

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Agenda

The mission of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is to provide its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

LEG Committee

J. Lewitt, Chair
A. Fellow, VC
Communication
A. Kassakhian, VC
Legislation
L. Ackerman
M. Camacho
B. Dennstedt
G. Gray, Emeritus
R. Jay
F. Jung
M. Katz
M. Luna
M. Ramos
G. Shepherd Romey

Legislation and Communications Committee

Meeting with Board of Directors *

October 13, 2025

10:45 a.m.

Monday, October 13, 2025 Meeting Schedule

09:00 a.m. EOT
11:30 a.m. LEG
01:00 p.m. Break
01:30 p.m. CWC
02:30 p.m. OWA

Written public comments received by 3:00 p.m. the business day before the meeting is scheduled will be posted under the Submitted Items and Responses tab available here:
<https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Legislation.aspx>.

The listen-only phone line is available at 1-877-853-5257; enter meeting ID: 873 4767 0235.

Members of the public may present their comments to the Board on matters within their jurisdiction as listed on the agenda teleconference and in-person. To provide public comment by teleconference dial 1-833-548-0276 and enter meeting ID: 876 9484 9772 or to join by computer [click here](#).

Disclaimer: Written and oral public comments are received in compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act. Please note that Metropolitan does not endorse or ensure the accuracy or reliability of the information provided as public comment or by third parties.

MWD Headquarters Building • 700 N. Alameda Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012

Teleconference Locations:

City Hall • 303 W. Commonwealth Avenue, Chamber • Fullerton, CA 92832

Cedars-Sinai Imaging Medical Group • 8700 Beverly Boulevard, Suite M 313 • Los Angeles, CA 90048

Conference Room • 1545 Victory Boulevard, 2nd Floor • Glendale, CA 91201

1005 South Cardiff Street • Anaheim, CA 92806

3008 W. 82nd Place • Inglewood, CA 90305

Peters Ridge • 2136 Spyglass Trail West • Oxnard, CA 93036

* The Metropolitan Water District's meeting of this Committee is noticed as a joint committee meeting with the Board of Directors for the purpose of compliance with the Brown Act. Members of the Board who are not assigned to this Committee may participate as members of the Board, whether or not a quorum of the Board is present. In order to preserve the function of the committee as advisory to the Board, members of the Board who are not assigned to this Committee will not vote on matters before this Committee.

1. Opportunity for members of the public to address the committee on matters within the committee's jurisdiction (As required by Gov. Code Section 54954.3(a))

**** CONSENT CALENDAR ****

2. COMMITTEE ACTION (ONLY)

- A. Approval of the minutes of the Legislation and Communications Committee for August 18, 2025 [21-4992](#)

Attachments: [10132025 LEG 2A \(08182025\) Minutes](#)

3. COMMITTEE ITEMS (FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

NONE

**** END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ****

4. COMMITTEE ITEMS (ACTION FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

NONE

5. COMMITTEE ITEMS (INFORMATIONAL FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

NONE

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS (INFORMATIONAL)

- a. Pure Water Southern California Outreach [21-4994](#)
- b. Update on research and framework for a community benefits program for Pure Water Southern California [21-5108](#)
- c. Inspection Trip Information [21-5109](#)
- d. Quarterly State and Federal Regulatory Update [21-5106](#)
- e. Report on Activities from Washington, D.C. [21-5105](#)

- f. Report on Activities from Sacramento

[21-4993](#)

7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- a. External Affairs activities

[21-4995](#)

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

NONE

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

10. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: This committee reviews items and makes a recommendation for final action to the full Board of Directors. Final action will be taken by the Board of Directors. Committee agendas may be obtained on Metropolitan's Web site <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. This committee will not take any final action that is binding on the Board, even when a quorum of the Board is present.

Writings relating to open session agenda items distributed to Directors less than 72 hours prior to a regular meeting are available for public inspection at Metropolitan's Headquarters Building and on Metropolitan's Web site <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>.

Requests for a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to attend or participate in a meeting should be made to the Board Executive Secretary in advance of the meeting to ensure availability of the requested service or accommodation.

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

LEGISLATION AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

August 18, 2025

Chair Lewitt called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.

Members present: Directors Ackerman, Dennstedt, Fellow, Gray (teleconference posted location), Jay, Jung (teleconference posted location), Kassakhian, Katz, Lewitt, Ramos (entered after roll call, teleconference posted location), and Shepherd Romey.

Members absent: Directors Camacho, and Luna

Other Board Members present: Directors Bryant, Dick, Faessel, Garza, McMillan, Miller, Ortega, Pressman (teleconference posted location), and Seckel.

Committee Staff present: Garcia Tarin, Rubin, Schaffer, Stites, Upadhyay, and Zinke

1. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION

None

2. COMMITTEE ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Legislation and Communications Committee held July 7, 2025.

3. COMMITTEE ITEMS (FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

None

Director Dennstedt made a motion, seconded by Director Fellow, to approve the consent calendar item 2A.

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Ayes: | Directors Ackerman, Dennstedt, Fellow, Gray, Jay, Jung, Kassakhian, Katz, Lewitt, and Shepherd Romey |
| Noes: | None |
| Abstentions: | None |
| Absent: | Directors Camacho, Luna, and Ramos |

The motion for item 2A passed by a vote of 10 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstain, and 3 absent.

4. COMMITTEE ITEMS (ACTION FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

None

5. COMMITTEE ITEMS (INFORMATIONAL FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS (INFORMATIONAL)

- a. Subject: Update on 2025-26 Inspection Trip Program
- Presented by: Rupam Soni, Section Manager, Member Services & Public Outreach

Ms. Soni provided a report on the Inspection Trip Program, including updates for Fiscal Year 2025-2026, enhancements at Gene Camp, and an overview of the budget.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

- 1) Dennstedt
- 2) Ortega
- 3) Fellow
- 4) Dick
- 5) Kassakhian
- 6) Garza
- 7) Faessel

Staff responded to the Directors questions and comments

Director Ramos entered the meeting.

- b. Subject: Building Public Trust in Drinking Water
- Presented by: Heather Collins, Section Manager, Water Treatment

Ms. Collins provided an informational update highlighting perspectives and examples of how the water sector engages the public to advance trust in drinking water.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

- 1) Sheperd Romey
- 2) Fellow
- 3) Ortega
- 4) Lewitt

c. Subject: Quarterly State and Federal Regulatory Update

Presented by: Christopher Gabelich, Interim Team Manager, Operations
Regulatory Services

Mr. Gabelich provided an update on Per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), Food & Water Watch Inc. et al. v. EPA regarding fluoridated drinking water, California Air Resources Board Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation, State Water Resources Control Board Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan, and South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 1171 for Solvent Cleaning Operations.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

- 1) Jay
- 2) Seckel
- 3) Dennstedt
- 4) Ortega

Staff responded to the Director's comments or questions.

d. Subject: Report on Activities from Washington, D.C.

Presented by: Abby Schneider, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Schneider provided an update on the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program Amendment Act, Fiscal Year 2026 appropriations for the Environmental Protection Agency and Bureau of Reclamation, and nominations approved by the Senate for Brian Nesvick as Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Adam Telle as Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works.

- e. Subject: Report on Activities from Sacramento

Presented by: Jay Jefferson II, Executive Legislative Representative

Mr. Jefferson provided an update on the state legislative calendar, Metropolitan's sponsored bill AB 580 on a Surface Mining and Reclamation Act exemption, member agency proposals and other legislation, and Metropolitan's trailer bill priorities for the Delta Conveyance Project and golden mussels.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

- 1) Ortega

7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- a. Subject: External Affairs Activities

Presented by: Dee Zinke, External Affairs Assistant General Manager

Ms. Zinke provided an update on public outreach activities and shared a social media influencer video of Metropolitan.

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

Jay Lewitt
Chair