

May 16, 2014

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Senate Environment & Public Works
Committee
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bill Shuster
House Transportation & Infrastructure
Committee
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairs Boxer and Shuster,

On behalf of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Water District) I am writing to express the Water District's support for the Water Resources Reform and Development Act conference report. We applaud the bi-partisanship spirit in which this bill was crafted and thank the conferees for making this important legislation a priority.

In particular we are grateful that the final report includes authority for the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act. We are excited to begin exploring this innovative financing opportunity.

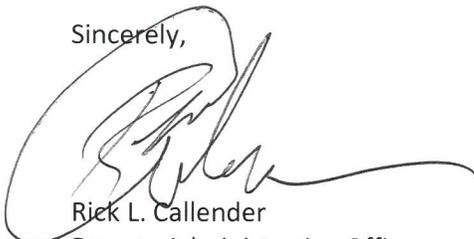
Further, we are pleased to see policy guidelines which requires a specific deliberative process with state, local, and other public participation on developing guidelines for vegetation on levees. We look forward to participating in the process.

The Water District is the primary water resource management agency for Santa Clara County, the heart of Silicon Valley. Our duties include providing flood damage reduction and environmental stewardship for the county's more than 800 miles of creeks and streams, and ensuring a clean, healthy, and reliable water supply for more than 1.8 million residents. Companies like Google, Yahoo and Cisco rely on the public safety and water quality services provided by Water District; we literally are helping to fuel the innovation that is driving the global economy. Given these dynamics, and the number of project partnerships we have with the US Army Corps of Engineers, passage of the WRRDA bill is a top priority.

We encourage conferees to maintain this momentum and begin work on the next WRRDA bill to restore biennial consideration of this act.

Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,



Rick L. Callender
Deputy Administrative Officer
Office of Government Relations