

I do not support putting 1 penny into building the twin tunnels. But I do support and will contribute to litigation to stop the building of this grandiose and destructive project.

We have seen this “water diversion” before with the near destruction of Mono Lake. Other areas in California have been devastated by water diversion to support Southern California and their lifestyle, please refer to in the book “Cadillac Desert”.

I have provided you an article from Water Online titled “UCLA study presents LA with a Path to Independence from Imported water”. I hope you will review and consider this information.

The Delta is a very fragile ecosystem; it has been raided and degraded for years. Seeing Delta (or Colorado River) water as the solution to Southern California’s chronic water shortages MUST stop. You can vote No today.

I believe a Yes vote for the twin or even 1 tunnel supports Southern California’s reluctance to face tough questions which eventually must be answered. These include:

1. What % of water is recycled in So. California?
2. What % of green lawns, individual swimming pools, golf courses, green medians, etc. are using recycled rather than imported water.
3. Is sewage water being treated, recycled and used?
4. Have fountains and other decorate water features been turned off or, if running, are they using recycled water.

5. Has agriculture switched to low waste drip systems for irrigation or is spraying water still the preferred method of large scale field irrigation?
6. Is So. California doing ALL it can to conserve and use its current water sources to solve their stated shortages before looking to imported water to solve their problems?
7. What is the status of their groundwater use and reserves? Is it being pumped and dumped during construction or recycled for irrigation?
8. Are kids being taught the basics of water conservation or told their future is secure and based on imported water?

Climate change, unpredictable precipitation and droughts demand tough questions and hard choices. Please vote NO on this issue. Thank you.



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four-part series on sustainable water management in the city of Los Angeles. This study assesses the water landscape of the entire city, taking into account greenhouse gas emissions, stormwater pollution, groundwater management, conservation and the costs and benefits of various city water supplies. The authors also offer several policy recommendations for the city.

“The key for Los Angeles to potentially reach water independence would be to simultaneously increase local water supply while bringing down local demand for water,” said Katie Mika, a postdoctoral scholar at the UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability and one of the study’s lead researchers.

The researchers analyzed various scenarios for capturing stormwater to increase, or “recharge,” local water supplies.

“We learned through extensive modeling that every watershed is different, and as a result, different stormwater structural best management practice approaches are needed to achieve clean water and maximize groundwater recharge for each watershed,” said Terri Hogue, a professor at the Colorado School of Mines and co-lead author of the report.

According to the report, tens of thousands to hundreds of thousands of treatment and infiltration devices are needed throughout the watersheds to come close to meeting California water quality standards.

For example, the study found that in order to maximize water quality in the Dominguez Channel watershed, which spans 133 square miles in southern Los Angeles County, the city would need to install 65,000 bioretention basins — landscaped depressions or shallow basins used to slow and treat on-site stormwater runoff through physical, chemical and biological processes.

The researchers also determined that to achieve the best water quality in the Los Angeles River watershed, which covers 824 square miles and is the largest watershed in Los Angeles County, it could take 138,000 vegetated swales (shallow, sloped channels of vegetation) and 83,000 dry ponds (low-lying, depressed areas near rivers and lakes that typically are used to help clean stormwater).

But large-scale implementation of small, structural runoff infiltration and treatment devices would be extremely difficult to complete over the next decade, the approximate time period for compliance with California water quality standards. Regional runoff infiltration and treatment solutions — like those in place in the city’s Echo Park and Machado Lake watersheds and at the Tujunga Spreading Grounds — would need to accompany the smaller measures, like distributed runoff treatment and infiltration devices.

“We’re already seeing Los Angeles take incremental steps toward local water, but more needs to be done, as we’ve seen from the backsliding on consumer water conservation rates once the state prematurely declared the drought was over,” Gold said. He added that climate change is already reducing water supplies from the Sierra Nevada snowpack and the Colorado River watershed.

The city has already taken some steps in that direction: In 2014, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti issued an executive directive to purchase half as much imported water by 2025, obtain half the city's water from local sources and have the city use local water by 2035 and reduce water consumption by 25 percent by 2035.

- By 2035, require roads and alleys to become “green streets” with stormwater treatment or infiltration devices, and by requiring all parcels to be retrofitted to be able to better capture water from a 3/4-inch rainstorm when the property is sold. Retrofit requirements and programs will need financial incentives to ensure a rapid and successful city landscape transformation.
- Develop policies that aim for 100 percent reuse of recycled water (except for the brine removed during advanced wastewater treatment) while maintaining flows in rivers and creeks to protect water needed for aquatic life recreation and other beneficial purposes.
- Create a new temporary position of water director, based in the mayor’s office, and empower that person to lead the transformation of the city’s water infrastructure and local water programs.
- Commission a new study of the Los Angeles River to better understand the flows needed to create and support a healthy ecosystem, support the river’s other beneficial uses and augment local water supplies.

“We need more data to understand and more accurately model potential outcomes,” Mika said. “That also needs to be coupled with increased funding, which would be critical for making these projects happen.”

The research team also included professor Stephanie Pincetl and associate research director Erik Porse, both of UCLA, and researcher Elizabeth Gallo of Colorado School of Mines. The Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation and Department of Water and Power provided data and reviewed the report before the findings were final, and the research was funded by the sanitation bureau.

The study is part of the Sustainable LA Grand Challenge, a UCLA research initiative that aims to transition Los Angeles County through cutting-edge research, technologies, policies, and strategies to 100 percent renewable energy and 100 percent locally sourced water, while enhancing ecosystem and human health, by 2050.

SOURCE: UCLA