

PRESS RELEASE

Jerry McNerney

Congressman, 11th District of California

For Immediate Release

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IT'S OFFICIAL, MCNENERNEY ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY PROJECTS

March 12, 2009

Washington, DC – Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) announced that key projects in San Joaquin County will receive federal funding. The funds will be used for essential transportation, levee and water projects and were included in the Appropriations bill that was signed into law by the President yesterday.

Congressman McNerney met with City of Stockton and San Joaquin County officials today to discuss the announcement of the funds. The members of today's meeting included Stockton Mayor Ann Johnston, Stockton Vice-Mayor Katherine Miller and San Joaquin County Supervisor Larry Ruhstaller.

During the meeting the group discussed regional priorities, including the \$454,000 that Congressman McNerney delivered for the Lower San Joaquin County River Project. These funds will help determine important next steps for the San Joaquin Delta, including flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration, shoreline, or streambank protection, and water quality enhancement.

"These projects are an important part of getting our economy back on track and have critical value to the entire region," Rep. McNerney said. "At a time when unemployment is 13 percent in San Joaquin County, this injection of capital into the local economy is more important than ever. California's families need the jobs that projects like these can help create."

"I'm proud to support projects like these that will improve our roads and transportation systems, protect our levees, and address the availability of water for our families," Rep. McNerney continued.

Stockton Mayor Ann Johnston and Supervisor Larry Ruhstaller both joined Congressman McNerney in applauding the announcement of these funds.

"The funds for these projects are important steps towards jumpstarting Stockton's economy," said Stockton Mayor Ann Johnston. "We all greatly appreciate the Congressman's assistance in fighting for Stockton. Working together, we can get the economy back on track."

Supervisor Larry Ruhstaller also added, "The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors and Chairman Leroy Ornellas are all overjoyed that our area will be receiving money to fund critical transportation and water projects. I support Congressman McNerney for all the time and energy he has devoted to getting funds for San Joaquin County."

Descriptions for all of the projects along with the dollar amounts secured appear below.

\$454,000 for Lower San Joaquin River Project Study

A top priority of San Joaquin Council of Governments and San Joaquin County, funding for the Lower San Joaquin River Project will be used for the large-scale Lower San Joaquin River Reconnaissance Study which will determine a wide range of necessary projects in the San Joaquin Delta, such as flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration, shoreline, or streambank protection, and water quality enhancement. The Delta is the predominant source of potable and agricultural water for more than 25 million Californians.

\$950,000 for Reconstruction of the French Camp/I-5 Interchange and Sperry Road Extension

Funding will be used to reconstruct the French Camp/I-5 Interchange and connect Sperry Road from Performance Drive to French Camp Road east of I-5. Reconstructing the freeway interchange and extending Sperry Road to meet it will provide for a more efficient flow of goods and services to and from the Stockton Metropolitan Airport, the Port of Stockton, and a large and growing commercial and industrial area.

\$950,000 for I-205/Lammers Road Interchange Improvements

Funding will be used for architectural, engineering, and right-of-way acquisition costs associated with the construction of a new I-205 interchange at Lammers Road. The project is necessary to relieve traffic congestion from the I-205 corridor to Tracy and Mountain House.

\$5 million for Stockton Ship Channel Maintenance

Funding will be used to conduct maintenance dredging and riverbank protection along the 35-foot deep Stockton Ship Channel on the San Joaquin River, which extends from Suisun Bay to the turning basin at the Port of Stockton and includes the California counties of Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, and Solano.

\$1.34 million for the San Francisco Bay to Stockton Project

Funding will be used to continue environmental studies on the navigation channels extending from the San Francisco Bay entrance to the Port of Stockton. The channels comprise a major waterborne transportation artery for all deep draft vessel traffic through the Golden Gate into the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta. Currently, many deep-draft vessels using the existing navigation channels must carry only partial loads, partially off-load into smaller vessels, or wait for favorable tides before transiting the channels - all of which result in increased transportation costs. Deepening the channel will allow for more efficient use of the channel, and will subsequently decrease truck traffic on congested roadways.

\$287,000 for the Farmington Groundwater Recharge Project

Funding will be used for the development of a conveyance-distribution system to provide surface water to selected sites as part of the Farmington Groundwater Recharge Project, underway in Eastern San Joaquin County.

\$250,000 for the Mokelumne River Regional Water Storage and Conjunctive Use Project

Funding will be used to capture unappropriated flows from the Mokelumne River and regulate supply to an integrated system of conjunctive use projects. This will provide additional water supply and reliability for San Joaquin County and potentially for an even larger area.

\$4.79 million for the CALFED Delta Levee Stability Program

Funding will be used to identify and prioritize levee stability projects in the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta as part of the ongoing CALFED Levee Stability Program. The intent of the Delta Levee Feasibility study is to provide funding for 54 previously approved flood protection projects that will benefit businesses and homeowners in the San Joaquin Delta.

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