

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY

Jointly with the

**PLANNING & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

July 5, 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>.

**ACTION ITEM**

1. ADOPTION OF NORTH ORANGE COUNTY INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN
2. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION WATERSMART GRANT RESOLUTION

3. SELECTION OF TWO MWDOC DIRECTORS TO SERVE ON AN AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE MEMBER AGENCY FACILITATED DISCUSSION – PHASE 2

### DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. ORANGE COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT – WATER IN ORANGE COUNTY NEEDS “ONE VOICE”

**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. 2022 OC WATER SUMMIT UPDATE
6. MWDOC CHOICE SCHOOL PROGRAM UPDATE
7. STATUS REPORTS
  - a. Ongoing MWDOC Reliability and Engineering/Planning Projects
  - b. WEROC
  - c. Water Use Efficiency Projects
  - d. Public and Government Affairs
8. 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.



**ACTION ITEM**

July 20, 2022

**TO:** Board of Directors

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

Robert Hunter, General Manager    Staff Contact: Joe Berg, Rachel Waite

**SUBJECT:** Adoption of North Orange County Integrated Regional Watershed  
Management Plan

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Board of Directors adopt the attached resolution adopting the OC Plan 2018, the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for North and Central Orange County within the Santa Ana Funding Region, positioning MWDOC to be eligible for Proposition 1 Round 2 funding for North/Central Orange County.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**SUMMARY**

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The Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Grant Program is designed to encourage integrated regional strategies for management of water resources and to provide funding for programs and projects that support integrated water management planning and implementation. The Department of Water Resources, through IRWM, is in the process of selecting projects to receive second round of implementation grant funding under the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1, Round 2). In May 2022, staff submitted *Making Conservation an OC Way of Life* to the County of Orange call for projects for Proposition 1 Round 2 in the North/Central Orange County portion of the Santa Ana IRWM Funding region. To be eligible for funding, if selected, MWDOC must adopt The OC Plan 2018, the North/Central Orange County specific plan within the broader Santa Ana Funding Region.

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

## DETAILED REPORT

### ***Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)***

The Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Grant Program is designed to encourage integrated regional strategies for management of water resources and to provide funding for programs and projects that support local IRWM planning and implementation. IRWM serves as the mechanism for the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to administer Proposition (water bond) funding to projects that help meet the long-term water needs of the state. North/Central Orange County fall within the Santa Ana Funding region; South Orange County falls within the San Diego Funding Region.



**Figure 1. IRWM Funding Areas**

### ***Santa Ana Funding Region***

Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) is the lead agency for the Santa Ana funding region, and has created, and implemented the One Water One Watershed (OWOW) Plan, which is the DWR-approved IRWM Plan for the Santa Ana region. MWDOC adopted the most recently updated OWOW Plan in May 2019.

In August 2019, the three agencies responsible for administration of The OC Plan—Orange County Water District (OCWD), Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD), and the County of Orange—entered into a Cooperative Agreement with SAWPA.

This agreement achieves the following:

- (1) Outlines incorporation of the OC Plan into the OWOW Plan;
- (2) Allows for prioritization of North and Central Orange County projects for grant funding by the process outlined in the OC Plan; and
- (3) Allocates 30% of total IRWM Grant Program funding to projects in North and Central Orange County.

This allows the County of Orange to hold their own selection process, using the OC Plan, for North and Central Orange County projects that will join projects selected through SAWPA's OWOW process to receive funding, like from Proposition 1, in Santa Ana Funding Region.

### ***The OC Plan, 2018***

The OC Plan updates and combines two existing IRWM plans that were prepared by the County of Orange. The North Orange County Watershed Management Area IRWM Plan was completed in 2011 and the IRWM Plan: Central Orange County Management Area was completed in 2012. Preparation and implementation of The OC Plan builds on collaborative watershed planning in Orange County that began more than a decade ago.

The goals of The OC Plan are to:

- Provide Adequate and Reliable Water supplies

- Protect and Enhance Water Quality
- Restore Ecosystems and Improve Native Habitat
- Integrate Flood Management
- Improve Quality of Life in Orange County
- Address Climate Change

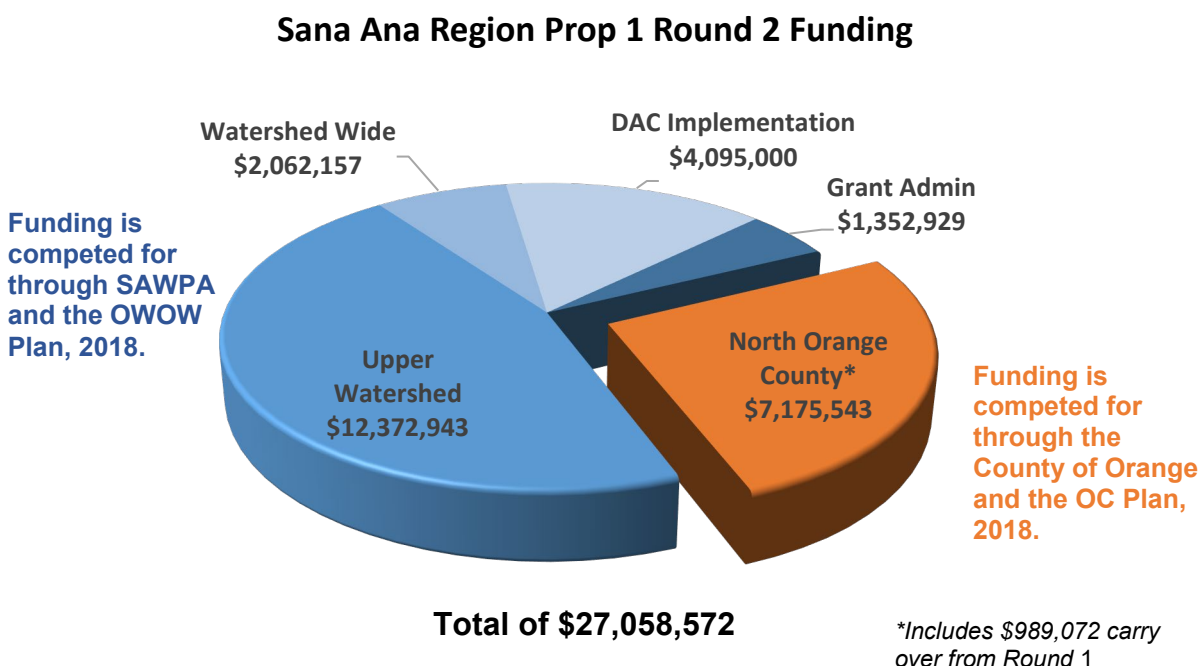
The OC Plan will accomplish these goals through an established process of ranking projects to help further state and regional goals.

### **Proposition 1 Funding**

On November 4, 2014, California voters approved Proposition 1, the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014. Proposition 1 authorized \$510 million in IRWM funding.

Round 1 call for projects took place in early 2019. MWDOC submitted the Santa Ana Watershed Comprehensive Landscape Water Use Efficiency Program, a watershed-wide project as the lead agency with partners Big Bear Lake Department of Water and Power, Eastern Municipal Water District, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, San Bernardino Valley Water District, and Western Municipal Water District. Because this project spans the upper watershed and Orange County, this project was submitted to SAWPA and went through the OWOW scoring process, which required the adoption of the OWOW Plan. The project was awarded \$2.7 million and is currently being implemented. MWDOC also submitted the South OC Water Use Efficiency Program through the South OC IRWM plan, was awarded \$833,000 and is currently being implemented. Additional information is shown below in Table 1.

For Round 2, the Santa Ana funding region has more than \$27 million available with almost \$7.2 million allocated to Orange County for its selection process, as shown in Figure 2.



**Figure 2. Proposition 1 Round 2 funding availability in the Santa Ana region broken out by OWOW and OC Plan selection processes.**

For North/Central Orange County in Round 2, MWDOC staff have submitted a proposal for a project entitled Making Conservation an Orange County Way of Life, requesting \$780,275. This project is the next phase in conservation programs building off the Comprehensive Landscape Water Use Efficiency Program submitted in Round 1.

Making Conservation an OC Way of Life will contribute to regional self-reliance by saving 703 AFY, reducing reliance on imported water, improve water quality by reducing non-point source runoff, and address climate change by reducing energy consumption and carbon dioxide emissions. Additionally, this Program is designed to align with SB 606 and AB 1668, known as Making Conservation a California Way of Life, and will support Orange County water suppliers with meeting the Framework standards. This project was submitted to the County of Orange and selection is based on The OC Plan. MWDOC must adopt the OC Plan in order to be eligible to receive funding for the proposed project.

Additionally in Round 2, MWDOC staff submitted a leak detection project entitled Regional Distribution System Leak Detection Surveys, which partners with Big Bear Lake Department of Water and Power and was submitted through the OWOW process because it spans Orange County and the upper watershed. The call for projects for South OC is currently open, and MWDOC staff will submit South OC Water Use Efficiency Program Phase II by July 1. Table 1 shows the projects submitted in Round 1 and 2 in each region.

**Table 1. Proposition 1 Round 1 & 2 Project Submittals**

	<b>SAWPA; OWOW Plan</b>	<b>County of Orange; The OC Plan</b>	<b>County of Orange; South OC IRWM Plan</b>
<b>Region</b>	Santa Ana Funding Region	Santa Ana Funding Region	San Diego Funding Region
<b>Plan Status</b>	Adopted May 2019	Pending this Board Action	Adopted November 2019
<b>Round 1</b>	<u>Project:</u> Comprehensive Landscape Rebate Program <u>Status:</u> Funded June, 2020	--	<u>Project:</u> South Orange County Water Use Efficiency Program <u>Status:</u> Funded July, 2020
<b>Round 2</b>	<u>Project:</u> Regional Water Distribution System Leak Detection Surveys <u>Status:</u> Proposal submitted June, 2022	<u>Project:</u> Making Conservation an OC Way of Life <u>Status:</u> Proposal submitted May, 2022	<u>Project:</u> South OC Water Use Efficiency Program Phase II <u>Status:</u> Proposal to be submitted by July, 2022

## BOARD OPTIONS

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**Option #1:** Adopt the OC Plan, making MWDOC eligible to receive Proposition 1 Round 2 funding for the proposed project titled “Making Conservation an Orange County Way of Life”, if awarded.

**Fiscal Impact:** If MWDOC adopts the OC Plan we become eligible to receive up to \$780,275 in Proposition 1 Round 2 funding.

**Business Analysis:** Accessing grant funds allows for WUE program implementation and reduces local cost outlays.

**Option #2:** Do not adopt the OC Plan, which will make MWDOC ineligible to receive Proposition 1 Round 2 Funding for Making Conservation an Orange County Way of Life.

**Fiscal Impact:** Become ineligible to receive up to \$780,275 in Proposition 1 Round 2 funding.

**Business Analysis:** Forfeit access to Prop 1, Round 2 grant funds.



**ACTION ITEM**

July 20, 2022

**TO:** Board of Directors

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

Robert Hunter, General Manager      Staff Contact: Joe Berg, Director of WUE  
Rachel Waite, Sr. WUE Analyst

**SUBJECT: Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Grant Resolution**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Board of Directors adopt the attached resolution in support of MWD OC's 2022 WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency grant application to be submitted to the Bureau of Reclamation on July 28, 2022.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**SUMMARY**

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In response to the Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART: Water and Energy Efficiency Grants Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for Fiscal Year 2023, staff will be submitting a grant application proposing the Orange County Sustainable Landscapes Program Phase II to provide enhanced incentives for residential and commercial properties by increasing the water use efficiencies of their landscapes. The proposed project will request up to \$3 million and will provide benefits that include decreased outdoor water use, energy savings, and runoff reductions. Additionally, this Program will assist Orange County retailers in complying with SB 606 and AB 1668 (Conservation Framework), specifically providing support to meet the outdoor Urban Water Use Objective efficiency standards. This Funding Opportunity requires all applicants to include an official Board Resolution supporting the grant application.

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



## DETAILED REPORT

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In May 2022, the Bureau of Reclamation released its WaterSMART: Water and Energy Efficiency Grants Funding Opportunity Announcement for Fiscal Year 2023. The objective of this Opportunity is to provide funding for projects that result in quantifiable water savings, energy savings, and support broader water reliability benefits. Eligible projects conserve and use water more efficiently; increase the production of hydropower; mitigate conflict risk in areas at a high risk of future water conflict; or accomplish other benefits that contribute to water supply reliability in the western United States.

This Opportunity will allocate available program funds, including Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 enacted appropriations for WaterSMART Grants and funding available under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), P.L. 117-58 in FY 2022 or FY 2023. The amount of funding available for awards under this announcement will depend on the demand for funding under this and other categories of WaterSMART Grants. Eligible applicants must reside in the designated 23 Western United States or Territories.

The Bureau has established three funding groups: Group 1 includes projects that will be awarded up to \$500,000; Group 2 includes projects that will be awarded up to \$2 million each; and Group 3 includes projects that will be awarded up to \$5 million each. Staff will be submitting a Group 3 application proposing an Orange County Sustainable Landscapes (OCSL) Program Phase II, with a grant request of \$3 million, to provide incentive funding for residential and commercial properties to promote water conservation through the transformation of high water using landscapes to landscapes utilizing a combination of California Friendly/Native installations and high efficiency irrigation.

The OCSL Program II is a multi-beneficial project, as suggested in the Governor's Water Resilience Portfolio, and is a second phase to MWDOC's WaterSMART FY2021 grant award. The primary benefit of the Program is reductions of outdoor water consumption. Secondary benefits include reductions in energy use, reductions in dry and wet weather runoff and associated non-point source pollution, reductions in carbon emissions, and increases in urban biomass and carbon sequestration. Additionally, this Program will provide support to Orange County retailers in complying with the Conservation Framework, specifically with outdoor standards related to the Urban Water Use Objective.

This Funding Opportunity requires all applicants to include an official Board Resolution supporting the grant application. The proposed Resolution containing the required content is attached for your consideration.

## BOARD OPTIONS

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**Option #1:** Staff recommends the Board of Directors adopt the attached resolution in support of MWDOC's 2022 WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency grant application to be submitted to the Bureau of Reclamation on July 28, 2022.

**Fiscal Impact:** This grant proposal may result in an award of \$3 million in federal funds that will directly benefit water agencies and consumers in Orange County. Utilization of Metropolitan's Conservation Credits Program funding to meet matching requirements results in nothing more than staff time to implement this program.

**Business Analysis.** The award of this grant is estimated to result in saving more than 10,000 acre feet of water over the useful life of the transformations/devices.

**Option #2:** Do not approve the staff recommendation.

**Fiscal Impact:** A potential loss of up to \$3 million in grant funds competitively awarded to MWDOC.

**Business Analysis:** Significantly less water savings would be realized as a result of lower incentive levels and program participation rates.

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**  
**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**  
**OF ORANGE COUNTY SUPPORTING A BUREAU OF RECLAMATION FY 2023**  
**WATERSMART: WATER AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANT APPLICATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Municipal Water District of Orange County submitted an application to the Bureau of Reclamation requesting funding for an Orange County Sustainable Landscapes Program Phase II to promote water conservation in the Municipal Water District of Orange County service area through the transformation of high water using landscapes to landscapes utilizing a combination of California Friendly/Native installations and high efficiency irrigation.

**WHEREAS**, the Municipal Water District of Orange County is committed to developing and implementing a comprehensive water use efficiency program designed to meet our local water supply reliability goals, make conservation a California way of life, and meet water efficiency standards as established by SB 606 and AB 1668,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Municipal Water District of Orange County Board of Directors designates Robert J. Hunter, General Manager, as the official who has reviewed and supports the application submittal and the legal authority to enter into an agreement on behalf of the District, and designates Joseph M. Berg, Director of Water Use Efficiency, as the District's representative to sign the progress reports and approve reimbursement claims.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Water District of Orange County Board of Directors assures its capability to provide the amount of funding and in-kind contributions specified in the funding plan.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Water District of Orange County will work with the Bureau of Reclamation to meet established deadlines for entering into a cooperative agreement.

Said Resolution was adopted on July 20, 2022, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

I HEREBY CERTIFY the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_ adopted by the Board of Directors of Municipal Water District of Orange County at its meeting held on July 20, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Maribeth Goldsby, Secretary  
Municipal Water District of Orange County



**ACTION ITEM**

July 20, 2022

**TO:** Board of Directors

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

Robert Hunter, General Manager

Staff Contact: Harvey De La Torre

**SUBJECT: Selection of Two MWDOC Directors to Serve on an Ad Hoc Committee for the Member Agency Facilitated Discussion – Phase 2**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Board of Directors authorizes the Board President to select two members of the Board to serve on an Ad Hoc Committee to participate in the Facilitated Discussions (Phase 2) with the Member Agency Managers.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**REPORT**

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MWDOC is beginning the second phase of the Member Agency Facilitated Discussions – Phase 2. The first phase focused on collecting the views and opinions of MWDOC's performance and services, through a comprehensive interview process of all member agencies. Based on the feedback received, Phase 2 will identify ways to improve MWDOC's services and advocacy, as well as further define MWDOC's role and responsibility in Orange County.

Last month, the MWDOC member agencies managers received a presentation by MWDOC staff and Mr. Paul Brown, of Paul Redvers Brown Inc., on the proposed approach, workgroup topics, goals/objectives, and schedule for Phase 2. In particular, Mr. Brown discussed potential workgroup structures. To ensure member agency managers have their concerns, ideas, and suggestions directly heard by the Board, one of the workgroup structure recommendations includes the selection of two MWDOC Board members (Ad Hoc

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

Committee) to participate in the discussions with the managers. With topics of governance and policies as a main focal point in these discussions, having Board representatives included aims to make the dialogue among the member agencies more productive and efficient. It also demonstrates the importance of these facilitated discussions and Board's desire to hear the member agency's feedback directly.

If the MWDOC Board authorizes the Board President to select two members to participate in the Member Agency Facilitated Discussions – Phase 2, this Ad Hoc Committee would be involved in the workgroup discussions until Phase 2 is completed. The proposed Phase 2 schedule is to hold one workgroup meeting each month until September (unless more time is needed). In September, it is proposed that there be a Board level workshop to report out on workgroup process, discuss agreed upon actions, and discuss future direction and implementation. The next workgroup meeting is expected to be held at the end of July.

For your reference, attached is a presentation outlining the proposed approach and schedule for the Member Agency Facilitated Discussions – Phase 2.

**Attachment: MWDOC Member Agency Facilitated Discussion Presentation, *Proposed Approach to Phase 2 Workgroup***

## **BOARD OPTIONS**

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**Option #1:** Authorizes the Board President to select two members of the Board to serve on an Ad Hoc Committee to participate in the Phase 2 Facilitated Discussions with the Member Agency Managers.

**Fiscal Impact:** None

**Business Analysis:** Allowing two Board members to participate in the Member Agency Facilitated Discussions – Phase 2 can achieve the objective of direct communication with members of the Board to identify recommendations/actions that can improve the services and relations with the member agencies.

**Option #2:** Do not have any members of the Board participate in the Facilitated Discussions with the Member Agency Managers.

**Fiscal Impact:** None

**Business Analysis:** MWDOC staff would be the only entity representing the District during the Member Agency Facilitated Discussions – Phase 2 with the managers. All recommendations will be developed between staff and the member agencies and presented to the Board at the end of the workgroup discussions.

## **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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**Option #1**

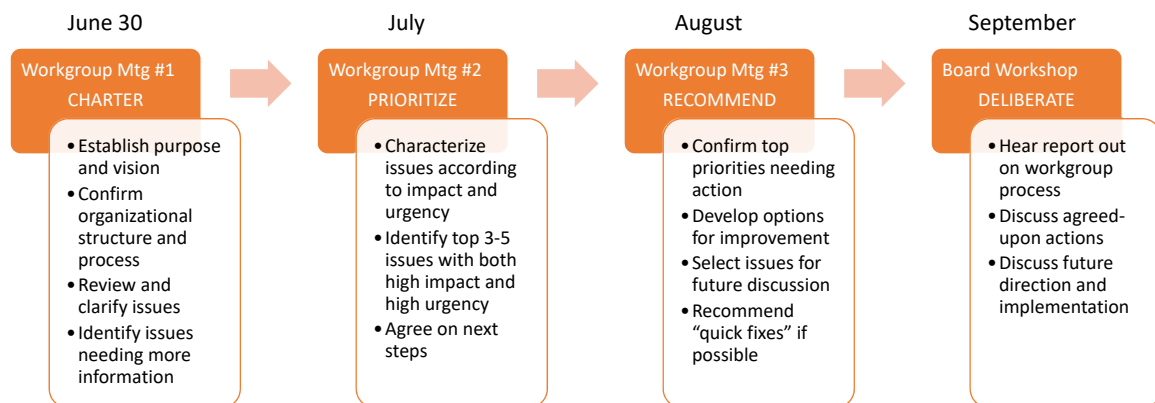
## Facilitated Discussions with MWDOC Member Agencies

### PHASE 2: WORKGROUP MTG #1 Identifying Priorities

PAUL R. BROWN, AICP



## Phase 2 Proposed Workgroup Meetings



## Objectives of Workshop #1

- Review of Phase 2 Purpose and Vision
- Develop organizational and process guidelines
- Discussion of simplified hierarchy of issues
- Identify next steps

## Purpose and Vision

- Build on input received in Phase 1 Survey (both positive and negative)
- Understand the sources and reasons behind conflicts and challenges
- Minimize contributing factors where improvements are possible
- Collaborate on integrated solutions to bridge competing interests
- Avoid **debate** (intramural winners and losers)
- Encourage **dialogue** (one OC team with each agency playing different positions)

## Organizational Structure

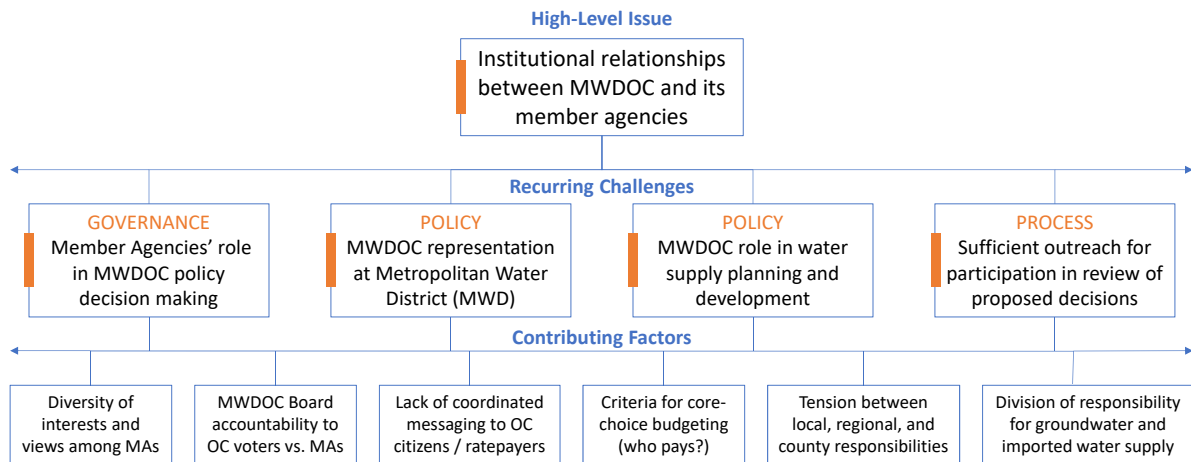
1. Request Ad-Hoc Committee of Board (2) and all Member Agency Managers invited
2. Designate (4-6) Member Agency Managers that are representative of service area
  - Large / Small
  - North / South
  - City / District

## Possible Issue Topics

- Governance
  - Institutional relationships between MWDOC and its member agencies
- Policies
  - Criteria for making core-choice decisions
  - Assurance that beneficiaries pay for local investments
- Process
  - Involvement of member agencies in board decision making process
- Roles and Responsibilities
  - MWDOC's role and scope in local supply planning and development



## Preliminary Hierarchy of Issues



## Conflicts and Factors Matrix

	Recurring Challenges	Contributing Factors					
		Diversity of interests and views among MAs	MWDOC Board accountability to OC voters v MAs	Lack of coordinated messaging to OC citizens / ratepayers	Criteria for core-choice budgeting (who pays?)	Tension between local, regional, and county responsibilities	Division of responsibility for groundwater and imported water
3	Member Agencies' role in MWDOC policy decision making	X	X		X	X	
2	MWDOC representation at Metropolitan Water District (MWD)	X	X	X		X	X
1	MWDOC role in water supply planning and development	X	X	X	X	X	X
4	Sufficient outreach for participation in review of proposed decisions	X					

## Next Steps

- Finalize framework of challenges and contributing factors
- Identify highest priority issue(s)
- Develop long-list of options for addressing priorities
- Develop criteria for short listing options
  - Complexity
  - Time Needed to Implement
  - Cost to Implement
  - Expected Benefits and Outcomes
  - Other Criteria

## Questions and Discussion

Thank you!



**COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEM**

July 5, 2022

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

**FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager**

Staff Contact: Harvey De La Torre, Assistant General Manager

**SUBJECT: ORANGE COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT – *Water in Orange County needs “One Voice”***

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends the Planning & Operations Committee discuss, provide direction to staff and/or file this information.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

**REPORT**

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On June 22, 2022, the Orange County Grand Jury released a 24-page report on the current wholesale water supplies, roles, responsibilities, and functions of Orange County Water District (OCWD) and the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWD OC). The report addressed the merits related to the formation of “One Voice” in the Orange County wholesale water structure.

“This single leadership structure, whether through consolidation of existing dual entities (OCWD and MWD OC) or creation of a new water authority, is achievable through a combination of governance and local and State legislative changes that authorizes the single organization to lead all aspects of Orange County wholesale water.” (Page 3)

The Orange County Grand Jury is a voluntary group of selected individuals to serve for one-year to review issues of their choice and provide findings and recommendations for governmental entities to review and consider. Although this topic has been reviewed in the

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

past by the Grand Jury in different ways, most recently in 2012-2013 “*Orange County Sustainability: Who Cares?*”; the 2021-2022 report stated the reason for this re-evaluation is to optimize on the opportunity to create more coordination and collaboration in the County.

The Orange County Grand Jury state the following six findings (F):

F1 - A singular water authority for Orange County’s wholesale water supply likely would result in further opportunities at the local, State, and federal levels in legislation, policy making and receiving subsidies and grants.

F2 - The current fragmented water system structure and operations provides challenges as it relates to development of new interconnected infrastructure as well as maintenance of existing systems.

F3 - There is a great disparity between the North/Central and South Orange County water sources, management, and operations carried out by OCWD and MWDOC.

F4 - South Orange County has many smaller retail water districts that lack a formal centralized leadership. Notwithstanding this lack of structure, South Orange County retail water districts have displayed effective collaboration when dealing with one another.

F5 - Orange County Water District is a recognized worldwide leader in groundwater resource management and reclamation. Its leadership, innovation, and expertise can be further utilized to serve all of Orange County in developing additional innovative and beneficial programs.

F6 - Orange County currently does not have a countywide coordinated policy regarding water conservation, which results in difficulty when complying with any new State-mandated conservation regulations.

Based on these findings, the Grand Jury concluded with two recommendations (R):

R1 - By January 2023, Orange County wholesale water agencies should formally begin analysis and collaboration towards forming a single wholesale water authority or comparable agency to operate and represent wholesale water operations and interests of all imported and ground water supplies.

R2 - Any future “One Voice” consolidated Orange County wholesale water authority should have Directors that examine and vote on issues considering the unique needs of all water districts.

According to California Penal Code Section 933, governing bodies of any public agency which the Grand Jury has reviewed, and about which it has issued a final report, are required to comment to the presiding Judge of the Superior Court on the findings and recommendations pertaining to matter under the control of the governing body. **All comments shall be made no later than 90 days after the Grand Jury publishes its report.**

Thus, **MWDOC and OCWD are required to respond by September 20, 2022** to all of the above findings as well as both recommendations.

In addition, it should be noted that other water agencies are also asked to respond to the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations. Among the water agencies requested to respond are:

- East Orange County Water District
- El Toro Water District
- Emerald Bay Service District
- Golden State Water Co.
- Irvine Ranch Water District
- Laguna Beach County Water District
- Mesa Water District
- Moulton Niguel Water District
- Santa Margarita Water District
- Serrano Water District
- South Coast Water District
- Trabuco Canyon Water District
- Yorba Linda Water District
- City of Anaheim
- City of Fullerton
- City of Santa Ana
- City of Brea
- Metropolitan Water District

With input and directions from the MWDOC Board, staff will start to develop our draft response to each finding and recommendation to be submitted by the September 20 deadline.

Attachment: **Orange County Grand Jury Report – *Water in Orange County Needs "One Voice"*, June 2022**

## Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”



GRAND JURY 2021-2022

# Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”

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# Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”

## SUMMARY

The future of a reliable water supply for California, as well as Orange County (OC), is at risk. The intense dry spell in the West, the worst in 1,200 years, is being labeled a “Mega Drought.”<sup>1</sup> Multiple years of drought and inconsistent availability of imported surface water from Northern California and the Colorado River should inspire OC leaders responsible for a reliable water supply to consider new ways to offset the likely depletion of aquifers and reservoirs.

Ronald Reagan once said: “No government ever voluntarily reduced itself in size.” However, it is important that Orange County water providers consolidate their resources and establish a unified voice to lead the County more efficiently in its water policies and planning. Multiple water experts agree it is time to coordinate strategies in water conservation, development of new supply and infrastructure, and preparation for the possibility of continued drought, disaster, and State-mandated water cutbacks.

Providing water to Orange County residents is a complicated process and requires the work of water wholesalers and retailers. Retail water agencies (districts and cities) are the direct link to residential and commercial customers. It is they who set the retail price for the water that is delivered. Providers of drinkable water to these retail entities are the wholesalers (suppliers) of imported and local groundwater from the aquifer.

The current structure of wholesale water supply and operations in Orange County, although fragmented between Orange County Water District (OCWD), Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MET), and Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC), has been successful in providing reliable, high-quality drinking water. While differences in geology and geography dictate different water supplies, no single governmental body is solely responsible for wholesale water policy and operations in Orange County, even though providing future reliable water supply is becoming more challenging.

While the processes of supplying wholesale groundwater and imported water are arguably dramatically different, complex, and should remain separated in OC, the Orange County Grand Jury (OCGJ) has determined that all sources of water are interconnected and would be best administered by one governmental entity. All the water flowing to OC taps looks the same, whether imported or groundwater, so why do we need two wholesale agencies?

This single leadership structure, whether through consolidation of existing dual entities (OCWD and MWDOC) or creation of a new water authority, is achievable through a combination of governance and local and State legislative changes that authorizes the single organization to lead all aspects of Orange County wholesale water. Although any consolidation or formation of a new water agency would pose political, administrative, and operational challenges, the OCGJ concluded that, at long last, it is time for Orange County to operate with “one water voice.”

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<sup>1</sup> February 14, 2022, Peer reviewed study published in the journal *Nature Climate Change*  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41558-022-01290-z>



# Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”

## BACKGROUND

Multiple prior Grand Jury Reports have addressed water issues, including water challenges and opportunities jointly being faced by all of Orange County. One report pointed out disparities between the North/Central and South County’s water sources, the fragmented governance, and the significant differences in topography.<sup>2</sup> Another report informed the public about sustainability of the local water supply and future needs, along with evaluating the efforts of the two major wholesale water agencies in the County.<sup>3</sup>

Orange County relies heavily on imported water for its ongoing supply, as well as some of its groundwater storage replenishment needs. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MET) supplies imported water to Southern California. Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) buys imported water from MET and sells it to Orange County’s retail water agencies (cities and special districts). Orange County Water District (OCWD) supplies ground water to the retail water agencies and cities geographically served by the aquifer and wells.

## REASON FOR THE STUDY

The consolidation of OCWD and MWDOC has been explored in the past, debated by wholesale and retail water agencies, but ultimately never accomplished. The formation of a new Joint Powers Authority is one option. But no matter how a consolidation would be accomplished, the OCGJ concluded that now is the time to have a single wholesale water supply agency in Orange County. Based on statements made during numerous OCGJ interviews, multiple water professionals support moving from two to one wholesale entity for Orange County.

The OCGJ is concerned that opportunities to operate, innovate, lobby, capitalize and coordinate communication are not being optimized with Orange County’s current wholesale water structure, which is split between two key, but very different, agencies. This report will, among other things, address the merits related to the formation of “One Voice” in the Orange County wholesale water structure. It will highlight ways in which Orange County can better address water supply, operations, and infrastructure. The report will not recommend specifically how a single structure comes to fruition legislatively.

## METHOD OF STUDY

The Grand Jury evaluated the efforts of the existing primary water entities in Orange County—MWDOC and OCWD—to determine what is working well, and the challenges and opportunities currently existing. In its investigation, the OCGJ used the following sources.

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<sup>2</sup> 2009-2009 Grand Jury report titled *Paper Water*

<sup>3</sup> 2012-2013 Grand Jury report titled *Orange County Water Sustainability: Who Cares?*

## **Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”**

- In-person and virtual interviews. Specifically, interviews of current and former Water District Managers, City and Regional Water Managers and other involved State entities and individuals.
- Water District website meeting minutes and document review.
- Independent research (articles, websites, reports, minutes, documents, etc.).
- Research of applicable State and local water-related statutes and ordinances.
- Site tours of water and sanitation districts’ operations.
- Past Grand Jury reports.
- 2021 Orange County Water Summit.

The interviews included personnel from water agencies that represented a cross section of regional and local wholesalers and retailers to obtain a diversity of perspectives based on geography, demographics, and practices. The investigation took into consideration the variety of characteristics that exist in the County, including:

- North compared to South County sources of water supply (reliance on imported water).
- Variety of projects to provide water supplies during normal and emergency times.
- Diversity of projects and plans to increase reliable sources of water supply including categories related to conservation, recycling for irrigation and potable use, storage, desalination options, etc.
- Multi-agency collaboration.

## **INVESTIGATION AND ANALYSIS**

Overall, California water sources come from imported supplies (State Water Project in Northern California and the Colorado River), groundwater, stormwater, water transfers, desalination, and water recycling. Orange County, like the rest of California, relies on a variety of sources, with the exception of desalination which is currently in the planning stage.

### **Status Quo**

To best understand the background of wholesale water in California, and specifically Orange County, one must examine the three major governmental agencies involved: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MET), Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC), and Orange County Water District (OCWD). These agencies have similar names but very different responsibilities. The role of retail water districts will also be explained.

### **Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**

MET provides water from the Colorado River and the State Water Project from Northern California to Southern California. It wholesales this imported water to its Orange County member agencies, MWDOC and the independent cities of Anaheim, Fullerton, and Santa Ana.

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MET provides most of the water imported into Orange County. MET currently delivers an average of 1.7 billion gallons of water per day to a 5,200 square mile service area. MET is a group of 26 cities and water districts providing drinking water to over 19 million people in Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura counties.



### Municipal Water District of Orange County

MWDOC acts as a pass-through agency for MET’s imported water. This imported water is sold to MWDOC’s 27 member agencies which, except for Fullerton, Anaheim and Santa Ana, covers the entire County. MWDOC also sell untreated water to OCWD for ground water discharge. MWDOC does not own or operate any water infrastructure.

## Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”

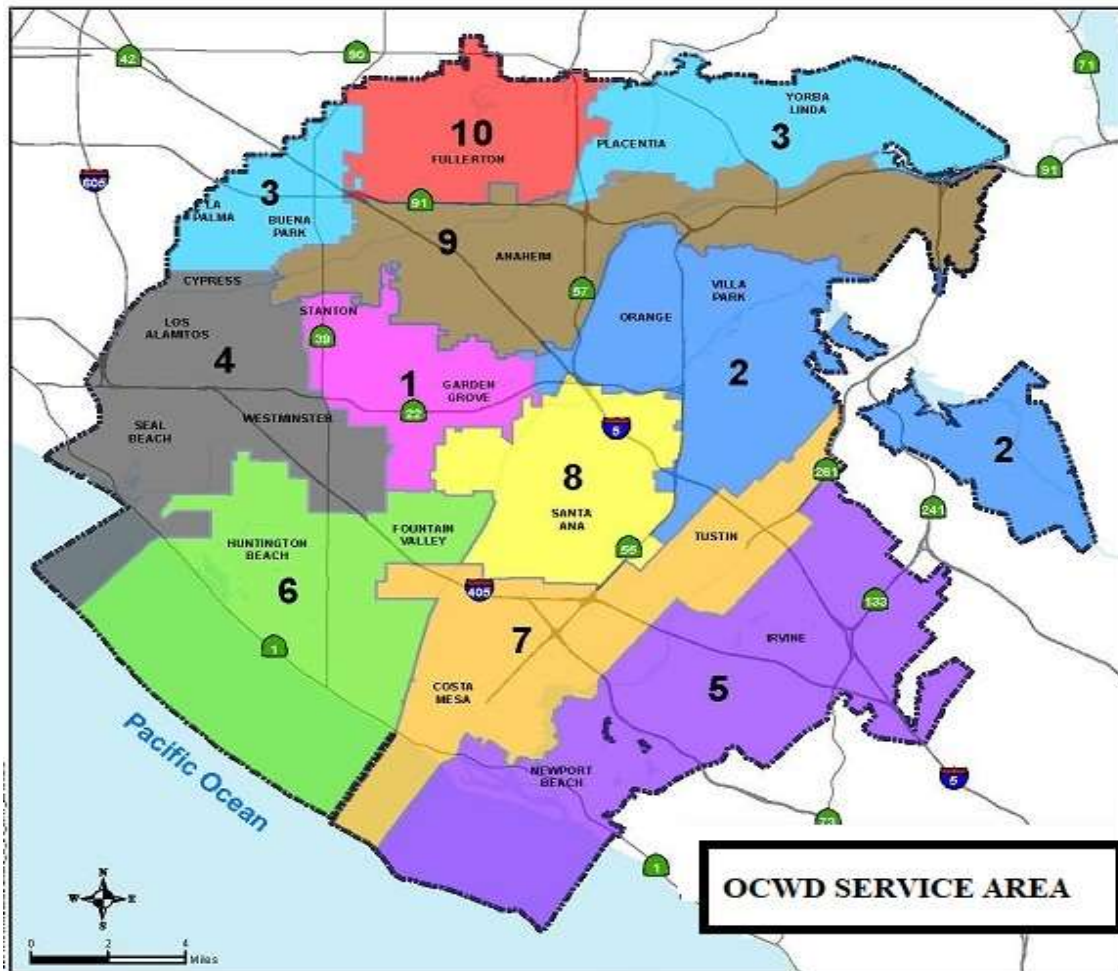


### Orange County Water District

OCWD manages the groundwater basin in the north and central part of the County. OCWD does not directly provide water to any residents or businesses, except treated wastewater for irrigation in the Green Acres Project. The Green Acres Project is a water reuse effort that provides recycled water for landscape irrigation at parks, schools and golf courses and some industrial

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uses.<sup>4</sup> OCWD’s primary role is to manage the basin and provide local water retailers with a reliable, adequate, and high-quality supply of water.<sup>5</sup> In addition, OCWD operates the Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRs) in partnership with the Orange County Sanitation District (OCSAN). This state-of-the-art water purification project can produce over 100 million gallons of high-quality potable water per day for aquifer recharge. OCWD provides groundwater to 19 municipal and special water districts and supplies approximately 77 percent of the water



supply for North and Central Orange County. OCWD is the only wholesale groundwater agency for Orange County and is a customer of MWD OC for imported needs to supplement the aquifer recharge serving North/Central County. OCWD currently has \$1.5 billion in capital infrastructure assets.

<sup>4</sup> [www.ocwd.com/about/](http://www.ocwd.com/about/)

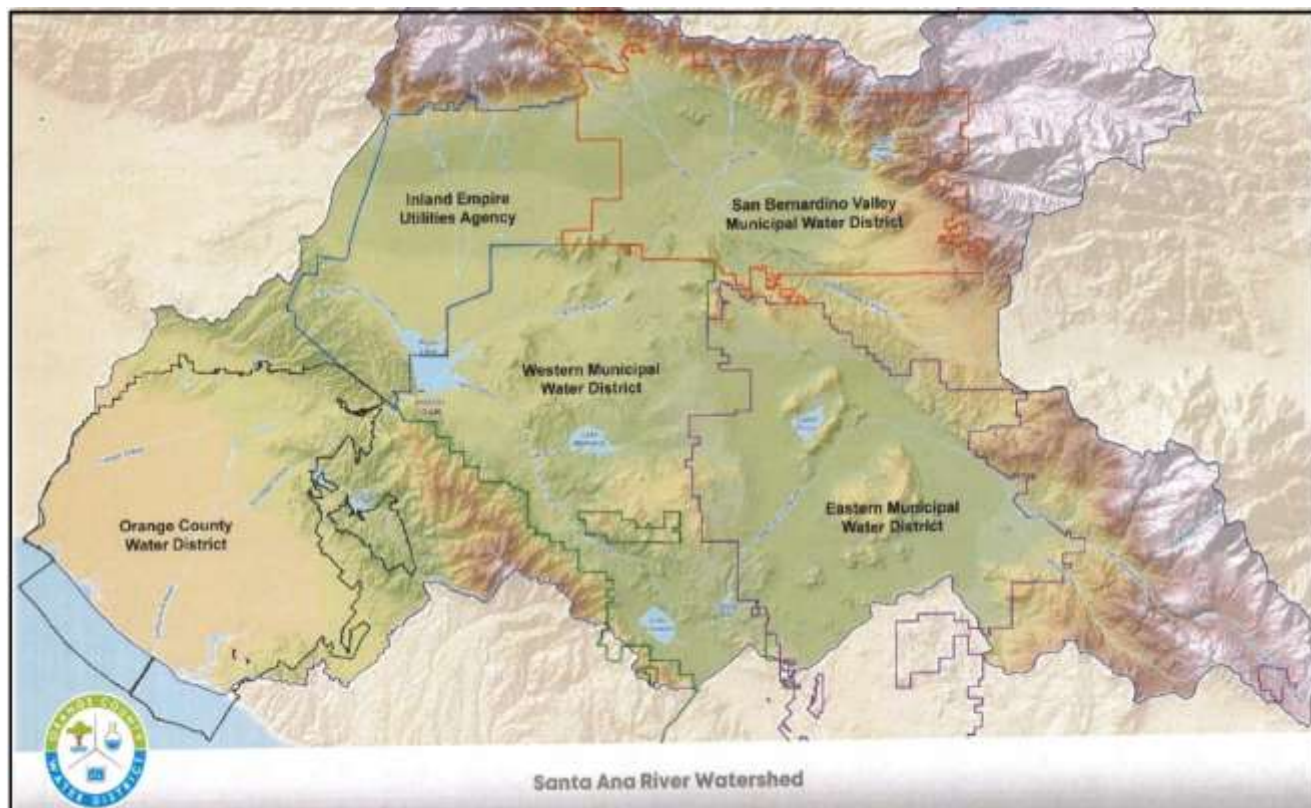
<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*



## Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”

### Additional Supply for OCWD

The Santa Ana River is the largest coastal stream in Southern California. Flowing west from the San Bernardino Mountains, the river winds through San Bernardino and Riverside Counties before reaching Orange County at Prado Dam, then traveling through the OCWD aquifer to supplement recharge, before terminating at the Pacific Ocean. The river is joined by Santiago Creek and flows to the ocean between Huntington Beach and Newport Beach.<sup>6</sup>



### Retail Water Districts

Retail water organizations are the direct connection of supplying water to residential and commercial consumers. There are 29 retail water providers throughout Orange County. These water providers include cities, special water districts/agencies and one private water company.

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<sup>6</sup> [www.ocwd.com/what-we-do/](http://www.ocwd.com/what-we-do/)

## Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”



### Differences in Supply Sources

South Orange County’s approximate 600,000 residents rely primarily on imported water (70-100 percent of needed supply depending on location) from hundreds of miles away. The imported water is purchased through the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC).<sup>7</sup>

North and Central County’s roughly 2.8 million residents rely primarily (19-99 percent depending on location) on groundwater supplied OCWD, which refills the Orange County Groundwater Basin with many different water supplies: water from the Santa Ana River; local rainfall; treated and purified wastewater through the Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRs); and imported water from the Colorado River and Northern California.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>7</sup> [www.ocwd.com/about](http://www.ocwd.com/about) & [www.mwdoc.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Water-Supply.pdf](http://www.mwdoc.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Water-Supply.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> [www.mwdoc.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Water-Supply.pdf](http://www.mwdoc.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Water-Supply.pdf)

# **Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”**

## **History, Governance and Authorizing Legislation**

### **MET**

In 1928, the Metropolitan Water District Act was established by the California Legislature. The original purpose was to construct and operate the 242-mile Colorado River Aqueduct, which runs from an intake at Lake Havasu on the California-Arizona border to an endpoint at Lake Mathews reservoir in Riverside County. MET has a 38-member board of directors representing the district’s 26 agencies. Orange County is represented on the MET Board by seven Board members. MET has imported water from the Colorado River since 1941 and from Northern California since the early 1970s.<sup>9</sup>

### **MWDOC**

MWDOC is a wholesale water supplier and resource planning agency that was established in 1951. Governed by a seven-member Board of Directors,<sup>10</sup> MWDOC is MET’s third largest member agency and appoints four representatives to advocate the interests of Orange County on the Metropolitan Water District Board.<sup>11</sup>

### **OCWD**

The Orange County Water District was formed in 1933 by a special act of the California Legislature to protect Orange County’s rights to water in the Santa Ana River. OCWD is governed by a 10-member Board of Directors, seven of whom are elected, and three are appointed by the city councils of Anaheim, Fullerton, and Santa Ana.<sup>12</sup>

### **Retail Water Districts**

Each retail water district was established throughout Orange County’s history and provides water directly to consumers. They are each governed by an elected board of directors, respective city councils, or private investors.

### **Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)**

As part of California’s water governance, LAFCO oversees geographic boundaries, evaluates cost-effective and efficient public service delivery, and explores potential alternatives to meet the service demands of the existing and future County population. Orange County LAFCO was founded in 1963 and strives to ensure the delivery of effective and efficient public services, including water, by local governments to the County’s residents.<sup>13</sup> Orange County water

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<sup>9</sup> [www.mwdoc.com/about-mwdoc](http://www.mwdoc.com/about-mwdoc); [www.mwdh2o.com/who-we-are/our-story/](http://www.mwdh2o.com/who-we-are/our-story/)

<sup>10</sup> [www.mwdoc.com/about-us/about-mwdoc](http://www.mwdoc.com/about-us/about-mwdoc)

<sup>11</sup> [www.mwdoc.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/So-Cal-Water-Wholesale-Retailers.pdf](http://www.mwdoc.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/So-Cal-Water-Wholesale-Retailers.pdf)

<sup>12</sup> [www.ocwd.com/about/](http://www.ocwd.com/about/)

<sup>13</sup> [www.oclafco.org/about-us/agency/](http://www.oclafco.org/about-us/agency/)



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professionals believe the process of creating one wholesale water agency would first go through LAFCO formation before moving on to State legislation and approval.

### **Services Provided by Wholesalers & Retailers**

The following water services are currently in operation for Orange County.

#### **MET**

- Delivering wholesale water supplies from the Colorado River and State Water Project.
- Managing water resources including water storage programs (groundwater banking and reservoir), transfers and exchanges, groundwater recovery, recycling, stormwater capture, and potential seawater desalination.
- Operating water system including treatment, quality monitoring, conveyance, distribution, and support.
- Engineering, safety, and regulatory services such as infrastructure protection, maintenance, and improvement programs.
- Managing energy operations.
- Planning for emergency water supply interruption due to earthquake, fire, power failure, public health, and other unexpected crises.
- Planning for capital investment.

#### **MWDOC**

- Purchases wholesale water from MET, approximately 70.2 billion gallons of water annually, and delivers to its 27 member agencies.
- Provides studies, analysis and programs related to water supply development, including desalination, and system reliability and use efficiency.
- Offers planning assistance and local resource development in areas of water recycling, groundwater recharge, and conservation.
- Offers residential and commercial rebate programs.
- Offers leak detection services to its members.
- Develops and administrates disaster preparedness, response, and recovery strategies through the Water Emergency Response Organization of Orange County (WEROC). This organization involves both water and wastewater agencies.
- Provides public education and community outreach.

#### **OCWD**

- Manages Orange County’s wholesale groundwater supplies: the basin consisting of a large underground aquifer to ensure a reliable supply, the Santa Ana River watershed, and the Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS).

## **Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”**

- Replaces groundwater that is pumped out of the basin every year with Santa Ana River watershed, recycled, imported, storm and natural incidental water recharge.
- Ensures groundwater supply safety and quality through monitoring and testing.
- Recycles water primarily through the GWRS which takes treated wastewater that otherwise would be sent to the Pacific Ocean and purifies it for aquifer recharge.
- Participates in legislative and community engagement and education.
- Develops additional innovative programs such as Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO) at Prado Dam, capturing and recharging stormwater in the Santa Ana River, and anticipating and optimizing stormwater runoff.
- Coordinates contaminant treatment, financial resource needs, and policy such as for Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) which enter the aquifer and wells primarily through the Santa Ana River flows. Additionally, organizes litigation and accountability for the contaminant sources.

### **Retail Water Districts**

In addition to being the direct link to consumers, retail agencies provide several additional services beyond those provided by wholesalers. Those services include maintaining water quality and testing throughout their distribution systems, repair and replacement of critical infrastructure, regulatory compliance, customer service, water use conservation, recycled water for irrigation or other non-potable uses, and public outreach and health-related services.

## **Where Do We Go from Here?**

### **Assessment of Current State**

Reliable sources shared opinions with the OCGJ that the current OC wholesale structure is “dysfunctional”, “prevents speaking with one voice for all of Orange County water interests” involving the aquifer and imported water sources, and “currently provides redundant services with redundant costs.” Also, multiple member agencies of MWDOC have expressed dissatisfaction with MWDOC’s operating effectiveness related to MET board and legislative representation, member charges for provided services, and the scope of emergency preparedness.<sup>14</sup>

In addition, this dual structure of MWDOC and OCWD has resulted in missed opportunities for the County in the form of more extensive multiple agency collaboration, increased operating efficiency, decreased reliance on imported water, and the creation of a more reliable water

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<sup>14</sup> Information based on multiple interviews, past agreements between MWDOC and MWDOC member agencies, and LAFCO Municipal Service Reviews.

## **Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”**

supply.<sup>15</sup> Currently, many projects are undertaken by individual or small groups of retail agencies that could be more expansive if guided by a single wholesale water supplier providing diverse water sources.

Another missed opportunity is a lack of coordinated County analysis about the benefits and drawbacks related to potential desalination projects. Even though desalination projects potentially impact the water supply for all of Orange County, OCWD and MWDOC independently consider these desalination projects and their impact.

Furthermore, many water experts believe that this fragmentation results in less than optimum legislative lobbying effectiveness. This affects programs such as water conservation, related water consumption standards such as State storage projects to capture more water supply during wet years, contamination treatment standards, and the Delta Conveyance System, which is a proposed more efficient and effective system to move water from Northern California to the central and southern part of the State.

### **Benefits of a Single County Agency - “One Voice”**

The Orange County Grand Jury found that creation of a single County wholesale water agency to serve as a conduit for both imported and groundwater would be most effective in coordinating water supply diversification, major infrastructure investments, and developing forward-thinking policies and practices. This single agency would also help facilitate fiscal and environmental responsibility.

Orange County water agencies have earned a tremendous reputation for innovative projects and strategies related to increasing a reliable water supply, even in drought conditions. How do we leverage what already is exemplary and collaborative in Orange County water operations?

- Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS)
- Santa Ana River Conservation and Conjunctive Use program (SARCCUP)<sup>16</sup>
- Inter-county perspective with neighboring jurisdictions of the Inland Empire, San Diego, and Los Angeles Counties.
- Purple water recycling for irrigation coming from treated waste and stormwater capture.
- Burris Basin conversion to Anaheim Coves Trail (OCWD / City partnership).<sup>17</sup>

Water experts believe “One Voice” would result in increased influence on the MET Board. The OCJG concluded that having all types (groundwater and imported water) of wholesale water

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<sup>15</sup> Information based on multiple water professional interviews.

<sup>16</sup> [www.ieua.org/read-our-reports/santa-ana-river-conservation-and-conjunctive-use-program/](http://www.ieua.org/read-our-reports/santa-ana-river-conservation-and-conjunctive-use-program/)

<sup>17</sup> [http://www.santa-ana-river-trail.com/trail/burris\\_basin.asp](http://www.santa-ana-river-trail.com/trail/burris_basin.asp)

## Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”

providers occupy “seats at the table” would be beneficial to Orange County as a whole and for MET. Additional benefits of a one wholesale water entity include:

- Increased coordination of financial support and capital resources from local, State, and federal sources. An example is in the funding for well contamination remediation utilizing an ionization process.
- More influence at the local, State, and federal levels. Examples include the Delta Conveyance<sup>18</sup> system, additional storage capacity, and preservation of imported supplies from the State Water Project.
- Increased collaboration leading to additional infrastructure shared by wholesale and retail, both for emergency and longer-term everyday use, to move water around as needed.
- Centralized planning for emergency water supply interruptions rather than independent efforts of wholesale and retail water organizations.
- Increased coordination between North and South County for matters such as water banking in Central County for use in South County.
- Cost savings by eliminating duplication of administrative, professional, consultant, lobbying and other expenses currently existing at OCWD and MWDOC.
- Singular County leadership in forming conservation strategies, public outreach, and education.

### Concerns related to creating “One Voice”

The Orange County Grand Jury recognizes that with any governance or business model change obstacles will exist to forming a consolidated or new wholesale water agency. Overall, proponents of this change are concerned that there is a lack of political will and that “protecting my own turf” philosophies will get in the way of doing the right thing for reliable water supply in the future. Some additional hesitation exists from some Orange County water board and management professionals that believe:

- Imported versus groundwater requires specialized knowledge and a unique operational approach and should not be combined.
- Staff reductions will occur.
- Merging of retirement pension and benefit liabilities will be complicated and expensive.
- Development of a new Board of Directors structure may cause a loss of representation of the unique water needs of different parts of the County.

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<sup>18</sup> [www.mwdoc.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Delta-Conveyance-Project-and-EcoRestore.pdf](http://www.mwdoc.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Delta-Conveyance-Project-and-EcoRestore.pdf)

## Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”

- Consolidation of the existing two wholesale water districts, OCWD and MWDOC, or the forming of a new agency would be complicated. The process would likely begin through Orange County LAFCO before moving to State legislative level, both of which would be divisive and risk political influence and interference when revising local and State water acts.

Despite these complications and challenges, the OCGJ concluded that the County will be better served by creating a “one voice” agency to lead and represent all aspects of wholesale water operations in Orange County.

### FINDINGS

- F1 A singular water authority for Orange County’s wholesale water supply likely would result in further opportunities at the local, State, and federal levels in legislation, policy making and receiving subsidies and grants.
- F2 The current fragmented water system structure and operations provides challenges as it relates to development of new interconnected infrastructure as well as maintenance of existing systems.
- F3 There is a great disparity between the North/Central and South Orange County water sources, management, and operations carried out by OCWD and MWDOC.
- F4 South Orange County has many smaller retail water districts that lack a formal centralized leadership. Notwithstanding this lack of structure, South Orange County retail water districts have displayed effective collaboration when dealing with one another.
- F5 Orange County Water District is a recognized worldwide leader in groundwater resource management and reclamation. Its leadership, innovation, and expertise can be further utilized to serve all of Orange County in developing additional innovative and beneficial programs.
- F6 Orange County currently does not have a countywide coordinated policy regarding water conservation, which results in difficulty when complying with any new State-mandated conservation regulations.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- R1 By January 2023, Orange County wholesale water agencies should formally begin analysis and collaboration towards forming a single wholesale water authority or comparable agency to operate and represent wholesale water operations and interests of all imported and ground water supplies. (F1, F2, F3, F4, F6)

## Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”

- R2 Any future “One Voice” consolidated Orange County wholesale water authority should have Directors that examine and vote on issues considering the unique needs of all water districts. (F1, F2, F3, F4, F6)

### COMMENDATIONS

- Orange County Water District (OCWD) commitment to sound planning and state-of-the-art technology to provide water to the people of Orange County. Highly recognized, OCWD, along with Orange County Sanitation District, has the world’s largest Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS).
- Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) for many provided services related to emergency planning, public education, water reliability and delivery reports, leak detection service, rebate and conservation programs and many other “choice” services.
- All the current wholesale and retail water districts in Orange County for their efforts to collaborate and strategize to better serve Orange County Citizens despite the lack of a centralized administration.

### RESPONSES

The following excerpts from the California Penal Code provide the requirements for public agencies to respond to the Findings and Recommendations of this Grand Jury report:

California Penal Code Section 933 requires the governing body of any public agency which the Grand Jury has reviewed, and about which it has issued a final report, to comment to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court on the findings and recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of the governing body. Such comment shall be made *no later than 90 days* after the Grand Jury publishes its report (filed with the Clerk of the Court). Additionally, in the case of a report containing findings and recommendations pertaining to a department or agency headed by an elected County official (e.g. District Attorney, Sheriff, etc.), such elected County official shall comment on the findings and recommendations pertaining to the matters under that elected official’s control *within 60 days* to the Presiding Judge with an information copy sent to the Board of Supervisors.

Furthermore, California Penal Code Section 933.05 specifies the manner in which such comment(s) are to be made as follows:

(a) As to each Grand Jury finding, the responding person or entity shall indicate one of the following:

(1) The respondent agrees with the finding.

## Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”

- (2) The respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding, in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reasons therefor.

(b) As to each Grand Jury recommendation, the responding person or entity shall report one of the following actions:

- (1) The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action.
- (2) The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a time frame for implementation.
- (3) The recommendation requires further analysis, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a time frame for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or head of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This time frame shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the Grand Jury report.
- (4) The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, with an explanation therefor.

(c) If a finding or recommendation of the Grand Jury addresses budgetary or personnel matters of a county agency or department headed by an elected officer, both the agency or department head and the Board of Supervisors shall respond if requested by the Grand Jury, but the response of the Board of Supervisors shall address only those budgetary /or personnel matters over which it has some decision making authority. The response of the elected agency or department head shall address all aspects of the findings or recommendations affecting his or her agency or department.

### Responses Required

Comments to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court in compliance with Penal Code §933.05 are required from:

90 Day Response Required	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
OCWD Board of Directors	X	X	X		X	X

90 Day Response Required	R1	R2
OCWD Board of Directors	X	X

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90 Day Response Required	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
MWDOC Board of Directors	X	X	X	X	X	X

90 Day Response Required	R1	R2
MWDOC Board of Directors	X	X

### Responses Requested

90 Day Response Requested	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
East Orange County Water District	X	X	X		X	X

90 Day Response Requested	R1	R2
East Orange County Water District	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
El Toro Water District	X	X	X		X	X

90 Day Response Requested	R1	R2
El Toro Water District	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
Emerald Bay Service District	X	X	X		X	X

90 Day Response Requested	R1	R2
Emerald Bay Service District	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
Golden State Water Co	X	X	X		X	X

90 Day Response Requested	R1	R2
Golden State Water Co	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
Irvine Ranch Water District	X	X	X	X	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	R1	R2
Irvine Ranch Water District	X	X



## Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”

90 Day Response Requested	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
Laguna Beach County Water District	X	X	X	X	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	R1	R2
Laguna Beach County Water District	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
Mesa Water District	X	X	X		X	X

90 Day Response Requested	R1	R2
Mesa Water District	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
Moulton Niguel Water District	X	X	X	X	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	R1	R2
Moulton Niguel Water District	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
Santa Margarita Water District	X	X	X	X	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	R1	R2
Santa Margarita Water District	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
Serrano Water District	X	X	X	X	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	R1	R2
Serrano Water District	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
South Coast Water District	X	X	X		X	X

90 Day Response Requested	R1	R2
South Coast Water District	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
Trabuco Canyon Water District	X	X	X	X	X	X

## Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”

90 Day Response Requested	R1	R2
Trabuco Canyon Water District	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
Yorba Linda Water District	X	X	X		X	X

90 Day Response Requested	R1	R2
Yorba Linda Water District	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
City of Anaheim	X	X	X		X	X

90 Day Response Requested	R1	R2
City of Anaheim	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
City of Fullerton	X	X	X		X	X

90 Day Response Requested	R1	R2
City of Fullerton	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
City of Santa Ana	X	X	X		X	X

90 Day Response Requested	R1	R2
City of Santa Ana	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
City of Brea	X	X	X		X	X

90 Day Response Requested	R1	R2
City of Brea	X	X

90 Day Response Requested	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
Metropolitan Water District	X	X				X

90 Day Response Requested	R1	R2
Metropolitan Water District	X	X

## Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”

### GLOSSARY

AQUEDUCT	A structure for transporting water from one place to another by means of a pipeline, canal, conduit, tunnel, or a combination of these things.
AQUIFER	A geologic formation of sand, rock and gravel through which water can pass and which can store, transmit and yield significant quantities of water to wells and springs.
DELTA CONVEYANCE SYSTEM	Refers to State Water Project (SWP) infrastructure in the vast network of waterways comprising the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) that collects and moves fresh, clean, and affordable water to homes, farms, and businesses throughout major regions of the State from the Bay Area to Southern California.
FIRO	Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations is a flexible water management approach that uses data from watershed monitoring and improved weather forecasting to help water managers selectively retain or release water from reservoirs for increased resilience to droughts and floods.
GWRS	Groundwater Replenishment System. A process where water is replaced in the aquifer.
GREEN ACRES PROJECT	OCWD's Green Acres Project (GAP) is a water reuse effort that provides recycled water for landscape irrigation at parks, schools, and golf courses; industrial uses, such as carpet dying; toilet flushing; and power generation cooling.
GROUNDWATER BANKING	A process of diverting surface water into an aquifer where it can be stored until needed
JPA	Joint Power Authority. two or more public agencies to join together, under a joint powers authority (JPA), to provide more effective or efficient government services or to solve a service delivery problem.

## Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”

LAFCO	Local Agency Formation Commission. Governed by State law, the Commission oversees proposed changes to local agency and county unincorporated boundaries and prepares special studies to encourage the orderly and efficient delivery of public services to Orange County residential and business communities.
MET	Metropolitan Water District, provides water from the Colorado River and the State Water Project from northern California to Southern California.
MWDOC	Municipal Water District of Orange County represents all of Orange County, excluding the three independent city members of MET, and acts as a pass-through agency for MET water sold to its constituent members and sells additional untreated water to OCWD for groundwater recharge.
OCSAN	Orange County Sanitation District treats and recycles sewer and grey water.
OCWD	Orange County Water District manages the groundwater basin of the north and central part of the County.
ONE VOICE	Orange County needs to have a central entity to speak for water and legislative matters.
PAPER WATER	Transfer water via paper, not physically.
PFAS	Per and polyfluoroalkyl substances chemical by product of past aerospace manufacturing in Orange County.
PURPLE WATER	Recycled water that has been treated for reuse in landscaping, agriculture, and commerce.
SAR	Santa Ana River.
SARCCUP	Santa Ana River Conservation and Conjunctive Use program. Guides the use and conservation of the Santa Ana River basin.
SPECIAL DISTRICTS	Special districts are public agencies created to provide one or more specific services to a community, such as water service, sewer service, and parks.

## **Water in Orange County Needs “One Voice”**

WATER TRANSFERS	A water transfer is a voluntary sale of water proposed and initiated by willing sellers who have legal rights to a supply of water to an interested buyer.
WEROC	Water Emergency Response Organization of Orange County, administered through MWDOC, develops disaster preparedness, response, and recovery strategies.



INFORMATION ITEM

July 5, 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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Former Secretary of the Bureau of Reclamation and current Executive Strategy Advisor to the Central Arizona Project, Brenda Burman is confirmed to present at the 2022 OC Water Summit. 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.

Burman, will discuss the ongoing drought throughout the west, especially on the Colorado River. Also confirmed to present is Jerry Meral, author of the last Water Bond, as he explores the idea of putting another measure on the ballot dedicated to water infrastructure. Other sessions will cover issues in the Delta, water projects we need now, and the Water Infrastructure Funding Act of 2022.

The next meeting of the OC Water Summit Planning Committee will b held on Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup>.



**INFORMATION ITEM**

July 5, 2022

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

**FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager**

Staff Contact: Sarah Wilson

**SUBJECT: MWDOC Choice School Programs Update**

**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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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—have wrapped up the 2021/22 school year.

Included in this report is a preview of completed visits for the month of June 2022. MWDOC Choice School Program contractors update the shared Google Calendar so that participating member agencies are able to view 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. Sessions are

<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>			

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  
July 5, 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:** 187
- **Virtual presentations hosted:** 105
- **Total number of students seen:** 50,320
- **Presentations have been completed in the following service areas:** City of Anaheim, City of Brea, City of Buena Park, 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:** 0
- **Virtual presentations scheduled:** 0
- **Total number of students expected:** 0
- **Upcoming presentations have been scheduled in the following service areas:**  
N/A

*\*All scheduled sessions have been completed for the 2021-2022 school year.*

### ADDITIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS AND MEASUREMENTS:

A teacher's comment following an in-person "Waterology" performance at Esqueda School in Santa Ana on April 18, 2022.

**“Loved the animation and music! The kiddos were engaged and loved the lesson.”** –Ms. Ponce, Kindergarten Teacher

A teacher’s comment following an in-person “H2O, Where Did You Go?” performance at Commonwealth Elementary in Fullerton on March 3, 2022.

**“The assembly was very enjoyable and educational for the children. The presenters did a wonderful job keeping the children engaged in the program. Their songs and props matched grade level content.”** – Ms. Susan Kitley, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade combo teacher

Video interview: Two teachers’ comments following an in-person “Waterology” performance at Canyon Vista Elementary in Aliso Viejo on May 12, 2022.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1U7r7MRWmqNjA68Z7k-ahiPt56a7qXsGC/view?usp=sharing>



**MWDOC Choice Elementary School  
Program (Grades 3-5)**  
Quarterly Report  
July 5, 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:** 154
  - ◆ **Virtual presentations hosted:** 91
  - ◆ **Total number of students seen:** 25997
- 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 Water District, 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:** 0
- ◆ **Virtual presentations scheduled:** 0
- ◆ **Total number of students expected:** 0
- ◆ **Upcoming presentations have been scheduled in the following service areas:**
  - N/A

*\*All scheduled sessions have been completed for the 2021-2022 school year.*

## ADDITIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS AND MEASUREMENTS:

### **Program Pictures:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/9zizy40tjq55mb1pbrmwh/h?dl=0&rlkey=0pmb3ito7e4tqi waj080s8vxq>



**MWDOC Choice Middle and High  
School Programs (Grades 6-12)**  
Quarterly Report  
July 5, 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:** 34
- ◆ **Virtual presentations hosted:** 0
- ◆ **Total number of students seen:** 1,299
- ◆ **Presentations have been completed in the following service areas:** City of Anaheim, El Toro Water District, City of Tustin, City of Santa Ana

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

- ◆ **In-person presentations hosted:** 15
- ◆ **Virtual presentations hosted:** 0
- ◆ **Total number of students seen:** 265
- ◆ **Presentations have been completed in the following service areas:** City of Anaheim, City of Santa Ana, City of San Clemente

**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:** 0
- ◆ **Virtual presentations scheduled:** 0
- ◆ **Total number of students expected:** 0
- ◆ **Upcoming presentations have been scheduled in the following service areas:**  
N/A

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

- ◆ In-person presentations scheduled: 0
- ◆ Virtual presentations scheduled: 0
- ◆ Total number of students expected: 0
- ◆ Upcoming presentations have been scheduled in the following service areas:  
N/A

*\*All scheduled sessions have been completed for the 2021-2022 school year.*

### ADDITIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS AND MEASUREMENTS:

#### **Program Photos:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/9zizy40tjq55mb1pbrmwh/h?dl=0&rlkey=0pmb3ito7e4tqi waj080s8vxq>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
		K-2 ORANGE Holy Family K-2 SMWD Mission	K-2 ORANGE West 10am - K-2 SMWD Oso			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
K-2 WESTMINSTER		3-5 City of Huntington K-2 HUNTINGTON BEACH K-2 HUNTINGTON BEACH	3-5 City of Huntington			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

<b>ENGINEERING &amp; PLANNING</b>	
<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 5 scenarios that include recent information including; demand forecasts from the 2020 Urban Water Management Plans, information from MET's 2020 IRP process, increased uncertainty with the Delta Conveyance Project, improved climate change impact information, and updated project cost information where available.</p> <p>A presentation on the scope and status of the Reliability Study update was given at the May 2022 MWDOC Member Agencies Managers meeting. Several of the agencies provided their input which will be incorporated into the study. The presentation was also presented to the Board at the P&amp;O Committee on June 6, 2022.</p> <p>A draft report of the demand-supply gap analysis portion of the study is expected by the end of August 2022.</p>
<b>Water Use Efficiency Standards Analysis</b>	<p>On May 2, 2022, the Board approved entering into an agreement with Water Systems Consulting (WSC) and sub-consultant M. Cubed to complete an economic analysis of proposed State water use efficiency standards. MWDOC has partnered with SMWD in funding this project. There are four main components of the scope of work:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A customized version of the recently completed Urban Water Use Objective Analyzer (Model) developed by M. Cubed for the Department of Water Resources (DWR). M. Cubed will customize the Model to allow individual retail agencies to evaluate the impacts of the proposed standards on their operations and customers.</li> <li>2. Evaluate the relative impact of the proposed standards on Disadvantaged Communities (DACs).</li> <li>3. Evaluate compliance cost estimates for MWDOC retail water agencies with information on water service affordability.</li> <li>4. Develop a web interface of the Model using a visual analytics platform (i.e. dashboard).</li> </ol> <p>An initial version of the updated Model is currently under review by SMWD and MWDOC. A draft report of the analysis is expected in August 2022.</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>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</p>



	<p>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>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>On April 14, 2022, Dudek presented information to the SCWD Board on a conceptual study of Ocean Water Augmentation for the Doheny Desalination Project. The study considered utilizing Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) source water by two alternative methods from the JB Latham Wastewater Treatment Plant to augment raw ocean water supplies to the proposed Doheny Desalination Project. The proposed conceptual raw water augmentation could potentially become a future phase of the ocean desalination project, and was identified by the name: Doheny Ocean Pure Water Augmentation (DOPWA). This concept was based on the proposition that the challenges of ocean desalination and DPR could be offset by each other's advantages. The conceptual project proposes 5 MGD of product water from each source (recycled and ocean source water) to produce a combined total of 10 MGD of potable water. The report indicated that the gross cost of water in 2021 dollars for the DOPWA concept is similar in price to the cost of desalinated water from the Doheny Desalination Project as shown below.</p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-right: 100px;">       Gross Water Cost        (without MET LRP incentive)     </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 MGD Doheny Ocean Desalination Project \$2,081/AF</li> <li>• DOPWA Raw Water Augmentation \$2,227/AF</li> <li>• DOPWA Treated Water Augmentation \$1,954/AF</li> </ul> <p>Further study is also needed to determine the impacts on ocean desalination brine mixing in the San Juan Creek Ocean Outfall from reduced wastewater discharges.</p> <p>SCWD anticipates Coastal Commission consideration of a Coastal Development Permit in October 2022.</p>
<b>East Orange County Feeder No. 2 (EOCF#2) Emergency Pilot Program</b>	<p>Staff and Means Consulting are working 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 have also been working with MET staff on a potential cost share for the project.</p> <p>Staff met with the Orange County EOCF #2 Joint Power Agreement members and capacity right holders to discuss the pilot project on March 31, 2022. Background information and key points/questions were presented to the group. A follow up meeting will be scheduled in late June once JPA members have had a chance to review the information, to discuss clarifications of key points and to determine how best to move forward with the Pilot Project.</p> <p>Staff met with Moulton Niguel WD and Orange County WD on May 16, 2022 to discuss the scope of work developed with MET. MNWD is currently reviewing the scope to see how their design efforts with the City Santa Ana will fit into the scope.</p>
<b>San Juan Basin Authority</b>	<p>The San Juan Basin Authority (SJBA) has been conducting a hydrogeology study of the San Juan Basin to better understand how groundwater flows through the lower portions of San Juan Basin under various conditions. How groundwater flows in the vicinity of Stonehill Drive is important due to potential impacts on pumping within the basin, and also may potentially influence pumping for the Doheny Desalination project.</p> <p>A technical review panel, consisting of three teams of hydrogeologists, have presented their preliminary findings at a special meeting on May 12, 2022. The presentation is available from the SJBA website:  <a href="https://www.sjbauthority.com/meetings/meetings-2022.html">https://www.sjbauthority.com/meetings/meetings-2022.html</a> (2022-05-12 SJBA Board Meeting TRP).</p> <p>The preliminary findings are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Basin behaves like two separate areas or ‘buckets’ that are connected by bedrock ledge area in the vicinity of Stonehill Drive. The bedrock ledge operates similar to a spillway; which although not a boundary, does somewhat restrict flows under normal groundwater conditions.</li> <li>2. Groundwater flows through the bedrock ledge area (spillway) are greatly restricted between the upper and lower portions of the basin when groundwater levels are low. This occurs during dry or excessive pumping periods.</li> <li>3. Pumping on either side of the spillway (north or south) influences portions of the basin on the other side of the spillway. Without recharge and with continued pumping, groundwater levels at the divide could decline precipitously.</li> <li>4. Saline intrusion in the basin result from seasonal or longer-term declines in freshwater recharge coupled with pumping. Pumping south of the spillway exacerbates saline intrusion more than pumping to the north. Pumping to the north contributes by restricting the flow of freshwater across the spillway.</li> </ol>

	<p>The Technical Review Panel is recommending additional geologic and geophysical assessment of the spillway area. They area also recommending additional monitoring of groundwater levels and flow across the spillway.</p>
<b>Shutdowns</b>	<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, 2022 to inform MET of the agencies’ local supply conditions for this calendar year. MET reported that the diffuser pipe was not an imminent failure issue. Shutdown dates for repair of the Diemer chlorine diffuser pipe are being reevaluated by MET staff at this time.</p> <p>Diemer also recently experienced a backwash valve failure in the filter backwash system. Two of 48 filters will remain out of service through the summer; slightly limiting Diemer’s maximum flow capacity by 4% to 498 MGD.</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 18, 2022 through June 16, 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 have held meetings with MET staff and MET’s traffic consultant 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 18, 2023 through July 14, 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, 2023 through March 25, 2023. 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 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> <p>MET plans to inspect additional PCCP sections of the AMP in FY 2023-24.</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> <p><b>Upper Feeder</b></p> <p>MET sent notification that an emergency repair is needed to the Upper Feeder at the Santa Ana River (which feeds the MET Weymouth WTP in La Verne). A pipeline bellows type expansion joint installed at the Santa Ana Bridge in 2018 has developed a crack. Temporary repairs were made in April 2022 to keep the feeder in operation and to continue to provide Colorado River water to the Central Pool. MET is currently manufacturing a replacement joint and will replace the joint likely in August 2022.</p>
<b>Meetings</b>	
	<p>Charles Busslinger and Chris Lingad held meeting with CDM Smith in May 2022 to discuss the Orange County Water Reliability Study update.</p> <p>Charles Busslinger, Harvey De La Torre, Melissa Baum-Haley, Alex Heide, and Chris Lingad attended a meeting with SMWD and Cadiz, Inc. representatives to discuss new information concerning the proposed Cadiz water project.</p>
	<p>Charles Busslinger attended the Santiago Aqueduct Commission quarterly meeting on June 16, 2022. Repairs to the Baker pipeline to lower the pipeline under Santiago Creek in Irvine Regional Park have been successfully completed; along with a condition assessment of the pipeline. The condition</p>

	assessment found the pipeline coating, lining system, and impressed current cathodic protection system are performing as intended to extend the life of the pipeline. The pipeline is estimated to have a remaining useful life of at least 20 years.
	Charles Busslinger and Chris Lingad attended a meeting with SMWD on June 20, 2022 to discuss SMWD's potential projects for the Reliability Study update.
	Chris Lingad met with Greg Sadowski of GTS Architecture, Inc. on June 22, 2022 to discuss a design proposal for the remodel of the admin building breakroom and atrium pergola.
	Charles Busslinger, Joe Berg, and Chris Lingad met with Dan Rodrigo of CDM Smith on June 23, 2022 to discuss the Reliability Study update.

# General Manager Report

## WEROC Status Report

### June 2022

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

- As of the time of this report on 6/27, Orange County continues to see a trend upward during this latest surge. There were 14,034 new cases reported in the last two-week period as of Friday 6/24. The county is averaging about 31 new cases a day per every 100,000 residents. Compared to the same time at the end of May, there were 10,847 new cases reported in the last two-week period, and the county is averaging about 21 new cases a day per every 100,000 residents. \*\* Note with many people continuing to use the at home testing kits, unless people are seeing their physician or self-reporting it is hard to say exactly how accurate these numbers are.
- The key statistic to track continues to be the impact on our medical system and agencies reporting if they are having operational impacts due to employees out ill. The medical system on 6/24 reported 179 people hospitalized, and 25 were in the ICU compared to May where hospitalizations were at 140 people and 18 who required intensive care. Overall, the Orange County healthcare system remains stable and our agencies remain stable.
- The message to all agencies continues to focus on:
  - we should expect to have people testing positive for COVID and needing to be out of the office for longer than the recovery period of a cold, for the foreseeable future.
  - With that in mind, our message with member agencies focuses on business continuity and dealing with the ongoing probability of being less than 100% staffed.
  - Having appropriate testing materials available for staff to use to minimize the exposure.
- WEROC continues to host monthly coordination calls with member agencies to provide updates regarding COVID and other items occurring in the OA.
- Cal/OSHA Emergency Temporary Standards Update - On June 9, 2022, the Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) posted the proposed non-emergency COVID-19 Prevention standards on its Cal/OSHA – Proposed Regulations webpage. The dates for the public hearing have not yet been set. WEROC will continue to track and report out on the progression of the new standards. In reviewing the proposed

language, the currently actions being administered by employers currently would be adopted for 2 years at a time. WEROC will provide more information as this changes.

- On June 17<sup>th</sup>, Governor Newsom released information on New executive action maintains several provisions to continue state's vaccination and testing efforts, protect the health care delivery system in the same token, discussed other executive order that would in fact terminate on June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Remaining in effect is the California's State of Emergency for COVID-19, therefore the end date will be dependent on when the state feels the emergency is over. WEROC will continue to track this information
- From Executive Order N-11-22
  - Paragraph 1 of Executive Order N-12-21, as extended by Executive Order N-21-21 through March 31, 2022 and Executive Order N-4-22 through June 30, 2022, is hereby withdrawn and replaced with the following text: Paragraph 3 of my State of Emergency proclaimed on March 4, 2020 shall remain in place and shall have full force and effect for the duration of this emergency.
- Fifteen additional provisions are set to expire on June 30, after which only 5 percent of the COVID-19 related executive order provisions issued throughout the pandemic will remain in place.
- Janine took over the COVID Testing Logistics Request Reconciliation with Daniel's departure and all requests and invoices have been accounted for and completed.

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## **JUNE INCIDENTS/EVENTS (NON-COVID)**

- Nothing Significant to Report
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## **COORDINATION/PARTICIPATION WITH MEMBER AGENCIES AND OUTSIDE AGENCIES MEETINGS OUTSIDE OF PROGRAMS AREAS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

- On 6/2, Vicki and Janine attended the Orange County Emergency Management Organization (OCEMO) meeting. OCEMO is composed of emergency service

coordinator representatives from public, private, and non-profit organizations from all political subdivisions in the County of Orange, including cities, school districts, and special districts. Presentation topics from this month's included the Orange County Sheriff's Department, Emergency Management Division provided an overview of the new PrepareOC site. And an overview of the Coastal Fire provided by responding agencies. In addition, the standing sub-committees provided an update to their coordination and planning activities.

- On 6/2, Vicki attended the OCEMO exercise design subcommittee meeting. Vicki and Michelle Anderson, OA Emergency Manager gave a presentation on the 2023-25 Integrated Preparedness Plan as required by the state/CalOES and FEMA. This was also the kickoff meeting to begin 2023 OCEMO Functional Exercise planning.
- On 6/3, Vicki attended the WACO meeting and provided a WEROC update.
- On 6/3, Vicki and Janine attended the Coastal Fire FMAG (FM-5439) Applicant briefing in support of MNWD, SOCWA and SCWD. Vicki provided additional information following the meeting to MNWD (see Coastal Fire section below)
- On 6/7, Vicki attended the ISDOC Executive Committee Meeting and provided an Operational Area Update.
- On 6/14, Vicki attended the Orange County Business Council – Infrastructure subcommittee and provided an overview on what WEROC is and the EOC project.
- On 6/25, Vicki attended the Disease Outbreak Response Annex Working group meeting. This review section focused on the concept of operations portion of the plan. Vicki is providing recommendations as it relates to our water and wastewater agencies.
- On 6/16, Vicki attended the MWDOC Managers meeting and provided a WEROC update and focused on the 6/16 board action relating to the 25% non federal match funding question from Senator's Padilla Office (See WEROC EOC Project below for more information.)
- On 6/21, Vicki attended Infrastructure Liaison Officer training brought to Orange County by the Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center (OCIAC) in partnership with Infraguard. This was a terrorism (non cyber) focused training. Moulton Niguel Water District also took this opportunity to send staff to the training.
- On 6/22, Vicki attended the Operational Area Technology Subcommittee meeting which focused on discussion of planning in regards to AlertOC and WebEOC.
- On 6/23, Vicki attended the County of Orange Joint Operations Meeting. This is an annual meeting that occurs between Orange County Sheriff, Orange County Fire Authority, OC Animal Care, and OC Parks where issues pertaining to fire season and incident command planning occurs. In the past, WEROC was not a part of this meeting, but the importance of water and coordination during an event and on-going



advocacy by WEROC and in partnership with the County Emergency manager has led to this positive change of being part of the conversation prior to an event.

- On 6/27, Vicki participated in the OC San Tsunami Tabletop Exercise (TTX). Further information and outcomes can be found below in the Tsunami planning section.
  - On 6/30, Janine attended a training offered by CalOES on the proclamation and initial damage estimate (IDE) process at the County Emergency Operations Center. This information was also sent out to the agencies. WEROC will be replicating this training for agencies in the fall.
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## **PLANNING AND PROGRAM EFFORTS**

### **AlertOC**

Janine continues to work with of special district members agencies participating in the AlertOC program. At this time, approximately 75% of the staff who will have access to the system to send messages have received training.

### **AWIA**

This is the last update on the AWIA Project. Check were issued the end of June to the agencies that did not spend out their funding.

### **Coastal Fire**

On 6/14, WEROC hosted at the Emergency Operations Center, a Coastal Fire Hotwash meeting with the three agencies MNWD, SCWD, and SOCWA involved in the incident. The purpose of a hotwash is to discuss what went well and identify areas in which improvement can influence a positive change for future events. The group as a whole appreciated the collaboration between the agencies, and we collectively were able to identify areas in coordination and training which will benefit all WEROC agencies.

On 6/8, following the FMAG meeting and additional conversations with MNWD, Vicki (WEROC) has engaged with the state in regards to water being eligible as a emergency protective measure cost with the changes seen last year to Prop. 218. Vicki has sent an email to CalOES and is awaiting further information back from the State and FEMA.

### **Cyber Security**

WEROC continues to send out important information to the Cyber Security Distribution Group as received from DHS or the OCIAC.

## **Logistics Planning**

On 6/22, WEROC hosted a Logistics Workshop/TTX Exercise at MNWD in which 53 people attended and participated. Vicki facilitated the TTX with the group through different questions and scenarios on various topics.

We identified logistics proved to be a challenge throughout the state during the COVID-19 pandemic. Logistics provides facilities, services, resources and other support services to agencies responding to an emergency. This discussion based workshop/TTX was intended to assess WEROC member agencies' capabilities to provide and support logistics operations in response to a disaster or emergency. Key concepts and questions discussed included:

- Assessing existing processes within and across agencies including the coordination with WEROC, the County, CalWarn and state resources to request, obtain, and move resources, including personnel, equipment, and services as well as identify unique needs associated with specific types of incidents.
- How agencies inventory and identify available resources and assess how resource needs and availability are communicated.
- Authorities and responsibilities for fulfilling resource needs.
- How plans, policies, and practices may need to be adapted to accommodate lessons learned during recent incidents.
- Discussion on Regional Fuel Planning and establishment of a joint fuel operations plan.

A special thank you to MNWD for the hospitality and their flexibility with dates to ensure this exercise could involve everyone wishing to participate.

Next steps will be to look at the data collected and implement the items discussed in order to continue the collaborative WEROC mission between agency and continue to plan for agency resiliency in the future. This action items will become part of the Logistics Annex as it is developed next fiscal year.

## **Training**

On 6/30, Vicki conducted a ICS 100/700 and Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) training for 32 our member agencies employees.

Vicki is finalizing the WEROC 2023-25 Integrated Preparedness Plan. This will encompass future planning and align the planning with both training and exercises. This document is due to the Operational Area by July 21.

### **Tsunami**

On 6/27, Vicki participated in a Tsunami TTX being conducted by OC Sanitation District. This was a multi part exercise to discuss actions within the internal organization. Vicki was able to provide what WEROC is providing along with the actions and parts of the County Plan in relation to both the County and State activities.

Based on the discussion, gaps were found in the current WEROC Tsunami Plan which will be updated with the outcomes from today's TTX. There was a validation of why we plan together and have TTXs such as these.

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

- The project has made it over the first hurdle to qualify and receive FY 23 Homeland Security Appropriations Funding as Senator Padilla's office submitted the Emergency Operations Center for the Water Emergency Response Organization of Orange County project to the Senate Appropriations Committee. The Senate Appropriations Committee will be submitting their earmarks in June

With that, the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee reached out to Senator Padilla's office to ensure this project meets the federal cost share limit. The maximum federal cost share for EOC projects is 75%. Meaning the remaining 25% is a local cost share. On June 4, an inquiry was made to MWDOC/WEROC if this project has funding in place for the 25% non-federal local cost share funding required for this project to be considered.

The AF Committee was briefed on this quick turn around request and a recommendation for this to be added to the agenda was made.

Because the next board meeting was occurring before the next MWDOC Manager's Meeting, Vicki sent out an email to all GM and Utility managers to brief them on the occurrence.

At the 6/15 Board Meeting and action item was presented to vote on with the recommendation

Approve MWDOC will underwrite the remaining 25% local cost share requirement for non-federal funds. The full write up can be obtained in the June 15<sup>th</sup> Agenda Packet. The action was passed at the meeting.

**WEROC Personnel Update**

The vacant WEROC Specialist Position has been opened for recruitment as of 6/24

**Operational Area and Member Agency Plan Review/Working Groups**

Vicki has reviewed and provided written changes or feedback to the following Annexes/Plans. These are currently being reviewed in working group meetings focusing on 1-2 chapters at a time:

- Orange County Operational Area – Disease Outbreak Annex
  - Orange County Operational Area – Recovery Annex
  - Operational Area Alert & Warning Seminar After Action Report
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**Status of Water Use Efficiency Projects  
June 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 May 2022, 209 high efficiency clothes washers and 19 premium high efficiency toilets were installed in Orange County.  To date, 126,385 high efficiency clothes washers and 60,849 high efficiency toilets have been installed through this program.
<b>SoCal WaterSmart Commercial Rebate Program</b>	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In May 2022, no commercial devices were installed in Orange County.  To date, 111,490 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 customers to implement custom water-saving projects.  Total water savings to date for the entire program is 1,291 AFY and 6,351 AF cumulatively.
<b>Flow-Monitoring Device Rebate Program</b>	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In May 2022, 9 flow-monitoring devices were installed in Orange County.  To date, 31 flow-monitoring devices have been installed through this program.
<b>Smart Timer Rebate Program</b>	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In May 2022, 173 residential and 40 commercial smart timers were installed in Orange County.  To date, 32,991 smart timers have been installed through this program.

<b>Description</b>	<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Status % Complete</b>	<b>Scheduled Completion or Renewal Date</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Rotating Nozzles Rebate Program</b>	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In May 2022, 85 rotating nozzles were installed in Orange County.  To date, 574,568 rotating nozzles have been installed through this program.
<b>Rain Barrel Rebate Program</b>	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In May 2022, 9 rain barrels were installed in Orange County.  To date, 8,675 rain barrels have been installed through this program.
<b>Turf Removal Program</b>	MWDOC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In May 2022, 37 rebates were paid, representing \$293,535 in rebates paid this month in Orange County.  To date, the Turf Removal Program has removed approximately 24 million square feet of turf.
<b>Spray to Drip Rebate Program</b>	MWDOC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In May 2022, 15 rebates were paid, representing \$29,984 in rebates paid this month in Orange County.  To date, the Spray to Drip Program has converted approximately 1.7 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 20,080 AF cumulatively.

## Public &amp; Governmental Affairs Activities Report

June 1, 2022 – June 28, 2022

<b>Member Agency Relations</b>	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed coordination of Streams of Hope statuette placement for the City of Santa Ana.</li> <li>Provided City of San Clemente with specific information regarding the Phase II drought campaign collateral</li> </ul> <p>Government Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distributed the June Grants Tracking and Acquisition report to all member agencies</li> <li>Coordinated a presentation by Joey Soto of Soto Resources to the member agency managers on grants tracking</li> <li>Worked with the City of San Clemente to have their projects added to the monthly grants report, and have potential funding sources matched</li> </ul>
<b>Community Relations</b>	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staffed a booth and brought Ricky Raindrop to the OC Green Expo presented by Anaheim Public Utilities – approx.. 800 attendees</li> <li>Connected with residents for turf removal promotional materials</li> <li>Met with Girl Scouts of Orange County leader to discuss the MWDOC Water Resources and Conservation Patch Program</li> <li>Designed and ordered new promotional items for trainings, tours, presentation, and community events</li> <li>Designed and created promotional event signs to be used at Ricky Raindrop appearances.</li> <li><b>Speakers Bureau</b>-Prepared and attended presentation by Director Dick for Garden Grove Rotary Club</li> </ul> <p>Governmental Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Connected OCFA fire inspector with Metropolitan staff to coordinate an inspection of Met property for fire safety and readiness</li> <li>Participated in the OCBC Infrastructure Committee meeting and introduced speaker, Vicki Osborn, who gave a presentation on the WEROC EOC</li> <li>Attended the ACC-OC Legislation and Regulatory Committee meeting</li> </ul>
<b>Education</b>	<p>Public Affairs Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Speaker's Bureau</b>- Prepared, hosted, and led the Water Energy Education Alliance (WEEA) Leadership Roundtable #11 with 50 registrants representing 39 organizations statewide</li> <li>Provided MWDOC Choice School Program contractor Orange County Department of Education, Inside the Outdoors, with a o-program interest request received through the MWDOC website</li> <li>Met with California Environmental Education Foundation board member to discuss workforce development engagement</li> <li>Supplied Mesa Water with information regarding past participation in MWDOC Choice School Programs for a presentation</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided City of Anaheim with information regarding the MWDOC Choice School Programs</li> <li>• Supplied Santa Margarita Water District with a presentation including background and service area specifics on MWDOC Choice School Programs, per request</li> <li>• Participated in the California Environmental Literacy (CAELI) Leadership Council's quarterly meeting</li> <li>• Participated in the CAELI Green Careers Innovation Hub meeting</li> </ul>
<b>Media Relations</b>	<p>Public Affairs Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepared and distributed the June issue of MWDOC eCurrents Newsletter</li> <li>• Held media briefings with various reporters</li> <li>• Prepared and distributed content for social media</li> <li>• Prepared and submitted one article to ACWA News <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <a href="https://www.acwa.com/news/mwdocs-new-grab-and-go-water-activity-observing-the-natural-world/">https://www.acwa.com/news/mwdocs-new-grab-and-go-water-activity-observing-the-natural-world/</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Distributed weekly news digests to MWDOC managers and board</li> </ul>
<b>Special Projects</b>	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participated in several OC Water Summit Planning committee meetings</li> <li>• Coordinated with Orange County Water District in the planning and producing of materials of OC Water Summit</li> <li>• Participated in a meeting with Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) about bringing back the Inspection Trip program</li> <li>• Attended a Metropolitan Public Information Officers working group meeting</li> <li>• Responded to MWDOC department requests for website information and published website updates</li> <li>• Executed final one-year contract extension for HashtagPinpoint. Funds are budgeted and authorization for the expenditure has been approved - see Exhibit J in the final FY 2022-23 board approved budget.</li> <li>• Met with Centers of Excellence for Labor Market Research to review statewide water and wastewater workforce development draft survey</li> <li>• Met with Ignited to discuss statewide water and wastewater workforce development model</li> <li>• Working with San Diego County Water Authority to submit inspection trip dates for shared trips</li> <li>• On request, provided local Orange County printer and designer with Phase II drought campaign collateral</li> </ul> <p>Governmental Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invited a speaker from OCIAC to present at the Quarterly ISDOC Luncheon in July</li> <li>• Staffed the WACO Planning Committee</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invited speakers from Metropolitan and Bard Water District to speak at the August WACO meeting</li> <li>• Drafted the ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon invite for distribution</li> </ul>
<b>Legislative Affairs</b>	<p>Governmental Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Met with Supervisor Don Wagner's office, re: WEROC EOC</li> <li>• Participated in the CMUA Regulatory and Legislative Committee meetings</li> <li>• Attended the CSDA Legislative Committee meeting</li> <li>• Attended the ACWA State Legislative Committee meeting</li> <li>• Participated in the ACWA/CMUA/CASA/WateReuse meeting, regarding amendments to SB 1157 (Hertzberg)</li> <li>• Met with County CEO staff regarding funding for the WEROC EOC and the county's use of the ARPA funds</li> <li>• Prepared letters on H.R. 7612 (Levine) and S. 4231 (Feinstein) for signature and distribution</li> <li>• Attended a special session of the ACWA State Legislative Committee</li> <li>• Met with Assembly Member Sharon Quirk Silva who asked thoughtful questions about conveyance, Sites Reservoir, and the DCP</li> <li>• Met with Senator Dave Min, and thanked him for his leadership on the delegation letter for the WEROC EOC funding request</li> <li>• Met with Senator Josh Newman regarding conveyance and current legislation with MWDOC positions</li> <li>• Participated in the Met member agencies legislative meeting</li> <li>• Attended the ACWA SB 1157 Working Group meeting to discuss amendments</li> </ul>