

FROM THE OFFICE OF LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ
Representing California's 39th District

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**Congresswoman Linda Sánchez Presents \$250,000
Check To Continue Crucial Study On Making L.A.
Region Water Use More Environmentally Friendly**

SANTA MONICA- Yesterday, Congresswoman Linda Sánchez (D-Lakewood) presented a \$250,000 check to the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council to advance a critical study finding innovative and environmentally friendly techniques to more effectively capture stormwater that will minimize pollution on area beaches and maximize its potability. At the check presentation, Congresswoman Sánchez was joined by Congresswoman Grace Napolitano (D-Santa Fe Springs); Congresswoman Diane Watson (D-Los Angeles); Bureau of Reclamation Regional Director Bob Johnson; and various area water and environmental leaders.

“I am very pleased to have been able to get federal funding for such an important study that is finding common sense solutions to make the L.A. region more water-secure and environmentally-friendly in the future,” said Congresswoman Sánchez.

The federal appropriation of \$250,000 will fund the next phase of the “Los Angeles Basin Water Augmentation Study” being performed by the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council. The study has shown how innovative techniques in building and neighborhood design can capture rain and stormwater runoff, thereby protecting nearby beaches from pollution carried by stormwater and increasing the underground supply of local drinking water. The study is seen as playing a key role in helping Southern California become environmentally sustainable for the long term.

Congresswoman Sánchez led a coalition of ten local Members of Congress (including U.S. Representatives Berman, Millender-McDonald, Napolitano, Roybal-Allard, Loretta Sanchez, Schiff, Sherman, Waxman, and Watson) in successfully seeking federal funding for the study, which is designed to benefit the entire Los Angeles and San Gabriel River basins. The study is supported by major water agencies such as the Water Replishment District of Southern California, Metropolitan Water District, and L.A. Department of Water and Power, as well as by major environmental organizations such as TreePeople.

“This study is a great example of inter-agency and inter-governmental cooperation. Water-related issues are going to be among our biggest priorities in California in the future and I am glad that Congresswoman Sánchez was able to get funding for such a forward thinking initiative,” said Rebecca Drayse, Project Manager for TreePeople.

The innovative and often simple designs being studied include those for parking lots, street landscaping, and residential yards to allow rain and stormwater runoff to naturally percolate into local aquifers instead of flowing into storm drains and on to the ocean.

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