

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.

LEG Committee

J. Lewitt, Chair
A. Fellow, VC
Communication
A. Kassakhian, VC
Legislation
L. Ackerman
B. Dennstedt
J. Garza
G. Gray
M. Luna
J. McMillan
J. Morris
T. Phan
B. Pressman
M. Ramos

Legislation and Communications Committee

Meeting with Board of Directors *

March 10, 2025

11:00 a.m.

**Monday, March 10, 2025
Meeting Schedule**

**09:00 a.m. EOT
11:00 a.m. LEG
12:00 p.m. Break
12:30 p.m. EEDEI
02:30 p.m. OWA**

Agendas, live streaming, meeting schedules, and other board materials are available here:

**<https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. Written public comments received by 5:00 p.m. the business days before the meeting is scheduled will be posted under the Submitted Items and Responses tab available here:
<https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Legislation.aspx>.**

If you have technical difficulties with the live streaming page, 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 to join by computer [click here](#).

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

Teleconference Locations:

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

3008 W. 82nd Place • Inglewood, CA 90305

525 Via La Selva • Redondo Beach, CA 90277

Cedars-Sinai Imaging Medical Group • 8700 Beverly Boulevard, Suite M313 • Los Angeles, CA 90048

* 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))

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

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION

- A. Approval of the minutes of the Legislation and Communications Committee for February 10, 2025 (copies have been submitted to each Director, any additions, corrections, or omissions) [21-4325](#)

Attachments: [03102025 LEG 2A \(02102025\) Minutes](#)

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION

NONE

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

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION

NONE

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

NONE

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Construction Outreach: Updates and Insight [21-4329](#)

Attachments: [03102025 LEG 6a Presentation](#)

- b. Report on Activities from Washington, D.C. [21-4327](#)

Attachments: [03102025 LEG 6b Federal Legislative Matrix](#)
[03102025 LEG 6b Presentation](#)

- c. Report on Activities from Sacramento [21-4328](#)

Attachments: [03102025 LEG 6c State Legislative Matrix](#)
[03102025 LEG 6c Presentation](#)

7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- a. External Affairs activities

[21-4326](#)

Attachments: [03102025 LEG 7a External Affairs Activities](#)
[03102025 LEG 7a Presentation](#)

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

NONE

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

10. 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 AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

February 10, 2025

Chair Jung called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

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

Members absent: Directors Ackerman, Garza, Luna, and Ramos.

Other Board Members present: Directors Armstrong, Camacho, Cordero, De Jesus (teleconference posted location), Dick, Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre (teleconference posted location), McCoy, Miller, and Ortega.

Committee Staff present: Novoa, Rubin, Sims, Stites, Upadhyay, and Zinke

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

- 1.) Jason Maruca – Burbank Water and Power (Item 6b)

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Legislation and Communications Committee held January 14, 2025.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

None

Director Morris made a motion, seconded by Director Fellow to approve item 2A.

Ayes: Directors Dennstedt, Fellow, Jung, Lewitt, McMillan, Morris, and Pressman

Noes: None

Abstentions: Director Gray

Absent: Directors Ackerman, Garza, Kassakhian, Luna, Phan, and Ramos

The motion for item 2A passed by a vote of 7 ayes, 0 noes, 1 abstain, and 6 absent.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

Director Kassakhian and Phan entered the meeting.

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Update on proposal to increase local agency dollar threshold for public works construction contracts

Presented by: Jay L. Jefferson II, Executive Legislative Representative

Mr. Jefferson provided a report to educate the Board on an alternative to pursuing legislation following the Board's request to pursue legislation to increase Metropolitan's threshold for public bidding on construction contracts.

The following Directors provided a comment or asked a question:

- 1.) Morris

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

- b. Subject: Update on Eastern Municipal Water District's proposed amendment to the MWD Act to allow alternate board members

Presented by: Jay L. Jefferson II, Executive Legislative Representative

Mr. Jefferson provided a report on Eastern Municipal Water District's proposed legislation that would amend the Metropolitan Water District Act to allow for the appointment of alternate board members to the Metropolitan Board of Directors. Five-year sunset which would expire January 1, 2031.

The following Directors provided a comment or asked a question:

- 1.) Armstrong
- 2.) Camacho
- 3.) De Jesus
- 4.) Alvarez
- 5.) Fellow
- 6.) Garza
- 7.) Lewitt
- 8.) Ortega
- 9.) Cordero

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

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

Presented by: Abby R. Schneider, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Schneider provided an update on new Trump Administration appointees, executive orders issued, federal funding for programs, President Trump's action on the Bay-Delta, and new Congressional delegation members.

The following Directors provided a comment or asked a question:

- 1.) Fong-Sakai

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

d. Subject: Report on Activities from Sacramento

Presented by: Jay L. Jefferson II, Executive Legislative Representative

Mr. Jefferson provided an update on the legislative calendar, the Special session of the Legislature, wildfire response, Metropolitan's sponsored bills: Surface Mining and Reclamation Act Extension, and Metropolitan bills of interest: AB 263 (Rogers): Scott River: Shasta River: watersheds, AB 362 (Ramos): Water policy: California tribal communities, and SB 72 (Caballero): The California Water Plan: long term supply target.

7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

a. Subject: External Affairs activities

Presented by: Dee Zinke, Assistant General Manager

Ms. Zinke provided an update on Member Agency PIO meeting which featured a panel of representatives from LADWP, Foothill, Pasadena, and Las Virgenes staff discussing communications best practices and lessons learned from the recent wildfires, education and careers programs, planned outreach to district offices of state legislative and congressional delegations on Metropolitan priorities and programs, and the restart of inspection trips for Metropolitan employees.

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

1. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION (CONTINUED)

2. Joe Mouawad – Eastern Municipal Water District (Item 6b)

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

Chair Jung



Legislation and Communications Committee

Construction Outreach: Updates and Insight

Item 6a
March 10, 2025

Report on Construction Outreach

Subject

Community outreach and engagement

Purpose

To demonstrate how Metropolitan's Community Relations Team proactively engages with communities

Report on Construction Outreach

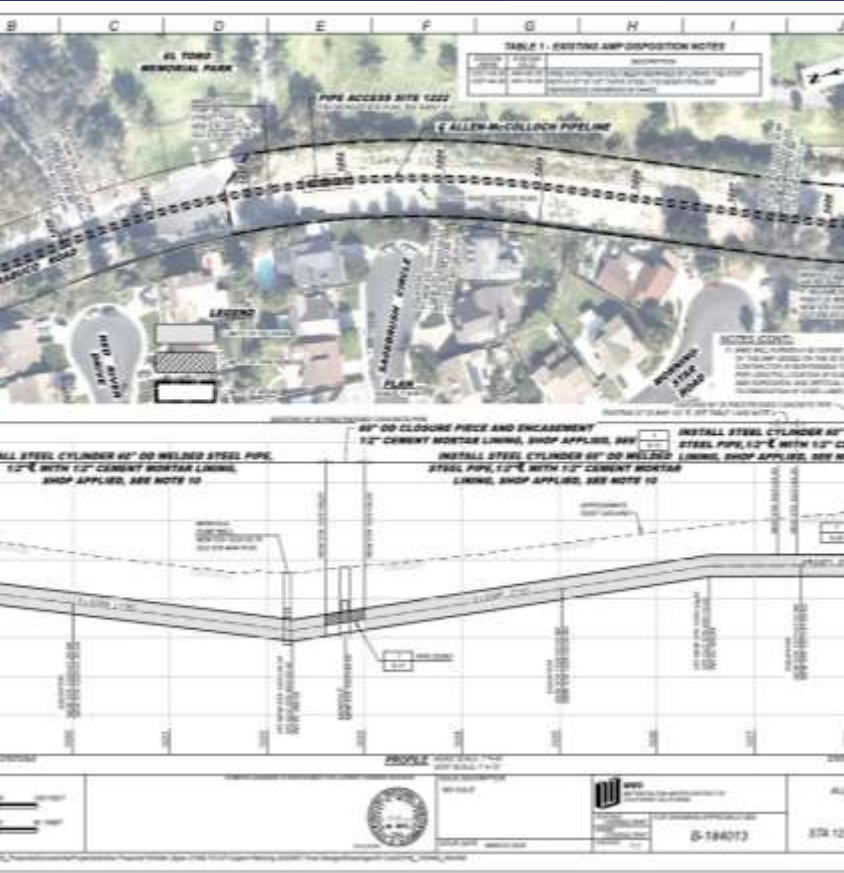


Report on Construction Outreach

Recent Outreach Projects

- Allen-McColloch Pipeline PCCP 2024 Urgent Relining
- Compton Lateral
- Etiwanda Pipeline North
- F.E. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant Bonita Avenue Railroad Urgent Track Replacement
- Live Oak Reservoir Pipelines Cathodic Protection
- Perris Valley Pipeline Interstate 215 Crossing
- Rialto Pipeline Rehabilitation
- San Diego Canal
- Santa Monica Feeder Cathodic Protection
- Second Lower Feeder Reach 3A & 3B
- Sepulveda Feeder Urgent Relining

Early Collaboration is Key



URGENT PIPELINE RELINING PROJECT COMING TO YOUR AREA

JUNE 2024 - JANUARY 2025

The Allen-McColloch Pipeline (AMP) is a key component of Metropolitan's regional water system, spanning 26 miles to supply treated drinking water to the Municipal Water District of Orange County and its retail agencies. Constructed in the 1970s, portions of the prestressed concrete cylinder pipe need to be relined to ensure future water reliability.

In a recent inspection, Metropolitan identified distressed segments of the pipeline that require urgent repairs. This project will rehabilitate approximately 4,500 feet of pipeline.

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING CONSTRUCTION

- Construction began in June 2024 and continues through January 2025
- 24-hour work may be necessary
- You may hear noise due to construction, excavation, ventilation and equipment
- You may notice additional construction vehicle traffic in the area
- Temporary traffic delays and parking restrictions may occur



Oct 11, 2024 at 10:
21941 Sage
Lake Forest
Unit

Proactive Outreach to Communities



Thank you for your support and patience as we work to rehabilitate this major pipeline and ensure water reliability throughout Southern California.

Gracias por su apoyo y paciencia mientras trabajamos para rehabilitar esta importante tubería y garantizar la confiabilidad del agua en todo el sur de California.



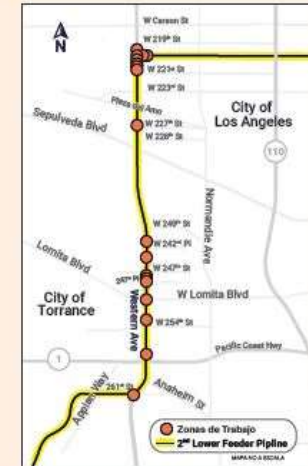
Second Lower Feeder - Etapa 3B Fase 2

Una de las tuberías principales en el sistema de agua regional, el Second Lower Feeder, distribuye agua en una extensión de 39 millas desde la Planta de Tratamiento de Agua Robert B. Diemer en Yorba Linda hasta el Reservorio de Palos Verdes en Rolling Hills Estates. Construida en 1967, la antigua tubería cilíndrica de concreto pretensado necesita ser revestida con acero para asegurar su integridad futura. El revestimiento de la tubería en el Second Lower Feeder comenzó en octubre de 2017 y se espera que se lleve a cabo en fases durante los próximos 8-10 años.

El Proyecto de Revestimiento del Second Lower Feeder 3B rehabilitará aproximadamente 4 millas de tubería en las ciudades de Los Angeles y Torrance. La construcción comenzó en octubre de 2024 y se espera que continúe hasta junio de 2025.

Qué esperar durante la construcción

- Ruido de la actividad de construcción
- Retrasos temporarios en el tránsito, restricciones de carriles y estacionamiento
- Puede ser necesario trabajar las 24 horas



Preguntas frecuentes

¿Por qué necesitan trabajar las 24 horas del día, los 7 días de la semana?
Es necesario trabajar las 24 horas para completar el proyecto de manera eficiente y oportuna. Nuestro objetivo es reanudar las condiciones normales de operación para que podamos garantizar un suministro confiable de agua a nuestras agencias miembros.

¿Afectará este proyecto mi servicio de agua?
No. El agua seguirá siendo entregada por su proveedor local de servicios de agua sin interrupciones en el servicio.

¿Voy a escuchar el ruido de la construcción toda la noche?
La mayoría, si no todo, del trabajo realizado por la noche ocurrirá bajo tierra dentro de la tubería, minimizando el ruido. Es posible que escuche el ruido de los generadores necesarios para operar el sistema de ventilación en la tubería.

¿Cómo afectará esto al tránsito?
El control de tránsito, las restricciones de carriles y los vehículos de construcción adicionales en el área pueden causar retrasos en el tráfico. Por favor tome las precauciones de seguridad apropiadas y permita tiempo adicional para viajar por el área.

¿Preguntas?
CommunityRelations@mwdh2o.com

Sitio Web:
www.mwdh2o.com



Contacto:
Lizeth Martínez (626) 827-0614 Ivonne Castillo (213) 217-8809

Sobre Nosotros
La misión de Metropolitan Water District of Southern California es proveer a su área de servicio con suministros adecuados y confiables de agua de alta calidad, para satisfacer las necesidades presentes y futuras de una manera ambientalmente y económicamente responsable.



Door-to-Door Outreach: Ensuring Accessibility



SEPULVEDA FEEDER URGENT RELINING PROJECT

JANUARY 2024

MARCH - APRIL 2024

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California will be working on an important relining project to a major water pipeline in your community as a result of a recent inspection conducted of the Sepulveda Feeder. The Sepulveda Feeder delivers treated drinking water from the Joseph Jensen Water Treatment Plant of Granada Hills to an interconnection with the Second Lower Feeder in Torrance, and services the cities of Los Angeles, Santa Monica, and Torrance and the West Basin Municipal Water District.

The urgent project is necessary to ensure Metropolitan's regional water distribution system continues to deliver a reliable water supply to our 26 member agencies that serve 19 million customers across Southern California.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Construction is scheduled to occur beginning March 15, 2024 and continue through April 2024.
- 24-hour work may be necessary
- You may hear noise due to construction, excavation, ventilation and equipment
- Expect temporary detours, traffic delays lane and parking restrictions
- Your water supply will not be affected
- Additional notification will be provided as needed



BE INFORMED, BE INVOLVED

www.mwdh2o.com



@mwdh2o

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
CommunityRelations@mwdh2o.com

Laura Marlowe
(310) 401-0614

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a state-established cooperative of 26 member agencies - cities and public water agencies - that serve 19 million people in six counties. Metropolitan imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies and helps its members develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource management programs.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORT AND PATIENCE

AS WE WORK TO REHABILITATE THIS MAJOR PIPELINE AND ENSURE WATER RELIABILITY THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

Expanding Our Reach Through Social Media



Metropolitan Water District of Southern California ✓
Sr Public Affairs Representative Ivonne Castillo • 1 day ago • Edited

Hi Neighbors,

🚧 Construction Notice – Street Closures 🚧

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California will be restoring the asphalt railroad crossing at Bonita Street and Wheeler Avenue. This project is essential for the delivery of supplies to Metropolitan's F.E. Weymouth Treatment Plant, which provides clean and safe drinking water to our region. Construction is scheduled for August 1-3, 2024, between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. This will require street closures and detours. See map below.

If you have any questions, please email us at communityrelations@mwdh2o.com or visit our Projects in Your Community webpage at <https://www.mwdh2o.com/projects-in-your-community/>

Posted to Subscribers of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California in 6 neighborhoods

👍 2 🗨️ 1 · 268 Impressions

Visible and Informative: On-Site Banners

The Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California



Urgent Water Infrastructure Project

Construction dates: June 2024 – February 2025



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

For More Information:
213-217-5776
CommunityRelations@mwdh2o.com



Listening, Responding and Building Trust





**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Federal Legislative Matrix: 119th Congress, First Session
March 2025**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Endangered Species Act Oversight	H.R. 831 (Calvert, R-CA) S. 291 (Padilla, D-CA)	1/31/25: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. 1/29/25: Referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program Amendment Act of 2025 Establishes an interest-bearing account for the non-federal contributions to the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program (LCR MSCP).	SUPPORT Based upon 2025 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	The LCR MSCP program addresses the needs of threatened and endangered species and provides reliability for water deliveries and hydropower production. The bill will allow the Bureau of Reclamation to hold the non-federal funds for the LCR MSCP in an interest-bearing account. The interest collected will be reinvested in LCR MSCP projects, contributing to the continued success of this program and helping offset the impact of inflation. This bill would benefit Metropolitan because we are a member of California’s LCR MSCP participant group.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Federal Legislative Matrix: 119th Congress, First Session
March 2025**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Groundwater	H.R. 338 (Costa, D-CA) and (Valadao, R-CA)	1/13/25: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.	Every Drop Counts Act Amends the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to raise the cap for eligible groundwater storage projects from 30,000 AF per year to 150,000 AF per year.	SUPPORT Based upon 2025 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	Increasing the size of groundwater storage projects eligible to apply for this funding could benefit Metropolitan and our member agencies. The proposed cap of 150,000 AF per year is more than twice the annual storage capacity of the AVEK High Desert Water Bank. The revised program would create a new funding opportunity for larger scale groundwater storage projects in the Central Valley.
Source Water Protection	S. 350 (Padilla, D-CA) and (Daines, R-MT)	1/30/25: Referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	Wildfire Emergency Act of 2025 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.	SUPPORT Based upon 2025 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	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.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Federal Legislative Matrix: 119th Congress, First Session
March 2025**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Water Project Authorizations	H.R. 1311 (Harder, D-CA)	2/13/25: Referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure.	Stop the Tunnels Act Prohibits the Corps of Engineers from issuing a permit for the Delta Conveyance Project.	OPPOSE Based upon 2025 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	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.
Water System Security	H.R. 1267 (Perez, D-WA) and Maloy, R-UT)	2/12/25: Referred to the House Committees on Energy and Commerce and Transportation and Infrastructure.	Water Systems PFAS Liability Protection Act 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.	SUPPORT Based upon 2025 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	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 & Communication Committee

Report on Activities From **Washington, D.C.**

Item 6b

March 10, 2025

Report on
Activities
from
Washington,
D.C.

Subject

Report on Activities from Washington, D.C.

Purpose

To provide a legislative update.

House Judiciary Subcommittee Hearing



California Fires and the Consequences of Overregulation



State of Army Corps Civil Works Programs

House Appropriations Oversight Hearing



Appropriations Update



Government Funding Expires March 14



Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK)
Chair, House Committee
on Appropriations



Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME)
Chair, Senate Committee
on Appropriations

Budget Reconciliation Update



Budget Resolution

Senate

- \$340 B
- No Tax Package
- Increases for Immigration, Boarder and Defense
- \geq \$1 B cut to SENR programs

House

- \$3.3 T
- Tax Package
- Increases for Immigration, Boarder, and Defense
- \geq \$1 B cut to HNR programs

President Trump Nominations



Dr. Andrea Travnicek
Assistant Secretary
for Water and Science



Jessica Kramer
Assistant Administrator
for Water

Reduction in Federal Workforce



OMB/OPM Memo

Directs Agencies to Plan for Large Scale Reduction in Federal Workforce







Legislation and Communications
Committee

Report on Activities from Sacramento

Item 6c

March 10, 2025

Report on Activities from Sacramento

Subject

Report on Activities from Sacramento

Purpose

To provide an update on relevant state legislative issues

Sacramento Legislative Calendar

Legislative Calendar

Mar 17: Deadline for submission of Assembly spot bill amendments

Mar 26: Deadline for submission of Senate spot bill amendments

Sacramento Legislative Highlights

Legislative Update

Metropolitan Sponsored Bill

- AB 580 (Wallis) Surface Mining and Reclamation Act Exemption

Member Agency Proposals

- AB 259 (Rubio) Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences
- SB 394 (Allen) Water theft: fire hydrants

Sacramento Legislative Highlights

Eastern MWD Proposal

- AB 523 (Irwin)
Metropolitan water
districts: alternate
representative



Sacramento Legislative Highlights

Legislative Update

CA Water Plan Update

- SB 72 (Caballero): The California Water Plan: long-term supply targets

Water Quality

- SB 454 (McNerney): State Water Resources Control Board: PFAS Mitigation Program

Low Income Rate Assistance

- AB 532 (Ransom): Water rate assistance program
- SB 350 (Durazo): Water Rate Assistance Program

Sacramento Legislative Highlights

Legislative Update

Recycled Water

- SB 31 (McNerney): Water quality: recycled water

Water Rights

- AB 362 (Ramos): Water policy: California tribal communities

Wildfire Response

- AB 367 (Bennett): County water districts: County of Ventura: fire suppression





External Affairs

- External Affairs Monthly Activities Report for February 2025

Summary

This report provides a summary of External Affairs’ group activities for February 2025.

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Highlights

Metropolitan sponsored and Chair Ortega and staff attended the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce’s Inaugural event. (February 5)

Chair Ortega and Assistant General Manager Zinke (AGM Zinke) attended the Southern California Leadership Quarterly meeting which included a discussion on recent wildfires and economic recovery strategies. (February 13)

General Manager Upadhyay (GM Upadhyay) and Security Unit Manager Benito spoke as Metropolitan welcomed state and federal leaders to discuss how to keep water facilities safe from cyber and physical attacks, natural disasters, and other security threats. Experts from the FBI, EPA, DHS and other agencies shared ideas to protect critical infrastructure. (February 19)



Metropolitan Security Manager Benito speaks to Water Summit attendees on physical and cybersecurity threats to water agencies.



Vice Chair Comacho, Chair Ortega and Dr. Michael McGuire at the dedication of the renamed Water Quality Laboratory

Chair Ortega, Vice Chairs Camacho and Garza, Directors Erdman, Faessel, and Seckel, GM Upadhyay, and Metropolitan staff participated in the dedication of the Dr. Michael J. McGuire Water Quality Lab. (February 20)

Directors Goldberg and Katz, and Metropolitan staff attended the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce’s Anniversary dinner. (February 27)

Date of Report: March 10, 2025

GM Monthly Report February 2025

Federal

GM Upadhyay joined with representatives from the State Water Contractors and Kern County Water Agency to provide a Congressional staff briefing on California Water System Operations. (February 14)

AGM Zinke attended the Association of California Water Agencies' annual Washington DC Conference and participated in meetings with federal officials to discuss Metropolitan priorities. (February 24-27)

State

Metropolitan secured an author for its sponsored bill seeking removal of the sunset on our exemption under the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act. AB 580 is authored by Assemblymember Wallis, who serves portions of San Bernardino and Riverside Counties.

Climate bond funding has been a key topic of discussion as the state General Fund continues to have limited resources available for new spending. The Governor is proposing to shift various water and climate related expenditures onto the Climate Bond to reduce pressure on the General Fund, including \$51 million for recycled water and \$47 million for dam safety, which are two of Metropolitan's Board approved priorities for funding.

Local

This month, staff presented, monitored, and/or participated in 58 webinars, meetings, and events with community organizations and trade associations on Metropolitan activities, issues, and other topics.

Metropolitan staff met with district office staff for the following elected officials: Assemblymember Bryan (D-Los Angeles), Assemblymember Harabedian (D-Pasadena), Assemblymember Pacheco (D-Downey), Senator Cervantes (D-Riverside), Senator Richardson (D-South Bay), Senator Rubio (D-Baldwin Park), and Representative Sanchez (D-Whittier).

Bay-Delta Initiatives Group Manager Hawk was the keynote speaker at the Three Valleys Municipal Water District Leadership Breakfast. (February 28)

Media and Communications

Arranged multiple interviews with GM Upadhyay, AGM Chapman, and other Metropolitan staff with media outlets, including AP and LA Times, on operations during wildfires and Central Valley water transfers.

Social media posts celebrated Engineers Week by highlighting several Metropolitan engineers and highlighted a partnership with ASCE. The successful Water Champions social media campaign continued.

Completion of new homepage feature story for newly produced Annual Achievement Report.



GM Monthly Report February 2025

Press Releases and Statements

- Metropolitan board convenes first meeting in facility newly named in honor of former chair.
- Metropolitan's board supports funding for community improvements in Palo Verde Valley.
- Metropolitan celebrates naming of Water Quality Lab in honor of leader who spearheaded lab's creation.

Community Outreach

Supported five Member Agency meetings.

Led State Water Project inspection trips with Directors Lewitt and Sutley (February 5-6) and Directors Pressman and Katz. (February 21-22).

Coordinated and organized speaking requests for the West Basin Water Association. (February 4)

Arranged training and tour at Skinner treatment plant for California-Nevada Section of AWWA. (February 5)

Staff provided a presentation on Metropolitan's system and Palos Verdes Reservoir with West Basin and Cal Water at city of Rancho Palos Verdes Town Hall on Wildfires. (February 20)

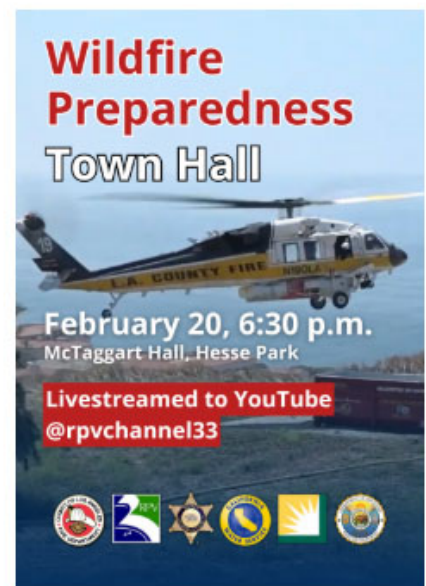
Supported Black Employees' Association for Black History Month activities including the kick-off event where GM Upadhyay and NAACP Los Angeles President Latricia T. Mitchell spoke about the importance of serving others through leadership.

Hosted booth at Tarzana Native Plant Fair (February 23)

Organized speaking and DVL tour requests for Groundwater Management District. (February 27)

Sponsored Events

- Weaving Earth – Waters Becoming
- Los Angeles County 2025 Science and Engineering Fair
- Niguel Botanical Preserve – Earth Day 2025
- Generation STEAM – San Diego Festival of Science and Engineering
- Mini Nature Reserve – Oxnard Public Library Waterwise Garden
- Salesian Family Youth Center Annual Gala – Metropolitan was recognized for CPP program support.



Pure Water Southern California

Tours: Government Accountability Office (February 5); city of Carson leadership (February 13); public tour (February 22); 2025 AWWA Membrane Technology Conference tour (February 24); LADWP staff (February 26).

Meetings: Long Beach city staff (February 6); Southeast Water Coalition (February 6), Active San Gabriel Valley (February 10); Strength Based Communities for Change (February 10); Nature for All (February 10); Marathon Petroleum (February 11); Del Amo Plaza Property Owner (February 12); LIT Reliance Property Developer (February 18)

GM Monthly Report February 2025

Education

Interacted with 900 teachers, students and adults through field trips, community events and meetings.

Organized or participated in meetings with the Water Energy Education Alliance, Compton Tech Business Advisory Board, and the San Diego County Water Authority Workforce Development Panel.

Metropolitan's "Discover Diamond Valley Lake" field trip app was awarded first place honors by Agents of Discovery for the highest Southern California participation in 2024. This app features missions from other museums, parks, and recreation areas throughout the country.

Traveling student calendar art gallery was featured at Helix Water District and Padre Dam Municipal Water District.

Staff hosted and participated in a CREEC meeting (California Regional Environmental Education Committee) for 60 environmental educators throughout Los Angeles County, including representatives from Tree People, the LA Zoo, and Ballona Wetlands. (February 12)



Attendees at the regional CREEC meeting, hosted by Metropolitan.



Legislation and Communications Committee

External Affairs Activities

Item 7a
March 10, 2025

Report on
Activities
from
External
Affairs

Subject

Report on Activities from External Affairs

Purpose

To provide management announcements and highlights for External Affairs

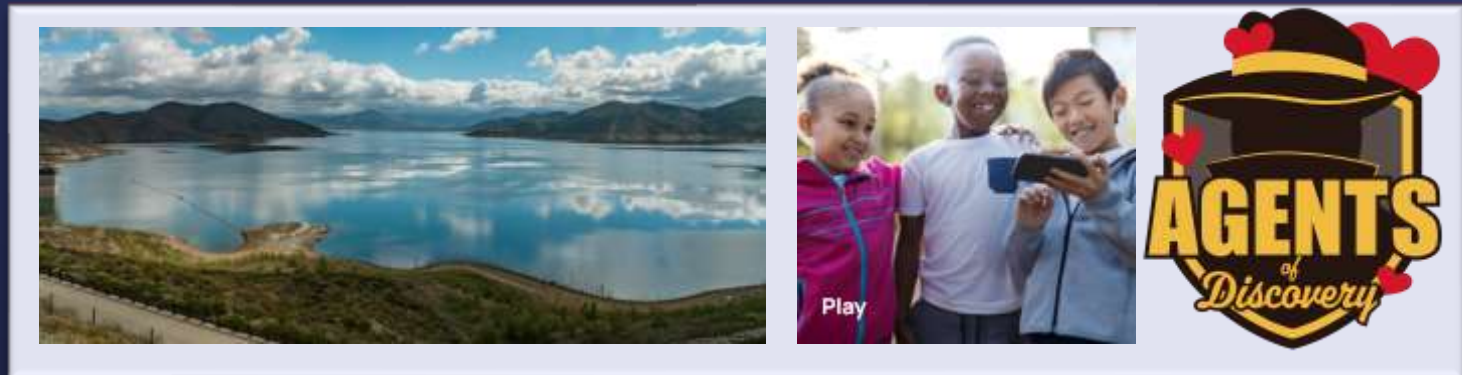
External Affairs Activities

Education

The “Discover Diamond Valley Lake” mission received first-place honors

Youth STEM Symposium at CSU Dominguez Hills where high school students will learn about engineering and environmental careers.

Virtual Earth Day Competition, co-sponsored with AQMD and Southern California Gas, for K-12 students



Internal Communications

New and expanded materials for employees and member agencies including publications, newsletter and videos

Legislation & Communications Committee

Report on Activities from External Affairs



Other Activities

Legislation & Communications
Committee

Report on Activities from External Affairs

New videos on safety matters, infrastructure, workforce development, innovation and Pure Water Southern California to support EIR release



