



## TCWD Receives Joint Letter from Neighboring Districts on Exploring Rate Relief Options

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The Trabuco Canyon Water District (TCWD) Board of Directors continues to take steps toward exploring potential strategies for reducing customer water rates while maintaining service quality and long-term system reliability.

On June 10, 2025, TCWD received a joint letter from Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) and Santa Margarita Water District (SMWD) in response to TCWD's Request for Proposals (RFP) issued in May. In the letter, both IRWD and SMWD expressed their shared interest in working collaboratively with TCWD to evaluate options that may offer rate relief to TCWD customers.

The letter outlines a commitment by IRWD and SMWD to engage in a structured due diligence process with TCWD. This process will include gaining a more detailed understanding of TCWD's operations and financial position, followed by discussions on whether any mutually beneficial strategies could be developed. Potential outcomes may include separate or joint proposals from IRWD and SMWD, though no specific direction has been determined at this early stage.

It is important to note that this is an information-gathering phase only. TCWD has not made any decisions regarding shared services, operational contracts, annexation, or other governance changes. The intent is to assess all possible options that could support cost savings for ratepayers, without compromising service quality or system reliability.

As part of their proposal initial response, IRWD and SMWD signaled interest in forming a joint Board Ad Hoc Committee to begin discussions and identify a framework for evaluating potential support opportunities. TCWD is open to continuing these collaborative conversations while maintaining a clear commitment to transparency, public involvement, and thoughtful evaluation. While no specific timeline for the receipt of proposals has been established at this time, TCWD anticipates that this phase of the process will take several months. TCWD is committed to providing our customers with timely progress updates.

For more information or to follow updates on this initiative, please visit [TCWD's website](#) or contact General Manager Fernando Paludi at [fpaludi@tcwd.ca.gov](mailto:fpaludi@tcwd.ca.gov).

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