

Orange County Sanitation District

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June 30, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy:

The Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD), located in Fountain Valley, California writes to express our strong support for the Moving Forward Act (H.R. 2). As the House of Representatives prepares to debate and vote on this vital legislation, we believe that it represents a responsible and much needed federal commitment to our nation's clean water infrastructure needs.

As introduced, H.R. 2 would provide important funding to the core federal water infrastructure programs. It would help to close the funding gap to meet the country's demand for reliable water/wastewater infrastructure while stimulating employment that has been devastated by COVID-19. As an agency serving more than two million Orange County citizens and businesses it is imperative that we are able to provide this essential service to our community.

The commitment of more than \$60 billion to support the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) State Revolving Loan Funds and \$1 billion in assistance to construct water recycling facilities, would promote innovative water quality treatment while addressing resiliency impacts and help to close the water/wastewater infrastructure funding gap. Revenue provisions such as the restoration of advanced refunding of municipal debt and Build America Bonds would also help local agencies, like OCSD, close the funding gap to meet the need to address water infrastructure rehabilitation and expansion

The value of the federal government's role in supporting water infrastructure cannot be overstated. Because of the United States Bureau of Reclamation Title XVI water recycling program and the USEPA's Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act, OCSD and the Orange County Water District were able to construct the world's largest advanced water recycling facility known as the Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS).

As a partner in GWRS, we are proud it has been internationally recognized and today is delivering enough sustainable water to our community of two million that essentially drought proofs the region by reusing OCSD's highly treated water. Without federal assistance, we would have been hard-pressed to construct GWRS.



Our Mission: To protect public health and the environment by providing effective wastewater collection, treatment, and recycling



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Again, OCSD appreciates the leadership you are providing to restore the nation's economic health and well-being. Swift passage and enactment of H.R. 2's water infrastructure provisions would serve as a catalyst to restart the economy and ensure the delivery of safe and reliable water supplies for the future. Please do not hesitate to contact Jennifer Cabral, OCSD's Administration Manager at (714) 593-7581 or via email at jcabral@ocsd.com should you have any questions. Thank you for your continued support of the Orange County Sanitation District.

Sincerely,

David John Shawver
Board Chairman

CC: Orange County Delegation

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