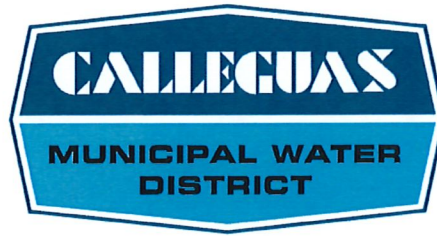


SCOTT H. QUADY, PRESIDENT  
DIVISION 2

RAUL AVILA, SECRETARY  
DIVISION 1

THIBAUT ROBERT, DIRECTOR  
DIVISION 4



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June 6, 2023

Chair Brian Maienschein and Chair Luz Rivas  
Judiciary Committee and Natural Resources Committee  
1020 O Street, Room 1100  
Sacramento, California 95814

**RE: Newsom Administration Infrastructure Package: Build California's Clean Future,  
Faster– SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Maienschein and Chair Rivas:

On behalf of Calleguas Municipal Water District (Calleguas), I am writing to express strong support for the Newsom Administration's proposed infrastructure package to accelerate critical clean infrastructure projects that meet state social, climate, and economic goals. These proposals maintain the integrity of appropriate environmental review, government transparency, and community engagement.

Extreme events caused by climate change, including heatwaves, wildfires, flooding, and drought, pose unprecedented challenges to the State's infrastructure. Tackling this climate crisis and advancing the State's equity goals necessitate urgent action and deployment of clean projects to meet our world-leading climate goals, build a clean and resilient electric grid, strengthen California's water resiliency, and modernize the State's clean transportation infrastructure.

Calleguas operates as a wholesale water agency that distributes imported water supplies to water agencies that serve the communities and cities in southeast Ventura County. Approximately three-quarters of Ventura County residents (roughly 640,000 people) rely on Calleguas for all or part of their water supply.

Calendar year 2022 marked the worst drought year in history for Calleguas since water began flowing from the State Water Project (SWP) into the Calleguas service area in 1972. Our communities navigated through emergency water conservation restrictions that effectively limited all outdoor water use to just one day per week. Fortunately, water year 2023 relieved drought conditions, although the vulnerability of significant impacts from a changing climate to our water systems remains.

The substantial Sierra snowpack that materialized over water year 2023 presents challenges to maximizing capture of spring and summertime runoff with existing infrastructure. We support streamlining the Delta Conveyance Project and water storage projects funded by Proposition 1. Our service area would benefit immediately from these projects due to increased water reliability, especially in times of drought.

Chair Brian Maienschein and Chair Luz Rivas  
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California has a once-in-a-generation opportunity to leverage federal funding to invest in important water projects, clean infrastructure, grow the state's economy, and create thousands of good-paying jobs. To streamline permitting and build infrastructure responsibly and expeditiously, the Administration is proposing thoughtful, common sense reform measures to streamline regulatory and review processes so projects can be planned, permitted, and built faster while protecting the environment. Importantly, these proposals provide unique streamlining benefits under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to advance climate-friendly projects without reducing the environmental and government transparency benefits of the environmental review process.

For these reasons, Calleguas is in strong support of the Administration's infrastructure package to build California's clean future, faster. If we can be of any assistance to your offices, please contact me at (805) 579-7173 or [KMccaffrey@calleguas.com](mailto:KMccaffrey@calleguas.com).

Sincerely,



Kristine McCaffrey, P.E.  
Deputy General Manager  
Calleguas Municipal Water District

cc: Senator Henry Stern, District 27  
Senator Monique Limón, District 19