



CITY OF OCEANSIDE

COUNCIL MEMBER
JEROME M. KERN

NEWS RELEASE

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Kern leads Oceanside effort in support of Bay Delta Water Fix

At the urging of Council Member Jerry Kern, Oceanside has become the first city in California to formally endorse the Delta Vision and Bay Delta Conservation Plans to restore the Delta ecosystem and create a more reliable water supply for California.

Kern invited a representative from the Friends of the Delta to make a presentation to city council on the BDCP and co-equal goals of environmental protection and sustainable water reliability to Delta dependent areas. Currently two-thirds of the State of California, including Southern California, relies upon Delta water. Friends of the Delta is a non-profit statewide organization focused on garnering grassroots support for a Delta fix.

In a letter to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger transmitting the city council's endorsement and encouraging the Governor's support for the plans, Kern described the state's water supply situation as "dire" and said "the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is in need of an immediate fix."

Kern pointed to the work of the Governor's Delta Vision Committee, which has issued an implementation report outlining strategies and actions designed to support the co-equal goals of restoring the Delta ecosystem and creating a more reliable water supply for the state.

"Those of us in Southern California who depend on water from the state water project for our homes and our businesses have a major stake in moving this process forward immediately," said Kern. "We're already feeling the effects of reduced supplies and higher water rates, but if the drought continues and we don't fix the problems in the Delta, our way of life will be threatened," said Kern.

"There is danger that partisan and special-interest conflicts could de-rail the solutions we now have on the table," said Kern. "It's important that all of us in Southern California hold our state representatives' feet to the fire to get these plans implemented now, before our economy and quality of life are seriously damaged," he said.