

**MONDAY MORNING GROUP OF WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY
ANNUAL ADVOCACY TRIP – WASHINGTON, DC
APRIL 9 – 11, 2024**

NAVY HISTORIC BUILDING 209 RENOVATION

ISSUE: Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division (NSWC Corona) has experienced tremendous customer demand over the past 10 years as a critical technical resource within the Department of the Navy (DoN). Prior to COVID-19, NSWC Corona was at 97 percent seating capacity and deficient 550 seats and 270,749 square feet of critical laboratory and support space. Concurrently, Building 209, a National Historic Registered Building, has been vacant for several decades, in disrepair, and does not comply with modern building safety access or seismic building codes. The renovation and modernization of Building 209 would maximize existing resources, add 131 workspaces, and resolve 23% of NSWC Corona’s Base Facilities Requirement seating deficiency.

Further, the project would best align workspaces by relocating Range Systems Engineering scientists, engineers, and technicians near their existing laboratory in the adjacent Building 204. The one-time expense of renovating and modernizing the 17,679 square foot space exceeds the baseline revenue NSWC Corona generates as a Navy Working Capital Fund (NWCF) activity. NSWC Corona has invested nearly \$2 million to produce a complete and State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) compliant design for a construction contract award-ready project that offers a shovel-ready project opportunity within the DoN.

ACTION: Congressional direction is needed to appropriate funds to support the restoration and modernization of critical laboratory and support space for NSWC Corona’s historic Building 209 in the amount of \$24 million within the Military Construction (MILCON) appropriation for Commander, Navy Installations Command, Navy Region Southwest.

BACKGROUND: Investing in Building 209 will reimagine a two-story dormitory originally built in 1928, last occupied as an office space in the 1980s. Due to safety risks associated with non-compliance with seismic and egress building codes, Building 209 is vacant and will continue to degrade and become unserviceable or condemned. The project will realize a space dedicated to Research Development, Test and Engineering (RDT&E) work supporting engineering, design, testing and assessment of live, virtual, and constructive training range engineering systems across the Department of Defense. Renovating the historic space offers a unique opportunity to solve NSWC Corona RDT&E space requirements while preserving, through occupancy, a National Historic Registered Building. Through the detailed design process, the Building 209 project has gained the support of local city council members, SHPO, and the Norconian Historical Society. Moreover, the reimaged space will meet or exceed the Department of Interior Standards while shaping a space dedicated to retaining technical talent in the Inland Empire.

