



City of Anaheim

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

March 14, 2012

Dave Woelfel  
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board  
3737 Main Street, Suite 500  
Riverside, California 92501-3348

### BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Subject: Support for Basin Plan Amendments to Revise Recreation Standards for Inland Fresh Surface Waters in the Santa Ana Region

Dear Mr. Woelfel:

The City of Anaheim supports the efforts of the Stormwater Quality Task Force ("Task Force") and their proposed amendments to the Santa Ana Region Basin Plan. The multi-year effort of the Task Force has evaluated the science underlying water quality criteria for bacteria, has conducted comprehensive evaluations of the ability of the region's water bodies to support swimming and other recreational uses, and has considered a wide range of potential implementation options.

The Amendment updates the region's water quality objectives for indicator bacteria to conform to USEPA's recommended criteria, as well as incorporates a narrative objective to avoid human pathogens in the water at a level that would increase the risk of illness. Further, the Amendment recognizes the many urbanized water channels that are not used for swimming and other recreational activities and that recreational activities present in some streams are unsafe and do not occur during high wet weather flows, and should be regulated accordingly.

The comprehensive efforts of the Task Force, and the Santa Ana Regional Board's support of the Task Force, have presented a firm, scientific foundation for needed changes to the region's Basin Plan. We appreciate your consideration of this letter of support and look forward to the continuing efforts to utilize sound science and prudent public policy in the protection of the environment.

Sincerely,

Mark Vukojevic  
City Engineer

c: Natalie Meeks, Director of Public Works  
Ed Fernandez, Development Services Manager  
Keith Linker, Principal Civil Engineer  
Jonathan Heffernan, Operations Supervisor