

DRAFT

June __, 2008

The Honorable Dana Rohrabacher
U.S. Congress, 46th District
2300 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF OPPOSITION TO SENATE AMENDMENTS
H.R. 3121 – Flood Insurance Reform & Modernization Act of 2007**

Dear Congress Member Rohrabacher:

On behalf of the City Council, I respectfully urge you and your fellow Representatives to vote NO on the Amendments made by the Senate to H.R. 3121. This legislation greatly concerns the City as it would place over 2,430 properties in Costa Mesa back into the Floodplain Designation. The City of Costa Mesa appreciates your past efforts and commitment in petitioning FEMA to update its maps and remove the Floodplain designation from these properties, as a result of major improvements to the Santa Ana River, the Prado Dam and the Seven Oaks Dam. We ask that you review the current version of H.R. 3121 and vote no on it.

H.R. 3121 seeks to find sources of revenue to keep NFIP and FEMA solvent, due to the flooding disasters in 2005—specifically Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and more recently, the severe flooding catastrophes in the Midwest. While these disasters were devastating, the City of Costa Mesa (along with other Orange County cities affected by this Bill) would argue that it is grossly unfair to require property owners to again have flood insurance in order to offset expenses from disasters in other geographic areas in the nation, particularly when flood protection improvements in the billions have been made in our area. Furthermore, to have this kind of legislation at a major economic downturn time when many are struggling to pay bills creates another hardship and is wholly unjustified.

For all these reasons, I respectfully request that you oppose H.R. 3121. Thank you for your consideration of our position and for any assistance on this matter.

Sincerely,

Eric R. Bever
Mayor

ccp/

c: The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, United States Senate
The Honorable Barbara Boxer, United States Senate
League of California Cities, Orange County Division