



OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

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MATTHEW PARR
DIRECTOR

June 3, 2025

The Honorable Scott Peters
United States House of Representatives
2369 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Peters:

On behalf of the County of San Diego, I am writing to express the County's support for House of Representatives Bill 1948 (H.R. 1948), which would allow the U.S. International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) to accept funding from sources other than the federal government, such as philanthropy, non-profit organizations, state governments, local governments, and other entities.

The ongoing water pollution crisis in the Tijuana River Valley continues to impact the lives of thousands of South San Diego County residents. The crisis is further exacerbated by the need for continued funding to repair and maintain the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant (SBIWTP) and rehabilitate the local ecosystem. Congress is responsible for appropriating funds to address the water pollution crisis and maintain SBIWTP operations and the Executive Branch is responsible for disbursing those funds to the IBWC. However, local government, the state government, community-based organizations, philanthropy, and international agencies also play a key role by working together collaboratively to address the ongoing challenges related to the transboundary water pollution crisis and to support individuals and families impacted by the crisis.

The approval of an additional funding source is needed to ensure that critical maintenance activities that control the flow of cross-border pollution are uninterrupted. By allowing for other entities to provide funding for SBIWTP operations and construction projects in the event that federal funding is imperiled at any point is vital for continuing the needed work to rehabilitate the Tijuana River Valley and to end the pollution crisis that has impacted generations of individuals and families residing in the South Bay.

The County of San Diego supports H.R. 1948 and appreciates your leadership on this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if San Diego County can provide any additional information on this issue.

Sincerely,

Matthew Parr
Director, Office of Economic Development and Government Affairs

CC: San Diego County Congressional Delegation