



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

**TODD GLORIA**  
MAYOR

February 22, 2024

The Honorable Grace Napolitano  
U.S House of Representatives  
1610 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C 20515

Dear Representative Napolitano:

I am writing to express my strong support for your legislation, House Resolution 5903 (H.R. 5903), authorizing the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) to accept funds for activities related to wastewater treatment and flood control works along the U.S.-Mexico border, particularly in the Tijuana River Valley (TJRV).

As Mayor of the City of San Diego I have witnessed firsthand the devastating impact of raw sewage contamination flowing from the Tijuana River into the Pacific Ocean and onto our beaches. This public health crisis has strained our local resources, posed significant environmental risks, and disproportionately impacted communities living near the border.

H.R. 5903 represents a critical step forward in addressing this complex issue. By authorizing the IBWC to accept funds for vital infrastructure projects, this legislation will directly support:

- **Upgrading wastewater treatment facilities in Tijuana:** This will significantly reduce the amount of raw sewage discharged into the TJRV, improving water quality in the river, estuary, and ocean.

- **Investing in flood control infrastructure:** Regular flooding events in the TJRV further exacerbate contamination issues. Investing in flood control measures will protect communities from flood risks and prevent the spread of pollutants.
- **Facilitating cross-border collaboration:** H.R. 5903 promotes binational cooperation between the U.S. and Mexico, fostering a unified approach to solving this shared challenge.

The benefits of H.R. 5903 extend far beyond San Diego. A cleaner TJRV will improve the health and well-being of communities throughout the region, support our Navy Seals who train in this area, and protect the sensitive coastal ecosystem. This legislation is not just an investment in infrastructure; it's an investment in public health, environmental sustainability, and the economic prosperity of our border communities.

I thank you for introducing this critical piece of legislation. Should you have any questions, please contact my Deputy Director of Government Affairs, Walter Bishop, at [wbishop@sandiego.gov](mailto:wbishop@sandiego.gov).

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



TODD GLORIA  
Mayor  
City of San Diego