



Legislation and Communications Committee

# 2026 Legislative Priorities & Principles

Item 7-4

December 8, 2025

Presented by: José Cornejo

# Summary

## Subject

2026 Legislative Priorities and Principles

## Purpose

Seek board adoption of the 2026 Legislative Priorities and Principles to guide staff in the upcoming legislative session

# 2026 Legislative Priorities & Principles

## Key Changes to Priorities

- Remove priority on supporting reforms to the CA Water Plan
  - Add a new principle on CA Water Plan implementation
- Add priority supporting funding and policy to mitigate against the spread of golden mussels
- Add State Water Project repairs to funding priority

# 2026 Legislative Priorities & Principles

## Key Changes

- Remove section on Metropolitan-sponsored state bills
  - AB 580 enacted
  - Public works contracting threshold changed to principle
  - No new legislative proposals at this time
- Expand principle for Watershed Management
  - Consider headwaters to watershed terminus
  - Include reforestation and enhanced tree canopy

# 2026 Legislative Priorities & Principles

## Key Changes

- Add four new principles on the Colorado River
  - Address post-2026 Colorado River operational guidelines
  - Support infrastructure repairs at Glen Canyon Dam
  - Support hydropower generation, infrastructure repairs at Hoover Dam
  - Support projects to address the environmental effects of conservation and efficiency

# 2026 Legislative Priorities & Principles

## Key Changes

- Update physical and cyber security principles
- Minor edits to other principles
  - Drinking Water
  - Regional Water Resource Management
  - Imported Water Supply
  - Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation
  - System Resiliency

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## Comments Received

- Presented to Member Agency Managers on October 31
- Presented to Member Agency Legislative Coordinators on November 6
- Board information on November 17
- Comments incorporated into redline version

# Board Options

## Option No. 1

- Adopt the Legislative Priorities and Principles for 2026

## Option No. 2

- Take no action

# Board Options

## Staff Recommendation

- Option No. 1

