



## OFFICE OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

COUNTY OF KINGS  
GOVERNMENT CENTER

REBECCA CAMPBELL  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE  
OFFICER

### **-FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-**

October 24, 2018

On October 23, 2018, the White House held a special conference with local leaders from California, Alaska, and Hawaii. The focus of the conference is to build relationships with local officials. Supervisors Craig Pederson and Doug Verboon both received special invitations to attend this event at the nation's capital to represent the region and the County of Kings. In particular, both Supervisors received a special opportunity to engage the President and share their personal experiences with him on how water availability has impacted generational farming in the San Joaquin Valley.

Both Supervisors thanked the President for his memo "Promoting the Reliable Supply and Delivery of Water in the West" that was signed last week. The Presidential Memo directs the Secretaries of the Interior, Commerce, Energy, Army, and the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality to coordinate efforts to streamline federal regulatory requirements for water infrastructure projects and also to finalize the biological opinions (which influence Delta exports) no later than January 31, 2019. It is envisioned that this will be the beginning of the process to ease regulatory constraints that have significantly reduced the amount of surface water available to water districts that rely on the State Water Project and the Central Valley Project and creates new sources of water by streamlining the necessary permitting for water storage projects.

Video of the conversation between the President and Supervisors Pedersen and Verboon can be found at: <https://youtu.be/PuTIYedQ61M>, starting at 1:05:20. The printed dialogue can be found at: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/> under remarks from the Leadership Conference from October 23, 2018.

For more information, please contact Roger Bradley, Assistant County Administrative Officer, at (559) 852-2380.