

Heber Public Utility District

REPORT TO THE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING DATE: March 19, 2024

FROM: Madeline Dessert, General Manager

SUBJECT: Authorize Board President to sign a letter in support of Senate Bill 1309 to Senator Steve Padilla.

ISSUE:

Shall the Heber Public Utility Board of Directors authorize the Board President to sign a letter in support of Senate Bill 1309 to Senator Steve Padilla?

GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Board President to sign a letter in support of Senate Bill 1309 to Senator Steve Padilla

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

DISCUSSION:

Imperial County, home to one of the world's most substantial lithium reserves, is strategically positioned to meet over one-third of the global lithium demand. This is essential for powering the future of electric vehicles and renewable energy. Despite its potential, the region faces considerable infrastructure challenges. Recognizing this, SB 1309 seeks to address these barriers directly, facilitating a path toward economic prosperity and sustainability in the Region.

At its core, SB 1309 proposes a strategic approach to secure California's leadership in the lithium battery manufacturing arena. It directs the California Energy Commission (CEC), in consultation with the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (Go-Biz), the California Workforce Development Board, and other state agencies, to establish a Lithium Battery Production Council. This council will carry out an economic analysis focusing on workforce development, infrastructure improvements, sewage and wastewater treatment, and housing needs essential for supporting and expanding the lithium battery production sector. This comprehensive strategy is critical for preparing our region to meet and sustain the demands of a global industry.

CONCLUSION:

A letter of support to the Senator will ensure our community has proper representation to advocate for our unique infrastructure, wastewater and housing needs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Madeline Dessert, General Manager

Attachments: SB1309 Fact Sheet



Memo

Subject: HEBER PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
CHILDREN'S PARK RENOVATION PROJECT
THG Project No. 744.087

Originator: Christopherson Garcia, Assistant Project Engineer

Distribution: HEBER PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT (OWNER)
Madeline Dessert, General Manager
Francisco Rodriguez, Chief Operator
HPUD Board of Directors

THE HOLT GROUP, INC (HPUD CONSULTANT ENGINEER)
James G. "Jack" Holt, P.E., Principal Engineer
Fumi Hamanaka Galvan, P.E., P.L.S., Project Engineer
Juny Marmolejo, P.E., Project Engineer

Date: March 15, 2024

An update of the construction for the aforementioned project is listed below.

1. Construction Tasks completed:
 - Mobilization to the site on March 11, 2024
 - Closure of the park to the public
 - Removal and disposal of Park Facilities (Playground, Swing Set, Shade Structures)
 - Removal and disposal of concrete sidewalk and slabs
2. Construction Tasks Underway:
 - Existing Irrigation System removal
 - Excavation to subgrade for new park facilities
 - Earthwork of new Playground and Splash Pad areas
3. Construction Items Remaining to be Conducted:
 - Utility Work
 - Construction of Splash Pad
 - Construction of Restroom/Mechanical Room Facility
 - Construction of Playground
4. Timeline:
 - Anticipated Construction Completion Date: September 20, 2024