



Orange County Board of Supervisors



Washington Legislative Update

March 20, 2012

Santa Ana River Project/Army Corps of Engineers

- **FY 2012 workplan contained an additional \$3 million for SARP for a total of \$23 million, as well as nearly \$2 million for Newport Bay Harbor**
- **FY 2013 President's budget allocated only \$7.2 million—not enough to keep the project on schedule**



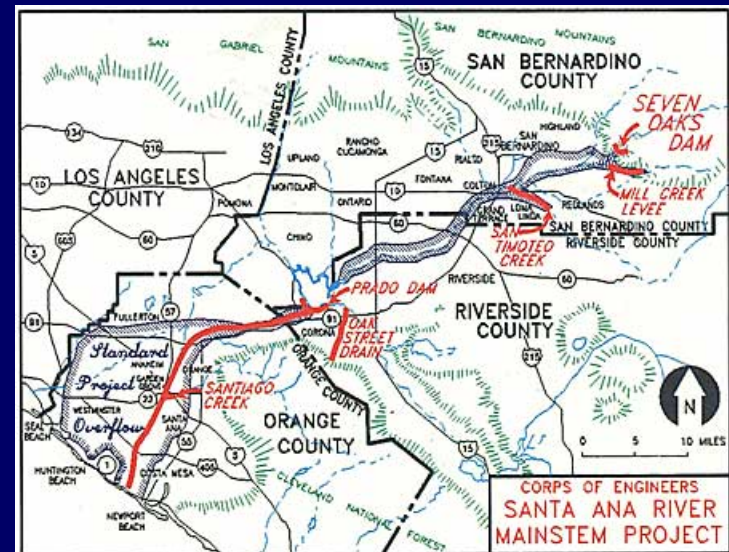
Santa Ana River Project/Army Corps of Engineers

- Corps was not expecting such a low number and does not have large amounts of unexpended funding from previous years
- Congress has limited ability to increase funding—programmatic funding increases are permissible but individual project increases are not



Santa Ana River Project/Army Corps of Engineers

- House Energy & Water Appropriations Subcommittee chair calls Corps budget “grossly underfunded”



Pension Reform

- **Treasury Department meeting on March 6, a disappointment**
 - **Officials not closer to a ruling**
 - **Opposition from national labor unions**



Pension Reform



- **Sanchez bill (HR 2934)**
 - **CBO scoring requested**
 - **Ways & Means Committee staff request meeting with Sanchez & Calvert staffs**
 - **Congresswoman Sanchez hoping to brief Senator Feinstein on the issue**

Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) before the Supreme Court

- Three days of oral argument beginning March 26, for four major issues
 - Applicability of the Anti-Injunction Act of 1867
 - Constitutionality of the individual mandate requirement
 - Severability of the individual mandate from the rest of ACA; and, constitutionality of Medicaid expansion



Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) before the Supreme Court

- **Three scenarios for the future of ACA**
 - **Court declares act unconstitutional**
 - **Court finds ACA to be constitutional, but a Republican is elected President and the Senate turns Republican**
 - **ACA is constitutional and President Obama is re-elected**

Surface Transportation Reauthorization

- Senate passes two-year, \$109 billion, bipartisan bill (S. 1813)
- Breakdown in House attempt to pass either five-year bill (H.R. 7) or 18-month bill; may resort to simply taking up S. 1813



Questions/Comments



James F. McConnell

Washington, D.C.