Legislation & Communications Committee

Inspection Trip Information

Item 6c

October 13, 2025

Inspection Trips 2025-26

Subject

Inspection trip information

Purpose

To provide an update on additional funding available for strategic inspection trips in 2025-26

Director and Strategic Trips

Inspection Trips 2025-26

Current travel budget: $700,000

- All Shared Director Requested Trips
- Three Strategic Trips
  - Two Committed Strategic Trips (WELL, SoCal Feather River Watershed Visit)
  - One Strategic Trip TBD

Director and Strategic Trips

Inspection Trips 2025-26

Opportunity to increase funding for inspection trips for 2025-26

- Strategic Trips will be added
  - $100,000 in additional funds available to support inspection trips
  - 3-4 additional strategic trips will be provided
- Fully restoring program is not feasible
  - An additional FTE and approximately $700,000 in travel funds is needed
  - Scheduling and negotiating new contracts is challenging

Strategic Trips

Inspection Trips 2025-26

Potential Additional Strategic Trips

- Tours of CRA or SWP facilities and programs for legislative offices, Basin States agencies, key stakeholders
- Tours of Metropolitan facilities in Southern California for partnering organizations
- Tours for Metropolitan Director delegations to agricultural, tribal lands and/or upper watersheds (along CRA, Central Valley/Delta, N. Sierra Watershed)

Director and Strategic Trips

Inspection Trips 2026-28

Budget for 2026-28

- Proposed travel budget per year: $850,000
  - Shared Director trips
  - Strategic trips
- Option to restore full inspection trip program
  - Budget and staffing plan will be provided for Board consideration

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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
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