

CAPITOL OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL
ROOM 2059
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TEL (916) 651-4009
FAX (916) 651-4909

DISTRICT OFFICE
1515 CLAY STREET
SUITE 2202
OAKLAND, CA 94612
TEL (510) 286-1333
FAX (510) 286-3885

SENATOR.SKINNER@SENATE.CA.GOV

California State Senate

SENATOR
NANCY SKINNER
MAJORITY WHIP
NINTH SENATE DISTRICT



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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
TRANSPORTATION & HOUSING

July 28, 2017

Mr. Armando Quintero, Chair
California Water Commission
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 942836

RE: Support for Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Proposition 1 Application

Dear Chair Quintero:

I am writing to express my support for the Water Supply Investment Program application submitted for Proposition 1 funding for the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project.

California needs more storage to prepare for times of drought and flood emergencies. In 2014, California voters agreed with that need and approved \$2.7 billion in funding for water storage projects as part of Proposition 1: the Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Act of 2014. The approval by voters signaled that they understand the importance of water storage and are willing to fund construction projects. The recent drought followed by one of the wettest years on record only further highlighted the state-wide need for more storage to prepare for drought and flood emergencies.

Los Vaqueros Reservoir is an off-stream reservoir in Brentwood. The reservoir maintains fully screened Delta intakes that can be expanded to provide multiple public benefits that qualify for Proposition 1 funding. Public benefits of this project include: supply for South-of-Delta wildlife refuges; drought and emergency preparedness; statewide integration potential; protection of water quality; and recreation enhancement.

The reservoir is currently owned and operated by Contra Costa Water District. Regional partners have now evaluated the expansion for public benefits and benefits for their own agencies.

Expanding Los Vaqueros Reservoir is an innovative project that embodies what the voters approved when they passed Proposition 1. Expanding an existing facility to extend operational flexibility for other agencies, while providing significant public benefits to the environment is a wise use of local ratepayer and state taxpayer dollars.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Arianna Jukes at Arianna.Jukes@sen.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Skinner".

Nancy Skinner
State Senator, 9th District

Cc: California Water Commission Members