The Metropolitan Water District Agenda of Southern California 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. **Communications and Legislation** Monday, October 10, 2022 C&L Committee **Meeting Schedule** G. Cordero, Chair Committee C. Kurtz, Vice Chair 09:30 a.m. F&I J. Abdo Meeting with Board of Directors * 10:30 a.m. E&O L. Ackerman 01:00 p.m. C&L D. Erdman October 10, 2022 02:00 p.m. IW A. Kassakhian M. Luna 1:00 p.m. J. Morris G. Peterson T. Quinn Live streaming is available for all board and committee meetings on R. Record mwdh2o.com (Click Here) H. Repenning T. Smith A listen only phone line is also available at 1-877-853-5257; enter meeting ID: 831 5177 2466. Members of the public may present their comments to the Committee on matters within the committee's jurisdiction as listed on the agenda via in-person or teleconference. To participate via teleconference (833) 548-0276 and enter meeting ID: 815 2066 4276.

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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.

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 <u>21-1569</u> Legislation Committee held September 12, 2022

Attachments: 10102022 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 outreach and research for Pure Water Southern <u>21-1568</u> California

Attachments: 10102022 CL 6a Presentation

 b. Report on activities from Washington, D.C. <u>21-1590</u>
 <u>Attachments</u>: <u>10102022 CL 6b Federal Legislative Matrix</u> <u>10102022 CL 6b Presentation</u>
 c. Report on activities from Sacramento <u>21-1589</u>

Attachments: <u>10102022 CL 6c Presentation</u> <u>10102022 CL 6c State Legislative Matrix</u>

7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

a. External Affairs Management Report <u>21-1570</u>

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

NONE

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

10. ADJOURNMENT

Communications and Legislation Committee

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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

September 12, 2022

Chair Cordero called the teleconference meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

Members present: Chair Cordero, Vice Chair Kurtz, Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Erdman, Luna, Morris, Peterson, Quinn (entered after roll call), Record and Smith.

Members absent: Directors Kassakhian, and Repenning.

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

Committee Staff present: Hagekhalil, Zinke, Stites, Sims, and Novoa.

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 August 15, 2022.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

None

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

The vote was:

Ayes:	Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Cordero, Erdman, Kurtz, Luna, Morris, Peterson, Quinn, Record, and Smith.
Noes:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	Directors Kassakhian and Repenning

The motion passed by a vote of 11 ayes, 0 noes, abstain, and 2 absent.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

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4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION

None

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

a.	Subject:	Update on Water Conservation Advertising Campaign						
	Presented by:	Sue Sims, External Affairs Group Manager						
	outreach campai	Ms. Sims provided a presentation on the execution of Board-authorized media and outreach campaign to increase public awareness about drought, the need for more conservation and rebate information.						
	The following D	Directors provided a comment or asked a question:						
	1. Luna	1. Luna						
	Staff responded	to the Directors' comments or questions.						
c.	Subject:	Report on activities from Sacramento.						
	Presented by:	Kathy Viatella, Executive Legislative Representative						
	on policy bills, l	Ms. Viatella provided a oral report on activities from Sacramento including an update on policy bills, legislative calendar, the FY 2022/23 state budget, drought and water resilience funding.						
	The following D	The following Directors provided a comment or asked a question:						
	1. Luna							

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

a. Subject: External Affairs Management Report

Presented by: Sue Sims, External Affairs Group Manager

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Ms. Sims provided an update on the Upper Feeder repair shutdown and a highlights reel of that event.

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Next meeting will be held on October 10, 2022.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Gloria Cordero Chair



Communications and Legislation Committee

Update on Outreach and Research for Pure Water Southern California

Item 6-a October 10, 2022

Research on Public Attitudes in Project Area

Conducted four focus groups, an online QualBoard, and a survey = 1,000+ participants

Only 13% of participants drink tap water straight from tap Most had no idea where their drinking water came from Residents are most comfortable with using recycled water for non-potable uses (80% acceptable) versus as drinking water (36% acceptable)

Acceptance levels had dropped significantly since last survey conducted in 2017

October 10, 2022

Support for Pure Water Southern California

After reading a description of the program to participants, nearly ³/₄ support the program



October 10, 2022

Communications and Legislation Committee

Identifying Persuadable Residents





One-quarter of residents become at least one degree more supportive after messaging.



Nearly two in five residents support the program after initially saying potable reuse was "unacceptable."

Messages that Resonate

Messages ranked by most convincing



Qualitative Research

Interviewed Community-Based Organizations

Survey participants rated community organizations of which they are members as their most trusted source of information

What the organizations shared:

- Inflation and cost of living is front of mind
- Go to people; don't expect them to come to you
- Language justice is important
- Trust takes time

Enhance Program Brand and Messages

Outreach Activities



Share Information About Program and Public Scoping Period

Outreach to Support Scoping Period

Notice of Preparation released on Sept. 30, beginning a 45-day scoping period for public comment





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Webpage

Scoping Process

NOW IN WITHOUT

Outreach to Support Scoping Period

Meet People Where They Are

- Opportunities to Comment and Learn More at Community Events
- Partnerships with Community-Based Organizations



Communications and Legislation Committee

Outreach to Support Scoping Period



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For

Visit

www

Where Can

I Get More

Information?

Please visit our website at

You may also email us at purewater@mwdh2o.com or call 213-217-7262.

www.mwdh2o.com/purewater





Communications and Legislation Committee

Get Involved

Item # 6a Slide 10 ¹⁶





Торіс	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.

Торіс	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 benefits 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.

Торіс	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Conservation	H.R. 7847 (McNerney, D-CA) S.4279 (Padilla, D-CA)	7/29/22: Passed the House as part of H.R.5118, the Wildfire Response and Drought Resiliency Act5/19/22: Referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee	Water Efficiency, Conservation, and Sustainability Act of 2022 Creates new EPA grant programs for water efficiency and conservation measures, water loss control programs, and water efficient plumbing code adoption.	SUPPORT Based on Board- adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill directly benefits Metropolitan and its member agencies by creating new grant programs to help both water agencies and consumers reduce water loss. The new programs will supplement on-going work by Metropolitan and its member agencies and promote water conservation throughout Metropolitan's service territory.
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.

Торіс	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
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.
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.

Торіс	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 mechanisms 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	H.R. 4099 (Napolitano, D-CA)	11/15/21: Included in the Infrastructure	Large Scale Water Recycling Project Investment Act	SUPPORT	This bill would benefit Metropolitan and our member
Infrastructure Projects	(Napontano, D-CA) S. 2334 (Cortez Masto, D-NV)	In the fill astructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58. 5/25/22: Hearing held before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power.	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.	Based on Board- adopted January 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities	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.

Торіс	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	H.R. 7776 (DeFazio, D-OR) S. 4136 (Carper, D-DE)	 6/9/22: Passed House 6/08/22, 392-28. 5/04/22: Approved by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. 	Water Resources Development Act of 2022 Authorizes U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to carry out water resources development projects and studies; and provides policy direction to the Corps for implementation of its civil works mission.	SUPPORT Based on Board- adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	While this bill does not impact Metropolitan directly, it authorizes projects and feasibility studies for some of our member agencies. Additionally, there are several provisions that could be beneficial to Metropolitan including a study of Corps reservoirs in arid Western states to evaluate opportunities to improve water supply, respond to drought, and prepare for climate change.
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.

Торіс	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
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 2021Authorizes \$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 agencies by authorizing increased funding for an EPA program to provide grants for water recycling and stormwater management projects.
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	S. 4231 (Feinstein, D-CA)	5/25/22: Hearing held before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power.	Support To Rehydrate the Environment, Agriculture, and Municipalities Act" or the "STREAM Act Authorizes funding for a variety of Bureau of Reclamation infrastructure investments including storage, water recycling, desalination, and ecosystem restoration projects for 5 years. It also authorizes a new assistance to provide drinking water to disadvantaged communities and creates a new low interest loan program to help finance western water projects.	SUPPORT Based on Board- adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill would benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by providing more funding for water infrastructure projects and ecosystem restoration projects. For example, the bill would accelerate the development of local water recycling projects by authorizing \$300 million for the Title XVI- WIIN water reuse grants program and raising the per-project funding cap from \$20 million to \$50 million. Additionally, the bill authorizes \$250 million for environmental restoration projects, including helping imperiled species adapt to climate change. This new program could support Metropolitan's science projects in the Delta.

Торіс	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Financing Tools for Water Infrastructure Projects	S. 4494 (Cortez-Mastro, D-NV)	6/23/22: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	Facilitating Large-Scale Water Recycling and Reuse Projects Act Amends the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to provide for an additional authorization of	SUPPORT Based on Board- adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative	This bill permanently establishes Reclamation's large-scale recycling water program. This change will allow Metropolitan to better utilize the program to help fund the Pure Water Southern California project.
	H.R. 8434 (Lee, D-NV)	7/29/22: Passed the House as part of H.R.5118, the Wildfire Response and Drought Resiliency Act.	appropriations for the large-scale recycled water program and repeal the termination of authority for that program.	Priorities	The Senate bill authorizes an additional \$500 million for the program, the House bill authorizes an additional \$700 million.
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 (Clean Water 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 change is designed to better reflect the construction schedules for public agencies.

Торіс	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.

Торіс	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Source Water Protection	H.R. 3534 (Panetta, D-CA)	7/7/21: Referred to the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.	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,
	S. 2806 Feinstein, D-CA)	10/21/21: Hearing held before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.			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.

Торіс	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Updates.	H.R. 1563 (Garcia, R-CA)	4/21/21: Referred to the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans and Wildlife.	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)	 6/8/21: Referred to the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife. 5/25/22: Hearing held before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power. 	Canal Conveyance Capacity Restoration Act 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.
Water Project Authorizations	H.R. 8849 (Harder, D-CA)	9/16/22: Referred to the House Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.	Stop the Tunnels Act Prohibits the Corps of Engineers from issuing a permit for the Delta Conveyance Project.	OPPOSE Based on Board- adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	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.

Торіс	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. 6/7/22: Hearing held before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining. 	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.
Water Science	H.R. 1437 (Sherrill, D-NJ) S. 3053 (Booker, D-NJ)	 5/11/22: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, (333-81). 5/11/22: Reported out favorably from the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. 	Providing Research and Estimates of Changes in Precipitation Act or PRECIP Act Requires the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to update its precipitation frequency estimates at least every five years and better incorporate climate change into its precipitation modeling.	SUPPORT Based on Board- adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	This bill will benefit Metropolitan and its member agencies by improving storm forecasting. Better storm forecasting helps with supply and demand management.

Торіс	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Water Science	H.R. 7289 (Fletcher, D-TX) S.4492 (Peters, D-MI)	 7/27/22: Passed the House, referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. 6/23/22: Referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. 	Federal PFAS Research Evaluation Act Directs the National Academy of Sciences to study and report on a Federal research agenda to advance the understanding of PFAS.	SUPPORT Based on Board- adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	Metropolitan supports research studies to understand the occurrence of PFAS in the environment. This bill directs the National Academy of Sciences to conduct studies to determine the research efforts needed to further the understanding of human exposure to, and toxicity of PFAS, as well as treatment of PFAS contamination in the environment, and the development of safe alternatives to PFAS.
Water Science	H.R. 7792 (Stansbury, D-NM) S. 4236 (Heinrich, D-NM)	 7/29/22: Passed the House as part of H.R.5118, the Wildfire Response and Drought Resiliency Act 5/25/22: Hearing held before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power. 	Water Data Act Creates a national water data council composed of department heads of Federal agencies with water-related activities and directs the council to develop a national water data framework. Authorizes a water data grant program at the Department of Interior.	SUPPORT Based on Board- adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	The Water Data Act is a national version of California's 2016 AB 1755 – Open and Transparent Water Data Act. Metropolitan supported AB 1755 and the development of the California Water Data Consortium.

Торіс	Bill / Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on MWD
Water Science	H.R. 8090 (Porter, D-CA)	7/29/22: Passed the House as part of H.R.5118, the Wildfire Response and Drought Resiliency Act.	To reauthorize funding for the Reclamation Climate Change and Water Program Extends the authorization for Reclamation's basin studies program for ten years.	SUPPORT Based on Board- adopted January 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities	The Basin studies bring together technical experts, state and local water managers, conservation groups, and other stakeholders to assess water supply and demand imbalances at the river basin level. This benefits Metropolitan and its member agencies by ensuring consistent operations using science and awareness of the. In addition to the Colorado River basin, Reclamation has conducted these studies in other watersheds across the West including the Los Angeles and Santa Ana basins in Metropolitan's service area and the Sacramento-San Joaquin system.



Communications & Legislation Committee Report on Activities from Washington, D.C.

Item 6b October 10, 2022

Congressional Schedule.

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- The House and Senate are adjourned for the October recess.
- Not scheduled to return until after the November election.

Appropriations.



- Federal fiscal year ended on September 30
- Continuing resolution funding government at FY 22 levels until December 16 enacted

House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee.



The Clean Water Act at Fifty: Highlights and Lessons Learned from a Half Century of Transformative Legislation



Chairwoman Grace Napolitano



Joaquin Esquivel, Chair State Water Resources Control Board, CA
House Homeland Security Committee.



Critical Infrastructure Preparedness and Resilience: A Focus on Water



Chairman Bennie Thompson





Communications & Legislation Committee Report on Activities from Sacramento End of Year Review

Item 6c October 10, 2022

Year in Review:

2022 Bills

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2,055 bills introduced

- 672 by Senate
- 1,383 by Assembly
- Governor signed 997 bills and vetoed 169
- 38l Senate; 6l6 Assembly signed
- Veto rate 14.5 %

Year in Review: Sponsored Bills • AB 1845 (Calderon): MWD: alternative project delivery methods – chaptered

• SB 230 (Portantino): SWRCB: CECs in Drinking Water Program – chaptered

Year in Review: Delta/SWP • SB 832 (Dodd) Water rights: measurement of diversion – held on suspense

• SB 1020 (Laird): Clean Energy, Jobs and Affordability Act of 2022 – chaptered

Year in Review: Governance • SB 991 (Newman): Public contracts: progressive design build: local agencies – chaptered

• AB 2449 (Rubio): Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences – chaptered

Year in Review: Regulatory Reform • AB 2313 (Bloom): Water: judges and adjudications – held on suspense

• SB 1065 (Eggman): California Abandoned and Derelict Commercial Vessel Program – vetoed

Year in Review: Water Conservation

- AB 2l42 (Gabriel): Income taxes: exclusion: turf replacement water conservation program – chaptered
- SB ll57 (Hertzberg): Urban water use objective chaptered*

* Not on Metropolitan's State Legislative Matrix of bills with positions

Year in Review: Water Quality

- AB 1817 (Ting): Product safety: textile articles: perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl chaptered
- AB 2771 (Friedman): Cosmetic products: safety chaptered
- AB 2247 (Bloom): Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and PFAS products and product components: publicly accessible reporting platform – vetoed

Year in Review: Water Quality, cont'd

- AB 2108 (R. Rivas): Water policy: environmental justice: disadvantaged and tribal communities chaptered
- SB ll24 (Archuleta): Public health goal: primary drinking water standard: manganese held on suspense

Year in Review: Affordability

 SB 222 (Dodd): Water Rate Assistance Programvetoed*

* Not on Metropolitan's State Legislative Matrix of bills with positions

Year in Review: Water & Drought Resilience Funding • AB 178 (Ting): The Budget Act of 2022 – chaptered

• AB 211 (Committee on Budget): Public resources trailer bill – chaptered

Funding: Drought Resilience

Drought Resilience (AB 180)		\$3	00 M Prog
Department of Water Resources		2022 Urban	
Urban Water Drought Relief & Conservation	\$275 M	Community Drought Relief Grant Program	
Turf Replacement	\$75 M	Draft Guidelines and	
Metropolitan's Infrastructure Improvements	\$50 M	Proposal Solicitation Package	
Total FY 2022-23	\$400 M	Published: August 2022	

Funding: DWR Urban Community Drought Relief



Examples of Eligible Project Types

- Turf replacement
- Education/outreach, direct install, rebates and other activities to conserve water
- Drought resilience planning
- Emergency water interties
- New wells or rehabilitation of existing wells
- Permanent connection to adjacent water systems, recycled water projects, and other projects that provide immediate drought response

California Legislature: Key Dates

- General Election Nov. 3
- Two-Year session starts Dec. 5
- Bill introduction deadline mid-February



Торіс	Bill Number Author	Status	Title – Summary	MWD Position	Effects on Metropolitan
Metropolitan-	SB 230	Amended	State Water Resources Control	CO-SPONSOR	Metropolitan and water agencies will
sponsored bills	Portantino (D)	8/23/2022	Board: Constituents of		benefit from State Water Board efforts
	Sponsors: Metropolitan and the California Municipal Utilities Association	CHAPTERED	Emerging Concern in Drinking Water Program Seeks to expand statewide knowledge of Constituents of Emerging Concern (CECs) in waters of the state and drinking	Based on October 2019 Board Action	to ensure CECs are addressed in a methodical and science-based manner, which will ultimately better protect public health. The bill would require the State Water Board to build its knowledge of CECs in drinking water and authorizes the Deputy Director to convene a Science Advisory Panel to
	(CMUA)		water and recommend CECs for		review and provide information on
	· · · ·		further regulatory action.		CECs for further regulatory action.
Metropolitan- sponsored bills	AB 1845 Calderon (D) Sponsor: Metropolitan	Amended 8/15/2022 CHAPTERED	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California: alternative project delivery methods Allows Metropolitan to use alternative project delivery methods for the design and construction of Pure Water Southern California and a limited set of emergency drought mitigation projects.	SPONSOR Based on October 2021 Board Action	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 Pure Water Southern California and emergency drought mitigation projects. Alternative delivery methods such as Design-Build, Progressive Design-Build, and Construction Manager/General Contractor 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 Held in	Water rights: measurement of diversionClarifies 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. Authorizes the State Water Board to modify	SUPPORT Based upon Board-adopted 2022 Legislative Priorities and Principles	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
		Committee	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.		substitute for conventional metering methods to comply with State Water Board reporting requirements.
Delta/State Water Project	SB 1020 Laird (D) Sponsor: Author	Amended 8/29/2022 CHAPTERED	Clean Energy, Jobs, and Affordability Act of 2022 Establishes interim targets to the statewide 100 percent clean energy goal. Additionally, requires state agencies including the State Water Project to accelerate their 100 percent clean energy goal to 2035.	WATCH Based on August 2022 Board Action	The bill as amended on August 29 now requires the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to accelerate the procurement of renewable resources to power the State Water Project with 100 percent clean energy by 2035. DWR estimates the cost to be \$1.2 billion rather than \$3.3 billion when the bill, as introduced, set a target date of 2030. Metropolitan and the State Water Contractors lifted their opposition after our amendments were

					adopted. The cost to Metropolitan is less but still significant.
Design-Build	SB 991 Newman (D) Sponsors: Water Collaborative Delivery Association (formerly Design Build Council)	Amended 8/11/2022 CHAPTERED	Public contracts: progressive design-build: local agencies Authorize local water and wastewater agencies to each use the progressive design-build (PDB) project delivery method for up to 15 public works projects each in excess of \$5 million.	SUPPORT Based on April 2022 Board Action	SB 991 will benefit water agencies, including Metropolitan, by providing the option to use the Progressive Design-Build delivery method, which allows for greater collaboration between the project owner and the contractor through the design and construction phase thereby reducing project costs, risk, and schedules.
Governance	AB 2449 B. Rubio (D) Sponsor: Three Valleys Municipal Water District	Amended 8/8/2022 CHAPTERED	Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences Amends the Ralph M. Brown Act to allow local agencies until January 1, 2026 to use teleconferencing during non- emergencies without noticing their teleconference locations and making them publicly accessible under certain conditions.	SUPPORT Based on April 2021 Board Action	AB 2449 would allow Metropolitan to hold teleconferenced meetings after the COVID-19 public health emergency ends and the Executive Order is lifted if a quorum of the Board's directors participate in person; give notice and post agendas as prescribed; ensure that directors attending meeting participate through both audio and visual technology; and allow the public to address the Board in person or by teleconference. 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 6/30/2022 Senate Appropriations Committee – Suspense File Held in Committee	Water: judges and adjudications Authorizes the Judicial Council of California to establish a program that provides training and education to judges in technical, scientific, legal, management, and infrastructure actions relating to water.	SUPPORT Based upon Board-adopted 2022 Legislative Priorities and Principles	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.
Regulatory Reform	SB 1065 Eggman (D) Sponsor: Author	Amended 8/23/2022 VETOED	California Abandoned and Derelict Commercial Vessel Program Establishes the California Abandoned and Derelict Commercial Vessel Program within the Natural Resources Agency to bring federal, state, and local agencies together to identify, prioritize and, upon appropriation, fund the removal of abandoned and derelict commercial vessels from commercially navigable waters.	SUPPORT Based upon Board-adopted 2022 Legislative Priorities and Principles	SB 1065 will benefit water quality in the Bay Delta as abandoned and derelict vessels may cause sewage contamination and leakage of fuels and lubricants. Studies have shown that abandoned and derelict vessels are one of the stressors to the Delta and its species. SB 1065 would also provide protection to Metropolitan properties in the Delta in the event any vessel happens to be abandoned in any of the waters surrounding Metropolitan's Delta Islands.

Water	AB 2142	Amended	Income taxes: exclusion: turf	SUPPORT	California law previously exempted
Conservation	Gabriel (D)	4/6/2022	replacement water conservation program.		turf rebates from taxable income, but those provisions were allowed to
	Sponsors:			Based upon	sunset in December 2019. This bill
	Association of	CHAPTERED	Would provide an exclusion from gross income for any amount	Board adopted 2022 Legislative	would reinstate an important tax exemption for turf replacement rebates
	California Water		received as a rebate, voucher or	Priorities and	from gross income in California,
	Agencies		other financial incentive issued by a local water agency or supplier	Principles	aligning it with certain other permanently exempt efficiency
	California Water		for participation in a turf		rebates.
	Efficiency		replacement water conservation		
	Partnership		program during the taxable years of January 1, 2022 through		
	WaterNow		January 1, 2027.		
	Alliance				
Water Quality	AB 1817	Amended	Product safety: textile articles:	SUPPORT	Metropolitan supports the removal or
	Ting (D)	8/24/2022	perfluoroalkyl and		reduction of PFAS in manufactured
	Sponsors:		polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS).	Based upon	products in order to protect source water quality.
	Breast Cancer	CHAPTERED	Prohibits as of January 1, 2025,	Board adopted	water quanty.
	Prevention		any person from manufacturing,	2022 Legislative	
	Partners		distributing, selling, or offering	Priorities and	
			for sale in California any textile	Principles	
	Natural		articles that contain "regulated		
	Resources Defense Council		PFAS" as defined, and requires the manufacturer to use the least		
	Defense Council		toxic alternative to regulated		
	Clean Water		PFAS.		
	Action				

Water Quality	AB 2108	Amended	Water policy: environmental	WATCH	Some provisions in the bill are
	R. Rivas (D)	8/25/2022	justice: disadvantaged and		ambiguous in ways that could be
			tribal communities.	Based on	interpreted to authorize and require the
	Sponsor:			July 2022	State Board to reallocate water rights,
		CHAPTERED	Requires the State Board and	Board Action	including in the Bay-Delta watershed,
	California		each regional board to begin		to address injustices or inequities,
	Coastkeeper		addressing issues of		jeopardizing the current and future
	Alliance		environmental justice and social		Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan
			equity as early as possible in		update processes and potentially
			project planning processes and		diminishing State Water Project
			when issuing waste discharge		supplies. Author did not accept
			permits or updating state or		Metropolitan's requested amendments.
			regional water quality control		
			plans or policies.		
Water Quality	AB 2247	Amended	Perfluoroalkyl and	SUPPORT	Information about PFAS and products
	Bloom (D)	8/25/2022	polyfluoroalkyl substances		containing PFAS will help inform
			(PFAS) and PFAS products and	Based upon	state and local decision making
	Sponsors:		product components: publicly	Board adopted	regarding PFAS management in order
		VETOED	accessible reporting platform.	2022 Legislative	to protect source water quality.
	Environmental			Priorities and	
	Working Group		Requires a manufacturer of PFAS	Principles	
			or of a product containing		
	Clean Water		intentionally added PFAS to		
	Action		register on or before July 1, 2026		
			and every year thereafter the		
	California		PFAS or the product containing		
	Association of		PFAS on a publicly accessible		
	Sanitation		data collection website		
	Agencies		implemented by the Department		

			of Toxic Substances and an existing multi-state chemical data collection entity.		
Water quality	AB 2771 Friedman (D) Sponsors: Environmental Working Group Breast Cancer Prevention Partners The California Public Research Group (CALPIRG)	Amended 6/13/2022 CHAPTERED	Cosmetic products: safety Prohibits as of January 1, 2025, any 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.
Water Quality	SB 1124 Archuleta (D) Sponsor: Author	Amended 6/23/2022 Assembly Appropriations Committee –	Public health goal: primary drinking water standard: manganese Requires, on or before July 1, 2023, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard	OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED Based upon Board adopted 2022 Legislative	Metropolitan supports efforts to ensure all communities have a safe and reliable water supply by setting drinking water standards through the normal regulatory process. The bill circumvents that process and could compromise a rigorous scientific
		Suspense File	Assessment (OEHHA) to prepare a public health goal for	Priorities and Principles	process backed by data and stakeholder engagement.

Held in Committee	manganese. Requires the state board, after OEHHA publishes a public health goal for manganese, to adopt a primary drinking water		
	standard.		