

**POLICY STATEMENT OF DON SAYLOR
FOR JANUARY 18, 2011 SWRCB HEARING
ON DAVIS-WOODLAND WATER SUPPLY PROJECT
WATER-RIGHT APPLICATIONS 30358A ND 30358B**

My name is Don Saylor. On January 3, 2011, I began service as a member of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, representing District 2. I served from 2004-10 as a member of the City of Davis City Council, having been elected in 2004 and 2008. I served as Mayor of the City of Davis until my election to the Board of Supervisors. During my tenure as a Davis City Councilmember, I was committed to collaboration with the nearby City of Woodland and was a founding Board Member of the Woodland-Davis Clean Water Agency.

During my tenure as a Davis City Councilmember, the most critical matter under consideration has been the provision of safe, reliable water for municipal use and the concomitant quality of effluent discharged from the City of Davis waste-water treatment facilities. The City of Davis has always depended solely upon groundwater wells for municipal water use. Unfortunately, the concentrations of constituents in the water from our aquifers are higher than the levels that are judged to be safe for discharge to the water-courses leading to the Sacramento River. These high concentrations require us to improve the quality of our water supplies. Moreover, the long-term reliability of the water supply from these aquifers has been suspect.

We established early on that the best way to secure long-term water supply and quality was to obtain access to surface water from the Sacramento River. In the early 1990s, visionary water stewards in Yolo County applied for water right permits to serve the needs of the City of Davis and the City of Woodland. Over the intervening years, substantial progress has been made to advance the permits for final consideration.

In 2009, the cities formed the Woodland-Davis Clean Water Agency, of which I was a founding Board member, to pursue the development of a surface water supply project to serve Woodland, Davis, and UC Davis. Our overall concept is to blend the use of surface water and ground water through conjunctive use in a manner that improves the quality of source water for our use, as well as for that entering our sanitary sewer flows and eventually being discharged as effluent. This Joint Powers Authority has the responsibility to secure water right permits and construct intake, treatment and conveyance facilities necessary to serve the two municipalities and UC Davis, as needed.

While the project is not without its challenges, great strides have been made in the past year to ensure the facilities are operational by the end of 2016. Recently, the Agency acquired rights to use a site for an intake on the

Sacramento River, which will be shared with Reclamation District 2035, easements for pipelines and other project facilities, and access to summer water during times when surface water would otherwise be unavailable under the Agency's water right permit. The partnership with Reclamation District 2035 will result in a shared cost for the construction and operation of a new intake facility, with state-of-the-art fish screens and other environmentally-beneficial enhancements. It will also ensure that water resources are available for both municipal and agricultural uses, with the least possible environmental impact.

I respectfully request the State Water Resources Control Board promptly approve water-right applications 30358a and 30358b, and issue water right permits for the Davis-Woodland Water Supply Project, allowing the Woodland-Davis Clean Water Agency to move forward with plans to improve water quality, water supply reliability, and the suitability of treated wastewater.