

April 23, 2016

Congressman Huffman
999 Fifth Ave, Suite 290
San Rafael, CA 94901

Dear Congressman Huffman,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the future of the San Rafael Canal. The last, and only partial, dredging of the Canal happened in 2011. The Army Corps of Engineers dredged 70% of the Canal to a depth of only 5.5 feet at low tide. Their own recommendation for a commercially viable waterway is 7-8 feet. Additionally, most of this 2011 activity occurred on the eastern flank of the Canal, leaving the western sector to silt in.

At this point, the waterfront could reach a tipping point where navigation and recreational use would be greatly diminished. This waterway is worth saving! Many businesses have thrived along the Canal for decades. Take for instance, Helmut's Marine Service, which has been family owned and operated on the Canal since 1987. Lowrie Yacht Harbor opened back in 1948, and Western Boat and Tackle set up shop on the Canal in 1955. The businesses along the Canal bring in over \$10.5 million per year, contributing significantly to the local economy.

The Canal is treasured for recreation, with more than 1,000 watercrafts berthed within its purview. People can enjoy paddle boarding with 101 Surf Sports, listening to music at Terrapin Crossroads, or sharing a meal on the deck of Pier 15. More than 400 houses and condos line the Canal, and it is also home to ducks, otters, and other birds and wildlife.

Finally, it provides flood relief for the entire San Rafael watershed, benefiting thousands who live well beyond the Canal.

Please do not let this important waterway disappear. Dredging will improve the water quality and habitat for people and wildlife, and allow a thriving commerce to continue. We need you to do all you can to secure the funds to dredge our Canal.

With Regards,

Address:

San Rafael, CA 94901

April 23, 2016

Senator McGuire
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 425
San Rafael, CA 94903

Dear Senator McGuire,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the future of the San Rafael Canal. The last, and only partial, dredging of the Canal happened in 2011. The Army Corps of Engineers dredged 70% of the Canal to a depth of only 5.5 feet at low tide. Their own recommendation for a commercially viable waterway is 7-8 feet. Additionally, most of this 2011 activity occurred on the eastern flank of the Canal, leaving the western sector to silt in.

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Assemblyman Levine
3501 Civic Center Dr. Room 412
San Rafael, CA 94903

Dear Assemblyman Levine,

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