

June 26, 2015

Mr. Kurt E. Floren
Agricultural Commissioner/
Director of Weights and Measures
12300 Lower Azusa Road
Arcadia, California 91006

Dear Mr. Floren:

The Quality and Productivity Commission thanks you for a detailed and wide-ranging update during our Department Visit on Thursday, June 25, 2015. Commissioners were pleased to learn of the collaboration with stakeholders statewide that led to the passage of AB 1871.

This legislation addresses a long-standing financial burden within the certified farmers' market program. Now agricultural commissioners have the authority to charge fees in amounts that will offset costs. We encourage your continued evaluation of the fee structures in the Department's other 29 programs.

Commissioners commend you for placing an e-Commerce program on the Department website for CalAg Permits. A major customer service enhancement, the software has automated and standardized pesticide use reporting and the issuance of restricted material permits for public agencies and private agriculture.

The Commission shares your desire to increase the program's functionality by including applications for certified farmers' market and producer registrations, and produce certification and structural fumigation fee payments.

Members of the Commission were impressed with additional, Department quality and productivity improvements, such as:

- Building performance measures into the annual budget preparation process by establishing standards for various programs and doing a comparative analysis
- Fully implementing the Exotic Pest Detection GIS Mapping and data management system, which was supported with a Productivity Investment Fund grant

We support plain language

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Quality and Productivity
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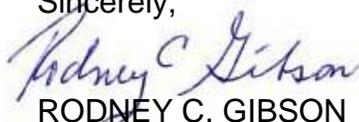
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We look forward to working with your Department on several key projects:

- Identifying resources for development of a data management system for Weights and Measures that will be a model for the State; Integrating digitized GIS data gleaned from Department programs
- Promoting the viability of an ACWM satellite office with ample auto and large-truck/equipment parking at Olive View-UCLA Medical Center to enhance customer service to residents and businesses in the San Fernando and Antelope Valleys.
- Exploring open data opportunities that increase government transparency
- Developing an automated program to compile and analyze fraud in wholesale merchandise and other business products.

We will continue to work closely with your Department and Alycia Araya, Productivity Manager. Thank you for a productive visit. Please contact Victoria Pipkin-Lane, Executive Director, at (213) 974-1361 for additional information.

Sincerely,



RODNEY C. GIBSON
Chair

RCG:VPL:LP

c: Commissioner Shawn Landres
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