

→ mayor of Herrera  
Carol

Good morning, my name is Carol Herrera. I am the mayor of Diamond Bar and I currently serve as governing board president for the San Gabriel Valley council of governments. I come before you as a community leader in support of the Department of Water Resources and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's draft environmental documentation for the South Delta Improvements Program.

*We are all aware*

~~As you know,~~ California is facing a critical challenge in the Bay-Delta. We need a safe, reliable and high quality supply of water to keep pace with our urban and business demands. The city of Diamond Bar, located in the southeast region of the San Gabriel Valley, is strongly dependent on imported supplies.

In 2000, the population of the southeast region exceeded 340,000 and by the year 2030 it is expected to grow by one-third (126,000). As a community leader, actively addressing the challenges within my city and the San Gabriel Valley, I believe it to be imperative that we have a more flexible water delivery system that can support our population and economy.

I am aware of constraints placed on the state's ability to transport surplus water supplies. I am also aware of the fact that we have the infrastructure to move the water. Until efforts such as the SDIP are approved, the state's water managers cannot fully or responsibly use the existing system. SDIP does not require building a new project or major infrastructure, and funding for it has already been secured through the passage of voter-approved bonds in 2000.

Water is critical to our families, businesses and environment. It's our responsibility to use this precious resource wisely through all possible best management practices, including conservation, recycling and storage.

I believe the South Delta Improvements Program to be the first step in better managing the system while enhancing conditions for fish and the overall environment. I ask that you act to implement its benefits.

Thank you.