

MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY  
Jointly with the  
**PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**  
August 10, 2015, 8:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 101

Teleconference Site:  
20989 Park Lane  
Rollins, MT 59931  
(406) 844-2282

(Members of the Public may attend and participate in the meeting at both locations.)

**Committee:**

Director Barbre, Chairman  
Director Tamaribuchi  
Director Hinman

Staff: R. Hunter, K. Seckel, M. Tuchman,  
P. Meszaros, H. Baez

Ex Officio Member: L. Dick

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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 (Townsend)
  - c. County Legislative Report (Lewis)

- d. Legal and Regulatory Report (Ackerman)
  - e. MWDOC Legislative Matrix
  - f. Metropolitan Legislative Matrix (not available this month)
- 2. FUTURE DIRECTION OF OC WATER SUMMIT
  - 3. LAFCO MUNICIPAL SERVICES REVIEW OF ORANGE COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT AREA 7 SEWER SERVICES (oral report)

**ACTION ITEMS**

- 4. ADOPT LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS
  - a. H.R. 2689 (Walters) Clarify the Scope of Eligible Water Resources Projects Under the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 and the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014, and for other Purposes
  - b. S. 1894 (Feinstein) California Drought Relief Act of 2015

**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. INSPECTION TRIP SCHEDULE 2015-16
- 6. TRAVEL TO SACRAMENTO AND WASHINGTON D.C. THROUGH 2015
- 7. RECAP OF JULY 29, 2015 WATER POLICY DINNER
- 8. STATUS OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMS
- 9. SCHOOL PROGRAM PARTICIPATION REPORT
- 10. PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES 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.

**JAMES C. BARKER, PC**

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Nicholas Crockett  
Alia Cardwell

*Municipal Water District of Orange County, California  
Washington Update  
August 5, 2015*

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***The State of Play in Washington:***

As the House and the Senate begin further consideration of Federal California Drought legislation, the Congress has many challenges facing them when they return from the break in August.

During the month of September, The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee is slated to hold a hearing on the Drought Bill introduced by Senators Feinstein and Boxer (a summary of the legislation follows in this report). Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), the Chairwoman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, has said that she would like to pass a west wide drought bill and her committee is making preparations for such an effort.

The Chairman of the Committee has asked that the Feinstein Office begin discussions with key House Offices to try and come up with a compromise bill that could pass both the House and the Senate. Again, the California portion of the bill is likely to be part of a larger west wide drought relief bill.

After consultations with key staff in the House and the Senate, the key elements in a final bill will likely include the following principles:

1. Move more water through the Bay Delta.
2. Reform the Bureau of Reclamation Title XVI (16) Program which has become too cumbersome with today's congressional and federal agencies procedures.
3. Create more water storage in Northern California.
4. Provide more incentives for water districts to examine and ultimately build Ocean Water Desalination Projects.

The House has already gone into the August Recess and at press time the Senate will leave for the summer break later this week. Upon their return in September there will be many key issues to tackle.

Among the pressing issues that the Congress will have to deal with in short order are:

1. Passing a Continuing Resolution (CR) to fund Federal Government Agencies beyond the end of the fiscal year, by September 30, 2015. It is likely that the Congress will pass a CR in September to fund federal agencies into November or December and then resolve a pathway to passing a larger Omnibus Appropriations Bill for the entire fiscal year in the late fall.
2. Congress was able to pass a short term extension of the Highway and Transit Authorization bill last week that will allow those programs to receive federal funds until the end of October. This extension was the 34<sup>th</sup> such extension to put things in context. The Senate passed its “regular long term” bill last week—a three year transportation authorization bill, while the House has yet to move their bill through Committee. The vexing issue for Congress has been how to “pay for” the highway and transit program—inasmuch as the Highway Trust Fund (federal gasoline tax) which was set in the early 1990’s can no longer sustain the inflationary pressures of the growth in national infrastructure needs. The Congress has been unwilling to increase the federal gasoline tax for fear of being criticized by the electorate for raising taxes.
3. There will be just 12 workdays in September before the new fiscal year begins on October 1<sup>st</sup>.
4. Congress will need to pass a law governing the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) also by the end of September.
5. Congress has been studying criminal justice reform—reducing the length of prison sentences—but getting time of the Congressional calendars, especially in the Senate, is difficult to do. This issue may be pushed off until later in the fall or next year.
6. Perhaps the biggest challenge deals with the extension of the “federal debt limit”, which many Members and Key Staffers see as being resolved when an agreement is reached on the overall spending levels in the Federal Budget and the Appropriations process for the coming fiscal year. Generally speaking, House and Senate Democrats, with the support of the President, have sought to “break through the discretionary spending levels set by the Budget Control Act” which were set in the bottom of the great recession—as a way to slow down federal government spending. Democrats argue now that we are “out of the great recession” and it is time for the federal government to meet current funding needs—whether the numbers fall within the “discretionary caps” or not. This issue even goes to the amount of funding that the Bureau of Reclamation receives, because it is part of the “discretionary budget”.

Republicans generally argue that we have to make the best of the tax revenue we receive and we shouldn’t go into further national debt to pay for discretionary programs at the federal level. One of the exceptions in this line of thinking for the Republicans is defense and national security spending.

7. Western Drought issues will have to be considered in the mix with these other national issues.

Below is a summary of the Senator Feinstein Drought Bill. While Senator Boxer is listed as an original Cosponsor, most observers see this legislation as a distinct work product of the Feinstein office. I have purposefully not included a review of the Huffman/Boxer Drought legislation because the key House and Senate Committee Leaders have already signaled that their legislation will not be seriously considered during this session of Congress. The Valadao and Feinstein bills are the key drought bills under consideration in the Congress. There will be a major effort to pass a compromised bill before adjournment this coming fall.

During this process, in both the House with the Valadao bill, and in the Senate with the Feinstein bill, MWDOC was consulted and offered numerous recommendations and suggestions regarding this legislation.

Of particular interest, our own Desalination Project is listed twice under two slightly different names in the Feinstein bill, an interesting side note.

Another footnote regarding the Feinstein Bill. It authorizes many new federal programs, and grant programs—into the hundreds of millions of dollars. It remains to be seen if the Congress—though it may pass authorizations for such new or reformed programs—will in the future—follow up and actually fund the programs through the annual appropriations process. On the federal level, there is the two stage funding process—first the “authorization” and then, second, the “appropriation”. The Feinstein bill provides the authorization to fund water programs but Congress would still need to appropriate the federal monies for the programs in the future.

### **The California Emergency Drought Relief Act of 2015**

The bill includes a range of provisions with the goals of moving and creating water long-term to help those communities suffering the worst effects of the drought, while remaining completely compliant with environmental laws such as the *Endangered Species Act* and *Clean Water Act* as well as all biological opinions.

#### **Assistance for drought-stricken communities**

Many rural and disadvantaged communities throughout California are at risk of running out of clean water. Approximately 2,091 wells are already dry or will soon run dry, endangering thousands of families. As more wells and other water supplies dry up, the federal government has an obligation to step up and help those communities and families.

- Creates a new USDA program to help stabilize water supplies for rural and disadvantaged communities with fewer than 10,000 residents. Larger communities may also qualify if they have experienced a significant decline in quantity or quality of drinking water. Funds can be

used for both short-term solutions (such as bottled water deliveries) and long-term solutions (such as water treatment systems). *Rep. Huffman introduced similar legislation that provides increased funding for the USDA's emergency grant program.*

- Prioritizes State Revolving Funds for communities most at risk of running out of water. By directing funds to these communities most at risk, the Act provides the State with the tools necessary to provide water for public health and safety and to increase drought resiliency.

### **Desalination**

*Major desalination projects like the \$1 billion Poseidon plant in Carlsbad (which will soon generate enough water to supply 300,000 San Diego County residents) prove that new technology is quickly making desalination a viable option for many communities. The Feinstein bill would enable the federal government to help support desalination projects and research, with the goal of further reducing costs and environmental impacts.*

- *The bill identifies 26 desalination projects throughout California capable of producing more than 330,000 acre-feet of water per year.*
- *Reauthorizes the Desalination Act and authorizes \$50 million over five years for feasibility and design for both sea and brackish water desalination projects. Senator Boxer also introduced legislation that would reauthorize the Desalination Act, but at lower funding levels.*
- *Reauthorizes the Desalination Act and authorizes \$50 million over five years for desalination research projects, such as improving existing reverse osmosis and membrane technology, reducing the environmental effects of seawater desalination and developing next-generation technologies to reduce the cost of desalination. This is similar to a provision in a bill introduced by Senator Boxer.*

### **Storage projects**

Given the consensus that droughts will grow more severe and the storms that follow more devastating, storing water during wet years for use in dry years is vital. The severity of this drought has highlighted the inadequacy of California's reservoir capacity. The bill takes steps to promote the building of new reservoirs or increasing the capacity of existing reservoirs.

- Establishes deadlines for the Bureau of Reclamation to complete feasibility studies to allow Calfed storage projects to compete for Proposition 1 bond funds.
- Authorizes \$600 million for Calfed water storage projects, which may include both federal projects (Shasta) and non-federal projects (Sites, Temperance Flat, Los Vaqueros).
- Updates Army Corps dam operations to increase water supply while reducing flood risk. Rep. Huffman introduced legislation with a similar program.

### **Water recycling**

Major advancements have been made in the field of water recycling. Orange County Water District, for example, recently completed an expansion of its water reuse facility to provide more than 100 million gallons per day. As communities continue to conserve water, more can be done to

support these projects.

- The bill identifies 105 potential recycling projects with the ability to produce almost 854,000 acre-feet of water. *This provision expands upon the list of water-recycling projects included in legislation introduced by Rep. McNerney.*
- Authorizes \$200 million in increased funds for the Bureau of Reclamation's water recycling and reuse program (Title XVI) to help fund projects to reclaim and reuse wastewaters and naturally impaired ground and surface water. This provision would also remove the congressional requirement for the authorization of specific projects. This provision is similar to legislation introduced by Rep. Matsui.

### **Conservation and groundwater recharge**

Communities throughout California are subject to mandatory conservation rates as high as 35 percent. As consumers do more to save water, there are additional steps that can be taken by government and the agriculture industry.

- Facilitates increased agricultural conservation and groundwater recharge. This provision authorizes Interior and other water users to pay irrigators to install drip irrigation or other technologies to conserve water, and receive in return the majority of the water conserved. A portion of the saved water must be used for groundwater recharge.
- Authorizes an EPA program to label water-efficient products for consumers. *Senator Boxer also introduced a bill that authorizes the same EPA program.*
- Requires water conservation projects at California military installations.
- Authorizes a Department of the Interior program to establish an open system with data on water quality, climate and weather effects and erosion. Senator Boxer introduced a bill that authorizes the same program.

### **Additional funding programs**

By providing funds for the most cost-effective federal programs, Washington can help state and local agencies leverage existing dollars into larger projects.

- **Loan guarantees:** Authorizes \$200 million for the *Reclamation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (RIFIA)*. This loan-guarantee program will allow water districts and municipalities to leverage loans and loan guarantees for water projects, reducing repayment loan costs by as much as 25 percent. This is modeled after TIFIA, a successful loan-guarantee program for transportation projects. *Senator Boxer and Rep. Huffman have introduced legislation with a similar program.*
- **WaterSMART:** Authorizes \$100 million in increased funds for the Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART program to help finance water reclamation and reuse projects as well as water efficiency initiatives. *Rep. Huffman has introduced similar legislation that increases funding for WaterSMART.* This provision would also create a new grant program for integrated regional water management, reclamation and recycling, with a maximum federal contribution up to \$20 million or 25 percent of a project's cost.
- **Bureau of Reclamation funds:** Additional long-term funding of \$150 million per year



beginning in fiscal year 2026 for storage, water recycling and desalination projects, financed out of the annual surplus in the Reclamation Fund in the U.S. Treasury.

### **Research and innovation**

Making sure the newest and most cost-effective technology is available will continue to address the worst effects of the drought. Supporting and utilizing the latest science is a key goal of the bill.

- Authorizes \$35 million in grants for technological innovations for companies that devise innovative solutions in areas such as water metering, well-monitoring, on-site recycling and stormwater capture.

### **Protecting endangered and threatened fish and wildlife**

There are a number of short-term, low-cost proposals to protect and assist in the protection and recovery of fish populations including salmon and smelt.

- **Endangered Species Act recovery plan:** Authorizes \$20 million to begin implementation of NMFS' *Endangered Species Act* recovery plan, a tool to provide habitat and flow restoration throughout the Sacramento and San Joaquin basins.
- **Trapping and barging:** Authorizes \$3 million to trap and barge fish to reduce mortality rates on migration through the Delta. *Rep. Huffman has a provision on barging hatchery fish.*
- **Predator species:** Addresses key stressors on fish populations including limiting invasive species like striped bass and removing predator habitat, to be paid for by participating water districts. *Rep. Valadao and Rep. Denham introduced legislation with a similar provision.*
- **Spawning habitat:** Authorizes \$4 million to create additional spawning habitat.
- **Water system management:** Authorizes \$11.5 million for federal agencies to manage the water system more precisely using updated science and tools, including smelt distribution studies and refined temperature models. *Rep. Huffman includes a provision on updated forecasting and temperature models.*
- **Actions to benefit refuges:** Authorizes \$2 million annually for five years for improved conveyance of water to refuges to help restore and protect critical wetland habitat for wildlife refuges, one of the goals of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act.

### **Moving water to communities that need it most**

Provisions in the bill to help move water efficiently to those areas where it is most needed were carefully drafted to remain consistent with environmental laws including the *Endangered Species Act* and the *Clean Water Act*, as well as all biological opinions.

These provisions, closely based on the 2014 Feinstein/Boxer legislation that was unanimously approved by the Senate, include changes limited to additional environmental and water rights protections and the removal of several controversial provisions.

### **Environmental protections added to 2014 bill:**

- **Adhering to environmental law:** Makes clear that all actions in the bill must be taken
- Consistent with law and that none of the provisions violate the *Endangered Species Act*, the Clean Water Act, biological opinions, the Central Valley Improvement Act or state law.
- **Water transfers:** Water transfers between sellers and buyers help stretch California's water supplies in dry times. The bill includes a provision to allow limited Delta water transfers in April and May so communities and farms can make up for reduced deliveries. Specifically, the bill allows transfers to occur under certain circumstances at a 1:1 ratio. The provision includes significant safeguards:
  - The agencies may only use the 1:1 ratio for transfers if it avoids adverse effects on endangered species not considered by the biological opinions.
  - The water covered by the 1:1 ratio must be additional flow on top of the regular flow of the river. Any environmental effects of transferred water must be permissible under applicable law.
  - National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (the agencies that implement the *Endangered Species Act*), in providing technical assistance on the bill, have stated that these safeguards ensure the provision is in compliance with environmental laws and biological opinions.
- **Environmental review:** A requirement in the 2014 bill for 30-day environmental reviews of water transfers and installation/removal of temporary barriers was eliminated. Instead, these reviews must take place within "the shortest practicable time period."
- **Water rights:** The bill includes additional provisions to protect water rights.

**Provisions from 2014 Senate bill to help move water to areas that most need it:**

- **Pumping levels:** Any time more water is pumped from the Delta, that pumping must remain consistent with the *Endangered Species Act* and biological opinions. This will allow for more water to be pumped to those who most need it while protecting endangered and threatened species.
- **Monitoring for smelt:** During periods when water turbidity is high and smelt are likely to move near pumps, scientists must daily monitor for the presence of the fish. Pumps may only run at high levels when smelt are not present. *This language is similar to language in a bill introduced by Rep. Valadao.*
- **Reviewing transfers and barriers:** Environmental reviews of water transfers and the installation and removal of temporary barriers will be expedited. These reviews will ensure these actions are consistent with environmental laws. This language is similar to language in a bill introduced by Rep. Valadao.
- **Cross-Channel Gates:** Delta Cross-Channel Gates may only be opened for additional time if doing so remains consistent with water quality-related orders issued by the State Water Resources Control Board. This language is similar to language in a bill introduced by Rep. Valadao.
- **Water transfers:** Water transfers sent into the Delta in April and May can only be withdrawn

at a 1:1 ratio if the transfers adhere to environmental law and biological opinions. The water covered by the 1:1 ratio must be additional flow on top of the regular flow of the river, and the environmental effects of the transferred water must be permissible under applicable law. This language is similar to language in a bill introduced by Rep. Valadao.

## **General News Items and Political Updates of Interest**

### ***Presidential Nomination Updates:***

For the Democrats, Hillary Clinton and Senator Bernie Sanders are actively seeking and have formally declared for the Democratic nomination and Vice President Joe Biden is giving serious consideration to a run for the Presidency. Of note, Hillary Clinton has seen her positive “favorability ratings” fall in recent months to 43% Favorable, and 48% Unfavorable.

On the Republican side, the first GOP Presidential Debate will be this Thursday evening at 6:00pm ET on Fox News channels.

Fox News is allowing the top ten candidates with the highest polling numbers to participate in the debate. Trump leads the pack with 23% and Governor Christie brings up the tail end with 2-3%. The ten men who will participate in the debate are: Trump, Bush, Walker, Carson, Huckabee, Rubio, Paul, Cruz, Kasich, and Christie.

*JCB 8-4-15*

**To: Municipal Water District of Orange County**  
**From: Townsend Public Affairs, Inc.**  
**Date: August 3, 2015**  
**Subject: Monthly Political and Activity Report**

### **State Political Update**

On July 17<sup>th</sup>, the Legislature adjourned for summer recess and will return on August 17<sup>th</sup>. Prior to the adjournment, the focus in the State Capitol was on moving legislation through policy committees in advance of the July 17<sup>th</sup> second house policy committee deadline. Once the Legislature returns, bills will need to be considered by fiscal committees by August 28<sup>th</sup>, which is the deadline for fiscal bills to move to the floor. September 11<sup>th</sup> is the last day for any bills to be passed by the Legislature, as they will adjourn session until January on that day. The Governor will then have until October 11<sup>th</sup> to act on any pending legislation.

In addition to completing work on the hundreds of bills still pending before the Legislature, the Governor has called two special sessions to deal with issues that were not resolved during the budget process: transportation infrastructure funding and health care financing. It is anticipated that the Legislature will attempt to move through legislation in these special sessions during the final weeks of session, though there is not currently consensus on how to address the outstanding issues.

### **Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP)**

In response to comments received on the Draft Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS), the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation are no longer proposing the original BDCP plan. Instead, they have made modifications to the project plan and have released a draft EIR/EIS for Alternative 4a which includes changes or modifications in sections that necessitate additional public review according to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Quality Act (NEQA). Alternative 4a includes two components: California WaterFix and California EcoRestore. California WaterFix is a state of the art two-tunnel water delivery system that will modernize California's aging water delivery system, as well as provide over 15,000 acres of Delta restoration and protection. California EcoRestore creates a program that aims to restore and protect more than 30,000 acres of Delta habitat, funded partially by Proposition 1. Instead of a 50 year Habitat Conservation Program as proposed in Alternative 4, California EcoRestore will address critical Delta habitat restoration over the next five years. Alternative 4a essentially split up Alternative 4 into two components and scaled back the environmental duties. On July 22<sup>nd</sup>, DWR and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation announced a 60

day extension on the public comment period for the EIR/EIS. The public comment period will now close on October 30<sup>th</sup> which gives the public and government agencies more time to look over and comment on changes that were made to the plan.

### **Drought Update**

#### *AB 1164 (Gatto) Water Conservation: Drought Tolerant Landscaping*

This bill, would prohibit cities and counties from enacting or enforcing any ordinance or regulation that prohibits the installation of synthetic grass or artificial turf on residential property. In addition, this bill also appropriates \$300 million over three years from the General Fund to provide matching funds incentives to residents to replace water inefficient landscaping with drought tolerant landscaping. This bill is currently in the Senate Appropriations Committee and has until August 28<sup>th</sup> to be passed to the Senate floor. AB 1164 is scheduled to be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 17 at which time it will likely be moved to the Suspense File. While on Suspense, it is likely that the bill will be amended to decrease the amount of money appropriated from the General Fund. The bill then will be heard again, when the Senate Appropriations Committee considers the entire Suspense File, currently scheduled for August 27. At that hearing the bill will either be passed to the Senate Floor or will be held in committee and ineligible for consideration until next January.

### **State Water Use: June 2015**

Californians reduced their water use by 27.3 percent in the month of June, exceeding the 25 percent target the Governor mandated. This is a slight decrease from the 29.1 percent Californians saved in the month of May despite being the hottest June on record. Of the 405 water suppliers who reported, 65 percent met or were within one percent of their conservation goal while 31 percent were between one and 15 percent of their target. Local enforcement data indicated:

- 43,942 water waste complaints were reported statewide
- 35,295 formal warnings were issued for water waste statewide
- 9,582 penalties were issued statewide

Yorba Linda Water District (YLWD) was among the top performers in June's conservation efforts, and even received a mention from the State Water Resources Control Board. In June, YLWD implemented Stage 3 of its drought ordinance which resulted in a 38 percent reduction of use, as compared with 2013 numbers.

### **Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance**

Governor Brown's executive order B-29-15 of April 1, 2015 directed the Department of Water Resources to update the State's Model Use Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO) through expedited regulation. MWELO specifically addresses five items in its revision:

- More efficient irrigation systems
- Greywater usage
- Onsite stormwater capture
- Limiting the percentage of turf planted in landscapes



- Requiring reporting on the implementation and enforcement of the ordinance by local agencies

DWR released a public draft of the revised ordinance on June 12 and requested input from stakeholder groups and trade organizations. DWR received comments from approximately 170 individuals, companies, and organizations. After revisions were made to the public draft, DWR re-released a new version on July 9. The following is a brief summary of the effects of the MWELO, based on the July 9 edits.

#### Landscape Size Threshold

- Reduced the square footage above which landscape projects are subject to the ordinance from 2500 sq. ft. to 500 sq. ft. for new residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional projects
- Includes a prescriptive checklist option for compliance for landscapes fewer than 2500 sq. ft.
  - The checklist specifies key items that must be installed, but does not require soil tests, irrigation audits, and grading plans which would significantly reduce compliance costs

#### Efficient Irrigation Systems

- Flow sensor requirement changed to only require flow sensors for landscape areas over 5000 sq. ft.
- DWR proposed that all irrigation emission devices meet the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers/International Code Council's 802-2014 landscape and irrigation sprinkler and emitter standard
  - Sprinklers must have a low quarter distribution uniformity over 0.65, which will ensure that only high efficiency sprinklers are installed

#### Graywater Usage

- Greywater systems shall conform to the California Plumbing Code (Title 24, Part 5, Chapter 16) and any applicable local ordinance standards.
- Landscapes that are under 2500 sq. ft. and irrigated only with graywater or captured rainwater are not subject to the entire ordinance, but have to meet a simple irrigation checklist

#### Onsite Stormwater Capture

- All planted landscapes are required to have friable soil to maximize water retention and infiltration
- DWR encourages the implementation of best management practices

#### Turf Percentage Limitations

- The irrigation percentage of drip has been defined as 0.81 and 0.75 for overhead spray
- Water allowance for residential landscapes has been set at 0.55 of reference evapotranspiration and 0.45 for nonresidential or institutional landscapes
- Median strips cannot be landscaped by high water use plants



- Requires the irrigation of areas under ten feet wide by subsurface irrigation or other means that produces no runoff or overspray
  - This was a change from the previous draft which explicitly prohibited turf in medians and parkways not providing access to vehicles

### Reporting

- DWR has mandated reporting of the implementation and enforcement of MWELO
- Existing regional ordinances will remain in effect until February 1, 2016
  - This was a change from the previous draft that required adoption by December 31, 2015
  - Local agencies that have adopted a regional ordinance still have to report by December 31, 2015 and state they are revising an existing ordinance
  - March 1, 2016 is the deadline to report to DWR on the adopted regional ordinance
  - Reporting is required by January 31 of every year



# The County of Orange Report

August 10, 2015  
By Lewis Consulting Group

## **Proposed Constitutional Amendment Could Block Governor's Water Tunnels**

On June 17, wealthy Central Valley interests submitted a proposed Constitutional Amendment to the State's Attorney General's office for title and summary, kicking off the first step of what promises to be an important and controversial ballot fight.

Under current law, California bonds that will tap the state's general fund in excess of \$2 billion must be approved by a vote of the people. However, revenue bonds which propose to be paid off by tolls or fees, etc. are not subject to the same vote requirement. This measure would impose the same \$2 billion threshold on revenue bonds. Although this measure would effect a minimal number of projects it could ultimately lead to voter turn downs of two high profile projects in California, the Governor's Water Tunnel Plan the High Speed Rail proposal (bullet train).

Two of the supporters of this Constitutional Amendment, Dean and Joan Cortopassi have already donated \$3 million to this effort which should insure its ballot qualification. The Cortopassis' have a long history of opposition to both the peripheral canal and now the governor's tunnel proposal.

The measure is titled the "No Blank Checks" initiative. After the Attorney General's process is complete, the measure is transmitted to the Secretary of State's office which will set a calendar of qualification deadlines. As part of that process, the initiative supporters will have 150 days to collect approximately 800,000 valid registered voters signatures.

## **Orange County Political Update – Dunn's Not Done**

Former State Senator Joe Dunn is apparently entering the fray in the 46<sup>th</sup> Congressional District seat for the right to succeed Loretta Sanchez.

After his service in the State Senate, Dunn was, until recently, the Chief Executive of the California State Bar.

Dunn, like former Senator Lou Correa and current Anaheim Councilman Jordan Brandman will be a formidable candidate. As the race continues to swell with Democrat candidates, Republicans will start hoping for the perfect storm of ballot splitting, whereby if two GOP candidates ended up being the top two vote getters, only they would be on the November ballot thanks to California's top two primary system.



## **New Survey Reveals Attitudes on “Drought Water Policy and Global Warming”**

A new statewide survey conducted by the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) and completed on July 21 shows Californians are very concerned about our drought and believe global climate change is a contributing factor.

In this most recent poll, 68% of adult Californians believe the supply of water in our state is a big problem. This is virtually unchanged from the 69% who answered similarly in May. Only 12% responded “not much of a problem”.

Overall, 52% of Californians still believe that Californians in their part of the state are NOT doing enough to respond to the current drought in our state. 35% believes their district doing the right amount of response, while 7% believe they are doing too much. Also, 46% believe Governor Brown’s 25% reduction imposed on cities and towns is the right level, while an additional 36% think the cutbacks should be even greater.

30% of respondents and 44% of homeowners claim to know the amount of water usage reduction required by their local water district. In a follow up question asked of only those 30%, more than half, 52%, believed it was the right amount while 23% said it was not enough and 20% said it was too much.

52% of Californians believe global warming is a very serious threat to California’s future. Another 27% believe it is a somewhat serious threat. As part of that threat, 64% believe global warming has contributed to California’s current drought.

Finally, as a result of these beliefs, Californians are supportive of big changes. 69% favor reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020 and 73% favor reducing petroleum use by 50% in cars and trucks by 2030.

For this survey 1,702 adult Californians were interviewed. Among them 1,356 are registered voters and 1,064 likely voters. A survey of 1,702 adults yields a margin of error of +/- 3.7% with a 95% confidence level.

## **County Labor Negotiating Plan Still in Force**

A bold approach to labor negotiations approved last year by the Board of Supervisors is still in affect after an attempt to suspend the ordinance was continued to the August 25 Board meeting due to an absence of one Supervisor and the item would need approval of 4 of the 5 Board members.

The ordinance known as COIN, Civic Openness In Negotiations, was the brainchild of former Supervisor, now State Senator John Moorlach. Among other things COIN mandates that all labor contract offers and counteroffers in negotiations be publicly disclosed. Supporters of this concept believe its implementation would have the effect of placing a lid on burgeoning costs of public employee pay and benefits.

However, local labor groups argued that the mere implementation of the COIN law was violative of the state’s Meyers-Milias-Brown Act which governs much of California’s labor negotiating law.

The California Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) recently ruled against the County declaring COIN violates California labor law. The County is appealing the decision.

New county counsel Leon Page urged the County to suspend the COIN law.

# ACKERMAN CONSULTING

## Legal and Regulatory

August 10, 2015

1. **World Aquifer Condition:** A research team, led by hydrologists from UC Irvine, has been studying the world's 37 major aquifers between 2003 and 2013. Of those, 21 have declined and 13 are labeled as highly stressed or worse. Many are in highly farmed areas such as California's Central Valley. Others are in highly populated areas including India and Arabia. The surveys are using NASA satellites and the most accurate scientific methods available. Groundwater is the primary source of water for about 2 billion people worldwide. The ability to measure this resource is the first step to better management according to the scientists.
2. **Polling Results:** A new AP poll gives us new information about people's views on water. Two thirds of Americans think that water is a limited resource as opposed to a renewable one. Seventy percent believe government should place limits on personal and business use of water. Seventy five percent believe agriculture should be a top priority for water use. A narrow majority felt wildlife and the environment should be a high priority. Eighty percent answered that government should limit development in areas that did not have an adequate source of water.
3. **Growing Problem of Leaks:** Older areas such as San Diego are experiencing greater calls for service as a result of older systems. San Diego has received over 10,000 calls regarding water leaks in the last 12 months. This is a dramatic increase due to education and people becoming more aware and engaged. Their oldest service call was for a main installed 104 years ago. The system has more than 3,000 miles of pipes. This budget year, they will repair or replace 30 miles.
4. **Drought vs Outdoor Dining:** Outdoor diners at a Glendale café are getting their orders with sand and dirt. The area around the café has been removing grass and replacing it with sand, rocks and drought tolerant plants. Unfortunately, when the winds come up, patrons are getting peppered with grit and other particles from the new landscaping. In addition to this side detriment, the lack of grass is being noticed by residents who use to relax in those areas. The owners and patrons are longing for the good old days.
5. **Drought vs Politics:** As a result of the drought and increased public awareness, politicians (not just the Governor) at all levels are taking a more aggressive role in water policy. Lt Governor Gavin Newsom is teaming up the Silicon Valley Singularity University to encourage entrepreneurs around the world to seek solutions to California's water problems. The University funded by Google and others is located at NASA Research Park in Mountain View. The program sets up venture capitalists, scientists, business start-ups and educators to solve problems, in this case our extended drought. LA Mayor Eric Garcetti is pushing water solutions for his City and is featured in radio ads stressing conservation and water education.

6. **Global Warming Poll:** A recent poll conducted by Public Policy Institute of California showed two thirds of Californians believe the drought is caused by global warming (not climate change). This is in direct conflict with the NOAA report which said the drought is not caused by global warming (or climate change) but by natural climate variability.
7. **Eco-friendly Development:** The drought has put much more emphasis on new development being more eco-friendly and water wise. A new project being proposed in Reedley, California is employing: smaller lots and units, walkable retail, solar power, drought tolerant yards, wastewater systems, attached office units and state of the art plumbing features and materials. Some, including a manager from UC Irvine, question the projections. Net zero energy projections are easy to calculate but more difficult to achieve in real life.
8. **Supreme Court on Water Rates:** The California Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal of the San Juan Capistrano rate case. The ruling stated that the City violated Proposition 218 in establishing its tiered rate policy. The key legal component was that the Court of Appeals “published” its decision which made it applicable to the entire state. If the opinion were not “published”, then it would apply only to San Juan Capistrano. The appeal asked the Supreme Court to de-publish the decision which it refused to do.
9. **\$1.5 Million Fine:** The State Water Resources Control Board, to show its seriousness, levied a \$1.5 million fine against the Byron-Bethany Irrigation District in the Central Valley. The District continued to pump water after it was told to stop by the Board. The Districts water right date back to pre-1914 and is headed to court. The Board has sent out over 9000 notices to cut back or stop pumping. The District serves primarily agricultural uses.
10. **Turf Removal Backlash:** Many water districts have not jumped on the turf removal bandwagon. Two large districts, East Bay Municipal Utility District and Santa Clara Valley Water District are challenging the wisdom of paying people to remove grass. They question the cost benefit and even any real benefit to the artificial grass. They are leaning to education and use of other drought tolerant alternatives. They also argue the money spent could be used more beneficially elsewhere.



## Municipal Water District of Orange County Priority Legislation

BILL	AUTHOR	HIGH PRIORITY	SUMMARY	LATEST ACTION	POLICY AREA	MWDOC POSITION	OTHER POSITIONS
Proposed Legislation							
AB 1	Brown [D]		<b>Drought: local governments: fines.</b> Would prohibit a city, county, or city and county from imposing a fine under any local maintenance ordinance or other relevant ordinance for a failure to water a lawn or having a brown lawn during a period for which the Governor has issued a proclamation of a state of emergency based on drought conditions.	<u>7/13/15</u> Signed by the Governor	Local Water Resource	Support	
AB 10	Gatto [D]		<b>Political Reform Act of 1974: economic interest disclosures.</b> Would increase the thresholds at which a public official has a disqualifying financial interest in sources of income from \$500 to \$1,000, in investments in business entities from \$2,000 to \$5,000, and in interests in real property from \$2,000 to \$10,000. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	<u>7/14/15</u> Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.	Governance		ACWA - Favor
AB 149	Chavez [R]		<b>Urban water management plans.</b> The Urban Water Management Planning Act requires an urban water supplier to submit to the Department of Water Resources a copy of its urban water management plan and requires the department to prepare and submit to the Legislature, on or before December 31, in the years ending in 6 and 1, a report summarizing the status of plans adopted pursuant to the act. This bill, commencing January 1, 2017, would instead require an urban water supplier to update its plan at least once every 5 years on or before December 31 in years ending in 6 and one. The bill would instead require the department to submit its report to the Legislature, on or before December 31, in years ending in 7 and two.	<u>7/16/15</u> Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 49, Statutes of 2015.	Governance	Support	ACWA - Favor MET-Support
AB 291 (2 year bill)	Medina [D]		<b>California Environmental Quality Act: local agencies: notice of determination: water.</b> Would authorize a local agency, for certain water projects, to file the notice with the county clerk of the county in which the local agency's principal office is located in lieu of the county clerk of each county in which the project is located and would, if the local agency exercises this authorization, require the local agency to file the notice with the Office of Planning and Research. This bill contains other existing laws.	<u>7/17/15</u> Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was E.Q. on 6/10/2015)	Governance	Support	ACWA - Support MET-Support
AB 300	Alejo [D]		<b>Safe Water and Wildlife Protection Act of 2015.</b> Would enact the Safe Water and Wildlife Protection Act of 2015, which would require the State Coastal Conservancy to establish and coordinate the Algal Bloom Task Force, in consultation with the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency, and would prescribe the composition and functions and duties of the task force. The bill would require the task force to review the risks and negative impacts of toxic blooms and microcystin pollution and to submit a summary of its findings and recommendations to the secretary by January 1, 2017.	<u>7/16/15</u> From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 7. Noes 0.) (July 15). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.	Water Quality		



## Municipal Water District of Orange County Priority Legislation

<b>AB 307 (SPOT)</b>	<b>Mathis [R]</b>		<b>Graywater: groundwater recharge.</b> Would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to explicitly permit the usage of residential, commercial, and industrial graywater for the recharge of a groundwater basin or aquifer.	<b><u>Failed Deadline pursuant to rule 61(a)(3)</u></b>	Local Water Resource		
<b>AB 308 (SPOT)</b>	<b>Mathis [R]</b>		<b>Graywater: agricultural use.</b> Would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to explicitly permit incorporated and unincorporated communities to sell graywater for agricultural purposes and agriculture to use graywater for agricultural purposes.	<b><u>Failed Deadline pursuant to rule 61(a)(3)</u></b>	Local Water Resource		
<b>AB 311 (2 Year Bill)</b>	<b>Gallagher [R]</b>		<b>Environmental quality: Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014.</b> Would require the public agency, in certifying the environmental impact report and in granting approvals for specified water storage projects funded, in whole or in part, by Proposition 1, including the concurrent preparation of the record of proceedings and the certification of the record of proceeding within 5 days of the filing of a specified notice, to comply with specified procedures. Because a public agency would be required to comply with those new procedures, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.	<b>5/1/2015</b> Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 4/28/2015)	Local Water Resource		<b>ACWA - Not Favor</b> Unless Amended
<b>AB 349</b>	<b>Gonzalez [D]</b>		<b>Common interest developments: property use and maintenance.</b> Current law makes void and unenforceable any provision of the governing documents or architectural or landscaping guidelines or policies in a common interest development declaration that prohibits use of low water-using plants, or prohibits or restricts compliance with water-efficient landscape ordinances or regulations on the use of water, as specified. This bill would also make void and unenforceable any provision of the governing documents or architectural or landscaping guidelines or policies that prohibits use of low water-using landscapes that require not more than a specified amount of water. This bill contains other existing laws.	<b>7/16/15</b> From committee: Amend, and do pass as amended. (Ayes 7. Noes 0.) (July 14).	Water Use Efficiency		<b>ACWA- Favor</b>
<b>AB 356 (2 year bill)</b>	<b>Williams [D]</b>		<b>Oil and gas: groundwater monitoring.</b> Would authorize the State Oil and Gas Supervisor to require a well operator to implement a monitoring program for belowground oil production tanks and facilities, and disposal and injection wells. Because a failure to comply with this requirement would be a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	<b>7/17/15</b> Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was INACTIVE FILE on 6/11/2015)	Local Water Resource		<b>ACWA - Favor</b>



## Municipal Water District of Orange County Priority Legislation

AB 434	Garcia, E [D]		<b>Drinking water: point-of-entry and point-of-use treatment.</b> Would specifically make the emergency regulations adopted by the State Department of Public Health before January 1, 2014, operative and would require that the emergency regulations remain in effect until repealed or amended by the State Water Resources Control Board. The bill would authorize the State Water Resources Control Board to award a grant for point-of-entry and point-of-use treatment, in lieu of centralized treatment, by a public water system that meets certain requirements. This bill contains other related provisions.	<u>7/9/15</u> In committee: Hearing postponed by committee.	Water Quality		ACWA - Favor
AB 478 (SPOT)	Harper [R]		<b>Desalination.</b> Current law provides that is it the intention of the Legislature that the Department of Water Resources shall undertake to find economic and efficient methods of desalting saline water so that desalted water may be made available to help meet the growing water requirements of the state. This bill would make a nonsubstantive change in these provisions.	<u>5/15/2015</u> -Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3)	Desalination		
AB 585	Melendez [R]		<b>Outdoor Water Efficiency Act of 2015: personal income tax credits: outdoor water efficiency.</b> The Personal Income Tax Law allows various credits against the taxes imposed by that law. This bill, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2015, and before January 1, 2021, or an earlier specified date, would allow a credit equal to 25% of the amount paid or incurred by a qualified taxpayer for water-efficiency improvements made to outdoor landscapes on qualified real property in this state, not to exceed \$2,500 per taxable year, as specified. This bill contains other related provisions.	<u>7/16/15</u> Re-referred to Com. on APPR..	Water Use Efficiency		MET-Support ACWA- Favor
AB 603	Salas [D]		<b>Income taxes: turf removal tax credit.</b> Would, under Personal Income Tax Law and the Corporation Tax Law, for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2015, allow a credit to a taxpayer participating in a lawn replacement program, as defined, in an amount equal to \$2 per square foot of conventional lawn removed from the taxpayer's property. The bill would make findings and declarations in this regard. This bill contains other related provisions.	<u>5/28/15</u> Joint Rule 62(a), file notice suspended. In committee: Held under submission.	Water Use Efficiency		MET-Support ACWA- Favor
AB 606	Levine [D]		<b>Water conservation.</b> Would require the Department of General Services to identify each public property added to the department's state property inventory beginning January 1, 2015, where it is feasible for water consumption to be reduced and water efficiencies to be achieved through replacement of landscaping, irrigation timers, or spray sprinkler heads, or any combination thereof, and would require the appropriate replacements where feasible, except as specified.	<u>7/16/15</u> In committee: Hearing postponed by committee.	Water Use Efficiency		MET-Support ACWA- Favor



## Municipal Water District of Orange County Priority Legislation

<b>AB 647</b> (2 year bill)	<b>Eggman [D]</b>		<b>Beneficial use: diversion of water underground.</b> Would declare that the diversion of water underground constitutes a beneficial use of water for which an appropriation may be made if the diverted water is stored and thereafter applied to beneficial use or if beneficial use of the water, including, but not limited to, protection of water quality or recovery of groundwater levels, is made while the water is underground. This bill would provide that the period for the reversion of a water right does not apply to water being beneficially used in the aquifer or being held in storage for later beneficial use.	<u>7/17/15</u> Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was N.R. & W. on 6/30/2015)	Water Transfers		
<b>AB 656</b>	<b>Garcia, C [D]</b>		<b>Joint powers agreements: mutual water companies.</b> Current law authorizes local public entities, as defined, to enter into a joint powers agreement for the purposes of providing risk-pooling, as specified. This bill would specifically authorize 2 or more mutual water companies, or 2 or more mutual water companies and one or more public agencies that operate a public water system, to participate in joint powers agreement for risk-pooling, technical support, and other similar services.	<u>7/7/15</u> Read second time. Ordered to third reading.	Governance		
<b>AB 723</b>	<b>Rendon [D]</b>		<b>Plumbing fixtures: WaterSense standards.</b> Would, beginning January 1, 2017, prohibit manufacturers selling water closets, urinals, bathroom faucets, and shower heads from installing or selling any of the aforementioned plumbing fixtures that do not meet WaterSense standards set by the federal Environmental Protection Agency, as specified. The bill would require these manufacturers, by January 30 of each year, to inform, in writing, the California Energy Commission, the department, and the California Building Standards Commission of the number of WaterSense certified models it is offering for sale that year as compared to the years 2010 to 2014, inclusive.	<u>7/16/15</u> S-APPR. <u>7/27/15</u> Measure version as amended on July 16 corrected.	Water Use Efficiency		<b>ACWA- Favor</b>
<b>AB 888</b>	<b>Bloom [D]</b>		<b>Waste Management: plastic microbeads.</b> Would prohibit, on and after January 1, 2020, a person, as defined, from selling or offering for promotional purposes in this state a personal care product containing intentionally added plastic microbeads, as specified. The bill would exempt from those prohibitions the sale or promotional offer of a product containing less than 1 part per million (ppm) by weight of plastic microbeads, as provided. This bill contains other related provisions.	<u>7/14/15</u> Read second time. Ordered to third reading.	Water Quality		
<b>AB 935</b>	<b>Salas [D]</b>		<b>Integrated Regional Water Management Plans: conveyance projects: grants and expenditures.</b> Would require the Department of Water Resources to provide grants and expenditures, consistent with an integrated regional water management plan, for the planning, design, and construction of local and regional conveyance projects that support regional and interregional connectivity and water management and provide certain benefits. The bill would authorize the department to adopt regulations to implement these provisions.	<u>7/16/15</u> From committee: Amend. and do pass as amended and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 9. Noes 0.) on APPR. (July 14). Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.	Water Infrastructure Financing		





## Municipal Water District of Orange County Priority Legislation

<b>AB 954</b>	<b>Mathis [R]</b>		<b>Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014.</b> Current law, the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014, approved by the voters as Proposition 1 at the November 4, 2014, statewide general election, authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds in the amount of \$7,545,000,000 to finance a water quality, supply, and infrastructure improvement program. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to implement this bond act.	<u>7/16/15</u> From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 7. Noes 0.) (July 15). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.	Water Infrastructure Financing		
<b>AB 957 (2 Year Bill)</b>	<b>Mathis [R]</b>		<b>Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014.</b> The Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014, approved by the voters as Proposition 1 at the November 4, 2014, statewide general election, authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds in the amount of \$7,545,000,000 to finance a water quality, supply, and infrastructure improvement program. The bond act provides that the sum of \$520,000,000 is to be available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for expenditures, grants, and loans for projects that improve water quality or help provide clean, safe, and reliable drinking water to all Californians. This bill would make nonsubstantive changes in these provisions.	<u>5/1/2015</u> Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was W., P., & W. on 4/6/2015)	Water Infrastructure Financing		<b>ACWA - Not Favor</b>
<b>AB 1077</b>	<b>Holden [D]</b>		<b>Mutual water companies: open meetings.</b> Would prohibit a mutual water company from meeting solely in an executive session without holding a meeting. The bill would require a board of directors of a mutual water company to allow an eligible person to personally attend a meeting of the board, if the eligible person gave the board at least 24 hours advance written notice of his or her intent to personally attend the meeting. This bill contains other existing laws.	<u>6/24/15</u> Read second time. Ordered to third reading	Governance		<b>ACWA - Not Favor</b>
<b>AB 1164</b>	<b>Gatto [D]</b>		<b>Water conservation: drought tolerant landscaping.</b> This bill would prohibit a city, including a charter city, county, and city and county, from enacting or enforcing any ordinance or regulation that prohibits the installation of synthetic grass or artificial turf on residential property, as specified. The bill would additionally state that this is an issue of statewide concern. The bill would continuously appropriate \$300,000,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Water Resources in equal amounts of \$100,000,000 for each of the 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 fiscal years, to provide matching funds to specified local agencies to provide incentives to residents to replace water inefficient landscaping with drought tolerant landscaping.	<u>7/16/15</u> Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.	Turf Removal		<b>ACWA- Favor</b>
<b>AB 1242</b>	<b>Gray [D]</b>		<b>Water quality: impacts on groundwater basins: mitigation measures.</b> Would require the State Water Resources Control Board to take into consideration any applicable groundwater sustainability plan or alternative in formulating state policy for water quality control and adopting or approving a water quality control plan that affects a groundwater basin. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	<u>7/16/15</u> From committee: Amend. and do pass as amended and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 7. Noes 0.) (July 15). Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.	Water Quality		<b>ACWA- Favor</b>



## Municipal Water District of Orange County Priority Legislation

<b>AB 1244</b> (2 Year Bill)	<b>Gray [D]</b>		<b>Water rights: small irrigation use.</b> Current law authorizes any person to obtain a right to appropriate water for a small irrigation use upon registering the use with the State Water Resources Control Board and thereafter applying the water to reasonable and beneficial use with due diligence. This bill would require the board to adopt general conditions, in consultation with the Department of Food and Agriculture, the University of California Cooperative Extension, and others, including, but not limited to the Department of Fish and Wildlife, for small irrigation use, unless the board determines that sufficient funds are not available for that purpose.	<u>5/1/2015</u> Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was W., P. & W. on 3/23/2015)	Water Use Efficiency		
<b>AB 1454</b> (2 Year Bill)	<b>Wagner [R]</b>		<b>State policy for water quality control: California Ocean Plan.</b> Would require the plan to be reviewed at least every 4 years.	<u>5/1/2015</u> Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was RLS. on 4/23/2015)	Water Quality		
<b>SB 7</b>	<b>Wolk [D]</b>		<b>Housing: water meters: multiunit structures.</b> Would express the intent of the Legislature to encourage the conservation of water in multifamily residential rental buildings through means either within the landlord's or the tenant's control, and to ensure that the practices involving the submetering of dwelling units for water service are just and reasonable, and include appropriate safeguards for both tenants and landlords. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	<u>7/16/15</u> Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.	Water Use Efficiency		
<b>SB 47</b> (2 Year Bill)	<b>Hill [D]</b>		<b>Environmental health: synthetic turf.</b> Would require the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, by July 1, 2017, in consultation with the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, the State Department of Public Health, and the Department of Toxic Substances Control, to prepare and provide to the Legislature and post on the office's Internet Web site a study analyzing synthetic turf, as defined, for potential adverse health impacts. The bill would require the study to include certain information, including a hazard analysis of exposure to the chemicals that may be found in synthetic turf, as provided.	<u>5/29/15</u> Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. on 5/28/2015)	Water Use Efficiency		
<b>SB 122</b>	<b>Jackson [D]</b>		<b>California Environmental Quality Act: record of proceedings.</b> CEQA establishes a procedure for the preparation and certification of the record of proceedings upon the filing of an action or proceeding challenging a lead agency's action on the grounds of noncompliance with CEQA. This bill would require the lead agency, at the request of a project applicant and consent of the lead agency, to prepare a record of proceedings concurrently with the preparation of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, EIR, or other environmental document for projects. This bill contains other related provisions.	<u>7/15/15</u> July 15 set for first hearing. Placed on APPR. suspense file.	CEQA		<b>ACWA</b> - Not favor unless amended (Would open final EIR to public comment) changed to Watch



## Municipal Water District of Orange County Priority Legislation

<b>SB 127</b> (2 Year Bill)	<b>Vidak [R]</b>		<b>Environmental quality: Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014.</b> CEQA establishes a procedure by which a person may seek judicial review of the decision of the lead agency made pursuant to CEQA and a procedure for the preparation and certification of the record of proceedings upon the filing of an action or proceeding challenging a lead agency's action on the grounds of noncompliance with CEQA. This bill would require the public agency, in certifying the environmental impact report and in granting approvals for projects funded, in whole or in part, by Proposition 1, including the concurrent preparation of the record of proceedings and the certification of the record of proceeding within 5 days of the filing of a specified notice, to comply with specified procedures.	<u>5/1/2015</u> -Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was E.Q. on 2/5/2015)	CEQA		<b>ACWA - Not Favor</b> unless amended
<b>SB 143 (2 Year Bill)</b>	<b>Stone [R]</b>		<b>Diamond Valley Reservoir: recreational use.</b> Current law, with certain exceptions, prohibits recreational use, in which there is bodily contact with water, in a reservoir in which water is stored for domestic use and establishes water standards for those exempted reservoirs. This bill would exempt from this prohibition recreational activity in which there is bodily contact with water by any participant in the Diamond Valley Reservoir if certain standards are met. This bill contains other related provisions.	<u>5/15/2015</u> -Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was E.Q. on 2/5/2015)	MET	Oppose	<b>MET- Oppose</b> <b>ACWA- Not Favor</b>
<b>SB 208</b>	<b>Lara [D]</b>		<b>Integrated regional water management plans: grants: advanced payment.</b> Would require a regional water management group, within 90 days of notice that a grant has been awarded, to provide the state entity administering the grant with a list of projects to be funded by the grant funds where the project proponent is a nonprofit organization, as defined, or a disadvantaged community, as defined, or the project benefits a disadvantaged community. This bill contains other existing laws.	<u>7/15/15</u> July 15 set for first hearing. Placed on APPR. suspense file.	Fiscal Policy		<b>ACWA- Favor</b>
<b>SB 355</b>	<b>Lara [D]</b>		<b>San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy.</b> Would require that only one member of the Orange County Division of the League of California Cities be a voting member of the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, and would require that a resident of a city bordering the Lower Los Angeles River, appointed by the Senator Committee on Rules, be a voting member. The bill would also increase the number of nonvoting members to 9, and would require that one Member of the Senate, appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules, and one Member of the Assembly, appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, serve as those nonvoting members. Amended to preserve OC seats.	<u>7/13/15</u> From consent calendar. Ordered to third reading.	Fiscal Policy	Oppose	



## Municipal Water District of Orange County Priority Legislation

<b>SB 385</b>	<b>Hueso [D]</b>		<b>Primary drinking water standards: variances: hexavalent chromium.</b> Would authorize, until January 1, 2020, the State Water Resources Control Board, at the request of a public water system, to grant a variance from the primary drinking water standard for hexavalent chromium if the public water system prepares and submits a compliance plan, the state board approves the compliance plan, the public water system provides specified notice requirements regarding the compliance plan to its customers, and the public water system sends annual reports to the state board that updates the status of the approved compliance plan.	<u>7/16/15</u> Read second time. Ordered to consent calendar.	Water Quality		<b>ACWA - Support/ Sponsor MET-Support</b>
<b>SB 442 (SPOT)</b>	<b>Hall [D]</b>		<b>Municipal water districts: revenue bonds.</b> Current law, the Municipal Water District Law of 1911, provides for the formation of municipal water districts and grants to those districts specified powers, including the authority to issue revenue bonds for any purpose for which general obligation bonds may be issued. This bill would make nonsubstantive changes in those provisions.	<u>5/15/15</u> Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was RLS; on 3/5/2015)	Fiscal Policy		
<b>SB 553 (2 year bill)</b>	<b>Wolk [D]</b>		<b>Water conservation.</b> Would require the Department of General Services to identify each public property in the department's state property inventory where it is feasible for water consumption to be reduced and water efficiencies to be achieved through implementation of the relevant recommendations made in the model water efficient landscape ordinance and would require the department to implement the relevant recommendations where feasible, except as specified. This bill contains other existing laws.	<u>5/29/15</u> Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. on 5/28/2015)	Water Use Efficiency		<b>MET-Support ACWA- Favor</b>
<b>SB 555</b>	<b>Wolk [D]</b>		<b>Department of Water Resources: urban retail water suppliers: water loss audits.</b> Would require each urban retail water supplier, on or before July 1, 2017, to conduct a water loss audit as prescribed by rules adopted by the Department of Water Resources on or before July 1, 2016. This bill would require an urban retail water supplier to submit a validated audit report to the department within 60 days of completion and the department to post the report on its Internet Web site in a timely manner after its receipt. This bill would require the department to provide technical assistance to guide urban retail water suppliers' water loss detection programs.	<u>7/16/15</u> Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.	Governance		
<b>Groundwater Legislation</b>							
<b>AB 452 (2 Year Bill)</b>	<b>Bigelow [R]</b>		<b>Water Rights Fund: Groundwater Regulation Subaccount.</b> Would establish the Groundwater Regulation Subaccount in the Water Rights Fund and would provide that moneys in the subaccount are available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the State Water Resources Control Board for the purpose of board enforcement of the provisions of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	<u>5/1/2015</u> Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was W., P. & W. on 4/22/2015)	Governance		<b>ACWA- Favor</b>



## Municipal Water District of Orange County Priority Legislation

<b>AB 453</b>	<b>Bigelow [R]</b>		<b>Groundwater management.</b> Would authorize, until a groundwater sustainability plan is adopted, a local agency to amend an existing groundwater management plan in furtherance of, and consistent with, the groundwater management plan's objectives.	<u>7/16/15</u> Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.	Local Water Resource		<b>ACWA- Favor</b>
<b>AB 454 (2 Year Bill)</b>	<b>Bigelow [R]</b>		<b>Sustainable groundwater management.</b> Would require a high- or medium-priority basin that is not subject to critical conditions of overdraft to be managed under a groundwater sustainability plan or coordinated groundwater sustainability plan by January 31, 2023. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	<u>5/29/15</u> Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. on 4/14/2015)	Local Water Resource		<b>ACWA- Favor</b> changed to watch
<b>AB 455 (2 Year Bill)</b>	<b>Bigelow [R]</b>		<b>Groundwater sustainability plans: environmental impact reports.</b> Would require the Judicial Council, on or before July 1, 2016, to adopt a rule of court to establish procedures applicable to actions or proceedings brought to attack, review, set aside, void, or annul the certification of an EIR for projects covered by a groundwater sustainability plan that require the actions or proceedings be resolved within 270 days of certification of the record of proceeding. The bill would also prohibit the court from staying or enjoining the construction or operation of the project unless the court makes a certain finding. This bill contains other existing laws.	<u>5/1/2015</u> Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was W., P. & W. on 3/5/2015)	Local Water Resource		
<b>AB 936 (2 Year Bill)</b>	<b>Salas [D]</b>		<b>Groundwater monitoring.</b> If there is insufficient interest in establishing a management plan or ground watering association, and the county decides not to perform groundwater monitoring and reporting functions, the Department of Water Resources is required to perform the groundwater monitoring functions. In that event, specified entities with authority to assume groundwater monitoring functions with regard to a basin or subbasin for which the department has assumed those functions are not eligible for a water grant or loan awarded or administered by the state. This bill would create an exception from this eligibility restriction if the entity submits to the department for approval documentation demonstrating the water grant or loan project includes those actions needed to comply with groundwater monitoring functions.	<u>5/29/15</u> Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. on 5/28/2015)	Local Water Resource		<b>ACWA- Favor</b>
<b>AB 937</b>	<b>Salas [D]</b>		<b>Groundwater recharge.</b> Under current law, the right to water or to the use of water is limited to that amount of water that may be reasonably required for the beneficial use to be served. Current law declares that the storing of water underground, and related diversions for that purpose, constitute a beneficial use of water if the stored water is thereafter applied to the beneficial purposes for which the appropriation for storage was made. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation relating to groundwater recharge.	<u>7/16/15</u> Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.	Local Water Resource		<b>ACWA- Favor</b>



## Municipal Water District of Orange County Priority Legislation

<b>AB 938</b>	<b>Salas [D]</b>		<b>Groundwater: basin reprioritization: establishment of groundwater sustainability agency.</b> The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act requires a local agency, any time the Department of Water Resources changes basin priorities and elevates a basin to a medium- or high-priority basin after January 31, 2015, to either establish a groundwater sustainability agency within 2 years of reprioritization and adopt a groundwater sustainability plan within 5 years of reprioritization, or to submit an alternative to the department that the local agency believes satisfies the objectives of these provisions within 2 years of reprioritization. This bill would impose the requirement to establish a groundwater sustainability agency or submit an alternative after reprioritization on a local agency or combination of local agencies overlying a groundwater basin.	<u>7/17/15</u> Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was N.R. & W. on 5/7/2015)	Local Water Resource		<b>ACWA- Favor</b>
<b>AB 939</b>	<b>Salas [D]</b>		<b>Groundwater sustainability agency: financial authority.</b> The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act authorizes a groundwater sustainability agency to impose fees to fund the costs of a groundwater sustainability program and requires a groundwater sustainability agency to hold at least one public meeting prior to imposing or increasing a fee. The act requires, at least 10 days prior to the meeting, a groundwater sustainability agency to make available to the public data upon which the proposed fee is based. This bill would require a groundwater sustainability agency to make the data upon which the proposed fee is based available 20 days prior to the public meeting to impose or increase a fee.	<u>7/16/15</u> Read second time. Ordered to third reading.	Local Water Resource		
<b>AB 1243 (2 Year Bill)</b>	<b>Gray [D]</b>		<b>Groundwater recharge: grants.</b> Would establish the Groundwater Recharge Grant Fund and would provide that moneys in the fund are available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the State Water Resources Control Board to provide grants to local governments and water districts for groundwater recharge infrastructure projects. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	<u>5/1/2015</u> Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was W., P. & W. on 3/23/2015)	Local Water Resource		
<b>SB 13</b>	<b>Pavley [D]</b>		<b>Groundwater.</b> Would provide a local agency or groundwater sustainability agency 90 or 180 days, as prescribed, to remedy certain deficiencies that caused the State Water Resources Control Board to designate a groundwater basin as a probationary basin. This bill would authorize the board to develop an interim plan for certain probationary basins one year after the designation of the basin as a probationary basin. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	<u>7/16/15</u> Read second time. Ordered to consent calendar..	Local Water Resource		<b>ACWA - Favor and Amend</b>



## Municipal Water District of Orange County Priority Legislation

<b>SB 173</b> (2 Year Bill)	<b>Nielsen [R]</b>		<b>Groundwater: de minimis extractors.</b> Current law generally excepts a de minimis extractor from the requirement that a person who extracts groundwater from a probationary basin, as prescribed, or extracts groundwater on or after July 1, 2017, in an area within a basin that is not within the management area of a groundwater sustainability agency and where the county does not assume responsibility to be the groundwater sustainability agency has to file a report of groundwater extraction by December 15 of each year for extractions made in the preceding water year with the State Water Resources Control Board. This bill would define a de minimis extractor for the purposes of these provisions as a person who extracts, for domestic purposes, 10 acre-feet or less per year.	<u>5/1/2015</u> -Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was N.R. & W. on 3/24/2015)	Local Water Resource		<b>ACWA- Not Favor</b> Unless Amended
<b>SB 226</b>	<b>Pavley [D]</b>		<b>Sustainable Groundwater Management Act: groundwater rights.</b> Would provide, under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, that a groundwater sustainability plan or coordinated groundwater sustainability plans establishes a timely method for determining rights to groundwater in furtherance of the objectives of the act. This bill would require the process to be available to any court of competent jurisdiction. This bill would require the boundaries of a basin to be as identified in Bulletin 118, unless other basin boundaries are established, as specified.	<u>7/7/15</u> From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 7. Noes 3.) (July 7). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.	Local Water Resource		<b>ACWA- Not Favor</b> Unless Amended
<b>SB 228</b> (2 Year Bill)	<b>Cannella [R]</b>		<b>Groundwater storage: beneficial use.</b> Would declare that the recharging of a groundwater basin by a local groundwater management agency or a local groundwater sustainability agency for the purposes of repelling saline intrusion and recovering basin groundwater levels constitutes a beneficial use of water if the recharge is consistent with the local agency's groundwater management plan or groundwater sustainability plan.	<u>5/1/2015</u> -Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was N.R. & W. on 2/26/2015)	Local Water Resource		
<b>SB 487</b> (2 year bill)	<b>Nielsen [R]</b>		<b>Sustainable Groundwater Management Act: California Environmental Quality Act: exemptions.</b> Would exempt from the requirements of CEQA the formation of a groundwater sustainability agency, the amendment of a groundwater sustainability plan or coordinated groundwater sustainability plan, and the implementation of those plans, except to the extent that the implementation requires the construction or installation of a new facility. Because a lead agency would be required to determine the applicability of this exemption, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	<u>5/1/2015</u> -Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was E.Q. on 3/12/2015)	CEQA		<b>ACWA- Favor</b>
<b>SB 568</b> (2 year bill)	<b>Fuller [R]</b>		<b>Groundwater management.</b> Would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation relating to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.	<u>5/15/2015</u> -Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was RLS. on 3/12/2015)	Local Water Resource		
<b>ACWA Monitored Legislation</b>							





## Municipal Water District of Orange County Priority Legislation

SB 20	Pavley [D]		<b>Wells: reports: public availability.</b> Current law requires a person who digs, bores, or drills a water well, cathodic protection well, or a monitoring well, or abandons or destroys a well, or deepens or re-perforates a well, to file a report of completion with the Department of Water Resources. Current law prohibits those reports from being made available to the public, except under certain circumstances. This bill would instead require the department to, upon request, make the reports available to the public. The bill would require the department to provide specified disclaimers when providing the reports to the public.	<u>7/17/15</u> Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was W., P. & W. on 6/15/2015)	Water Quality		
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**DISCUSSION ITEM**

August 10, 2015

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

**FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager**

**SUBJECT: Future Direction of the OC Water Summit**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Public Affairs & Legislation Committee agree and adopt the mission/purpose and the target audiences for future OC Water Summits.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**SUMMARY**

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The value and future of the OC Water Summit was discussed at the June Executive Committee meeting. Staff was directed at that time to calendar a discussion of the Water Summit at the July PAL Committee meeting, where a more in-depth discussion could be held. Some of the topics discussed last month included:

- Historical figures for the event, e.g., cost, attendance, a breakdown of water professionals v. non-water, etc.
- An overview of the process on how sponsorships are solicited
- A discussion of both the purpose and target audiences for the Summit

Staff was subsequently directed to provide additional information during the August PAL meeting, including the event's mission/purpose, a list of potential target audiences, goals, and the fiscal impact of having paid speakers.

<b>Budgeted (Y/N):</b>	Budgeted amount:	Core ____	Choice ____
<b>Action item amount:</b>	Line item:		
<b>Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):</b>			

## DETAILED REPORT

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### Mission/Purpose

The event's mission and purpose were discussed at the July PAL meeting with the following consensus:

1. to bring relevant, water-related information to individuals outside the water community
2. to bring individuals outside the water community together with members of the water community
  - a. for a relevant, timely and meaningful exchange of ideas.
  - b. to develop or enhance relationships between the two groups.

### Target Audiences

Much discussion was dedicated in July to the event's target audiences outside of the water community. Subsequently, Directors were sent a list of potential target audiences and asked to rank those audiences in terms of priority. Rankings will be discussed at the meeting.

As a point of reference, of the 302 attendees to the 2015 Summit: 138 were from the water community; 148 were from the business community; 7 identified themselves as "legislative" and 9 were from education. Of the business community attendance, it appears that 57% were from the water community (consultants, etc.) and 43% were not directly water related (So Cal Gas, SCE, etc.).

### Goals

Of the 302 attendees to the 2015 Summit, only 12 people – 4 percent – completed a survey. While responses were positive, better data is needed to ensure reliable information.

Once the MWDOC Board of Directors reaches fundamental agreement on the purpose, goals and target audiences of the Water Summit, staff can propose metrics to assess how well those goals have been met. That performance should be the basis for decisions regarding future years.

### Paid Speakers

Directors briefly discussed during the July PAL Committee meeting the possibility of securing paid speakers for Water Summits. Speaker fees can range from a few thousand dollars to hundreds of thousands of dollars for well-recognized individuals. Travel and lodging costs are typically not included in base speaking fees. Securing paid speakers could have a significant fiscal impact on the expense side of the event.

### Sponsorships

Individual ticket sales average 28.0% of the total revenue over the four years, but only 24.7% last year. The largest sponsor category is generally the table sponsors, which include both utilities and corporate purchases of full tables.

Each year, sponsorships are solicited from previous sponsors, member agencies and the business community. There is not a comprehensive process to broadly solicit industry segments for sponsorships or identify new sponsors.

Renting display tables to companies of interest to local agencies could be another way of generating revenue. Tables would be set up in the lobby area outside of the ballroom. Companies could include banks, engineering firms, rating agencies and financial institutions, to name a few. Revenue generated by renting display tables could help underwrite the cost of having paid speakers.

Renting display tables would be an entirely new business enterprise for the Summit and represent a new level of complexity.

### Other Considerations

Considerable staff time is currently dedicated to planning, organizing and producing the Water Summit in its current format. Expanding the event to include exhibitor tables, identifying and obtaining paid speakers, and other enhancements would significantly increase staff time. MWDOC and OCWD staffs currently alternate responsibility for planning, organizing and producing the event; OCWD was the lead in 2015.



**ACTION ITEM**  
August 19, 2015

**TO:** Board of Directors

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

Robert Hunter  
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

**SUBJECT:** **H.R. 2689 (Walters) - Clarify the scope of eligible water resources projects under the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 and the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014, and for other purposes.**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Board of Directors support H.R. 2689 (Walters) and send a letter to the author indicating our support.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**SUMMARY**

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H.R. 2689 would clarify the scope of eligible water resources projects under Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (WRDA) and the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (WRRDA) by adding the terms “water resources project” and “water resources development project.” This would then include water supply and environmental infrastructure projects, including projects designed to reclaim or reuse municipal wastewater or impaired surface or groundwater.

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

## ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT

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When Congress passed Section 1014 for WRRDA, they established an authorization program for locally sponsored water infrastructure projects. The belief was that environmental infrastructure projects should be included for consideration under this section so that local agencies throughout the state can continue to address the need for water supplies in their communities.

However, despite the clear intent of Congress, the United States Army Corps of Engineers disagreed stating, "Section 1014 of WRRDA 2014 amends provisions enacted in the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 and provides, subject to conditions, authority for non-Federal interests to study and construct water resources development projects. Environmental infrastructure projects (such as wastewater treatment and water supply projects) are not water resources development projects that are eligible for authorization under this section."

To address this, Congresswoman Walters has introduced H.R. 2689, a bi-partisan effort, so that wastewater treatment and water supply projects ARE eligible for authorization under WRRDA as intended. These types of infrastructure projects are critical to maintaining a safe and reliable sources of water in the region.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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This measure simply clarifies language in WRRDA so that environmental infrastructure projects such as wastewater and water supply projects could be considered for funding. There is no appropriation attached, as that would be made available in the Energy & Water Appropriations bill.

## COMMENTS

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Co-authors include 27 members of the California delegation and one D.C. representative:

Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2], Rep. Rohrabacher, Dana [R-CA-48], Rep. Honda, Michael M. [D-CA-17], Rep. Cardenas, Tony [D-CA-29], Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5]  
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11], Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27], Rep. Roybal-Allard, Lucille [D-CA-40], Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-52], Rep. Royce, Edward R. [R-CA-39], Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-28], Rep. Calvert, Ken [R-CA-42], Rep. Garamendi, John [D-CA-3], Rep. Hunter, Duncan D. [R-CA-50], Rep. Torres, Norma J. [D-CA-35], Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47], Rep. Valadao, David G. [R-CA-21], Rep. Hahn, Janice [D-CA-44], Rep. McNerney, Jerry [D-CA-9], Rep. Bass, Karen [D-CA-37], Rep. Nunes, Devin [R-CA-22], Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33], Rep. Bera, Ami [D-CA-7], Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41], Rep. Cook, Paul [R-CA-8], Rep. Waters, Maxine [D-CA-43], Rep. Knight, Stephen [R-CA-25], Rep. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2689

To clarify the scope of eligible water resources projects under the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 and the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 9, 2015

Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California (for herself and Mr. HUFFMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To clarify the scope of eligible water resources projects under the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 and the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. CLARIFICATION OF SCOPE OF ELIGIBLE**  
4 **WATER RESOURCES PROJECTS.**

5 For purposes of sections 105, 203, and 905 of the  
6 Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (33 U.S.C.  
7 2215, 2231, 2282) and section 7001 of the Water Re-  
8 sources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (33 U.S.C.

1 2282d), the terms “water resources project” and “water  
2 resources development project” include water supply and  
3 environmental infrastructure projects, including projects  
4 designed to reclaim or reuse municipal wastewater or im-  
5 paired surface or groundwater.





**ACTION ITEM**

August 19, 2015

**TO:** Board of Directors

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

Robert Hunter  
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

**SUBJECT: S. 1894 (Feinstein) – California Drought Relief Act of 2015**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the Board of Directors support S. 1894 (Feinstein) and send a letter to the author indicating our support.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**SUMMARY**

S. 1894 is a comprehensive drought response bill from California Senator Dianne Feinstein.

**ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT**

According to the author's office, "The bill includes a range of provisions with the goals of moving and creating water long-term to help those communities suffering the worst effects of the drought, while remaining completely compliant with environmental laws such as the Endangered Species Act and Clean Water Act as well as all biological opinions."

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



### **Assistance for drought-stricken communities**

Many rural and disadvantaged communities throughout California are at risk of running out of clean water. Approximately 2,091 wells are already dry or will soon run dry, endangering thousands of families. As more wells and other water supplies dry up, the federal government has an obligation to step up and help those communities and families.

- Creates a new USDA program to help stabilize water supplies for rural and disadvantaged communities with fewer than 10,000 residents. Larger communities may also qualify if they have experienced a significant decline in quantity or quality of drinking water. Funds can be used for both short-term solutions (such as bottled water deliveries) and long-term solutions (such as water treatment systems). Rep. Huffman introduced similar legislation that provides increased funding for the USDA's emergency grant program.
- Prioritizes State Revolving Funds for communities most at risk of running out of water. By directing funds to these communities most at risk, the Act provides the State with the tools necessary to provide water for public health and safety and to increase drought resiliency.

### **Desalination**

Major desalination projects like the \$1 billion Poseidon plant in Carlsbad (which will soon generate enough water to supply 300,000 San Diego County residents) prove that new technology is quickly making desalination a viable option for many communities. The bill would enable the federal government to help support desalination projects and research, with the goal of further reducing costs and environmental impacts.

- The bill identifies 26 desalination projects throughout California capable of producing more than 330,000 acre-feet of water per year.
- Reauthorizes the *Desalination Act* and authorizes \$50 million over five years for feasibility and design for both sea and brackish water desalination projects. *Senator Boxer also introduced legislation that would reauthorize the Desalination Act, but at lower funding levels.*
- Reauthorizes the *Desalination Act* and authorizes \$50 million over five years for desalination research projects, such as improving existing reverse osmosis and membrane technology, reducing the environmental effects of seawater desalination and developing next-generation technologies to reduce the cost of desalination. *This is similar to a provision in a bill introduced by Senator Boxer.*

### **Storage projects**

Given the consensus that droughts will grow more severe and the storms that follow more devastating, storing water during wet years for use in dry years is vital. The severity of this drought has highlighted the inadequacy of California's reservoir capacity. The bill takes steps to promote the building of new reservoirs or increasing the capacity of existing reservoirs.

- Establishes deadlines for the Bureau of Reclamation to complete feasibility studies to allow Calfed storage projects to compete for Proposition 1 bond funds.

- Authorizes \$600 million for CalFed water storage projects, which may include both federal projects (Shasta) and non-federal projects (Sites, Temperance Flat, Los Vaqueros).
- Updates Army Corps dam operations to increase water supply while reducing flood risk. *Rep. Huffman introduced legislation with a similar program.*

### **Water recycling**

Major advancements have been made in the field of water recycling. Orange County Water District, for example, recently completed an expansion of its water reuse facility to provide more than 100 million gallons per day. As communities continue to conserve water, more can be done to support these projects.

- The bill identifies 105 potential recycling projects with the ability to produce almost 854,000 acre-feet of water. *This provision expands upon the list of water-recycling projects included in legislation introduced by Rep. McNerney.*
- Authorizes \$200 million in increased funds for the Bureau of Reclamation's water recycling and reuse program (Title XVI) to help fund projects to reclaim and reuse wastewaters and naturally impaired ground and surface water. This provision would also remove the congressional requirement for the authorization of specific projects. *This provision is similar to legislation introduced by Rep. Matsui.*

### **Conservation and groundwater recharge**

Communities throughout California are subject to mandatory conservation rates as high as 35 percent. As consumers do more to save water, there are additional steps that can be taken by government and the agriculture industry.

- Facilitates increased agricultural conservation and groundwater recharge. This provision authorizes Interior and other water users to pay irrigators to install drip irrigation or other technologies to conserve water, and receive in return the majority of the water conserved. A portion of the saved water must be used for groundwater recharge.
- Authorizes an EPA program to label water-efficient products for consumers. *Senator Boxer also introduced a bill that authorizes the same EPA program.*
- Requires water conservation projects at California military installations.
- Authorizes a Department of the Interior program to establish an open system with data on water quality, climate and weather effects and erosion. *Senator Boxer introduced a bill that authorizes the same program.*

### **Additional funding programs**

By providing funds for the most cost-effective federal programs, Washington can help state and local agencies leverage existing dollars into larger projects.

- **Loan guarantees:** Authorizes \$200 million for the *Reclamation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (RIFIA)*. This loan-guarantee program will allow water districts and municipalities to leverage loans and loan guarantees for water projects,

reducing repayment loan costs by as much as 25 percent. This is modeled after TIFIA, a successful loan-guarantee program for transportation projects. *Senator Boxer and Rep. Huffman have introduced legislation with a similar program.*

- **WaterSMART:** Authorizes \$100 million in increased funds for the Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART program to help finance water reclamation and reuse projects as well as water efficiency initiatives. *Rep. Huffman has introduced similar legislation that increases funding for WaterSMART.* This provision would also create a new grant program for integrated regional water management, reclamation and recycling, with a maximum federal contribution up to \$20 million or 25 percent of a project's cost.
- **Bureau of Reclamation funds:** Additional long-term funding of \$150 million per year beginning in fiscal year 2026 for storage, water recycling and desalination projects, financed out of the annual surplus in the Reclamation Fund in the U.S. Treasury.

### **Research and innovation**

Making sure the newest and most cost-effective technology is available will continue to address the worst effects of the drought. Supporting and utilizing the latest science is a key goal of the bill.

- Authorizes \$35 million in grants for technological innovations for companies that devise innovative solutions in areas such as water metering, well-monitoring, on-site recycling and stormwater capture.

### **Protecting endangered and threatened fish and wildlife**

There are a number of short-term, low-cost proposals to protect and assist in the protection and recovery of fish populations including salmon and smelt.

- **Endangered Species Act recovery plan:** Authorizes \$20 million to begin implementation of NMFS' *Endangered Species Act* recovery plan, a tool to provide habitat and flow restoration throughout the Sacramento and San Joaquin basins.
- **Trapping and barging:** Authorizes \$3 million to trap and barge fish to reduce mortality rates on migration through the Delta. *Rep. Huffman has a provision on barging hatchery fish.*
- **Predator species:** Addresses key stressors on fish populations including limiting invasive species like striped bass and removing predator habitat, to be paid for by participating water districts. *Rep. Valadao and Rep. Denham introduced legislation with a similar provision.*
- **Spawning habitat:** Authorizes \$4 million to create additional spawning habitat.
- **Water system management:** Authorizes \$11.5 million for federal agencies to manage the water system more precisely using updated science and tools, including smelt distribution studies and refined temperature models. *Rep. Huffman includes a provision on updated forecasting and temperature models.*

- **Actions to benefit refuges:** Authorizes \$2 million annually for five years for improved conveyance of water to refuges to help restore and protect critical wetland habitat for wildlife refuges, one of the goals of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act.

### **Moving water to communities that need it most**

Provisions in the bill to help move water efficiently to those areas where it is most needed were carefully drafted to remain consistent with environmental laws including the *Endangered Species Act* and the *Clean Water Act*, as well as all biological opinions.

These provisions, closely based on the 2014 Feinstein/Boxer legislation that was unanimously approved by the Senate, include changes limited to additional environmental and water rights protections and the removal of several controversial provisions.

### **Environmental protections added since 2014 bill:**

- **Adhering to environmental law:** Makes clear that all actions in the bill must be taken consistent with law and that none of the provisions violate the *Endangered Species Act*, the *Clean Water Act*, biological opinions, the Central Valley Improvement Act or state law.
- **Water transfers:** Water transfers between sellers and buyers help stretch California's water supplies in dry times. The bill includes a provision to allow limited Delta water transfers in April and May so communities and farms can make up for reduced deliveries. Specifically, the bill allows transfers to occur under certain circumstances at a 1:1 ratio. The provision includes significant safeguards:
  - The agencies may only use the 1:1 ratio for transfers if it avoids adverse effects on endangered species not considered by the biological opinions.
  - The water covered by the 1:1 ratio must be additional flow on top of the regular flow of the river. Any environmental effects of transferred water must be permissible under applicable law.
  - National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (the agencies that implement the *Endangered Species Act*), in providing technical assistance on the bill, have stated that these safeguards ensure the provision is in compliance with environmental laws and biological opinions.
- **Environmental review:** A requirement in the 2014 bill for 30-day environmental reviews of water transfers and installation/removal of temporary barriers was eliminated. Instead, these reviews must take place within "the shortest practicable time period."
- **Water rights:** The bill includes additional provisions to protect water rights.

### **Provisions included from 2014 Senate bill to help move water to areas that most need it:**

- **Pumping levels:** Any time more water is pumped from the Delta, that pumping must remain consistent with the *Endangered Species Act* and biological opinions. This will

allow for more water to be pumped to those who most need it while protecting endangered and threatened species.

- **Monitoring for smelt:** During periods when water turbidity is high and smelt are likely to move near pumps, scientists must daily monitor for the presence of the fish. Pumps may only run at high levels when smelt are not present. *This language is similar to language in a bill introduced by Rep. Valadao.*
- **Reviewing transfers and barriers:** Environmental reviews of water transfers and the installation and removal of temporary barriers will be expedited. These reviews will ensure these actions are consistent with environmental laws. *This language is similar to language in a bill introduced by Rep. Valadao.*
- **Cross-Channel Gates:** Delta Cross-Channel Gates may only be opened for additional time if doing so remains consistent with water quality-related orders issued by the State Water Resources Control Board. *This language is similar to language in a bill introduced by Rep. Valadao.*
- **Water transfers:** Water transfers sent into the Delta in April and May can only be withdrawn at a 1:1 ratio if the transfers adhere to environmental law and biological opinions. The water covered by the 1:1 ratio must be additional flow on top of the regular flow of the river, and the environmental effects of the transferred water must be permissible under applicable law. *This language is similar to language in a bill introduced by Rep. Valadao.*

## PROVISIONS FOR ORANGE COUNTY

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MWDOC, member agencies, and other local agencies in Orange County were highlighted specifically. These include:

Eligibility for water recycling federal support: Irvine Ranch Water District, Orange County Sanitation District, Orange County Water District, South Orange County Wastewater Authority.

Eligibility for desalination project federal support: Doheny Ocean Desalination Project, Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project, Irvine Non-Potable Shallow Groundwater Unit Desalter, Irvine Ranch Water District Wells 51, 52, 53, 21 & 22 Potable (Non-exempt) Desalter Plant, South Orange County Coastal Ocean Desalination Project.

## COMMENTS

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S. 1894 is 147 pages in length and therefore not included in the printed packet. The full text can be found [here](#).

Senator Boxer has signed on as principal co-author.

# INSPECTION TRIP SCHEDULE 2015 - 2016

Inspection trip dates are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Directors should expect to receive a confirmation of the trips and dates approved by MWD in June 2015.

PROJECT/EVENT TOUR DATES FOR NEXT SEASON

CONFIRMATION THURSDAY- JUNE 18, 2015  
RECEIVED

## METROPOLITAN DIRECTOR

DIRECTOR LINDA ACKERMAN

STATE WATER PROJECT	STARTING	ENDING	NOTES	TOUR GUIDE	STAFF
	10.23.2015	10.24.2015	SHARED WITH DIRECTOR BEARD, FULLERTON		
DIAMOND VALLEY LAKE	2.5.2016	2.5.2016			
COLORADO RIVER	4.15.2016	4.16.2016			

DIRECTOR BRETT BARBRE

STATE WATER PROJECT	STARTING	ENDING	NOTES	TOUR GUIDE	STAFF
	2.19.2016	2.21.2016	SHARED WITH DIRECTOR FAESSEL, ANAHEIM		
COLORADO RIVER	3.11.2016	3.13.2016			
EDMONSTON/LAVERNE	11.20.2015	11.20.2015	DIRECTOR TBD- BB MAY NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE THIS DATE		

DIRECTOR LARRY DICK

JPL/WEMOUTH	STARTING	ENDING	NOTES	TOUR GUIDE	STAFF
	7.17.2015	7.17.2015	MWD DIRECTORS/WACO	AL	TIFFANY
STATE WATER PROJECT/AGRICULTURE	8.14.2015	8.15.2015	TRIP CO-HOSTED BY ASM. TRAVIS ALLEN	AL	TIFFANY HEATHER
STATE WATER PROJECT/AGRICULTURE	10.9.2015	10.10.2015	SHARED WITH DIRECTOR GALLEANO, WESTERN MWD	AL	
EDMONSTON/LAVERNE	3.18.2016	3.18.2016			

DIRECTOR LARRY MCKENNEY	STARTING	ENDING	NOTES	TOUR GUIDE	STAFF
STATE WATER PROJECT	9.18.2015	9.19.2015	SHARED WITH DIRECTOR DAKE, LA	RUSS	
COLORADO RIVER/HOOVER	11.13.2015	11.14.2015	SHARED WITH DIRECTOR TU, SAN DIEGO		
INFRASTRUCTURE	2.26.2016	2.26.2016			
*OC GRAND JURY	STARTING	ENDING	NOTES	TOUR GUIDE	STAFF
STATE WATER PROJECT	1.15.2016	1.16.2016	DIRECTOR TBD (ROB)		
COLORADO RIVER	12.11.2015	12.12.2015	DIRECTOR TBD (ROB)		

JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
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Holidays 2015:	October 12 Columbus Day	November 26 Thanksgiving Day	Holidays 2016:	January 18 Martin Luther King Day	Conference Dates:
September 7 Labor Day	November 11 Veterans Day	December 25 Christmas Day	January 1 New Year's Day	February 15 Presidents Day	October 26-29 CA-NV-AWWA
					December 1-4 ACWA Fall Conf.
					May 3-6 ACWA Spring Conf.



## INFORMATION ITEM

August 10, 2015

**TO:** Board of Directors

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

Robert Hunter  
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

**SUBJECT:** Travel to Sacramento and Washington D.C. Through 2015

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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Staff recommends the Board of Directors receive and file report.

### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

### DETAILED REPORT

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At the July meeting of the PAL Committee, the committee members asked to see an overview of proposed travel through the end of the year. Below is a summary of known or possible trips through the end of 2015.

Washington D.C. – September and either October or November depending on Senate action (Director Barbre and staff.)

Sacramento: August and October for ACWA State Legislation Committee Meetings (Heather), and another possible October trip to the State Water Resources Control Board meetings (Heather and Joe Berg).

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





**INFORMATION ITEM**

August 10, 2015

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

**FROM:**       **Robert Hunter, General Manager**

Staff Contact: Tiffany Baca

**SUBJECT:   RECAP OF JULY 29 WATER POLICY DINNER**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Public Affairs & Legislation Committee receive and file the staff report.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**SUMMARY**

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On Wednesday, July 29, MWDOC held a quarterly Water Policy Forum & Dinner at the Westin South Coast Plaza Hotel (Costa Mesa) featuring keynote speaker Felicia Marcus, Chair of the State Water Resources Control Board. A total of 304 guests registered for the event, making this the best-attended Water Policy Forum & Dinner to-date.

The preliminary financial report developed by accounting staff shows a net revenue of \$534.56 to the district. The preliminary results of the participant satisfaction survey are extremely positive, though additional responses are still being collected. The speaker presentation has been posted on the MWDOC website.

**DETAILED REPORT**

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<b>Budgeted (Y/N):</b>	Budgeted amount:	Core X	Choice ____
<b>Action item amount:</b>	Line item: 31-7670		
<b>Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):</b>			

## DETAILED REPORT

Page 2

The event began at 5:30 p.m. with a pre-dinner reception. At 6:30 p.m., President Larry Dick delivered opening remarks and dinner was served. At 7:15 p.m., Felicia Marcus delivered the keynote address. The event concluded at approximately 8:20 p.m.

### Preliminary Financial Report

Public Affairs staff worked with the Accounting department to compile a preliminary financial report (see attached) for this event. Several guest payments are still pending, but a net revenue to the district of \$534.56 is projected. ***Please see preliminary financial report attached.***

### Preliminary Results of Participant Satisfaction Survey

The Participant Satisfaction Survey was distributed on July 31. At the time of this report, a total of 31 participants had completed the survey. The survey will remain open until Friday, August 14 in order to capture additional responses. ***Please see preliminary survey results attached.***

Preliminary survey results indication that participants were very satisfied with the overall event as well as the keynote address, location, date, and time. Respondents rated each of these items an average of 4.7 out of 5. Survey results show participants were satisfied with the pre-dinner reception, food/beverage, and price (given overall value). Respondents rated each of these items an average of 4.3 out of 5.

**Municipal Water District of Orange County**  
**Recap of Revenues and Expenses for Water Policy Forum & Dinner**  
**Event Date: July 29, 2015**

Preliminary Reconciliation as of: 8/4/2015

**Registrants**

282	Registered guests @ \$80.00 each	\$	22,560.00
5	Registered guests @ \$90.00 each	\$	450.00
9	Less: Complimentary dinner guests @ \$80.00 each		(720.00)
16	Less: Dinners for MWDOC Directors and staff @ \$80.00 each		(1,280.00)
<b>Total Registration Fees</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>21,010.00</b>

**Revenues**

**Payments**

88	Paid via check & cash @ \$80.00 each	7,040.00
3	Paid via check & cash @ \$90.00 each	270.00
138	Paid via PayPal @ \$80.00 each	11,040.00
1	Paid via PayPal @ \$90.00 each	90.00
5	Budgeted legislative guests @ \$80.00 each	400.00
27	Unpaid registered guests @ \$80.00 each	2,160.00
1	Unpaid registered guests @ \$90.00 each	90.00
<b>Anticipated Revenues</b>		<b>\$ 21,090.00</b>

**Expenses**

265	Dinner costs for guests @ \$47.05 per person	\$	12,468.25
	Audio-visual equipment rental		2,192.20
195	Parking @ \$6 each		1,170.00
	Sales tax and service charges on dinner		3,959.92
	Tip for hotel staff		290.00
	Reception & speaker gifts		70.18
	Supplies (decorations)		55.06
	PayPal fees		349.83
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>20,555.44</b>

<b>Anticipated Cost (Revenue) to the District</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(534.56)</b>
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## Constant Contact Survey Results

**Survey Name:** July 29 Water Policy Forum Satisfaction Survey- keynote speaker Felicia Marcus

**Response Status:** Partial & Completed

**Filter:** None

Aug 04, 2015 12:59:51 PM

### 1. What was your primary reason(s) for attending the Water Policy Forum & Dinner?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Interest in topic/keynote speaker: Felicia Marcus, Chair, State Water	27	87.0%
Networking / Business development	8	25.8%
General interest in learning more about water	4	12.9%
Other	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	31	100%
4 Comment(s)		

### 2. Overall, how satisfied were you with the Water Policy Forum & Dinner?

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Very dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Neutral	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied
	1 3%	1 3%	2 7%	4 14%	21 72%
5 Comment(s)					

### 3. Please rate your satisfaction with the following.

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Very dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Neutral	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied
Pre-dinner reception	0 0%	0 0%	8 26%	5 16%	18 58%
Keynote address (Felicia Marcus)	2 6%	2 6%	2 6%	4 13%	21 68%
Location (Westin South Coast Plaza Hotel)	0 0%	0 0%	1 3%	3 10%	26 87%
Day of the week/Date (Wednesday, July 29)	0 0%	1 3%	1 3%	4 13%	25 81%
Time (5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	6 19%	25 81%
Food and beverage	0 0%	1 3%	2 6%	11 35%	17 55%
Price (given overall value)	0 0%	1 3%	5 17%	10 33%	14 47%
3 Comment(s)					

### 4. How likely are you to attend future Water Policy Forum & Dinner events?

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Very unlikely	Somewhat unlikely	Neutral	Somewhat likely	Very likely
	1 3%	1 3%	0 0%	9 29%	20 65%
1 Comment(s)					

**5. Are there specific topics or speakers you would like see for future events?**

**12 Response(s)**

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**6. What can we do to improve the event? Is there anything else you'd like to tell us?**

**10 Response(s)**

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## Constant Contact Survey Results

**Survey Name:** July 29 Water Policy Forum Satisfaction Survey- keynote speaker Felicia Marcus

**Response Status:** Partial & Completed

**Filter:** None

Aug 04, 2015 12:59:51 PM

### 1. What was your primary reason(s) for attending the Water Policy Forum & Dinner? - Other responses

#### Answer

### 1. What was your primary reason(s) for attending the Water Policy Forum & Dinner? - Comments

#### Answer

Her overview was helpful, but it would have been interesting to have had more time for her personal responses. ☐ I fully understand she does not want to deal with "political" issues so perhaps that cannot happen

Waste of my time. Talked so long there was no time for questions. Was this by design or her waypoint. Not

MWDOC consistently schedules outstanding speakers addressing water topics of current importance

Nice event, as always. Keynote speaker was a little rushed.

### 2. Overall, how satisfied were you with the Water Policy Forum & Dinner? - Comments

#### Answer

Consider limiting commendations/presentations other than key speaker when the speaker is as important as Chair

Great dinner. Staff did an excellent job speaker just to hear herself talk.

Great speaker!

The event was excellent other than the speaker not answering the questions we prepared. Her prepared remarks were preaching to the choir, and shows her insensitivity to the professionalism of the water purveyors. It came

Except for the speaker

### 3. Please rate your satisfaction with the following. - Comments

#### Answer

The reception area was extremely hot

Friday may allow more people to attend.

I had hoped the speaker would provide background to the California Water Policy that had been developed and address issues related to decisions that had been made to exclude GWR water from the drought allocation.

### 4. How likely are you to attend future Water Policy Forum & Dinner events? - Comments

#### Answer

Depending on time and availability to attend.

### 5. Are there specific topics or speakers you would like see for future events? - Responses

#### Answer

Changing water policy in changing times

Economic impact of Demand management regulations

Drought, Conservation

An expert What are we doing about the Salton Sea?

OC is well known for recycling. That's a good topic

water as related to new construction

Lessons learned from utility scale Desal projects

Desal, update on Carlsbad and other large projects

OC Congressional Representatives, CaTech studies

Felicia Markus; primarily to answer questions.

Update on regional efforts for drought mitigation

Why is MWD not building its own desal plants?

#### **6. What can we do to improve the event? Is there anything else you'd like to tell us? - Responses**

##### **Answer**

More networking, less dinner

Start on time. This is, to me, one of the hallmarks of these dinners. Stick to the script. Save the certificates for after the program; way too much time spent thanking retiring directors while our keynote speaker cooled her heels. Professional (or at least dispassionate) MC. The Chairman should be one of the speakers; not saddled

Please ensure that slides of main speaker are posted on MWDOC web site, if available. Consider bulletin with highlights of talk and Q & A that followed. Plan follow-up meetings with Ms. Marcus and announce those plans.

Water is an important factor in our regions Economic Future. Just as new construction for housing is important to provide work force house is important to our regions economic future. I would be interested in hearing more on

Great format. May consider adding more speakers. Also allow more time for Q& A.

My name is spelled wrong. It is Fidencio Mares.

Be clear with the speaker about what the audience hopes to learn. Felicia needed to answer the questions, and hopefully listen to alternative points of view so she can share our messages with her staff and boss.

Great job getting Ms. Marcus as speaker. She made a good presentation and was forthright with her opinion and comments. More time for Q&A would have been valuable. Please invite her back. Again, great job, kudos for

Start earlier with dinner. Some of have a longer drive home.

MWDOC staff do a great job at this event - well done!



Status of Public Affairs Programs

Item 8

August 2015

Description	Lead Agency	Status % Complete	Scheduled Completion or Renewal Date	Comments
<b>Drought Outreach</b>	MWDOC	Ongoing	Ongoing	<p>The new 30-second "Cut Outdoor Water Use in Half Now!" public service announcement continues to be shown in movie houses in Buena Park, Huntington Beach, La Habra, Orange, San Clemente and San Juan Capistrano. The PSA is being shown on a total of 123 screens. The same PSA is now being shown on gas-pump toppers in the following district service areas: Brea, El Toro, Fountain Valley, Garden Grove, Moulton Niguel, Newport Beach, Orange, Santa Margarita, Trabuco Canyon and Tustin.</p> <p>Items for the Dropbox account continue to be submitted by member agency staff. The account was established by the Public Affairs Department as a hub where all member agencies can share drought outreach materials and other information, including vendors, upcoming events, water supply reports, and items of special interest for water use efficiency staff. Information on member agency drought outreach efforts is being used to prepare a matrix of countywide efforts.</p> <p>Member-agency PIOs were sent links and log-in information to MET's drought advertising campaign, including two new videos.</p>
<b>Media Relations</b>		Ongoing	Ongoing	Justin Pritchard, AP, contacted MWDOC for information on water – infrastructure, supply, drinking water quality, per capita consumption – for an article the news service is

Status of Public Affairs Programs

Item 8

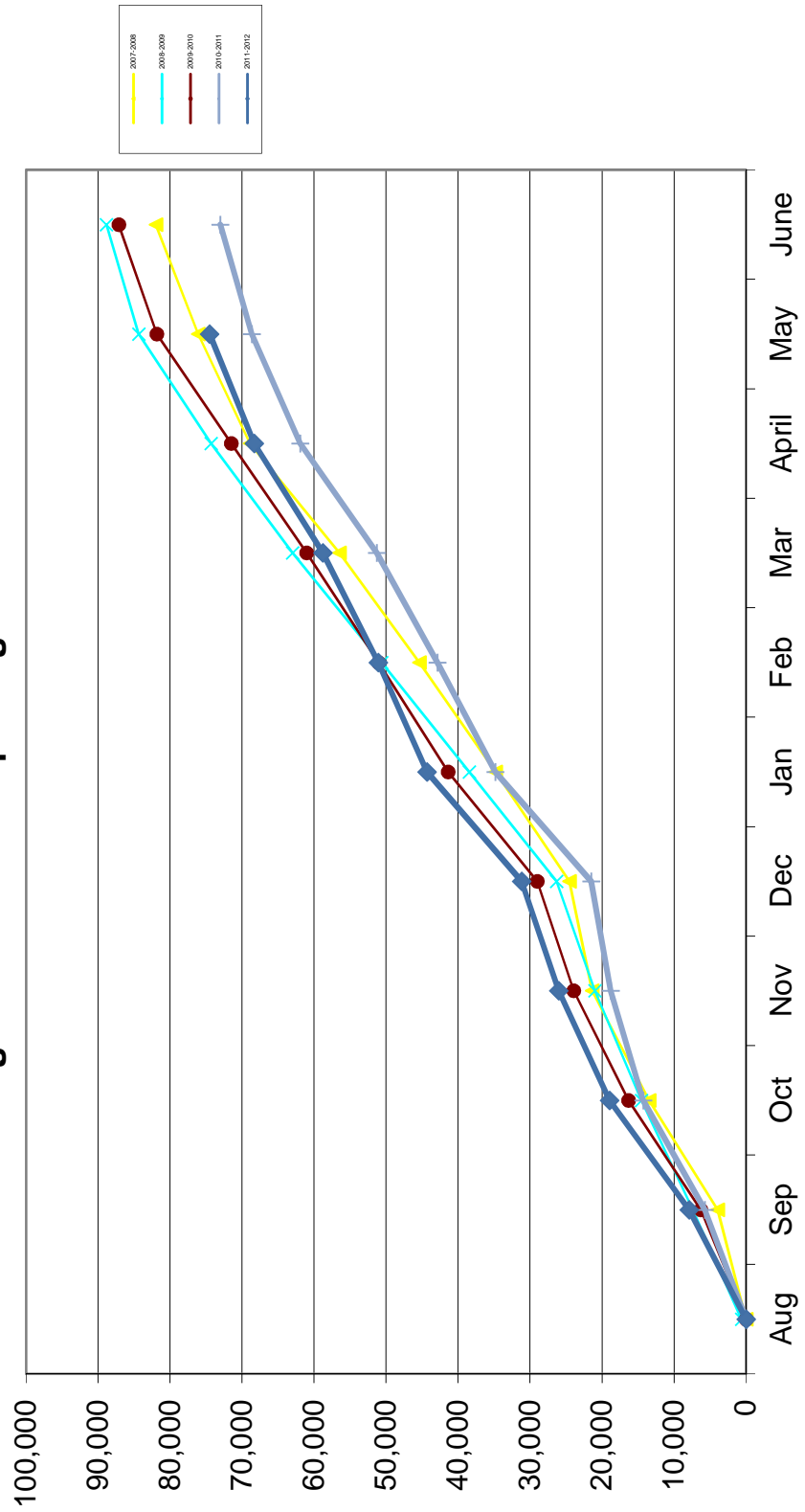
August 2015

Description	Lead Agency	Status % Complete	Scheduled Completion or Renewal Date	Comments
				<p>doing on the state of water nationwide. Harvey de la Torre spoke at length to the reporter, as did Michelle, who continues to coordinate responses to media inquiries.</p> <p>MWDOC was contacted by KPCC on Thursday, July 30, to participate in a 10-minute segment on the drought and water conservation. Joe Berg represented MWDOC, discussing June water usage numbers for Orange County as provided by the State Water Resources Control Board. The segment aired that day on the Larry Mantle show.</p>

### Number of Students Reached in the Water Education School Program

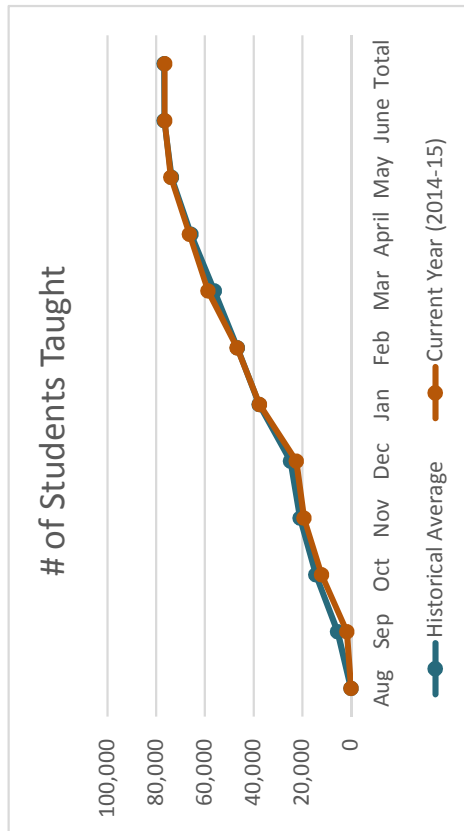
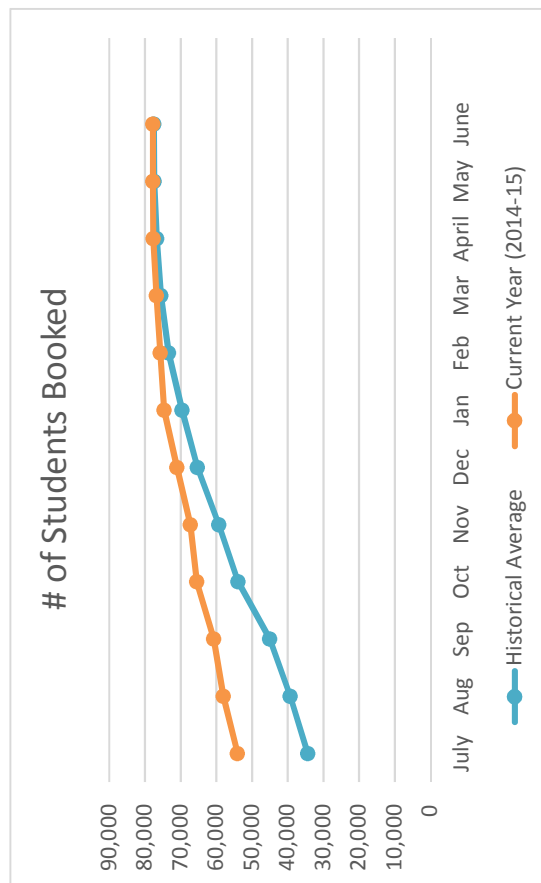
Year	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	Total
2007-2008		3,942	9,506	7,934	3,130	10,265	10,600	11,125	12,407	7,206	5,878	81,993
2008-2009	633	6,737	7,163	6,454	5,318	12,124	12,180	12,395	11,313	10,060	4,608	88,847
2009-2010	0	6,261	10,056	7,618	4,626	12,813	9,670	10,012	10,179	10,336	5,554	87,125
2010-2011	0	5,737	8,557	4,510	2,708	13,345	8,027	8,417	10,617	6,753	4351	73,022
2011-2012	0	7,888	11,062	7,082	5,123	13,179	6,751	7,694	9,556	6,176		74,511

**Cumulative Number of Students Reached  
through the Current Reporting Period**



## 2014-15 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	
Current Year (2014-15)	54,053	58,028	60,691	65,453	67,314	71,036	74,656	75,743	76,754	77,661	77,773	77,773	83,952
# 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	76,705	
Current Year (2014-15)	0	1,673	12,161	19,355	22,514	37,603	46,730	58,787	66,379	74,025	76,553	76,553	83,952



**Public Affairs Activities Report**  
**July 16, 2015 – August 19, 2015**

<p><b>Member Agency Relations</b></p>	<p>Tiffany accompanied Director Dick on a one-day inspection trip to the Weymouth Treatment Plant and NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. The trip took place on July 17th.</p> <p>Tiffany, Heather and Rob accompanied Director Dick and Assemblyman Travis Allen on a SWP/Ag inspection trip, August 14-15.</p> <p>Tiffany is working with MWD Director McKenney and LA Director Glen Dake, LA support staff, and Russ Patras of Metropolitan on an upcoming State Water Project trip, September 18-19. Tiffany is also working with Director Dick, Western MWD Director Galleano, and Al Mendez of Metropolitan on a SWP/Ag trip scheduled for October 9-10. Tiffany is sending out invitations, accepting reservations, and managing guest, MWD, and Director needs for these trips.</p> <p>Items for the Dropbox account continue to be submitted by member agency staff. The account was establish by the Public Affairs Department as a member-agency hub where all agencies can share outreach materials and other information, including vendors, upcoming events, water supply reports, and items of special interest for water use efficiency staff. Tiffany has primary responsibility for uploading items submitted by member agencies.</p> <p>Michelle and Tiffany F prepared a matrix of countywide drought outreach efforts. In addition to items submitted by member agencies, the Dropbox account includes shared marketing materials and graphics created by MWD and ACWA/DWR. These items, such as lawn signs, infographics, posters, door hangers, bill stuffers and more, can be customized by MWDOC and our member agencies, and used for additional drought outreach.</p> <p>On July 16, Tiffany gave a presentation at the MWDOC Member Agency Managers Meeting, providing the Managers with an overview of the various drought outreach efforts by MWDOC, MWD, Save our Water, and local agencies. This presentation was uploaded to the Dropbox account.</p> <p>The Public Affairs Department provided handouts, hotel/restaurant placards, giveaway items, and education materials to several MWDOC Member Agencies including La Habra, Fountain Valley, Moulton Niguel, El Toro and others.</p>
<p><b>Community Relations</b></p>	<p>Tiffany B., Bryce, Tiffany F. and Marey implemented MWDOC's social media activities through Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest</p>

	<p>during this period.</p> <p>Tiffany updated several pages on the MWDOC website.</p> <p>The Public Affairs Team coordinated a Water Policy Forum &amp; Dinner on July 29, 2015, featuring keynote speaker Felicia Marcus, Chair of the State Water Resources Control Board. Some 304 guests registered for the event, making this our largest attended Water Policy Dinner to date. Tiffany coordinated the event including the hotel and speaker logistics and the registration process, coordinated guest, and reserved table guest's special needs, developed and distributed several email invitations, and handled the onsite event logistics. Tiffany also prepared and distributed a post-event survey and thank you letter to participants as well as a thank you letter for the speaker. Michelle prepared the speaker notes for emcee Director Dick, and developed the custom wine label. Kelly and Michelle worked with AV onsite. Bryce was the event photographer. Laura Lowen, Heather, Hilary and Mary worked the registration table.</p> <p>Heather attended OCBC's Government Affairs Committee meeting.</p> <p>Heather attended OCBC's Infrastructure Committee and arranged to have Randall Neudeck from Metropolitan give a presentation on the California Water Fix, Alternative 4A.</p>
<b>Education</b>	<p>On July 30, Metropolitan delivered artwork from their traveling Student Art "Water-is-Life" exhibit. The artwork was displayed in the MWDOC entryway, and was picked up on August 10<sup>th</sup>.</p>
<b>Media Relations</b>	<p>MWDOC was contacted by KPCC on Thursday, July 30, to participate in a 10-minute segment on the drought and water conservation. Joe Berg represented MWDOC, discussing June water usage numbers for Orange County as provided by the State Water Resources Control Board. The segment aired that day on the Larry Mantle show.</p>
<b>Special Projects</b>	<p>Tiffany and Marey completed the August cover images for MWDOC's social media pages and website.</p> <p>Heather attended the August WACO Planning Committee.</p> <p>Heather attended the Landscape Ordinance Stakeholder Meeting led by Joe Berg and co-sponsored with ACC-OC.</p> <p>Heather staffed the ISDOC luncheon featuring guest speaker, Jennifer Muir of OCEA.</p> <p>Heather attended the monthly ISDOC Executive Committee meeting.</p> <p>Heather gave a presentation on the State Budget at WACO.</p>

<b>Legislative Affairs</b>	<p>Heather met with Sabiha Kahn from Senator Diane Feinstein's office. They were in the process of meeting with water districts across the state to compile a list of projects that would increase the water supply in California and/or use new and innovative technology. With Karl's assistance, MWDOC was able to provide Senator Feinstein's office with a comprehensive list of projects.</p> <p>Heather attended the ACWA State Legislation Committee meeting in Sacramento.</p> <p>Heather participated in the Southern California Water Committee Legislative Task Force conference call.</p> <p>Heather participated in Met's Member Agency Legislative Coordinators Conference Call.</p> <p>Heather met with Peter DeMarco and Julie Perkins from the County of Orange's Legislative Unit. We discussed current ways for our agencies to work together more often and plan to meet regularly.</p> <p>Heather met with Cori Williams and Casey Elliott from TPA to talk about upcoming PAL meetings.</p>
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