

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY  
Jointly with the

**PLANNING & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

April 4, 2022, 8:30 a.m.

**Due to the current state of emergency related to the spread of COVID-19 and pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e), MWDOC will be holding this Board and Committee meeting 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#

**P&O Committee:**

Director Tamaribuchi, Chair  
Director McVicker  
Director Nederhood

Staff: R. Hunter, J. Berg, V. Osborn,  
H. De La Torre, T. Dubuque,  
D. Micalizzi, H. Baez, T. Baca

Ex Officio Member: Director Yoo Schneider

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

**ROLL CALL**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** - 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>.

**PRESENTATION ITEMS**

1. EARTH MONTH OUTREACH PRESENTATION
2. MWDOC MEMBER AGENCY FACILITATED DISCUSSION PROJECT PRESENTATION

**ACTION ITEM**

3. ORANGE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION (OC LAFCO)  
ALTERNATE SPECIAL DISTRICT MEMBER SEAT - ELECTION

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

4. UPDATE ON COVID-19 (ORAL REPORT)

**INFORMATION ITEMS** (The following items are for informational purposes only – background information is included in the packet. Discussion is not necessary unless requested by a Director.)

5. WEROC EOC PROJECT AND FUNDING UPDATE
6. MASTER AGREEMENTS FOR SHARED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES WITH ANAHEIM, SANTA ANA AND FULLERTON
7. 2022 OC WATER SUMMIT UPDATE
8. MWDOC CHOICE SCHOOL PROGRAMS UPDATE
9. STATUS REPORTS
  - a. Ongoing MWDOC Reliability and Engineering/Planning Projects
  - b. WEROC
  - c. Water Use Efficiency Projects
  - d. Public and Government Affairs
10. REVIEW OF ISSUES RELATED TO PLANNING OR ENGINEERING PROJECTS, WEROC, WATER USE EFFICIENCY, FACILITY AND EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE, WATER STORAGE, WATER QUALITY, CONJUNCTIVE USE PROGRAMS, EDUCATION, PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMS AND EVENTS, PUBLIC INFORMATION PROJECTS, PUBLIC INFORMATION CONSULTANTS, DISTRICT FACILITIES, and MEMBER-AGENCY RELATIONS

**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.



Item No. 1

## INFORMATION ITEM

April 4, 2022

**TO:** Planning & Operations Committee  
(Directors Tamaribuchi, McVicker, Nederhood)

**FROM:** Robert Hunter, General Manager

Staff Contact: Tiffany Baca

**SUBJECT:** Earth Month Outreach Presentation

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Planning & Operations Committee receive and file this report.

### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

### **SUMMARY**

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Staff will provide a presentation on the Public Affairs department's Earth Month (April 2022) outreach activities.

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



Item No. 2

**PRESENTATION ITEM**

April 4, 2022

**TO: Planning & Operations Committee**  
(Directors Tamaribuchi, McVicker, Nederhood)

**FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager**

Staff Contact: Robert Hunter, General Manager

**SUBJECT: MWDOC Member Agency Facilitated Discussion Project Presentation**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Planning & Operations Committee receive and file this report.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**SUMMARY**

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Paul Redvers Brown from Paul Redvers Brown, Inc. facilitated discussions with the leadership of member agencies comprising the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC). Mr. Brown will be providing a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the findings compiled from these discussions.

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

# Report on Facilitated Discussions with MWDOC Member Agencies

ANALYSIS OF QUALITATIVE RESPONSES TO OPEN-ENDED  
INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

PAUL R. BROWN, AICP

February 2022

(Version 2.3)



PAUL REDVERS BROWN INC.

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# Report on Facilitated Discussions with MWDOC Member Agencies

## Introduction

The following report summarizes the findings of thirty-seven interviews conducted with the leadership of member agencies comprising the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC). The interviews were commissioned by MWDOC for the following purpose:

*To provide MWDOC's member agencies an opportunity to share their views with MWDOC and the other member agencies regarding their future needs and expectations, as well as an assessment of past performance.*

The interviews reveal that opinions on MWDOC's performance and effectiveness vary considerably and are influenced by member agency's views regarding:

- The appropriate scope of MWDOC's role and functions within its service area;
- Whether member agencies feel as if they are treated like customers, whose views are listened to and acted upon;
- The extent to which MWDOC is delivering services that member agencies are not providing for themselves; and
- Differences between MWDOC and member agencies regarding preferred investments in new water supply development activities.

All of these perspectives are complicated by decades-old institutional and jurisdictional complexity.

- MWDOC's elected board members represent seven geographic divisions that cross the legal jurisdictions and service area boundaries of the member agencies that MWDOC serves.
- The agencies overseeing imported supplies (MWDOC) and local groundwater water supplies (OCWD) have broadly overlapping, but noncontiguous, service areas. Further OCWD is simultaneously a MWDOC member agency.
- There are many competing voices speaking on water policy in Orange County. While public understanding would likely benefit from consistent messaging, coordinated communications among the many cities and special districts, with varied interests, is difficult and often impractical — except in emergency situations and extreme events.



These factors were reflected in the comments of respondents to this survey. Their views cover a wide spectrum of opinions. The differences among agencies preclude defining any “average” or “typical” MWDOC member agency. Member agencies include both cities and special districts, with service area populations ranging from several thousand to over 400,000. Their reliance on imported water ranges from an average annual demand of less than 200 acre-feet (AF) to 35,000 AF. Some member agencies have access to groundwater (with the largest average annual demand at nearly 43,000 AF), while others have no access to groundwater at all. Understanding the results of this survey depends on an appreciation for the unique circumstances and resources of each city and district that participated. No two agencies are alike.

Common denominators among most respondents include an acknowledgment of MWDOC’s foundational role as a Metropolitan member agency, an appreciation of the dedication and accessibility of MWDOC’s staff (frequently mentioned), and praise for MWDOC’s effectiveness in implementing demand management and public education programs.

At the same time, many respondents believe MWDOC can improve responsiveness to its member agencies’ needs and clarify the boundaries of its influence over decisions made by its member agencies. All of these topics were addressed during the interviews and are summarized in this report.

## How to Use Results

The open-ended questions were intended to solicit the full range of opinions held by participants. They were not used as a quantitative scoring device to rank conflicting opinions or count “votes” for alternative viewpoints. The quantitative charts included in the report are simply indicators of the sources and frequency of alternative views — not a comparative measure of whether any opinion is more valid or important than another.

The usefulness of the results should derive from an improved understanding of the diversity of perspectives. They can serve as a means of informing dialogue and communications among MWDOC and its member agencies. Every voice in this process is important, and every opinion should be taken seriously — given the unique circumstances of each member agency. Each participant focused on those topics they felt were most important. In many cases, others shared their opinions. In the end, however, all voices count.

The facilitated discussions documented in this report are intended to serve as the first phase of a three-phase process. Phase 2 is planned as a face-to-face workshop to consider the Phase 1 results, followed by a Phase 3 implementation process where improvements can be addressed.

## Background

During the period from 13 October 2021 to 2 February 2022, thirty-seven (37) Zoom meeting interviews (45-60 minutes) were completed with fifty-two (52) respondents (17 in governance roles and 35 in management). The interviews represented all twenty-seven (27) of the Municipal Water District of Orange County's (MWDOC) member agencies. Individual participants and member agencies are listed in Appendix A.

*Table 1: Participating Member Agencies\**

Participating Member Agencies by Type	
Cities	Districts
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. City of Brea</li><li>2. City of Buena Park</li><li>3. City of Fountain Valley</li><li>4. City of Garden Grove</li><li>5. City of Huntington Beach</li><li>6. City of La Habra</li><li>7. City of La Palma</li><li>8. City of Newport Beach</li><li>9. City of Orange</li><li>10. City of San Clemente</li><li>11. City of Seal Beach</li><li>12. City of Tustin</li><li>13. City of Westminster</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. East Orange Water District</li><li>2. El Toro Water District</li><li>3. Emerald Bay Service District</li><li>4. Golden State Water Company</li><li>5. Irvine Ranch Water District</li><li>6. Laguna Beach County Water District</li><li>7. Mesa Water District</li><li>8. Moulton Niguel Water District</li><li>9. Orange County Water District</li><li>10. Santa Margarita Water District</li><li>11. Serrano Water District</li><li>12. South Coast Water District</li><li>13. Trabuco Canyon Water District</li><li>14. Yorba Linda Water District</li></ol>

\* On November 15, 2021, the City of San Juan Capistrano joined the Santa Margarita Water District, reducing the number of MWDOC member agencies from 28 to 27.

While the initial intent of the survey was to invite one governance and one management representative from each member agency to participate in separate interviews, practical considerations and member agency preferences resulted in some interviews that were comprised of a small group of respondents. Figure 1 illustrates the type and number of both individual and group interviews.

Figure 1: Breakdown and Structure of Interviews

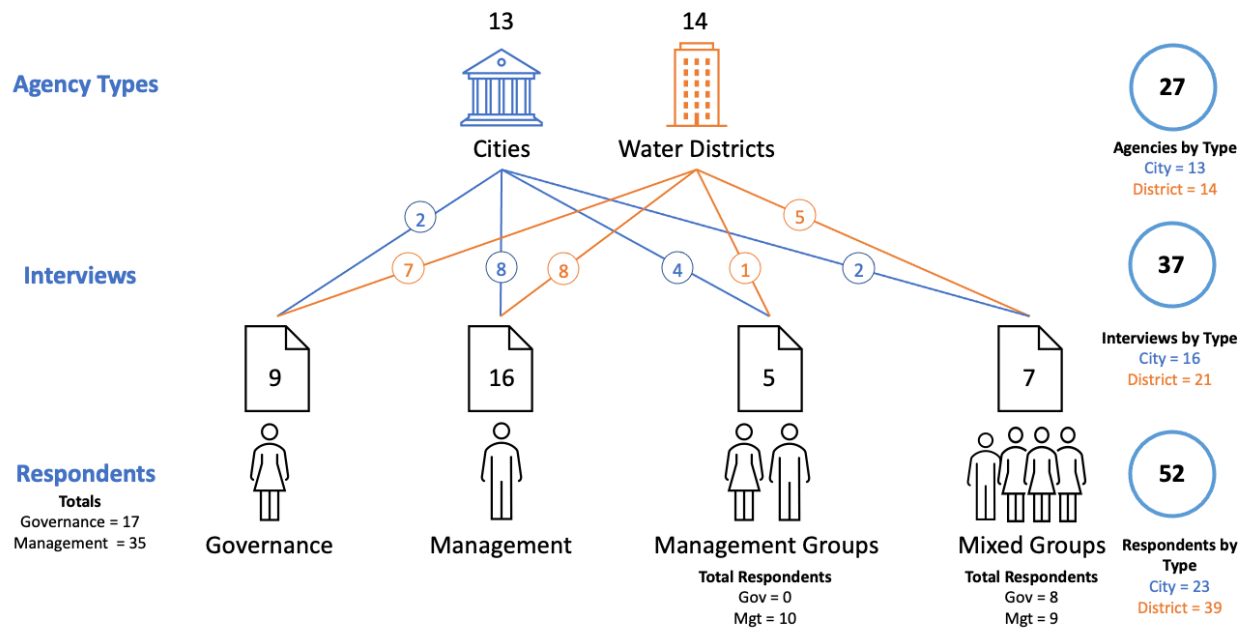


Table 2: Breakdown of Interviews and Respondents by Type and Roles

Breakdown of Respondents and Interviews by Agency Type and Roles									
Agency Type	Cities (13)			Districts (14)			Totals		
Respondent Roles	Governance	Management	Total	Governance	Management	Total	Governance	Management	Total
Respondents	4	19	23	13	16	39	17	35	52
Interviews			16			21			37

## Methodology

Interviews were scheduled with each member agency for individuals and, in some cases, small groups of 2-4 respondents. Where individuals were interviewed alone, the respondents are designated as either management or governance. The group interviews fell into two categories: a small group of 2-3 managers only, or a mixed group comprised of 1-2 governance and 1-2 management respondents. Comments made in mixed group interviews were coded by respondent where possible.

The 45 minute interviews were structured around five broad topic areas. The topics covered in each interview include:

1. Governance
2. Policies
3. Process
4. Role and Responsibilities
5. Interagency Relationships
6. Other Topics and Issues (open ended)

Each topic area discussion was introduced with two or three open ended questions (OEQ) that respondents had been provided in advance. The interviewer continued the topic discussions with follow-up questions and clarifications. An opportunity was provided at the end of the interview for any additional input respondents wished to provide. While each interview covered all five topics, participants were given ample time to explain their opinions. Generally, they focused on those topics where they had strong opinions, with less to say on other topics. No participant was forced to evaluate MWDOC's performance in areas where they showed no interest or lacked knowledge of a topic.

During the interviews, the interviewer and a notetaker manually recorded responses. Based on the handwritten notes, a paraphrased summary, including short verbatim quotes, was prepared in MS Word. The Word documents were then coded and analyzed using MAXQDA, a research tool designed to evaluate qualitative data collected from OEQ surveys. Based on that analysis, the report provides both qualitative and quantitative data (mixed method approach). Any of the following excerpts in "quotes" reflect either verbatim statements noted during the interview or written responses provided by respondents.

The report is organized by the questions presented in the survey document. Each question was preceded by a brief statement of context, which are also included below. For each question, interview excerpts, from both positive 👍 and critical 👎 responses, are included to clarify specific input. Some excerpts providing either insights or constructive recommendations are indicated with a 💡 light bulb.

# 1. Governance

## Context Statement

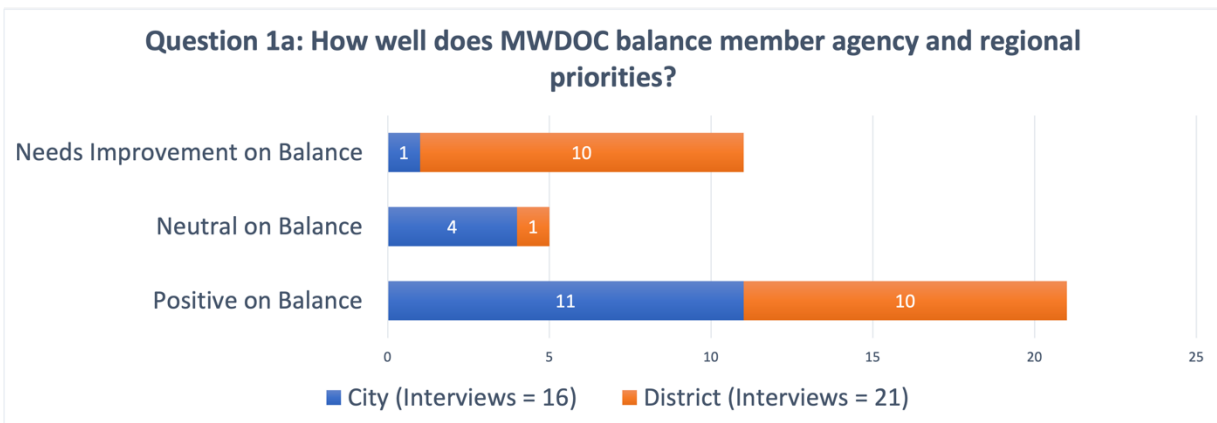
MWDOC is governed by a seven-member Board of Directors. Each director is elected to a four-year term by Orange County voters who reside within one of the seven divisions in the MWDOC service area. At the same time, MWDOC’s twenty-eight [now twenty-seven] member agencies have their own individual priorities and needs.

## Question 1a

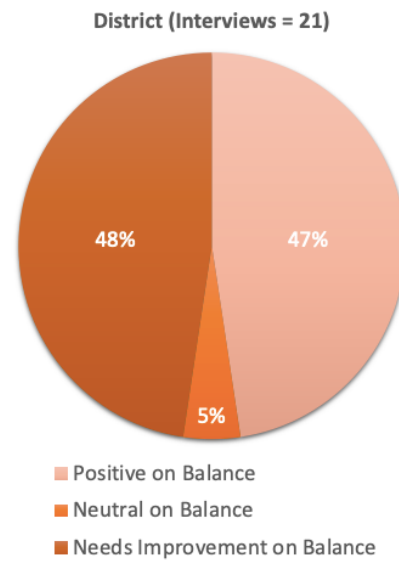
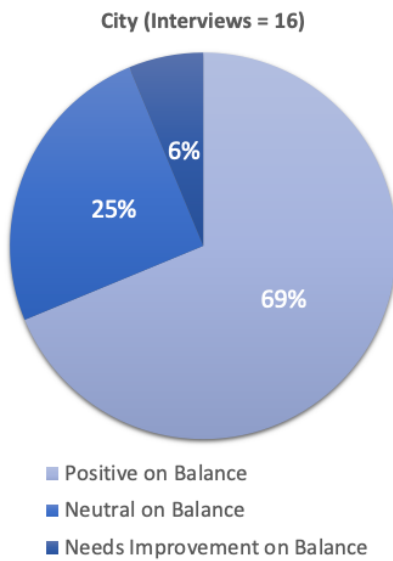
How well does MWDOC balance the priorities of its member agencies with the broader regional needs of the service area as a whole?

**Responses:** Most interviews were positive, with Cities significantly more so than Districts

Asked, “how well does MWDOC balance priorities?” Most interviews (57%) expressed positive views regarding MWDOC’s ability to balance their priorities and those of the region. Cities (69% positive) were more pleased with MWDOC’s performance on meeting their needs or priorities than Districts, however. Slightly less than half of the district (48%) interviews were positive in their responses.



(Note: The values above reflect individual interviews. Some member agencies participated in more than one interview and not all participants responded to each question.)



## Responses: Some member agencies see local and regional priorities aligned

For the twenty (20) interviews where respondents were positive regarding MWDOC's ability to balance their priorities with the region's, some saw no difference between their needs and those of the region, where MWDOC is concerned. For cities with limited staff spread over utility and public works activities, MWDOC's services were deemed essential.

### Related Interview Excerpts

👍 *Sees no issues between member agency needs and regional needs.*

Management | City | North County

👍 *Does not see the regional versus member agency priorities as "competing" with one another.*

Governance | District | South County

👍 *"Nothing but positive."*

Management | City | North County

👍 *"MWDOC is doing a great job. The job I need them to do."*

Management | District | South County

👍 *"First and foremost, MWDOC does a good job." With less dependable imported water from the Delta, a bigger push from MWDOC on local supply development is justified. "Pretty good job."*

Management | District | North County

👍 *Thinks that MWDOC does a good job in managing both its regional and member agency responsibilities.*

Governance | District | South County

👍 *Input is heard, but the Directors are responsible to the voters. MWDOC makes an effort.*


Management | District | South County

## Responses: Others say MWDOC is not interested in member agency priorities


For the ten (10) Districts and one (1) City that felt MWDOC was not performing well, there were a number of respondents who expressed the belief that MWDOC simply doesn't care about their needs or concerns. They suggest that MWDOC makes no attempt to "balance" their priorities – not listening to their input at all.

### Related Interview Excerpts


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 *MWDOC tends to ignore the priorities of its member agencies.*

Management | District | North County


 *MWDOC shows apparent disregard for what's being said by member agencies. No accountability to the people who write the checks.*

Management | District | South County


 *MWDOC has not listened to their customer agencies. We struggled with this for years as South County agencies. MWDOC works against us. May be different for municipalities. I don't even care if they oppose what we're doing, but we shouldn't be "surprised" by their decisions where they*

*intend to work against us. "We're not in a happy place."*


Management | District | South County

 *The real issue is that MWDOC will say it listens . . . and is transparent, but the fact of the matter is, it does not.*

Governance | District | North County

 *On the core versus choice issue, if we don't benefit, we shouldn't pay. Are they really listening to us when we don't believe that we need a proposed project?*

Management | City | North County

 *"I'm not sure they care what we think."*

Governance | District | North County

## Responses: We are "customers" not member agencies

A reoccurring theme among several participants asserted that it would be more accurate to refer to their agencies as "customers" rather "member agencies." They point out that unlike Metropolitan's member agencies, they do not select MWDOC's board members. For some, the designation "customer" (or in one case "stakeholder") was deemed a more accurate reflection of the member agencies' relationship to MWDOC.

## Related Interview Excerpts

💡 *MWDOC doesn't really have member agencies. It has customers.*

Governance | District | South County

💡 *"Member agencies" is a bad term. "Customers" is more appropriate.*

Management | District | South County

💡 *Recognize that the retail agencies are "customers" not "members."*

Management | District | South County

💡 *Board should focus more on its 28 customers and less on the 3-million people of OC.*

Management | District | South County

### Follow-up Questions - Governance

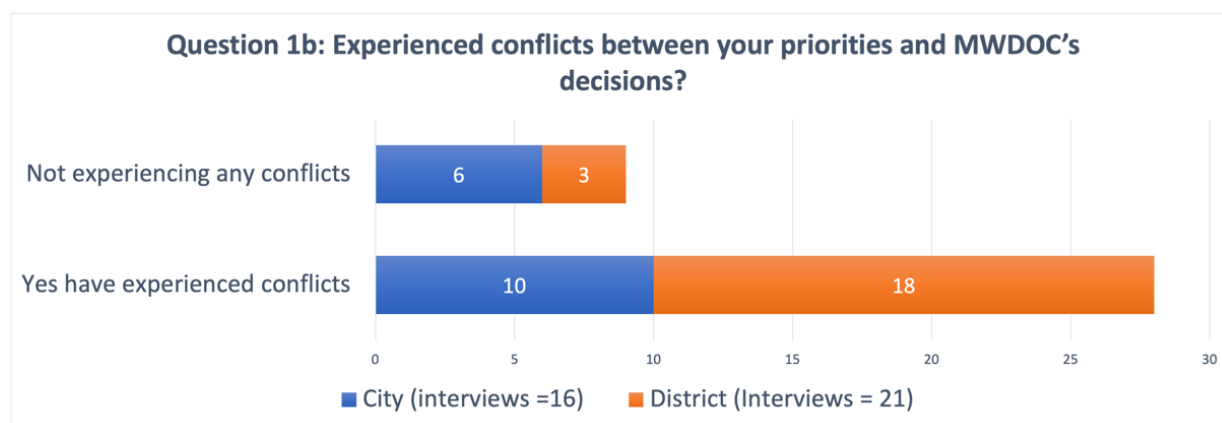
In Governance questions 1-b and 1-c, participants were asked (1-b) if they had experienced conflicts between their agency's priorities and MWDOC's decisions and actions? (1-c) If so, what was the source of conflict? And how could it be resolved?

#### Question 1b

Have you experienced conflicts between your agency's priorities and MWDOC's decisions and actions?

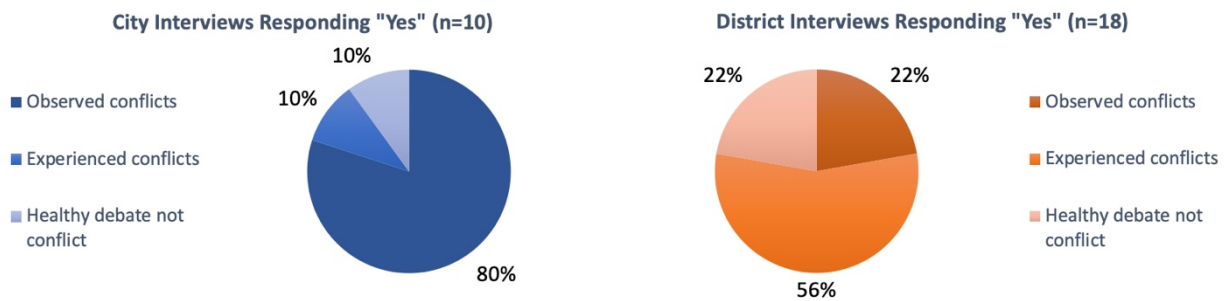
**Responses:** Most have experienced conflicts. Some say that's a good thing.

In responding to this question, the twenty-eight (28) city and district interviews that acknowledged having "experienced conflicts" can be grouped into three broad categories: (1) agencies that have been directly in conflict with MWDOC decisions, (2) agencies that have indirectly observed conflicts between MWDOC and member agencies, and (3) a small group that have experienced conflicts and view them as "healthy debate."



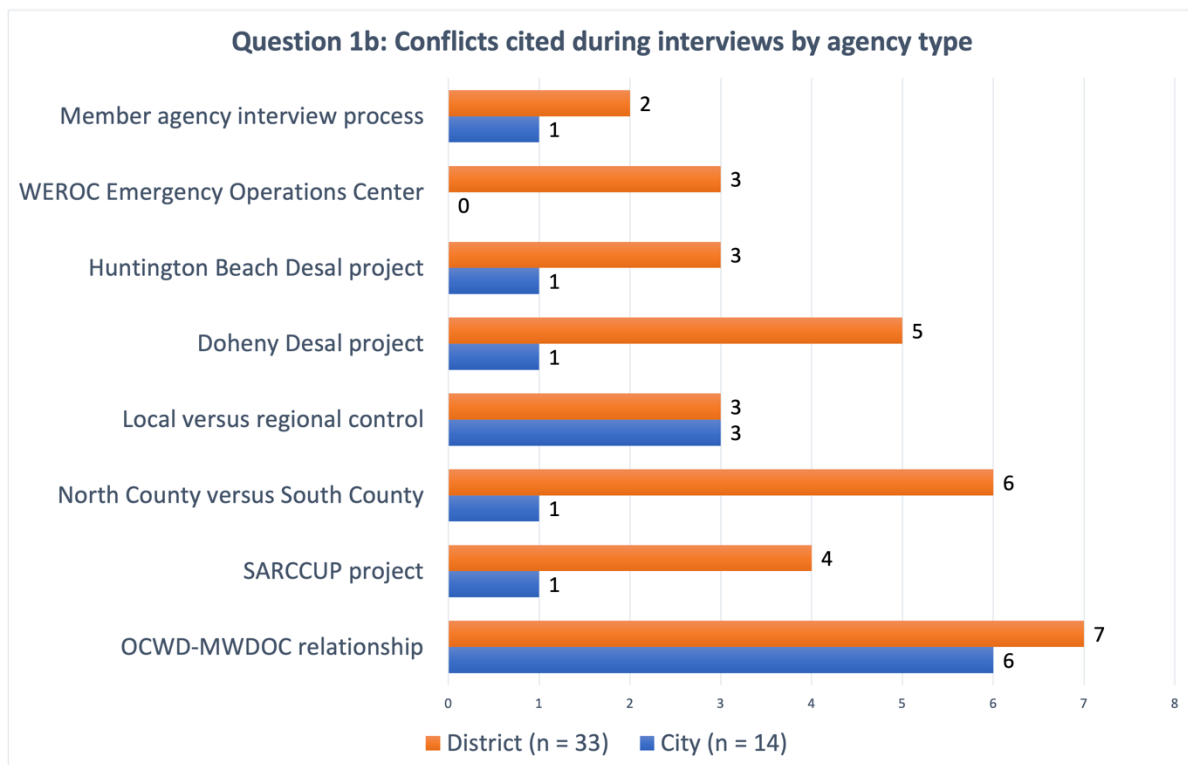


In those interviews where participants stated “Yes,” they have experienced “conflicts,” the breakdown according to the categories discussed above is provided here.



**Responses:** Many conflicts mentioned, MWDOC and OCWD relationship stands out

When asked to identify specific conflicts, many examples were provided. Overall, District interviews identified more cases of conflict (33) than City interviews (14). That said, there was one conflict where both District interviews and City interviews were in agreement — the relationship between MWDOC and the Orange County Water District (OCWD). Many respondents expressed general displeasure with the demeanor of both agencies’ general managers, with some explicitly refusing to lay blame on one agency or the other.



Note: This graph counts interviews where a specific conflict was mentioned. Some participants identified more than one conflict during the interview.

While both cities and districts agreed on the need for improving the relationship between OCWD and MWDOC, cities were less likely to cite specific issues regarding areas of conflict. For districts, many of the specific examples were cases involving disputes between MWDOC and OCWD.

### Question 1c


If so, what is the source of the conflict? How might it be resolved?

### Response: MWDOC should support Member Agency projects


Some districts focused on MWDOC's influence over local project decisions as a repeated source of conflict. Most agreed that decisions regarding local projects belong at the city and district level. Consequently, many resent MWDOC taking a public position that they see as impeding local project development and initiatives. If local agencies have determined that a specific project or program is worthy of their investment, they believe MWDOC should be supporting those decisions at the regional level. During the interviews, some participants held the opinion that MWDOC was not helpful in the SARCCUP program, participating in a manner that left them disappointed in MWDOC's behavior.

### Related Interview Excerpts


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 *MWDOC/OCWD need to work together especially when it starts to affect items like SARCCUP – it became territorial. Who should do what?*

Management | District | North County

 *An example of conflict? SARCCUP.*

Management | City | North County

 *MWDOC is creating conflict with actions intended to control local project or program development. That's inconsistent with their views of the best means of achieving regional reliability and resilience. Examples include SARCCUP, as well as Huntington Beach desal."*

Management | District | North County.

## 2. Policies

### Context Statement

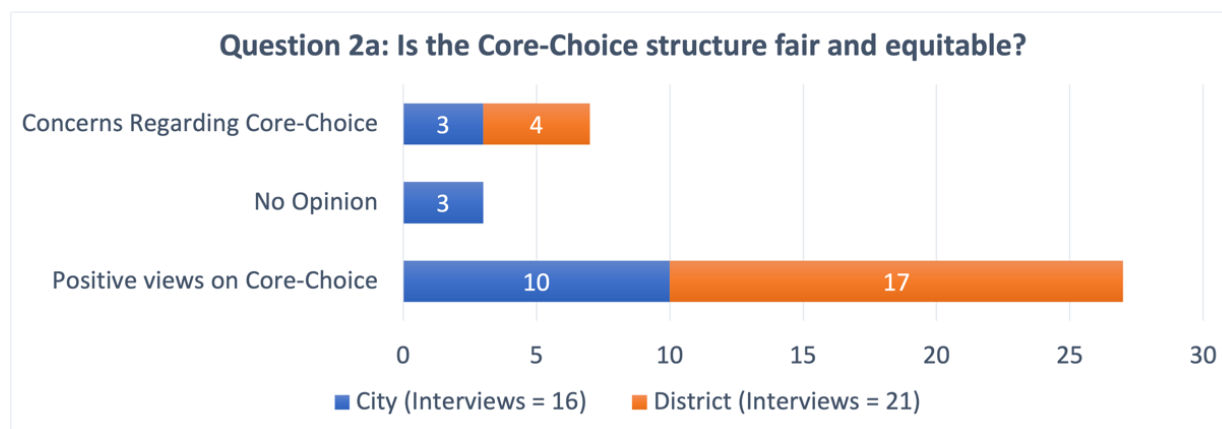
MWDOC has developed policies and programs that strive to meet its revenue requirements while avoiding charges for services that a member agency can provide for itself.

### Question 2a:

Has your agency found the recovery of both fixed rates and subscription (choice) charges a fair and practical way of addressing this issue?

**Responses:** Core-Choice praised by most. Categorization a concern for some.

While the core/choice program is widely supported, the on-going assignment of activities and projects to one or the other of these categories remains a source of concern with some member agencies. In one instance, it was suggested that the process for deciding whether budget items be included in the Choice category be made more formal, with clear criteria for the basis of assignment. In some cases, this opinion resulted from Core projects that were seen to have produced little or no value for specific member agencies.



The process and methodology for justifying new Core initiatives could use further development in the view of some member agencies who appreciate the framework overall.

## Related Interview Excerpts

💡 *A bit of a compromise around the expansion of MWDOC services and how they should be categorized. Every once in a while, there is a question about choice versus core, and which costs should go into each category.*

Management | District | South County

💡 *Generally, some planning functions and some public information functions of MWDOC seem unnecessary, though stakeholder agencies pay for them as part of core services.*

Governance | District | South County

👎 *Additional choice services simply justify a growing administrative overhead and bringing contracted services in-house (for example, water loss) that are not needed.*

Governance | District | South County

👎 *Agree with the choice program, although object to many programs that have been considered core projects that should have been choice. They primarily benefited South County or were unneeded.*

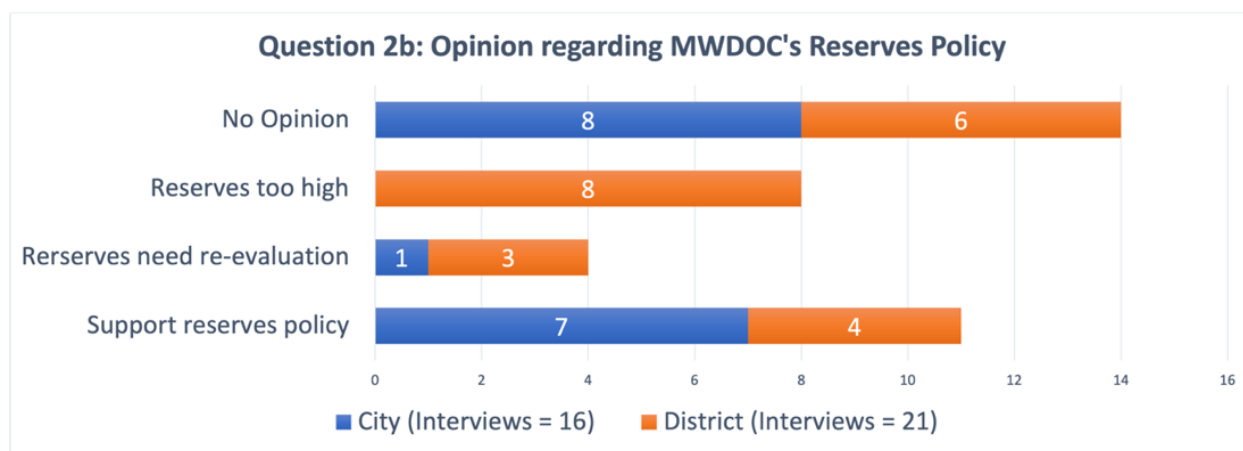
Management | District | North County

### Question 2b

What is your opinion regarding MWDOC's current reserves policy?

**Responses:** Many have no opinion. Many feel the policy needs revisiting.

Responses to question 2b generally fell into four categories: (1) participants who did not know what the policy is and had no opinion and participants who looked up the policy and still had no opinion, (2) participants who believe the current reserves are too high, (3) participants who knew the policy and believed it should be reevaluated and possibly revised, and (4) those participants who supported the policy and MWDOC's authority to set it. As indicated in the figure below, concerns regarding the policy were primarily expressed by Districts, while member agencies that are Cities generally supported or had no opinion regarding the policy.



### 3. Process

#### Context Statement

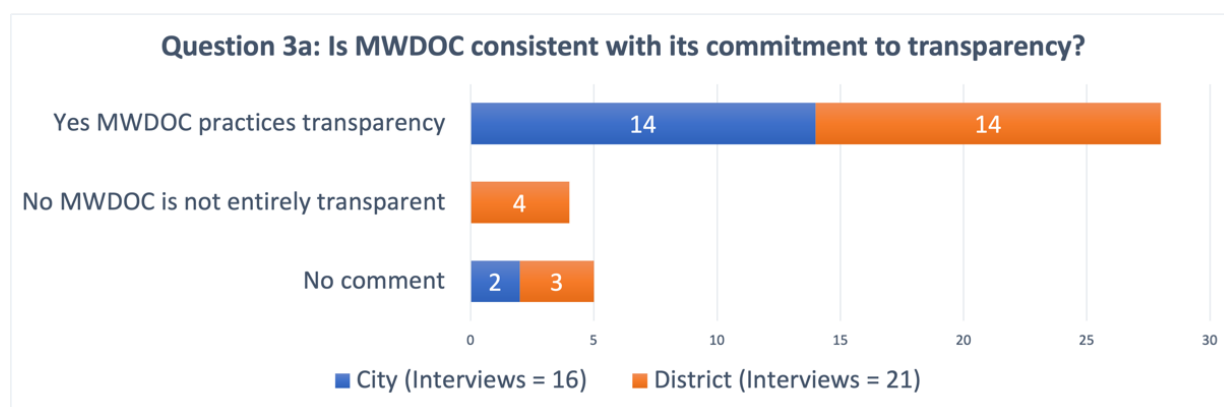
MWDOC is committed to transparency and accountability in government. This commitment entails providing publicly accessible, factual information to allow good and just governance, and to assist our stakeholders and members of the public in understanding how the district operates.

#### Question 3a:

Is your experience consistent with MWDOC's commitment?

#### Responses: Availability and access to public information praised

Most participants agreed that MWDOC lived up to its commitment of transparency. Information is available and directly accessible for anyone who wants to search for it. Further, MWDOC staff was frequently credited with helping member agencies get needed information.



When the discussion moved from the transparency of information to the decision-making process, many respondents expressed dissatisfaction with the number, sequence, and timing of meetings. Sequence, in this context, meaning when in the process member agencies are solicited for their input. Timing meaning time of day. Additional comments regarding the member agency manager meeting structure and management were offered.

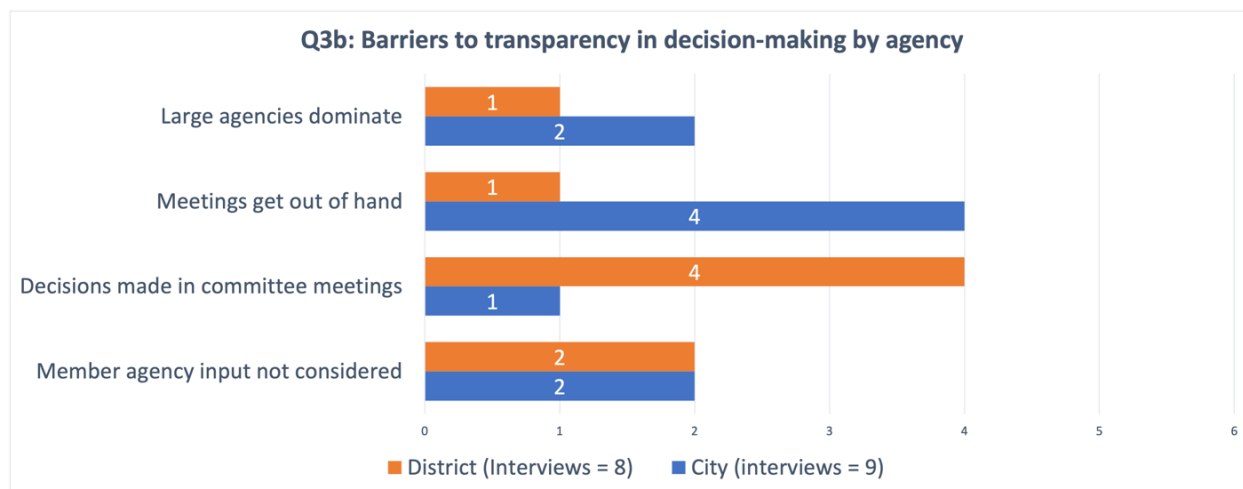
#### Question 3b:

Can you suggest ways in which MWDOC can improve its decision-making process and public transparency?

#### Responses: Decision-making process does not incorporate input from agencies

While MWDOC received positive responses regarding transparency of information, many participants distinguished between (1) the availability of information, and (2) the openness and receptivity of the decision-making process to member agency input. They often characterized

communications with MWDOC as a one-way flow of information from MWDOC to member agencies. Many member agencies appreciate the regular updates received from MWDOC, particularly cities that do not have the resources to stay current on all water issues. For others, the perceived lack of interest from MWDOC’s board in their opinions regarding issues directly affecting their agencies was a point of frustration.



## Related Interview Excerpts

💡 *MWDOC should be more forthcoming in seeking input from member agencies.*

Management | District | North County

👎 *I receive plenty of information, but it is not always clear what is done with my input.*

Governance | District | South County

👎 *Our MWDOC director very rarely reaches out to us. We need to go to him.*

Management | District | South County

👎 *Board needs to do a better job. Needs of the member agencies are very different.*

Governance | District | North County

👎 *Staff will take issues to a MWDOC Committee that have not been discussed with the member agencies, then the Committee and the Board routinely approve, even when member agencies have questions.*

Management | District | North County

👎 *MWDOC may think that holding multiple meetings means it's communicating. But often, the results of the meetings are that MWDOC digs its heels in and refuses to change.*

Governance | District | North County

👎 *“NO! The board has too many consent items on the agenda.”*

Governance | District | South County



*The meeting structure should be revised. Almost everything happens in committees. Most of the full Board Meeting is voted on the consent calendar. Hard to attend all six committee meetings — “frustrating.”*

Management | District | North County



*First time we see issues is in committee. Requested MWDOC give general managers a heads up, but “directors are paying no attention to us.”*

Governance | District | South County



*Decision-making could be improved by having discussions with member agency managers “well before the budget lands.” Let the managers have input early — well ahead of the budget release.*

Management | City | South County



*Directly elected board members are not interested in the retail agencies and there’s no easy way to fix it.*

Management | District | South County

## 4. Roles and Responsibilities

Beliefs and perceptions regarding MWDOC's roles and responsibilities were frequently at the heart of individual responses throughout each interview. This area of discussion was the most widely divergent among member agencies. Said another way, there is no broad consensus among member agencies regarding what MWDOC should undertake beyond its fundamental role of serving as a Member Agency at the Metropolitan Water District.

### Context Statement

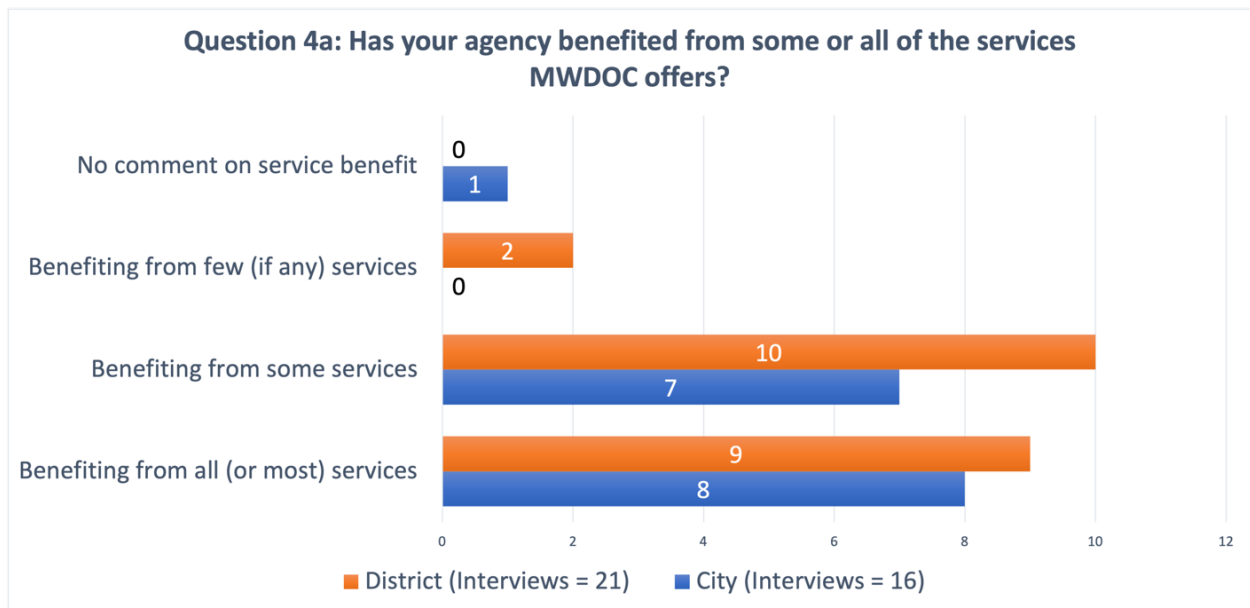
In addition to serving as the Metropolitan Water District member agency representing Orange County (except for the cities of Anaheim, Fullerton and Santa Ana), MWDOC fills many other roles. They include: regional water planning, water supply development, public information and outreach, water use efficiency, and emergency preparedness. These activities are provided as either core or subscription (choice) services.

### Question 4a

Has your agency benefited from some or all of these services?

**Responses:** Almost all member agencies perceive benefits from MWDOC

In response to this question, most respondents agreed that their agencies benefit from some or most of the services offered by MWDOC. Two agencies felt strongly that they received few, if any, benefits among the core and choice services offered.



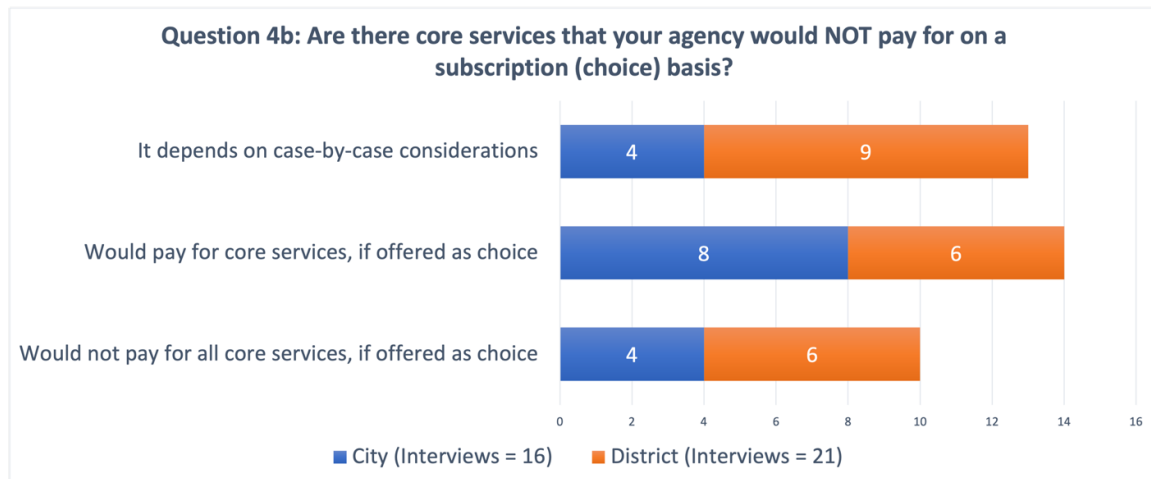


## Question 4b

Are there core services that your agency would not choose to receive if they were offered on a subscription basis? Explain?

**Responses:** Views vary widely on MWDOC’s appropriate role and core services

Question 4b raised policy issues that elicited both discussions and additional considerations. Are there core services that do not benefit your agency? Should MWDOC be providing them? If so, should your agency be paying for them? The most frequent responses to these questions were positive regarding MWDOC’s core services and their willingness to pay. Many expressed appreciation for everything MWDOC provides — however they represented 38% of the interviews.



### Related Interview Excerpts “Would Pay for Core Services”

👍 *“Not encountered a situation where MWDOC has overstepped its jurisdiction.”*

Governance | District | South County

👍 *“No, appreciate everything that MWDOC does.”*

Management | City | North County

👍 *“MWDOC doing what it should be doing.”*

Management | City | North County

👍 *“Totally benefit from all of it.”*

Management | City | North County

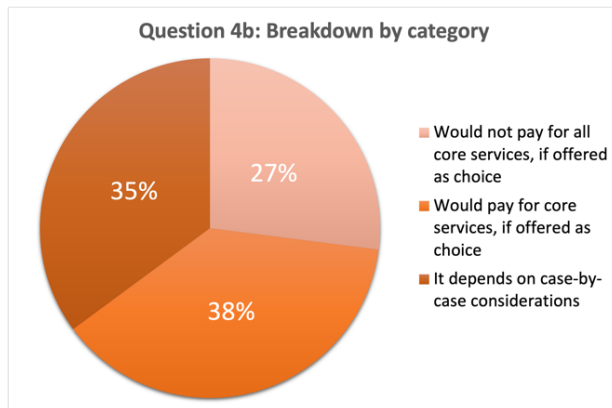
👍 *Believes in the need for a regional agency like MWDOC and the strength it provides.*

Management | City | North County

👍 *“I know we’re covered.” Very impressed with MWDOC’s staff. They’re “ahead of the curve.”*

Governance | District | South County

The remaining interviews could be separated into two categories: (1) strongly held views (27%) that MWDOC has ventured into core services they believe go beyond its mission, and (2) those less concerned about limits on MWDOC’s activities and more focused on not paying for services where they perceive no benefits (35%).



Establishing a clearer understanding of the boundaries around MWDOC’s scope of activities was seen by a few as an important goal of the survey. For others, the extent of MWDOC’s activities were seen as best addressed on a case-by-case basis. The strongest resistance, expressed by some, was targeted at MWDOC’s active involvement as the developer of local projects. MWDOC’s public support for local projects was seen as appropriate and desirable by most respondents.

Public criticism of member agency projects was frowned upon by many.

Consideration of MWDOC’s roles and responsibilities usually hinged on the respondent’s answer to one of the following questions:

1. Does the activity directly benefit my agency?
2. Does the activity benefit the entire service area, including my agency?
3. Does the activity benefit a subset of member agencies, not including my agency?
4. Does any agency benefit from the activity?

Further, to the extent respondents believed that the costs of an activity would be recovered in choice charges, there was a greater willingness to endorse MWDOC taking on tasks that did not directly benefit them. The more skeptical respondents distrusted MWDOC’s ability and willingness to fully allocate overhead costs to large-scale choice activities.

### Related Interview Excerpts “It Depends”

💡 *MWDOC should focus more on regional conservation rather than water supply development.*

Management | District | North County

💡 *Sees MWDOC as having a role in water supply development. Believes OC needs desal as an option. Question is “How do we pay for it?” and “Who pays?”*

Governance | District | North County

💡 *Things only get squishy when MWDOC is involved with water supply development. Less clear whether or not MWDOC should take on that role.*

Management | District | North County

💡 *Not black and white on where MWDOC should be involved or not.*

Governance | District | South County

💡 *Core/choice was a super cool approach that resolved a lot of issues. But, don't want to subsidize when specific to other member agency.*

Management | District | South County

💡 *Their role beyond that? "It depends." Can only decide on a project-by-project basis.*

Governance | District | South County

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### Related Interview Excerpts "Would NOT Pay"

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💡 *Yes. There are services that are in "core" that should be in "choice"*

Governance | District | South County

💡 *MWDOC has no role to be out front on water supply development. They do have a role supporting it, however.*

Management | District | South County

💡 *Do not want to see MWDOC developing and owning pumps and pipes. MWDOC should be an advocate for local supply development.*

Management | District | North County

💡 *Water supply development should be on the choice side. Not opposed to MWDOC owning projects but thinks benefiting agencies should pay.*

Management | City | South County

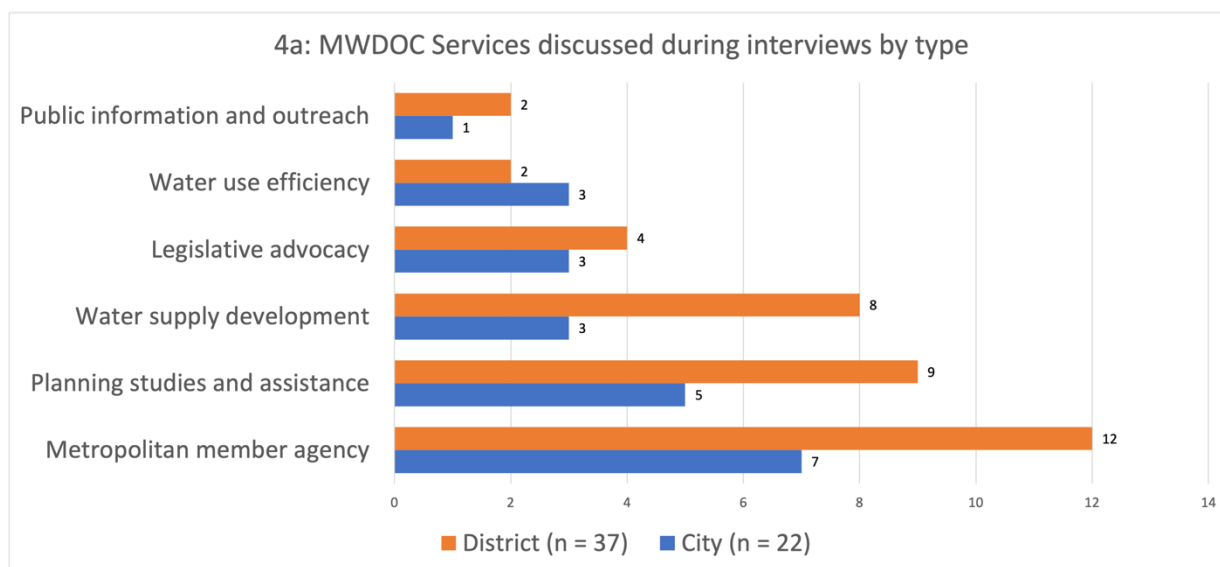
💡 *If the services only benefit a few agencies, we would likely not choose them on a choice basis.*

Management | City | North County

💡 *Unsure regarding county-wide planning. "How much of that needs to be done?"*

Management | District | South County

When the discussion shifted to the benefits of MWDOC's core services and choice services framework, opinions often became more complicated. First, both cities and districts acknowledged the success of the core-choice structure — especially as it relates to demand management and water use efficiency services.



(Note: This graph counts interviews where a specific MWDOC service was mentioned. Some participants identified several services during the interview.)

- Water Use Efficiency widely supported
- Water Resources Planning accepted without enthusiastic support
- Water Supply Development split between supporting efforts versus leading development

In its role as a Metropolitan Member Agency, cities generally accepted and appreciated MWDOC's role representing them at Metropolitan. A few districts were critical of MWDOC's effectiveness, on their behalf, at Metropolitan.

## Related Interview Excerpts

### MWDOC's Role as Metropolitan Member Agency

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💡 *MWDOC should be an advocate for us at the Metropolitan level.*

Governance | District | South

💡 *MWDOC's primary mission should be serving as its member agencies' representative at MWD and as the administrator of MWD programs in their service area.*

Governance | District | North

💡 *Working with MET deserves attention, guiding MET along to support desal.*

Management | City | South

👎 *"I don't feel very connected to Metropolitan and what's going on there."*

Management | District | North

👎 *MWDOC doesn't do a good job representing us at MWD.*

Management | District | South

👎 *We would appreciate more engagement during the development of Metropolitan positions. Don't currently feel "part of the conversation."*

Management | District | North

👎 *Biggest issue is our actual representation on the Metropolitan Board. Sees MWDOC as dismissive and condescending.*

Governance | District | North

👎 *Asked to be a part of discussions at MWD regarding groundwater issues but rarely included unless invited directly by MWD.*

Management | District | North

As a regional water planner, MWDOC received high praise for its capabilities, combined with some questions regarding the value of certain deliverables to their own agency. Assistance provided to cities for the preparation of Urban Water Management Plans and other required submittals was widely appreciated by respondents.

## Related Interview Excerpts

### MWDOC's Role Providing Water Planning and Assistance

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👍 *MWDOC does well with regional water planning. There's value there. Somebody has got to do it.*

Governance | District | North County

👍 *They are a good regional water planning agency. No evidence that anything comes of it.*

Management | District | South County

👍 *Regarding regional water planning, “It’s somebody’s job. MWDOC is probably in the best position to do it.”*

Governance | District | North County

👍 *“Absolutely. Who else would be the proper agency to do it?” Appreciates MWDOC taking this role. Regional planning function allows for a holistic approach.*

Management | District | South County

👍 *Appreciates MWDOC’s support during the preparation of Urban Water Management Plans and the Resilience and Risk reports.*

Governance | City | North County

👍 *Appreciates MWDOC’s role in long-term planning*

Management | District | North County

👍 *“In the planning role, I suppose that any information is beneficial but can’t quantify the value.”*

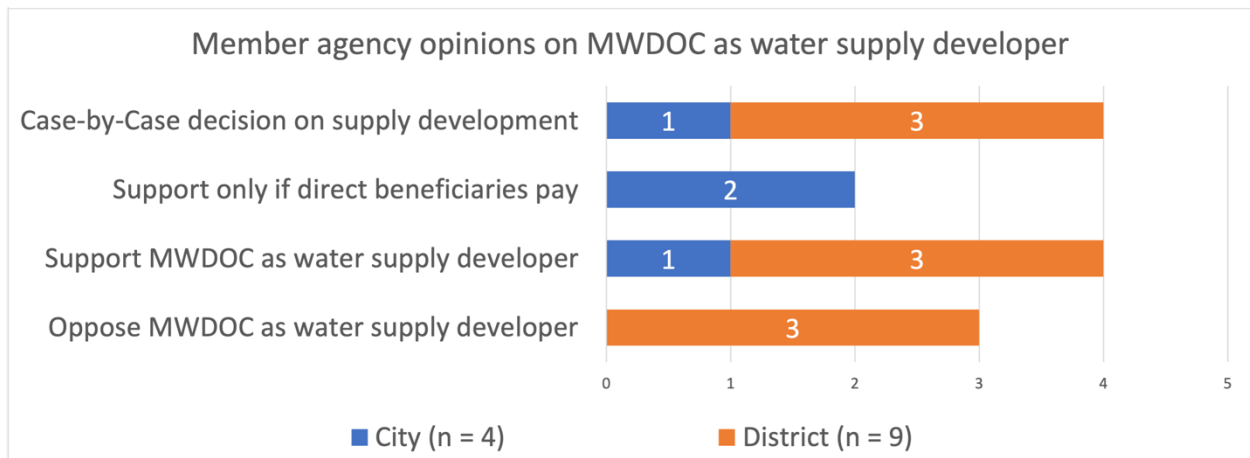
Management | City | North County

👍 *Reliability studies that include project-by-project comparisons are debatable.*

Management | District | North County

## MWDOC’s Role as Water Supply Developer

Among a small group of interviews (13), MWDOC’s role as a water supply developer was the most divisive topic discussed. As indicated above, it was one of the core services most mentioned by several member agencies who considered the service beyond MWDOC’s mission or were concerned that their agency should not pay any of the costs associated with supply development activities.



## 5. Interagency Relationships

### Context Statement

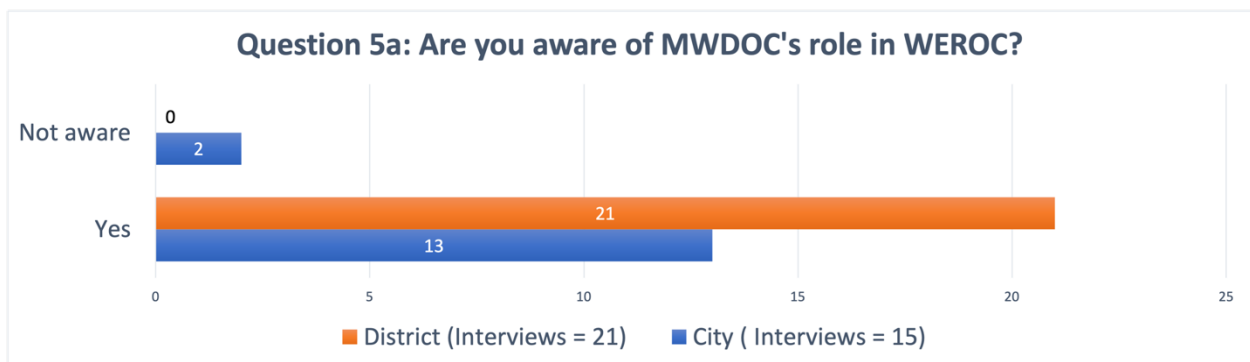
WEROC serves as the county liaison for emergency response and MWDOC provides the administrative structure and support for WEROC.

### Question 5a

Are you aware of this county-wide role?

**Responses:** Awareness high among almost all participants

With two exceptions, respondents were all aware of WEROC and MWDOC's administrative role. Where respondents were outspoken regarding WEROC's performance, they frequently mentioned Vicki Osborn, Director of Emergency Management, for her role in leading the effort.



### Related Interview Excerpts

👍 *Yes. Love MWDOC in this role. A great resource. Excellent performance.*

Management | City | North County

👍 *“WEROC has been awesome. Vicki has brought gravitas.”*

Management | District | North County

👍 *Yes. No complaints. Vicki is very energetic. This is one of the best things that MWDOC does.”*

Management | District | North County

👍 *“Definitely aware.” Vicki Osborn is “so good.” Can’t say enough good things about WEROC.*

Management | City | North County

👍 *WEROC and Vicki Osborn do a great job.*

Governance | District | South County

👍 *Yes. Overall positive thing that MWDOC does. Vicki a solid performer. We use it.*

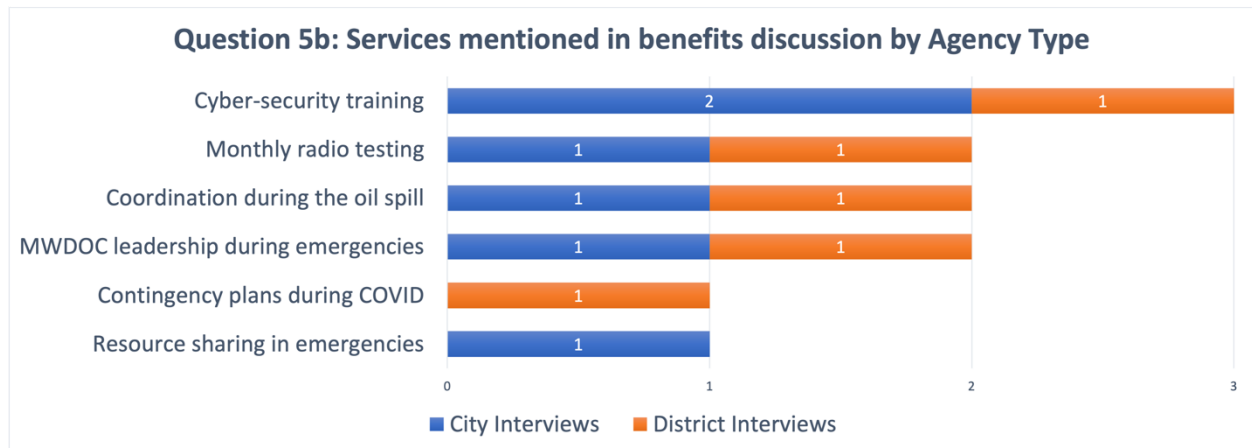
Management | District | South County

## Question 5b

If so, does your agency see the benefit of this relationship?

**Responses:** WEROC's future role and needs unclear to some

In follow-up questions and discussion, those participants who were knowledgeable regarding WEROC often mentioned benefits they appreciated. The specific services that were cited by participants included the following:



Several interviews raised questions regarding WEROC's future role and the resources it expects to need. This concern was accompanied by a reminder that the funding for WEROC is provided by other agencies in addition to MWDOC.

### Related Interview Excerpts

💡 *Would like to understand what WEROC's ultimate role will be? "Facilitator, or expanded beyond that? What level of services should WEROC provide?"*

Management | City | South County

💡 *Yes, we see a benefit in the role of MWDOC facilitating water emergency response. Extent of MWDOC role and role of elected officials needs some better definition.*

Governance | District | South County

💡 *MWDOC funds 50% of the WEROC budget with OCWD contributing 25% and 5 other city/agencies funding the balance.*

Governance | District | North County

💡 *Largely yes. There's a benefit, but MWDOC is overstating the need. Vicki is good, but a \$1.2 million facility is overreach."*

Governance | District | South County



## 6. Other Topics and Issues

### Question 6

Are there any other topics or issues that you think should be addressed in this review?

When asked for any additional input that the respondent wished to provide, many topics were raised. One topic appeared more frequently than any other as calling for improvement — the relationship between OCWD and MWDOC. Many respondents were adamant about the need to improve the communications, cooperation, and collaboration between these two overlapping agencies with complementary responsibilities for groundwater and imported water respectively. To quote one respondent, “We can do better.”

#### Related Interview Excerpts

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💡 *Looking for better working relationship between MWDOC and OCWD. They should be working together. Or at least just talk to one another, period. There's a lack of trust there.*

Management | District | North County

💡 *The OCWD and MWDOC general managers “hate each other, and the public knows it.” They’re too entrenched.*

Governance | District | North County

💡 *Conflict between the GMs at MWDOC and OCWD is resented.*

Management | City | North County

💡 *Looking for more of a JPA kind of relationship between groundwater and imported water supply.*

Governance | District | South County

💡 *MWDOC and OCWD have a fractured relationship. Groundwater and imported water in Orange County should be merged. “Is there any desire to do that? No.”*

Governance | District | North County

💡 *Relationship between OCWD and MWDOC is “at an all-time low.”*

Governance | District | North County

💡 *The conflict between OCWD and MWDOC needs to be resolved. GMs should conduct themselves more professionally.*

Management | City | North County

💡 *Not taking sides, but before conflicts arise, talk with one another. It’s about process.*

Management | City | North County

*The two GMs need to do something about it.*

Governance | District | North County

## Acknowledgments

Sincere thanks to the many water leaders and professionals throughout Orange County who took time out of their schedules to participate in these interviews. You were outspoken and candid, while demonstrating a desire to be helpful. Most interviews reflected the common themes presented in this report. At the same time, every interview was unique. Each participant provided new perspectives and personal insights, making every discussion a learning experience that was much appreciated.

Special thanks to Tina Dubuque, who scheduled every interview, prepared information for participants, took thorough notes to supplement the author's notes, and was always considerate, thoughtful, and in good spirits during over forty hours of discussion.

## Appendix A: Interview Participants by Member Agency

Member Agency	Name	Title	Role
City of Brea	Steven Vargas	Mayor	Governance
	Bill Gallardo	City Manager	Management
	Michel Ho	Deputy Director Public Works	Management
	Rudy Correa	Superintendent Public Works	Management
City of Buena Park	Mike McGee	Water Services Superintendent	Management
	Doug Brodowski	Operations Manager	Management
City of Fountain Valley	Hye Jin Lee	Director of Public Works	Management
	Mark Sprague	Field Services Manager	Management
City of Garden Grove	Samuel Kim	Water Services Division Manager	Management
City of Huntington Beach	Sean Crumby	Director of Public Works	Management
	Alvin Papa	Deputy Director Public Works	Management
City of La Habra	Jose Medrano	Mayor Pro Tem	Governance
	Brian Jones	Water and Sewer Manager	Management
	Robert Ferrier	Asst to City Manager	Management
City of La Palma	Mike Belknap	Community Services Director	Management
	Jake Chavira	Water Supervisor	Management
City of Newport Beach	Mark Vukojevic	Utilities Manager	Management
City of Orange	Mark Murphy	Mayor	Governance
	Diaz Jose	Water Manager	Management
City of San Clemente	David Rebensdorf	Utilities Director	Management
City of Seal Beach	Steve Myrter	Public Works Director	Management
City of Tustin	Ryan Gallagher	City Councilor	Governance
City of Westminster	Scott Miller	Water Superintendent	Management
East Orange Water District	Doug Davert	Board Director	Governance
	David Youngblood	General Manager	Management
El Toro Water District	Mike Gaskins	Board President	Governance
	Dennis Cafferty	General Manager	Management
Emerald Bay Service District	John Marconi	Board President	Governance
	Mike Dunbar	General Manager	Management
Golden State Water Company	Ken Vecchiarelli	General Manager, Orange County	Management
Irvine Ranch Water District	Peer Swan	Board Director	Governance
	Paul Cook	General Manager	Management
	Paul Weghorst	Exec. Director Water Policy	Management
Laguna Beach County Water District	Robert Whalen	Board President	Governance
	Debbie Neev	Commission Chair	Governance
	Keith Van Der Maaten	General Manager	Management
Mesa Water District	Marice DePasquale	Board President	Governance
	Paul Schoenberger	General Manager	Management
Moulton Niguel Water District	Brian Probolsky	Board President	Governance
	Joone Lopez	General Manager	Management
	Matt Collings	Asst General Manager	Management
Orange County Water District	Steven Sheldon	Board Director	Governance
	Mike Markus	General Manager	Management
Santa Margarita Water District	Chuck Gibson	Board Director	Governance
	Daniel Ferons	General Manager	Management
Serrano Water District	Greg Mills	Board Director	Governance
	Jerry Vilander	General Manager	Management
South Coast Water District	Rick Erkeneff	Board Director	Governance
	Rick Shintaku	General Manager	Management
Trabuco Canyon Water District	Fernando Paludi	General Manager	Management
Yorba Linda Water District	Phil Hawkins	Board President	Governance
	Brett Barbre	General Manager	Management

## Appendix B: Questions Provided to Participants

### Introductory Remarks:

The purpose of this interview is to provide MWDOC's twenty-eight member agencies an opportunity to share their views with MWDOC and the other member agencies regarding their future needs and expectations, as well as an assessment of past performance. The interviews have been organized to include two separate discussions with a governing decision-maker and the general manager from each member agency. Broad topics and questions are presented below.

### Topics and Questions:

1. **Governance:** MWDOC is governed by a seven-member Board of Directors. Each director is elected to a four-year term by Orange County voters who reside within one of the seven divisions in the MWDOC service area. At the same time, MWDOC's twenty-eight [now twenty-seven] member agencies have their own individual priorities and needs.
  - a. How well does MWDOC balance the priorities of its member agencies with the broader regional needs of the service area as a whole?
  - b. Have you experienced conflicts between your agency's priorities and MWDOC's decisions and actions?
  - c. If so, what is the source of the conflict? How might it be resolved?
2. **Policies:** MWDOC has developed policies and programs that strive to meet its revenue requirements while avoiding charges for services that a member agency can provide for itself.
  - a. Has your agency found the recovery of both fixed rates and subscription (choice) charges a fair and practical way of addressing this issue?
  - b. What is your opinion regarding MWDOC's current reserves policy?
  - c. Are there other policies that you have found beneficial? Ineffective? Why?
3. **Process:** MWDOC is committed to transparency and accountability in government. This commitment entails providing publicly accessible, factual information to allow good and just governance, and to assist our stakeholders and members of the public in understanding how the district operates.
  - a. Is your experience consistent with MWDOC's commitment?

- b. If not, can you suggest ways in which MWDOC's can improve its decision-making process and public transparency?
  - c. As a member agency, are you provided with the information, consultation, and communications needed to fully inform you throughout the decision-making process?
- 4. **Role and Responsibilities:** In addition to serving as the Metropolitan Water District member agency representing Orange County (except for the cities of Anaheim, Fullerton and Santa Ana), MWDOC fills many other roles. They include: regional water planning, water supply development, public information and outreach, water use efficiency, and emergency preparedness. These activities are provided as either core or subscription (choice) services.
  - a. Has your member agency benefited from some or all these services?
  - b. Are there core services that your agency would not choose to receive if they were offered on a subscription basis? Explain?
  - c. Can you identify any MWDOC programs, projects, or activities that deserve either more attention or less attention?
- 5. **Interagency Relationships:** MWDOC serves as the county liaison for emergency response.
  - a. Are you aware of this county-wide role?
  - b. If so, does your member agency see the benefit of this relationship?
  - c. If not, why?
- 6. **Other:** Are there any other topics or issues that you think should be addressed in this review?



**ACTION ITEM**

April 20, 2022

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** **Planning and Operations Committee**  
(Directors Tamaribuchi, McVicker and Nederhood)

Robert Hunter  
General Manager

Staff Contact: Heather Baez

**SUBJECT: ORANGE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION (OC LAFCO) ALTERNATE SPECIAL DISTRICT MEMBER SEAT - ELECTION**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Board of Directors:

- Review and discuss potential nominations to OC LAFCO;
- Authorize President Yoo-Schneider and an alternate to vote in the appointment process; and
- Direct staff to submit the appropriate forms to OC LAFCO by the deadlines outlined

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**SUMMARY**

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The terms of office for OC LAFCO's Alternate Special District member (currently held by El Toro Water District Board Member, Kathryn Freshley) will expire on June 30, 2022.

Nominations and/or Declaration of Qualification to Vote must be submitted to OC LAFCO by 3:00 p.m. by Friday, April 22, 2022.

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

Appointment Process Schedule for OC LAFCO Alternate Special District Seat Expiring June 30, 2022	
DATE	EVENT
March 14, 2022	OC LAFCO Executive Officer emails nomination form and Declaration of Qualification to Vote to each independent special district presiding officer (c/o the clerk of the district) and general manager.
April 22, 2022 (by 3:00 PM)	Submission of a nomination (if applicable) and Declaration of Qualification to Vote are due to OC LAFCO by 3:00 p.m.*
May 2, 2022	Ballot is emailed to each special district presiding officer or designee (c/o the clerk of the district).
June 3, 2022 (by 3:00 PM)	Ballots are due to OC LAFCO by 3:00 p.m.
June 7, 2022	OC LAFCO staff (or designee) tabulates ballots and announces results.
July 13, 2022	Oath of office administered at the Commission Regular Meeting.
* Pursuant to Government Code Section 56332(f)(2), at the end of the nominating period, if only one candidate is nominated for the vacant seat, that candidate shall be deemed appointed.	

## BOARD OPTIONS

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### Option #1

- Review and discuss potential nominations to OC LAFCO; and
- Authorize President Yoo-Schneider and an alternate to vote in the appointment process; and
- Direct staff to submit the appropriate forms to OC LAFCO by the deadlines outlined

**Fiscal Impact:** None

**Business Analysis:** MWDOC would have an opportunity to vote in the upcoming OC LAFCO election for the Alternate Special District seat.

### Option #2

- Take no action

**Fiscal Impact:** Same as Option #1

**Business Analysis:** MWDOC would not have an opportunity to vote in the upcoming LAFCO election.

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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Option #1

**Attached:**

- OC LAFCO Alternate Special District Appointment Announcement Process Letter
- Declaration of Qualification to Vote
- 2022 Nomination Form



**REGULAR MEMBERS**

## CHAIR

**Douglass Davert**  
Special District Member

## VICE CHAIR

**Donald P. Wagner**  
County Member

## IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR

**Derek J. McGregor**  
Public Member**Lisa Bartlett**  
County Member**Wendy Bucknum**  
City Member**James Fisler**  
Special District Member**Mike Posey**  
City Member**ALTERNATES****Andrew Do**  
County Member**Kathryn Freshley**  
Special District Member**Peggy Huang**  
City Member**Lou Penrose**  
Public Member**STAFF****Carolyn Emery**  
Executive Officer**Scott Smith**  
General Counsel

March 14, 2022

TO: Independent Special Districts Presiding Officers

FROM: Carolyn Emery, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: **Appointment Process and Nomination Period for the OC  
LAFCO Regular and Alternate Special District Member  
Seats**

The nomination period for the Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission (OC LAFCO) Regular and Alternate Special District Member seats is now open. The OC LAFCO Executive Officer will accept nominations for the regular and alternate special district seats from **March 14 through April 22, 2022**. The current terms for these seats expire June 30, 2022.

The appointment process for the OC LAFCO special district seats is governed by Government Code Section 56332 and the Independent Special District Selection Committee Bylaws. In accordance with the statute and the Committee's Bylaws, the appointment process is conducted by mailed ballot and attached to this notification are the following:

(1) The **"Declaration of Qualification to Vote"** for designating the authorized regular voting member and alternate voting member of your district for this appointment process. This form must be returned to OC LAFCO no later than **3 PM on Friday, April 22, 2022**. Please note that, in accordance with the Independent Special District Selection Committee Bylaws, if OC LAFCO does not receive the form by this date, your district will be ineligible to vote.

(2) The **"2022 Nomination Forms"** for submitting a candidate's name for the Regular and Alternate Special District seats. If your district is nominating a candidate for one or both seats, the form(s) must be filled out completely and returned to OC LAFCO by **3 PM on Friday, April 22, 2022**. Candidate resumes or other supplemental information may be attached to the nomination form(s) and these materials will be distributed with the respective ballot.

The Declaration and nomination form(s) may be returned to OC LAFCO at any of the following:

Email: [ccarter-benjamin@oclafco.org](mailto:ccarter-benjamin@oclafco.org)

Mail: Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission  
2677 North Main Street, Suite 1050  
Santa Ana, CA 92705  
Attn: Cheryl Carter-Benjamin, Commission Clerk

FAX: (714) 640-5139  
Attn: Cheryl Carter-Benjamin, Commission Clerk

For your reference, a timeline of key dates for the appointment process is shown below:

<i>Appointment Process Schedule for OC LAFCO Regular and Alternate Special District Member Seats</i>	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>DATE</b>
OC LAFCO Executive Officer emails notification letters with nomination forms and Declaration of Qualification to Vote to independent special district presiding officers (c/o the clerk of the district) and special district general managers.	<b>March 14, 2022</b>
Deadline for submitting nominations and Declaration of Qualification to Vote for the Regular Special District and Alternate Special District members to OC LAFCO by 3:00p.m.*	<b>April 22, 2022 (3 PM)</b>
Ballot emailed to all special district presiding officers/designees (c/o clerk of the district).	<b>May 2, 2022</b>
Ballot due to OC LAFCO by 3:00 p.m.	<b>June 3, 2022 (3 PM)</b>
OC LAFCO staff tabulates ballots and announces results.	<b>June 7, 2022</b>
Oath of Office Administered (Commission Hearing).	<b>July 13, 2022</b>
<i>* Pursuant to Government Code Section 56332(c)(1), if only one candidate is nominated for a vacant seat, that candidate shall be deemed selected with no further proceedings.</i>	

Should you have any questions, please contact our Commission Clerk Cheryl Carter-Benjamin at (714) 640-5100 or by email at [ccarter-benjamin@oclafco.org](mailto:ccarter-benjamin@oclafco.org).

Attachments:

1. Declaration of Qualification to Vote
2. 2022 Nomination Forms – Regular and Alternate Special District Member

cc: Special District General Managers  
Clerks of the Districts

## **DECLARATION OF QUALIFICATION TO VOTE**

*Megan Yoo Schneider Presiding Officer*

*Municipal Water District of Orange County*

I, \_\_\_\_\_, \* hereby attest that  
\_\_\_\_\_ \*\* has been authorized by the Board of  
\_\_\_\_\_ to vote in the OC LAFCO Special  
District Selection Committee election as the regular voting member.

The Board also designated \_\_\_\_\_ \*\* as the alternate  
voting member.

**Name and Title\*:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature\*:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Declaration MUST be signed by either Board President or Board Secretary*

*\*\* Must be a member of the Board*

**Completed forms must be received by OC LAFCO by 3 PM, Friday, April 22, 2022.**  
**Forms must be delivered to OC LAFCO by:**

- (1) Email at: [ccarter-benjamin@oclafco.org](mailto:ccarter-benjamin@oclafco.org), or
- (2) Mail at: Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission  
2677 North Main Street, Suite 1050  
Santa Ana, CA 92705  
Attn: Cheryl Carter-Benjamin, or
- (3) FAX at: (714) 640-5139, Attn: Cheryl Carter-Benjamin

# 2022 NOMINATION FORM

Candidate for the Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission (OC LAFCO)

## CANDIDATE INFORMATION FOR REGULAR SPECIAL DISTRICT MEMBER:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check box if resume or statement of qualifications is attached.

## SPECIAL DISTRICT SELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBER SUBMITTING NOMINATION

*(Must be the presiding officer or a designated alternate board member.)*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_

A resume or other supplemental information about the candidate may be included and will be distributed with the ballot. The completed nomination form and any supplemental information must be returned to OC LAFCO by **3:00 p.m. on Friday, April 22, 2022 by:**

1. Email at: [ccarter-benjamin@oclafco.org](mailto:ccarter-benjamin@oclafco.org), or
2. Mail at: Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission  
2677 North Main Street, Suite 1050  
Santa Ana, CA 92705  
Attn: Cheryl Carter-Benjamin, or
3. Fax at: (714) 640-5139, Attn: Cheryl Carter-Benjamin

***Nomination forms or candidate information received after the deadline will not be considered.***

# 2022 NOMINATION FORM

Candidate for the Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission (OC LAFCO)

## CANDIDATE INFORMATION FOR ALTERNATE SPECIAL DISTRICT MEMBER:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check box if resume or statement of qualifications is attached.

## SPECIAL DISTRICT SELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBER SUBMITTING NOMINATION (Must be the presiding officer or a designated alternate board member.)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_

A resume or other supplemental information about the candidate may be included and will be distributed with the ballot. The completed nomination form and any supplemental information must be returned to OC LAFCO by **3:00 p.m. on Friday, April 22, 2022 by:**

1. Email at: [ccarter-benjamin@oclafco.org](mailto:ccarter-benjamin@oclafco.org), or
2. Mail at: Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission  
2677 North Main Street, Suite 1050  
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3. Fax at: (714) 640-5139, Attn: Cheryl Carter-Benjamin

***Nomination forms or candidate information received after the deadline will not be considered.***



# El Toro Water District

*"A District of Distinction"*

Serving the Public – Respecting the Environment

## Board of Directors

Kathryn Freshley  
President

Kay Havens  
Vice President

Mike Gaskins  
Director

Mark L. Monin  
Director

Jose F. Vergara  
Director

**General Manager**  
Dennis P. Cafferty

## RE: DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY OF KATHRYN FRESHLEY FOR OC LAFCO ALTERNATE SPECIAL DISTRICT MEMBER

Greetings,

Elected by the Independent Special Districts Selection Committee in 2019, it has been an honor to serve on the Special Districts on the Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission (OC LAFCO) as your Special District Alternate Member for the last four years. From July 2015 through July 2017, I also served as the Alternate Public member.

This year I am seeking reelection as the Special District Alternate Member on the LAFCO Commission.

I am a Licensed Professional Engineer with background in graduate management education and over 40 years of experience in engineering, executive management, business and strategic planning and financial systems and controls. Utilizing my prior business knowledge and understanding the current challenges Special Districts face has helped me navigate and address the many public issues on the OC LAFCO Commission. In addition, I have served on the El Toro Water District board of directors for the past 4 ½ years and currently serve as president.

### ***I Understand the Challenges***

Having served the last four years as the Alternate Special District member reviewing agencies performances, I have gained a deeper knowledge and understanding of the critical issues affecting both cities and special districts. The special district members have been successful in increasing the communication with Orange County special districts, ensuring that the individual needs and requirements of providing community services are being appropriately reviewed.

### ***My Promise***

I promise to continue to be a strong advocate representing the needs of our special districts when working with the other commission members ensuring an effective and efficient Orange County LAFCO commission.

*I ask for your support and thank you for considering me.*

Respectively,

*Kathryn Freshley*

El Toro Water District  
Board President



**INFORMATION ITEM**

April 4, 2022

**TO: Planning & Operations Committee**  
(Directors Tamaribuchi, McVicker, Seckel)

**FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager**

Staff Contact: Vicki Osborn

**SUBJECT: WEROC EOC Project and Funding Update**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

---

Staff recommends the Planning & Operations Committee receive and file this report.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

---

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**SUMMARY**

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In April 2021, the MWDOC Board directed staff to work with El Toro Water District to refine the cost estimates associated with the WEROC EOC project.

The understanding from the April 2021 approval was to move forward with the design costs of the EOC as the initial step forward, and not the final commitment. The Board directed staff to provide an update once the 30% design estimates were completed. Additionally, staff was directed to seek other fiscal and financing options at the federal, state and county level.

The presentation attached provides the outline and details, current 30% design costs and actions taken to date in regards to the WEROC Emergency Operations Center. This is the presentation will be presented at the Elected Officials Forum on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

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

## DETAILED REPORT

---

### Historical Background Information

As a provider of critical water resources, the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) plays a vital role in supporting the on-going needs of the community. Being well prepared to quickly and effectively respond to natural or man-made hazard events is an inherent component of community resilience and a sound business practice. Maintaining a dedicated (primary) and properly-equipped Emergency Operations Center (EOC) that can be staffed and operational on a 24X7 basis along with an identified alternate (backup) EOC is considered an industry “best practice” for critical infrastructure providers.

In 2016, a WEROC Emergency Operations Center Site Facility Assessment was conducted by Claris Strategy consulting firm on the three WEROC EOC Sites consisting of the South EOC, North EOC and MWDOC Administration Building. Thirteen distinct evaluation criteria elements were identified, prioritized, ranked and scored for each of the sites. Within that document, the recommendation of the independent consulting team was for MWDOC to consider designating the WEROC South EOC in Mission Viejo, CA as the **primary** WEROC EOC with the MWDOC Administration Offices in Fountain Valley, CA as the **alternate** (or backup) EOC.

The WEROC EOC in Mission Viejo is a permanent, ready to use facility that supports a multitude of critical infrastructure for communications including radios that communicate directly with member agencies, a radio direct connection to MET, and with the County and State. Additional redundant, interoperable permanent communication systems are installed at the South EOC within the EOC layout for direct access. The South EOC facility was constructed in 1982 and has undergone minor renovations in the intervening years. The 2,400 square foot metal building is comprised of steel columns and beams with metal panels on a concrete slab foundation.

Part of the facility assessment study highlighted the need to address the following operational capabilities of the Primary EOC. Potential improvements included:

- Structural enhancements
- Life safety modifications
- Building infrastructure improvements
- Furniture and equipment upgrades
- Workspace improvements

In 2019, ETWD began working on the Prothero Filter Plant and Clearwell Project. ETWD offered WEROC/MWDOC to be part of the redevelopment project relative to the South EOC.

Initial preliminary project cost estimates developed for the overall site redevelopment components:

- Demolition cost was estimated at \$1.7 million (100% ETWD)



- New ETWD m warehouse building estimates at \$1.15 million (100% ETWD).
- New 3,265 S.F. WEROC Building (only the building) built to Essential Facility Standards estimated at \$750,000 (100% WEROC)

In 2021, the initial building-only cost estimate was further developed and analyzed for the total wrap around costs of the EOC.; to include the total estimated cost for WEROC to build a new structure and include the electrical, plumbing/water, back-up power, fire suppression, design and engineering soft costs, AV and communications and, fixtures, furniture and equipment costs. The total estimated costs for this project is approximately \$1.7 million over three fiscal years.

### **2021 Internal Estimate for WEROC EOC Development Costs**

FY 2021-22: Soft Costs & Site Grading	\$404,219
FY 2022-23: Construction Costs	\$670,391
FY 2023-24: Construction Costs & FF&E	<u>\$670,391</u>
Total Costs	\$1,745,000

In April 2021, the board directed staff to work with ETWD and update the design and costs for this project. WEROC working with the MWDOC Engineering department worked with El Toro Water District and entered into a cost sharing agreement for the costs of the design phase of the project with the understanding this was only the initial step and not the approval to move forward with construction on the project.

In October 2021, Brady and Associates was awarded the consultant services and advised the 30% design estimates are due in March 2022.

### **2022 Brady and Associates 30% Costs for the WEROC EOC Development\***

Steel (PEMB) Building	\$2,461,334
Brick and Mortar Building	\$2,591,976

Please note the following important details:

- The 30% discount from the Preliminary Analysis between a Pre-Fabricated Steel (PEMB) vs. Brick and Mortar is now gone with current steel pricing due to COVID-19 and world events.
- The steel for pre-fab steel/metal buildings identified in the preliminary analysis was sourced from Russia. No longer available as of March 2022.

### **Funding Sources and Outreach\***

Both Government Affairs and WEROC have jointly been seeking funding from other sources including

- Federal - FY 2022 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill
- State – Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- State – Department of Water Resources
- County – American Recovery Act Funding

*\*See attached presentation for the full breakdown and detail on actions taken*

WEROC will continue to provide monthly updates on this project in its General Manager's Report or provide an information/discussion item when a significant change occurs, or at the request of the board.

Attachment A: Water Emergency Response Organization of Orange County  
Emergency Operations Center Project Update Presentation



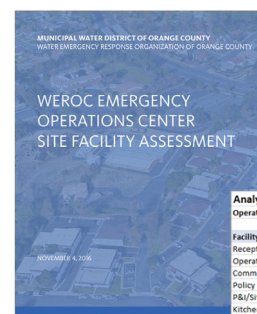
## Water Emergency Response Organization of Orange County Emergency Operations Center Project Update



4.2022

### How We Got Here

- 💧 WEROC EOC Site Facility Assessment 2016
- 💧 WEROC EOC Seismic Assessment 2017
- 💧 WEROC Program Assessment - 11/2020
- 💧 Other Facilities – EOC Alternatives Research Presentation – April 2021
- 💧 April 21, 2021 - P&O WEROC EOC Project Decision Go/No Go
  - 🔥 Decision to update Design and Costs for Project and bring back to the Board

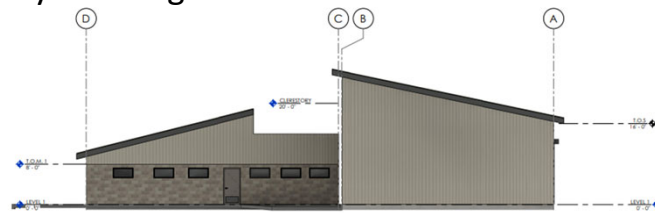


Analysis of IRWD Sand Canyon Community Room		
Operational Need/function	Yes	No
<b>Facility Features/Flexibility</b>		
Reception Area		
Operations Floor space of 1500 sf min		
Communication/Radio Room		
Policy Group/BC/Breakout Conference Rooms		
P&I/Situation Room		
Kitchen		
Shower/Lockerroom		
Supply/Storage		
<b>Accessibility/Sustainability</b>		
Risk Analysis Rating		
Security		
WEROC Access to location		
Storage for Food/Water Supplies		
Storage for Operational Items		
Back up Power		
<b>Communications/Networks</b>		
Internet Connection		
Network Capability		
MWD OC Server Space available		
AV Display multi points within room		
Radios		
Phone Lines		
ERNET & Satellite		
Dataports		
Electrical outlets		

## What Have We Done So Far - Design



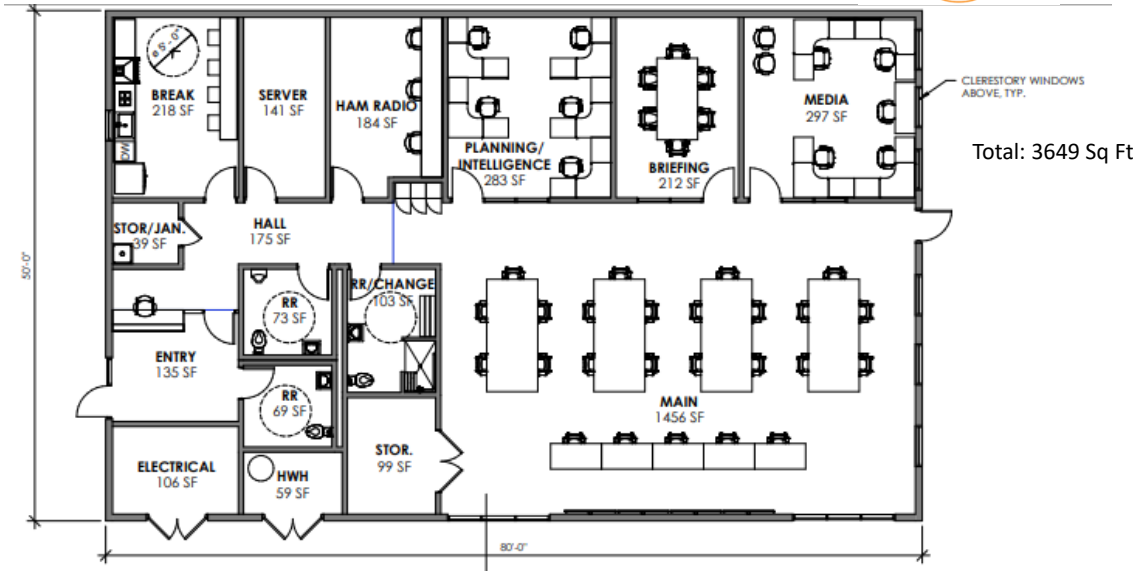
- 💧 RFP- Design.
  - 🔥 Joint effort with ETWD
- 💧 10/2021 P&O Committee Meeting
  - 🔥 Approved Cost Share agreement between MWD OC & ETWD for Design – Brady & ABS Consulting
- 💧 Monthly meetings with Brady on design
- 💧 30% Design
  - 🔥 Due March 2022



## 30% Design Results



## 30% Design Results



## 30% Design Results



## 30% Design Results



### INTRODUCTION

#### BASIS OF ESTIMATE

This Cost Estimate is based upon initial assessments and ROM diagrams and verbal guidance provided by Jeff Katz Architecture.

#### ESTIMATE MARK UPS

The following markups are included in this estimate:

1) General Conditions	10.00% Included in unit costs
2) Overhead and Profit (OH&P)	4.25% Included in unit costs
3) Bonds & Insurance	2.50% Included in unit costs
4) Design Contingency	10.00% Included in unit costs
5) Escalation to MOC, July 2023	7.06% Included in unit costs

#### EXCLUSIONS

The following items are excluded from this estimate:

- 1) Professional fees, inspections and testing.
- 2) Escalation beyond midpoint of construction, July 2023. Anticipated construction start of January 2023 and a 12 month duration.
- 3) FF and E, unless specifically referenced in this estimate.
- 4) Plan check fees and building permit fees.
- 5) Construction/Owner's contingency costs.
- 6) Construction management fees.
- 7) Soft costs.
- 9) Off-site work
- 10) Night time work.
- 11) Accelerated construction schedule.
- 12) Phasing.

## 30% Design Results



### ITEMS AFFECTING COST ESTIMATE

Items that may change the estimated construction cost may include but are not limited to the following:

- 1) Unforeseen sub-surface condition.
- 2) Any changes to the scope of work not included in this report. We recommend updating the estimate to capture the value of any changes.
- 3) Sole source procurement.
- 4) Any changes or delay from the projected construction schedule.

### CLARIFICATIONS

- 1) This estimate is based on the assumption of a competitive bid environment by a minimum of four at the General Contractor and the Subcontractor level.
- 2) This estimate assumes the use of prevailing wages.
- 3) This estimate assumes design-bid-build procurement method.
- 4) Prequalification process for General Contractor and Subcontractor has not been included in this estimate. If prequalification will be implemented, it will have a cost impact to the project.



## 30% Design Results



### CONSTRUCTION COST SUMMARY

Base Scope Elements	Area	Cost / SF	Total
EOC BUILDING (PEMB)	4,000 SF	\$615.33	\$2,461,334
SITWORK	5,400 SF	\$13.70	\$73,995
<b>TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST - OPTION 2A</b>			<b>\$2,535,328</b>
EOC BUILDING (BRICK AND MORTAR)	4,000 SF	\$647.99	\$2,591,976
SITWORK	5,400 SF	\$13.70	\$73,995
<b>TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST - OPTION 2B</b>			<b>\$2,665,971</b>

Element	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total
<b>EOC BUILDING (PEMB)</b>				
Building scope				
Foundations	4,000	gsf	\$25.30	\$101,200
Slab on grade	4,000	gsf	\$17.10	\$68,400
Metal building erection	4,000	gsf	\$75.00	\$300,000
Miscellaneous metals, allowance	4,000	gsf	\$4.80	\$19,200
Prefabricated metal building structure, quote per	1	ls	\$133,062.00	\$133,062
Tax (city of Lake Forest)	7.75%	pct	\$133,062.00	\$10,312
Allowance for escalation of prefab building	15%	pct	\$133,062.00	\$19,959
Casework	4,000	gsf	\$6.90	\$27,600
Roofing, allowance	4,000	gsf	\$41.00	\$164,000
Doors and windows	4,000	gsf	\$47.80	\$191,200
Interior walls and finishes	4,000	gsf	\$116.00	\$464,000
Specialties, allowance	4,000	gsf	\$20.50	\$82,000
Residential appliances, OFOI				Excluded
Furniture, OFOI				Excluded
Fire sprinklers, allowance	4,000	gsf	\$11.30	\$45,200
Plumbing, allowance	4,000	gsf	\$29.40	\$117,600
HVAC, allowance	4,000	gsf	\$75.00	\$300,000
Electrical, allowance	4,000	gsf	\$95.50	\$382,000
Over-ex and recompact	4,000	gsf	\$8.90	\$35,600
<b>TOTAL - EOC BUILDING (PEMB)</b>				<b>\$2,461,334</b>
<b>SITWORK</b>				
Sitework				
Sawcut and remove slab for new building and footings (5'-0" beyond building footprint)	5,400	sf	\$5.50	\$29,700
Haul-off and disposal fees	1	ls	\$6,074.70	\$6,075
Site utilities, not included				Excluded
Site electrical, not included				Excluded
Site low voltage, not included				Excluded
Re-instate concrete paving around perimeter	1,400	sf	\$27.30	\$38,220
<b>TOTAL - SITWORK</b>				<b>\$73,995</b>



Excessive allowance for electrical work (estimator not aware electrical is already on site)

30% discount from the Preliminary Analysis between a Pre-Fabricated Metal vs. Brick and Mortar is now gone with current steel pricing

**Current PEMB - \$2,461,334**  
**Current B&M - \$2,591,976**

Estimated Costs from April 2021 P&O Report  
**2021 PEMB - \$1,745,000**

Element	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total
<b>EOC BUILDING (BRICK AND MORTAR)</b>				
Building scope				
Foundations	4,000	gsf	\$30.70	\$122,800
Slab on grade	4,000	gsf	\$17.10	\$68,400
CMU walls	3,120	sf	\$57.30	\$178,776
Structural steel, allowance	4,000	gsf	\$85.30	\$341,200
Metal deck	4,000	gsf	\$14.40	\$57,600
Miscellaneous metals, allowance	4,000	gsf	\$3.50	\$14,000
Casework	4,000	gsf	\$6.90	\$27,600
Roofing, allowance	4,000	gsf	\$41.00	\$164,000
Doors and windows	4,000	gsf	\$47.80	\$191,200
Interior walls and finishes	4,000	gsf	\$116.00	\$464,000
Specialties	4,000	gsf	\$20.50	\$82,000
Residential appliances, OFOI				Excluded
Furniture, OFOI				Excluded
Fire sprinklers, allowance	4,000	gsf	\$11.30	\$45,200
Plumbing, allowance	4,000	gsf	\$29.40	\$117,600
HVAC, allowance	4,000	gsf	\$75.00	\$300,000
Electrical, allowance	4,000	gsf	\$95.50	\$382,000
Over-ex and recompact	4,000	gsf	\$8.90	\$35,600
<b>TOTAL - EOC BUILDING (BRICK AND MORTAR)</b>				<b><u>\$2,591,976</u></b>
<b>SITEWORK</b>				
Sitework				
Sawcut and remove slab for new building and footings (5'-0" beyond building footprint)	5,400	sf	\$5.50	\$29,700
Haul-off and disposal fees	1	ls	\$6,074.70	\$6,075
Site utilities, not included				Excluded
Site electrical, not included				Excluded
Site low voltage, not included				Excluded
Re-instate concrete paving around perimeter	1,400	sf	\$27.30	\$38,220
<b>TOTAL - SITEWORK</b>				<b><u>\$73,995</u></b>



## Funding Outreach – Federal

- 💧 FY 2022 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill
  - Request for \$3 million**
- 💧 April 2021
  - 🔥 Meeting with Senator Feinstein
  - 🔥 Meeting with Senator Padilla
  - 🔥 Letters of support requested and received
  - 🔥 Funding Application/Request submitted
- 💧 Our project was chosen as one of nine projects selected in California
- 💧 Dec 2021
  - 🔥 Notified project cut based on direction received from FEMA





## Funding Outreach – Federal



- Continued Work after Appropriations by Government Affairs and WEROC:



- 1/2022 Outreach to the FEMA Region IX Administrator Bob Fenton
- 2/2022 Meeting with Representative Kim
- 3/2022 Follow-up conversations with FEMA Region IX Administrator Bob Fenton and Casey De Shong, Acting Branch Chief - Office of the Chief Financial Officer @HQ.
- 3/2022 Update federal support letters for upcoming FY23 appropriations request

## Funding Outreach – State



- Dec 2021 - 2021 HMGP NOI released and Due Jan 2022
  - NOI EOC Project Submitted by WEROC
- Dec 2021 - Engagement at State Legislative Level
- Jan 2022 DWR contacted potential funding opportunities
- March 2022 CalOES invites MWD/OC to submit sub-application for HMGP funding based on NOI request. Due April 2022



**Cal OES**  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

## Funding Outreach – County



### Our Ask

Request the County allocate \$1.15 million for the WEROC Operations Center from the American Recovery Act or other discretionary funding available.

- 💧 July 2021 - Initial Request Letter Sent to the County
- 💧 August 2021 - Meeting with CEO office
- 💧 Sept 2021 - Letters of Support Requested
- 💧 October 2021 - Meeting with County Board of Supervisor Don Wagner
- 💧 November 2021 - Meeting with County Board of Supervisor Lisa Bartlett
- 💧 February 2022 - Meeting with County Board of Supervisor Doug Chaffee
- 💧 February 2022 - Meeting with County Board of Supervisor Andrew Do
- 💧 February 2022 - County Support Letter Campaign
- 💧 March 2022 - Follow up Conversation with CEO and County on Process

Goal - May County Budget

*\*\* Government Affairs remained engaged with County BOS Wagner and Bartlett's office between November – February due to redistricting other meetings delayed*

## Next Steps



- 💧 FY23 Appropriations Request to Senator Padilla's office due April 4<sup>th</sup>
- 💧 FY23 Appropriations Request to Senator Feinstein Office due April 4<sup>th</sup>
- 💧 Meeting scheduled with County Board of Supervisor Foley on April 7<sup>th</sup>
- 💧 Submit the HMGP Sub Application by April 8<sup>th</sup>
- 💧 Remain in contact with FEMA as process proceeds
- 💧 Work with County Board Offices and CEO during County's budget process
- 💧 Finish the Design portion of the project, Summer 2022





**INFORMATION ITEM**

April 4, 2022

**TO: Planning & Operations Committee**  
(Directors Tamaribuchi, McVicker, Seckel)

**FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager**

Staff Contact: Harvey De La Torre  
Alex Heide

**SUBJECT: MASTER AGREEMENTS FOR SHARED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES  
WITH ANAHEIM, SANTA ANA, AND FULLERTON**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Planning & Operations Committee receive and file this report.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

---

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**DETAILED REPORT**

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The Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWD OC) administers a wide variety of programs to its member agencies. These program include water use efficiency rebates and incentives, water loss control, school programs, joint water resources planning efforts, regional studies, engineering studies, and WEROC. MWD OC's administration of these programs achieve economies of scale efficiencies, while allowing for adaptability to suit each member agency's specific needs within their respective service areas.

Historically, MWD OC has worked closely with the cities of Anaheim, Fullerton, and Santa Ana to extend the aforementioned programs into their service territories as well. In addition to providing the same economies of scale efficiencies to these three Cities, it has been beneficial to partner on pursuing joint external funding as a contiguous county for many of these activities.

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

In 2013, staff developed the first Shared Services Agreement (Agreement) with the City of Anaheim, and found that the Agreement streamlined participation, billing, and payment between the two agencies. Due to the success of the Anaheim agreement, in 2016 MWDOC and the City of Santa Ana entered into an Agreement and the City of Anaheim renewed their agreement. Both Agreement's terms end June 30, 2022.

Due to the administrative efficiencies of these Agreements, MWDOC and the Cities of Anaheim and Santa Ana recognize the benefit of renewing the Agreements. Additionally, the City of Fullerton has expressed a strong interest in also pursuing an Agreement.

MWDOC staff has also been working cooperatively with each agency on the key terms of the Agreements (listed below) and has been in discussions on how to continue to maximize efficiencies with the Agreement administration.

Key draft terms of the 2022 Agreement renewals include:

- Participation by the Three Cities in Water Use Efficiency Programs, Water Loss Control, WEROC, School Programs, mutual study efforts, and other efforts as mutually agreed upon.
- Initial five-year term, with a second five-year extension.
- Either party may terminate the Agreements in its entirety at any time upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other Party.

MWDOC staff anticipates coming back to the Board for approval of the Shared Services Agreements when they are in their substantive form.



## INFORMATION ITEM

April 4, 2022

**TO:**           **Planning & Operations Committee**  
(Directors Tamaribuchi, Nederhood, McVicker)

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

Staff Contact: Damon Micalizzi

**SUBJECT:**   **2022 OC Water Summit Update**

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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

### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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The committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

### **DETAILED REPORT**

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The OC Water Summit Planning Committee has set the 2022 OC Water Summit theme. The event '***California Dreamin' – Western Water Projects and How to Build Them***' will be held at Disney's Grand Californian Hotel on Friday, September 16, 2022.

Famed NBC Weatherman Fritz Coleman is back for a fifth consecutive time serving as Emcee. The program will include sessions on the Delta, Climate Change, The Water Infrastructure Funding Act, and projects vital to achieving sustainability in California and how to move them forward.

The OC Water Summit is produced with the Orange County Water District (OCWD). MWDOC is the lead agency for the 2022 event.

The next meeting of the OC Water Summit Planning Committee will be held on Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup>.



**INFORMATION ITEM**

April 4, 2022

**TO: Planning & Operations Committee**  
(Directors Tamaribuchi, McVicker, Nederhood)

**FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager**

Staff Contact: Tiffany Baca

**SUBJECT: MWDOC Choice School Programs Update**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

---

Staff recommends the Planning & Operations Committee receive and file this report.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**SUMMARY**

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The Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) K-12 Choice School Program contractors—Shows That Teach and Orange County Department of Education's Inside the Outdoors—continue to book live, interactive water lessons for the 2021/22 school year.

Also included in this report is a preview of scheduled visits for the months of April and May 2022. MWDOC Choice School Program contractors update the shared Google Calendar so that participating member agencies are able to view the virtual sessions in their service area as they are booked. Please note that the shared Google Calendar is updated frequently, and will always have the most accurate information. Visits are subject to change due to school and teacher availability. Login information for the shared Google Calendar is available upon request.

**DETAILED REPORT**

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All MWDOC Choice School Programs incorporate hands-on interaction, pre- and post-program activities, and opportunities for family and community engagement. Presentations

<b>Budgeted (Y/N): Y</b>	Budgeted amount: \$430,221	Core <u>  </u>	Choice <u>X</u>
<b>Action item amount:</b>	Line item: 63-7040		
<b>Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):</b>			

are offered to schools as either in-person or virtual. Included in this report is a detailed breakdown of each program's progress including teacher feedback, video links, and more.



## MWDOC Choice Elementary School Program (Grades K-2)

Quarterly Report  
April 4, 2022

Shows That Teach offers Orange County students in grades K-2 fun and informative assemblies that use music, humor, and audience participation to engage students in water-centric topics such as the water cycle, water supply resources, and using water wisely. This interactive program also includes hands-on pre- and post-activities that encourage students to reflect on their relationship with water. This program is offered either in person or virtually to K-2 students combined. Multiple classrooms and grade levels can participate simultaneously.

### COMPLETED PARTICIPATION TO DATE:

Totals reflect the number of presentations *completed* and students seen since the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

- **In-person presentations hosted:** 106
- **Virtual presentations hosted:** 131
- **Total number of students seen:** 40,287
- **Presentations have been completed in the following service areas:** City of Anaheim, City of Brea, El Toro Water District, City of Fullerton, City of Garden Grove, City of Huntington Beach, City of La Habra, City of La Palma, Moulton Niguel Water District, City of Orange, City of San Clemente, City of Santa Ana, Santa Margarita Water District, South Coast Water District, Trabuco Canyon Water District, City of Tustin, City of Westminster

### SCHEDULED PARTICIPATION TO DATE:

Totals reflect the number of presentations currently *scheduled* and students expected to participate in the upcoming months of the 2021-2022 school year.

- **In-person presentations scheduled:** 22
- **Virtual presentations scheduled:** 0
- **Total number of students expected:** 286
- **Upcoming presentations have been scheduled in the following service areas:** City of Anaheim, City of Brea, City of Fountain Valley, City of Garden Grove, City of Huntington Beach, Laguna Beach County Water District, Moulton Niguel Water District, City of San Clemente, City of Santa Ana

### ADDITIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS AND MEASUREMENTS:

**A video clip from a live virtual presentation to Santiago Elem in Santa Ana:**



[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TE-RCdC0RKPiF\\_tU1RNE3XE95a7VsFs6/view?ts=61a6b8bd](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TE-RCdC0RKPiF_tU1RNE3XE95a7VsFs6/view?ts=61a6b8bd)

**A video clip from a live IN-PERSON presentation at Our Lady of Fatima Academy in San Clemente:**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WUG7ikWyFmNvuj7CiyofxjGjmr8XsOLu/view?ts=61b8c7f2>

**A video clip from a live virtual presentation at Monroe Elementary in Santa Ana:**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XPw0oIzHm7IkYOBNA4Yx1S69hL45ANJE/view?usp=sharing>

**A teacher quote after see an in-person performance of “Waterology”:**

“It was a very engaging, informative production that got students really interested in the water cycle and water treatment processes. I enjoyed it almost as much as my students!”

—Carolyn Micco, 2nd Grade Teacher, Christ Cathedral Academy, Garden Grove

**A screengrab from a recent Zoom assembly for Chapman Hills Elementary in the City of Orange:**



**A teacher quote after see an in-person performance of “Waterology”:**

“It was amazing! Lots of learning, student involvement, and enthusiasm.”

– *Susan Oakes, 2nd Grade Teacher, Hawes Elementary, Huntington Beach*

**We performed at Raymond Temple School in Buena Park on March 18th. That school is with the Centralia School District. At the link below are some comments from a kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Matthews, following the show.**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nxtP7wCDW89GBCLDI2V3BGINnZ2kXPyj/view?ts=6235db81>



**MWDOC Choice Elementary School  
Program (Grades 3-5)**  
Quarterly Report  
April 4, 2022



Orange County Department of Education's Inside the Outdoors offers Orange County students in grades 3-5 interactive, grade-specific lessons that engage students in valuable instruction on the history of California water, local climate and water sources, and how to use water efficiently. Each session includes student prompted interaction, demonstrations, and pre- and post-activities that guide students to examine how access to a reliable source of drinking water is important to every community. Participating students and their families also receive resources that complement the topics covered during the classroom session. This program is offered either in person or virtually to students in grades 3-5.

- ◆ **3rd Grade:** Compare and describe diverse weather and climate data and explore personal choices to protect our local water resources.
- ◆ **4th Grade:** Identify the key role water plays in California's history including the growth and expansion of towns and cities.
- ◆ **5th Grade:** Examine existing water management solutions and determine ways to protect the quality and quantity of water.

**COMPLETED PARTICIPATION TO DATE:**

Totals reflect the number of presentations *completed* and students seen since the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

- ◆ **In-person presentations hosted:** 165
  - ◆ **Virtual presentations hosted:** 120
  - ◆ **Total number of students seen:** 21,922
- Presentations have been completed in the following service areas:** City of Anaheim, City of Santa Ana, City of Buena Park, City of Huntington Beach, City of Garden Grove, City of Fullerton, City of La Palma, Moulton Niguel WD, City of Orange, City of Fountain Valley, City of Tustin, City of Brea, El Toro Water District

**SCHEDULED PARTICIPATION TO DATE:**

Totals reflect the number of presentations currently *scheduled* and students expected to participate in the upcoming months of the 2021-2022 school year.

- ◆ **In-person presentations scheduled:** 55
- ◆ **Virtual presentations scheduled:** 6
- ◆ **Total number of students expected:** 4,652
- ◆ **Upcoming presentations have been scheduled in the following service areas:**
  - City of Anaheim, City of Huntington Beach, City of Buena Park, City of Fountain Valley, City of Santa Ana, City of Fullerton, City of Tustin, Moulton

Niguel WD, Santa Margarita WD, City of San Clemente, City of Brea, El Toro WD, Mesa Water District, City of Laguna Beach, City of Westminster

### **ADDITIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS AND MEASUREMENTS:**

To date, OCDE/ITO has received interest from the following schools and is working with teachers to schedule those presentations:

- Three (3) schools in the City of Santa Ana
- Two (2) school in the City of Anaheim
- One (1) school in El Toro Water District service area
- One (2) schools in the City of Buena Park
- Two (2) school in the City of Huntington Beach
- Four (2) schools in the City of Garden Grove
- One (1) school in Santa Margarita WD service area
- One (1) school in South Coast WD service area
- One (1) school in Moulton Niguel WD service area
- Three (3) schools in Mesa WD service area

Once scheduled, the shared calendar of visits will be updated.

Most schools that have shown interest, or have been scheduled, will have three grades (3-5) participating for three assemblies each.

### **Program Pictures:**

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1XHDGYgx92DbgQYqK9P947ndJLh39Ix-X?usp=sharing>



**MWDOC Choice Middle and High  
School Programs (Grades 6-12)**  
Quarterly Report  
April 4, 2022



Orange County Department of Education's Inside the Outdoors offers Orange County students in grades 6-12 grade-specific classroom sessions that guide students to investigate challenges faced by water providers and identify sources of human impact on the quality, quantity, and availability of water in their communities. Each session includes student prompted interaction, demonstrations, and pre- and post-activities that engage students in developing solutions to real-world problems. Participating students also have the opportunity to engage in field study or volunteer days of service to receive credit toward their required service hours. This program is offered either in person or virtually to students in grades 6-12.

- ◆ **6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Students analyze water samples to identify sources of potential pollution and form strategies to monitor or minimize pollution.
- ◆ **9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Students collect and analyze data to explore the role of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and its connection to our local water resources.

**COMPLETED PARTICIPATION TO DATE:**

Totals reflect the number of presentations *completed* and students seen since the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

**Middle School Program (Grades 6-8)**

- ◆ **In-person presentations hosted:** 10
- ◆ **Virtual presentations hosted:** 2
- ◆ **Total number of students seen:** 335
- ◆ **Presentations have been completed in the following service areas:** City of Anaheim, El Toro Water District, City of Tustin

**High School Program (Grades 9-12)**

- ◆ **In-person presentations hosted:** 3
- ◆ **Virtual presentations hosted:** 0
- ◆ **Total number of students seen:** 75
- ◆ **Presentations have been completed in the following service areas:** City of Anaheim

**SCHEDULED PARTICIPATION TO DATE:**

Totals reflect the number of presentations currently *scheduled* and students expected to participate in the upcoming months of the 2021-2022 school year.

**Middle School Program (Grades 6-8)**

- ◆ **In-person presentations scheduled:** 12
- ◆ **Virtual presentations scheduled:** 2
- ◆ **Total number of students expected:** 552
- ◆ **Upcoming presentations have been scheduled in the following service areas:** City of Tustin, City of Anaheim, El Toro WD, City of Santa Ana, City of Fountain Valley

### High School Program (Grades 9-12)

- ◆ In-person presentations scheduled: 8
- ◆ Virtual presentations scheduled: 0
- ◆ Total number of students expected: 206
- ◆ Upcoming presentations have been scheduled in the following service areas:
  - City of San Clemente, City of Santa Ana

### ADDITIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS AND MEASUREMENTS:

To date, OCDE/ITO has received interest from the following schools and is working with teachers to schedule those presentations:

- ◆ Two (2) schools in the City of Anaheim service area
- ◆ One (1) school in the City of Brea service area
- ◆ One (1) school in El Toro WD service area

Once scheduled, the shared calendar of visits will be updated.

With middle schools and high schools in Orange County, it takes more time to coordinate outside programs for their students. That is due to limited instructional time teachers have in these grades, as well as having multiple classes that require scheduling.

Teacher and substitute shortages have affected some of the recruitment with middle and high schools in Orange County. We anticipate this improving with the surge of Omicron cases going down and teachers getting back at school.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
<div>28</div> <div>K-2 HUNTINGTON BEACH</div>	<div>29</div>	<div>30</div> <div>K-2 GARDEN GROVE St.</div> <div>K-2 HUNTINGTON BEACH</div>	<div>31</div>	<div>1</div> <div>3-5 El Toro WD - Gates</div>
<div>4</div> <div>3-5 El Toro WD - Grace</div> <div>6-8 El Toro WD - Grace</div> <div>K-2 BREA Laurel Elem @ 200</div> <div>K-2 HUNTINGTON BEACH</div> <div>K-2 HUNTINGTON BEACH</div>	<div>5</div> <div>3-5 City of Fullerton - Fisler</div> <div>K-2 GARDEN GROVE</div>	<div>6</div>	<div>7</div> <div>3-5 City of Anaheim -</div> <div>K-2 ANAHEIM Danbrook Elem</div>	<div>8</div>
<div>11</div> <div>3-5 Santa Ana - Muir</div> <div>3-5 Tustin - Tustin Memorial</div>	<div>12</div> <div>3-5 Santa Ana - Muir</div> <div>9-12 Santa Ana - Century</div>	<div>13</div>	<div>14</div> <div>3-5 Santa Ana - Diamond</div> <div>6-8 Santa Ana - Mendez</div>	<div>15</div> <div>3-5 Santa Ana - Monroe</div> <div>6-8 Santa Ana - Mendez</div> <div>6-8 Tustin - Columbus Tustin</div> <div>K-2 MNWD George White</div>
<div>18</div> <div>3-5 Moulton Niguel WD -</div> <div>3-5 Santa Margarita WD -</div> <div>K-2 HUNTINGTON BEACH</div> <div>K-2 SANTA ANA Esqueda Sch</div>	<div>19</div> <div>3-5 Westminster - Schmitt</div>	<div>20</div> <div>K-2 MNWD Don Juan Avila</div>	<div>21</div> <div>3-5 City of Brea - Brea</div> <div>K-2 GARDEN GROVE</div> <div>K-2 SANTA ANA Fairhaven</div>	<div>22</div>
<div>25</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div> <div>K-2 SAN CLEMENTE</div>	<div>28</div> <div>3-5 City of Fullerton -</div> <div>3-5 City of Santa Ana -</div>	<div>29</div> <div>K-2 LAGUNA BEACH COUNTY</div> <div>K-2 SANTA ANA Edison Elem</div>

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	3	4	5	6
		3-5 Huntington Beach - Oka	3-5 City of Santa Ana - King	
9	10	11	12	13
6-8 Fountain Valley - Vista K-2 MNWD Moulton Elem @	3-5 City of Brea - Falcon 3-5 City of San Clemente -	9-12 San Clemente - San	K-2 MNWD Canyon Vista Elem	3-5 Anaheim - Baden-Powell 3-5 Fullerton - Rolling Hills 3-5 Mesa WD - Davis Magnet 3-5 Mesa WD - Victoria 6-8 Anaheim - Cambridge
16	17	18	19	20
K-2 FOUNTAIN VALLEY				3-5 Laguna Beach - Top of
23	24	25	26	27
3-5 Buena Park - Emery 3-5 City of Fountain Valley -	3-5 Santa Ana - Heroes	3-5 Moulton Niguel WD -		
30	31	1	2	3



<b>ENGINEERING &amp; PLANNING</b>	
<b>East Orange County Feeder No. 2 (EOCF#2) Emergency Pilot Program</b>	<p>Staff and Means Consulting continue to work with Metropolitan (MET) on defining and phasing a scope of work for emergency pump-in of local water supplies into EOCF #2 under MET Admin Code 4519: Emergency Deliveries of Member Agency Water Supplies in Metropolitan's System. The program is intended to enhance water supply reliability in the event of a prolonged emergency. This is a multi-year effort. The intended outcome of this effort is the establishment of an emergency pump-in program for EOCF#2 as provided by MET Admin Code 4519 as well as a set of guidelines for MET member agencies to use to establish their own emergency pump-in programs. Hazen &amp; Sawyer is also providing technical assistance for this effort.</p> <p>Staff has scheduled a meeting with the Orange County EOCF #2 Joint Power Agreement members and capacity right holders to discuss the pilot project on March 31, 2022.</p>
<b>Economic Benefit Studies and Modeling Work to Quantify the Benefits of Local Projects in the Context of MET's 2020 Integrated Resources Plan (IRP)</b>	<p>MWDOC staff is finishing up work with the Brattle Group and CDM Smith on the Economic Benefits Studies. The studies will be useful in helping MWDOC and our agencies better understand the reliability benefits provided by potential supply investments at both the MET level and at the Orange County level by quantifying economic benefits for Orange County. The studies are looking at two main sectors of the OC economy: Residential and Business sectors. The benefits are being quantified by looking at the 'avoided costs' of water shortages to both of these sectors of the OC economy.</p> <p>Wallace Walrod, economist for Orange County Business Council and sub-consultant for the Brattle Group, is leading the business portion of the economic benefit studies including the survey of the business community, to quantify how OC businesses would be impacted by water shortages of varying severity (i.e. 15% and 30% shortages for one year). Those losses are then multiplied by the probability of such a situation occurring to determine the economic impact to OC's business community. Dr. Walrod and Dr. Boarnet are currently finishing up the analysis of business impacts and completing their report.</p> <p>The residential impact analysis portion of the study is conducted by David Sunding of the Brattle Group, using available literature and information from the 2020 Urban Water Management Plans.</p> <p>Dr. Sunding's work includes analysis of residential consumer's willingness-to-pay (WTP) to avoid either 15% or 30% water use reductions for a period of one year in each of the three OC study areas (Brea/La Habra, OC Basin, and South OC). Their work determines total annual consumer 'welfare' losses (the difference between what consumers are willing to pay minus the cost of each additional unit of water supply) for each service area; as well as per person willingness-to-pay to avoid those losses. These per capita losses can then be</p>

	<p>used to determine per household WTP on both a monthly and annual basis to provide context and guidance for funding of local project investment decisions.</p> <p>Staff is looking to include the results of the economic benefits studies into the Reliability Study update.</p>
<b>Reliability Study Update</b>	<p>Staff are working with CDM Smith on an update to the reliability study. The update will look at a total of 6 scenarios that include recent information including uncertainty about the Delta Conveyance Project, scenarios looking at future potential water use efficiency standards, and recent climate change impact information. The update will incorporate the latest demand forecasts from the 2020 Urban Water Management Planning efforts, updated project cost information where available, and include final information from MET's 2020 IRP process. Staff will be presenting the scope of the Reliability Study update scenarios at April's MWDOC Member Agency Managers meeting to obtain agency input. Staff anticipates the update to be completed in the next few months. Staff will then bring the study results to the Board for discussion.</p>
<b>Doheny Ocean Desalination Project</b>	<p>South Coast Water District (SCWD) continues to develop the Doheny Ocean Desalination Project. SCWD is currently working through multiple due diligence items to move the project forward including; permitting, plant sizing and siting, financing, and project delivery method. SCWD anticipates having all necessary permits by end of Summer 2022 and estimates an on-line date of 2026, if approved by the SCWD Board.</p> <p>On March 9, 2022 the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board approved the Tentative Orders related to the NPDES permits for discharge associated with operation of the Doheny Desalination Project. This is an important step forward toward realization of this project.</p> <p>SCWD held a Special Board Meeting on September 2, 2021 to discuss the financial implications of the project. Clean Energy Capital (CEC) presented a water cost analysis for the project where CEC presented cost projections for a 2 MGD project with an estimated 1<sup>st</sup> year water cost of \$1,928/AF in 2021\$, and a 5 MGD project with an estimated 1<sup>st</sup> year water cost of \$1,479/AF in 2021\$ (later updated to \$1,807/AF in 2027\$ vs \$1,545/AF MET Rate in 2027\$).</p> <p>The third party hydrogeology study of the San Juan Basin has been extended and is including work on how to optimize the north and south portions of the basin.</p>
<b>Poseidon Resources Huntington Beach Ocean Desalination Project</b>	<p>On April 29, 2021, the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (SARWQCB) conditionally renewed Poseidon's permit governing the seawater intake and waste discharges.</p> <p>The next step for Poseidon is to seek a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) from the California Coastal Commission (CCC). Poseidon has requested to delay the March 17<sup>th</sup> CCC hearing on the CDP until later this spring.</p>

<p><b>Shutdowns</b></p>	<p><b>Diemer Water Treatment Plant</b></p> <p>MET is planning to repair a chlorine diffuser pipe at the Diemer WTP which will require a seven-day full-plant shutdown. A meeting was held on February 3<sup>rd</sup> to inform MET of the agencies' local supply conditions for this calendar year. Shutdown dates are being reevaluated by MET staff at this time.</p> <p><b>Orange County Feeder</b></p> <p>MET is planning to reline and replace valves in a section of the Orange County Feeder from Bristol Ave to Corona Del Mar – this is the last section of this 80-year-old pipeline to be lined.</p> <p>MET has delayed the relining project and has proposed new shutdown dates of September 15, 2022 through June 15, 2023.</p> <p><b>Orange County Feeder Extension</b></p> <p>MET is planning to reline 300-linear feet of the OC Feeder extension affecting the City of Newport Beach, IRWD and LBCWD. MWDOC and the City are meeting with MET staff to review details of the Traffic Control Plan.</p> <p>MET has delayed the relining project by one year and has proposed new shutdown dates of June 16, 2023 through July 10, 2023.</p> <p><b>Orange County Reservoir (OC Feeder)</b></p> <p>The decommissioning of the Orange County Reservoir has been rescheduled to March 20, 2022 through March 25, 2022. This work will affect the cities of Brea and La Habra.</p> <p><b>Lake Mathews Facility Shutdown</b></p> <p>MET has cancelled the shutdown of the Lake Mathews Facility, previously scheduled to begin on March 14, 2022 due to low State Water Project supplies. This shutdown will be rescheduled for the 2022-2023 shutdown season. The following agencies will be affected during the shutdown: OCWD, YLWD, Serrano WD, IRWD, TCWD, ETWD, SMWD, MNWD, and the City of San Clemente.</p> <p><b>Allen-McColloch Pipeline</b></p> <p>MET has completed 50% of the preliminary design of the AMP Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP) rehabilitation and is expected to complete the the design by 2023. Preliminary design work currently underway includes identifying priority reaches, developing access locations, conducting geotechnical assessments, modeling a surge analysis, conducting real property assessments, identify permitting requirements and development of a feeder isolation plan. A draft project schedule will be developed at the completion of preliminary design. Rehabilitation of individual reaches will be based on the ongoing condition assessments, priorities, and shutdown scheduling.</p>
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	<p>MET plans to inspect additional PCCP sections of the AMP in FY 23-24.</p> <p>MWDOC staff continue to lead working group meetings with the impacted AMP agencies to discuss options to reduce the number of shutdowns needed for the AMP PCCP rehabilitation project while also helping to increase reliability toward future MET shutdowns. Two potential sites have been identified for construction of a possible pump station to enhance the ability to accommodate longer shutdown durations for the rehabilitation project and provide continuing future long term reliability benefits for future MET shutdowns.</p> <p>MWDOC has formally proposed to MET staff a conceptual cost share savings incentive approach following well established public works contractor cost share incentive programs that would allow for a sharing of realized cost savings. Staff looks forward to MET's response.</p>
<b>Meetings</b>	
	<p>MWDOC staff along with ABS Consulting, IDS Group and Optima RPM participated in construction progress meetings in the month of March regarding the admin building seismic retrofit and remodel. Meetings concerning close-out and final punch list items are being held.</p>
	<p>Charles Busslinger and Chris Lingad held a meeting with Black &amp; Veatch on March 25, 2022 to discuss a potential benefit cost analysis for the WEROC Primary EOC.</p>
	<p>Charles Busslinger, Joe Berg and Chris Lingad held a meeting with SMWD and consultants Water Systems Consulting and M. Cubed on March 25, 2022. A discussion was held on a potential study to have the consultants look at proposed long-term conservation legislation and the economic impacts to Orange County.</p>
	<p>Charles Busslinger and Chris Lingad attended a meeting with MET on March 28, 2022 to discuss improvements to MET's Salinity Economic Impact Model (SEIM). The meeting included staff from consultant Daniel B. Stephans &amp; Associates, who completed the previous update to the SEIM.</p> <p>As requested by member agencies, the proposed improvements seek to bring the SEIM to the retail level by creating additional retail agency 'slots' in the model for agencies to input specific water supply and water quality source information to determine salinity impacts at the agency level. This should be sufficient to allow for analysis of multiple retail agencies within the three MWDOC study areas (Brea/La Habra, OC Basin, and South OC) which are divided up by water supply sources. The update does not modify the existing salinity impact formulas, but is a welcome improvement over the current model. MET anticipates the update will be available in the Fall of 2022.</p>

# General Manager Report

## WEROC Status Report

### March 2022

#### COVID-19 (CORONA VIRUS) COORDINATION

- Orange County continues to see a positive decline on COVID 19 cases and hospitalizations. Compared to last month, all averages have dropped between 50-70%. The seven-day average COVID-19 case rate in Orange County was 3.2 per 100,000 people, the positivity rate was 1.6 percent and hospitalizations were at 95, with ICU admissions at 20. Unvaccinated individuals consist of 86% of the hospitalization and ICU cases. To compare, here are the numbers from last month on 3/7/2022, , the seven-day average COVID-19 case rate in Orange County was 9.8 per 100,000 people, the positivity rate was 4 percent and hospitalizations were at 179, with ICU admissions at 37.
- On 3/11, the County Board of Supervisors appointed Dr. Regina Chinsio-Kwong as the new County Health Officer; relieving Dr. Chau of the double duty he has been performing for the past two years. Dr. Regina Chinsio-Kwong has been serving as the Deputy Health Officer over the past year. Dr. Chau remains the Director of the OC Health Care Agency. WEROC will continue to work with both in the future.
- On 3/15, State Senate Committee on Governmental Organization voted down the resolution to end the State of Emergency 8-4. The State of Emergency will remain in place with no termination date at this time.
- There are 63 Executive Orders provisions relating to the COVID-19 state of emergency
  - 18 of those are scheduled to be terminated at the end of this month on the 31<sup>st</sup>
  - Another 15 at the end of June
  - Approximately 30 Executive Order provisions will remain open for maintaining government flexibility with testing, vaccination and hospital surge capacity.
- On 3/24, the County of Orange Health Officer Orders were revised. The order is specific to the general public following the recommendation for CDPH at the state level. The order also continues to point employers to follow the regulations of the CalOSHA COVID Emergency Temporary Standards (ETS). This update was expected in timing as the school guidance changed at the state level.
- On 3/21, Vicki prepared a document going over each of the Executive Orders set to expire at the end of March and June. The document has been shared with the

member agencies. None of the executive orders have specific impacts to the water and wastewater agencies.

- Questions WEROC has received over the course of the past month have been related to two areas:
  - Isolation/Testing and the ability to return to work if you have a COVID like symptom, you test negative, can you return to work at that time or have to test at day 5.  
Vicki has provided clarification language to these agencies with information from the state CDPH order, ETS and County Health Officer order.
  - AB 361 protocols in relation to the Governor State of Emergency and the recommendation language for social distancing. Vicki provided information regarding the unknown end day of the state of emergency. Vicki is still monitoring and asking for updates pertaining to when this may occur. For the time being, the State of Emergency remains in effect. Additionally, many have asked about the social distancing recommendation/requirement from AB 361. Within the County Health Officer Order there remains language under vulnerable populations stating the following. Agencies were advised to speak with their legal counsel, as the County Health Officer Order is written this is important, but not as a requirement.

***For Vulnerable Populations.*** In general, the older a person is, the more health conditions a person has, and the more severe the conditions, the more important it is to take preventive measures for COVID-19 such as getting vaccinated, including boosters, social distancing and wearing a mask when around people who don't live in the same household, and practicing hand hygiene.

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## MARCH INCIDENTS/EVENTS (NON-COVID)

\*\*The following events in which WEROC provided information and/or coordination or response to a member agency, County/OA EOC or Incident Command Post.

- 3/28/22 Rain Event/Flash Flood Watch/Bond Fire Debris Flow Decision Maker/Coordination Call with County

Vicki can provide an additional oral update to WEROC activities specific to the event as required/requested.

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## **COORDINATION/PARTICIPATION WITH MEMBER AGENCIES AND OUTSIDE AGENCIES MEETINGS OUTSIDE OF PROGRAMS AREAS**

- On 3/3, the WEROC team attended the OCEDO meeting, which had its regular subcommittee report outs. Additionally, three presentations covering the changes to the WebEOC Incident management software system were made by the OC Sheriff Emergency Management Personnel, upcoming planning efforts related to the Power Outage Annex were made, and a presentation on the US Postal Service Emergency Operations.
- On 3/3, Vicki attended the OCEDO Exercise Design Meeting. This group is focused on the Public Information Seminar being offered in March. The planning team is working on the final portions of the speakers, and logistics for this training session for the Operational Area partners.
- On 3/8, Daniel hosted and conducted in partnership with the OCIAC the Quarterly Cyber Security Working Group Meeting. The group received two great presentations. First is from IRWD's Joe Lam who gave an excellent presentation on a commercial off-the-shelf solution to security concerns of air-gapped networks followed by a presentation by DHS CISA and the OCIAC.
- On 3/9, Daniel attended the UASI Threat and Hazard Risk Assessment THIRA kickoff meeting. This is a joint planning effort which is reported to the state and federal government as part of our readiness and capabilities here within Orange County. This process is tied to grant funding via Homeland Security.
- On 3/10, Vicki attended the CalWarn Board Meeting. The meeting focused on discussion regarding the organization and changes to the website platform and using Asana for more project management. Other discussions focused on leadership elections and the CalWarn Active member guidelines.
- On 3/16, Daniel attended the Operational Area planning meeting focused on the Disease Outbreak Response Annex revision. This was the initial kickoff meeting which covered the process and the table of contents for the process moving forward. Lessons learned from the COVID-19 response will be incorporated into the revision process.
- On 3/17, Daniel attended the planning meeting with the Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center (OCIAC) for a Cyber Security Tabletop Exercise. WEROC will be participating with the OCIAC during this process in preparation for a TTX to be held with the WEROC member agencies in the fall of 2022.

- On 3/18, Vicki attended the California Emergency Services Association Legislative committee meeting. This group focuses on the legislation specific to the emergency management profession. One bill in particular is AB1721 which has specific funding allocation to the emergency management programs within the state of California.
- On 3/21, Daniel and Janine led the WEROC Member Agency Quarterly Meeting. Agenda covered WEROC Goals and Objectives with member agencies for the coming fiscal year including planning, training and exercise efforts.
- On 3/23, Janine attended the Operational Area Technology Subcommittee meeting discussing changes to AlertOC and WebEOC. This is a standing monthly meeting.
- On 3/23, Daniel participated in the Statewide Tsunami/OA Communications Exercise.
- On 3/24, Vicki participated on the National Weather Service briefing on the incoming rainstorm on 3/28.
- On 3/28, Vicki participated in the Emergency Management Mutual Aid Quarterly Meeting. The group discussed the outcomes from the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) Advisory Board meeting and next steps on continuing to roll out the plan and training.
- On 3/29, WEROC attended the Operational Area Seminar focused on the Alert & Warning. Speakers from different regions touched on recently lessons learned along with a presentation on reaching those with access and functional needs.

## **PLANNING AND PROGRAM EFFORTS**

### **Cyber Security**

- Daniel continues to send out important information to the Cyber Security Distribution Group as received from DHS or the OCIAC. There has been a lot of cyber activity and notifications received over the course of the past month. There has not been any events reported by any agencies
- On 3/8, Daniel held the WEROC Cybersecurity Working Group meeting. Presentations were made by the OCIAC and IRWD. The group discussed lessons learned and building out the regional cyber plan.

### **WEROC Budget and Funding Process**

- The budget, goals and objectives has been presented to the MWDOC Member Agencies at the Managers Meetings and WEROC Quarterly meeting. There was no comments or questions received. Additionally, at the MET managers meetings who



are also WEROC funding agencies; there have been no comments or questions received from that group regarding the presented budget.

### **WEROC Emergency Operations Center Project/Funding**

- WEROC Emergency Operations Center Funding continues to be pursued by WEROC Staff. This includes the submission of the project for Federal grants and appropriation opportunities.
- Both Government Affairs and WEROC have jointly been seeking funding from other sources including
  - Federal - FY 2023 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill
  - State – Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
  - State – Department of Water Resources
  - County – American Recovery Act Funding
- Phase 1 Design – Continues and the 30% design report has been received. See 3/28/22 P&O Committee Item #5 for Staff Report and PPT presentation.
- Both Engineering and WEROC are working on the Hazard Mitigation Grant Application which is due to the State on April 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **WEROC Quarterly Meeting**

- On 3/22, the first in person WEROC Quarterly meeting since COVID 19 occurred. The agenda consisted of the following topics which prompted detailed conversations with the agencies. WEROC Budget & 2021 Accomplishments
- Goals & Objectives (FY2022 End & FY2023):
  - Planning & Program Initiatives
    - Cyber
    - Logistics
    - GIS Dashboard
    - Water Commodities
    - Tsunami
    - AlertOC
    - WebEOC
    - WEROC EOC
    - WEROC Contacts
    - Safety Center
  - Training and Exercises
    - ICS/EOC Training Classes

- Training Assessment (NIMS/NQS)
  - Logistics TTX
  - Monthly Tests
  - Cyber TTX
  - Fall Functional Exercise
- Current OA Planning Initiatives (County EMD Driven)
- \*WEROC represents all members' agencies interests, and will report out actions and activities.*
- THIRA
  - DORA
  - Drought Task Force
  - Power Outage Annex
- 

## TRAINING AND EXERCISES

- On 3/17, AlertOC training for the participating special districts was conducted by Janine and the County.
  - On 3/23, Daniel participated on the Annual Statewide Tsunami Drill with the County.
  - On 3/24, 800 Mhz training was conducted for the member agencies by Daniel.
  - Additionally, WEROC will be hosting a Logistics Workshop/ TTX Exercise on May 10. As of the time of this report, 77 people have registered and thank you to MNWD who is allowing WEROC to use their new meeting space for the event.
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**Status of Water Use Efficiency Projects  
March 2022**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Status % Complete</b>	<b>Scheduled Completion or Renewal Date</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>SoCal WaterSmart Residential Indoor Rebate Program</b>	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In February 2022, 258 high efficiency clothes washers and 5 premium high efficiency toilets were installed in Orange County.  To date, 125,829 high efficiency clothes washers and 60,818 high efficiency toilets have been installed through this program.
<b>SoCal WaterSmart Commercial Rebate Program</b>	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In February 2022, 85 premium high efficiency toilets were installed in Orange County.  To date, 111,488 commercial devices have been installed through this program.
<b>Industrial Process/ Water Savings Incentive Program (WSIP)</b>	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	This program is designed to improve water efficiency for commercial customers through upgraded equipment or services that do not qualify for standard rebates. Incentives are based on the amount of water customers save and allow for customers to implement custom water-saving projects.  Total water savings to date for the entire program is 1,291 AFY and 6,344 AF cumulatively.
<b>Flow Monitoring Device Rebate Program</b>	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In February 2022, 6 flow monitoring devices were installed in Orange County.  To date, 12 flow monitoring devices have been installed through this program.
<b>Smart Timer Rebate Program</b>	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In February 2022, 207 residential and 41 commercial smart timers were installed in Orange County.  To date, 32,628 smart timers have been installed through this program.

Description	Lead Agency	Status % Complete	Scheduled Completion or Renewal Date	Comments
<b>Rotating Nozzles Rebate Program</b>	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In February 2022, 75 rotating nozzles were installed in Orange County.  To date, 571,937 rotating nozzles have been installed through this program.
<b>Rain Barrel Rebate Program</b>	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In February 2022, 6 rain barrels were installed in Orange County.  To date, 8,648 rain barrels have been installed through this program.
<b>Turf Removal Program</b>	MWDOC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In February 2022, 37 rebates were paid, representing \$329,706.65 in rebates paid this month in Orange County.  To date, the Turf Removal Program has removed approximately 23.9 million square feet of turf.
<b>Spray to Drip Rebate Program</b>	MWDOC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In February 2022, 7 rebates were paid, representing \$3,369.73 in rebates paid this month in Orange County.  To date, the Spray to Drip Program has converted approximately 1.5 million square feet of standard spray irrigation to drip irrigation.
<b>Recycled Water Retrofit Program</b>	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	This program provides incentives to commercial sites for converting dedicated irrigation meters to recycled water.  To date, 182 sites, irrigating a total of 1,672 acres of landscape, have been converted. The total potable water savings achieved by these projects is 3,687 AFY and 19,151 AF cumulatively.

**Public & Governmental Affairs Activities Report**  
**March 9, 2022 – March 29, 2022**

<b>Member Agency Relations</b>	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Created and distributed the Wyland National Mayor's Challenge Media/Tool Kit</li> <li>• Sent Poster Contest Grand Prize voting to member agencies, MWDOC, and Board</li> <li>• Coordinated the artists and delivery and pick up of "Stella's" with local artists, member agencies, Orange County Department of Education, and the Wyland Foundation</li> <li>• Coordinated a Ricky Raindrop appearance with South Coast District at RH Dana Point Elementary School's Jog-A-Thon</li> <li>• Coordinated speakers bureau appearances for the City of Brea and Mesa Water District</li> <li>• Coordinated Westminster Pocket Park ceremonial groundbreaking event with the City of Westminster and the Wyland Foundation</li> </ul> <p>Government Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distributed the monthly Grants Tracking and Acquisition report to member agencies</li> <li>• Provided an update on the enrollment period for the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) to the member agency managers meeting</li> <li>• Circulated additional information on the LIHWAP to member agencies</li> <li>• Along with Harvey De La Torre, attended a meeting with SMWD Director Chuck Gibson and Metropolitan staff member Stephen Arakawa to discuss issues in the Delta</li> </ul>
<b>Community Relations</b>	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinated the delivery of Posters for the annual Water Awareness Poster Contest</li> <li>• Announced 40 poster contest winners to teachers, parents and participating agencies</li> <li>• Met with Streams of Hope (SoH) partners the Wyland Foundation, Orange County Conservation Corps, and Orange County's Adopt a Channel program to discuss SoH's progress and next steps</li> </ul> <p>Governmental Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participated in the OCBC Infrastructure Committee meeting</li> <li>• Attended the ACC-OC Energy, Environment and Water Committee meeting</li> <li>• Attended the ACC-OC Legislative and Regulatory Committee meeting</li> <li>• Solicited letters of support for an upcoming Congressionally Directed Spending request for the WEROC EOC via Senators Feinstein and Padilla's offices</li> </ul>
<b>Education</b>	<p>Public Affairs Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participated in the quarterly California Environmental Literacy Initiative Leadership Council meeting</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participated in the bi-weekly California Environmental Literacy Initiative (CAELI) Green Career Innovation Hub</li> <li>• Participated in the California Department of Water Resources Water Education Committee Meeting</li> <li>• Finalized CHOICE School Program commitment numbers with participating Orange County water providers</li> <li>• <b>Speakers Bureau:</b> Gave a presentation to 45 educators attending a California Environmental Education Foundation Teacher's Institute training</li> <li>• Prepared the quarterly school report measuring outreach on education programs</li> </ul>
<b>Media Relations</b>	<p>Public Affairs Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepared and distributed a joint press release with the City of Westminster and the Wyland Foundation, announcing the April 1, Pocket Park ceremonial groundbreaking event</li> <li>• Prepared and distributed content for social media</li> <li>• Prepared OC Register California Water Insert</li> <li>• Prepared and submitted three articles to ACWA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="https://www.acwa.com/news/mwdoc-and-wyland-partner-on-national-mayors-challenge/">https://www.acwa.com/news/mwdoc-and-wyland-partner-on-national-mayors-challenge/</a></li> <li>○ <a href="https://www.acwa.com/news/oc-streams-of-hope-partners-sign-on-the-first-wave-of-participating-water-partners/">https://www.acwa.com/news/oc-streams-of-hope-partners-sign-on-the-first-wave-of-participating-water-partners/</a></li> <li>○ <a href="https://www.acwa.com/news/groundbreaking-at-coronet-park-celebrates-westminsters-commitment-to-using-water-wisely/">https://www.acwa.com/news/groundbreaking-at-coronet-park-celebrates-westminsters-commitment-to-using-water-wisely/</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Prepared April ECurrents materials</li> </ul>
<b>Special Projects</b>	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participated in a Supervisors Academy training presented by The Centre for Organization Effectiveness</li> <li>• Participated in several preliminary OC Water Summit Planning Meetings</li> <li>• Met with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) Public Information group regarding drought outreach</li> <li>• Met with the Centers of Excellence, BAYWORK, Jewish Vocational Service, Cuyamaca College, and Metropolitan to discuss next steps for the statewide water and wastewater workforce needs assessment project</li> <li>• Met with Metropolitan and California Municipal Utilities Association to discuss workforce development grant and partnership opportunities</li> </ul> <p>Governmental Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed the CSUF course – Political and Social Intelligence</li> <li>• Staffed the WACO Planning meeting and coordinated future event speakers for April and May</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed the CSUF course – Strategic Thinking and Decision Making</li> <li>• Coordinated and confirmed with Metropolitan staff on speakers for the May WACO meeting</li> <li>• Along with Tina Dubuque, drafted and distributed the ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon invitation for April 28</li> </ul>
<b>Legislative Affairs</b>	<p>Governmental Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended the ACWA Legislative Symposium featuring keynote speaker Assembly Member Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, and panel discussions on Drought &amp; Resilience and State Budget Funding for Infrastructure, Drought &amp; Healthy Forests</li> <li>• Attended the CMUA Regulatory Committee meeting</li> <li>• Participated in the CMUA Legislative Committee meeting</li> <li>• Participated in the ACWA State Legislative Committee meeting</li> <li>• Participated in the Metropolitan monthly legislative meeting</li> <li>• Attended the OCBC Sacramento Advocacy trip featuring meetings with: Attorney General Rob Bonta, Senator Bob Hertzberg, State Legislative Analyst Gabriel Petek, Cal-EPA Undersecretary Serena McIlwain, Assembly Member Vice Fong, Senator Scott Weiner, Senator Scott Wilk, Governor’s Office of Economic Development, and the Cal-Chamber.</li> <li>• Met with legislative staff from Senator Josh Newman’s office and provided information and background on the WEROC EOC</li> <li>• Met with staff from Senator Tom Umberg’s office to discuss legislative issues and the WEROC EOC</li> <li>• Attended a dinner hosted by OCBC with the Orange County legislative delegation</li> <li>• Met with legislative staff from Assembly Member Sharon Quirk-Silva’s office to discuss legislation and the WEROC EOC</li> <li>• Attended the Southern California Water Coalition’s Legislative Task Force meeting</li> <li>• Attended the ACWA Federal Affairs Committee meeting featuring John Watt’s from Senator Dianne Feinstein’s office who outlined her soon-to-be-introduced legislation, the STREAM Act</li> <li>• Contacted the local OC legislative delegation offices to request certificates of recognition for the MWD OC Poster Contest winners</li> </ul>