



KAREN SPIEGEL
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March 20, 2024

The Honorable Ken Calvert
United States House of Representatives
2205 Rayburn House Offices Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Honorable Congressman Ken Calvert,

As the Riverside County Supervisor for the Second District, I write in support for the City of Lake Elsinore and its Community Project Funding Requests for the 2025 Appropriations Bill. As you know, Southwest Riverside County is one of the fastest growing regions in the State of California, and Lake Elsinore is the second fastest growing City in the State according to the latest U.S. Census. As such, our support at the State and Federal level is essential to ensure we can adequately meet the demands of our constituents in this thriving community.

Each of the below projects will benefit the state and region including:

- **Lake Water Quality Project** – In August 2023, the Lake Elsinore City Council approved a comprehensive Lake Management Plan aimed at improving water quality. Recently, the City installed a Nanobubble system as a pilot project designed to increase oxygen levels at the sediment level. This initiative is crucial for the restoration of Lake Elsinore. To support this effort, the City is planning to construct the necessary infrastructure for oxygen delivery to the entire lake.
- **Homeless Services: Phase Two** – The City has just completed site plans for Phase Two of our homeless services, which will offer transitional housing for homeless residents who have participated in our Anchor program and are returning to our city after completing drug and alcohol treatments. Transitional housing plays a crucial role in preventing these residents from returning to the streets.
- **Central Avenue Interchange: Linking Lake Elsinore to Riverside County** – The City, in collaboration with Caltrans, is proposing enhancements to the Interstate (I-15)/State Route 74 (SR-74) (Central Avenue) interchange in Lake Elsinore to alleviate traffic congestion, improve traffic flow, and support regional growth and development initiatives. The I-15/SR-74 Interchange Improvement Project aims to enhance directional connectivity, increase ramp storage, optimize signalized intersections, and enhance mobility and access for all users, residents, and businesses in the project area.

Overall, each of these projects have extensive benefits and align with the State's key areas of focus. It is for these reasons that I hope your office will provide favorable consideration to this request. Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you have any questions regarding my support at (951) 955 - 1020. On behalf of the Second District of Riverside County, we thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Karen S. Spiegel

Karen Spiegel
Second District Supervisor
County of Riverside



March 19, 2024

The Honorable Ken Calvert
United States House of Representatives
2205 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support for the City of Lake Elsinore's 2025 Federal Appropriations

Dear Representative Ken Calvert,

We are writing to express our support for the City of Lake Elsinore's requests for community project funding in the fiscal year 2025. The following three projects hold immense potential to significantly enhance the well-being of our community and its residents. Importantly, these initiatives are perfectly aligned with the City's ambitious long-term strategic framework, the Dream Extreme 2040 Plan. This plan serves as a roadmap towards our shared vision of transforming Lake Elsinore into the ultimate lake destination, where individuals of all backgrounds can not only reside, but also work, indulge in recreational activities, and pursue their dreams, thus laying the foundation for vibrant futures.

Lake Water Quality Project: A Renewed and Restored Lake Elsinore

As Southern California's largest freshwater lake, Lake Elsinore is a vital resource for both wildlife and recreation. Lake Elsinore has suffered from numerous algae blooms, fish kills, and closures due to poor water quality and high bacteria levels. The most recent and longest lake shutdown occurred over a six-month period starting in August of 2022. Lake Elsinore serves as a pivotal catalyst for economic growth within the City of Lake Elsinore. Its strategic location and diverse range of opportunities contribute significantly to the city's economic prosperity.

In August 2023, the Lake Elsinore City Council approved a comprehensive lake management plan aimed at improving water quality for future generations.

This initiative is crucial for the restoration of Lake Elsinore. To support this effort, the City is requesting \$8 million in federal funding to construct the necessary infrastructure for oxygen delivery to the entire lake.

Federal Funding Sought: \$8 million
City Contribution: \$4.5 million

Homeless Services: Phase Two

In the last year, our homeless street outreach team exited 175 homeless residents. Our Anchor facility, a crisis stabilization center continues to bring homeless individuals off the street and into a supportive environment where they are evaluated and matched with healthcare services, mental health support, and permanent housing.

951.674.3124

130 S. MAIN STREET

LAKE ELSINORE, CA 92530

WWW.LAKE-ELSINORE.ORG

The City has just completed site plans for Phase Two of our homeless services, which will offer transitional housing for homeless residents who have participated in our Anchor program and are returning to our city after completing drug and alcohol treatments. Transitional housing plays a crucial role in preventing these residents from returning to the streets. To ensure the sustainability of housing initiatives, the City is requesting \$2.5 million in federal funding to support the development of Phase Two.

Federal Funding Sought: \$2.5 million
City Contribution: \$500,000

Central Avenue Interchange: Linking Lake Elsinore to Riverside County

The City in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), is proposing improvements to the Interstate (I-15)/State Route 74 (SR-74) (Central Avenue) interchange located in Lake Elsinore. The I-15/SR-74 Interchange Improvement Project is needed to improve traffic conditions, reduce congestion at the interchange, and help alleviate traffic surrounding local intersections within the project area. Total construction costs for this project are estimated at \$45 million. Federal appropriations will fund right-of-way acquisition, construction, and construction support services.

The project is geared towards achieving multiple objectives essential for the development and efficiency of the region. These goals include supporting anticipated regional growth and development projects, alleviating congestion through enhancements in ramp storage and directional connectivity between I-15 and SR-74, improving the operational efficiency of signalized intersections, and fostering better mobility and access for all users within the project limits, including residents and businesses.

Federal Funding Sought: \$2.5 million
City Contribution: \$500,000

We are fully committed to championing every one of these projects, recognizing their significant potential for the betterment of our community. With great anticipation, we seek your invaluable support to bolster the continued expansion and progress within the vibrant landscape of the City of Lake Elsinore. Together, let us pave the way for sustained growth and development, ensuring a prosperous future for generations to come.



Steve Manos
Mayor
City of Lake Elsinore



Jason Simpson
City Manager
City of Lake Elsinore

Lake Elsinore & San Jacinto Watersheds Authority



City of Lake Elsinore • City of Canyon Lake • County of Riverside
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District • Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

March 25, 2024

The Honorable Ken Calvert
United States House of Representatives
2205 Rayburn House Offices Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Ken Calvert,

I would like to express my support for the City of Lake Elsinore and its Lake Water Quality Project Funding Request for the 2025 Appropriations Bill.

As you know, Southwest Riverside County is experiencing remarkable growth, with Lake Elsinore standing out as the second fastest growing city in California according to the latest U.S. Census data. This growth underscores the urgent need for support at both the state and federal levels to ensure our community can adequately address the needs of its residents and sustain its development.

The Lake Water Quality projects are of paramount importance, benefiting not only our region but the state as a whole. Lake Elsinore, Southern California's largest freshwater lake, plays a vital role in supporting local wildlife and providing recreational opportunities. Unfortunately, the lake has been plagued by frequent algae blooms, fish kills, and closures due to poor water quality and elevated bacteria levels. The prolonged shutdown in 2022, lasting six months, underscored the severity of the issue. Moreover, Lake Elsinore serves as a hub for economic growth within our city. Its strategic location and diverse range of activities significantly contribute to our economic vitality.

In August 2023, the Lake Elsinore City Council approved a comprehensive lake management plan aimed at improving water quality. Recently, the City installed a Nanobubble system as a pilot project designed to increase oxygen levels at the sediment level. This initiative is crucial for the restoration of Lake Elsinore. To support this effort, the City is planning to construct the necessary infrastructure for oxygen delivery to the entire lake.

Overall, this project has extensive benefits and aligns with the State's key areas of focus. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rachel Gray".

Rachel Gray
Authority Administrator
Lake Elsinore San Jacinto Watershed Authority (LESJWA)