May 2, 2012

The Honorable Fran Pavley
Chair, Senate Committee on
Natural Resources and Water
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 4035
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Lois Wolk
Chair, Senate Committee on
Governance and Finance
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5114
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 1337 (DeSaulnier)

Dear Senator Pavley and Senator Wolk:

On behalf of the Dublin City Council, I would like to express the City's support for SB 1337 – (DeSaulnier), which would remove Zone 7 from the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and create the Zone 7 Water Agency, with the same specified authorizations, powers, and duties that are currently enjoyed by Zone 7.

Zone 7 provides regional flood protection to all 425 square miles of eastern Alameda County and supplies treated drinking water to retailers serving more than 200,000 people in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, and through special agreement with the Dublin San Ramon Services District, to the Dougherty Valley area within Contra Costa County. Zone 7 also supplies agricultural water to 3,500 acres, primarily south Livermore Valley vineyards.

SB 1337 will align the scope of authority conferred upon the Zone 7 Board of Directors via AB 1125 (Chapter 284, Statutes of 2003) with the actual territory served, including the 15,000 residents in Dougherty Valley, by enacting a new enabling statute that would clearly establish Zone 7 as an independent special district separate from Alameda County and govern the nature and extent of Zone 7’s authority to operate.

This act would not only clarify Zone 7’s scope of governance and operations as an independent special district but also give new residents in the Dougherty Valley in southern Contra Costa County served indirectly by Zone 7 full voting rights to participate in board selection.

The Dublin City Council would urge you to support SB so Zone 7 can become an independent special district and, in so doing, more equitably serve its customers.

Sincerely,

Timothy Sbranti
Mayor
cc: Members of the City Council
    Honorable Mark DeSaulnier
    Honorable Loni Hancock
    Honorable Joan Buchanan
    Jill Duerig, Zone 7 Water Agency ✓
    Joni Pattillo, City Manager