



Attachment 10

Disadvantaged Community Assistance

Implementation Grant, Round 2

Coachella Valley IRWM

Implementation Grant Proposal

Coachella Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Implementation Grant Proposal – Round 2

Disadvantaged Community Assistance

Attachment 10 consists of the following items:

✓ **Documentation of Presence and Needs of DACs**

Local DACs are defined and mapped using the American Community Survey (ACS) 2010 data recommended by DWR. Critical water supply and water quality needs identified by local DAC representatives are summarized.

✓ **Description of Proposed Projects and Targeted Benefits to DACs**

The targeted benefits to local DACs from the proposed projects are described.

✓ **Letters of Support**

Letters of support from DAC representatives for the *Groundwater Quality Protection Program – Subarea D2, San Antonio del Desierto DAC Sewer Extension Project, and Torres-Martinez Avenue 64 Water Supply Connection Project* are included in Appendix 10-1.

This attachment documents information regarding the *Groundwater Quality Protection Program – Subarea D2, San Antonio del Desierto DAC Sewer Extension Project, and Torres-Martinez Avenue 64 Water Supply Connection Project*, which address critical water supply or water quality needs of DACs. This attachment documents the presence and needs of DACs, and describes the proposed projects and targeted benefits to DACs.

Presence and Needs of the DAC

The Coachella Valley has a wide range of DACs from different demographics, including migrant and seasonal farm workers, very low-income families, urban residents, and low-income seniors. Water management issues that have been identified to date by DAC representatives include arsenic contamination in drinking water supplies, sanitation needs to protect groundwater, health, and safety, and general affordability and accessibility of water.

A DAC is identified as a community with an annual median household income (MHI) of less than 80 percent of the Statewide MHI. According to the 2012 Guidelines, data from the American Community Survey (ACS) from 2006-2010 estimates 80% of the Statewide MHI is \$48,706. Therefore, a DAC is a community with an MHI of less than \$48,706.

MHIs in the Coachella Valley IRWM Region were estimated through 2010 ACS data at the census tract level. Census tracts are small, relatively permanent geographic entities within counties delineated by a committee of local data users. The Census tracts did not align perfectly with Region boundaries, so ESRI Community Analysis was used to append an accurate MHI value to Census tracts with were only partially represented in the Region. Using this information, all nine cities in the Coachella Valley contain pockets of communities that would qualify as DACs. In addition, this dataset shows that the unincorporated communities of Desert Edge, North Shore, Mecca, Oasis, Sky Valley, Thermal, Thousand Palms, and



Vista Santa Rosa also qualify as DACs. Figure 10-1 shows DACs at the census tract-level using the 2010 ACS data.

Many communities within the East Valley are dependent on on-site drinking water wells that are reported as having elevated arsenic levels. Moreover, these communities pay relatively high rates for their groundwater supply, and in many instances must travel long distances to purchase alternative bottled water. Lack of transportation creates an additional barrier to purchase of bottled water. Some DAC areas within the Coachella Valley contain remote or difficult to serve areas that are not within the path of development or close to municipal services for water and wastewater service. These communities have special difficulties in affordability of water-related services.

Many communities in the Region, including DACs, rely on septic systems for wastewater treatment, rather than a central sewer system. These systems are frequently in poor condition, aging, poorly designed, or in higher densities than recommended by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Because of this, these systems often pose a risk to groundwater or surface water quality, public health and safety, and otherwise inadequately provide for the wastewater needs of the community.

Proposed Projects and Targeted Benefits to DACs

Groundwater Quality Protection Program – Subarea D2

The entire city of Desert Hot Springs qualifies as a DAC (Figure 10-2). The *Groundwater Quality Protection Program – Subarea D2* is a continuation of MSWD’s Groundwater Quality Protection Program, which has identified subareas throughout the Desert Hot Springs sub-basin to convert from septic systems to sewer connections. Parts of these areas have septic system densities 2.3 to 2.8 times higher than the RWQCB’s recommendation, which threaten to contaminate the Desert Hot Springs Sub-basin. This sub-basin produces naturally hot water, which forms the basis for Desert Hot Springs’ spa-based economy. Converting users in Subarea D2 from septic to sewer will address a critical water quality need of a DAC. It will provide replacement wastewater collection systems necessary to prevent groundwater contamination and replace failing septic systems with a system that provides for the long term wastewater treatment needs of the community. In addition to meeting these critical water quality needs, this project will help protect Desert Hot Springs’ economy, further benefitting and supporting a DAC.

San Antonio del Desierto DAC Sewer Extension Project

The *San Antonio del Desierto DAC Sewer Extension Project* will connect the San Antonio del Desierto Mobile Home Park to the CVWD sewer system. This community qualifies as a DAC per DWR’s definition (Figure 10-3). Currently, the San Antonio del Desierto Mobile Home Park is completely reliant on septic for their wastewater treatment needs. Wastewater collected by this system is treated in five sewer lagoons located only 150 feet from the homes at San Antonio del Desierto. These lagoons have a history of spills, and pose groundwater and surface water contamination risks through improper lagoon lining and unstable dikes. Once connected to the CVWD sewer system, these lagoons can be abandoned, and the risks to water quality and public health abated. This project meets DWR’s criteria for a critical water quality need by providing wastewater treatment necessary to abate or prevent surface or groundwater contamination, replacement of wastewater collection systems necessary to abate or prevent surface or groundwater contamination, and replacement of failing septic systems with a system that provides for the long term wastewater treatment needs of the community. Additionally, this project has been community-driven, providing DAC involvement in water management in the Region.



Torres-Martinez Avenue 64 Water Supply Connection Project

The Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indian reservation is considered a DAC with an MHI of less than \$48,706 (Figure 10-4). This project will engineer a pipeline and connection between Tribal land and CVWD's potable water distribution system. This will enable the Tribe to seek future funding to construct the connection. The proposed connection will supply the Tribe with a safe, reliable source of potable water, and allow them to disconnect from their current well system. The current system presents documented health and safety hazards, and experiences frequent water supply outages. Because of these issues, the Tribe must supplement their water with hauled-in water, a costly endeavor. Additionally, the system is unable to provide both the water supply and the water pressure to provide for firefighting efforts, posing further risk the community. This project meets the critical water supply needs of a DAC by modifying the supply system to meet primary drinking water standards, infrastructure renovations necessary to assure continued reliability of the minimum quality and quantity of water, augmentation of water supply pressure needed to prevent loss of system integrity and maintain adequate fire protection flows, replacement of water supply wells that have exceeded their useful life, and meeting the CDPH Safe Drinking Water SRF Priority List Ranking Criteria E: Water systems with water outages, significant water quantity problems caused by source water capacity or water delivery capability that is insufficient to supply current demand.

Proposed Projects that Indirectly Benefit DACs

All five projects included in this proposal will benefit DACs in the Region in some way. The three projects described above all meet DWR's criteria for meeting a critical water supply or water quality need of a DAC. The following projects, though not meeting the criteria for critical water needs of a DAC, will address water-related needs of a DAC, either indirectly or through Regional benefits, as described below.

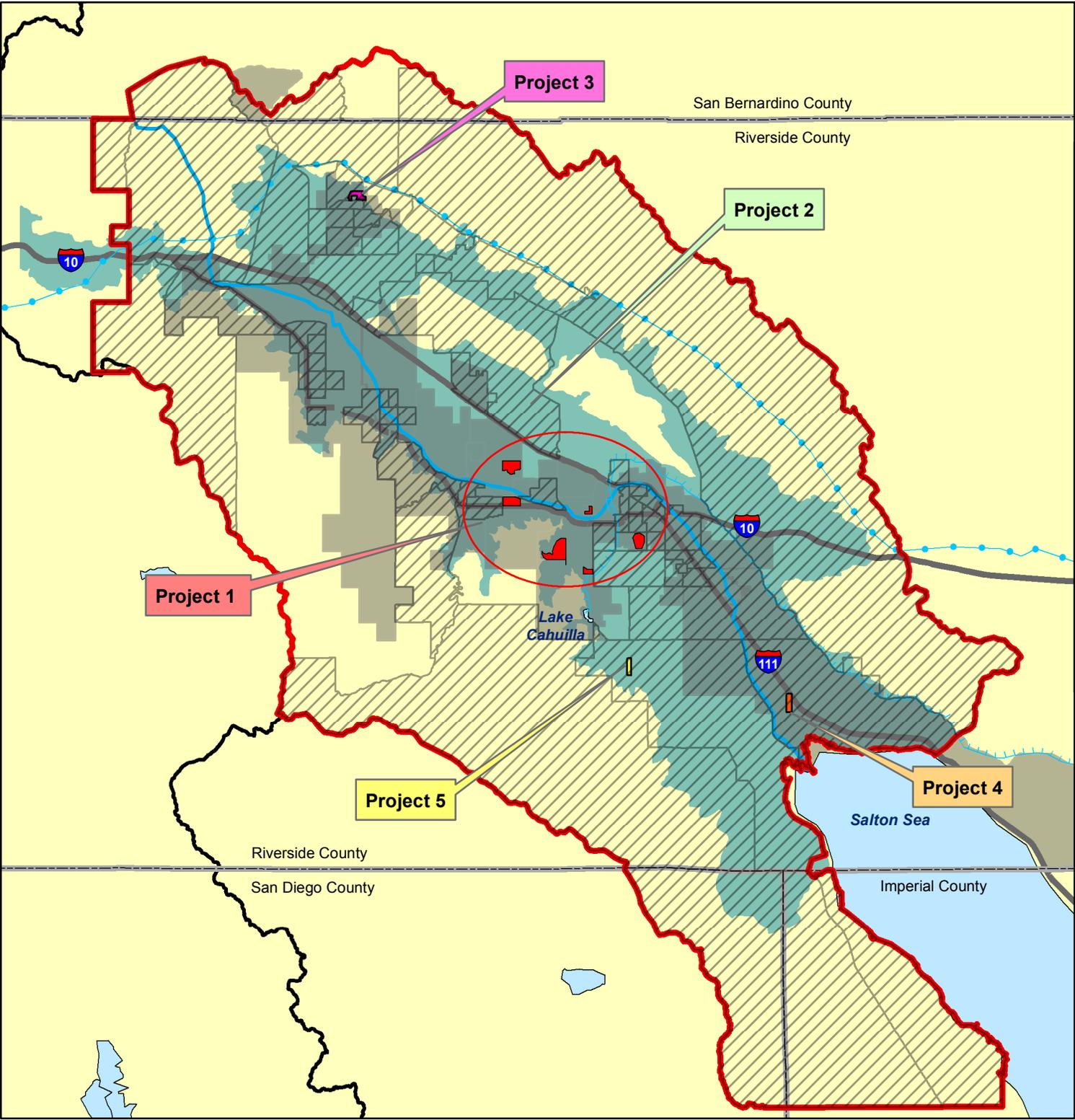
Non-Potable Water Use Expansion Program

This program will indirectly benefit DACs by reducing potable water demand, and increasing water use efficiency through matching water quality with use. Through reduced groundwater pumping and reduced water treatment needs, this project will create Regional benefits, including a reduction in energy consumption, reduced groundwater basin overdraft, and increased water security (by securing imported water rights and reducing overdraft). These Regional benefits may lead to potential reduction in water costs or avoided water cost increases, drought and climate change resilience, and improved groundwater quality. This will benefit DACs, who may be disproportionately affected by the potential increased water costs, decreased water quality, and effects of climate change or droughts.

Coachella Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Program

Another project with Regional benefits, the *Coachella Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Program* will draft a Salt and Nutrient Management Plan for the Coachella Valley groundwater basin – an important source of water in the Region. This program will establish and evaluate appropriate salt and nutrient loading levels that remain protective of beneficial uses. This will serve to protect water quality in communities throughout the Region, including DACs. It will also provide evaluation of management strategies for salt and nutrient loading, which may reduce future conflicts over permitting and potential violations. Having a clear set of standards and management strategies in place will make it easier for communities to make planning decisions, and has the potential to make growth easier and more attractive for DACs.

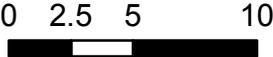
CVIRWMP Project Locations with Disadvantaged Communities



Project Location

- Project 1
- Project 2
- Project 3
- Project 4
- Project 5
- Colorado River Aqueduct
- Coachella and All American Canals
- Whitewater River Stormwater Channel
- Interstate Hwys.
- Lakes
- County Boundaries
- Colorado River Funding Area
- Coachella Valley IRWM Region
- City or Unincorporated Community
- Disadvantaged Communities

Disadvantaged communities are considered those who earned less than \$48,706 (80% Statewide MHI)

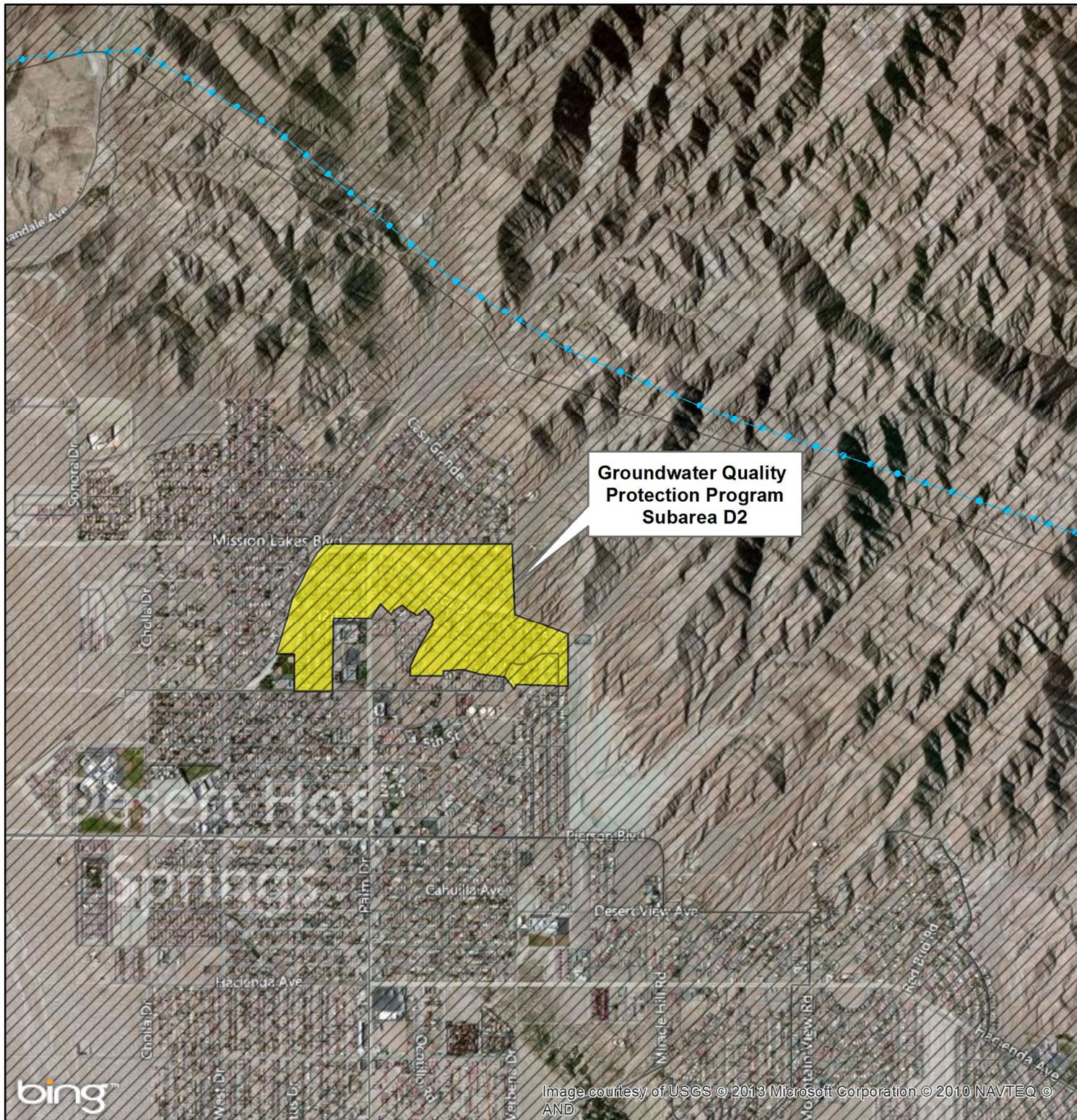


Miles

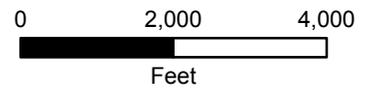


CVIRWMP Project Locations Groundwater Protection Program

-  Groundwater Protection Program
-  Colorado River Aqueduct
-  Coachella and All American Canals
-  Whitewater River Stormwater Channel
-  Interstate Hwys.
-  Lakes
-  Colorado River Funding Area
-  Disadvantaged Communities



**Groundwater Quality
Protection Program
Subarea D2**



File Name: Fig 5-3_MH1.mxd
 File Location: L:\Projects GIS\0264-001_CoachellaIRWMP\mxds\
 Date Updated: November 2010
 Made By: DNF
 Department: RMC Water & Environment

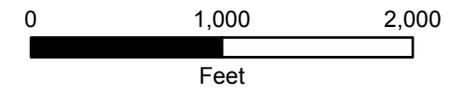


Image courtesy of USGS © 2013 Microsoft Corporation © 2010 NAVTEQ © AND

CVIRWMP Project Locations San Antonio Del Desierto



-  Proposed Sewer Connection
-  Colorado River Aqueduct
-  Coachella and All American Canals
-  Whitewater River Stormwater Channel
-  Interstate Hwys.
-  Lakes
-  Colorado River Funding Area
-  Disadvantaged Communities



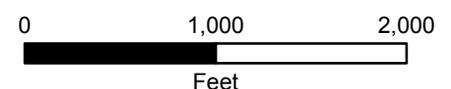
CVIRWMP Project Locations Torres-Martinez Ave 64



-  Connection to CVWD
-  Tribe Water Main
-  Colorado River Aqueduct
-  Coachella and All American Canals
-  Whitewater River Stormwater Channel
-  Interstate Hwys.
-  Lakes
-  Colorado River Funding Area
-  Disadvantaged Communities

Proposed 12" Ductile Iron Water Main

Existing 4" Tribe PVC Water Main





Letters of Support

The following nine (9) letters of support were submitted by agencies and organizations representing DACs in the Coachella Valley Region. These letters are included as Appendix 10-1.

In support of the *Groundwater Quality Protection Program – Subarea D2*:

1. City of Desert Hot Springs
2. Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center for the City of Desert Hot Springs
3. Desert Hot Springs Ministerial Fellowship

In support of the *San Antonio del Desierto DAC Sewer Extension Project*:

4. California Assemblymember V. Manuel Pérez
5. California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.
6. Inland Congregations United for Change
7. San Jose Community – Bea Main Learning Center
8. Clinicas de Salud del Pueblo, Inc.

In support of the *Torres-Martinez Water Extension Project*:

9. Department of Health and Human Services – Indian Health Service



City of Desert Hot Springs

65-950 Pierson Boulevard • Desert Hot Springs • California • 92240
(760) 329-6411
www.cityofdhs.org

March 19, 2013

Coachella Valley Regional Water Management Group
C/O Patti Reyes, Coachella Valley Water District
85-995 Avenue 52
P.O. Box 1058
Coachella, CA 92236

RE: *Support for Mission Springs Water District Groundwater Protection Project*

Dear Ms. Reyes and Water Management Group Representatives:

The purpose of this letter is to extend our support for the *Groundwater Protection Program* Proposed by the Mission Springs Water District (MSWD) through the Coachella Valley Regional Water Management Group (CVWRMG), Round Two Application.

As the lowest median-income city in Riverside County, Desert Hot Springs is home to thousands of families which are unable to pay 100 percent of the cost to construct wastewater facilities to protect groundwater. Nevertheless, in 2004, a two-thirds majority of property owners voted to establish a sewer assessment district which provides funding for about 50 percent of the cost of construction.

The lifeblood of the Desert Hot Springs economy is water quality. The City's tourist-spa industry is tied to its water resources. Further, restaurants and retail stores are dependent on the influx of visitors who come to enjoy the high-quality drinking water as well as the world-renown hot water that is the foundation of the spa industry. Degradation of either of these water resources would be economically devastating to the city.

It is in the best interest of the state of California to assist the Coachella Valley Regional Water Management Group (CVRWMG) and its member agency, Mission Springs Water District, in protecting these irreplaceable resources. The City of Desert Hot Springs supports their efforts and urges the Department of Water Resources to ascribe the highest merit to the CVRWMG proposal.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Parks, Mayor
City of Desert Hot Springs

Appendix 10-1: DAC Letters of Support



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& VISITORS CENTER

11-999 Palm Drive
Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240
(760) 329-6403
www.DesertHotSprings.com

*elml P Reyes
J Barrett*

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0644.105.1
0932.47

March 11, 2013

Coachella Valley Regional Water Management Group
C/O Patti Reyes, Coachella Valley Water District
85-995 Avenue 52
P.O. Box 1058
Coachella, CA 92236

RE: *Support for Mission Springs Water District Groundwater Protection Project*

Dear Ms. Reyes and Water Management Group Representatives:

The Desert Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce, representing over 225 businesses in the greater Desert Hot Springs region supports for the *Groundwater Protection Program* Proposed by the Mission Springs Water District (MSWD) through the Coachella Valley Regional Water Management Group (CVWRMG), Round Two Application.

The Business community recognizes the importance of water quality as it pertains to community health and wellness as well as the local economy. Nearly every business in the Desert Hot Springs region benefits from the notoriety of the water quality and from the tourist who come to experience the waters each year. Degradation of local water resources would be economically devastating to the city.

The Desert Hot Springs community is home to thousands of low- and very low-income families. In 2004, two-thirds of the voting property owners voted to establish a sewer assessment district which provided seed funding for construction of the sanitary sewer system in order to protect groundwater. Match funding through the Proposition 84 IRWM program is necessary to assist the community in realizing its goal and securing groundwater for coming generations.

The Desert Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce, with its membership, endorses MSWD's efforts to protect water quality and believe that it is in the best interest of the state of California to assist in this process by funding the Coachella Valley Regional Water Management Group (CVRWMG) grant application.

Sincerely,

Heather Coladonato
CEO

Appendix 10-1: DAC Letters of Support

March 13, 2013

Coachella Valley Regional Water Management Group
C/O Patti Reyes, Coachella Valley Water District
85-995 Avenue 52
P.O. Box 1058
Coachella, CA 92236

RE: *Support for Mission Springs Water District Groundwater Protection Project*

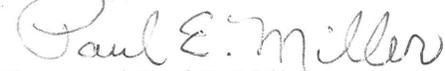
Dear Ms. Reyes and Water Management Group Representatives:

The purpose of this letter is to extend our support for the *Groundwater Protection Program* Proposed by the Mission Springs Water District (MSWD) through the Coachella Valley Regional Water Management Group (CVWRMG), Round Two Application.

The Desert Hot Springs Ministerial Fellowship—an organization representing twenty churches in the greater Desert Hot Springs region—is acutely aware of the needs of the community. As the lowest median-income city in Riverside County, it is highly unlikely that the residents of the region will be able to afford the prohibitive cost of constructing sanitary sewers to protect groundwater resources, and the local economy, on their own. Nevertheless, the Mission Springs Water District has informed this organization that the community has committed to half of the costs through formation of an assessment district. That funding—nearly \$32 million—is only available as match funding is identified and secured.

The Ministerial fellowship supports the proposal of the Coachella Valley IRWM in bringing these much needed funds to the Desert Hot Springs DAC and urges the Department of Water Resources to fully fund the proposed CVRWMG programs.

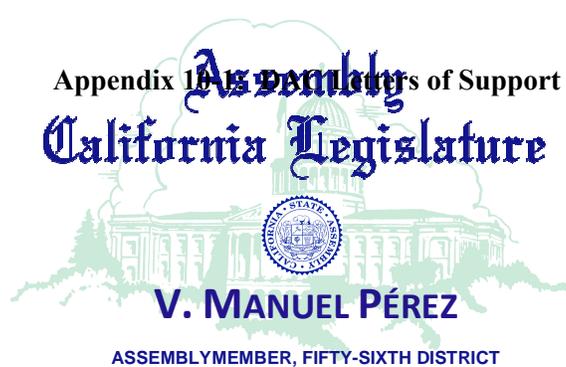
Sincerely,



Reverend Paul E. Miller

President

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
Room 4112
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249
(916) 319-2056
FAX (916) 319-2156



STANDING COMMITTEES:
Government Organization
Health
Jobs, Economic Development,
and the Economy
Revenue & Taxation
Rules

March 13, 2013

Coachella Valley Regional Integrated Water Management Group
C/O Patti Reyes, Coachella Valley Water District
85-995 Avenue 52
PO Box 1058
Coachella, CA 92236

Re: Support for St. Anthony MHP Waste Water Project

Dear Ms. Reyes and Water Management Group Representatives:

I am writing to express my support for Pueblo Unido Community Development Corporation's (PUCDC) application to secure funding from the State Water Resources under Proposition 84 for the project in reference.

Pueblo Unido CDC (PUCDC) proposes to redevelop San Antonio del Desierto, also known as St. Anthony MHP. As part of this project PUCDC is seeking to extend sewer sanitary collection services to the park and replace existing sewer lagoons. It is my understanding that San Antonio del Desierto is currently operating five (5) anaerobic sewer lagoons, whose proximity to the residents is extremely close, 150 feet. As representative of the 56th Assembly District, I appreciate the nature of this project as it seeks to protect the health of our predominantly farmworker residents as well as our ground water.

Since PUCDC took over the management in January 2010 critical milestones have been achieved to stabilize the existing unhealthy conditions at the park including the implementation of a Point-of-Entry Reverse Osmosis water treatment station, and substantial electrical repairs. Furthermore, PUCDC has obtained a Conditional Use Permit (CUP03645) which requires the connection of sewer services to the CVWD's force main located north of the park.

PUCDC has formed strong collaboration and support from the park residents, the Riverside County Counsel, the California Rural Legal Assistance, and The Riverside County Transportation and Land Management Agency to ensure the success of the project. This is a testimony of leadership and ability to gather local resources to benefit disadvantaged communities living in substandard conditions.

Please feel free to contact Silvia Paz if my office can be of assistance to you regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "V. Manuel Pérez". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "V" at the beginning.

V. MANUEL PÉREZ
Assemblymember, District 56

DISTRICT OFFICES

RIVERSIDE COUNTY
45-677 Oasis St., Indio, CA 92201
(760) 342-8047 / FAX (760) 347-8704

IMPERIAL COUNTY
1625 W. Main St., #220, El Centro, CA 92243
(760) 336-8912 / FAX (760) 336-8914



Appendix 10-1: DAC Letters of Support

CALIFORNIA RURAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE, INC.

MIGRANT FARMWORKER PROJECT, Coachella Regional Office



Coachella Office

1460 6th Street
Coachella, CA 92236
(760) 398-7261
(760) 398-1050 (fax)
www.crla.org

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Laura Massie
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Emanuel V. Benitez
Community Worker
E-Mail: Ebenitez@crla.org

Lorena Martinez
Community Worker
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Carmen Lopez-Rodriguez
Administrative Legal Secretary
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Ruth Estrada
Secretary/Receptionist
E-Mail: Restrada@crla.org

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World Wide Web: www.crla.org

José R. Padilla
Executive Director
Luis C. Jaramillo
Deputy Director
Ralph Santiago Abascal
General Counsel
(1934-1997)

William G. Hoerger
Ilene J. Jacobs
Michael Meuter
Cynthia Rice
Directors of Litigation, Advocacy,
and Training

OTHER REGIONAL OFFICES

Arvin	Oxnard (Basic)
Delano	Paso Robles
El Centro	Salinas
Fresno	San Luis Obispo
Gilroy	Santa Barbara
Madera	Santa Cruz
Marysville	Santa Maria
Modesto	Santa Rosa
Monterey	Stockton
Oceanside	Watsonville
Oxnard (Migrant)	

March 6, 2013

Coachella Valley Regional Integrated Water Management Group
C/O Patti Reyes, Coachella Valley Water District
85-995 Avenue 52
PO Box 1058
Coachella, CA 92236

Re; Support for St. Anthony MHP Waste Water Project

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PUCDC has formed strong collaboration and support from "La Union Hace la Fuerza", a grassroots movement formed by leaders at the park, the Riverside County Counsel, the California Rural Legal Assistance, and The Riverside County Transportation and Land Management Agency to ensure the success of the project. This is a testimony of leadership and ability to gather local resources to benefit disadvantaged communities living in substandard conditions.

Please feel free to contact me if my office can be of assistance to you regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Rosalio Castro
Directing Attorney

Appendix 10-1: DAC Letters of Support



Inland Congregations United for Change

"Unlocking the POWER of People"

March 6, 2013

Coachella Valley Regional Integrated Water Management Group
C/O Patti Reyes, Coachella Valley Water District
85-995 Avenue 52
PO Box 1058
Coachella, CA 92236

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Inland Congregations United for Change has been a partner with PUCDC for many years now and can only speak of the impactful grass-roots organizing efforts they have lead in the Coachella Valley. I have full knowledge that Pueblo Unido has the capacity, leadership, and partnerships to carry this project forward. Once more, I, on behalf of ICUC, fully support the project in reference and ask that the Coachella Valley Regional Integrated Water Management Group do as well.

Sincerely,

Karen Borja

Inland Congregations United for Change
Community Organizer- Coachella Valley

Appendix 10-1: DAC Letters of Support



March 14, 2013

Coachella Valley Regional Integrated Water Management Group
C/O Patti Reyes, Coachella Valley Water District
85-995 Avenue 52
PO Box 1058
Coachella, CA 92236

Re:Support for St. Anthony MHP Waste Water Project

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Please feel free to contact me 760-702-7056 cell number if I can be of assistance to you regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Sr. Gabi Williams, OP
Social Concerns
San Jose Community
760-702-7056

P.O. Box 365
Coachella, CA 92236
Tel: 760-702-7056



Appendix 10-1: DAC Letters of Support

CLINICAS DE SALUD DEL PUEBLO, INC.

"OUR SUCCESS IS MEASURED BY THE LIVES WE CHANGE"

CORPORATE OFFICES

1166 K Street
Brawley, CA 92227
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Fax: (760) 344-5840
Dental: (760) 344-3583
Fax: (760) 344-8480

BRAWLEY CLINIC

900 Main Street
Brawley, CA 92227
Telephone: (760) 344-6471
Fax: (760) 344-8410
Medical Records
Fax: (760) 344-351-1540

BLYTHE CLINIC

321 W. Hobsonway, Ste. C
Blythe, CA 92225
Telephone: (760) 922-4981
Fax: (760) 922-4442

CALEXICO CLINIC

223 W Cole Blvd.
Calexico, CA 92231
Telephone: (760) 357-2020
Fax: (760) 357-1056
Dental: (760) 357-2748
Fax#: (760) 357-1056

COACHELLA CLINIC

49-111 HWY. 111, Suite 4
Coachella, CA 92236
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Fax: (760) 393-0522

EHMAN WOMEN'S CENTER

197 w. Legion Road, Suite 300/400
Brawley, CA 92227
Telephone: (760) 344-7750
Fax: (760) 344-1410

EL CENTRO CLINIC

651 Wake Avenue, Suite A
El Centro, CA 92243
Telephone: (760) 352-2257
Fax: (760) 352-4579

MECCA CLINIC

91275 66th Avenue, Suite 500
P.O. Box 1378
Mecca, CA 92254
Telephone: (760) 396-1249
Fax: (760) 396-1253
Dental: (760) 396-0521, Suite 300
Fax: (760) 396-0529

NILAND CLINIC

8027 Hwy 111
Niland, CA 92257
Telephone: (760) 359-0110
Fax: (760) 359-3629

WEST SHORES

1298 S. Marina West (S22), Suite B
Salton Sea, CA 92275
Telephone: (760) 394-4338
Fax: (760) 394-4339

WINTERHAVEN CLINIC

2133 Winterhaven Drive
P.O. Box 788
Winterhaven, CA 92283
Telephone: (760) 572-2700
Fax: (760) 572-2255

BRAWLEY WIC NUTRITION

561 E Street
Brawley, CA 92227
Telephone: (760) 344-9606
Fax: (760) 344-5063

CALEXICO WIC NUTRITION

2451 Rockwood Avenue, Suite 109
Calexico, CA 92231
Telephone: (760) 768-5330
Fax: (760) 768-5333

EL CENTRO WIC NUTRITION

2600 Thomas drive
El Centro, CA 92243
Telephone: (760) 353-2777
Fax: (760) 353-2555

March 13, 2013

Coachella Valley Regional Integrated Water Management Group
C/O Patti Reyes, Coachella Valley Water District
85-995 Avenue 52
PO Box 1058
Coachella, CA 92236

Re; Support for St. Anthony MHP Waste Water Project

Dear Mrs. Reyes and Water Management Group Representatives:

I am writing to express my support for Pueblo Unido Community Development Corporation (PUCDC) application to secure funding from the State Water Resources under Proposition 84 for the project in reference.

Pueblo Unido CDC (PUCDC) proposes to redevelop San Antonio del Desierto, also known as St. Anthony MHP. As part of this project PUCDC is seeking to extend sewer sanitary collection services to the park and replace existing sewer lagoons. Since PUCDC took over the management in January 2010 critical milestones have been achieved to stabilize the existing unhealthy conditions at the park including the implementation of a Point-of-Entry Reverse Osmosis water treatment station, and substantial electrical repairs. Furthermore, PUCDC has obtained a Conditional Use Permit (CUP03645) which requires the connection of sewer services to the CVWD's force main located north of the park.

PUCDC has formed strong collaboration and support from "La Union Hace la Fuerza", a grassroots movement formed by leaders at the park, the Riverside County Counsel, the California Rural Legal Assistance, and The Riverside County Transportation and Land Management Agency to ensure the success of the project. This is a testimony of leadership and ability to gather local resources to benefit disadvantaged communities living in substandard conditions.

Please feel free to contact me if my office can be of assistance to you regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Bell
Chief Executive Officer



Appendix 10-1: DAC Letters of Support

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

ESCONDIDO DISTRICT OFFICE
1320 W. Valley Parkway, Suite 309
ESCONDIDO, CA 92029

March 14, 2013

Honorable Mary L. Resvaloso, Tribal Chairperson
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
PO Box 1160 - 66725 Martinez Road
Thermal, CA 92274

Re: Support for the Connection of Torres Martinez Ave 64 Water Distribution System
to the CVWD Water Supply System

Madam Chairperson:

The purpose of this letter is to express IHS support for the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians' pursuit of grant funding to connect the Torres Martinez Ave 64 Subdivision water distribution system to the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) water supply system.

The water system for this subdivision was constructed in the mid to late 1980's. It serves 34 connections (33 residential units and a church). There is no water treatment, two wells, a water storage tank, and distribution system serving this subdivision and nearby park, church, and cemetery. The primary well for this system has in the past tested near the EPA limit for arsenic, and recent test results have exceeded the State of California Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for perchlorate. Although perchlorate is not yet regulated by EPA, EPA is developing a perchlorate rule at the time of this letter.

The community is served by a ground-level water storage tank, which provides pressure to the system with booster pumps. When there is a power outage, all the homes on the system lose water until power is restored. Additionally, the booster pump system and pump controls were not installed properly and fail frequently. The Tribe reports that water outages in the community occur several times per month. Water outages occur at random and inconvenient times, leaving all the homes with no access to water – no ability to shower or flush toilets, no drinking water coming from the tap. Until the water is restored (usually a few hours later), the residents either must leave home to buy water to drink or live without any source of water.

These recurring water outages are not only an inconvenience to homeowners in the subdivision; they represent a real risk to human health. When a water system has an outage and loses positive pressure, groundwater, drainage water, or sewage collected near water pipes can infiltrate into the water distribution system. Given the failing septic systems in the community there is a chance that raw sewage could infiltrate into the water

Appendix 10-1: DAC Letters of Support

distribution system. Contamination of a water system with sewage can cause numerous gastrointestinal diseases, with significant and potentially fatal consequences.

Many different solutions to these problems have been considered in informal discussions between IHS and the Tribe over the past several years. While the water outages could be helped by replacing the booster pump system and electrical controls, and providing a backup generator, building arsenic and/or perchlorate treatment systems would be very costly, particularly for operation and maintenance (O&M). Replacing the existing facilities would also not address persistent O&M difficulties the Tribe has faced, as documented extensively by EPA.

The best solution to this situation would be to connect the Avenue 64 housing subdivision to community water provided by Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD). The system is located about one mile away at the intersection of Avenue 62 and Monroe St. Also, CVWD has indicated an interest in allowing the Avenue 64 housing area to connect to its community water system.

IHS has assisted the Tribe with grant applications for this project from Federal agencies, and supports their efforts to secure funding from other sources, to implement this important project. Implementation of this project will address a serious community health risk and improve the health and safety of the community.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at (760) 735-6883. Thank you.

Regards,



Roger Hargrove, P.E.
Project Engineer

cc: Roland Ferrer, Torres Martinez Planning Director
Columba Quintero, Torres Martinez Grants Administrator
Laura Ward, Torres Martinez Grants Specialist