



C&L Committee

G. Cordero, Chair
C. Kurtz, Vice Chair
J. Abdo
L. Ackerman
J. Butkiewicz
D. Erdman
M. Luna
J. Morris
J. Murray Jr.
G. Peterson
T. Quinn
R. Record
H. Repenning
T. Smith

**Communications and Legislation
Committee - Final**

Meeting with Board of Directors *

July 12, 2021

1:30 p.m.

Live streaming is available for all board and committee meetings on our mwdh2o.com website ([Click to Access Board Meetings Page](#))

Public Comment Via Teleconference Only: Members of the public may present their comments to the Board on matters within their jurisdiction as listed on the agenda via teleconference only. To participate call (404) 400-0335 and use Code: 9601962.

**Monday, July 12, 2021
Meeting Schedule**

10:00 a.m. E&O
11:30 a.m. Break
12:00 p.m. WP&S
01:30 p.m. C&L
02:30 p.m. OP&T

* 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 OTHER ITEMS -- ACTION ****

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Communications and Legislation Committee held June 7, 2021

[21-289](#)

Attachments: [Meeting 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. Report on Solar Cup 2021 [21-255](#)

Attachments: [07122021 CL 6a Presentation.pdf](#)

- b. Report on Activities from Sacramento [21-253](#)

Attachments: [07122021 CL 6b Presentation.pdf](#)

- c. Report on Activities from Washington DC [21-254](#)

Attachments: [07122021 CL 6c Presentation.pdf](#)

7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

- a. External Affairs Management Report [21-252](#)

Attachments: [07122021 CL 7a Presentation.pdf](#)

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. Agendas for the meeting of the Board of Directors may be obtained from the Board Executive Secretary. 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 <http://www.mwdh2o.com>.

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

COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

June 7, 2021

Chair Cordero called the teleconference meeting to order at 2:37 p.m.

Members present: Chair Cordero, Vice Chair Kurtz, Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Butkiewicz, Morris, G. Peterson, Record, and Smith.

Members absent: Directors Erdman, Luna, Murray, Quinn, and Repenning.

Other Board Members present: Chairwoman Gray, Directors Atwater, Blois, De Jesus, Dick, Fellow, Goldberg, Hogan, Jung, Ramos, and Tamaribuchi.

Committee Staff present: Kightlinger, Morris, Rojo, Sims, and Zinke.

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

None

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of the Communications and Legislation Committee held May 10, 2021.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

None

Director Morris made a motion, seconded by Director Kurtz to approve the consent calendar item consisting of item 2A.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Butkiewicz, Cordero, Kurtz, Morris, Peterson, Record, and Smith

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Directors Erdman, Luna, Murray, Quinn, and Repenning

The motion passed by a vote of 9 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstain, and 5 absent.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

a. Subject: Service Recognition of the Diamond Valley Lake Docents

Presented by: Blanca Biller, Public Affairs Representative

Public Affairs Representative Biller provided a report on the Diamond Valley Lake Docent program. She gave a brief history, a short summary of the services docent's assisted with, and introduced one of the many docents who help the community learn about Metropolitan and water.

b. Subject: Update on Metropolitan Website Redesign Project

Presented by: Sue Sims, External Affairs Group Manager

External Affairs Group Manager Sims provided a brief history on the Website Redesign Project and introduced Creative Design Manager Sass and Graphic Designer Au to preview the redesign website. IT Group Manager Eckstrom also spoke on the benefits of the new website from a technical and security standpoint.

c. Subject: Report on activities from Washington, D.C.

Presented by: Abby Schneider, Executive Legislative Representative

Executive Legislative Representative Schneider reported on activities from Washington, D.C. including an update on appropriations, the House National

Resource Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife hearing on drought, and Biden Administration nominations.

d. Subject: Report on activities from Sacramento

Presented by: Kathy Viatella, Executive Legislative Representative

Executive Legislative Representative Viatella reported on activities from Sacramento including meetings with legislators on Metropolitan sponsored bills and legislative priorities, the budget package for 2021-22, the Governor's June 15 plan to lift restrictions related to Covid-19, and special elections.

7. MANAGEMENT REPORT

a. Subject: External Affairs Management Report

Presented by: Susan Sims, External Affairs Group Manager

External Affairs Manager Sims reported on Metropolitan's conservation social media campaign as well as the many honors and awards Metropolitan received including a Telly for "The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta: The Heart of California's Water Supply" and NAGC awards in the categories of grassroots marketing, photography, technical report, graphic design, and employee communications.

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Next meeting will be held on July 12, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

Gloria Cordero
Chair



Report on Solar Cup 2021

Communications and Legislation Committee

Item 6a

July 12, 2021

Solar Cup 2021 Update

- Participation

- 16 Teams ~ About 300 Students and Teachers
- Eight Member Agencies Sponsored Teams

- Timeline

- Program Began In Early February
- Program Concluded With Online Recognition Event June 10

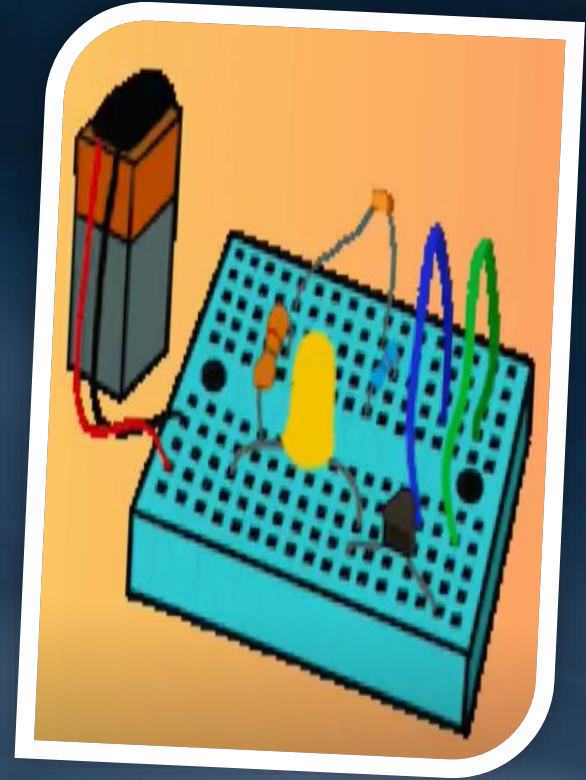
- Partnerships

- Occidental College
- So Cal Edison (SCE) & Strategic Energy Innovations (SEI)

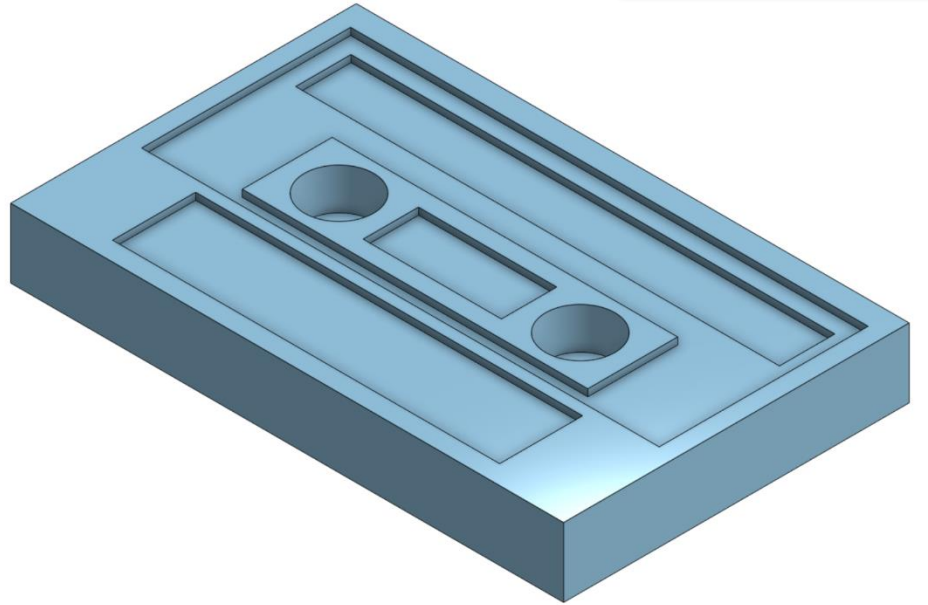
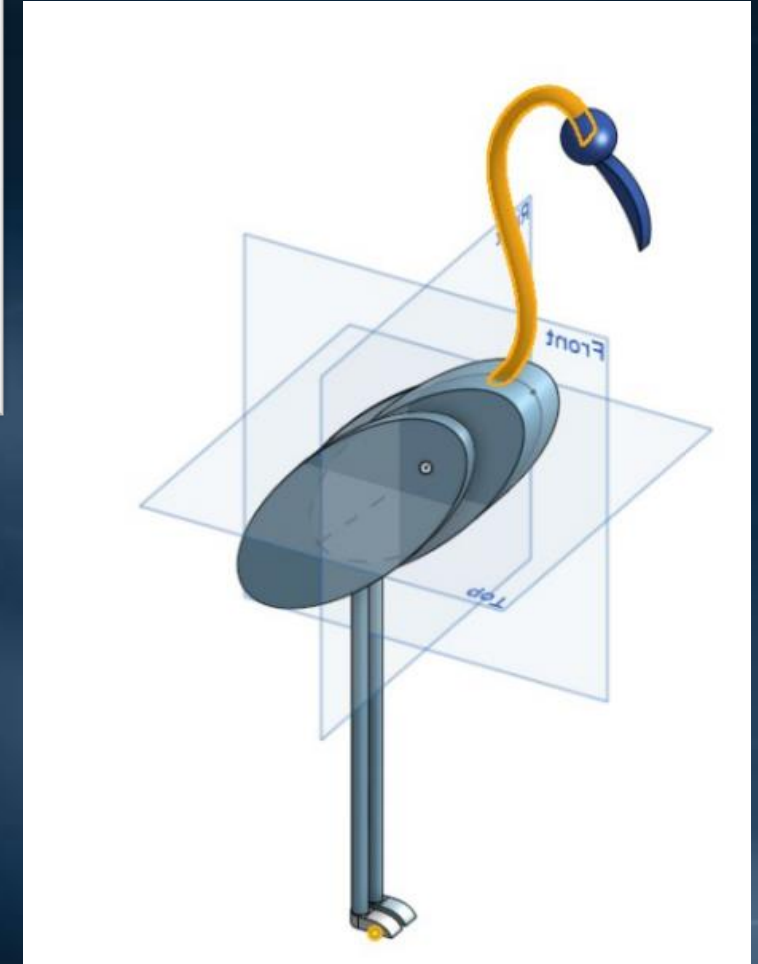
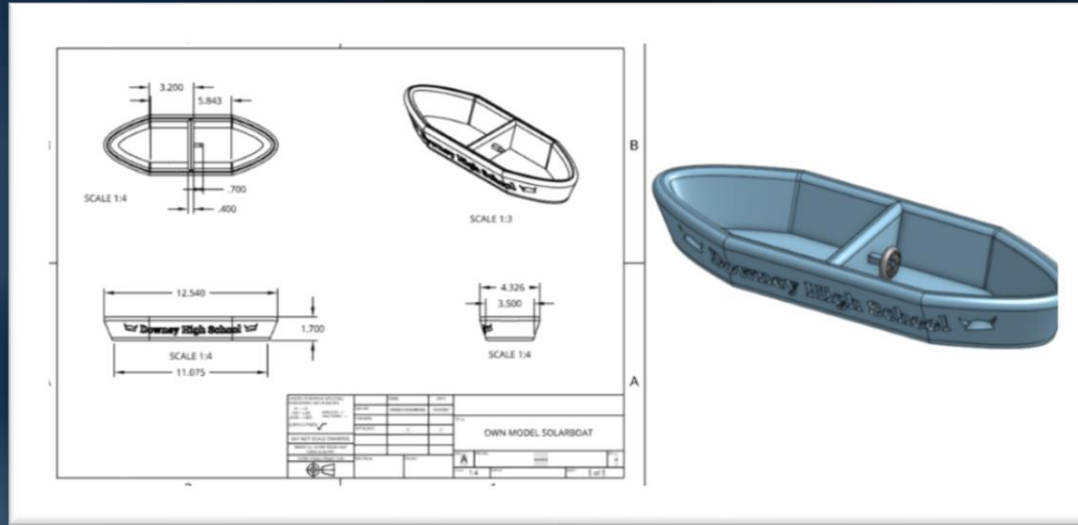


Solar Cup Update

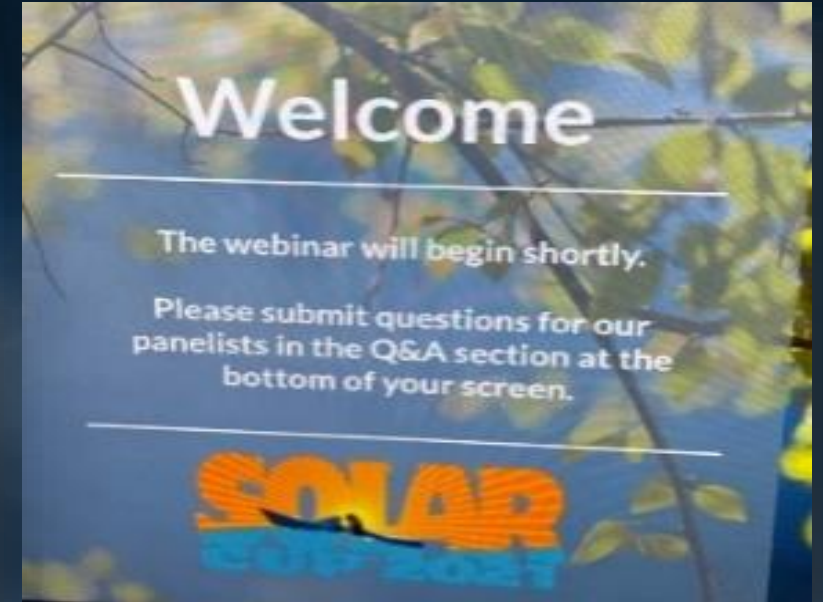
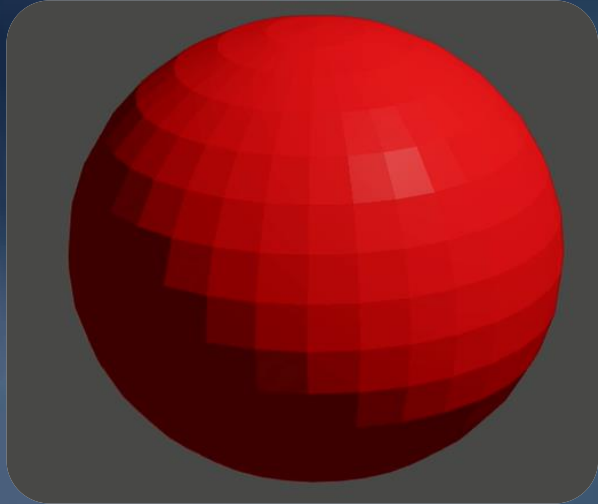
- First All Virtual Program, Job Ready Skills / STEAM Content
 - Robotics and Solar Vehicle
 - 3D Model Creation and Video Game Creation
 - Electronics
 - Watershed Research and Social Media Campaign
 - Career Webinar
- 19th Annual Solar Cup Program
 - Visits to MWD website and Solar Cup webpage
 - Exceeded participation goals



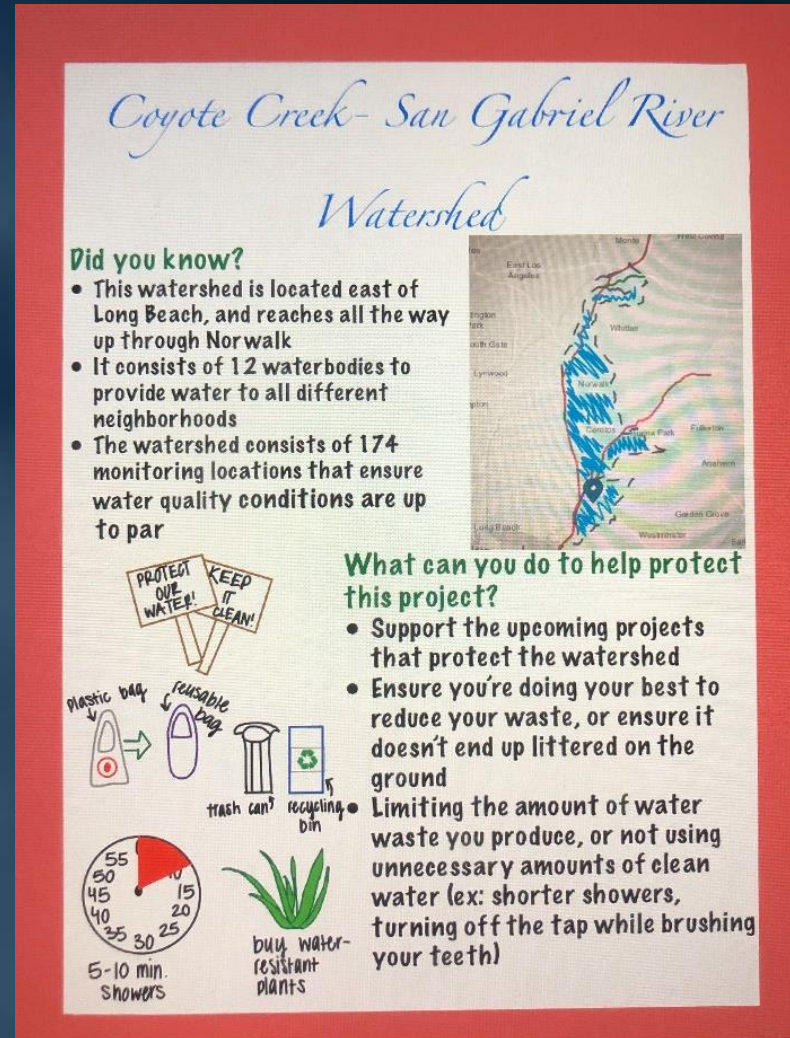
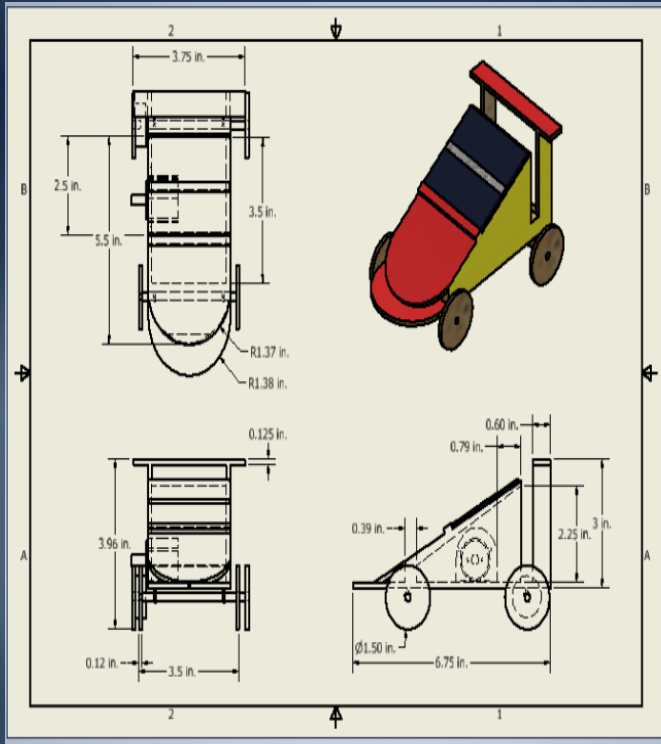
Solar Cup 2021 Challenge Responses



Solar Cup 2021 Challenge Responses



Solar Cup 2021 Challenge Responses



Solar Cup Recognition Event

Top Scoring Teams

- Cabrillo High - Long Beach Water
- Centennial High - Western MWD
- Chino Hills High - Inland Empire Utilities Agency
- Downey High - Central Basin MWD
- Lennox Academy - West Basin MWD
- Mountain View High - Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD
- St Anthony High - Long Beach Water







Report on Activities from Sacramento

Communications and Legislation Committee

Item 6b

July 12, 2021

Key Legislative Dates

- July 14: Policy Committee
- July 16 : Summer Recess Begins
- August 16: Legislature
- Reconvenes
- August 27: Fiscal Committee
- September 10: Intercession Recess



Joint Legislative Audit Committee

- Rudy Salas (D-Bakersfield) Chair and John Laird (D-Santa Cruz) Co-Chair
- Approved State Audit of Metropolitan
- Scope:
 - Recruitment, prevention of workplace discrimination, including harassment, bullying and retaliation, workplace safety, non-disclosure agreements, and employee housing
- Anticipated duration of audit: 7 months

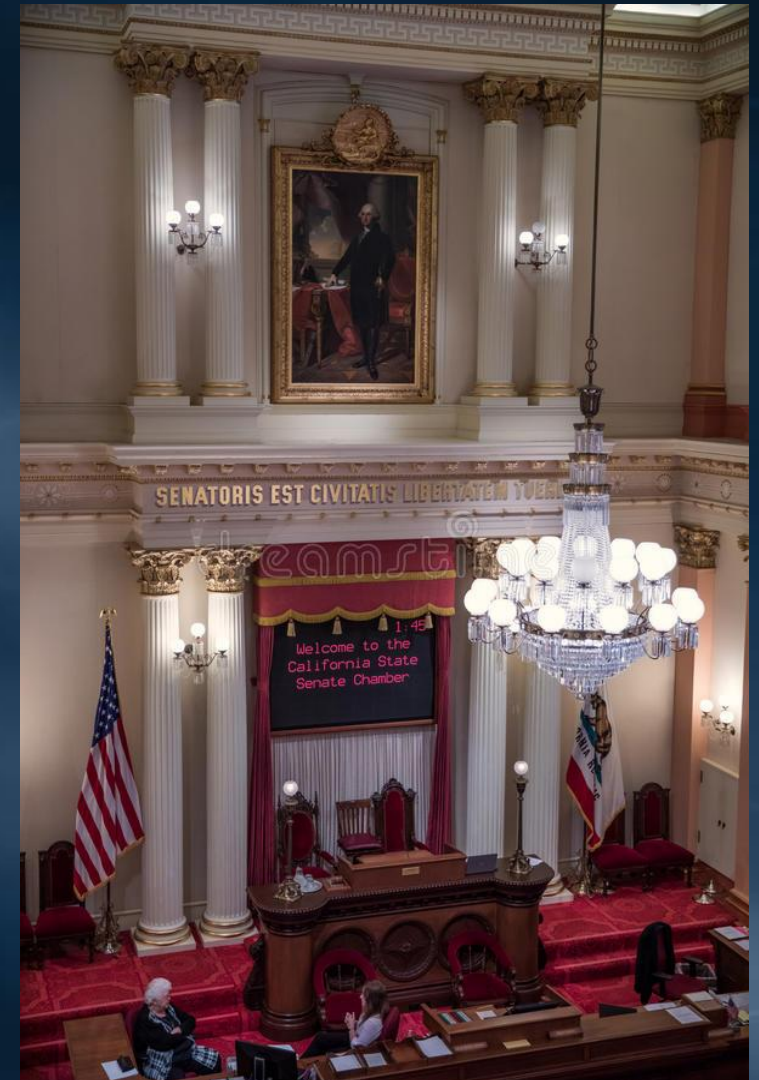
Legislation

● State Matrix

- AB 442 (Mayes, I-Rancho Mirage) - SMARA
- SB 559 (Hurtado, D-Fresno) – Canal Repairs
- SB 626 (Dodd, D-Napa) – DWR Procurement
- AB 361 (Rivas, D-Hollister) – The Brown Act

● Monitor

- SB 222 (Dodd, D-Napa) – Low-income Water Rate Assistance Program
- SB 480 (Stern, D-Los Angeles) – Metropolitan Water District of Southern California



State Budget

- AB 128 (Ting, D-San Francisco): The Budget Act of 2021
- SB 129 (Skinner, D-Berkeley), “Budget Bill Junior”
 - \$261.4 billion spending plan (\$196.4 billion General Fund)
 - \$2.4 billion for drought and water infrastructure including drinking water, recycled water, wastewater, conveyance repairs
 - \$1 billion debt relief for residential and commercial water customers

Appointments & Special Elections

- Governor appointed Nichole Morgan to the State Water Resources Control Board
- Special General Election for AD 18 (Alameda)
- Governor Recall Election – September 14







Report on Activities from Washington, D.C.

Communications and Legislation Committee

Item 6c

July 12, 2021

H.R. 4099: The Large-Scale Water Recycling Project Investment Act



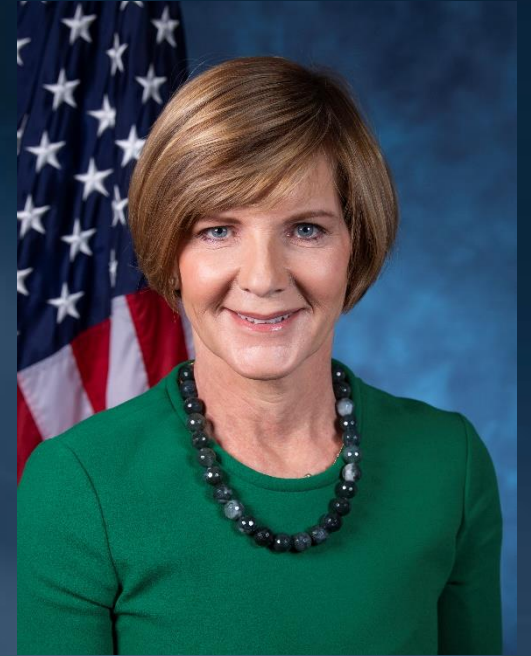
Grace Napolitano (D-CA)



Raul Grijalva (D-AZ)



Jared Huffman (D-CA)



Susie Lee (D-NV)

Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife

Hearing on H.R. 4099



Deven Upadhyay, Assistant General Manager
and Chief Operating Officer



John Entsminger, General Manager
Southern Nevada Water Authority

FY22 Appropriations Update

Program	President Proposed	House Proposed
Environmental Protection Agency		
Clean Water SRF	\$1.87 B	\$1.87 B
Drinking Water SRF	\$1.36 B	\$1.36 B
WIFIA	\$80.1 M	\$72.1 M
PFAS	\$75 M	\$61.8 M

H.R. 3684, the INVEST in America Act



- H.R. 1915, Water Quality and Jobs Protection Act of 2021
- H.R. 3293, Low-Income Water Customer Assistance Program of 2021
- H.R. 3291, Assistance, Quality, and Affordability Act of 2021

Infrastructure Bill Update

- Draft bill from Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
- \$5 billion over 5 years for the Bureau of Reclamation



The Honorable Tanya Trujillo
Assistant Secretary for Water and Science
U.S. Department of Interior

Nominations Update



Confirmed

Tanya Trujillo
Assistant Secretary for Water
and Science
Department of the Interior



Confirmed

Radhika Fox
Assistant Administrator
Office of Water
Environmental Protection Agency



Nominated

Camille Touton
Commissioner
Bureau of Reclamation
Department of Interior





External Affairs Management Report

Communications and Legislation Committee

Item 7a

July 12, 2021

Key Activities

- Advancing Innovation: Pilots and Trials Initial Planning to Resume Inspection Trips
- New Curriculum and Career Technical Education Workshops
- Outreach for Recycled Water Program
- Presentation at 2021 WaterSmart Innovations Conference
- Docent Appreciation Activities at Diamond Valley Lake

