MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY
Jointly with the
PLANNING & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
18700 Ward Street, Conference Room 101, Fountain Valley, CA 92708
December 1, 2025, 8:30 a.m.

Teleconference Sites:
25652 Paseo De La Paz, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
17420 Walnut Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

This meeting will be held in person at 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, California, 92708 (Conference Room 101). As a convenience for the public, the meeting may also be accessed by Zoom Webinar and will be available by either computer or telephone audio as indicated below. Because this is an in-person meeting and the Zoom component is not required, but rather is being offered as a convenience, if there are any technical issues during the meeting, this meeting will continue and will not be suspended.

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P&O Committee:
Director Seckel, Chair
Director Yoo Schneider
Director Dick

Staff: H. De La Torre, M. Baum-Haley, A. Crespi, V. Osborn, C. Busslinger,

Ex Officio Member: President McVicker

MWDOC Committee meetings are noticed and held as joint meetings of the Committee and the entire Board of Directors, and all members of the Board of Directors may attend and participate in the discussion. Each Committee has designated Committee members, and other members of the Board are designated alternate committee members. If less than a quorum of the full Board is in attendance, the Board meeting will be adjourned for lack of a quorum and the meeting will proceed as a meeting of the Committee with those Committee members and alternate members in attendance acting as the Committee.

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENTS
Public comments on agenda items and items under the jurisdiction of the Committee should be made at this time.

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED
Determine need and take action to agendize item(s), which arose subsequent to the posting of the Agenda. (Requires a unanimous vote of the Committee).

ITEMS DISTRIBUTED TO THE BOARD LESS THAN 72 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING
Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt public records that relate to open session agenda items and are distributed to a majority of the Board less than 72 hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection in the lobby of the District's business office located at 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, California 92708, during regular business hours. When practical, these public records will also be made available on the District's Internet Website, accessible at http://www.mwdoc.com.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AREA

2. METROPOLITAN'S LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES AND PRINCIPLES FOR 2026

3. PUBLIC AFFAIRS HIGHLIGHTS

4. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES REPORTS
   a. Ongoing MWDOC Reliability and Engineering/Planning Projects
   b. WEROC
   c. Water Use Efficiency Projects
   d. Public and Government Affairs

5. REVIEW OF ISSUES RELATED TO PLANNING OR ENGINEERING PROJECTS, WEROC, WATER USE EFFICIENCY, FACILITY AND EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE, WATER STORAGE, WATER QUALITY, CONJUNCTIVE USE PROGRAMS, EDUCATION, PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMS AND EVENTS, PUBLIC INFORMATION PROJECTS, PUBLIC INFORMATION CONSULTANTS, DISTRICT FACILITIES, AND MEMBER AGENCY RELATIONS

ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: At the discretion of the Committee, all items appearing on this agenda, whether or not expressly listed for action, may be deliberated, and may be subject to action by the Committee. On those items designated for Board action, the Committee reviews the items and makes a recommendation for final action to the full Board of Directors; final action will be taken by the Board of Directors. Agendas for Committee and Board meetings may be obtained from the District Secretary. Members of the public are advised that the Board consideration process includes consideration of each agenda item by one or more Committees indicated on the Board Action Sheet. Attendance at Committee meetings and the Board meeting considering an item consequently is advised.

Accommodations for the Disabled. Any person may make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation needed for that person to be able to participate in the public meeting by telephoning Angela Crespi, District Secretary, at (714) 963-3058, or writing to Municipal Water District of Orange County at 18700 Ward Street, Unit B, Fountain Valley, CA 92708. Requests must specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested. A telephone number or other contact information should be included so that District staff may discuss appropriate arrangements. Persons requesting a disability-related accommodation should make the request with adequate time before the meeting for the District to provide the requested accommodation.

Item No. 1

INFORMATION ITEM
December 1, 2025

TO: **Planning & Operations Committee**

FROM: **Harvey De La Torre, General Manager**

Staff Contact: Charles Busslinger, Dir of Engineering/Dist. Engineer

SUBJECT: **SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AREA**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Planning & Operations Committee receive and file the information.

REPORT

Purpose

This item provides updates relevant to activities of the South Orange County Watershed Management Area (SOCWMA), including status of Proposition 4 Climate Bond funding, highlights of the Department of Water Resources (DWR) vision for the future of the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) framework, and an update on DWR pilot projects under a new Watershed Resilience Program framework.

Background

The South Orange County IRWM Group represents diverse stakeholders engaged in integrating water resource planning across multiple sectors, including jurisdictions, water and wastewater agencies, environmental non-profits, academic institutions, transportation entities, and local residents.

The South Orange County IRWM Group has worked collaboratively for over a decade, representing one of the longest-running recognized IRWM Regions in the state. Through a Cooperative Agreement amongst its members, the South Orange County IRWM Group established a framework for planning and implementing water management strategies in the SOCWMA. The Cooperative Agreement established an Executive Committee through which the SOCWMA is governed, and decision-making is carried out. A Management

Budgeted: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A		Budgeted amount:
Core: ☐	Choice: ☐	Movement between funds: ☐ Yes ☐ No
Action item amount:		

Committee was also formed to support the EC. Director Crane represents MWDOC on the SOCWMA Executive Committee.

Discussion

Proposition 4 – Climate Bond

In November 2024, voters passed Proposition 4, a general obligation bond authorizing $10 billion in State funding for various projects to reduce climate risks and impacts, including $100 million for IRWM and Watershed Climate Resilience. At least 40 percent of the total funds are set aside for vulnerable populations or disadvantaged communities.

The legislature, through AB-149, directed implementation of the Proposition 4 program through an emergency regulation process to speed the availability of funding. A Notice of Finding of Emergency was posted by the California Water Commission on November 7, 2025. The regulation will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Law on or around December 1, 2025, with an intended effective date of December 11, 2025. DWR is in the process of developing new grant programs for this funding, with more information to be released in the future. SOCWMA is awaiting State guidance on how to prepare for the call(s) for projects for grant funding.

Evolution of the Integrated Regional Watershed Management Framework

The IRWM framework remains a core strategy in California. The 2023 California Water Plan (2023 Update) indicated the State's intention to modify the existing IRWM framework to explicitly focus on watershed-scale climate resilience and equity within a broader, more urgent approach to climate challenges. The 2023 Update emphasizes a comprehensive, multi-sector approach to water management, moving beyond traditional water agencies (water, wastewater, and groundwater agencies, and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit holders such as cities and counties) to explicitly include other critical partners.

Key changes indicated in the 2023 Water Plan Update toward the evolution of the IRWM framework:

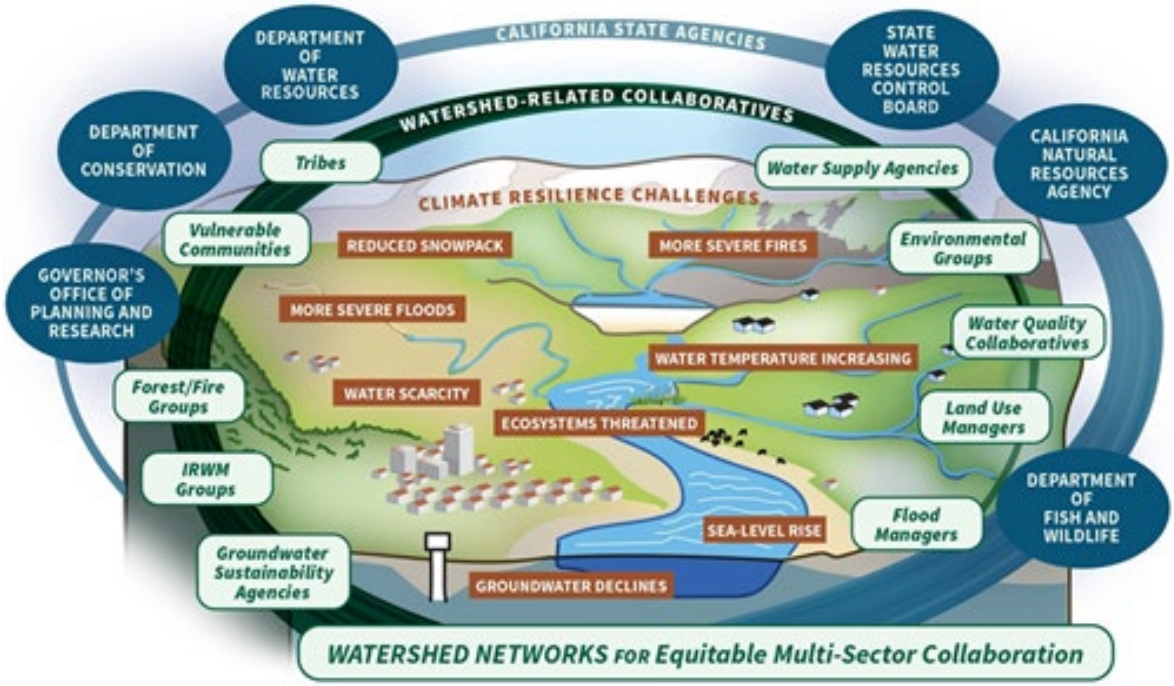
- **Shift to Watershed Resilience Program:** The 2023 California Water Plan introduces a Watershed Resilience Program and references Climate Resiliency Networks, which build upon existing IRWM initiatives. The Watershed Resilience Program encourages all water-related sectors (water supply, flood management, groundwater, ecosystems, etc.) to collaborate on climate resilience planning at the watershed scale and calls for enhancing the IRWM framework to include additional partners and fund climate vulnerability and risk assessments at the watershed scale.
- **Collaboration with Forestry/Fire Authorities:** Forestry and fire authorities are specifically identified as essential collaborators in the new framework, recognizing that high-severity wildfires pose a major risk to watershed health, including erosion, contamination, and water treatment challenges.

- **Focus on Climate Adaptation:** The updated framework emphasizes the need for adaptation planning at the watershed level by promoting multi-benefit, cross-jurisdictional projects that address issues such as drought, floods, fire risk reduction, and ecosystem restoration.
- **Equity and Inclusivity:** The 2023 Update places a new focus on achieving equitable outcomes in water management, prioritizing the involvement of underrepresented communities, specifically indicating tribes, community leaders, and non-profit organizations as critical partners.

In summary, the IRWM framework is evolving toward a more climate-focused, equity-driven approach to managing water resources at the watershed level, while recognizing that healthy forests provide statewide benefits to water quality and supply.

DWR Watershed Resilience Program Pilot

The State initiated 5 **Watershed Resilience Pilot Program** projects in 2024, funded by the 2021 and 2022 Budget Acts. DWR describes the program as the "next evolution of the Integrated Regional Water Management Program." The nearest pilot project to Southern California is the Ventura River Watershed in Ventura County. The pilot project participants indicate they are actively developing their regional plans, which are expected to be completed in 2026. Existing IRWM groups are waiting for guidance on how to implement the State's vision.



https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/watershed-resilience-program

Key aspects of the Watershed Resilience Program approach are:

- Managing water from headwaters to outflow at a watershed scale.

- Prioritizing equity and inclusiveness.
- Analyzing climate risks and adaptations at the watershed level.
- Collaborating across water, flood, groundwater, quality, forest/fire, ecosystem, and land use sectors.
- Developing metrics to track outcomes regionally and statewide.

Next Steps

SOCWMA is awaiting guidance on how to implement the State's vision for the Watershed Resilience Pilot Program and for the specifics of the grant call(s) for projects for Proposition 4 funding.

ALIGNMENT WITH BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

☒ *Clarifying MWDOC's mission and role; defining functions and actions.*
☐ *Balance support for Metropolitan's regional mission and OC values and interests.*
☐ *Strengthen communication and coordination of messaging.*
☒ *Work with member agencies to develop water supply and demand objectives.*
☐ *Solicit input and feedback from member agencies.*
☐ *Invest in workforce development and succession planning.*

Attachments/Links:
N/A

Item No. 2

INFORMATION ITEM
December 1, 2025

TO: **Planning & Operations Committee**

FROM: **Harvey De La Torre, General Manager**

Staff Contact: Heather Baez, Director of Government Affairs

SUBJECT: **METROPOLITAN'S LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES AND PRINCIPLES FOR 2026**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Planning & Operations Committee receive and file the information.

REPORT

Purpose

The purpose of this item is to share the Metropolitan Water District's (Metropolitan) 2026 updates to its Legislative Priorities and Principles.

Discussion

Metropolitan maintains a set of Legislative Policy Principles and Priorities (LPP) that serve as guidelines for staff and legislative advocates on key issues. The LPP lays out an integrated, collaborative approach to current, anticipated legislative water policy issues to effectively manage Southern California's watersheds, water resources, and water infrastructure, supporting long-term resilience and reliability for communities and ecosystems. Once adopted, staff use this document to determine Metropolitan's positions and advocate for these priorities and principles at the state and federal levels through Metropolitan-sponsored legislation, engagement on bills, or pursuit of state and federal funding.

Metropolitan staff updated the document to reflect developments and new laws in the state and federal arenas, and to be consistent with internal Metropolitan initiatives, including the General Managers Business Plan, the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for

Budgeted: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A		Budgeted amount:
Core: ☐	Choice: ☐	Movement between funds: ☐ Yes ☐ No
Action item amount:		

Water (CAMP4W), and the Climate Action Plan. The draft LPP was presented to the Member Agency Managers on October 31, 2025, and to the Member Agency Legislative Coordinators on November 6, 2025.

The item was presented to the Metropolitan Communications and Legislation Committee on November 18, 2025. Adoption in December is time-sensitive to ensure Metropolitan can effectively advocate for its policy and project interests when the legislative session begins in January 2026.

Key Changes for 2026

California Water Plan

- Remove priority on supporting reforms to the CA Water Plan
- Add a new principle on its implementation

Invasive Species

- Add priority supporting funding and policy to mitigate the spread of golden mussels

Metropolitan-Sponsored State Bills

- Remove section on Metropolitan-sponsored state bills (AB 580 was enacted; public works contracting threshold changed to Legislative Principle; no new legislative proposals at this time)

Colorado River

- Add four new principles:
  - Address post-2026 Colorado River operational guidelines
  - Support infrastructure repairs at Glen Canyon Dam
  - Support hydropower generation and infrastructure repairs at Hoover Dam
  - Support projects to address environmental effects of conservation and efficiency

Security

- Update physical and cyber security principles

Next Steps

Upon adoption on December 9, 2025, the final LPP will guide Metropolitan's advocacy efforts throughout 2026 at both state and federal levels.

ALIGNMENT WITH BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

☒ *Clarifying MWDOC's mission and role; defining functions and actions.*
☒ *Balance support for Metropolitan's regional mission and OC values and interests.*
☐ *Strengthen communication and coordination of messaging.*
☐ *Work with member agencies to develop water supply and demand objectives.*
☐ *Solicit input and feedback from member agencies.*
☐ *Invest in workforce development and succession planning.*

Attachments/Links:
Attachment 1: Redline of 2025 Legislative Priorities and Principles as of November 12, 2025

~~2025~~ 2026 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES AND PRINCIPLES

~~The 2025~~ Metropolitan's Legislative Priorities and Principles lay out an integrated "One Water" collaborative approach on current, anticipated legislative water policy issues to effectively manage Southern California's watersheds, water resources, and water infrastructure to ensure long-term resilience and reliability for communities and ecosystems.

Staff use this document to determine Metropolitan's positions and advocate for these priorities and principles at the state and federal level through Metropolitan-sponsored legislation, engaging on bills, or pursuing state and federal funding.

Adopted by

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Board of Directors

on

December ~~10, 2024~~XX, 2025

~~2025~~ 2026 Legislative Priorities

To help adapt to a changing climate, protect water resources, and partner with communities we serve, Metropolitan will work to support administrative and/or legislative actions and federal and state funding for the following priorities in ~~2025~~ 2026:

I. Top Legislative Priorities

1. Continue support for imported water supply resiliency and reliability, including planning for the Delta Conveyance Project, Sites Reservoir Project, Agreements to Support Healthy Rivers and Landscapes (Voluntary Agreements), and the development and implementation of post-2026 Colorado River ~~operating~~ operational guidelines.
2. ~~Support reforms to the California Water Plan to establish long-term water supply targets and actions that support statewide development of new water supplies and resource management strategies to meet current and future water demands of the urban sector and agriculture, without compromising existing access to core supplies and while meeting applicable environmental protections.~~
2. Continue support for funding and policy to mitigate against the spread of golden mussels and other invasive species
3. Conserve existing water supplies and adapt to climate change by supporting demand management and water use efficiency, long-term non-functional turf conversion, and a federal tax exemption for water conservation rebates.
4. Support the development of water recycling projects, including Pure Water Southern California, to improve long-term supply reliability.
5. Support funding for regional conveyance and water storage improvements to ensure the region's water supply is adequate and reliable for all member agencies.
6. Protect drinking water quality and ensure access to safe and reliable drinking water, including upholding the polluter pays principle and supporting the ongoing cleanup of contaminated sites along the Colorado River.
7. Support adaptive ~~management for~~ approaches to ecosystem restoration in the Bay-Delta and Colorado River watersheds that takes into consideration evolving climate conditions, risk analyses, and best available science.
8. Improve water affordability, especially for disadvantaged communities, without burdening existing ratepayers.
9. Support cost-effective transition to zero-emission fleets and equipment, while ensuring operational reliability and maintaining emergency response capabilities.

~~II. Metropolitan-Sponsored State Bills~~

1. ~~Support administrative and/or legislative actions to amend the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act to eliminate the sunset date and allow Metropolitan to continue operating under its existing master reclamation plan. (Board approved in November 2023, MI 53444)~~
2. ~~Support legislation for Metropolitan to increase the local agency dollar threshold for public works construction contracts from $25,000 to $150,000 and seek an inflation cost escalator. (Board approved in November 2024)~~

~~2025~~ 2026 Legislative Policy Principles

The ~~2025~~ 2026 Legislative Policy Principles guide and inform Metropolitan's engagement on state and federal legislative and regulatory activities. They are updated annually and are developed in consultation with Metropolitan's subject matter experts and through outreach with the member agencies.

The policy principles address six strategic areas that inform Metropolitan's integrated approach and the Board-led process for developing the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W). These policy areas include: (1) drinking water; (2) regional water resource management; (3) imported water supply; (4) sustainability, resiliency, and innovation; (5) infrastructure; and (6) system resiliency.

I. Drinking Water – Metropolitan provides high-quality, reliable drinking water in an economically responsible way to the Southern California region that surpasses all federal and state drinking water regulations.

   Metropolitan supports administrative and/or legislative actions and funding that:

   A. Water Quality and Treatment

      1. Use best available science, occurrence and health effects data, and appropriate cost-benefit analyses or economic feasibility to protect public health and improve water quality. Apply these principles when setting maximum contaminant levels, health advisories, or notification/response levels, in addition to assessing laboratory capacity, analytical methods, and other regulatory standards or guidance levels.

      2. Apply the "polluter pays" principle such that parties responsible for introducing contaminants in or near drinking water sources are held liable for cleanup, and not the drinking water, recycled water, and wastewater facilities that subsequently store, transport, or treat the water.

      3. Comply with new regulatory standards, including implementing treatment and mitigation measures, ~~development of~~ developing risk communication tools, and ensuring adequate time for implementation.

      4. Protect source water quality, reduction of threats from invasive species, and mitigation of harmful algal blooms.

      5. Improve the State Water Resource Control Board's knowledge of Constituents of Emerging Concern (CEC) in waters of the state and drinking water, including support for the CEC Action Fund.

   B. Water Governance, Affordability, and Funding – Metropolitan supports efforts to provide access to safe, reliable, and affordable drinking water to all communities.

      1. Improve water affordability throughout the region, especially for disadvantaged communities, without burdening existing ratepayers.

      2. Help water systems to provide low-income ratepayer assistance programs in a way that is operationally feasible, sustainable, and maintains consumer confidence in retail agencies while maintaining flexibility and preserving local operational authority.

      3. Improve governance and long-term sustainability of non-compliant water systems, provide assistance for voluntary consolidations, and ensure that all receiving public

water systems are consulted on potential consolidations. Increase local agency flexibility in determining fees for service and assessment amounts.

4. Ensure the limited resources of the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund are prioritized for operation and maintenance costs, infrastructure improvements, and consolidation actions.

~~4.~~5. Actively monitor and engage in the implementation of the California Water Plan update to ensure alignment with the District's mission.

~~5.~~6.

II. Regional Water Resource Management – Metropolitan's One Water Vision and the Board-led CAMP4W process promote collaboration with member agencies to adapt to climate change and plan for future water supply needs in a reliable, cost-effective, and environmentally responsible manner while maintaining flexibility and local autonomy.

Metropolitan supports administrative and/or legislative actions and funding that:

A. Conservation

1. Support tax exemptions and/or credits for water conservation or efficiency incentives, including but not limited to long-term conversion of non-functional turf, local stormwater capture, and other measures to reduce consumption of water or enhance the absorption and infiltration capacity of the landscape.
2. Encourage equitable water use efficiency and recycled water use among agricultural, industrial, and urban sectors.
3. Support retail water agencies' ability to meet the objectives of Conservation as a California Way of Life in a manner that maintains flexibility and protects local agency decision-making. Support efforts to ensure new statutes and regulations are based on science; recognize regional distinctions (such as climate, land use, population, and hydrology); consider water affordability; and assess potential impacts to wastewater operations and recycled water projects.
4. Advance leak detection and water loss reduction. Support the development and implementation of flexible water loss standards for water systems.
5. Support the long-term conversion of non-functional turf in commercial, industrial, and institutional landscapes and ban installation of non-functional turf in new construction.

B. Desalination and Groundwater Remediation

1. Support brackish groundwater and seawater desalination projects, and impaired groundwater treatment projects, consistent with the Governor's Water Resilience Portfolio, California's Water Supply Strategy and Metropolitan's CAMP4W goals.
2. Facilitate salinity control projects, including but not limited to source control, treatment, and concentrate management.
3. Advance research, pilot tests, and demonstration studies that encourage the development of environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient desalination

technologies.

C. Recycled Water

1. Support the development of water recycling projects, including Pure Water Southern California, to improve long-term water supply reliability and maximize voluntary use of recycled water.
2. Improve flexibility of the state's water recycling grant program.
3. Implement the National Water Reuse Action Plan and California's Water Reuse Action Plan while preserving local flexibility and encouraging local, state, and federal coordination, research, and innovation.
4. Facilitate advancing direct potable reuse projects in California, including but not limited to streamlining the planning, development, and implementation of local and regional potable reuse projects, as well as addressing research gaps, advancing scientific knowledge, and strengthening partnerships and outreach to further the development of potable reuse.
5. Promote voluntary on-site wastewater treatment systems if they comply with Title 22 and do not negatively affect municipal water recycling systems.
6. ~~Maximize voluntary use of recycled water.~~

D. Local Supply Development

1. Protect and enhance flexibility and responsiveness in developing diverse, climate-resilient resource portfolios, as identified in CAMP4W and related initiatives, tailored to local needs that benefit overall regional reliability.
2. Promote integrated water resources development by advocating for clear, concise, and expedited regulations and policies that are easily understandable by the regulated community and public.
3. Expedite the development of new local resources to help adapt to climate change and safeguard water system operations. Advance stormwater as a beneficial resource and facilitate the funding and permitting of stormwater capture projects with demonstrated local and regional water supply benefits and that promote holistic watershed health.
4. Advance Metropolitan's surface and groundwater storage and/or recovery programs with member agencies and other partners.

E. Watershed Management

1. Enhance watershed management to provide broad public benefits, such as improved water quality and water supply reliability, reduced wildfire risks, greater scientific understanding, and other environmental improvements.
2. Advance implementation of watershed management plans, including watershed research and multi-benefit forestry management projects.
3. Advance implementation of the California Water Resilience Portfolio and the Water Supply Strategy, consistent with Metropolitan's goals and objectives, to enhance

watershed-scale coordination, management and planning, and support programs and funding that improve water resilience and watershed functions.

III. Imported Water Supply – Metropolitan provides imported water supplies to its member agencies from two primary sources: the Colorado River via the Colorado River Aqueduct and Northern California watersheds via the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the State Water Project (SWP).

Metropolitan supports administrative and/or legislative actions and funding that:

A. Bay-Delta Initiatives – Metropolitan is involved in several key regulatory and planning processes in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta related to the operation of the SWP. The goals are to improve both water supply reliability and ecosystems in the Delta estuary for threatened and endangered species. To advance these goals, Metropolitan supports collaborative scientific efforts to enhance understanding of how to restore and manage the Bay-Delta while reducing reliance on it, consistent with the 2009 Delta Reform Act (Delta Reform Act).

1. Advance Delta Conveyance and ~~EcoRestore~~ Delta habitat restoration in support of California's coequal goals of water supply reliability and Delta ecosystem restoration and the Governor's California Water Resilience Portfolio.

2. Improve scientific understanding of listed Delta fish and wildlife species and water project operations in the Delta, including data collection, real-time monitoring, and modeling. Promote the use of best available science to protect and restore aquatic species and habitats and enhance flexibility for water project operations while maintaining regulatory and statutory protections for species listed under the state and federal Endangered Species Act.

3. Support implementation of state policies adopted as part of the Delta Reform Act and water management package, including clarification of the monitoring, reporting, and enforcement provisions related to in-Delta diversions.

4. Protect water quality for beneficial uses ~~and that are implemented in accordance~~ consistent with California water rights priorities.

5. Advance the Delta Freshwater Pathway, improve levees (including levee modernization for the existing Delta levee system), levee maintenance programs (including real-time monitoring), and secure Delta flood-fighting materials and stockpiles.

6. Modernize and effectively administer the California water rights system in the Delta watershed, including protecting stored water releases.

7. Advance the Sites Reservoir Project and the Agreements to Support Healthy Rivers and Landscapes (Voluntary Agreements), consistent with the Board's action for these efforts.

B. Colorado River Resources – The Colorado River is a critical resource for the entire Southwest and many diverse ecosystems. Climate change has reduced the ~~R~~river's flow, and degradation of the Colorado River's water quality can cause economic, environmental, and human health impacts across the West. Declining inflow into the river also reduces generation of hydropower, increases dam infrastructure risk, and could reduce supply for the Basin States and Mexico. Metropolitan and other interested parties

work to ensure we can continue to supply our communities with a safe and reliable water supply.

1. Authorize, implement, and fund the post-2026 operational guidelines consistent with Metropolitan's interests.
2. Support conservation and efficiency projects to enhance the resiliency of the Colorado River System and ensure that sufficient water is delivered to meet Metropolitan's water supply needs.
3. Support infrastructure repairs of improvements at Glen Canyon Dam that will allow for full downstream releases.
4. Support protection of hydropower generation and infrastructure repairs at Hoover Dam consistent with the Law of the River.
~~1.~~5. Support the cleanup of contaminated sites along the Colorado River by responsible parties. This includes, but is not limited to, uranium remediation in Moab, Utah; perchlorate remediation in Henderson, Nevada; hexavalent chromium remediation near Topock, Arizona; and a waste disposal site near Hoover Dam.
~~2.~~6. Stabilize the financial position of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program (Program), ensure continued coordination between states and federal agencies to further the Program goals, and maintain the safe operation of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Paradox Valley Unit salinity control project until a viable long-term alternative is implemented.
7. Facilitate successful implementation of the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program by conserving Colorado River water and creating habitat for threatened and endangered species.
~~3.~~8. Support federal, state, and local agency projects to address the environmental effects of conservation and efficiency projects, including the California Natural Resources Agency's Salton Sea Management Program.
~~4.~~9. Advance binational water conservation programs that benefit Colorado River supply augmentation and habitat restoration objectives.
~~5.~~10. Support settlement of tribal reserved rights claims in the Colorado River Basin that are consistent with the evolving Law of the River.

C. State Water Project – About 30 percent of Southern California's water comes from the SWP in an average year. Metropolitan works with state and federal agencies as well as other SWP contractors to manage threats to the project, address environmental needs, and augment water supplies through existing and potential collaborative transfers and groundwater banking agreements.

1. Address the impacts of subsidence on the SWP and prevent future damage caused by unsustainable groundwater pumping.
2. Repair and improve the joint state and federal facility and ensure that funding is equitably distributed between partners while maintaining SWP supply reliability.
3. Clean up contaminated groundwater storage basins used for Metropolitan water

banking programs along the California Aqueduct.

4. ~~Provide public share of costs~~Ensure public funding for non-water supply costs, including recreation, flood protection, mitigation, environmental enhancement, and rehabilitation for multi-purpose SWP facilities.

IV. Sustainability, Resiliency, and Innovation – Metropolitan supports sustainable practices that improve water and power system resilience to help water agencies prepare and respond to a rapidly changing environmental landscape. Metropolitan strives to fulfill the needs of the current generation without compromising the needs of future generations in an environmentally and economically responsible way while maintaining local flexibility and local autonomy.

Metropolitan supports administrative and/or legislative actions and funding that:

A. Carbon Neutrality

1. Facilitate implementation of Metropolitan's Climate Action Plan to reduce Metropolitan's greenhouse gas emissions and reach carbon neutrality by 2045.
2. Assist the Department of Water Resources in reaching carbon neutrality for the SWP by 2045 in a cost-effective and environmentally responsible manner.
3. Improve, develop, and promote innovative climate adaptation solutions, including science-based strategies and tools that restore healthy soils, conserve water, or capture carbon.
4. Support cost-effective transition to zero-emission fleets and equipment, while ensuring operational reliability and maintaining emergency response capabilities.

B. Water/Energy Nexus

1. Facilitate energy efficiency and storage projects, and programs to reduce greenhouse gases and develop renewable resources.
2. Remove barriers and encourage energy sector investments in water conservation and energy management programs.
3. Preserve Metropolitan's ability to pursue a diverse set of supply options and oppose constraints on supply development, such as water resource loading orders based solely on energy intensity.
4. Ensure power costs are appropriate and proportional to the benefits received and that water system operations are not adversely affected by power-related legislation or administrative actions.
5. Use the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund for water/energy nexus projects and maintain cap-and-~~trade~~ invest allowances for Metropolitan and Department of Water Resources (i.e., State Water Contractors).
6. Maintain Metropolitan authority over energy-related matters relative to its system and operations (e.g., system reserve margin or resource adequacy requirements).

C. Renewable Energy

1. Define hydropower generation as renewable energy irrespective of a facility's nameplate generating capacity and include the provision of renewable energy credits for hydroelectric generation.
2. Enhance or expand hydropower at existing dams without adversely impacting the financial or operational aspects of those dams or impacting entities with rights to power from existing resources that directly or indirectly impact Metropolitan's service area.
3. Improve federal hydropower relicensing for existing facilities, including SWP resources.
4. Incorporate renewable energy resources for the SWP and the Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) that contribute to the state's climate goals, such as pumped hydroelectric energy, without compromising the primary purpose of these water supply and delivery projects. Ensure consideration of transmission limitations, cost and portfolio availability, and prevent shifting of any unrelated impacts to SWP or CRA facilities.

D. Environmental Stewardship

1. Ensure environmental compliance by improving the clarity and workability of regulatory and reporting requirements, promoting consistency, and reducing duplication while also protecting public health and the environment.
2. Facilitate non-mitigation habitat restoration projects that benefit endangered and threatened species and ecosystem health.
3. Advance research and partnerships in water science, including snowpack and streamflow monitoring, stormwater runoff, drinking water quality, salinity control, source water protection, soil moisture monitoring, healthy soils, and watershed research.

E. Workforce Development and Safety – Metropolitan is committed to ensuring the resiliency of its workforce and to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as workplace violence prevention, to promote the physical and mental safety and well-being of its workforce and the communities it serves.

1. Improve educational opportunities in the water sector, including career technical education and workforce development.
2. Strengthen training programs and certification processes for water system staff.
3. Promote safe work environments.

F. Innovation – Supporting and promoting innovation and emerging technologies continues Metropolitan's longstanding tradition of creatively solving complex challenges.

1. Advance research and development of new and emerging technologies, such as satellite- and computer-based systems to monitor source water quality, ecosystem health, and threatened and endangered species. Support technologies that measure

and predict water use, evaporation, and moisture monitoring; expand coordination with technology incubators, research institutions, and other stakeholders.

2. Promote open water data platforms and sharing, including improving access to agency data, streamlining the collection and submission of water agency data, and promoting collaboration among federal, state, and local stakeholders.

V. Infrastructure – Metropolitan has a strategic priority to invest in key capital projects in its region to enable long-term, reliable water deliveries. Key projects identified in Metropolitan's Capital Investment Plan focus on improvements to the CRA, treatment plants, and distribution systems.

Metropolitan supports administrative and/or legislative actions and funding that:

A. Initiate, expedite, and defray the costs of planning, financing, constructing, repairing, and rehabilitating water and power infrastructure projects, including but not limited to general obligation bonds, tax-exempt municipal bonds, grants, low-interest loans, and direct appropriations. Ensure equitable cost-sharing of water and power infrastructure projects.

B. Expand funding programs, expedite project approval and reporting processes, and prevent project backlogs in state and federal funding or financing.

C. Support the "beneficiaries pay" approach as a financing mechanism for statewide projects and programs and oppose public goods charges or other charges levied on water agencies for funding broader public benefits.

D. Advocate for public share of costs, including mitigation, rehabilitation, and recreation, for multi-purpose water infrastructure.

E. Support new or expanded water and power infrastructure or programs that complement existing water supplies and operations to ensure reliability for all member agencies.

~~E.~~F. Support Metropolitan's ability to streamline procurement of public works construction contracts.

VI. System Resiliency – Metropolitan diligently maintains and significantly invests to safeguard a region-wide water supply and delivery system that is a cornerstone of Southern California's $1.6 trillion economy. Climate change and increasing weather extremes are serious challenges facing Metropolitan and its member agencies. Additionally, Metropolitan must be prepared to respond rapidly to natural disasters and security threats. Resiliency ensures that the systems for water supply, delivery and power remain strong, can return to service quickly, and are prepared to address future challenges.

Metropolitan supports administrative and/or legislative actions and funding that:

A. Climate Resiliency

1. Support local and regional drought resiliency projects to improve system flexibility; facilitate the integration of existing and planned local water supplies, distribution, and regional water facilities.

2. Advance planning and research into the potential risks of climate change on water and power resources and water quality and work to advance infrastructure improvements and/or other mechanisms to offset these risks.

3. Help offset the effects of climate change on imported and local water supplies through watershed protection and enhancement of water quality, supply, and demand-side management actions.
4. Recognize and help mitigate the significant differences in the capabilities and needs of communities and regions to respond to the impacts of climate change.
5. Help develop local drought contingency plans in areas of the state that have increased concern about wholesale water system delivery constraints.

B. Emergency Preparedness

1. Assist the water industry in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from extreme weather events and ~~natural~~ disasters, including earthquakes and wildfires, catastrophic accidents, and physical or cyber sabotage. These actions may include, but are not limited to, hazard mitigation and emergency response planning, funding, and post-emergency service restoration.
2. Assist the water industry in addressing the effects of public safety power shutoff events, power outages, and wildfires by facilitating procurement for emergency distributed power generation and working to remove regulatory barriers limiting the operation of emergency generators.
3. Support the Federal Emergency Management Agency programs to assist with hazard mitigation and emergency repairs and improvements, including but not limited to dam safety, spillway improvements, ~~and~~ erosion control repairs, and wildfire preparedness and recovery efforts.

C. Physical and Cyber Security

1. Support continued U.S. Environmental Protection Agency oversight of water system security in coordination with other federal and state agencies with expertise in security, including the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, and the Chemical Security Analysis Center.
2. Support enhanced physical security and cybersecurity and maintain best technological practices for water and power infrastructure, including protections against artificial intelligence threats.
3. Support ~~trade associations and coalition efforts to share information and develop~~ the development of standard guidance and best management practices for physical and cybersecurity to protect water and power critical infrastructure ~~from cyber vulnerabilities~~.
4. Ensure Metropolitan's ability to reliably operate and maintain its facilities, infrastructure, and real property assets, including rights of way, and to protect against encroachment and threats from unmanned aviation vehicles.

D. Chemical Security

1. Improve supply chain reliability, achieve tax-exempt status for water treatment chemicals, and ensure consistent access to water treatment chemicals.
2. Ensure the continued use of gaseous chlorine to protect public health.

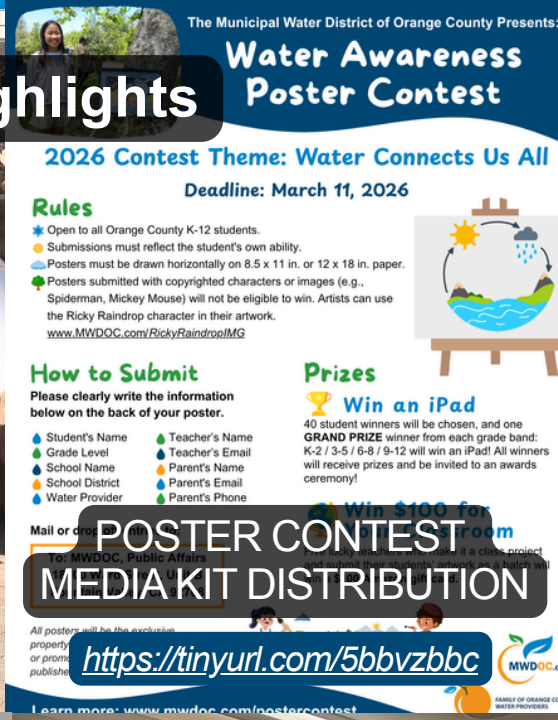
Public Affairs Department: Activity Highlights



GUEST SPEAKERS
DWR WATER EDUCATION
COMMITTEE



HOSTED COLORADO
RIVER AQUEDUCT
INSPECTION TRIP



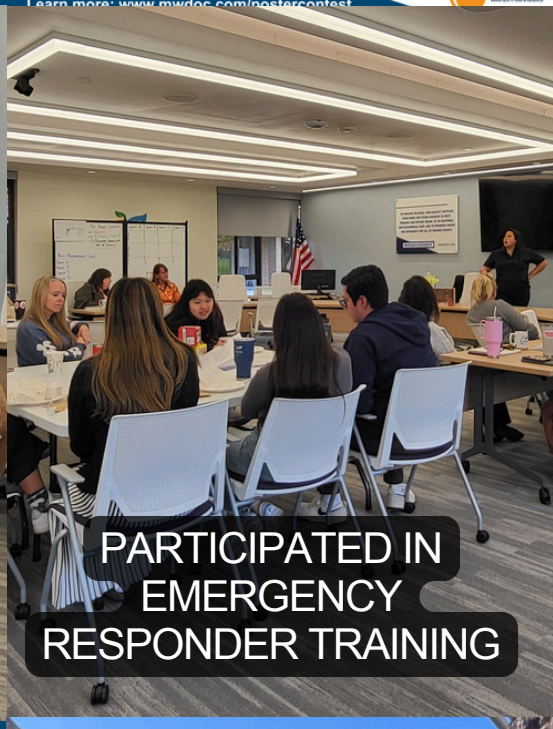
POSTER CONTEST
MEDIA KIT DISTRIBUTION
https://tinyurl.com/5bbvzbbc



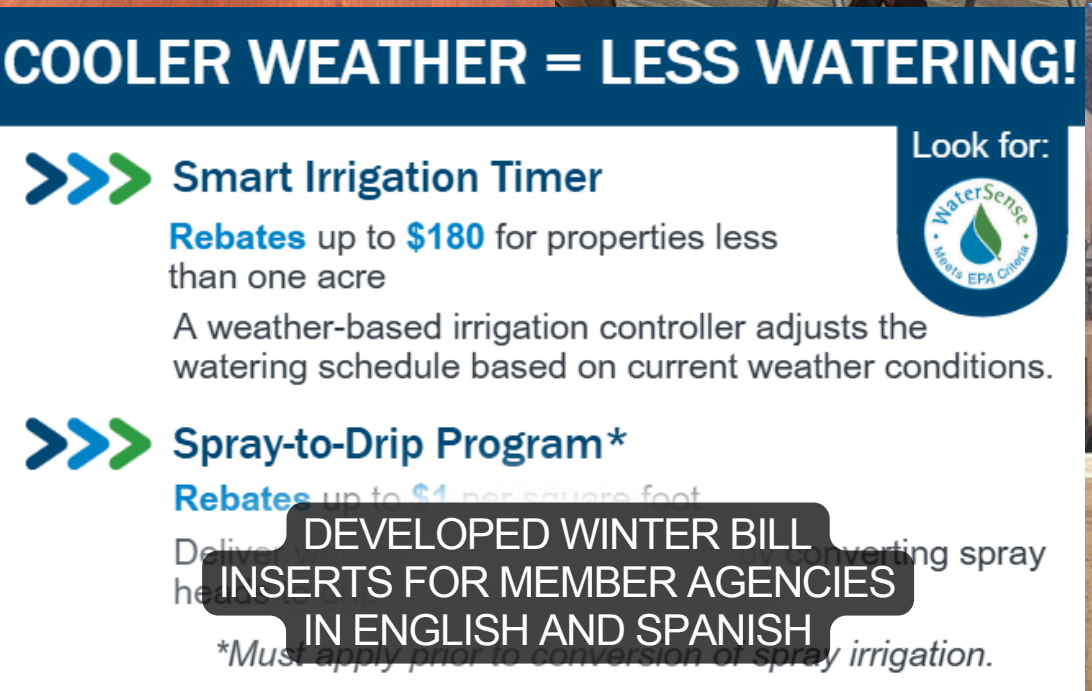
GUEST SPEAKER
CAREER-FOCUSED
OCWD TOUR



FILMING FOR MWDOC'S
75TH ANNIVERSARY
VIDEO SERIES



PARTICIPATED IN
EMERGENCY
RESPONDER TRAINING



DEVELOPED WINTER BILL
INSERTS FOR MEMBER AGENCIES
IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH



4.71% SOCIAL MEDIA
ENGAGEMENT RATE
A Good Rate is 1-5%

ENGINEERING & PLANNING	
Orange County Water Demand Forecast Project and 2025 Urban Water Management Plan	Hazen & Sawyer is working with MWDOC and retail agencies to finalize individual agencies' demand projections and the Technical Memorandum that documents methodology, assumptions, and findings. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) released the Draft 2025 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) Guidebook on November 17, 2025, and provided a webinar to interested parties on the same day. Public comment period ends December 2, 2025. There are no changes to the Water Code which translate to only minor updates to the UWMP Guidebook. The Final Guidebook is expected to be released in early 2026. The due date for the UWMPs remains July 1, 2026. Metropolitan held a UWMP Coordination Meeting on November 14, 2025. The purpose of meeting was to provide an update to its member agencies on its approach and preliminary findings ahead of its Draft UWMP release for member agencies review planned for December 2025. MWDOC staff attended both DWR and Metropolitan meetings. As of late November 2025, Carollo Engineers (Carollo) completed 1:1 meetings with each of the 24 agencies participating in the MWDOC 2025 UWMP Shared Services Program. Data collection is significantly complete with the finalization of the demand projections. Carollo is finalizing the 2025 UWMP template.
MWDOC Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Implementation	A Request for Proposal (RFP) to invite qualified and experienced consulting firms to submit a proposal to assist with the Year 1 implementation of a MWDOC GIS system was released on November 21, 2025. MWDOC staff will provide recommendation for consultant contract award to the Board in January 2026.
Upcoming Metropolitan Shutdowns	Metropolitan has scheduled three shutdowns in the Fall/Winter 2025 and Spring 2026 timeframe with impacts to Orange County, including • Lake Mathews Shutdown (November 3-13, 2025) – Junction shaft gate maintenance and survey work to complete work that was started in July 2025. The shutdown was a success. • Diemer Water Treatment Plant Shutdown (March 2-8, 2026) – Installation of backup chlorine feed lines, diffusers, and additional sampling lines to provide additional redundancy. On November 19, 2025, Metropolitan successfully conducted a one-day test to verify its ability to provide water from Weymouth Water Treatment Plant to service connections on the East Orange County Feeder #2 via the Orange County Feeder in preparation of the Diemer shutdown. The test was a success. • Irvine Cross Feeder Shutdown (April 8-10, 2026) – Pre-stressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP) inspection.

General Managers Report
WEROC Status Report

NOVEMBER 2025

INCIDENTS/EVENTS

(EVENTS LISTED ONLY INCLUDE WEROC INVOLVEMENT. EVENTS AND INCIDENTS HAPPEN EVERYDAY, BUT MAY NOT REQUIRE REPORTING, OR COORDINATION WITH WEROC)

Winter Storm/Coordination with County for Piost Airport Fire Debris Flow Plan

WEROC MEMBER AGENCY PLANNING, COORDINATION AND PROGRAM EFFORTS

America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) Compliance

Agency Coordination and Support

In November, HSG scheduled the 7 required meetings with the Tier 2 agencies to finalize their Risk and Resilience Assessment (RRA) and kick off for some their Emergency Response Planning meetings. Agencies are still on target to meet the December 31, 2025, deadline for RRA certification to EPA..

Janine continues to provide project coordination support to Vicki, including participation in the MWDOC AWIA monthly progress meeting with Herndon Solutions Group (HSG) and attending the multiple agency meetings.

South Coast Water District EOC Assessment Assistance

Vicki visited South Coast Water District on October 13 to meet with the EOC team and assess the room and location designated for use as their primary Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The visit included discussions on layout, functionality, and readiness considerations for future activations. Vicki delivered a written assessment to the SCWD team on November 7th.

Regional Fuel Planning Project

Vicki and Janine met with HSG to go over the fuel planning project and the timeline. This meeting included discussion at looking at the survey results from the agencies and the documents and preliminary thoughts to the scope of work to start looking at the RFP to be released in 2026. Vicki will be providing a project update to the board at the January P&O Meeting.

WEROC Personnel Update

Gabby will be leaving the WEROC team in January. There will be two New WEROC Staff starting in the month of December. Gabby and Janine will assist with on boarding incoming staff. Janine will be retiring in March 2026.

WEROC, County, State and Federal Plan/Document Updates or Review

Vicki reviewed and provided guidance to the following Plans/Documents:

- County of Orange and Orange County Operational Area Unified Emergency Operations Plan
- Orange County Domestic Well Drought Resiliency Plan
- County of Orange and Orange County Tsunami Annex
- County of Orange and Orange County Mass Care and Shelter Annex
- WEROC and County 2026 Integrated Preparedness Plan
- Standardized Emergency Management System Charter and Working Group Documents (CalOES)

WEROC Presentations, Training and Exercises

Presentations

November 6th – California Emergency Services Association (Vicki)

Scheduled Training for Member/Partner Agencies:

City of Brea: ICS 300 – Feb 24-26, 2026 (Vicki)
City of Orange: 100/700 & 200/800 Feb 6, 2026 (Vicki)
ETWD: TTX EQ Exercise – Jan 20, 2026 (Vicki)
MNWD: ICS 100/700, February 11, 2026 (Vicki)
MNWD: ICS 200/800 March 12, 2026 (Vicki)
OC Sans: G191 – Feb 3 & 17, 2026 2026 (Vicki)
OCHCA: ICS 400 - Dec 3 & 4, 2025 (Vicki)
OCWD: EOC/EM 5 Part Series (Custom) Dates (Mar – May) 2026 (Vicki)
OCWD: TTX Exercise – May 28, 2026 (Vicki) (tentative)
SCWD: ICS 100/700 – Feb 4, 2026 (Vicki)
SCWD: ICS 200/800 - Dec 5, 2026 (Vicki)
SCWD: TTX Exercise – March 10, 2026 (Vicki)
WEROC: SAP Training – Jan 20, 2026 (WEROC/Buena Park Host Site thank you) (Vicki got this training for Free) Jason Spotts Trainer
WEROC Basic CSTI PIO Course – Feb 10-12, 2026 (WEROC/MNWD host site thank you) (Vicki got this training for Free)

Operational Area, State and Federal Activities & Meetings Key

November 4: CalWARN 2024 Functional Exercise After Action Meeting
Vicki attended the CalWARN follow-up meeting with EPA regarding the Functional Exercise held last year on the CalWARN processes. This exercise was sponsored by EPA. This meeting was the final after action meeting.

November 4: **City of Fullerton Local Hazard Mitigation Plan**
Vicki and Gabby attended the City of Fullerton Hazard Mitigation Planning meeting as a partner stakeholder agency.

November 6: **Orange County Emergency Management Organization**
Gabby attended the monthly OCEMO meeting

November 6: MET Heli-Hydrant Dedication
Vicki was invited by MET and attended the dedication of the new Heli hydrant at Diemer.

November 12: UASI Grant Meeting
Gabby attended the FY24 UASI grant briefing meeting and obtained the transfer agreement paperwork

November 12: Orange County Winter Weather Workshop
Vicki attended the annual County of Orange Winter Weather Workshop hosted by the County. NWS and Orange County Public Work provided updates.

November 12: Orange County Operational Executive Board
Vicki attended the quarterly meeting of the Operational Area Executive Board and provided an update on Water and wastewater events and activities.

November 21: National WARN Meeting
Vicki attended the bi-weekly National WARN meeting

Status of Water Use Efficiency Projects
November 2025

Description	Lead Agency	Status % Complete	Scheduled Completion or Renewal Date	Comments
SoCal Water$mart Residential Indoor Rebate Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In October 2025, 82 high-efficiency clothes washers and 17 residential premium high-efficiency toilets were installed in Orange County. To date, 131,459 high-efficiency clothes washers and 62,010 high-efficiency toilets have been installed through this program.
SoCal Water$mart Commercial Rebate Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In October 2025, 1 ice making machine and 2 connectionless food steamers were installed in Orange County. To date, 119,829 commercial devices have been installed through this program.
Flow-Monitoring Device Rebate Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In October 2025, 10 flow-monitoring devices were installed in Orange County. To date, 1,045 flow-monitoring devices have been installed through this program. More than 3,300 verified flow-monitoring devices have been installed in Orange County; however, not all were installed via the rebate program.
Smart Timer Rebate Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In October 2025, 52 residential and 11 commercial smart timers were installed in Orange County. To date, 36,100 smart timers have been installed through this program.

Description	Lead Agency	Status % Complete	Scheduled Completion or Renewal Date	Comments
Rotating Nozzles Rebate Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In October 2025, 103 rotating nozzles were installed in Orange County. To date, 586,364 rotating nozzles have been installed through this program.
Rain Barrel Rebate Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In October 2025, 2 rain barrels were installed in Orange County. To date, 9,077 rain barrels have been installed through this program.
Turf Replacement Program	MWDOC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In October 2025, 13 rebates were paid, representing $573,560.02 in rebates paid this month in Orange County. To date, the Turf Replacement Program has removed approximately 30 million square feet of turf.
Spray to Drip Rebate Program	MWDOC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In October 2025, 16 rebates were paid, representing $163,051.00 in rebates paid this month in Orange County. To date, the Spray to Drip Program has converted approximately 5.7 million square feet of standard spray irrigation to drip irrigation.
Tree Rebate Program	MWDOC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In October 2025, 22 eligible trees were planted in Turf Replacement Program project areas. To date, 423 trees have been planted through this program.

Description	Lead Agency	Status % Complete	Scheduled Completion or Renewal Date	Comments
Landscape Design Rebate Program	MWDOC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In October 2025, 4 landscape designs received a rebate through the MWDOC Turf Replacement Program. To date, a total of 1,181 landscape design and/or landscape maintenance packages have been delivered to MWDOC Turf Replacement Program customers.
Industrial Process/ Water Savings Incentive Program (WSIP)	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	This program is designed to improve water efficiency for commercial customers through upgraded equipment or services that do not qualify for standard rebates. Incentives are based on the amount of water customers save and allow customers to implement custom water-saving projects. Total water savings to date for the entire program is 1,286 AFY and 11,460 AF cumulatively.
Recycled Water Retrofit Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	This program provides incentives to commercial sites for converting dedicated irrigation meters to recycled water. To date, 194 sites irrigating a total of 1,756 acres of landscape have been converted. The total potable water savings achieved by these projects is 3,901 AFY and 32,806 AF cumulatively.

Public & Governmental Affairs Activities Report
October 29, 2025 – November 24, 2026

Member Agency Support	Public Affairs Staff: • Provided the 2026 Water Awareness Poster Contest Media Kit to Member Agencies and Education Partners. ○ View the Media Here • Prepared and sent an invitation to WEROC's Basic Public Information Officer Training Course to our Public Affairs Workgroup • Developed and sent out an information-gathering survey to our Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) contact list regarding design/print plans for the 2026 report Government Affairs Staff: • Circulated the monthly Grants Tracking and Acquisition report to participating member agencies
Community and Special Events	Public Affairs Staff: • Announced the 2026 Water Awareness Poster Contest for Orange County K-12 students. 2026 theme: Water Connects Us All • Supported the Hoover Dam / Colorado River Aqueduct Inspection Trip with Director Seckel on Nov. 7-8 Government Affairs Staff: • Attended the OCBC Government Affairs Committee meeting
K-12 Water Education	Public Affairs Staff: • Met with the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District to showcase our innovative approach to Scouts BSA and Girl Scouts programming • Took part in The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's Water Education Coordinators meeting • Met with the Orange County Water District to explore current K-12 Choice School Program offerings • Provided information regarding the MWDOC K-12 Choice School Programs to El Toro Water District, Santa Margarita Water District, Irvine Ranch Water District, Moulton Niguel Water District, City of San Clemente, City of Garden Grove, City of Fullerton, and City of Anaheim • Met with Moulton Niguel Water District to explore opportunities for collaborating on a regional Project WET (Water Education Today) teacher training.
Workforce Initiative: Water Energy Education Alliance (WEEA)	Public Affairs Staff: • Led a half-day career-centric session and presented at the Department of Water Resources' two-day Water Education Committee Meeting, offering a series of dynamic, hands-on activities for water education professionals statewide. • Met with Orange County Water District to discuss career-focused support, partnership opportunities, and sponsorship benefits through the Water Energy Education Alliance (WEEA) • Co-hosted a webinar with new WEEA partners Water UCI: *Access, Visibility, Opportunity for all in the Water Sector.* 175 registered for the event. • Participated in the Orange Unified School District/Villa Park High School Water Management Career Technical Education Advisory meeting

	• Met with the City of Westminster and The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to discuss a training opportunity for landscape professionals utilizing Coronet Park as a water-smart maintenance training project • Met with the Water UCI Research Team to identify collaboration areas on specific workforce-related projects through WEEA • Met with the new Senior Manager of Employer Impact of BAYWORK to introduce her to WEEA, share mutual interest activities, and discover where there is potential for collaboration • Participated as a guest speaker on a career-focused tour for high school students hosted by the Orange County Water District and Vital Link • Engaged and secured students interested in water careers to attend the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) fall conference as guests of the ACWA Foundation ○ Met with the ACWA Foundation to discuss WEEA's participation co-coordinating the student experience • Participated in the Orange County Centers of Excellence meeting: *Paving the Path to Opportunity- Insights on Equity Gaps in Top Jobs and Programs* • Met with Sam Roberts, Legislative Assistant to Riverside County Supervisor Jose Medina, to discuss MWDOC's education initiatives including WEEA. Connected him to Inland Empire agencies and resources for further information and collaboration. • Met with a team conducting research in workforce development for the River and Mountains Conservancy, linking construction and greening projects along the Los Angeles River to jobs • Provided potential panelists engaged in workforce development for California State University (CSU)-WATER's annual conference
Digital Communications, Publications, and Media Engagement	Public Affairs Staff: • Completed several updates for the MWDOC.com website • Sent the new MWDOC website to directors and staff for feedback and made several updates for MWDOC departments • Developed and distributed social media content across all MWDOC social media channels • Met with the City of Garden Grove's Public Information Officer to discuss co-branding for social media outreach • Prepared and sent news release: ○ MWDOC Honors Director Larry D. Dick for More Than Two Decades of Service at The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Special Projects	Public Affairs Staff: • Hosted the second 75th Anniversary Staff Committee meeting to discuss the plan for MWDOC's 75th Anniversary in 2026. • Prepared and sent the first invitation for the upcoming Water Policy Forum & Dinner, featuring Shivaji Deshmukh, the General Manager of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California on January 26, 2026. • Attended Metropolitan's Member Agency Public Information Officer (PIO) meeting • Attended the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA)'s webinar on What Communications Leaders Need to Know to Succeed • Provided draft bullet points to Government Affairs to send to legislators who want to develop resolutions for MWDOC's 75th Anniversary

	• Attended Franklin Covey's Impact Conference • Shared Grammarly insights and new features with staff at the MWDOC All Staff Meeting Governmental Affairs Staff: • Drafted potential updates to the ISDOC Bylaws for the Executive Committee's review • Prepared the ISDOC 2026 meeting calendar • Drafted the ISDOC Executive Committee agenda for distribution • Staffed the ISDOC Executive Committee meeting
Outreach Metrics	Public Affairs Staff: • Google Performance Analytics (GM Report Timeframe) o 134 business profile interactions o 1,352 people viewed the business profile • Website Analytics (GM Report Timeframe) o 10,387 pageviews o Top pages for this date range ▪ Home Page – 1,848 ▪ Board Meetings – 475 ▪ Residential Rebates – 401 ▪ RFPs/RFQs – 373 ▪ Turf Replacement – 346 ▪ Poster Awareness Contest – 265 o ocwatersmartparks.com: 21 site sessions • ocwatersmartgardens.com Analytics (October 2025) o 5,229 Sessions, 5,000 New Users o Top pages for this date range ▪ Plant Botanical Name ▪ Eligible Sustainability Feature Trees ▪ Orange County Favorite Trees • Social Media (GM Report Timeframe) *According to Hootsuite, the global leader in social media management, a good engagement rate is between 1% and 5%.* For this period, MWDOC's engagement rate is 4.71% o 12,597 post reach (number of people) ▪ 593 Post engagement (actions taken – likes, shares, etc.)
Legislative Affairs	Governmental Affairs Staff: • Participated in the CSDA Legislative Committee's Annual Planning meeting in Sacramento • Attended the ACWA Region 10 State Legislative Committee prep meeting • Participated in the Metropolitan Member Agency Legislative Coordinators annual meeting and provided preliminary feedback to the Metropolitan Policy Principles and Priorities for 2026 • Drafted feedback and suggested edits for Metropolitan's 2026 Legislative Priorities and Principles • Attended the ACWA State Legislative Committee's annual planning meeting in Sacramento • Participated in the CMUA Regulatory and Legislative Committees Annual Planning meeting • Attended the ACWA LIRA Working Group meeting