

MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY
Jointly with the
PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
May 18, 2020, 8:30 a.m.

Due to the spread of COVID-19 and as authorized by the Governor's Executive Order, MWDOC will be holding all upcoming Board and Committee meetings by Zoom Webinar and will be available by either computer or telephone audio as follows:

Computer Audio: You can join the Zoom meeting by clicking on the following link:
<https://zoom.us/j/8828665300>

Telephone Audio:	(669) 900 9128 fees may apply
	(877) 853 5247 Toll-free
Webinar ID:	882 866 5300#

Committee:

Director Yoo Schneider, Chair
Director Barbre
Director McVicker

Staff: R. Hunter, K. Seckel, H. Baez,
D. Micalizzi, T. Dubuque, T. Baca

Ex Officio Member: Director Tamaribuchi

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

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

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

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES
 - a. Federal Legislative Report (Barker)
 - b. State Legislative Report (BBK)

- c. County Legislative Report (Lewis)
- d. Legal and Regulatory Report (Ackerman)
- e. MWDOC Legislative Matrix
- f. Metropolitan Legislative Matrix

ACTION ITEMS

- 2. TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON, DC TO COVER FEDERAL ADVOCACY INITIATIVES
- 3. TRAVEL TO SACRAMENTO TO COVER STATE ADVOCACY INITIATIVES
- 4. RENEWAL OF CONTRACT WITH SOTO RESOURCES FOR GRANT TRACKING AND ACQUISITION SERVICES
- 5. AB 2107 (RODRIGUEZ & GRAY) – LOCAL GOVERNMENTS: SECURITIZED LIMITED OBLIGATION NOTES
- 6. SB 1386 (MOORLACH) – PROTECTING FIRE HYDRANT SYSTEM FUNDING
- 7. POTENTIAL ACTION REGARDING THE REPLACEMENT OF MWDOC AND METROPOLITAN DIRECTOR

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.)

- 8. MWDOC EDUCATION INITIATIVES
- 9. PUBLIC AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES REPORT

OTHER ITEMS

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

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James C. Barker
Ryan Leavitt

*Municipal Water District of Orange County, California
Washington Update
May 12, 2020*

Some States and Cities Begin to Ease Restrictions on Stay-at-Home Orders and Allow Businesses to Reopen; Congress Returning to Washington and Focusing on Next Phase of COVID-19 Relief Legislation

Many states and communities across the US are taking steps to reduce restrictions and stay-at-home orders. Some businesses are beginning to reopen. The Senate has returned to Washington and has been started holding some hearings in person and others virtually. The Senate has also begun to conduct votes on the Senate Floor. The House is expected to return to DC as soon as this Friday for floor votes. The first item on the House's agenda is a Phase 4 coronavirus relief bill now being referred to as the HEROES Act. Some conversations have taken place in the House to consider allowing for proxy voting and remote hearings, but no consensus or agreement has yet been reached. We are also hearing the House may vote on a resolution to change the House rules to allow Members of Congress to vote remotely. The House Rules Committee will meet on that rules change resolution on Thursday.

Since our last report, Congress passed a fourth coronavirus aid bill (often referred to as Phase 3.5, because the bill replenished some of the funding for programs authorized by Congress in the \$2.3 trillion CARES Act in late March). The Phase 3.5 bill added more money (\$320 billion) for small business loans and added money for coronavirus testing and for hospitals. House and Senate Democrats were unsuccessful at including aid for state and local governments in Phase 3.5, but aid to states and local governments is shaping up to be a key driver for the next bill (Phase 4/HEROES Act).

Coronavirus Relief Legislation (Phase 4):

House Democrats finalized the House's 1,800-page Phase 4 bill today that tops \$3 trillion in spending. The bill may contain \$1 trillion in aid to states, counties, and municipal governments. The bill appropriated \$1.5 billion for utility assistance to low income individuals for rate relief for their utility bills—including water and wastewater. This bill also establishes a moratorium on water service disconnections/terminations. The bill also extends tax credits for paid sick and paid family/medical leave to state and local governments. Details about the bill continue to emerge.

Since our last report, MWDOC sent a letter to our Congressional Delegation and to House and Senate Leadership/relevant Committees advocating for federal assistance for special districts, revenue relief, water infrastructure investments, and payroll tax credit relief. We continue to actively advocate for the inclusion of aid to state and local governments—including for special districts—in a final Phase 4 bill.

The House's Phase 4/HEROES Act was not negotiated with House or Senate Republicans or with the White House. We are hearing that the House could take a vote on this bill as early as Friday. We do expect that this bill will pass the House on a largely party line vote. Early reports are that the Senate plans to move much slower on this. The Senate, led by Senate Leader Mitch McConnell, have been seeking to limit the size and scope of a potential Phase 4 bill citing concerns about federal deficit spending. Last week, Leader McConnell did say that the next bill may likely include some aid to states and local governments, but that he would also want couple that aid with liability limits for businesses reopening amid the pandemic crisis. McConnell also mentioned that he opposes bailing out governors for self-imposed budget problems that preceded the coronavirus.

Unlike the first four coronavirus aid bills, this Phase 4 bill does not yet have broad, bipartisan support. We anticipate that this legislation could take several weeks to be fully negotiated and work its way through Congress. The White House is expecting that this legislation may not be signed into law until June or perhaps even as late as July.

Infrastructure Investments Bill:

One feature that was prominently not included in the House's Phase 4 coronavirus aid bill is an infrastructure investments package. Although last month, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, along with key House Committee Chairs, announced that they would be pursuing an infrastructure bill as part of a Phase 4 stimulus bill, this effort seems to be stalled for now.

In January, House Democrats released a legislative framework that would be a five-year \$760 billion infrastructure bill to improve the nation's roads, bridges, public transit systems, health centers, and very importantly drinking water systems. Specifically, they mentioned \$86 billion for water infrastructure grants, \$50 billion for clean water state revolving fund loans, \$25 billion for the drinking water state revolving fund. Republican Leaders in Congress have been somewhat cold on the idea and concerned mainly about how to pay for the bill, but the President tweeted support for an infrastructure bill.

Just because an infrastructure package is looking doubtful for a Phase 4 coronavirus aid bill, does not mean that Congress may not pass a stand-alone infrastructure bill later this summer or fall. Last week the Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee passed two water infrastructure bills unanimously. The bills, America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2020 (S. 3591), and the Drinking Water Infrastructure Act of 2020 (S. 3590), would authorize new Army Corps of Engineers projects, reauthorize the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and the Safe Drinking Water Act emergency fund, and make a series of policy changes regarding drinking water, flood control and water supply programs.

Highlights of these bills include the authorization of about \$17 billion in water infrastructure projects, including Western water storage provisions. It also authorizes the EPA's Clean Water State Revolving Fund and increases that authorization over three years to \$3 billion and reauthorizes WIFIA. Additionally, the legislation provides about \$2.5 billion in authorizations for the Safe Drinking Water Act emergency fund and provides \$300 billion in grants for the removal of drinking water contaminants—including PFAS.

These bills are the vehicle for the 2020 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), which is typically authorized every two years (the last being authorized in 2018).

EPW Committee Chairman Barrasso expressed during the committee meeting last week that these two water infrastructure bills passed by the Committee could be paired with a highway bill that the EPW Committee passed last fall to "answer the president's call to help revive our nation's economy once we've moved beyond the immediate health crisis."

Although the passage in the Committee was unanimous, the Ranking Member Tom Carper flagged two concerns with the legislation that will need to be addressed before the it is ready to be considered by the full Senate. 1) Distribution of Harbor Maintenance funds, and 2) Clean Water Act standards for PFAS that industrial sources can dump into waterways.

The Committee did approve a PFAS amendment that was previously passed by the Senate last year in the 2020 Defense Authorization Bill, but which was not included in the final passage of the compromise Defense Authorization bill with the House. That PFAS language requires the

EPA to issue a drinking water regulation for PFOS and PFOA specifically. The amendment requires that EPA issue those regulations within two years.

Appropriations Process Delayed:

Although the formal appropriations process of hearings and markups has been delayed by the coronavirus, Committee Staff continue to work on the FY21 appropriations bills. House Appropriations Chairwoman Lowey said that the House will not consider any FY21 spending legislation until lawmakers finish consideration of the next round of COVID-19 relief. The Senate's appropriations bills may be ready for consideration in July.

As a reminder, on behalf of MWDOC, we submitted an appropriation request to all of the Orange County House Members and both CA Senators. The request was language to be added to the FY21 Energy & Water Appropriations bill that would benefit water projects that have already gone through the process to be awarded grants under the WIIN Act and that have already had their projects subsequently approved by Congress in an appropriations bill. MWDOC's requested language would remove the requirement that future grant awards for those previously approved projects have to once again be approved by Congress in future spending bills. If this "second bite" language is adopted, it could significantly shorten the time between when the grant is awarded by the BOR and when the grant funds are actually dispersed to the water agency that was awarded the grant.

We are continuing to advocate for full funding of important water programs and agencies like the BOR, USACE, Clean/Drinking Water State Revolving Funds, and the WIFIA program. All of these programs were given large cuts in the President's FY21 Budget Proposal.

PFAS Update:

The House Armed Services Committee is continuing its work on the annual defense spending bill referred to as the National Defense Authorization Act or NDAA. You may remember that last year, the House added significant provisions to the NDAA related to PFAS. After a very contentious fight with the Senate over the PFAS provisions, most of them were stripped out of the final NDAA passed in December 2019. On April 2, 2020, a bipartisan group of 22 House Members, including Rep. Harley Rouda and Rep. Alan Lowenthal, sent a letter to the House Armed Services Committee Chairman and Ranking Member asking that PFAS provisions be included in the 2021 NDAA—including Representative Dingell's PFAS bill that passed the House in January 2020 (H.R. 535). As you know, H.R. 535 designates PFAS as a hazardous substance under the Superfund Law CERCLA. As a reminder, MWDOC sent a letter to all of Orange County's Congressional Delegation expressing concerns with designating PFAS under

CERCLA without some clarification that water systems are exempted from Superfund liability. We continue to track this issue very closely.

The Senate Armed Services Committee is aiming to consider its version of the NDAA in early June. The full Committee would markup up the bill on June 10th. It is not clear yet what PFAS provision may be included in the Senate's version of the bill, but we are watching this closely.

Trump Administration vs. California on New Endangered Species Rules in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

In response to the US Bureau of Reclamation's finalizing an update to earlier biological opinions on February 20, 2020, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife issued a new state Incidental Take Permit (ITP) for the long-term operations of the State Water Project (SWP) on March 31, 2020.

As a result, a number of Republican California Federal lawmakers sent letters to Governor Newsom expressing disappointment and serious concern with California's new ITP for the long-term operation of the SWP. Their letter called for cooperative and coordinated operations of the SWP and the Federal Central Valley Project (CVP). Later, another group of Democratic Congressional lawmakers from California also sent a letter to Governor Newsom. Their letter asked the Governor to take steps to preserve the longstanding tradition of successfully coordinating the operation of the SWP and the CVP by continuing to negotiate with the necessary parties for the State to settle its lawsuit with the federal government stemming from the conflict between the federal biological opinions and the State's recently issued ITP. *The day before this second letter was sent to the Governor, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California voted to sue the state of California over a permit related to operations of the SWP.*

Last week, the California Natural Resources Agency and the California EPA wrote a letter in response to the April 7th Republican letter to Governor Newsome. In that letter California affirmed the importance of providing reliable water supplies to communities in California but reiterated their opinion that the biological opinions issued by the Bureau of Reclamation in February are flawed and put several endangered species in the Delta watershed at immediate risk of extinction. The letter goes on to explain that their opinion is that the new ITP includes important safeguards for endangered species and will strengthen water security for Californians.

Last week, Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) Commissioner Brenda Burman also sent a letter to Senator Feinstein regarding California's lawsuit against the federal government and the new ITP that was developed without coordination with the federal CVP. Burman expressed that the US Dept. of Interior and the BOR are continuing to attempt to coordinate operations between

the CVP and SWP to ensure a safe and reliable water supply for Californians. Lastly, Commissioner Burman affirmed the BOR's commitment to implement the 2019 biological opinions to make water more reliable and she invited Senator Feinstein to join them in that effort.

Yesterday, a federal judge in the Eastern District of California granted California's request to temporarily halt part of the Trump Administration's new endangered species rules. Specifically, the judge ordered a stop to a planned increase in pumping out of the Delta through May 31. This ruling ordered the federally operated CVP to revert to Obama-era rules regarding water exports from the San Joaquin River. The judge cited the federal Endangered Species Act to justify this decision. This litigation is ongoing.

JCB/RWL 5/12/20

Memorandum

To: Municipal Water District of Orange County
From: Syrus Devers, Best Best & Krieger
Date: May 18, 2020
Re: Monthly State Political Report

Legislative Report

The Assembly reconvened under special procedures on May 4th and the Senate followed suit on May 11th. The process so far is slow moving. The committees meet in the main chambers where the members can spread out, which means only one committee meets at a time. In-person testimony by witnesses is possible but highly discouraged. In order to enter the Capitol, a witness would need to first check in with the sergeants who will require a mask and a specific reason to enter the building. The sergeants will then escort the witness to the chambers, opening all doors and only allowing one person in an elevator at a time. After giving testimony, the witness is then escorted out of the building. BB&K staff will be taking advantage of the phone system set up for support and opposition testimony, which moves slowly but seems to work well.

The first policy committee hearings relevant to water will meet on the 13th and 14th when the Assembly Natural Resources (NR) and Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials (ESTM) Committees meet. MWDOC has a support letter on file for AB 2560 (Quirk—ESTM) and a watch position on AB 3256 (E. Garcia—NR), which is the Assembly vehicle a water bond (and other subjects). BB&K will report on the outcomes at the PAL hearing.

Administrative Report

Shortly after this report was due the Governor released the May Revise for the State Budget. It is reasonable to assume that this will be the most significant budget revise in the state's history owing to speed and extent of the financial reversal. At the beginning of the year fiscal analysts predicted that the state would likely hit the statutory savings limit for the state's rainy-day fund. According to a letter from the Department of Finance release on Thursday, May 7th, the state's budget deficit will likely be \$54.3 billion, which approaches the nearly \$60 billion dollar deficit in 2009 during the height of the Great Recession.



In water-related news, as MWDOC is aware, the administration is being sued by both northern and southern California water interests. The northern California agencies are suing on largely the same grounds as MWD with the additional issue that the operating permit issued by the Dept. of Water Resources for the State Water Project (SWP) failed to consider impacts north of the Delta. Meanwhile, the state and enviros are suing the feds over the operation of the Central Valley Project. The big news there is that the SWP contractors took the extraordinary step of seeking to intervene in the lawsuit as defendants. In short, everyone is suing everyone else. Long-time water policy observers (a.k.a. water buffaloes) are tossing around terms such as “unprecedented” and “unheard of” to describe the current state of affairs. As an MWD member BB&K staff presumes MWDOC is well-briefed on these matters and mentions them here only as a point of information, and would be happy to provide further information if requested.

The County of Orange Report

May 12, 2020
by Lewis Consulting Group



May 13 Agenda - **Final 20-21 LAFCO Budget Highlights Meeting**

The May 13th LAFCO meeting will be another with an absence of controversial items. The fiscal year final budget is the only consequential matter before the commission..

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items not on the agenda, provided that the subject matter is within the jurisdiction of the Commission and that no action may be taken on an off-agenda item(s) unless authorized by law.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

a.) April 8, 2020 – Regular Commission Meeting Minutes

The Commission will consider approval of the April 8, 2020 meeting minutes.

6. PUBLIC HEARING

a.) Fiscal Year 2020-21 OC LAFCO Final Budget

The Commission will consider adoption of the FY 2020-21 OC LAFCO Final Budget.

7. COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND ACTION

a.) Memorandum of Understanding with California State University, Fullerton Auxiliary Services Corporation

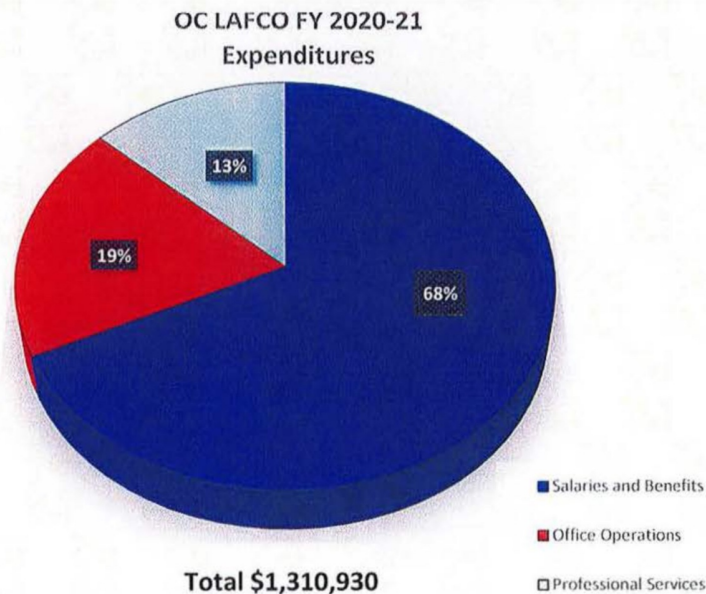
The Commission will consider the approval of a three-year (Fiscal Years 2020-2023) Memorandum of Understanding with California State University, Fullerton Auxiliary Services Corporation for services provided by the Center for Demographic Research.

b.) OC LAFCO Policy for the Emergency Family and Medical Leave Act and Emergency Paid Sick Leave

The Commission will consider the adoption of an agency policy in response to the Families First Coronavirus Response Act signed into law on March 18, 2020 with an effective date of April 1, 2020.

8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

The final proposed LAFCO budget presented at the May 13, 2020 meeting (one day after our print deadline) is balanced and totals \$1,257,510. On the revenue side, apportionments account for \$1,169,500 with cities providing \$390,000 of the income, special districts \$374,833 and the balance from the County of Orange,



OC LAFCO FY 2020-21 City Allocations

City	FY 2020-21 City Allocation
Aliso Viejo	\$ 5,801.67
Anaheim	41,218.15
Brea	6,573.82
Buena Park	9,267.00
Costa Mesa	13,128.16
Cypress	5,601.89
Dana Point	4,346.20
Fountain Valley	6,735.75
Fullerton	16,896.74
Garden Grove	18,444.80
Huntington Beach	23,068.75
Irvine	38,326.32
Laguna Beach	4,011.46
Laguna Hills	4,132.54
Laguna Niguel	8,912.79
Laguna Woods	2,110.31
La Habra	6,929.55
Lake Forest	10,965.00
La Palma	1,701.37
Los Alamitos	1,919.15
Mission Viejo	12,078.26
Newport Beach	13,217.37
Orange	17,587.93
Placentia	5,802.80
Rancho Santa Margarita	7,023.26
San Clemente	9,628.34
San Juan Capistrano	6,390.16
Santa Ana	33,881.19
Seal Beach	4,842.10
Stanton	3,919.26
Tustin	9,227.27
Villa Park	971.94
Westminster	9,883.98
Yorba Linda	10,288.05
TOTAL	\$ 374,833.33

OC LAFCO FY 2020-21 Special District Allocations

District	ISDOC Formula Calculation FY 2020-21
Silverado-Modjeska Rec. & Park	\$ 449.80
Surfside Colony Stormwater	449.80
Rossmoor/Los Alamitos Area Sewer District	449.80
Surfside Colony CSD	449.80
Capistrano Bay CSD	2,211.52
Rossmoor CSD	2,211.52
Three Arch Bay CSD	2,211.52
Emerald Bay CSD	2,211.52
Buena Park Library District	2,211.52
Placentia Library District	2,211.52
Orange County Cemetery District	3,373.50
Orange County Vector Control District	4,460.52
Total Non-Enterprise Districts	\$ 22,902.32
Sunset Beach Sanitary District	4,460.52
Serrano Water District	13,381.55
East Orange Co. Water District	13,381.55
Midway City Sanitary District	17,804.58
Trabuco Canyon Water District	17,804.58
Costa Mesa Sanitary District	17,804.58
El Toro Water District	22,265.10
Mesa Water District	22,265.10
Yorba Linda Water District	22,265.10
South Coast Water District	26,725.62
Moulton Niguel Water District	31,186.13
Santa Margarita Water District	31,186.13
Municipal Water District of O.C.	35,646.65
Orange County Water District	35,646.65
Irvine Ranch Water District	40,107.17
Total Enterprise Districts	\$ 351,931.01
Total Special Districts	\$ 374,833.33



Board Moves to Weekly Meetings **During COVID-19 CRISIS**

Traditionally the County Board of Supervisors meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. At the suggestion of Chairwoman Michelle Steel, the Board is now meeting each Tuesday to accept weekly reports from key County Health Officials updating information on the status of COVID-19 in

Orange County.

The regular meeting on the second and fourth Tuesdays still resolve the vast majority of County issues but occasionally non-health related issues will be added to the special health meetings as well.

COVID-19 Stokes Board Divide

The May 5th meeting of the Board of Supervisors featured intense debate over the handling of the Governor's closure of Orange County beaches. Supervisor Andrew Do argued that even if distasteful, the rule of law must reign supreme. He argued that the County should submit an immediate plan for the Governor's review that would encompass numerous beach restrictions including limited hours, social distancing and a ban of staying in one place. Supervisor Don Wagner characterized the beach ban as "arbitrary and capricious" and probably unconstitutional. He argued to ignore the Governor's order. On a final vote of 3-2, with Supervisor Steel joining in opposition with Supervisor Wagner, the motion to submit a plan to the Governor was adopted and shortly after the Governor lifted the beach ban.

At the May 12th meeting of the Board, the Supervisors were subjected to blistering attacks from forty people sharing public comments. Those testifying unanimously argued to "open up" Orange County. Moms with small children joined with small business owners demanding the Supervisors take action. Later in the meeting, Supervisors expressed empathy for those negatively affected but lay the blame squarely at the feet of Governor Newsom.

The Supervisors expressed frustration with a number of Sacramento edicts including the requirement that to move from Stage Two recovery to Stage Three recovery, among other things, a County would need to go fourteen consecutive days without a COVID-19 death. This requirement exists for all counties regardless of population. So what is easy to accomplish in Alpine County is much harder for more populous counties. The Board voted unanimously to join with San Bernardino, Riverside, and San Diego counties to jointly send a letter to the Governor expressing concerns.

The Board also on a 3-2 vote defeated (at least temporally) a plan by Supervisor Wagner to divert \$75 million of CARES ACT money to Orange County cities for distribution to small businesses. Once again, Wagner was joined by Supervisor Michelle Steel, signaling new alliances in the Board.

Board Approved Teeter Bond Limit

With a hat tip to Peer Swan for bringing the matter up at our April PAL meeting, the next day, April 21st at the scheduled COVID-19 health update meeting, the Board also voted on an urgent update to the Orange County Teeter Bond Program.

The Teeter Bond financing mechanism is used by 93 government entities that benefit from an earlier distribution of property tax revenues. Because of fears of impending property tax delinquencies, the County sought an increase in the program to a \$150 million limit, an increase from current \$100 million limit. The County's Teeter Bond financial partner Wells Fargo Bank notified the County on April 10th that due to uncertainties in the current credit markets the Board would have to approve the credit hike by April 21st. The rapidity of the matter also meant the Board had to change it's usual procedure of allowing bond financing to first be approved by the Public Financing Advisory Committee (PFAC).

The matter was non-controversial in nature and was passed unanimously in seconds.



Where Orange County Ranks

LOCATION	POPULATION	CONFIRMED CASES	DEATHS
CALIFORNIA	39,512,223	67,939	2,770
LOS ANGELES COUNTY	10,098,052	32,258	1,569
RIVERSIDE COUNTY	2,383,286	5,189	217
SAN DIEGO COUNTY	3,302,833	5,065	175
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY	2,135,413	3,015	115
ORANGE COUNTY	3,164,182	3,557	77



LATEST PRESIDENTIAL POLLS

Wednesday, May 6

Race/Topic (Click to Sort)	Poll	Results	Spread
General Election: Trump vs. Biden	Monmouth	Biden 50, Trump 41	Biden +9
General Election: Trump vs. Biden	Economist/YouGov	Biden 46, Trump 42	Biden +4
General Election: Trump vs. Biden	CNBC	Biden 47, Trump 44	Biden +3

From the Public Policy Institute of California April 2020 Poll

Under Proposition 13, passed by the California voters in 1978, residential and commercial property taxes are both strictly limited. What if there was a state ballot measure to have commercial properties taxed according to their current market value and direct some of this new tax revenue to state funding for K–12 public schools?

Would you vote yes or no?

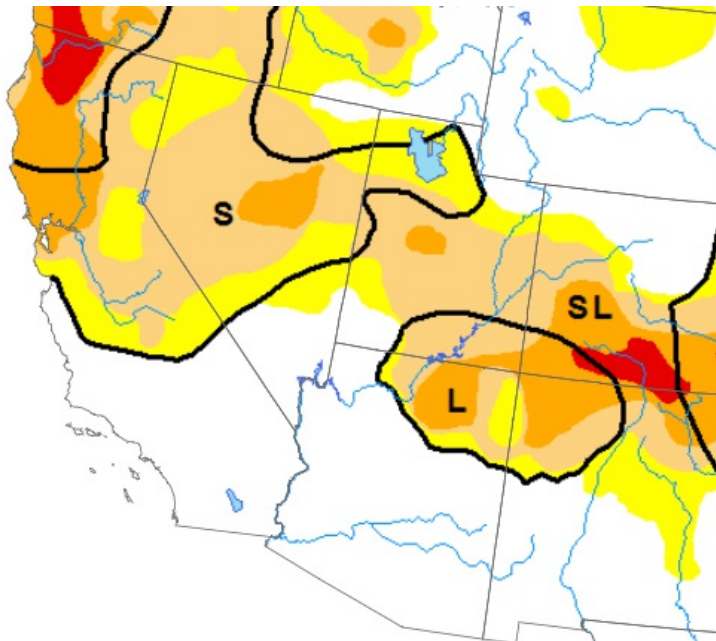
53% yes
46% no
2% don't know

What if there was a measure on your local ballot to increase local parcel taxes to provide more funds for the local public schools?

Would you vote yes or no?

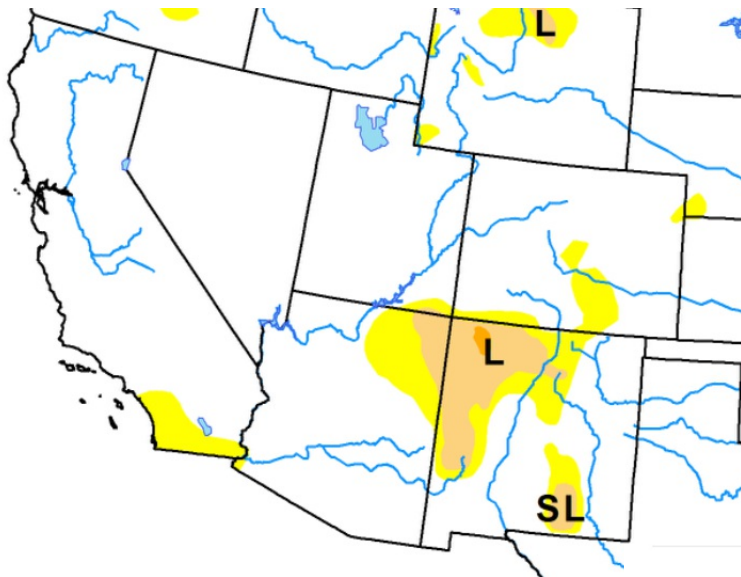
42% yes
57% no
1% don't know

California Water Supply - Good News / Bad News



May 5, 2020
U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR

and one year ago . . .



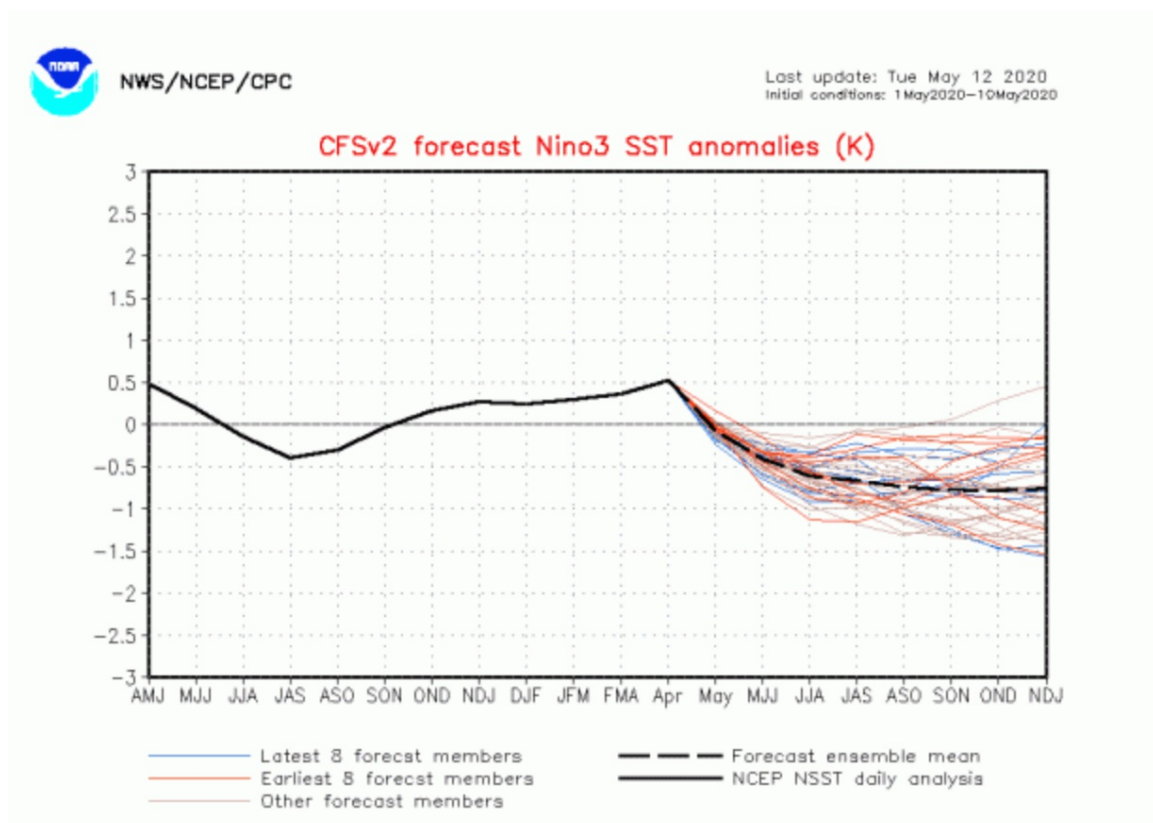
Intensity and Impacts

None	D3 (Extreme Drought)
D0 (Abnormally Dry)	D4 (Exceptional Drought)
D1 (Moderate Drought)	No Data
D2 (Severe Drought)	

The May 5, 2020 U.S. Drought Monitor shows a tale of two Californias, with Southern California experiencing no current drought. Unfortunately a sub par rain and snow season has left Northern California at a deficit and as of April 1, the Golden State snowpack was only 53% of average. Luckily, the 2019 season left our reserves in good shape, giving us an additional cushion.

The Colorado River basin is also suffering from drought conditions. Rivers feeding Lake Powell are running at 50% of the May 12th average. Even so, Lake Powell as of May 11, 2020, is 24.4 feet over this date last year.

Is La Niña Looming? ENSO METER



ACKERMAN CONSULTING

Legal and Regulatory

May 18, 2020

1. **Sites Reduced in Size:** Sites Reservoir in Colusa County is one of the major facilities being considered to enhance our above ground storage capacity. As the planning for Sites continues, it is being scaled down due to cost concerns. The original estimate was \$5.1 billion, which many thought, was not feasible or economically viable. The new cost is \$3 billion. The size would be reduced from 1.8 million acre feet to 1.5 million acre feet. An 18-mile pipeline is being dropped in exchange for using existing canals. In addition, a hydro plant is being scrapped. Construction is being delayed until 2022 or 2023 with completion by 2030. Water experts believe the project is still essential and workable at the reduced scope. Environmentalists still oppose. Water will be diverted from the Sacramento River to fill the reservoir. Water districts from throughout the state are still financially supporting the project.
2. **Groundwater For Sale:** As a result of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), local areas are required to come up with regional plans to manage and monitor use of groundwater. Many of these plans in the Central Valley contain proposals for groundwater markets. This would allow farmers and other water rights holders to sell their groundwater on the open market to comply with the plan. Concerns have arisen about small pockets of residential folks who may be impacted by such market sales and smaller farming operations who may not have the resources of the larger farmers. All stakeholders have input in the process but some people believe they are being pushed out by the big farms. It should be noted that the trading aspects would only engage in time of droughts or when pumping would spike up. These market features already exist in Ventura and San Bernardino Counties. The discussions referenced above are occurring in Kern County primarily.
3. **Coronavirus Sewage Testing:** We have previously discussed the fact that treatment in US plants of sewage and wastewater generally kills coronavirus of all kinds. However, testing is occurring of untreated sewage primarily near the Mexican border. This testing is examining sea spray for airborne coronavirus. UC San Diego is conducting the test of SARS CoV 2 coronavirus, which is a relative of the current Covid 19. The study is looking for hotspots and ocean and wind conditions, which could potentially spread the virus. Australian researchers are doing similar studies of Covid 19 in their wastewater treatment plants to determine frequency and hotspots.
4. **Megadrought Predictions:** A study, led by Columbia University, of California and other western states suggested that we might be heading into a megadrought. It compares data back 1200 years and compares the results to a 28-year drought in 1603. There is still debate over how much of these predictions can be attributed to climate change versus nature's normal weather cycles. Most of this date is derived from study of tree rings. Many of the tree stumps are under lakes or other landmasses and have to be dug up for examination. Some of these stumps

came from underneath Mono Lake and other areas in the Sierras.

5. **Groundwater Measurement:** Groundwater measurement continues to get more high tech. The University of Nebraska has joined with NASA in a project for enhanced groundwater measuring. Using two satellites 130 miles apart and 300 miles up traveling at near 17,000 miles per hour, they can cover in the entire globe over a 30-day period. The key is measuring the gravity fields of snow, land and water to determine the location, depth and change in volume of groundwater. The picture taken by the satellites is about eight mile squares, which allow easy comparison of change of conditions. This current system allows examination of much deeper aquifer systems than before.
6. **Almond Acreage Increasing:** Industry and agricultural groups all report steady increase of almond acreage in California. Total acreage is estimated at 1.5 million acres, up 10% from the prior year. Current projected acreage is also increasing including new plantings. The reason for the increase is high demand locally and internationally. Improved irrigation techniques have also helped.
7. **Flush Issues:** What people are flushing down the toilet continues to be an issue in water treatment plants in California and the rest of the US. The yet to be explained run on toilet paper has created alternative methods which will have both near and far term results for the plants. Obvious nonstarters are paper towels and similar products that were not designed to decompose in water and related systems. The bigger problem is the various categories of “wipes”. Some of these are designed to decompose in the system but many other are not so designed but are being advertised as such. This has become a major problem in areas such as Coachella, which have pipe systems that approach 200 miles and take months to complete their journey. This fact in addition to reduced work force in many areas due to Covid 19 make clearing clogged pipes in a timely fashion more difficult.
8. **SGMA Update:** Here are a couple of issues resulting for the process for development of plans in various areas of the state. A Stanford professor has been studying perceptions involved in the planning process as it relates to “fairness”. Most stakeholders interviewed (primarily farmers) have expressed a general view that the final allocation must be fair to all concerned. They have not put their personal interests as a top priority but the general good for all involved. Realizing that there has to be a degree of trust among the participants to make the plan work, there was a consensus that the final result had to make sense for everyone not just a single user. They also thought the process must appear to be fairly conducted. Similar per acre allocations also seemed to be acceptable. At the same time, some residents in remote areas of Fresno County were complaining that their interest were not being considered and that the farming groups were dominating the discussions. Residents were also complaining the Department of Water Resources (DWR) was favoring farmers over them. Most of the residential wells in these remote areas will run dry long before the farmers because of shallower wells. The State has awarded grants to some of these communities but their impact is of now uncertain.
9. **The Blob Returns:** Blob 2.0 has returned to the North Pacific Ocean. Starting last summer, weakened wind patterns and warmer ocean temperatures have reborn the Blob. The Blob, which is a large area of warm ocean water that generally attracts toxic algae growth and completely changes the food chain environment of a large

section of the Pacific Ocean. In 2019, the North Pacific experienced the weakest atmospheric circulation conditions over the last 40 years. Weaker winds reduce evaporation and cause the ocean to heat up. This completely changes the marine ecosystems.

10. **Urine Fertilizer:** A Swiss invention known as the “Urine Express” is being used to convert phosphorus and other minerals from urine in mobile treatment plants. These products are used for fertilizer for grass fields and the units are set up next to sport fields. In addition to being put to good use, it keeps this volume out of the normal sewage system. The mobile plant also produces distilled water for irrigation purposes. More sophisticated units could actually produce drinking water. Magnesium oxide is added to the minerals to make the finished fertilizer. The plant, about the size of a small U-Haul trailer can produce about 500 liters of product per day. It is designed for remote areas. It is currently being tested in Switzerland, Nepal and South Africa. Germany is also looking at a similar process for the agricultural areas. Phosphorus is important to human and other living creatures as it is necessary for energy levels and healthy bones and teeth. (Hope our Porta Potty industry is following these studies!)

Municipal Water District of Orange County

PAL Committee, 5/18/2020

Item No. 1e

Prepared by Best Best & Krieger LLP

A. Priority Support/Oppose

Measure	Author	Topic	Status	Brief Summary	Position	Priority	Notes 1
AB 2093	Gloria D	Public records: writing transmitted by electronic mail: retention.	3/10/2020-Action From JUD.: Do pass.To APPR..	Would, unless a longer retention period is required by statute or regulation, or established by the Secretary of State pursuant to the State Records Management Act, require a public agency, for purposes of the California Public Records Act, to retain and preserve for at least 2 years every public record, as defined, that is transmitted by electronic mail.	Opposed	A. Priority Support/ Oppose	Letter submitted on April 17 th .
AB 2182	Rubio, Blanca D	Emergency backup generators: water and wastewater facilities: exemption.	3/2/2020-Referred to Coms. on U. & E. and NAT. RES.	Would exempt the operation of an alternative power source, as defined, to provide power to a critical facility, as defined, from any local, regional, or state regulation regarding the operation of that source. The bill would authorize providers of essential public services, in lieu of compliance with applicable legal requirements, to comply with the maintenance and testing procedure set forth in the National Fire Protection Association Standard for Emergency and Standby Power System, NFPA 110, for alternative power sources designated by the providers for the support of critical facilities.	Support	A. Priority Support/ Oppose	Letter submitted on April 17 th .
AB 2246	Mayes R	Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 exemption for MWD.	2/27/2020 Referred to Coms. on NAT. RES. and W., P., & W.	Would additionally exempt from the provisions of the act emergency excavations or grading conducted by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California for the specified purposes and surface mining operations conducted on lands owned or leased, or upon which easements or rights-of-way have been obtained, by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California for the purpose of repairing, maintaining, or replacing pipelines, infrastructure, or related transmission systems used for the distribution of water in the specified counties. The bill would require the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to provide an annual report to the Department of Conservation and any affected county by the date specified by the department on these surface mining operations.	Support	A. Priority Support/ Oppose	MWD coalition letter.
AB 2296	Quirk D	State Water Resources Control Board: local primacy delegation: funding stabilization	2/24/2020-Referred to Com. on E.S. & T.M.	Would authorize the State Water Resources Control Board to delegate partial responsibility for the California Safe Drinking Water Act's administration and enforcement by means of a local primacy delegation agreement. The bill would authorize the state board, for counties that	Out for Analysis	A. Priority Support/ Oppose	

		program.		have not been delegated primary responsibility as of January 1, 2021, to offer an opportunity for the county to apply for partial or primary responsibility if the state board determines that it needs assistance in performing administrative and enforcement activities, as specified. The bill would authorize the state board to approve the application for delegation if the state board determines that the local health officer is able to sufficiently perform the administrative and enforcement activities and would specify that a local primacy agency has all of the authority over designated public water systems as is granted to the state board by the act.			
AB 2560	Quirk D	Water quality: notification and response levels: procedures.	2/20/2020-From printer. May be heard in committee March 21.	The California Safe Drinking Water Act requires the State Water Resources Control Board to adopt drinking water standards for contaminants in drinking water based upon specified criteria and requires any person who owns a public water system to ensure that the system, among other things, complies with those drinking water standards. The act requires a public water system to provide prescribed notices within 30 days after it is first informed of a confirmed detection of a contaminant found in drinking water delivered by the public water system for human consumption that is in excess of a maximum contaminant level, a notification level, or a response level established by the state board. This bill would require the state board to comply with specified public notice and comment and peer review procedures, as prescribed, when establishing or revising notification or response levels.	Support	A. Priority Support/ Oppose	Letter submitted on April 17 th .
SB 45	Allen D	Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020.	1/30/2020-In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk.	Would enact the Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$5,510,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for a wildfire prevention, safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection program.	Out for Analysis	A. Priority Support/ Oppose	
SB 996	Portantino D	State Water Resources Control Board: Constituents of Emerging Concern Program.	3/5/2020-Referred to Com. on EQ.	Would require the State Water Resources Control Board to establish by an unspecified date and then maintain an ongoing, dedicated program called the Constituents of Emerging Concern Program to support and conduct research to develop information and, if necessary, provide recommendations to the state board on constituents of emerging concern in drinking water that may pose risks to public health. The bill would require the state board to establish the Stakeholder Advisory Group and the Science Advisory Panel, both as prescribed, to assist in the gathering and development of information for the program, among other	Support	A. Priority Support/ Oppose	MWD coalition letter

				functions. The bill would require the program to provide opportunities for public participation, including conducting stakeholder meetings and workshops to solicit relevant information and feedback for development and implementation of the program.			
SB 1099	Dodd D	Emergency backup generators: critical facilities: exemption.	2/27/2020-Referred to Com. on EQ.	Would, consistent with federal law, require air districts to adopt a rule, or revise its existing rules, to allow critical facilities with a permitted emergency backup generator to use that emergency backup generator during a deenergization event or other loss of power, and to test and maintain that emergency backup generator, as specified, without having that usage, testing, or maintenance count toward that emergency backup generator's time limitation on actual usage and routine testing and maintenance. The bill would prohibit air districts from imposing a fee on the issuance or renewal of a permit issued for those critical facility emergency backup generators.	Support	A. Priority Support/ Oppose	Letter submitted on April 17 th .

B. Watch

Measure	Author	Topic	Status	Brief Summary	Position	Priority	Notes 1
AB 1957	Gallagher R	Paradise Irrigation District: water pipeline: design-build process.	2/18/2020-Re-referred to Com. on L. GOV.	Current law authorizes, until January 1, 2025, local agencies, as defined, to use the design-build project delivery process, as specified, for specified public works. This bill would authorize the Paradise Irrigation District to utilize the design-build project delivery process to assign contracts for the construction of a water conveyance pipeline from the Town of Paradise to the City of Chico.	Watch	B. Watch	
AB 2095	Cooper D	Water theft: enhanced penalties.	2/24/2020-Re-referred to Com. on L. GOV.	Current law authorizes the legislative body of a city or a county to make, by ordinance, any violation of an ordinance subject to an administrative fine or penalty and limits the maximum fine or penalty amounts for infractions, to \$100 for the first violation, \$200 for a 2nd violation of the same ordinance within one year of the first violation, and \$500 for each additional violation of the same ordinance within one year of the first violation. This bill would authorize the legislative body of a city or a county to make, by ordinance, any violation of an ordinance regarding water theft, as defined, subject to an administrative fine or penalty in excess of the limitations above, as specified.	Out for Analysis	B. Watch	
AB 2148	Quirk D	Climate change: adaptation: regional climate adaptation planning groups: regional climate adaptation plans.	3/9/2020-Re-referred to Com. on NAT. RES.	Current law establishes the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program, administered by the Office of Planning and Research, to coordinate regional and local efforts with state climate adaptation strategies to adapt to the impacts of climate change, as specified. This bill would require the Strategic Growth Council, by July 1,	Out for Analysis	B. Watch	

				2021, to establish guidelines for the formation of regional climate adaptation planning groups. The bill would require the council, by July 1, 2022, to develop criteria for the development of regional climate adaptation plans.			
AB 2322	Friedman D	Small water suppliers and rural communities: drought and water shortage planning: repeal.	2/15/2020-From printer. May be heard in committee March 16.	Current law makes legislative findings and declarations regarding drought planning for small water suppliers and rural communities, and requires the Department of Water Resources, in consultation with the State Water Resources Control Board and other relevant state and local agencies and stakeholders, to use available data to identify, no later than January 1, 2020, small water suppliers and rural communities that may be at risk of drought and water shortage vulnerability and notify counties and groundwater sustainability agencies of those suppliers or communities. Current law requires the department, in consultation with the state board, to propose to the Governor and the Legislature, by January 1, 2020, recommendations and guidance relating to the development and implementation of countywide drought and water shortage contingency plans to address the planning needs of small water suppliers and rural communities, as provided. This bill would repeal these provisions.	Watch	B. Watch	
AB 2324	Friedman D	Urban water use.	2/15/2020-From printer. May be heard in committee March 16.	Current law requires the Department of Water Resources, in coordination with the State Water Resources Control Board, to conduct necessary studies and investigations, as prescribed, and make a recommendation to the Legislature, by January 1, 2020, on the feasibility of developing and enacting water loss reporting requirements for urban wholesale water suppliers. This bill would repeal these provisions.	Watch	B. Watch	
AB 3256	Garcia, Eduardo D	Climate risks: bond measure.	2/24/2020-Read first time.	The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018, approved by the voters as Proposition 68 at the June 5, 2018, statewide direct primary election, authorizes the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$4,000,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a drought, water, parks, climate, coastal protection, and outdoor access for all program. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact a bond measure that would address climate risks to the State of California.	Out for Analysis	B. Watch	
SB 797	Wilk R	Water resources: permit to appropriate: application procedure.	3/3/2020-Set for hearing March 24.	Current law requires the State Water Resources Control Board to issue and deliver a notice of an application as soon as practicable after the receipt of an application for a permit to appropriate water that conforms to the law. Current law allows interested persons to file a written protest with regard to an application to appropriate	Out for Analysis	B. Watch	

				water and requires the protestant to set forth the objections to the application. Current law declares that no hearing is necessary to issue a permit in connection with an unprotested application, or if the undisputed facts support the issuance of the permit and there is no disputed issue of material fact, unless the board elects to hold a hearing. This bill, if the board has not rendered a final determination on an application for a permit to appropriate water within 30 years from the date the application was filed, would require the board to issue a new notice and provide an opportunity for protests before rendering a final determination, with specified exceptions.			
SB 971	Hertzberg D	Small water supplier and countywide water shortage contingency planning.	3/3/2020-Set for hearing March 24.	Would require a small water supplier, as defined, with 1,000 to 2,999 service connections, inclusive, to prepare and adopt a small water supplier water shortage contingency plan that consists of specified elements. The bill would require a small water supplier with 15 to 999 service connections, inclusive, to take specified actions related to water shortage planning and response. The bill would require small water suppliers to provide to the public, and to report, the plan and specified water shortage planning information, as prescribed.	Out for Analysis	B. Watch	
SB 1011	Dahle R	Water quality: waste discharge requirements: fees: report.	2/27/2020-Referred to Com. on RLS.	The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, with certain exceptions, requires a waste discharger to file a report of waste discharge with a California regional water quality control board and to pay an annual fee established by the State Water Resources Control Board (state board). The act requires the state board to report to the Governor and the Legislature on the expenditure of those annual fees on or before January 1 of each year. This bill would make a nonsubstantive change to these provisions.	Out for Analysis	B. Watch	
SB 1044	Allen D	Firefighting equipment and foam: PFAS chemicals.	2/27/2020-Referred to Coms. on EQ., G.O., and JUD.	Would, commencing January 1, 2022, require any person, including a manufacturer, as defined, that sells firefighter personal protective equipment to any person or public entity to provide a written notice to the purchaser at the time of sale if the firefighter personal protective equipment contains perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), and would provide that a violation of this requirement is punishable by a specified civil penalty. The bill would require the seller and the purchaser to retain the notice on file for at least 3 years and to furnish the notice and associated sales documentation to the State Fire Marshal within 60 days upon request, as provided.	Out for Analysis	B. Watch	
SB 1056	Portantino D	Drinking water: testing: perfluoroalkyl and	2/27/2020-Referred to Com. on EQ.	Would require the State Water Resources Control Board, on or before January 1, 2022, to certify a methodology or methodologies for testing drinking water, groundwater, and	Out for Analysis	B. Watch	

		polyfluoroalkyl substances.		surface water for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, as provided, and to accredit qualified laboratories in California to analyze perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances pursuant to the adopted methodology or methodologies.			
Total Measures: 18							
Total Tracking Forms: 18							

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
State Legislative Matrix
May 4, 2020

Bill Number Author	Amended Date; Location	Title-Summary	MWD Position	Effects on Metropolitan
AB 1071 Limon (D) Sponsor: California Climate and Agricultural Network	Amended 1/6/2020 Senate	Climate change: agriculture: Agricultural Climate Adaptation Tools Program: grants Establishes a pilot program in the Central Valley, Central Coast and desert regions of the state where grant funding is available for the purposes of developing planning tools for adapting to climate change within the agricultural sector.	SUPPORT Based upon Board Action on 7/9/2019	The bill was amended to mirror language from AB 409 (Limón), which Metropolitan supported. The Board has formally adopted policies supporting research related to the effects of climate change on water supply and water quality. This measure provides funding and guidance to support resilient agricultural practices.
AB 1580 Levine (D) Sponsor: Author	Amended 7/1/2019 Senate Appropriations Committee - Suspense File	Major infrastructure construction projects: oversight committees Requires a state agency undertaking a publicly-funded infrastructure project of \$1 billion or more to form an oversight committee and develop a risk management plan to minimize cost overruns.	OPPOSE Based upon Board- adopted 2019 State Legislative Priorities and Principles	To the extent the bill is aimed at proposed Delta conveyance, it is duplicative of the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA). At the direction of the Department of Water Resources, the DCA is tasked to provide oversight and risk management in order to protect the ratepayers who will pay for and benefit from the project.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
State Legislative Matrix
May 4, 2020

Bill Number Author	Amended Date; Location	Title-Summary	MWD Position	Effects on Metropolitan
AB 2246 Mayes (I) Sponsor: Metropolitan	Introduced 2/13/2020 Assembly Natural Resources Committee On hold	Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975: exemption: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Amends the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) to grant Metropolitan an exemption for emergency excavations or grading on its land to repair, maintain, or replace pipelines, infrastructure, or related transmission systems used to distribute water in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego and Ventura counties.	SPONSOR	Maintaining critical water infrastructure requires coordinated regulatory compliance. Metropolitan is proposing legislation to grant it special status under SMARA, so it can consistently administer and enforce SMARA compliance for the purpose of responding to emergencies, repairing, maintaining or replacing any pipelines, infrastructure, or related transmission systems used to distribute water in Southern California.
AB 3039 Quirk (D) Sponsor: Author	Introduced 2/21/2020 Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee Hearing: 5/14/2020	Underground storage tanks: small business loan and grant program Extends the operation of the Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund loan and grant program from January 1, 2022 to January 1, 2026.	SUPPORT Based upon Board- adopted 2020 State Legislative Priorities and Principles	The program assists small businesses upgrade, replace or remove underground storage tanks to meet applicable local, state or federal standards. In Southern California, the program paid to remediate underground storage tanks leaking MTBE and other gasoline additives contaminating groundwater supplies.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
State Legislative Matrix
May 4, 2020

Bill Number Author	Amended Date; Location	Title-Summary	MWD Position	Effects on Metropolitan
SB 45 Allen (D) Sponsor: Author	Amended 1/23/2020 Assembly	Wildfire, Drought, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020 Places a wildfire and water bond totaling \$5.51 billion on the November 2020 ballot for voter approval.	SUPPORT AND AMEND Based upon Board action on 6/11/19	Would provide funding to restore areas damaged by wildfires, mitigate future wildfires, create healthy forests and watersheds, protect water supplies and water quality, and protect and restore rivers, streams and lakes. Metropolitan is seeking amendments to ensure adequate funding for safe drinking water needs, restoration projects that would benefit Voluntary Agreements for managing the Bay-Delta and the tributaries, and for recycled water projects.
SB 69 Wiener (D) Sponsors: California Coastkeeper Alliance and Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations	Amended 7/11/2019 Assembly Appropriations Committee – Suspense File	Ocean Resiliency Act of 2019 Seeks to bolster the resilience of the state's marine and coastal environments to climate change and improve conditions for salmon and other commercially valuable species.	WATCH Based upon Board- adopted 2019 State Legislative Priorities and Principles	Would replace existing forestry, fishery and water quality regulatory processes with different approaches to improve conditions for fish upstream of the Delta and in the ocean along the California coast. The bill as amended on June 25, 2019 addresses concerns of Metropolitan and the State Water Contractors.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
State Legislative Matrix
May 4, 2020

Bill Number Author	Amended Date; Location	Title-Summary	MWD Position	Effects on Metropolitan
SB 204 Dodd (D) Sponsor: Delta Counties Caucus	Amended 5/17/2019 Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife	State Water Project: contracts Revises the notification requirements for pending State Water Project (SWP) contract negotiations and contract amendments. Explicitly requires the California Water Commission to review and report on the progress of the design, construction, and operation of any new Delta conveyance facility as a part of its annual review of the SWP.	WATCH Based upon Board-adopted 2019 State Legislative Priorities and Policies	The bill as amended on May 17, 2019 adheres to the author's stated purpose and deletes objectionable provisions related to the Delta Conveyance joint powers authorities. Bill provides for further transparency on any future amendments to State Water Project contracts as described in Water Code Section 147.6 (c) and construction of future Delta conveyance improvements.
SB 414 Caballero (D) Sponsor: Eastern Municipal Water District and California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA)	Amended 6/25/2019 Assembly Appropriations Committee – Suspense File	Small System Water Authority Act of 2019 Authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to merge small, non-noncompliant public water systems into a regional water authority that will directly benefit from increased economies of scale and access to public financing.	SUPPORT Based upon past support for AB 2050 (Caballero) from 2017/18	Sets deadline for small water systems to comply with safe drinking water standards or consolidate into a regional authority managed by a SWRCB-appointed contractor until water system achieves self-sufficiency, complies with drinking water standards, and can reliably provide access to safe drinking water.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
State Legislative Matrix
May 4, 2020

Bill Number Author	Amended Date; Location	Title-Summary	MWD Position	Effects on Metropolitan
SB 559 Hurtado (D) Sponsor: Friant Water Authority	Amended 7/3/2019 Assembly Appropriations Committee- Suspense File	Department of Water Resources: grant: Friant-Kern Canal Seeks to address problems of land subsidence on the federally-owned Friant Kern Canal.	SUPPORT IF AMENDED Based upon Board- adopted 2019 State Legislative Priorities and Principles	Addresses land subsidence in the Central Valley but only focuses on impacts to the Friant-Kern Canal. Metropolitan is seeking amendments to include the need to address subsidence problems on the California Aqueduct to ensure reliable water supply for Southern California.
SB 946 Pan (D) Sponsor: Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency	Amended 3/12/2020 Senate Natural Resources and Wildlife Committee	Flood control: Yolo Bypass Cache Slough Partnership Multibenefit Program Codifies support for the Yolo Bypass Partnership and its efforts to advance coordinated master planning and accelerate restoration activities for the Yolo Bypass-Cache Slough region.	SUPPORT Based upon Board- adopted 2020 State Legislative Priorities and Principles	A master plan for the Yolo Bypass-Cache Slough would advance multi-benefit restoration projects and encourage state and federal agencies to coordinate regulatory compliance and funding for flood control and water systems.
SB 952 Nielsen (R) Sponsor: Author	Introduced 2/10/2020 Senate Governance and Finance Committee	Sales and use taxes: exemption: backup electrical resources: deenergization events. Authorizes a sales and use tax exemption beginning January 1, 2021 for the purchase, lease, use or consumption of backup electrical resources during planned deenergization events.	SUPPORT and SEEK AMENDMENTS Based upon Board- adopted 2020 State Legislative Priorities and Principles	Reduces water agencies' and other essential public service providers' cost to purchase or upgrade emergency backup generators to continue service and operations during planned public safety power shutoffs.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
State Legislative Matrix
May 4, 2020

Bill Number Author	Amended Date; Location	Title-Summary	MWD Position	Effects on Metropolitan
SB 996 Portantino (D) Sponsors: Metropolitan and the California Municipal Utilities Association	Amended 4/1/2020 Senate Environmental Quality Committee On hold	State Water Resources Control Board: Constituents of Emerging Concern Program Seeks to create a statewide program to identify and evaluate Constituents of Emerging Concern (CECs) in drinking water sources.	CO-SPONSOR	Metropolitan and the California Municipal Utilities Association are co-sponsoring legislation in response to growing public concern about CECs in drinking water. The bill would establish a CEC Drinking Water Program at the State Water Resources Control Board. The program would set up a consistent and science- based approach for assessing the public health and drinking water consequences of CECs, with the intent to improve and expedite future regulatory determinations.
SB 1044 Allen (D) Sponsor: California Professional Firefighters and Natural Resources Defense Council	Introduced 2/18/2020 Senate Environmental Quality Committee	Firefighting equipment and foam: PFAS chemicals Requires any seller of firefighting personal protective equipment to provide written notice to the purchaser if the equipment contains PFAS. Also, prohibits the discharge of state class B firefighting foam that contains PFAS.	SUPPORT Based upon Board approved 2020 State Legislative Priorities and Principles	Metropolitan and member agencies would benefit from this bill because banning PFAS-laden firefighting foam would protect drinking water sources. Firefighting foams, especially those used for training purposes (e.g., at airports and military bases), have been identified as sources of PFAS contamination in groundwater supplies.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
State Legislative Matrix
May 4, 2020

Bill Number Author	Amended Date; Location	Title-Summary	MWD Position	Effects on Metropolitan
SB 1099 Dodd (D) Co-Sponsors: California Municipal Utilities Association and Las Virgenes Municipal Water District	Introduced 2/19/2020 Senate Environmental Quality Committee	Emergency backup generators: critical facilities: exemption. Directs air districts to adopt or revise an existing rule to suspend operational run time limits on emergency backup generators during public safety power shutoffs, and when needed for routine maintenance and testing.	SUPPORT and SEEK AMENDMENTS Based upon Board adopted 2020 State Legislative Priorities and Principles	Addresses water agencies need to maintain operations during planned power shutoffs designed to mitigate wildfire risks. Metropolitan seeking amendments that explore alternative approaches to revising existing rules that would allow water agencies to operate emergency generators without being out of compliance with run times set by local air districts.
SB 1323 Skinner (D) Sponsor: Author	Introduced 2/21/2020 Senate Environmental Quality Committee	Carbon sequestration: state goals: natural and working lands: registry of projects. Requires the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to maintain a California Carbon Sequestration and Climate Resiliency Project Registry beginning January 1, 2021.	SUPPORT Based upon Board adopted 2020 State Legislative Priorities and Principles.	The registry would identify carbon sequestration projects, such as forestry management, wetlands restoration, healthy soils, and meadows restoration that meet state criteria for funding. Metropolitan and its member agencies with agricultural land holdings and planned carbon sequestration projects could benefit by applying to add their projects to the registry making them eligible for state funding programs.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
State Legislative Matrix
May 4, 2020

Bill Number Author	Amended Date; Location	Title-Summary	MWD Position	Effects on Metropolitan
Governor's Proposed Budget Trailer Bill Language	Introduced 1/31/2020	Governor's Proposed Safe Drinking Water, Wildlife Prevention and Natural Resources Protection Bond Act of 2020 Would place a \$4.75 billion climate resilience bond for voter approval on the November 2020 ballot.	SUPPORT and SEEK AMENDMENTS Based upon Board Action on 3/9/2020	Authorizes general obligation bond funding to improve statewide resiliency against climate change. The bond includes \$2.95 billion for safe and clean drinking water, and resilience to flood and drought. Metropolitan is seeking amendments to set aside funding for recycled water projects; state-owned conveyance infrastructure to reverse the impacts of subsidence; habitat restoration projects for native and protected fish species; monitoring and treatment for drinking water contaminants; and emergency backup generators that minimize air quality impacts.



ACTION ITEM

May 20, 2020

TO: Public Affairs and Legislation Committee
(Directors Yoo Schneider, Barbre and McVicker)

FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

SUBJECT: TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON D.C. TO COVER FEDERAL ADVOCACY ISSUES

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors review the travel expenses and ratify as reported.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

REPORT

DIRECTORS

For the third quarter (January-March 2020) of fiscal year 2019-2020, one trip was taken and one trip was booked.

The following is budgeted for fiscal year 2019/2020 for **directors**:

Washington D.C. Legislative Budget Travel - \$10,800, 6 trips

- Total cost for this quarter: \$1,675.86

Budgeted (Y/N): Y	Budgeted amount: Directors - \$10,800 Staff - \$10,800	Core X	Choice ____
Action item amount: None	Line item: 11-7155 12-7150		
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

- Year-to-date spent: \$2,535.81
- Budget remaining: \$8,264.19

Projecting for the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2019-2020, zero trips been scheduled.

STAFF

For the third quarter (January-March 2020) of fiscal year 2019-2020, zero trips were taken.

The following is budgeted for fiscal year 2019/2020 for **staff**:

Washington D.C. Legislative Travel - \$10,800, 6 trips

- Total cost for this quarter: \$0
- Year-to-date spent: \$2,082.21
- Budget remaining: \$8,717.79

Projecting for the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2019-2020, no trips are scheduled.

The focus of the trips this fiscal year will be on the importance of the Delta Conveyance Project, PFAS, appropriations and funding opportunities for local and regional projects, long term conservation and tax parity water rebate issues (turf removal program, et al.), and visits to representative's offices to update them on issues of importance to MWDOC and its member agencies.



ACTION ITEM

May 20, 2020

TO: Public Affairs and Legislation Committee
(Directors Yoo Schneider, Barbre and McVicker)

FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

SUBJECT: TRAVEL TO SACRAMENTO TO COVER STATE ADVOCACY ISSUES

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors review the travel expenses and ratify as reported.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

REPORT

DIRECTORS

For the third quarter (January-March 2020) of fiscal year 2019-2020, zero trips were taken:

The following is budgeted for fiscal year 2019/2020 for **directors**:

Sacramento Legislative Budget Travel - \$4,600, 8 trips

- Total cost for this quarter: \$0
- Year-to-date spent: \$603.98
- Budget remaining: \$4,196.02

Budgeted (Y/N): Yes	Budgeted amount: \$4,600 – Directors \$9,500 – Staff	Core X	Choice ____
Action item amount: None	Line item: 11-7155 12-7150		
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

Projecting for the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2019-2020, no trips have been scheduled.

STAFF

For the third quarter (January-March 2020) of fiscal year 2019-2020, six trips were taken, and two were rescheduled for credit:

- January 24 – Heather Baez
- January 26-27 – Heather Baez
- February 13 – Heather Baez
- March 6 – Heather Baez
- March 13 – Heather Baez

The following is budgeted for fiscal year 2019/2020 for **staff**:

Sacramento Legislative Travel - \$14,400, 24 trips

- Total cost for this quarter: \$502.16
- Year-to-date spent: \$5,898.49
- Budget remaining: \$8,501.51

Projecting out for the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2019-2020, zero trips have been taken or are scheduled.

The focus of the trips are safe and affordable drinking water, Human Right to Water, AB 401 (Low Income Rate Assistance program for water) implementation, California Water Portfolio, PSPS events and the use of emergency generators, PFAS issues, the Delta Conveyance Project, and State Water Resources Control Board meetings.



ACTION ITEM

May 20, 2020

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: **Public Affairs and Legislation Committee**
(Directors Yoo Schneider, Barbre and McVicker)

Robert Hunter
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

SUBJECT: RENEWAL OF CONTRACT WITH SOTO RESOURCES FOR GRANT TRACKING AND ACQUISITION SERVICES

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to:

- Renew professional services contract with Soto Resources to provide grant tracking, writing (upon request) and acquisition. The contract renewal would be not to exceed \$39,000 per year in fiscal years 2020-2021, 2021-2022, and 2022-2023.
- Total authorization of this contract is \$117,000 over three years.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

REPORT

Soto Resources has been providing grant tracking and acquisition services for MWDOC and its member agencies since April 2018. This contract went out for competitive bid in 2018 and was authorized through the end of fiscal year 2019-2020. The grants tracking and acquisition program has seen a number of successes to date including:

Budgeted (Y/N): Y	Budgeted amount: \$36,000	Core X	Choice __
Action item amount: \$39,000	Line item: 31-7040		
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted): \$3,000 increase to FY 2020/2021 budget for additional services. Future years recommended at \$39,000/year.			

- ~\$11.1 Million total funding awarded for 4 grants
- ~\$110 million total loan funding selection announced
- ~\$28.5 million total grant funding results pending
- 20 Agencies with 112 Projects on project list
- 113 Funding programs included in monthly report
- 10 agencies inquired about 15 funding programs
- Funding communication reached 1,000 emails
- 25 Go/No-Go evaluations completed
- 12 funding applications pursued with soto resources (incl. 1 in progress)
 - 4 grants awarded; 1 loan selected
 - 3 grants pending results

Over the course of the last two plus years, MWDOC staff and Soto Resources have worked collaboratively to find ways to grow the grants program and make the services more accessible to MWDOC and its member agencies.

When the service was initially proposed in 2018, the feedback received from member agency staff was there was insufficient time and/or staff resources available to adequately research all of the available grants and whether or not they would be an appropriate match for a particular project. Via Soto Resources, project information is now gathered and combined into a monthly report sent out to MWDOC staff and member agencies for review. Soto Resources is available by phone or email if there are questions or further information is requested on any of the grants listed in the report.

Over the last two years, feedback received indicated that a regular briefing of the new and current funding opportunities, the ability to engage with Soto Resources and ask questions without commitment would be valuable. The updated scope includes a proposal for a bimonthly (every other month) call with Soto Resources and staff from MWDOC and its member agencies.

A proposed scope of services, provided by Soto Resources is included for your review, input and approval.

BOARD OPTIONS

Option #1

- Renew contract with Soto Resources with the additional services that include a monthly grants briefing call with MWDOC staff and its member agencies.

Fiscal Impact: \$39,000

Business Analysis: Soto Resources provides grants tracking, research and acquisition services for MWDOC and its member agencies that provides valuable information that has resulted in millions of dollars for projects in Orange County. The additional services will enhance the grants program with the goal of increasing engagement and ease of use.

Option #2

- Renew the contract with Soto Resources for \$36,000 without the additional services

Fiscal Impact: \$36,000

Business Analysis: Grants tracking and acquisition services would continue as in the past, via monthly report.

Option #3

- Do not renew the contract with Soto Resources

Fiscal Impact: \$36,000 would be added back to the MWDOC budget

Business Analysis: MWDOC would not have access to monthly grants tracking and reporting.

Note: Option #2 is in the proposed budget pending approval by the Board of Directors.

Option #1 includes the additional service with an increase of \$3k/year.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Option #1



Soto Resources
Professional Funding Services
(949) 370-6079
Joey@sotoresources.com

Memorandum

To: Heather Baez, MWDOC

From: Joey Soto, Soto Resources

Date: May 8, 2020

**Re: MWDOC and Member Agency Grant Assistance Program
Current and Proposed Scope of Work**

Since 2018, Soto Resources has worked closely with MWDOC staff, including Heather Baez, Melissa Baum-Haley, Joe Berg, Steve Hedges, and Rachel Davis, to implement a Grants Assistance Program for MWDOC and its member agencies. Together we have achieved great success with numerous benefits for MWDOC and its member agencies, as listed below. To expand on the program's success, Soto Resources has proposed adding a task to include monthly conference calls as a way to enhance engagement with member agencies, answer questions about funding opportunities, and update the project list. This memo identifies the current benefits achieved by the program, followed by the standard (current) scope of the contract, and the proposed additional task.

The following highlights the success and benefits of the program to date:

Benefits of Current Program

- Reporting on COVID-19 funding opportunities
- Program's Project List is serving as a tool to compile list of shovel-ready projects for infrastructure funding and COVID-19 relief advocacy.
- ~\$11.1 Million total funding awarded for 4 grants
- ~\$110 million total loan funding selection announced
- ~\$28.5 million total grant funding results pending
- 20 Agencies with 112 Projects on project list
- 113 Funding programs included in monthly report
- 10 agencies inquired about 15 funding programs
- Funding communication reached 1,000 emails
- 25 Go/No-Go evaluations completed
- 12 funding applications pursued with soto resources (incl. 1 in progress)
 - 4 grants awarded; 1 loan selected
 - 3 grants pending results
- 8 agencies & 36 projects added to project list

- 10 agencies inquired about 15 funding programs
- Participated/Presented at 4 Board/Committee meetings

The above benefits were achieved through the current scope items identified below.

Standard Scope (Current Scope)

1. **Term – 3 years**
2. **Scope of Work/Services –**

Task 1. Ongoing Project List Updates and Funding Research

A. Update Project List

Maintain a comprehensive list of projects in need of funding from MWDOC and its member agencies. Add/remove projects to/from the list as requested. Use the project list to conduct research on funding opportunities with the most current information available.

B. Research Funding per Project List

Below is a sampling of some of the federal, state and local funding opportunities that maybe researched:

- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)
 - WaterSMART: Water Energy Program
 - WaterSMART: Drought Resiliency Program
 - WaterSMART: Title XVI Reclamation and Reuse Program Funding
 - WaterSMART: Development of Feasibility Studies Under Title XVI
 - Bay-Delta Restoration Program
 - Conservation Field Services Program
- California Department of Water Resources (DWR)
 - Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Implementation Grant Program
 - Water Desalination Grant Program
 - Sustainable Groundwater Planning (SGWP) Grant Program
- California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)
 - Water Recycling Funding Program Grants & Loans
 - Drinking Water Grants & Loans (Clean, Safe and Reliable Drinking Water)
 - Proposition 1 Storm Water Grant Program
 - Groundwater Quality Funding Program (Proposition 1 Groundwater Sustainability)
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
 - Proposition 1 Watershed Restoration & Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant
- Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

- On-Site Retrofit Pilot Program Incentives for Recycled Water Use
- Local Resources Program
- Private Foundations
 - To be researched

Monitor local, state and federal grant funding and low-interest loan opportunities and research new funding opportunities as they are identified. Submit the project list spreadsheet on a monthly basis to MWDOC, as part of the ongoing grant reporting described below in Task 2.

Task 2. Ongoing Grant Reporting and Funding Alerts

A. Ongoing Reporting

Ongoing reporting of funding opportunities will be provided on a monthly basis, as follows:

- a) Summarize the current and upcoming funding opportunities. Maintain two funding lists for funding opportunity tracking, including current opportunities and future opportunities (those with past deadlines, but we continue to track for future rounds of funding). Key information will include: Funding Program name, Total Funding available, Maximum grant request, Cost share requirement, Project Eligibility, Project Completion date, and Grant Deadline.
- b) Update/add funding opportunities lists.
- c) Match the funding opportunities to the projects on the project list (per Task 1).
- d) Prepare a summary table of upcoming funding-related deadlines

Submit the monthly report via email to MWDOC, including the summary table of upcoming deadlines, project list spreadsheet, project-funding matching spreadsheet, current funding opportunities spreadsheet, and future funding opportunities spreadsheets.

B. Funding Alert

As-needed basis – When a funding opportunity is released with a short-term grant application due date, a high priority email summarizing the funding details (Funding Program name, Total Funding available, Maximum grant request, Cost share requirement, Project Eligibility, Project Completion date, and Grant Deadline) will be sent to MWDOC. MWDOC (or member agency) will be requested to respond within a few days if/with a Project for consideration.

Task 3. Agency Coordination and Correspondence

Ongoing coordination and correspondence to assist member agencies with funding program understanding. Member agencies will review the monthly reports, identify projects they believe are eligible, and ask for Go/No-Go Evaluation by Soto Resources. Provide ongoing correspondence with funding agencies via emails and calls to clarify funding opportunities, project eligibility, workshop/event requirements, and other funding related information prior to including information in the monthly report.

Task 4. Go/No-Go Evaluation

When requested by MWDOC or a member agency, Soto Resources will provide advice on whether or not to proceed with a grant proposal. Soto Resources will review grant funding guidelines (state grants), proposal solicitation package (state grants), or funding opportunity announcement (federal grants) against assessment criteria. In addition, Soto Resources would contact the funding agency to discuss the assessment criteria. A go / no go decision would be made based on the following assessment criteria:

- Project eligibility: Does the project meet what the agency is looking to fund?
- Maximum funding award amount: Is the potential grant award a large enough portion of the overall project budget to be worthwhile?
- Timeframe for completing the project: Can the project realistically be completed by the deadline?
- Cost/level of effort to prepare the grant proposal: Is the potential grant amount worth the cost of preparing an application?
- Proposal due date: Do we have the required project information to complete the application in time?
- Competitiveness: How many grant awards are anticipated for the specified region?

Upon a “go” decision to submit a funding application, this will be performed under separate contract as discussed under Task 5.

Task 5. Coordination with Lobbyists

A key component of winning grants and loans is coordination with Lobbyists on upcoming funding legislation. Soto Resources would work closely with MWDOC or its member agencies’ lobbyists to strategize funding opportunities for priority projects throughout service areas. In addition, attendance at Funding Agency public workshops is critical for establishing a solid relationship with funding program managers. As authorized, Soto Resources would attend funding workshops to connect with funding program key personnel, discuss and promote project concepts, as well as obtain insight on funding priorities.

Attend Meetings for grant related efforts including, but not limited to, Board Meetings, Committee meetings, or other District events, as requested.

Deliverables: Monthly or Periodic Funding Report, Funding Alert emails, Email Correspondence, Workshop Notes.

Task 6. Grant/Funding Application Preparation and Submission – *Provided Under Separate Contract When Requested by Member Agency*

Full Application Preparation and Submission

When a decision is made to pursue a funding opportunity (as discussed in Task 5 above), Soto

Resources will provide a proposal for MWDOC or its member agency to prepare and submit a grant (or loan) application. All grant application, review, preparation and submission will be performed under a separate contract and is not part of this scope.

Once authorized, Soto Resources will carefully review the grant funding guidelines (state grants), proposal solicitation package (state grants), or funding opportunity announcement (federal grants) against assessment criteria. Soto Resources will create an internal work plan, outline, and schedule to identify the application components, team players contributing the required information, and a milestone schedule for the grant application. Soto Resources will lead a grant-specific kick-off meeting to collect information about the project and review the work plan, outline, and schedule. Soto Resources will draft templates of the required grant components to collect information from team members and will conduct research and writing. Soto Resources will coordinate continually with the funding agency during the grant application process to ensure the agency's familiarity with the project when the application is reviewed. The application (MWDOC or member agency) will provide all information required to complete the grant or loan application. A draft will be prepared for MWDOC or its member agency's review and comment. A final version will be prepared for final review prior to submittal to the funding agency.

Review and Comment

Soto Resources has provided review and comment on many client-prepared grant applications. In cases where MWDOC or its member agency is preparing a grant application, Soto Resources will review the grant application requirements and use Microsoft Word's Track Changes function to edit the document in areas that could be improved. It is important that adequate time be allowed for a thorough review. In cases of limited time, Soto Resources will refer to the review/ranking/evaluation criteria that are often included in the grant guidelines/solicitation/announcement and focus on the highest-weighted (most points) components of the grant. In addition, the work plan (scope), budget, and schedule will be reviewed to ensure these elements coincide with each other, as these components are the backbone of any project grant application.

Task 7. Bi-Monthly Grants Conference Call

Bi-monthly (every other month) conference calls to update the project list and review funding opportunities with MWDOC and its Member Agencies. Although participation in MWDOC and Member Agency Grants Assistance Program has been significant, Soto Resources proposes adding a bi-monthly dialogue via conference call to assist with keeping the project list up to date and the member agencies engaged. The monthly funding report includes extensive written detail; therefore, it is recommended that a bi-monthly conference call is offered to MWDOC and member agencies as an opportunity to verbally report on the information and discuss questions.

Benefits:

Bi-monthly call to review the monthly funding report, answer questions about the upcoming funding opportunities, and update the project list. This will keep the member agencies up to date on current funding opportunities and foster increased engagement in the program.

Cost of additional task:

\$3,250/month (estimate 3 hours: this includes conference call preparation, 1 hr. conference call, and follow up for bi-monthly calls)

2. Proposed Fees/Rates to be billed

Fees Year 1: FY 2020-2021

All tasks, total amount not to exceed \$39,000.00

Fees Year 2: FY 2021-2022

All tasks, total amount not to exceed \$39,000.00

Fees Year 3: FY 2022-2023

All tasks, total amount not to exceed \$39,000.00

3. Proposed Budgeted Amount – Compensation is to be on a monthly basis, not to exceed: \$39,000/year, \$117,000 for 3 years.



ACTION ITEM

May 20, 2020

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: **Public Affairs and Legislation Committee**
(Directors Yoo Schneider, Barbre, and McVicker)

Robert Hunter
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

**SUBJECT: AB 2107 (RODRIGUEZ & GRAY) – LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:
SECURITIZED LIMITED OBLIGATION NOTES**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors vote to adopt a support position on AB 2107 (Rodriguez & Gray), and send a letter in support to the author and the California Special Districts Association (CSDA).

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

BILL SUMMARY

Assembly Bill 2107 (Rodriguez & Gray) will restore an expired financial tool for special districts called Securitized Limited Obligations Notes (SLONs), which allows for securitized debt with certain limitations.

On December 31, 2019, the authorization for special districts to use this particular financing tool expired. This unique financing tool offered a pragmatic, cost-effective, medium-term financing method for a variety of projects.

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

BACKGROUND

Requirements of a SLON include:

- Approval by four-fifths of a district board
- A stated purpose for the debt which could be for either the acquisition/improvement of land, facilities, or equipment
- A revenue source identified as dedicated to paying off the loan
- A maturation date of no more than 10 years
- A maximum borrowing limit of \$2 million

To acquire or improve real property, facilities or equipment in order to serve the need of their constituents, most special districts have access to handful of financing options including general obligation bonds, lease financing, installment sale financing, temporary borrowing statutes, and SLONs.

For many special districts, especially for smaller districts with limited resources, SLONs may be the only pragmatic and cost-effective medium-term financing method available to fund variety of more modest projects (less than \$2 million), with a four-fifths vote of the district board.

AB 2107 is a “Take Action” priority identified by CSDA as it will benefit special districts.

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT

According to the author’s office, “SLONs permit a public agency to issue a note to finance lower-cost acquisitions or improvements of land, facilities, or equipment. SLONs are secured by a pledge of any available revenue and approved by a four-fifths vote of the governing body. Unfortunately, on December 31, 2019, the authorization for special districts to use this financing tool expired. AB 2107 simply restores this authority for another five years.”

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION

None on file.

BOARD OPTIONS

Option #1

- Adopt a support position on AB 2107 (Rodriguez & Gray) and send a letter of support to the author and CSDA.

Fiscal Impact: No fiscal impact to the State General Fund. Special districts who utilize SLONs would see a savings in their overall budget.

Business Analysis: As members of CSDA, it is important for MWDOC to be an active participant in the association. This is one of their priority bills this year and are asking all of their members to send letters of support.

Option #2

- Take no action

Fiscal Impact: Same as Option #1

Business Analysis: There is little impact to taking no action, other than not supporting CSDA's priority legislation.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Option #1

ATTACHED:

- AB 2107 Full Text

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2107

Introduced by Assembly Members Rodriguez and Gray

February 6, 2020

An act to amend Section 53839 of the Government Code, relating to local government.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2107, as introduced, Rodriguez. Local government: securitized limited obligation notes.

Existing law, until December 31, 2019, authorizes a special district to issue, as specified, securitized limited obligation notes for the acquisition or improvement of land, facilities, or equipment.

This bill would extend that authorization to December 31, 2024.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 53839 of the Government Code is
2 amended to read:
3 53839. A special district shall not issue any securitized limited
4 obligation notes after December 31, ~~2019~~, 2024, unless a later
5 enacted statute that is enacted before December 31, ~~2019~~, 2024,
6 deletes or extends that date.

O



ACTION ITEM

May 20, 2020

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: **Public Affairs and Legislation Committee**
(Directors Yoo Schneider, Barbre, and McVicker)

Robert Hunter
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

SUBJECT: SB 1386 (MOORLACH) – PROTECTING FIRE HYDRANT SYSTEM FUNDING

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors vote to adopt a support position on SB 1386 (Moorlach), and join the sponsors' coalition letter.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

BILL SUMMARY

Senate Bill 1386 would specify that "water" for purposes of the Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act also includes the public fixtures, appliances, and appurtenances connected to an above-described system of public improvements intended to provide for the production, storage, supply, treatment, or distribution of water from any source.

The bill would specify that a property-related water service fee or charge by a local agency may include the costs to construct, maintain, repair, or replace public hydrants attached to a water system, and the cost of water dispensed through public hydrants, to the extent those fees or charges are consistent with the California Constitution.

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

BACKGROUND

Numerous water agencies have been sued for the cost associated with maintaining fire hydrants. The plaintiffs argue that the fees charged do not benefit the property owners within the water district's service area and, therefore, violate Prop. 218. The argument sounds and is, in fact, ridiculous, but that does not mean it cannot be the basis of a lawsuit. Although the defending water agencies would likely prevail in litigation, it would still be costly. In an attempt to avoid spending money fighting frivolous lawsuits, several water agencies are seeking legislation to moot the claims of the plaintiffs and avoid going to trial: Senator Moorlach agreed to use SB 1386 for that purpose. The bill adds to the definition of water "system" by declaring that the system includes "the public fixtures, appliances, and appurtenances connected to that system." The bill includes necessary definitions that make clear that fire hydrants are a part of a larger system that directly benefits property owners, and that the bill is declarative of existing law.

SB 1386 is cosponsored by the Irvine Ranch Water District and the San Diego County Water Authority.

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT

Maintaining adequate water pressure to fire hydrants to fight fires has always been a core part of a water district's mission. The litigation that gave rise to this bill is without merit and a blatant attempt to shake down water agencies. SB 1386 may avoid wasting ratepayer funds on frivolous litigation.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION

None on file, but plaintiff's attorneys will likely argue that the bill is not declarative of existing law.

BOARD OPTIONS

Option #1

- Adopt a support position on SB 1386 (Moorlach), send a letter of support to the author, and join the sponsors' coalition letter.

Fiscal Impact: Although neither the bill, nor the underlying litigation, would have any fiscal impact to MWDOC itself, it will impact all member agencies that maintain fire hydrants. Affected water agencies stand to save significant, but undetermined, funds if the bill succeeds in its stated purpose.

Business Analysis: The Irvine Ranch Water District and the San Diego County Water Authority sponsor this measure. While it doesn't affect MWDOC directly, it does affect our member agencies and water providers statewide. Supporting the measure shows unity.

Option #2

- Take no action

Fiscal Impact: Same as Option #1

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Option #1

ATTACHED:

- SB 1386 Fact Sheet
- SB 1386 Full Text

SB 1386 (Moorlach)

Protecting Fire Hydrant System Funding

Problem

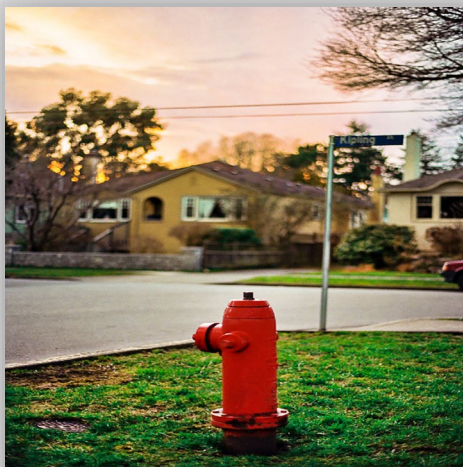
Lawsuits have been filed against 81 water suppliers throughout California, calling into question their ability to lawfully and appropriately charge residents and businesses for the costs of water supplies used during fire protection services and for the costs associated with the fire hydrants the water supplier owns and maintains within the community.

If such legal challenges were to succeed, water suppliers would likely be required to charge fire protection agencies for these costs, which would be necessary for a water supplier to continue to support the hydrant systems. This would impact fire protection agencies' ability to fund critically needed equipment and personnel.

Background

The lawsuits against water suppliers, who own and operate fire hydrant systems, allege that water suppliers are in violation of Proposition 218 - a 1996 constitutional amendment that placed restrictions on local governments' imposition of taxes, assessments, fees and charges. Proposition 218 established the rules related to fees and charges assessed for property tax-related services.

While the basis of the lawsuits is fundamentally flawed, in that fire hydrants owned and maintained by a public water supplier and the water served by them have long been understood to be part of the property-related services water suppliers provide their customers, the Legislature can act to confirm this understanding.¹



Moreover, in an unpublished case - *Glendale Coalition for Better Gov't v. City of Glendale* (2018), the court effectively reaffirmed this interpretation by stating that fire hydrants used to protect properties from fire and the costs associated with them are in fact property-related services.

Property-Related Service Charges

Proposition 218 requires that any fees and charges assessed for a property-related service may only be assessed if the:

- *Revenues derived from the fee or charge do not exceed the funds required to provide the property-related service;*
- *Revenues derived from the fee or charge are not to be used for any purpose other than that for which the fee or charge was imposed;*
- *Amount of a fee or charge does not exceed the proportional cost of the service attributable to the parcel charged;*
- *Service being charged for is actually used by, or immediately available to, the owner of the property being charged; and*
- *Fee or charge assessed is not for a general governmental service, which is a service available to the general public in substantially the same manner as the person paying the fee.*

Solution

To protect fire hydrant system funding - while preventing additional costs and financial burdens to individual fire protection agencies that could range from the hundreds of thousands of dollars to the millions of dollars - the Legislature can enact a statement declarative of its understanding of existing law relating to the property-related nature of the hydrant systems. This can be accomplished in the context of amending existing statutes that implement Proposition 218.

¹ This understanding is reflected in California Government Code Section 53069.9, which permits a public agency providing water for fire protection services to include those costs in the water rates they charge their customers.

Local Governmental Agencies Sued

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Alameda County Water District 2. Carlsbad Municipal Water District 3. Citrus Heights Water District 4. City of Anaheim 5. City of Antioch 6. City of Brea 7. City of Chino 8. City of Clovis 9. City of Compton 10. City of Corona 11. City of Downey 12. City of Escondido 13. City of Fairfield 14. City of Fountain Valley 15. City of Fresno 16. City of Fullerton 17. City of Garden Grove 18. City of Hayward 19. City of Hemet 20. City of Hesperia 21. City of Huntington Park 22. City of La Habra 23. City of Long Beach 24. City of Madera 25. City of Modesto 26. City of Napa 27. City of Norwalk 28. City of Oceanside 29. City of Ontario 30. City of Oxnard 31. City of Pasadena 32. City of Petaluma 33. City of Pomona 34. City of Sacramento 35. City of San Bernardino 36. City of San Diego 37. City of San Francisco 38. City of San Jose 39. City of San Luis Obispo 40. City of Santa Clara 41. City of Santa Cruz 42. City of Santa Monica 43. City of Santa Rosa 44. City of Stockton | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 45. City of Suisun 46. City of Torrance 47. City of Tracy 48. City of Tustin 49. City of Vacaville 50. City of Vallejo 51. City of Ventura 52. City of Victorville 53. City of Whittier 54. City of Woodland 55. Contra Costa Water District 56. Cucamonga Valley Water District 57. Desert Water Agency 58. East Bay Municipal Utility District 59. Eastern Municipal Water District 60. El Toro Water District 61. Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District 62. Fallbrook Public Utility District 63. Goleta Water District 64. Helix Water District 65. Irvine Ranch Water District 66. Lakeside Water District 67. Los Angeles County 68. Nevada Irrigation District 69. Otay Water District 70. Padre Dam Municipal Water District 71. Palmdale Water District 72. Placer County Water Agency 73. Rainbow Municipal Water District 74. Sacramento County Water Agency 75. San Diego County Water Authority 76. Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency 77. Vallecitos Water District 78. Valley Center Municipal Water District 79. Ventura County Waterworks 80. Vista Irrigation District 81. Walnut Valley Water District |
|---|---|
- These local governmental agencies were sued individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated.

Contact Information



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AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 1, 2020

SENATE BILL

No. 1386

Introduced by Senator Moorlach

February 21, 2020

~~An act to amend Section 56000 of the Government Code, relating to local government.~~ *An act to amend Section 53750 of, and to add Section 53750.5 to, the Government Code, relating to local government finance.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1386, as amended, Moorlach. ~~Local government.~~ *Local government: assessments, fees, and charges: water.*

The California Constitution specifies various requirements with respect to the levying of assessments and property-related fees and charges by a local agency, including requiring that the local agency provide public notice and a majority protest procedure in the case of assessments and submit property-related fees and charges for approval by property owners subject to the fee or charge or the electorate residing in the affected area following a public hearing.

Existing law, known as the Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act, prescribes specific procedures and parameters for local jurisdictions to comply with these requirements and, among other things, authorizes an agency providing water, wastewater, sewer, or refuse collection services to adopt a schedule of fees or charges authorizing automatic adjustments that pass through increases in wholesale charges for water, sewage treatment, or wastewater treatment or adjustments for inflation under certain circumstances. Existing law defines, among other terms, the term "water" for these purposes to mean any system of public improvements intended to provide for the production, storage, supply, treatment, or distribution of water from any source.

This bill would specify that “water” for purposes of the Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act also includes the public fixtures, appliances, and appurtenances connected to an above-described system of public improvements intended to provide for the production, storage, supply, treatment, or distribution of water from any source. The bill would specify that a property-related water service fee or charge by a local agency may include the costs to construct, maintain, repair, or replace public hydrants attached to a water system, and the cost of water dispensed through public hydrants, to the extent those fees or charges are consistent with the California Constitution.

~~Existing law, the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, provides the exclusive authority and procedure for the initiation, conduct, and completion of changes of organization and reorganization for cities and districts, except as specified.~~

~~This bill would make a nonsubstantive change to the provision naming the act.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 53750 of the Government Code is
- 2 amended to read:
- 3 53750. For purposes of Article XIII C and Article XIII D of
- 4 the California Constitution and this article, the following words
- 5 have the following meanings, and shall be read and interpreted in
- 6 light of the findings and declarations contained in Section 53751:
- 7 (a) “Agency” means any local government as defined in
- 8 subdivision (b) of Section 1 of Article XIII C of the California
- 9 Constitution.
- 10 (b) “Assessment” means any levy or charge by an agency upon
- 11 real property that is based upon the special benefit conferred upon
- 12 the real property by a public improvement or service, that is
- 13 imposed to pay the capital cost of the public improvement, the
- 14 maintenance and operation expenses of the public improvement,
- 15 or the cost of the service being provided. “Assessment” includes,
- 16 but is not limited to, “special assessment,” “benefit assessment,”
- 17 “maintenance assessment,” and “special assessment tax.”

1 (c) “District” means an area that is determined by an agency to
2 contain all of the parcels that will receive a special benefit from a
3 proposed public improvement or service.

4 (d) “Drainage system” means any system of public
5 improvements that is intended to provide for erosion control, for
6 landslide abatement, or for other types of water drainage.

7 (e) “Extended,” when applied to an existing tax or fee or charge,
8 means a decision by an agency to extend the stated effective period
9 for the tax or fee or charge, including, but not limited to,
10 amendment or removal of a sunset provision or expiration date.

11 (f) “Flood control” means any system of public improvements
12 that is intended to protect property from overflow by water.

13 (g) “Identified parcel” means a parcel of real property that an
14 agency has identified as having a special benefit conferred upon
15 it and upon which a proposed assessment is to be imposed, or a
16 parcel of real property upon which a proposed property-related
17 fee or charge is proposed to be imposed.

18 (h) (1) “Increased,” when applied to a tax, assessment, or
19 property-related fee or charge, means a decision by an agency that
20 does either of the following:

21 (A) Increases any applicable rate used to calculate the tax,
22 assessment, fee, or charge.

23 (B) Revises the methodology by which the tax, assessment, fee,
24 or charge is calculated, if that revision results in an increased
25 amount being levied on any person or parcel.

26 (2) A tax, fee, or charge is not deemed to be “increased” by an
27 agency action that does either or both of the following:

28 (A) Adjusts the amount of a tax, fee, or charge in accordance
29 with a schedule of adjustments, including a clearly defined formula
30 for inflation adjustment that was adopted by the agency prior to
31 November 6, 1996.

32 (B) Implements or collects a previously approved tax, fee, or
33 charge, so long as the rate is not increased beyond the level
34 previously approved by the agency, and the methodology
35 previously approved by the agency is not revised so as to result in
36 an increase in the amount being levied on any person or parcel.

37 (3) A tax, assessment, fee, or charge is not deemed to be
38 “increased” in the case in which the actual payments from a person
39 or property are higher than would have resulted when the agency
40 approved the tax, assessment, fee, or charge, if those higher

1 payments are attributable to events other than an increased rate or
2 revised methodology, such as a change in the density, intensity,
3 or nature of the use of land.

4 (i) “Notice by mail” means any notice required by Article XIII C
5 or XIII D of the California Constitution that is accomplished
6 through a mailing, postage prepaid, deposited in the United States
7 Postal Service and is deemed given when so deposited. Notice by
8 mail may be included in any other mailing to the record owner
9 that otherwise complies with Article XIII C or XIII D of the
10 California Constitution and this article, including, but not limited
11 to, the mailing of a bill for the collection of an assessment or a
12 property-related fee or charge.

13 (j) “Record owner” means the owner of a parcel whose name
14 and address appears on the last equalized secured property tax
15 assessment roll, or in the case of any public entity, the State of
16 California, or the United States, means the representative of that
17 public entity at the address of that entity known to the agency.

18 (k) “Sewer” includes systems, all real estate, fixtures, and
19 personal property owned, controlled, operated, or managed in
20 connection with or to facilitate sewage collection, treatment, or
21 disposition for sanitary or drainage purposes, including lateral and
22 connecting sewers, interceptors, trunk and outfall lines, sanitary
23 sewage treatment or disposal plants or works, drains, conduits,
24 outlets for surface or storm waters, and any and all other works,
25 property, or structures necessary or convenient for the collection
26 or disposal of sewage, industrial waste, or surface or storm waters.
27 “Sewer system” shall not include a sewer system that merely
28 collects sewage on the property of a single owner.

29 (l) “Registered professional engineer” means an engineer
30 registered pursuant to the Professional Engineers Act (Chapter 7
31 (commencing with Section 6700) of Division 3 of the Business
32 and Professions Code).

33 (m) “Vector control” means any system of public improvements
34 or services that is intended to provide for the surveillance,
35 prevention, abatement, and control of vectors as defined in
36 subdivision (k) of Section 2002 of the Health and Safety Code and
37 a pest as defined in Section 5006 of the Food and Agricultural
38 Code.

39 (n) “Water” means any system of public—improvements
40 *improvements, and the public fixtures, appliances, and*

1 *appurtenances connected to that system, intended to provide for*
2 *the production, storage, supply, treatment, or distribution of water*
3 *from any source.*

4 *SEC. 2. Section 53750.5 is added to the Government Code, to*
5 *read:*

6 *53750.5. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the*
7 *following:*

8 *(1) The provision of fire service is a different and distinct*
9 *category of service from the water service made available by a*
10 *water service provider, which aids the fire service provider in*
11 *providing fire service.*

12 *(2) Hydrants owned by water service providers are a public*
13 *fixture, appliance, or appurtenance connected to a water system*
14 *for the purpose of providing an immediately available water service*
15 *and are often used by a water service provider for water system*
16 *maintenance.*

17 *(3) Hydrants are generally designed, installed, and used to*
18 *provide an immediately available supply of water to extinguish*
19 *fires that threaten structures and other improvements on property*
20 *served by the water service provider, and are not for the purpose*
21 *of extinguishing wildfires or fires that threaten personal property,*
22 *vacant lands, or structures without water service.*

23 *(4) Hydrants generally are not available to the public at large*
24 *in substantially the same manner as they are to property owners.*

25 *(5) The fact that water from a hydrant could be used for a*
26 *purpose other than property protection in an emergency does not*
27 *make either the hydrant or the water dispensed from the hydrant*
28 *available to the public at large in substantially the same manner*
29 *as to property owners.*

30 *(6) The water dispensed through a public hydrant owned by a*
31 *water service provider is a property-related water service provided*
32 *to all property owners, as an incident of property ownership,*
33 *because the water is immediately available to be used to extinguish*
34 *a direct threat to structures and other improvements on property*
35 *and concurrently benefits all parcels, which are threatened with*
36 *damage or destruction by the fire not being extinguished.*

37 *(7) There are water service costs associated with maintaining,*
38 *repairing, and replacing hydrants and costs associated with the*
39 *water dispensed through hydrants to protect real property.*

1 **(b)** *To the extent consistent with the requirements of Section 6*
2 *of Article XIII D of the California Constitution, fees or charges*
3 *for property-related water service may include the costs to*
4 *construct, maintain, repair, or replace public hydrants attached*
5 *to a water system, and the cost of water dispensed through public*
6 *hydrants. The fee or charge may be fixed and collected consistent*
7 *with Section 53069.9 of the Government Code, or consistent with*
8 *any other method consistent with Section 6 of Article XIII D of the*
9 *California Constitution.*

10 **(c)** *This section is declaratory of existing law.*

11 ~~SECTION 1. Section 56000 of the Government Code is~~
12 ~~amended to read:~~

13 ~~56000. This division shall be known, and may be cited, as the~~
14 ~~Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act~~
15 ~~of 2000.~~

O



ACTION ITEM

May 20, 2020

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: **Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**
(Directors Yoo Schneider, Barbre, McVicker)

Robert Hunter
General Manager

**SUBJECT: POTENTIAL ACTION REGARDING THE REPLACEMENT OF MWDOC
AND METROPOLITAN DIRECTOR**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Directors: Review, discuss, and take any appropriate action.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

SUMMARY

Director Barbre has been appointed as General Manager of Yorba Linda Water District (YLWD), a MWDOC Member Agency. He has indicated that he intends to resign as an appointed MWDOC MET Director in late May and as a MWDOC Director in late June. As a result, the MWDOC Board needs to discuss the timing of the resignations, the replacement of Director Barbre on the MET Board, how to proceed once there is a vacancy on the Board of Directors, and whether to take any appropriate action.

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



INFORMATION ITEM

May 18, 2020

TO: **Public Affairs & Legislation Committee**
(Directors Yoo Schneider, Barbre, McVicker)

FROM: **Robert Hunter, General Manager**

Staff Contact: Tiffany Baca and Sarah Wilson

SUBJECT: **MWDOC Education Initiatives**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Public Affairs & Legislation Committee: Receive and file the report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

SUMMARY

Over the past year, and now in this unforeseen time of disruption and uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC or District) Public Affairs (PA) has amplified it's efforts in water education programs and activities for Orange County students in grades K-12. MWDOC PA has continued to grow professional networks and partnerships consisting of leading education groups, advisors, and teachers, and has led the way for the District and its 28 member agencies to be key contributors in both Southern California, and Orange County water-centric learning. MWDOC PA, MWDOC Choice School Program contractors, and County and statewide education partners have worked together to respond to the needs of Orange County students who are, for now, classified as distance learners.

Participation in these heightened partnerships, activities, and working groups, will ensure the District can continue to offer water-centric resources and programs that align with new

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

and evolving state standards, as well as to provide viable career pathways to students that will extend far beyond the timeline of COVID-19 (see *attachments 1 and 2*).

DETAILED REPORT

MWDOC SCHOOL PROGRAMS

For nearly five (5) decades, the MWDOC Water Education School Programs have provided MWDOC and its participating member agencies the opportunity to engage Orange County K-12 students, and their teachers and families, in comprehensive, water-focused lessons that teach the value and importance of thoughtful water stewardship. In an effort to continue providing valuable programs and resources during this unprecedented time, MWDOC and participating member agencies are offering virtual water lessons to assist educators—teachers and parents alike—in adapting to the new distance learning format.

Elementary School Program (K-2): Shows That Teach

At the time of this report, Shows That Teach has released five (5) video episodes, with plans to push out an additional five (5) episodes over the next several weeks. To appeal to the attention span of the K-2 grade levels, these video episodes are no longer than 10 minutes each and use characters, music, and humor to engage students. To provide further value, each video contains a positive message related to character education followed by a water-centric lesson on topics such as dams, aquifers, reservoirs, water supply, conservation, and more. The video episodes can be viewed here:

<http://startwithheart.populr.me/mwdoc-weekly-videos-2>. Additionally, Shows That Teach has proactively offered six (6) 10-minute live Zoom classroom sessions on a first-come, first-served basis to promote the MWDOC Choice School Program as an additional resource for Orange County teachers. An informal video demonstration can be viewed here:

<https://youtu.be/K-WdSlGr1hY>.

Elementary School (3-6) and Middle School Programs (7-8): Discovery Cube OC

Discovery Cube Orange County (DCOC) will provide grade-specific videos that align with the content covered in the in-class assemblies. At the time of this report, DCOC is working with MWDOC PA to finalize video scripts and will film May 18th with an expected launch on Friday, May 22nd. Below is a breakdown of the content covered in each grade-specific video episode.

- **3rd Grade:** Local climate, healthy ecosystems, and the necessity of water to all life
- **4th Grade:** Local water resources, and how humans affect, depend on, and benefit from water
- **5th Grade:** Water supply, water cycle, and ways to be water efficient
- **6th Grade:** Humans, weather, and other natural cycles affect the health of ecosystems
- **7th Grade:** Introduction to water quality testing
- **8th Grade:** Direct and indirect water use

High School Program (9-12): Bolsa Chica Conservancy

Bolsa Chica Conservancy (Conservancy) has worked closely with MWDOC PA to finalize video scripts for three (3) video episodes that will align closely with the in-class sessions offered at the start of the school year. At the time of this report, the Conservancy has begun filming the first of three (3) videos. Below is a breakdown of each video episode.

- **1st Episode:** Students receive an introduction to California water resources and water supply challenges, discover the importance of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay Delta, and explore how best to protect the quality and quantity of water. Much like the in-class session, students will receive links to a pre- and post-test to gauge their overall water awareness and understanding of the content.
- **2nd Episode:** Students are guided through a hands-on water filtration demonstration, and learn how everyday activities can significantly impact water supply and water quality. Students will be provided with a link to the lesson and supplemental worksheets in advance, and will be encouraged to follow along as they design, build, and test their own water filtration model.
- **3rd Episode:** Students learn about the important role they play in maintaining a reliable water supply now and long into the future. Students will review what they have learned through the program with the option to create a video presentation, a PowerPoint presentation, or artwork with a description about why using water wisely is important. Teachers will be given the flexibility to determine how the students should submit the final product. Finally, students will receive an at-home water audit worksheet that can be completed either independently or submitted to their teacher.

PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (OCDE)

Through involvement in the California Environmental Literacy Initiative, and shared interest in the quality of resources and education opportunities offered to Orange County students and teachers, MWDOC PA has forged a strong, Orange County-centric partnership with OCDE. Together, the cohort is formulating “Grab-and-Go” activities that have been prepared and packaged by MWDOC PA, and reviewed and vetted by OCDE. These free resources add another layer of credibility to the activities, while giving teachers the confidence they need to weave them into classroom lessons.

In one-on-one discussions, and through MWDOC PA participation in workshop presentations and panels at events as large as Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) statewide rollouts, hundreds of teachers admitted that while they knew resources such as maps, briefing papers, worksheets, diagrams, etc. from MWDOC and other Orange County community-based organizations existed, they weren’t using them. Teachers stated that resources needed to be an interconnected supplement to the curriculum - preferably vetted by a standards-based education organization - with guidance on how to introduce the activities or resource. These Grab-and-Go lessons check all of those boxes and will not only help inform, educate, and involve Orange County students in the District’s priorities, but will also be offered to teachers as a promotional prelude to a MWDOC Choice School Program visit.

At the time of this report, the first completed [Grab-and-Go Water Activity: Water Filtration Challenge](#), has been placed on the District’s website. Several other Grab-and-Go activities are in process, including: Orange County Water Supply, State Water Project and Delta Conveyance, Home Water Map, A Day Without the Tap, and more.

CALIFORNIA WATER ENERGY EDUCATION ALLIANCE (WEEA or ALLIANCE)

WEEA was established in 2018 to identify key strategies that strengthen career pathways and partnerships between Southern California school districts and the water-energy sectors. In April 2020, the MWDOC Board approved authorization to assume leadership of WEEA ([April A&F report](#)).

At the time of this report, an [informational flyer and sponsorship form](#) has been developed and sent with a personal invitation letter to the six (6) previous WEEA sponsors: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan), Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), Irvine Ranch Water District, Moulton Niguel Water District, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District, and the Water Replenishment District. In less than a month, Metropolitan has responded by doubling their initial commitment, and LADWP and Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District have each confirmed they will be meeting their initial commitment level, providing half of the requested budget amount for a part-time program facilitator.

In the next few months, MWDOC PA will continue to accept sponsorships, and develop an action plan to effectively meet [Phase II deliverables](#). A WEEA webpage will be added to the MWDOC website, and MWDOC PA and Alliance sponsors will discuss a schedule and action plan for the two (2) WEEA Leadership Roundtable meetings in Fiscal Year 20-21.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY INITIATIVE (CAELI)

Environmental literacy is supported by the State Board of Education and the California Department of Education, and is now an essential component in five (5) California curriculum frameworks including Science, History-Social Science, Mathematics, Health, and Visual and Performing Arts. Because of this shift, water is no longer a resource dedicated solely to science education, but can now be introduced in a variety of classroom units.

CAELI is a public-private partnership that has created a system of support throughout California for students and teachers, allowing them access to local environment and standards-based learning and instructional materials *that enhance their understanding of core subjects*.

Through participation in this initiative, MWDOC's education efforts have transformed. In addition to receiving professional support to realign Choice School Program offerings with new state standards, strengthening local and statewide education networks, and developing viable water-centric activities that teachers can use, engagement is up on District social media posts featuring CAELI leadership or content, reaching more people and attracting more followers to all of the District's activities and resources.

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (METROPOLITAN) EDUCATION COORDINATORS

Metropolitan Education Coordinators are a professional network of Metropolitan member agency education representatives who come together to share expertise, ideas, and resources related to education and outreach programs or projects within Metropolitan's service area. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Metropolitan Education Coordinators met quarterly for in-person presentations. Given the current demands for valuable educational

resources as educators navigate the challenges of distance learning, MWDOC PA has actively participated in the now bi-weekly online meetings. Through these meetings, MWDOC PA has both shared and learned from participants and guest presenters on best practices for providing effective resources during this distance learning transition period.

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES (DWR) WATER EDUCATION COMMITTEE (WEC)

The DWR WEC is a network of water and wastewater educators from throughout California who share information, resources, and expertise in education and communication/outreach. Prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, the WEC met in person twice per calendar year – once in the northern part of the state, and once in the southern – for networking and professional development. In response to the need for online educational support and resources, the Committee now convenes online on a monthly basis for members to collaborate, share best practices, and discover new ways to provide virtual content to educators and students. MWDOC PA has actively participated in all meetings by sharing resources and learning what other members are doing to support educators and engage students in their shift to distance learning.

MWDOC SCOUTS PROGRAMS

MWDOC partners with the Orange County Council - Boy Scouts of America (BSA) to help Scouts earn their Soil and Water Conservation Merit Badge. Since it is a pre-existing program within BSA, there are strict requirements for earning the Badge. Typically, Boy Scouts participate in a 4-hour clinic hosted by MWDOC and its member agencies and/or partners. Within the four (4) hours, they complete a guided tour of an Orange County water source, water treatment facility, or ecological reserve, and participate in interactive learning stations that include hands-on STEM activities led by MWDOC PA.

MWDOC also partners with Girl Scouts of Orange County to present the MWDOC Water Resources and Conservation Patch Program. MWDOC PA designed the award-winning program and patch in-house, and developed the activities completed during the clinics. The 2-hour STEM-based clinic includes a guided tour of an Orange County water source, water treatment facility, or ecological reserve, and interactive learning stations that include hands-on STEM activities led by MWDOC PA. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, MWDOC PA cancelled the final Girl Scouts clinic scheduled for April 25th at South Coast Water District.

MWDOC PA is currently exploring opportunities to transition MWDOC's successful Scouts programs to a virtual format in order to continue providing valuable education to Orange County youth about where their water comes from, the challenges of getting water to Orange County, and how to be more water efficient. MWDOC PA will incorporate key functions of Zoom (polling, reactions, and raised hand) to interact with the Scouts and keep them engaged throughout the duration of the program.

IN SUMMARY

MWDOC PA will continue to engage in valuable partnerships, programs, and workgroups that increase access to vetted, critical water education resources, learning opportunities, and workforce pathways for all Orange County K-12 students.



State Education & Environment Roundtable

April 24, 2020

Satoru Tamaribuchi, Board President
Municipal Water District of Orange County
18700 Ward Street
Fountain Valley CA 92708

Re: MWDOC Water Education Programs and Initiatives

President Tamaribuchi:

I am writing to applaud the important and timely work that the Municipal Water District of Orange County's (MWDOC) Public Affairs team is doing right now to strengthen education, and environmental literacy efforts both in Orange County, and across the State of California.

Since 1995, the State Education and Environment Roundtable (SEER) has partnered with natural resource agencies and departments of education across the United States. Our mission is focused on developing and supporting environmentally literate students in kindergarten through 12th grade, preparing them to use logic and science to identify and discover how to resolve environmental challenges of today and tomorrow.

SEER has always focused on educational practices that allow students to use the engineering design process to solve local environmental problems. Our work involves preparing teachers to use high-quality instructional practices that combine science, math, English language arts, and history-social sciences. Perhaps most importantly, we teach educators how to use the local environment as the context for learning, e.g. issues of water availability and quality, and habitat restoration.

Over the past 18 months, as we have gotten to know and work with Tiffany Baca and Sarah Wilson, we have increasingly recognized shared goals and strategies—using education to conserve and manage water and other life-supporting resources. This team has proven to be creative, open to new ways of thinking, and are strategic thinkers.

Most of SEER's work over the past 18 years has been focused on California, where we have had the opportunity to partner with the Natural Resources Agency's Department of Water Resources and California EPA's State Water Control Board. Both of these agencies collaborated with us as we led the development of California's Education and the Environment Initiative.

Since 2014, SEER has worked closely with the State Board of Education and Department of Education to develop the environmental literacy components of the science, history-social science, health, arts, and now math curriculum frameworks (documents that guide teachers in classroom practices and publishers in developing instructional materials).

(619) 218-1869 Mobile
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Director
Gerald Lieberman, Ph. D.

We have come to deeply respect and support the efforts of Ms. Baca and Ms. Wilson, as they continue to work to connect the MWDOC education programs and initiatives to all of this statewide work—state education standards, curriculum frameworks, and instructional practices. These efforts are going to payoff directly in increasing opportunities to reach students, parents and the community at large with critically important information about water resources and conservation.

I believe that MWDOC's work in this realm is vital at both the Orange County level, and across the state. This team is playing three import roles that I am familiar with and supportive of:

- Collaborating with SEER and the Orange County Department of Education in working with school districts to build environmental literacy into their instructional goals;
- Leading the way in encouraging and supporting community-based organizations to help them bring their education programs up-to-date so that they meet current educational standards; and,
- Serving as a statewide example for other water agencies, demonstrating how their program can better support school districts, teachers, and students.

I would be happy to give you and your Board further information about the importance of the role MWDOC is playing regionally, and across the state. I look forward to continuing our very productive relationship.

Sincerely yours,



Gerald A. Lieberman, Ph.D.
Director

cc: Robert Hunter, General Manager

Attachment 2

From: [Lori Kiesser](#)
To: [Robert Hunter](#)
Cc: [Tiffany Baca](#)
Subject: MWDOC & Orange County Environmental Education
Date: Monday, April 27, 2020 1:09:43 PM
Attachments: [MWDOC_OCDE_HSteele_4_2020.pdf](#)

Dear Rob,

Attached please find a thank you letter from Holly Steele, Administrator for OCDE STEM.

I echo Holly's words and express gratitude for Tiffany Baca and Sarah Wilson. It continues to be an exciting journey as we work together to build a community of environmental education partners. The model we are building with MWDOC, OCDE, Inside the Outdoors, and Orange County school districts creates the pathway to environmental literacy for students and their families. It is a model that is unique and groundbreaking – and it is being watched by education and environmental leaders throughout California. We are shifting how communities think about environmental education and the critical importance of local connections.

We feel confident that water education both in the classroom and through education partners will allow students to understand local priorities and make informed decisions. Tiffany and Sarah are thought leaders in this work and are continually looking for connection points that align the goals of teachers, students, and families with the mission of MWDOC and its member agencies.

We feel fortunate to have them as part of the California Environmental Literacy Initiative and Orange County's local work.

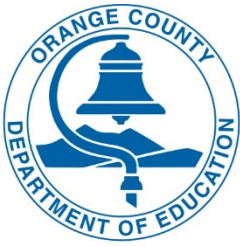
Please feel free to contact me should you have questions about the work.

Sincerely,

Lori Kiesser
Education & Partnerships
Inside the Outdoors
Educational Services – STEM and Humanities
Orange County Department of Education
949.433.6724
lkieser@ocde.us
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ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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April 23, 2020

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AL MIJARES, Ph.D.
County Superintendent
of Schools

Robert Hunter, General Manager
Municipal Water District of Orange County
18700 Ward Street
Fountain Valley CA 92708

Re: Water Education Programs

Mr. Hunter,

This letter is sent to thank you and the Municipal Water District of Orange County's (MWDOC) Public Affairs team for the work done to support students in our county.

It is the Orange County Department of Education's (OCDE) mission to work to ensure that all students are equipped with the competencies needed to thrive in the 21st century. In a world with increasing tension between the natural and human-built environments, it is becoming increasingly important that we consider environmental literacy as a core competency.

California's curriculum frameworks include the Environmental Principles and Concepts (EP&Cs). These principles allow students to connect what they are learning in the classroom to real-life, providing a bridge to informed decision-making. The EP&Cs are focused on the environmental priorities within a student's community. This means that Orange County students learn about what is happening in Orange County.

Because of the local focus, agencies such as MWDOC are poised to play a critical role in education as the connection to local priorities. The MWDOC public affairs team has stepped into the role by working closely with OCDE and local science education providers to support student learning. MWDOC's leadership in efforts such as the Water, Energy, and Education Alliance (WEEA) and California's Environmental Literacy Initiative (CAELI) has had a positive impact on education partnerships regionally and statewide.

I would be happy to share more with you and your Board of Directors about Orange County's education landscape and the importance of partners such as MWDOC. Again, thank you for supporting our teachers, students, and families.

Sincerely,

Holly Steele
Administrator
STEM, Esports, and Inside the Outdoors

cc: Director Sat Tamaribuchi, Board President

**ORANGE COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION**
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Public & Governmental Affairs Activities Report
April 8, 2020 – May 12, 2020

Member Agency Relations	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed Water Use Efficiency bill inserts for member agencies – focused on COVID-19 messaging. • Provided and maintained COVID-19 messaging and update spread sheet for MWDOC and MET member agencies. • Closed submissions and cataloged entries for the 2020 Water Awareness Poster Contest • Coordinated and hosted a Public Affairs Workgroup for member agency PIO's via Zoom. <p>Governmental Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sent updates regarding water shutoffs per the Governor's Executive Order • Provided a legislative update at the OC MET Managers meeting • Sent out information regarding a potential water infrastructure bill and asked for "shovel ready" projects
Community Relations	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in a GoToWebinar – 2020 Girl Scouts update with CEO Sylvia Acevedo. • Participated in an Orange County Business Council Workforce Development meeting. <p>Governmental Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending a Telework and Crisis Communications Zoom Workshop hosted by ACC-OC
Media Relations	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked with Agendum ventures on OC Register Water Awareness Month Sunday Insert. • Conducted a social media campaign for National Environmental Education Week featuring interviews with MWDOC partners including, world-renowned artist Wyland, Director of the State Education and Environment Roundtable Dr. Jerry Lieberman, as well as Inside the Outdoors and Orange County Coastkeeper lead educators. • Prepared video briefs and coordinated with social media contractor HashtagPinpoint to begin preparing additional video content for upcoming posts.
Education	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked closely with Orange County Department of Education to create the Grab-and-Go Water Lesson: Water Filtration Challenge for Orange County teachers, families, and students. • Met with OCSTEM to discuss activities to share on social media. • Finalized video scripts for MWDOC High School Digital Program

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Released 5 video episodes for the MWDOC Elementary School Digital Program (K-2) • Sent member agencies participating in the MWDOC Elementary School (K-2) Digital Program links to the live videos to share in their service areas • Met with Discovery Cube Orange County to review structure and content for 6 grade-specific videos for the MWDOC Elementary School (3-6) and Middle School (7-8) Digital Programs • Participated in three (3) Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Education Coordinator's Zoom Meetings • Participated in two (2) California Department of Water Resources Water Education Committee Zoom Meetings • Participated in a California Environmental Literacy Initiative Leadership Council meeting. • Met with Bolsa Chica Conservancy to review structure and content for the three (3) MWDOC High School (9-12) Digital Program videos • Worked with California Environmental Education Foundation to transfer leadership of the Water Energy Education Alliance (WEEA) MWDOC. • Presented and hosted a breakout session at a WEEA Leadership Roundtable meeting. • Prepared a Sponsorship package for WEEA that includes an informational flyer, sponsorship form, and a personal invitation letter. • Sent an invitation to sponsor WEEA to six (6) previous sponsors: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan), Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), Irvine Ranch Water District, Moulton Niguel Water District, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD), and Water Replenishment District. At the time of this report, Metropolitan, LADWP, and EVMWD have confirmed their renewed commitment, securing half of the amount needed to hire a part-time program facilitator. • Met with two (2) graduating college students to discuss careers in water.
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Special Projects	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintained and distributed an excel spreadsheet to water agencies across the state to track messaging and action items in response to COVID-19, 202 agencies participated. • Created additional COVID-19 visual messaging for social media on behalf of WEROC department. • Created and Prepared recognition for upcoming retirements. • Prepared and sent refund letters to 2020 OC Water Summit sponsors and registered attendees. • Provided MWDOC COVID-19 media/tool kit to other water agencies in Southern California that were struggling for content to communicate with their customers during this unprecedented time. • Completed several website updates. <p>Governmental Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated efforts to get the ISDOC sponsored scholarship forms and information into place. • Coordinated with staff on behalf of the Department of Water Resources to provide an update on the Delta Conveyance Project at the June WACO meeting. The speaker will be DWR Director Karla Nemeth. • Hosted the WACO Planning meeting via Zoom • Sent out ISDOC Quarterly Meeting cancelation notice and a reminder to send in ballots for the LAFCO dues reapportionment election • Staffed the May WACO meeting via Zoom featuring guest speaker Vicki Osborn, who provided an update on COVID-19 issues related to the water/wastewater industry • Participated in a meeting with LAFCO staff regarding MWDOC's upcoming Municipal Service Review • Drafted a letter on behalf of ISDOC to LAFCO with the dues reapportionment election results • Coordinated with the Orange County Auditor-Controller's office to ensure the new allocation formula for the special districts' portion of the LAFCO budget is applied for the upcoming fiscal year
Legislative Affairs	<p>Governmental Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in the ACWA Federal Affairs Infrastructure Working Group on April 8, 15, 22, and May 6 • Participated in the ACWA Shutoffs Working Group • Attended the CMUA Regulatory and Legislative Committee meetings • Participated in the Metropolitan Legislative Coordinators bimonthly call • Drafted and circulated the following letters that were Board approved: AB 2178 (Levine), AB 2560 (Quirk), AB 2093 (Gloria), AB 2182 (Rubio), ACR 179 (Voepel), SB 1099 (Dodd)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joined the coalition to support MWD sponsored (and now held) legislation – AB 2246 (Mayes) and SB 996 (Portantino) • Coordinated with Barker Leavitt to send letters to key members of Congress regarding COVID-19 funding • Participated in ACWA/CMUA SB 200 Implementation Working Group on April 14 and April 28 • Participated in the CalDesal Legislative Committee meeting • Participated in the ACWA Region 10 State Legislative Committee planning meeting • Attended the ACWA State Legislative Committee meeting • Attended the CMUA Legislative Committee meeting • Attended the CSDA Legislative Committee meeting • Monitored the May 5 State Water Resources Control Board meeting, re: shutoffs and SB 200 implementation
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