



COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

Established in 1918 as a public agency

GENERAL MANAGER
Jim Barrett

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER
Robert Cheng

CLERK OF THE BOARD
Sylvia Bermudez

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER
Dan Charlton

July 13, 2021

The Honorable Dutch Ruppertsberger
United States House of Representatives
2206 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Support for H.R.2288 Investing in Our Communities Act

Dear Congressman Ruppertsberger:

Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) writes to support the Investing in Our Communities Act, H.R.2288. CVWD thanks you for sponsoring this legislation.

In 1918, Coachella Valley Water District was created to protect and conserve water primarily for agricultural irrigation in southern California. Today, CVWD's service area covers approximately 1,000 square miles from the San Geronio Pass to the Salton Sea, mostly within Riverside County and includes portions of Imperial and San Diego counties. CVWD is a multifaceted agency that provides diverse water services, including: irrigation and drainage, drinking water service, groundwater replenishment, recycled water, stormwater protection and flood control, wastewater treatment, and water conservation. CVWD is committed to providing high quality water and sanitation services to its community for years to come.

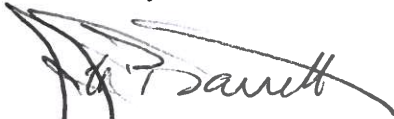
CVWD is about to undergo a bond measure for the Oasis In-lieu Recharge Project, Phase 2, and this legislation would advance the financial planning goals of CVWD. The project will provide Coachella Valley farmers the opportunity to utilize water from the All American Canal instead of continuing to deplete groundwater levels. The Investing in Our Communities Act will allow CVWD to advantageously utilize the current low interest rates to refinance outstanding bonds at a lower rate. In turn, the advance refund would allow CVWD to use freed up cash for the operations and maintenance of existing facilities or new water and wastewater infrastructure projects. The legislation will not cost the federal government or local government any money, but rather, it will provide a desirable financial outcome that effectively will result in savings and more jobs across the county. Everyone benefits from this logical legislation that would simply reinstate the tax bond exemption.

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In addition, CVWD supports the Senate bill on this matter, S.479 the Local Infrastructure Act, by Senators Wicker and Stabenow. Both pieces of legislation would successfully provide a financial mechanism for local governments and public entities to provide infrastructure in the community.

CVWD is thankful for your leadership on this issue in the House.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.M. Barrett", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

J.M. Barrett
General Manager