

# 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  
M. Camacho  
B. Dennstedt  
G. Gray, Emeritus  
F. Jung  
M. Katz  
M. Luna  
M. Ramos  
G. Shepherd Romey

## **Legislation and Communications Committee - Final - Revised 1**

Meeting with Board of Directors \*

**June 9, 2025**

**11:00 a.m.**

## **Monday, June 9, 2025 Meeting Schedule**

09:00 a.m.	EOT
11:00 a.m.	LEG
12:00 p.m.	Break
12:30 p.m.	Audit
02:30 p.m.	Jt. Sp.
BOD/OPE	

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

**The 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 teleconference and in-person. To provide public comment by teleconference dial 1-833-548-0276 and enter meeting ID: 876 9484 9772 or to join by computer [click here](#).**

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

**Teleconference Locations:**

**Conference Room • 1545 Victory Boulevard • Glendale, CA 91201**

**Hotel Raphael, Lobby • Largo Febo Piazza Navona • Rome, Italy**

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

**Cedars-Sinai Imaging Medical Group • 8700 Beverly Boulevard, Suite M 313 • Los Angeles, CA 90048  
3008 W. 82nd Place • Inglewood, CA 90305**

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\* 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 May 12, 2025 [21-4633](#)

**Attachments:** [060922025 LEG 2A \(05122025\) Minutes](#)

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION**

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

**4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION**

NONE

**5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

NONE

**6. COMMITTEE ITEMS**

- a. Update on Conservation Outreach [21-4636](#)

**Attachments:** [06092025 LEG 6a Presentation](#)

- b. Legislative Update on Golden Mussels [21-4637](#)

**Attachments:** [06092025 LEG 6b Presentation](#)

- c. Report on Activities from Sacramento [21-4634](#)

**Attachments:** [06092025 LEG 6c State Legislative Matrix](#)  
[06092025 LEG 6c Presentation](#)

- d. Report on Activities from Washington, D.C. [21-4635](#)

**Attachments:** [06092025 LEG 6d Federal Legislative Matrix](#)  
[06092025 LEG 6d Presentation](#)

- e. Legislative Update on Delta Conveyance Project [ADDED SUBJECT 6/5/2025] [21-4685](#)

**Attachments:** [06092025 LEG 6e Presentation](#)

**7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS**

- a. External Affairs activities

[21-4638](#)

**Attachments:** [06092025 LEG 7a External Affairs Activities](#)  
[06092025 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**

**May 12, 2025**

Chair Lewitt called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.

Members present: Directors Camacho, Dennstedt, Fellow, Gray (teleconference posted location), Jung (teleconference posted location), Katz, Lewitt, Luna (entered after roll call, AB 2449 “just cause”), and Shepherd Romey.

Members absent: Directors Ackerman, Kassakhian, and Ramos

Other Board Members present: Directors Armstrong (AB 2449 “just cause”), Bryant, Cordero, Erdman, Faessel, Goldberg, Kurtz, McCoy, Ortega, Pressman (teleconference posted location), and Seckel.

Committee Staff present: Rubin, Salgado, Schaffer, Stites, Upadhyay, and Zinke

Director Armstrong stated that he was attending the meeting under AB 2449 just cause due to illness and that he was alone in the room.

Director Luna stated that he was attending the meeting under AB 2449 just cause due to illness and that he was alone in the room.

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

Evelyn Wendel    WeTap.org

Item 6a

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

- A.    Approval of the Minutes of the Legislation and Communications Committee held April 7, 2025.

### **3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION**

None

Director Fellow made a motion, seconded by Director Dennstedt to approve the consent calendar item 2A.

Ayes: Directors Camacho, Dennstedt, Fellow, Gray, Jung, Lewitt, Katz, Lewitt, and Shepherd Romey

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Directors Ackerman, Kassakhian, Luna, and Ramos

The motion for item 2A passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstain, and 4 absent.

### **4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION**

None

### **5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

None

Director Luna entered the meeting.

### **6. COMMITTEE ITEMS**

a. Subject: Update on Community Partnering Program

Presented by: Joseph Chavez, Jr., Senior Public Affairs Representative

Mr. Chavez provided an update on the Community Partnering Program and four pilot projects: Pando Populus, Salesian Family Youth Center, Bob Baker Marionette Theater, and WeTap.org.

The following Chair and Directors provided a comment or asked a question:

- 1) Ortega
- 2) Fellow
- 3) Dennstedt
- 4) Lewitt

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

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

Presented by: Abby R. Schneider, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Schneider provided an update on FY25 Appropriations and budget reconciliation, FY26 budget proposal, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Nomination Hearing, Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Hearing, Congressional staff tour of the Colorado River, and Metropolitan delegation meetings in DC.

The following Chair and Director provided a comment or asked a question:

- 1) Ortega
- 2) Lewitt

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

- c. Subject: Report on Activities from Sacramento

Presented by: Jay Jefferson II, Executive Legislative Representative

Mr. Jefferson provided an update on the state legislative calendar, invasive golden mussel in the Delta, Metropolitan's sponsored bill AB 580 (Wallis) regarding an exemption from the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act, AB 52 (Aguiar-Curry) Native American resources, and AB 496 (Hurtado) Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation appeals advisory committee exemptions. He discussed member agency proposals, including AB 259 (Rubio) on open meetings and local agencies' teleconferences, SB 394 (Allen) addressing water theft on fire hydrants, and AB 523 (Irwin) proxy vote authorizations among other legislation. He also noted recent leadership meetings with legislators in Sacramento.

The following Chair and Director provided a comment or asked a question:

- 1) Ortega
- 2) Lewitt

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

**7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS**

a. Subject: External Affairs activities

Presented by: Dee Zinke, External Affairs Assistant General Manager

Ms. Zinke provided an update on honoring former Santa Monica director Judy Abdo with the dedication of the Wildflower Trail at Diamond Valley Lake, employee inspection trips, celebration of Earth Week, and Water Engineering 4 Good. She recognized Mark Moss, Principal Public Affairs Representative on his retirement and introduced Brittany Foust, Section Manager for Media Services.

The Chair provided a comment.

**8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

**9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

Jay Lewitt  
Chair



Legislation and Communications Committee

# Update on Conservation Outreach

Item 6a  
June 9, 2025



# Strategy & Performance Report

## Subject

Update on Water Conservation Advertising and Outreach

## Purpose

To provide a report on conservation advertising campaign strategy, performance and expenditures.

Conservation Advertising & Outreach

# Spring Summer 2025 Strategy

Multilingual, dynamic, flexible



Radio



Outdoor



Digital



Experiential



Print

Conservation Advertising & Outreach

# Spring Summer 2025 Creative

Regional messaging,  
local impact



Grocery Store  
Advertising: Spanish-  
language mini  
billboards



Mobile Van Digital Billboard



Bloom Box Experience

Conservation Advertising & Outreach

# Advertising Agreement Budget

Up to \$10.5 million over three  
fiscal years

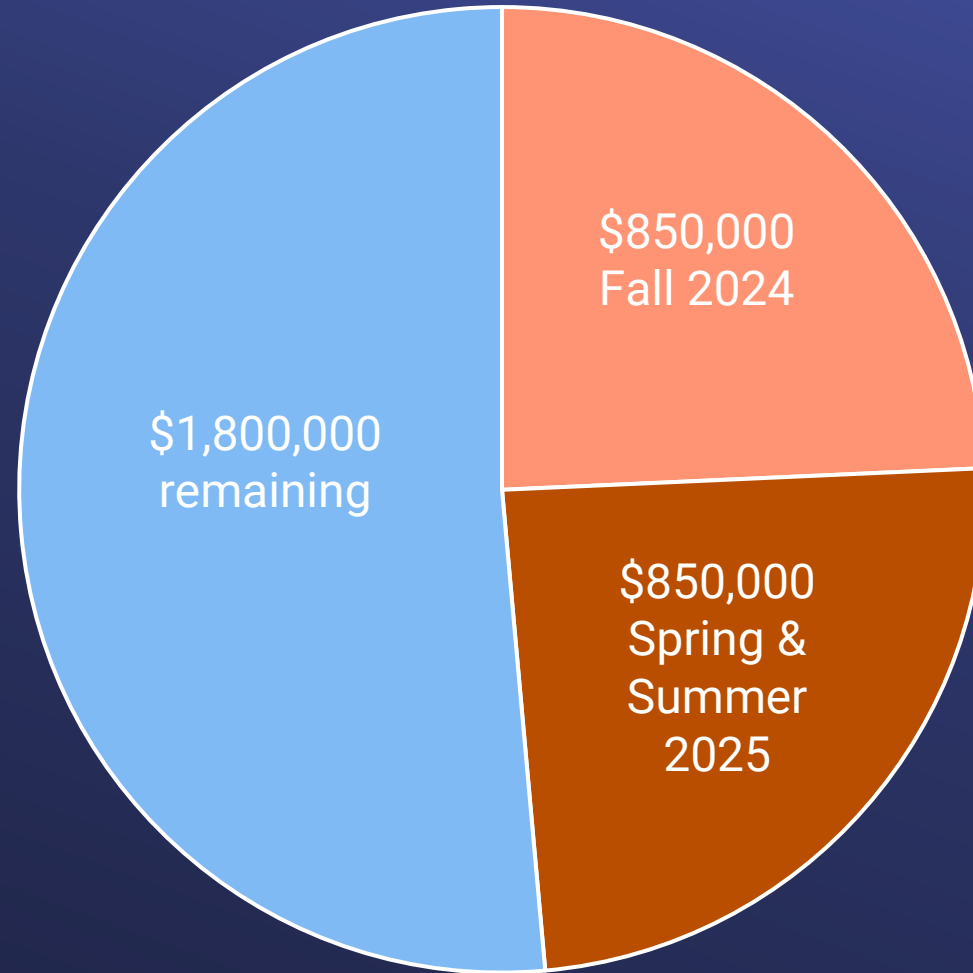
FISCAL YEAR	CONTRACT CAPACITY Media planning and placement, strategic input, research
<b>FY 2024/25</b> July 2024 – June 2025	Up to \$3.5 million
<b>FY 2025/26</b> July 2025 – June 2026	Up to \$3.5 million
<b>FY 2026/27</b> July 2026 – June 2027	Up to \$3.5 million
<b>TOTAL</b>	Up to \$10.5 million

Conservation Advertising & Outreach

# Fiscal Year 24-25 Spend

July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

## \$3.5 Million Board-Approved Budget



Conservation Advertising & Outreach

# Spring Summer 2025 Performance

Through May 30, 2025

## Awareness-Based Approach

### Radio

- Broadcast radio, traffic & weather and Dodgers sponsorship
- 15M impressions

### Outdoor

- Digital & mobile billboards
- 72M impressions

### Digital

- 4.7M impressions

### Experiential

- Three events
- 30K attendees



# Reaching New Audiences

Online & digital spaces

## Social Media Influencer Partnerships

Jeff Parker

- Altadena-based guitarist and composer

Tim Biskup

- Southern California-based artist, author, and gallery owner

Evan Lovett (LA in a Minute)

- Storyteller, content creator

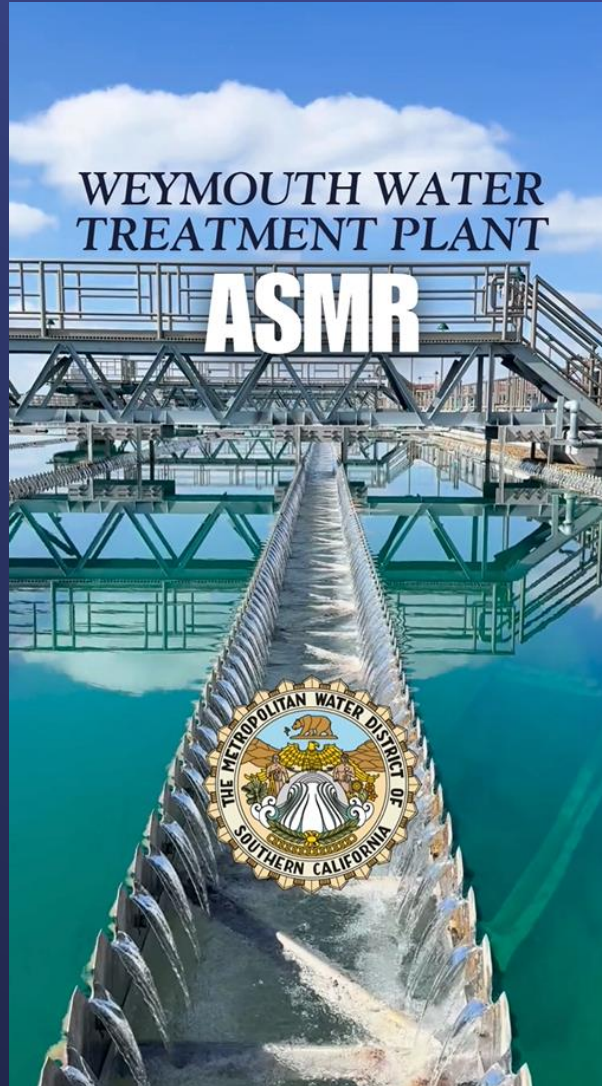
Past Influencers

- Fred Armisen – actor, comedian (SNL)
- The Linda Lindas – all-female rock band
- Kyle MacLachlan – actor (Twin Peaks, Dune)

Conservation Advertising & Outreach

# Social Media Creative

Creating meaningful connections



Weymouth Water  
Treatment Plant ASMR



Behind the Scenes:  
Jeff Parker



# Nonfunctional Turf Education & Outreach

## Partnerships

- California Water Efficiency Partnership
- Business groups, member agencies, associations, private sector

## Research and data

- Industry-specific surveys and focus groups

## Integrated approaches

- Cross-disciplinary collaboration
- One Water Awards – regional recognition
- LinkedIn advertising to reach industry decision makers

Conservation Advertising & Outreach

## Engaging the Commercial Sector







Legislation and Communications Committee

# Legislative Update on Golden Mussels

Item 6b

June 9, 2025

# Golden Mussel: Legislative Update

## Subject

To discuss legislative efforts to respond to the presence of invasive golden mussels in the Delta

## Purpose

Provide an update on legislative advocacy and approaches to solutions



# Invasive Golden Mussel in the Delta

## Golden Mussel: Legislative Update



# Golden Mussel: Legislative Update

## Background

December 2024: CA Fish and Game Commission adds golden mussels to the restricted animals list through emergency regulation

Bans possession, transportation and movement of golden mussels

## Concerns

Water agency operations could be subject to regulatory enforcement actions if golden mussels are found in their supplies.

# Golden Mussel: Legislative Update

## Current Law:

Liability Protection: F&G Code 2301 – Protection from regulatory enforcement as long as a water agency is operating under a quagga and zebra mussel control program approved by CDFW

Reservoir Recreation: F&G Code 2302 – Requires reservoir operators that offer recreational boating and fishing activities to develop a program to monitor and prevent the introduction of quagga and zebra mussels

# Golden Mussel: Legislative Update

## Coalition Proposal:

Liability Protection: F&G Code 2301 – Expand liability protection to include golden mussels and all invasive freshwater mussels. Allow for self-certification of control plans subject to review by CDFW.

Reservoir Recreation: F&G Code 2302 – Expand requirement to develop a program to monitor and prevent the introduction of quagga and zebra mussels to include golden mussels and all invasive freshwater mussels.



# Golden Mussel: Legislative Update

## Coalition:

Metropolitan and Member Agencies

State Water Contractors

ACWA

NCWA

## Approach:

Resources Trailer Bill Language after June Budget deal

Climate Bond Funding Request



**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**State Legislative Matrix: First Year of Legislative Session**  
**June 9, 2025**

Bill Number and Author	Amended Date and Location	Title – Summary	Metropolitan Position	Effects on Metropolitan
<b>AB 259</b> <b>B. Rubio</b> <b>(D – Baldwin Park)</b>  Sponsors: California Special Districts Association, Three Valleys Municipal Water District	Amended in Assembly Local Government Committee on 4/21/2025.  Senate Local Government Committee	<b>Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.</b>  This bill eliminates the sunset on provisions added to the Brown Act by AB 2449, a bill that provided additional flexibility with Brown Act meeting procedures in the event of a board member’s physical absence in connection with a “just cause” or “emergency circumstances,” allowing those members to participate in the meeting remotely consistent with the process detailed in the bill.	<b>Support</b>  Based on 2025 Legislative Policies and Principles.	By removing the sunset on the Brown Act provisions, AB 259 preserves flexibility for Metropolitan and Member Agency board members to meet remotely and continue providing the public with essential services.
<b>AB 532</b> <b>R. Ransom</b> <b>(D – Stockton)</b>  Sponsor: California Municipal Utilities Association	Amended in Assembly Appropriations Committee on 5/23/2025.  Assembly Floor	<b>Water rate assistance program</b>  This bill seeks to revamp the State’s Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP), upon appropriation by the Legislature, to provide water rate assistance to ratepayers of water systems with under 3,000 connections, or systems serving disadvantaged communities. The bill also would expressly allow urban retail water suppliers to establish a local low-income rate assistance (LIRA) program using voluntary contributions or other non-ratepayer funds.	<b>Support</b>  Based on 2025 Legislative Policies and Principles.	This bill would provide clarity in existing law to ensure that water agencies are able to establish local LIRA programs without fear of legal consequences given the provisions of Proposition 218.  The bill would also establish a path to revamp the LIHWAP program to ensure statewide resources are provided for small and disadvantaged communities.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**State Legislative Matrix: First Year of Legislative Session**  
**June 9, 2025**

Bill Number and Author	Amended Date and Location	Title – Summary	Metropolitan Position	Effects on Metropolitan
<b>AB 580</b> <b>G. Wallis</b> <b>(R – Bermuda Dunes)</b>  Sponsor: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California	Amended in Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee on 3/26/2025.  Senate Rules Committee	<b>Surface Mining: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California</b>  This bill removes the sunset date on Metropolitan’s ability to operate under a single Master Reclamation Plan for repairs using earth-moving activities under the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act for the maintenance of the Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA).	<b>Sponsor</b>  Based on December 2024 Board Action.	Ensuring Metropolitan can continue operating under a single Master Reclamation Plan will maintain environmental oversight without delays and prevent duplicative compliance.
<b>AB 794</b> <b>J. Gabriel</b> <b>(D – Encino)</b>  <b>Sponsors:</b> Clean Water Action, Environmental Working Group	Amended in Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee on 4/10/2025.  Assembly Floor	<b>California Safe Drinking Water Act: emergency regulations</b>  This bill would authorize the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to adopt an emergency regulation for water quality based on federal regulations in effect on January 19, 2025, regardless of whether the requirements were repealed or amended to be less stringent. The bill would prohibit an emergency regulation adopted pursuant to these provisions from implementing less stringent drinking water standards, as provided, and would authorize the regulation to include requirements that are more stringent than the requirements of the federal regulation. The bill would require, on or before January 1, 2026, the SWRCB to adopt an emergency regulation and to initiate a primary drinking water standard for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).	<b>Oppose Unless Amended</b>  Based on 2025 Legislative Policies and Principles.	While AB 794 aims to protect public health, its approach circumvents the established regulatory process for setting Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs). Metropolitan’s Legislative Priorities and Principles call for using the best available science to protect public health and improve water quality when setting MCLs. The broad scope of this bill, which would allow the SWRCB to set through emergency action primary and secondary MCLs for any chemical with a federal MCL, sets a dangerous precedent and fails to align with well-established regulatory principles.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**State Legislative Matrix: First Year of Legislative Session**  
**June 9, 2025**

Bill Number and Author	Amended Date and Location	Title – Summary	Metropolitan Position	Effects on Metropolitan
<b>AB 1146</b> <b>D. Papan (D – San Mateo)</b>	Amended in Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee on 5/1/2025.  Assembly Floor	<b>Water infrastructure: dams and reservoirs: water release: false pretenses</b>  This bill adds language to the Water Code prohibiting the release of stored water from a reservoir in California if the release is done under false pretenses and would authorize the State Water Resources Control Board to issue an interim relief order to prohibit such release of stored water. This bill would define “false pretenses” as a release of water from a reservoir in a manner that is knowingly and designedly under a false or fraudulent representation or assumption as to the purpose and intended use of the water.	<b>Oppose</b>  Based on 2025 Legislative Policies and Principles.	This bill would create uncertainty for both Metropolitan and the Member Agencies that own and operate reservoirs. The releases are often based on water supply needs, operational flexibility, and constraints, as well as scheduled and emergency maintenance and/or inspection.  The bill’s definition of “false pretenses” is unclear and does not specify what would qualify as “false or fraudulent representation,” nor does it indicate how intent would be determined. Therefore, this definition would make it difficult to understand when a reservoir release could result in an interim relief order.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**State Legislative Matrix: First Year of Legislative Session**  
**June 9, 2025**

Bill Number and Author	Amended Date and Location	Title – Summary	Metropolitan Position	Effects on Metropolitan
<b>AB 1319</b> <b>N. Schultz (D – Burbank)</b>	Amended in Assembly Appropriations Committee on 5/23/2025.  Assembly Floor	<p><b>Protected species: California Endangered Species Act.</b></p> <p>This bill would amend the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) to authorize the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) to adopt an emergency regulation that adds a federally listed species that is native to California to the list of endangered or threatened species on an emergency basis if it finds, in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), that a federal action that occurs after January 19, 2025, results in a decrease in protection for that species and listing under CESA could provide protection for that species.</p> <p>If the Commission lists a species by emergency regulation, CDFW would be required to promptly commence a status review, and the Commission would be required to determine whether to list the federally listed species beyond the duration of the emergency.</p> <p>This bill would provide that in authorizing the take of any species listed during the emergency regulation, the Commission or CDFW may apply the protections provided by federal terms of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) unless the Commission or CDFW determines that those protections do meet CESA standards.</p>	<p><b>Oppose Unless Amended</b></p> <p>Based on 2025 Legislative Policies and Principles.</p>	<p>This bill could have profound impacts on Metropolitan’s activities and its State Water Project and Colorado River imported supplies. The time and cost to get CESA permits after emergency listings would be high, and while permit applications are pending, opponents could litigate to halt or modify projects, including ongoing operations of the State Water Project and Colorado River water deliveries and power production.</p> <p>Metropolitan is seeking amendments to limit the applicability of this bill to species that are federally delisted. The proposed amendments also add a permit shield from liability for project proponents seeking an incidental take authorization, or who are complying with an existing federal take authorization. This immunizes a good-faith actor from civil or criminal liability under CESA so long as it complies with its federal take authorization and is pursuing a state take authorization.</p>

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**State Legislative Matrix: First Year of Legislative Session**  
**June 9, 2025**

<b>Bill Number and Author</b>	<b>Amended Date and Location</b>	<b>Title – Summary</b>	<b>Metropolitan Position</b>	<b>Effects on Metropolitan</b>
<b>SB 31</b> <b>J. McNerney</b> <b>(D – Stockton)</b>  <b>Sponsor:</b> WateReuse California	Amended in Senate Appropriations Committee on 5/12/2025.  Senate Floor	<b>Water quality: recycled water</b>  SB 31 aims to enhance California’s water sustainability by increasing the use of recycled water in non-potable applications. This bill modernizes outdated regulations and expands the permissible uses of recycled water to reduce dependence on potable sources. The bill would make updates to Title 22 of the Code of Regulations to expand the use of recycled water in parks, schools, and food handling and processing facilities.	<b>Support</b>  Based on 2025 Legislative Policies and Principles.	Supporting the use of recycled water in non-potable applications such as irrigation, decorative water features, and industrial processes reduces the demand for potable water while enhancing drought resilience.
<b>SB 72</b> <b>A. Caballero</b> <b>(D – Merced)</b>  <b>Sponsor:</b> California Municipal Utilities Association	Amended in Senate Appropriations Committee on 4/10/2025.  Senate Floor	<b>The California Water Plan: long-term supply targets</b>  This measure would revise the California Water Plan to require the Department of Water Resources (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.	<b>Support</b>  Based on 2025 Legislative Policies and Principles.	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 supported a similar version of this bill in 2024, SB 366 (Caballero), which passed the Legislature and was vetoed by the Governor.
<b>SB 394</b> <b>B. Allen</b> <b>(D – Santa Monica)</b>  <b>Sponsor:</b> Las Virgenes Municipal Water District	Introduced  Assembly Desk	<b>Water theft: fire hydrants</b>  SB 394 would allow a local agency that provides water service the ability to increase fines and penalties for water theft from fire hydrants. The bill also adds tampering with a fire hydrant, fire hydrant meter, or fire detector check, or the unauthorized diversion of water from a fire hydrant to the list of acts for which a utility may bring a civil cause of action.	<b>Support</b>  Based on 2025 Legislative Policies and Principles.	Metropolitan Member Agencies and subagencies that provide local water services could adopt ordinances with enhanced penalties for water theft from a fire hydrant.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**State Legislative Matrix: First Year of Legislative Session**  
**June 9, 2025**

Bill Number and Author	Amended Date and Location	Title – Summary	Metropolitan Position	Effects on Metropolitan
<b>SB 454</b> <b>J. McNerney</b> <b>(D – Stockton)</b>  <b>Sponsor:</b> Association of California Water Agencies	Amended in Senate Appropriations Committee on 5/23/2025.  Assembly Desk	<b>State Water Resources Control Board: PFAS Mitigation Program</b>  SB 454 would establish a PFAS Mitigation Fund to address PFAS contamination in California's drinking water and wastewater systems. Administered by the SWRCB, the fund will provide financial support through grants, loans, and contracts to water suppliers and wastewater operators to cover or reduce treatment and disposal costs, ensuring safe and clean water across the state with a focus on disadvantaged communities.	<b>Support</b>  Based on 2025 Legislative Policies and Principles.	The proposed bill would be highly beneficial to Metropolitan, its Member Agencies, and other water and wastewater agencies currently grappling with increased PFAS-related regulations and source contamination issues. By allowing for grants, loans, and contracts through the PFAS Mitigation Fund, and the provision of assistance services, the bill provides much-needed financial relief and assistance to support treatment and mitigation efforts.
<b>SB 601</b> <b>B. Allen</b> <b>(D – Santa Monica)</b>  <b>Sponsors:</b> California Coastkeeper Alliance, Defenders of Wildlife	Amended in Senate Appropriations Committee on 5/23/2025.  Senate Floor	<b>Water: waste discharge</b>  The intent of this bill is to restore Clean Water Act protections in California that were removed per the U.S. Supreme Court's 2023 Sackett v. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) decision. However, the bill goes beyond restoring statute and includes several provisions that expand regulatory requirements without the benefit of scientific analysis.	<b>Oppose</b>  Based on 2025 Legislative Policies and Principles.	Currently, AB 601 poses risks to Metropolitan and its member agencies by: adopting EPA's drinking water standards for PFAS/PFOS, bypassing the state rulemaking process; increasing costs of waste discharge requirements (WDRs) permits for discharges of water when dewatering or operating water supply infrastructure, potentially requiring all such water to be recycled regardless of cost to comply; exposing Metropolitan and its Member Agencies to citizen suits in state court, and, for certain nexus waters, both state and federal court; and creating uncertainty in discharge permitting as the bill's ambiguous provisions and implications are likely to be litigated.





Legislation and Communications  
Committee

# Report on Activities from Sacramento

Item 6c  
June 9, 2025

# Report on Activities from Sacramento

## Subject

Report on Activities from Sacramento

## Purpose

To provide an update on relevant state legislative issues

# Sacramento Legislative Highlights

## Legislative Calendar

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| June 6  | Deadline to pass bills out of their house of origin |
| June 15 | Deadline for Legislature to pass state budget.      |
| June 30 | Deadline for Governor to sign budget                |

# 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.
- AB 523 (Irwin) Metropolitan water districts: proxy vote authorizations.
- SB 394 (Allen) Water theft: fire hydrants.

# Sacramento Legislative Highlights

## Legislative Update

- AB 362 (Ramos) Water policy: California tribal communities.
- AB 532 (Ransom) Water rate assistance program.
- AB 638 (Rodriguez) Stormwater: uses: irrigation.
- AB 810 (Irwin) Local government: internet websites and email addresses.
- SB 350 (Durazo) Water Rate Assistance Program.
- SB 496 (Hurtado) Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation: appeals advisory committee: exemptions.

# Sacramento Legislative Highlights

## Legislative Update

- AB 794 (Gabriel) California Safe Drinking Water Act: emergency regulations.
- AB 1146 (Papan) Water infrastructure: dams and reservoirs: water release: false pretenses.
- AB 1319 (Schultz) Protected species: California Endangered Species Act.
- SB 601 (Allen) Water: waste discharge.





**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session**  
**June 9, 2025**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Conservation	<b>H.R. 1871</b> Huffman (D-CA) Moore (R-UT)  <b>S. 857</b> Curtis (R-UT) Padilla (D-CA)	3/05/25: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.  3/05/25: Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.	<b>Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act</b>  Amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the exclusion for conservation subsidies to include water conservation or efficiency measures and stormwater management measures.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2025 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	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.



**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session**  
**June 9, 2025**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Endangered Species Act Oversight	<b>H.R. 831</b> Calvert (R-CA) Lee (D-NV) Titus (D-NV) Horsford (D-NV) Stanton (D-AZ) Ciscomoni (R-AZ)  <b>S. 291</b> Padilla (D-CA) Schiff (D-CA) Cortez Masto (D-NV) Rosen (D-NV) Kelly (D-AZ) Gallego (D-AZ)	1/31/25: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.  1/29/25: Referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	<b>Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program Amendment Act of 2025</b>  Establishes an interest-bearing account for the non-federal contributions to the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program (LCR MSCP).	<b>SUPPORT</b>  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: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session**  
**June 9, 2025**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Endangered Species Act Oversight	<b>H.R. 1894</b> Calvert (R-CA) Costa (D-CA) McClintock (R-CA) Issa (R-CA)	3/06/25: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.	<b>Federally Integrated Species Health Act or the “FISH Act”</b>  Transfers the authority to oversee Endangered Species Act (ESA) related responsibilities for anadromous fish from the Secretary of Commerce to the Secretary of the Interior.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2025 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	This bill would consolidate the management and regulation of anadromous fish under the ESA at the Fish and Wildlife Service. Currently, ESA authority is split between FWS and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). California’s water delivery system and its fisheries would benefit from having a single federal agency responsible for anadromous species management.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session**  
**June 9, 2025**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	<b>H.R. 3158</b> Lee (D-NV) Amodei (R-NV) Stanton (D-AZ) Ciscomani (R-AZ) Horsford (D-NV) Titus (D-NV) Ansari (D-AZ) Calvert (R-CA) Cisneros (D-CA) Schweikert5 (R-AZ)  <b>S. 1570</b> Cortez Masto (D-NV) Kelly (D-AZ) Gallego (D-AZ) Rosen (D-AZ) Padilla (D-CA) Schiff (D-CA)	5/01/25: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.  5/01/25: Referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	<b>Help Hoover Dam Act</b>  Amends the Boulder Canyon Project Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to expend money in the Colorado River Dam fund.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2025 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	This legislation gives the Bureau of Reclamation authority to utilize stranded funds paid by the Hoover Dam power contractors for operations, maintenance, repair, and clean up actions at Hoover Dam. The bill would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by providing a new source of funding for needed work on Hoover Dam.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session**  
**June 9, 2025**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Source Water Protection	<b>S. 350</b> Padilla (D-CA) Daines (R-MT)	1/30/25: Referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	<b>Wildfire Emergency Act of 2025</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 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.
Source Water Protection	<b>H.R. 1267</b> Perez (D-WA) Maloy (R-UT)	2/12/25: Referred to the House Committees on Energy and Commerce and Transportation and Infrastructure.	<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 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.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session**  
**June 9, 2025**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Source Water Protection	<b>H.R. 1459</b> Crow (D-CO)  <b>S. 670</b> Bennet (D-CO) Wyden (D-OR) Hickenlooper (D-CO) Gallego (D-AZ) Rosen (D-NV)	2/20/25: Referred to the House Committees on Agriculture and Natural Resources.  2/20/25: Referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry.	<b>Protect the West Act of 2025</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 2025 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	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: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session**  
**June 9, 2025**

Topic	Bill/Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Source Water Protection	<b>H.R. 2093</b> Calvert (R-CA) Garamendi (D-CA) Rouzer (R-NC)	3/14/25: Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.	<b>Federal Water Pollution Control Permitting Terms</b>  Amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act) with respect to permitting terms.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  Based upon 2025 Legislative Priorities and Principles.	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.
Water Project Authorizations	<b>H.R. 338</b> Costa (D-CA) Valadao (R-CA)	1/13/25: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.	<b>Every Drop Counts Act</b>  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.	<b>SUPPORT</b>  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.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**  
**Federal Legislative Matrix: 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session**  
**June 9, 2025**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Bill/Author</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Title – Summary</b>	<b>MWD Position</b>	<b>Effects on MWD</b>
Water Project Authorizations	<b>H.R. 1311</b> Harder (D-CA)	2/13/25: Referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure.	<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 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.



Legislation & Communication Committee

# Report on Activities From Washington, D.C.

Item 6d

June 9, 2025



# Report on Activities from Washington, D.C.

## Subject

Report on Activities from Washington, D.C.

## Purpose

To provide a legislative update.

# House Passed Bill

Legislation & Communications Committee

## Budget Reconciliation Update



### Judiciary Committee

- All “prior” proposed rule at least 10 days before Congress
- Expanded Commission view of “major” existing rules

**Removed**

### Natural Resources Committee

- \$2B to raise Reclamation’s water storage facilities
- \$500M for Reclamation’s water conveyance repairs

# FY 26 Budget Proposal



## Comparing the Past Five ‘Skinny’ Budgets to President Trump’s Skimpy ‘Skinny’ Budget

	Reagan	Bush (41)	Clinton	Bush (43)	Obama	Trump
<b>Grand totals for budget</b> <i>Revenue, spending levels, and deficit/surplus</i>	✓ 5 years	✓ 4 years	✓ 5 years	✓ 10 years	✓ 10 years	✗
<b>Spending levels</b> <i>Total spending by agency, budget function, or program area</i>	✗	✓ 4 years	✓ 5 years	✓ 5 years	✓ 10 years	✗
<b>Proposed policy changes (summary)</b> <i>Summary of revenue and spending proposals</i>	✓ 5 years	✗	✗	✓ 10 years	✓ 10 years	✗
<b>Revenue proposals (detail)</b> <i>Policy changes relative to current law</i>	✓ 5 years	✓ 4 years	✓ 5 years	✓ 10 years	✓ 10 years	✗
<b>Entitlement proposals (detail)</b> <i>Policy changes relative to current law</i>	✓ 5 years	✓ 1 year	✓ 5 years	✓ 10 years	✓ 10 years	✗

Source: Office of Management and Budget and CBPP analysis

Note: We count the “number of years” starting with the budget year, which is the coming fiscal year.

CENTER ON BUDGET AND POLICY PRIORITIES | CBPP.ORG

# FY 26 Budget Hearing: Environmental Protection Agency



Sen. Murkowski (R-AK)



Sen. Schiff (D-CA)



Lee Zeldin, EPA  
Administrator



Rep. Simpson (R-ID)



Rep. Griffith (R-VA)



# FY 26 Budget Hearing: Bureau of Reclamation



Rep. Lee (D-NV)



Rep. Calvert (R-CA)



Scott Cameron, Senior Advisor to  
the Secretary of Interior

# California's Zero Emission Vehicle Rules



Sen. Padilla (D-CA)



Sen. Schiff (D-CA)







Legislation and Communications  
Committee

# Legislative Update on Delta Conveyance Project

Item 6e  
June 9, 2025

# DCP Legislative Update

## Subject

Report on recent activities relating to the Delta Conveyance Project

## Purpose

To provide an update on relevant state legislative issues

## DCP Legislative Update

# Governor's Delta Conveyance Project Streamlining Package

Seeks to streamline administrative and legal processes for the Delta Conveyance Project

Metropolitan joined a coalition in support of the DCP streamlining package

Backed by existing legislative policy principles and Board action to authorize funding for preconstruction

Projected timeline between June 16 – 30

# DCP Legislative Update

## Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Audit request: Department of Water Resources –  
Delta Conveyance Project

Submitted by Assembly Member Ransom (D –  
Stockton)

Hearing scheduled for June 18

# DCP Legislative Update

## Scope of the Audit

Identify the amounts spent – and the underlying funding sources used – by DWR for the DCP between July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2025. Evaluate whether such spending is consistent with relevant laws and regulations.

Determine whether participating agencies have projected the increased cost to ratepayers that will be necessary to repay DCP's construction costs through revenue bonds. Further, to the extent possible, determine how contractors plan to allocate these costs to different classes of ratepayers.

# DCP Legislative Update

## Scope of the Audit

Determine whether DWR has conducted a comprehensive analysis on the potential environmental impacts on the Delta, Delta communities and the local economy resulting from the DCP, including estimating harmful algal bloom incidents.

Determine compliance with the Delta Reform Act of 2009 and other laws, rules, and regulations regarding the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta as relevant to the Delta Conveyance Project.

# DCP Legislative Update

## Next Steps

JLAC requested Metropolitan to testify at the hearing

Organize internal response

Outreach to JLAC legislators

Hearing scheduled for Wednesday, June 18







THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT  
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

# Board Report

## External Affairs

- External Affairs Monthly Activities Report for May 2025

## Summary

This report provides a summary of External Affairs' group activities for May 2025.

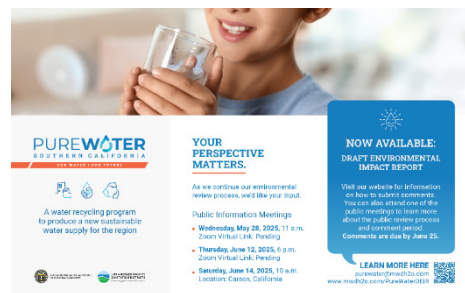
## Purpose

Informational

## Detailed Report

## Highlights

On May 14, Metropolitan released the Pure Water Southern California Draft Environmental Impact Report, kicking off a 60-day public review period. External Affairs is leading the effort to inform and engage the public in this opportunity through public meetings, community events, social media, and tours of the Grace F. Napolitano Pure Water Southern California Innovation Center. A collection of materials in English and Spanish were created including postcards, flyers, display ads and a video encouraging involvement in the review process. Copies of the Draft EIR are available at Metropolitan and public libraries, and comments can be submitted through a portal on the website as well as by email and mail-in.



External Affairs and Water Resource Management hosted the third annual One Water Awards at Union Station Headquarters to celebrate commercial, industrial and institutional water-saving projects throughout the district's service area. Eastern Municipal Water District, Vallecitos Water District, the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles, and American Legion Hollywood were all honored. In attendance were Chair Ortega, Vice Chair Sutley, Director Quinn, GM Upadhyay, Ethics Officer Abel Salinas and Chief Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation Officer Liz Crosson. (May 21)



*GM Deven Upadhyay, Board Chair Adan Ortega Jr., Vice Chair Nancy Sutley, Senior Resource Specialist Gary Tilkian with honoree Robert Gehan of the American Legion Hollywood Post 43.*

## External Affairs Monthly Activities Report May 2025

The Board was actively engaged in advocacy for Metropolitan's policies and funding priorities at the federal and state levels. Chair Ortega, Vice Chair Garza, Legislation and Communications Committee Chair Lewitt and Vice Chair Kassakhian, GM Upadhyay, and AGM Zinke met with Southern California's representatives in Washington DC on May 5-7. Chair Ortega, Committee Chair Lewitt, Vice Chair Fellow, committee members Dennstedt and Luna, Director McMillan, and AGM Zinke met with members of the Southern California state legislative delegation in Sacramento on May 27-28. Metropolitan is working with the State Water Contractors to support Governor Newsom's Delta Conveyance Project Streamlining trailer bill language proposal, assisting directors and member agencies as they seek support from representatives and district offices within their service areas.



*Vice Chair Garza, GM Upadhyay, Senator Alex Padilla, Chair Ortega, Legislation & Communications Committee Vice Chair Kassakhian and Chair Lewitt*

### Legislative Services

#### Federal

Staff coordinated meetings with Southern California representatives and Senator Alex Padilla for the Metropolitan board delegation for their visit to the U.S. Capitol on May 5–7.

Staff tracked the budget reconciliation process, including funding for Reclamation's water supply and conveyance, EPA, FEMA, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Department of Interior, and Army Corps of Engineers.

Staff also tracked nominations, hearings, and appointments for key positions, including the Department of Interior Solicitor and the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Civil Works.

#### State

Staff coordinated a Board Advocacy Day with Southern California representatives for the Metropolitan board delegation on May 28.

AB 580 (Wallis) to extend Metropolitan's alternate authority under the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act moved to the Senate Rules Committee.

Metropolitan staff worked to advance the following bills: AB 259 (Rubio) eliminating the sunset provision in the Brown Act for teleconferencing; AB 532 (Ransom) for local water agencies to establish low-income rate assistance programs; SB 31 (McNerney) increasing the use of recycled water in non-potable applications; SB 72 (Caballero) to improve future planning of California water supplies; SB 394 (Allen) increasing penalties for fire hydrant water theft; and SB 454 (McNerney) establishing a PFAS Mitigation Fund to address PFAS

## External Affairs Monthly Activities Report May 2025

contamination in California's drinking water and wastewater systems. Metropolitan maintains an oppose position on SB 601 (Allen) increasing the State Water Board authority to regulate wastewater discharges; an oppose unless amended position on AB 794 (Gabriel) which would allow for an emergency regulatory process for the State Water Board's PFAS regulations on drinking water standards; an oppose position on AB 1146 (Papan) which would authorize the State Water Resources Control Board to issue an interim relief order to prohibit release of stored water if the release is done under false pretenses; and an oppose unless amended position on AB 1319 (Schultz) which would amend the California Endangered Species Act to authorize the California Fish and Game Commission to adopt an emergency regulation that adds a federally listed species that is native to California to the list of endangered or threatened species on an emergency basis under certain conditions. Staff is working with the bills' authors to address concerns.

Staff is coordinating with the State Water Contractors and member agencies to support Governor Newsom's proposed Delta Conveyance Project Streamlining trailer bill language.

### Local

Legislation and Communications committee Chair Lewitt, Directors Bryant and Kurtz, and AGM Zinke met with state Senator Sasha Renée Pérez (D-Pasadena) at her district office to discuss the Governor's proposed legislation to streamline the Delta Conveyance Project, Metropolitan's infrastructure budget priorities, Pure Water Southern California, and other regional water issues. (May 16)

Provided briefings on Metropolitan's legislative priorities and local programs to district office staff for the following elected officials: Representative Darrell Issa (R-CA-48), Representative David Min (D-CA-47), Representative Maxine Waters (D-CA-43), Senator Eloise Gomez Reyes (D-Colton), Senator Kelly Seyarto (R-Murrieta), Assemblymember Laurie Davies (R-Laguna Niguel), Assemblymember Mark González (D-Los Angeles), and Assemblymember James Ramos (D-Highland).



*Photo (left to right): Director Kurtz, Director Bryant, Senator Pérez, Director Lewitt, AGM Zinke, Senior Government & Regional Affairs Representative Mercado.*

Presented, monitored, and/or participated in 53 webinars, meetings, and events with community groups, business organizations, and trade associations on Metropolitan activities and other related topics.

## **Media and Communications**

### Press Releases and Statements

- Draft Environmental Impact Report for Pure Water Southern California
- Gov. Newsom's proposal to eliminate hurdles in planning of Delta Conveyance Project
- One Water Awards celebrating four inspiring water-saving projects
- Launch of Community Enhancement Collaborative program to support community improvements in Palo Verde Valley

Coordinated media interviews with Metropolitan executive management:

- GM Upadhyay and Liz Smilor for California Water insert for a story on water affordability.
- Chief SRI Officer Crosson and Global Water Intelligence magazine regarding CAMP4Water and how climate change is impacting Metropolitan's ability to plan for the future.



# External Affairs Monthly Activities Report May 2025

- Chief SRI Officer Crosson and LA Times reporter Ian James regarding CAMP4Water and the impact of climate change on Southern California water supplies.
- AGM Bednarski and Community Profiles magazine (advertising supplement in LA Times) regarding Pure Water Draft Environmental Impact Report.

Metropolitan's Goodbye, Grass water conservation campaign series continued into the summer months on billboards, transit shelters, and on radio and Dodger broadcasts, with plans to extend into the playoff season. A pilot campaign targeting commercial industrial and institutional customers on LinkedIn continues to generate impressive results to date, including 231,000 impressions and a high click-through rate, signaling engagement with the turf rebate information.

A26 한국판월보 스포츠 Thursday, May 15, 2025

## ‘4번 타자’ 이정후, 안방서도 넘겼다

시즌 5호 홈런 ‘월터 펄스’  
타석에 당돌히 앞장



시즌 5호 홈런 ‘월터 펄스’  
타석에 당돌히 앞장

이정후는 시즌 5호 홈런을 기록하며 팀의 선봉을 이끌었다. 타석에 당돌히 앞장섰던 그는 이번 홈런을 통해 팀의 분위기를 한층 뜨겁게 만들었다.

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## NBA 동부 1위 클리블랜드 PO 2라운드 탈락

4위 인디애나 밀워키

클리블랜드는 NBA 동부 1위를 차지했지만, 포스트시즌 2라운드에서 4위인 인디애나 밀워키에게 패배하며 탈락했다.

클리블랜드는 NBA 동부 1위를 차지했지만, 포스트시즌 2라운드에서 4위인 인디애나 밀워키에게 패배하며 탈락했다.

## ‘블리그 폭격’ 피츠버그 배지환 ‘무인타’

피츠버그 파이리츠

배지환은 시즌 5호 홈런을 기록하며 팀의 선봉을 이끌었다. 타석에 당돌히 앞장섰던 그는 이번 홈런을 통해 팀의 분위기를 한층 뜨겁게 만들었다.

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## #LosAngeles #Comunidad

### Fiscal de L.A. anuncia plan para reducir robos a negocios

Ricardo Roura

El fiscal de Los Angeles, Nathan Hochman, anunció medidas para atacar el robo a tiendas minoristas en una conferencia de prensa en una tienda de conveniencia de Pico Union, que ha sido asaltada en 12 ocasiones durante las últimas semanas.

Hochman presentó una cuatriman anularia que las empresas locales pueden co-locar en sus ventanas como una advertencia a los delincuentes.

El fiscal mencionó que usó como ejemplo el aviso anulario de la Oficina del fiscal de Distrito de Sacramento, que tiene el propósito de advertir que la tienda que lo



La Proposición 36, aprobada el pasado noviembre, endurece el castigo para los ladrones que reinciden en el delito.

dado de Los Angeles se cree para atacar los constantes robos cometidos contra negocios y está integrado por diversas corporaciones, como el Departamento de Policía de Los Angeles y el Departamento del Sheriff del condado de Los Angeles.

El fiscal Hochman destacó los avances que se han alcanzado con la Proposición 36 en la lucha contra el robo organizado en contra de negocios minoristas en el condado de L.A.

Jawad Ursani, propietario de 7-Eleven: “Hemos tenido que gastar miles de dólares en protección. Dinero que podría haberse destinado a inventario e inversiones en la comunidad”



Jawad Ursani, propietario de un 7-Eleven, ha sido asaltado 12 veces en los últimos meses. /GLOS AP

por grupos de delincuentes que en ocasiones arrancaban varios negocios con diferencia de pocas horas.

Con la Proposición 36, que fue aprobada el año pasado, cuando un delincuente cumple un tercer arresto por ciertos delitos de robo y drogas, es considerado ahora como un asalto por delito grave, lo que se sanciona con penas más severas.

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전야말

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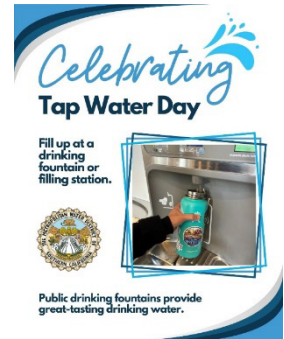
Los jardines nativos y CA Friendly® ahorran agua.

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Ad placement in La Opinion, part of a concerted effort to support ethnic community press and local journalism with Metropolitan messaging.

## External Affairs Monthly Activities Report May 2025

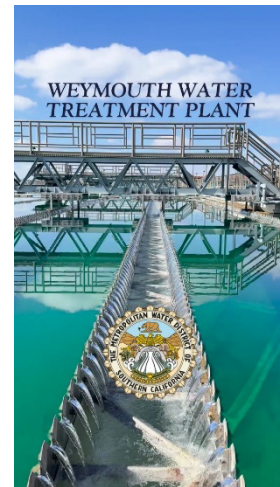
Celebrated Tap Water Day, Drinking Water Week and Water Awareness Month through a series of social media posts. We developed a template for member agencies to use to celebrate Tap Water Day. Several agencies and retailers joined us on social media, including the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power and Monte Vista Water District. In honor of Drinking Water Week, we followed the path of a Stanley Cup as it traveled in downtown Los Angeles to refill at public drinking fountains. And lastly, for Water Awareness Month, we featured current and past water quality laboratory staff, showcasing the dedication and science behind protecting Southern California's drinking water, in a series of five short videos.



Metropolitan's social media influencer campaign was a focus in May with the filming and production of pieces featuring visual artist Tim Biskup and artist and musician Jeff Parker as well as Evan Lovett of LA in a Minute.

For Teacher Appreciation Day, recognized teachers who we have worked with in the past through several of our education programs. We also spotlighted the UCLA Nursing Program during National Nurses Week as nurses in the program visited Pure Water Southern California.

A social media video highlighting water sounds at the Weymouth Water Treatment Plant, made in an ASMR (Autonomous Sensory Meridian Response) style, received our strongest engagement in May.



## External Affairs Monthly Activities Report May 2025

### Community Outreach

#### Pure Water Southern California

Held first virtual public meeting for the Draft EIR (May 28)

Meetings, presentations, community events:

- Metropolitan DEI Workforce Development Summit resource booth (May 1)
- Water Replenishment District's 15th Annual Groundwater Festival resource booth (May 3)
- Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District WaterFest 2025 resource booth (May 3)
- City of Duarte (May 5)
- Central Basin Water Association (May 6)
- Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (May 14)
- Active SGV Social (May 15)
- Heritage of Aloha Festival resource booth (May 17)
- East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice – Water Committee (May 20)
- City of Lakewood (May 22)
- Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Board (May 22)
- South Bay Cities Council of Governments (May 22)
- Gateway Chamber Alliance (May 27)
- Torrance Water Commission (May 28)

Tours

- UCLA Nursing Students (May 8, 16)
- Torrance Chamber (May 8)
- Burbank Water & Power (May 30)

#### Community Partnering Program

Seven CPP water conservation and education projects and/or events were supported this month:

- Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District WaterFest 2025 (May 3)
- Western Municipal Water District Water is Life, Education through the Arts (May 6)
- Whittier Historical Society Founders Day (May 10)
- Vallecitos Water District Water Wise Demonstration Garden Project (May 15)
- Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative Community Forum 2025 (May 15)
- Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Splash into Summer (May 22)
- San Diego River Park River Days (May 24)



Date of Report: 6/10/2025



## External Affairs Monthly Activities Report May 2025

### Inspection Trips And Other Activities

- DVL Inspection Trip with Directors Bryant and Kurtz (May 2)
- Employee Inspection Trip to CRA (May 6-7; May 14-15)
- Infrastructure Inspection Trip with Directors Garza and McMillan (May 9)
- Hoover/CRA Inspection Trip with Directors Gold and Kassakhian (May 30-31)

Participated in the City of Rolling Hills Estates Wildfire Preparedness Event to share information on the Palos Verdes Reservoir (May 29)

Provided construction-related support to residents impacted by the Rialto Pipeline/Glendora Tunnel/La Verne Pipeline shutdown (May 1) and community in Culver City for repairs to WB-34 (May 14)



*Employee CRA Inspection Trip*

### Education

Introduced the Tap Water Day Teacher Toolkit, a new educational resource developed with WeTap.org, designed to help teachers celebrate and promote the benefits of clean, accessible tap water with their students. The online toolkit received more than 2,000 downloads.

Supported youth engagement and water career awareness at the following events and programs:

- Metropolitan DEI Workforce Development Summit – Provided information for colleges and the next generation of water industry professionals while promoting diversity in water careers. (May 1)
- Schools' Agriculture and Nutrition Center at the LA County Fair – Educated thousands of students about the connection between water, agriculture, wellness, and conservation. (May 8)
- Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Splash into Summer – Promoted water conservation through public outreach efforts. (May 22)
- City of Compton STEAMFest – Connected students with career information and water education activities in a festival-style setting. (May 29)
- Tools 4 Schools – In collaboration with DEI, provided educators and businesses with information on water awareness programs and internship opportunities. (May 31)



*Students learning at DVL*

Concluded the last DVL and Water Journeys field trips of the school year, using digital tools and water quality science experiments.



Legislation and Communications Committee

# External Affairs Activities

Item 7a  
June 9, 2025

# Report on Activities from External Affairs

## Subject

Report on Activities from External Affairs

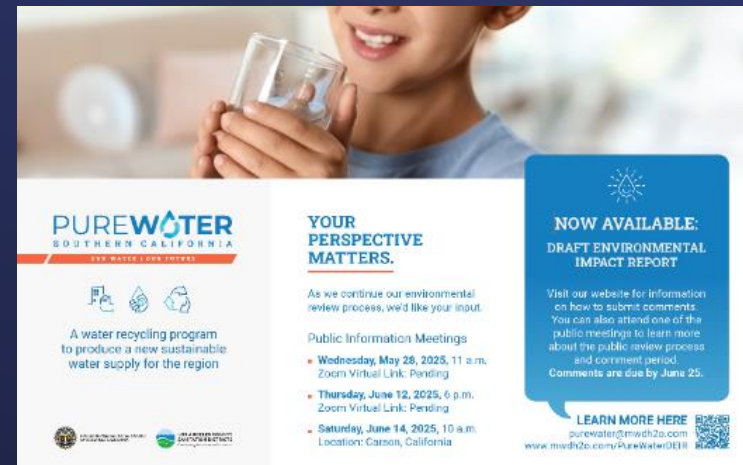
## Purpose

To provide management announcements and highlights for External Affairs

# Public Outreach for PWSC Draft EIR

Legislation & Communications  
Committee

## External Affairs Activities



Public Meetings  
Thursday, June 12 (virtual)  
Saturday, June 14 (in person, Carson)



# One Water Awards

Legislation & Communications  
Committee

## External Affairs Activities

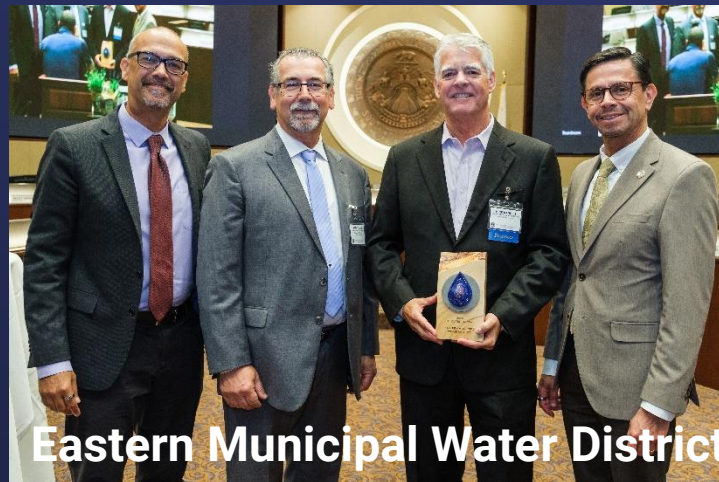
Collaboration with WRM /  
Water Use Efficiency



American Legion Hollywood  
Post 43



Housing Authority of the City  
of Los Angeles



Eastern Municipal Water District



Vallecitos Water District



# Career Awareness for Students

Legislation & Communications  
Committee

## External Affairs Activities

Collaboration with DEI /  
Workforce Development



Harbor Freight Fellows Initiative  
and Big Picture Learning First  
So-Cal Youth Trades Summit



Compton STEAMFest



