

# 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.

## LRA&C Committee

F. Jung, Chair  
A. Kassakhian, Vice Chair  
J. Abdo  
L. Ackerman  
B. Dennstedt  
A. Fellow  
J. Garza  
G. Gray  
M. Luna  
J. McMillan  
T. Phan  
B. Pressman  
M. Ramos  
T. Smith

## **Legislation, Regulatory Affairs, and Communications Committee - Final - Revised 1**

Meeting with Board of Directors \*

**August 14, 2023**

**11:30 a.m.**

Agendas, live streaming, meeting schedules, and other board materials are available here: <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. A 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 via in-person or teleconference. To participate via teleconference 1-833-548-0276 and enter meeting ID: 876 9484 9772 or click <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87694849772?pwd=V3dGZGRYUjJ3allqdUxXTIJRM044Zz09>

**Monday, August 14, 2023  
Meeting Schedule**

**09:30 a.m. EOT  
09:30 a.m. EIA  
11:30 a.m. LRAC  
01:30 p.m. Break  
02:00 p.m. OWS**

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

Teleconference Locations:

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

2936 Triunfo Canyon • Agoura Hills, CA 91301

3008 W. 82nd Place • Inglewood, CA 90305

Cedars Sinai Medical Center • 8700 Beverly Blvd • Los Angeles, CA 90048

Covina Irrigating Company • 146 E. College Street • Covina, CA 91723

\* 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))**

**2. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

- a. Report from Subcommittee on Public Affairs Engagement [21-2575](#)
- b. Discuss and provide direction to Subcommittee on Public Affairs Engagement. [ADDED SUBJECT 8/9/2023] [21-2589](#)

**\*\* CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS -- ACTION \*\***

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION**

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the Legislation, Regulatory Affairs, and Communications Committee for July 10, 2023 (Copies have been submitted to each Director, Any additions, corrections, or omissions) [21-2377](#)

**Attachments:** [08142023 LRAC 3A \(07102023\) Minutes](#)

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION**

NONE

**\*\* END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS \*\***

**5. OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION**

NONE

**6. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

NONE

**7. COMMITTEE ITEMS**

- a. Update on Water Conservation Outreach, Advertising and Messaging [21-2571](#)

**Attachments:** [08142023 LRAC 7a Presentation](#)

- b. Report on Activities from Washington, D.C. [21-2380](#)

**Attachments:** [08142023 LRAC 7b Federal Legislative Matrix](#)  
[08142023 LRAC 7b Presentation](#)

- c. Report on activities from Sacramento [21-2379](#)

**Attachments:** [08142023 LRAC 7c State Legislative Matrix](#)  
[08142023 LRAC 7c Presentation](#)

**8. MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

- a. External Affairs Management Report [21-2381](#)

**Attachments:** [08142023 LRAC 8a Presentation](#)

**9. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

NONE

## **10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

## **11. 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, REGULATORY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**July 10, 2023**

Vice Chair of the Board Camacho called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

Members present: Directors Abdo, Dennstedt, Fellow, Garza, Gray (teleconference posted location), Jung (teleconference posted location), Kassakhian (entered after roll call), McMillan, Phan (teleconference posted location), Pressman (teleconference posted location), Ramos, and Smith.

Members absent: Directors Ackerman and Luna.

Other Board Members present: Directors Alvarez, Armstrong, Bryant, Camacho, Dick, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, Miller, Morris, Ortega, and Peterson.

Committee Staff present: Hagekhalil, Zinke, Stites, Sims, and Novoa.

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

None

**2. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT**

None

**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION**

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION**

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Legislation, Regulatory Affairs, and Communications Committee une 12, 2023.

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION**

None

Director Jung made a motion, seconded by Director Garza to approve item 3a.

Ayes: Directors Abdo, Dennstedt, Fellow, Garza, Gray, Jung, McMillan, Phan, Pressman, Ramos, and Smith.

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Directors Ackerman, Kassakhian and Luna

The motion passed by a vote of 11 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstain, and 3 absent.

### **END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS**

#### **5. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION**

None

Director Kassakhian entered the meeting.

#### **6. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

9-2 Subject: Governor Newsom’s Infrastructure Trailer Bill Package

Presented by: Jay Jefferson, Executive Legislative Representative

Mr. Jefferson provided an update on Governor Newsom’s Infrastructure Trailer Bill Package  
The following Directors provided a comment or asked a question:

- 1.) Lefevre
- 2.) Gray

Staff responded to the Directors’ comments or questions.

#### **7. COMMITTEE ITEMS**

a. Subject: Update on Inspection Trips

Presented by: Carolyn Schaffer, Section Manager-Member Services and Public Outreach

Ms. Schaffer presented an update on inspection trips, which included: program overview, trip planning, trip options, and FPPC reporting.

The following Directors provided a comment or asked a question:

- 1.) Lefevre
- 2.) McMillan
- 3.) Dennstedt
- 4.) Kassakhian
- 5.) Phan
- 6.) Peterson

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

- b. Subject: Report on Activities from Washington, D.C.

Presented by: Abby Schneider, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Schneider provided an update on the Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations and draft PFAS legislation

- c. Subject: Report on Activities from Sacramento

Presented by: Jay Jefferson, Executive Legislative Representative

Mr. Jefferson provided an update on legislative deadlines, Metropolitan's \$50 million budget request for infrastructure projects in SWP dependent areas, and Assembly and Senate bills of interest to Metropolitan.

## **8. MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

- a. Subject: External Affairs Management Report

Presented by: Sue Sims, External Affairs Group Manager

Ms. Sims provided a preview of the summer ad campaign, and an update on current projects and sponsorship programs.

## **9. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

None

**10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 2:19 p.m.

Vice Chair of the Board Camacho

Legislation, Regulatory Affairs, and  
Communications Committee



# Update on Water Conservation Outreach, Advertising & Messaging

Item 7a  
August 14, 2023



Update on Water Conservation  
Advertising, Outreach and  
Messaging

# Campaign

**GOAL:** Continue to drive down demand for water and promote Metropolitan and member agency rebate and conservation programs

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**MEASUREMENTS OF SUCCESS:**  
Visits to [bewaterwise.com](http://bewaterwise.com) for tips and resources, rebate performance, research findings, engagement with social media, videos, digital ads, influencers and mobile games

Update on Water Conservation  
Advertising, Outreach and  
Messaging

## Video

[Sizzle Reel v02.mp4](#)

Metropolitan's water conservation advertising has been at the **forefront of public agency campaigns**, employing groundbreaking communication strategies, showcasing a **diverse and inclusive** pool of talent, and **maximizing each dollar** for impactful outcomes



[bewaterwise.com](http://bewaterwise.com)<sup>®</sup>

## Examples of Performance

FY 2022/23 campaign had 430 million media and social media impressions and helped drive a **158% increase in turf rebate** spending over previous fiscal years.

Generated more than **30 million impressions** on social media and reached more than 13 million people and more than **220,000 clicks to [bewaterwise.com](https://www.bewaterwise.com)**.

Influencer campaign, which elevated Metropolitan, [bewaterwise.com](https://www.bewaterwise.com) and water-saving rebates generated a **40% increase in social media engagement**

# Building Conservation Awareness Among New Audiences

Update on Water Conservation  
Advertising, Outreach and  
Messaging

## Influencers from Diverse Industries

545k Followers



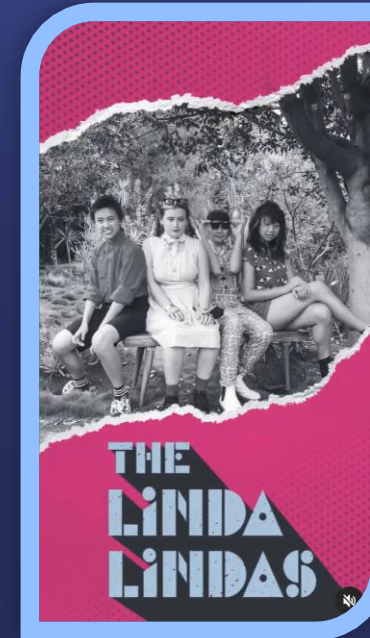
Interior Design/Art

578k Followers



TV/Film

285k Followers



Music

105k Followers



Professional Sports



# Summer/Fall 2023 Campaign

Update on Water Conservation  
Advertising, Outreach and  
Messaging

Multimedia  
to Maximize  
Reach to  
Audiences



Television (English &  
Spanish)  
Community Newspapers  
Digital and Streaming  
Search Engine (Google  
Search)  
Angel City Football Club

In-store Rebate Ads  
Social Media  
Transit Shelters  
Radio  
Billboards

# Research- based Messaging

- Probolsky Research, Focus Groups, 2023
- EMC Research, Surveys English & Spanish, 2023

- **Research Findings to Inform Messaging**
- Californians want to be **thanked** for conserving and want to know how agencies, companies and industries are saving water.
- **Effective water conservation messages** focus on **cost savings** and **actionable steps**; motivated by tips and programs which provide solutions
- The public is concerned about future water supplies: **Every drop of water we save today is water we can store and make available for use in the future.**



Update on Water Conservation  
Advertising, Outreach and  
Messaging

# Television Commercial

Key themes of weather  
extremes, infrastructure,  
conservation, sustainability

Airing on broadcast, cable  
and streaming TV channels

Produced in three  
languages

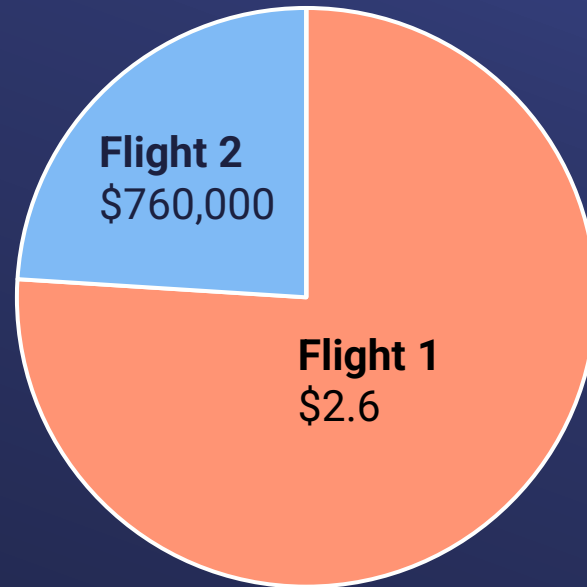
Created entirely in-house,  
using state-of-the-art 3d  
and video animation  
techniques. Cost savings of  
approx. \$450,000



# FY 23-24 Media Budget

Update on Water Conservation  
Advertising, Outreach and  
Messaging

## Year 3 Media Buy



### Flight One - Summer/Fall 2023

- An increased budget will focus on driving strong conservation awareness ; emphasis on TV, OOH, Radio

### Flight Two - Winter/Spring 2024

- Maintain momentum and marketing efforts

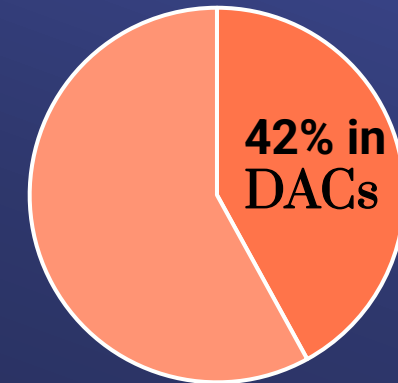


Update on Water Conservation  
Advertising, Outreach and  
Messaging

# Multilingual and Focused Placements

Creative assets in:  
English  
Spanish  
Chinese (Mandarin)  
Korean  
Vietnamese  
Armenian  
Tagalog

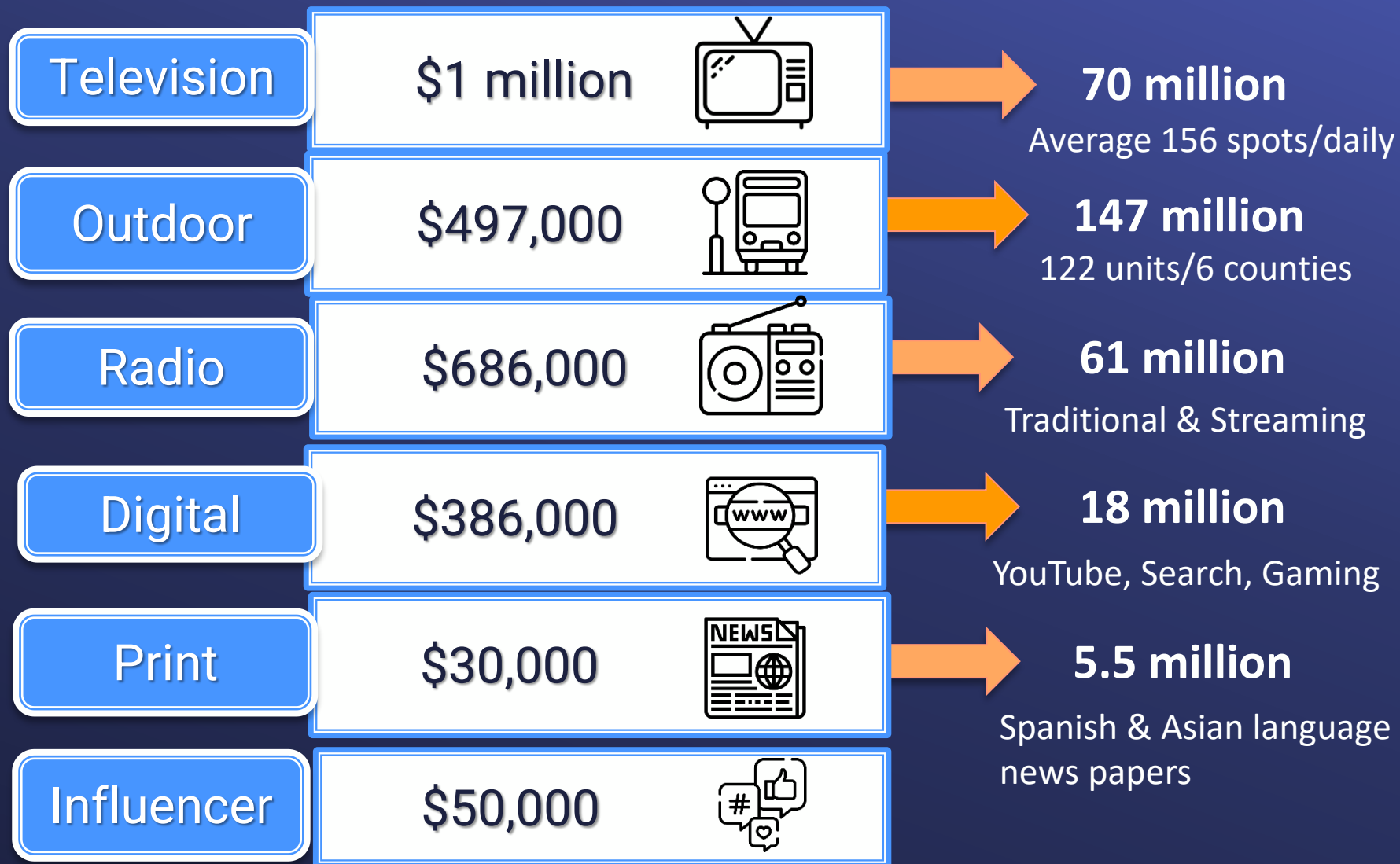
# Outdoor Advertising FY 2023/24 Flight One (July-Nov)



# Anticipated Impressions & Views/Clicks

Update on Water Conservation  
Advertising, Outreach and  
Messaging

## FY 23/24 Media Buy Budget Flight One



# Added Value of Approx. 26% for TV and Radio

Update on Water Conservation  
Advertising, Outreach and  
Messaging

## Added Value Maximizing Dollars

### Television: KTLA, KMEX, Ballys Sports, Cable TV

- Daily in news water saving tips, billboards
- Additional Spots: 976
- Added Value: \$250,000

### Radio/Audio: General Market & Spanish Radio

- Interviews, bonus spots, integrations,
- Additional Spots: 1,756
- Added Value: \$195,000



# Timeline for Future Advertising Campaign Plans

Update on Water Conservation Advertising, Outreach and Messaging

## Next Steps







**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**Federal Legislative Matrix**  
**August 14, 2023 – 118<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Conservation	<b>H.R. 3490</b> <b>(Gallego, D-AZ)</b>	5/19/23: Referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.	<b>Water Infrastructure Modernization Act of 2023</b>  Authorizes a new grant program to help wastewater and drinking water systems detect leaks and reduce water loss.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	This bill directly benefits Metropolitan and its member agencies by creating a grant program to help cover the costs for conveyance leak detection and reduce supplier-side water loss. It could be used for a variety of investments including smart water network technologies, real-time sensing technologies, real-time decision support, and advanced metering infrastructure.
Conservation	<b>S. 2166</b> <b>(Padilla, D-CA)</b>	7/19/23: Hearing held before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power.	<b>Voluntary Agricultural Land Repurposing Act</b>  Authorizes a grant program at the Bureau of Reclamation to provide States and Indian Tribes with funding to establish programs to voluntarily repurpose agricultural land to reduce consumptive water use.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	This new program would provide federal funding to support California’s Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program. It would provide funding to help agriculture lands transition out of production and instead be used for habitat restoration, renewable energy projects, or other purposes. The program would support Metropolitan’s work in the Central Valley and along the Colorado River.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**Federal Legislative Matrix**  
**August 14, 2023 – 118<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Endangered Species Act Oversight	<b>H.R. 872</b> <b>(Calvert, R-CA)</b>	2/21/23: Referred to the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries.	<b>Federally Integrated Species Health Act or the “FISH Act”</b>  Transfers the authority to oversee ESA-related responsibilities for anadromous fish from the Secretary of Commerce to the Secretary of the Interior.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	This would simplify ESA consultations by consolidating those functions/authorities to one federal agency (US Fish and Wildlife Service) rather than two under the current law (the second being National Marine Fisheries Service). This would directly benefit Metropolitan's interests in the Delta related to SWP operations and facilities, as well as Delta islands activities.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	<b>H.R. 1837</b> <b>(Kustoff, R-TN)</b>  <b>S. 1453</b> <b>(Wicker, R-MS)</b>	3/28/23: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.  5/4/23: Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.	<b>House Title: Investing in Our Communities Act</b>  <b>Senate Title: Lifting Our Communities through Advance Liquidity for Infrastructure Act or the LOCAL Infrastructure Act</b>  Both bills amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the tax exemption for advance refunding bonds.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	The ability to advance refund bonds on a tax-exempt basis would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by allowing municipal issuers to lower borrowing costs to take advantage of favorable interest rates.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**Federal Legislative Matrix**  
**August 14, 2023 – 118<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	<b>S. 2162</b> <b>(Feinstein, D-CA)</b>	7/19/23: Hearing held before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power.	<p><b>Support To Rehydrate the Environment, Agriculture, and Municipalities Act” or the “STREAM Act</b></p> <p>Authorizes funding for a variety of Bureau of Reclamation infrastructure investments including storage, water recycling, desalination, and ecosystem restoration projects for 5 years. It also authorizes a new assistance to provide drinking water to disadvantaged communities and creates a new low interest loan program to help finance western water projects.</p>	<p><b>SUPPORT</b></p> <p>Based upon 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022</p>	<p>This bill would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by providing more funding for water infrastructure projects and ecosystem restoration projects. For example, the bill would accelerate the development of local water recycling projects by authorizing \$300 million for the Title XVI- WIIN water reuse grants program and raising the per-project funding cap from \$20 million to \$50 million. Additionally, the bill authorizes \$250 million for environmental restoration projects, including helping imperiled species adapt to climate change. This new program could support Metropolitan’s science projects in the Delta.</p>
Source Water Protection	<b>H.R. 1181</b> <b>(Garamendi, D-CA)</b>	2/27/23: Referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment	<p><b>Federal Water Pollution Control Permitting Terms</b></p> <p>Amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act) with respect to permitting terms.</p>	<p><b>SUPPORT</b></p> <p>Based upon 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022</p>	<p>This legislation would extend the maximum term for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits issued under the Clean Water Act from 5 to 10 years, for public agencies that have demonstrated compliance with existing permit conditions. This change is designed to better reflect the construction schedules for public agencies.</p>



**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**Federal Legislative Matrix**  
**August 14, 2023 – 118<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Bill/Author</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Title – Summary</b>	<b>MWD Position</b>	<b>Effects on MWD</b>
Source Water Protection	<b>H.R. 3439 (Panetta, D-CA)</b>  <b>, S. 1715 (Feinstein, D-CA)</b>	6/23/23: Referred to the House Committees on Agriculture, Education and Workforce, Energy and Commerce and Natural Resources.  5/18/23: Referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry.	<b>Wildfire Emergency Act of 2023</b>  To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to select and implement landscape-scale forest restoration projects, to assist communities in increasing their resilience to wildfire, and for other purposes.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	This bill has water supply, water quality, and ecosystem benefits for the Colorado River watershed and State Water Project watershed. Proper forest management and wildfire prevention promotes runoff, helps protect water quality, and improves habitat.
Source Water Protection	<b>H.R. 1236 (Crow, D-CO)</b>  <b>S. 540 (Bennet, D-CO)</b>	3/22/23: Referred to the House Committees on Agriculture and Natural Resources.  2/28/23: Referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry.	<b>Protect the West Act of 2023</b>  Establishes a \$60 billion fund at the Treasury Department for use by the Secretary of Agriculture for restoration and resilience projects, wildfire risk reduction projects and habitat restoration projects.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	This bill would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by funding projects to improve watershed health. It creates a grant program for restoration and resilience projects to improve forest conditions, rangeland health, watershed functions, or wildlife habitat. Additional grants would provide funding for partnership projects to reduce wildfire risk, restore habitat, and expand access to the outdoors. State agencies, local and tribal governments, and special districts may use these funds along with partner organizations.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**Federal Legislative Matrix**  
**August 14, 2023 – 118<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Bill/Author</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Title – Summary</b>	<b>MWD Position</b>	<b>Effects on MWD</b>
Source Water Protection	<b>S. 2514 (Bennett, D-CO)</b>	7/26/23: Referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.	<b>Colorado River Salinity Control Fix Act</b>  Amends the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act to modify certain requirements applicable to salinity control units, and for other purposes.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	The bill directly benefits Metropolitan and its member agencies by ensuring continued federal funding for salinity control projects along the Colorado River. This bill increases the federal cost share for projects to reduce the salt load in the Colorado River. The states have insufficient funds to meet the current cost share requirements because project costs are increasing, and the state contribution is funded by hydropower power revenue which is declining. The cost share change is needed to maintain the current program.
Water Project Authorizations	<b>H.R. 924 (Harder, D-CA)</b>	2/10/23: Referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and the Environment.	<b>Stop the Tunnels Act</b>  Prohibits the Corps of Engineers from issuing a permit for the Delta Conveyance Project.	<b>OPPOSE</b>  Based upon 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	This bill prevents the Army Corps from issuing a Clean Water Act section 404 permit for the Delta Conveyance Project. Metropolitan has invested in the planning and permitting process for this project and if enacted this bill would stop the permitting process from moving forward.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**Federal Legislative Matrix**  
**August 14, 2023 – 118<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Water Project Authorizations	<b>H.R. 2419</b> <b>(Costa, D-CA)</b>  <b>S. 2161</b> <b>(Feinstein, D-CA)</b>	5/8/23: Referred to the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Oceans.  7/19/23: Hearing held before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power.	<b>Canal Conveyance Capacity Restoration Act</b>  This bill authorizes the Bureau of Reclamation to provide financial assistance to mitigate the impacts of subsidence on California’s water delivery system.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	This legislation would authorize repairs to the Friant-Kern Canal, Delta-Mendota Canal, and California Aqueduct to restore conveyance capacity lost due to subsidence.
Water Science	<b>S. 466</b> <b>(Peters, D-MI)</b>	2/16/23: Referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	<b>Federal PFAS Research Evaluation Act</b>  Directs the National Academy of Sciences to study and report on a Federal research agenda to advance the understanding of PFAS.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	Metropolitan supports research studies to understand the occurrence of PFAS in the environment. This bill directs the National Academy of Sciences to conduct studies to determine the research efforts needed to further the understanding of human exposure to, and toxicity of PFAS, as well as treatment of PFAS contamination in the environment, and the development of safe alternatives to PFAS.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**Federal Legislative Matrix**  
**August 14, 2023 – 118<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Water Science	<p><b>H.R. 2429</b> (Lee, D-NV)</p> <p><b>S. 1118</b> (Cortez-Mastro, D-NV)</p>	<p>5/8/23: Referred to the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Oceans.</p> <p>7/19/23: Hearing held before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power.</p>	<p><b>Open Access Evapotranspiration Data Act</b></p> <p>Establishes the Open Access Evapotranspiration (OpenET) Data Program to provide satellite-based evapotranspiration data from across the western U.S. to Federal agencies, States, and Indian Tribes. Authorizes \$23 million per year for five years for this program.</p>	<p><b>SUPPORT</b></p> <p>Based upon 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022</p>	<p>The OpenET platform is currently supported by NASA and private philanthropy. Dedicated federal funding and support will improve the quantification of evaporation and consumptive water use and help provide data users with field- scale estimates of evapotranspiration over user- defined time periods. This information will help Metropolitan measure consumptive water use in Palo Verde and throughout the Colorado River basin, including areas where there is currently little data available.</p>

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**Federal Legislative Matrix**  
**August 14, 2023 – 118<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Water Science	<b>H.R. 3027</b> <b>(Porter, D-CA)</b>	6/14/23: Hearing held before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries.	<b>To reauthorize funding for the Reclamation Climate Change and Water Program</b>  Extends the authorization for Reclamation’s basin studies program for ten years.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	The Basin studies bring together technical experts, state and local water managers, conservation groups, and other stakeholders to assess water supply and demand imbalances at the river basin level. This benefits Metropolitan and its member agencies by ensuring consistent operations using science and awareness of the. In addition to the Colorado River basin, Reclamation has conducted these studies in other watersheds across the West including the Los Angeles and Santa Ana basins in Metropolitan’s service area and the Sacramento-San Joaquin system.
Water System Security	<b>H.R. 1367</b> <b>(Schakowsky, D-IL)</b>  <b>S. 660</b> <b>(Markey, D-MA)</b>	3/6/23: Referred to the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.  3/6/23: Referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.	<b>Water System Threat Preparedness and Resilience Act of 2023</b>  Establishes a new EPA grant program to increase drinking water and wastewater system threat preparedness and resilience, by helping cover the dues to join the Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center (WaterISAC).	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	The WaterISAC is a source of information and best practices for water systems to protect against, mitigate, and respond to natural hazards, as well as physical and cyber security threats. Metropolitan, and many of our member agencies, are members of WaterISAC. This new program could help cover our dues or be used to help smaller agencies who lack access to WaterISAC participate in the program.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Federal Legislative Matrix  
August 14, 2023 – 118<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Water System Security	<b>S.1430 (Lummis, R-WY)</b>	5/3/23: Referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.	<b>Water Systems PFAS Liability Protection Act</b>  Provides exemptions to drinking water and wastewater facilities from liability under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) for PFAS chemicals designated as hazardous substances.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	The bill follows the “polluters pay” principle for cleanup of PFAS under CERCLA by shielding drinking water and wastewater systems from cleanup liability when they properly dispose of water treatment byproducts containing PFAS.

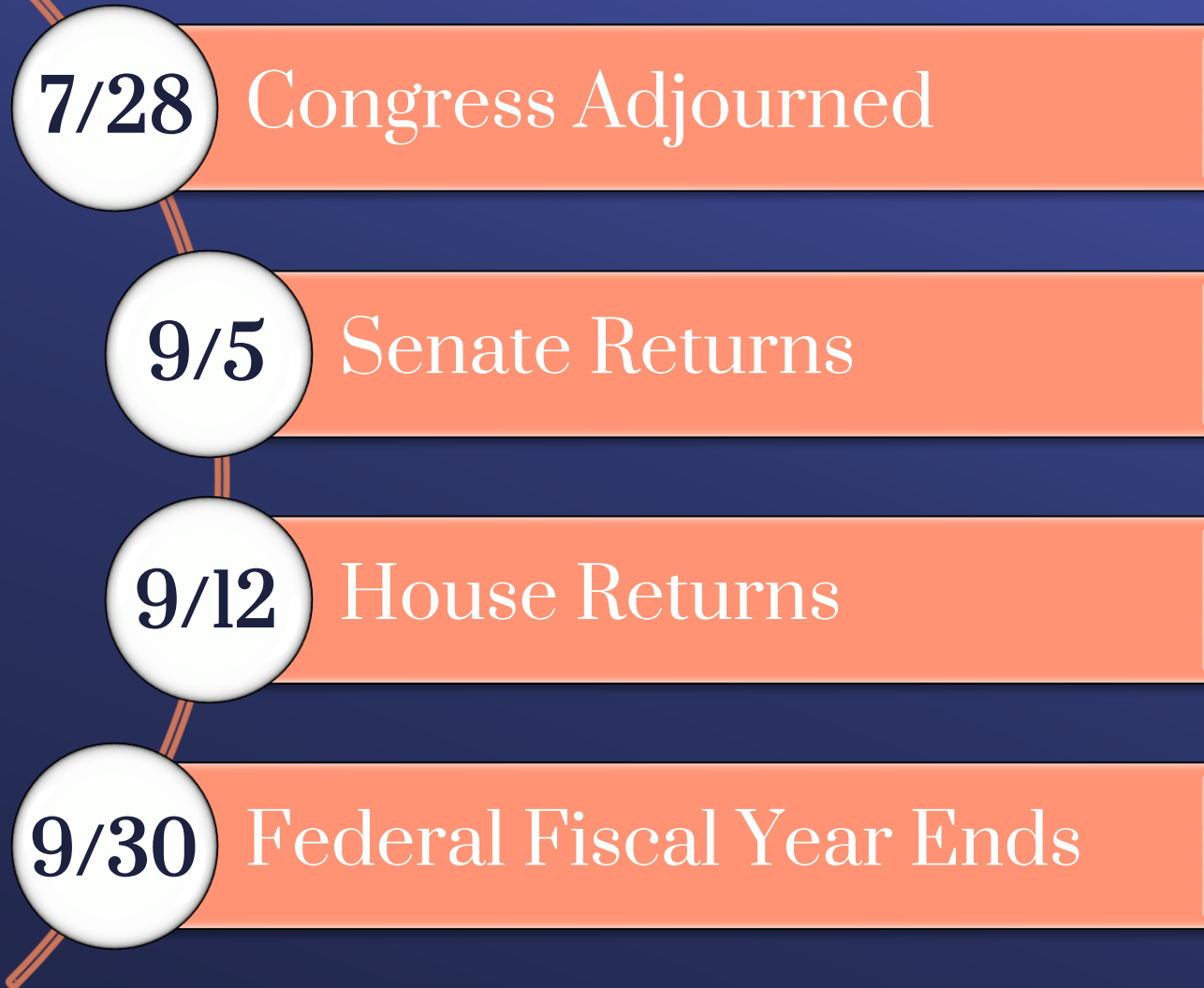


Legislation, Regulatory Affairs, and Communications  
Committee

# Report on Activities from Washington, D.C.

Item 7b  
August 14, 2023

# Congressional Calendar





# FY2024 Appropriations Update



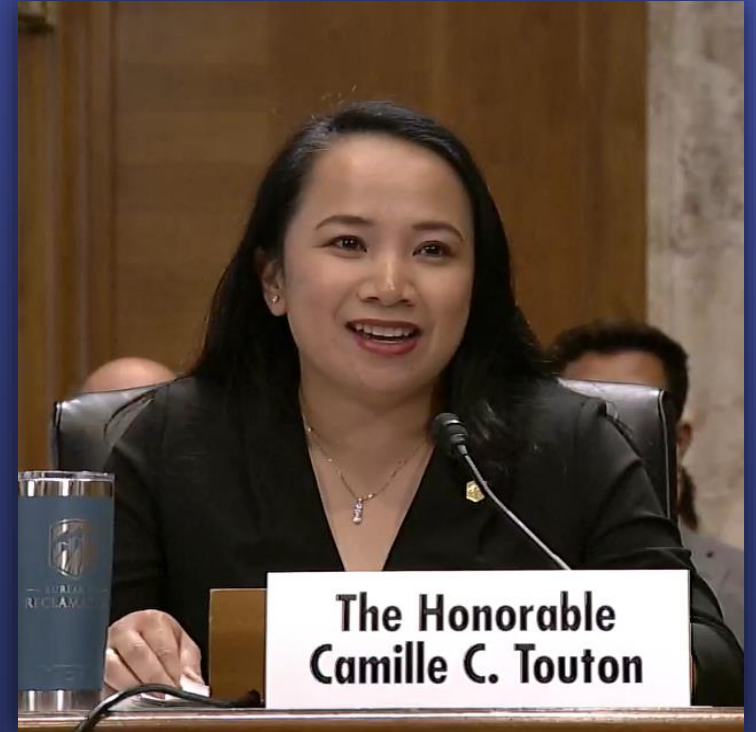
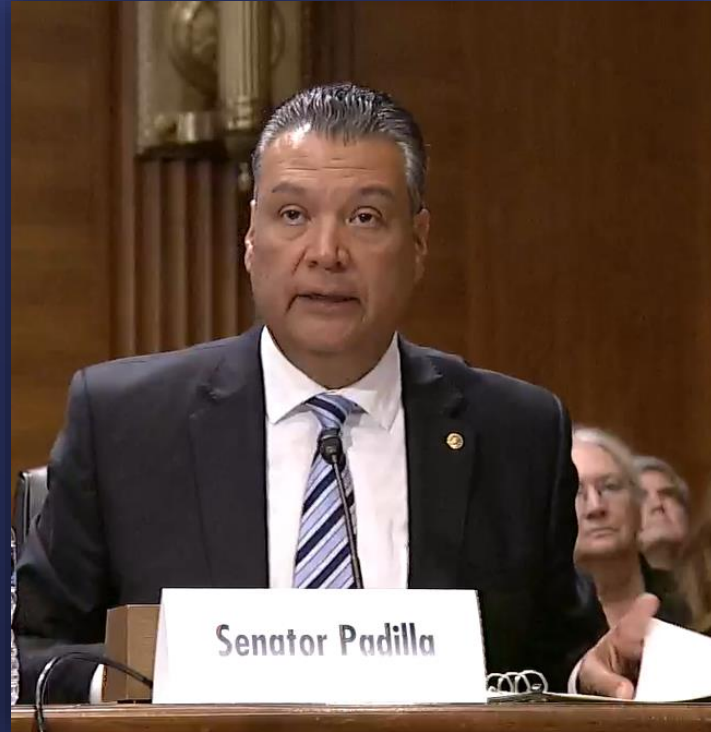
## Senate Appropriations Committee Markup of Fiscal Year 2024 Bills

# Bureau of Reclamation Appropriations



PROGRAM	FY23 Enacted	FY24 House	FY24 Senate
CALFED	\$33 M	\$33 M	\$33 M
Storage	\$134 M	\$134 M	\$134 M
Water Recycling	\$60 M	\$50 M	\$50 M
Desalination	\$12 M	\$12 M	\$12 M
Safety of Dams	\$183 M	\$183 M	\$183 M
Drought Contingency Plan work	\$50M	\$50M	\$50M

# Senate Hearing



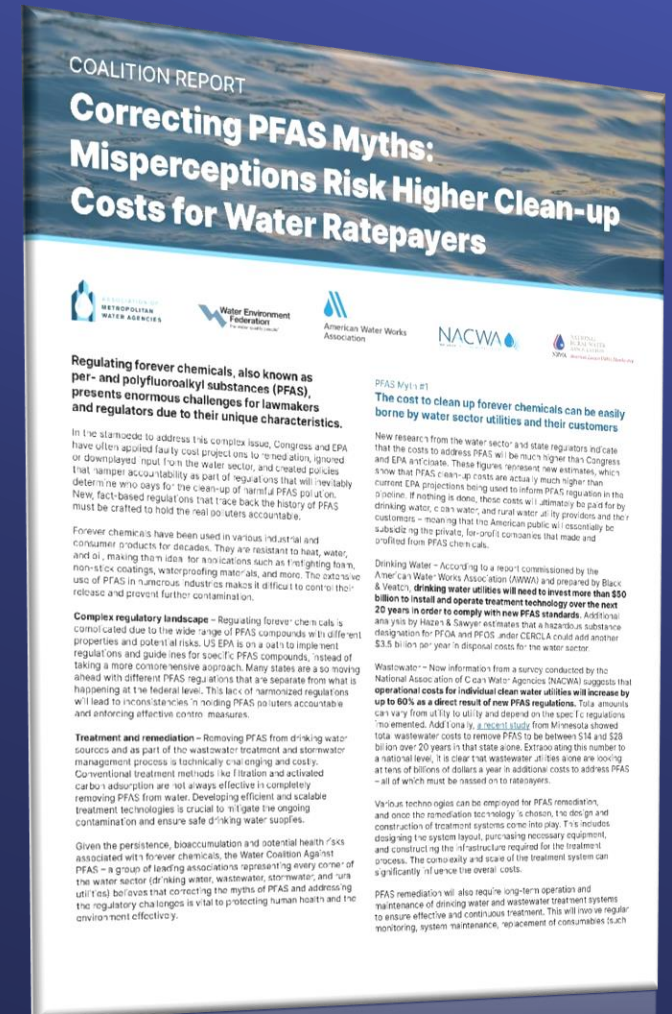
## Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power



# PFAS Update



- Committee consideration delayed until fall
- No protection from CERCLA liability
- Senate extends CDC study on PFAS in drinking water



# Personnel Update



Michael Brain  
Principal Deputy  
Assistant Secretary for  
Water and Science  
U.S. Bureau of  
Reclamation



Mae Wu  
Deputy Assistant  
Administrator  
Office of Water  
U.S. Environmental  
Protection Agency



**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**State Legislation Matrix**  
**August 14, 2023 – First Year of Legislative Session**

<b>Bill Number Author</b>	<b>Amended Date Location</b>	<b>Title-Summary</b>	<b>MWD Position</b>	<b>Effects on Metropolitan</b>
<b>AB 400</b> <b>B. Rubio (D – Baldwin Park)</b>  Sponsors: California State Association of Counties, League of California Cities	Amended 6/13/2023  Assembly Floor	<b>Local agency design-build projects: authorization.</b>  This measure would extend the existing sunset date to January 1, 2031, for the use of design-build as a delivery method for public works contracts.	<b>Support</b>  Based on October 2021 Board Action	Metropolitan’s current authority to use design-build under AB 1845 (Calderon, CH. 275, 2022) will sunset on January 1, 2028. The provisions of this bill would allow Metropolitan to use design-build for future projects through January 1, 2031.
<b>AB 1567</b> <b>Garcia (D-Coachella)</b>	Amended 5/26/2023  Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee	<b>Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024.</b>  This measure would authorize a \$15.995 billion general obligation bond for the March 5, 2024, ballot to fund a broad range of resource-based programs that will assist California to improve its climate resiliency.	<b>Support, if amended</b>  Based on June 2023 Board Action	This measure is consistent with Metropolitan’s current policy priorities and supports the objectives of Metropolitan’s Climate Adaptation Master Plan.  Metropolitan is seeking amendments to increase funding for recycled water, dam safety, regional conveyance, drought and conservation projects.
<b>AB 1572</b> <b>Friedman (D - Glendale)</b>  Co-Sponsors: Metropolitan, Heal the Bay, National Resources Defense Council	Amended 7/10/2023  Senate Appropriations Committee	<b>Potable water: nonfunctional turf.</b>  This measure prohibits the use of potable water for the irrigation of non-functional turf located on commercial, industrial, institutional. This measure provides the State Water Resources Control Board with the authority to postpone compliance dates as prescribed.	<b>Co-Sponsor</b>  Based on April 2023 Board action	Based on input from the Board and member agencies, Metropolitan sought amendments to exclude multi-family residential buildings and protect the authority and local control of public water systems. The June 19 version reflects these amendments and Metropolitan is now a “Co-Sponsor” of this measure.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**State Legislation Matrix**  
**August 14, 2023 – First Year of Legislative Session**

Bill Number Author	Amended Date Location	Title-Summary	MWD Position	Effects on Metropolitan
<b>AB 1573 Friedman (D - Glendale)</b>  Sponsor: Earth Advocacy and California Native Plant Society	Amended on 7/10/2023  Senate Appropriations Committee	<b>Water conservation: landscape design: model ordinance.</b>  This measure would update the model water efficient landscape ordinance for new or renovated nonresidential areas to require at least 25% local native plants beginning January 1, 2026. This measure would also prohibit the use of nonfunctional turf in nonresidential landscape projects after January 1, 2026.	<b>Support</b>  Based on 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	This measure is consistent with Metropolitan’s effort to reduce nonfunctional turf within its service area. Metropolitan staff initially identified implementation challenges but were able to work with the author’s office to bring Metropolitan to a support position.  Metropolitan’s requested amendments included: (1) removal of the .3 plant factor, (2) a phased approach implementation of native plant requirement, and (3) require water efficient irrigation methods. The current version of the bill reflects these requested changes.
<b>AB 1648 Bains (D - Bakersfield)</b>	Amended 3/16/2023  Two Year Bill	<b>Water: Colorado River Conservation</b>  This measure would specifically prohibit Metropolitan and LADWP to offset federally required reductions on Colorado River resources with increased water deliveries from other regions of California, including the Delta, retroactively as of January 1, 2023.	<b>Oppose</b>  Based on 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	This measure affects Metropolitan’s flexibility with its entire water portfolio, including the Integrated Water Resources Plan and the Annual Operating Plan. Metropolitan’s reliability and its ability to meet demands would also be impaired by restrictions on partnerships with its State Water Project and Colorado River Basin stakeholders.
<b>SB 122 Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review</b>	Amended 6/26/2023  Signed by the Governor Chapter 51, 2023	<b>Flood Flow Streamlining</b>  Provisions in this trailer bill provide that diversion of flood flows for groundwater recharge do not require an appropriative water right if specified conditions regarding the diversion are met. These provisions exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) specified actions related to the implementation of Colorado River water conservation agreements with the US Bureau of Reclamation.	<b>Seek Amendments</b>  Based on 2023 Water Rights Principles, adopted April 2023	The no-permit authorization poses a significant concern to Metropolitan’s State Water Project supplies. There is no process for protesting, no requirement that diverters avoid harm to other legal water users with water rights senior to the flood flow diverter, and no protection of SWP and CVP rights to divert “excess flows” when they exist in the system up to the full capacity of the projects. Metropolitan will work with the administration to address these issues as the program is implemented.



**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**State Legislation Matrix**  
**August 14, 2023 – First Year of Legislative Session**

Bill Number Author	Amended Date Location	Title-Summary	MWD Position	Effects on Metropolitan
<b>SB 124</b> <b>Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review</b>	Amended 6/26/2023  Signed by the Governor Chapter 53, 2023	<b>Green Financing Programs for Federal IRA Funding</b>  This measure contains various provisions to implement the 2023 State Budget Act, which includes authorizing the State Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank and DWR to access and utilize federal funding in the Inflation Reduction Act to finance projects that reduce greenhouse emissions.	<b>Support</b>  Based on 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	For the State Water Project, DWR’s direct investment in qualifying projects could lower its capital costs, which would ultimately be passed on to Metropolitan and other SWP contractors.
<b>SB 146</b> <b>Gonzalez (D-Long Beach)</b>	Amended 6/26/2023  Signed by the Governor Chapter 58, 2023	<b>Public resources: infrastructure: contracting.</b>  This measure is part of the negotiated infrastructure trailer bill package and authorizes DWR to use the progressive design-build project delivery method for up to eight public works projects that exceed \$25 million. The Delta conveyance facilities and seawater desalination are expressly prohibited under this measure.	<b>Support</b>  Based on October 2021 Board Action	By utilizing PDB and awarding a project contract prior to the completion of all design work, DWR can potentially reduce overall costs and execute shorter project delivery schedules. This could lead to reduced costs for SWP-related projects-resulting in cost savings being passed on to Metropolitan.
<b>SB 147</b> <b>Ashby (D-Sacramento)</b>	Amended 6/26/2023  Signed by the Governor Chapter 59, 2023	<b>Fully protected species: California Endangered Species Act: authorized take</b>  This measure is part of the negotiated infrastructure trailer bill package and authorizes the take of fully protected species for certain infrastructure projects if specified conditions are met. Eligible projects include the maintenance, repair and improvement of the State Water Project, as well as critical regional and local water infrastructure.	<b>Support and Amended</b>  Based on 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	While this alternative may have benefits over current FPS regulations, the requirements are extensive and may make permit terms infeasible or cost prohibitive and could create other litigation risks for permittees. Combined, these aspects make it unlikely Metropolitan would seek to use this method.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**State Legislation Matrix**  
**August 14, 2023 – First Year of Legislative Session**

Bill Number Author	Amended Date Location	Title-Summary	MWD Position	Effects on Metropolitan
<b>SB 149</b> <b>Caballero (D-Merced)</b>	Amended 6/28/2023  Signed by the Governor Chapter 60, 2023	<b>California Environmental Quality Act: administrative and judicial procedures: record of proceedings: judicial streamlining.</b>  This measure is part of the negotiated infrastructure trailer bill package and makes various changes to CEQA. This bill provides clarification for what is considered as part of the administrative record, as well as allowing a public agency to deny a request to prepare the record of proceedings. This bill also provides for expedited judicial review for specified energy and transportation projects.	<b>Support and Amend</b>  Based on 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	Administrative Records Streamlining: Overall, the provisions would be beneficial to Metropolitan as they could lower CEQA litigation costs and shorten litigation timelines.  Expedited Judicial Review: The process for preparing the administrative record for any governor-certified infrastructure project must follow certain extensive and potentially costly specifications. While expedited judicial review is beneficial in concept, unless amended, the prerequisites may be infeasible or costly to implement.
<b>SB 150</b> <b>Durazo (D-Los Angeles)</b>	Amended 6/26/2023  Signed by the Governor Chapter 61, 2023	<b>Construction: workforce development: public contracts.</b>  This measure is part of the negotiated infrastructure trailer bill package and focuses on strengthening the state’s workforce and community benefits with infrastructure investments through California’s share of federal funds.	<b>Support</b>  Based on 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022	This bill is intended to help develop procurement models to enhance the state’s training and access pipeline for jobs while ensuring community benefits on infrastructure and manufacturing investments.  This bill is aligned with Metropolitan’s values and would benefit the district by building the next generation of the state’s construction workforce.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
State Legislation Matrix  
August 14, 2023 – First Year of Legislative Session**

Bill Number Author	Amended Date Location	Title-Summary	MWD Position	Effects on Metropolitan
<p><b>SB 366</b> <b>Caballero (D - Merced)</b></p> <p>Sponsors: California Municipal Utilities Association, California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance, California State Association of Counties</p>	<p>Amended 6/29/2023</p> <p>Two-year bill</p>	<p><b>The California Water Plan: long-term supply targets.</b></p> <p>This measure would revise the California Water Plan to require the DWR to update the California Water Plan by December 31, 2028, and every five years after, to include a long-term water supply target for 2050 and discussion on the development of specified water supply sources to meet demand.</p>	<p><b>Support, if amended</b></p> <p>Based on 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022</p>	<p>The intent of this bill is to help modernize California’s water management practices and provide long-term reliable supplies in response to the current climate challenges. Metropolitan is seeking clarifying amendments to ensure the 2050 target reflects statewide, regional, and local planning efforts.</p> <p>Recent amendments related to the Delta environment are not consistent with the purpose of the California Water Plan.</p>
<p><b>SB 659</b> <b>Ashby (D – Sacramento)</b></p> <p>Sponsors: Sacramento Regional Water Authority</p>	<p>Amended 7/12/2023</p> <p>Assembly Appropriations Committee</p>	<p><b>California Water Supply Solutions Act of 2023.</b></p> <p>This bill would require DWR to develop a groundwater recharge plan by January 1, 2026, to create additional groundwater recharge capacity and include the plan as part of the 2028 update to the California Water Plan.</p>	<p><b>Support, if Amended</b></p> <p>Based on 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles adopted December 2022.</p>	<p>This bill will further elevate the importance of groundwater in the state’s planning efforts.</p> <p>Metropolitan is requesting amendments to add clarifying language to the definition of stormwater capture and merge this plan into the development of the California Water Plan to remove duplication of effort and ensure more comprehensive planning.</p>
<p><b>SB 687</b> <b>Eggman (D - Stockton)</b></p>	<p>Amended 5/2/2023</p> <p>Two-year bill</p>	<p><b>Water Quality Control Plan: Delta Conveyance Project.</b></p> <p>This measure will require the State Water Resources Control Board to adopt a final update of the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan before the Board considers a change in the point of diversion or any other water rights permit or order for the Delta Conveyance Project.</p>	<p><b>Oppose</b></p> <p>Based on 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022</p>	<p>Metropolitan supports updating the Water Quality Control Plan to protect beneficial uses in the Delta. However, this bill would result in halting or delaying planning efforts on the Delta Conveyance Project and potentially prevent the project from operating if approved.</p>

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
State Legislation Matrix  
August 14, 2023 – First Year of Legislative Session**

Bill Number Author	Amended Date Location	Title-Summary	MWD Position	Effects on Metropolitan
<p><b>SB 706 Caballero (D-Merced)</b></p> <p>Sponsors: CA State Association of Counties; County of San Diego; Design Build Institute of America Western Pacific Chapter; League of California Cities</p>	<p>Amended 6/28/23</p> <p>Assembly Appropriations Committee</p>	<p><b>Public contracts: progressive design-build: local agencies.</b></p> <p>This bill would provide additional authority, until January 1, 2023, for cities, counties, and special districts to use progressive design-build authority for up to 10 public works projects that are in excess of \$5 million. In addition, any local agency that uses this authorized progressive-design build process must submit a report to the Legislature.</p>	<p><b>Support</b></p> <p>Based on 2023 Legislative Priorities and Principles, adopted December 2022</p>	<p>Currently, progressive design-build eligible projects are limited to wastewater treatment facilities, park and recreational facilities, solid waste management facilities and water recycling facilities. However, this bill will now authorize Metropolitan to address other physical structures and needs to further support Metropolitan’s operations for reliable water supply deliveries throughout its service area.</p>
<p><b>SB 867 Allen (D-Santa Monica)</b></p>	<p>Amended 6/22/2023</p> <p>Assembly Natural Resources Committee</p>	<p><b>Drought, Flood and Water Resilience, Wildfire and Forest Resilience, Coastal Resilience, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Biodiversity and Nature-Based Climate Solutions, Climate Smart Agriculture, Park Creation and Outdoor Access, and Clean Energy Bond Act of 2024.</b></p> <p>This measure would authorize a \$15.5 billion general obligation bond for a range of resource-based programs that will improve California’s climate resiliency. If approved, this measure would be on the March 5, 2024 statewide ballot.</p>	<p><b>Support, if amended</b></p> <p>Based on June 2023 Board Action</p>	<p>This measure is consistent with Metropolitan’s current policy priorities and supports the objectives of Metropolitan’s Climate Adaptation Master Plan.</p> <p>Metropolitan is seeking amendments to increase funding for recycled water, dam safety, regional conveyance, drought, and conservation projects.</p>



Legislation, Regulatory Affairs, and  
Communications Committee

# Report on Activities from Sacramento

Item 7c  
August 14, 2023

# Legislative Deadlines

July 14 – Aug 14  
Legislative summer  
recess

Sept 1 – Last day for  
fiscal committees

Sept 14 – Last day of  
session





# Metropolitan's \$50 Million Budget Request for SWP Dependent Areas

## Sacramento Legislative Highlights



## Sacramento Legislative Highlights

# Climate Bond Funding: SB 867 (Allen) and AB1567 (Garcia)

## Metropolitan Bond Request:

- \$1.8 Billion for Recycled Water Projects
- \$850 Million for Dam Safety
- \$500 Million for Regional Conveyance
- \$250 Million for Urban Conservation



## Sacramento Legislative Highlights

### Bills of Interest to Metropolitan

- AB 399 (Boerner) Water Ratepayers Protections Act of 2023: County Water Authority Act: exclusion of territory
- AB 755 (Papan) Water: public entity: water usage demand analysis
- SB 122 Public Resources Trailer Bill: Floodflow Streamlining

# Sacramento Legislative Highlights

## Bills of Interest to Metropolitan

- AB 1572 (Friedman): Potable water: nonfunctional turf
- AB 1573 (Friedman): Water conservation: landscape design: model ordinance



# Sacramento Legislative Highlights

## Water Rights Bills

- AB 460 (Bauer-Kahan): State Water Resources Control Board: water rights and usage: interim relief: procedures
- AB 1337 (Wicks): State Water Resources Control Board: water shortage enforcement



Sacramento  
Legislative  
Highlights  
Cont'd

## Water Rights Bills

- SB 389 (Allen): State Water Resources Control Board: determination of water right









Legislation, Regulatory Affairs and  
Communications Committee

# External Affairs Management Report

Item 8a  
August 14, 2023

## Events



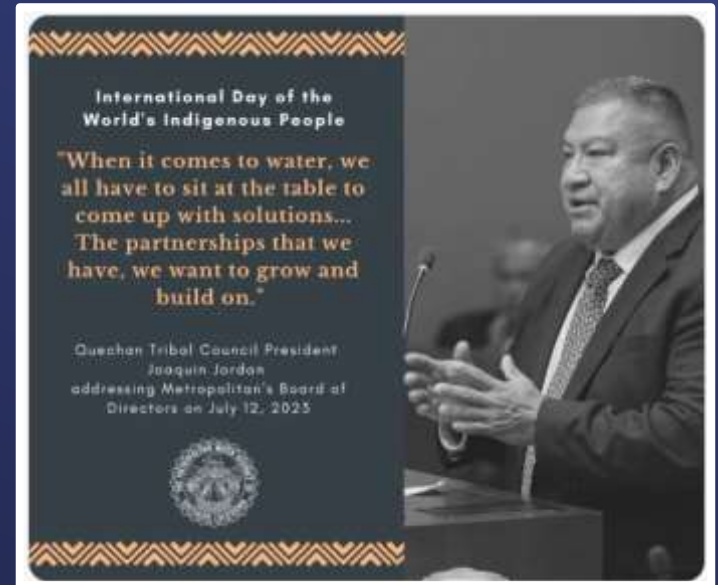
- Pure Water event, statewide educators and CAAWEF
- Upcoming events to promote turf rebate program enhancements, completion of infrastructure projects, and Angel City Football Club [bewaterwise.com](http://bewaterwise.com) game





Update on  
Communications & Messaging


# Social Media Campaigns - August





# Outreach

## Perris Valley Pipeline



**Mission of Metropolitan Water District's Education**  
Elevating student's understanding about water is accomplished through learning. For schools within our six-county service area, the supplemental materials, workshops, field trips, teacher in-servicing are geared from pre-K to college.

Visit us at: [www.mwdh2o.com](http://www.mwdh2o.com)

## NAME THE TUNNEL BORING MACHINE FOR THE PERRIS VALLEY PIPELINE

Contest for Grades 4-12  
Sponsored by The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California



Help us name the tunnel boring machine (TBM) that will finish the Perris Valley Pipeline. This pipeline will bring water from Metropolitan's Mills Water Treatment Plant to the Perris Valley. The TBM is about 30 feet long and 10 feet in diameter. It moves 30-40 feet per day, building the tunnel as it digs. It needs a name!

- The naming contest is open to students in grades 4-12 at schools in the vicinity of the project (see project map).
- Choose a name for the TBM and tell us why you chose it in a short essay, no more than 200 words or in a MP4 video, up to 1 minute.
- The winning name will be placed on the TBM and you will hear it used in news stories and social media when we talk about the project.
- The top submission will be recognized at a ceremony this fall. The top three submissions will receive a classroom set of education supplies.
- Ask questions and submit entries to [MWDEducationPrograms@mwdh2o.com](mailto:MWDEducationPrograms@mwdh2o.com).



**Submissions Due September 30, 2023**

[bewaterwise.com](http://bewaterwise.com)

