

MWDOC Department Goals

Department: Governmental Affairs	
Near Term (1-2 years)	
1.	<p>Delta Conveyance Project –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support administrative and/or legislative proposals, including funding, to keep the project moving forward; • Defeat hostile legislation • Remain consistent with policy principles <p><u>New for 2021:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build relationships with NGOs who have similar goals • Partner with NGOs on other issues (e.g. WaterSMART funding) to enhance relationship building for future • Meet with and educate new delegation members on the importance of the project <p>(Federal and State Priority)</p>
	<p><u>Status:</u> Federal and state activities on this issue were not prioritized due to COVID-19. This item remains ongoing</p>
2.	<p>Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022 –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue participation and engagement with ACWA/CMUA Bond Working Group • Outreach and education on MWDOC priorities with the Orange County delegation • Advocate for increased water funding priorities including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional and Interregional Water Resilience - Recycling and Desalination - Groundwater - Dam Safety/Reservoir Operations <p>(State Priority)</p>
	<p><u>Status:</u> MWDOC successfully engaged with the ACWA/CMUA Bond Working Group through March 2020. At that time, nearly all bond language negotiations were put on hold. Up to that point, the group had narrowed down our top four priorities (listed above), which were also priorities for MWDOC. Work will continue in 2021 and 2022. Expected completion: Spring or Summer 2022</p>
3.	<p>Public Safety Power Shutoffs –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support funding, if any, for public water systems to mitigate the impacts for PSPS and emergency standby generators

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMUA/LVMWD and ACWA are sponsoring legislation – language not yet final; hospitals also sponsoring legislation (from 2020) • Solicit support from other public entities (e.g. public safety) for regulatory proposals made to SCAQMD • Work collaboratively with other statewide associations such as CSAC and the League of Cities, as well as local agencies to ensure they are supportive <p><u>New for 2021:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively engage on SCAQMD regulations related to the regular testing and use of emergency standby generators <p>(State Priority)</p>
	<p><u>Status:</u> MWDOC advocates and staff actively worked with both CMUA and ACWA on their sponsored legislation. ACWA’s sponsored bill failed to advance out of the first policy committee and work was ceased. MWDOC’s advocate was one of the main lobbyists on the CMUA sponsored legislation which resulted in an agreement with SCAQMD to address the issue via regulation instead of legislation. Expected completion: Summer 2021</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Program –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively engage with SAFER Advisory Group • Continue participation with the ACWA/CMUA SB 200 working group • Monitor/engage with State Board to ensure program is implemented per the direction in SB 200 and appropriated funds are properly spent <p><u>Status:</u> Participated in the ACWA/CMUA working group which met 1-2x/month, engaging on issues such as the cost methodology, and the affordability analysis. Continuing discussion will focus on ensuring accurate cost projections for projects. The preference is to have the cost of past projects factored into the analysis. This work is expected to continue in early 2021. Expected completion/adoption at the State Board: Summer 2021.</p> <p>(State Priority)</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Constituents of Emerging Concern –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support administrative and/or legislative proposals that use a science based approach in developing regulations • Support funding to help public water systems defray cost of monitoring and ensure clean-up costs are borne by the polluters • Outreach and education to the Orange County delegation about potential legislation that could negatively impact MWDOC and our member agencies • CMUA/OCWD and CMUA/MWD are co-sponsoring legislation – language not yet final (from 2020) • Engage on legislation consistent with our policy principles <p><u>Status:</u> Actively worked with CMUA and MWD on their sponsored legislation. CMUA’s was signed into law, while MWD shelved theirs due to COVID-19. Work on this issue remains ongoing.</p>

	(Federal and State Priority)
6.	<p>Grants Tracking and Acquisition –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue working with program administrator and MWDOC member agencies to keep the project list up-to-date ensuring most current grant funding options are available Soto Resources to provide feedback on language for upcoming “Water” Bond Future presentation/update from Soto Resources on program <p><u>New for 2021:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host bi-monthly meetings with MWDOC staff and its member agencies staff to ensure the projects list is current and all interested parties are up-to-date on current funding opportunities, aware of upcoming deadlines, and have a forum to ask questions and share ideas <p>(Federal, State and Local Priority)</p>
	<p><u>Status:</u> Soto Resources provided feedback on the bond language in late January 2020, that was shared with ACWA and CMUA as well as the MWDOC Board. In addition, Soto Resources made a presentation on the work and successes to date to the MWDOC Board in March 2020, with another updated presentation scheduled for early 2021. Program achievements include: 10 go/no-go evaluations, began hosting bi-monthly meetings, \$11.1M awarded for four grants, \$110M in loan funding selected, and \$18.5M in grant funding pending. This work remains ongoing.</p>
7.	<p>Outreach and Education –</p> <p>Strengthen outreach efforts to all levels of government and the community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal, state, and local elected officials Members and staff of key policy committees MWDOC member agencies: Outreach to/with - government affairs staff members, PAW/Legislative Group Meetings, MWDOC Member Agency Managers Meetings MWD and regional agencies Statewide organizations (ACWA, CMUA, CSDA, etc.) Regional associations (Chambers, etc.) <p><u>New for 2021:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New delegation members (Steel, Kim, Newman, Min, Davies, Nguyen) New members and/or staff of key policy committees <p>(Federal, State and Local Priority)</p>
	<p><u>Status:</u> Last year, MWDOC’s advocates and staff met at least once with each office in Orange County’s federal and state delegations. Due to COVID-19 shutdowns and offices being closed, this presented a challenge, and efforts will be renewed in 2021 with those offices. Participation and outreach within statewide organizations was</p>

busy with at least monthly participation at ACWA, CMUA and CSDA. This work remains ongoing.

Department: Governmental Affairs

Mid-Term (3-5 years)

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| 1. | Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Program – Ongoing <ul style="list-style-type: none">Actively engage with SAFER Advisory GroupMonitor/engage with State Board to ensure program is implemented per the direction in SB 200 and appropriated funds are properly spent (State Priority) |
| 2. | Delta Conveyance Project – Ongoing <ul style="list-style-type: none">Support administrative and/or legislative proposals, including funding, to keep the project moving forwardDefeat hostile legislation (Federal and State Priority) |
| 3. | Wildfire Prevention – Ongoing <ul style="list-style-type: none">Engage key members, committee staff, and regulatory agencies to ensure water policy is implemented appropriatelyActively monitor and engage on potential legislation and regulations affecting groundwater contamination and impacts to watersheds related to wildfiresEnsure that funding for wildfire prevention serves coequal goals for watershed protection and water qualityWork with ACWA D.C. on legislation that would ease some regulatory hurdles for forest management projects (reintroduction of S. 4431, Feinstein – Emergency Wildfire and Public Safety Act) (Federal and State Goal) |
| 4. | Ongoing Outreach and Education – Ongoing <ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue outreach to all levels of government: federal, state, and local including members and staff of key policy committeesMWDOC member agencies: Outreach to/with - government affairs staff members, PAW/Legislative Group Meetings, MWDOC Member Agency Managers Meetings, communication/updates (Federal, State and Local Priority) |