# **Board of Supervisors**

Meeting Time: 09-30-25 09:00

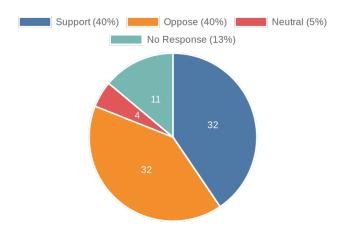
# **eComments Report**

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Board of Supervisors	09-30-25 09:00	33	79	32	32	4

## Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

## **Overall Sentiment**



## **Board of Supervisors**

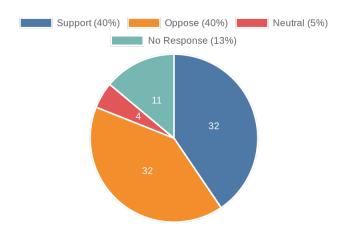
09-30-25 09:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
3. RECEIVE UPDATE ON ACTIONS TO ADDRESS THE TIJUANA RIVER SEWAGE	79	32	32	4

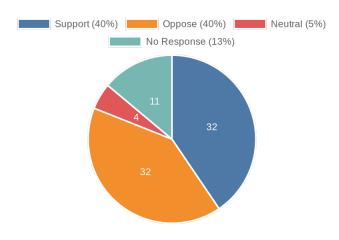
## Sentiments for All Agenda Items

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

## **Overall Sentiment**



#### Overall Sentiment



## **Christina Dougherty**

Location: 92115, San Diego Submitted At: 8:01am 10-01-25

I visited this beautiful area just recently and it visiting Pixca Farm has become part of my weekly routine. Supporting local gardens should be nonnegotiable. Please do not make negative changes to a wonderful thing for which the trickle down effects will be profoundly felt for future generations.

## Karla Teran

Location: 91910, CHULA VISTA Submitted At: 7:27am 10-01-25

Community gardens are vital to the health, education, and recreation on all community members. They also provide essential spaces to grow fruits, vegetables, and flowers which are a means in income for many families. Living in urban areas many times does not allow families to grow and harvest within their homes due to lack of outdoor space so these community gardens are priceless. Please reconsider the closure and work with our communities to find an alternative solution.

## **Luis Sandez**

Location: 92154, SAN DIEGO Submitted At: 6:26am 10-01-25

Please try n keep these gardens open

It is a great example on org farming and community building i hv been in support of pixca since its inception please keep we beed this space . Thank u

#### Star Garcia

Location: 92105, San Diego Submitted At: 10:48pm 09-30-25

Community gardens are vital to our health and education. They are also living examples of how urban populations can coexsist and provide support to our ecosystems. Please reconsider and work with our communities to find another solution.

#### Elisa AllenArias

Location: 92123, San Diego Submitted At: 10:24pm 09-30-25

I strongly oppose the closure of the community garden that has been successfully in operation for years. It serves as a crucial source of land for underrepresented farmers, provides myriad ecosystem services, and acts as a buffer to climate change and environmental degradation. As a local Chula Vista science teacher and food systems advocate, I know that addressing the Tijuana River Valley's sewage problem does not need to include the closure of this sacred and valuable space. So many people would lose their livelihoods and so many more would lose access to locally grown food and flowers. The carefully nurtured ecosystems (including the soil!) would be destroyed and lost. There has to be smarter and more feasible solutions for this issue. Closing this property would be a huge mistake.

## **Rayyon Robinson**

Location: 92116

Submitted At: 9:51pm 09-30-25

I strongly oppose the closing of the community garden space! If y'all truly cared about the environment and the issues plaguing the Tijuana River Valley, you would not be contributing to land displacement/ degradation and disrupting people's access to food, medicine, nature, and community. This is not going to fix long-standing issues of the river that have been plaguing communities for decades! There has to be a viable solution that means working with communities and the community gardens not removing them!

## **Emily Busam**

Location: 92102, San Diego Submitted At: 9:20pm 09-30-25

I strongly oppose the closing of this garden space. It is a vital source of community and stewardship to this land.

## Leon Gray

Location: 91932, Imperial Beach Submitted At: 7:51pm 09-30-25

I oppose the closing of the trv community garden. I've been using this space for years, for my after school program teaching kids how to work a garden. It's a great and waning survival skill.

## **Arely Chavez**

Location: 92101, San Diego Submitted At: 7:39pm 09-30-25

We need this environmental space to supply to the community, and also food industry spaces that carry this produce proudly.

#### Lissa Garcia

Location:

Submitted At: 6:59pm 09-30-25

I strongly oppose the closing of this sacred and important space. People have been caretaking of this land for years and this will impact so many generations to come. Clean our rivers, instead of closing the few plots of land left to practice ancestral ways of healing and farming. So sad and heartbreaking.

#### Lauren Gaw

Location: 91932, imperial beach Submitted At: 6:23pm 09-30-25

I strongly oppose the closure of the community garden. It is such a place of joy and community for so many. It must remain open and for the community. I visit there often and love it.

## Jessica Carreiro

Location: 92102, San Diego Submitted At: 5:29pm 09-30-25

I believe that the people should be able to continue using this as a community space for gardening. These spaces are vital to maintaining connection to both the land and people—offering

#### **Daniella Brion**

Location: 92154, San Diego Submitted At: 2:42pm 09-30-25

I strongly oppose the closing of the Otay Valley Farms. This area is crucial to the well being of southbay residents. If there are concerns about air and water quality, that should be what the elected supervisors work on.

I will no longer support the elected officials who vote/ support for it to close. Do right by your constituents.

## **Andrea Romero**

Location: 92113, San Diego Submitted At: 2:20pm 09-30-25

I strongly oppose the closure of the community garden. I believe adjustments can be done to protect and preserve the health of the produce and plants without closing it. The community garden is a huge part of San Diego, and many communities benefit from it.

#### Lani Hernandez

Location:

Submitted At: 2:15pm 09-30-25

Do not close farm

## Jiapsi Gomez

Location: 92113, San Diego Submitted At: 1:58pm 09-30-25

I can say with 100% certainty that Pixca farms is essential for maintaining a healthy ecology in the region.

I support the efforts of Pixca Farm maintaining healthy biodiversity in the border region, which is particularly essential right now while the TJ river requires biological support.

I would personally like to offer support services for the bioremediation of the TJ River using native species in order to remove as much contamination as possible before entering the ocean.

### Background:

My day job is a Lab Technician— researching the removal of micro/nanoplastics from water,

A founding board member of Tierras Indigenas Community Land Trust— working toward addressing the environmental pollution within Logan Heights/Portside communities.

Environmental Educator with the POC Fungi Community— where we teach about bioremediation on a grassroots level.

## **Haydee Juarez**

Location: 92116, San Diego Submitted At: 1:51pm 09-30-25

I oppose the closing. It is not ok to take this communities land and source of food.

#### **Angelina Lopez**

Location: 92122, San Diego Submitted At: 1:49pm 09-30-25

I oppose the closure of the TJRV Community Gardens. This space is an essential, community-stewarded place for EDUCATION, COMMUNITY RESILIENCE, & FOOD JUSTICE. Closing these gardens would mean directly stifling the ongoing community-led fights for the three things I listed above. Please address the root causes of our region's issues, like the neglected sewage infrastructure in South County. Clean the river. Thank you.

## Frida Garcia

Location: 91932, Imperial Beach

Submitted At: 1:44pm 09-30-25

I 100% the farmers. The air quality has been improving in the last 2 years. The community deserve land.

#### **Julie Corrales**

Location: 92113, San Diego Submitted At: 1:41pm 09-30-25

I oppose a closing down of Pixca farms at the Tijuana Valley River Park. These farms feed our communities, provide the majority of the marigolds for the Barrio Logan day of the dead ceremony, and have long been a place for us to gather in nature, celebrate, rituals, and traditions and harvest organic food for our families. Do not close down pixca!!!

## Karina Zuniga

Location: 92101, San Diego Submitted At: 1:40pm 09-30-25

Support the farmers and the community of the Tijuana river valley. We as a community need this to nurture ourselves and share our crops. A true table to farm experience.

#### yessenia sanchez

Location: 92139, san diego Submitted At: 1:39pm 09-30-25

Supporting the farmers and gardeners in the TRV is supporting our food security.

#### **Teresa Montero**

Location: 92154, San Diego Submitted At: 1:36pm 09-30-25

It's devastating news: the @rcdsandiego board has voted to close the community garden — home to 210 gardens and 10 incubator farms, including Pixca's two quarter-acre lots.

This farmstand is more than food — it's one of the only sources of clean produce in a food desert and a hub for culture, fellowship, and livelihoods. Closing it will devastate families, small farmers, and a 20-year legacy of community care.

We call on the RCD and San Diego County to transition this land to another nonprofit or the community instead of shutting it down. Please stand with us to keep this space alive.

#### S Bernal

Location: 92154, San Diego Submitted At: 1:29pm 09-30-25

I am opposed to the closure or the Tijuana River Valley Community Garden! Closing the garden will only serve to further neglect and disparage the Tijuana River Valley. Pollution is a people problem and nurturing community in the area can help bring fresh ideas and resources to resolve the problem. Further, it is unknown the devastating effects the closure will have on the native and migratory wildlife that call the community garden home. Please help us find a solution that does not involve closing the community garden!

#### **Monica Hernandez**

Location: 92173, San Ysidro Submitted At: 1:26pm 09-30-25

I oppose the closing of this community garden space. Green spaces like this are rare in the South Bay and it is one of the only sources of clean produce for the community in this food desert. The gardens have provided purpose, organic produce at affordable prices and have served as a community hub that has fostered connection and joy for over 20 years. This sudden decision will destroy local businesses and deeply affect families in the community who rely on this space as their only source for healthy, organic products.

## **Talina Murguia**

Location: 91911, Chula Vista Submitted At: 1:10pm 09-30-25 If anyone ever had the pleasure of visiting the Tijuana River Valley Garden, then they know how beautiful and special the space is. Land rematriation and agroecological practices is a big solution to helping the climate crisis. The people that have worked their plots for the last years deserve to keep working their plots. Removing the garden would erase decades of work, history, and cultivation. I strongly urge the board to maintain the Tijuana River Valley Garden and to in fact further support the farmers and their needs!!!!!

#### Nazdira Cuevas

Location: 92019, El Cajon Submitted At: 12:57pm 09-30-25

Please take into account the public's response to this announcement. I oppose the closing of the community gardens. In order to make a change to the environment we need the people that work the land to be able to help contribute to that change. The gardens and those that tend to the land only bring forth positive change. Please reconsider. The garden is vital to the health of the land and the community members.

#### Patricia McGhee

Location: 92104, San Diego Submitted At: 12:48pm 09-30-25

I oppose the closing of this community garden space. Green spaces like this are rare in the South Bay but our communities deserve them.

## **Patty Corona**

Location: 92139, San Diego Submitted At: 12:35pm 09-30-25

I oppose to this decision, it would be a major impact on the area and further create lack of access to healthy food in our community that already lacks these resources. Those plots and small garden related business are not just that, all the mental health, physical activity, medicinal plants, building community and traditions that has been created through these years will be destroyed as well. We need more places like that and that is why I am taking the time to do something,

I will appreciate you can reconsidering and reevaluate this decision that will take back all the great work, health and happiness these people and businesses has being created for our community.

#### Nayeli Gutierrez

Location: 92102, San diego Submitted At: 12:03pm 09-30-25

Please find a common ground resolution. The flooding that has been happening more frequenctlynis an issue but the solution is not shutting down green spaces the encourage the amending on soil. We should be create a barrier against the river for now and work on addressing the problem with long term solutions like water filtration.

## **Roan Wadsworth**

Location: 92114-1101, San Diego Submitted At: 11:55am 09-30-25

Community gardens are vital to the health of our people! Please think about this decision carefuly, I really hope there's a way around the closure of such an important place.

## **Claire Groebner**

Location: 92104, San Diego Submitted At: 11:29am 09-30-25

I urge you to find a pathway to keep the Tijuana River Valley Community Garden open and not displace farmers that have been stewarding the land for years. The last thing this region needs is less farmers and gardeners tending to the land. Closing it would undo years of hard work by community members and the County itself. Please stand with the gardeners and farmers to protect this vital resource.

## **Rachel Oporto**

Location: 92116, SAN DIEGO Submitted At: 10:28am 09-30-25

I urge you to find a pathway to keep the Tijuana River Valley Community Garden open and not displace farmers

that have been stewarding the land for years. The last thing this region needs is less farmers and gardeners tending to the land. Closing it would undo years of hard work by community members and the County itself. Please stand with the gardeners and farmers to protect this vital resource.

## **Angie Alatorre**

Location: 91913, Chula Vista Submitted At: 10:12am 09-30-25

No to closure of the Tijuana river community garden. It not only benefits my family but also the community. It provides organic produce and healthy environment. Urge for a plan to keep the garden open and an extension while in search for a suitable organization that can help reinstate the lease or RCD reconsider continue to lease the land.

#### Jen Nation

Location: 91950, National City Submitted At: 9:58am 09-30-25

I urge you to keep the Tijuana River Valley Community Garden open. This garden is more than a plot of land—it is a place where residents grow food, start small businesses, and build healthier lives. Years of effort have gone into restoring the river valley, and the garden reflects that progress. Research shows access to green space and fresh produce improves community health, resilience, and economic opportunity. Closing it would undo years of hard work by community members and the County itself. Please stand with the gardeners and protect this vital resource.

## Rocina Lizarraga

Location: 91950, National City Submitted At: 9:52am 09-30-25

The food insecurity should be a priority for all the governance. This adoption will significantly impact hundreds of families and businesses that offer healthy options for the communities that got this fresh produce that benefit their family. Please reconsider your decision with this in mind.

#### Ellyse Briand

Location: 92102, San Diego Submitted At: 9:52am 09-30-25

Please listen to the community, farmers and supporters and keep the community gardens open in Tijuana River Valley Community Garden. There are over 210 plots of community garden beds and 10 small garden related businesses and this would have a huge negative impact on so many lives. This would be set back for cleanup efforts and pollution mitigation which the RCD is claiming as the reason for proposed shutdown. I stand with the community and oppose the shutdown of this important community space.

#### Paulina Ixim

Location: 92105-5143, San Diego Submitted At: 9:46am 09-30-25

I support community gardens. Please do not close this educational and important spaces in san diego

## Elizabeth Vaughan

Location: 92071, Santee Submitted At: 9:38am 09-30-25

We need more garden and farm spaces - not less. Do not close the space and evict the current tenants.

#### **Andrea Ongaco**

Location: 92154, San Diego Submitted At: 9:34am 09-30-25

Dear County officials,

Please do not close the Tijuana River Valley Community Garden (TRVCG). The Resource Conservation District (RCD) has decided not to renew their lease with the county BECAUSE of the poor health of the Tijuana River Valley. Please improve our environment and river, but please work with RCD to reinstate the lease and preserve the 210 plots and 10 small businesses that utilize the TRVCG. Many families need the clean delicious food that

the farmland provides, as it's one of the only local produce sellers in my area welive a walkable distance from. Please protect and allow the community to steward the land!

#### Laura McLean

Location: 92102, San Diego Submitted At: 9:31am 09-30-25

I support community gardens! Please find an alternative to keep the gardens open. They serve the physical and mental health of our communities!

## **Bryan Rivera**

Location: 92111, San Diego Submitted At: 9:29am 09-30-25

Immediate action is needed to address the sewage in the Tijuana River Valley.

The Tijuana River Valley Community garden will be shut down as a direct result of the increased air pollution from the sewage in the river. This closure will directly affect 210 gardens, 10 incubator farms and the extended community that these spaces serve with farming education, locally grown produce, and seeds.

We need to reverse this decision by providing a clean space for the stewards of this land so that they may continue to serve the community. Please clean our river!

#### **Nicole Condr**

Location: 92111, San Diego Submitted At: 9:26am 09-30-25

Immediate action is needed to address the sewage in the Tijuana River Valley.

The Tijuana River Valley Community garden will be shut down as a direct result of the increased air pollution from the sewage in the river. This closure will directly affect 210 gardens, 10 incubator farms and the extended community that these spaces serve with farming education, locally grown produce, and seeds.

We need to reverse this decision by providing a clean space for the stewards of this land so that they may continue to serve the community. Please clean our river!

#### Bea Alvarez

Location: 92061, Pauma Valley Submitted At: 9:23am 09-30-25

Supporting the farmers and gardeners in the TRV is supporting our food security. Keep the community garden going.

## Nigel Zuniga

Location: 92101, San Diego Submitted At: 9:21am 09-30-25

Greetings to Supervisor Paloma, the RCD San Diego board of directors, and all other staff. The decision to close the community garden is a huge blow to the Tijuana river valley community and gardeners, but the San Diego community as a whole. These Gardens provide access to people of all shapes, size, colors, nationality, beliefs, and more to come together, learn, grow, and receive access to fresh produce. Thru these over Two Hundred plus gardens people have access to grow produce for themselves, friends, family, community, and provide a true FARM TO TABLE experience. These gardens are medicine for the people. I am asking that you all find a solution to keep these gardens, farms, and community of health and wellness running.

#### **Irene Castruita**

Location: 92026, Escondido Submitted At: 9:16am 09-30-25

We support the Tijuana River Valley Community Garden. Please find an alternative resolution to keep it open. Now more than ever we need these spaces to nurture ourselves and our communities.

#### **Daniel Carrillo**

Location: 92104, San Diego Submitted At: 9:14am 09-30-25

Protect the community garden from closure!

I support a transition from RCD to a new organization or the community itself. Pixca and the other farms provide a resource for the community that cannot be replaced.

## Santiago Sandoval

Location: 92126, San Diego Submitted At: 9:06am 09-30-25

I support a smooth transition of the lease of Tijuana River Valley Community Garden from the RCD to another organization or the community itself. This as part of a plan to have a thriving and healthy community in the TRV, including the plan to clean the river.

We need reassurance from the board that you will protect the community garden from closure.

#### **Victor Salas**

Location: 92071, Santee Submitted At: 9:01am 09-30-25

I support a smooth transition of the lease of Tijuana River Valley Community Garden from the RCD to another organization or the community itself. This as part of a plan to have a thriving and healthy community in the TRV, including the plan to clean the river.

We need reassurance from the board that you will protect the community garden from closure.

#### **Argelia Ramirez**

Location: 91932, San Diego Submitted At: 9:01am 09-30-25

We call on the County to take meaningful action to safeguard the Tijuana River Valley Community Garden from being shut down. This garden plays a crucial role for gardeners and small-scale farmers in the South Bay, offering access to fresh produce, medicinal herbs, and a deep-rooted connection to the land and each other. It serves not only the local neighborhood but also the wider San Diego region, acting as a vital resource for underserved farmers and marginalized residents who often have limited access to green space. We urge you to support the community and help keep this garden open and flourishing for generations to come.

### **Haley Kawar**

Location: 92007, Cardiff By the Sea Submitted At: 8:59am 09-30-25

Dear county.

Immediate action is needed to address the sewage in the Tijuana River Valley. The Tijuana River Valley Community garden will be shut down as a direct result of the increased air pollution from the sewage in the river. This closure will directly affect 210 gardens, 10 incubator farms and the extended community that these spaces serve with farming education, locally grown produce, and seeds. We need to reverse this decision by providing a clean space for the stewards of this land so that they may continue to serve the community. Please clean our river. As the land and ecology steward at S&S Friendly Ranch, I demand the land be given to those who tend it.

#### **Omar Arce**

Location: 91977, Spring Valley Submitted At: 8:56am 09-30-25

I am very concerned about the decision not to renew the lease for the Tijuana River Valley Community Garden. This garden has given over 200 gardeners and small farm businesses a place to grow food, flowers, and community. Losing this space without a real transition plan is devastating for South Bay and for San Diego as a whole.

Access to land is already one of the biggest challenges for small growers in our county, and closing such an important green space only makes that harder. This site represents years of care and connection for families,

farmers, and neighbors.

I urge you to pause and work with the Resource Conservation District, County Parks, community gardeners, and farmers to find a path forward that protects both public health and community well-being.

#### **Andrew Newmark**

Location: 91910, Chula Vista Submitted At: 8:54am 09-30-25

Supervisor Paloma, please stand behind the gardeners in your community. This looming closure only weeks after the recent success of the EPA expanding the South Bay wastewater treatment plant seems poorly thought out. We ask that you align with the needs of the community you serve and to stand by the gardeners in this time of need.

#### Jose Juarez

Location: 92036, Julian

Submitted At: 8:54am 09-30-25

The efforts organizations have made to address this crisis have been instrumental to make the strides that you have made up until this day. We need continued action and assurances from the County to ensure that this crisis is being handled as we face the threat of closure for our community garden down in the Tijuana River Valley.

Supervisor, Paloma, I encourage you to stand behind the gardeners in your community, and put faith in the fact that the river is cleaning up and will be fully cleaned up. I ask that you redact your comment on respecting the Resource Conservation District's decision, and instead align with the needs of the community you serve. To stand by the gardeners in this time of need and advocate for the County departments involved to bring full support and ease into the transition of management of the gardens.

We are stronger together. We are empowered by growing our own food. We are resilient when we spend time in nature.

#### Kelly Swanberg

Location: 92065, Ramona Submitted At: 8:50am 09-30-25

Supervisor, Paloma, I encourage you to stand behind the gardeners in your community, and put faith in the fact that the river is cleaning up and will be fully cleaned up. I ask that you redact your comment on respecting the Resource Conservation District's decision, and instead align with the needs of the community you serve. To stand by the gardeners in this time of need and advocate for the County departments involved to bring full support and ease into the transition of management of the gardens.

We are stronger together. We are empowered by growing our own food. We are resilient when we spend time in nature. Community gardens bring people together and we need more of that in these current days, growing our own food and flowers is vital to our continuance as a society.

## **Cristina Juarez**

Location: 92105, San Diego Submitted At: 8:48am 09-30-25

The need to address the TRV sewage is essential to the wellbeing of our community just like it is essential to protect and strengthen the spaces where people are stewarding the land, growing our food and building relationships with each other. This is what strong and beautiful communities are made of. We need you to safeguard a smooth transition from the RCD lease of the Tijuana River Valley Community Garden to another organization or the community itself to make sure gardeners and farmers stay in the land they've been stewarding for over twenty years.

My flower shop business started at the Tijuana River Valley Community Garden and continues to depend on flower cultivation happening at the garden. It is a very special and unique place in the borderlands, the South Bay and our County.

We need reassurance that you align with the people you represent and that you will act accordingly protecting the Tijuana River Vally Community Garden.

#### **CLAYTON HOWARD**

Location: 92154, SAN DIEGO Submitted At: 8:42am 09-30-25

Hello, my name is Clayton, and I would like to discuss the potential closure of the community gardens in the Tijuana River Valley. These gardens are essential for hundreds of gardeners who rely on them for fresh vegetables and fruits. They also play a vital role in supporting mental health and maintaining environmental stability, as they attract various migratory birds throughout the year.

We must find a solution to keep these gardens in place for our community. I urge the board to seek a remedy to preserve them. I have been a gardener for over 10 years, and for me, gardening is a therapeutic activity. Tilling the ground allows me to grow my own fruits and vegetables, which contributes to my overall health by providing essential nutrients and nourishment.

#### Sophia Moreno

Location: 92105, San Diego Submitted At: 8:40am 09-30-25

Immediate action is needed to address the sewage in the Tijuana River Valley.

The Tijuana River Valley Community garden will be shut down as a direct result of the increased air pollution from the sewage in the river. This closure will directly affect 210 gardens, 10 incubator farms and the extended community that these spaces serve with farming education, locally grown produce, and seeds.

We need to reverse this decision by providing a clean space for the stewards of this land so that they may continue to serve the community. Please clean our river!

## **Lindsay Willrick**

Location: 92102, San Diego Submitted At: 8:36am 09-30-25

The efforts organizations have made to address this crisis have been instrumental to make the strides that you have made up until this day. We need continued action and assurances from the County to ensure that this crisis is being handled as we face the threat of closure for our community garden down in the Tijuana River Valley.

Supervisor, Paloma, I encourage you to stand behind the gardeners in your community, and put faith in the fact that the river is cleaning up and will be fully cleaned up. I ask that you redact your comment on respecting the Resource Conservation District's decision, and instead align with the needs of the community you serve. To stand by the gardeners in this time of need and advocate for the County departments involved to bring full support and ease into the transition of management of the gardens.

We are stronger together. We are empowered by growing our own food. We are resilient when we spend time in nature.

Thank you, Lindsay

#### Roxana Lopez

Location: 92115, San Diego Submitted At: 8:36am 09-30-25

Please continue to support the farmers; the stewards of the land, who also deeply care about the communities their food nourish. On Saturdays I drive from the College Area of SDSU to visit the land, to say hi to Eric from Pixca and see what unique items have been harvested. It's a special weekend ritual for me too as it is for so many San Diegan residents. Please don't take the land away from the farmers. It would be a devastating loss to our communities.

#### **Abbie Ferrieri**

Location:

Submitted At: 8:34am 09-30-25

We urge the County to take concrete steps to protect the Tijuana River Valley Community Garden from closure. This space is essential for South Bay gardeners and small farmers, providing fresh food, herbs, and a vital connection to land and community. It is not only important to the local and broader San Diegan community, but also a lifeline for underrepresented farmers and marginalized residents who would otherwise lack access to green and growing spaces. We ask you to stand with the community and ensure this garden remains open and thriving.

## Jimmy Baiardi

Location: 91911, Chula Vista Submitted At: 8:34am 09-30-25

Please protect the community gardens and farms of the Tijuana River Valley. They provide me and my family with affordable fresh fruits and vegetables. But most of all, they are an example of what can be done to reconnect humans with this beautiful space. Home of birds and pollinator, it helps healing the landscape. Please don't give up on the community of gardeners, farmers, educators that created something special and are giving us hope.

#### **Heather Sandison**

Location: 92119, San diego Submitted At: 8:28am 09-30-25

Please stand behind the community garden and farmers and do what is necessary to keep this space open.

Community gardens and green spaces are essential to meet the community food need, and to help with rising urban temperatures.

Farmers need land, community members deserve green spaces, and people need clean food.

#### Melissa Maher

Location: 92154, San Diego Submitted At: 8:28am 09-30-25

Please keep the gardens open. This is not only an essential element of our local and broader San Diegan community but also a network of already underrepresented community farmers and marginalized people who dont have access to green or growing space otherwise.

#### Elle Mari

Location: 92116, San Diego Submitted At: 8:27am 09-30-25

We need continued action from the County to address the sewage crisis while also and not displacing the agricultural stewards of the land in the Tijuana River Valley, the gardeners and farmers at the community garden.

I have supported the farmers there in multiple capacities to grow their businesses, most recently last month with a \$10,000 grant to invest in production to grow more food for those who need it and provide climate resilience internships to young people.

I encourage you to stand behind the gardeners and farmers in the Tijuana River Valley. Please align yourself with the needs of the community you serve. Please stand by the gardeners and farmers in this time of need and advocate for the County departments involved to bring full support to ease a transition of management of the garden to another organization. An abrupt closure amounts to lost livelihoods and food insecurity.

## **Annelise DuBois**

Location: us, 92109, SAN DIEGO Submitted At: 8:22am 09-30-25

I am very concerned about the decision not to renew the lease for the Tijuana River Valley Community Garden.

This garden has given over 200 gardeners and small farm businesses a place to grow food, flowers, and community. Losing this space without a real transition plan is devastating for South Bay and for San Diego as a whole.

Access to land is already one of the biggest challenges for small growers in our county, and closing such an important green space only makes that harder. This site represents years of care and connection for families, farmers, and neighbors.

I urge you to pause and work with the Resource Conservation District, County Parks, community gardeners, and farmers to find a path forward that protects both public health and community well-being.

#### Mae Piacenza

Location: 91941, La Mesa Submitted At: 8:20am 09-30-25

We need continued action and assurances from the County to ensure that this crisis is being handled as we face the threat of closure for our community garden down in the Tijuana River Valley.

Supervisor, Paloma, I encourage you to stand behind the gardeners and farmers in your community, and I ask that you redact your comment on respecting the Resource Conservation District's decision, and instead align with the needs of the community you serve. This decision was made without public comment or participation by the community members it most affects. To stand by the 210+ gardeners and 10 incubator farm businesses in this time of need would have an enormous impact on your constituents, the people you serve. I urge you to use the voice your community as entrusted you with, and advocate for the County departments involved to bring full support and ease into the transition of management of the gardens and farms, as it is of the upmost importance for the health of hundreds of families.

#### Veronica Vonk

Location: 91911, Chula Vista Submitted At: 8:09am 09-30-25

These plots of land helped support the community through the pandemic by providing work, community, fresh vegetables during an unsure time for everyone. These farm plots support the growning need of community farmers that put their blood sweat and love into the food and flowers they provide. These Co-ops are an act of Love for the Tijuana River Valley and they have committed countless hours on a passion project to benefit our families and cultivate hope that we can learn the old ways and grow and learn together. Please keep your commitment to solving these issues along side of these passionnate people. Please do not shut down the small patches of hope we have in this valley and make it safe for our local small farms to continue to provide its neighbors with the education and support they need to keep the food growing! Thank you for your time.

#### Lucia Tapia

Location:

Submitted At: 7:43am 09-30-25

Please keep the Tijuana River Valley community gardens open. They are important habitats for wildlife, they help feed many families and sustain small business owners. While it's very important to continue initiatives to clean up the Tijuana River Valley, shutting down this vital space will be detrimental for nature, farmers and community members that depend on this space as their food source. Continue to improve the health of the Tijuana River Valley by supporting the community gardens to stay open.

## Elizabeth Garcia

Location: 92021, El Cajon Submitted At: 7:41am 09-30-25

Due to ongoing concerns about public health and a press conference held at the gardens, the board of the Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County has decided to not renew their lease with the county asking over 200 gardeners and 10 farm businesses to vacate the site. This has caused a ripple effect across not only the Southbay, but beyond the county. I urge you to support a transition plan with the RCD, County Parks, community gardeners and farmers.

This is a vital green space. The county is actively working on obstacles specifically for farmers; land access being one of the biggest hurdles in our county that is home to the most small scale farmers in the nation. The unfortunate circumstances demonstrates the complete opposite from elected officials, the county and the RCD.

I'd ask you to pause and bring the community to the table that you are suppose to champion during times like these.

#### Michelle Bearmar

Location: 92065, Ramona Submitted At: 7:12am 09-30-25

We at Black Mountain Farm Stand in support of maintaining the growing space at the Tijuana River Valley Community Garden. This is a vital operation for the gardeners and the small farmers in the South Bay. The space provides food, herbs and a connection to land and community for the residents. We asked you to support your people and do what it takes to keep that space open and available to the current and local Growers. We are stronger together. We are empowered by growing our own food. We are resilient when we spend time in nature

Michelle Bearmar, Black Mountain Farm

#### Alissa Aldous

Location: 92107, San Diego Submitted At: 7:02am 09-30-25

Please continue these efforts to protect the community and choose to stand with the community gardeners as future decisions are considered.

Removing land stewards will not remove the pollution. The health of the land, water, and air go hand in hand with the health of the people that tend the soil. With RDC choosing to end their management contract, another non profit, or the people themselves should be able to continue to garden as efforts continue to mitigate the surrounding pollution issues.

## **Trish Watlington**

Location: 91841, La Mesa Submitted At: 6:39am 09-30-25

The South Bay is in need of healthy food and community spaces.

Supervisor, Paloma, please stand behind farmers and gardeners in your community, and put faith in the fact that the river is improving and will be fully cleaned up. I ask that you redact your comment respecting the Resource Conservation District's decision, and align with the needs of the community you serve. Stand by the gardeners in this time of need and advocate for the County departments involved to bring full support and ease into the transition of management of the gardens.

The efforts organizations have made to address this crisis have been instrumental in making the strides that have been made so far. Continued action is critical as well as assurances from the County to ensure that this crisis is being handled as we face the threat of closure for our community garden in the Tijuana River Valley.

We are stronger together. We are empowered by growing our own food. We are resilient when we spend time in nature.

#### Rose Hidalgo

Location: 91932, Imperial Bch Submitted At: 6:30am 09-30-25

Immediate action is needed to address the sewage in the Tijuana River Valley.

The Tijuana River Valley Community garden will be shut down as a direct result of the increased air pollution from the sewage in the river. This closure will directly affect 210 gardens, 10 incubator farms and the extended community that these spaces serve with farming education, locally grown produce, and seeds.

We need to reverse this decision by providing a clean space for the stewards of this land so that they may

continue to serve the community. Please clean our river!

## **Cathryn Henning**

Location: 92024, Encinitas Submitted At: 6:13am 09-30-25

The efforts organizations have made to address this crisis have been instrumental to make the strides that you have made up until this day. We need continued action and assurances from the County to ensure that this crisis is being handled as we face the threat of closure for our community garden down in the Tijuana River Valley.

Supervisor, Paloma, I encourage you to stand behind the gardeners in your community, and put faith in the fact that the river is cleaning up and will be fully cleaned up. I ask that you redact your comment on respecting the Resource Conservation District's decision, and instead align with the needs of the community you serve. To stand by the gardeners in this time of need and advocate for the County departments involved to bring full support and ease into the transition of management of the gardens.

We are stronger together. We are empowered by growing our own food. We are resilient when we spend time in nature.

-Cat, BeeWorthy Farms

#### **Luz Orozco**

Location: San Diego

Submitted At: 11:01pm 09-29-25

Please provide this aid to a community that is in struggle for local farms food resilience. Local and pesticide-free food is NOT AVAILABLE in this southbay area due to lack of funds for farming and requires more help than other privileged north areas full of farms to be assisted. They also provide herbal medicine and seeds for larger San Diego county areas and it would devastate this network. We ask that you provide a clean space for the stewards of this land so that they may continue to serve the community like they have for decades.

#### **Javier Flores**

Location: 91932, Imperial Beach Submitted At: 10:35pm 09-29-25

Immediate action is needed to address the sewage in the Tijuana River Valley.

The Tijuana River Valley Community garden will be shut down as a direct result of the increased air pollution from the sewage in the river. This closure will directly affect 210 gardens, 10 incubator farms and the extended community that these spaces serve with farming education, locally grown produce, and seeds.

We need to reverse this decision by providing a clean space for the stewards of this land so that they may continue to serve the community. Please clean our river!

#### **Annette Jones**

Location: 92129, San Diego Submitted At: 2:44pm 09-27-25

I strongly support all your efforts to mitigate the issues surrounding the Tijuana River!

#### Rebecca Ray

Location: 92130, San Diego Submitted At: 9:41am 09-27-25

Hi everyone,

Please keep the pressure on to get this cleaned up permanently.

Thank you, Rebecca Ray