



DOUG CHAFFEE

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March 2, 2026

The Honorable Alex Padilla
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dave Min
United States House of Representatives
1034 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Adam Schiff
United States Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Request for Support for Community Project Funding – County of Orange Newport Beach Harbor Patrol Boat Project

Dear Senator Padilla, Senator Schiff, and Representative Min:

On behalf of the Orange County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to request your support for the County of Orange's community project funding request of \$1 million in support of the Newport Beach Harbor Patrol Boat project. This project would allow for the purchase of two harbor patrol boats, enhancing public safety, security, and operational efficiency in one of Southern California's busiest harbors.

The Orange County Sheriff's Department Harbor Patrol Bureau is responsible for 24/7 maritime law enforcement, firefighting and emergency response, serving as emergency first responders in Orange County's harbors and coastline. Deputies respond to 12,000 calls for service annually. Many of the Sheriff's 16 boats are near (or in some cases have exceeded) their service life.

The proposed project will allow the department to replace two aged vessels with new patrol boats, ensuring that Harbor Patrol can effectively respond to emergencies and conduct search and rescue missions in the harbor and coastal waters. Ultimately, the boats will provide safe and functional vehicles for Harbor Patrol personnel, ensuring they can effectively serve the community. As Newport Beach Harbor continues to expand as a hub for tourism, recreation, and commerce, the Harbor Patrol needs additional resources to support the increased maritime activity.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Doug Chaffee
Chair, Orange County Board of Supervisors
Supervisor, Orange County Fourth District