

MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY  
Jointly with the  
**PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**  
August 21, 2017, 8:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 101

**Committee:**

Director Tamaribuchi, Chairman  
Director Dick  
Director Yoo Schneider

Staff: R. Hunter, K. Seckel, J. Volzke,  
P. Meszaros, H. Baez, D. Micalizzi,  
T. Baca

**Ex Officio Member:** W. Osborne

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MWDOC Committee meetings are noticed and held as joint meetings of the Committee and the entire Board of Directors and all members of the Board of Directors may attend and participate in the discussion. Each Committee has designated Committee members, and other members of the Board are designated alternate committee members. If less than a quorum of the full Board is in attendance, the Board meeting will be adjourned for lack of a quorum and the meeting will proceed as a meeting of the Committee with those Committee members and alternate members in attendance acting as the Committee.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Public comments on agenda items and items under the jurisdiction of the Committee should be made at this time.

**ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED** - Determine there is a need to take immediate action on item(s) and that the need for action came to the attention of the District subsequent to the posting of the Agenda. (Requires a unanimous vote of the Committee)

**ITEMS DISTRIBUTED TO THE BOARD LESS THAN 72 HOURS PRIOR TO MEETING --**

Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt public records that relate to open session agenda items and are distributed to a majority of the Board less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection in the lobby of the District's business office located at 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, California 92708, during regular business hours. When practical, these public records will also be made available on the District's Internet Web site, accessible at <http://www.mwdoc.com>.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES
  - a. Federal Legislative Report (Barker)
  - b. State Legislative Report (BBK)
  - c. County Legislative Report (Lewis)
  - d. Legal and Regulatory Report (Ackerman)
  - e. MWDOC Legislative Matrix
  - f. Metropolitan Legislative Matrix
2. DEVELOP PROGRAM GOALS FOR MWDOC'S FEDERAL ADVOCACY PROGRAM
3. UPDATE ON THREE MONTH SOCIAL MEDIA PILOT WITH HASHTAGPINPOINT CORPORATION

**ACTION ITEMS**

4. TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON, DC TO COVER FEDERAL INITIATIVES
5. TRAVEL TO SACRAMENTO TO COVER STATE INITIATIVES
6. ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES (ACWA) REGION 10 ELECTION

**INFORMATION ITEMS** (THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY – BACKGROUND INFORMATION IS INCLUDED IN THE PACKET. DISCUSSION IS NOT NECESSARY UNLESS REQUESTED BY A DIRECTOR.)

7. OVERVIEW OF CALIFORNIA COUNCIL FOR ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL BALANCE (CCEEB)
8. ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN WATER AGENCIES (AMWA) OVERVIEW
9. INSPECTION TRIP SCHEDULE 2017-18
10. SCHOOL PROGRAM UPDATE
11. OC WATER SUMMIT 2018
12. UPDATE ON WATER POLICY DINNER (AUGUST 30, 2017)
13. PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES REPORT

**OTHER ITEMS**

14. REVIEW ISSUES RELATED TO LEGISLATION, OUTREACH, PUBLIC INFORMATION ISSUES, AND MET

**ADJOURNMENT**

**NOTE:** At the discretion of the Committee, all items appearing on this agenda, whether or not expressly listed for action, may be deliberated, and may be subject to action by the Committee. On those items designated for Board action, the Committee reviews the items and makes a recommendation for final action to the full Board of Directors; final action will be taken by the Board of Directors. Agendas for Committee and Board meetings may be obtained from the District Secretary. Members of the public are advised that the Board consideration process includes consideration of each agenda item by one or more Committees indicated on the Board Action Sheet. Attendance at Committee meetings and the Board meeting considering an item consequently is advised.

Accommodations for the Disabled. Any person may make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation needed for that person to be able to participate in the public meeting by telephoning Maribeth Goldsby, District Secretary, at (714) 963-3058, or writing to Municipal Water District of Orange County at P.O. Box 20895, Fountain Valley, CA 92728. Requests must specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested. A telephone number or other contact information should be included so that District staff may discuss appropriate arrangements. Persons requesting a disability-related accommodation should make the request with adequate time before the meeting for the District to provide the requested accommodation.

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Nicholas Crockett  
Alia Cardwell

*Municipal Water District of Orange County, California  
Washington Update  
August 15, 2017*

***The August Recess Arrives with No Resolution to Health Care Reform,  
Tax Reform or a Major Infrastructure Bill***

In the closing days of the legislative session in early August, there were several attempts to pass a “Repeal and Replace of the Obama Health Care Act”—but those attempts failed in the U.S. Senate as Senator Collins (R-Maine), Senator McCain (R-Arizona) and Senator Murkowski (R-Alaska) all voted against the final measure.

Senator McConnell subsequently announced that it was “time to move on to other matters” and the House and the Senate will return to examining options on the health care front in September and October.

In the meantime, as Congress returns from their August Recess period during the first week of September, there will be much to do on the appropriations front.

None of the Appropriations bills have passed for the fiscal year that starts on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Importantly, the Secretary of the Treasury has announced that the legal authority for the federal government to borrow more money to operate will end on September 29, 2017. This issue is frequently referred to as “The Debt Limit Extension”.

Key House and Senate Legislative Members and Staff advise us that Congress is most likely to pass a Continuing Funding Resolution (CR) to keep the federal agencies funded at FY2017 levels until the early to mid-December period—and at the same time pass a temporary borrowing authority that will run during this same period of time. This ultimately sets up a major negotiation in the Congress and with the White House

for the spending priorities during the subsequent months of October, November and early December.

In the backdrop of these negotiations that will be occurring, the Speaker of the House has announced his intention to bring a tax reform bill to the House Floor for passage this coming fall.

The elements of the tax reform package are still not known and would be speculation at this point. One of the issues in play in the House Bill will be the IRS Fix for the Turf Removal Program. Key leadership staff have advised us that they intend to put language into the House Bill that would remedy the IRS glitch for home and property owners.

On the Senate side, Senator Feinstein has introduced her IRS bill on this matter (discussed at some length in last month's Report) and the Senate Finance Committee has signaled that they would look seriously at her legislation—which at this point could pass in a package of other bills or as a free-standing bill.

On the “Infrastructure” legislative front, key House and Senate Leaders continue to say that the consideration of the Infrastructure issue will take place after the issue of tax reform has been resolved. Again, the Trump Administration has not provided many specific details about its Infrastructure Plan.

### ***Water Related Matters:***

The House Appropriations Committee finished consideration of the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill on July 17, 2017. The Senate Appropriations Committee passed its Energy and Water Bill on July 20, 2017. Both Bills are awaiting Floor action in their respective bodies.

Here is a table that helps reflect some of the differences in the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation accounts:

	Trump Budget Proposal	House Committee	Senate Committee	
Water Smart Grants	\$23.366M	\$24M	\$24M	
Water Conservation Field Program	\$4.038M	\$4.038M	\$4.038M	

Cooperative Watershed Basin Studies	\$1.75M	\$1.75M	\$2.250M	
Drought Response /Drought Plans	\$3.250M	\$3.250M	\$4M	
Title XVI Projects	\$21.5M	\$35M	\$34.406M	

The House Bill includes \$83 Million for water storage, desalination and water recycling and reuse projects authorized under the WIIN (WRDA) Act that passed seven months ago. The exact manner in which the \$83M will be dispersed will be determined after the bill is merged with the Senate Bill and is signed into law.

MWDOC representatives have had a series of meetings with key committee and personal staffers regarding the Environmental Infrastructure provisions in the Energy and Water Appropriations bills. We are actively seeking either Report Language in the Appropriations documents or having key offices send letters or make telephone calls on this matter.

### ***The Water Fix Issue—***

Assuming water interests can hurdle all of the regulatory and environmental clearances to build tunnels through the Delta, the cost of the tunnels is nevertheless a major issue down the road.

Recently polling suggests that the California Water Fix is supported by 64% of the population in Southern California (Southern California Water Committee).

Many observers see the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California along with Santa Clara paying for some 55% of the cost of the tunnels—with the remainder of the cost absorbed by large Agriculture interests.

As far as federal involvement, there will be some federal participation in the overall project—but the federal participation is considered minor to the overall cost of the project. The federal government is not likely to be involved in the paying for the cost of the tunnels.

There may be efforts to explore federal credit loan programs like a specialized WIFIA Program to assist the parties that have to build the tunnels—with an expected cost of

some \$15.5 to \$17 Billion Dollars. Any federal participation for federal funds under a WIFIA like program would be repaid by the project sponsors.

Preliminary construction could begin as early as next year but as was widely expected, and previously noted, environmental groups sued the Trump Administration claiming the federal decision ignored “best available science”. We are tracking this issue very closely.

***WIFIA Funding Update:***

On July 19, 2017, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the applicant pool able to apply for Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) loans. WIFIA provides low-cost supplemental loans for regionally and nationally significant projects investing in water infrastructure. This includes projects involving wastewater, drinking water, storm water, and water recycling.

The FY 2017 WIFIA program received \$25 million in funding, including an additional \$8 million in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017 which President Trump signed into law in May 2017. A total of \$2.3 billion in loans were requested with projects ranging from \$22 to \$625 million. The loans will finance a total of \$5.1 billion in total water infrastructure investments. The projects would impact 20 million people across small, medium and large communities. Among the projects identified was the \$124 Million Orange County Water District Ground Water Replenishment System.

***Trump Administration Key Appointments:***

Just before the Recess Started in August, the Senate Energy Committee approved Brenda Burman as the U.S. Commissioner of Reclamation. Her nomination now needs to be approved by the full Senate which should happen during the month of September.

***HR 23, The Gaining Responsibility on Water Act, Sponsored by Congressman David Valadao, (R-Ca Central Valley):***

This legislation would reduce the cost of water delivery contracts and amend the 1992 Central Valley Project Improvement Act to give users more authority over how restoration funds are spent. Much of this legislation included portions of the previously passed California Drought House bill that passed through House Committees and the House Floor twice in the recent past. The portions which still stand are the portions of the bill which were not included in the final House / Senate negotiated package which became known as S.612 in December 2016.

The legislation goes further than a compromise provision in last year's WIIN Act reached between the House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) and Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-Ca). The goal of the bill is to try and ultimately direct more water to California farm lands and agriculture interests. Simply said, it is supported by Central Valley interests and opposed by environmental interests. It passed the House largely along partisan lines. Senator Feinstein has signaled her opposition to the bill. We are monitoring this legislation closely. At the present time, Senator Murkowski, the Chairwoman of the Senate Energy Committee, is not intending to hold a hearing on this bill.

***EPA / Stormwater Resource Management:***

This Report has previously discussed the Congressman DeFazio Bill out of the House of Representative that provides for a new significant authorization for the EPA to better manage stormwater run-off issues.

In the Senate, there is a bill that has received some traction, Senator Fischer's (R-Neb) Bill, S.692, which is a similar piece of legislation.

By way of background, in 2012, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued an integrated permitting and planning policy to address the need for municipalities to undertake updated wastewater and stormwater control measures under the Clean Water Act. EPA established this policy in response to the challenges and cost implications municipalities are facing to address water quality and infrastructure problems.

Many state and local governments face difficult economic challenges with limited resources and financial capability to meet the Clean Water Act requirements related to stormwater and wastewater.

On average, the U.S. Conference of Mayors finds that municipalities spend between 6 to 7 cents of every tax dollar on water and sewer systems, making water infrastructure the third largest expense for cities behind education and emergency personnel. S. 692 would address these issues by requiring EPA to allow municipalities to develop plans that integrate multiple Clean Water Act requirements and implement those plans through the Act's permitting process or through enforcement tools.

The bill also would establish an Office of the Municipal Ombudsman within EPA to ensure that municipalities receive assistance regarding compliance with the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act. The bill directs EPA to promote green infrastructure (measures like landscaping or permeable pavement that reduce storm

water flows into sewer systems or surface waters) by conducting outreach and training through the agency's regional offices. Finally, the bill would direct the EPA to revise how it evaluates the financial capability of a community to make investments necessary to make water quality or drinking water improvements.

The bill has four Republican Senate Co-Sponsors. The bill cleared the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee on a voice vote without anyone dissenting. It is now been reported to the Senate Floor and is awaiting Floor consideration.

### Items of General Interest

*This month I have included the Report Language that accompanies the FY2018 Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Bill (pages 53-56) that directs the Bureau of Reclamation on a number of different issues. This bill cleared through the Senate Appropriations Committee on July 20, 2017.*

**“Indian Water Settlements.** —The Committee notes that funding is recommended for Indian water rights settlements, which meet trust and treaty obligations to tribes and resolve significant tribal water-related claims against the Federal government. In December 2016, Congress authorized a number of important Indian water settlements as part of the WIIN Act, including the Blackfeet Water Rights Settlement Act. To meet the Blackfeet settlement's enforcement date of January 21, 2025, significant additional funding will be required after fiscal year 2018. The Committee therefore encourages Reclamation to budget accordingly for Indian water rights settlements in its budget request for fiscal year 2019. San Joaquin River Restoration Program. —The Committee is deeply concerned by the lack of tangible progress in river channel reconstruction despite Federal expenditures of \$172,000,000 through September 30, 2016, and an anticipated additional \$390,000,000 to \$700,000,000 necessary to complete the program.

The Committee directs Reclamation to work with the settling parties and the Exchange Contractors to develop a plan to successfully implement the program, which shall identify funding sources to match projected program expenditures; ensure that the program is on track to achieve goals that are technically, scientifically, and financially achievable; reevaluate the program's 2025 reopener date, given extensive delays in river project implementation; and improve the program's relationship with third parties,



while working within projected budgets and timelines. The Committee directs Reclamation to achieve substantial progress toward developing the plan by November 15, 2017, and to brief the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the progress achieved by that date.

***Salton Sea.*** —Pursuant to recent agreements between the Department of the Interior and the State of California, the Committee encourages the Department to prioritize implementation of the Salton Sea Memorandum of Understanding [MOU]. The Committee urges the Department to include specific funding requests for implementation of the MOU in future budget submissions and directs the Department to provide semiannual briefings to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress regarding Federal efforts to implement the MOU and other Salton Sea mitigation efforts.

***Scoggins Dam, Tualatin Project, Oregon.*** —The Committee supports the administration's budget request for preconstruction activities at Scoggins Dam under the Safety of Dams program. Consistent with the Tualatin Project Water Supply Feasibility Study authorized in Public Law 108–137 and statutory authority granted by Public Law 114–113 allowing for additional benefits to be conducted concurrently with dam safety improvements, the Committee directs Reclamation to evaluate alternatives, including new or supplementary works, provided that safety remains the paramount consideration, to address dam safety modifications and increased storage capacity. Considering the high risk associated with Scoggins Dam, the Committee urges Reclamation to work with local stakeholders and repayment contractors to prioritize this joint project including feasibility and environmental review of the preferred alternative in fiscal year 2018. The Committee understands that a replacement structure downstream could significantly reduce project costs for both the Federal Government and local stakeholders. Reclamation may accept contributed funds from non-Federal contractors to expedite completion of any level of review.

***Rural Water Projects.*** —Voluntary funding in excess of legally required cost shares for rural water projects is acceptable but shall not be used by Reclamation as a criterion for allocating additional funding recommended by the Committee or for budgeting in future years.

***WaterSMART Program.*** —The Committee encourages Reclamation to prioritize eligible water conservation projects that will provide water supplies to meet the needs of threatened and endangered species. Research and Development: Desalination and Water Purification Program. —Of the funding recommended for this program, \$6,000,000 shall be for desalination projects as authorized in section 4009(a) of Public Law 114–

322. Research and Development, Science and Technology Program. — The Committee is aware that the Reclamation Science and Technology Office has been investing in efforts under the Open Water Data Initiative to integrate currently fragmented water supply data from several Federal agencies into a connected, national water data framework.

Furthermore, the Committee understands that the Science and Technology Office has a future goal to develop webbased decision support tools. The Committee urges Reclamation to expedite the development and testing of a web-based Water Supply Decision Support System that will help Federal, State, municipal, Tribal and private water managers and users make better wateruse decisions to support water conservation and drought resilience in the western States. Such a system will allow a diverse group of water managers and users to better leverage the Federal Government’s investment in producing water supply data on river levels, snow pack, weather, and climate.

***WaterSMART Program: Title XVI Water Reclamation & Reuse Program.*** —Of the funding recommended for this program, \$10,000,000 shall be for water recycling and reuse projects as authorized in section 4009(c) of Public Law 114–322. 55 Additional Funding for Water and Related Resources Work. —The Committee recommendation includes an additional \$190,332,000 above the budget request for Water and Related Resources studies, projects, and activities. Priority in allocating these funds should be given to advance and complete ongoing work; improve water supply reliability; improve water deliveries; enhance national, regional, or local economic development; promote job growth; advance Tribal and nontribal water settlement studies and activities; or address critical backlog maintenance and rehabilitation activities.

Funding recommended under the heading Additional Funding for Ongoing Work may be utilized for ongoing work, including pre-construction activities, on projects which provide new or existing water supplies through additional infrastructure. Reclamation shall give priority in allocating funds to ongoing work on authorized projects for which environmental compliance has been completed. Reclamation is encouraged to allocate additional funding for aquifer recharging efforts to address the ongoing backlog of related projects.

Of the funds recommended under the heading “Water Conservation and Delivery”, \$5,000,000 is allocated to fund Colorado River water conservation, including the Pilot System Conservation Program as authorized in section 206 of Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015. Of the additional funding recommended under the heading “Water Conservation and Delivery”, \$67,000,000 shall be for water storage projects as authorized in section 4007 of Public

Law 114–322. Of the additional funding recommended under the heading “Environmental Restoration or Compliance”, \$15,000,000 shall be for activities authorized under sections 4001 and 4010 of Public Law 114–322 or as set forth in Federal-State plans for restoring threatened and endangered fish species affected by the operation of Reclamation’s water projects.

The Committee is concerned that Reclamation’s criteria for allocating funding have not adequately accounted for projects that would directly benefit military base operations and national security facilities in the past. The Committee directs the Department of the Interior to consult with the Department of Defense to develop a plan to adequately allocate Water and Related Resources funding that directly benefits military base operations and national security facilities. Reclamation is encouraged to prioritize funding to help irrigation districts with junior water rights to plan and develop water conservation plans to comply with ESA requirements. Buried Metallic Water Pipe.—Reclamation shall continue following its temporary design guidance.

The Committee recommends \$41,376,000 for the Central Valley Project Restoration Fund, the same as the budget request. This appropriation is fully offset by a scorekeeping adjustment from revenues. The Central Valley Project Restoration Fund was authorized in the Central Valley Project Improvement Act, title 34 of Public Law 56 102–575. This fund uses revenues from payments by project beneficiaries and donations for habitat restoration, improvement and acquisition, and other fish and wildlife restoration activities in the Central Valley project area of California. Payments from project beneficiaries include several required by the act (Friant Division surcharges, higher charges on water transferred to non-Central Valley Project users, and tiered water prices) and, to the extent required in appropriations acts, additional annual mitigation and restoration payments.

The Committee recommends \$37,000,000 for California Bay Delta Restoration, the same as the budget request. This account funds activities that are consistent with the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, a collaborative effort involving 18 State and Federal agencies and representatives of California’s urban, agricultural, and environmental communities. The goals of the program are to improve fish and wildlife habitat, water supply reliability, and water quality in the San Francisco Bay-San Joaquin River Delta, the principle hub of California’s water distribution system.”

*(Editor’s note: This Report Language shown above is taken from the Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Committee Report that accompanies the Senate Committee’s Appropriations Bill. It has been included to allow the reader to become familiar with Congressional Report Language that accompany pieces of legislation. Ultimately, these*

*directives are merged with the House's directives as the House has a similar Report but with their own set of directives.)*

8-15-17 JCB



## Memorandum

To: Municipal Water District of Orange County  
 From: Syrus Devers, Best Best & Krieger  
 Date: August 21, 2017  
 Re: Monthly State Political Report

NOTE: This is an abbreviated report due to the Legislature's Summer Recess that began prior to the last PAL Committee meeting. The Legislature reconvenes on Aug. 21st.

### Permanent Conservation Regulations/Legislation

Last month the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee deleted the contents of AB 1654 (Rubio), AB 1668 (Friedman), and AB 1323 (Weber), and sent each bill to the Senate Appropriations Committee with the intent that committee staff would work on a compromise bill package during the legislative recess. AB 869 and 968 (Rubio), and AB 1667 and 1669 (Friedman), were held in committee.

Senate and Assembly staff first held small focus groups to work on an initial draft, and then convened a large stakeholder meeting on Aug 2nd to solicit comments. The draft was not actual bill language; it was a list of well-developed points that could be used to write a bill, or bills. The draft was reviewed by MWDOC staff who had significant concerns, most of which were shared by the larger water industry. The stakeholder meeting ran for over 3 hours and was almost entirely critical of the draft.

The most noticeable issues with the draft concerned new concepts that had not been discussed by any of the parties. Of specific concern to MWDOC staff was the introduction of volumetric targets for Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional (CII) water use. In addition, incentives for recycled water were deleted, except for outdoor irrigation, and replaced with new administrative burdens such as leak detection requirements. The draft did propose to treat recycled water as a drought resilient supply, but offered no adjustment to water budget targets for indirect or direct potable reuse—even the administration's proposal allowed for a 10% credit for recycled water.

BB&K staff anticipated that the general water community would be vocal in opposing the new CII proposals and, therefore, focused on the recycling provisions. The opposition to the CII provisions was overwhelming and legislative staff put up little in the way of defense. The discussion did not go as well on the recycling provisions. Legislative staff defended their position that recycled water should be treated like any other supply, which is an evasive way to avoid recognizing recycling as a conservation measure. There was also significant criticism of the enforcement provisions, but



legislative staff just said, “Thank you for sharing your views.” They didn’t comment one way or the other, except to say that they would not use the words “cease and desist.” But even that was not a clear statement; it could mean that they will achieve the same outcome with different words.

The meeting did not attempt to decide anything. It was simply staff receiving feedback to use in writing a second draft, which is what was taking place at the time this memo was prepared. Although BB&K has significant concerns with what the new draft will look like given the discussion, there is not much that can be done until bill language is made available. BB&K and WaterReuse have had discussions since the Aug. 2nd meeting about lobbying on water recycling issues if the next draft continues to give scant consideration to water recycling projects. BB&K will, of course, brief MWDOC staff as soon as the new language is circulated.

# The County of Orange Report

August 15, 2017  
by Lewis Consulting Group

## **Water Still A Concern**

In a July poll conducted by the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC), despite last winter's drought busting rains, 71% of likely voters in California deem the supply of water to be a big problem or somewhat of a problem in their part of California,

Respondents in the Central Valley - 54%, or the Inland Empire 62%, were most likely to deem it a big problem compared to the statewide average of 42%. Intensity dropped off among likely voters living in the Los Angeles region - 41%, Orange County / San Diego - 41% or the Bay Area 33%.



## **LATEST POLL**

Likely voters were also asked if they thought local government was doing enough water conservation in their part of California. Overall 51% stated the right amount, 37% said not enough and only 5% said too much. Political Independents were most likely to say not enough - 44% followed by Democrats 38% and Republicans 32%. Residents of Orange / San Diego were more likely to respond not enough 40% than voters in Northern California Bay Area 36%. Homeowners in California registered at 30% while 48% of renters replied not enough.

Also, a large majority of Californians support desalination off the coast of California. 68% support desalination while only 25% oppose it. Strongest support among sub-groups were residents of Orange / San Diego - 78%, men 76%, Republicans 74% and those aged 55 and older 73%.

In this survey of 1,095 likely voters in California, the margin of error is +/- 4.3%. The survey was conducted from July 9 to July 18, 2017.

# More Poll Results

## **Color California Dark Green**

The July PPIC survey titled *California and the Environment* reenforces the impression of Californians fervent loyalty to environmentalism.

The survey tested a number of themes associated with Global Warming / Climate Change. 68% of the respondents believe effects of global warming have already begun and 52% deem Earth's warming a serious threat. 65% of Californian are either very or somewhat concerned by rising sea levels.



As a result of their concerns 63% of respondents believe California should adopt their own policy to fight global warming and by a 67% - 29% margin oppose President Trump's announced withdrawal from the Paris Accords.

Those responding to the poll support a number of initiatives aimed at combating the perceived threat. 66% favor a law to cut gas emissions by 40%, below 1990 levels by the year 2030. 71% favor requiring 100% of all electricity consumed in California to be generated by renewable resources by the year 2045. 49% of Californians believe California's efforts to combat global warming will result in more employment.

Californians are resigned to some additional future costs. 54% believe global warming efforts will result in higher gasoline prices. By a margin of 51% - 43% a slimmer majority support California's Cap and Trade policies even if it results in a \$.15 per gallon increase by 2021. However, there does seem to be some limit to their economic commitment. By a slim 48% - 46% margin (inside the poll's margin of error) respondents are willing to pay higher electricity charges to reduce global warming. Californians now oppose off-shore oil drilling by the highest margins ever recorded. Drilling is opposed by 67% and supported by only 28% of Californians.



## **Governance**

### **Elections Taking Shape**

County Supervisor Todd Spitzer is undoubtedly smarting from the recently announced endorsements of three of his Board colleagues (Andrew Do, Lisa Bartlett and Michelle Steel) of incumbent District Attorney Tony Rackauckas. The remaining Supervisor, Shawn Nelson, who is rumored to also being in Rackauckas' camp, can't endorse due to his upcoming judicial candidacy. Spitzer, perhaps sensing that nearly all incumbent



endorsements would favor Rackauckas had previously stated his campaign would not accept endorsements from incumbent politicians due to a perceived conflict of interest.

However, Supervisor Spitzer can certainly take some solace from a huge financial advantage that he currently has vs. the incumbent Rackauckas. As of the financial disclosure closing date of June 30, Spitzer had nearly \$1.3 million in his campaign account compared to \$200,000 for Rackauckas. It is expected that millions of dollars will flow into this Orange County legal smack-down.



## **Supervisor Race Intensifies**

Candidates for Orange County's 4<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District, a race to succeed term-limited Supervisor Shawn Nelson, also disclosed their campaign financing through the June 30 financial disclosure cutoff:

	<u>Spent:</u>	<u>Cash on hand:</u>
Former Assemblywoman <i>Young Kim</i>	\$37,600	\$207,000
Former Firefighter Union Leader <i>Joe Kerr</i>	\$27,300	\$ 73,000
La Habra Mayor Pro Tem <i>Tim Shaw</i>	\$10,700	\$ 48,000



The Wednesday August 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of OC LAFCO was lightly attended and had an equally light agenda. The audience consisted of two Supervisor aides and one member of the "public", yours truly.

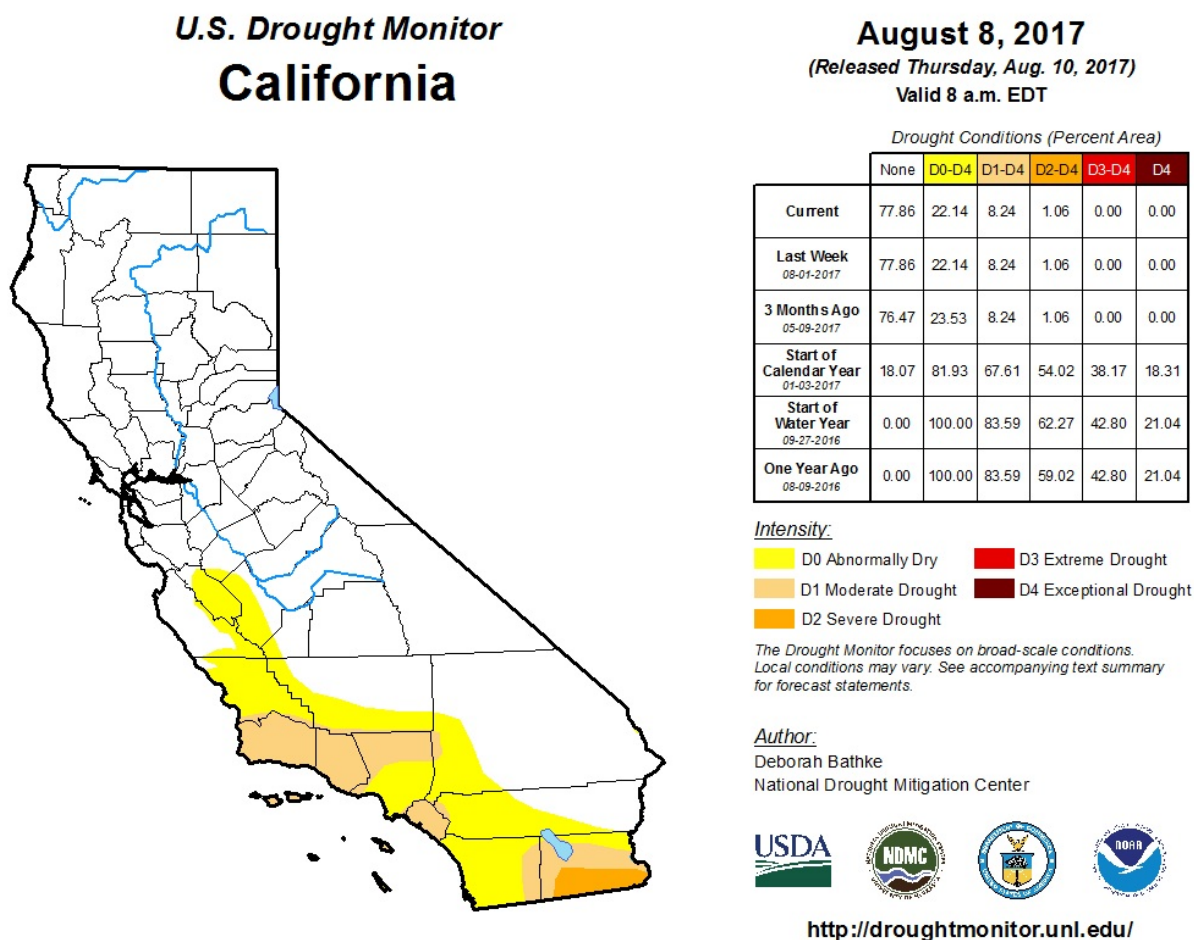
The Committee received their quarterly report which was also the last quarter in LAFCO's fiscal year. The report indicated that the Committee has completed 3 of 13 mandated tasks, completed 80% of their administrative projects and as part of their awareness & outreach programs, have visited 10 of 12 Orange County Legislative Offices.

The Committee heard a presentation from Irma Hernandez, Deputy City Manager of Orange, who recounted the city's history in their 2003 project of annexing unincorporated islands. Thanks to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act, the city was able to

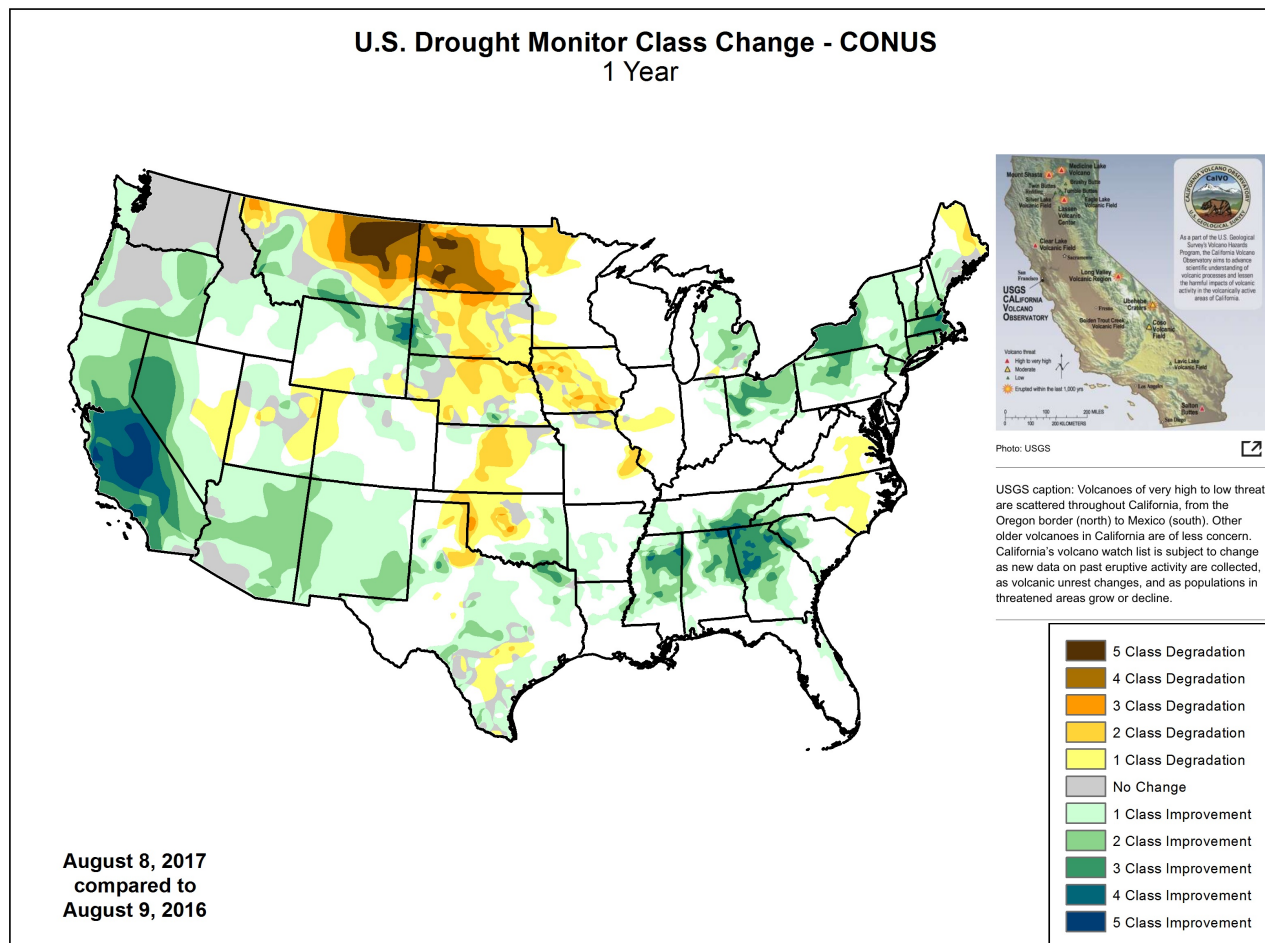
successfully annex 11 islands with a combined population of 1,200 people. The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act allowed annexation of less than 75 acres to be conducted without a vote of the people. Ms. Hernandez said good planning, community meetings and frequent updates were key to insuring a relatively non-contentious three year process.

Commissioner Withers announced that at a future meeting IRWD general manager Paul Cook will give a similar presentation regarding their success in merging with smaller districts.

## California Drought Update



The enhanced California drought map shows the dramatic change in drought in the last 12 months. Note that one year ago, the entire state was reeling from some level of drought. As of August 8<sup>th</sup>, only 22% of the state is still mired in lower levels “official drought”.



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>

The dark blues in California show exactly where the bull's eye was, for the more than anticipated rainfall across the nation in the past 12 months.

## And One More Thing to Fret Over. . .

**SFGATE** ≡ SECTIONS

## With 8 threatening volcanoes, USGS says California deserves close monitoring

JAKE ELLISON, SPECIAL TO SEATTLEPI.COM Published 4:36 am, Friday, August 11, 2017



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As listed by the California observatory, the eight fall into **three danger categories**:

- Very-high threat: Mount Shasta, Lassen Volcanic Center and Long Valley Volcanic Region
- High threat: Clear Lake Volcanic Field, Medicine Lake Volcano and Salton Buttes
- Moderate threat: Ubehebe Crater and Coso Volcanic Field



Photo: USGS



USGS caption: Volcanoes of very high to low threat are scattered throughout California, from the Oregon border (north) to Mexico (south). Other older volcanoes in California are of less concern. California's volcano watch list is subject to change as new data on past eruptive activity are collected, as volcanic unrest changes, and as populations in threatened areas grow or decline.



# ACKERMAN CONSULTING

## Legal and Regulatory

August 21, 2017

1. **Save Water-No Beef:** A recent op-ed in the LA Times took the position that consumption of beef should be discouraged because of the water used in raising cattle. The opposition arose because of AB 243, a bill perceived as encouraging the cattle business and meat eating. The article stressed the high percentage of water in California used for agriculture and livestock production. It also opined that eating meat is not good for your health as well as using an inordinate amount of water. It also mentioned the suffering of animals. We report, you decide.

2. **Redwoods Survive Drought:** Most redwoods reside in Northern California. However, there is a growth of redwoods in Southern California in Carbon Canyon Regional Park near Brea. While redwoods in the north generally did well during the drought, those in the south were in danger. One, they are not native plants and two our water cycle was not sufficient to maintain them. Park rangers were aware of this problem and took action. Carbon Canyon has a manmade water supply that was normally used for grass and other related park needs. When the drought became apparent, Ranger Maureen Beckman rerouted the park water to the redwoods. She let the grass die and provided mulch to the endangered trees and made other adjustments to the park water use. As a result, not a single redwood was lost and the grove is thriving. This grove is the largest redwood stand in all of Southern California. Good work Maureen.

3. **Oil Wastewater vs Groundwater:** We have previously reported on the interaction between oil production and groundwater in California. One of our largest oil production areas is the Central Valley, which is also one of the largest agricultural areas. Each barrel of oil produced results in about 19 barrels of wastewater. This wastewater generally contains chemical and salts most of which can be hazardous to health. Presently, oil producers are allowed to discharge the wastewater in underground aquifers that are generally below and distant from our drinking water aquifers. However, controversy has recently arisen in Tulare County where it is unclear if the law has been followed. Records and reporting to various local, state and federal agencies has not been consistent or well monitored. In a recent case, one of seven wells was being discharged into a protected aquifer. After a protracted investigation, the oil producer was acquitted based on chemical content not being above limits.

4. **Increased Construction Site Controls:** The City of San Diego will have to pay \$3.2 million dollars and change other procedures after being sued by the San Diego Water Quality Control

Board. The problem was lack of controls at construction sites for runoff and erosion. This area is getting more attention statewide. Rules have been in place all along, but enforcement and contractor understanding have not been uniform. San Diego will use much of that money to restore various lagoons, rivers and creeks in the area.

5. **Erin Brockovich Loses:** The State Water Resources Board has removed the cap on hexavalent chromium in drinking water. This is pursuant to a court ruling that said the regulation was invalid. This cap applied to the Chrome 6 could be reinstated in 18-24 months which is the normal period for processing new regulations. This decision does not impact the state's ceiling for total chromium content. The reason for the court's decision was the failure of the regulators to factor in economic feasibility of constructing improved water systems. The cost of implementation is quite expensive and cost prohibitive for many districts and jurisdictions. By way of contrast, the continuing state standard is 50 parts per billion. The site in question for the Brockovich case was 580 parts per billion.

6. **Gold Rush on Again:** The post drought snowmelt and additional rainfall is bringing out the gold rush spirit again. Rivers are flowing, water volume is up. The Eagle Creek area, just west of Yosemite is a hot spot for mining activity. Most of this mining is similar to what we did at Knots Berry Farm. Hand panning is the rule since the court issued an injunction against the use of motorized equipment in 2009. So far not many folks have "struck it rich" like the old days, but who knows..

7. **Drinking Water a Right?;** Another LA Times op-ed is discussing the idea that drinking water is a right. The United Nations is already on record stating that people have a right to water. While this is not the law in the United States, there is more discussion of this issue. The fish vs people comparison and argument is often cited. At the same time there is a push for more private investment in water infrastructure. Better management and control of our existing supply and conditions could make this debate easier.

8. **Lake Tahoe Update:** The lake is at historic levels. Its water clarity, how far down you can see the white dish (the Secchi disk), is lessening. Algae growth is increasing, a result of urban and natural runoff and warmer temperatures. Thousands of trees have died or fallen around the lake. Invasive Asian clams have spread around the lake by boaters. Average temperature of the lake at all depths has increased .26 of a degree per year, while surface temperatures have fallen by 2.5 degrees. The lake has an abundance of stressors impacting it and no one can predict the future.

9. **Flood Risk Eases:** After six months of flooding driven by more than 30 atmospheric rivers (normal is 6), the rivers of California and Nevada are starting to return to normal. During the first six months of this year over one-half of all the monitoring stations in California were on

high alert. Many people were killed and numerous recreational areas were closed during this time span. Those areas are now open and calm is returning.

**10. Northern California Reservoir?:** Santa Clara Valley Water District is going forward with the purchase of 12,000 acres near Gilroy. Their goal is to build a reservoir for 130,000 acre feet at a cost of \$800 million. This would be the largest such facility built in the area for two decades. The move is being criticized by many environmental groups as premature since the District has not yet complete engineering and environmental studies. The site is a long time cattle ranch and is priced at \$21 million. The District says that it must plan for the future and action needs to start now. Note: The writer of the op-ed in Paragraph 1 above must be happy. Less beef and more water!!

**11. Power Update:** The increased rains of late have helped to cure the drought. They have also increased electricity produced from hydro plants. Last year's hydro power has increased from 6 to 12% of total state production. Hydro power is less expensive to buy than natural gas powered plants. Renewable energy (which excludes nuclear and hydro) made up 28% of in state production, up 3%. Wind increased by 11%, while solar increased 31%. Nuclear accounts for 9%. When San Onofre was on line, this figure was 18%. Diablo Canyon, the last nuclear plant, is scheduled from closing in 2025. Coal accounts for .2% of in state production.

**12. PUC Grants Rate Increase:** San Jose Water, a private water company, which serves more than 1 million residents in the San Jose area, was recently granted a rate increase of about 3.7%. This represents a monthly increase per customer of about \$3 per month. The main basis was because of a 9.6 increase in wholesale water rates imposed by Santa Clara Valley Water District. The increase was protested before the PUC, but they were justified as needed repair and replacement costs from Santa Clara and consistent with the pass through formula for San Jose.

# MWDOC

## PAL Committee

Prepared by Best Best & Kreiger, Aug 14th.

### A. Priority Support/Oppose

#### [AB 574](#)

**(Quirk D)** Potable reuse.

Current Text: Amended: 7/12/2017 [Text](#)

Current Analysis: 07/03/2017 [Senate Environmental Quality \(text 6/20/2017\)](#)

Last Amend: 7/12/2017

Status: 7/13/2017-Withdrawn from committee. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Is Urgency: N

**Summary:** Current law required the State Department of Public Health to, on or before December 31, 2013, adopt uniform water recycling criteria for indirect potable reuse for groundwater recharge. Current law also required the department to develop and adopt uniform water recycling criteria for surface water augmentation, as defined, by December 31, 2016, if a specified expert panel found that the criteria would adequately protect public health, and required the department to investigate the feasibility of developing uniform water recycling criteria for direct potable reuse and to provide a final report on that investigation to the Legislature by December 31, 2016. Current law defined the terms “direct potable reuse” and “surface water augmentation” for these purposes. This bill would specify that “direct potable reuse” includes “raw water augmentation” and “treated drinking water augmentation.”

**Laws:** An act to amend Sections 13560 and 13561 of, to amend the heading of Chapter 7.3 (commencing with Section 13560) of Division 7 of, and to add Sections 13560.5 and 13561.2 to, the Water Code, relating to water.

Position	Priority
Support	A. Priority Support/Oppose

#### [AB 1000](#)

**(Friedman D)** Water conveyance: use of facility with unused capacity.

Current Text: Amended: 7/3/2017 [Text](#)

Current Analysis: 07/07/2017 [Senate Natural Resources And Water \(text 7/3/2017\)](#)

Last Amend: 7/3/2017

Status: 7/11/2017-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 6. Noes 2.) (July 11). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Is Urgency: N

**Summary:** Current law prohibits the state or a regional or local public agency from denying a bona fide transferor of water from using a water conveyance facility that has unused capacity for the period of time for which that capacity is available, if fair compensation is paid for that use and other requirements are met. This bill would, notwithstanding that provision, prohibit a transferor of water from using a water conveyance facility that has unused capacity to transfer water from a groundwater basin underlying desert lands, as defined, that is in the vicinity of specified federal lands or state lands to outside of the groundwater basin unless the State Lands Commission, in consultation with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, finds that the transfer of the water will not adversely affect the natural or cultural resources of those federal and state lands.

**Laws:** An act to add Section 1815 to the Water Code, relating to water.

Position	Priority
Opposition	A. Priority Support/Oppose

#### [AB 1323](#)

**(Weber D)** Sustainable water use and demand reduction: stakeholder workgroup.

Current Text: Amended: 5/30/2017 [Text](#)

Current Analysis: 07/07/2017 [Senate Natural Resources And Water \(text 5/30/2017\)](#)

Last Amend: 5/30/2017



*Status: 7/11/2017-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 9. Noes 0.) (July 11). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.*

*Is Urgency: N*

*Summary: Would, with a specified exception, require the Department of Water Resources to convene a stakeholder workgroup with prescribed representatives invited to participate, including, among others, representatives of the department and the State Water Resources Control Board, no later than February 1, 2019. The bill would require the stakeholder workgroup to develop, evaluate, and recommend proposals for establishing new water use targets for urban water suppliers and to examine and report to the Governor and the Legislature by December 31, 2019, as specified.*

*Laws: An act to add and repeal Section 10608.9 of the Water Code, relating to water.*

<i>Position</i>	<i>Priority</i>
<i>Watch</i>	<i>A. Priority</i>
	<i>Support/Oppose</i>

*Notes 1: One the three bills that will become the long-term conservation bills.*

**AB 1654**

**(Rubio D)** *Water conservation.*

*Current Text: Amended: 7/12/2017 [Text](#)*

*Current Analysis: 07/07/2017 [Senate Natural Resources And Water \(text 7/3/2017\)](#)*

*Last Amend: 7/12/2017*

*Status: 7/21/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was RLS. on 7/17/2017)(May be acted upon Jan 2018)*

*Is Urgency: N*

*Summary: Would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation necessary to help make water conservation a California way of life.*

*Laws: An act relating to water.*

<i>Position</i>	<i>Priority</i>
<i>Support</i>	<i>A. Priority</i>
	<i>Support/Oppose</i>

**AB 1668**

**(Friedman D)** *Water conservation.*

*Current Text: Amended: 7/12/2017 [Text](#)*

*Current Analysis: 07/07/2017 [Senate Natural Resources And Water \(text 7/3/2017\)](#)*

*Last Amend: 7/12/2017*

*Status: 7/21/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was RLS. on 7/17/2017)(May be acted upon Jan 2018)*

*Is Urgency: N*

*Summary: Would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation necessary to help make water conservation a California way of life.*

*Laws: An act relating to water.*

<i>Position</i>	<i>Priority</i>
<i>Opposition</i>	<i>A. Priority</i>
	<i>Support/Oppose</i>

**SB 623**

**(Monning D)** *Water quality: Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund.*

*Current Text: Amended: 7/3/2017 [Text](#)*

*Current Analysis: 07/07/2017 [Assembly Environmental Safety And Toxic Materials \(text 7/3/2017\)](#)*

*Last Amend: 7/3/2017*

*Status: 7/12/2017-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 5. Noes 1.) (July 11). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.*

*Is Urgency: N*

*Summary: Would establish the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund in the State Treasury and would provide that moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the office. The bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board to administer the fund to assist communities and individual domestic well users to address contaminants in drinking water that exceed safe drinking water standards, as specified. The bill would authorize the board to provide for the deposit of federal contributions and voluntary contributions, gifts, grants, or bequests.*

*Laws: An act to amend Section 116395 of, and to add Chapter 4.6 (commencing with Section 116765) to Part 12 of Division 104 of, the Health and Safety Code, and to amend Section 13050 of, and to add Article 4.5 (commencing with Section 13278) of Chapter 4 of Division 7 of, the Water Code, relating to water, and making an appropriation*

therefor.

<i>Position</i>	<i>Priority</i>
<i>Watch</i>	<i>A. Priority</i>
	<i>Support/Oppose</i>

*Notes 1: This bill is included in this report because it has been widely reported that it will be amended to include a public goods charge.*

**SB 778**

**(Hertzberg D)** Water systems: consolidations: administrative and managerial services.

*Current Text:* Amended: 7/13/2017 [Text](#)

*Current Analysis:* 07/07/2017 [Assembly Environmental Safety And Toxic Materials \(text 5/26/2017\)](#)

*Last Amend:* 7/13/2017

*Status:* 7/13/2017-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

*Is Urgency:* N

*Summary:* Would require, on or before March 1, 2018, and regularly thereafter, as specified, the State Water Resources Control Board to track and publish on its Internet Web site an analysis of all voluntary and ordered consolidations of water systems that have occurred on or after July 1, 2014. The bill would require the published information to include the resulting outcomes of the consolidations and whether the consolidations have succeeded or failed in providing an adequate supply of safe drinking water to the communities served by the consolidated water systems.

*Laws:* An act to amend Section 116682 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to drinking water.

<i>Position</i>	<i>Priority</i>
<i>Watch</i>	<i>A. Priority</i>
	<i>Support/Oppose</i>

*Notes 1: Flagged for possible vehicle for public goods charge.*

**SCA 4**

**(Hertzberg D)** Water conservation.

*Current Text:* Introduced: 2/2/2017 [Text](#)

*Status:* 2/16/2017-Referred to Com. on RLS.

*Is Urgency:*

*Summary:* The California Constitution requires that the water resources of the state be put to beneficial use to the fullest extent of which they are capable and that the waste or unreasonable use or unreasonable method of use of water be prevented. This measure would declare the intent of the Legislature to amend the California Constitution to provide a program that would ensure that affordable water is available to all Californians and to ensure that water conservation is given a permanent role in California's future.

*Laws:* A resolution to propose to the people of the State of California an amendment to the Constitution of the State, by adding Article X C thereto, relating to water.

<i>Position</i>	<i>Priority</i>
<i>Watch</i>	<i>A. Priority</i>
	<i>Support/Oppose</i>

*Notes 1: Possible future action item depending on amendments.*

## **B. Watch**

**AB 18**

**(Garcia, Eduardo D)** California Clean Water, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018.

*Current Text:* Amended: 2/23/2017 [Text](#)

*Current Analysis:* 03/09/2017 [Assembly Floor Analysis \(text 2/23/2017\)](#)

*Last Amend:* 2/23/2017

*Status:* 6/28/2017-Referred to Coms. on N.R. & W. and GOV. & F.

*Is Urgency:* Y

*Summary:* Would enact the California Clean Water, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in an amount of \$3,105,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a clean water, climate, coastal protection, and outdoor access for all program. This bill contains other related provisions.

*Laws:* An act to add Chapter 14 (commencing with Section 5880) to Division 5 of the Public Resources Code, relating

to a clean water, climate, coastal protection, and outdoor access for all program, by providing the funds necessary therefor through an election for the issuance and sale of bonds of the State of California and for the handling and disposition of those funds, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

Position	Priority
Watch	B. Watch

Notes 1: More park bond than water bond. The better vehicle is SB 5 (De Leon). Nothing to oppose, but not the bill to support if MWDOC were to consider a position.

[AB 196](#)

([Bigelow](#) R) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: water supply and wastewater systems.

Current Text: Amended: 3/6/2017 [Text](#)

Current Analysis: 07/17/2017 [Senate Appropriations \(text 3/6/2017\)](#)

Last Amend: 3/6/2017

Status: 7/17/2017-In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file.

Is Urgency: N

Summary: Current law requires moneys from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to be allocated for the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in this state and satisfying other purposes. Current law authorizes specified investments, including water use and supply, if the investment furthers the regulatory purposes of the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 and is consistent with law. This bill would authorize the use of the moneys in the fund for electric pump efficiency, water and wastewater systems, pump and pump motor efficiency improvements, and drinking water transmission and distribution systems' water loss if the investment furthers the regulatory purposes of the act and is consistent with law.

Laws: An act to amend Section 39712 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to greenhouse gases.

Position	Priority
Watch	B. Watch

[AB 277](#)

([Mathis](#) R) Water and Wastewater Loan and Grant Program.

Current Text: Amended: 3/27/2017 [Text](#)

Current Analysis: 07/10/2017 [Senate Appropriations \(text 3/27/2017\)](#)

Last Amend: 3/27/2017

Status: 7/10/2017-In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file.

Is Urgency: N

Summary: Would, to the extent funding is made available, authorize the State Water Resources Control Board to establish the Water and Wastewater Loan and Grant Program to provide funding to eligible applicants for specified purposes relating to drinking water and wastewater treatment. This bill would authorize a county or qualified nonprofit organization to apply to the board for a grant to award loans or grants, or both, to an eligible applicant. The bill would authorize the board to use a funding source that is authorized for and consistent with the purposes of the program.

Laws: An act to add Chapter 6.6 (commencing with Section 13486) to Division 7 of the Water Code, relating to water.

Position	Priority
Watch	B. Watch

[AB 313](#)

([Gray](#) D) Water.

Current Text: Amended: 7/18/2017 [Text](#)

Current Analysis: 07/10/2017 [Senate Judiciary \(text 7/3/2017\)](#)

Last Amend: 7/18/2017

Status: 7/18/2017-From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to committee. Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Is Urgency: N

Summary: Current law authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board to adopt an order setting administrative civil liability based on the allegations set forth in the complaint without a hearing, unless a written request for a hearing signed by, or on behalf of, the party served with the complaint is delivered to or received by mail by the board within 20 days after receipt of the complaint. This bill, commencing July 1, 2018, would establish a Water Rights Division within the Office of Administrative Hearings, as prescribed.

Laws: An act to add Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 11375) to Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, and to amend Section 1825 of, to amend, repeal, and add Sections 1055, 1552, and 1845 of, to add Section 1837 to, and to repeal and add Article 2 (commencing with Section 1831) of Chapter 12 of Part 2 of Division 2 of, the Water Code, relating to water.

Position                      Priority  
Watch                         B. Watch

Notes 1: BB&K will continue to monitor.

**AB 464**

**(Gallagher R)** Local government reorganization.

Current Text: Chaptered: 7/10/2017 [Text](#)

Current Analysis: 06/16/2017 [Senate Floor Analyses \(text 3/14/2017\)](#)

Last Amend: 3/14/2017

Status: 7/10/2017-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 43, Statutes of 2017.

Is Urgency: N

Summary: Under the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, current law requires that an applicant seeking a change of organization or reorganization submit a plan for providing services within the affected territory that includes, among other requirements, an enumeration and description of the services to be extended to the affected territory and an indication of when those services can feasibly be extended. This bill would specify that the plan is required to also include specific information regarding services currently provided to the affected territory, as applicable, and make related changes.

Laws: An act to amend Sections 56653 and 56857 of the Government Code, relating to local government.

Position                      Priority  
Watch                         B. Watch

**AB 474**

**(Garcia, Eduardo D)** Hazardous waste: spent brine solutions.

Current Text: Amended: 6/28/2017 [Text](#)

Current Analysis: 07/10/2017 [Senate Appropriations \(text 6/28/2017\)](#)

Last Amend: 6/28/2017

Status: 7/10/2017-In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file.

Is Urgency: N

Summary: Current law exempts from certain requirements of the Hazardous Waste Control Law wastes from the extraction, beneficiation, or processing of ores and minerals that are not subject to regulation under the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, including spent brine solutions used to produce geothermal energy that meet specified requirements. This bill would exempt spent brine solutions that are byproducts of the treatment of groundwater to meet California drinking water standards from those same requirements if certain conditions are met, including that the spent brine solutions are transferred for dewatering via a closed piping system to lined surface impoundments regulated by the California regional water quality control boards.

Laws: An act to add Section 25143.6 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to hazardous waste.

Position                      Priority  
Watch                         B. Watch

Notes 1: Possible bill to support.

**AB 732**

**(Frazier D)** Delta levee maintenance.

Current Text: Amended: 5/30/2017 [Text](#)

Current Analysis: 07/10/2017 [Senate Appropriations \(text 5/30/2017\)](#)

Last Amend: 5/30/2017

Status: 7/10/2017-In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file.

Is Urgency: N

Summary: Current law establishes a delta levee maintenance program pursuant to which a local agency may request reimbursement for costs incurred in connection with the maintenance or improvement of project or nonproject levees in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Current law declares legislative intent to reimburse eligible local agencies under this program, until July 1, 2018, in an amount not to exceed 75% of those costs that are incurred in excess of \$1,000 per mile of levee. Current law, until July 1, 2018, authorizes the board to provide funds to an eligible local agency under this program in the form of an advance in an amount that does not exceed 75% of the estimated state share. This bill would extend until July 1, 2020, the operation of that declaration of legislative intent and the authorization to advance funds.

Laws: An act to amend Sections 12986 and 12987.5 of the Water Code, relating to water.

Position                      Priority  
Watch                         B. Watch

Notes 1: Amended to extended the sunset consistent with past practice.

**AB 885**

**(Rubio D)** Pupil health: drinking water: lead.

*Current Text: Amended: 4/27/2017 [Text](#)*

*Current Analysis: 05/15/2017 [Assembly Appropriations \(text 4/27/2017\)](#)*

*Last Amend: 4/27/2017*

*Status: 5/26/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/17/2017)(May be acted upon Jan 2018)*

*Is Urgency: N*

*Summary: Would require a community water system, as defined, to test, on or before July 1, 2019, and every year thereafter, for the presence of lead at a sample of water outlets used for drinking or cooking at each school, defined to include a public elementary school, a public secondary school, a public preschool located on public school property, and a public day care facility located on public school property, constructed before January 1, 1993, within the boundaries of the community water system.*

*Laws: An act to add Section 32247 to the Education Code, relating to pupil health.*

<i>Position</i>	<i>Priority</i>
<i>Watch</i>	<i>B. Watch</i>

### [SB 5](#)

*([De León D](#)) California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018.*

*Current Text: Amended: 7/18/2017 [Text](#)*

*Current Analysis: 05/27/2017 [Senate Floor Analyses \(text 5/26/2017\)](#)*

*Last Amend: 7/18/2017*

*Status: 7/18/2017-From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on W., P., & W.*

*Is Urgency: Y*

*Summary: Would enact the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in an amount of \$3,832,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a drought, water, parks, climate, coastal protection, and outdoor access for all program.*

*Laws: An act to add Division 45 (commencing with Section 80000) to the Public Resources Code, relating to a drought, water, parks, climate, coastal protection, and outdoor access for all program, by providing the funds necessary therefor through an election for the issuance and sale of bonds of the State of California and for the handling and disposition of those funds, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.*

<i>Position</i>	<i>Priority</i>
<i>Watch</i>	<i>B. Watch</i>

*Notes 1: Better of the two park bond bills. Possible future action item.*

### [SB 80](#)

*([Wieckowski D](#)) California Environmental Quality Act: notices.*

*Current Text: Amended: 6/21/2017 [Text](#)*

*Current Analysis: 07/17/2017 [Assembly Appropriations \(text 6/21/2017\)](#)*

*Last Amend: 6/21/2017*

*Status: 7/20/2017-Read second time. Ordered to third reading.*

*Is Urgency: N*

*Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act requires the lead agency to mail certain notices to persons who have filed a written request for notices. The act provides that if the agency offers to provide the notices by email, upon filing a written request for notices, a person may request that the notices be provided to him or her by email. This bill would require the lead agency to post those notices on the agency's Internet Web site. The bill would require the agency to offer to provide those notices by email. Because this bill would increase the level of service provided by a local agency, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.*

*Laws: An act to amend Sections 21092.2, 21092.3, 21108, and 21152 of the Public Resources Code, relating to environmental quality.*

<i>Position</i>	<i>Priority</i>
<i>Watch</i>	<i>B. Watch</i>

### [SB 146](#)

*([Wilk R](#)) Water resources: permit to appropriate: protected species.*

*Current Text: Amended: 3/20/2017 [Text](#)*

*Current Analysis: 03/23/2017 [Senate Natural Resources And Water \(text 2/17/2017\)](#)*

*Last Amend: 3/20/2017*

*Status: 4/28/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was N.R. & W. on 1/26/2017)(May be acted upon Jan 2018)*



*Is Urgency: N*

*Summary: Under current law, the State Water Resources Control Board administers a water rights program pursuant to which the board grants permits and licenses to appropriate water. Current law prohibits the taking or possession of a fully protected fish, except as provided, and designates the unarmored threespine stickleback as a fully protected fish. This bill would prohibit the board from issuing on or after January 1, 2018, a new permit to appropriate water from any river or stream that has, or is reasonably expected to have, a population of unarmored threespine stickleback.*

*Laws: An act to add Section 1257.7 to the Water Code, relating to water resources.*

<i>Position</i>	<i>Priority</i>
<i>Watch</i>	<i>B. Watch</i>

*Notes 1: ACWA opposed*

**SB 210**

*(Levy D) Pupil health: drinking water.*

*Current Text: Amended: 5/26/2017 Text*

*Current Analysis: 05/27/2017 Senate Floor Analyses (text 5/26/2017)*

*Last Amend: 5/26/2017*

*Status: 7/14/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was ED. on 6/12/2017)(May be acted upon Jan 2018)*

*Is Urgency: N*

*Summary: The California Safe Drinking Water Act, requires the State Water Resources Control Board to establish a grant program, in consultation with the State Department of Education, to award grants to local educational agencies for the purposes of improving access to, and the quality of, drinking water in public schools serving kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, and preschools and child day care facilities located on public school property. The act requires the state board to give priority to certain projects. This bill would require priority be given to projects for schools that have tested their drinking water fixtures, and the results show that the drinking water either does not meet the United States Environmental Protection Agency drinking water standards for lead or is above the California maximum contaminant level for any other contaminant, as specified.*

*Laws: An act to amend Section 116276 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to public health.*

<i>Position</i>	<i>Priority</i>
	<i>B. Watch</i>

**SB 224**

*(Jackson D) California Environmental Quality Act: baseline conditions.*

*Current Text: Amended: 4/5/2017 Text*

*Current Analysis: 05/01/2017 Senate Appropriations (text 4/5/2017)*

*Last Amend: 4/5/2017*

*Status: 5/26/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/25/2017)(May be acted upon Jan 2018)*

*Is Urgency: N*

*Summary: Would require the Office of Planning and Research, on or after January 1, 2018, at the time of the next review of the guidelines, to prepare, develop, and transmit to the secretary proposed changes or amendments to determine the baseline physical conditions by which a lead agency determines whether a project has a significant effect on the environment. The bill would require the office, in developing the recommendations to limit the consideration of modifications to the environment at the project site cause by certain actions. The bill would require the secretary to certify and adopt the recommended proposed changes or amendments.*

*Laws: An act to add Section 21083.02 to the Public Resources Code, relating to environmental quality.*

<i>Position</i>	<i>Priority</i>
	<i>B. Watch</i>

**SB 231**

*(Hertzberg D) Local government: fees and charges.*

*Current Text: Amended: 4/19/2017 Text*

*Current Analysis: 06/16/2017 Assembly Floor Analysis (text 4/19/2017)*

*Last Amend: 4/19/2017*

*Status: 6/15/2017-Read second time. Ordered to third reading.*

*Is Urgency: N*

*Summary: Articles XIIC and XIID of the California Constitution generally require that assessments, fees, and charges be submitted to property owners for approval or rejection after the provision of written notice and the holding of a public hearing. Current law, the Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act, prescribes specific procedures and parameters for local jurisdictions to comply with Articles XIIC and XIID of the California Constitution and*

defines terms for these purposes. This bill would define the term “sewer” for these purposes. The bill would also make findings and declarations relating to the definition of the term “sewer” for these purposes.

Laws: An act to amend Section 53750 of, and to add Section 53751 to, the Government Code, relating to local government finance.

Position  
Watch

Priority  
B. Watch

**SB 252**

(**Dodd D**) Water wells.

Current Text: Amended: 7/17/2017 [Text](#)

Current Analysis: 07/11/2017 [Assembly Local Government \(text 6/28/2017\)](#)

Last Amend: 7/17/2017

Status: 7/17/2017-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR. (Amended 7/17/2017)

Is Urgency: N

Summary: Would require a city or county overlying a critically overdrafted basin, as defined, to request estimates of certain information from an applicant for a new well located within a critically overdrafted basin as part of an application for a well permit. The bill would require a city or county that receives an application for a well permit in a critically overdrafted basin to make the information about the new well included in the application for a well permit available to both the public and to groundwater sustainability agencies and easily accessible. The bill would authorize a city or county to issue a new well permit within a critically overdrafted basin when these requirements have been met.

Laws: An act to amend Section 13751 of, and to add Article 5 (commencing with Section 13807) to Chapter 10 of Division 7 of, the Water Code, relating to groundwater.

Position  
Watch

Priority  
B. Watch

**SB 740**

(**Wiener D**) Onsite treated water.

Current Text: Amended: 4/26/2017 [Text](#)

Current Analysis: 05/15/2017 [Senate Appropriations \(text 4/26/2017\)](#)

Last Amend: 4/26/2017

Status: 5/26/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/25/2017)(May be acted upon Jan 2018)

Is Urgency: N

Summary: Would, on or before December 1, 2018, require the State Water Resources Control Board, in consultation with other state agencies, to adopt regulations, consistent with federal and state law in effect on January 1, 2018, to provide comprehensive risk-based standards for local jurisdictions permitting programs for onsite recycling of water in multifamily residential, commercial, and mixed-use buildings for nonpotable use. The bill would require the regulations to address specified issues and practices relating to the management, monitoring, and treatment of recycled water for nonpotable use.

Laws: An act to add Article 8 (commencing with Section 13558) to Chapter 7 of Division 7 of the Water Code, relating to water quality.

Position

Priority  
B. Watch

**Total Measures: 24**

**Total Tracking Forms: 24**

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
State Legislation Matrix 8/14/2017**

<b>Bill Number Author</b>	<b>Amended Date; Location</b>	<b>Title-Summary</b>	<b>MWD Position</b>	<b>Effects on Metropolitan</b>
<b>AB 472</b> <b>Frazier (D)</b>  Sponsor: California Waterfowl Association	Amended 6/26/17  Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee  Date of Hearing: 8/22/17	<b>Water Transfers:</b> Would eliminate requirement for landowners to comply with Department of Water Resources (DWR) water transfer guidelines. Requires DWR to allow cover crops to remain on fallowed land unless DWR, not the landowner, can prove injury to another legal user of water, based on peer-reviewed scientific studies. Also creates incentive program within the Wildlife Conservation Board for landowners to cultivate or retain nonirrigated vegetation for wildlife habitat.	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>OPPOSE</b> (4/11/17)</p>	Would make it more difficult for DWR to ensure that purchasers of water transfer supplies and legal users of water are not impacted by water consuming vegetation on fallowed lands.
<b>AB 574</b> <b>Quirk (D)</b>  Sponsor: WaterReuse California and California Coastkeeper Alliance	Amended 7/12/17  Senate Appropriations Committee  Date of Hearing: 8/21/17	<b>Potable Reuse:</b> Promotes water recycling by categorizing potable reuse alternatives and by establishing a clear regulatory pathway and time frame for raw water augmentation.	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SUPPORT</b> (3/14/17)</p>	By advancing regulatory criteria that are protective of public health, AB 574 may accelerate the deployment of recycled water projects throughout California.



**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
State Legislation Matrix 8/14/2017**

<b>Bill Number Author</b>	<b>Amended Date; Location</b>	<b>Title-Summary</b>	<b>MWD Position</b>	<b>Effects on Metropolitan</b>
<b>AB 732</b> <b>Frazier (D)</b>  Sponsor: Author	Amended 5/30/17  Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File	<b>Delta Levee Maintenance:</b> Delta levee maintenance program was established for reimbursement of costs incurred in connection with maintenance or improvement of projects or non-project levees in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. AB 732 extends the current 75% state reimbursement rate for Delta levee maintenance costs in excess of \$1,000 per mile, until July 1, 2020.	<b>WATCH</b> based upon prior position on SB 554 (Wolk) from 2016	Metropolitan dropped its opposition to AB 732 after the Delta Stewardship Council directed staff to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB) and DWR to develop and recommend a new set of guidelines, including a methodology and local agency requirements for evaluating a local agency's ability to pay for cost of levee maintenance or improvements under the Delta Levee Subventions Program.
<b>AB 791</b> <b>Frazier (D)</b>  Sponsor: Author	Amended 3/21/17  Assembly Appropriations Committee Two-Year Bill	<b>New Conveyance Facility:</b> Would impose new and unnecessary requirements on "lead agency" (presumably DWR) to provide certain information about costs and benefits of new water delivery system improvements on a water-contractor-by-water-contractor basis <i>before</i> any water contractor could enter any contracts to fund design, construction and mitigation.	<b>OPPOSE</b> based upon June 2007 Board-adopted Delta Action Plan	Could delay construction of California WaterFix, with no added benefit to the public process or environment.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
State Legislation Matrix 8/14/2017**

<b>Bill Number Author</b>	<b>Amended Date; Location</b>	<b>Title-Summary</b>	<b>MWD Position</b>	<b>Effects on Metropolitan</b>
<b>AB 792 Frazier (D)</b>  Sponsor: Author	Amended 3/28/17  Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee  Two-Year Bill	<b>Delta Plan:</b> Would take unprecedented and unnecessary step of requiring Delta Stewardship Council to affirmatively “grant” a certification of consistency with the Delta Plan before construction of California WaterFix could begin. Council could not “grant” the certification until <u>after</u> State Water Resources Control Board adopts update to 2006 Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan.	<b>OPPOSE</b> based upon June 2007 Board-adopted Delta Action Plan	Delta Reform Act of 2009 recognized need for new Delta conveyance to address declines in water supply reliability and the Delta ecosystem. Likewise, the Governor’s California Water Action Plan calls for new Delta conveyance, among a suite of other measures, to further the coequal goals, and to restore water supply reliability to millions of Californians. AB 792 is at odds with both.
<b>AB 793 Frazier (D)</b>  Sponsor: Author	Amended 3/27/17  Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee  Two-Year Bill	<b>Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta – Financing:</b> Would declare it state policy that the <u>existing</u> Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta be recognized and defined as an integral component of California’s water infrastructure. Would state also that the maintenance and repair of Delta are eligible for same forms of financing as other water collection and treatment infrastructure and specifies that eligible maintenance and repair activities be limited to certain cleanup-and-abatement-related restoration and conservation activities.	<b>OPPOSE</b> based upon June 2007 Board-adopted Delta Action Plan	Ignores the fact that the Delta, in its <u>current</u> state, has not been developed as a “water collection or treatment facility.” The current configuration of levees was largely completed in the early 20th century to reclaim swamp and overflow land for farming or other uses. Thus, the declaration of intent is contrary to reality and is not a sound basis for infrastructure financing.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
State Legislation Matrix 8/14/2017**

<b>Bill Number Author</b>	<b>Amended Date; Location</b>	<b>Title-Summary</b>	<b>MWD Position</b>	<b>Effects on Metropolitan</b>
<b>AB 869 Rubio (D)</b>  Sponsor: Author	Amended 7/3/17  Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee  Two-Year Bill	<b>Recycled Water:</b> Would exclude the curtailment of use of recycled water from the definition of conservation.	<b>WATCH</b>  based upon Board-adopted legislative policy priorities dated 5/8/17	Metropolitan recognizes that recycled water is an efficient use and should be treated as such in any new water use efficiency targets. Author will no longer pursue bill, as written.
<b>AB 968 Rubio (D)</b>  Sponsor: Regional Water Authority and Irvine Ranch Water District	Amended 4/17/17  Assembly Appropriations Committee  Two-Year Bill	<b>Water Use Efficiency Targets:</b> Defines “water efficiency target” as a target developed by an urban retail water supplier for 2025 water efficiency in its 2020 urban water management plan. Requires each urban retail water supplier to adopt one of three methods for determining water efficiency targets. Maintains the existing exclusion of recycled water from the calculation of base daily per capita water use. Requires Dept. of Water Resources, in consultation with the State Water Resources Control Board, to, by July 1, 2018, convene a task force for the purposes of recommending appropriate performance measures for the commercial, industrial and institutional sectors.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  based upon Board-adopted legislative policy priorities dated 5/8/17	Preserves the legislative process for setting water-use efficiency goals and recognizes the role of state agencies to implement a detailed framework consistent with the goals. Supports multiple compliance methods that includes a water-budget based target-setting approach in addition to other methods that could be customized to unique local conditions and could be equally effective in reducing water use.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
State Legislation Matrix 8/14/2017**

<b>Bill Number Author</b>	<b>Amended Date; Location</b>	<b>Title-Summary</b>	<b>MWD Position</b>	<b>Effects on Metropolitan</b>
<b>AB 1270</b> <b>Gallagher (R)</b>  Sponsor: Author	Amended 7/20/17  Senate Appropriations Committee  Date of Hearing 8/21/17	<b>Dams and Reservoirs – Inspections and Reporting:</b> Requires inspections of dams on a known frequency rather than only “from time-to-time” as existing law requires. Also requires that on or before January 1, 2019, and every three years thereafter, the California Water Commission, in consultation with the UC Berkeley Center for Catastrophic Risk Management, conduct a review of state-operated and state-maintained dams and reservoirs, such as Lake Oroville.	<b>SUPPORT</b> (6/13/17)	Recent amendments address Metropolitan’s concerns related to the list of inspection activities that would need to be conducted every year for all higher-hazard dams. In addition, the most recent amendment responds to Metropolitan concerns re posting and protection of sensitive information.
<b>AB 1323</b> <b>Weber (D)</b>  Sponsor: San Diego County Water Authority	Amended 5/30/17  Senate Appropriations Committee  Date of Hearing: 8/21/17	<b>Water Efficiency Targets:</b> Provides that if a statute is not chaptered during 2017-18 legislative session to establish water conservation targets and long-term drought contingency planning, DWR shall convene stakeholder workgroup by February 1, 2019, to develop, evaluate and recommend proposals for establishing new water use targets for urban retail water suppliers.	<b>SUPPORT</b> based upon Board-adopted legislative policy priorities dated 5/8/17	Metropolitan supports state agency implementation of a framework consistent with the water use efficiency goals set by the Legislature by working through a stakeholder process to ensure the goals are met in a way that recognizes the unique challenges of agencies throughout California.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
State Legislation Matrix 8/14/2017**

<b>Bill Number Author</b>	<b>Amended Date; Location</b>	<b>Title-Summary</b>	<b>MWD Position</b>	<b>Effects on Metropolitan</b>
<b>AB 1427</b> <b>Eggman (D)</b>  Sponsor: Stockton-East Water District	Amended 3/21/17  Assembly Appropriations Committee  Two-Year Bill	<b>Water – Underground Storage:</b> Amends Water Code Section 1242 to declare that storing water underground, including diverting surface water for storage, for purposes including, but not limited to, protection of water quality or recovery of groundwater levels, are beneficial uses. Also states that existing forfeiture provisions for non-use of water for a period of longer than five years would not apply.	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED</b></p> based upon prior opposition to AB 647 (Eggman) from 2015	Must include safeguards to ensure that permanent underground storage is implemented in reasonable manner. SWRCB must confirm that flows are not already otherwise appropriated or diverted at times when federal Central Valley Project and State Water Project are required to release supplemental project water to meet water quality objectives in Delta watershed. Additional amendments are necessary to ensure alignment with Groundwater Management Sustainability Act of 2014.
<b>AB 1654</b> <b>Rubio (D)</b>  Sponsor: Regional Water Authority and Irvine Ranch Water District	Amended 7/12/17  Senate Rules Committee	<b>Drought Contingency Planning:</b> As a step towards developing a single legislative proposal, the bill was amended in the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee to state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation necessary to help make water conservation a California way of life.	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>WATCH</b></p> based upon Board-adopted legislative policy priorities dated 5/8/17	Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee Chairman Robert Hertzberg and Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee Chairman Eduardo Garcia are motivated to craft a bipartisan/bicameral package to resolve the various policy differences between competing measures.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
State Legislation Matrix 8/14/2017**

<b>Bill Number Author</b>	<b>Amended Date; Location</b>	<b>Title-Summary</b>	<b>MWD Position</b>	<b>Effects on Metropolitan</b>
<b>AB 1667 Friedman (D)</b>  Sponsor: Author	Amended 7/3/17  Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee  Two-Year Bill	<b>Water Management Planning:</b> Reflects the Brown Administration's June 2017 proposal to implement Executive Order B-37-16 and the framework contained in the report Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life for urban and agricultural water usage and drought planning.	<b>SUPPORT IF AMENDED</b> based upon Board-adopted legislative policy priorities dated 5/8/17	AB 1667 is consistent, in part, with the policy priorities adopted by Metropolitan's board. There are specific provisions, however, that require revisions to merit full support.
<b>AB 1668 Friedman (D)</b>  Sponsor: Author	Amended 7/12/17  Senate Rules Committee	<b>Drought Contingency Planning:</b> As a step towards developing a single legislative proposal, the bill was amended in the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee to state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation necessary to help make water conservation a California way of life.	<b>WATCH</b> based upon Board-adopted legislative policy priorities dated 5/8/17	Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee Chairman Robert Hertzberg and Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee Chairman Eduardo Garcia are motivated to craft a bipartisan/bicameral package to resolve the various policy differences between competing measures.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
State Legislation Matrix 8/14/2017**

<b>Bill Number Author</b>	<b>Amended Date; Location</b>	<b>Title-Summary</b>	<b>MWD Position</b>	<b>Effects on Metropolitan</b>
<b>AB 1669</b> <b>Friedman (D)</b>  Sponsor: Author	Amended 4/18/17  Assembly Appropriations Committee  Two-Year Bill	<b>Water Use Efficiency Targets:</b> Requires the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), in consultation with the Department of Water Resources (DWR), to adopt long-term standards for urban water conservation and water use by May 20, 2021. Specifically, this bill requires the long-term standard to include indoor residential water use, outdoor irrigation water use, as specified, and industrial, institutional and commercial water use. Allows the SWRCB, in consultation with DWR, to adopt and update interim standards for urban water conservation and water use.	<b>OPPOSE</b> <b>UNLESS</b> <b>AMENDED</b> based upon Board-adopted legislative policy priorities dated 5/8/17	AB 1669, in many areas, conflicts with the policy priorities adopted by Metropolitan's board. The bill grants authority to a state agency to issue interim standards through emergency regulations outside of a Governor-declared emergency. The bill does not protect existing water rights; provides for only one compliance path; fails to recognize recycled water as an efficient use of water; and proposes water use reduction targets for the commercial, industrial and institutional sector rather than pursuing a performance-based approach.
<b>SB 80</b> <b>Wickowski (D)</b>  Sponsor: Author	Amended 6/21/17  Assembly Floor	<b>California Environmental Quality Act:</b> Would require the preparation, filing and posting on the internet of Notices of Exemption that the California Natural Resources Agency has categorically exempted from CEQA because said actions have no significant adverse impact.	<b>OPPOSE</b> <b>UNLESS</b> <b>AMENDED</b> based upon January 2017 Board-adopted State Legislative Priorities	Would require public agencies to prepare, file and post on the internet dozens, if not hundreds, of additional Notices of Exemption every month for every discretionary action that would cause any change in the physical environment, regardless how insignificant.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
State Legislation Matrix 8/14/2017**

<b>Bill Number Author</b>	<b>Amended Date; Location</b>	<b>Title-Summary</b>	<b>MWD Position</b>	<b>Effects on Metropolitan</b>
<b>SB 92</b> <b>Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee</b>  Budget Trailer Bill	Chapter 26, Statutes of 2017  Signed by Governor on 6/27/17	<b>Resources Trailer Bill:</b> Sections 60-61, 64, 84-94 and 102 provide the Department of Water Resources (DWR) with new authorities that are in alignment with recommended best practices for dams and appurtenant structures from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Association of State Dam Safety Officials.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  (6/13/17)	SB 92 strengthens DWR's regulatory powers and oversight. Further, the requirement for regularly updated inundation maps and emergency action plans will improve emergency planning for neighboring communities.
<b>SB 224</b> <b>Jackson (D)</b>  Sponsor: Environmental Defense Center and the Planning and Conservation League	Amended 4/5/17  Senate Appropriations Committee  Two-Year Bill	<b>California Environmental Quality Act:</b> Would require Office of Planning and Research to prepare, and Secretary of CA Natural Resources Agency to adopt, CEQA guidelines to make exceptions to general rule that environmental review should focus on each project's impacts on the existing physical environment. Lead agencies undertaking their own projects, and project proponents seeking permits, funding or other discretionary approvals from lead agencies, would be required to analyze every proposed project's impacts relative to an environmental condition that no longer existed at any site where unpermitted, illegal or previous emergency response actions occurred.	<b>OPPOSE</b>  based upon January 2017 Board-adopted State Legislative Priorities	SB 224 is at odds with the fundamental precept of CEQA as a forward-looking statute. Lead agencies that undertake their own projects could be required to mitigate for environmental harms committed by others, which is inequitable and fails to deter bad actors.



**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
State Legislation Matrix 8/14/2017**

<b>Bill Number Author</b>	<b>Amended Date; Location</b>	<b>Title-Summary</b>	<b>MWD Position</b>	<b>Effects on Metropolitan</b>
<b>SB 231 Hertzberg (D)</b>  Sponsor: Water Foundation	Amended 4/19/17  Assembly Floor	<b>Local Government - Fees and Charges:</b> Provides a definition of "sewer" that predates Proposition 218 and treats fees for stormwater like all other water and sewer fees. Seeks to clarify where stormwater and flood control systems may overlap with water and sewer systems for which Proposition 218 requires a lower approval threshold. SB 231 does not change the CA Constitution's mandate for rigorous oversight of water and sewer fees, including reports, hearings and protest votes.	<b>SUPPORT</b> (4/11/17)	Stormwater is an important source of local water supply and careful management is necessary to reduce pollution. Currently, property-related fees to fund stormwater and flood control programs, not associated with water supply, require a higher approval standard than property-related fees for other water services.
<b>SB 606 Skinner (D) and Hertzberg (D)</b>  Sponsor: Authors	Amended 7/13/17  Assembly Floor	<b>Water Conservation:</b> As a step towards developing a single legislative proposal, the bill was amended to provide a Senate vehicle which states the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation necessary to help make water conservation a California way of life.	<b>WATCH</b> based upon Board-adopted legislative policy priorities dated 5/8/17	Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee Chairman Robert Hertzberg and Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee Chairman Eduardo Garcia are motivated to craft a bipartisan/bicameral package to resolve the various policy differences between competing measures.



**DISCUSSION ITEM**

August 21, 2017

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** **Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**  
(Directors Tamaribuchi, Dick and Yoo Schneider)

Robert Hunter  
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

**SUBJECT: DEVELOP PROGRAM GOALS FOR MWDOC'S FEDERAL ADVOCACY PROGRAM**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends that the Board of Directors discuss and provide direction to staff.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**BACKGROUND**

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At last month's Public Affairs and Legislation (PAL) meeting, the Committee discussed MWDOC's federal advocacy program goals. It was recommended that this item be brought back next month for further discussion and have staff provide a recommended list of program goals.

As a review from last month:

The MWDOC Board of Directors began adopting policy principles as early as 2001. These principles provide guidelines to incorporate specific legislative and regulatory positions for the Board of Directors to adopt. They are intended to direct staff and the District's legislative advocates when they evaluate proposed legislation and regulations that may impact either the District or its member agencies. In addition, these guidelines allow staff to respond to proposed legislation and regulations in a timely manner. However, issues that are not clear or have complicated implications are always presented to the Board for further guidance.

<b>Budgeted (Y/N):</b> N/A	Budgeted amount: n/a	Core __	Choice __
<b>Action item amount:</b> None		Line item:	
<b>Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):</b>			

In order to have an effective advocacy program, policy principles and legislative/regulatory priorities (short and long term goals) should be in place as not just a guidance, but as a tool for both the Board and staff to rely on in order to be most effective.

However, before any legislative/regulatory priorities can be developed, the Board must establish broad program goals as part of a four-step process outlined below:

1. Develop Goals – i.e. what the District would like to accomplish in a federal advocacy program. **This is what is being discussed today.**
2. Review and update the Policy Principles to ensure they accurately reflect the program goals.
3. Establish legislative and regulatory priorities for the year.
4. Implementation of the program – how to accomplish the goals and priorities most effectively and efficiently.

At the request of the Committee, staff has compiled a list of recommended program goals for discussion.

### **RECOMMENDED FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY GOALS**

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The federal goals compiled below is a broad list of goals the Board of Directors could choose to adopt as part of its federal advocacy program.

#### **Funding**

Water use efficiency programs and infrastructure projects cost money to implement and maintain. Various agencies and departments in Washington D.C. provide funding via grants or low interest loans. Thus, the recommended goals for funding are:

- Obtain funding for member agency projects via grants or low interest loans
- Influence change in funding levels for loan or grant programs beneficial to Orange County water projects
- Influence funding in the Legislative budget
- Influence key agencies within the Department of Interior to place funding in their department budgets for Orange County projects

#### **Projects**

Specific key water infrastructure projects often require support from federal legislators and/or regulatory agencies via funding, permits, or general support to see the project to its completion. Thus, the recommended project oriented goals at this time are:

- Obtain support for the California WaterFix and EcoRestore project from Orange County Federal Representatives, Executive Branch, and key cabinet members and staff
- Obtain support for local reliability projects in Orange County

#### **Legislation**

Legislative advocacy is key to gaining support for a legislative position, a regulation that may have a positive or negative affect on how MWDOC and its member agencies operate and serve their customers. Some of these goals may include:

- Influence/guide current legislation
- Encourage sponsorship of new legislation

## **Brief History MWDOC DC Legislative Program 2001-Present**

From the inception of the MWDOC DC legislative program, the three main components have included working closely with and educating the Orange County Congressional delegation and their respective staff on MWDOC policies and needs, coordinating legislative activities with MWD, and keeping tabs on organizations such as ACWA and NWRA.

Our DC representative, Jim Barker, has consistently provided outstanding counsel. His background is unique in that he has served as a Chief of Staff in both the House and Senate. He also has served as a staff director on a policy committee (authorizer) has worked for a Senate appropriator. In other words, his knowledge of the inside game is next to none.

There has never been a trip that did not advance the issues or message of MWDOC in DC, and each and every meeting that has been requested by Board or staff has been fulfilled. Expanding the focus to include MWD issues has been quite beneficial to MWDOC.

During most DC legislative trips, there is at least one meeting between MWDOC and MWD's DC representative, Brad Hiltcher. In addition, on numerous occasions, the DC representatives of OCWD, OCSD, and the County of Orange are included. We also meet yearly with the DC Executive Director of ACWA.

Our DC representative, Jim Barker, is a regular attendee of the ACWA lobbyist meetings on CA Water Issues and also works closely with Brad Hiltcher.

From 2003 through 2012, Karl Seckel participated in roughly 50% of the DC lobbying trips. Occasionally the Government Affairs/Public Affairs staff attended. However, the Public Affairs/Government Affairs staff always attended and staffed the annual Legislative Luncheon.

Director Finnegan made numerous legislative trips in the early years of the program and was quite active in the US De-Sal Coalition. She also was a regular attendee of the annual Legislative Luncheons.

Former Directors Royce and Hinman and current Directors Dick, Tamaribuchi and Yoo-Schneider have all attended at least one of the DC Legislative Luncheons. In recent years, MWDOC-MWD Director Linda Ackerman has been a regular attendee of the luncheon.

Our DC representative, Jim Barker, has served as the "prudent companion" on each and every legislative trip. On several occasions he included staff support from Michael Kennedy and Nick Crockett.

Attached are two other items: a list of the Orange County Legislative delegation from 2001 to present, and a brief compilation of the offices, organizations and elected officials with whom MWDOC has worked with throughout the years. It is by no means comprehensive but provides the depth and breadth of MWDOC's reach.

## 107<sup>th</sup> Congress (2001-02)

In the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress, MWDOC continued the tradition of hosting an Orange County Legislative Luncheon each year during the annual Association of California Water Agencies Washington DC conference (ACWA-DC). MWDOC also participated in the annual ACWA-DC conference as well as the National Water Resources Association (NWRA) conference in Washington, DC.

## 108<sup>th</sup> Congress (2003-04)

In the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress, MWDOC continued the tradition of hosting an Orange County Legislative Luncheon each year during the annual ACWA-DC conference.

In August 2003, after a competitive process, MWDOC hired Jim Barker as our DC Representative. We held a two day summit on Federal Funding opportunities with our Member Agencies, featuring Jim Barker and Joe Waggoner, of Waggoner Engineering in Mississippi. The outcome of the meeting was the determination to pursue the creation of an Environmental Infrastructure Account (EIA) for California similar to what was in effect in the states of Nevada, Utah, Ohio, Idaho, etc.

MWDOC identified funding opportunities, receiving a State and Tribal Grant (STAG) (Congressman Royce) in the amount of **\$144,000** for an Orange County Water Reliability Study.

MWDOC hosted a tour of the Dana Point desal site for the staff of Congressman Ken Calvert and the staff director for the House Resources subcommittee on Water & Power.

MWDOC joined the United States DeSal Coalition (US DeSal) and participated in their meetings in Washington, DC, Tampa, FL, and Key West, FL. MWDOC also testified, on behalf of US DeSal, in support of HR 3834, the Desalination Energy Assistance Act of 2004, carried by Congressman Jim Davis (D-FL) which was introduced on behalf of US DeSal.

Congressman Cox suggested, in 2003, that MWDOC and the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) work together to build a 150 MGD joint de-sal facility at San Onofre. The plan was for the Department of Defense (DOD) to pay for construction with SDCWA and MWDOC operating the facility for the benefit of both agencies and to provide a new and secure source of water for Camp Pendleton. Both agencies signed an MOU to explore the idea, both worked together with Edison International (EIX) to determine the feasibility, but, unfortunately, EIX ultimately decided they did not need the distraction at the time (they were shutting down reactor one) but would welcome an opportunity in the future.

MWDOC also co-hosted a tour of the Edison International De-Sal Plant for representatives of the office of Congressman Dana Rohrabacher and Congressman Chris Cox.

## 109<sup>th</sup> Congress (2005-06)

In the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress, MWDOC continued the tradition of hosting an Orange County Legislative Luncheon each year during the annual ACWA-DC conference. MWDOC also continued its participation in the US DeSal Coalition until it shuttered in 2006.

MWDOC “adopted” Senator Jon Kyl (R-AZ) to provide Republican leadership on CA water issues.

MWDOC further identified funding opportunities within the Department of Agriculture’s National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) account for water use efficiency projects that resulted in the reduction of impacts on agriculture water sources. We received **\$94,000** for FY05 and **\$149,000** for FY 06.

MWDOC continued the pursuit of an EIA and determined the ideal vehicle would be the next iteration of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA).

Our primary legislative focus was the support and approval of **HR 3929**, the Dana Point Desalination Project Authorization Act, which was introduced and carried by Congressman Ken Calvert. MWDOC testified at the Water & Power Subcommittee of the Natural Resources Committee hearing on this bill. The bill passed the House and was heard in the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, where it was modestly amended and approved by the Committee. It was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders where, unfortunately, an anonymous hold was placed on the bill and it never made it to the floor for approval.

MWDOC also worked with MWD to establish the Riverside-Orange Corridor Authority (ROCA), a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) between MWD, MWDOC and Western Municipal Water District (WMWD). This organization received **\$20 million** in two marks (\$5 million from Congressman Cox and \$15 million from Congressman Calvert) to study the joint-use tunnel between Orange and Riverside Counties. This multi-use tri-tunnel from Corona would connect in Orange County at the 241-133 interchange and provide 6 traffic lanes in 45’ tunnels (2 westbound; 2 eastbound, and 2 switchable depending on traffic needs) to relieve congestion on the Ortega Highway, the 91, 5, 55, 60, and 10 freeways. The primary interests for MWDOC and MWD was the utility corridor for water, power, data, fuel and the SARI line. This project was consistent with the completion of the MWD Central Pool project. With rescission, the total amount was reduced to **\$15.8 million**.

MWD and MWDOC hosted helicopter tours for both Congressman John Doolittle and Congressman Gary Miller to view the proposed corridor alignment for the ROCA tunnels.

## 110<sup>th</sup> Congress (2007-08)

In the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress, MWDOC continued the tradition of hosting an Orange County Legislative Luncheon each year during the annual ACWA-DC conference.

The primary legislative focus was the support and approval of **HR 664**, the identical bill from the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress (Mr. Calvert's HR 3929), but this time it was introduced and carried by Congressman John Campbell. Mr. Campbell, who had voted for and spoken in favor of HR 3929 when it was on the floor in 2006, asked to carry MWDOC's bill. The bill passed out of committees and was placed on the Union Calendar. The bill died when Congressman Campbell determined that it may be considered an earmark and decided to pull it off the Union Calendar, minutes before approval.

MWDOC also continued our focus on obtaining an EIA in the pending WRDA bill. In the final version of the 2007 WRDA bill, Senator Boxer inserted **Section 5039**, a **\$40 million** authorization for Environmental Infrastructure uses in California.

MWDOC continued to tap the NRCS account. We received **\$85,000** in FY 07 and **\$140,000** in FY08.

We also received a STAG mark from Senator Feinstein in the amount of **\$1 million** for the Dana Point desal project. With rescission, the amount was reduced to **\$848,000**.

At the end of this Congress, Congressionally Directed Spending ("earmarks") were eliminated in the rules of the House and Senate.

## 111<sup>th</sup> Congress (2009-10)

In the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress, MWDOC continued the tradition of hosting an Orange County Legislative Luncheon each year during the annual ACWA-DC conference.

With the implementation of the ban on Congressionally Directed Spending (Earmarks), MWDOC sought creative opportunities to fund the 5039 account without it being declared an earmark.

MWDOC supplemented its DC representation with a small contract with Townsend Public Affairs (TPA), primarily to focus on funding opportunities with Senator Boxer for the Dana Point Desal project.

The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) was passed. MWDOC worked with the Boxer personal and Committee staff to ensure Section 5039 was preserved and not de-authorized.

MWDOC expanded its legislative focus to include MET regional/policy issues.

MWDOC worked closely with MET on HR 4349, the Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2010. The bill, sponsored by Congresswoman Grace Napolitano (D-CA), passed the House but died in the Senate.

## 112<sup>th</sup> Congress (2011-12)

In the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress, MWDOC continued the tradition of hosting an Orange County Legislative Luncheon each year during the annual ACWA-DC conference.

MWDOC's primary focus included Hoover Dam Power Reauthorization bill (HR 470), which was carried successfully by Congressman Joe Heck (R-NV). The bill was signed into law by the President.

MWDOC hosted a tour of the Dana Point desal site for the Majority staff Director of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. Included in the tour were local representatives of Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez and Senator Barbara Boxer.

MWDOC also worked closely with the office of Congressman Bob Gibbs (R-OH) on the development of the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA). The original proposals did not include eligibility for Ocean Water Desalination projects. We also worked closely with the staff (majority and minority) of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (T&I) on the same issue.

MWDOC worked closely with Congressman Nunes on HR 1837, the first major water legislation to address numerous issues including the preservation of water rights, and Delta Operations. The bill passed the House and died in the Senate.

## 113<sup>th</sup> Congress (2013-14)

In the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress, MWDOC continued the tradition of hosting a Legislative Luncheon each year during the annual ACWA-DC conference. MWDOC expanded the luncheon to include our colleagues from the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA), Western Municipal Water District (WMWD) and the Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD). The purpose was to expand the footprint in DC along with our fellow MET agencies to strengthen the base which led to the election of Chairman Randy Record.

MWDOC worked closely with Congressman Valadao (R-CA) on HR 3964, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Emergency Water Delivery Act, which was a scaled back version of HR 1837. The bill passed the House and died in the Senate.

MWDOC identified 3 western Republican Senators that could work with CA water issues in a manner similar to former Jon Kyl (R-AZ). MWDOC began regular meetings with the offices of Senators Dean Heller (R-NV), Jeff Flake (R-AZ) and Mike Lee (R-UT).

In early 2014, MWDOC declined to continue the contract with TPA for Federal representation.

MWDOC continued to work closely with the office of Congressman Bob Gibbs (R-OH) on the development of the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA). The original proposal did not include eligibility for Ocean Water Desalination projects. We also worked closely with the staff (majority and minority) of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (T&I) to encourage them to include Ocean Water Desalination.

The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) was passed with the WIFIA provision. MWDOC worked with the House T&I Committee Staff (majority and minority) to ensure Section 5039 was preserved and not de-authorized. We also worked closely again with the Boxer personal and Committee staff on the same issue.



At the request of Senator Feinstein, we submitted local desalination projects that should be included in a CA Desalination Bill the Senator was planning to introduce as a stand-alone bill. Dana Point was listed twice.

MWDOC worked to support CA policy staff (House and Senate) with background information in their negotiations for the California Drought Legislative Fix (HR 5781 – Valadao). The final deal was scuttled by Senator Feinstein in December 2014.

MWDOC MWD Director hosted staff from the offices of Congressman Ken Calvert and Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez on a Colorado River Aqueduct tour.

## 114<sup>th</sup> Congress (2015-16)

In the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress, MWDOC continued the tradition of hosting a Legislative Luncheon with our colleagues from the Inland Empire MET Caucus each year during the annual ACWA-DC conference.

MWDOC-MWD Director hosted staff from the Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water & Power, the offices of Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, Congressman Doug La Malfa, Congressman Jeff Denham, Congressman Devin Nunes, Congressman David Valadao, Congressman Tom McClintock, Congressman Ken Calvert, Congressman Dana Rohrabacher, Congressman Darrell Issa and Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez on a statewide tour of the State Water Project. Most of the majority staff included was intimately involved in the negotiations of the California Water Bill.

As a result of these efforts, the staff at MET began hosting legislative staff on similar trips.

MWDOC was asked to testify before the House Natural Resources subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans on the impacts of the California Water Drought.

MWDOC worked closely with the House Ways & Means Committee and the Senate Committee on Finance in the expectation that Senator Feinstein would introduce language to exempt water conservation rebates from taxation. No legislation was introduced.

A technical correction was successfully sought to allow tax exempt bonds to be utilized with WIFIA loans.

MWDOC continued to support CA policy staff (House and Senate) with background information during their negotiations for the California Drought Legislative Fix. In December 2015, the deal was once again scuttled by Senator Feinstein.

However, following the November 2016 election, Majority Leader McCarthy led the successful negotiations with Senator Feinstein to make substantial corrections to the pumping guidelines as it pertains to Bay Delta operations and other California Drought Legislative Fixes.

MWDOC-MWD Director hosted staff from the offices of Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy and Congressman Tom McClintock on a Hoover Dam/Colorado River Aqueduct tour.

## 115<sup>th</sup> Congress (2017-18)

In the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress, MWDOC has continued the tradition of hosting a Legislative Luncheon with our colleagues from the Inland Empire MET Caucus during the annual ACWA-DC conference. In 2017, we expanded our luncheon to include the City of Long Beach.

The primary focus of the MWDOC legislative program is the protection of the CA Water Fix, the development of water storage projects statewide, and to get the Section 5039 account open and funded. In addition, pursuing the ability to issue water conservation credits that are tax free is an issue which must be resolved this Congress.

## Final Thoughts

MWDOC is well positioned with our Orange County and CA Senatorial delegation. We handle regular requests for advice and information from both staff and electeds.

MWDOC is well positioned with the Office of the Speaker of the House, the House Majority Leader, the Senate Pro Tem and the committee staff of the relevant water policy and appropriations committees in both the House and the Senate.

MWDOC is the “go-to” agency for the CA GOP Water coalition.

Because of the leadership provided by MWDOC, the Chairman and the General Manager of MWD has expanded lobbying efforts in the House of Representatives and has asked MWDOC to take the lead with the GOP Water Coalition, the Majority Leader’s Office and the office of the Speaker of the House on the California Water Fix.

## Attachments:

Orange County DC Legislative Delegation – 2001 to present

List of Executive, Legislative and Organizational Meetings – 2001 to present

CONGRESS	YEARS	EXEC	US SENATE	US HOUSE	CA SENATORS	OC HOUSE
107th	2001-02	REP	DEM / REP / DEM (a)	REP	Feinstein, Boxer	Cox, Rohrabacher, Royce, Sanchez, Miller, Issa
108th	2003-04	REP	REP	REP	Feinstein, Boxer	Cox, Rohrabacher, Calvert, Royce, Sanchez, Miller
109th	2005-06	REP	REP	REP	Feinstein, Boxer	Cox (Campbell), Rohrabacher, Calvert, Royce, Sanchez, Miller
110th	2007-08	REP	DEM Coalition (b)	DEM	Feinstein, Boxer	Rohrabacher, Calvert, Royce, Sanchez, Miller, Campbell
111th	2009-10	DEM	DEM	DEM	Feinstein, Boxer	Rohrabacher, Calvert, Royce, Sanchez, Miller, Campbell
112th	2011-12	DEM	DEM	REP	Feinstein, Boxer	Rohrabacher, Calvert, Royce, Sanchez, Miller, Campbell
113th	2013-14	DEM	DEM	REP	Feinstein, Boxer	Rohrabacher, Royce, Sanchez (Loretta), Issa, Sanchez (Linda), Campbell, Lowenthal
114th	2015-16	DEM	REP	REP	Feinstein, Boxer	Rohrabacher, Royce, Sanchez (Loretta), Issa, Sanchez (Linda), Lowenthal, Walters
115th	2017-18	REP	REP	REP	Feinstein, Harris	Rohrabacher, Royce, Issa, Sanchez (Linda), Lowenthal, Walters, Correa
					(listed by seniority)	(listed by seniority)
			(a) - 50-50; 50-49-1 (Jeffords)			
						BOLD - Serve on Water Related Policy or Authorization/Appropriations Committee
			(b) - 49 DEM & 2 IND			PINK - DEMOCRAT PARTY
						BLUE - REPUBLICAN PARTY
					Feinstein - 1992 - Class I	Cox - 1988; Rohrabacher - 1988; Calvert - 1992; Royce - 1992; Loretta Sanchez - 1996 ;
					Boxer - 1992 - Class III	Gary Miller - 1998; Darrell Issa - 2000; Linda Sanchez - 2002 ; John Campbell - 2005;
					Harris - 2016 - Class III	Lowenthal - 2012; Walters - 2014; Correa - 2016

## **Executive Branch Meetings**

Office of the President  
United States Department of the Interior  
United States Department of Agriculture  
United States Department of Defense  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
United States Securities and Exchange  
Commission  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
United States Bureau of Reclamation  
United States Army Corps of Engineers

## **Senate/House Committees**

Senate Committee on Agriculture  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Senate Committee on Budget  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and  
Transportation  
Senate Committee on Energy and Natural  
Resources  
Senate Committee on Environment and Public  
Works  
Senate Committee on Finance  
Senate Committee on Rules

Joint Committee on Taxation

House Committee on Agriculture  
House Committee on Appropriations  
House Committee on Budget  
House Committee on Energy & Commerce  
House Committee on Homeland Security  
House Committee on House Administration  
House Committee on the Judiciary  
House Committee on Natural Resources  
House Committee on Oversight and Government  
Reform  
House Committee on Transportation and  
Infrastructure  
House Committee on Ways & Means

## **Organizations/Others**

Office of the California Governor  
Association of California Water Agencies  
National Water Resources Association  
Heritage Foundation  
Edison International  
CATO Institute  
Hoover Institute  
American Enterprise Institute  
US Desalination Coalition  
National Endangered Species Act Reform  
Coalition  
National Association of Counties

## United States Senate

DEM - *italics*; REP – bold; OC REP

Office of the Majority Leader  
Office of the Senate Pro Tem

## US Senate - Current:

John Barasso (WY)  
Roy Blunt (MO)  
Thad Cochran (MS)  
Dianne Feinstein (CA)  
Jeff Flake (AZ)  
Kamala Harris (CA)  
Orrin Hatch (UT)  
Dean Heller (NV)  
James Inhofe (OK)  
Cory Gardner (CO)  
Mike Lee (UT)  
John McCain (AZ)  
Lisa Murkowski (AK)  
Patrick Toomey (PA)  
John Thune (SD)  
*Sheldon Whitehouse (RI)*  
*Ron Wyden (OR)*

## US Senate - Former:

Robert Bennett (UT)  
*Jeff Bingaman (NM)*  
Barbara Boxer (CA)  
Conrad Burns (MT)  
Lincoln Chafee (RI)  
Saxby Chambliss (GA)  
Larry Craig (ID)  
Mike DeWine (OH)  
Pete Domenici (NM)  
John Ensign (NV)  
Dirk Kempthorne (ID)  
Jon Kyl (AZ)  
Trent Lott (MS)  
Connie Mack (FL)  
*Ken Salazar (CO)*  
Gordon Smith (OR)  
Steve Symms (ID)

## United States House of Representatives

DEM - *italics*; REP – bold; OC Rep

Office of the Speaker of the House  
Office of the Majority Leader  
Office of the Majority Whip

## US House - Current:

Mark Amodei (NV)  
Rob Bishop (UT)  
Marsha Blackburn (TN)  
Ken Calvert (CA)  
Paul Cook (CA)  
J. Luis Correa (CA)  
*Jim Costa (CA)*  
Jeff Denham (CA)  
Bob Gibbs (OH)  
Sam Graves (MO)  
Darrell Issa (CA)  
Steve Knight (CA)  
Doug LaMalfa (CA)  
Alan Lowenthal (CA)  
Kevin McCarthy (CA)  
Tom McClintock (CA)  
Tim Murphy (PA)  
*Grace Napolitano (CA)*  
Devin Nunes (CA)  
Steve Pearce (NM)  
Harold Rogers (KY)  
Dana Rohrabacher (CA)  
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (FL)  
Ed Royce (CA)  
Linda Sanchez (CA)  
Jim Sensenbrenner (WI)  
Bill Shuster (PA)  
Mike Simpson (ID)  
Chris Stewart (UT)  
Scott Tipton (CO)  
David Valadao (CA)  
Greg Walden (OR)  
Mimi Walters (CA)  
Don Young (AK)

## US House - Former:

Richard Armey (TX)  
*Joe Baca (CA)*  
Roscoe Bartlett (MD)  
Brian Bilbray (CA)  
Michael Bilirakis (FL)  
Mary Bono Mack (CA)  
Dan Burton (IN)  
John Campbell (CA)  
Chris Cannon (UT)  
Eric Cantor (VA)  
Howard Coble (NC)  
Chris Cox (CA)  
Phil Crane (CA)  
Randy Cunningham (CA)  
Tom DeLay (TX)  
*John Dingell (MI)*  
John Doolittle (CA)  
David Dreier (CA)  
Vernon Ehlers (MI)  
Elton Gallegly (CA)  
George Gekas (PA)  
Jim Gibbons (NV)  
Porter Goss (FL)  
*Janice Hahn (CA)*  
Jane Harman (CA)  
Katherine Harris (FL)  
Dennis Hastert (IL)  
Doc Hastings (WA)  
JD Hayworth (AZ)  
Joe Heck (NV)  
Joel Hefley (CO)  
Wally Herger (CA)  
David Hobson (OH)  
Duncan Hunter (CA)  
Henry Hyde (IL)  
Bob Inglis (SC)  
Ernest Istook (OK)  
Jerry Lewis (CA)  
John Linder (GA)  
Cynthia Lummis (WY)  
Dan Lungren (CA)  
Buck McKeon (CA)  
Gary Miller (CA)  
Mike Oxley (OH)

Ron Paul (TX)  
Tom Petri (WI)  
Chip Pickering (MS)  
Richard Pombo (CA)  
George Radanovich (CA)  
Ralph Regula (OH)  
Loretta Sanchez (CA)  
John Shadegg (AZ)  
Bill Thomas (CA)  
*Henry Waxman (CA)*  
Helen Wilson (NM)

**DISCUSSION ITEM**

August 21, 2017

**TO:** Board of Directors**FROM:** **Public Affairs Legislative Committee**  
(Directors Dick, Tamaribuchi, and Yoo Schneider)Robert Hunter  
General Manager

Staff Contact: Damon Micalizzi

**SUBJECT: UPDATE ON THREE MONTH SOCIAL MEDIA PILOT WITH  
HASHTAGPINPOINT CORPORATION****STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the Board of Directors receive and file.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**SUMMARY**

In April, the Board authorized staff to enter a sole source contract with HashtagPinpoint Corporation for social media consulting services, to compliment the District's efforts building support for the California WaterFix. The contract for this 'pilot program' was three months. This report is a summary of the three month program.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

On December 5, 2016, the MWD OC Board of Directors adopted a resolution to support the California WaterFix after the MWD OC Orange County Water Reliability Study determined the WaterFix to be the single-most-cost-effective large-scale project to achieve reliable water supply for the region into the future. As such, staff was charged with building support throughout the County for the WaterFix and, with the support of Member Agencies, focused communications efforts for Fiscal Year 17/18 on promoting the WaterFix.

With MWD OC and its Member Agencies looking to grow their social media outreach, after investigating several firms, staff entered a three month contract with Social Media

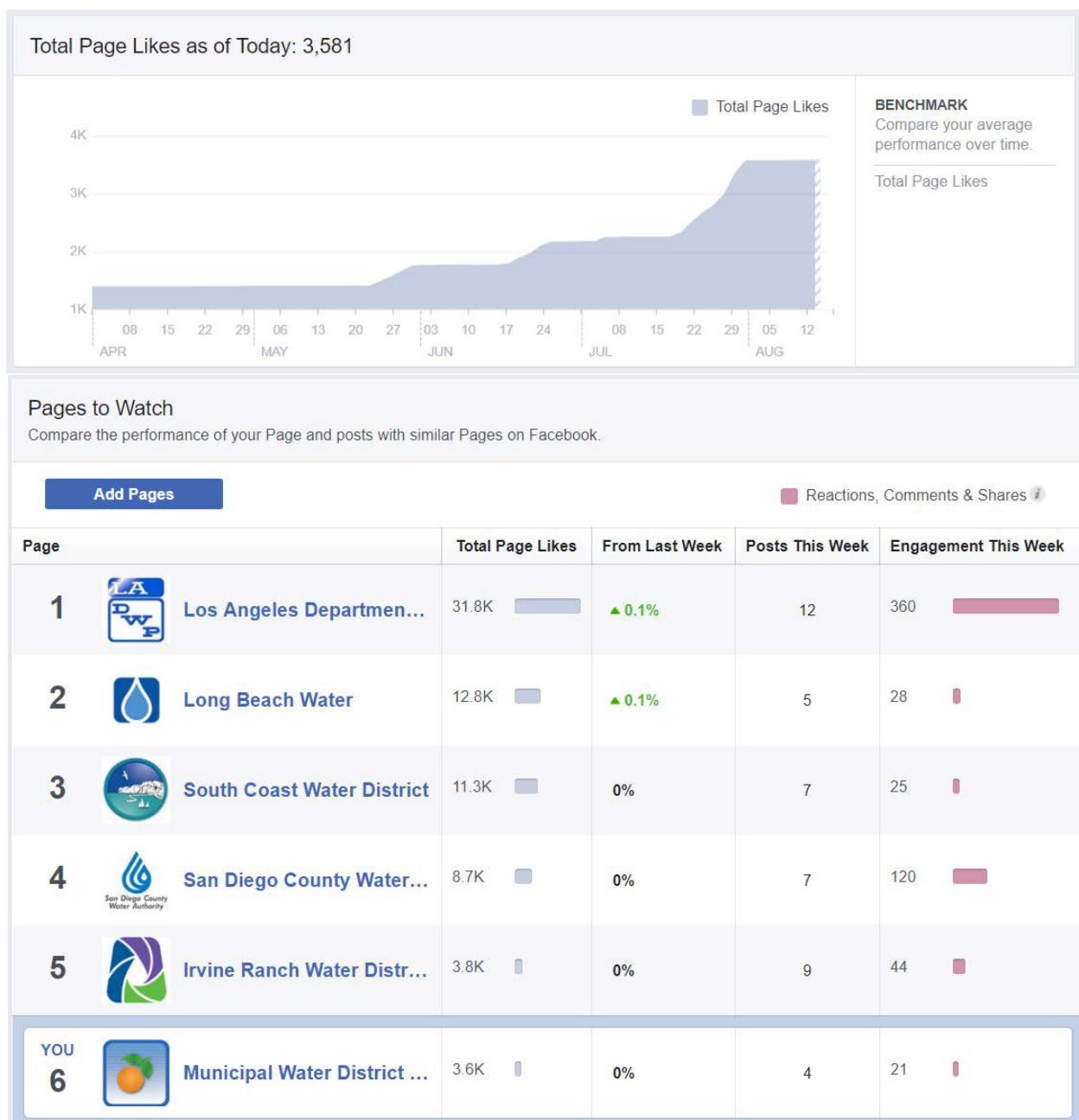
Budgeted (Y/N): Y	Budgeted amount: \$15,000	Core X	Choice
Action item amount: None	Line item:32-7040		
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

Consultant: Hashtag Pinpoint Corporation, editors of the California Drought Monitor, to pilot a WaterFix Social Media Campaign for three months, leading into the FY17/18 campaign.




## KEY FINDINGS AND RESULTS

At the onset of the pilot, it became evident that MWDOC's social media (Facebook) footprint was insignificant. With only roughly 1,200 followers, many of whom being water professionals, it was clear that the current model was insufficient. Furthermore, posting was sporadic and messages were not consistent. Simply put, MWDOC's posts were barely engaging an audience of our peers.

The consultant recommended a series of 'Like' drives aimed at elevating the number of followers to achieve a more robust organic reach. The results: MWDOC's followers doubled in the first 30 days and nearly tripled (3,600) by the conclusion of the pilot.





		<b>Santa Margarita Water D...</b>	3.5K		▲ 0.4%	3	60	
8		<b>Moulton Niguel Water Di...</b>	2.6K		▲ 0.3%	5	36	
9		<b>Anaheim Public Utilities</b>	1.9K		▲ 0.1%	0	0	
10		<b>Laguna Beach County ...</b>	1.9K		▼ 0.1%	2	6	
11		<b>Orange County Busines...</b>	1.7K		▲ 0.1%	19	17	
12		<b>Mesa Water</b>	1K		▼ 0.1%	5	14	
13		<b>North Coast County Wat...</b>	984		0%	0	0	
14		<b>Association of Californi...</b>	962		▲ 1.1%	6	152	

This initial push was then followed by additional messaging focused primarily on promoting the California WaterFix. More than 100 postings were made over this period, including videos and links to earned media. Messages were targeted in parts of the County yet to take a position on the WaterFix. As this campaign was running, support throughout the County continued to build steadily for the WaterFix.


**Municipal Water District of Orange County**

Published by Joe Hashtag [?] · July 15 at 3:50pm · 🌐

Megan Yoo Schneider, MWDOC Division 7 Director provides more insight on why the California WaterFix is critical for SoCal

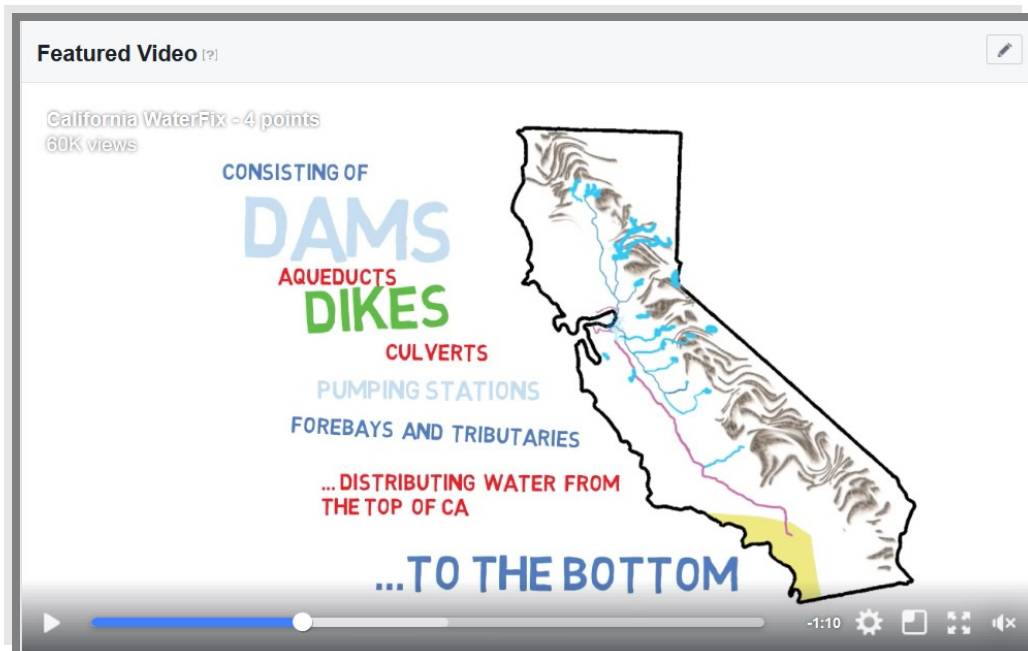


**Guest Opinion: California WaterFix Critical to South County | Dana Point Times**

By Megan Yoo Schneider The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is 435 miles from South Orange County, but the impact of what happens there is felt as close to hom

DANAPointTIMES.COM

In addition to tripling MWDOC's overall Facebook following, with boosted posts at targeted audiences, some content reached as many as 60,000 people.



At the conclusion of this trial period the following was clear:

- Social Media is an extremely powerful and valuable tool
- To use this tool successfully you must commit resources
- In three months, MWDOC's social media presence was amplified exponentially



**ACTION ITEM**  
September 20, 2017

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** **Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**  
(Directors Tamaribuchi, Dick and Yoo Schneider)

Robert Hunter  
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

**SUBJECT: TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON D.C. TO COVER FEDERAL INITIATIVES**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Board of Directors receive and file the report.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**REPORT**

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**DIRECTORS**

For the fourth quarter (Apr.-Jun. 2017) of fiscal year 2016-2017, one trip was taken.

The following was budgeted for fiscal year 2016/2017 for directors:

Washington D.C. Legislative Travel Budget - \$11,000, 6 trips

- Total cost for this quarter: \$1,846.58, 1 trip
- Year-to-date spent: \$5,917.45, 5 trips
- Budget remaining: \$5,082.55

For the fourth quarter (Apr.-Jun. 2017) of fiscal year 2016-2017, one trip was taken

- April 19-21 – Director Barbre

<b>Budgeted (Y/N): Yes</b>	Budgeted amount: Washington D.C. Legislative Advocacy - \$11,000/staff; \$11,000/directors.	Core <u>X</u>	Choice <u>  </u>
<b>Action item amount: n/a</b>		Line item:	
<b>Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):</b> Within projected budget			

## STAFF

For the fourth quarter (Apr.-Jun. 2017) of fiscal year 2016-2017, no trips were taken

The following is budgeted for fiscal year 2016/2017 for **staff**:

Washington D.C. Legislative Travel - \$11,000, 6 trips

- Total cost for this quarter: \$0
- Year-to-date spent: \$4,429.86, 2 trips
- Budget remaining: \$6,570.47

The focus of these trips were on the importance of the CA WaterFix (federal permits and funding), benefits California has received due to the passage of S.612, the drought bill, and visits to representative offices to discuss long term conservation and tax parity water rebate issues (turf removal program, et al).



**ACTION ITEM**  
September 20, 2017

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** **Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**  
(Directors Tamaribuchi, Dick and Yoo Schneider)

Robert Hunter  
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

**SUBJECT: TRAVEL TO SACRAMENTO TO COVER STATE INITIATIVES**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Board of Directors receive and file the report.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**REPORT**

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**DIRECTORS**

For the fourth quarter (Apr.-Jun. 2017) of fiscal year 2016-2017, no trips were taken.

The following was budgeted for fiscal year 2016/2017 for directors:

Sacramento Legislative Travel Budget - \$4,000, 8 trips

- Total cost for this quarter: \$0
- Year-to-date spent: \$504.95, 1 trip
- Budget remaining: \$3,495.05

<b>Budgeted (Y/N): Yes</b>	Budgeted amount: Sacramento Legislative Advocacy - \$9,500/staff; \$4,000/directors.	Core <u>X</u>	Choice <u>  </u>
<b>Action item amount: n/a</b>		Line item:	
<b>Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):</b> Within projected budget			

## STAFF

For the fourth quarter (Apr.-Jun. 2017) of fiscal year 2016-2017, three trips were taken.

- April 21 – Heather Baez
- June 9 – Heather Baez
- June 30 – Heather Baez

The following is budgeted for fiscal year 2016-2017 for staff:

Sacramento Legislative Travel - \$9,500, 18 trips

- Total cost for this quarter: \$1,880.80, 4 trips (one trip scheduled for August 25 was paid for in FY 16-17)
- Year-to-date spent: \$5,856.58, 12 trips
- Budget remaining: \$3,643.42

Projecting out for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of fiscal year 2017/2018

- Upcoming trips:

August 25  
October 20

The purpose of these trips are to meet with members of the delegation, attend the ACWA State Legislative Committee meetings and State Water Resources Control Board meetings.



**ACTION ITEM**  
September 20, 2017

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** **Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**  
(Directors Dick, Tamaribuchi, and Yoo Schneider)

Robert Hunter  
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

**SUBJECT: ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES (ACWA) REGION 10 ELECTION**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends that the Board of Directors review the candidates and authorize President Osborne, or his designee, to cast the District's ballot for the ACWA Region 10 Board election.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**SUMMARY**

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The Region 10 Nominating Committee, comprised of the following members: Doug Wilson, Padre Dam Municipal Water District; Bob Hill, El Toro Water District; Phil Anthony, Orange County Water District; and Gary Arant, Valley Center Municipal Water District; has agreed upon a slate of candidates to lead ACWA Region 10 for the 2018-2019 term. That slate is outlined on the attached ACWA Region 10 ballot.

The Region 10 Board is comprised of Chair, Vice Chair and up to five Board Member positions for a total of seven. These seats are split between Orange and San Diego counties. The two counties rotate between Chair and Vice Chair, with the county serving as Vice Chair having the extra seat. This term, Orange County will take over the Chair position, leaving one less seat for an Orange County director. This term, Orange County will have three seats, San Diego County will have four.

<b>Budgeted (Y/N):</b> N/A	Budgeted amount: n/a	Core __	Choice __
<b>Action item amount:</b> none		Line item:	
<b>Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):</b>			

The leadership of ACWA's ten geographical regions is integral to the leadership of the Association as a whole. The Chair and Vice Chair of Region 10 serve on ACWA's Statewide Board of Directors and recommend all committee appointments for Region 10. The members of the Region 10 Board determine the direction and focus of region issues and activities. Additionally, they support the fulfillment of ACWA's goals on behalf of members and serve as a key role in ACWA's grassroots outreach efforts.

On August 1, 2017 ballots were sent to General Managers and Board Presidents. One ballot per agency will be counted. **Completed ballots are due no later than September 29, 2017.** On October 5, 2017, election results will be announced. The newly elected Region 10 Board Members will begin their two-year term of service on January 1, 2018.

You may either vote for the slate recommended by the Region 10 Nominating Committee or vote for individual region board members (please note rules & regulations for specific qualifications).

The incumbents running for reelection for Region 10 include Jim Atkinson (Mesa Water District), Chuck Gibson (Santa Margarita Water District), and Cathy Green (Orange County Water District).

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

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Additional information from ACWA is attached:  
Region 10 Rules and Regulations  
ACWA Region 10 Ballot





**Please return completed ballot  
by September 29, 2017**

E-mail: anaj@acwa.com  
Mail: ACWA  
910 K Street, Suite 100  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### General Voting Instructions:

- 1** You may either vote for the slate recommended by the Region 10 Nominating Committee or vote for individual region board members (please note rules & regulations for specific qualifications). Mark the appropriate box to indicate your decision.
- 2** Complete your agency information. The authorized representative is determined by your agency in accordance with your agency's policies and procedures.

### Region 10 Rules & Regulations:

The chair and vice chair shall be from different counties. The 2018-2019 Term shall consist of a Chair and 2 Board Members from Orange County and a Vice Chair and 3 Board Members from San Diego County. At least one of the chair or vice chair positions must be an elected/appointed director from a member agency.

**CLEAR FORM**

**1**

### Nominating Committee's Recommended Slate

- ☐ I concur with the Region 10 Nominating Committee's recommended slate below.

#### CHAIR:

- **Cathy Green**, Director, Orange County Water District (Orange County)

#### VICE CHAIR:

- **DeAna Verbeke**, Board Member, Helix Water District (San Diego County)

#### BOARD MEMBERS:

- **Jim Atkinson**, Director, Mesa Water District (Orange County)
- **Charles T. Gibson**, Board President, Santa Margarita Water District (Orange County)
- **James B. Murtland**, President, Rincon del Diablo MWD (San Diego County)
- **Richard L. Vasquez**, Director, Vista Irrigation District (San Diego County)
- **Vacant** (San Diego County)

**OR**

### Individual Board Candidate Nominations

(See Rules & Regulations before selecting)

- ☐ I do not concur with the Region 10 Nominating Committee's recommended slate. I will vote for individual candidates below as indicated.

#### CANDIDATES FOR CHAIR: (CHOOSE ONE)

- ☐ **Cathy Green**, Director, Orange County Water District (Orange County)

#### CANDIDATES FOR VICE CHAIR: (CHOOSE ONE)

- ☐ **DeAna Verbeke**, Board Member, Helix Water District (San Diego County)

#### CANDIDATES FOR BOARD MEMBERS: (MAX OF 5 CHOICES)

- ☐ **Jim Atkinson**, Director, Mesa Water District (Orange County)
- ☐ **Charles T. Gibson**, Board President, Santa Margarita Water District (Orange County)
- ☐ **Cathy Green**, Director, Orange County Water District (Orange County)
- ☐ **James B. Murtland**, President, Rincon del Diablo MWD (San Diego County)
- ☐ **Richard L. Vasquez**, Director, Vista Irrigation District (San Diego County)
- ☐ **DeAna Verbeke**, Board Member, Helix Water District (San Diego County)

**2**

AGENCY NAME

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

DATE

# Region 10 Rules and Regulations

*Each region shall organize and adopt rules and regulations for the conduct of its meetings and affairs not inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation or bylaws of the Association (ACWA Bylaw V, 6.).*

## **Officers**

The chair and vice chair shall be from different counties.

At least one of the chair or vice chair positions must be an elected/appointed director from a member agency.

The region board members shall alternate every two years with three from one county and two from the other. The county from which the chair comes from shall have two region board members and the county from which the vice chair comes from shall have three region board members.

The chair will provide the region secretary.

## **Meetings**

The region will hold at least quarterly meetings, including the ACWA spring and fall conferences.

The region chair will determine when and if nonmembers are invited to regional activities or events.

## **Attendance**

If a region chair or vice chair is no longer allowed to serve on the Board of Directors due to his / her attendance, the region board shall appoint from the existing region board a new region officer. (ACWA Policy & Guideline Q, 1.)

If a region chair or vice chair misses three consecutive region board / membership meetings, the same process shall be used to backfill the region officer position. (ACWA Policy & Guideline Q, 1.)

If a region board member has three consecutive unexcused absences from a region board meeting or general membership business meeting, the region board will convene to discuss options for removal of the inactive board member. If the vacancy causes the board to fail to meet the minimum requirement of five board members, the region must fill the vacancy according to its rules and regulations. (ACWA Policy & Guideline Q, 3.)

## **Elections**

All nominations received for the region chair, vice chair and board positions must be accompanied by a resolution of support from each sponsoring member agency, signed by an authorized representative of the Board of Directors. Only one individual may be nominated from a given agency to run for election to a region board. Agencies with representatives serving on the nominating committees should strive not to submit nominations for the region board from their agency. (ACWA Policy & Guideline P, 2.)

Election ballots will be e-mailed to ACWA member agency general managers and presidents.

The nominating committee shall consist of four persons, two from each county.

The nominating committee shall pursue qualified members within the region to run for the region board and consider geographic diversity, agency size and focus in selecting a slate.

A member of the nominating committee cannot be nominated by the committee for an elected position.

*See current region election timeline for specific dates.*

## **Endorsements**

ACWA, as a statewide organization, may endorse potential nominees and nominees for appointment to local, regional, and statewide commissions and boards. ACWA's regions may submit a recommendation for consideration and action to the ACWA Board of Directors to endorse a potential nominee or nominee for appointment to a local, regional or statewide commission or board. (ACWA Policy & Guideline P, 3.)

## **Committee Recommendations & Representation**

All regions are given equal opportunity to recommend representatives of the region for appointment to a standing or regular committee of the Association. If a region fails to provide full representation on all ACWA committees, those committee slots will be left open for the remainder of the term or until such time as the region designates a representative to complete the remainder of the term. (ACWA Policy & Guideline P, 4. A.)

At the first region board / membership meeting of the term, regions shall designate a representative serving on each of the standing and regular committees to serve as the official reporter to and from the committee on behalf of the region to facilitate input and communication. (ACWA Policy & Guideline P, 4. B.)

The chair and vice chair will recommend an official alternate for excused committee members.

## **Tours**

ACWA may develop and conduct various tours for the regions. All tour attendees must sign a "release and waiver" to attend any and all region tours. Attendees agree to follow environmental

guidelines and regulations in accordance with direction from ACWA staff; and will respect the rights and privacy of other attendees. (ACWA Policy & Guideline P, 6.)

## **Finances**

*See “Financial Guidelines for ACWA Region Events” document.*

## **Amending the Region Rules & Regulations**

ACWA policies and guidelines can be amended by approval of the ACWA Board of Directors.

The region 10 rules and regulations can be changed at any time with advanced written notice to member agencies.



**INFORMATION ITEM**

August 21, 2017

**TO: Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**  
(Directors Tamaribuchi, Dick, Yoo Schneider)

**FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager**

Staff Contact: Karl Seckel

**SUBJECT: Overview of California Council for Economic and Environmental Balance (CCEEB)**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Public Affairs & Legislation Committee receives and files the report.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**SUMMARY**

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The Executive Committee requested that staff provide an overview on the California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance (CCEEB). The Board of Directors was last updated on CCEEB in March as part of the budget process. MWDOC's General Manager Rob Hunter and MWDOC Director Sat Tamaribuchi are currently involved in CCEEB to seek a position of support on the California WaterFix and EcoRestore and to help to bring expedited solutions to fisheries recovery in the Delta.

The report below provides background on CCEEB and how they function.

Budgeted (Y/N): na	Budgeted amount: na	Core ✓	Choice __
Action item amount: na	Line item: na		
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

## DETAILED REPORT

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The California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance (CCEEB) is a non-profit, non-partisan coalition of industry, labor and public leaders. The mission of CCEEB is to make environmental and economic balance a reality by working to solve the most pressing environmental policy problems facing California.

The CCEEB Board of Directors is comprised of 60 members split evenly among each of the council's three core constituencies: business, organized labor, and public leaders. The board sets the CCEEB mission and principles, approves new programs, provides policy guidance and determines positions on statewide ballot initiatives, and ensures the financial viability of the organization.

CCEEB includes representation from the following business areas:

- Aerospace
- Agriculture
- Automakers
- Chemical
- Energy providers
- Entertainment
- Finance
- Information technology
- Labor and trade associations
- Manufacturers
- Municipal and investor-owned utilities
- Oil refineries
- Railroads
- Teachers and educators
- Telecommunications
- Transportation and transit
- Waste and sanitation
- Water agencies

CCEEB also has Project Committees which include:

- **Air Project** - The Air Quality and Transportation Project tackles statewide regulatory and legislative issues affecting stationary and mobile sources of air emissions, and transportation efficiency. This project also addresses issues related to environmental justice and CEQA.
- **Bay Area Partnership** - The Bay Area Partnership works closely with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District on local and regional air issues including permitting, stationary source control measures, CEQA review, the development of air plans, incentive and grant programs, and reducing impacts in burdened communities.
- **South Coast Air Project** - The South Coast Air Project helps to find ways to implement and continuously improve air quality programs in southern California by working directly with the South Coast Air Quality Management District as well as the state legislature, EPA and the state air board. Focus is on permitting challenges,

updates to the RECLAIM program, the development of air plans, climate change and energy planning, and reducing impacts in burdened communities.

- **Climate Change Project** - The Climate Change Project was launched in 2008 to assist with the design and implementation of AB 32 and other climate change policies. Key priorities include: designing a regulatory structure that effectively balances command-and-control regulations with market-based measures; creating accurate and comprehensive emission inventories and clear and consistent reporting protocols; and ensuring California's framework is consistent with local, national, and international efforts.
- **Water, Waste and Chemistry Project** - The Waste and Water Quality Project engages in legislative and regulatory activity relating to waste, hazardous materials, and water quality, working closely with the State Water Resources Control Board, the Department of Toxic and Substance Control, and legislative leaders. Examples of key issues include green chemistry, basin plans and TMDLs, and fees.
- **Water Quality Task Force** - A special project that seeks to complement resource alignment efforts at the State Water Board; focus is on changing processes at the State and regional water boards in order to prioritize actions, make more efficient use of limited resources, and improve water quality outcomes.
- **California Environmental Dialogue** - Sustained, confidential dialogue with the state's top environmental leaders and regulators to develop innovative policy solutions. The CED currently consists of a Plenary and two working groups: the Clean Air Dialogue, which meets monthly in Sacramento; and the Long View Committee, which meets bi-monthly in San Francisco. The Plenary meets four times per year for two-day dialogue sessions. Current CED topics include mobile source emissions reductions, the water-energy-climate nexus, and climate change mitigation and adaptation and issues related to the California Environmental Quality Act. Membership is by invitation only.

MWDOC is a member of the CED and participates in its Plenary and Long View Committee meetings, but also has issues of interest in the Water, Waste and Chemistry Project and Water Quality Task Force. The CED works to develop solutions to current environmental problems while taking a long-term perspective on the future of our state and the quality of life available to future generations. The use of dialogue by CED leads to common ground and collective solutions, when possible, supported by a broad base of interests. Dialogue is a different way for people to speak and to listen. Fundamentally, dialogue is based on the belief that our collective intelligence is greater than the sum of individual perspectives.

MWDOC is currently working through the Water, Waste and Chemistry Project to have the CCEEB Board take a support position on the California WaterFix.

Clearly, a need exists for informed debate on the establishment of sound public policy. National estimates of resources spent on protection of the environment range up to \$80 billion annually, nearly 1.6% of our gross domestic product. Many say we cannot afford such an expensive system, while others say it is not enough. Many warn of the ineffectiveness of our complex, often confusing system of environmental laws and regulations, and worry that the people and the planet will suffer unless the system is improved. The members of CED believe that a channel of communication between stakeholders can help design an effective system that reflects:

- An “end-of-the-pipe focus” often discourages pollution prevention. Industry’s investments in mandated technologies have sometimes trumped investments in better technologies and improved production processes.
- Meeting pollutant-specific standards has resulted in generating large quantities of secondary pollutants. For example, sulfur dioxide scrubbers capture large volumes of SO<sub>2</sub>, but create large volumes of sludge.
- The high costs of satisfying emissions regulations under the current regime spawned a veritable “industry of opposition.” Using politics to defeat environmental agencies and to loosen standards has become a widespread response, but not one that promises to move us toward the broad and popular goals of environmental quality.
- There are not sufficient incentives to reward industries, agencies, and others for environmentally responsible behaviors. The current system still tends to favor punishments over rewards.
- Change comes slowly. While we envision the central product of CED to be increased trust, understanding, and reason that will be incorporated into our environmental laws and regulations, we are confident that tangible improvements will result from the process.

### **Long View Committee (LVC)**

The objectives of the Long View Committee (LVC) are to:

- Investigate long-term, strategic-level issues
- Investigate innovative resource efficiency strategies and policies
- Provide stakeholder feedback to government regulators
- Look for opportunities of joint action among members
- Inform Plenary dialogues

The CED Long View Committee (LVC) was founded to help shape the long-term perspective taken by many of CED’s members in their approach to environmental policy solutions. CED members participate in the LVC because it is a unique forum for frank and honest discussion about California’s long-term, strategic-level environmental, economic, and resource management issues. The LVC is a committee of the CED Plenary that acts as an important vehicle for education and enhancement of the Plenary dialogue with respect to key resource management and infrastructure investment issues. Like our other working groups and committees, LVC expands the dialogue’s expertise and breadth by welcoming participants with specific expertise from non-CED organizations for particular discussions.



Members of the CED include:

- Municipal Water District of Orange County
- Audubon California
- Boeing Company, The
- California Air Pollution Control Officers Association
- California Air Resources Board
- California Coastkeeper
- California Department of Food & Agriculture
- California Department of Toxic Substances Control
- California Energy Commission
- California Environmental Protection Agency
- California Farm Bureau Federation
- California Natural Resources Agency
- California Transportation Agency
- Chevron Corporation
- Coalition for Clean Air
- Defenders of Wildlife
- Earth Island Institute
- Environmental Defense Fund
- General Motors Corporation
- Honeywell
- Irvine Ranch Water District
- Natural Resources Defense Council
- Nature Conservancy, The
- NBC Universal
- NRG Energy
- Pacific Gas & Electric Company
- Planning & Conservation League
- Sempra Energy Utilities
- Sierra Club
- Sonoma County Water Agency
- State Water Resources Control Board
- Sustainable Conservation
- Tesoro
- Trust for Public Land
- Union of Concerned Scientists
- Walt Disney Company, The
- Water Division USEPA, Region IX
- Wine Institute



**INFORMATION ITEM**

August 21, 2017

**TO: Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**  
(Directors Tamaribuchi, Dick, Yoo Schneider)

**FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager**

Staff Contact: Karl Seckel

**SUBJECT: Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA) Overview**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Public Affairs & Legislation Committee receives and files the report.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**SUMMARY**

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The Executive Committee requested that staff provide an overview of the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA). The Board of Directors was last updated on AMWA in March as part of the budget process. MWDOC's General Manager Rob Hunter currently sits on the 20-person Board of AMWA and utilizes the resources of the organization to keep fully informed regarding water issues and solutions or approaches that can benefit us in Orange County, Southern California or Statewide.

The report below provides background on AMWA and how they function.

Budgeted (Y/N): na	Budgeted amount: na	Core ✓	Choice __
Action item amount: na	Line item: na		
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

## DETAILED REPORT

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The Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA) is an organization comprised mainly of large urban area water utilities (members must serve a minimum sized population of 100,000) to provide a strong unified voice regarding common water utility issues facing the nation's largest drinking water systems. AMWA **advocates** on issues of importance to its member utilities before Congress, EPA, DHS and other regulatory agencies and is able to speak with authority on the full range of drinking water issues.

Affiliate, non-voting memberships are offered to smaller agencies and Subscriber memberships are offered to consultants and others who do not qualify for the member or affiliate membership. The current AMWA membership is about 188 entities with 24 located in California.

Only about 400 of the nation's 52,000 community water systems serve more than 100,000 people. Because the concerns and requirements of these metropolitan water systems are not always aligned with the issues facing smaller water systems, AMWA helps ensure that the perspectives of its member utilities – on issues ranging from infrastructure to water quality protection – are heard in Congress and at the regulatory level.

In addition to the AMWA advocacy efforts, AMWA also provides:

- **Tools, Resources, Reports and Information for Water Executives**
- **Peer-to-Peer Networking**
- **Information Access**

AMWA's Board of Directors is comprised of about 20 drinking water utility executives and general managers from all corners of the U.S. and includes General Manager Hunter. The Board executes the association's bylaws, provides guidance to staff on water policy issues and identifies areas where AMWA should focus its activities. Board members (10 regional and 11 at-large representatives) are chosen by their AMWA peers to serve three-year terms. The Board itself selects four officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer) who are trusted with additional operational and leadership responsibilities.

The current Board members are from the following entities:

1. Nashville Metro Water Services
2. Birmingham Water Works Board
3. Saint Paul Regional Water Services
4. New York City DEP
5. Contra Costa Water District
6. Chicago Department of Water Management
7. Baltimore Department of Public Works
8. Las Vegas Valley Water District
9. Trinity River Authority of Texas
10. Municipal Water District of Orange County
11. Anchorage Water & Wastewater Utility
12. Portland Water District
13. Denver Water Department

14. Northern Kentucky Water District
15. Great Lakes Water Authority
16. Fairfax Water
17. Des Moines Water Works
18. Boston Water and Sewer Commission
19. Suffolk County Water Authority
20. Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department

The 24 AMWA members from California are:

- Anaheim Public Utilities
- Burbank Water & Power
- Coachella Valley Water District
- Contra Costa Water District
- East Bay Municipal Utility District
- Glendale Water and Power
- Long Beach Water Department
- Los Angeles Department of Water & Power
- Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
- Municipal Water District of Orange County
- Riverside Public Utilities
- Sacramento Department of Utilities
- San Diego County Water Authority
- San Diego Public Utilities
- San Francisco Public Utility Commission
- San Juan Water District
- Santa Clara Valley Water District
- Santa Cruz Water Department
- Santa Margarita Water District
- Santa Rosa Utilities Department
- Sonoma County Water Agency
- Vallejo Public Works
- Ventura Water
- Western Municipal Water District

### **Activities by AMWA**

AMWA typically has four meetings per year which include three board meetings. In addition to these quarterly meetings, AMWA provides valuable communication with its members through weekly, monthly and bi-monthly briefings, newsletters and reports including the Monday Morning Briefing, the Water Utility Executive newsletter, the Congressional Report, the Regulatory Report and the Sustainability & Security Report. AMWA also manages the Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center (WateriSAC) system for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. WateriSAC was authorized by Congress in 2002 and was created to keep drinking water and wastewater utility managers informed about potential threat and risks to the nation's water infrastructure from all hazards, such as intentional contamination, terrorism and cyber-crime, and to provide knowledge about

response, mitigation and resilience. MWDOC's active participation in AMWA has facilitated an "insiders" involvement in critical developments such as the WIFIA, WIIN and State Revolving Fund Programs.

AMWA will continue to be involved in a wide range of issues this year including possible and fundamental changes to regulatory programs and funding for EPA, legislative proposals to overhaul science-based procedures, tax deduction aspects of municipal bonds, Endangered Species Act and fishery agency modifications, "Buy American" rules, and drinking water regulations for new contaminants. Participation in AMWA provides MWDOC with relevant, current water utility specific information, full access to a water-dedicated staff in Washington, DC, and inside access to regulatory and legislative activities and staff.

### **Major AMWA Efforts from 2016**

- Worked to enact legislation that promotes clean and safe water without new unfunded mandates on communities
- Helped to establish WIFIA and the inclusion of \$20 million for the program in a year-end spending bill to begin offering WIFIA loans in 2017
- Help shape and strengthen legislation enacted in direct response to concerns about lead in drinking water
- Protect existing policies and programs such as tax-exempt municipal bond interest
- Remain at the leading edge of effective Lead and Copper Rule implementation and finding equitable long-term solutions for removing lead service lines
- Participated in outreach sessions that helped define EPA's priorities and approaches to addressing a wide range of drinking water issues
- AMWA's sustainability program continues to help member utilities address key resilience issues facing them now and in the future. Discussion themes included community and regional planning, economic viability and energy sustainability, among others
- Completed the biennial Utility Financial Information (UFI) survey of 117 member utilities to provide an extremely robust, relevant database for benchmarking, identifying trends and developing financial reports.
- AMWA joined with local, regional and national organizations in the work of the Value of Water (VOW) Coalition to raise awareness about the importance of funding water infrastructure. Continuing support to members on security and resilience remained a priority for AMWA in 2016

Attached is the July 2017 Congressional Report from AMWA as an example of an outreach/advocacy piece they prepare and issue regularly.



# CONGRESSIONAL REPORT



## Congressional Report: July 2017

### House Panel Approves SDWA Reforms, DWSRF Reauthorization

A bill proposing a series of reforms to the Safe Drinking Water Act while reauthorizing the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) for the first time in the program's history earned [unanimous bipartisan approval](#) from a House committee on July 27, advancing the bill to the House floor where congressional staff say it could eventually be added to a future infrastructure bill that lawmakers could develop in the coming months.

Formally introduced as the Drinking Water System Improvement Act ([H.R. 3387](#)), the bill builds on several earlier draft versions, including one that was the subject of AMWA testimony during a [May 19 congressional hearing](#). A House subcommittee [advanced](#) a subsequent draft of the bill earlier this month.

The version of the bill approved by the Energy and Commerce Committee includes a number of provisions that were part of an earlier version of the bill approved by a House subcommittee. These provisions include:

- Authorizing spending up to \$8 billion on the DWSRF over the next five years;
- Authorizing up to \$750 million for the Public Water System Supervision grant program over five years;
- Authorizing \$25 million over five years for a new grant program to help schools replace outdated drinking water fountains;
- Extending for five years the current "Buy American" provisions that require the use of domestic iron and steel on DWSRF projects, along with provisions that allow EPA to waive the requirement if domestic products would increase overall project costs by more than 25 percent;
- Extending SDWA's existing two-year enforcement reprieve that applies when water systems consolidate to address identified violations to cover water systems that enter contractual agreements to take over "significant management or administrative functions" of other systems;
- Requiring states to report on actions they take to encourage utility asset management planning, and directing EPA to periodically review and update training materials it produces for water utility managers on asset management strategies;
- Directing EPA to collect data on how states administer the DWSRF application process, and within three years produce and disseminate to states information on best practices for DWSRF administration;
- Requiring the Government Accountability Office to identify instances of duplicative state, local and federal requirements that recipients of DWSRF loans must comply with;
- Directing EPA to study and report to the public on existing and potential technologies for the treatment and distribution of drinking water;
- Improving DWSRF loan terms for projects serving disadvantaged communities, and setting aside six percent of a state's annual DWSRF allotment for projects serving disadvantaged communities; and
- Amending the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act to ensure that community water systems are notified of a release of a contaminant into their source waters.

Some other parts of the bill were influenced and improved by AMWA's advocacy. In particular, the bill would codify the ability of water

systems to distribute their consumer confidence reports (CCRs) to customers via electronic means, and only mail hard copies of the reports to customers upon request. An EPA memorandum in 2013 first gave utilities this electronic delivery option, but the provisions included in H.R. 3387 would make the electronic delivery option permanent and prevent a future EPA administration from re-interpreting its rules to once again only allow report delivery by mail.

The bill would also direct EPA to revise its CCR rule within 24 months to increase “the readability, clarity, and understandability of the information presented” in the reports. These revisions would have to require water systems serving more than 10,000 people to “provide ... a consumer confidence report to each customer of the system on a biannual basis.” This provision, which is a watered-down version of an earlier Democratic proposal to require the quarterly issuance of CCRs, does not clearly specify whether a completely new report would have to be developed and sent twice per year, or whether a utility could potentially fulfill its obligation by providing a copy of an annual report to customers twice over the course of a calendar year. EPA would ultimately determine the scope of the requirement during its rulemaking process after considering comments from the water utility community and other stakeholders.

Another section of H.R. 3387 would require a utility, as a condition of receiving DWSRF funding, to certify that it has “considered the costs and effectiveness of relevant processes, materials, techniques, and technologies for carrying out the project” that would receive DWSRF funding. Previous versions of the provision would have required certification to each state’s governor, but at the urging of AMWA and other water sector and engineering organizations that was changed to require certification to the state, which could make it easier for states to streamline this certification into its DWSRF application process. A similar requirement has been part of the Clean Water SRF application process since the 2016 fiscal year, but congressional staff have offered to work with AMWA and other stakeholders to develop committee report language that will make clear that the provision is not intended to require the selection or use of plastic pipe or any other particular product or material, regardless of its cost as compared to other options.

Lawmakers made several additional changes to the bill through an [en bloc amendment](#) that was added to the bill during the July 27 markup. The amendment, which was the product of intense negotiations between Democrats and Republicans on the committee, perhaps most notably overhauls Section 1433 of SDWA, which requires community water systems to prepare vulnerability assessments and emergency response plans in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The amendment would require utilities, beginning in 2020, to certify to EPA that they have completed expanded “risk and resiliency assessments” that consider risks posed by natural disasters as well as terrorist attacks, and to certify that they have reviewed (and revised if necessary) the assessment at least every five years. The amendment calls for utilities to complete and update emergency response plans based on the findings of the risk and resiliency assessment, but it would also give utilities the option of complying by certifying their adherence to similar all-hazards technical standards developed by the water sector, such as the American Water Works Association’s J100 standard.

Other parts of the amendment would give EPA and states new power to require water systems with repeated violations of national drinking water regulations to examine and develop plans for consolidation with other systems, and expand monitoring activities under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule for water systems serving between 3,300 and 10,000 people.

Speaking during the markup, Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Greg Walden (R-Ore.) [said](#) the bill represents a finding of “common ground” between Democrats and Republicans on the committee, and praised the bill’s focus on “increasing funding to address drinking water systems’ physical needs, aiding states and utilities with compliance and operation of the drinking water program, and encouraging the wisest use of money that is spent.”

Now that H.R. 3387 has advanced through committee, it may have to wait a while for further action. The full House of Representatives is not expected to consider it individually; instead congressional staff say it could be folded into a larger infrastructure bill that Congress might develop later this year, though plans for such a bill remain in flux. Meanwhile, the U.S. Senate has not announced plans to develop its own version of any DWSRF or SDWA reform legislation.

## Senators Applaud Water Infrastructure Proposals at EPA Funding Hearing

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt traveled to Capitol Hill on June 27 to defend the agency’s FY18 budget plan before a Senate appropriations subcommittee, where senators voiced agreement on the importance of adequately investing in the nation’s water infrastructure.

The [hearing](#) of the Subcommittee on the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies followed a similar script to Administrator Pruitt's [appearance](#) before a House appropriations subcommittee earlier in June. During the more recent hearing Pruitt once again [testified](#) that the budget aims to "prioritize EPA's core statutory mission of providing Americans with clean air, land, and water." Pruitt's testimony highlighted EPA's request for \$2.3 billion for the State Revolving Funds (SRFs) – maintaining level funding for the program – and \$20 million for the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program. Overall, the budget request would reduce EPA funding by 31 percent, to \$5.7 billion.

The reaction of Senate appropriators to the overall EPA budget request ranged from skeptical to hostile, though members of both parties agreed on the importance of adequately funding the SRFs and WIFIA. Subcommittee Chairman Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) applauded the SRF and WIFIA figures in the budget, even as she noted that senators are unlikely to approve the proposed 31 percent cut on EPA's overall budget. Subcommittee ranking Democrat Tom Udall (D-N.M.) was more direct, calling the budget plan "downright offensive" before highlighting the water infrastructure numbers as "the only bright spot" in the plan.

One notable question for Administrator Pruitt during the hearing came from Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), who asked directly whether the Trump Administration plans to eliminate EPA, as some conservatives have advocated. Pruitt replied that there remains "a very important role for EPA," and denied that President Trump plans to close the agency.

While the House Appropriations Committee has already approved its EPA spending bill for the 2018 fiscal year, Senate appropriators have not announced a timeframe for when they may unveil their own version of the legislation.

## EPA Would Suffer 6.5% Cut Under House Spending Bill

EPA would suffer a 6.5 percent budget cut next year under a fiscal year 2018 spending bill approved by a House appropriations subcommittee on July 12. But the measure would preserve level funding for two of EPA's three major programs that help communities finance water infrastructure projects.

As approved by the House Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, the [draft spending bill](#) would provide EPA with \$7.5 billion next year. The sum is about 6.5 percent below the agency's current funding level of just over \$8 billion, but is significantly above the Trump Administration's proposal to cut EPA spending by 31 percent, to just \$5.7 billion.

The only major water infrastructure funding program targeted for a cut under the House bill would be the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), which would have its appropriation reduced by approximately \$250 million, from \$1.394 billion to \$1.144 billion. Conversely, the Drinking Water SRF and the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program would each have their current funding levels maintained; just over \$863 million for the DWSRF and \$30 million for WIFIA (which includes \$5 million to cover administrative expenses at the agency). But if enacted, FY18 would represent the third straight year of flat funding for the DWSRF, while the WIFIA allotment would fall well below the program's fully authorized FY18 level of \$45 million.

Other parts of the bill would extend for the duration of the FY18 fiscal year the existing Buy American rules that apply to DWSRF-funded projects and would allow EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers to withdraw the controversial Clean Water Rule without adhering to normal public notice and comment periods.

The full House Appropriations Committee could consider the spending bill as early as this week, but Senate leaders have not announced when they might release their own version of an EPA funding bill.

## AMWA Urges Senators to Maintain Tax-Exempt Municipal Bonds

Congress should maintain the tax-exempt status of municipal bond interest as it begins to plan an overhaul of the nation's tax code, AMWA wrote to the Senate Finance Committee this month in response to a call for policy recommendations from stakeholders.

AMWA sent its letter to Finance Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) in response to the chairman's June 16 [call for feedback](#) on



tax reform options. According to Hatch, his committee intends to build on suggestions from stakeholders to “create a simpler and fairer system that is more conducive to sustained economic growth in the 21st Century global marketplace.”

As tax reform discussions have percolated over the past several years AMWA has consistently called for members of Congress to leave in place the existing federal tax exemption for municipal bond interest, which the association has estimated saved local water and wastewater systems roughly \$16 billion worth of financing costs in 2016 alone. The Finance Committee has not clearly signaled whether it may consider rolling back the municipal tax exemption as part of its reform effort, but Chairman Hatch has called on all parties to “manage expectations and remain willing to compromise on ideal policy preferences.”

AMWA’s July 17 [letter to the committee](#) reiterated that local water system ratepayers cover approximately 95 percent of community water and sewer infrastructure repair and replacement costs, and that increasing bond finance charges by making interest earnings fully taxable could increase water financing costs by 25 percent. “Imposing a hidden tax hike on Americans from coast to coast – while simultaneously discouraging job-creating water infrastructure investments – should not be part of the committee’s tax reform plan,” AMWA wrote to the Finance Committee.

## Lawmakers Aim for Fall Action on Tax Reform

“The time has arrived” for Congress to begin developing comprehensive tax reform legislation, Republican congressional leaders announced last week in a [joint statement](#) with the White House. According to the statement, the tax-writing committees in the House and Senate will soon begin developing legislation “that will result in the first comprehensive tax reform in a generation,” with a bill moving through the committees this fall before consideration by the full House and Senate.

But while the announcement outlined a new schedule for consideration of a tax reform bill, it lacked any detail aside from promising the bill would not include a controversial tax on imported goods, known as the border adjustment tax. The statement did not offer any insight on Republican plans for tax rates or existing tax exemptions or deductions that could be scaled back or eliminated. AMWA and others have been advocating in favor of maintaining the current tax-exempt status of municipal bonds, and the statement gave no indication of how Republican leaders may approach that issue.

The lack of detail in the announcement suggests that much work remains to be done to unify the Republican party behind any tax reform plan, and the fall target for consideration of a bill could slip as well.

## House Legislation Would Require PFOA, PFOS Standard

Legislation introduced in the House of Representatives this month would require EPA to promulgate a national primary drinking water regulation for PFOA and PFOS, marking the latest attempt by congressional Democrats to spur the agency to regulate the contaminants.

Sponsored by Rep. Brendan Boyle (D-Penn.), the bill ([H.R. 3106](#)) would require EPA to finalize PFOA and PFOS regulations within two years of the bill’s enactment. The two contaminants are listed on EPA’s contaminant candidate list, though the agency has not made a determination on whether they warrant national regulation.

House Republicans generally do not favor setting hard statutory deadlines for EPA to issue drinking water regulations, so H.R. 3106 is unlikely to advance through the chamber this year.

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# INSPECTION TRIP SCHEDULE 2016 - 2017

PROJECT/EVENT	TOUR DATES FOR 2017-18 SEASON
CONFIRMATION RECEIVED	THURSDAY- JULY 13, 2017

## METROPOLITAN DIRECTOR

DIRECTOR LINDA ACKERMAN	STARTING	ENDING	NOTES	TOUR GUIDE	MWDOC STAFF
STATE WATER PROJECT	2.23.2018	2.24.2018		AL	
COLORADO RIVER/HOOVER	10.27.2017	10.28.2017		BART	

DIRECTOR BRETT BARBRE	STARTING	ENDING	NOTES	TOUR GUIDE	MWDOC STAFF
STATE WATER PROJECT/AGRICULTURE	3.23.2018	3.25.2018		AL	
COLORADO RIVER/HOOVER	1.26.2018	1.28.2018		AL	
DIAMOND VALLEY LAKE	10.6.2017	10.6.2017		AL	

DIRECTOR LARRY DICK	STARTING	ENDING	NOTES	TOUR GUIDE	MWDOC STAFF
DIAMOND VALLEY LAKE	11.17.2017	11.17.2017		BART	
STATE WATER PROJECT/AGRICULTURE	4.27.2018	4.29.2018	SHARED WITH DIRECTOR GALLEANO, WESTERN	AL	
COLORADO RIVER	TBD	TBD			

DIRECTOR LARRY MCKENNEY	STARTING	ENDING	NOTES	TOUR GUIDE	MWDOC STAFF
STATE WATER PROJECT	9.8.2017	9.9.2017		AL	
COLORADO RIVER AQUEDUCT	1.12.2018	1.13.2018		AL	
DIAMOND VALLEY LAKE	4.6.2018	4.6.2018			



## INFORMATION ITEM

August 21, 2017

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** **Public Affairs Legislative Committee**  
(Directors Tamaribuchi, Dick and Yoo Schneider)

Robert Hunter  
General Manager

Staff Contact: Damon Micalizzi

**SUBJECT: SCHOOL PROGRAM UPDATE**

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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Staff recommends the Board of Directors receive and file.

### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

### REPORT

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Work continues on MWDOC's three school programs as the start of the 17-18 school year nears:

In the **Elementary School Program**, MWDOC contractor Discovery Science Center reports visits with 19,600 students are already booked for the coming year. The student goal for 2017-18 is 63,614 students; the current booking number is four-fold over last year's total at this point. Twenty-five member agencies and all three cities are participating this year.

In the **High School Choice Program**, 15 high schools are targeted in the program run by Inside the Outdoors (ITO). Participating agencies for 2017-18 are Anaheim, Brea, Buena Park, East Orange County WD, El Toro WD, Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, Mesa Water, Moulton Niguel WD, San Clemente, San Juan Capistrano, Santa Ana, Santa Margarita WD and South Coast WD. MWDOC contractor Inside the Outdoors is making initial contacts with schools to schedule visits. Working with MWDOC and members of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's education team, ITO is also making

<b>Budgeted (Y/N):</b> n/a	Budgeted amount: n/a	Core X	Choice
<b>Action item amount:</b> None		Line item:	
<b>Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):</b>			

adjustments to the Choice curriculum to dovetail with the new core high school program and hone lessons on the California WaterFix and other key initiatives.

In the new **High School Core Program**, MWDOC contractor ITO continues to refine the curriculum, incorporating suggestions from MWDOC directors, staff and the MET education team. ITO and MWDOC are also developing a video contest that will work with the program, produce digital content and coincide with a MET video contest.

The latest draft of the curriculum is attached.

## Inside the Outdoors

### **DRAFT** – CORE/MWDOC High School Water Program

#### **Where's my Water?**

This program will be appropriate for a variety of classes, such as Environmental Science, Earth Science, Biology, Ecology, Government/Political Science, History, and Economics

- Water is a limited resource:
  - Only about 3% of the world's water is fresh water
  - Only about 1% of the world's water is usable freshwater.
    - (Use bottles of water to represent this, or a graph.)
- Water in Southern California is particularly limited, especially considering our population size and distribution, climate, and recurring droughts.
  - Compare the summer and winter precipitation maps, focusing on California and Florida as different climates with different precipitation patterns.
  - Compare precipitation and population maps of California.
- What do we need water for?
  - Ask students to list major water uses
  - Group similar ideas together, if time.
- Tell students that in order to decide how much water to allocate for each use; we need to prioritize them, since different interests, such as residents, industry and agricultural, compete for available supplies
  - Pass out Major Water Uses Chart to each student.
  - Put students into small groups to work together to rank the major water uses in order of importance.
- Ask groups to report back to the class, and record their rankings on a class chart so that everyone can see.
  - Compare and discuss the different rankings.
    - Discuss how everyone may not be satisfied when decisions are made.
- Introduce the problem in the Delta.
  - Briefly: What and where is the Delta?
  - About half of the water used by the population in Southern California is provided by the Metropolitan Water District, which is allotted a certain amount of water from Northern California and the Colorado River
    - Resource: [http://www.amnh.org/content/download/141382/2285494/file/LinC5\\_ColoradoRiver.pdf](http://www.amnh.org/content/download/141382/2285494/file/LinC5_ColoradoRiver.pdf)
  - This water goes through the Delta, but there are problems with this:
    - Ecological issues
    - Recreational issues
    - Safety issues
      - 1,100 miles of levees
        - Might fail in an earthquake, and our water could be contaminated by saltwater, flow could be reduced or stopped. Major flooding in the Delta region could occur.
- What should we do about it?

- Have students read, discuss, and choose one of the following thoughts, or come up with their own thoughts to address the problem in the Delta. (Some of these positions that others hold may be true or false.)
  - Update the levee system to protect the local population from the risk of flooding in heavy rain and snowmelt years, and reduce the chance of damage from an earthquake. This would be moderately expensive and will be paid for by the people living in and around the Delta. It does little to protect the flow of water to the Southern California population, since the levees could still fail if there's a major earthquake. It also doesn't address many of the current ecological concerns.
  - Dig a tunnel for a pipeline to run under the delta so that water coming to Southern California is secure from earthquake damage. This is very expensive and will be paid for by the people receiving water in Southern California. It doesn't address the problem of the levees breaking, but does reduce some of the ecological problems, and secures Southern California's water.
  - Do nothing. It's working for right now and other solutions are too expensive. People gamble there won't be an earthquake that will severely damage the levee system. Maybe we will come up with a better idea before then.
  - Slash water use in Southern California so that so much water is not needed, reducing the need to transport water through the Delta. This would be hard for Southern Californians, but we should all learn to use less water in such a dry place, anyway. With more water staying in the Delta, it may seem like it would reduce many ecological and recreational issues, but does not address the problem of levees failing. While this has no direct cost, it could have a significant negative impact to the economy in Southern California, which would have an impact on the rest of the state.
  - Come up with your own plan!
- Have groups report their decisions to the class. Discuss the reasoning behind their decisions, and the pros and cons of each. Allow groups to question each other if appropriate.

High School Standards: Referenced Next Generations Science Standards, History-Social Science and Common Core State Standards

NOTE: The below cited standards all have different outlines and formats. These are the standards that have been published by the state. Teachers use these standards to align their lessons and to use non-formal programs, like Inside the Outdoors, to support student learning. This is a list of standards that Inside the Outdoors supports with this program. If there is an inconsistency with numbering, it is because that particular standard has been omitted as it does not align with the Where's My Water curriculum.

### **Next Generation Science Standards:**

High school science, students learn about human impacts on the Earth and sustainability.

- HS-ESS3-1. Construct an explanation based on evidence for how the availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate have influenced human activity.** [Clarification Statement: Examples of key natural resources include access to fresh water (such as rivers, lakes, and groundwater), regions of fertile soils such as river deltas, and high concentrations of minerals and fossil fuels. Examples of natural hazards can be from interior processes (such as volcanic eruptions and earthquakes), surface processes (such as tsunamis, mass wasting and soil erosion), and severe weather (such as hurricanes, floods, and droughts). Examples of the results of changes in climate that can affect populations or drive mass migrations include changes to sea level, regional patterns of temperature and precipitation, and the types of crops and livestock that can be raised.]
- HS-ESS3-2. Evaluate competing design solutions for developing, managing, and utilizing energy and mineral resources based on cost-benefit ratios.\*** [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on the conservation, recycling, and reuse of resources (such as minerals and metals) where possible, and on minimizing impacts where it is not. Examples include developing best practices for agricultural soil use, mining (for coal, tar sands, and oil shales), and pumping (for petroleum and natural gas). Science knowledge indicates what can happen in natural systems—not what should happen.]
- HS-ESS3-3. Create a computational simulation to illustrate the relationships among management of natural resources, the sustainability of human populations, and biodiversity.** [Clarification Statement: Examples of factors that affect the management of natural resources include costs of resource extraction and waste management, per-capita consumption, and the development of new technologies. Examples of factors that affect human sustainability include agricultural efficiency, levels of conservation, and urban planning.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment for computational simulations is limited to using provided multi-parameter programs or constructing simplified spreadsheet calculations.]
- HS-ESS3-4. Evaluate or refine a technological solution that reduces impacts of human activities on natural systems.\*** [Clarification Statement: Examples of data on the impacts of human activities could include the quantities and types of pollutants released, changes to biomass and species diversity, or areal changes in land surface use (such as for urban development, agriculture and livestock, or surface mining). Examples for limiting future impacts could range from local efforts (such as reducing, reusing, and recycling resources) to large-scale geoengineering design solutions (such as altering global temperatures by making large changes to the atmosphere or ocean).]



- HS-ESS3-6. Use a computational representation to illustrate the relationships among Earth systems and how those relationships are being modified due to human activity.\***  
[Clarification Statement: Examples of Earth systems to be considered are the hydrosphere, atmosphere, cryosphere, geosphere, and/or biosphere. An example of the far-reaching impacts from a human activity is how an increase in atmospheric carbon dioxide results in an increase in photosynthetic biomass on land and an increase in ocean acidification, with resulting impacts on sea organism health and marine populations.]  
[Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include running computational representations but is limited to using the published results of scientific computational models.]
- HS-ETS1.3 Evaluate a solution to a complex real-world problem based on prioritized criteria and trade-offs that account for a range of constraints, including cost, safety, reliability, and aesthetics, as well as possible social, cultural, and environmental impacts.**

### **California State History-Social Science Standards:**

In high school, students should learn historical and social science analysis skills through the course of their classes. These include:

#### Historical Interpretation

5. Students analyze human modifications of landscapes and examine the resulting environmental policy issues.

In 11<sup>th</sup> grade social science, students learn about American History in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

11.11 Students analyze the major social problems and domestic policy issues in contemporary American society.

5. Trace the impact of, need for, and controversies associated with environmental conservation, expansion of the national park system, and the development of environmental protection laws, with particular attention to the interaction between environmental protection advocates and property rights advocates.

In 12<sup>th</sup> grade, students learn about principles of American democracy for a semester and principles of economics for the other semester.

From the History-Social Science Framework, adopted by the State Board of Education July 14, 2016:

Among the persistent issues facing the United States, and California in particular, is how to balance individual rights and liberties with the common good in matters related to land as well as water, air, and other natural resources. Students examine case studies that embody the struggle to find this balance and consider the spectrum of factors that influence and negotiate policy decisions about natural resources and natural systems (California Environmental Principle V). Students learn that many conflicts over environmental issues result from competing perspectives involving individual rights and the common good, an illustrative example of the reciprocity between rights and obligations. (See EEI Curriculum Unit 12.2 – This Land is our Land).

The course might culminate in an activity in which students analyze a local, state, national, or international political or social problem or issue. Students could be assigned a research paper or a multi-media project in which they analyze a problem or issue, consider its civic, economic, geographical and/or historical dimensions, research it by examining multiple sources and point of view, evaluate the sources, critique and construct claims and conclusions based on the evidence, and present and defend their conclusions. Alternately, the activity might be a civics-based service-learning project in which students identify local problems or issues of concern; research and analyze them in terms of causes and effects and multiple points of view; identify, discuss, and evaluate public policies relating to the issues, including interacting with public officials; and construct a project to address it or a multimedia presentation to educate about it.

### **Common Core State Standards:**

9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> grade:

SL 9-10 1. Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 9–10 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

- b. Work with peers to set rules for collegial discussions and decision-making (e.g., informal consensus, taking votes on key issues, and presentation of alternate views), clear goals and deadlines, and individual roles as needed.
- c. Propel conversations by posing and responding to questions that relate the current discussion to broader themes or larger ideas; actively incorporate others into the discussion; and clarify, verify, or challenge ideas and conclusions.
- d. Respond thoughtfully to diverse perspectives, summarize points of agreement and disagreement, and, when warranted, qualify or justify their own views and understanding and make new connections in light of the evidence and reasoning presented.

11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade:

SL 11-12 1. Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 11–12 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

- b. Work with peers to promote civil, democratic discussions and decision-making, set clear goals and deadlines, and establish individual roles as needed.
- c. Propel conversations by posing and responding to questions that probe reasoning and evidence; ensure a hearing for a full range of positions on a topic or issue; clarify, verify, or challenge ideas and conclusions; and promote divergent and creative perspectives.
- d. Respond thoughtfully to diverse perspectives; synthesize comments, claims, and evidence made on all sides of an issue; resolve contradictions when possible; and determine what additional information or research is required to deepen the investigation or complete the task.

**INFORMATION ITEM**

August 21, 2017

**TO:** Board of Directors**FROM:** **Public Affairs Legislative Committee**  
(Directors Tamaribuchi, Dick and Yoo Schneider)Robert Hunter  
General Manager

Staff Contact: Damon Micalizzi

**SUBJECT: OC WATER SUMMIT 2018****STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Board of Directors receive and file.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**REPORT**

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The contract has been signed to hold the 2018 OC Water Summit at the Disney Grand Californian Hotel on June 1, 2018. MWDOC is the lead agency this year, again in partnership with the Orange County Water District.

The Summit ad hoc committee, with President Osborne and Directors Barbre and Thomas representing MWDOC, has already begun regular meetings. Potential themes and panelists are now the committee's focus.

The committee is also working with Disney, to determine the extent of that organization's sponsorship and involvement for 2018.

Public Affairs Director Damon Micalizzi, Public Affairs Manager Jonathan Volzke and Public Affairs Supervisor Tiffany Baca represent MWDOC on the Summit Committee. Staff is already at work to secure sponsors for the 2018 event.

<b>Budgeted (Y/N):</b> n/a	Budgeted amount: n/a	Core X	Choice
<b>Action item amount:</b> None		Line item:	
<b>Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):</b>			

The Summit committee meeting dates are:

- a. Monday, August 28, 2017, 8:30 am
- b. Monday, September 25, 2017, 8:30 am
- c. Monday, October 30, 2017, 8:30 am
- d. Monday, November 27, 2017, 8:30 am
- e. Dark in December
- f. Monday, January 29, 2018, 8:30 am
- g. Monday, February 26, 2018, 8:30 am
- h. Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 8:30 am
- i. Monday, April 30, 2018, 8:30 am
- j. Dark in May – staff meeting(s) only unless something unexpected occurs
- k. Monday, June 25, 2018, 8:30 am (Post event wrap-up meeting).

**INFORMATION ITEM**

August 21, 2017

**TO:** Board of Directors**FROM:** **Public Affairs Legislative Committee**  
(Directors Tamaribuchi, Dick and Yoo Schneider)Robert Hunter  
General Manager

Staff Contact: Damon Micalizzi

**SUBJECT: UPDATE ON WATER POLICY DINNER (August 30, 2017)****STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the Board of Directors receive and file.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**REPORT**

More than 140 attendees have already registered for the August 30 MWDOC Water Policy Dinner featuring Roger Patterson, Assistant General Manager of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California overseeing strategic water initiatives for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Colorado River.

The event will begin at 5 p.m. at the Great Wolf Lodge in Garden Grove. The August 30 Water Policy Dinner will start 30 minutes earlier in hopes of allowing attendees avoid traffic.

Patterson will discuss the latest updates on the effort to gain approval for the WaterFix, including MET's just-released whitepaper that found the project costs for MET customers will be \$2-\$3 per customer.

Two invitations for the dinner have been sent; a third was scheduled to go out the week of August 14.

<b>Budgeted (Y/N):</b> n/a	Budgeted amount: n/a	Core X	Choice
<b>Action item amount:</b> None		Line item:	
<b>Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):</b>			

**Public Affairs Activities Report  
July 20, 2017 – August 16, 2017**

<b>Member Agency Relations</b>	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <p>Participated in Westminster Safety Day with Ricki the Raindrop</p> <p>Heather provided an update on the Long Term Conservation legislation at the MWDOC Member Agency Managers Meeting.</p> <p>Heather assisted Stacy Taylor from Mesa Water District hosting Senator Moorlach and his staff to Mesa's Water Friendly Garden at the OC Fair.</p>
<b>Community Relations</b>	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <p>Hosted a Boy Scout merit badge clinic in partnership with Santa Margarita Water District. Staff from Water Use Efficiency also participated.</p> <p>Heather attended an event put on by the OC Fair Board with an update from the OC Fair CEO on this year's county fair and community outreach/participation.</p> <p>Heather attended the Legislative Karaoke Reception hosted by ACC-OC, OCRA and the South County Chambers.</p> <p>Heather attended the Garden Grove Chamber Legislative Affairs Committee meeting featuring guest speaker, Congressman J. Luis Correa.</p>
<b>Education</b>	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <p>Met with contractors and MET education staff to hone the core high school education offering and related video contest.</p> <p>Public Affairs staff worked with the editor of a local website to quickly correct/remove inaccurate information regarding MWDOC's position on a local water project.</p>
<b>Special Projects</b>	<p>Public Affairs staff:</p> <p>Worked with Rob and Karl on an expanded WaterFix/EcoRestore white paper for CCEEB.</p> <p>Is in the process of preparing a Water Policy Dinner featuring keynote speaker Roger Patterson.</p> <p>Finished the second whiteboard video, "Where OC Gets its Water," and distributed it to participating choice agencies.</p>

## Item 13

	<p>Finished the OC Water Magazine for participating choice agencies.</p> <p>Public Affairs staff are currently working on itineraries, trip logistics, guest and Director requirements for the following inspection trips:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. September 8-9, Director McKenney, SWP</li><li>2. October 6, Director Barbre, Infrastructure</li><li>3. October 27-28, Director Ackerman, CRA</li></ol> <p>Met with LBCWD to discuss and tour potential Wyland Pocket Park locations (still pending location approval from the City)</p> <p>Met with several promotional item vendors</p> <p>Met with Admin staff to determine needs and criteria for a database coordinator position.</p> <p>Continue to meet with staff and the website developer to prepare mockups, provide extensive content and direction for the new MWDOC website.</p> <p>Coordinated second executive photo shoot with staff and Board members and worked with staff and Board to select proofs for editing.</p> <p>Continue to work with the hallway display contractors to provide content and direction.</p> <p>Heather staffed the ISDOC Executive Committee meeting.</p> <p>Heather staffed the WACO meeting featuring speaker Kelly Rowe on the Sespe groundwater aquifer.</p> <p>All PA and Governmental Affairs staff attended several WEROC training workshops</p>
<b>Legislative Affairs</b>	<p>Heather and Melissa participating in the MWD Legislative Coordinators' conference call.</p> <p>Heather and Melissa worked with Syrus Devers on MWDOC's response to Senator Hertzberg's request for feedback on the long term conservation legislation.</p> <p>Heather met with Jennifer Beall, District Director for Assemblyman Bill Brough.</p> <p>Heather attended a congressional reception featuring several Orange County members of Congress including: Issa, Royce, Rohrabacher, and Walters.</p> <p>Heather met with Jessica Witt, Director of Government and Community Relations for the County of Orange.</p>

**Item 13**

	<p>Heather is working with Albert Napoli from MWD on reaching out to elected officials within the Orange County delegation to get support letters for the California WaterFix and EcoRestore project.</p> <p>Heather participated in the SWRCB's public meeting in San Diego where they are seeking input on program scenarios being discussed to provide affordable drinking water to low-income Californians as mandated by AB 401 (2015).</p>
<b>Water Summit</b>	<p>Public Affairs staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Attended staff meetings with OCWD to discuss potential themes and speakers for the 2018 event. The contract with Disney to hold the Summit at the Grand Californian on June 1 was also executed.</li></ul>