



OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

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MATTHEW PARR
DIRECTOR

March 11, 2026

**To: Commissioner
International Boundary and Water Commission
4191 N. Mesa Street
El Paso, Texas 79902**

Re: County of San Diego Support for the U.S.–Mexico MOU and IBWC Minute Orders 330 & 333

Dear Commissioner W.C. Chad McIntosh,

On behalf of the County of San Diego, I am writing to express our strong support for the July 24, 2025, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the United States and Mexico addressing the sanitation and environmental crisis in the Tijuana–San Diego region, as well as continued implementation of IBWC Minute Orders 330 and 333.

The County directly experiences the impacts of transboundary flows in the Tijuana River Valley in both South County and adjacent communities along San Diego Bay. Public health advisories, beach and park closures, environmental degradation, and emergency response activities occur regularly as untreated wastewater and contaminated stormwater cross the international boundary. This situation affects residents, schools, public safety personnel, businesses, and federally protected natural resources.

The binational MOU appropriately shifts the region from reactive response to coordinated infrastructure delivery. We specifically support the agreement’s commitments to:

- Expand treatment capacity at the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Rehabilitate and improve wastewater conveyance infrastructure in Tijuana
- Improve monitoring, communication, and coordinated public reporting
- Establish long-term operational and maintenance funding mechanisms
- Advance projects intended to permanently stop untreated wastewater from reaching U.S. communities

These actions, together with the infrastructure and operational framework established in Minute Orders 330 and 333, represent the most comprehensive path forward to protect the public health in impacted communities and restore water quality in the watershed.

For local governments, the most important outcome is implementation. We respectfully encourage the EPA and IBWC to maintain project schedules, continue respectful coordination between both the US and Mexico, and ensure regular communication with regional stakeholders like the County and the City of San Diego. Predictable progress is essential for local emergency response planning, environmental management, and community confidence.

The County of San Diego stands ready to support coordination, information sharing, and community engagement as these projects move forward. Resolving cross-border wastewater flows protects not only the health of San Diego residents, but also supports the economic stability and environmental resilience of one of the busiest international border regions in the world.

Thank you for your leadership and continued commitment to a durable binational solution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Parr". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Matthew Parr

Director

Office of Economic Development and Governmental Affairs

County of San Diego

cc: San Diego Congressional Delegation