

MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY
Jointly with the
PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
January 18, 2016, 8:30 a.m.
Conference Room 101

Committee:

Director Barbre, Chairman
Director Tamaribuchi
Director Hinman

Staff: R. Hunter, K. Seckel, J. Volzke,
P. Meszaros, H. Baez

Ex Officio Member: L. Dick

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)
2. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER ISSUES CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION BRIEFING LUNCHEON (DC)

ACTION ITEMS

3. TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON DC TO COVER FEDERAL INITIATIVES
4. TRAVEL TO SACRAMENTO TO COVER STATE INITIATIVES

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.)

5. UPDATE ON THE TRANSFER OF ORANGE COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT AREA 7
6. UPDATE ON POTENTIAL CONSOLIDATION OF SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO UTILITIES
7. UPDATE ON WATER SUMMIT (MAY 20, 2016)
8. MET LEGISLATIVE STRATEGIES 2016
9. PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES REPORT
10. SCHOOL PROGRAM PARTICIPATION REPORT

OTHER ITEMS

11. 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
January 12, 2016*

Both Houses of Congress are in session together this week for the first time this year. President Obama delivers his “State of the Union” speech this evening. It is expected that he will try and unify the country and try to bring the different political forces in the nation together.

Some of his self-described victories such as the re-opening of Cuba and the Iran nuclear deal have been roundly criticized by Republican lawmakers. The administration’s strategy to deal with the Middle East conflict and terrorism, particularly on how it relates to ISIS are major campaign issues for both political parties this coming year.

On the eve of the President’s speech today, even Congressional Democrats are wary now about tying themselves too closely to President Obama and his Administration.

Later this week both political parties will have their annual Congressional Retreats where they plan their political agendas for 2016. This will be a shortened legislative year—due to the four year Presidential Election cycle. The House and the Senate will recess for the summer two weeks early, on July 18th—in order to prepare for the Republican and Democratic National Political Party Conventions. The compression of the calendar year will cause the first six months of the year to be extremely busy. With the national elections taking place in November, after the July and August break, there will be a legislative session in September and then a very likely lame duck session in later November or early December. In short, if legislation isn’t deep within the legislative pipeline by June, legislative measures will be difficult to pass later in the year. The House has already announced an “accelerated” appropriations schedule trying to pass all of its appropriations bills by the July break. The Senate to date has been silent on their appropriations schedule.

During the debt limit extension and appropriations negotiations which took place in Washington last month, there was a significant agreement reached on congressional funding “levels” for two years—FY2016 and FY2017. Meaning the year we are in right now—and next year. As a result, we will not see some of the recent brinksmanship over the possible closure of the federal government this coming fall. We may still see “drama” as Congress moves to pass its annual appropriations bills and particularly now in the Obama’s Administration’s final year, we may see some legislative policy amendments to the appropriations bill which might rein in some of the executive actions that the Obama Administration is taking within different federal agencies.

There are still some “raw” feelings in Congress over its inability to pass drought legislation at the end

of last year. Representative Ken Calvert's (R-Ca) comments about the collapse of the drought talks in December 2015 provide insight into what happened at the end of the year:

"One of our top priorities throughout these negotiations was to create flexibility in the operation of the pumps in the Delta in order to capture as much water as possible during the upcoming rainy season (El Niño).

After many lengthy discussions with the Senate, the Administration, conservation groups, water districts throughout the state, and other interested stakeholders, we arrived at a compromise that would have provided some relief to the drought-stricken communities of California. The language that was proposed did not violate the Endangered Species Act or the biological opinions; a view that was shared by the Administration. We entered into good faith omnibus negotiations at Senator Feinstein's request.

The deal was close to done but unfortunately, Senator Feinstein took umbrage to what was at most a staffer error in a closed-door meeting. Our 14 California Republican members remained hopeful, and quiet, until the 11th hour trying to resolve small differences with a bipartisan coalition to help the state of California. Our good faith negotiations came to naught. It's unfortunate when the LA Times gets the story wrong, but it is tragic when the Senate gets the policy wrong."

Last year the key offices in the drought negotiations were: Senators Feinstein and Boxer, Representatives McCarthy, Calvert, McClintock, Grijalva, Napolitano, and Garamendi.

In addition to the Drought Legislation, there are two more water related issues we are following very closely:

- 1) The IRS Tax implications on various water conservation programs—including the turf removal program. Southern California water providers have issued more than \$131 million in conservation rebates. As an example, these rebates have paid for the removal for as much as 50 million square feet of turf. As a result of these rebates, there has been some uncertainty as to whether these rebates are "taxable events for our individual constituents".
- 2) We will be monitoring and trying to assist the EPA and other federal agencies as they develop their guidelines regarding the new WIFIA rules—which allow water entities to use tax free municipal bond financing and federal WIFIA loans to construct water facilities.

General News Items and Political Updates of Interest

Presidential Nomination Updates:

Since our last report, here are the latest polling numbers per “*Real Clear Politics Media*”*:

Nationally

Clinton 43%

Sanders 39

O’Malley 2

In Iowa (first caucus state)

Clinton 44%

Sanders 49

In New Hampshire (first primary state)

Sanders 53%

Clinton 39

For the Republican Nomination:

Nationally

Trump 34%

Cruz 18

Rubio 9

Carson 8

Iowa (First Caucus State)

Trump 3126 %

Cruz 29%

Rubio 15

Carson 17

New Hampshire (First Primary State)

Trump 32%

Rubio 12

Kasich 14

**Real Clear Politics takes polling averages from different respected polling organizations over a common period of time in recent days/weeks*



Memorandum

To: Municipal Water District of Orange County
From: Best Best & Krieger
Date: January 18, 2016
Re: Monthly State Political Report

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Legislation.

SB 163 (Hertzberg) which would declare ocean outfalls by water treatment facilities a waste unless done in accordance with the bill's provisions, most relevant being that water treatment plants would have to achieve 50% reuse of treated water by 2026. Conceptually the bill is hard to argue with but in practice may be unfeasible or cost prohibitive.

SB 814 (Hill) which would require each urban water retail agency to impose fines for excessive water use. This bill is being brought to the attention of the PAL Committee for discussion purposes to consider what actions may be appropriate for MWDOC to take in its representative role for the member agencies.

If desired, BB&K will provide an analysis and a proposed recommendation. Neither bill has been set for a hearing at this time. SB 163, in particular, has until July 1st to be heard in committee.

Legislature.

Anthony Rendon was elected to become the next Speaker on March 7th. No significant policy committee changes have been made as yet beyond replacing Rendon where appropriate.

Although bills introduced last session that need to be heard in January have until the end of the month to pass out of the relevant policy committee, neither water committee intends to hear any more 2-year bills. For this reason, any bill that has not been voted out of the policy committee in the house of origin is dead. This does not apply to 2-year bills in the second house like SB 163.

Assembly Select Committee on Water Consumption and Alternative Sources will meeting on January 20th at 2:00 p.m. to consider options for water reuse and recycling. Presenters from water agencies include:

Michael R. Markus, General Manager, Orange County Water District
 Debra Man, Assistant General Manager, Metropolitan Water District
 Toby Roy, Water Resources Manager, San Diego County Water Authority
 Halla Razak, Public Utilities Director, City of San Diego

GOVERNOR/AGENCY UPDATE



Budget update:

The main feature of the Governor's budget concerns allocation of Prop. 1 funds. The budget appropriates \$533 million including:

\$178 million for various watershed protection and restoration activities.

\$137 million for water recycling and desalination projects.

\$69 million for projects to improve drinking water in disadvantaged communities.

The Governor also proposed \$323 million from the general fund and other funds such as Cap and Trade Expenditure Plan. Proposed funds for appliance rebates, for example, are under the Cap and Trade budget proposal. Other highlights include \$35 million for urban and agricultural water conservation.

Agency update:

SWRCB will meet on the 19th to consider adopting revised draft emergency regulations.

The Water Commission will take presentation from DWR beginning on the 20th of and continuing for the next several months on implementation of basin plans under SGMA.

The County of Orange Report

January 12, 2016
by Lewis Consulting Group

Will Re-Matches Spice Up 2016 Election?

Recent developments indicate that there may be two repeat performances in the 37th Senate District (John Moorlach vs. Don Wagner) and in the 45th Congressional District (Mimi Walters vs. Greg Rath).

In the 37th S.D., Moorlach defeated Don Wagner, 50.3% to 44.0% in a March 2015 special election. In that election, Wagner heavily outspent Moorlach. Moorlach was aided by the dynamics of a GOP friendly turnout in a low turnout election and had a superior “grass roots” organization. This time Moorlach should have the advantage of incumbency, but Wagner’s presumed financial advantage should help him in a much higher Presidential election turnout.

In the 45th C.D. race retired Marine Colonel Greg Rath hops to capitalize on his 2014 election to the Mission Viejo City Council. Ironically, the fact that Rath only received 24% of the vote in the 2014 Congressional primary did not allow him to achieve a run-off with then State Senator Mimi Walters but allowed him to run for and win a seat on the Mission Viejo City Council. In the 2014 primary, Walters garnered 45% to 28% for Democrat Drew Leavens and 24% for Rath. Walters will have both incumbency and a money advantage for her, while Rath hopes that in the Presidential primary will trickle down to the Congressional race as well. All four candidates will be seeking the GOP endorsement at the Monday, January 18th Central Committee meeting.



In another possible incumbent challenge, rumors are swirling that organized labor might take a swing at freshman Supervisor Andrew Do in the County’s First Supervisor District. Could Santa Ana Council member Vince Sarmiento be the challenger?

Former Assessor Gets Probation

With accusations of filing false election documents by Webster Guillory, voters in 2014 elected Claude Parrish to be their new County Assessor. Losing the election was not the only bad news for former County Assessor Webster Guillory. In November 2015, a judge found Guillory guilty of two misdemeanor counts of election fraud.

Apparently the judge took into consideration the nature of the crime and Guillory's past public service before announcing sentencing of two years probation, 30 days of community service and a fine of \$500. This is an ignominious end to a career that includes award recognition from state and national peers.

It is well known in political circles that numerous candidates have attested to signatures that they did not personally witness. Perhaps this will serve as a wake-up call to future candidates.

County Gets Good Financial News



Orange County's improving economic health has brought a double dose of good news for the County's credit rating.

Standard and Poors recently bumped the county's credit rating - from AA to AA+. At the same time, Moody's revised their outlook for the county from negative to stable.

The upgrades are well timed as the county plans about \$80 million of debt issuances in 2016.

County D.A. Rackauckas Blasted by Investigation Panel

In the ongoing saga of the misuse of jail house informants, which has already resulted in dropped charges or reduced penalties in five murder or attempted murder cases, a panel of legal experts released a report highly critical of District Attorney Tony Rackauckas, calling the D.A.'s office a "rudderless ship".

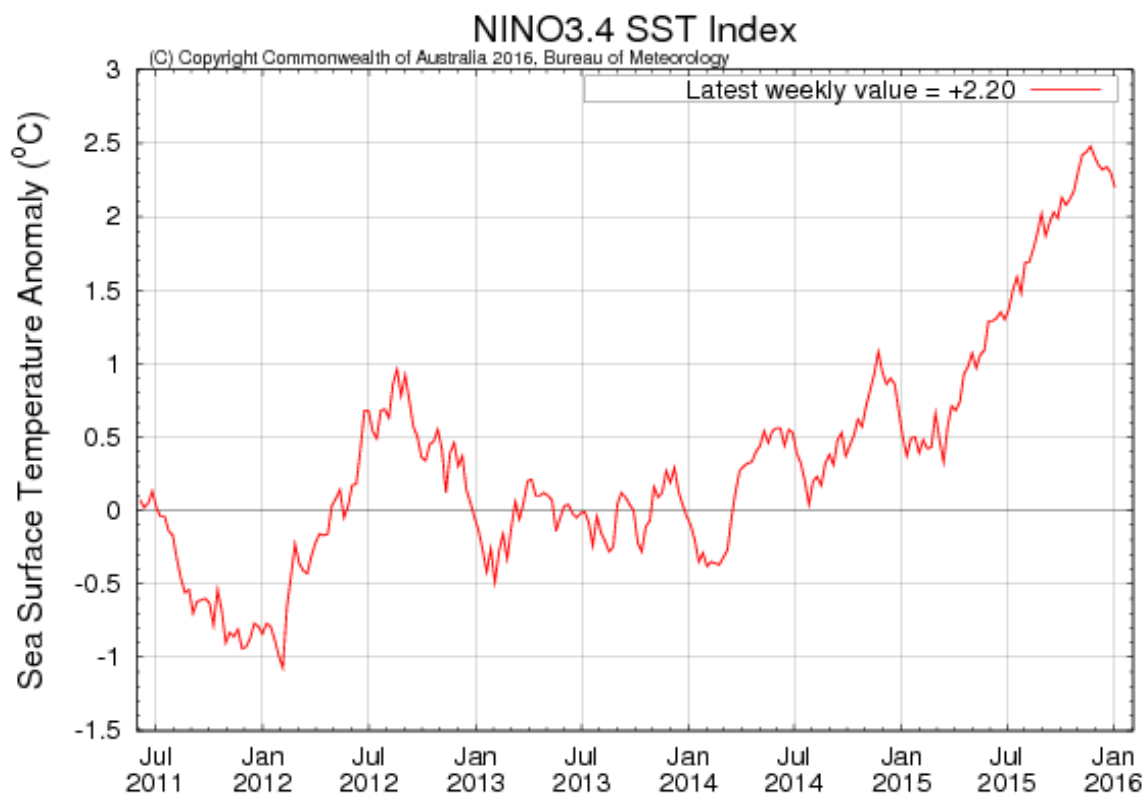
Six months ago, as the jailhouse scandal was gathering steam, D.A. Rackauckas appointed a five member panel to investigate the possible misuse of jail house informants. Perhaps now he wishes he hadn't. The panel was not given subpoena power, but was still able to interview over 75 witnesses.

As a result of their findings, the panel called for further investigations by the U.S. Department of Justice, the California Attorney General and the Orange County Grand Jury.

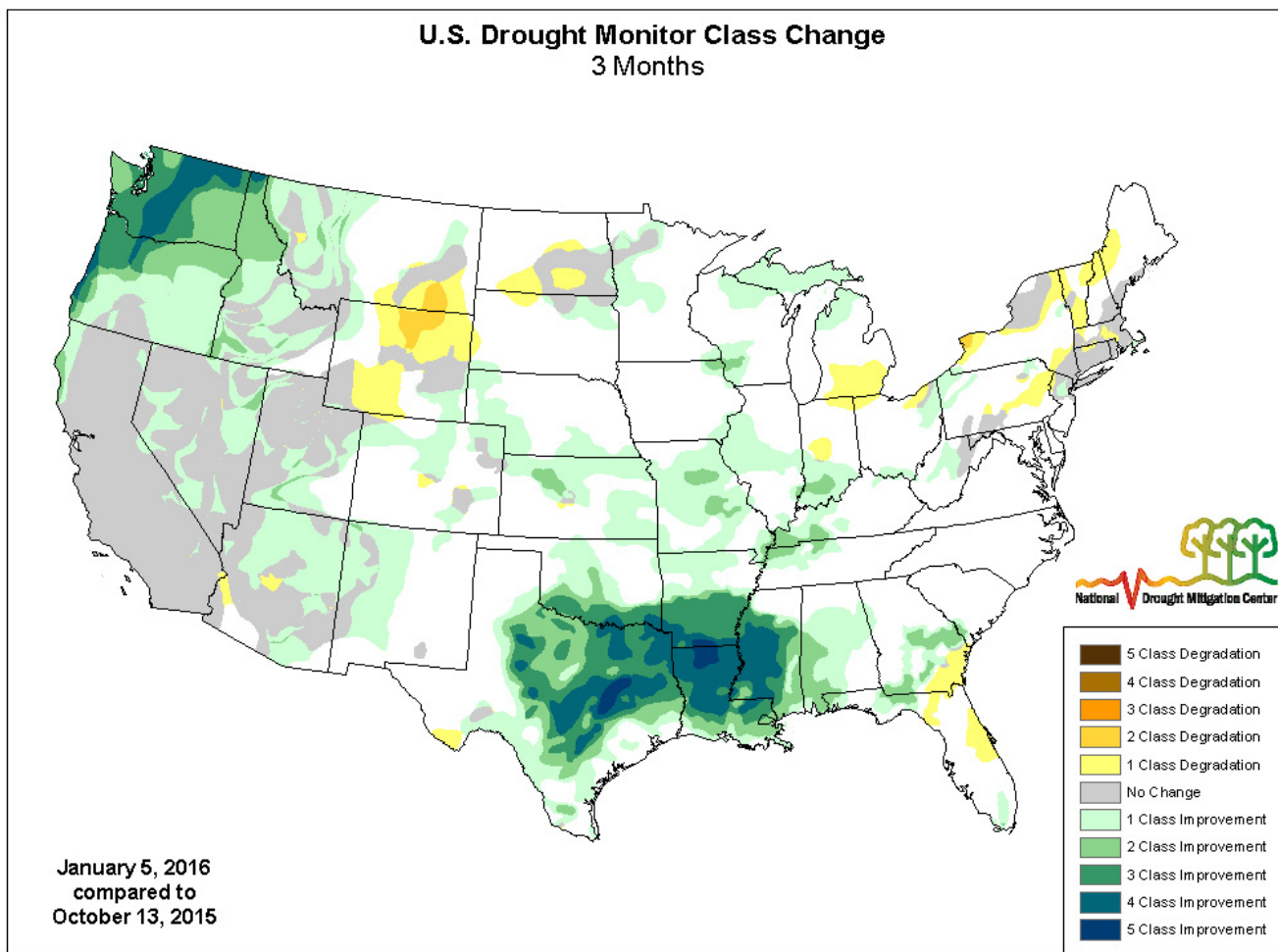
For his part, the District Attorney accepted responsibility for any mismanagement and welcomes an investigation by U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch. Rackauckas confidently predicts his office will be cleared of any intentional misconduct.

During the verbal presentation of the panels report, the committee was very strong in their appreciate of both the District Attorney and the Sheriff for their cooperation in the investigation. They stated on multiple occasions that both agencies complied with all requests for interviews and documents needed by the committee to complete their report and findings.

El Niño Weakens but Becomes more Productive



El Niño peaked at about 2.5 degrees higher than average water temperature. It has now fallen to a 2.2 degree anomaly. However, a breakdown of high pressure and a more favorable jet stream has finally allowed the Golden State to receive snow and rain that was previously belting Washington and Oregon.



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>

Change of Drought Status Over Three Month Period

The national drought map shows that from the three month period of October 13, 2015 to January 5, 2016, there was remarkable improvement most noticeably in the states of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oregon and Washington. Much more rain is needed to bust the California drought.

Board elections

As expected Supervisor Lisa Bartlett was elected to be the Board Chairman for 2016. She is being elevated from Vice-Chairman after serving only one year on the Board. Taking her place as Vice-Chair is Supervisor Michelle Steel, also in her second year on

the Board. This is a term limits era reality where members with relatively little experience on a legislative body are elevated to leadership positions and is occurs on the Board of Supervisors with three members being newly elected (Andrew Do being the third).

Among Chair Bartlett's many new responsibilities will be the appointment of Supervisors to the many Boards and Commissions that members of the Board will serve for 2016. We will be updating her appointments for the February PAL report.

ACKERMAN CONSULTING

Legal and Regulatory

January 18, 2016

1. **Dam Debate Continues:** The dam debate continues in earnest in the Central Valley. This time it is not just dam builders against environmental interests, but they are also being challenged by supporters of additional storage. The questions being raised are the environmental considerations of dams vs reservoirs and the cost benefit and long term impacts of the two methods. The main storage facility under consideration is Sites. Sites got its name from German immigrant John Sites, who founded the settlement of Sites in 1886. That village was a primary source of sandstone for construction of many significant buildings in San Francisco. Sites would not dam any existing river and is therefore more desirable than building dams or raising Shasta Dam. However it has the biggest price tag, 3-4 billion dollars, of any of the alternatives. Raising Shasta is cheaper, \$1.3 billion, but would only produce one third new capacity (Shasta 630,000 acre feet, Sites 1.8 million).
2. **Tahoe Warming:** A recent NASA and National Science Foundation study using 25 years of satellite and on scene measurements has shown that lakes worldwide have warmed on average .61 degree each decade. Lake Tahoe has increased 1 degree. It should be noted that 25 years is a relatively short period for general conclusions to be drawn since earth has been around considerably longer.
3. **Drought Over?:** Water experts, both private and public, are starting to discuss when and how we will know the drought is over. Some say when all the reservoirs are full. Others say never since it will take decades to recharge the underground aquifers which have been seriously depleted. NASA says we are 12 trillion gallons short, looking at rivers, lakes, aquifers, snowpack and aquifers. The State climatologist says that if the snowpack exceeds 150% of normal by April and we get 150% above normal rainfall in the same time, the drought should be over. Currently the snowpack is at 107% of normal and rain measured at the key 8 stations shows 94%. The political answer, it is over when Governor Brown declares it so. The real answer is important because of the temporary measures put in place around the state which would then be stopped or relaxed in some manner.

4. **Salton Sea Rebirth?:** Governor Brown has included \$80 million in the budget proposal for the Salton Sea. It is earmarked for restoration of habitat and creating a long term management plan. It is raising hopes that more money will be coming for total restoration, even though the \$70 billion estimated cost is not finding much support at the state or federal level. The Sea is likely to start experiencing faster shrinkage when San Diego starts diverting more water away from it.

5. **Senator Wants to Fine Waterhogs:** Senator Jerry Hill wants to find excessive water users \$500 per day for each 748 gallons used over a base amount. It terms of some of the large users we have reported, that would be \$6800 per day or \$200,000 per month. Many folks from water world, including John Coleman from East Bay MUD, think the proposal is extreme and that existing programs established by various water districts are more effective and are actually working. While many believe that public shaming is a useful tool, public flogging is not.

6. **Gray and Storm Water Risks:** Many water districts around the state are catching up with Orange County. More districts are exploring and implementing ways to capture and use gray water and runoff from storms. However, it is noted that both of these sources have health risks. Gray water often contains bacteria and chemicals, while runoff may have elevated amounts of microorganisms, metal and other chemicals. These issues need recognition and often treatment before they are used for irrigation or other non-potable uses. Also delivery systems are necessary to truly make such a method useful and cost effective. Orange County is a state and national leader in these areas. LA is looking at some major projects to copy OC. Everyone is looking at ways to more cost effectively capture runoff particularly during the El Nino season.

7. **Folsom Rising!:** Folsom Lake, which was close to going dry, rose almost 30 feet in one month last year as a result of El Nino. Folsom is the ninth largest reservoir in the state. It had been at its lowest level since 1976 but is now at 25% capacity. Part of its low level was the water it recently released in an unsuccessful attempt to save spawning salmon.

**DISCUSSION ITEM**

January 18, 2016

TO: Board of Directors**FROM:** **Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**
(Directors Barbre, Hinman, and Tamaribuchi)Robert Hunter
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

**SUBJECT: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER ISSUES CONGRESSIONAL
DELEGATION BRIEFING LUNCHEON****STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the Board of Directors receives and files the report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

DETAILED REPORT**CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING**

As customary, MWDOC co-hosts a luncheon during the ACWA conference in Washington D.C. and has once again partnered with regional neighbors, Eastern Municipal Water District, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, and Western Municipal Water District. The luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, February 24th. ACWA is planning a Capitol tour and boxed lunch for conference attendees at that time.

The ACWA Washington D.C. conference is scheduled for Tuesday, 02/23/2016 - Thursday, 02/25/2016 at the Mayflower Hotel.

Budgeted (Y/N): Yes	\$800/DC Luncheon & Materials \$6,250/Two staff registration & travel \$5,050/Two directors registration & travel	Core <u>X</u>	Choice <u> </u>
Action item amount:		Line item:	
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted): Registration & travel costs are budgeted under ACWA conferences			

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From ACWA:

Why Attend?

Learn firsthand the priorities of Congress and the Obama Administration. Get the latest on the budget and funding for your programs of interest. Meet and join fellow Water Agencies to show the importance of California water issues. Be there right from the start to better develop your federal legislative and regulatory strategies.

What Can You Expect?

Hear from Congressional leaders, top officials at EPA, Army Corps, Bureau of Reclamation and Department of Justice. Learn the 2016 agendas of members of the California Congressional Delegation. Hear from 'DC Insiders' about the 2016 elections.

The full conference agenda is included on the next page.

MWDOC'S PARTICIPATION

As we did last year, MWDOC is co-hosting a Southern California Water Issues Congressional Delegation Briefing with Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD), Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA), and Western Municipal Water District (WMWD). The Gold Room in the Rayburn Building (same location as last year) is unfortunately booked, and all four agencies are working to find a more desirable room as our current secured room is in the basement.

"Save the Date" cards were hand delivered in November to all congressional offices within the hosting agencies service area. Invitations will be delivered on January 14 and will be followed up with email invites and personal phone calls. In addition, Director Barbre plus the federal advocates from each hosting agency got together on January 15 to ensure all agencies are on the same page and working together to increase participation and attendance.

A new room for the luncheon has been secured. While it is still in the basement, it is in a more desirable location and has been recently renovated. All four participating agencies agreed that this room, Rayburn B-354 is better suited for our needs.

Staff from MWDOC, EMWD, IEUA, and WMWD have begun updating the briefing book and program for the event. The briefing book – which includes a brief background on the four presenting agencies – will highlight the investments and importance of reliability. All pages have been submitted and are currently being assembled. In addition, the sponsoring agencies will reach out to their member agencies to see if they will be in attendance at the event.

Last year MWDOC member agencies, Irvine Ranch Water District, Mesa Water District, and Santa Margarita Water District were all included. To date, Irvine Ranch Water District, Mesa Water District, Santa Margarita Water District, Moulton Niguel Water District, and South Coast Water District (in conjunction with MWDOC for the Doheny Project) have submitted pages for the 2016 briefing book. The USB drives have been ordered, and will be ready in advance of the event.

Staff from MWDOC and the three partnering agencies are meeting weekly to touch base, stay on schedule, and work on outstanding issues to ensure all deadlines are met and details are being worked out.

ACWA DC2016

Annual Washington D.C. Conference

February 23–25

The Mayflower Hotel

1127 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20036

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

6 – 8 p.m.

U.S. Botanic Gardens
100 Maryland Ave SW

**Congressional Water Reception in conjunction with the
California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA)**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Joint Breakfast with CASA

10:00 – 10:15 a.m.

Break

10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

Congressional Staff Panel

11:15 a.m. – Noon

Administration Speakers

Noon – 2:00 p.m.

Box Lunch & Tour of Capitol

2:15 p.m.

Group Photo

House side steps of the Capitol
(South East Side)

2:15 – 5:30 p.m.

Room 201 AB
House Visitors Center

Congressional Speech Program

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Mayflower Hotel

Networking Reception

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

8:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Breakfast Program

10:30 a.m.

Conference Adjourns



ACTION ITEM
January 20, 2016

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: **Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**
(Directors Barbre, Hinman, and Tamaribuchi)

Robert Hunter, General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

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

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors receives and files the report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

DETAILED REPORT

For the second quarter of fiscal year 2015-2016, one trip occurred:

- November (Director Barbre & Heather Baez)

Numerous, productive meetings were held with discussions revolving around what Congress and the various Committees will do with respect to California specific drought legislation, the Surface Transportation Bill, a provision added that would allow tax free municipal bond financing to be used with WIFIA Loans; and gathering support for legislation which will encourage permanent water conservation through responsible federal income tax policy by allowing such rebates to occur without our constituents incurring a taxable event – such as a turf removal rebate.

FISCAL IMPACT

Budgeted (Y/N): Yes	Budgeted amount: \$11,000 for staff, \$8,500 for Board; 2014-2015 Fiscal year expenditure	Core <u>X</u>	Choice <u> </u>
Action item amount:		Line item:	
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted): Within projected budget			

The following is budgeted for fiscal year 2015/2016 for **staff**:

Washington Legislative Advocacy - \$11,000

- Total cost for this quarter:
November - \$1300

The following is budget for fiscal year 2015/2016 for **board** members:

Washington Legislative Advocacy - \$8,500

- Total cost for this quarter
November - \$1000

Projecting out for 3rd Quarter of fiscal year 2015/2016

- Two trips has been scheduled by Director Barbre & staff

January ~ \$900/each. This advocacy trip will be focused on continuing to develop relationships with key offices, express our continued concern about the passing of drought legislation, discuss measures that MWDOC has taken to mitigate drought issues and what may be needed in the future, the impact of recent rain events on our water supply, respond to questions that offices may have regarding water issues, discuss changes in the WIFIA loan program, and discuss IRS issues (turf removal program, et al). On federal drought, there will be a renewed effort to try and pass something this year. We will have shortened legislative year due to the Presidential Campaign Conventions in July and August.

February – this is for the ACWA D.C. convention and is budgeted separately than advocacy. Please see Congressional Delegation Briefing Luncheon agenda item for further details.

March – No trips scheduled

As requested, below is a following list of Washington D.C. advocacy trips that were taken for calendar year 2015:

Board Member

January
February
April
May
September
November
Total cost: \$8300 (under budget)

Staff

November
Total cost: \$1300 (under budget)



ACTION ITEM
January 20, 2016

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: **Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**
(Directors Barbre, Hinman, and Tamaribuchi)

Robert Hunter
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

SUBJECT: TRAVEL TO SACRAMENTO TO COVER STATE INITIATIVES

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors receives and files the report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

DETAILED REPORT

For the second quarter of fiscal year 2015-2016, no trips were taken.

Due to the Legislature being on recess for the remaining of the year, no travel to Sacramento was deemed necessary.

SUMMARY OF OCTOBER, NOVEMBER & DECEMBER TRIPS

No trips were taken.

Budgeted (Y/N): Yes	Budgeted amount: Sacramento Legislative Advocacy - \$5,000 – 12 trips;	Core <u>X</u>	Choice <u> </u>
Action item amount:		Line item:	
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted): Currently travel is within budget but expected to go over budget due to a change in Southwest Airlines Orange County flight schedule.			

FISCAL IMPACT

So far in fiscal year 2015-2016, four trips have been taken.

Projecting out for 2nd Quarter of fiscal year 2015/2016

- Upcoming trips:

January 21-22: meetings with legislative staff & ACWA State Legislative Committee (SLC). Meetings are scheduled for Thursday, January 21st as return to Orange County needs to be earlier than usual on Friday due to the Water Policy Dinner scheduled for the evening of January 22.

February 25-26: Flying in from ACWA D.C. on February 25 to attend morning AWCA State Legislative Committee meeting on February 26

March 18: ACWA State Legislative Committee

We are projected to be slightly over budget for this fiscal year. Some travel days require an overnight stay, as noted above, while others are a one-day trip. This is a correction that will be made when budgeting for fiscal year 2016-2017.



INFORMATION ITEM

January 18, 2016

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: **Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**
(Directors Barbre, Hinman & Tamaribuchi)

Robert Hunter
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

SUBJECT: **Update on the transfer of Orange County Sanitation District Area 7**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors receive and file report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

DETAILED REPORT

For the past several months, the proposed EOCWD and IRWD applications to assume local sewer service for OCSD Service Area 7 have been discussed in great length by the OCLAFCO (Commission).

The Orange County LAFCO Regular Meeting scheduled for **January 13, 2016** is cancelled. The next LAFCO Regular Meeting will be held Wednesday, **February 10, 2016** at 8:00 a.m.

There have been no updates on this matter since the December 21, 2015 PAL meeting.

Budgeted (Y/N): n/a	Budgeted amount:	Core x	Choice __
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			



INFORMATION ITEM

January 13, 2016

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: **Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**
(Directors Barbre, Hinman & Tamaribuchi)

Robert Hunter
General Manager

Staff Contact: Jonathan Volzke

SUBJECT: **Update on potential consolidation of San Juan Capistrano utilities**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors receive and file report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

DETAILED REPORT

The potential consolidation of San Juan Capistrano's water operations has not appeared on a public agenda for several weeks.

City representatives have met with representatives from Irvine Ranch Water District, Moulton Niguel Water District and Irvine Ranch Water District about potential consolidation with one of those agencies.

The City's consultants were to report back to the City with results of those meetings for a determination of the next step.

As previously discussed, the City of San Juan Capistrano has retained the law firm of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck (BHFS) to analyze its water, wastewater and storm water operations to determine whether the City should divest itself of those operations and assets.

Budgeted (Y/N): n/a	Budgeted amount:	Core x	Choice __
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

The City Council has directed BHFS and staff to contact the Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) to explore three options:

1. Selling the water/wastewater/stormwater operations to another public agency
2. Forming a new public agency to provide water/wastewater/stormwater services
3. Contracting with another public agency for those services.

To date, the City has spent more than \$400,000 on the consultants and related work.

Also, since our last report, the City hired a new City Manager. Ben Siegel, who worked in the City of Laguna Beach and in Lake Forest before that, was hired as City Manager.

Also this week, SJC Chief Financial Officer Cindy Russell announced she is leaving the City for a position in Brea.

**INFORMATION ITEM**

January 18, 2016

TO: Board of Directors**FROM:** **Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**
(Directors Barbre, Hinman & Tamaribuchi)Robert Hunter
General Manager

Staff Contact: Jonathan Volzke

SUBJECT: **Update on 2016 Water Summit****STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the Board of Directors receive and file report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

DETAILED REPORT

The 2016 Water Summit will be May 20 at the Westin South Coast Plaza. MWDOC once again is partnering with OCWD on the event, although MWDOC is the “lead” agency in this year’s planning.

MWDOC Public Affairs Manager Jonathan Volzke and Public Affairs Supervisor Tiffany Baca have worked with the Summit Committee, led by Director Thomas, and General Manager Rob Hunter as well as the OCWD team in planning the event.

The targeted audience for this year’s event are City Council members, community leaders and business leaders.

With that in mind, the 2016 Summit will begin with a quick overview of the sources of OC’s water supply.

Budgeted (Y/N): n/a	Budgeted amount:	Core x	Choice __
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

Panels under discussion at this point include New Opportunities for Water Supply, Innovative Solutions and a panel on conservation and rates – why the nexus isn't as clear as some may believe it should be.

Topics that will be covered include why development continues in the drought, new MET initiatives, the importance of the California Water Fix and even "The Death of a Water District," based on the experiences of Foresthill PUD.

Tiffany Baca is taking the lead on developing the graphics and collateral for the event. The Public Affairs team plans to attend City Council meetings personally to "invite" city leaders to the Summit.

As planned, each city will receive two complimentary tickets to the event – one for the City Manager and one for the Mayor.

The next Committee meeting is Feb. 8.



● **Board of Directors**
Communications and Legislation Committee

12/8/2015 Board Meeting

REVISED 8-4

Subject

Adopt Legislative Priorities for 2016

Executive Summary

This board letter outlines the state and federal 2016 legislative priorities recommended by staff for the Board's consideration and adoption.

Details

After consulting with Metropolitan member agencies in October 2015 and the Board Communications and Legislation Committee in November 2015, the following federal and state legislative priorities are submitted for the Board's consideration and approval. The priorities for 2016 support Metropolitan's mission and incorporate its overall water supply reliability and water quality objectives.

Bay-Delta and State Water Project Improvements

- Support administrative/legislative action and federal and state funding to keep the Bay Delta Conservation Plan/California WaterFix on schedule to advance conveyance and ecosystem improvements to help achieve the coequal goals of water supply reliability and Delta ecosystem restoration.
- Support administrative/legislative action and funding to advance emergency response, near-term Delta improvements and expenditures to support fish monitoring activities in the Delta consistent with the coequal goals, California EcoRestore, and the California Water Action Plan.
- Continue support for implementation of state policies adopted as part of the 2009 Delta Reform Act and water management package, including clarification of the monitoring, reporting, and enforcement provisions related to in-Delta diversions.
- Support state funding for public share of Delta ecosystem restoration costs.
- Support state funding for public share of costs, including mitigation and rehabilitation, for multi-purpose State Water Project (SWP) facilities.
- Support administrative/legislative action and funding to add surface and ground water storage statewide.
- Oppose administrative/legislative action that would unfairly shift procurement of renewable resources to the SWP, irrespective of transmission limitations, cost and portfolio availability.

Colorado River Initiatives

- Support continued federal funding authorization and coordination between states for continued implementation of the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Plan.
- Encourage coordination between federal, state, and regional water agencies to implement the Quantification Settlement Agreement.
- Promote continued federal funding and coordination between states for the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program under the departments of Agriculture and Interior.
- Protect and preserve Metropolitan's interest in water conservation programs enabled by the U.S. Water Treaty with Mexico.

Drought Related Legislation

- Support administrative /legislative actions to respond to drought, including funding for immediate water supply improvements, while maintaining environmental protections.

Federal Drought Related Legislation

- Reflect broad, bipartisan agreement.
- Provide funding and regulatory assistance for regions affected by the drought for both immediate and long-term water projects that aid in the development, storage, treatment and delivery of water.
- Provide funding and regulatory incentives for conservation and water use efficiency measures.
- Protect SWP and local water supplies and ensure SWP and local water supply reliability.
- Support funding for Colorado River drought resilience projects.
- Work within the current federal and state Endangered Species Acts to increase operational flexibility while ~~not weakening~~ maintaining protections for listed species.
- Provide direction and funding to improve information about listed fish and wildlife species and water project operations in the Delta, including data collection, scientific understanding, and real-time monitoring of listed Delta species.
- Encourage use of the most current scientific data and analysis to provide enhanced flexibility for water project operations.

California Water Action Plan

- Support implementation of the Brown Administration's comprehensive water strategy, consistent with Metropolitan's goals and objectives, to ensure effective drought management and near-term actions to guide development of programs and investments to meet the state's long-term water infrastructure needs.

Regional Water Resource Management

- Support legislation authorizing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to provide grant funding for programs such as the Water Research Foundation to conduct research enabling water agencies to adapt to hydrologic changes.
- Support legislation authorizing U.S. EPA's *WaterSense* program and other federal incentive programs that promote water use efficiency and energy efficiency.
- Support administrative/legislative action to promote recycled water, ~~and~~ stormwater, and desalination as water resources, without compromising the operational, financial, water quality, regulatory and customer interests of Metropolitan and other water and wastewater agencies.
- Monitor implementation of the 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.
- Ensure that surface water permanently stored underground is subject to appropriate review and approval by State Water Resources Control Board. Unchecked, diversion of water for underground storage, whether a new or existing appropriation, may adversely impact other beneficial uses of water for fish and wildlife, recreation, commerce or use by downstream diverters.

Water Quality

- Support administrative/legislative action to provide for the continued transport, delivery, storage, and use of chlorine gas for disinfection. Support authorizing U.S. EPA oversight of water system security through updated vulnerability assessments and site security plans.
- Support administrative/legislative action and funding to protect and improve water quality from unacceptable risks from various constituents, including but not limited to chromium 6, nitrate, perchlorate, salinity, uranium, various fuels and their additives, pharmaceuticals/personal care products, and other constituents of emerging concern.
- Support administrative/legislative action to protect surface water and groundwater supplies from energy development and other activities that may impair water resources. Covered energy development activities include, but are not limited to, enhanced oil and gas recovery techniques such as hydraulic fracturing.
- Support administrative/legislative action to ensure that all affected public water systems are consulted on proposed consolidations or extension of service area and that the consolidation or extension of service complies with all existing federal and state laws applicable to source waters. If water supplied by

wholesale water supplier is part of the supply for consolidated area, the area should also be consolidated with or annexed into wholesale supplier, in addition to any local retailer or other suppliers.

- Continue to support prohibition on body contact recreation at drinking water reservoirs to prevent water quality degradation or potential increases in treatment, infrastructure costs, and operational restraints at the facilities.

Environmental Planning and Environmental Compliance

- Support administrative/legislative actions to improve clarity and workability of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the California Environmental Quality Act, and eliminate duplicative NEPA/CEQA processes.
- Support administrative/legislative actions for environmental compliance (e.g., air, water, hazardous materials and waste) that provide for regulatory compliance flexibility, promote consistency and reduce regulatory duplication.
- Continue to monitor administrative/legislative actions to ensure Metropolitan's ability to reliably operate and maintain its facilities, infrastructure and real estate assets, including rights of way necessary to access Metropolitan's facilities. These actions include, but are not limited to, land conservation measures, such as the California Desert Wilderness Protection Act, and the U.S. EPA's rules for "Waters of the United States" and water transfers.
- Support administrative/legislative actions to consolidate review and oversight of anadromous species protection under the Department of Interior to eliminate duplication and increase efficiencies.
- Support administrative/legislative actions and funding for biological control, mitigation management, and elimination of invasive species, including, but not limited to, quagga mussels and striped bass.
- Support administrative/legislative actions pertaining to invasive species that are consistent with, and in no way interferes with, existing interstate water transfers.

Energy Sustainability

- Encourage coordination to implement federal law that is consistent with Metropolitan's long-term contract for hydropower generated at Hoover Dam for the benefit of Arizona, Southern California and Nevada water users that rely on Hoover power to minimize costs to consumers.
- Support authorization for grant funding for energy efficiency, including programs to reduce greenhouse gases and develop renewable resources.
- Promote water-energy nexus administrative/legislative or regulatory activities that preserve Metropolitan's ability to pursue supply options and oppose constraints on supply development such as water resource loading orders based on energy intensity. Respond to and correct misperceptions about the amount of electricity in California used to transport, treat and deliver water.
- Support legislation that defines hydropower generation as renewable energy irrespective of a facility's nameplate generating capacity, and includes the provision of renewable energy credits for hydroelectric generation.
- Support legislation that removes barriers to and encourages energy sector investments in water conservation and energy management programs.
- Pursue allocation of Cap-and-Trade auction revenues and/or free allowances from the California Air Resources Board or other administering agencies for Metropolitan and Department of Water Resources/SWP, to be used for greenhouse gas reduction measures and related projects.
- Continue to support and promote integrated water resources portfolio planning.

Cybersecurity

- Support national associations and coalition efforts to develop standard guidance and best management practices for consistent and ongoing actions to reduce vulnerabilities in process control systems for major water system providers.

Infrastructure and Public Finance

- Support measures to reduce the cost of financing water infrastructure planning and construction, such as tax-credit financing, tax-exempt municipal bonds, an expanded Water Infrastructure Finance Innovation Act (WIFIA), or similar financing mechanism that funds new water supply infrastructure, including water conduits, pipelines, canals, pumping, power and associated facilities, the Environmental Infrastructure Accounts and other funding mechanisms.
- Support income tax exemptions for water conservation or efficiency incentives for measures including, but not limited to, turf removal, rain barrels, cisterns, and other measures to reduce consumption of water or enhance the absorption and infiltration capacity of the landscape.
- Support “beneficiaries pay” approach as financing mechanism for statewide projects and programs.
- Oppose public goods charge or other charges levied solely on water agencies for funding broader public benefits.
- Monitor implementation of 2012 pension reform legislation and other post-employment benefits reform initiatives for potential impacts on Metropolitan’s long-term liability.
- Support legislation/administrative action that deters metal theft and protects critical public water infrastructure.
- Monitor implementation of Proposition 1, the 2014 water bond to support consistency with Metropolitan board-adopted priorities, and influence how water bond dollars are spent, both through program development, including regulations and guidelines at the agency and department level, and through appropriation of bond funds in the state budget process.

Federal Appropriations Priorities

- Bay-Delta planning and implementation funding for near-term projects, including near-term and emergency response projects.
- Farm Bill/USDA programs to support habitat projects in the Delta and agricultural water use efficiency projects in the Delta or in the Colorado River basin.
- Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program.
- Colorado River drought resiliency projects.
- Water quality protection initiatives (e.g., chromium 6, nitrate, perchlorate, salinity, uranium, pharmaceuticals, personal care products, etc.).
- Biological controls, mitigation management, or control of invasive species.
- Solar retrofits and other renewable energy and conservation projects.
- Water conservation and water use efficiency programs and water resource projects.
- Desalination and salinity management research, including funding for the Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility through the Desalination Reauthorization Act of 1996.
- Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Plan.
- Bureau of Reclamation Title XVI program and WaterSMART.
- Climate change adaptation and mitigation research.
- Water Resources Development Act-based Environmental Infrastructure Account.

Policy

Supports Metropolitan’s mission and incorporates its overall water quality and supply reliability objectives.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

CEQA determination for Option #1:

The proposed action is not defined as a project under CEQA because it involves continuing administrative activities, such as general policy and procedure making (Section 15378(b)(2) of the State CEQA Guidelines). In addition, where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed action in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the proposed action is not subject to CEQA (Section 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines).

The CEQA determination is: Determine that the proposed action is not defined as a project and is not subject to CEQA pursuant to Sections 15378(b)(2) and 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

CEQA determination for Option #2:

None required

Board Options

Option #1

Adopt the CEQA determination that the proposed action is not defined as a project under CEQA and is not subject to CEQA, and

Adopt the revised Legislative Priorities for 2016.

Fiscal Impact: None

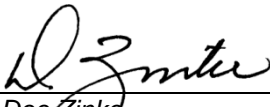
Option #2


Take no action.

Fiscal Impact: None

Staff Recommendation

Option #1


 Dee Zinke
 Deputy General Manager, External Affairs
 12/8/2015
 Date


 Jeffrey Kightlinger
 General Manager
 12/8/2015
 Date

Ref# ea12627399

**Public Affairs Activities Report
December 17, 2015 – January 11, 2015**

Member Agency Relations	<p>Jonathan reminded member agencies about the deadline for comment on the pending State Board regulations, and provided a copy of MWDOC's letter as a model to agencies that requested it.</p> <p>Jonathan met with the new Public Information Officer at Santa Margarita Water to discuss regional issues and MWDOC's programs and assistance.</p> <p>Jonathan, Rob and Karl met with representatives from the National Water Research Institute to discuss common goals/efforts.</p> <p>Tiffany has been working on hotel/speaker and AV logistics as well as outreach and event materials for the January 22, Water Policy Forum and Dinner featuring speaker Felicia Marcus, Chair, SWRCB. Bryce has been managing registration and reserved tables.</p> <p>Tiffany and Rob accompanied Director McKenney and members of the Orange County Grand Jury on a SWP inspection trip, January 15-16.</p> <p>Tiffany and Bryce are currently working on trip logistics, guest and Director needs for the following inspection trips:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. February 19-21, Director Barbre/Director Faessel (Anaheim) shared SWP trip 2. March 11-13, Director Barbre CRA/Hoover trip <p>Heather provided a 2015 legislative review and gave a preview of what to expect in 2016 at the MWDOC member agencies' managers meeting.</p> <p>Heather met with Peter Whittingham and Mission Viejo mayor Frank Ury who expressed his thanks to MWDOC's Water Use Efficiency team for helping their city secure grant funding in the Water Smart Public Spaces Program. He indicated that program – turf removal and smart timers have been very successful in Mission Viejo and they plan to expand on it. He also inquired about the status of the Doheny Desalination Plant.</p>
Community Relations	<p>Jonathan on January 6 addressed the San Clemente Kiwanis Club, presenting a PowerPoint on where OC gets its water, the difference between imported and groundwater and the challenges facing OC</p>

	<p>water agency. The presentation was well received and generated lively discussions and conversation.</p> <p>Jonathan is working with the South OC Association of Realtors to organize a presentation of the OC Water Reliability Study to that organization.</p> <p>Jonathan and Laura will attend the South OC Recycled Water Summit on January 22.</p>
Education	<p>MWDOC's education team continued to reach contracted numbers. (See attached reports.) Additionally, The Ecology Center of San Juan Capistrano, a sub-contractor on the high school program, received a \$2,000 "Community Partnering Program" grant for The Ecology Center's Water Shed Mobile Water Exhibit.</p>
Media Relations	<p>Jonathan worked with the OC Register to pitch a story on the OC Reliability Study, which ran on the front page in December.</p> <p>Jonathan pitched a story to the OC Register about the upcoming round of conservation mandates. The published story included comments from MWDOC's Joe Berg.</p> <p>Jonathan worked with the OC Register to include GM Hunter's remarks in the story about OC performance for the conservation mandates.</p>
Special Projects	<p>Jonathan and Tiffany met with Director Thomas and OCWD reps to discuss panels for the OC Water Summit. They also met with the OC Water Summit Committee twice. The Summit will be May 20 at the Westin So Coast Plaza.</p> <p>Tiffany has been working with the South Coast Westin to finalize hotel/food and AV estimates for the 2016 OC Water Summit.</p> <p>Tiffany prepared two design layouts for the 2016 OC Water Summit suite and presented them to the Committee for review.</p> <p>Jonathan will attend the next meeting of the ACC-OC water committee meeting to get feedback on the Summit and other OC water issues.</p> <p>Jonathan and Laura worked with the OC Register and participation agencies to produce four full-page Register stories on the value of water as part of the CHOICE program. The pages, which run in the Local section on Sundays, have looked at where OC gets its water, why El Nino will not end the drought, New Year's resolutions for water savings and how OC water agencies – led by WEROC - prepared for El Nino storms.</p>

Jonathan “boosted” the first Register page – on where OC gets its water – on the MWDOC Facebook page and reached 4,000 Orange County residents.

The MWDOC Facebook page now has 1,240 followers. The stats from January 5-January 12: age

Visits	124	35	↑254.3%
Weekly Total Reach	1.86k	678	↑174.0%
People Engaged	165	39	↑323.1%
Total Page Likes	1.24k	1.23k	↑0.2%

Laura is creating the Orange County Cities & Water Agencies Directory for 2016.

Laura sent out the weekly CSANS Newsletters. She also sent out the Daily Media Clips.

Bryce designed the flyers for the Poster and Slogan Contest. Bryce and Laura will send out the flyers to Orange County Schools, Boys and Girls clubs, Libraries, Discovery Science Center and the Ecology Center. Laura also began developing a Marketing Plan for the Contest.

Tiffany and Bryce updated several pages on the MWDOC website.

Tiffany prepared the January cover image for social media and the MWDOC website homepage.

Tiffany participated in an Alert OC webinar for Blackboard training on January 5.

Tiffany participated in two webinars for social media through Podium on January 5. Intro to social media marketing and Optimizing your social media profiles.

Heather worked with Crystal Nettles at OCWD to coordinate a dinner for the January WACO speaker, Julian Morris from the Reason Foundation. She also attended the dinner on MWDOC's behalf.

Heather staffed the January WACO meeting featuring guest speaker, Julian Morris of the Reason Foundation who spoke on the economics of the drought.

Heather sent out invitations and is collecting RSVPs for the upcoming ISDOC Quarterly luncheon featuring guest speaker, County CEO Frank Kim.

	<p>Heather staffed the ISDOC Executive Committee meeting and will begin working on securing speakers for March and June. She is working with Chris Palmer of CSDA to secure CSDA Executive Director Neil McCormick and retired congressman John Campbell.</p>
Legislative Affairs	<p>Heather continues to meet regularly with staff at Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Eastern Municipal Water District & Western Municipal Water District about the upcoming Congressional Delegation Briefing Luncheon. They had a conference call on December 17th and on January 6th.</p> <p>Heather, Karl & Syrus Devers of BB&K had a conference call with Assemblyman Bill Brough's office to discuss their proposed legislation that they hope will expedite permitting from the California Coastal Commission. Discussions with Assemblyman Brough's office are ongoing. The deadline to introduce legislation is February 19, 2016.</p> <p>Heather and Director Barbre were in Washington D.C. from January 13-15 and met with several key committee and delegation staff members including:</p> <p>Chris Kearney, Staff Director - Senate Water and Power Subcommittee</p> <p>Kris Kiefer, General Counsel & Chuck Podolak point person on drought issues, - Senator Flake</p> <p>John Watts, Leg Director & point person on drought issues - Senator Feinstein</p> <p>Kiel Weaver, Staff Director and Bryson Wong, Legislative Analyst - House Water & Power Subcommittee</p> <p>Yvette Wissmann, Legislative Director - Congresswoman Mimi Walters</p> <p>Jessica Roxburgh – Congressman Dana Rohrabacher</p> <p>Robert Rische – Congressman Darrell Issa,</p> <p>Alexandra Berenter - Congressman Ken Calvert</p> <p>Jillian Plank – Congressman Devin Nunes</p> <p>Kristina Dunklin – Congressman David Valadao</p> <p>Tim McIntyre - Congressman Paul Cook</p> <p>Lorenzo Rubalcava - Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez</p>



INFORMATION ITEM

January 18, 2016

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: **Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**
(Directors Barbre, Hinman & Tamaribuchi)

Robert Hunter
General Manager

Staff Contact: Jonathan Volzke

SUBJECT: **Update on 2016 High School Program**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors receive and file report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

DETAILED REPORT

The high school education program, in its first year, is on target at achieving the goals in the agreement between MWDOC and the Orange County Department of Education. As discussed below, however, one of the 20 initial schools declined to participate in the program and OCDE has faced challenges meeting with administrators in nine of the other schools.

The agreement calls for training 100 teachers; as of this month, 94 teachers have been trained in the first school semester alone.

The initial goal of the MWDOC partnership was to reach 25,000 students through 10 school sites. OC water agencies enthusiastically responded, with 20 schools signed up. One of the schools identified by a member agency however, Los Alisos Jr. High, declined to participate, leaving 19 targeted campuses.

Budgeted (Y/N): n/a	Budgeted amount:	Core x	Choice __
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

The number of students reached directly at this point is 1,489, but that is not indicative of a lack of progress toward the goal. These students are being trained as presenters for a peer-to-peer teaching opportunity that will come through school-wide water expos. The expos will allow the program to meet – and likely easily exceed – the 25,000-student goal called for in the agreement.

To date, the program is firmly embedded in nine high schools, and December/January saw great progress with OCDE making the necessary contacts in an additional five high schools – bringing the total to 14 of the targeted 19 campuses.

In recent discussions, OCDE officials are confident they will meet the program targets and goals by the end of the school year.

On the digital component, where OCDE has subcontracted to The Ecology Center of San Juan Capistrano, the Center's "The Water Effect" PSA has received 25,000 views. The program's total social media followers is 442.

Additionally, The Ecology Center's winter campaign – encompassing "The Water Effect" – is "Get Barreled," an effort with MWDOC to distribute 400 rain barrels.

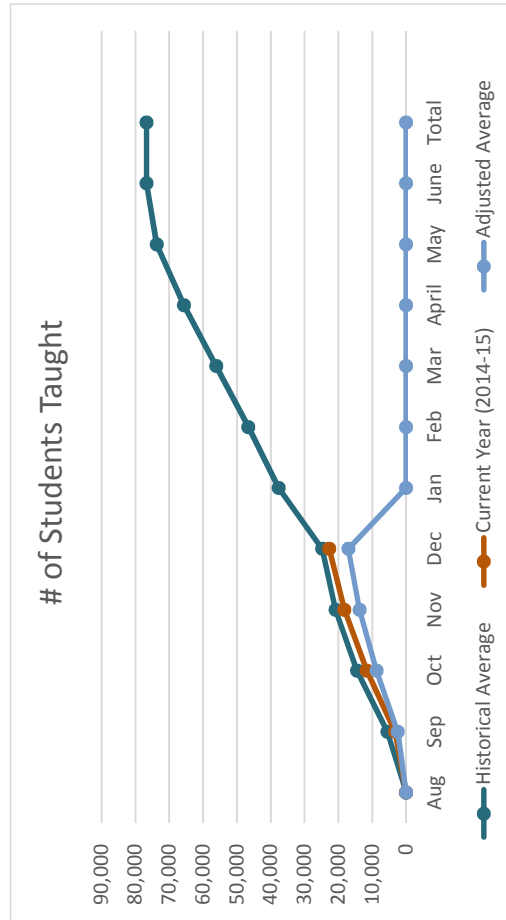
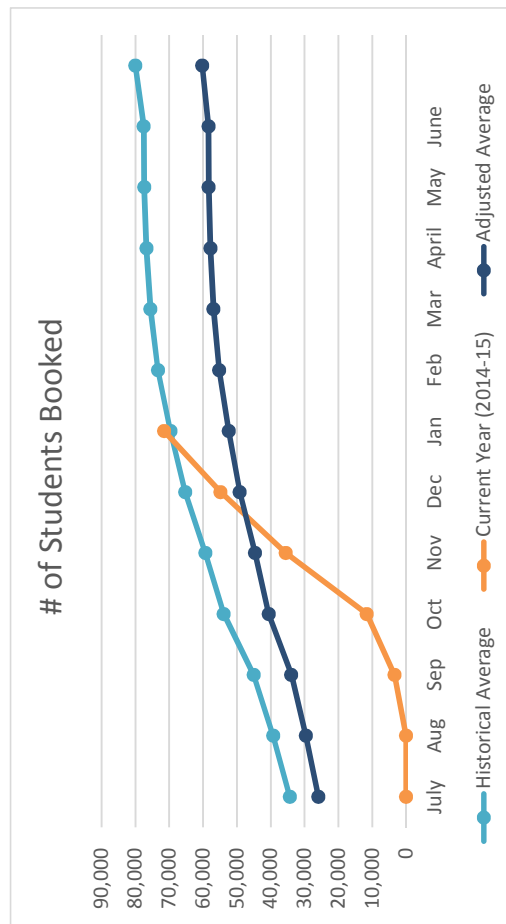
2015-16 Water Education School Program

of Students Booked

	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	Target
Historical Average	34,405	39,319	45,070	53,900	59,337	65,269	69,616	73,332	75,563	76,726	77,411	77,523	80,000
Adjusted Average	25,921	29,624	33,957	40,610	44,706	49,175	52,451	55,250	56,931	57,807	58,323	58,407	60,274
Current Year (2014-15)	0	0	3,446	11,640	35,603	54,842	71,525						60,274

of Students Taught

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	Total
Historical Average	0	5,526	14,522	20,838	24,823	37,676	46,625	56,093	65,692	73,691	76,705	80,000
Adjusted Average	0	2,489	8,771	13,748	17,105	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current Year (2014-15)	0	3,304	11,641	18,247	22,703							60,274



* Total is reduced from 80,000 because all participants receiving keypad program.



THE WATER EFFECT

QUARTERLY REPORT

PRESENTED BY



The
Ecology
Center

Page 40 of 45

Inside the Outdoors/The Ecology Center
Municipal Water District of Orange County
Quarterly Impact Report

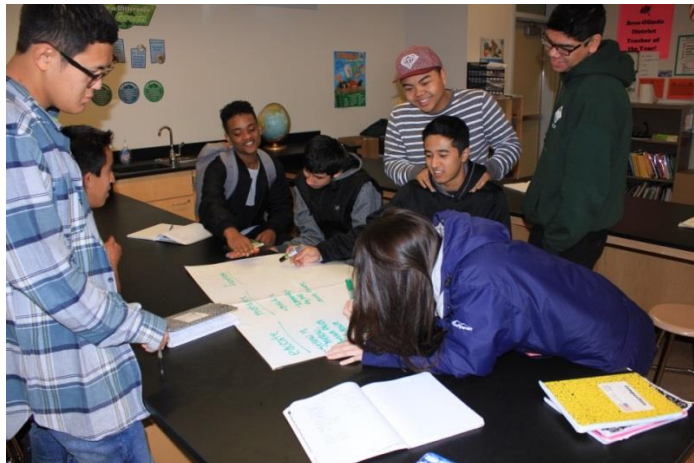
October – December 2015

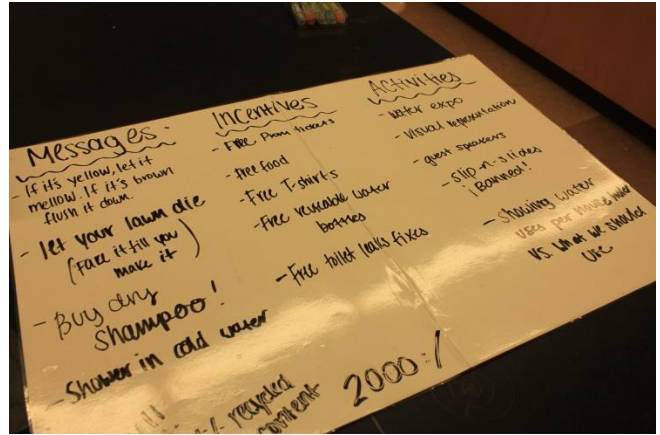
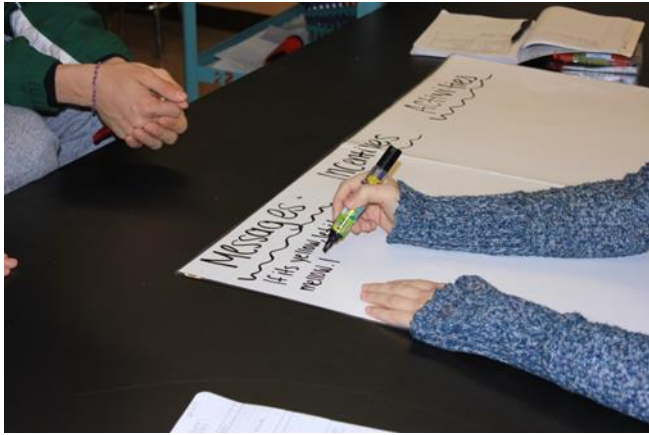
Total students served through school visits
1,489

- 1,181 – first visit
- 308 – second visit

9
Schools participating to date

9
Water Agencies participating to date





Quotes from Students

“What an impact it would make if we could shut off the water at school for a day and only have port-o-potties available so students understand what life would be like without water.”

-Student at Brea Olinda High School

Quotes from Teachers

“My students are engaged in the process and have come up with some great ideas to save water at school and at home.

-Andrea Ramos, Brea Olinda High School

“The drought is a hot topic this year. Our main focus is bringing the academic piece of The Water Effect program to students and seeing the innovative solutions they come up with.”

-Teacher at Laguna Beach High School

Other Milestones

- 3 teacher workshops have been held to date
- 94 teachers have attended workshops
- 442 “The Water Effect” Social Media Followers
- 134 “The Water Effect” pledges
- 12,738 #TheWaterEffect likes



The Water Effect - Inside the Outdoors School Visits Year 1 - 2015/2016									
Agency	High School	Intro Email	Admin. School Meeting	1st Visit - student	1st Visit Enrollment	2nd Visit - student	Enrollment	School Expo	Expo Enrollment
Anaheim	Anaheim High School	X	10/27/15	12/14/15	56	2/7/16		3/7/16	
Brea	Brea Olinda High School	X	9/8/15	12/1/15	174	12/15/15	191	5/19/15	
Buena Park	Buena Park High School	X							
East Orange	Foothill High School (shared with Tustin)	X	10/9/15	11/12/15	29	1/14/15		3/15/15	
El Toro	El Toro High School	X	10/6/15	11/16/15	12	pending		pending	
El Toro	Los Alisos Junior High	X	10/13/15	n/a		n/a		n/a	
Fountain Valley	Fountain Valley High School	X							
Garden Grove	Pacifica High School	X							
Golden State	Valencia High School	X	9/23/15	9/30/15	166	10/19/15	117	pending	
Golden State	Los Alamitos High School	X	9/15/15	pending		pending		pending	
Huntington Beach	Marina High School	X	1/11/16						
Laguna Beach	Laguna Beach High School	X	12/4/15	pending		pending		pending	
Mesa Water	Costa Mesa High School	X	9/23/15	11/17, 11/18	79	1/11, 1/12		pending	
Moulton Niguel	Capistrano Valley High School	X	11/2/15	12/7, 12/8	562	1/11, 1/12		2/22/16	
San Clemente	San Clemente High School	X	10/29/15	12/17/15	21	2/25/16		3/31/16	
San Juan Capistrano	San Juan Hills High School	X	11/19/15	pending		pending		pending	
Santa Ana	Santa Ana High School	X	pending						
Santa Margarita	Tesoro High School	X	9/30/15	pending		pending		pending	
South Coast	Dana Hills High School	X	11/2/15	11/19/15	82	3/29/16		5/31/15	
Tustin	Tustin High School (Foothill High School shared with EOCWD)	X	10/22/15	pending		pending		pending	
Teacher Workshop				8/26/15	11				
				11/7/15	24				
				12/11/15	59				

The Water Effect Impact Report December 2015 – The Ecology Center

Qualitative:

- In December, The Ecology Center facilitated the strategic transition of The Water Effect to a broader campaign designed not only to reach high schools, but that will engage entire communities: The Water Effect will become the main communications and marketing focus for The Ecology Center for the entire Winter quarter, we are in the process of entering into an agreement with MWDOC for the launch of a campaign called *Get Barreled* that will allow us to distribute 400 rain barrels to Orange County residents, and are partnering with the Surfrider Foundation for the distribution of water education and programming.

Quantitative:

Social Media

- Total Social Media Followers: 442 cumulative
- Total Hashtag mentions (#TheWaterEffect): 124 total to date
- Total Pledges (www.TheWaterEffect.one): 134
- #TheWaterEffect posts directly linked to our campaign were cumulatively “liked” by 12,738 people

The Water Effect PSA

- Received 25,000 views on Facebook to date, and re-shared 250 times on Facebook.