COMMUNITY WATER CENTER

EL CENTRO COMUNITARIO POR EL AGUA

The Human Right To Water – November 2020 Water Commission Dialogue

Jonathan Nelson, Policy Director

Our Vision

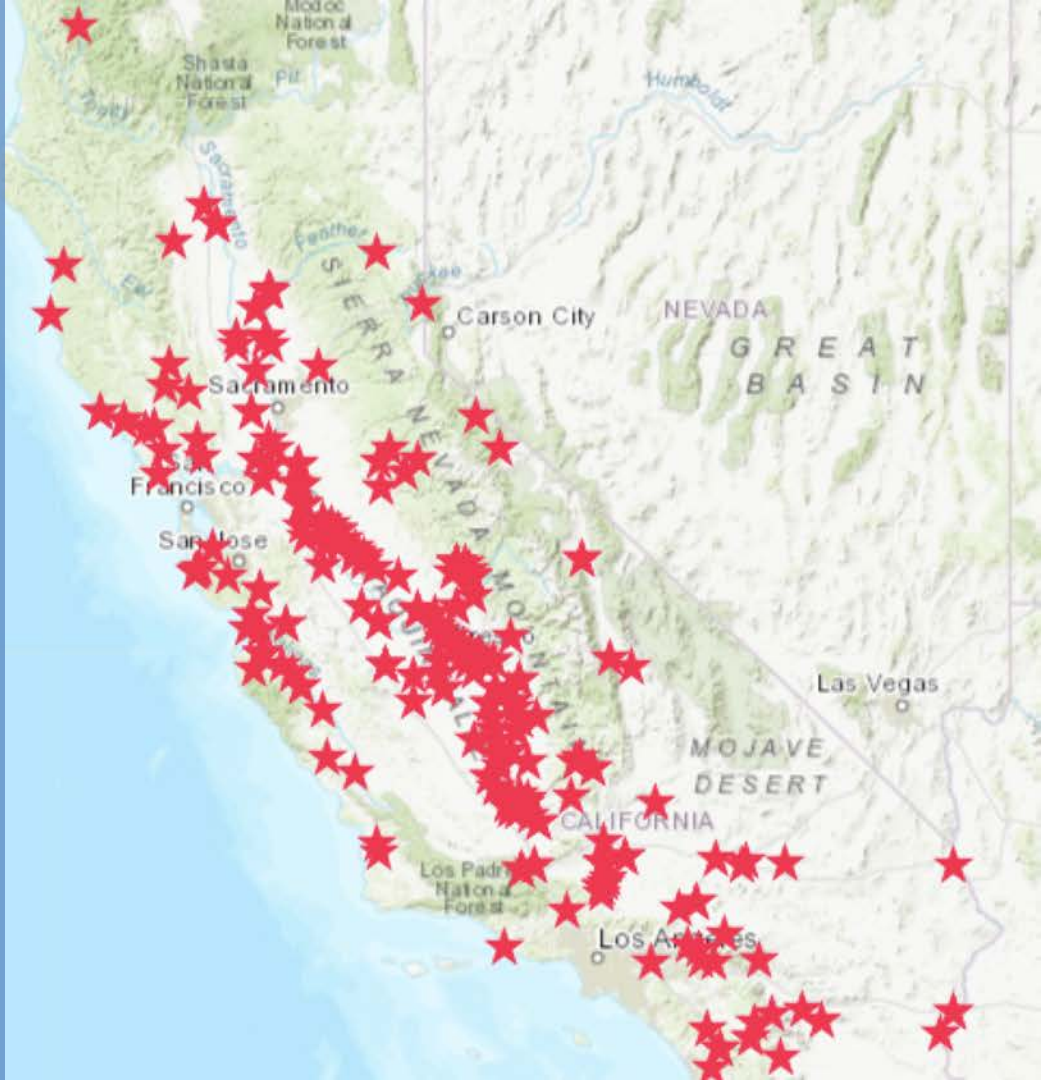
Ensure that ALL Californians have access to safe, clean and affordable drinking water

Advancing community-driven water solutions through organizing, education, and advocacy

QUE QUEREMOS?
AGUA LIMPIA, SANA Y ECONOMICA !!!
SI SE PUEDE!!!
FONDO PARA TENER AGUA LIMPIA Y ECONOMICA
WHAT DO WE WANT?
SAFE, CLEAN + AFFORDABLE WATER
YES WE CAN!!
FOR

WATER IS A HUMAN RIGHT
APOLLO LA LEY SB 623
Safe H2O for all!
APOYO SB623

1 million Californians impacted by unsafe drinking water each year!



©WRCB

June 22, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Key Points

- Consideration of the Human Right to Water should be at the forefront of project development, not an aside

- Communities and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) must be given fair decision-making power in projects

- The state must fund community capacity-building efforts, given historic disinvestment and disproportionate impacts

COMMUNITY WATER CENTER

EL CENTRO COMUNITARIO POR EL AGUA

The Human Right to Water

- Framework for dialogue that recognizes historical and current disproportionate impacts

- Offers vision for where California should be headed — universal access to safe and affordable drinking water

- Implementation of the Human Right to Water Law (AB 685, Eng) is a work in progress – and more needs to be done

COMMUNITY WATER CENTER

EL CENTRO COMUNITARIO POR EL AGUA

The Human Right to Water and Project Proposals/Applications

- Will this have a negative impact on community access to drinking water? Will it have a positive impact?

- Were communities and CBOs consulted? Were they given adequate resources and capacity-building to meaningfully engage?

- Did communities and CBOs have meaningful decision-making power in the decision(s) made?

COMMUNITY WATER CENTER

EL CENTRO COMUNITARIO POR EL AGUA

The Human Right to Water and Climate Change

- Climate change will lead to more extreme droughts that disproportionately hurt small rural communities and low-income households in the Central Valley

- Poor implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act will result in over 120,000 Californians losing access to drinking water and will undermine Governor Newsom's vision for safe drinking water for all

COMMUNITY WATER CENTER

EL CENTRO COMUNITARIO POR EL AGUA

Incorporating Communities/CBOs in Water Projects

- The ability for communities and community-based organizations to meaningfully engage is a function of investment in community capacity-building efforts

- It's not enough to "engage" communities and community-based organizations -- we must also give community voices a fair and equal amount of decision-making power

Closing

- Consideration of the Human Right to Water should be at the forefront of project development, not an aside

- Communities and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) must be given fair decision-making power in projects

- The state must fund community capacity-building efforts, given historic disinvestment and disproportionate impacts

Because clean water is a right, not a privilege!

communitywatercenter.org

Jonathan.Nelson@ communitywatercenter.org