

Michele King

From: patrickskwok@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, May 06, 2018 11:06 AM
To: Michele King
Subject: Fwd: commentary

I sent this to the San Jose Mercury News
Please let the board member know. Thanks and best regards

-----Original Message-----

From: patrickskwok <patrickskwok@aol.com>
To: opinion <opinion@bayareanewsgroup.com>
Sent: Sun, May 6, 2018 11:03 am
Subject: commnetary

WATER DISTRICT BOARD IS FACING THE TOUGHEST DECISION ON THE WATERFIX

On Tuesday, May 8 at 9:30am, the Santa Clara Valley Water District Board of Directors will make their final decision to participate in Governor Brown's California WaterFix project, a \$19 billion project that would construct two, 17-mile long, 40-feet wide tunnels. This project would "fix" California's aging water infrastructure and potentially secure a reliable water supply for the future. As a former water board member, I can tell you this board has a tough decision to make, if not the toughest in their careers. For a board that has often voted together, this project has created a divide that weighs heavily on all of them. I recall when I served on the board, one of my toughest decisions was to provide fluoridation to our residents and it was passed unanimously after weeks of deliberation.

Last year in an unprecedented move, the board voted to support a project conditionally with seven guiding principles that would ensure the needs of Santa Clara County were met. This position allowed them to stay at the table, but also provided a way out if the project didn't address our local needs and to re-evaluate the project if conditions changed. This change occurred recently when Metropolitan Water District increased their funding triggering a second look at a two-tunnel project.

The \$17 billion cost estimates, will be born by rate payers are high and there is major concern there is no foreseeable cap on the amount the water district would contribute. On the other hand, the water district's mission and goal is to provide adequate water supply in the future. Given the rapid increase in population in our county and the dry years we've experienced, it is prudent to look at all options that can secure our long-term water supply.

These are just some basic details of the project and I know there are complexities that I don't understand and therefore cannot recommend support one way or the other. Is the water fix the most cost benefits compared with recycled water, desalination and imported water? I do know that the directors have been meeting for years on this project and that we elected them to explore all options and ask the tough questions to their staff and to the experts. While we may not agree with their votes, I trust that they have done their due diligence in reviewing all options and that their decision is in the best interest of Santa Clara County.

At the end of the day, we need water and our current infrastructure isn't enough. Whether it's the Waterfix project or another project, something must be done. I respect the directors for facing this decision now and know that they'll make the right choice.

Patrick Kwok, P.E. a former Water District Board member and Cupertino mayor, is currently serving on the Cupertino Sanitary District Board
10222 Carmen Rd, Cupertino, CA 95014

Michele King

From: Jack Lucas <jlucas1099@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 05, 2018 10:07 AM
To: Board of Directors
Subject: Water Fix Twin Tunnel DWR project Deferred Board Decision

Richard Santos, Chair
Santa Clara Valley Water District Board

Dear Chairman Santos and Members of the Board,

As postscript to my letter last week on DWR's Twin Tunnel Water Fix project at Freeport on Sacramento River on which you will be deliberating further Tuesday, May 8, do wish to elaborate on depository potential at diversion project site.

USGS Station 11447650 at Freeport has recorded daily suspended sediment in tons per day from 1957 to 2013. These are averaged out as median flows which can run from a maximum of 5,683,050 tons of sediment load for the water year 1964-65, with all time high of 525,000 tons deposited December 24, 1964 at Freeport; to a low of 326,419.5 tons for the year 2008.

To have to model such extremes of sediment load where one day's deposit of 525,000 tons (in wet year) is so dramatically higher than an entire dry year's deposit in 2008 must certainly challenge DWR hydrologists.

As it is hard for me to believe that the dynamic conditions as found in a natural Delta Sacramento River system can be modelled with sufficient accuracy to assure that this twin diversion tunnel design can function in all weathers, do hope SCVWD staff has reviewed DWR modelling for the Board and can verify its competency.

And, as always, global warming will only guarantee further extreme swings in weather conditions in the Sierra.

Research on sediment loading in the Estuary that USGS compiled for this period, and particularly in Freeport's high depository reach, is prime scientific data and needs to be the basic reference for Water Fix projects.

Please confirm that hydrological analysis for this project used full spectrum of USGS stream sediment data.

Thank you,

Libby Lucas

From: Nancy Smith <SmithCouncil@sunnyvale.ca.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 07, 2018 9:12 AM
To: Board of Directors
Cc: Kent Steffens; Larry Klein; Melody Tovar
Subject: May 8, 2018 Special Meeting on the California WaterFix, Agenda Item 2.1.

Dear Members of the Board,

As you consider the Water District's participation in the WaterFix project, please keep in mind that County residents are very sensitive to rate increases. Also, the District's Water Supply Master Plan concludes that current projects along with WaterFix participation at a level below 7.5% would sufficient to meet the County's needs.

Before you commit to a \$10M non-refundable option agreement as well as to a 7.5% participation rate, I ask you to direct staff to 1) analyze alternative levels of participation, such as 2.5% or 5% levels; 2) provide projections of how approving this project will impact ratepayers at different levels of participation; and 3) thereby consider a wider range of options for this important decision.

Recent inputs to the Board from Water Commission regarding GWP showed anxiety about ever-rising water rates. As an individual Councilmember and member of the District's Water Commission I am writing to stress that I am concerned about keeping water affordable for rate payers - and if you take actions that would raise rates, please demonstrate that several options and their impacts were considered in your deliberations.

NANCY SMITH
City Councilmember
City of Sunnyvale

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