

Legislation & Communications Committee

# Update on 2025-26 Inspection Trip Program

Item 6a August 18, 2025 Update on 2025-26 Inspection Trip Program

## Subject

Provide a report on the Inspection Trip Program

## Purpose

Share background information on the inspection trip program and discuss updates for 2025-26

## Authorization and Purpose

Inspection Trip Program Update

## Program Overview

- Admin Code Sections 2610 - 2615
- Inform and educate on water issues and MWD's operations, programs, and objectives
- Visual inspection of District and related facilities



# Inspection Trips: A Collaborative Effort











## Inspection Trips

**Inspection Trip Program Update** 

### Program Overview



- Trips are conducted September June
- Directors select trips and dates, invite guests
  - Elected and appointed officials
  - Business, environmental, community leaders
  - Interested citizens

Inspection Trip Program Update

## Program Overview

## Trips for Directors

- Directors may take two trips

  -an overnight and a one-day

  per fiscal year
- Overnight trips are either to SWP or Colorado River
- One-day trips are usually focused on infrastructure, local resources, environmental projects and/or DVL
- All trips will be shared





## Sample Itineraries

#### In Region (1 day)

- Water Treatment/Lab/LaVerne Shops
- Diamond Valley Lake
- Water Resources / Pure Water
- Environmental Stewardship

#### Colorado River Aqueduct (2 or 3 days)

- Gene Camp
- Intake Pumping Plant, Copper Basin
- Palo Verde Valley
- Aqueduct

#### State Water Project (2 day)

- Lake Oroville
- Delta
- Banks Pumping Plant
- Agriculture in Central Valley (3 days)
- Considering Feather River Watershed

#### Hoover Dam/ Colorado River (3 days)

- Hoover Dam and Lake Mead
- Gene Camp
- Intake Pumping Plant, Copper Basin
- Palo Verde Valley
- Aqueduct

# FPPC Reporting for Inspection Trips

Inspection Trip Program Update

# Gift of Travel

- California Political Reform Act
  - Government Code Sections 81000 91014
- Fair Political Practices Commission
  - CA Code of Regulations, Title 2, Division 6
    Sections 18104-18998
- Advice from FPPC
- Consult with legal advisors

# Travel-Related Expenses Paid by MWD

Inspection Trip Program Update

# FPPC Reporting

- Directors
  - Not reportable, not subject to annual gift limit
- State and local public officials
  - Reportable (very limited exceptions)
  - Must be considered when determining conflict of interest
  - Not subject to annual gift limit

# Travel Expenses Paid by MWD (cont'd)

Companion of a local official

- Considered gift to public official
- Reportable
- Must be considered when determining conflict of interest
- Subject to annual gift limit
- 30-day window to pay down value, avoid excess gift

Inspection Trip Program Update

# FPPC Reporting

## Budget Review

Inspection Trip Program Update

## Managing Costs & Resources

- Current budget of \$700,000 for this fiscal year
- Directors to continue sharing trips
- Capacity for State Water Project trips has changed to 30 guests (previously 36 guests)
- Enhancements at Gene Camp to increase efficiency

## Supporting Additional Trips: Maximizing the Value of the Inspection Trip Program







