

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY
Jointly with the
PLANNING & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
February 5, 2024, 8:30 a.m.

Teleconference Site:
25652 Paseo De La Paz
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
(Members of the public may attend and participate in the meeting at both in-person locations.)

This meeting will be held in person at 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, California, 92708 (Conference Room 101). As a convenience for the public, the meeting may also be accessed by Zoom Webinar and will be available by either computer or telephone audio as indicated below. Because this is an in-person meeting and the Zoom component is not required, but rather is being offered as a convenience, if there are any technical issues during the meeting, this meeting will continue and will not be suspended.

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 Seckel, Chair
Director Yoo Schneider
Director Dick

Staff: H.De La Torre, J. Berg, V. Osborn,
T. Dubuque, D. Micalizzi, H. Baez,
M. Baum-Haley, C. Busslinger,
T. Baca

Ex Officio Member: President McVicker

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 website, accessible at <http://www.mwdoc.com>.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. OC PROJECTIONS REPORT (OCP) FROM THE CENTER FOR DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH (CDR)

2. TURF REMOVAL REBATE PROGRAM UPDATE
3. PROCESS FOR CONSIDERING IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE CHOICE SERVICES PROGRAM FOR MEMBER AGENCIES

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.)

4. UPDATE REGARDING THE AMP SHUTDOWN
5. PUBLIC AFFAIRS HIGHLIGHTS
6. WATER POLICY FORUM & DINNER –JANUARY 31, 2024
7. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES 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.



COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEM

February 5, 2024

TO: Planning & Operations Committee
(Directors Seckel, Yoo Schneider, Dick)

FROM: Harvey De La Torre, General Manager

Staff Contact: Charles Busslinger

**SUBJECT: OC PROJECTIONS REPORT (OCP) FROM THE CENTER FOR
DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH (CDR)**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Planning & Operations Committee review the presentation by the Center for Demographic Research regarding the Orange County Projections Report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

DETAILED REPORT

On September 27, 2023, the Center for Demographic Research (CDR) released the 2023 Orange County Progress Report. This annual report is a comprehensive resource document containing a variety of demographic statistics regarding population, housing, and employment (jobs) in Orange County. Review of the 2023 OC Progress Report resulted in a Board request for staff to provide additional information regarding how demographic projections are developed for Orange County, namely, the 2022 Orange County Projections.

Since 1996, agencies in Orange County have jointly funded CDR as sponsors for the preparation of demographic projections for use in various planning activities. Sponsoring agencies and partners include the Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG), California State University, Fullerton (CSUF), the County of Orange, Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), Transportation Corridor Agencies (TCA), Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWD OC), Orange County Water District (OCWD), Southern

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

California Association of Governments (SCAG), OC Sanitation District (OC San), and the Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission (OC LAFCO).

Approximately every four years, CDR at CSUF develops these projections of population, housing, and employment. These projections are approved by the OCCOG Board of Directors and transmitted to SCAG as Orange County's projections for incorporation into SCAG's growth forecast and for use in local, subregional, and regional planning activities. Additionally, these projections are used by numerous public and private sector entities involved in planning programs for Orange County.

The Orange County Projections (OCP) are recognized by the agencies that sponsor CDR as the uniform data set for use in local and regional planning applications. Population, housing, and employment are projected and adopted in five-year increments, beginning with 2019 as the base year and then projecting out on the "fives," from 2025 to 2050 countywide and for the ten Regional Statistical Areas (RSA).

Developing the OCP is a multi-year, multi-agency endeavor that involves cities, the County of Orange, and special districts, including MWDOC. OCP-2022 is the most recent dataset in the OCP series.

CDR Director, Deborah Diep will present an overview of the 2022 Orange County Projections.

Attachment: 2022 Orange County Projections (OCP) Presentation

2022 ORANGE COUNTY PROJECTIONS



Orange County Council of Governments
Board of Directors
February 5, 2024

Deborah Diep, Director
Center for Demographic Research
www.fullerton.edu/cdr

Acronyms

- ACS- American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau
- ADU- Accessory Dwelling Unit
- CDPH- California Department of Public Health
- CDR- Center for Demographic Research
- DOF- California State Department of Finance
- EDD- California State Employment Development Department
- MOC- Management Oversight Committee
- NIMBY- Not In My Backyard
- OCCOG- Orange County Council of Governments
- OCP- Orange County Projections
- OCTA- Orange County Transportation Authority
- PHE- Population, Housing Units, & Employment
- RHNA- Regional Housing Needs Assessment
- RTP- Regional Transportation Plan
- SCAG- Southern California Association of Governments
- SCS- Sustainable Communities Strategy
- TAC- Technical Advisory Committee
- TAZ- Traffic Analysis Zone

Sponsorship and Administration

The Center for Demographic Research (CDR) was established in 1996 to ensure Orange County continued its presence in the development and support of demographic information. The CDR is located at California State University, Fullerton, ensuring data consistency through the maintenance of a centralized data source of Orange County demographic characteristics.

CDR Sponsors 2023-2026



Cal State
Fullerton



Contributing
Partners:



CDR's Core Project:

CDR

Orange County Projections (OCP)

- Prepare demographic forecasts for Orange County, California: Orange County Projections (OCP)
 - Socio-economic dataset of future population, housing, and employment with a minimum 20-year horizon
 - OCP-2022: 14th iteration, 8th for CDR
 - Top-down, Bottom-up:
 - Project county-wide population, housing, and jobs
 - Meet with, collect, & incorporate detailed input from each jurisdiction
 - Monitored by technical & management committees
 - Approval process involves CDR & OCCOG Technical Advisory Committees, CDR management committee, and OCCOG Board
 - Technical participation in regional and local activities to ensure, on Orange County agencies' behalf, that a technical review and local efforts and information are incorporated into regional planning efforts

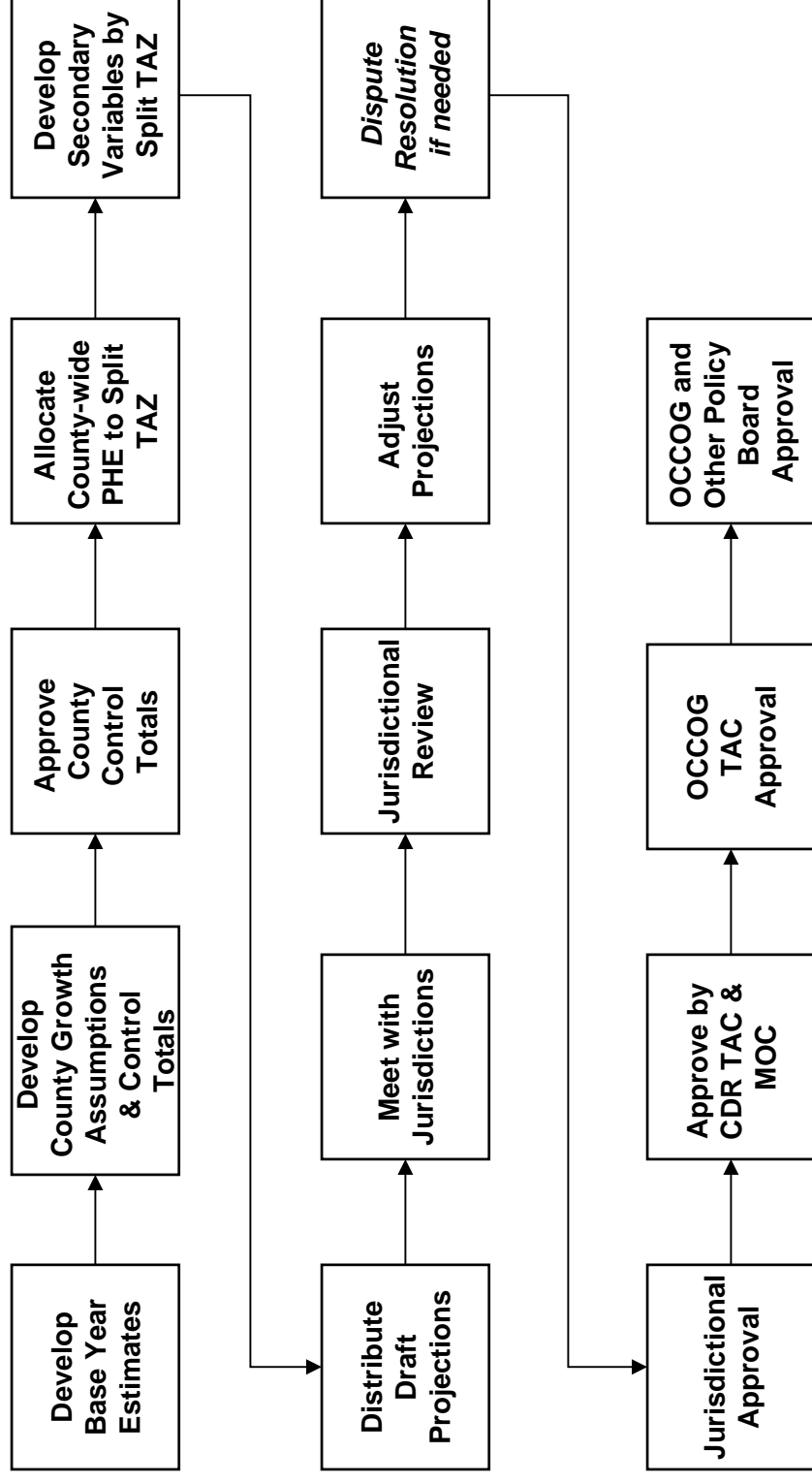
OCP Uses

- Uniform, long-range forecast used in local and regional planning
 - OCTA's Long Range Transportation Plan
 - SCAG's Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS), aka 2024 Connect SoCal
 - Infrastructure Planning, e.g., transportation
 - City planning among Orange County's 34 cities, plus the County of Orange
 - Air Quality Planning
 - Congestion Management Plans
 - Calculating demand for water, sewer, and other services
 - Municipal Water District of Orange County
 - Orange County Water District
 - Orange County Sanitation District
- Policy Uses
 - Goal is to provide the most accurate and detailed estimates and forecast in order for elected officials to make informed policy decisions

OCP-2022 Process

Develop TAZ-Level Projections

CDR



Structure of the Models

- Age cohort-component model
 - $P_f = P_b + B - D + M_i - M_o$
 - P_f = Forecast Population
 - P_b = Baseline Population
 - B = Projected Births
 - D = Projected Mortality
 - M_i = Projected In-Migration
 - M_o = Projected Out-Migration
- Shift-share model
 - Orange County's share of California employment and growth
 - Growth by sectors

OCP-2022 Inputs

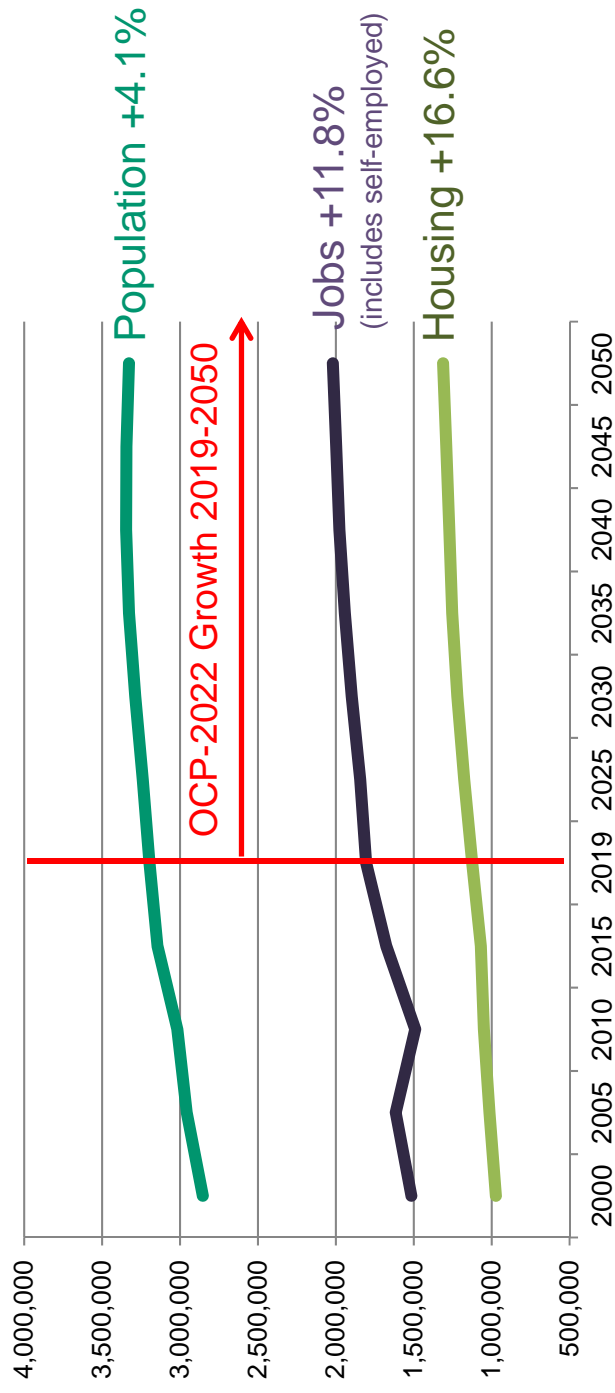
- 2020 Census & American Community Survey (ACS)
- DOF Population Estimates
- EDD Employment Estimates
- CDPH Vital Statistics: Birth & Death data
- CDR Small Area Population & Housing Estimates
- CDR Small Area Employment Estimates
- Local Universities' Short-Term Economic Forecasts
- SCAG Long-Term Economic Forecasts
- City & County General Plans, Economic Development & Redevelopment Plans
- Project Proposals & Entitlements
- City/County Review & Comment

Documentation

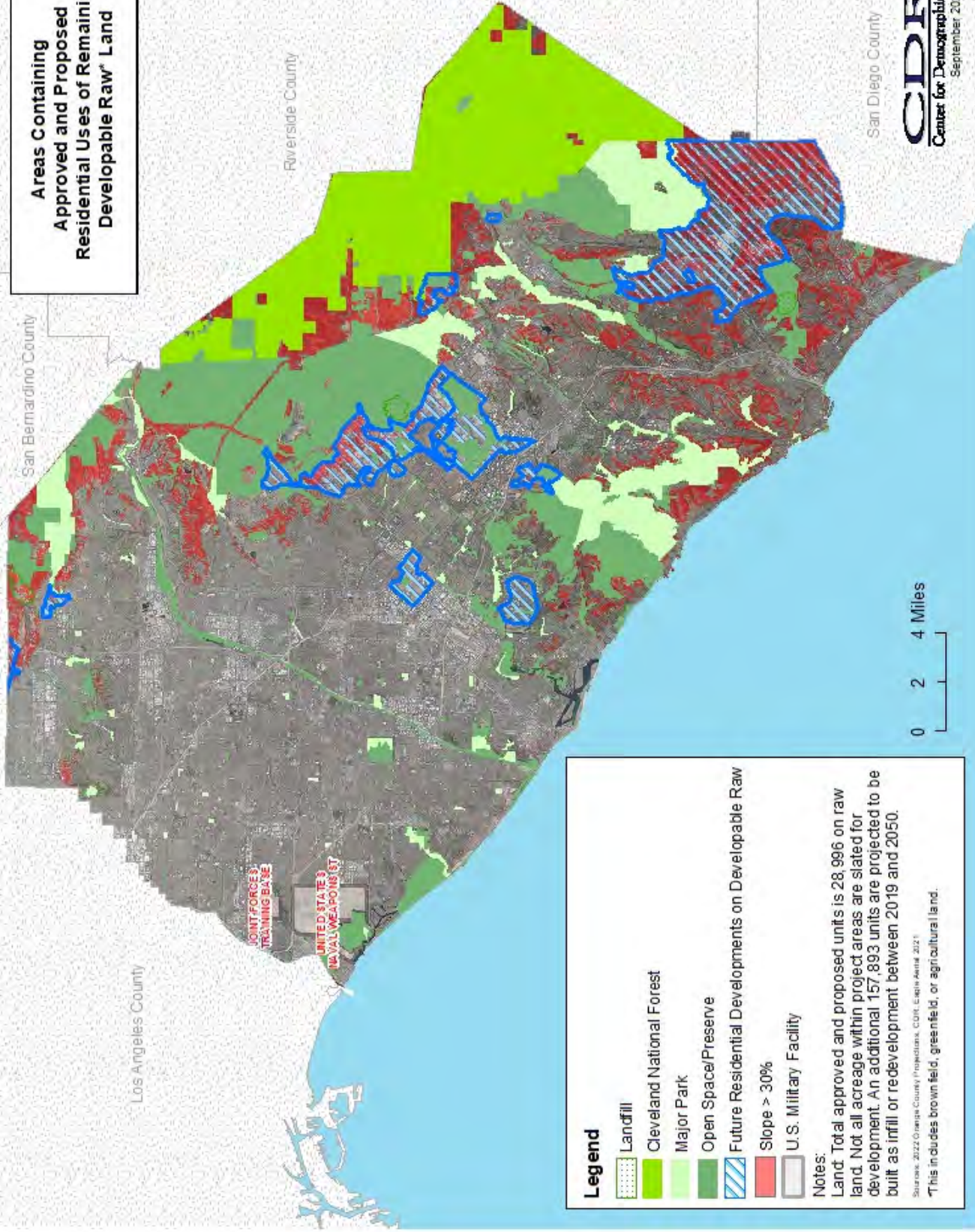
- General Plan zoning
- Build-out capacity
- Developable acreage and potential future densities by type of land use (residential, commercial, industrial)
- Recent development approvals of specified locations
- Building finals and demolition data
- Information about annexations
- Registered business records
- Historical growth trends
- Ethnicity of resident population
- Professionally prepared market research/study
- Legislative actions and ordinances
- Habitat constraints
- Other

OCP-2022

	Estimate	Projections					
		2019	2025	2030	2035	2040	2050
Employment	1,805,476		1,843,470	1,897,773	1,941,915	1,976,791	2,018,954
Housing Units	1,124,849		1,176,165	1,220,390	1,252,783	1,271,438	1,311,738
Population	3,196,231		3,239,474	3,287,447	3,327,150	3,345,665	3,327,124



Areas Containing Approved and Proposed Residential Uses of Remaining Developable Raw" Land

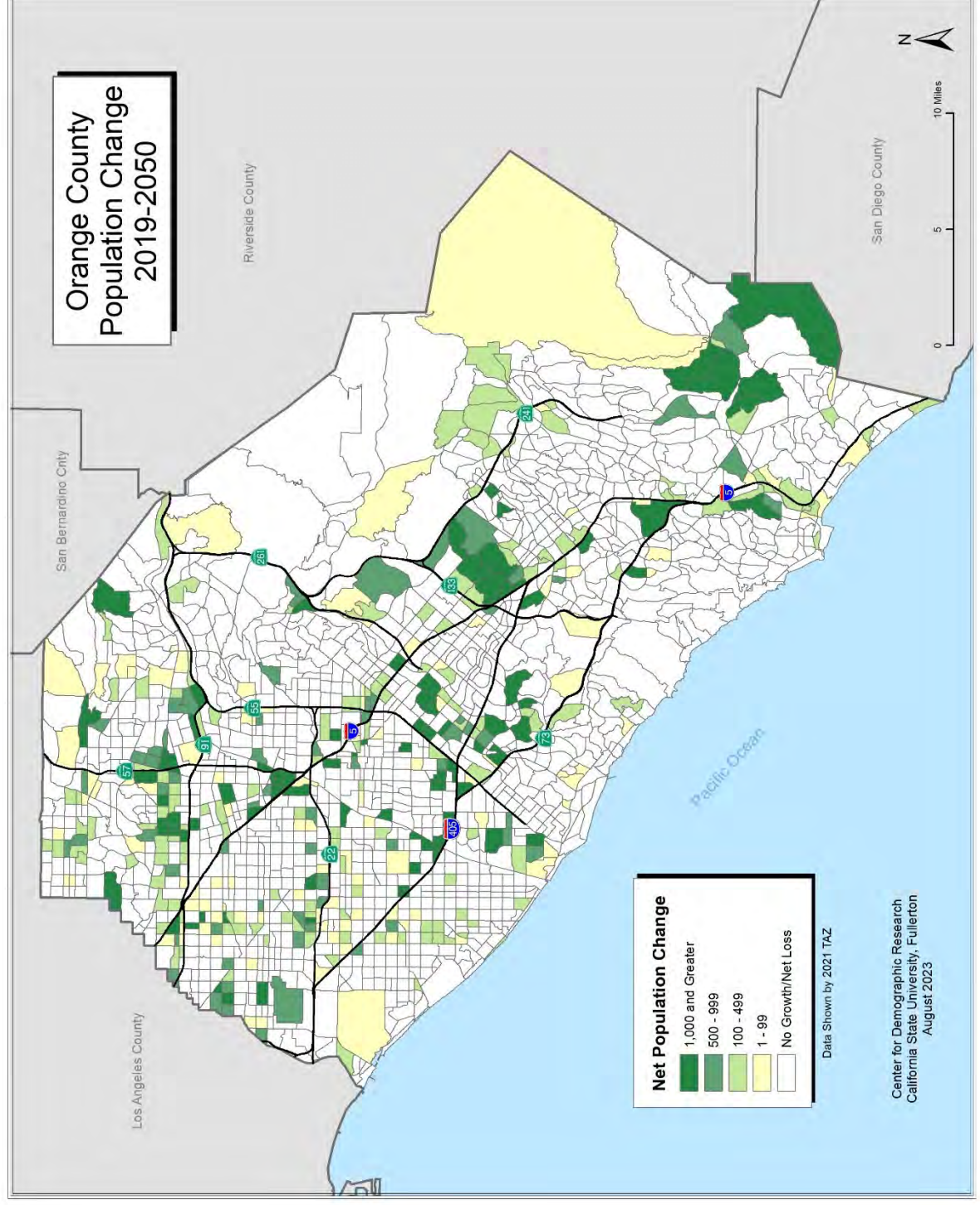


San Diego County

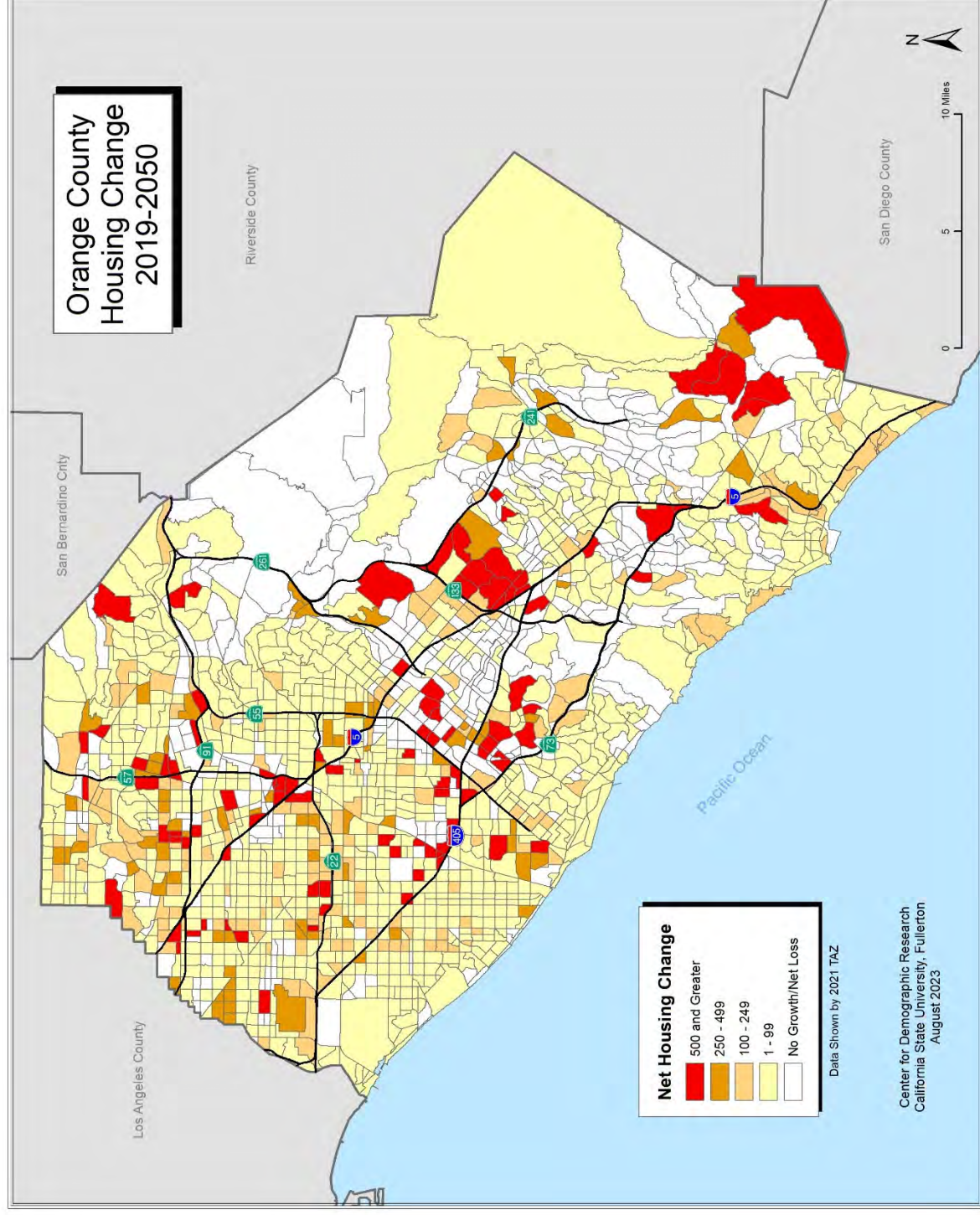
CDR
Center for Demographic Research
September 2022

Population Change

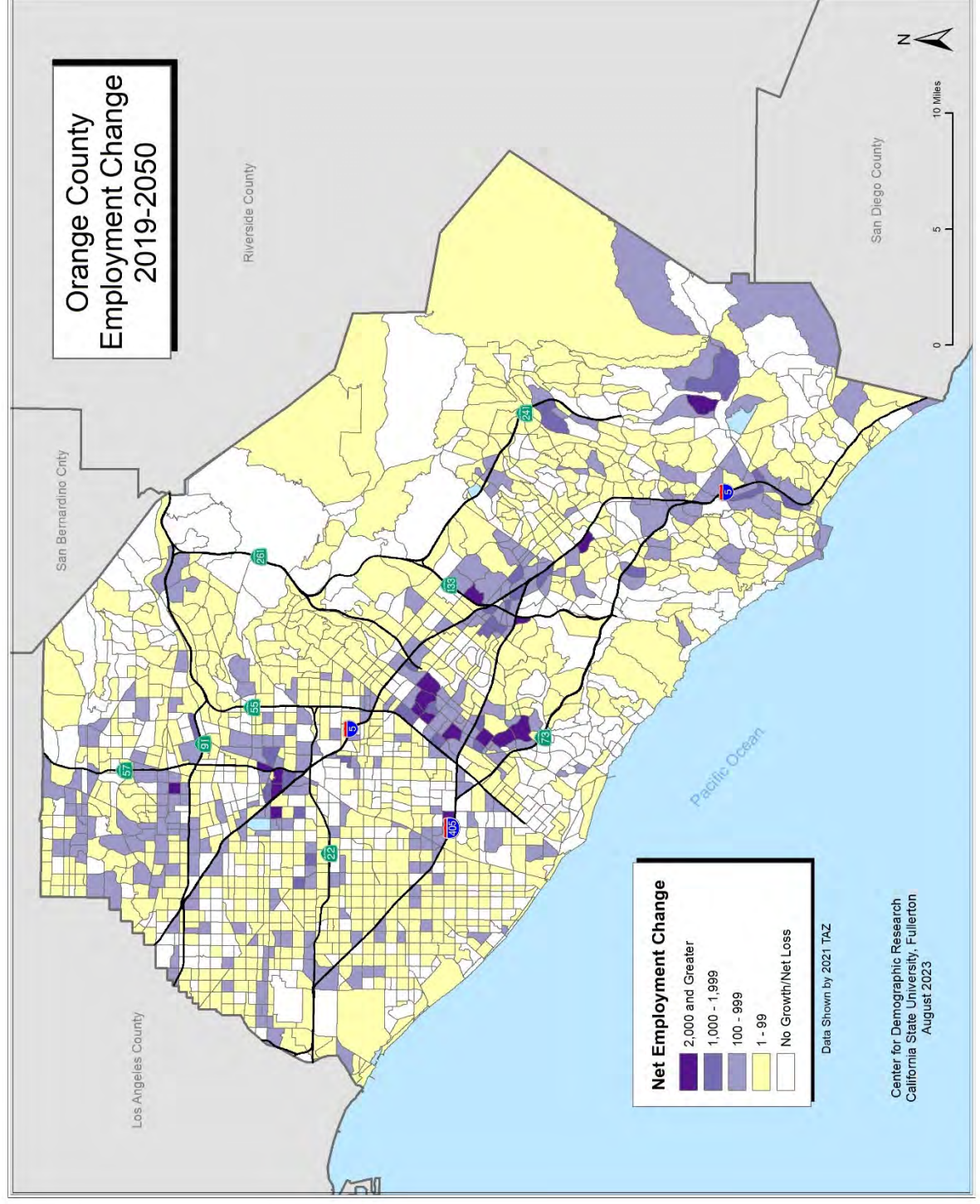
CDR



Housing Unit Change



Employment Change



Wild Cards

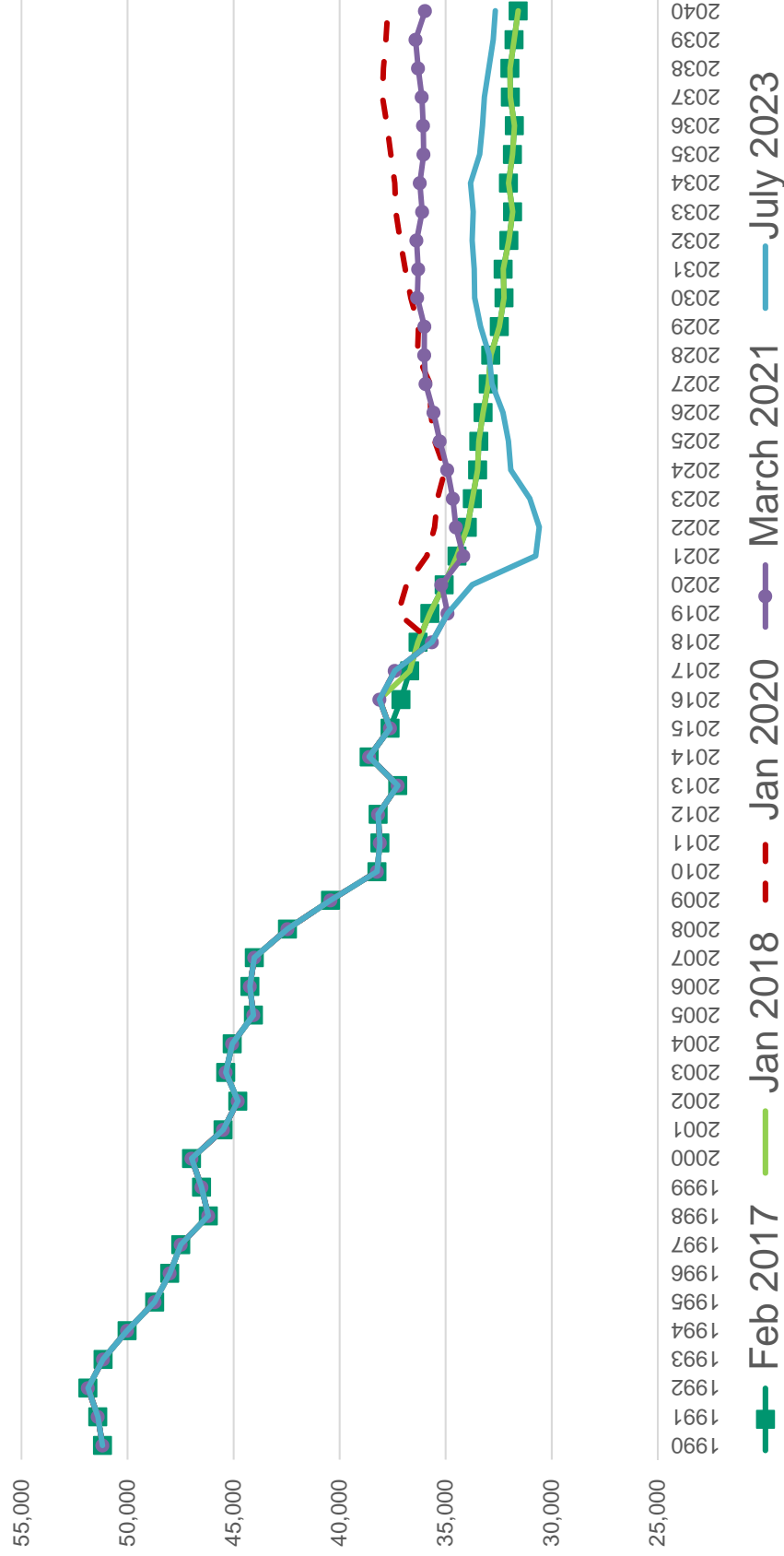
- Immigration Policy
- Infrastructure
- Housing Costs
- Regulation
- Economic Competitiveness
- NIMBYISM
- Planning Paradigm
- New & Revised Data (or delayed)

Wild Cards:

CDR

Birth rates were already dropping...

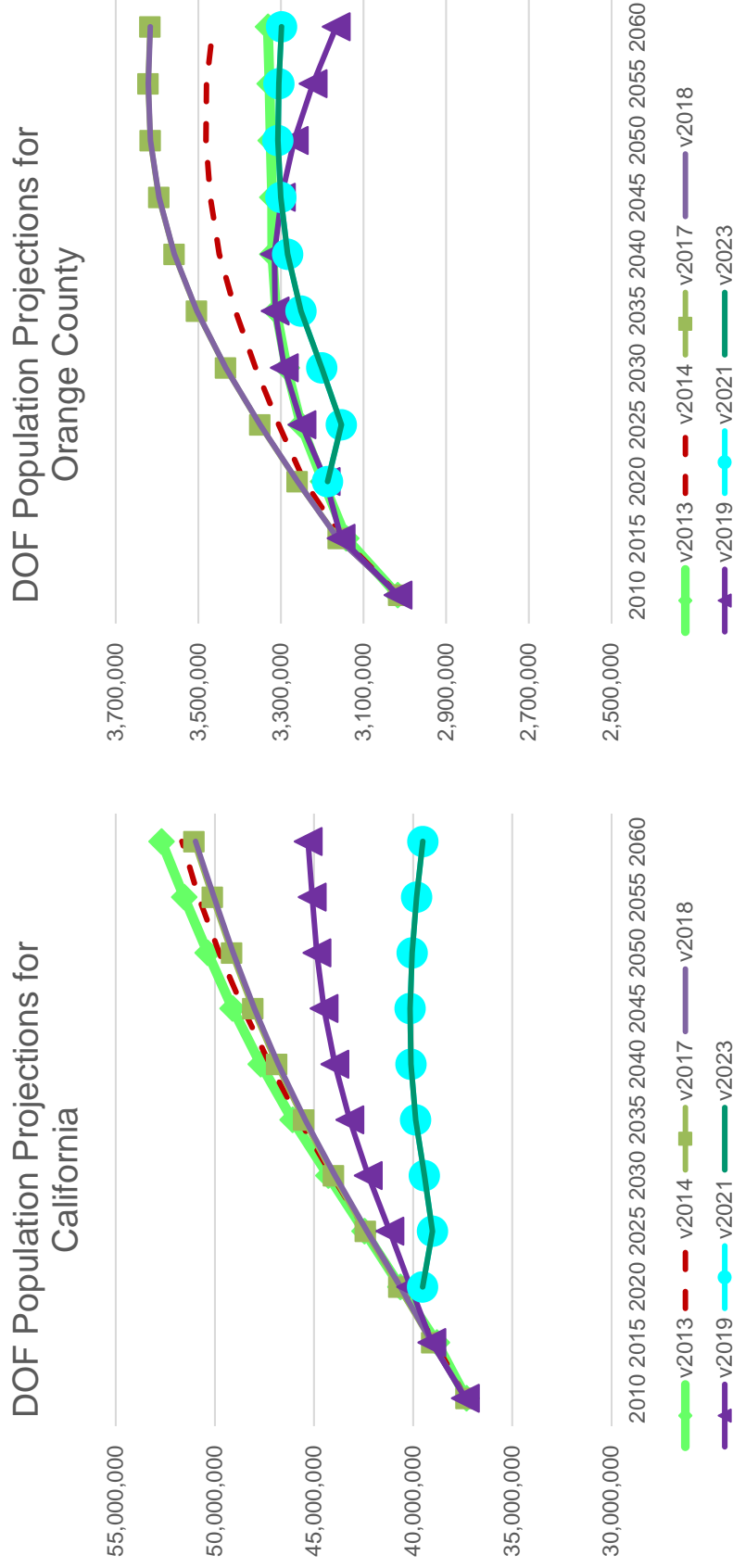
California DOF Birth Projections for Orange County (Vintages 2017-2023)



Source: California State Dept. of Finance (DOF) <https://dof.ca.gov/forecasting/demographics/projections/>

Wild Cards: Changing circumstances affect assumptions and outputs of projections series

California DOF Population Projections (Vintages 2013-2023)



Source: California State Dept. of Finance (DOF) <https://dof.ca.gov/forecasting/demographics/projections/>

Questions?



Deborah Diep

Director

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Fullerton, CA 92831

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INFORMATION ITEM

February 5, 2024

TO: Planning & Operations Committee
(Directors Seckel, Yoo Schneider, Dick)

FROM: Harvey De La Torre, General Manager

Staff Contact: Rachel Waite, Water Use Efficiency Programs Supervisor
Joe Berg, Director of Water Use Efficiency

SUBJECT: Turf Removal Rebate Program Update

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

SUMMARY

The Turf Removal Rebate Program (TRRP) is routinely refined to best serve the public, reflect requests from Metropolitan and member agencies, stay current with best management practices, and support state and federal legislation and directives. Two Program refinements are scheduled to begin March 4, 2024, pending grant authorization timelines: (1) the Commercial incentive will increase from \$2 to \$3 per square foot; and (2) MWD OC will pilot Trees as a Sustainability Feature, implemented in tandem with Metropolitan's monetary tree incentive.

DETAILED REPORT

Turf Program Rebate Level Refinements

Metropolitan recently received two large grant awards to supplement the TRRP. Five million dollars was awarded through the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) WaterSMART: Water and Energy Efficiency Program and \$30 million was awarded through the Department of Water Resources (DWR) Urban Community Drought Relief Program. From Metropolitan's

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

awards, MWDOC is allocated \$650,000 of USBR funds and \$3.5 million of DWR funds. This funding will increase the commercial sector rebate level from \$2 to \$3 per square foot. Residential and Public sector levels remain unchanged at \$3 per square foot and \$4 per square foot, respectively. This change is set to take place March 4, 2024, or later pending the grant authorization timeline.

Turf Program Tree Incentives

In 2018, Metropolitan relaunched the TRRP incorporating a watershed-wise approach with the goal of achieving multiple benefits. This approach includes requirements for a plant density minimum of three plants per one hundred square feet, installation of a living landscape (disallowance of synthetic turf), and installation of a sustainability feature designed with the intent to retain and reduce stormwater runoff (also referenced as a stormwater capture feature).

Participant feedback and program documentation have indicated that the sustainability feature is one of the most challenging requirements of the Program. To break down customer barriers and achieve the secondary goal of increasing the presence of trees in Turf Removal projects, MWDOC, member agency, and Metropolitan staff collaboratively developed the Trees as a Sustainability Feature Pilot.

The Pilot allows eligible trees to qualify as sustainability features. This expands participant options for compliance and promotes the inclusion of trees in Turf Removal projects, helping to mitigate the urban heat island effect, among other benefits. Trees are widely recognized for their stormwater capture benefits and are an EPA Green Infrastructure Stormwater Management best management practice. Eligible tree species are regionally appropriate, evergreen, and are characterized by full canopies to maximize precipitation interception during our rainy season. Trees are a sustainable, cost-effective, resilient, and beneficial option to comply with the requirement.

The Trees as a Sustainability Feature Pilot will launch March 4, 2024 in tandem with a separate but cohesive regional tree incentive effort by Metropolitan. Metropolitan will offer TRRP participants \$100 per tree installed in the project area, up to five trees, in addition to the regular incentive. Additionally, one tree will qualify as three plants towards the plant minimum requirement.

Staff will provide a detailed presentation of these program refinements at the February 5, 2024 Planning and Operations Committee Meeting.



COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEM

February 5, 2024

TO: **Planning & Operations Committee**
(Directors Seckel, Yoo Schneider, Dick)

FROM: **Harvey De La Torre, General Manager**

Staff Contact: J. Berg, Director of Water Use Efficiency

SUBJECT: Process for Considering Implementation of an Advanced Metering
Infrastructure Choice Services Program for Member Agencies

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Planning & Operations Committee support staff's process for considering implementation of an Advanced Metering Infrastructure Choice Service Program for Member Agencies.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

SUMMARY

The Municipal Water District of Orange County offers its member agencies a variety of services. These services come in the form of Core and Choice services. Core services benefit all agencies and are funded through the MWDOC General Fund. Choice services allow agencies to pick and choose which services they want, at what level, and pay for the services they access. Agencies that choose not to participate in Choice Services do not pay for those services. Choice services currently being offered include Water Use Efficiency, Water Loss Control, School Education, and Lead and Copper Rule Revisions Compliance.

Staff would like to explore the potential for a new Choice Service to assist member agencies with evaluating the feasibility and installation of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI).

The detailed report below provides a description of what AMI is, the benefits, a concept for a choice-based framework, a schedule for considering the AMI Choice Service, and initial input from member agencies regarding their support for exploring the new AMI Choice Service.

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

DETAILED REPORT

What is AMI and What are the Benefits?

According to the EPA¹:

Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) provides numerous benefits to water utilities. AMI improves a utility's ability to collect frequent and accurate water usage data to improve billing, leak detection, and water resource management.

The types of water meters used by utilities have evolved over time. Older technology required that utilities send meter readers to individual sites (such as homes) to physically read meters. As the technology changed, meters that allowed for automated meter reading (AMR) became more prevalent. This provided some savings to utilities as meter readers could collect data by, for example, simply driving their truck down a street and remotely getting data from meters as they passed by. This made it possible for utilities to reduce the staff time needed to read all meters and bill more frequently.

As water utilities look to replace older water meters, another option has emerged. AMI meters provide for remote collection of water use data - in real time. This supports more frequent billing, but more importantly also allows a utility to quickly identify excessive water use that could be the result of leaks.

The emergence of AMI provides utilities with a real opportunity, but it can also be a challenge to determine how to manage the data collected and how to make that data useful to the utility customers. An AWWA water conservation committee conducted a study on AMI implementation and produced a useful guide for utilities on how they could use their AMI portals to increase customer engagement for water conservation.

Additional benefits that can be realized include replacing old, outdated, and inaccurate meters with new accurate meters. This will result in increased revenue for the utility by more accurately matching actual consumption to customer billing. Customer-side-of-the-meter leak detection is another significant benefit. AMI can identify when a meter has constant flow over extended periods of time. The Water Research Foundation² Residential End Uses of Water, Version 2"found residential homes to have average daily leakage of 7.9 gallons per capita per day.

This gives the utility an opportunity to easily and quickly message the customer that they may have a leak and provide instructions on how to investigate where the leak might be and how to fix it. AMI systems also include a customer-facing portal to allow the customer to view their water use in real-time. Agencies couple this customer portal with educational materials, as well as rebate incentives, to improve customer awareness and efficiency.

¹ <https://www.epa.gov/watersense/advanced-metering-infrastructure>

² https://www.awwa.org/Portals/0/AWWA/ETS/Resources/WaterConservationResidential_End_Uses_of_Water.pdf

Choice-Based Framework

The Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Choice Service would include two components: One-on-one Technical Assistance from a consulting firm specializing in AMI and Grant Funding Assistance for installation of AMI. Agencies can choose to participate in one or both components, depending on their individual needs. The Technical Assistance will include a feasibility study to evaluate the various technologies, infrastructure needs, implementation costs, and overall benefits. The Grant Funding Assistance would follow on the heels of the Technical Assistance and will include MWDOC acquisition of grant funding for installation of the AMI system. The US Bureau of Reclamation Water Smart Water & Energy Efficiency (WEEG) funding opportunity has a long history of funding AMI throughout the West due to water and energy savings benefits. WEEG provides for up to a 50/50 funding split between the grant recipient and USBR based on the water savings resulting from AMI. Laguna Beach CWD, Moulton Niguel WD, City of Newport Beach, South Coast WD, and Trabuco Canyon WD have all received WEEG awards for AMI averaging 22% of the total costs (with a range of 10% to 40%).

Because water savings cannot be generated from the Technical Assistance component of the AMI Choice Services, participating agencies will need to pay 100% of that cost unless other sources of feasibility funding can be accessed. Staff is currently exploring other grant funding opportunities to offset feasibility study costs to participating member agencies.

MWDOC's role will be to facilitate the overall AMI Choice Services Program on behalf of the member agencies. This will initially include conducting an RFP process to hire a consultant specializing in AMI feasibility analysis and system installation. While MWDOC will lead the RFP process, member agency participation in the review of proposals and selection of the consultant will be paramount to the success of the choice services. MWDOC will manage this consultant and coordinate member agency access to the consultant's services. It is anticipated that member agencies will choose from a variety of Technical Assistance tasks/services from the consultant, as needed. MWDOC will invoice the participating agencies for the services they choose and use those funds to pay the consultant for services rendered. For agencies pursuing installation of AMI, MWDOC will pursue grant funding to offset retail agency costs up to a maximum of a 50/50 cost share basis as required by the USBR WEEG eligibility criteria.

One area of concern is the acquisition of sufficient grant funding within each annual grant funding cycle. Installation of AMI has a considerable cost for any size agency. The WEEG funding opportunity is capped at \$5 million per year. However, WEEG allows for larger projects to be funded over multiple annual grant awards/cycles. It will be important for MWDOC to submit grant requests annually and to make grant funds available to agencies on a first-come first-served basis. Since feasibility studies usually require several months to complete and installations occur over multiple years, staff will have plenty of lead time to position member agencies in line for funding consideration.

Not all agencies will be interested in accessing a MWDOC AMI Choice Service since some, such as the Cities of Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, and Newport Beach, already have AMI. These agencies have been very helpful to MWDOC staff in building a stronger knowledge base of AMI and seem very willing to share their experiences with the other agencies in the county. Other agencies, including Irvine Ranch WD, are already pursuing AMI on their own and are not likely to access the shared service. Ultimately, the proposed Choice-Based framework is designed to assist only those agencies who are interested in accessing the shared services at their own cost.

AMI Choice Service Program Schedule:

This schedule is intended to show how staff will proceed with exploring the potential for a new Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Technical Assistance and Funding Acquisition Choice Service Program on behalf of member agencies. The process includes several opportunities to both inform and solicit input from the MWDOC Board and member agencies as the process progresses. This process is also designed to honor both the MWDOC Board Strategic Plan to improve member agency collaboration and the commitment from MWDOC staff to member agencies through the Facilitated Discussions to improve communications. The key opportunities for input and milestones are summarized below:

1. Inform the MWDOC Board and Member Agencies of MWDOC's intent to explore the potential for a new AMI Choice Services
 - a. Water Loss Control Work Group - January 9, 2024
 - b. Member Agency Managers - January 18, 2024
 - c. OC Met Member Agency Managers - January 25, 2024
 - d. Water Use Efficiency Workgroup - February 1, 2024
 - e. Planning & Operations Committee - February 5, 2024

This is the initial step in the collaborative process between MWDOC, the MWDOC Board of Directors, and member agencies to explore the development of a new choice service to support member agencies in their efforts to modernize metering systems and save valuable water resources.

2. Develop a Member Agency Needs Assessment Survey - In-progress

The Survey is designed to solicit input from member agencies and document the status of AMI installation and member agency needs. The Survey results will be used to gauge the level of interest in the shared services program and determine if sufficient interest exists to proceed with developing the program.

3. Deploy and Analyze Member Agency Needs Assessment Survey –
 - a. Deploy Survey to Member Agencies February 12, 2024
 - b. Close Survey (provide a 3-week response time) March 4, 2024
 - c. Analyze Survey Results March 2024

4. Provide Survey Results & Make “Go” or “No Go” Decision to develop a Choice Services Plan
 - a. Member Agency Managers March 21, 2024
 - b. Planning & Operations Committee April 1, 2024

5. Develop AMI Choice Services Plan
 - a. Develop AMI Choice Services Plan RFP April 2024
 - b. Request Board Authorization to hire Consultant June 2024
 - c. Begin Implementation of AMI Choice Services June – August 2024

Initial Input from Member Agencies

At the January 18, 2024 Member Agency Managers Meeting, staff presented the AMI Choice Services concept and implementation schedule to the Member Agency Managers. Positive discussion occurred with support from most agencies. Ideas and information shared by the agencies included:

- Establishing a working group of interested agencies with and without AMI to share information and improve broader understanding of AMI
- Successes in accessing grant funding
- Willingness to share feasibility studies
- AMI provides critical information to improve asset management
- Water savings through customer leak detection
- AMI cannot be justified solely on water savings, rather the complete package of benefits should be considered

Staff also shared the AMI Choice Services concept with the 3-Cities at the January 25, 2024 OC Metropolitan Member Agency Managers Meeting. While Anaheim is well into their feasibility study and Santa Ana is in the process of installing AMI, all three cities expressed interest in participating and sharing information.

When asked if MWDOC should conduct a Member Agency Survey to gauge agency needs, member agencies were very supportive. Based on this support, staff plans to continue to explore the potential for a new AMI choice service program with member agencies as outlined in the schedule provided above.



Item No. 4

INFORMATION ITEM

February 5, 2024

TO: Planning & Operations Committee
(Directors Seckel, Yoo Schneider, Dick)

FROM: Harvey De La Torre, General Manager

Staff Contact: Charles Busslinger

SUBJECT: UPDATE REGARDING THE AMP SHUTDOWN

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

SUMMARY

Staff will provide an update on the progress of the AMP Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP) Rehabilitation Project.

DETAILED REPORT

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

EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

MEMBER AGENCY SUPPORT

CCR KICKOFF MEETING

YLWD MEMBER AGENCY SPOTLIGHT PLANNING

2024 OC WATER SUMMIT KICKOFF W/OCWD

7 AGENCIES INCREASED CHOICE SCHOOL INTEREST

**Inside the Outdoors
Community Engagement**

SCOUTS BSA RECAP VIDEO

SCOUTS BSA AND GIRL SCOUT CLINICS

- 50 Scouts BSA earned their Soil and Water Conservation Badge at Shipley Nature Center
- 39 Girl Scouts earned their Water Resources and Conservation Patch at Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve

GIRL SCOUTS RECAP VIDEO

<https://tinyurl.com/BSAShipley>

<https://tinyurl.com/GSBay>

ETWD CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

HOOVER AND CRA INSPECTION TRIP

**11.84% SOCIAL MEDIA
ENGAGEMENT RATE**
A Good Rate is 1-5%

On the 10th day of
rebates
MWDOC
gave to me...

Check it out

VISIT LINK IN CAPTION

Girl and BSA Scouts

FRED ADIARIAN

MARK MONIN
PRESIDENT



INFORMATION ITEM

February 5, 2024

TO: Planning & Operations Committee
(Directors Seckel, Yoo Schneider & Dick)

FROM: Harvey De La Torre, General Manager

Staff Contact: Damon Micalizzi

SUBJECT: Water Policy Forum & Dinner - January 31, 2024

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Planning and Operations Committee: Receive and file the report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

REPORT

At the time of this report, nearly 220 are registered to attend MWDOC's first Water Policy Dinner of 2024. The forum will be held on January 31, 2024, at the Westin South Coast Plaza.

Director Larry Dick is set to facilitate a panel discussion with several of the region's emerging water leaders, including MWDOC's Harvey De La Torre, John Kennedy from the Orange County Water District, Dan Denham of the San Diego County Water Authority, EJ Caldwell from the West Basin Municipal Water District, and Stacie Takeguchi, Assistant General Manager at Pasadena Water and Power.

The guest speakers, recently appointed to their respective posts, will engage in a productive and informative discussion regarding their visions and strategies for addressing the issues facing their agencies. Their discussion will also highlight the importance of regional collaboration among agencies in southern California to achieve a sustainable water future for the region.

ENGINEERING & PLANNING	
Lead and Copper Rule Revisions – Lead Service Line Inventory Choice Program	<p>In mid-March 2023, multiple agencies requested MWDOC's assistance in complying with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) - Service Line Inventories which all water systems are required to complete and submit to the primacy agency (for California it is the State Water Resources Control Board - SWRCB) by October 16, 2024.</p> <p>On June 19, 2023, MWDOC posted an RFP for technical assistance with multiple agencies' service line inventories with the expectation that consultants provide volume discount rates for agencies under a Choice (Shared Services) Program.</p> <p>On September 20, 2023, the MWDOC Board approved a contract award to Hazen and Sawyer (Hazen).</p> <p>The shared services program has 13 participating agencies, each with a customized scope of work.</p> <p>The project remains on schedule. Hazen completed the LCRR Hub site, a central repository of project resources and setup of the initial GIS databases for each participating agency. Hazen continues to review available agency information and collect necessary data as part of the desktop analysis portion of the service line inventory development.</p> <p>On November 30, 2023, the U.S. EPA announced draft rule changes to the LCRR which are known as the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI). The LCRI proposes significant changes to the LCRR both in terms of changed requirements and timelines. The proposed LCRI changes are currently undergoing a public comment period. MWDOC is participating in the AWWA/CMUA workshops to provide input on the compliance realities of the LCRI. Hazen has met with SWRCB staff to obtain clarity on how it will interpret and what requirements it will have as the primacy agency in California.</p> <p>Hazen and MWDOC staff continue to closely follow the LCRI and will update participating agencies as requirements become closer to being finalized.</p> <p>MWDOC staff will provide an overview of the proposed LCRI requirements at the March P&O Committee meeting.</p>
MNWD Pump-in to EOCF #2 Technical Study	<p>MWDOC continues to support Moulton Niguel Water District's (MNWD's) technical study of a potential pump-in project to East OC Feeder #2 from the City of Santa Ana's East Station well site. MWDOC has hosted multiple meetings with staff from MET's Water Quality, Operations, and Engineering Groups, MNWD, City of Santa Ana, Orange County Water District (OCWD), and MNWD's consultant Brown & Caldwell.</p>

	<p>MWDOC hosted a 5th technical meeting on November 16, 2023, between MET staff, MWDOC, MNWD, City of Santa Ana, and consultant Brown & Caldwell. Brown & Caldwell recently completed a Feasibility Assessment Technical Memorandum.</p>																				
Doheny Ocean Desalination Project	<p>South Coast Water District (SCWD) continues to develop the Doheny Ocean Desalination Project. SCWD estimates an on-line date of 2028, if approved by the SCWD Board.</p> <p>At the SCWD Board Meeting on June 22, 2023, Clean Energy Capital (CEC) provided an update on the financial implications of the project. CEC presented updated cost projections for a 5 MGD project where SCWD would take 2 MGD.</p> <p>The updated estimated 1st year water cost is \$2,597/AF (in 2028\$) or \$2,058/AF (discounted to 2023\$), which is a \$469/AF increase vs CEC's 2021 estimate. The increase is largely driven by increases in energy costs (with energy costs making up 60% of the overall cost increase).</p> <p>SCWD Unit Cost of Water (\$/AF)</p> <table> <tr> <td>MWDOC Average of High and Low</td><td>\$2,100</td></tr> <tr> <td>5 MGD Plant</td><td>\$2,701</td></tr> <tr> <td>Difference</td><td>\$ 601</td></tr> </table> <p>SCWD Residential Average Monthly Cost</p> <table> <tr> <td>No Desal</td><td>\$141.63</td></tr> <tr> <td>With 5 MGD Plant</td><td>\$145.64</td></tr> <tr> <td>Difference</td><td>\$4.01</td></tr> </table> <p>CEC estimates of Construction Costs:</p> <table> <tr> <td>Escalated to a Feb 1, 2025 construction start date</td><td>\$137,642,914</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total Grants</td><td>(\$ 30,423,241)¹</td></tr> <tr> <td><u>Total Development & Financing Costs</u></td><td><u>\$ 30,685,350</u></td></tr> <tr> <td>Total Capitalized Costs</td><td>\$137,905,023</td></tr> </table> <p>SCWD Staff Report is located here:</p> <p>https://scwd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=3&clip_id=2790&meta_id=180312</p> <p>CEC Presentation slides are located here:</p> <p>https://scwd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=3&clip_id=2790&meta_id=180313</p> <p>On July 27, 2023, SCWD released the Request for Qualifications for the Progressive Design Build Operate and Maintain (DBOM) Project. SCWD received Statements of Qualifications from 7 teams and after a qualifications review has shortlisted three teams for the contract development phase (PCL/CDM/Veolia; Kiewit/IDE/Arcadis; Filanc/Acciona/Hazen).</p> <p>On January 9, 2024, Request for Proposals was advertised to the three shortlisted teams. Proposals are due March 7, 2024.</p>	MWDOC Average of High and Low	\$2,100	5 MGD Plant	\$2,701	Difference	\$ 601	No Desal	\$141.63	With 5 MGD Plant	\$145.64	Difference	\$4.01	Escalated to a Feb 1, 2025 construction start date	\$137,642,914	Total Grants	(\$ 30,423,241) ¹	<u>Total Development & Financing Costs</u>	<u>\$ 30,685,350</u>	Total Capitalized Costs	\$137,905,023
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	<p>Preliminary geotechnical work to verify the geological conditions (location of bedrock) are suitable for slant wells began in January 2024.</p> <p>¹As of September 2023, SCWD has secured \$32.4M in grant funding for the Project, including \$10M from the California Department of Water Resources Desalination Construction Grant, \$20M from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Water Infrastructure Improvement for the Nation (WIN) Act Grant, and \$2.4M from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Grant.</p>
Shutdowns	<p>Diemer Water Treatment Plant</p> <p>The Diemer WTP shutdown took place January 14-16, 2024. The shutdown focused on replacement of a damaged chlorine diffuser at Diemer which has been successfully replaced. Diemer was returned to service on January 16th.</p> <p>AMP Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP) Inspection and Rehabilitation</p> <p>MET conducted an inspection of the PCCP sections of the AMP down-gradient of OC-70 between October 29 through November 4, 2023 to assess the condition of the high tensile strength prestressed structural steel wire in the pipe. MET staff provided a presentation on the AMP Rehabilitation Project at the Joint Board Workshop on January 3, 2024 (presentation available at: https://www.mwdoc.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/MWDOC-AMP-Inspection-Update.pdf).</p> <p>In response to the findings of the November 2023 PCCP inspection, MET initiated Special Operation Conditions (SOC) for the AMP to reduce pressure on the pipeline which are currently in place.</p> <p>An extended AMP shutdown from January 14 – 18, 2024 in conjunction with the Diemer shutdown was completed to conduct additional inspections and to upsize a bypass line at OC-88 to allow for additional pressure reductions on reaches of the AMP below OC-88. Due to supply chain issues additional pressure reductions are anticipated to begin in mid-February 2024.</p> <p>Additional AMP Shutdowns</p> <p>April 5 -25, 2024 - A shutdown is scheduled for the reaches down gradient of OC-70 to complete PCCP repairs between OC-70 and OC-88. Additionally, a bulkhead will be installed downgradient of OC-88; which upon completion, will allow the AMP from Diemer through OC-88 to return to normal operations.</p> <p>April 26 – December 31, 2024 – The reaches below OC-88 (downgradient of the bulkhead) will remain dry to allow permanent repairs to the most critical PCCP segments in the lower reaches of the AMP. Affected agencies have coordinated extensively with each other, neighboring agencies, MET, and MWDOC to accommodate the extended shutdown through the Summer. Planned use of the AMP through OC-88 into the South County Pipeline, the Baker Water Treatment Plant, EOCF#2, ATM, OC Feeder, El Toro Reservoir,</p>

	<p>Upper Chiquita Reservoir as well as local resources are all being used extensively to support this shutdown.</p> <p>Lake Mathews</p> <p>MET has scheduled a 2-day shutdown of Lake Mathews for March 12-13, 2024 to complete Department of Safety of Dams (DSOD) required inspections and testing of the slide gates. The following pipelines will be impacted by this shutdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East OC Feeder #1 and • Santiago Lateral
<p>Oceanus Power and Water LLC Pumped Hydro - Ocean Desalination Project at Camp Pendleton</p>	<p>Santa Margarita Water District (SMWD) Board is considering a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding with Oceanus for 5,000 Acre-feet per year (AFY) of ocean desalination water.</p> <p>The Department of the Navy (DON) is making available for lease non-excess real property at Marine Corp Base Camp Pendleton (Camp Pendleton) for an Energy Resilience Project through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process.</p> <p>Oceanus Power and Water, LLC (Oceanus) is proposing to develop a low-cost desalinated water and energy storage project in the northern portion of Camp Pendleton in response to the RFP. The project would require Federal permitting for the combined Pumped hydro-ocean desalination project. The SMWD Board response is due March 12, 2024.</p> <p>Oceanus' proposal, in response to the RFP, is to construct an ocean desalinated water and energy project located on Camp Pendleton near the location of the former San Onofre nuclear power plant. The proposed water plant will produce up to 50 million gallons per day or 56,000 AFY. The project may be smaller depending on the needs of the project and economics of construction. The project will draw water from the ocean and pump it to a higher elevation during the day when low-cost solar power is available, in the evening hours, the water will be returned to the ocean through turbines to generate power. A side-stream of the water will be treated to produce desalinated drinking water. The project, as designed, will have lower operating costs than traditional desalination plants because of the innovative approach to providing the energy required by the reverse osmosis process and the power generation capability. The project will also include components for carbon sequestration and generation of hydrogen. The proposed MOU addresses the concept of purchasing both water and power from the project.</p>

General Managers Report

WEROC Status Report

January 2024

JANUARY INCIDENTS/EVENTS

- Theft (Copper)

COORDINATION/PARTICIPATION WITH MEMBER AGENCIES AND OUTSIDE AGENCIES MEETINGS OUTSIDE OF PROGRAMS AREAS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- On 1/3, Vicki attended the CESA Southern Chapter Member Meeting.
 - On 1/4, Vicki and Janine attended the monthly Orange County Emergency Management Organization (OCEMO) meeting.
 - On 1/4, Vicki attended the Exercise Design Meeting
 - On 1/5, Vicki provided a WEROC update at WACO.
 - On 1/9, WEROC hosted its quarterly meeting at MWD OC Fountain Valley.
 - On 1/12, Vicki attended the CalWARN Executive Meeting.
 - On 1/18, Vicki attended the MWD OC Manager's meeting presented her goals and objectives for the remainder of the fiscal year and presented her goals for FY 24-25 and briefed the WEROC Budget will be going to MET Managers and her funding agencies on 1/25.
 - On 1/25 Vicki attended the CalOES Mutual Aid Regional Advisory Committee (MARAC)
 - On 1/25, Vicki Presented her budget to her funding agencies, all supported the budget. The only agency not present was OCWD. Vicki will be following up with their General Manager.
 - On 1/30, Vicki attended the Emergency Management Mutual Aid SEMS Specialist Committee Quarterly meeting. Changes to the planning document and training slides were made by the group before sending the information to the MARACS
 - On 1/31, Vicki attended the County of Orange (Orange County Sheriff's Department , Emergency management Department) Policy Group training, Vicki as the Water and Wastewater mutual aid coordinator is part of the policy group.
-

PLANNING AND PROGRAM EFFORTS

AWIA & Hazard Mitigation

Vicki with the WEROC member agencies, crafted a "Choice" Program RFP that will have a scope of work to include the Risk Assessment, Emergency Response Plan Update and Hazard Mitigation. RFP will be launched in February and will be brought to the MWDOC Board of Directors for approval most likely in April.

Cyber Security and OCIAC Partnership

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

WEROC has been providing information to the member agencies as required about highlighted threats to the water industry and other current world event as required.

Member Agency and County/Operational Area Plan Review

Orange County Operational Area/County of Orange Excessive Temperature Annex
City of Huntington Beach, Earthquake Annex

Regional Fuel Project

Vicki continues to work on the plan and making

Regional Mapping Project

Janine continues to work on revision of the 2017 WEROC Map Atlas and Public Safety Power Shut Off (PSPS) map updates. This project will go into FY 24/25

Regional Water Distribution Plan

This will be done in 5 regions of OC based on the County Board of Supervisor Districts. Tabletop Exercises will be conducted in Q2/3 of 2024.

Training and Exercises

- Vicki will be working with agencies on scheduling both exercises and training in May and June after Vicki's return.
-

**Status of Water Use Efficiency Projects
January 2024**

Description	Lead Agency	Status % Complete	Scheduled Completion or Renewal Date	Comments
SoCal Water\$mart Residential Indoor Rebate Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In December 2023, 82 high efficiency clothes washers and 8 premium high efficiency toilets were installed in Orange County. To date, 129,108 high efficiency clothes washers and 61,556 high efficiency toilets have been installed through this program.
SoCal Water\$mart Commercial Rebate Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In December 2023, no commercial devices were rebated on in Orange County. To date, 115,250 commercial devices have been installed through this program.
Flow-Monitoring Device Rebate Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In December 2023, 3 flow-monitoring devices were installed in Orange County. To date, 156 flow-monitoring devices have been installed through this program.
Smart Timer Rebate Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In December 2023, 81 residential and 23 commercial smart timers were installed in Orange County. Effective February 1 st , MWDOC will be providing an additional \$15 per station for commercial smart timers, making the total incentive \$50 per active station. The additional funding is sourced from grant funds. To date, 33,449 smart timers have been installed through this program.

Description	Lead Agency	Status % Complete	Scheduled Completion or Renewal Date	Comments
Rotating Nozzles Rebate Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In December 2023, 144 rotating nozzles were installed in Orange County. To date, 579,810 rotating nozzles have been installed through this program.
Rain Barrel Rebate Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In December 2023, 4 rain barrels were installed in Orange County. To date, 8,940 rain barrels have been installed through this program.
Turf Removal Program	MWDOC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In December 2023, 41 rebates were paid, representing \$528,306.94 in rebates paid this month in Orange County. To date, the Turf Removal Program has removed approximately 27.5 million square feet of turf.
Spray to Drip Rebate Program	MWDOC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In December 2023, 20 rebates were paid, representing \$87,393.00 in rebates paid this month in Orange County. To date, the Spray to Drip Program has converted approximately 3.7 million square feet of standard spray irrigation to drip irrigation.
Landscape Design and Landscape Maintenance Assistance Programs	MWDOC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In December 2023, 2 landscape design packages and 10 landscape maintenance packages were delivered to MWDOC Turf Removal Program customers. To date, 761 landscape design packages and 340 landscape maintenance packages have been delivered to MWDOC Turf Removal Program customers.

Description	Lead Agency	Status % Complete	Scheduled Completion or Renewal Date	Comments
Industrial Process/ Water Savings Incentive Program (WSIP)	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	<p>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.</p> <p>Total water savings to date for the entire program is 1,301 AFY and 8,289 AF cumulatively.</p>
Recycled Water Retrofit Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	<p>This program provides incentives to commercial sites for converting dedicated irrigation meters to recycled water.</p> <p>To date, 188 sites, irrigating a total of 1,738 acres of landscape, have been converted. The total potable water savings achieved by these projects is 3,863 AFY and 25,996 AF cumulatively.</p>

Public & Governmental Affairs Activities Report
Dec 28, 2023 – January 30, 2024

Member Agency Support	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speakers Bureau – Coordinated, attended, and provided support for Director Crane to present El Toro Water District’s Board a certificate of appreciation for their agency’s partnership in hosting the Scouts BSA Soil and Water Conservation Merit Badge Clinic (Dec. 9) and the Girl Scouts Water Resources & Conservation Patch Clinic (Nov. 4) • Prepared a retirement gift for Orange County Water District’s Former General Manager, Mike Marcus • Coordinated and scheduled the kick-off meeting for the Consumer Confidence Reports with Orange County water providers and Stetson Engineering • Met with Yorba Linda Water District to discuss a three-part Member Agency spotlight campaign <p>Government Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with staff at Mesa Water District to discuss legislative priorities for 2024 • Along with Joe Berg, met with Soto Resources to discuss potential funding opportunities for AMI and water loss control • Circulated the January grants tracking and acquisition report to participating member agencies • Met with staff from Santa Margarita Water district to discuss legislative priorities for 2024
Community and Special Events	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated and co-hosted two (2) Scouts clinics with MWDOC Choice 3-12 School Program contractor, Orange County Department of Education’s Inside the Outdoors (ITO). Due to an unexpected MWDOC member agency cancelation, ITO offered to partner with MWDOC at the last minute to host the clinics and provide community engagement opportunities for families as part of the school program offerings. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hosted a Scouts BSA Clinic at Shipley Nature Center with 70 people in attendance, 50 were OC Scouts that earned their Soil and Water Conservation Merit Badge ○ Hosted a Girl Scouts Clinic at Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve with 55 people in attendance, 39 were OC Girl Scouts that earned their MWDOC Water Resources & Conservation Patch • Confirmed a panel of five (5) speakers and prepared materials for the January 31 Water Policy Dinner • Coordinated, attended, and provided support on an inspection trip to Hoover Dam and the Colorado River Aqueduct with Director Dick and Director Erdman. • Met with Orange County Water District Public Affairs staff to discuss 2024 OC Water Summit efforts • Met with MWDOC OC Water Summit Committee to discuss direction and goals for 2024 OC Water Summit <p>Government Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in the Cal Cities Water Working Group meeting

K-12 Water Education	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided information regarding the MWDOC K-12 Choice School Programs to the City of Garden Grove, City of San Clemente, City of Westminster, City of Huntington Beach, Santa Margarita Water District, City of La Palma, and South Coast Water District • Met with MWDOC 3-12 Choice School Program contractor, Orange County Department of Education's Inside the Outdoors, to discuss program progress and engagement opportunities
Workforce Initiative	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with Cheryl Davis of American Water Works Association (AWWA) and a New England workforce collaborative to discuss water and wastewater workforce priorities and goals including coordinated outreach, recruitment, and effective communication • Met with Generation:Now! to discuss Orange County-centric workforce strategies • Met with the Water Replenishment District (WRD) to discuss the Los Angeles Water Workforce Ad Hoc Committee • Met with Women in Non-Traditional Roles to discuss a Water Energy Education Alliance (WEEA) Leadership Roundtable presentation • Met with Friends of Oceans and Parks to discuss WEEA OC Workforce advisory funding • Met with Bassett Adult School about their new Water Technology Career Technical Education Program and referred them to WRD's Ad Hoc Committee • Speakers Bureau: presented an overview of WEEA to AWWA's Workforce Strategies Committee • Met with WEEA sponsor, Tomorrow's Talent to discuss current activities and interest in joining an Orange County workforce advisory • Met with the California Environmental Literacy Initiative to discuss a WEEA/MWDOC profile and case study contribution to a California <i>"Call to Action: Educating for a Green Economy"</i> report
Digital Communications, Publications, and Media Engagement	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared and distributed content for social media • Updated the MWDOC website as requested by several departments
Special Projects	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with strategic digital communications contractor, Hashtag Pinpoint, to discuss direction, goals, and engagement opportunities • Met with LA Design Studios to discuss direction and goals of MWDOC.com refresh project • Completed all formal mid-year check-in's with staff

	<p>Governmental Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffed the ISDOC Executive Committee meeting • Coordinated logistics with the January WACO speakers • Staffed the January WACO meeting • Staffed the WACO Planning Committee meeting • Sent invitations to speakers for the March and April WACO meetings • Drafted the Operational Area Board appointee letter for ISDOC • Staffed the ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon featuring guest speaker Supervisor Don Wagner
Outreach Metrics	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Google Performance Analytics (January 2024) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 291 business profile interactions ○ 1,774 people viewed the business profile • Website Analytics (GM report timeframe) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 12k pageviews + 10 OC Water-Smart Parks Microsite site sessions ○ Top pages for this date range <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MWDOC Homepage 1.4k ▪ Water Use Efficiency 1.1k ▪ RFPs/RFQs 661 ▪ Agendas, Packets, Minutes 473 ▪ Turf Removal Rebate Program 443 • ocwatersmartgardens.com Analytics (December 2023) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 265 Sessions ○ Top pages for this date range <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landing Page ▪ Helpful Plant List ▪ Searching for specific plant name • Social Media (December 28st -January 30th) <p><i>According to Hootsuite – the global leader in social media management – a good engagement rate is between 1% to 5%.</i></p> <p><i>For this period, MWDOC's engagement rate is at 11.84%%</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 62,270 Post reach (number of people) ○ 7,373 Post engagement (actions taken – likes, shares, etc.)
Legislative Affairs	<p>Governmental Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended the SAFER work group meeting • Participated in the Cal-Desal legislative awards committee meeting • Met with Metropolitan legislative staff to discuss their legislative policy principles and offered amendments to their policy on non-functional turf, removing any language related to “residential,” which was ultimately accepted and adopted • Met with staff from Assemblywoman Kate Sanchez’s office • Attended the California Natural Resources Agency’s Climate Investments in the Governor’s budget webinar and Q&A • Participated in the CMUA Regulatory Committee meeting • Participated in the CMUA Legislative Committee meeting

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended the CCEEB Water, Chemistry and Waste Committee meeting • Met with legislative staff from Metropolitan and the 3 cities to discuss legislative priorities for 2024 • Participated in the ACWA Region 10 State Legislative Committee prep call • Attended a California Congressional staffers briefing on the Colorado River. Speakers included representatives from IID, Metropolitan, and the CA Colorado River Board. • Met with district staff from Senator Josh Newman's office • Completed and filed the 4th quarter state lobbying report • Participated in the CSDA Legislative Committee meeting • Participated in the CalDesal Legislative Committee meeting • Met with staff from Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris's office • Attended the CCEEB WCW meeting with staff from CalEPA • Met with staff from Assemblywoman Laurie Davies' office
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