



San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
AGENDA AND NOTICE OF THE MEETING OF THE WATER POLICY
COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 8, 2022, 10:00 AM
Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89388464599>
Livestream Link: <https://youtu.be/tyocaLDYjwY>

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) Monrovia Office, 1333 S. Mayflower Avenue, Suite 360, Monrovia, CA, and on the website, www.sgvkog.org. A copy of the agenda is also viewable at the Alhambra City Hall, 111 S. 1st Street, Alhambra, CA 91801. 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. 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 Brianna 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 Brianna 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 – 10/6/2022 **(Page 5)**
Recommended Action: Approve
6. Water Policy Committee/TAC Meeting Minutes – 10/11/2022 **(Page 8)**
Recommended Action: Approve
7. Adoption of Resolution 22-13-WC Enabling the Water Policy Committee to Continue Holding Meetings via Teleconferencing **(Page 11)**
Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution 22-13-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. 2023 SGVCOG Water Policy Committee Legislative Priorities **(Page 13)**
Recommended Action: Recommend approval of the 2023 legislative platform pertaining to water policy for consideration by the Governing Board and intended to guide SGVCOG advocacy efforts and to be provided to the San Gabriel Valley's legislative representatives.
9. Drought and Water Shortage Resolution **(Page 15)**
Recommended Action: Recommend Governing Board adopt a Resolution affirming a drought and water shortage emergency in the San Gabriel Valley and calling on local and regional partners to join together to adopt an "all of the above" response to such emergency, including reducing water use; improving water conservation, reuse and efficiency; enhancing water systems' health and resilience; pursuing and potentially implementing new water supply and storage opportunities; and supporting investments in water infrastructure and conservation practices that support the region's economic and population growth.

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

10. PFAS Treatment in the San Gabriel Valley – Paul Cranmer, Director of Public Works Services, City of Arcadia **(Page 17)**
Recommended Action: For information only.

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

11. Regional Phase I Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Implementation
12. Safe Clean Water Program (**Page 18**)
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

October 6, 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: October 6, 2022
Time: 4:00 PM
Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

SGVCOG President, Becky Shevlin, called the 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 to order at 4:07 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

Arcadia	A. Verlato
Azusa	R. Gonzales
Claremont	E. Reece
Diamond Bar	N. Lyons
Duarte	J. Schulz
Glendora	M. Allawos
Industry	C. Moss
Irwindale	A. Ambriz
La Puente	G. Quiñones
La Verne	T. Hepburn
Monrovia	B. Shevlin
Montebello*	A. Jimenez
Monterey Park	H. Lo
Pasadena	V. Gordo
Rosemead	M. Clark
San Gabriel	T. Ding
San Marino	S. Jakubowski
South Pasadena	M. Cacciotti

Absent

Alhambra
Baldwin Park
Bradbury
Covina
El Monte
Pomona
San Dimas
Sierra Madre
La Cañada Flintridge
South El Monte
Temple City
West Covina
SGV Water Districts

SGVCOG Staff

M. Creter, Executive Director
A. Godoy, Staff
B. Ruano, 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

October 6, 2022
4:00 PM

Walnut	N. Tragarz	B. Logasa, Staff
L.A. County District #1	E. Gonzalez	J. Romanul, Staff
L.A. County District #5	V. Paul	J. Beshay, Staff
		K. Ward, Staff
		M. Sharkey, Staff
		N. Ryu, Staff
		R. Alimoren, Staff
		Ro. Choi, Staff
		S. Pedersen, Staff
		S. Hernandez, Staff
		S. Sousa, Staff
		S. Wong, Staff
		T. Lott, Staff
		V. Guerra, Staff
		V. Urenia, Staff
		Y. Harabedian, Staff

*The voting member representing the City of Montebello for the Capital Projects and Construction Committee was in attendance.

JOINT MEETING BUSINESS/ACTION ITEM

- Adopt Joint Resolution 22-49 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 22-49 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: E. Reece/A. Verlato) [Motion Passed]

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

*The vote on behalf of the City of Montebello only counts toward the Capital Projects and

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

October 6, 2022

4:00 PM

Construction Committee's joint resolution.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

5. Next Regular Governing Board Meeting – October 20, 2022
Governing Board President, Becky Shevlin, announced the next Governing Board meeting.

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Pasadena Council Member, Victor Gordo, provided a comment.

ADJOURN JOINT MEETING

SGVCOG President, Becky Shevlin, adjourned the 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 at 4:17 pm.

BOARD APPROVED

Date

Marisa Creter, Secretary



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

Date: October 11, 2022

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Zoom/YouTube teleconference meeting

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order: J. Stark called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.
2. Roll Call

Water Policy Committee Members Present

J. Stark; Claremont
M. Clark; Rosemead
D. Mahmud; South Pasadena
C. Goytia; TVMWD
J. Santana; USGVMWD

Water Policy Committee Members Absent

G. Boyer; Glendora
G. Crudginton; Monrovia

Water Working Group Members Present

D. Dolphin; Alhambra
S. Costandi; Covina
A. Sweet; Glendora
C. Lee/P. Choy; LA County Public Works
A. Tachiki; Monrovia
A. Ortega; Pomona
T. Gerber/A. Tesfaye; South Pasadena
S. Lee/M. Litchfield; TVMWD
E. Reyes; SGVMWD
E. Reyes; SGVMWD
T. Love; USGVMWD
S. Green/J. Stotz; LA County Sanitation Districts
L. Augino/K. Gardner; Watermaster

Guests

B. Kyle; Theodore Payne Foundation
B. Stracker; Member of the Public
B. Crossman; Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
P. Hernandez; Water Education for Latino Leaders

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. 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
- 6. Water Policy Committee/TAC Meeting Minutes – 9/13/2022
- 7. Adoption of Resolution 22-12-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: D. Mahmud/C. Goytia)

[MOTION PASSED]

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

ACTION ITEMS

- 8. Solve the Water Crisis Coalition
The Solve the Water Crisis Coalition was formed to educate state legislators, the Governor, and state agencies on the urgency to act on this water crisis. The organization’s mission is to raise awareness among California leaders, and highlight the urgent need for bold and immediate State action to secure California’s water future. The Water Policy Committee considered recommending the Governing Board adopt a resolution to join the water crisis education effort as a supporter but ultimately decided to table the discussion for a future meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

- 9. Native and Drought-Tolerant Landscaping – Brenda Kyle, Theodore Payne Foundation
The Committee heard a presentation from the Theodore Payne Foundation (TPF) on approaches to replace existing landscaping with more native and drought-tolerant plants. TPF aims to educate Southern Californians about the beauty and ecological benefits of California native plant landscapes, which, on average, use 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.

UPDATE ITEMS

- 10. Regional Phase I Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Implementation

- There were no updates on this item.
11. Safe Clean Water Program
B. Logasa shared information on this item. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved funding for all nine Stormwater Investment Plans on October 4, 2022.
 12. 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.
 13. Water Supply Update
T. Love provided an update on this item. He shared information on the drought, water supply and key well levels, and water deliveries.
 14. Water Working Group Chair Report
A. Tachiki provided an update on this item. He shared that he will be reaching out to the Water Working Group staff liaison soon to coordinate a Water Working Group meeting separate from the Water Policy Committee.

CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no report on this item.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURN

J. Stark adjourned the meeting at 11:32 A.M.

DATE: November 8, 2022

TO: Water Policy Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **ADOPT RESOLUTION 22-13-WC MAKING SPECIFIED FINDINGS TO ENABLE THE WATER POLICY COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE TO HOLD MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCING**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Resolution 22-13-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 22-13-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 22-13-WC](#)

DATE: November 8, 2022
TO: Water Policy Committee & Working Group
FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director
RE: **2023 WATER POLICY COMMITTEE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Recommend approval of the 2023 legislative platform pertaining to water policy for consideration by the Governing Board and intended to guide SGVCOG advocacy efforts and to be provided to the San Gabriel Valley's legislative representatives.

BACKGROUND

The SGVCOG Governing Board adopts various legislative priorities in concurrence with the Strategic Plan on an annual basis. The purpose of the legislative priorities is to outline the position of the Governing Board on priority issues and matters that impact the San Gabriel Valley. These legislative priorities are developed based on feedback and input from the SGVCOG policy committees and aim to address several regulatory, funding, and structural challenges faced by San Gabriel Valley cities. SGVCOG staff is currently working to develop a list of environmental legislative priorities to be presented to the SGVCOG Governing Board for adoption.

The proposed legislative priorities build upon those adopted in previous years. Items that have been updated from the 2022 Legislative Priorities are italicized below as a reference.

PROPOSED 2023 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

State & Federal

- Continue to advocate and/or pursue *state level* legislative or regulatory solutions for adopting financial capability assessment guidelines in the issuance of Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) permits that provide an economic analysis of the costs and benefits of water quality improvements.
- Continue to advocate for the establishment of reasonable timelines for compliance with new drinking water standards.
- Advocate for ~~calibration~~ *clear metrics and standards* of applicable water quality requirements with available funding.
- Advocate for water rights assignment to MS4 agencies for new infiltrated water.
- Advocate for any needed legislative solutions for innovative projects that allow cities to implement MS4 Permit projects.
- Advocate for funding sources that provide on-going funding for the implementation of stormwater projects, including those that encourage producer responsibility.
- Pursue legislative fixes that address the challenges that cities face in implementing SB 205 (Hertzberg), including updating the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes.
- *Advocate for legislative and funding solutions that help local agencies' implement plans*

for reduced water use; improved water conservation, reuse, and efficiency; investments in sustainable water infrastructure, supply and storage; and conservation practices that combat the ongoing drought.

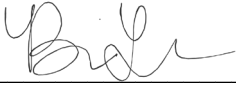
- *Advocate for legislative and funding solutions that support the treatment of water contamination from PFAS, PFOA, and other “forever chemicals” to ensure drinking water quality.*

Local

- Advocate for Safe Clean Water Program funding for cities’ MS4 projects.
- Advocate for enhancements to the implementation of the Safe Clean Water Program to ensure that the funding is effectively, efficiently, and equitably used for projects that focus on ensuring clean water for all residents and cities' compliance with the MS4 Permit.
- Advocate for regional projects that provide drinking and stormwater quality, supply, and resiliency benefits to the San Gabriel Valley.
- Support capital projects necessary to comply with the MS4 Permit, such as the Rio Hondo Load Reduction Strategy (LRS).
- *Support regional coordination among cities and local water agencies in combatting the ongoing drought and implementing water conservation best practices.*

The purpose of these legislative priorities is to advocate for San Gabriel Valley interests at the County, State, and Federal level, as they pertain to water. The review of these legislative items will help improve quality of life for all residents regionally. As a result, SGVCOG staff recommends the Committee to recommend the Governing Board to adopt the 2023 Water Policy Committee Legislative Priorities.

SGVCOG Management Analyst, Brianne Logasa, will provide a detailed presentation on this item.

Prepared by: 

Brianne Logasa
Management Analyst

Approved by: 

Marisa Creter
Executive Director

DATE: November 8, 2022

TO: Water Policy Committee & Working Group

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **DROUGHT AND WATER SHORTAGE RESOLUTION**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Recommend Governing Board adopt a Resolution affirming a drought and water shortage emergency in the San Gabriel Valley and calling on local and regional partners to join together to adopt an “all of the above” response to such emergency, including reducing water use; improving water conservation, reuse and efficiency; enhancing water systems’ health and resilience; pursuing and potentially implementing new water supply and storage opportunities; and supporting investments in water infrastructure and conservation practices that support the region’s economic and population growth.

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.

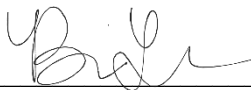
Although many San Gabriel Valley residents and water suppliers have made progress in reducing water use and improving efficiency, water use is outpacing water replenishment and reducing water supply at unsustainable rates. Clean, safe, and reliable water supply is central to San Gabriel Valley residents, economy, and natural systems, and additional conservation actions as well as new infrastructure investments are needed to address the region’s water challenges. Additionally, extreme heat and ensuing periods of drought exacerbate challenges for both energy and water management and is a growing threat to lives and livelihoods across the state - especially for disadvantaged communities.

In October 2022, the Southern California Association of Governments’ (SCAG) Regional Council adopted a Water Action Resolution which affirms a drought and water shortage emergency in the SCAG Region and calls on local and regional partners to join together to reduce water use; improve water conservation, reuse, and efficiency; and enhance water systems health and resilience.

DISCUSSION

Members of the Water Policy Committee requested staff review SCAG’s Water Action Resolution and have them consider recommending a similar Resolution to the Governing Board.

In order to support water conservation efforts across the region, staff is recommending that the Water Policy Committee recommend the Governing Board adopt a Drought and Water Shortage Resolution affirming a drought and water shortage emergency in the San Gabriel Valley and calling on local and regional partners to join together to adopt an “all of the above” response to such emergency, including reducing water use; improving water conservation, reuse and efficiency; enhancing water systems’ health and resilience; pursuing and potentially implementing new water supply and storage opportunities; and supporting investments in water infrastructure and conservation practices that support the region’s economic and population growth.

Prepared by: 
Brianne Logasa
Management Analyst

Approved by: 
Marisa Creter
Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment A – Draft Drought and Water Shortage Resolution](#)

REPORT

DATE: November 8, 2022
TO: Water Policy Committee & Working Group
FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director
RE: **PFAS TREATMENT IN THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information only.

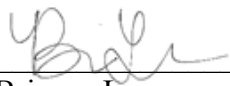
BACKGROUND

At its January 2022 meeting, the Water Committee requested presentations and resources on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances treatment in the region. Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a large family of human-made chemicals that contain carbon, fluorine, and other elements. These chemicals have been in use since the 1940s and are found in a variety of products including firefighting foams, household products such as non-stick cookware, food packaging, and stain and water repellants. The two most widely studied PFAS chemicals are perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS); these chemicals were voluntarily phased out of production in the United States. However, as many as 3,000 other PFAS chemicals are still used in a wide variety of applications. Nicknamed “forever chemicals,” these chemicals are persistent and resist degradation, meaning they accumulate in the environment and in your body over time.


PFAS can be treated and removed from local water supply systems using methods like carbon filtration, ion exchange, and reverse osmosis. These treatment methods require expensive infrastructure, techniques, and maintenance, making it difficult for local and regional bodies and water providers to pursue.

There has been an influx of new contaminants and rising concentrations of existing contaminants due to the drought. Arcadia built a treatment facility to deal with PFAS/PFOA, which has become a forever chemical.

At this Water Policy Committee/Working Group Meeting meeting, Paul Cranmer, Public Works Services Director for the City of Arcadia, will provide an overview of how the City of Arcadia is treating PFAS/PFOA chemicals as well as future plans for dealing with such persistent chemicals.

Prepared by: 

Brianne Logasa
Management Analyst

Approved by: 

Marisa Creter
Executive Director

DATE: November 8, 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 Monday, October 17, 2022 from 9:00am-12:00pm. They discussed seven projects in the ULAR WASC:
 - Emerald Necklace John Muir High School Campus Natural Infrastructure Improvement Project
 - Green Street Demonstration Project on Main Street
 - Hollenbeck Park Lake Rehabilitation Project
 - McCambridge Park Stormwater Capture Multi-Benefit Project
 - Mission Mile Sepulveda: A Climate Resilient Urban Greenway to Cultural Connections Project
 - South Pasadena Huntington Drive Regional Green Street Project
 - Sylmar Channel Project
- Will meet Thursday, November 3, 2022 from 9:00am-12:00pm. As of the writing of this staff report, the agenda for this meeting has not yet been released.

Rio Hondo WASC

- Met on Tuesday, October 18, 2022 from 1:00-3:00pm and discussed the Regional Program Quarterly Report Summary from FY21-22 Q1 and Q2.


Upper Los Angeles River (ULAR) WASC

- Met on Wednesday, October 5, 2022 from 2:00-4:00pm. The committee discussed the Regional Program Quarterly Report Summary FY 2021-22 Q1 and Q2. They also received presentations on two Scientific Studies:
 - Groundwater Monitoring: Studying Pollution Removal in Stormwater Drywells and Monitoring the Spatial and Temporal Effects of Stormwater Drywells on Local Groundwater Quality

- Regional Pathogen Reduction Study

Upper San Gabriel River (USGR) WASC

- Met on Thursday, October 27, 2022 from 1:00-3:00pm. The committee discussed the Regional Program Quarterly Report Summary for FY21-22 Q1 and Q2. They also discussed which previously-funded projects they plan to request presentations and updates from, as well as the schedule and frequency for their future meetings.

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