



● Report on activities from Washington, D.C

Summary

Report on activities in Washington, D.C.

Purpose

(3) Informational

Attachments

Attachment #1 – August 2022 Federal Legislative Matrix

Detailed Report

Schedule

The House and Senate are now in a pro-forma session (very brief meetings, often only a few minutes in duration) for the August recess. The Senate is scheduled to return to session on September 6 and the House is scheduled to return on September 13.

GM Hagekhalil Hearing Testimony

General Manager Hagekhalil testified before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife on July 21 in support of H.R. 8090, a bill that extends Reclamation's authority to produce basin studies for the next 10 years.

Metropolitan staff had participated in the 2012 Basin States Study on the Colorado River and contributed to several other basins studies including the Los Angeles and Santa Ana basins and the Sacramento-San Joaquin system. GM Hagekhalil's testimony highlighted the importance of these studies in bringing interested parties together to plan for future water supply conditions. He stated, "We can no longer deny the impacts of climate change on our water supply and must work together as one to implement a One Water vision of integrating our projects and increasing sustainable water management if we are to successfully adapt to the critical hydrological conditions in our watersheds."

Appropriations

Senate Democrats and Republicans failed to reach an agreement on overall Fiscal Year 2023 (FY 23) funding levels. Instead, the Senate Appropriations Committee Democrats released text of all 12 spending bills on July 28 bypassing the traditional Committee markup process.

The Senate Interior and Environment bill funds several federal agencies including the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Consistent with the House bill, the Senate bill proposes the same funding for EPA's State Revolving Fund programs: \$1.7 billion for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and \$1.1 billion for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. This funding is in addition to the \$2.2 billion each fund will receive in FY 23 from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The Senate bill also provides \$5 million for EPA's alternative water sources program. This is less than the House proposed but, if enacted, it would be the first time the program receives funding and would provide a new source of grant funding for water recycling projects.

The Senate Energy and Water appropriations bill funds the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and other agencies. This Senate proposal is slightly lower than the House bill. It provides \$55 million for water recycling projects, \$132 million for water storage projects, and \$55 million for WaterSMART grants.

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This funding is in addition to the \$1.6 billion BOR will receive in FY 23 from the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act.

It is unlikely that the appropriations bills will become law before FY 22 ends on September 30 and a continuing resolution keeping government funded at FY 22 levels will be needed to allow sufficient time to negotiate a deal. Staff will provide updates as the process moves forward.

H.R. 5118, the Wildfire Response and Drought Resiliency Act

Before breaking for the August recess, the House approved a wildfire and drought package on July 29. Numerous bills Metropolitan supports were incorporated into H.R. 5118, the Wildfire Response and Drought Resiliency Act, including:

- H.R. 8434, extending the authority for Reclamation's large-scale recycling program for another 10 years and authorizing \$700 million for the program;
- H.R. 7874, authorizing \$100 million for water efficiency and conservation grants;
- Several water science bills including H.R. 8090 to reauthorize Reclamation's Climate Change and Water Science Program; H.R. 7792, the Water Data Act; and H.R. 4832, the Open Access Evapotranspiration Act.

Additionally, the bill authorizes funding for a variety of programs that Metropolitan supports, including:

- \$500 million for the Secretary of Interior to use to prevent Lake Powell and Lake Mead from declining to critically low water levels,
- \$600 million for Title XVI water recycling projects, and
- \$250 million in funding for Salton Sea environmental restoration projects.

Inflation Reduction Act

The Senate completed one last marathon vote before the August recess. After struggling all year to come up with a deal on a tax and climate change bill, Senate Democrats agreed on the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022. The IRA is structured as a budget reconciliation bill and needed just 51 votes to pass. It provides direct funding from the treasury, bypassing the usual appropriations process. Western Senators worked together to secure \$4 billion in funding between now and 2026 for drought mitigation in the bill. This new funding can be used for three primary purposes: compensation for reductions in water diversions or consumptive use; system conservation projects in the Upper or Lower Basin of the Colorado River; and ecosystem and habitat restoration projects to address issues caused by drought.

Other items of interest in the bill include: \$550 million through 2031 for grants to provide drinking water to disadvantaged communities that lack access to a reliable water supply, \$25 million through 2031 to study placing solar panels on water conveyance facilities to generate renewable energy, and \$12.5 million through 2026 to mitigate the impacts of drought on Indian Tribes.

The Senate passed the bill by a vote of 51-50 on August 7; the House will reconvene in a special session on August 12 to take up the bill.

Conclusion

Staff continues to actively monitor and engage on Metropolitan policy and program priorities and will provide regular updates to the Board on these issues as they develop.

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Topic	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Assistance for Disadvantaged Communities	H.R. 3293 (Rochester, D-DE)	7/2/21: Passed the House as part of H.R. 3684 (DeFazio, D-OR), Invest in America Act.	Low Income Water Customer Assistance Programs Act of 2021 Establishes programs to assist low-income households with their drinking water and wastewater bills.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill does not directly impact Metropolitan but would help its member agencies. It creates a voluntary EPA grant program to help water systems expand the scope of their existing ratepayer assistance programs or create new ones.
Conservation	H.R. 4647 (Huffman, D-CA) S. 2430 (Feinstein, D-CA)	11/19/21: Passed the House as part of H.R. 5376 (Yarmuth, D-KY), Build Back Better Act. 7/22/21: Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.	Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act Amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the exclusion for conservation subsidies to include water conservation or efficiency measures and storm water management measures.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill makes rebates that homeowners receive for water conservation improvements to their home, including smart irrigation systems and turf removal, exempt from federal taxes. If enacted Metropolitan and its member agencies would no longer need to provide tax forms at the end of the year to customers that have received \$600 or more in water conservation rebates.

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Conservation	H.R. 5438 (Cartwright, D-PA)	9/30/21: Referred to the House Committees on Energy and Commerce, Energy and Reform, and Ways and Means.	Water Advanced Technologies for Efficient Resource Use Act of 2021 Addresses federal procurement of WaterSense products, creates a grant program for water conservation incentives, and makes water conservation incentives federally non-taxable.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill authorizes a new grant program to help water agencies provide financial incentives to consumers for the purchase of WaterSense products. It also includes tax parity for water conservation measures. If enacted there could be some considerable water conservation benefits in Metropolitan’s service territory. Grants could be used to increase rebate amounts for smart irrigation controllers and customers who receive rebates over \$600 will not be taxed.
Conservation	H.R. 6088 Gallego, D-AZ) S. 3282 (Kelly, R-WV)	11/30/21: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. 11/30/21: Referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.	Water Infrastructure Modernization Act of 2021 Authorizes a new grant program to help wastewater and drinking water systems detect leaks and reduce water loss.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	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.

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Conservation	H.R. 7847 (McNerney, D-CA) S.4279 (Padilla, D-CA)	7/29/22: Passed the House as part of H.R.5118, the Wildfire Response and Drought Resiliency Act 5/19/22: Referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee	Water Efficiency, Conservation, and Sustainability Act of 2022 Creates new EPA grant programs for water efficiency and conservation measures, water loss control programs, and water efficient plumbing code adoption.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill directly benefits Metropolitan and its member agencies by creating new grant programs to help both water agencies and consumers reduce water loss. The new programs will supplement on-going work by Metropolitan and its member agencies and promote water conservation throughout Metropolitan's service territory.
Endangered Species Act Oversight.	H.R. 866 (Calvert, R-CA)	3/3/21: Referred to the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans and Wildlife.	Federally Integrated Species Health Act or the "FISH Act" Transfers the authority to oversee ESA-related responsibilities for anadromous fish from the Secretary of Commerce to the Secretary of the Interior.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	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	H.R. 535 (Garamendi, D-CA) S. 91 (Sinema, D-AZ)	1/28/21: Referred to the House Committees on Oversight Reform and Financial Services. 1/28/21: Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.	Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act Allows special districts to access future federal funding to help offset costs associated with responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. It also defines special districts in federal statute for the first time.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	Metropolitan and some of its member agencies would qualify as special districts under the Act. If additional funds are allocated to states to help offset costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, special districts would be eligible to receive funding.

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Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure	H.R. 1848 (Pallone, D-NJ)	11/15/21: Funding for PFAS removal and EPA’s State Revolving Funds included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58.	Leading Infrastructure for Tomorrow’s America Act or the LIFT America Act To rebuild and modernize the Nation's infrastructure, rehabilitate drinking water infrastructure, modernize the electric grid and energy supply infrastructure.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill would positively impact Metropolitan and its member agencies. It reauthorizes EPA’s drinking water state revolving loan fund and establishes a grant program to provide capital funding for PFAS remediation, and lead service line replacement. It creates DOE programs to provide funding for enhanced physical and cybersecurity, accelerate the use of renewable energy and transition to zero-emission vehicle fleets.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	H.R. 1915 (DeFazio, D-OR)	11/19/21: Clean water SRF funding included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58. Other provisions included in House passed H.R. 5376 (Yarmuth, D-KY), Build Back Better Act.	Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2021 Authorizes \$50 billion in investment over 5 years for wastewater and stormwater infrastructure improvements.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by authorizing increased funding for EPA’s clean water state revolving fund and other wastewater and stormwater programs. It also authorizes \$1 billion in grants to implement treatment standards for PFAS and other emerging contaminants.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	H.R. 3282 (McKinley, R-WV)	5/17/21: Referred to the House Committees on Energy and Commerce and Transportation and Infrastructure.	Drinking Water Funding for the Future Act of 2021 To reauthorize funding for EPA drinking water programs under the Safe Drinking Water Act and America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by reauthorizing numerous EPA water infrastructure programs including the drinking water state revolving fund, WIFIA, the lead testing in school programs, and workforce development program.

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Topic	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	H.R. 3404 (Huffman, D-CA)	5/21/21: Referred to the House Committees on Energy and Commerce, Judiciary, Natural Resources, Science, Space and Technology, and Transportation and Infrastructure.	Furthering Underutilized Technologies and Unleashing Responsible Expenditures (FUTURE) Western Water Infrastructure and Drought Resiliency Act The bill authorizes funding for water infrastructure projects, including storage, recycling, and desalination projects, in Reclamation states. It also creates a new Reclamation program to help underserved communities have access to drinking water, authorizes investments to improve the use of technology and data in water forecasting, provides tax parity for water conservation and efficiency measures, and authorizes habitat restoration funding.	SUPPORT AND AMEND Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	Metropolitan and its member agencies would benefit from numerous provisions in this bill including the additional funding for water recycling projects, tax parity for water conservation and efficiency measures, and new financing mechanisms for water projects including habitat restoration and dam safety. Metropolitan is seeking amendments to ensure groundwater and surface storage projects have access to federal funding.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	H.R. 4099 (Napolitano, D-CA) S. 2334 (Cortez Masto, D-NV)	11/15/21: Included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58. 5/25/22: Hearing held before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power.	Large Scale Water Recycling Project Investment Act Directs the Secretary of the Interior to establish a competitive grant program for the planning, design, and construction of large-scale water recycling and reclamation projects that provide substantial water supply and other benefits to drought stricken regions within the Reclamation States.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill would benefit Metropolitan and our member agencies by authorizing a new Reclamation program to provide funding for the Regional Recycled Water Project and other large-scale recycled water projects. This new program would provide more federal financial assistance for recycled water projects than is available through the current Title XVI, water recycling program.

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Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	H.R. 7776 (DeFazio, D-OR) S. 4136 (Carper, D-DE)	6/9/22: Passed House 6/08/22, 392-28. 5/04/22: Approved by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.	Water Resources Development Act of 2022 Authorizes U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to carry out water resources development projects and studies; and provides policy direction to the Corps for implementation of its civil works mission.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	While this bill does not impact Metropolitan directly, it authorizes projects and feasibility studies for some of our member agencies. Additionally, there are several provisions that could be beneficial to Metropolitan including a study of Corps reservoirs in arid Western states to evaluate opportunities to improve water supply, respond to drought, and prepare for climate change.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	S. 479 (Wicker, R-MS)	2/25/21: Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.	Lifting Our Communities through Advance Liquidity for Infrastructure Act or the LOCAL Infrastructure Act To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reinstate advance refunding bonds	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	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.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	S.914 (Duckworth, D-IL)	4/29/21: Passed the Senate, 89-2. 11/15/21: Included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58.	Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021 Authorizes \$35 billion in investment over 5 years for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure improvements.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by authorizing increased funding for numerous EPA programs including the clean water and drinking water state revolving fund program, WIFIA, an infrastructure resiliency and sustainability program, and a grant program to remove lead service lines.

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Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	S. 2454 (Padilla, D-CA)	7/22/21: Referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.	Water Reuse and Resiliency Act of 2021 Authorizes \$1 billion over five years for the EPA’s Pilot Program for Alternative Water Source Projects grants program.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by authorizing increased funding for an EPA program to provide grants for water recycling and stormwater management projects.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	S. 4231 (Feinstein, D-CA)	5/25/22: Hearing held before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power.	Support To Rehydrate the Environment, Agriculture, and Municipalities Act” or the “STREAM Act 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.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	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

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Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	S. 4494 (Cortez-Mastro, D-NV) H.R. 8434 (Lee, D-NV)	6/23/22: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. 7/29/22: Passed the House as part of H.R.5118, the Wildfire Response and Drought Resiliency Act.	Facilitating Large-Scale Water Recycling and Reuse Projects Act Amends the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to provide for an additional authorization of appropriations for the large-scale recycled water program and repeal the termination of authority for that program.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill permanently establishes Reclamation’s large-scale recycling water program. This change will allow Metropolitan to better utilize the program to help fund the Pure Water Southern California project. The Senate bill authorizes an additional \$500 million for the program, the House bill authorizes an additional \$700 million.
Source Water Protection	H.R. 1881 (Garamendi, D-CA)	3/15/21: Referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment	Federal Water Pollution Control Permitting Terms Amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act) with respect to permitting terms.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	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.

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Source Water Protection	H.R. 2008 (Craig, D-MN) S. 29 (Klobuchar, D-MN)	6/15/21: Passed the House, referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. 1/22/21: Referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.	Local Water Protection Act Amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act) to reauthorize through FY25 a grant program to help states manage nonpoint source water pollution or protect groundwater quality. Authorizes \$200 million per year for this program.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by providing funding to help address non-point source pollution. Pollutants commonly associated with non-point sources include nutrients and pesticides. According to EPA, more than 40 percent of all impaired waters were affected solely by nonpoint sources, while less than 10 percent of water quality criteria exceedances were caused by point source discharges alone.
Source Water Protection	H.R. 2682 (Crow, D-CO) S. 1248 (Bennet, D-CO)	6/15/21: Referred to the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry. 4/20/21: Referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	Outdoor Restoration Partnership Act 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.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	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.

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Source Water Protection	H.R. 3534 (Panetta, D-CA) S. 2806 Feinstein, D-CA)	7/7/21: Referred to the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry. 10/21/21: Hearing held before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	Wildfire Emergency Act of 2021 Provides for programs and activities in support of forest restoration, wildfire mitigation, and energy resilience.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	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.
Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Updates.	H.R. 1015 (Napolitano, D-CA)	11/15/21: \$500 million for water recycling projects included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58.	Water Recycling Investment and Improvement Act Authorizes an increase in federal funding for the water recycling program created in the WIIN Act from \$50M to \$500M, raises the cap in federal funding from \$20M to \$30M per project, makes the program permanent by removing the 2021 expiration date, and removes the requirement that approved projects to be specifically named in appropriation legislation.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	A ten-fold increase in federal funding for water recycling projects could have a significant effect on Metropolitan and its member agencies with funding to significantly accelerate the development of recycled water projects that, once completed, would reduce or offset the need for new imported water supplies.

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Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Updates.	H.R. 1563 (Garcia, R-CA)	3/3/21: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.	To Extend Authorities Under the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act Extends the WIIN Act programs funding storage projects, water recycling projects, and desalination projects for seven years. Authorizes these programs at funding levels consistent with prior years: \$134 million/year for storage, \$20 million/year for recycling, and \$12 million/year for desalination.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by providing funding for a variety of water infrastructure projects. Without an extension these Reclamation programs will expire at the end of the year.
Water Project Authorizations	H.R. 2552 (Costa, D-CA) S. 1179 (Feinstein, D-CA)	4/15/21: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. 5/25/22: Hearing held before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power.	Canal Conveyance Capacity Restoration Act Authorizes the Bureau of Reclamation to provide financial assistance to mitigate the impacts of subsidence on California’s water delivery system.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This legislation would authorize repairs to the Friant-Kern Canal, Delta-Mendota Canal, and California Aqueduct to restore conveyance capacity lost due to subsidence.

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Water Science	H.R. 4832 (Lee, D-NV) S. 2568 (Cortez-Mastro, D-NV)	11/5/21: Hearing held before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife. 6/7/22: Hearing held before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining.	Open Access Evapotranspiration Data Act 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 \$14 million per year for five years for this program.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	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. Metropolitan could use this data to study water use trends, verify partner compliance with the terms of new and existing agricultural conservation programs, and measure the water supply benefits from such programs.
Water Science	H.R. 1437 (Sherrill, D-NJ) S. 3053 (Booker, D-NJ)	5/11/22: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, (333-81). 5/11/22: Reported out favorably from the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.	Providing Research and Estimates of Changes in Precipitation Act or PRECIP Act Requires the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to update its precipitation frequency estimates at least every five years and better incorporate climate change into its precipitation modeling.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill will benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by improving storm forecasting. Better storm forecasting helps with supply and demand management.

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Water Science	H.R. 7289 (Fletcher, D-TX) S.4492 (Peters, D-MI)	7/27/22: Passed the House, referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. 6/23/22: Referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.	Federal PFAS Research Evaluation Act Directs the National Academy of Sciences to study and report on a Federal research agenda to advance the understanding of PFAS.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	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.
Water Science	H.R. 7792 (Stansbury, D-NM) S. 4236 (Heinrich, D-NM)	7/29/22: Passed the House as part of H.R.5118, the Wildfire Response and Drought Resiliency Act 5/25/22: Hearing held before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power.	Water Data Act Creates a national water data council composed of department heads of Federal agencies with water-related activities and directs the council to develop a national water data framework. Authorizes a water data grant program at the Department of Interior.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	The Water Data Act is a national version of California's 2016 AB 1755 – Open and Transparent Water Data Act. Metropolitan supported AB 1755 and the development of the California Water Data Consortium.

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Water Science	H.R. 8090 (Porter, D-CA)	7/29/22: Passed the House as part of H.R.5118, the Wildfire Response and Drought Resiliency Act.	To reauthorize funding for the Reclamation Climate Change and Water Program Extends the authorization for Reclamation’s basin studies program for ten years.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	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.