

MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY
Jointly with the
PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
November 16, 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 McVicker
Director Dick

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)

2. MWDOC'S COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

ACTION ITEMS

3. ADOPT MWDOC LEGISLATIVE POLICY PRINCIPLES ANNUAL UPDATE
4. SELECTION OF A FIRM TO PROVIDE STATE LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY SERVICES
5. SELECTION OF A FIRM TO PROVIDE FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY SERVICES
6. APPROVAL OF ALLEN MCCOLLOCH PIPELINE (AMP) CAPACITY FLOW WAIVER FOR CITY OF SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO

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

7. SCHOOL PROGRAMS UPDATE
8. OC WATER SUMMIT UPDATE
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
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*Municipal Water District of Orange County, California
Washington Update
November 9, 2020*

Despite Trump’s Refusal to Concede, Biden Declared Winner/President-Elect; Control of House in 2021 Likely Unchanged, but Senate Control to be Settled by Georgia Runoffs; House and Senate Seeking to Pass FY21 Appropriations and Year-End COVID Relief Economic Stimulus Bill

While President Trump makes claims of a “stolen election” and wide-spread election vote fraud, he has refused to concede. Despite that fact, former Vice President Joe Biden and his running mate Senator Kamala Harris were declared President and Vice President-elect by all the major media networks in the United States. Following this announcement, President-elect Biden addressed the nation in a primetime address and the Biden Campaign began to transition to the White House.

The Biden-Harris transition priorities include COVID-19, economic recovery, racial equality, and climate change. Investing in modern and resilient infrastructure is a major tenet of this plan—including water infrastructure.

We are also hearing that Biden plans to reverse a number of President Trump’s executive actions immediately following his inauguration. These Biden Executive Orders would include reinstating the DACA program for Dreamers, rejoining the Paris Climate Accord, reversing the withdrawal from the World Health Organization (WHO), and ending the Muslim travel ban.

Additionally, with California’s Senator Kamala Harris being declared Vice President-elect, California is expected to get a new U.S. Senator. After Senator Harris is sworn-in as Vice President, Governor Newsom will have the responsibility to appoint her replacement in the U.S. Senate to represent the State of California. Several names have been floated as potential

replacements for Senator Harris: U.S. Rep. Karen Bass, CA Attorney General Xavier Becerra, Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia, U.S. Rep. Barbara Lee, CA Secretary of State Alex Padilla, U.S. Rep. Katie Porter, and several others.

Control of Congress

Although the Democrats may end up losing ten or so seats, we expect the House to remain controlled by the Democrats. Control of the Senate will be settled after a January 5th runoff Senate election for both of Georgia's two Senate seats, although both incumbent Republicans are slightly favored to win in the closely watched Georgia Senate runoffs in January. Both the House and Senate will hold their leadership elections the week of November 16th (all current members of leadership are running for re-election).

Election Results: Orange County Congressional Delegation

Orange County Democratic Representatives Sanchez, Porter, Correa, Lowenthal, and Levin were all re-elected to Congress. At the time of writing this report, Former Republican Assemblymember Young Kim has a slight (roughly 3,000 vote) lead over incumbent Democratic Representative Cisneros. Additionally, Republican challenger Michelle Steel also has a slight (nearly 7,000 vote) lead over incumbent Democratic Representative Harley Rouda.

Year-end FY21 Appropriations Bill; COVID-19 Economic Stimulus

We are also hearing that both Senate Leader McConnell and House Speaker Pelosi have reiterated that they want to pass a FY21 omnibus appropriations bill, rather than passing another short-term continuing resolution into the first quarter of 2021. The Senate Appropriations Committee will be releasing all 12 FY21 Senate spending bills on November 10. As a reminder, current federal funding levels expire on December 13. We are monitoring these spending bills—especially the Interior/EPA and Energy & Water Appropriations bills. These bills provide critical federal funding for federal agencies and water programs.

Leader McConnell has also said that the Senate needs to pass an economic stimulus package for COVID relief by the end of the year. Speaker Pelosi has also signaled interest in restarting negotiations. The challenges remain over the size and cost of an economic stimulus bill. Some senior White House officials signaled that President Trump may not want to sign a large debt financed COVID relief bill at the end of his Administration but may rather leave that to a Biden Administration. We continue to advocate for special districts to be included in any relief provided for states and local governments.

Water Resources Development Act (WRDA Bill) Negotiations Continue

We continue to hear from Congressional staff that they expect the WRDA bill to receive a final vote before the end of this year. Both the House and the Senate have introduced bipartisan WRDA bills. The House has passed its version of the bill and the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee advanced the Senate's bill unanimously.

We are also hearing that in addition to the provisions authorizing U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects, this WRDA bill could include reauthorization of Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Funds. This bill is expected to include millions for EPA water infrastructure grant programs.

Highlights of the Senate's WRDA Bill:

- \$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.
- As you know, these are critical sources of federal funding, administered by the State of California, for water agencies to receive grants and low interest loans for water infrastructure projects.

It is still not clear whether this WRDA bill will include a Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) Title. We have been in close contact with Committee staff to advocate for the inclusion of a BOR Title and reauthorization of critical WIIN Act authorizations. The WIIN Act contains several different federal grant programs which our member agencies use to receive federal funds.

Wildfire/Forest Management Legislation

The "Emergency Wildfire and Public Safety Act" remains a bipartisan priority and could be addressed before the end of this year. As a reminder, this MWDOC supported legislation would ease some regulatory hurdles for forest management projects, such as not requiring a renewed environmental review when new information emerges about potential effects on endangered species — a legislative fix to a court-imposed requirement. The bill would also allow the Forest Service to declare emergencies in certain areas affected by wildfire, allowing for restoration with less-extensive environmental review.



To: Municipal Water District of Orange County
From: Syrus Devers, Best Best & Krieger
Date: November 9th, 2020
Re: Monthly Report

Legislative Report

No Blue Wave. As far as the State Legislature is concerned the election last week was close to a draw. Republicans lost two seats in the Senate with John Moorlach losing to challenger Dave Min and Ling Ling Chang giving Josh Newman his old seat back, but over in the Assembly the R's picked up the seat vacated by Democrat Christy Smith in AD 38 (Santa Clarita). The D's had hoped to pick up AD 68 held by Assemblymember Steven Choi here in Orange County, but as of the time this report was prepared it appears his slim lead will hold up. The Dems had also targeted Senator Scott Wilk in SD 21 (Santa Clarita) but he too fought off the challenge.

The party counts are now 30 Dems to 9 Reps and 1 vacancy in the Senate (Sen. Holly Mitchell won an L.A. Supervisor seat), and 60 Dems to 19 Reps and 1 NPP (Chad Mayes) in the Assembly. Mayes had previously switched to NPP and easily won reelection in the 42nd AD (Yucca Valley). The Democrats did score a point but it was not the blowout they anticipated.

Administrative Report

Emergency Backup Generators: The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) appears to be making good on its commitment to reform the rules governing the use and maintenance of emergency backup generators. The two issues are the use of generators during a public safety power shutoff (PSPS), and the time allowed to test and maintain older generators. SCAQMD announced the formation of a working group that will begin meeting in December to write a draft regulation. Water districts have objected to runtime limits on the generators in light of PSPS, over which they have no control.

While not an issue in Orange County, MWDOC has continued to be involved in the development of the SB 200 process to address at-risk water systems. The State Water Resources Control Board announced a series of webinars on the use of the website that estimates the needs and costs of addressing failing water



systems. The webinars will be given on November 20th and December 14th. Please let BB&K staff know if any board member has an interest in participating.

The County of Orange Report

November 9, 2020
by Lewis Consulting Group



Surprises Highlight Orange County Election Tally

Election day has come and gone, yet as of November 9th several close races lay in the balance because there are still nearly 100,000 ballots still to count in the County. The predicted “Blue Wave” failed to materialize in the county and ended up as a “blue ripple” at best.

The most impactful races involve Michelle Steel’s impressive victory over Democrat Harley Rouda; Young Kim ‘s narrow lead over Democratic Congressman Gil Cisneros; State Senator John Moorlach’s defeat at the hands of Dave Min; Ling Ling Chang’s probable defeat as well; along with incumbent Supervisor Andrew Do’s larger than expected margin of victory in his re-election bid.

ORANGE COUNTY CONGRESSIONAL RESULTS

DISTRICT	INCUMBENT	CHALLENGER
38 TH C.D.	LINDA SANCHEZ (D) - 74.3%	MICHAEL TOLAN (D) - 25.7%
	Sanchez is easily re-elected	
39 TH C.D.	GIL CISNEROS (D) - 49.5%	YOUNG KIM (R) - 50.5%
Will be decided by the number of	outstanding ballots remaining in Los	Angeles & San Bernardino counties
45 TH C.D.	KATIE PORTER (D) - 53.5%	GREG RATHS (R) - 46.5%
	Porter wins, but much closer	then expected
46 TH C.D.	LOU CORREA (D) - 68.8%	JAMES WATERS (R) - 31.2%
	Correa is easily re-elected	
47 TH C.D.	ALAN LOWENTHAL (D) - 72.5%	JOHN BRISCOE (R) - 37.2%
	Lowenthal is easily re-elected	
48 TH C.D.	HARLEY ROUDA (D) - 49.1%	MICHELLE STEEL (R) - 50.9%
	Part of the national GOP	Congressional gain
49 TH C.D.	MIKE LEVIN (D) - 53.3%	BRYAN MARYOTT (R) - 46.7%
	Mike Levin wins it in San Diego	County

ORANGE COUNTY STATE SENATE RESULTS

DISTRICT	INCUMBENT	CHALLENGER
29 TH S.D.	LING LING CHANG (R) - 48.5%	JOSH NEWMAN (D) - 51.5%
		Democrats win key seat
37 TH S.D.	JOHN MOORLACH (R) - 48.8%	DAVE MIN (D) - 51.2%
	GOP icon has fallen	

ORANGE COUNTY STATE ASSEMBLY RESULTS

DISTRICT	INCUMBENT	CHALLENGER
55 TH A.D.	PHILLIP CHEN (R) - 55.0%	ANDREW RODRIGUEZ (D) - 45.0%
	Chen is easily re-elected	
65 TH A.D.	SHARON QUIRK-SILVA (D) - 58.3%	CYNTHIA THACKER (R) - 41.7%
	Quirk-Silva is easily re-elected	
68 TH A.D.	STEVEN CHOI (R) - 53.0%	MELISSA FOX (D) - 47.0%
	Surprisingly easy re-election for	Choi
69 TH A.D.	TOM DALY (D) - 73%	JON PAUL WHITE (R) - 27.0%
	Daly is easily re-elected again	
72 ND A.D. / OPEN SEAT	JANET NGUYEN (R) - 54.0%	DEIDRE NGUYEN (D) - 46.0%
	A comeback for Janet Nguyen	
73 RD A.D. / OPEN SEAT	LAURIE DAVIES (R) - 58.4%	SCOTT RHINEHART (D) - 41.6%
	Davies keeps the seat GOP	
74 TH A.D.	COTTIE PETRIE-NORRIS (D) - 50.6%	DIANE DIXON (R) - 49.4%
	Close, but Petrie-Norris should	hang on

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISOR RESULTS

DISTRICT	INCUMBENT	CHALLENGER
DISTRICT - 1 (non-partisan)	ANDREW DO - 51.65%	SERGIO CONTRERAS - 48.35%
Andrew Do shows surprising	strength in the 27% GOP	district

Congratulations to re-elected MWDOC Directors Megan Yoo Schneider and Robert McVicker. Further congratulations to newly elected Directors Karl Seckel and Al Nederhood.

DECISION 2020



Barring meaningful court intervention or successful recounts in multiple states, President-Elect Joe Biden has defeated President Donald Trump.

By apportioning electors from the five un-called states, the most likely finish will be Joe Biden 306 electoral votes to Donald Trumps 232. As of this Sunday morning (November 8, 2020), President-Elect Biden holds a 4.4 million vote lead nationally with California being responsible for the entirety of the margin.

The election was so close, that a flip of just 49,000 votes in four close states would have secured President Trump's re-election.



Senate Republicans outperformed projections by a mile. When the dust settles, the GOP will have suffered a one vote net loss. However, two seats will not be determined until the State of Georgia holds it's unusual run-off election on January 5, 2021. Look forward to all-time spending records being broken as the partisan balance in the U.S. Senate will be determined by this election. Heading into this election, Republicans now hold a 50-48 margin in the upper house. If Democrats win the two seats, a 50-50 vote tie on senate votes would be broken by the new Vice President-Elect Kamala Harris. A one or two vote pick-up by the Republicans would stall much of the Biden agenda moving forward.



The most surprising part of the 2020 election is not only the avoidance of "blue wave" losses in the House, but a certainty of making gains perhaps sizable gains for Republicans. As of this moment, Republicans have already secured a five seat pick-up, but they are also leading in nine races, which haven't finished counting ballots.

Our best projection at this time would be a House of Representatives comprised of 223 Democrats and 212 Republicans.



Republicans in Sacramento are more and more resembling the Maytag Repairman's office [ask an older person].

The numbers dwindling year by year and increasingly irrelevant, are as follows:

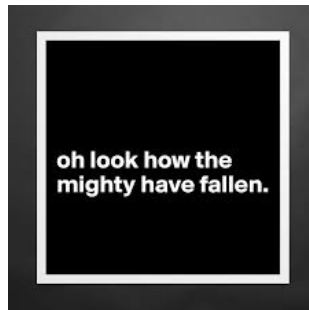
- ☆ The partisan balance in the new State Senate should be 31 Democrats and 9 Republicans
- ☆ Assembly Republicans should end up with 20 seats out of the 80 member chamber

Relevancy in the Legislature begins with a party holding over $\frac{1}{3}$ of each House. Republicans have now slipped to $\frac{1}{4}$ of the membership in the Assembly and less than that in the State Senate.



Supervisor Andrew Do's more comfortable than expected victory leaves the non-partisan Board of Supervisors with a 4-1 Republican advantage more or less. With Michelle Steel's apparent Congressional victory, Steel's seat will soon be vacant, triggering a Special Election in 2021.

Several people are already eyeing the seat, with the possibility that former Supervisor John Moorlach might enter the fray as well.



This was a bad year for former office holders who were counting on their past popularity to propel them to victory. Leading this list was former Democrat Congresswoman *Loretta Sanchez* who was defeated in her run for Rancho Santiago Community College Board seat. Other examples include current Assemblyman *Tyler Diep* defeated in his run for MWDOC, former Assemblyman *Matt Harper* defeated in his attempt to return to the Huntington Beach City Council and longtime Anaheim City Councilmember *Lucille Kring* was defeated in her run for a local Anaheim School Board seat.

Red Poll ✧ Blue Poll ✧ Good Poll ✧ Fools' Poll

Once again the reputation of national pollsters "take it on the chin". For the second time, most pollsters underestimated President Trump's national strength. Again, there were even more grievous errors in state polling. Here is a sample of some of the worst:

NATIONAL POLLS	11-2-2020	USC DORNSLIFE	BIDEN 54	TRUMP 43
	11-2-2020	QUINNIPIAC	BIDEN 50	TRUMP 39
	11-2-2020	CNBC	BIDEN 52	TRUMP 42
	10-28-2020	CNN	BIDEN 54	TRUMP 42
STATE POLLS				
PENNSYLVANIA	11-2-2020	MONMOUTH	BIDEN 51	TRUMP 44
WISCONSIN	11-2-2020	CNBC/CHANCE	BIDEN 53	TRUMP 45
OHIO	11-2-2020	QUINNIPIAC	BIDEN 47	TRUMP 43
FLORIDA	11-2-2020	EMENSON	BIDEN 51	TRUMP 45

THE WINNER

WISCONSIN	10-27-2020	ABC/WASH. POST	BIDEN 57	TRUMP 40
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After a short and non-substantive October meeting, the November LAFCO meeting has been cancelled. Perhaps LAFCO expects a busy work load near the Christmas holidays.

NOTICE OF ADJOURNMENT

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION ORANGE COUNTY

2677 North Main Street, Suite 1050
Santa Ana, CA 92705
(714) 640-5100 • FAX (714) 640-5139

The **November 11, 2020 Regular Meeting** of the Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission has been cancelled. The next scheduled meeting of the Commission is **Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at 8:15 a.m.** Additional details on the location of the meeting will be provided in accordance with the requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act and the provisions of the Governor's Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20.



UPDATE

Not surprisingly, the Board of Supervisors meeting held on Election Day [November 3, 2020] was shorter than usual and absent of controversy. The next meeting falls the day after PAL and appears to have a non-controversial agenda as well.



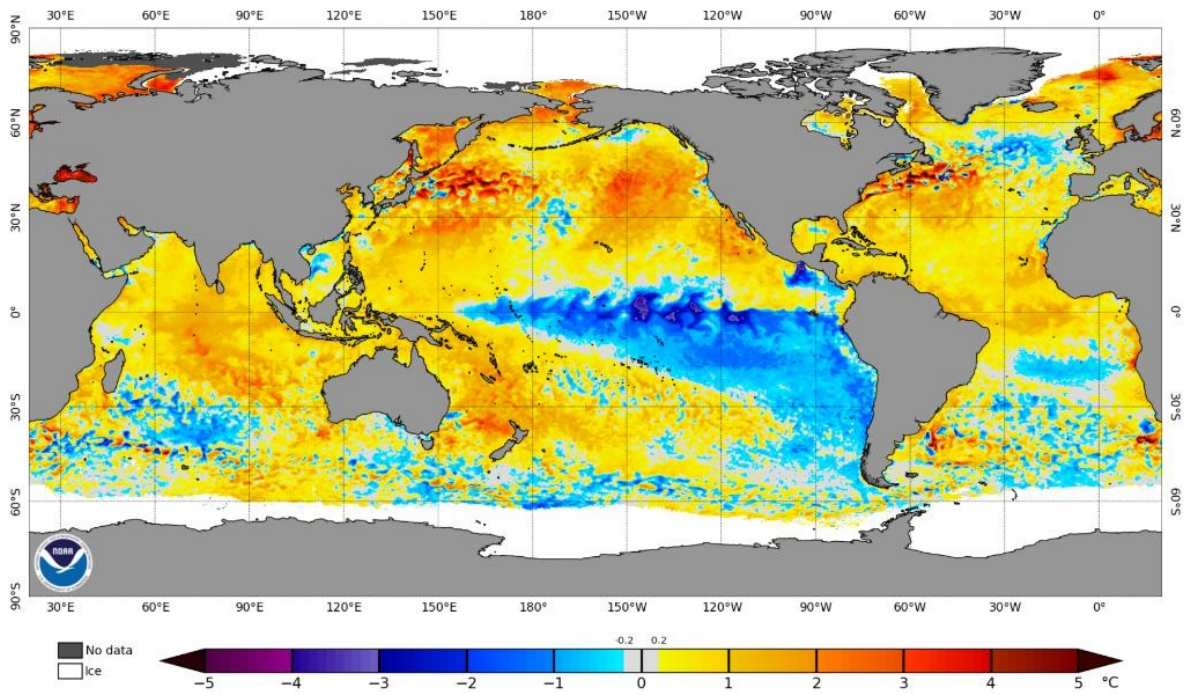
Orange County COVID-19 Stats

ORANGE COUNTY COVID-19 STATS	AS OF 11/9/2020	AS OF 10/13/2020
CUMULATIVE CASES TO DATE	62,563	56,070
CUMULATIVE DEATHS TO DATE	1,509	1,341
DEATHS REPORTED TODAY	0	0
CUMULATIVE TESTS TO DATE	1,190,732	957,839
TESTS REPORTED TODAY	7,148	9,168
CASES CURRENTLY HOSPITALIZED	205*	160*
CASES CURRENTLY IN ICU	76	57
CUMULATIVE RECOVERED TO DATE	55,063*	50,130

* = INCLUDES *ICU* CASES

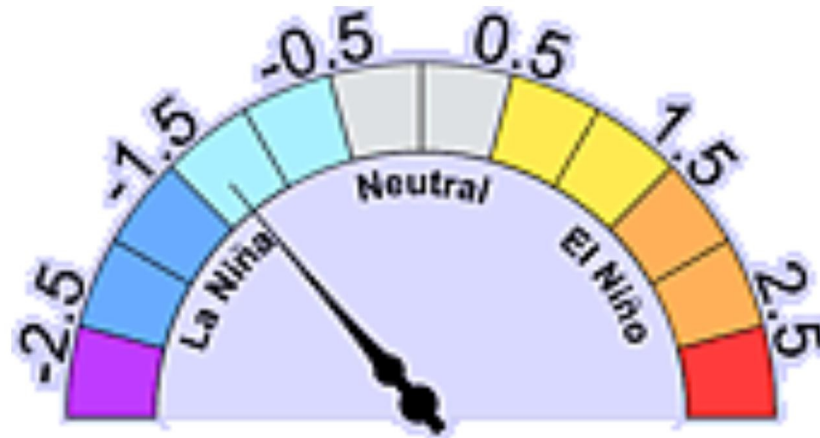
Where Orange County Ranks [as of 11/9/2020]

LOCATION	POPULATION	CONFIRMED CASES	DEATHS
CALIFORNIA	40,129,160	971,851	17,977
LOS ANGELES COUNTY	10,247,557	318,960	7,172
ORANGE COUNTY	3,228,519	62,563	1,509
RIVERSIDE COUNTY	2,468,145	71,442	1,333
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY	2,217,398	68,412	1,096
SAN DIEGO COUNTY	3,370,418	60,199	908



The large plume of cooler water emanating from the West Coast of South America visualizes a deepening La Niña.

ENSO METER



Our La Niña has months to go before it peaks . La Niña increases the probability of dry conditions, but is by no means a certainty.

ACKERMAN CONSULTING

Legal and Regulatory

November 16, 2020

1. **Landfall Droughts:** Researchers are constantly trying to trace various causes of droughts. Stanford researchers have developed a new theory regarding 'landfall droughts'. Some droughts develop over the ocean as a result of atmospheric conditions. Clusters of moisture accumulate in the atmosphere and slowly move toward land. These conditions grow much faster than normal drought conditions but take some time to hit land. They are likely to produce much more severe drought conditions. The model developed will hopefully allow water planners to better predict and plan for these events.
2. **Gold Rush Mercury:** Quicksilver or liquid mercury is being discovered at an increasing rate in California. This contamination is a result of our Gold Rush days in the 1850s. Mercury was used to separate gold from other sediments as a part of hydraulic mining. This untreated situation can exist for 10,000 plus years if not remedied. In the 1850s, California produced over one half of the world's mercury. Practically all of it was used for gold mining. Mercury is highly toxic and usually impacts humans through fish. Recent reports have shown the extent of the problem but no serious remediation efforts have begun.
3. **Drought Forecasting:** Utah State University has been improving forecast models for the upper basin of the Colorado River. This area has been historically overlooked even though its importance to the West's water is crucial. 'Long term ocean memory' is helping researchers predict weather patterns on the Colorado River. Studying ocean water temperatures and atmospheric conditions over time can help to create an algorithm. This is compared to flow rates on the Colorado River to develop patterns used for water management. This new model incorporates natural events like currents, water and heat exchange, clouds and other atmospheric elements. It is hoped that the new tool will help in water world and also fire preparation.
4. **Old Faithful Status:** Old Faithful has had an up and down history for the past 800 years. The world's 1000 geysers usually occur in volcanically active areas. They are caused by water seeping down in the ground, eventually reach the hot magma chamber and the pressure caused by the depth forces the water up like a spout. It is generally a reoccurring event as the geyser has to reload after each event. Old Faithful's intervals are around 90 minutes. Evidence shows

that Old Faithful shut down for decades about 800 years ago as a result of a major drought. Tree remains have been found around the geyser. Usually this is a plant free zone due to hot alkaline water produced during the eruptions.

5. **More Forecasting:** UC Merced scientists are predicting more and longer droughts for California. They are using fire forecasting to aid in this study. In the last forty plus years perfect storm days or periods for wildfires have been increasing three fold. Delays in the start of rainy seasons, increased temperatures are increasing the danger of longer and worse fire seasons. While they acknowledge that climate change may be harder to control, fire management and control can be done now.
6. **LA Grass:** NOAA and the University of Colorado have been studying the impact of grass, plants, golf courses and trees on the carbon emissions of Los Angeles County. The popular thought was the fossil fuel emissions (cars and engines) produced all the emissions for the area. In fact, about one third of them are a result of organic growth. These emission sources are favored due to air quality, runoff, temperature impact, and recreation factors. This emission level changes depending on time of year. Plants inhale in winter and exhale in summer.
7. **Infrastructure Standards:** Industry experts have been suggesting changes to infrastructure standards and NOAA formulas when considering precipitation values. These standards have always assumed normal melting for snowfall. Recently, such as at Oroville Dam, rapid snowmelt has presented different concerns and outcomes which should be included in the standard and formulas. Rapid snowmelt is causing flooding and other issues around the country. Also, we must consider the water content in the rapid snowmelt situations. Progress is being made.
8. **Solar Passive Distiller:** A recent paper in the Energy and Environmental Science periodical explains the progress in development of the solar passive distiller. This magic box has no moving parts and relies on the Marangoni effect to turn salt water into fresh water using solar heat. We have reported on this before and it appears that progress is being made. The box contains various materials and pipes. It was originally developed for undeveloped countries with no or little power infrastructure. It is still not cost competitive but new features continue.
9. **PFAS Sponge:** European scientists have developed a mineral sponge that can filter out PFAS. The mineral is zeolite, a porous ingredient with small cavities that is used in cat litter. This material appears naturally and can be made artificially. It is currently being evaluated for mass production and cost competitiveness.

10. **PFAS Killer:** University of Illinois engineers are working on a copolymer electrode that will attract and absorb PFAS. The process also destroys the bad guys making the overall process very energy efficient. The capture rate is over 90%. As like the other ideas, it is being studied for cost and mass production aspects.
11. **Folsom Leaky Pipes:** Hundreds of homeowners around Folsom have been experiencing pin hole leaks and water damage similar to what south Orange County began experiencing a few years ago. The culprit in Folsom has been discovered....clean water, really clean water. Most water contains some minerals and our standard pipes are able to accommodate that condition. Snowmelt water is very pure with virtually no mineral content. Some mineral content is necessary for water to maintain a PH level in the pipes. Without minerals, the water can actually attack the pipes taking minerals out of the pipes thereby causing damage. Lime is usually added to balance the water from a PH, alkalinity and calcium condition. Orthophosphate is another chemical added to delay corrosion. PH can also vary by season, so management of water chemistry becomes very important. Many Folsom residents have been forced to completely re-pipe their house, just like south OC.
12. **Moon Water:** Continuing the search for water on the moon, NASA has discovered water on the moon. This discovery was on the front side of the moon where sun power usually make existence of water difficult if not impossible. Ice has been discovered on the dark side of the moon particularly at north and south poles. The discovery is very small, about a 12 ounce bottles worth in a cubic meter of soil in the Clavius Crater, the largest crater visible from Earth. Water supply on the moon could be very important to future space missions. A water supply on the moon would save much space and weight on our space ships. It is unclear however, whether the source of water is natural to the moon or a result of meteorites hitting the moon and bringing water with them.



DISCUSSION ITEM
November 16, 2020

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

FROM: **Robert Hunter, General Manager**
Staff Contact: Damon Micalizzi

SUBJECT: MWDOC COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Public Affairs & Legislation Committee: Review and discuss the Presentation on the District's Media Program and provide feedback and direction to staff.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

SUMMARY

The Public Affairs Department will give an update of the Department's Communications Program, highlighting recent accomplishments and strategic goals and objectives for the upcoming year.

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



ACTION ITEM
November 18, 2020

TO: Board of Directors

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

Robert Hunter
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

SUBJECT: MWDOC LEGISLATIVE POLICY PRINCIPLES ANNUAL UPDATE

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors review and adopt the updated Legislative and Regulatory Policy Principles for 2020.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

(To be determined by the Committee)

BACKGROUND

At the September Public Affairs and Legislation (PAL) Committee meeting, staff presented this item for information purposes, and requested feedback. In addition to soliciting input from the Board of Directors, staff also requested input from senior staff and the member agencies through the general managers and other participating city staff via the MWDOC Member Agencies Managers and Legislative Coordinators group. The direction from the PAL Committee was to streamline and condense the principles to be less redundant and more concise.

At the October PAL meeting, there was discussion of the preliminary updated policies, and additional input to staff was received from members of the Board. Direction was provided

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

by the committee to streamline the document further, specifically the Water Use Efficiency and Distribution System Water Loss section.

All updates and feedback received have been incorporated to the attached document.

REPORT

MWDOC maintains a set of legislative policy principles that serve as guidelines for staff and our legislative advocates on issues that are of importance to the District. The policy principles attached are a culmination of current policies and initial changes recommended by staff and member agencies.

These principles assist District staff and its legislative advocates in the evaluation of legislation that may impact the District, its member agencies, the interests of Orange County, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and/ or its member agencies. Having such principles in place allow the District to respond to certain types of legislation in a timely manner; however in cases where issues are not clear or have complicated implications will be presented to the Board for further guidance.

The focus of this month's discussion is for staff to receive final input from the committee and update the policy principles to advance the Board's objective of establishing legislative and regulatory policy principles to help guide for both our federal and state legislative programs.

BOARD OPTIONS

Option #1

- Adopt the Legislative and Regulatory Policy Principles as updated for 2021

Fiscal Impact: None

Business Analysis: The updated Legislative and Regulatory Policy Principles enable the Board, staff, and MWDOC's legislative advocates to work in Washington D.C. and Sacramento to further the District's goals and interests that benefit Orange County. Updating them yearly allows for the inclusion of new and/or additional issues that arise throughout the previous year.

Option #2

- Do not approve the Legislative and Regulatory Policy Principles as updated for 2021

Fiscal Impact: None

Business Analysis: MWDOC's Board, staff, and legislative advocates would continue to operate under the approved Legislative and Regulatory Policy Principles adopted in 2020, potentially hampering their ability to advocate on certain issues.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Option #1

Attached: Municipal Water District of Orange County Legislative and Regulatory Policy Principles

~~Strikethrough~~ = Removed

Italics = Addition

(Parentheses) = Source of change

Municipal Water District of Orange County **Legislative and Regulatory Policy Principles**

OVERALL POLICY

Legislation and regulations addressing water resource management issues should be guided by local and regional water resource officials with knowledge and experience in addressing opportunities, threats and needs for success within the water industry.

IMPORTED WATER SUPPLY

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation, regulations and administrative actions that:

~~1) Balances California's competing water needs and results to provide a reliable supply of high-quality water for Orange County.~~ (While a true statement, it is not useful when analyzing legislation.)

2) Facilitates the implementation of a Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Improvement program similar to the Delta Conveyance Project that addresses the co-equal goals of reliable water supply and ecosystem restoration, and related policies that provide long term, comprehensive solutions for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta that:

- a) Provide reliable water supplies to meet California's short- and long- term needs;
- b) Improve the ability to transport water through the Delta either for, or supplemental to, State Water Project deliveries;
- c) Improve the quality of water delivered through the Delta;
- d) Enhance the Bay-Delta's ecological health in a balanced manner;
- e) Employ sound scientific research and evaluation to advance the co-equal goals of improved water supply and ecosystem sustainability.
- f) Expedite the ~~Delta Conveyance Project~~ *the completion of the State Water Project* and EcoRestore initiative;
- g) Encourages regular infrastructure maintenance and upkeep of the levees to counter the effects of subsidence *and seismic risk*.

~~3) Funds a comprehensive Bay-Delta solution in a manner that equitably apportions costs to all beneficiaries. (This is covered under Water Infrastructure Financing and Project Funding, #1)~~

4) Authorizes, appropriates, and expeditiously distributes the *state and* federal share of funding to improve the ~~Delta-Conveyance State Water Project project~~ and EcoRestore initiative.

~~5) Authorizes, appropriates, and expeditiously implements the ongoing state share of funding to improve the Delta-Conveyance project or similarly effective measures, and the EcoRestore initiative. (Redundant to #4 above)~~

~~6) Provides funding for Colorado River water quality and supply management efforts. (This is not stated as a principle and is fact specific. Should this issue arise in funding or policy, it would need to be brought to the Board with an analysis.)~~

7) Promotes continued federal funding and coordination between states for the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program under the Federal Department of Agriculture and Interior.

8) Protects and preserves Metropolitan's interest in binational water conservation programs.

~~9) Expeditiously implement programs and funding previously approved by voters and the Legislature. (This implies we support every approved program and appropriation. Each one is fact-specific and must be considered in light of MWDOC's other policy principles.)~~

10) Supports the completion of the Central Valley Project (CVP) which may include the construction of conveyance facilities in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay Delta and the raising of Shasta Dam.

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation or regulation that:

1) Would make urban water supplies less reliable, or would substantially increase the cost of imported water without also improving the reliability and/or quality of such water.

2) Imposes water user fees to fund non-water supply improvements in the Delta region or user fees that are not proportional to the benefits received from a Delta region water supply improvement.

~~3) Delays or impedes implementation of the Delta-Conveyance project and EcoRestore initiative. (Covered in Support, #2(f) above)~~

~~4) Takes away local control and decision-making processes from local water suppliers. (This is covered under Governance, oppose #3)~~

LOCAL WATER RESOURCES

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation and regulation that:

1) Supports the development of, provides funding for, and authorizes and/or facilitates the expanded use of, cost effective, water recycling, potable reuse, conservation, water use

efficiency, groundwater recovery and recharge, storage, brackish and ocean water desalination and surface water development projects where water supply is improved and the beneficiaries of the project pay for the portions of the project not funded by state or federal funds.

~~2) Recognizes that recycled water for both potable and non-potable reuse is a valuable resource that should be promoted and encouraged, while considering total cost elements, and regulated and permitted in a manner which promotes greater reuse throughout the county and state. (This is covered in #1 above)~~

3) Reduces and/or streamlines regulatory burdens on augmented or alternative water supply projects, and provides protections for the use of these supplies during water supply shortages, through exemptions or provisions of credit during state mandated reductions.

4) Supports ecosystem restoration, increased stormwater capture where the capture avoids impact to others, and sediment management activities that are cost-effective and enhance the quality or reliability of water supplies.

~~5) Authorizes, promotes, and/or provides incentives for indirect and direct potable reuse projects and provides protections for the use of local supply projects during water shortages by exempting them from state mandated reductions. (Covered in #1 above)~~

6) Recognizes that the reliability and high quality of supplies to the end user is the primary goal of water suppliers.

~~7) Keeps decision-making, with regard to stormwater management and recapture, at the local or regional level. (Covered in #4 above and Governance, oppose #3)~~

~~8) Recognizes stormwater management and recapture, where the capture avoids impact to other water users, as important tools in a diversified water portfolio that can help to achieve improved water quality in local surface and groundwater supplies, and can augment surface and groundwater supplies. (Covered in #4 above)~~

~~9) Reduces or removes regulatory hurdles that hinder the use of augmented or alternative water supplies. (Covered in #1 above)~~

10) Provides incentives for local or regional use of augmented or alternative water supplies.

11) Support the inclusion of environmental infrastructure projects the Army Corps of Engineers must consider in its Report to Congress.

12) Allows Investor Owned Utilities to invest in redundancy and reliability projects.

~~13) Provides funding for seawater and brackish groundwater desalination studies and facilities. (Covered in #1 above)~~

~~14) Streamlines permitting of desalination facilities. (Covered in #3 above)~~

15) Encourages the State *and Federal government* to foster investments in water quality, storage, and/or reliability projects.

~~16) Eliminates state-mandated restrictions on any sources of recycled water, including desalinated water and water reuse by allowing local agencies beneficial use of such water without limitation. Whenever possible, such legislation, regulatory and administrative actions should encourage water use efficiency through goals and guidelines, not requirements. (Covered under #3 above)~~

17) Recognizes that desalinated water, recycled water, and potable reuse are important components of water use efficiency and drought resiliency.

18) Standards should be science-based and peer-reviewed; take economic feasibility and impact into consideration, respect existing water rights, include reasonable time for implementation and compliance, and, be subject to Legislative oversight and review biennially.

19) Authorizes, promotes, and/or provides incentives for the development of extraordinary emergency water supplies for voluntary use by local water agencies during times of drought or water shortages.

20) Is inclusive of transparent collaboration techniques for legislation and regulation regarding water use efficiency.

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation or regulation that:

1) Restricts a local governmental agency's ability to develop their local water resources in a manner that is cost-effective, environmentally sensitive, and protective of public health.

2) Imposes barriers or increases costs to the safe application of recycled water and continues to define recycled water as a waste or resource of lesser value than traditionally defined potable water.

3) Would make urban water supplies less reliable, or would substantially increase the cost of ~~imported~~ *local water supplies* without also improving the reliability and/ or quality of such water.

4) Restricts or limits a local governmental agency's ability to establish local priorities for water resources planning decisions.

5) Reduces a local agency's ability to benefit from local investments in drought-proof or emergency water supplies during water shortages.

~~6) Would impose conservation mandates that do not account for the unique local water-supply circumstances of each water district. (Covered under #4 above)~~

~~7) Would disincentivize or impede water agencies from making investments to maximize the potential for recycled water, potable reuse, desalination and other drought-resilient local water supplies. (Covered under #5 above)~~

8) Would prohibit ocean discharges and mandates that defined a percentage(s) of recycled water required to be used or served by water suppliers.

WATER STORAGE

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation and regulation that:

- 1) Provides conveyance and storage facilities that are cost-effective for MWDOC, its member agencies and their customers, while improving the reliability and quality of the water supply.
- 2) Supports the ~~forecast-informed evaluation and operation of reservoirs and groundwater storage facilities~~ to provide an enhancement in water supplies. (Evaluation is part of "provides in #1 above.)
- 3) Supports ~~administrative/legislative action and funding to add surface and/or groundwater storage statewide.~~ (Funding for storage facilities that do not benefit MWDOC should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.)
- 4) Supports ~~administrative/legislative action and funding to add South of Delta above ground and ground water storage that is able to receive supplies from the State Water Project and Colorado River Aqueduct.~~ (This is a subset of #1 above and does not need to be separately stated.)
- 5) Supports "beneficiaries pay" for water storage that ensure full cost recovery.
- 6) Supports the ~~siting and construction of surface storage in Southern California, which is sited to receive either State Water Project (SWP) or Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) supplies.~~
- 7) Supports *funding at the state and federal level for surface and groundwater storage, including reauthorization and expansion of the WIIN Water Storage Program and bifurcation of ed* Surface and Groundwater Storage Funding at the state and federal level.
- 8) ~~Will support the completion of the State Water Project (SWP) through the construction of conveyance facilities. The preferred capacity of the facilities should be between 9,000 and 15,000 CFS. (Covered under Imported Water Supply, #2)~~
- 9) *Supports the development of both a state and federal funding program to provide funding for local and regional dam safety/improvement projects and programs to repair conveyance facilities that have been damaged due to subsidence.*

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation or regulations that:

- 1) *Results in reducing the quantity or quality of water in either surface or groundwater storage of substantially increases the cost of operating and maintaining surface and groundwater storage facilities without an adequate increase in public safety, water quality, or water quantity.*

WATER USE EFFICIENCY AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM WATER LOSS

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation and regulation that:

1) Furthers the statewide goal of increasing water use efficiency, *throughout the state, and as opposed to water conservation for local, regional, or statewide emergencies.* throughout the state.

2) Would allow flexibility and fosters local and regional collaboration to develop and implement options for compliance in achieving statewide water reduction goals.

3) Seeks to cost-effectively improve water efficiency standards and policies for water-using devices *such as, but not limited to, the EPA Water Sense Program and Cal Green Building Standards.* (Staff)

~~4) Provides grants and low interest loans to fund incentives for water conserving devices or practices.~~

~~5) Legislatively sets water efficiency standards provided the standards are developed with local and regional input, reasonable, cost effective for Orange County agencies, and customers, and consider unintended consequences, such as impacts to wastewater systems, reductions in recycled water supplies, demand hardening, and impacts to regional reliability and drought preparedness.~~

6) Reasonably improves ~~landscape water use efficiency~~ Commercial, Institutional and Industrial (CII) water use efficiency programs while preserving community choice and the local economy.

~~7) Encourages regionally appropriate statewide landscape water efficiency standards and regulations that consider *age of development*, land use, plant material, irrigation efficiency and climate factors.~~ (Staff)

8) Provides financially appropriate incentives, funding, and other assistance ~~where needed~~ to facilitate market transformation and gain wider implementation of water-efficient indoor and outdoor technologies and practices.

~~9) Provides incentives, funding, and other assistance where needed to facilitate water use and energy efficiency partnerships with the energy sector.~~

10) Recognizes and protects past investments of agencies and customers in water use efficiency measures, especially from the demand hardening perspective.

~~11) Recognizes community *age, growth and development* when developing comparative standards for water use efficiency year-over-year.~~

12) Provides federal and state tax exemptions for water conservation or efficiency incentives for measures including, but not limited to, turf removal, devices, and other measures to reduce consumption of water or enhance the absorption and infiltration capacity of the landscape.

~~13) Creates a process for development and implementation of locally activated emergency drought declarations and regulations that recognizes *investments in supply reliability*, variations among communities, regions, and counties with respect to their abilities to withstand the impacts, water supply conditions, and effects of drought.~~

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation or regulations that:

- ~~1) Fails to ensure balance in the implementation of water efficiency practices throughout the state and requirements for both urban and agricultural use.~~
- 2) Would repeal cost-effective efficiency standards for water-using devices.
- ~~3) Diminishes local agency control or flexibility in implementing water efficiency practices or standards.~~
- 4) Places unreasonable conservation measures on residential, commercial, industrial and institutional customers that would negatively impact or limit the potential for economic growth.
- 5) Fails to recognize the importance of both water use efficiency and water supply development.
- 6) Fails to recognize augmented or alternative water supplies as an efficient use of water, or that fails to provide an adequate incentive for investments in such water, for potable or non-potable reuse.
- ~~7) Fails to consider regional and local reliability *investments* when establishing any reduction targets during water shortages.~~
- 8) Requires water efficiency standards or performance measures that are infeasible, not practical or fail to have a positive cost-benefit ratio when comparing the cost of meeting the standard or implementing the performance measure with the value of the volume of water saved.
- ~~9) Creates a "one-size-fits-all" approach to emergency drought declarations and regulations that ignores variations among communities, regions, and counties with respect to their ability to withstand the impacts, water supply conditions, and effects of drought.~~

WATER QUALITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

It is MWDOC's policy to support:

- 1) Legislation that protects the quality of surface water and groundwater including the reduction of salt loading to groundwater basins.
- ~~2) Funding that helps agencies meet state and federal water quality standards.~~ (This is not stated as a principle and is fact specific. Should this issue arise in funding or policy, it would need to be brought to the Board with an analysis.)
- 3) The establishment and/or implementation of standards for water-borne contaminants based on sound science and with consideration for cost-effectiveness.

- 4) A science-based regulatory process that has been established under the Safe Drinking Water Act is the best approach for any consideration and development of drinking water regulations to address any contaminant or family of contaminants, including per- and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS).
- 5) The investment in the development of analytical methods to more reliably and accurately measure various contaminants, including PFAS, in drinking water.
- 4) Administrative/legislative actions to improve clarity and workability of CEQA, and eliminate other duplicative state processes.
- 5) Streamlining or exempting water, recycled water, wastewater projects, and/or environmental restoration projects, from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
- 6) Provides liability protections to public water districts, and related wholesale water providers, seeking to consolidate with or serve as the administrator for troubled water systems that cannot consistently demonstrate that they are able to provide safe, clean and reliable water supplies to their customers.
- 7) State-funded groundwater basin contamination studies and associated economic or environmental impacts.
- 8) Supports the efforts of water industry to promote policies that enhance the pace and scale of headwaters and forest management, including improved planning, coordination, and implementation; increase financing, research, and resources to protect water supply and quality; bring management practices in line with modern challenges; and provide multiple benefits to the State's water users.
- 9) *Support the eradication and prevention of invasive species from becoming established in or around water supplies.*

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose:

- 1) Legislation that could compromise the quality of surface water and groundwater supplies.
- 2) Legislation that establishes and/ or implements standards for water-borne contaminants without regard for sound science or consideration for cost effectiveness.
- 3) Projects that negatively impact the water quality of existing local supplies.
- 4) Legislation or regulation that would mandate an unscientifically supported federal or state maximum contaminant level, or mandating an artificial deadline for promulgating a maximum contaminant level for drinking water.
- 5) Legislation, regulation or other policy that would hold drinking water and wastewater facilities liable for PFAS contamination caused by third parties; or that does not clearly state that the party directly responsible for the PFAS pollution is solely liable for the costs associated with the contamination cleanup.

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation or regulation that:

- 1) Compromises the existing governance structure and the representation of member agencies on the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors.
- 2) Would restrict MET's rate-making ability.

WATER TRANSFERS

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation and regulation that:

- 1) Encourages and facilitates voluntary water transfers, *or streamlines the transfer approval process.*
- 2) Provides appropriate protection or mitigation for impacts on the environment, aquifers, water-rights holders and third-parties to the transfer including those with interests in the facilities being used.
- 3) ~~Encourages transfers, or streamlines the transfer approval process, which augment existing water supplies, especially in dry years. (Covered under #1 above.)~~

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation or regulation that:

- 1) Undermines the operations and maintenance of the conveyance system conveying the water.
- 2) Interferes with the financial integrity of a water utility or compromises water quality.
- 3) Increases regulatory or procedural barriers to water transfers at the local or state level.

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING AND PROJECT FUNDING

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation and regulation that:

- 1) Employs a "beneficiary pays" principle that establishes a clear nexus between the costs paid to the direct benefit received. ~~Likewise, those who do not benefit from a particular project or program should not be required to pay for them. (The last line is redundant.)~~
- 2) *Reduces the cost of financing water infrastructure planning and construction,* establishes grants or other funding *and finance* opportunities. ~~for local and regional water projects, including but not limited to infrastructure projects. (Unnecessarily specific.)~~
- 3) Considers local investments made in infrastructure, programs, mitigation and restoration in determining appropriate cost shares for water infrastructure, and project investments.

~~4) Reduces the cost of financing water infrastructure planning and construction, such as tax-credit financing, tax-exempt municipal bonds, Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), Water Infrastructure Finance Innovation Act (WIFIA), the Environmental Infrastructure Accounts, the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Project, and other funding mechanisms. (Combined into #2 above; and unnecessarily specific.)~~

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation or regulation that:

- 1) Establishes a fee or tax that does not result in a clear and proportional benefit to the District, its member agencies, and their customers.
- 2) Would reduce the total available water infrastructure financing measures such as WIFIA, state-revolving funds, and others.

ENERGY

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation or regulation that:

- 1) Facilitates the development and expansion of clean, and cost effective renewable energy in California, *including and recognizes hydroelectric power as a clean, renewable energy source and that its generation and use meets the greenhouse gas emission reduction compliance requirements called for in the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32 and SB 100).*
- ~~2) Supports water supply reliability as the primary focus of water agencies and energy intensity of water supplies as a secondary factor.~~
- ~~3) Recognizes the role and value of the water industry investment in water use efficiency and therefore recognizes WUE efforts towards greenhouse gas reduction, including funding such activities.~~
- ~~4) Recognizes hydroelectric power as a clean, renewable energy source and that its generation and use meets the greenhouse gas emission reduction compliance requirements called for in the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32 and SB 100). (Combined into #1 above)~~
- 5) Facilitates voluntary and cost effective local investments in renewable energy, energy management and storage, and energy efficiency which improve the water-energy nexus and reduce local agency costs.
- 6) *Provides water agencies greater flexibility to run backup generators to support critical facilities during deenergization and PSPS events.*

FISCAL POLICY

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation or regulation that:

- 1) Requires the federal and state governments to provide a subvention to reimburse local governments for all mandated costs of regulatory actions.
- 2) Allows ~~member agencies~~ *retail water providers* to voluntarily offer localized Water Rate Assistance Programs that comply with Proposition 218 of California's Constitution and/or are funded either voluntarily or via non-restricted/non-water-rates revenues.
- 3) Support Proposition 13 as embodied in Article XIII A of the California Constitution, and oppose the "split roll" efforts that would increase property taxes on businesses.
- 4) Changes how inverse condemnation liability is determined for water service providers in order to limit water agency liability for impacts of wildfire.

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation or regulation that:

- 1) Is inconsistent with the District's current investment policies and practices.
- 2) Pre-empts the District's or its member agencies' ability to impose or change cost-of-service-based water rates, fees, or assessments, or requires them to submit their rates or charges to any state agency for approval.
- 3) Impairs the District's ability to maintain levels of reserve funds that it deems necessary and appropriate.
- 4) ~~Impairs the District's ability to provide services to its member agencies and ensure full cost recovery.~~ (Unnecessary and not a legislative issue.)
- 5) Makes any unilateral reallocation of District revenues, or those of its member agencies, by the state unless the state takes compensatory measures to restore those funds.
- 6) ~~Would impose mandated costs or regulatory constraints on the District or its member agencies without reimbursement.~~
- 7) Mandates a specific rate structure for water agencies.
- 8) Imposes a "public goods charge" "water user fee", or "water tax" on public water agencies or their ratepayers.

GOVERNANCE

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation or regulation that:

- 1) Advances good government practices and public transparency measures in a manner that does not take a "one-size fits all" approach, respects local government control, and facilitates technological efficiencies to meet state reporting and disclosure requirements.
- 2) ~~For LAFCO initiated reorganizations, support the existing protest thresholds per the Cortese Knox Hertzberg Act, & Oppose changes that would make it more difficult for citizens to protest a LAFCO-initiated reorganization.~~ (Rewritten below)

2) *Are consistent with the current LAFCO processes defined in the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act.* (Rewritten to encompass the more specific statements in #2 and #3)

~~3) Support exempting special districts from Cumulative and Ranked Choice Voting methods and Oppose attempts to make this method an option or a mandate for special districts elections. (Covered under #2 above.)~~

4) Supports or facilitates responsible programs, procedures, and methods that promote collaboration, transparency and open government.

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation or regulation that:

1) Imposes unnecessarily broad burdens *or new costs* upon all local governments *absent a clear and necessary benefit.* (Combined with #5 below)

~~2) Shifts state programs, responsibilities and costs to local governments without first considering funding to support the shift. (Covered under #1 above, and under Fiscal Policy #1, support)~~

~~3) Seeks to limit or rescind local control. (Covered under #1, support, above)~~

4) Reduces or diminishes the authority of the District to govern its affairs.

~~5) Imposes new costs on the District and the ratepayers absent a clear and necessary benefit. (Combined into #1 above)~~

6) Resolves state budget shortfalls through shifts in the allocation of property tax revenue or through fees for which there is no direct nexus to benefits received.

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PENSION REFORM

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation that:

1) Seeks to contain or reform public employee pension and other post-employment benefit (OPEB) cost obligations that are borne by public agencies via taxpayers and ratepayers.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

It is MWDOC's policy to support legislation that:

1) Increases coordination on Homeland Security and emergency response efforts among the federal, state, and local governments with clearly defined roles and responsibilities for each.

2) Provides continued funding to enhance and maintain local Homeland Security infrastructure, including physical and cyber protection of critical infrastructure.

- 3) Ensures adequate funding for expenditures related to disaster response and all phases of emergency management; including the earthquake early notification system and efforts to enhance water infrastructure resiliency.
- 4) Strengthens intergovernmental planning and preparation coordination for emergency response and drills.
- 5) Enhances protection of information and cyber security for critical infrastructure through policy and funding for local efforts.
- 6) Supports water utility capability to notify customers of emergency protective measures through ~~reverse~~ mass notification systems.
- 7) Properly recognizes water agencies' role in emergency response to wildfires and other natural disasters, where water service is needed or may be impacted, because water and wastewater services are essential public utilities that ensure public health and safety.

It is MWDOC's policy to oppose legislation or regulation that:

- 1) Reduces a water utility's ability to represent itself ~~in~~ *or implement activities of any* component of the disaster preparedness cycle, especially ~~the~~ *within* response and recovery section ~~staff~~.
- 2) Negatively impacts water and wastewater utility's ability to prepare, mitigate or respond to, *or recover from disaster and* emergencies in order to provide fire suppression, drinking water and wastewater services.



ACTION ITEM
November 18, 2020

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

FROM: **Robert Hunter, General Manager**

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

SUBJECT: SELECTION OF A FIRM TO PROVIDE STATE LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY SERVICES

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to enter into a professional services contract with Best, Best & Krieger (BB&K) to provide state legislative advocacy services.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

REPORT

Pursuant to section 8000 of the Administrative Code, "It is MWDOC's policy that purchasing and contracting shall be conducted in a fair, open, and transparent manner so as to maximize benefits to MWDOC. All contracts should be reviewed and re-bid at least every five (5) years, except in situations with documented significant benefits to MWDOC." The state advocacy services contract last went out for competitive bid in 2015, therefore a competitive RFP process was implemented.

With this in mind, staff led the effort in preparing and issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for state advocacy services under the schedule below:

Budgeted (Y/N): Y	Budgeted amount: \$96,000	Core X	Choice __
Action item amount: \$96,000 Flat fee billed at \$8,000/month, plus \$5,000 annually to cover any necessary travel		Line item: 02-31-7040	
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

STATE RFP PROJECT TIMELINE	
Task Item	Completion Date
1. MWDOC completion of draft in-house RFP	September 16
2. Issue Draft RFP to Potential Consultants (issued to 12 firms)	September 18
3. Closing date for submittal of comments and questions by Consultants and Agencies	October 1
4. Proposals Due (2 proposals were received)	October 14 5:00 PM
5. Ad-Hoc Committee met to review and discuss potential interviews	October 19
6. Interviews with firms	October 29
7. Ad-Hoc Committee rankings due	November 6
8. Recommendation to the Public Affairs & Legislation Committee	November 16
9. Authorization by MWDOC Board	November 18
10. Contract start	January 1, 2021

Proposals and Proposal Evaluation

MWDOC received two proposals by the closing date:

- Best, Best & Krieger
- Nossaman, LLP

Both proposals received met the initial qualifying criteria and were reviewed by the Ad-Hoc Committee consisting of: Directors Tamaribuchi, Yoo Schneider and Dick, Rob Hunter, Heather Baez, and Kathy Viatella of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

The Ad-Hoc Committee convened to review and rank the proposals and approach. From there, it was decided that both firms would be interviewed. The proposals received met MWDOC's initial guidelines and qualifications, and the interviews highlighted both common elements and distinct differences between the firms. The members of the Ad-Hoc Committee independently discussed and ranked the firms. Based on the combined rankings, Best, Best & Krieger was unanimously selected.

Recommendation

Staff's recommendation is to proceed with a contract with BB&K to provide state advocacy services. Both firms interviewed were quality firms. Ultimately, BB&K was unanimously chosen. Their proposal stood out based on the following qualities the committee felt was important for MWDOC to be successful in Sacramento.

1. They will assist MWDOC in developing a strong comprehensive, strategic plan to help achieve short and long-term goals with objectives and deadlines.
2. While both firms offer bill tracking and identifying bills of interest to MWDOC and its member agencies, where BB&K stood out was their ability to utilize their legal team and lobbying firm to spot issues, and have recommended positions ready early in the process so that MWDOC can be proactive in our advocacy approach.
3. They will also proactively identify and source opportunities to build strategic relationships that will benefit MWDOC and its member agencies.

BOARD OPTIONS

Option #1

- Enter into a contract with Best, Best & Krieger for one year, with the option to renew an additional four years.

Fiscal Impact: \$96,000

Business Analysis: Best, Best & Krieger has provided advocacy services for MWDOC in Sacramento for the last five years. They maintain relationships on our behalf with members of our legislative delegation, key committees, and regulatory agencies. They also ensure that we are kept up-to-date and informed on state issues of importance to MWDOC and our member agencies.

Option #2

- Do not renew the contract with Best, Best & Krieger's

Fiscal Impact: \$96,000 would be added to the general fund

Business Analysis: MWDOC would not have representation in Sacramento to advocate at the legislative and regulatory level on state issues of importance to MWDOC and its member agencies.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Option #1



ACTION ITEM
November 18, 2020

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

FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

**SUBJECT: SELECTION OF A FIRM TO PROVIDE FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE
ADVOCACY SERVICES**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to enter into a professional services contract with Natural Resource Results to provide federal legislative advocacy services.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

REPORT

Pursuant to section 8000 of the Administrative Code, "It is MWDOC's policy that purchasing and contracting shall be conducted in a fair, open, and transparent manner so as to maximize benefits to MWDOC. All contracts should be reviewed and re-bid at least every five (5) years, except in situations with documented significant benefits to MWDOC." The federal advocacy services contract last went out for competitive bid in 2015, therefore a competitive RFP process was implemented.

With this in mind, staff led the effort in preparing and issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for state advocacy services under the schedule below:

Budgeted (Y/N): Y	Budgeted amount: \$96,000	Core X	Choice __
Action item amount: Flat fee billed at \$6,500/month, plus \$5,000 annually to cover any necessary travel.		Line item: 02-31-7040	
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

STATE RFP PROJECT TIMELINE	
Task Item	Completion Date
1. MWDOC completion of draft in-house RFP	September 16
2. Issue Draft RFP to Potential Consultants (issued to 14 firms)	September 18
3. Closing date for submittal of comments and questions by Consultants and Agencies	October 1
4. Proposals Due (10 proposals were received)	October 14 5:00 PM
5. Ad-Hoc Committee met to review and discuss potential interviews	October 19
6. Interviews with firms	October 29 and November 3
7. Ad-Hoc Committee rankings due	November 6
8. Recommendation to the Public Affairs & Legislation Committee	November 16
9. Authorization by MWDOC Board	November 18
10. Contract start	January 1, 2021

Proposals and Proposal Evaluation

MWDOC received ten proposals by the closing date:

- Barker Leavitt
- Best, Best & Krieger
- Blue Water Strategies
- Mercury Public Affairs
- Nossaman LLP
- Natural Resource Results
- Potomac Partners DC
- Troutman Sanders Strategies
- Van Scoyoc Associates, Inc.
- Water Strategies, LLC

All ten proposals received met the initial qualifying criteria and were reviewed by the Ad-Hoc Committee consisting of: Director SatTamaribuchi, Director Megan Yoo Schneider, Director Larry Dick, Rob Hunter, Heather Baez, and Abby Schneider of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

The Ad-Hoc Committee convened to review and rank the proposals and approach. From there, agencies were “shortlisted” for interviews. The committee interviewed the following five firms: Barker Leavitt, Best, Best & Krieger, Nossaman LLP, Natural Resource Results, and Van Scoyoc Associates. In addition, Potomac Partners DC was added to the list of firms to interview after the initial interviews were conducted. The quality of the proposals

was quite high and the interviews highlighted both common elements and distinct differences between the shortlisted firms. The members of the Ad-Hoc Committee met on two occasions to discuss the qualifications of each firm, and independently ranked them. Based on the combined rankings, Natural Resource Results was selected.

Recommendation

Staff's recommendation is to proceed with a contract with Natural Resource Results to provide federal advocacy services. All six firms interviewed were quality firms. Ultimately Natural Resource Results was chosen by the majority of the committee. Their proposal and interview stood out based on the following qualities the committee felt was important for MWDOC to be successful in Washington D.C.

1. They will assist MWDOC in developing a strong comprehensive, strategic plan to help achieve short and long-term goals with objectives and deadlines.
2. Their extensive and deep relationships/contacts in Washington D.C. will provide benefits to MWDOC and its member agencies.
3. Their ability to bring organizations, and their own clients together on issues to realize similar goals.
4. They will proactively identify and source opportunities to build strategic relationships that will benefit MWDOC and its member agencies.

Cost/Pricing Information

MWDOC staff and Natural Resource Results agreed upon \$6,500/month for the first three months of the contract. At that time, the scope of services and monthly retainer will be assessed.

BOARD OPTIONS

Option #1

- Enter into a contract with Natural Resource Results for one year, with the option to renew an additional four years.

Fiscal Impact: \$78,000 at this time. Subject to reevaluation of scope and services

Business Analysis: There are a number of key issues facing water agencies in 2021 and beyond. Natural Resource Results will advise and advocate on MWDOC's behalf on critical policy and appropriations proposals. In addition, they will maintain relationships, identify strengths of key Congressional, Administration, and Federal contacts, and educate key staff in relevant offices.

Option #2

- Do not enter into a contract with Natural Resource Results.

Fiscal Impact: \$96,000 would be added to the general fund

Business Analysis: MWDOC would not have representation in Washington D.C. in 2021 and beyond, to advocate at the legislative and regulatory level on federal issues of importance to MWDOC and its member agencies.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Option #1



ACTION ITEM
November 18, 2020

TO: Board of Directors

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

Robert J. Hunter
General Manager

Staff Contact: Karl Seckel,
Charles Busslinger

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF ALLEN MCCOLLOCH PIPELINE (AMP) CAPACITY
FLOW WAIVER FOR THE CITY OF SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors approve/grant an AMP capacity flow waiver for the City of San Juan Capistrano (SJC) due to temporary operational conditions that will be caused by a shutdown of the Joint Transmission Main (JTM) and the Eastern Transmission Main (ETM) to perform a structural inspection and condition assessment. The shutdown of the JTM and ETM will cause SJC to increase their flows from the Allen McColloch Pipeline (AMP) into the South County Pipeline (SCP).

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

SUMMARY

MWDOC has the obligation to enforce both the Allen McColloch Pipeline (AMP) Sales Agreement and the AMP Proceeds Agreement; these two separate agreements designated the terms and conditions for the transfer/sale of the AMP from the local agencies to MET in 1995.

One of the provisions of the Proceeds Agreement (excerpt attached) is for MWDOC and the AMP Participants to limit the capacity usage on the AMP by each participant to the capacity they held in the AMP at the time of transfer of the facility to MET. Below are the capacities from Exhibit B of the AMP Proceeds Agreement, reorganized for agency consolidations that have occurred since that time.

Budgeted (Y/N): NA	Budgeted amount: NA	Core X	Choice _
Action item amount: NA	N		
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted): Not applicable			

AMP Participant Agency	Reach D1
YLWD	30.04
Anaheim	28.72
Orange	22.74
EOCWD	9.57
IRWD	70.67
MNWD	83.77
ETWD	26.33
SMWD	124.46
TCWD	4.01
San Juan Capistrano	4.91
San Clemente	6.87
SCWD	3.90
	415.99

Section 3.06 (starting on page 20 of the AMP Proceeds Agreement) explains the financial implications for exceeding peak day usage on the AMP, and includes a provision allowing MWDOC to **“not consider peak flows resulting from emergency situations, inadvertent flow changes or operational adjustments required by Metropolitan or other agencies” (see attachment).**

Since 1995, MWDOC has provided approximately 13 “waivers” for agencies who exceeded their peak AMP capacity or who might exceed their AMP capacity if a situation was known in advance. This has primarily occurred when local facilities were; out of operation due to an emergency, construction work impacting facilities, or due to planned shutdowns. Some waivers have been requested in advance and then were subsequently not needed. In emergency events, the flow exceedance may have occurred and then MWDOC notified the AMP Participants of the event to see if they had any concerns. There was also a waiver at one point to allow more in-lieu storage water to be taken by agencies to increase the groundwater storage in the OC Basin. The most recent waiver was provided to the City of San Clemente in August 2020 for the increase in flows due to a leak on the JTM.

The City of San Juan Capistrano (SJC) notified MWDOC that the shutdown of the Joint Transmission Main (JTM) affects the Eastern Transmission Main (ETM) and due to logistics of the structural inspection, the ETM will be out of service from November 8, 2020 to November 20, 2020. SJC is requesting an AMP flow waiver for increasing their flow above their capacity ownership of 4.91 cfs during this shutdown period. SJC has notified staff they will be taking approximately 6.0 cfs through their SC-04 connection on the South County Pipeline.

Staff will inform the AMP Participants to see if any issues arise due to the recommendation of the flow waiver.

Staff will be returning to the P&O Committee next month to discuss consideration of a Delegation of Authority to the GM for future AMP Capacity Waivers for those situations that are resulting from emergency situations, inadvertent flow changes or operational

adjustments required by MET or other agencies; as these situations are specifically called out in the AMP Proceeds Agreement.

BOARD OPTIONS

Option #1: Approve/grant the flow waiver for SJC

Fiscal Impact: None.

Business Analysis: Potential increase in flow on the AMP/SCP due to a temporary operational adjustment to meet demands.

Option #2: Do NOT approve/grant the flow waiver

Fiscal Impact: Cost to SJC for capacity exceedance in AMP Reaches D1 through S5 escalated at 4% = \$954,395 per CFS, for each CFS rounded to the nearest CFS of exceedance.

Business Analysis: Should the Board decide not to grant the flow waiver, then the above costs would be levied to SJC in the event they are unable to avoid taking the water from the AMP; any funds paid would be distributed among the other AMP Participants, based on which agencies are not using their full capacity in the AMP.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Option # 1



INFORMATION ITEM

November 16, 2020

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

FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager

Staff Contact: Sarah Wilson

SUBJECT: School Programs Update

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

SUMMARY

Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) K-12 Choice School Program contractors—Shows That Teach, Discovery Cube Orange County, and Bolsa Chica Conservancy—continue to book live, interactive virtual water lessons that can be accessed at home or in class by Orange County K-12 teachers and students for the 2020/21 school year. These virtual sessions include pre- and post-activities that provide students with hands-on learning experiences that get them outside and away from their computer screens. As the virtual sessions are confirmed with Orange County schools, MWDOC Choice School Program contractors update the shared Google Calendar so that participating member agencies are able to view the booking schedule for their service area.

Included in this report is a two-month preview of scheduled virtual sessions for the months of November and December. Please note that the shared Google Calendar is updated frequently and will always have the most accurate information. Visits are subject to change

Budgeted (Y/N): Y	Budgeted amount: \$401,729	Core <u> </u>	Choice <u>X</u>
Action item amount:	Line item: 63-7040		
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

due to school and teacher availability. Login information for the shared Google Calendar is available upon request.

The current MWDOC Choice School Program goals can be accessed [here](#).

DETAILED REPORT

SHOWS THAT TEACH – ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (K-2)

Through Shows That Teach, the MWDOC Choice Elementary School Program (grades K-2) reached more than 1,750 students from 12 elementary schools across the county in October 2020. To date, more than 2,100 students have participated in the MWDOC Choice Elementary School Program (grades K-2), and just over 1,400 students have been booked to receive the program for the remainder of the 2020/21 school year so far.

"I'd like to extend my appreciation to you for a successful assembly. Initially, it was nerve racking to imagine hosting a virtual assembly for over 160 students. I did not know what to expect. Your professionalism and delivery of the content was on point. The duration of the assembly was just right, and the Q & A portion of the assembly was also very appropriate for the attention span of our kiddos. The combination of all these aspects of the assembly, made it a great success. Thank you again for the opportunity given to our Lowell Community. It truly was a pleasure to have virtually collaborated with you in order to deliver an educational topic in such an entertaining way. We hope that in the future, we are considered for another opportunity such as this one."

– Principal, Lowell Elementary School

DISCOVERY CUBE OC – ELEMENTARY (3-6) AND MIDDLE SCHOOL (7-8)

To date, just over 750 students have been booked to receive the new suite of online live sessions through the MWDOC Choice Elementary School Program (grades 3-6) for the 2020/21 school year. Discovery Cube Orange County is continuing to reach out to Orange County middle schools, and is currently working with a 7th grade teacher at Utt Middle School in Tustin to schedule participation in the MWDOC Choice Middle School Program (grades 7-8).

BOLSA CHICA CONSERVANCY – HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)

The Bolsa Chica Conservancy (BCC) is working closely with teachers at El Toro High School, Westminster High School, and Brea Olinda High School to finalize a date for participation in the MWDOC Choice High School Program. At this time, there are more than five (5) interested classrooms that include students from AP Environmental Sciences and Biology classes. BCC staff is continuing to make contact at additional schools across the county to schedule the live sessions.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			3-6 FULLERTON K-2 GARDEN GROVE		3-6 FULLERTON	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
					K-2 ANAHEIM K-2 MNWD Bergeson K-2 SANTA ANA	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		K-2 SANTA ANA K-2 SANTA ANA	K-2 GARDEN GROVE K-2 GARDEN GROVE	K-2 MNWD Wood K-2 SANTA ANA		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
		3-6 LA HABRA Las		3-6 LA HABRA Las		

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	1	2	3 3-6 LA HABRA Las	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2



INFORMATION ITEM

November 16, 2020

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

FROM: **Robert Hunter, General Manager**
Staff Contact: Damon Micalizzi

SUBJECT: **OC Water Summit Update**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

REPORT

Staff continues to prepare the program for the 2021 OC Water Summit. The event will include sessions on water supply, Contaminants of Emerging Concern, Advancements in weather forecasting, and local resources. Fritz Coleman is back to serve as Emcee and moderator for the Summit, scheduled for June 4, 2021 at the Disney Grand Californian Hotel.

OCWD is the lead agency for the 2021 event. In the event COVID-19 inhibits public gatherings staff is exploring options for a virtual 'Plan B' for next year's Summit.

The next meeting of the OC Water Summit Ad Hoc Committee will be November 23rd.

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

Public & Governmental Affairs Activities Report
October 14, 2020 – November 9, 2020

Member Agency Relations	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designed and ordered bill inserts for MWDOC member agencies • Coordinated and hosted a Public Affairs Workgroup for member agency public information officers via Zoom • Designed and printed vehicle magnets for City of San Clemente <p>Governmental Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in the Grants Tracking and Acquisition bi-monthly meeting with member agencies
Community Relations	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in annual “Imagine a Day Without Water” campaign on social media by producing three video interviews with local Orange County business owners and education partner Orange County Coastkeeper
Media Relations	Coordinated with Martin Wiskol on OC Register stories
Education	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared and distributed the Southern California Water Energy Education Alliance (WEEA) education and industry surveys for feedback on workforce and Career Technical Education program (CTE) interest and needs • Produced and shared a WEEA promotional video: https://youtu.be/BlxjYv74Szg • Hosted the quarterly WEEA Leadership Roundtable Meeting #6 • Met with Strategic Energy Innovations (SEI) and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) to discuss potential partnership opportunities for WEEA • Interviewed by the California Environmental Literacy Initiative on environmental literacy and education • Met with Ten Strands hosted CTE subcommittee on integrating environmental literacy into CTE programs • Met with SEI, Metropolitan, and Inland Empire Utilities Agency to discuss High Road Training Partnerships Grant opportunities • Met with Orange County Coastkeeper regarding potential partnership on education initiatives • Participated in the first session of Tap-In 2020 - Sustainable Education virtual conference hosted by Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in Metropolitan’s Member Agency Education Coordinator’s meeting • Attended MWDOC Choice Elementary School Program (K-2) virtual presentation hosted by Shows That Teach for Laguna Niguel Elementary School • Attended MWDOC Choice Elementary School Program (3-6) virtual presentation hosted by Discovery Cube Orange County for Sunset Lane Elementary • Provided information to member agencies regarding participation in Metropolitan’s Virtual Solar Cup 2021 • Provided information regarding the MWDOC Choice School Programs to the City of Westminster • Requested participating member agency confirmation of list of eligible schools in their service areas for participation in the MWDOC Choice School Programs
Special Projects	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed Public Affairs Communication Program and Plan updates • Met with Wyland Foundation President and Project Manager to discuss strategy and execution of My Volunteer Water Project • Researched and coordinated media contact platforms • Created media contact sheet for Water Emergency Response Organization of Orange County (WEROC) • Published several website updates • Completed several website, electronic, and print updates for MWDOC Water Use Efficiency (WUE) rebate programs • Met with Metropolitan staff to discuss collaboration on Boy and Girl Scouts Merit Badge and Patch clinics • Prepared a resolution for Director Joan Finnegan’s retirement • Participated in CalDesal’s Virtual Townhall • Completed annual Boy Scouts of America Youth Protection Training course • Interviewed as the California Association of Public Information Officials Communicator of the Year on staying motivated and engaging others during the COVID pandemic: https://rb.gy/amhigt • Coordinated Director Dick’s participation in Urban Water Institute Virtual Event with Jeff Kightlinger • Began the discovery process with LA Design Studio for Search Engine Optimization of the mwdoc.com website. <p>Governmental Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sent out ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon reminder email • Sent out a calendar invite and reminder for the bi-monthly grants meeting for MWDOC and member agency grants staff

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffed the WACO Planning Committee meeting • Collected, filed and counted the ISDOC Executive Committee election ballots • Worked with MWD staff to coordinate speakers at upcoming MWD Board meetings • Reviewed WACO bylaws and sent corresponding information to the WACO nominating committee for the 2021-2022 Chair and Vice Chair nomination/election • Sent out final ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon meeting invite • Staffed the ISDOC Executive Committee meeting • Researched ISDOC commendation plaques and shared the information with the executive committee members • Met with Joey Soto to discuss the grants program and future funding opportunities • Participated in Orange County Water Summit staff planning meeting
Legislative Affairs	<p>Governmental Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sent out federal and state advocacy proposals received to the review committee • Participated in federal and state advocacy proposal review meeting to discuss the proposals received and determine which firms to interview • Met with Andrea Abergel, new staffer at CMUA to discuss MWDOC's legislative priorities • Worked with admin staff to schedule federal and state advocacy firm interviews • Participated in CMUA's annual legislative and regulatory planning meeting • Called all firms who received an interview to outline some discussion points the committee would like them to focus on in their interview • Participated in the ACWA/CMUA SB 200 working group meeting • Participated in the ACWA Region 10 State Legislative Committee planning call • Interviewed six DC based firms and two Sacramento based firms who sent proposals to provide federal and state advocacy services for MWDOC • Participated in the ACWA State Legislative Committee Annual Planning meeting and reviewed potential ACWA sponsored legislation • Participated in CSDA's Annual Legislative Planning meeting and reviewed possible CSDA sponsored legislation • Met with the federal advocacy review committee to review and determine which firm to recommend to the Board of Directors