April 6, 2015

The Honorable Ed Hernandez
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 2080
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Senate Bill 485 (Hernandez) – County of Los Angeles: sanitation districts

Dear Senator Hernandez:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Senate Bill 485 (Hernandez). This bill ensures regional water supplies are available through better management of stormwater and dry weather runoff while improving regional water quality.

Existing law enables the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (LACSD) to manage wastewater and solid waste, but does not provide the LACSD with authority to manage stormwater and dry weather runoff. Long Beach supports the development of Total Daily Maximum Loads (TMDLs) for trash, bacteria and other stormwater pollutants, and recognizes that management and treatment of stormwater can become quite costly. In coordination with upstream cities and the Gateway Regional Water Management Authority, Long Beach has helped lay a foundation for coordinated stormwater management; however, greater capacity needs to be developed to fully meet the requirements of existing and future TMDLs.

SB 485 grants the LACSD the authority to divert, manage, and treat stormwater and dry weather runoff. Pursing a larger role for the LACSD with respect to stormwater management will greatly aid local jurisdictions in their quest to reduce stormwater pollutants and improve watershed health. The City of Long Beach is committed to improving the management of stormwater and dry weather runoff. Long Beach is a member of Sanitation Districts 1, 2, 3, 8, and 19. SB 485 would allow Long Beach to partner with the Sanitation Districts to pursue a cost-effective approach to stormwater management and compliance, and potentially assist local water agencies with water conservation and reuse in the process.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach is proud to support SB 485.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
    The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
    The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
    The Honorable Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
    The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
    The Honorable Patrick O’Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

562.570.6801 | mayor@longbeach.gov | @LBMayorsOffice
333 West Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, California 90802