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CITY OF CALEXICO NEW RIVER COMMITTEE

September – October
2010

CNRC and City of Calexico adopt a Memorandum of Understanding

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On August 31, 2010 an MOU between the CNRC and City of Calexico was approved by the Calexico City Council. The purpose of this agreement is to coordinate the cleanup, regulation, administration, improvement, restoration, and management of the New River as it passes through Calexico. The City and the CNRC recognize that this agreement is intended by both parties to define an administrative process and facilitate cooperation among them to the greatest extent possible. The Calexico City Council designated Councilman Bill Hodge to be the administrative representative that will work on all matters related to the MOU with the CNRC.

CNRC School Project: The Vision of Students for a Clean New River

The CNRC reached out to local educators to support the current efforts by allowing the CNRC to educate students on the negative impacts posed by the New River in our community through a class project. This project will help illustrate how students envision a clean New River and a non contaminated environment. Students will be rewarded for their participation and three awards will be given to the best "visions" for the New River at each grade level. The CNRC Board of Directors will serve as the panel of judges that will determine the top three winners for each grade level. An award ceremony will take place two weeks after all entrees have been received where each winner will be recognized by a local dignitary. The CNRC anticipates to have a ceremony to recognize all winners and participants during the first week of December.

Reason behind project. The CNRC is committed to contribute to a healthy environment for Calexico and Imperial County by reaching out to our community. Calexico residents have been exposed and threatened by the New River for more than half a century. The up and coming generations of children and young adults in Calexico need to learn about the problems posed by the New River. These young generations need to know how they can engage themselves and be part of the current efforts to remediate the most polluted river in North America. By doing this project the "young" community residents can learn about reducing exposure to the threats of the toxic and polluted New River and advocate with elected officials to positively impact the future of the New River.

Project Goals

- Educate kindergarten, elementary, junior high, high school and college students about the negative health impacts the New River poses to our community.
- Depending on grade level each student will participate in this project where they will produce their vision for a clean and healthy New River.
- Students will be rewarded for their participation and three awards will be given to the best "visions" for the New River at each grade level.



CNRC Sponsors



To access New River water quality data please use the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board's link : http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb7/water_issues/programs/new_river/dataindex.shtml

New River Preliminary Development: the CNRC's vision for a clean environment

The CNRC contracted the services of *Pro Terra: Engineering and Surveying* to create improvement mapping layouts of the New River. These mapping layouts reflect the CNRC's preferred alternative for an improvement project for the New River in the Westside of Calexico. These visuals reflect an enclosed and/or piped New River beginning at the International Boundary through the 2nd Street Bridge, passing through the "flood zone" located between the Calexico Waste Water Treatment Plant and the Westside households, continuing through the All American Canal siphon (removing the New River nuisance from the residential zone), concluding at the crossing of Highway 98.

Below the improvement process begins with the current state of the New River flood zone and gradually a "green region" is created filled with vegetation, a bicycle circuit, sport facilities and a buffer zone that separates this development from the homes of the Westside residents of Calexico.



Aerial photo without development



Phase 1 — 2nd St. Bridge to All American Canal



Development — Sport facilities with street circuit



Phase 1 — Aerial photo with development at 100%

