

Congressman Kevin McCarthy Announces \$74 Million for the Success Reservoir Enlargement Project

Congressman Kevin McCarthy released the following statement announcing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers decision to provide \$74 million in funding for the Success Reservoir Enlargement Project (SREP):

"Full funding for the Success Reservoir Enlargement Project marks a massive win for the communities of Tulare County and the City of Porterville. Efforts to enlarge the dam have been years in the making and after more than a decade of delays and studies, this is the start of a new era for the project - one that will finally see it to completion. Once completed, this project will increase flood protection for communities below the reservoir, as well as provide increased water storage for our neighbors.

"I want to commend President Trump and the Army Corps of Engineers for demonstrating a continued commitment to revitalizing America's infrastructure. But most importantly, this project could not have been accomplished without the persistence, support, and leadership of community stakeholders, such as Tulare County, the City of Porterville, the Tule River Improvement Joint Powers Authority, and Mr. Dick Schafer. While there is much yet to be done, I look forward to continuing to work in partnership with the Army Corps and community leaders to bring this much-needed project to its conclusion."

Additionally, the following Tulare County community leaders provided statements on the Army Corps of Engineers' decision:

*"The non-federal sponsors of the Success Reservoir Enlargement Project (SREP) are most grateful for the total funding of the Project and are excited about finally being able to construct the 10' raise in the spillway of Success Dam that will double the flood protection for the City of Porterville and the downstream landowners. The local stakeholders have been advocates for increase storage on the Tule River at Success Dam for nearly 30 years." - **Richard L. Shafer, Tule River Watermaster***

*"Getting the success reservoir spillway enlargement project fully funded is great news. This is a much needed for flood protection for Porterville and Tulare County as well as more storage for irrigation needs for farmers." - **The Honorable Mike Ennis, 5th District Tulare County Supervisor***

*"On behalf of the residents of the City of Porterville, we are truly appreciative for the determination by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to provide full funding for the Success Reservoir Enlargement Project, first and foremost to provide enhanced security for the Porterville community from the threat of flood, as well as providing additional storage in support of local agricultural, community, and recreational purposes. We would like to sincerely thank Congressman McCarthy for his dedicated efforts and tireless support for this long-needed project, and for the perseverance and resilience of the stakeholders of the Tule River Improvement Joint Powers Authority, which the increased safety and benefits will be enjoyed by Porterville residents for generations to come." - **The Honorable Milt Stowe, Mayor, City of Porterville***

“The full funding of the Success Enlargement Project by the Army Corps is tremendous news for the local area. This project will have significant benefits for the local region both in terms of flood protection and water supply. A great deal of credit goes to Congressman McCarthy for the work he did to make this a reality. The Congressman’s efforts were key in getting the message delivered at all levels of the Corps and he coordinated with the local sponsors every step of the way. The work of design and construction can now begin without further concern for funding. That is a huge win for the local constituents.” - Dan Vink, Project Lead for the Tule River Improvement Joint Powers Authority

Background

- In February 2018, Congress passed and the President signed into law the Bipartisan Budget Act (Public Law 115-123), which provided over \$15 billion in funding to the Army Corps of Engineers to construct flood and storm damage reduction projects, such as the Success Reservoir Enlargement Project (SREP).

- Congress authorized the SREP in the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 at \$17.9M as a flood control project.

- Construction of the SREP started in 2003, but was put on hold in 2005 following potential safety concerns with Success Dam. These safety concerns have been resolved, but SREP costs increased over this period of time.

- Following more than a decade of delay, this funding will enable the Army Corps of Engineers to complete the necessary environmental and design work and then construct the project.

- According to the Tule River Improvement Joint Powers Authority, the SREP will significantly increase flood protection for the City of Porterville and other communities below the dam, as well as more than 400,000 acres of valuable farmland.

- A list of all the projects provided funding by the Army Corps of Engineers can be viewed [here](#). The SREP is listed as the “Tule River/Lake Success Enlargement (Success Dam), CA.”

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