



San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

AGENDA AND NOTICE OF THE MEETING OF THE WATER POLICY COMMITTEE & WATER TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

Tuesday, April 12, 2022, 10:00 AM

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

Livestream Link: <https://youtu.be/Q03RuzjIhUU>

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 TAC Chair

Alex Tachiki
City of Monrovia

Vice Chair

Tom Love
Upper San Gabriel
Valley Municipal
Water District

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 and Water TAC 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 Committee during the public comment period and may also comment on any agenda item at the time it is discussed. At a special meeting, the public may only comment on items that are on the agenda. Members of the public wishing to speak are asked to complete a comment card or simply rise to be recognized when the Chair asks for public comments to speak. We ask that members of the public state their name for the record and keep their remarks brief. If several persons wish to address the Committee on a single item, the Chair may impose a time limit on individual remarks at the beginning of discussion. **The Water Committee and Water TAC may not discuss or vote on items not on the agenda.**

AGENDA ITEMS: The Agenda contains the regular order of business of the Water Committee and the Water TAC. Items on the Agenda have generally been reviewed and investigated by the staff in advance of the meeting so that the Committee/TAC 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 or citizen so requests. In this event, the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered after the Consent Calendar. If you would like an item on the Consent Calendar discussed, simply tell Staff or a member of the Committee.



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 TAC meeting scheduled for April 12, 2022 will not be allowed. To allow for public participation, the Water Policy Committee and TAC 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 *(If necessary, the Chair may place reasonable time limits on all comments).*
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/TAC may act on the following matters)*

5. Water Policy Committee/TAC Meeting Minutes – 3/8/2022 **(Page 5)**
Recommended Action: Approve
6. Adoption of Resolution 22-04-WC Enabling the Water Policy Committee and Water Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to Continue Holding Meetings via Teleconferencing **(Page 9)**
Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution 22-04-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.

PRESENTATION *(It is anticipated that the Water Committee/Water TAC may act on the following matters)*

7. Three Valleys Municipal Water District Overview – Matthew Litchfield and Sylvie Lee, TVMWD **(Page 11)**
Recommended Action: For information only

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

8. Proposed 2022 Clean Water Act Financial Capability Assessment Guidance **(Page 13)**
Recommended Action: For information only

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

9. Regional Phase I Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Implementation
10. Safe Clean Water Program **(Page 15)**
11. Federal and State Budgets and Legislative Updates **(Page 17)**
12. Federal and State Water Funding Opportunities **(Page 19)**
13. Water Supply Update
14. Water TAC Chair Report
15. Water Boards Update

CHAIR'S REPORT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURN



**SGVCOG Joint Water Policy Committee/TAC Meeting
Unapproved Minutes**

Date: March 24, 2022
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: Zoom/YouTube teleconference meeting

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

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

Water Policy Committee Members Present

J. Stark; Claremont
G. Boyer; Glendora
G. Crudgington; Monrovia
M. Clark; Rosemead
D. Mahmud; South Pasadena
C. Goytia; TVMWD
J. Santana; USGVMWD

Water Policy Committee Members Absent

Water TAC Members Present

D. Dolphin; Alhambra
K. Kearney; Bradbury
S. Costandi/S. Gallant; Covina
A. Sweet; Glendora
A. Tachiki; Monrovia
J. Carver; Pomona
J. Carlson; Sierra Madre
T. Gerber; South Pasadena
E. Reyes; SGVMWD
T. Love; USGVMWD
R. Wang, C. Lee; LA County Public Works

Water TAC Members Absent

Ex Officio Members Present

L. Augino; Watermaster

Ex Officio Members Absent

S. Green; LA County Sanitation Districts

Guests

J. Millett, SCWP Rio Hondo WASC
S. Armenta; Office of Senator Rubio
C. Griffin; Office of Assemblymember Rubio
L. Largent; O Strategies Group
R. Tahir; Member of the Public
D. Ready; Council for Watershed Health
M. Chung; City of Rosemead

N. Gardiner; Haley & Aldrich
M. Chen; O Strategies Group

SGVCOG Staff

C. Sims
B. Logasa
T. Egan

3. Public Comment

- R. Tahir provided feedback on Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Management Group (ULAR WMG) Load Reduction Strategy. R. Tahir's full written public comment can be found by [clicking here](#).
- J. Millett, Rio Hondo WASC Watershed Coordinator provided information on the Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP) Implementation Workshop the Rio Hondo WASC is hosting with SGVCOG on Monday, March 31st at 12:00 p.m. This workshop will share the SCWP funding opportunities for municipalities, including project design, construction, and operations and maintenance (O&M)..

4. Changes to Agenda Order.
No changes to agenda order.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 5.** Water Policy Committee/TAC Meeting Minutes – 2/8/2022
- 6.** Adoption of Resolution 22-03-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: J. Stark/G. Boyer)

[MOTION PASSED]

AYES:	Committee – Claremont; Glendora; Monrovia; Rosemead; South Pasadena, TVMWD TAC – Alhambra; Bradbury; Covina; Glendora; Monrovia; Pomona; Sierra Madre; LA County Public Works; TVMWD; USGVMWD
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	TAC – SGVMWD
NO VOTE GIVEN:	Committee – USGVMWD TAC – South Pasadena
ABSENT:	

PRESENTATION

- 7.** Upper LA River and Rio Hondo Scientific Studies Updates
Craftwater Engineering provided a presentation on this item. In the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the SGVCOG was awarded scientific study funding by the ULAR Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) and the Rio Hondo WASC through the Safe Clean Water Program to conduct two scientific studies: Pre-Stormwater Investment Plan (preSIP) and Load

Reduction Strategy (LRS) to Address the Los Angeles River Bacteria Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL).

8. Sanitary Sewer System Waste Discharge Requirements Reissuance Process Updates
Andre Schmidt, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (LACSD), provided a presentation on this item. In January 2022, the official Tentative SSS WDR was released for public comments, which are due April 8, 2022. The reissuance aims to clarify existing prohibition of untreated waste discharge to waters of the State and provide increased public transparency of sewer spill data, among other things. Water Policy Committee/TAC members requested that staff review LACSD's upcoming comment letter and consider drafting one on behalf of SGVCOG.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

9. PreSIP Scientific Study Application for Upper San Gabriel River WASC
A PreSIP Scientific Study application would be submitted on behalf of San Gabriel WASC cities by SGVCOG with Craftwater Engineering to the SCWP for funding in Fiscal Year 2023-24 to complete a PreStormwater Investment Plan (preSIP) scientific study for the Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Area.
10. Proposed 2022 Clean Water Act Financial Capability Assessment Guidance
This item was tabled by the Chair to next month.

UPDATE ITEMS

11. Regional Phase I Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit
There were no updates on this item.
12. Safe Clean Water Program
B. Logasa, SGVCOG Management Analyst, provided information on this item. SGVCOG is hosting a SCWP Implementation Workshop on Monday, March 31st at 12:00 p.m. This workshop will share the SCWP funding opportunities for municipalities, including project design, construction, and operations and maintenance (O&M). The flyer for the workshop is attached below, and you can register for the event by [clicking here](#).
13. Federal and State Budget and Legislative Updates
B. Logasa, SGVCOG Management Analyst, directed Water Policy Committee/TAC members to their agenda packets for updates on this item.
14. Water Supply Update
T. Love, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, Provided an update on this item. In late January, the State Water Project allocation increased to 15% as long as demands were normal; however, January and February were the driest on record in Northern California, so that allocation may likely be reduced. More than ever, it is important to conserve locally so that we can save those State Water Project supplies. The key well is just a little bit above 180 ft. Water agencies are monitoring this closely and working with Metropolitan Water District to keep the key well in normal range.
15. Water TAC Chair Report
A. Tachiki, Water TAC Chair, provided an update on this item. Many watersheds management groups in the San Gabriel Valley lost their deemed compliance from the Regional Water Board. If watershed management groups need more than 30 days to respond, A. Tachiki encourages cities and watershed management groups to reach out to the Regional Board immediately for an extension.

- 16.** Water Boards Update
There were no updates on this item.

CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no report on this item.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURN

G. Crudgington adjourned the meeting at 12:01 P.M.

REPORT

DATE: April 12, 2021

TO: Water Policy Committee & TAC

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

**RE: ADOPT RESOLUTION 22-05-WC MAKING SPECIFIED FINDINGS TO
ENABLE THE WATER POLICY COMMITTEE AND TAC TO CONTINUE
TO HOLD MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCING**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Resolution 22-05-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 and TAC adopt Resolution 22-05-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 22-05-WC](#)

REPORT

DATE: April 12, 2022
TO: Water Policy Committee & TAC
FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director
RE: **THREE VALLEYS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OVERVIEW**

BACKGROUND

three Valleys Municipal Water District (TVMWD) serves eastern cities in the San Gabriel Valley, including Pomona, Glendora, San Dimas, Diamond Bar, Industry, Claremont, La Verne, and Walnut. TVMWD has a service area of 133 square miles with a population of 525,000. The agency is a water wholesaler and a member of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

DISCUSSION

One of TVMWD's facilities, the Miramar Water and Hydroelectric Facility, was financed in partnership among the TVMWD, City of La Verne, and Golden State Water Company. Constructed in 1987, the Hydropower Reform Coalition (see Attachment A) reports that this facility nets an annual average of 1,972.0 mWH hydropower generation.

TVMWD is currently constructing a new groundwater production well called the Miragrand Well, which, after completion, will connect to the Miramar Water and Hydroelectric Facility. The purpose of the project is for TVMWD to produce approximately 700 to 800 acre-feet per year of groundwater for the purpose of increasing local water supplies and improving overall water supply reliability.

To share more about their agency and these special projects, Matthew Litchfield, TVMWD General Manager and Sylvie Lee will provide a presentation to the Water Policy Committee/TAC.

Prepared by:



Brianne Logasa
Management Analyst

Approved by:



Marisa Creter
Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – [Hydropower Specs from the Hydropower Reform Coalition](#)

DATE: April 12, 2022

TO: Water Policy Committee & TAC

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **PROPOSED 2022 CLEAN WATER ACT FINANCIAL CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE**

BACKGROUND

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) adopted Financial Capability Assessment guidelines in 1997 (with an updated Framework in 2014) to assess community water quality compliance costs and the burden on individual households and permittee agencies in meeting Clean Water Act (CWA) standards. The intent was to ensure there were cost-effective compliance pathways by establishing a process to assist regulators and permittees in prioritizing water quality improvements and schedules for compliance that also carefully considered communities' financial capabilities. Although the federal FCA process has long been in place, California is not subject to federal FCA guidelines because the State's Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (1969) delegates this authority to the California State Water Resources Control Board (State Board).

In October 2020, the EPA released its 2020 FCA guidelines, on which the SGVCOG provided comments. However, those guidelines were never adopted. As such, on February 22, 2022, the EPA released Proposed 2022 Clean Water Act Financial Capability Assessment Guidance. The comment period for these proposed FCA updates is 60 days from its release date, with comments due on April 25, 2022.

While the FCA guidelines are not applied in California, the SGVCOG has long advocated for legislation that would require the State Board to establish financial capability assessment (FCA) guidelines for California. As such, the SGVCOG has continued to monitor the EPA's FCA guidelines process.

DISCUSSION

As indicated above, the updated FCA guidance is used to aid in assessing a community's financial capability as a part of negotiating implementation schedules under both permits and enforcement agreements. It is intended to standardize what EPA plans to consider when determining a community's financial capability to implement control measures needed to meet CWA obligations. The Proposed 2022 FCA includes two major differences from the 1997 Guidance: 1) it uses the existing 1997 FCA methodology with expanded consideration of lowest quintile income and poverty in the service area; and 2) it develops a dynamic financial and rate model that looks at the impacts of rate increases over time on utility customers.

As it currently stands, the 2022 Proposed FCA Guidance will not apply to California. However, the SGVCOG has previously supported the expansion of the FCA, or similar, guidance to the State. In previous years, Assemblymember Blanca Rubio and Senator Rubio have introduced legislation that would require the State Board to establish FCA guidelines for municipal separate storm sewer system permittees that are adequate and consistent when considering the costs to local

jurisdictions. The bills would have required the state board and the regional boards to continue using available regulatory tools and other approaches to foster collaboration with permittees to implement permit requirements in light of the costs of implementation. These bills were vetoed twice, once by Governor Brown and once by Governor Newsom. Most recently, in February 2021, Senator Rubio introduced similar legislation – SB 426, Municipal separate storm sewer systems: financial capability analysis – which would require the State Board, by July 1, 2022, to establish financial capability assessment guidelines for municipal separate storm sewer system permittees that are adequate and consistent when considering the costs to local jurisdictions. SGVCOG Governing Board sponsored and supported this bill (Attachment A). However, the bill died on file on February 1, 2022. The SGVCOG continues to work with local legislators to evaluate the most effective approach to apply FCA guidance to the State.

At this Water Policy Committee/TAC meeting, Brianne Logasa, SGVCOG Management Analyst, will provide a summary of the 2022 Proposed FCA Guidance and discuss a potential comment submission.

Prepared by:



Brianne Logasa
Management Analyst

Approved by:



Marisa Creter
Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – [SB 426 \(Rubio\) Support Letter](#)

Attachment B – [Proposed 2022 Clean Water Act Financial Capability Assessment Guidance](#)

DATE: April 12, 2022

TO: Water Policy Committee/TAC

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/TAC meeting.

Regional Oversight Committee (ROC)

- Did not meet.

Scoring Committee

- Met on Monday, March 14, 2022 and discussed SCWP/Scoring Improvements, specifically for the application process, project module, and scoring criteria.

Rio Hondo WASC

- Met on Tuesday, March 15, 2022 and discussed the Summary of Scientific Studies from the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project and the Rio Hondo Project Prioritization and Selection Discussion for populating the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Stormwater Investment Plan.

Upper Los Angeles River (ULAR) WASC

- Met Wednesday, April 6, 2022 and voted on the final Fiscal 2022-23 Stormwater Investment Plan funding recommendations for the ULAR watershed.

Upper San Gabriel River (USGR) WASC

- Met on Thursday, March 24, 2022 and discussed the Summary of Scientific Studies from the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project and the USGR Project Prioritization and Selection Discussion for populating the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Stormwater Investment Plan.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Regional Oversight Committee – Wednesday, April 13, 2022, 1:00 – 3:00 pm
- Scoring Committee – Monday, May 9, 2022, 3:00 – 5:00 pm

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- Upper Los Angeles River WASC – May 4, 2022, 2:00 – 4:00 pm
- Upper San Gabriel River WASC – Every 4th Thursday of the Month, 1:00 – 3:00 pm
- Rio Hondo WASC – Every 3rd Tuesday of the Month, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Prepared by:



Brianne Logasa
Management Analyst

Approved by:



Marisa Creter
Executive Director

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

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

DATE: April 12, 2022

TO: Water Policy Committee/TAC

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

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

RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information only.

BUDGET UPDATES

2022-23 State Budget

The Governor has proposed as part of the 2022-23 draft January budget an additional \$750 million one-time General Fund commitment for a variety of activities to respond to current drought conditions and build the state's resilience for future dry years. This amount includes:

- \$180 million for water conservation programs
- \$250 million to set aside as unspecified "contingency" funding for the Administration to propose specific allocations for future drought responses later in the budget process
- \$145 million to address communities experiencing water supply shortages
- \$175 million for various other drought-related activities.

These funds are in addition to the \$880 million General Fund support for proposed water and drought-related activities in 2022-23 consistent with the 2021-22 budget agreement that included a total of \$4.6 billion across three years. SGVCOG staff is continuing to monitor the Governor's budget proposal and will update the Committee on the Governor's revised budget, which is expected to be released next month.

Biden Infrastructure Bill

The infrastructure bill is the single-largest investment in U.S. water infrastructure in the nation's history. While the overall infrastructure bill provides a total of \$7,420,806,000 to infrastructure projects (\$609,441,000 to California), it will invest more than \$50 billion specifically for water infrastructure programs.

- \$20+ billion for safe drinking water.
- \$15 billion in dedicated funding to replace lead pipes.
- \$12+ billion to ensure clean water for communities.
- \$1.8 billion to protect regional waters.
- \$135 million for additional water improvements.

SGVCOG staff is continuing to monitor this funding and determine how funding for these programs will be distributed and available to cities.

2022 Appropriations Act – Whittier Narrows Dam Funding

The Omnibus Appropriations bill that was passed by the House on March 9, 2022, included \$219,591,000 for the Whittier Narrows Dam Safety Project. This is equal to the remaining of the funding necessary to complete the project, based on the Army Corps of Engineers current project budget. The bill passed the Senate on March 10, 2022, and signed by the President on March 15, 2022.

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 37 (Cortese) – Contaminated Sites: The Dominic Cortese “Cortese List” Act of 2021

- **Summary:** Would require the State Water Resources Control Board, instead of the State Department of Health Care Services, to compile and update a list of all public drinking water wells that contain detectable levels of organic contaminants and that are subject to water analysis by local health officers. The Department of Finance on June 30, filed on behalf of the Administration an “oppose” letter because SB 37 could increase costs to clean-up contaminated sites in California.
- **Status:** Passed the Senate on June 1, 39-0; Assembly Environmental Safety & Toxic Materials Committee on June 16, 6-3; Assembly Natural Resources Committee on July 5, 7-1; and, Assembly Appropriations Committee on August 26, 12-4. At the request of the author, SB 37 was moved to the Assembly Inactive File.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Watch

SB 45 (Portantino, Allen, Hurtado, and Stern) – Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022

- **Summary:** Would authorize the issuance of \$5.5 billion in general obligation bonds, subject to voter approval on the November 2022 ballot, to finance projects for a wildfire prevention, safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection program.
- **Status:** Passed the Senate on January 24, 2022 and ordered to the Assembly.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Watch

SB 230 (Portantino) – Constituents of Emerging Concern Program

- **Summary:** Would require the State Water 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 passed the Senate Floor on January 26, 2022 and was read for the first time in the Assembly.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Support

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. AB 1195 was initially triple referred to three Senate policy committees. The Senate Rules Committee then rescinded one of the policy committee referrals and therefore AB 1195 is awaiting hearings before the Senate Environment Quality and Governance & Finance Committees. AB 1195 must pass the Senate policy committees no later than July 1, 2022.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Watch

Prepared by:



Brianne Logasa
Management Analyst

Approved by:



Marisa Creter
Executive Director

REPORT

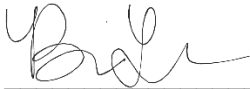
DATE: April 12, 2022
TO: Water Policy Committee & TAC
FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director
RE: **FEDERAL AND STATE WATER FUNDING UPDATES**

BACKGROUND


SGVCOG staff is monitoring various funding opportunities that municipalities in the San Gabriel Valley may be eligible for and/or interested in pursuing. [Appendix A](#) links to a spreadsheet of known grants and other funding opportunities related to water. This form includes the funding category and title, description, amount of funding available, and application information.

Upcoming funding deadlines include:

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife – Fisheries Restoration Grant Program (April 15, 2022)
- Strategic Growth Council – Transformative Climate Communities (July 1, 2022)

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Approved by: 

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Executive Director