

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Venable

SUBMITTAL DATE: May 6, 2004

SUBJECT: Allocation of Third District Developer Agreement Funds to the High Valleys Water District to assist the District in establishing an alternate water source.


RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board join with me to:

- 1) Approve the use of \$252,000 of Third District Developer Agreement Fund No. 30558 to the High Valleys Water District to assist them in establishing an alternate water source;
- 2) Direct the Executive Office to process payment in the amount of \$252,000 from Third District Developer Agreement Funds 30558-1103500000 to the High Valleys Water District.

BACKGROUND: The staff and board of the High Valley Flats Water District recently notified me that they have determined that they are facing a very dire situation relative to their water supply. This District is currently served water through a purchase agreement with the City of Banning. The agreement allows the District to purchase water in the Banning service area and transport it via an 8" water main up the mountain to the District's service area, with elevations ranging to 5,000 feet. The transmission line runs in an easement across private property and land belonging to the Morongo Band of Mission Indians. The line that crosses the Morongo's land exists in an easement that ends July 2005.

The District is in negotiations with the Tribal Council for an extension of time for that easement, however, if the easement ends, the community served by the High Valleys Water District will not have a source of water. Even if the easement is continued, the process of purchasing the water from the Banning area and shipping it uphill to the residents is very costly. In addition, having no on-site water source poses a severe fire threat to the area residents.

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Jim Venable, Supervisor Third District
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To establish an alternate source of water inside the District boundaries, their Board of Directors commissioned a study to establish the best places to look for water. A well location was found that is approximately 2,200 feet from the existing transmission main; assuming it will become a producing well, it would eliminate two booster stations and greatly reduce the power costs to the District.

The District does not have the financial resources to undertake this process. They estimate that the cost of putting in the needed well will be \$252,000, which includes: property purchase; drilling; pump installation; electrical hook up; building; 2,200' 8" water main; and all engineering and technical needs.

The allocation of the Third District Developer Agreement funds will come from current collections received from active developer agreements within the Third District. This allocation does not lower the reservation of developer agreement funds taken during the Second Quarter Report for possible assistance to the Riverside County Regional Medical Center (RCRMC). I urge my colleagues on the Board to support this request and approve this allocation of Third District Developer Agreement funds to the High Valley Water District.