrastructure projects, and for trails and water recharge projects. This plan represents more than 15 years of negotiations and planning. It involved countless discussions among environmentalists, business interests, government and community to come up with an approach to the Wash Area that would protect the interests of all parties.

The plan is comprehensive and identifies land where existing mining operations can expand and continue to provide the aggregate needed to support the region's growing construction industry. Additionally, it establishes protected areas for native plants and animals under the Endangered Species Act.

In November, the Santa Ana River Wash Plan Land Exchange Act, (H.R. 4024), a bi-partisan bill, was introduced by Congressman Pete Aguilar and Congressman Paul Cook to facilitate the exchange of District and Bureau of Land Management parcels. This critical component is as important to the habitat elements as it is to the activities covered by the plan. We fully support the Wash Plan and ask that you introduce companion legislation in the Senate and support its timely consideration.

The Wash Plan effort has been under study since the late 1980s. We are proud that continued work and discussions have produced a compromise between cities, local agencies, industry, and Federal and State resources agencies that will continue to support Inland Empire communities, businesses and transportation projects, while safeguarding essential habitat areas in perpetuity. With so many stakeholders involved in the process, the Santa Ana River Wash Plan Land Exchange Act serves as a model for collaboration between federal, state and local entities.

We thank you for your continued support for our region.

Sincerely,



Carole Beswick, CEO