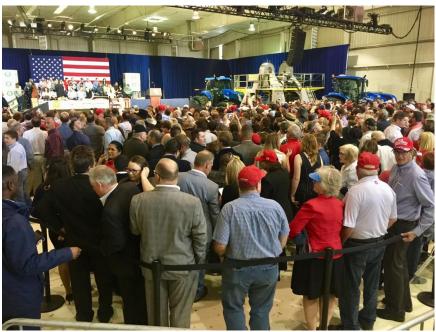
## The Bakersfield Californian

## Trump supporters out in full force at Meadows Field Airport

By QUINN WILSON qwilson@bakersfield.com 10 min ago February 19, 2020 2:38 p.m.



Supporters inside JACO hanger where President Trump will speak today in Bakersfield

Supporters of President Donald Trump waited in lengthy lines outside of Meadows Field Airport Wednesday morning to welcome the president to Bakersfield.

Excitement and pride were exhibited by many that sported their Trump gear and "Make America Great Again" hats.

"It means everything to us (that the President is visiting us)," said Diane Barnett. "We (Republicans) feel alone here in California, but we're not."

"I think it's a great thing that we have our President visit our great town," said Gurinder Singh Basra.

Trump is expected to address local farmers shortly on issues concerning supplying and delivering water to California and other western states, according to a statement from the White House.

"I think it's important to have the President come here to have face-to-face interactions with his constituents," said Audri Ediger. "I think it's important our farmers and workers are heard. When you're in the farming industry in California it can be scary."

James C. Morrison, who works in the oil industry, feels that Gov. Gavin Newsom is "trying to hurt" the oil business in Kern County. He said that it's "time to push back" against the state's regulations on oil.

"There's a lot of new regulations the governor is going to put on the oil industry. I want (Trump) here in Kern County. We need Kern County to be an oil and gas sanctuary," Morrison said.

"I think (water) is a great topic to be discussed here with our farmers. But what's going to power the tractors for the farmers without gas and oil?"



Tobias Branson, 10, waits with his family at Meadows Field in anticipation of President Donald Trump's arrival in Bakersfield

The local gathering was taking place on Boughton Drive just off of Airport Drive on the east side of the airport. Those interested in seeing the president speak in the JACO Hanger at Meadows Field had to RSVP ahead of time and have their backgrounds checked, according to Mike Mazzie.

"I'm out of breath from the walk but it was worth it," Mazzie said. "It means a lot for (Trump) to recognize us when he has so much going on in the world."

Vito Mazzie, Mike's son, was most excited at the prospect of seeing Air Force One or Marine One during the president's visit.

This story will be updated

https://www.bakersfield.com/news/trump-supporters-out-in-full-force-at-meadows-field-airport/article\_c98997 8c-5344-11ea-a553-0b1acd99f329.html