



**CITY OF LODI
COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

AGENDA TITLE: Consider Resolution Opposing Development of a Peripheral Canal and Expansion of State Authority over Local Land-Use Decisions

MEETING DATE: September 16, 2009

PREPARED BY: City Manager

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Consider a resolution opposing the development of a Peripheral Canal or any other isolated water conveyance facility in the Delta and the expansion of State authority over local land-use decisions.

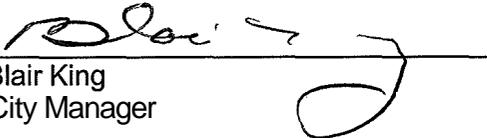
BACKGROUND INFORMATION: At the request of Mayor Hansen, this item is provided to the City Council for action.

Several committees created by Governor Schwarzenegger since 2006 have concluded that a Peripheral Canal, similar to the one rejected by California voters in 1982, may be a long-term solution to the state's water problems. Although such a canal may be beneficial to Southern California and other regions that lack sufficient water supplies, it could have serious consequences for Lodi and other San Joaquin County communities. A canal would alter the Delta's hydrology, affect the treatment and discharge of wastewater by Lodi and other communities, impair local road systems, create significant new flood dangers to City and Northern California Power Agency property at White Slough, and impair the Delta's water quality.

Instead of a costly Peripheral Canal, the State should instead promote alternatives such as using existing conveyance systems and promoting cost-effective and environmentally sound programs that capture, recycle and treat water. The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors and the cities of Stockton, Manteca and Lathrop have passed resolutions opposing a Peripheral Canal.

Meanwhile, two bills in the State Legislature, AB 458 and SB 12, were heavily rewritten on Sept. 9 and contain language having the potential to restrict local public agencies' existing land-use authority in the Delta region. City staff, the league of California Cities and the Assembly or State legislative analysts have not had time to study the impact of the bills, but both would create new State boards with some level of authority over local agencies' actions that affect the Delta. Staff believes current State authority is sufficient.

FISCAL IMPACT: None at this time, but the construction of a Peripheral Canal and additional State oversight of Delta lands will have adverse financial consequences for our community.


Blair King
City Manager

APPROVED: 
Blair King, City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-127

A RESOLUTION OF THE LODI CITY COUNCIL OPPOSING
DEVELOPMENT OF A PERIPHERAL CANAL AND EXPANSION
OF STATE AUTHORITY OVER LOCAL LAND-USE DECISIONS

WHEREAS, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger established the Delta Vision Commission, a Blue Ribbon Task Force and Stakeholder Coordination Group, to develop a Delta vision and strategic plan; and

WHEREAS, this effort has revived and calls for studies, modeling, investigations, and potential development of an isolated water conveyance facility such as the Peripheral Canal, singularly or as part of a dual conveyance system; and

WHEREAS, voters of the State of California in 1982 rejected an attempt to build a Peripheral Canal to transport water from the Delta to Southern California; and

WHEREAS, the construction and operation of a Peripheral Canal, or a similar facility, would require the taking of prime agricultural land for the construction of canal that would sever and impair utilities and local road systems, create significant new flood dangers to agricultural lands and City of Lodi and Northern California Power Agency facilities at the White Slough Water Pollution Control Facility, affect the water rights of water users within San Joaquin County, impair Delta water quality and supply, and impair the protection of fish, wildlife, and other recreational resources within San Joaquin County; and

WHEREAS, more viable alternatives to the Peripheral Canal exist; and

WHEREAS, the State Legislature is considering new laws to place greater control of the Delta in the hands of State bodies that would increase State oversight and restrict existing land-use authority of local agencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Lodi City Council that the City of Lodi opposes the development of a Peripheral Canal or isolated water conveyance system and opposes the expansion of State authority over local land-use decisions.

Date: September 16, 2009

I hereby certify that Resolution No. 2009-127 was passed and adopted by the Lodi City Council in a regular meeting held September 16, 2009, by the following vote:

- AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS – Hitchcock, Johnson, Katzakian, Mounce, and Mayor Hansen
- NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS – None
- ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS – None
- ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS – None



RANDI JOHL
City Clerk