



CITY OF SANTA MARIA
UTILITIES DEPARTMENT
Business Services • Regulatory Compliance
Solid Waste Services • Water Resources

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June 6, 2016

SENT VIA E-MAIL ONLY

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
Supervisors Adam, Carbajal, Farr, Lavagnino, Wolf
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

**SUBJECT: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR COUNTYWIDE ORDINANCE
FOR PHARMACEUTICALS COLLECTION & DISPOSAL**

The City of Santa Maria Utilities Department ("City") supports continued efforts by the Santa Barbara County ("County") Board of Supervisors' ("Board") to remove unwanted pharmaceuticals from the County's wastewater stream and protect the watershed that serves the Santa Maria Valley.

The City has collaborated with the County Sheriff's Department and County Public Works Department since 2009 to educate the public on the proper disposal of unwanted medications and promote a permanent drop site. Despite these efforts, there remains an increasing volume of pharmaceutical waste. A successful program for the proper disposal of unused medication rests on our community's understanding of the dangers associated with casual disposal of unused medications and the availability of safe and convenient disposal methods and locations.

The City continues to support efforts by the Board to develop a sustainable and convenient program that provides for the safe disposal of unwanted medications throughout the County.

Sincerely,

SHAD S. SPRINGER, P.E., MPA
Director of Utilities

Cc: City of Santa Maria
Mayor Patino, City Manager Haydon, Deputy Director Clarin, Solid Waste Manager Cantu

County of Santa Barbara
CEO Miyasato, Director/Health Officer Wada, Public Works Director McGolpin, Program Specialist Robinson