

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



FROM: Supervisors Marion Ashley &
Bob Buster

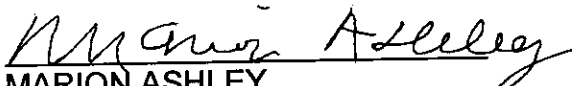
SUBMITTAL DATE: May 20, 2010


SUBJECT: Support for Expansion of Foreign Trade Zone 244

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors authorizes the Chairman of the Board to sign the attached letter of support for modifications to Foreign Trade Zone 244 (FTZ 244). Further the Board directs the Assistant County Executive Officer-EDA, Managing Director-EDA, and or County Foreign Trade Commissioner-EDA, to work closely with the staff and leadership of FTZ 244 to promote further development and investment of FTZ 244 and the creation of new jobs for the county workforce and monitor the progress of the application to the Foreign Trade Zone Board.

BACKGROUND: The County of Riverside is a voting member of the March Joint Powers Authority. Primary representatives of the County are the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board, representing districts 1 and 5 respectively. In addition to the County of Riverside, the organization is comprised of elected representatives from the cities of Perris, Moreno Valley, and Riverside. FTZ 244 offers specific incentives to manufacturers physically located within the FTZ that reduce taxes, tariffs, and fees associated with importing products for manufacture within the County of Riverside.

FTZ 244 has not enjoyed the support of the Department of Homeland Security or the United States Department of Commerce on recent attempts to expand the FTZ due to staffing concerns relating to customs officers. The county has actively engaged in the Congress, Senate, and Department of Homeland Security in recent months to address the issue of providing staffing and continues to advocate for such staffing.


MARION ASHLEY,
Chairman of the Board
Representing the Fifth District


BOB BUSTER
Vice-Chairman of the Board
Representing the First District

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

Board of Supervisors

District 1 <i>Vice-Chairman</i>	Bob Buster 951-955-1010
District 2	John F. Tavaglione 951-955-1020
District 3	Jeff Stone 951-955-1030
District 4	John J. Benoit 951-955-1040
District 5 <i>Chairman</i>	Marion Ashley 951-955-1050

May 18, 2010

Ms. Lori Stone
Director
March Joint Powers Authority
23555 Meyer Drive
Riverside, California 92518-1504

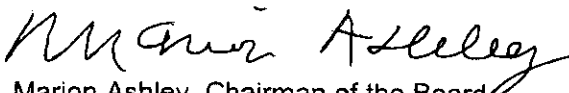
Dear Ms. Stone:

The Riverside County Board of Supervisors on the advice of the Assistant County Executive Officer/EDA and the County Foreign Trade Commissioner are pleased to support inclusion within the service area of Foreign Trade Zone 244.

Based on information provided by the March Joint Powers Authority staff, we understand this means that the grantee, March Joint Powers Authority, will be authorized to apply to the Foreign Trade Zone Board, United States Department of Commerce, for authorization to service specific sites located within the western portion of the County of Riverside as described within the application.

The Board of Supervisors supports economic development opportunities and job creation with Foreign Trade Zone 244. Further the Board of Supervisors request that the March Joint Powers Authority staff keep the Assistant County Executive Officer/EDA and County Foreign Trade Commissioner apprised of the progress of this effort and provide a copy of the application to the same.

Sincerely,



Marion Ashley, Chairman of the Board
Riverside County Board of Supervisors

cc: County Executive Officer
All Assistant County Executive Officers
Managing Director EDA
Commissioner of Foreign Trade
Assistant Director Danielle M. Wheeler