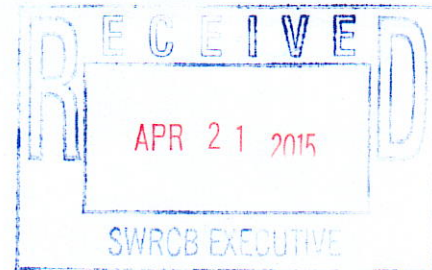




CITY OF CORONADO

1825 STRAND WAY
CORONADO, CA 92118



OFFICE OF CITY MANAGER
(619) 522-7335
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April 16, 2015

Ms. Felicia Marcus, Chair
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Sent Via Fax and Regular Mail
To: (916) 341-5620

Re: Preservation of Historic Cultural Resource – Coronado’s Orange Avenue Median Gardens and Park

Dear Ms. Marcus,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Regulatory Framework for Mandatory Conservation and probable Draft Regulations. I am writing to bring to your attention the unique nature of the City of Coronado’s Orange Avenue Median Gardens and Park and the potential harm that may come to this historic cultural resource if denied all water.

The gravity of California’s water crisis is understood and fully appreciated by the City of Coronado. We have been proactive in water conservation measures, investing funds in technology upgrades, installing new irrigation controls at our Municipal Golf Course, reducing turf, adopting the most recent State standards for landscaping requirements for new development, pursuing over a six year period, a Reclaimed Water Project, which has resulted in a recent joint agreement with the U.S. Navy to develop reclaimed water for irrigation of Navy and City golf courses.

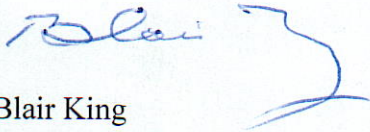
We are concerned however, with the possible impacts that may occur to Coronado’s historic Orange Avenue median gardens and parks if sufficient water is not provided. The community of Coronado was mapped out as a planned community in 1886. The same year, Orange Trees were planted linking the historic Hotel del Coronado to the San Diego Bay. This landscaped area connecting the Hotel del Coronado to the San Diego Bay became known as Orange Avenue and has become an irreplaceable element of the identity of the City of Coronado. It is 12 blocks long

and approximately 500 feet wide. It contains 16 separately maintained flower gardens and approximately 214 trees. This area is more than strips of turf dividing opposing lanes on a Main Street. This is an area with meticulously maintained, historic "mini-parks" that define the character of the City. It is often used as a place for a picnic lunch or an opportunity to read a book in a beautiful park setting. As a City whose economy is inextricably tied to tourism, conservatively irrigating these mini-parks is critical for the viability of Coronado's many small businesses.

Coronado has other turf medians and parkways throughout the City. For these, we will eliminate irrigation and are developing plans to convert the turf to zero-scape or some other form of low-impact design. Again, Coronadans understand the magnitude of the water crisis confronting the State, we are committed to taking compelling measures to curtail our water usage, while preserving our City's economy.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop regulations to address our state-wide water crisis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Blair King". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Blair King
City Manager
City of Coronado

attachment(s)

cc: Honorable Mayor and City Council

