



San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

AGENDA AND NOTICE OF THE MEETING OF THE WATER POLICY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, October 11, 2022, 10:00 AM

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89388464599>

Livestream Link: <https://youtu.be/ErhMkZtuQFs>

Water Policy Chair

Gloria Crudgington
City of Monrovia

Vice-Chair

Jennifer Stark
City of Claremont

MEMBERS

Claremont
Glendora
Monrovia
Rosemead
South Pasadena
TVMWD
USGVMWD

Water Working Group Chair

Alex Tachiki
City of Monrovia

Vice Chair

Tom Love
USGVMWD

MEMBERS

Alhambra
Bradbury
Covina
Glendora
Monrovia
Pomona
Sierra Madre
LA County DPW
TVMWD
SGVMWD
USGVMWD

EX-OFFICIO

LA County Sanitation
Districts
SG Basin
Watermaster

Thank you for participating in today's meeting. The Water Committee encourages public participation and invites you to share your views on agenda items.

MEETINGS: *Regular Meetings of the Water Committee are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 AM at the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District Offices (602 E. Huntington Drive, Suite B Monrovia, CA 91016).* The agenda packet is available at the San Gabriel Valley Council of Government's (SGVCOG) Office, 1000 South Fremont Avenue, Suite 10210, Alhambra, CA, and on the website, www.sgvkog.org. Copies are available via email upon request (sgv@sgvcog.org). Documents distributed to a majority of the Committee after the posting will be available for review in the SGVCOG office and on the SGVCOG website. Your attendance at this public meeting may result in the recording of your voice.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Your participation is welcomed and invited at all Water Committee meetings. Time is reserved at each regular meeting for those who wish to address the Committee. SGVCOG requests that persons addressing the Committee refrain from making personal, slanderous, profane or disruptive remarks.

TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE: At a regular meeting, the public may comment on any matter within the jurisdiction of the SGVCOG during the public comment period at the beginning of the agenda, on any item(s) that is on the Consent Calendar prior to action taken on the Consent Calendar, and on any other agenda item prior to the time it is considered by the Committee. At a special meeting, the public may only comment on items that are on the agenda. Members of the public are requested to state their name prior to speaking, and comments are limited to a maximum of three minutes per person. The Committee Chair may impose additional time limits if comments become repetitious, an individual member of the public seeks to speak on numerous items, or a large number of members of the public seek to speak on an item. The Committee may not take action on items not on the agenda and is restricted in discussing items on the agenda.

AGENDA ITEMS: The Agenda contains the regular order of business of the Water Committee. Items on the Agenda have generally been reviewed and investigated by the staff in advance of the meeting so that the Committee can be fully informed about a matter before making its decision.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Items listed on the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and will be acted upon by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Committee member so requests. In this event, the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered after the Consent Calendar.



In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the SGVCOG office at (626) 457-1800. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the SGVCOG to make reasonable arrangement to ensure accessibility to this meeting.



MEETING MODIFICATIONS DUE TO THE STATE AND LOCAL EMERGENCY RESULTING FROM THE THREAT OF COVID-19:

AB 361 (Rivas), signed by California Governor Gavin Newsom on September 16, 2021, authorizes local agencies to hold public meetings via teleconferencing and allows for members of the public to observe and address the meeting telephonically or electronically to promote social distancing due to the state and local emergency resulting from the threat of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

To follow the new provisions in AB 361 and ensure the safety of Committee Members and staff for the purpose of limiting the risk of COVID-19, in-person public participation at the Water Policy Committee and Working Group meeting scheduled for June 14, 2022 will not be allowed. To allow for public participation, the Water Policy Committee and Working Group will conduct its meeting through Zoom Video Communications. To participate in the meeting, download Zoom on any phone or computer device and copy and paste the following link into your browser to access the live meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89388464599>. You may also access the meeting via the livestream link on the front of the agenda page.

Instructions for Public Comments: For those wishing to make public comments on agenda and non-agenda items, but within the SGVCOG's subject matter jurisdiction, you may submit written comments via email or provide a verbal comment by participating through Zoom.

- Written Comments (Email): If you wish to submit written public comments to be distributed to the committee members prior to or during the meeting, please submit these materials via email to Brianne Logasa at blogasa@sgvcog.org at least 1 hour prior to the scheduled meeting time. Please indicate in the Subject Line of the email "FOR PUBLIC COMMENT." Emailed public comments will be read into the record and will be part of the recorded meeting minutes. Written public comments may include, but are not limited to letters, reports, and presentations. While there is no page or word count limit for written comments, the time for reading written public comments into the record will be limited to three minutes, which is the same time allotted for verbal comments.
- Verbal Comments (Zoom): Through Zoom, you may provide a verbal comment by using the web interface "Raise Hand" feature. Wait to be called upon by staff, and then you may provide verbal comments for up to 3 minutes. Public comment is taken at the beginning of the meeting for items not on the agenda. Public comment is also accepted at the beginning of each agenda item.

Any member of the public requiring reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact Brianne Logasa at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at (626) 457-1800 or at blogasa@sgvcog.org.

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment
4. Changes to Agenda Order: Identify emergency items arising after agenda posting and requiring action prior to next regular meeting.

CONSENT CALENDAR *(It is anticipated that the Water Committee may act on the following matters)*

5. SGVCOG Capital Projects and Construction Committee, Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, Homelessness Committee, Transportation Committee, and Water Committee Special Joint Meeting Minutes – 9/15/2022 **(Page 5)**
Recommended Action: Approve
6. Water Policy Committee/TAC Meeting Minutes – 9/13/2022 **(Page 8)**
Recommended Action: Approve
7. Adoption of Resolution 22-12-WC Enabling the Water Policy Committee to Continue Holding Meetings via Teleconferencing **(Page 11)**
Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution 22-12-WC making specified findings that the existence of a local and state of emergency in California caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to directly impact the ability of the SGVCOG to hold public meetings safely in person thereby necessitating an ability to continue holding meetings via teleconferencing.

ACTION ITEMS *(It is anticipated that the Water Committee may act on the following matters)*

8. Solve the Water Crisis Coalition Resolution **(Page 13)**
Recommended Action: Recommend Governing Board adopt Resolution to join the water crisis education effort as a supporter to raise awareness on the ongoing water supply crisis, urging the state to develop and immediately implement long term, comprehensive solutions to address the crisis.

PRESENTATIONS *(It is anticipated that the Water Committee may act on the following matters)*

9. Native and Drought-Tolerant Landscaping – Brenda Kyle, Theodore Payne Foundation **(Page 15)**
Recommended Action: For information only.

UPDATE ITEMS *(It is anticipated that the Water Committee may act on the following matters)*

10. Regional Phase I Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Implementation
11. Safe Clean Water Program **(Page 17)**
12. Federal and State Budget and Legislative Updates **(Page 19)**
13. Water Supply Update
14. Water Working Group Chair Report

CHAIR'S REPORT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURN

Special Joint Meeting of the Capital Projects and Construction Committee, Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, Homelessness Committee, Transportation Committee, and Water Committee

September 15, 2022

4:00 PM



SGVCOG Capital Projects and Construction Committee, Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, Homelessness Committee, Transportation Committee, and Water Committee

Unapproved Special Joint Meeting Minutes

Date: September 15, 2022

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

SGVCOG President, Becky Shevlin, called the Joint Capital Projects and Construction Committee, Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, Homelessness Committee, Transportation Committee, and Water Committee to order at 4:04 pm. A quorum was in attendance.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Glendora Councilmember, Michael Allawos, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call

A quorum for the Capital Projects and Construction Committee, Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, Homelessness Committee, Transportation Committee, and Water Committee was in attendance.

Committee Members Present

Alhambra	A. Andrade-Stadler
Arcadia	A. Verlato
Azusa	R. Gonzales
Claremont	E. Reece
Diamond Bar	N. Lyons
Glendora	M. Allawos
Industry	C. Moss
Irwindale	A. Ambriz
La Cañada Flintridge	R. Gunter
La Puente	G. Quiñones
La Verne	T. Hepburn
Monrovia	B. Shevlin
Montebello	S. Peralta
Pasadena	V. Gordo
Pomona	T. Sandoval
Rosemead	S. Dang
San Gabriel	T. Ding
San Marino	S. Jakubowski

Absent

Baldwin Park
Bradbury
Covina
Duarte
El Monte
Monterey Park
San Dimas
Sierra Madre
Temple City

SGVCOG Staff

M. Creter, Executive Director
C. Trapesonian, General Counsel
T. Egan, Legislative Counsel
B. Acevedo, SGVRHT
B. Logasa, Staff
C. Sims, Staff
K. Ward, Staff

Special Joint Meeting of the Capital Projects and Construction Committee, Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, Homelessness Committee, Transportation Committee, and Water Committee

September 15, 2022

4:00 PM

South El Monte	G. Olmos	M. Sharkey, Staff
South Pasadena	M. Cacciotti	N. Ryu, Staff
Walnut	N. Tragarz	R. Alimoren, Staff
West Covina	T. Wu	Ri. Choi, Staff
L.A. County District #1	E. Gonzalez	Ro. Choi, Staff
L.A. County District #5	V. Paul	S. Pedersen, Staff
SGV Water Districts	C. Goytia	S. Hernandez, Staff
		S. Sousa, Staff
		S. Wong, Staff
		T. Lott, Staff
		V. Guerra, Staff
		V. Urenia, Staff

4. Public Comment
There were no public comments provided.

JOINT MEETING BUSINESS/ACTION ITEM

5. Adopt Joint Resolution 22-46 of the Capital Projects and Construction Committee, Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, Homelessness Committee, Transportation Committee, and Water Committee Making Findings to Enable Them to Continue to Hold Meetings Via Teleconferencing

There was a motion to adopt Joint Resolution 22-46 making certain findings that the existence of a local and state of emergency in California exists, that social distancing being mandated or recommended by state or local officials due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and that meeting in person presents an imminent risk to the health and safety of attendees.

(M/S: C. Moss/G. Olmos) [Motion Passed]

AYES:	Alhambra, Arcadia, Azusa, Claremont, Diamond Bar, Glendora, Industry, Irwindale, La Cañada Flintridge, La Puente, La Verne, Monrovia, Pomona, Rosemead, San Gabriel, San Marino, South El Monte, South Pasadena, Walnut, West Covina, L.A. County District #1, L.A. County District #5, SGV Water Districts
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
NO VOTE RECORDED:	Pasadena, Montebello
ABSENT:	Baldwin Park, Bradbury, Covina, Duarte, El Monte, Monterey Park, San Dimas, Sierra Madre, Temple City

ADJOURN JOINT MEETING

SGVCOG President, Becky Shevlin, adjourned the Joint Capital Projects and Construction Committee, Executive Committee, and Governing Board Meeting at 4:14 pm.

Special Joint Meeting of the Capital Projects and Construction Committee, Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, Homelessness Committee, Transportation Committee, and Water Committee

September 15, 2022

4:00 PM

BOARD APPROVED

Date

Marisa Creter, Secretary



**SGVCOG Joint Water Policy Committee/Working Group Meeting
Unapproved Minutes**

Date: September 13, 2022

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Zoom/YouTube teleconference meeting

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order: G. Crudginton called the meeting to order at 10:01 A.M.
2. Roll Call

Water Policy Committee Members Present

G. Boyer; Glendora
G. Crudginton; Monrovia
M. Clark; Rosemead
C. Goytia; TVMWD

Water Policy Committee Members Absent

J. Stark; Claremont
D. Mahmud; South Pasadena
J. Santana; USGVMWD

Water Working Group Members Present

K. Kearney; Bradbury
S. Costandi; Covina
T. Gerber; South Pasadena
C. Lee/P. Choy; LA County Public Works
S. Lee/M. Litchfield; TVMWD
E. Reyes; SGVMWD
T. Love; USGVMWD
E. Reyes; SGVMWD
S. Green/J. Stotz; LA County Sanitation Districts
L. Augino/K. Gardner; Watermaster

Guests

K. Howie; TVMWD
B. Datti; Craftwater Engineering
C. Helme; Craftwater Engineering
D. Petschauer; LASAN
M. Zou; LASAN
S. Armenta Lopez; Office of Senator Rubio
T. Epps; Member of the Public
S. Armenta Lopez; Office of Senator Rubio
Vincent; Member of the Public
Y. Nubani; O Strategies Group
B. Crossman; Rivers & Mountains Conservancy
D. Ready; Council for Watershed Health

SGVCOG Staff

B. Logasa

T. Egan
 N. Ryu
 S. Wong

- 3. Public Comment
 No public comments.
- 4. Changes to Agenda Order
 No changes to agenda order.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 5. Water Policy Committee/TAC Meeting Minutes – 8/9/2022
- 6. Adoption of Resolution 22-11-WC Enabling the Water Policy Committee and Water Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to Continue Holding Meetings via Teleconferencing

**There was a motion to approve the Consent Calendar items.
 (M/S: G. Boyer/C. Goytia)**

[MOTION PASSED]

AYES:	Glendora; Monrovia; TVMWD
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
NO VOTE GIVEN:	Rosemead
ABSENT:	Claremont; South Pasadena; USGVMWD

PRESENTATION

- 7. Solve the Water Crisis Coalition – Matthew Litchfield, Three Valleys Municipal Water District
 As a result of the drought, there has been an increased effort among water districts and other stakeholders to address the crisis. One such organization is the Solve the Water Crisis Coalition, which was formed to educate state legislators, the Governor, and state agencies on the urgency to act on this water crisis. Solve the Water Crisis is a coalition of 25 agencies in California. The coalition is made up of water managers, operators, and purveyors of all shapes and sizes, from both urban and agricultural areas. The organization’s mission is to raise awareness among California policymakers and thought leaders, and demonstrate the enormous water supply crisis and the urgency that requires bold and immediate State action to secure California’s future.

UPDATE ITEMS

- 8. Upper LA River and Rio Hondo Scientific Studies Updates – Craftwater Engineering
 Craftwater Engineering provided status updates on the PreSIP and LRS ongoing scientific studies. The first project, *PreSIP*, supports the WASCs by providing a platform to reconcile overlapping objectives and disparate project proposals into a cohesive, collaborative, and cost-effective plan. This scientific study builds the preSIP technical platform to (1) identify high-impact, multi-benefit projects throughout the Watershed Areas, (2) orient the projects into an actionable compliance pathway using the best watershed science, and (3) assess the watershed-scale co-benefits of candidate projects to design a defensible, adaptable SIP for the Rio Hondo and Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Areas. The second project. *LRS*

Adaptation, will provide an effective foundation to address pathogen health risk and will help streamline efforts across agencies and other stakeholders. This Plan will help identify the most effective pathway towards improved public health and attainment of bacteria-related water quality objectives through an adaptive management process that incorporates significant advances in the state of the science.

9. Regional Phase I Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Implementation
D. Dolphin provided an update on this item. Cities are currently collecting the data required for the MS4 Annual Report.
10. Safe Clean Water Program
B. Logasa shared information on this item. She provided an update on the newly appointed Chairs and Vice Chairs of each WASC.
11. Federal and State Budget and Legislative Updates
B. Logasa shared information on this item. She provided an update on legislation related to water that have passed in both the state Senate and Assembly.
12. Water Supply Update
K. Gardner and T. Love provided an update on this item. They shared information on the drought, water supply and key well levels, and water deliveries.
13. Water Working Group Chair Report
There were no updates on this item.

CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no report on this item.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURN

G. Crudgington adjourned the meeting at 11:28 A.M.

DATE: October 11, 2022

TO: Water Policy Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **ADOPT RESOLUTION 22-12-WC MAKING SPECIFIED FINDINGS TO ENABLE THE WATER POLICY COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE TO HOLD MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCING**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Resolution 22-12-WC making certain findings that the existence of a local and state of emergency in California caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to directly impact the ability of the SGVCOG to hold public meetings safely in person thereby necessitating an ability to continue holding meetings via teleconferencing.

BACKGROUND

Introduced by Assemblymember Robert Rivas (D-Hollister) on February 1, 2021, AB 361 codifies portions of Governor Gavin Newsom's existing Ralph M. Brown Act exemptions pertaining to teleconferencing if a local agency issues an emergency finding, and reissues it every 30 days, that it is unsafe to meet in person. Specifically, the Brown Act exemptions include requirements to provide a public teleconference location, to maintain a member quorum within the agency's jurisdiction and to provide for public comment at each teleconference location, such as a private residence. The legislation expires in December 2024. On September 16, 2021, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB 361 into law, effective immediately.

A local agency wishing to rely on the provisions of AB 361 must meet one of the following criteria:

1. The local agency holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency, and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; or
2. The local holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency for the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; or
3. The local agency holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency and has determined, by majority vote, that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

On March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency in California due to the threat of COVID-19 and shortly thereafter issued Executive Order N-29-20 suspending certain Brown Act provisions relating to teleconferencing as public meetings began to be held online.¹ However, this Executive Order expired on September 30, 2021, despite the State of Emergency remaining in place.


The threat that COVID-19 has presented continues to directly impact the ability of the SGVCOG to conduct Governing Board/committee meetings safely in person. Updated guidelines issued by

REPORT

the Centers for Disease Control and Los Angeles Department of Public Health in July and August 2021 advise governmental entities to refrain from conducting indoor meetings and consider moving operations outdoors, where feasible, to prevent transmission. SGVCOG staff finds it has been unable to find a suitable outdoor space with the requisite audio/visual capabilities at which the monthly Committee meetings can be held safely. Similarly, an indoor space with sufficient capacity to accommodate safe social distance practices among members, staff, and the public could not be identified

In order to continue to conduct meetings in a safe manner and to prevent unnecessary COVID-19 exposure to members, staff and the public, staff is recommending that Water Policy Committee adopt Resolution 22-12-WC making certain findings in order to be able to continue teleconferencing for its meetings.

Prepared by:  _____

Approved by:  _____
Marisa Creter
Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment A – Resolution 22-12-WC](#)

DATE: October 11, 2022

TO: Water Policy Committee & Working Group

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **SOLVE THE WATER CRISIS COALITION RESOLUTION**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Recommend Governing Board adopt Resolution to join the water crisis education effort as a supporter to raise awareness on the ongoing water supply crisis, urging the state to develop and immediately implement long term, comprehensive solutions to address the crisis.

BACKGROUND

The State of California is facing its third year of drought conditions. The U.S. Drought Monitor determined that more than 97% of the state’s land area is in at least “severe” drought status, 60% in at least “extreme” drought and 12% in “exceptional” drought.

This news was followed up the California Department of Water Resources issuing its first-ever zero percent allocation on the State Water Project in December 2021, which meant that communities across the state would receive only “health and safety” water. And for the second year in a row, Central Valley Project (CVP) allocations have been at zero percent, significantly impacting agriculture and further exacerbating the current water supply crisis statewide.

In early January 2022, the State Water Resource Control Board approved emergency water conservation mandates in place for cities, individual property owners, and residents restricting the water activities they can conduct. These statewide rules are put forth in an effort to prevent wasteful water use and promote water conservation.

As a result of the drought, there has been an increased effort among water districts and other stakeholders to address the crisis. One such organization is the Solve the Water Crisis Coalition, which was formed to educate state legislators, the Governor, and state agencies on the urgency to act on this water crisis.

DISCUSSION


Solve the Water Crisis is a coalition of 25 agencies in California. The coalition is made up of water managers, operators, and purveyors of all shapes and sizes, from both urban and agricultural areas. The organization’s mission is to raise awareness among California policymakers and thought leaders, and demonstrate the enormous water supply crisis and the urgency that requires bold and immediate State action to secure California’s future.

The Solve the Water Crisis Coalition has three major objectives:

1. Elevate water as a crisis that is already here; educate leaders that this crisis must be addressed immediately to protect California's future.
2. Prioritize California legislators, regulators, and the Newsom Administration as the coalition's key audience.
3. Critically demonstrate to key audiences the need for comprehensive, long-term investments, improved science, and regulatory reforms to increase water supply and supply reliability for California.

The Solve the Water Crisis website can be found here: <https://www.solvethewatercrisis.com/>.

In order to support the education efforts of the Solve the Water Crisis Coalition, staff is recommending that the Water Policy Committee adopt Resolution 22-13-WC to join the water crisis education effort as a supporter to raise awareness on the ongoing water supply crisis, urging the state to develop and immediately implement long term, comprehensive solutions to address the crisis.

Prepared by: 

Brianne Logasa
Management Analyst

Approved by: 

Marisa Creter
Executive Director

REPORT

DATE: October 11, 2022
TO: Water Policy Committee & Working Group
FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director
RE: **NATIVE AND DROUGHT-TOLERANT LANDSCAPING**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information only.

BACKGROUND

As California's drought persists, residents and homeowners are in need of more innovative approaches to conserving water. One such approach is replacing their landscaping with more native and drought-tolerant plants.

Established in 1960, the Theodore Payne Foundation (TPF) aims to address this by inspiring and educating Southern Californians about the beauty and ecological benefits of California native plant landscapes. As an organization, their goals include:

- To normalize native plant landscapes.
- To engage and educate a larger and more diverse audience.
- To increase the presence of TPF and native plants throughout our geographic area.
- To expand their influence on the landscape industry.
- To influence public policy and practice.


TPF teaches classes and workshops on irrigation, native landscaping, and plant maintenance. Among their many other programs, they created the [California Native Plant Library](#), which is a database of California native plants, from grasses to cacti and everything in between.

The Theodore Payne Foundation website can be found here: <https://theodorepayne.org/>.

DISCUSSION

Once established, California native gardens use, on average, 80% less water than conventional gardens. Additionally, native gardens nurture pollinators and other wildlife, minimize one's carbon footprint, and reduce garden maintenance. Native plants also play an active role in the water cycle, adding cooling moisture to the atmosphere.

At this Water Policy Committee/WG meeting, Brenda Kyle, Community Engagement Manager for the Theodore Payne Foundation, will provide a presentation on the importance of native plants and landscaping in combatting the drought.

Prepared by: 
Brianne Logasa
Management Analyst

Approved by: 
Marisa Creter
Executive Director

DATE: October 11, 2022
TO: Water Policy Committee & Working Group
FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director
RE: **SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information only.

COMMITTEE AND WATERSHED AREA STEERING COMMITTEE (WASC) UPDATES

The following activities have happened since the last Water Committee/WG meeting.

Regional Oversight Committee (ROC)

- Did not meet.

Scoring Committee

- Met Thursday, October 6, 2022 from 9:00am-12:00pm. They discussed six projects in the ULAR WASC:
 - Arroyo Seco Projects
 - Bowtie Demonstration Project (Updated)
 - Brookside Park Stormwater Capture Project
 - California Avenue and Adjacent Streets Stormwater Capture Project
 - Eagle Rock Boulevard: A Multi-Modal Stormwater Capture Project
 - Earvin “Magic” Johnson Park Operation and Maintenance Project

Rio Hondo WASC

- Met on Tuesday, September 20, 2022 from 1:00-3:00pm and discussed the submitted Infrastructure Program and Scientific Studies projects.

Upper Los Angeles River (ULAR) WASC

- Met on Wednesday, October 5, 2022 from 2:00-4:00pm. As of the writing of this report, the agenda for the meeting has not yet been posted.

Upper San Gabriel River (USGR) WASC

- Did not meet.

Prepared by:



Brianne Logasa
Management Analyst

Approved by: Marisa Creter
Marisa Creter
Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment A – Approved 21-22 SIPs projects by WASC](#)
[Attachment B – Unapproved 21-22 SIPs projects by WASC](#)

DATE: October 11, 2022

TO: Water Policy Committee & Working Group

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **FEDERAL AND STATE BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATES**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information only.

BUDGET UPDATES

2022-23 State Budget

In June 2022, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed the state budget package of bills, which consisted of two budget “junior” bills and 27 trailer bills. The \$308 billion budget package contains the budget priorities and agreements reached between the Governor and Democratic Leadership of the State Senate and Assembly.

Under the Resources and Energy sections of the budget junior bills (AB 178 and AB 180) includes these water related provisions:

- Drought and Water Resilience: \$1.14 billion General Fund and California Emergency Relief Fund
- Wildfire and Forest Resilience: \$50 million General Fund.
- Zero Emission Vehicles and associated infrastructure: \$619 million General Fund.

Appropriates to the Department of Water Resources from the California Emergency Relief Fund for local assistance as follows:

- \$200 million for Urban Water Community Drought Relief.
- \$100 million for Small Community Drought Relief.
- \$75 million for Conservation for Urban Suppliers.
- \$25 million for Conservation for Small Suppliers.
- \$75 million for Turf Replacement.
- \$60 million for Agriculture Drought Response Program.
- \$10 million for Migratory Bird Habitat

Appropriates to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) from the California Emergency Relief Fund, the following:

- \$8 million for Water Rights
- \$50 million for emergency interim or permanent solutions to drinking water emergencies.

Additionally, \$1.947 billion shall be allocated to SWRCB local assistance, of this amount appropriates:

- \$650 million shall be allocated for drinking water projects and \$650 million shall be allocated for wastewater projects of which priority shall be given to disadvantaged communities for drinking water projects.
- \$200 million shall be utilized for groundwater cleanup and water recycling.
- \$45 million for technical and financial assistance to drinking water systems to address Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS).
- \$400 million as the state share of the clean water and drinking water state revolving funds.

Provides \$1.5 billion General Fund to the Department of Water Resources for the Strategic Reliability Reserve.

Contingent upon future legislation; \$ 534 million from the General Fund and \$253 million from the California Emergency Relief Fund for investment that support drought and water resilience.

Inflation Reduction Act

The Inflation Reduction Act was signed into law by President Joe Biden in August 2022. The \$740 billion package is meant to address climate change and clean energy, but also included several provisions designed to respond to the ongoing drought affecting the Western United States.

- \$550 million through 2031 for water line construction projects
- \$25 million through 2031 for solar panels for water conveyance facilities
- \$4 billion through 2026 for drought mitigation activities

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Below is an overview of federal and state legislation that the Water Committee and Water TAC are currently tracking.

S. 914 – Safe Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021

- **Summary:** As previously reported, S. 914 reauthorizes and creates programs to support drinking water and wastewater infrastructure projects, including the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Funds, the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Funds, the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act program, the EPA Sewer Overflow & Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grant Program and the Alternative Source Water Pilot Program. New programs include the Stormwater Infrastructure Technology Program and PFAS treatment grants.
- **Status:** Passed in the U.S. Senate on April 29 but not yet acted upon in the U.S House.

SB 230 (Portantino) – Constituents of Emerging Concern Program

- **Summary:** Would require the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to establish, maintain, and direct a new program to assess and recommend further study on constituents of emerging concern (CEC) in drinking water sources and treated drinking water. The state board would convene the Science Advisory Panel to review and provide recommendations on CEC for further action, among other duties. The State Board would be required to provide an annual report to the Legislature on the ongoing work conducted by the panel. The bill would authorize the State Board, upon appropriation by the

Legislature, to provide financial assistance to certain public water systems upon a showing that the costs of testing drinking water in compliance with CEC monitoring requirements based on the recommendations of the panel would impose a financial hardship.

- **Status:** Passed the Senate Environmental Quality Committee on March 15, 7-0, and at the request of the Senate Appropriations Committee. SB 230 passed the Senate Floor on January 26, 2022 and was read for the first time in the Assembly. Referred to the Assembly Committee on Environmental Safety & Toxic Materials on May 5, 2022, and was passed from on June 28, 2022. It is scheduled to be heard by the Assembly Appropriations Committee on August 3, 2022. The bill passed the Assembly on August 29, 2022. It was ordered to engrossing and enrolling on August 30, 2022. Enrolled and presented to the Governor on September 6, 2022.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Support

SB 991 (Newman) – Public Contracts: Progressive Design-Build: Local Agencies

- **Summary:** This bill would authorize (until January 1, 2029) such local agencies to use the progressive design-build process for public works projects in excess of \$5,000,000. The bill defines “progressive design-build” to mean a project delivery process in which both the design and construction of a project are procured from a single entity that is selected through a qualifications-based selection at the earliest feasible stage of the project.
- **Status:** Passed in the Senate on April 9, 2022 and sent to the Assembly. On April 19, 2022, it was referred to the Assembly Committee on Local Government, where it was passed on June 15, 2022 and re-referred to the Assembly Committee on Appropriations, scheduled for August 3, 2022. Passed in the Assembly on August 15, 2022. Enrolled and presented to the Governor on August 23, 2022. Signed by the Governor on September 2, 2022.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Support

SB 1219 (Hurtado) - 21st century water laws and agencies: committee

- **Summary:** Would require the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency and the Secretary for Environmental Protection to convene a committee to develop and submit, on or before December 31, 2024, to the Governor and to the Legislature a strategic vision, proposed statutes, and recommendations for a modern 21st century set of water laws and regulations and state and local water agencies for the state, as provided. The bill would also require the Governor or the committee to appoint a “blue ribbon” citizen commission or taskforce, a stakeholder advisory committee and any other group that the Governor or the committee deems necessary or desirable to assist in carrying out these provisions. The bill would require all relevant state agencies, at the request of the committee, to make available staff and resources to assist in the preparation of the strategic vision and proposed statutes. The bill would authorize the committee, its members, and state agencies represented on the committee to contract for consultants to assist in the preparation of the strategic vision and proposed statutes, as specified, and would exempt those contracts from certain public contracting requirements.
- **Status:** Introduced to the Senate on February 17, 2022. Passed in the Committee on Natural Resources and Water and referred back to the committee on Environmental Quality on April 5, 2022. Senate hearing for this bill is scheduled for April 27, 2022. This bill passed in the Senate on May 25, 2022 and read for the first time in the Assembly on May 26, 2022.

The bill was referred to the Assembly Committee on Water, Parks, & Wildlife and the Assembly Committee on Environmental Safety & Toxic Materials.

- **SGVCOG Position:** Watch.

AB 1195 (Garcia) – Southern Los Angeles County Regional Water Agency

- **Summary:** Would create the Southern Los Angeles County Regional Water Agency as a regional water agency serving the drinking water needs of the cities, unincorporated areas, and residents in the communities overlying the Central Basin and West Coast Basin aquifers in southern Los Angeles County. The bill would require the agency to serve the region as the leader in interagency collaboration on water resource issues and to be governed by a 5-member board of locally elected officials in the agency’s jurisdiction, each appointed by a specified state or local entity. The bill would authorize the agency to serve the water needs of its region through specified activities, including, among others, operating public water systems or other water infrastructure and integrating other water systems in the region into its operations, as prescribed. The bill would authorize the agency to finance its operations through specified means, including, among others, collecting water rates, charges, fees, or established parcel charges previously charged by a water system for which the agency has assumed control.
- **Status:** Passed the Assembly on May 27, 2021, 56-19. In the Senate, the bill made its way through the policy committees and was re-referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations. The committee hearing is scheduled for August 1, 2022. Ordered to a third reading on August 17, 2022. Passed in the Senate on August 24, 2022. On August 30, 2022, the Senate amendments concurred in. Enrolled and presented to the Governor on September 13, 2022.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Watch

AB 1845 (Calderon) – Metropolitan Water District of Southern California: Alternative Project Delivery Methods

- **Summary:** Would allow the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to use alternative project delivery methods for the design and construction of a Regional Recycling Water Program and a limited set of drought-related projects. The bill would amend the Public Contracting Code to permit Metropolitan to use Design-Build, Progressive Design 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.
- **Status:** Introduced to the Assembly on February 8, 2022. Passed the Assembly Local Government Committee on March 23, 2022 and Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee on April 26, 2022. AB 1845 was passed in the Assembly on May 25, 2022 and read in the Senate for the first time on May 26, 2022. The bill was referred to and passed the Senate Committee on Government & Finance on June 30, 2022. The bill was re-referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee and a committee hearing is scheduled for August 1, 2022. Passed in the Senate on August 23, 2022. In Assembly with concurrence to Senate amendments pending. On August 31, 2022, the bill was enrolled and presented to the Governor. Signed by the Governor on September 13, 2022.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Support

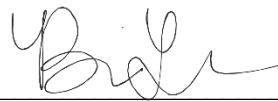
AB 2163 (Rubio) – San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority Act

- **Summary:** The existing law that established the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority will sunset on July 1, 2030. This bill would extend the existing law to July 1, 2050, thereby permitting the Authority to carry out its various duties under the act until 2050.
- **Status:** Introduced in the Assembly on February 15, 2022. Passed The Assembly Environmental Safety & Toxics Material Committee on March 22, 2022 and Assembly Appropriations Committee on April 25, 2022. Passed in the Assembly on May 9, sent to the Senate. The bill was referred to the Committee on Environmental Quality on May 18, 2022, and passed on June 1, 2022 and re-referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations. Passed in the Senate on August 17, 2022. Enrolled and presented to the Governor on August 23, 2022. Signed by the Governor on September 2, 2022.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Support.

AB 2387 (E. Garcia & Mullin) – Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2022

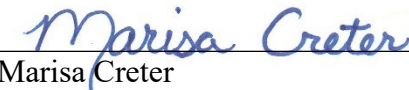
- **Summary:** This bill would enact the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2022, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$7,430,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, and workforce development programs.
- **Status:** Introduced in the Assembly on February 17, 2022. Passed Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee on April 4, 2022 and Assembly Natural Resources Committee on April 25, 2022. Sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee, it is currently held under submission.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Watch.

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