

EXHIBIT 12-B



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON, PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY
1759 LEWIS ROAD, SUITE 210
MONTEREY, CA 93944-3223

January 8, 2021

Board of Directors
MPWMD
P.O. Box 85
Monterey, CA 93942-0085

Dear Monterey Peninsula Water Management District Board of Directors:

My name is Erika Marx, Water Program Manager for the United States Army Garrison, Presidio of Monterey. On behalf of the Garrison Commander, I would like to extend the Army's appreciation to both the District staff and Board members for your consideration of Draft Ordinance No. 187.

The current water credit expiration term in Rule 25.5 constrains the Army from meeting its mission at the Defense Language Institute, or DLI. As one of the most prestigious military language training institutes in the world, DLI is dedicated to providing the necessary language training for military service members that remains vital to the protection of our national security. The Presidio and DLI also play an integral role in sustaining our local economy, contributing approximately \$373 million to the Peninsula's economy last year and providing military training, jobs, and housing for over 10,000 military service members, civilians, and their families.

As a leader in water conservation and in an effort to help the District manage this scarce resource, the Presidio has earned water credits through retrofitting and integrating innovative water-savings technologies over the years and we plan to implement several more such projects in the future, including an installation-wide greywater and rainwater capture and reuse system as well as replacement of 250 clothes washers with high-efficiency machines. These water credits ensure we can continue executing critical infrastructure projects, such construction of additional classroom and administrative office spaces, which are essential for DLI to continue its mission successfully.

As we currently have no recourse for extending the expiration date beyond ten years, we lost 6.803 AF of water credits in 2019, and we stand to lose another 7.110 AF water credits this June, which will leave us with zero water credits. Critical infrastructure projects slated for funding in the next five to ten years are now at risk due to our lack of water credits. At the time we earned our water credits, we anticipated receiving funding for several such projects before the credits expired, but due to frequently changing priorities in Congress and many other variables, we have experienced funding delays spanning ten years or more. We anticipate these delays will continue into the foreseeable future; thus, we will continue to encounter the same issue of water credits expiring before we are able to use them. Although the District anticipates a new water supply will become available to the Peninsula in the next 2-3 years, we

EXHIBIT 12-B

-2-

have no guarantees, which is why this ordinance is of paramount importance to the Army. We greatly appreciate the time and effort dedicated to this matter and respectfully ask the Board for your support of this ordinance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erika Marx". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Erika Marx
Water Program Manager,
Environmental Division
Directorate of Public Works