



C&L Committee

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

**Communications and Legislation
Committee**

Meeting with Board of Directors *

May 9, 2022

1:30 p.m.

Teleconference meetings will continue until further notice. Live streaming is available for all board and committee meetings on mwdh2o.com ([Click Here](#))

A listen only phone line is also available at 1-800-603-9516; enter code: 2176868#. 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 enter Code: 9601962.

**Monday, May 9, 2022
Meeting Schedule**

09:30 am - F&I
11:00 am - OP&T
12:00 pm - Break
12:30 pm - RP&AM
01:30 pm - C&L
02:30 pm - WP&S

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

* 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 Meeting of the Communications and Legislation Committee held April 11, 2022 [21-1128](#)

Attachments: [05102022 CL 2A 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. Update on Water Conservation Advertising and Outreach Campaign [21-1154](#)

Attachments: [05092022 CL 6a Presentation](#)

- b. Report on activities from Washington, D.C. [21-1130](#)

Attachments: [05092022 CL 6b Federal Legislative Matrix](#)
[05092022 CL 6b Presentation](#)

- c. Report on activities from Sacramento [21-1129](#)

Attachments: [05092022 CL 6c State Legislative Matrix](#)

7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

- a. External Affairs Management Report [21-1131](#)

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

April 11, 2022

Chair Cordero called the teleconference meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

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

Members absent: Directors Luna and Repenning.

Other Board Members present: Chairwoman Gray, Directors Atwater, Blois, De Jesus, Dennstedt, Dick, Faessel, Fellow, Fong-Sakai, Jung, Lefevre, McCoy, Miller, Pressman, Tamaribuchi, and Williams.

Committee Staff present: Hagekhalil, Perry, Scully, 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 March 7, 2022.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

- | | | |
|------|----------|--|
| 7-16 | Subject: | Express support for SB 991 (Newman, D-Fullerton): Public contracts: progressive design-build: local agencies; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA |
| | Motion: | Express a support position on SB 991 (Newman, D-Fullerton): Public contracts: progressive design-build: local agencies |

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Cordero
2. Peterson

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

After completion of the presentation, Director Peterson made a motion, seconded by Director Smith to approve item 2A and 7-16:

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Cordero, Kurtz, Morris, Peterson, Quinn, Record, and Smith.
Noes: None
Abstentions: Director Quinn abstained from 2A only.
Not Voting: Erdman
Absent: Directors Luna and Repenning

The motion passed by a vote of 9 ayes, 0 noes, 1 abstain, 1 not voting, and 2 absent.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

a. Subject: Report on Activities from Washington, D.C.

Presented by: Abby Schneider, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Schneider reported on legislative activities from Washington, D.C. including fiscal year 2022 appropriation bills, Safety of Dam Construction and other infrastructure funding, and cybersecurity issues

b. Subject: Report on Activities from Sacramento

Presented by: Kathy Viatella, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Viatella reported on activities from Sacramento including the proposed FY 2022/23 state budget and legislative initiatives on drought, water quality, conservation, infrastructure investments, climate change and resiliency.

7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

a. Subject: External Affairs Management's Report

Presented by: Sue Sims, External Affairs Group Manager

Ms. Sims provided an update on water conservation, climate-resiliency messaging and outreach activities. Media coverage has increased, and the multi-lingual campaign is expanding via digital, radio and social media. Staff is developing new creative for a spring/summer advertising campaign and a new Wasting Water Is commercial was previewed for the committee.

The following Director provided a comment or asked a question:

1. Quinn

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Director Peterson would like an update on inspection trips.

Next meeting will be held on May 9, 2022.

Meeting adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

Gloria Cordero
Chair



Communications & Legislation Committee

Update on Water Conservation

Item 6a
May 9, 2022

Spring/Summer 2022
Campaign(s)

Messaging Strategy



- Implementing Board-approved media buy for water conservation advertising
- Bifurcate outreach to include
 - regional campaign centered on tips/personal action and
 - SWP-dependent area campaign for one-day watering restrictions
- Target advertising for precise messaging/multi-language
- Closely coordinate with member agencies

Spring/Summer 2022
Campaign(s)

Messaging Strategy



Đây là
**CÁCH QUÝ
VỊ TIẾT KIỆM
NƯỚC**

**TÔI TƯỚI CÂY
VÀO BUỔI
SÁNG SỚM ĐỂ
GIẢM NƯỚC
BỐC HƠI**

bewaterwise.com*



Así es
**COMO
AHORRAMOS
AGUA.**

**USO UNA ESCOBA EN LUGAR
DE UNA MANGUERA PARA
LIMPAR EL PAVIMENTO**

bewaterwise.com*



This is
**HOW
WE SAVE
WATER.**

**I HAVE A SHUTOFF NOZZLE
ON MY GARDEN HOSE**

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Spring/Summer 2022
Campaign(s)

Messaging Strategy



Spring/Summer 2022
Campaign(s)

Messaging Strategy



Spring/Summer 2022
Campaign(s)



Immersive experience with tips across multiple platforms:

- Billboards
- LA Live
- Transit shelters
- Ethnic publications
- Digital media
- Radio

Prominent Placements at Venues such as LA Live, LA Galaxy games, LA Kings games



Sample
Radio



Spring/Summer 2022
Campaign(s)

Media Coverage

Metropolitan's announcement of new water restrictions was covered by outlets including:

- CNN
- Bloomberg News
- The Wall Street Journal
- The Washington Post
- USA Today
- The New York Times,
- Los Angeles Times
- Sacramento Bee
- SoCal News Group
- Associated Press
- Telemundo
- KPCC
- KFI & KNX Radio
- Spectrum News

Our media briefing was covered by major local & national media outlets, reaching residents in Southern California and across the U.S. more than 25 million times.



Media Event



Reuters Interview

Spring/Summer 2022
Campaign(s)

Media Strategy



Multimedia, Immersive, Multilingual



Traditional
TV, radio, print,
outdoor



Digital
Web banners,
mobile, video



Search



Social
Paid & organic

Spring/Summer 2022
Campaign(s)

Budget

May-June 2022

Platform	Projected Spend
Television	\$975K
Radio	\$652K
Digital	\$1.1M
Outdoor	\$743K
Local Print	\$55K
TOTAL	\$3.5M

Emphasis on digital tactics in SWP reliant area zip codes. Highly targeted with specialized drought messaging.

Spring/Summer 2022 Campaign

Television

Strategy

- English and Spanish networks with coverage across Los Angeles, Oxnard/Ventura, Riverside and San Bernardino
- Create, develop and produce customized sponsorships and integrations for added visibility during news segments + key personnel



Radio

Strategy

- Increase message frequency with Spot Radio to help remind Californians about ways to save. Broad coverage and reach to help effectively launch the campaign.
- Includes NPR and Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese stations

94.7 THE WAVE

La Ranchera
96.7 FM

QUE BUENA
105.5/104.5 FM

Audacy



iHeart
MEDIA

Digital

Strategy

- Highly targeted and continuous presence for all audience segments, counties and languages served by MWD. Includes banner ads, video, CTV and Paid Search.
- Advanced capabilities to target homeowners, home renters and business owners



Outdoor

Strategy

- Broad reach, targeted based on zip codes as well as individual locations for bulletins/posters. Billboards, transit shelters, and place-based signage included.
- SWP areas emphasized and counties not in SWP area are also included (SD, OC).





Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Federal Legislative Matrix
May 9, 2022 – 117th Congress, Second Session

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

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Federal Legislative Matrix
May 9, 2022 – 117th Congress, Second Session

Topic	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Conservation	H.R. 5438 (Cartwright, D-PA)	9/30/21: Referred to the House Committees on Energy and Commerce, Energy and Reform, and Ways and Means.	Water Advanced Technologies for Efficient Resource Use Act of 2021 Addresses federal procurement of WaterSense products, creates a grant program for water conservation incentives, and makes water conservation incentives federally non-taxable.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill authorizes a new grant program to help water agencies provide financial incentives to consumers for the purchase of WaterSense products. It also includes tax parity for water conservation measures. If enacted There could be some considerable water conservation effects in Metropolitan’s service territory, grants could be used to increase rebate amounts for smart irrigation controllers and customers who receive rebates over \$600 will not be taxed.
Conservation	H.R. 6088 Gallego, D-AZ) S. 3282 (Kelly, R-WV)	11/30/21: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. 11/30/21: Referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.	Water Infrastructure Modernization Act of 2021 Authorizes a new grant program to help wastewater and drinking water systems detect leaks and reduce water loss.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill directly benefits Metropolitan and its member agencies by creating a grant program to help cover the costs for conveyance leak detection and reduce supplier-side water loss. It could be used for a variety of investments including smart water network technologies, real-time sensing technologies, real-time decision support, and advanced metering infrastructure.

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Federal Legislative Matrix
May 9, 2022 – 117th Congress, Second Session

Topic	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Endangered Species Act Oversight.	H.R. 866 (Calvert, R-CA)	3/3/21: Referred to the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans and Wildlife.	Federally Integrated Species Health Act or the “FISH Act” Transfers the authority to oversee ESA-related responsibilities for anadromous fish from the Secretary of Commerce to the Secretary of the Interior.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This would simplify ESA consultations by consolidating those functions/authorities to one federal agency (US Fish and Wildlife Service) rather than two under the current law (the second being National Marine Fisheries Service). This would directly benefit Metropolitan's interests in the Delta related to SWP operations and facilities, as well as Delta islands activities.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	H.R. 535 (Garamendi, D-CA) S. 91 (Sinema, D-AZ)	1/28/21: Referred to the House Committees on Oversight Reform and Financial Services. 1/28/21: Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.	Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act Allows special districts to access future federal funding to help offset costs associated with responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. It also defines special districts in federal statute for the first time.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	Metropolitan and some of its member agencies would qualify as special districts under the Act. If additional funds are allocated to states to help offset costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, special districts would be eligible to receive funding.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure	H.R. 1848 (Pallone, D-NJ)	11/15/21: Funding for PFAS removal and EPA’s State Revolving Funds included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58.	Leading Infrastructure for Tomorrow’s America Act or the LIFT America Act To rebuild and modernize the Nation's infrastructure, rehabilitate drinking water infrastructure, modernize the electric grid and energy supply infrastructure.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill would positively impact Metropolitan and its member agencies. It reauthorizes EPA’s drinking water state revolving loan fund and establishes a grant program to provide capital funding for PFAS remediation, and lead service line replacement. It creates DOE programs to provide funding for enhanced physical and cybersecurity, accelerate the use of renewable energy and transition to zero-emission vehicle fleets.

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Federal Legislative Matrix
May 9, 2022 – 117th Congress, Second Session

Topic	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	H.R. 1915 (DeFazio, D-OR)	11/19/21: Clean water SRF funding included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58. Other provisions included in House passed H.R. 5376 (Yarmuth, D-KY), Build Back Better Act.	Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2021 Authorizes \$50 billion in investment over 5 years for wastewater and stormwater infrastructure improvements.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by authorizing increased funding for EPA’s clean water state revolving fund and other wastewater and stormwater programs. It also authorizes \$1 billion in grants to implement treatment standards for PFAS and other emerging contaminants.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	H.R. 3282 (McKinley, R-WV)	5/17/21: Referred to the House Committees on Energy and Commerce and Transportation and Infrastructure.	Drinking Water Funding for the Future Act of 2021 To reauthorize funding for EPA drinking water programs under the Safe Drinking Water Act and America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by reauthorizing numerous EPA water infrastructure programs including the drinking water state revolving fund, WIFIA, the lead testing in school programs, and workforce development program.

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Federal Legislative Matrix
May 9, 2022 – 117th Congress, Second Session

Topic	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	H.R. 3404 (Huffman, D-CA)	5/21/21: Referred to the House Committees on Energy and Commerce, Judiciary, Natural Resources, Science, Space and Technology, and Transportation and Infrastructure.	Furthering Underutilized Technologies and Unleashing Responsible Expenditures (FUTURE) Western Water Infrastructure and Drought Resiliency Act The bill authorizes funding for water infrastructure projects, including storage, recycling, and desalination projects, in Reclamation states. It also creates a new Reclamation program to help underserved communities have access to drinking water, authorizes investments to improve the use of technology and data in water forecasting, provides tax parity for water conservation and efficiency measures, and authorizes habitat restoration funding.	SUPPORT AND AMEND Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	Metropolitan and its member agencies would benefit from numerous provisions in this bill including the additional funding for water recycling projects, tax parity for water conservation and efficiency measures, and new financing mechanism for water projects including habitat restoration and dam safety. Metropolitan is seeking amendments to ensure groundwater and surface storage projects have access to federal funding.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	H.R. 4099 (Napolitano, D-CA) S. 2334 (Cortez Masto, D-NV)	11/15/21: Included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58. 7/13/21: Referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	Large Scale Water Recycling Project Investment Act Directs the Secretary of the Interior to establish a competitive grant program for the planning, design, and construction of large-scale water recycling and reclamation projects that provide substantial water supply and other benefits to drought stricken regions within the Reclamation States.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill would benefit Metropolitan and our member agencies by authorizing a new Reclamation program to provide funding for the Regional Recycled Water Project and other large-scale recycled water projects. This new program would provide more federal financial assistance for recycled water projects than is available through the current Title XVI, water recycling program.

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Federal Legislative Matrix
May 9, 2022 – 117th Congress, Second Session

Topic	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	S. 479 (Wicker, R-MS)	2/25/21: Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.	Lifting Our Communities through Advance Liquidity for Infrastructure Act or the LOCAL Infrastructure Act To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reinstate advance refunding bonds	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	The ability to advance refund bonds on a tax-exempt basis would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by allowing municipal issuers to lower borrowing costs to take advantage of favorable interest rates.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	S.914 (Duckworth, D-IL)	4/29/21: Passed the Senate, 89-2. 11/15/21: Included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58.	Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021 Authorizes \$35 billion in investment over 5 years for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure improvements.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by authorizing increased funding for numerous EPA programs including the clean water and drinking water state revolving fund program, WIFIA, an infrastructure resiliency and sustainability program, and a grant program to remove lead service lines.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	S. 2454 (Padilla, D-CA)	7/22/21: Referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.	Water Reuse and Resiliency Act of 2021 Authorizes \$1 billion over five years for the EPA's Pilot Program for Alternative Water Source Projects grants program.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill would benefit Metropolitan and its member agency by authorizing increased funding for an EPA program to provide grants for water recycling and stormwater management projects.
Source Water Protection	H.R. 1881 (Garamendi, D-CA)	3/15/21: Referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment	Federal Water Pollution Control Permitting Terms Amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to permitting terms.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This legislation would extend the maximum term for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits issued under the Clean Water Act from 5 to 10 years, for public agencies that have demonstrated compliance with existing permit conditions. This changed is designed to better reflect the construction schedules for public agencies.

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Federal Legislative Matrix
May 9, 2022 – 117th Congress, Second Session

Topic	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Source Water Protection	H.R. 2008 (Craig, D-MN) S. 29 (Klobuchar, D-MN)	6/15/21: Passed the House, referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. 1/22/21: Referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.	Local Water Protection Act Amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act) to reauthorize through FY25 a grant program to help states manage nonpoint source water pollution or protect groundwater quality. Authorizes \$200 million per year for this program.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by providing funding to help address non-point source pollution. Pollutants commonly associated with non-point sources include nutrients and pesticides. According to EPA, more than 40 percent of all impaired waters were affected solely by nonpoint sources, while less than 10 percent of water quality criteria exceedances were caused by point source discharges alone.
Source Water Protection	H.R. 2682 (Crow, D-CO) S. 1248 (Bennet, D-CO)	6/15/21: Referred to the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry. 4/20/21: Referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	Outdoor Restoration Partnership Act Establishes a \$60 billion fund at the Treasury Department for use by the Secretary of Agriculture for restoration and resilience projects, wildfire risk reduction projects and habitat restoration projects.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by funding projects to improve watershed health. It creates a grant program for restoration and resilience projects to improve forest conditions, rangeland health, watershed functions, or wildlife habitat. Additional grants would provide funding for partnership projects to reduce wildfire risk, restore habitat, and expand access to the outdoors. State agencies, local and tribal governments, and special districts may use these funds along with partner organizations.

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Federal Legislative Matrix
May 9, 2022 – 117th Congress, Second Session

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

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Federal Legislative Matrix
May 9, 2022 – 117th Congress, Second Session

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

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Federal Legislative Matrix
May 9, 2022 – 117th Congress, Second Session

Topic	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Water Science	H.R. 4832 (Lee, D-NV) S. 2568 (Cortez-Mastro, D-NV)	11/5/21: Hearing held before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife. 7/29/21: Referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	Open Access Evapotranspiration Data Act Establishes the Open Access Evapotranspiration (OpenET) Data Program to provide satellite-based evapotranspiration data from across the western U.S. to Federal agencies, States, and Indian Tribes. Authorizes \$14 million per year for five years for this program.	SUPPORT Based on Board-adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	The OpenET platform is currently supported by NASA and private philanthropy. Dedicated federal funding and support will improve the quantification of evaporation and consumptive water use and help provide data users with field-scale estimates of evapotranspiration over user-defined time periods. This information will help Metropolitan measure consumptive water use in Palo Verde and throughout the Colorado River basin, including areas where there is currently little data available. Metropolitan could use this data to study water use trends, verify partner compliance with the terms of new and existing agricultural conservation programs, and measure the water supply benefits from such programs.

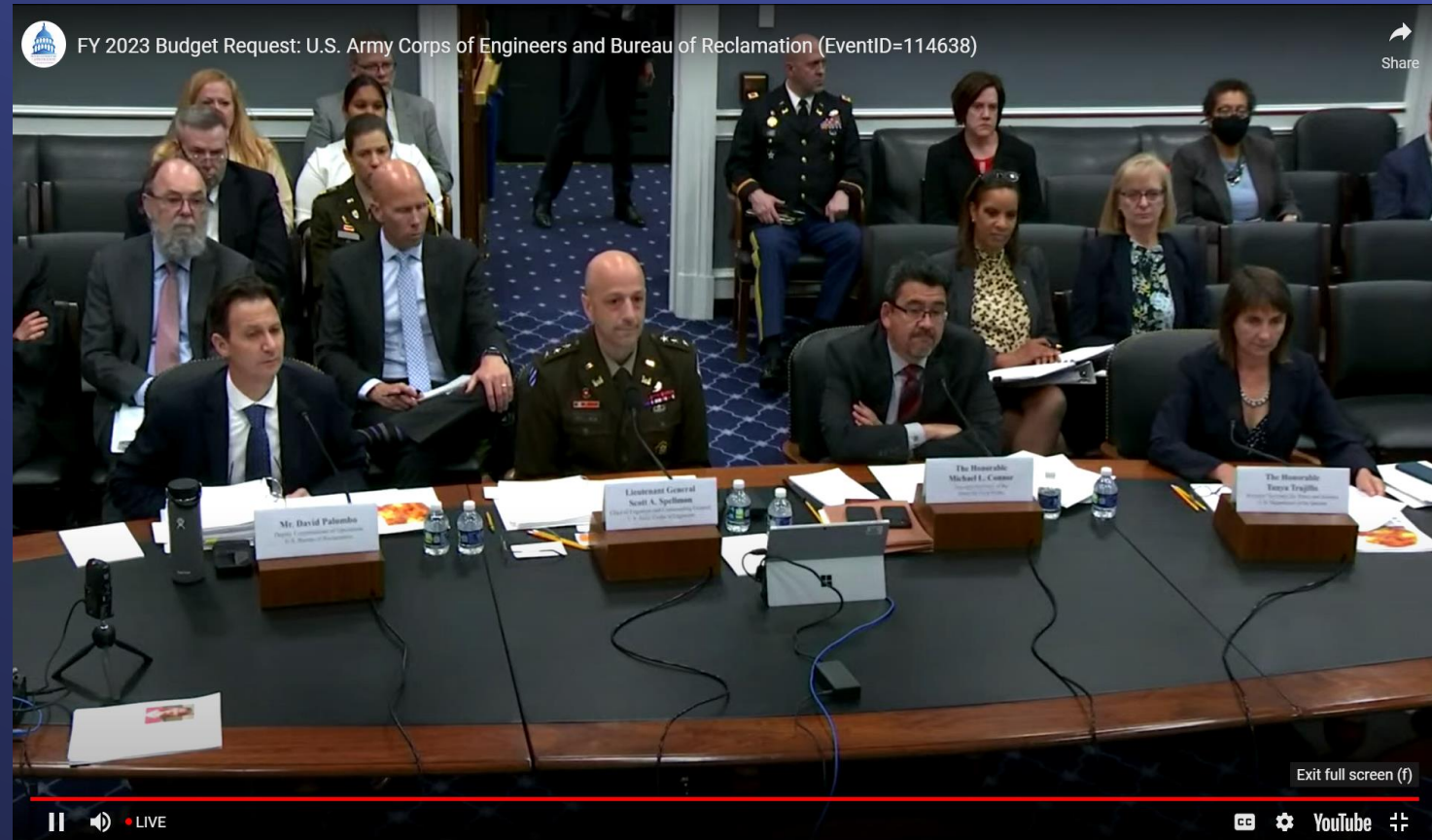


Communications & Legislation Committee

Report on Activities from Washington, D.C.

Item #6b
May 9, 2022

Appropriations.



Water Resources Development Act.



Senate Environment and Public Works Committee



Senator Tom Carper (D-DE)
Chairman

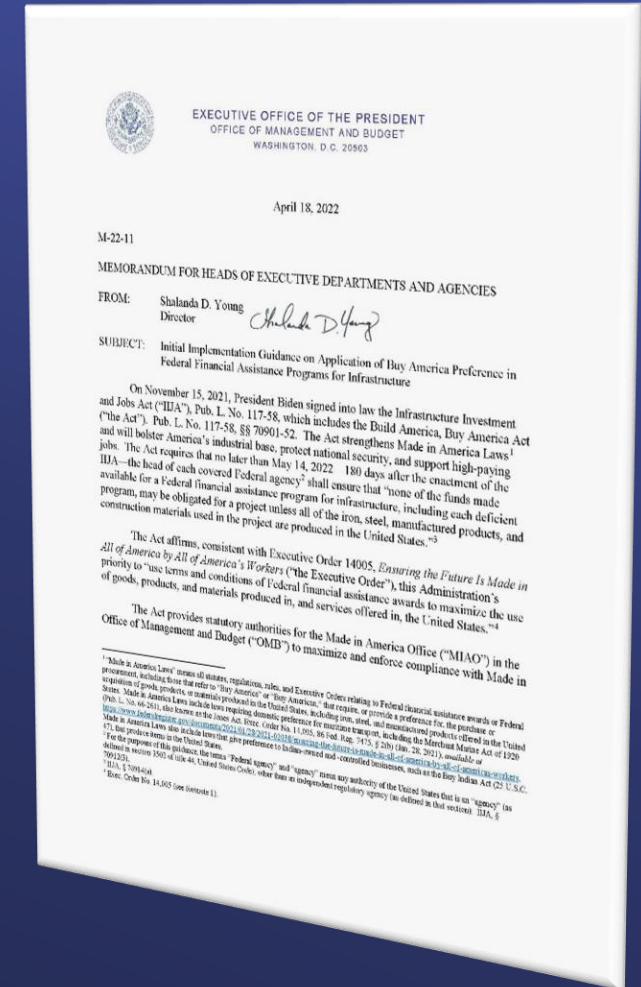


Senator Shelly Moore Capito
(R-WV)
Ranking Member

Build America, Buy America.



- All steel, iron, manufactured products, and construction material must be made in the United States
- Limited exemptions available
- Agency guidance by May 14th goes into effect on May 15th



Equity Action Plans.



Environmental Protection Agency

- Evaluate cumulative impacts of pollution
- Make EPA's procurement and contracting more equitable.
- Integrate community science into EPA's research and program implementation.

Department of Interior

- Increasing awareness of DOI's contracting and procurement process
- Help Tribes access grants
- Address barriers to recreation on Interior-managed lands and waters.



Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
State Legislative Matrix
May 5, 2022 – Second Year of Legislative Session

Topic	Bill Number Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on Metropolitan
Metropolitan-sponsored bills	SB 230 Portantino (D) Sponsors: Metropolitan and the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA)	Amended 1/20/2022 Assembly Desk	State Water Resources Control Board: Constituents of Emerging Concern Program Seeks to create a statewide program to identify and evaluate Constituents of Emerging Concern (CECs) in drinking water sources.	CO-SPONSOR Based on October 2019 Board Action	Metropolitan and CMUA are co-sponsoring legislation in response to growing public concern about CECs in drinking water. The bill would establish a five-year CEC Drinking Water Program at the State Water Resources Control Board. The program would set up a consistent and science-based approach for assessing the public health and drinking water consequences of CECs, with the intent to improve knowledge and future regulatory determinations. The bill excludes PFAS from the program of review and requires the State Water Board to present a final report to the Legislature. The recent amendments make implementation of a CEC Drinking Water Program contingent upon an appropriation by the Legislature.
Metropolitan-sponsored bills	AB 1845 Calderon (D) Sponsor: Metropolitan	Amended 4/4/2022 Assembly Appropriations Committee	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California: alternative project delivery methods Allows the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to use alternative project delivery methods for the design and construction of a Regional Recycling Water Program	SPONSOR	Metropolitan is limited to the traditional Design-Bid-Build method for delivery of public works construction contracts which can be inefficient and inflexible for large, time-sensitive, and complex projects like its Regional Recycled Water Program and emergency drought mitigation projects. The bill would amend the Public Contracting Code to permit Metropolitan to use Design-Build, Progressive Design-

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			and a limited set of drought-related projects.		Build, and Construction Manager/General Contractor. These methods have the potential to expedite construction of critical new water infrastructure projects and reduce their overall costs.
Delta/State Water Project	SB 832 Dodd (D) Sponsor: Author	Amended 4/6/2022 Senate Appropriations Committee – Suspense File	Water rights: measurement of diversion Clarifies existing law that a person diverting 10 acre-feet or more of water per year under a registration is subject to existing water diversion measurement, recording, and reporting requirements. Also, authorize the State Water Board to modify water diversion measurement requirements to allow open satellite data methods to estimate evapotranspiration if the board makes certain findings regarding use of water for irrigation.	SUPPORT Based upon Board-adopted 2022 Legislative Priorities and Principles	Metropolitan supports metering and reporting of diversions to prevent unlawful diversion of State Water Project supplies in the Delta and other locations that may lead to additional regulatory burdens. Metropolitan is installing meters on its Delta Islands to comply with existing statutory requirements. While OpenET would be a useful tool for water management and could be used as an indicator of unlawful diversions in the Delta, it is a new methodology for California. The bill requires the State Water Board to conduct a five-year study to determine the adequacy of evapotranspiration methods as a substitute for conventional metering methods to comply with State Water Board reporting requirements.
Governance	AB 2449 B. Rubio (D)	Introduced 2/17/2022	Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences	SUPPORT Based upon	Metropolitan currently hosts teleconferencing public meetings in accordance with Executive Order, N-29-20. AB 2449 allows the option to hold

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	Sponsor: Three Valleys Municipal Water District	Assembly Third Reading	Amends the Ralph M. Brown Act to allow a local agency to voluntarily use teleconferencing for public meetings during non-emergencies. Requires a quorum of the members meet in person at a noticed location that is open to the public and within the agency's jurisdiction. The bill prescribes requirements for this exception related to notice, agendas, means and manner of access, and procedures for disruptions. Requires procedures for receiving and swiftly resolving requests for reasonable accommodation for individuals with disabilities, consistent with federal law. Requires a quorum of the legislative body present at the location noticed on the agenda, an audio and video live-feed of the remote member of the legislative body during the meeting.	Board Action on 3/9/2021 on AB 703 (B. Rubio)	teleconferenced meetings into the future after the COVID-19 public health emergency is over and the Executive Order is lifted as long as a quorum of the Board's directors participate in person, give notice and post agendas as prescribed, ensure that directors attending meeting by teleconference participate through both audio and visual technology, and allow the public to address the Board in person or by teleconference. Waives the requirement to post an agenda at each teleconferenced location and assure public access to those locations. If there is a disruption to the call-in or streaming options, then no action can be taken by the board.
Regulatory Reform	AB 2313 Bloom (D) Sponsor: Author	Amended 4/27/2022 Assembly Appropriations Committee	Water: judges and adjudications Would require the Judicial Council on or before January 1, 2025 to establish a program that provides training and education to judges in specified actions relating to water	SUPPORT Based upon Board-adopted 2022 Legislative	Metropolitan's interests in enforcement of water quality law and water rights would be better served by judges, court staff, and special masters who have received training in the legal, scientific and technical issues involving water quality, water rights and water transfers.

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Topic	Bill Number Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on Metropolitan
			quality, groundwater, water transfers and water rights. Requires the Judicial Council to identify independent and nonpartisan experts in water issues who will be available to any judge adjudicating a water dispute and authorizes judges to appoint special masters in water cases to investigate technical and legal issues among other duties.	Priorities and Principles	
Water Bond Infrastructure Funding	SB 559 Hurtado (D) Sponsors: Friant Water Authority, San Luis & Delta Mendota Water Authority, and State Water Contractors	Amended 8/30/2021 Senate Inactive File Two-year bill	Department of Water Resources: water conveyance systems: Canal Conveyance Capacity Restoration Fund Establishes the Canal Conveyance Capacity Restoration Fund that would upon appropriation provide up to \$785 million in funding for the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to help pay for subsidence repairs to the State Water Project and Central Valley Project water conveyance systems and for necessary road and bridge upgrades.	WATCH Based upon Board adopted 2021 State Legislative Priorities and Principles	Portions of the California Aqueduct, the Friant Kern Canal and the Delta Mendota Canal have lost capacity due to subsidence. The Fund would upon appropriation provide funding to DWR to support a 10-year program to restore the capacity of the canals and ensure a more secure water supply. Funds could be used to cover one-third of the cost to restore the capacity of the canals. A federal companion bill is envisioned that would provide one-third the cost and local partners would contribute the remaining one-third of the cost. The creation of the Fund is contingent upon all the following: an appropriation of funds; an agreement is executed to provide for local cost share; and the provision of adequate cost share as determined by the DWR Director. The

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					August 8 Assembly Amendments are problematic causing the State Water Contractors and Metropolitan to withdraw support for the bill.
Water Conservation	AB 2142 Gabriel (D) Sponsor: Association of California Water Agencies	Amended 4/6/2022 Assembly Appropriations Committee	Income taxes: exclusion: turf replacement water conservation program. Would provide an exclusion from gross income for any amount received as a rebate, voucher or other financial incentive issued by a local water agency or supplier for participation in a turf replacement water conservation program during the taxable years of January 1, 2022 through January 1, 2027.	SUPPORT Based upon Board adopted 2022 Legislative Priorities and Principles	Metropolitan previously supported the Making Conservation a Way of Life legislation and is working hard to promote indoor and outdoor conservation. Conservation rebates are key to success. California law previously exempted turf rebates from taxable income, but those provisions were allowed to sunset in December 2019. This bill would reinstate an important tax exemption for turf replacement rebates from gross income in California, aligning it with certain other permanently exempt efficiency rebates.
Water Governance and Funding	AB 1195 C. Garcia (D) Sponsor: Author	Amended 5/24/2021 Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee Two-year bill	Drinking water. Requires the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to appoint a commissioner to implement the Safe and Affordable Fund for Equity and Resilience Program (SAFER Program) in Southern Los Angeles County.	OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED Based upon May 2021 Board Action	Seeks to address the needs of public water systems in Southern Los Angeles County struggling to provide safe and affordable retail water. The May 24, 2021 amendments limit the role of the commissioner to focus on implementation of the SAFER Program and create a pilot program with Los Angeles County LAFCO to extend service or consolidate struggling systems. Metropolitan is

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					seeking additional amendments to further clarify the role of the commissioner; strike a provision that grants the commissioner the authority to audit public water systems and bypass the public process created by the Legislature; and strike a section that would grant the State Water Board jurisdiction over decisions to transfer or abandon groundwater rights.
Water Quality	AB 1817 Ting (D) Sponsors: Breast Cancer Prevention Partners, Natural Resources Defense Council, and Clean Water Action	Amended 03/24/2022 Assembly Third Reading	Product safety: textile articles: perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS). Prohibits as of January 1, 2024, any person from distributing, selling, or offering for sale in California any textile articles that contain “regulated PFAS” as defined, and requires the manufacturer to use the least toxic alternative to regulated PFAS.	SUPPORT AND AMEND Based upon Board adopted 2022 Legislative Priorities and Principles	Metropolitan supports the removal or reduction of PFAS in manufactured products in order to protect source water quality. Metropolitan is seeking amendments to clarify that the bill applies to manufacturers and not state and local agencies and to change the term “regulated PFAS” to “detected PFAS” in consumer products and not drinking water.
Water Quality	AB 2247 Bloom (D) Sponsors:	Amended 4/20/2022	Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and PFAS products and product components: publicly accessible reporting platform.	SUPPORT AND AMENDED Based upon Board adopted 2022	Metropolitan supports the removal or reduction of PFAS in manufactured products to protect source water quality. Metropolitan is seeking an

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	Environmental Working Group, Clean Water Action, and California Association of Sanitation Agencies	Assembly Appropriations Committee	Requires the Department of Toxic Substances Control to develop a publicly accessible reporting platform to collect information about PFAS and products containing PFAS by January 1, 2024. By March 1, 2024, manufactures will be required to register the PFAS or product on the reporting platform.	Legislative Priorities and Principles	amendment to change “regulated PFAS” to “detected PFAS” and to clarify the bill applies to consumer products and not drinking water.
Water quality	AB 2771 Friedman (D) Sponsors: Environmental Working Group, Breast Cancer Prevention Partners, The California Public Research Group (CALPIRG)	Amended 4/18/2022 Assembly Third Reading	Cosmetic products: safety Prohibits a person or entity from manufacturing, selling, delivering, holding, or offering for sale in commerce any cosmetic product that contains PFAS.	SUPPORT Based upon Board adopted 2022 Legislative Priorities and Principles	Metropolitan supports the removal or reduction of PFAS in manufactured products to protect source water quality.

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