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
July 6, 2026, 8:30 a.m.

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

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.

Computer Audio: You can join the Zoom meeting by clicking on the following link:
https://zoom.us/j/8828665300

Telephone Audio: **(669) 900 9128**
Webinar ID: **882 866 5300#**

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

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

Ex Officio Member: President Dick

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.

DISCUSSION ITEM

1. 75TH ANNIVERSARY TIME CAPSULE

ACTION ITEM

2. APPROVAL OF ON-CALL TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES LIST OF PRE-QUALIFIED CONSULTANTS

INFORMATION ITEMS

3. WATER POLICY FORUM RECAP

4. ORANGE COUNTY WATER SUMMIT UPDATE

5. QUARTERLY K-12 CHOICE SCHOOL PROGRAMS UPDATE

6. PUBLIC AFFAIRS HIGHLIGHTS

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

8. 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

DISCUSSION ITEM
July 6, 2026

TO: **Planning & Operations Committee**

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

Staff Contact: Damon Micalizzi, Director of Public Affairs

SUBJECT: **75TH ANNIVERSARY TIME CAPSULE**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Planning & Operations Committee review and discuss the concept of creating and burying a commemorative time capsule in recognition of the Municipal Water District of Orange County's 75th Anniversary, and provide direction on the proposed scope, contents, timing, and location.

REPORT

Purpose

At the request of the Board President, staff explored the feasibility of creating a commemorative time capsule to recognize the Municipal Water District of Orange County's (MWDOC or District) 75th Anniversary. The purpose of this report is to present preliminary concepts, estimated costs, potential contents, and implementation considerations, and to seek input regarding whether staff should proceed with planning a time capsule project.

Background

Since its formation in 1951, MWDOC has played a critical role in ensuring reliable water supplies for Orange County residents and businesses. Throughout 2026, MWDOC has commemorated its 75th Anniversary through various outreach, educational, and historical recognition efforts.

As part of these anniversary activities, the Board President requested that staff evaluate the feasibility of creating a time capsule to preserve key historical records and artifacts reflecting the District's mission, accomplishments, partnerships, and the state of water management in Orange County during its 75th year.

Time capsules have long been used by public agencies, educational institutions, and civic organizations to document significant milestones and provide future generations with insight into the culture, technology, and priorities of a particular era.

Discussion

A time capsule would provide a lasting legacy project commemorating MWDOC's 75th Anniversary, while creating an opportunity to preserve historical records for future Boards, staff, member agencies, and Orange County residents.

Staff recommends the time capsule be designed for long-term preservation and contain a curated collection of historic documents and artifacts that reflect MWDOC's role in regional water reliability, stewardship, and public service.

Potential Contents

Items the Committee could consider include a combination of historical, organizational, and community-focused items such as:

Historical and Organizational Items

- Current Board of Directors roster and biographies
- Organizational chart
- Historical timeline of MWDOC from 1951–2026
- Copies of key historical photographs
- Current strategic priorities and mission statement
- Annual budget summary
- Orange County population and water demand statistics

Member Agency Contributions

- Letters from member agencies
- Member agency fact sheets
- Photographs of significant regional water infrastructure
- Statements describing current water supply challenges and opportunities

Community and Cultural Snapshot

- Local newspaper front pages
- Orange County demographic information
- Regional maps
- Current utility bill sample
- Public outreach and educational materials
- Photographs of Orange County communities served by MWDOC

Technology and Media (USB drive containing)

- Historical photos
- Anniversary videos

- Board meeting archives
- Annual reports
- Strategic planning documents

Messages to the Future

- Letters from Board members
- General Manager message to future generations
- Messages from employees
- Student artwork or essays related to water
- Reflections on water reliability and sustainability in 2026

Cost Estimates

Staff's research indicates that commercially available waterproof stainless-steel time capsules suitable for long-term burial can be purchased for less than $100, while premium archival-grade models generally range from $150 to $500.

Estimated project costs are as follows:

Items	**Estimated Cost**
Time Capsule Container	$100 - $500
Archival Bags and Preservation Materials	$50 - $150
Commemorative Plaque or Marker	$500 - $2,500
Installation/Burial Preparation	$0 - $1,500
Event and Ceremony Materials	$250 - $1,500
Estimated Total Project Cost	**$900 - $6,150**

Depending on the Committee's direction, staff can minimize these costs by implementing this project largely utilizing staff resources. Such an approach can result in a total cost of roughly $1,000.

Potential Burial Locations

Below are three potential burial locations that staff identified:

Option A – MWDOC Headquarters (Atrium)

- Accessible location.
- Strong organizational connection.
- Simplified maintenance and future retrieval.

Option B – Headquarters Landscape Area with Commemorative Marker

- Creates a visible legacy feature.
- Opportunity for educational signage.

Option C – Interior Placement

- Capsule preserved in a secure indoor location rather than buried.

- Reduced risk of environmental deterioration.
- Easier future access.

Opening Date Options

Staff recommends selecting a future opening date sufficiently far in the future to maximize historical value.

Potential dates include:

- 25 Years (2051 – MWDOC Centennial)
- 50 Years (2076)
- 75 Years (2101)
- 100 Years (2126)

Staff's recommendation is to open the capsule during MWDOC's Centennial celebration in 2051.

Committee Feedback Requested

In summary, the staff seeks the Planning & Operations Committee's feedback regarding the following key items:

- Is there support for the creation of a 75th Anniversary time capsule?
- What items should be included in the time capsule?
- Should MWDOC member agencies be invited to contribute materials?
- What burial location is preferred?
- What total cost would the Board be comfortable with (*Not to exceed $1,000*)?
- What future opening date should be designated?
- Should a public dedication ceremony be held in conjunction with the burial?

Next Steps

Following Committee discussion and direction, staff will finalize the proposed scope, location, contents, and schedule for the time capsule project and return with any necessary implementation actions.

If directed to proceed, staff anticipates completing the project and holding a commemorative dedication event in December 2026 to conclude MWDOC's 75th Anniversary year.

Proposed Timeline

Summer/Fall 2026

- Board discussion and direction
- Selection of location and contents
- Collection of materials and contributions

November 2026

- Finalize contents
- Prepare archival materials
- Complete plaque design

December 2026

- Conduct commemorative burial and dedication ceremony
- Document capsule location and contents
- Archive records for future retrieval

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

ACTION ITEM
July 15, 2026

TO: **Board of Directors**

FROM: **Planning & Operations Committee**

Harvey De La Torre, General Manager

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

SUBJECT: **APPROVAL OF ON-CALL TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES LIST OF PRE-QUALIFIED CONSULTANTS**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors approve the list of pre-qualified consultants for on-call technical and professional services to support Reliability Planning & Engineering, Emergency Management, Water Use Efficiency, and Administration.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

(To be determined at Committee Meeting)

REPORT

Purpose

This item requests the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC or District) Board of Directors (Board) approve the list of pre-qualified consultants for on-call technical and professional services. If approved, the on-call list would be valid for five years.

Background

Following the success of the pre-qualified on-call technical and professional services list approved by the Board on May 19, 2021, which expired May 20, 2026, staff is seeking Board approval of a new pre-qualified list of consultants to provide technical and professional services under four areas of focus on an as-needed basis: Reliability

Planning & Engineering, Emergency Management, Water Use Efficiency, and Administration. Qualified consultants may be selected for one or more areas of focus. The goal of a pre-qualified list is to improve project efficiency by having pre-qualified consultants ready for specific projects and tasks in a timely manner.

Discussion

Pursuant to Section 8000 of the Administrative Code, "It is MWDOC's policy that purchasing and contracting shall be conducted in a fair, open, and transparent manner so as to maximize benefits to MWDOC. All contracts should be reviewed and rebid at least every five years, except in situations with documented significant benefits to MWDOC." A pre-qualified on-call list was last approved by the MWDOC Board in May 2021; therefore, a competitive Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process was implemented in 2026 for a new pre-qualified on-call list of firms. Staff prepared and issued RFQ ENG. 2026-01 for on-call technical and professional services under the schedule below in Table 1:

Table 1. RFQ PROJECT TIMELINE

Task Item	Date
1. MWDOC completion of draft in-house RFQ	April 20, 2026
2. RFQ released	April 23, 2026
3. Closing date for submittal of questions	May 14, 2026
4. Proposals (Statement of Qualifications) due	May 29, 2026
5. Convened review panels to review proposals	June 15 & 22, 2026
6. Recommendation to the P&O Committee	July 6, 2026
7. Approval by MWDOC Board	July 15, 2026
8. Contract starts	Varies

Statement of Qualifications Evaluation Process

On April 23, 2026, staff released RFQ ENG. 2026-01 seeking qualified firms to provide on-call technical and professional services under four main areas of focus: 1) Reliability Planning and Engineering, 2) Emergency Management, 3) Water Use Efficiency, and 4) Administration, covering ten sub-areas of focus (Table 2).

The RFQ was posted on the MWDOC website and advertised to all firms that subscribe to receive alerts for MWDOC RFPs/RFQs. A total of 24 Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) were received by the closing date.

All 24 SOQs met the initial qualifying criteria and were reviewed by the internal review panels consisting of MWDOC staff representatives. A separate review panel was formed for each area of focus, consisting of MWDOC staff knowledgeable in that area. Panel members independently ranked the firms and then met to discuss the results. SOQs were evaluated based on 1) technical approach, 2) team experience and

qualifications/record of performance, 3) assigned project staff, 4) organization of the SOQ, and 5) willingness to accept MWDOC standard agreement terms.

Panel members felt that the information provided in the SOQs was sufficient for a decisive evaluation and that the optional interviews were unnecessary. Based on the combined rankings, the following firms (in alphabetical order) were unanimously selected by the review panels for their respective areas of focus:

Table 2. Selected Firms for MWDOC's 2026 On-Call List		
Main Areas of Focus	**Sub Areas of Focus**	**Selected Firms**
Reliability Planning and Engineering	Water Quality Technical Assistance	CDM Smith Hazen & Sawyer Means Consulting
	Hydraulic Model Maintenance and Update	Black & Veatch Dopudja & Wells Hazen & Sawyer
	Water Demand Model Maintenance and Update	CDM Smith Hazen & Sawyer Michael Baker
	Lead and Copper Rule Improvements Assistance	CDM Smith Hazen & Sawyer Michael Baker
Emergency Management	Planning	AEM Michael Baker SDZ Enterprise
	Training	AEM Michael Baker SDZ Enterprise
	GIS Support	AEM Black & Veatch Quartic Solutions
	Environmental Technical Specialist	AEM Michael Baker SDZ Enterprise
Water Use Efficiency	Data Science Support Service	Black & Veatch Hazen & Sawyer Water UX
Administration	Construction Project Management, Administration Building	Cielo Structures Michael Baker Rosenberg & Associates

Selected Firms Overview

The 12 firms recommended for the pre-qualified on-call list represent a wide spectrum of capabilities, ranging from specialized sole practitioners to large global engineering firms. Eleven of twelve have a proven track record of delivering high-quality work for

MWDOC over the past decade, often on projects that directly precede or relate to the work anticipated under this pre-qualified on-call list.

Each firm demonstrated clear expertise in the specific areas of focus for which they applied, as well as relevant experience completing similar assignments for MWDOC, our member agencies, or Metropolitan. Their proposals showed strong project management practices, depth of in-house and subconsultant resources, and the flexibility needed to deliver high-quality work on short notice. Several firms bring nationally recognized subject-matter experts, and many are assigning the same key staff who have successfully supported MWDOC on prior efforts. Collectively, the selected firms offer qualified expertise, local presence, excellent local knowledge, institutional familiarity, and a proven ability to meet MWDOC's technical, operational, and schedule needs.

These selected consultants will also be available to assist with responses to Board requests for in-depth analysis of various issues, should the Board choose to authorize such expenditures. The pre-qualified on-call list is not intended to be exclusive or static. Staff could amend the list by opening up a supplemental RFQ at any time or issue an RFP on a specific project, if necessary.

Next Steps

Inclusion on the approved pre-qualified on-call list does not guarantee any minimum amount of work or compensation. Work shall be agreed upon in a formal agreement, in which staff will negotiate the specific scope of services, budget, deliverables, and timeline. The agreement will return to the Board following Administrative Code guidelines.

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.*

BOARD OPTIONS

Option #1: Approve the list of pre-qualified consultants for on-call technical and professional services to support Reliability Planning & Engineering, Emergency Management, Water Use Efficiency, and Administration.

Fiscal Impact: There is no direct fiscal impact associated with establishing an on-call list of pre-qualified consultants.

Option #2: Take no action.

Fiscal Impact: None
Business Analysis: If the proposed list of consultants is not approved, staff would issue separate requests for proposals for each area of technical and professional support needed to complete its projects, adding significant time and resources.

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

Attachments/Links:
Link 1: On-Call Technical and Professional Services RFQ https://www.mwdoc.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/RFQ-MWDOC-Technical-Services-On-Call-FINAL_2026.04.23.pdf

Item No. 3

INFORMATION ITEM
July 6, 2026

TO: **Planning & Operations Committee**

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

Staff Contact: Damon Micalizzi, Director of Public Affairs

SUBJECT: **WATER POLICY FORUM RECAP**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

REPORT

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Planning & Operations Committee with a recap of the Municipal Water District of Orange County's (MWDOC or District) June 15, 2026 Water Policy Forum & Dinner, including an overview of the event, attendee feedback, and recommendations for future programming.

Discussion

MWDOC's Water Policy Forum & Dinner series provides a forum for regional water leaders, policymakers, elected officials, business leaders, and community stakeholders to discuss issues affecting California's water future.

June 2026 Water Policy Forum & Dinner

On June 15, 2026, MWDOC hosted its latest Water Policy Forum & Dinner at The Westin South Coast Plaza in Costa Mesa. The event had nearly 200 attendees and featured a panel discussion on the Sites Reservoir Project and its role in improving California's long-term water supply reliability.

Moderated by MWDOC President Larry D. Dick, the panel featured Brian Thomas, Consultant for the Sites Project Authority; Heather Dyer, General Manager of San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District; Randall D. Neudeck, Manager of Bay-Delta Programs for Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; and Paul A. Weghorst, Executive Director of Water Policy for Irvine Ranch Water District. Panelists discussed

project financing, water rights, regional benefits, governance, and implementation considerations while engaging attendees in a thoughtful discussion about California's evolving water infrastructure needs.

Post-Event Survey

Following the event, a satisfaction survey was distributed to attendees. Twenty-four attendees opened the survey, and seventeen completed responses were received (Attachment I). Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, demonstrating the continued value of the Water Policy Forum & Dinner as a venue for discussing timely water policy issues while fostering engagement among regional water leaders and stakeholders.

Survey results included the following highlights:

- 94% of respondents rated the program, speakers, discussion format, venue, timeframe, and food and beverage highly.
- 82% of respondents expressed satisfaction with the pre-dinner reception.
- 76% of respondents felt the event provided good value for the registration fee.
- 100% of respondents indicated they are likely to attend future MWDOC Water Policy Forum & Dinner events.

Written comments further reflected the event's success. One attendee described it as "*one of the best programs in years,*" praising the panelists and discussion format. Other attendees complimented the conservation-themed centerpieces, the program's quality, and the overall execution of the event. Survey respondents also suggested future topics, including water recycling, Colorado River management, El Niño impacts, and Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) implementation.

To extend the program's value beyond those who attended in-person, a video recording and photos of the event are posted on the MWDOC website at https://www.mwdoc.com/wpd.

Next Steps

Staff will continue planning future Water Policy Forum & Dinner events that feature timely water policy issues and nationally recognized speakers. Survey feedback will be incorporated into future programming by exploring suggested topics such as water recycling, Colorado River management, and groundwater sustainability.

Staff will also keep recordings of Water Policy Forum & Dinner events embedded on the MWDOC website and widely publish future events to continue these important policy discussions with member agencies, stakeholders, and the public.

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.*

Budgeted: ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A		Budgeted amount: $10,000
Core: ☒	Choice: ☐	Movement between funds: ☐ Yes ☒ No
Action item amount: N/A		

Attachments/Links:
Attachment 1: Water Policy Forum & Dinner Satisfaction Survey Results
Link 1: Water Policy Forum & Dinner Webpage https://www.mwdoc.com/wpd

Constant Contact Survey Results

Campaign Name: 6-15-26 Water Policy Dinner Satisfaction Survey

Survey Starts: 24

Survey Submits: 17

Export Date: 06/25/2026 05:10 PM

CHECKBOXES

1. What was your primary reason(s) for attending the MWDOC Water Policy Forum & Dinner?

Answer Choice	0% 100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
Interest in topic/featured speaker		13	76%
Networking/business development		7	41%
General interest in learning more about water		3	17%
Other		0	0%
	Total Responses	**17**	**100%**

NUMERIC SCALE

2. Please rate your satisfaction with the pre-dinner reception.

Answer Choice	0% 100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Unsatisfied)		0	0%
2		3	17%
3 (Satisfied)		14	82%
Mean	2.82		
Median	3.00		
	Total Responses	**17**	**100%**

NUMERIC SCALE

3. Please rate your satisfaction with the program (topic, speakers, etc.).

Answer Choice	0% 100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Unsatisfied)		0	0%
2		1	5%
3 (Satisfied)		16	94%
Mean	2.94		
Median	3.00		
	Total Responses	**17**	**100%**

NUMERIC SCALE

4. Please rate your satisfaction with the program format (presentation, discussion, etc.).

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Unsatisfied)			0	0%
2			1	5%
3 (Satisfied)			16	94%
Mean	2.94			
Median	3.00			
		Total Responses	**17**	**100%**

NUMERIC SCALE

5. Please rate your satisfaction with the event location.

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Unsatisfied)			0	0%
2			1	5%
3 (Satisfied)			16	94%
Mean	2.94			
Median	3.00			
		Total Responses	**17**	**100%**

NUMERIC SCALE

6. Please rate your satisfaction with the event timeframe.

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Unsatisfied)			0	0%
2			1	5%
3 (Satisfied)			16	94%
Mean	2.94			
Median	3.00			
		Total Responses	**17**	**100%**

NUMERIC SCALE

7. Please rate your satisfaction with the food and beverage.

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Unsatisfied)			0	0%
2			1	5%
3 (Satisfied)			16	94%
Mean	2.94			
Median	3.00			
		Total Responses	**17**	**100%**

NUMERIC SCALE

8. Please rate your satisfaction with the event price (given overall value).

Answer Choice	0% 100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Unsatisfied)		0	0%
2		4	23%
3 (Satisfied)		13	76%
Mean	2.76		
Median	3.00		
	Total Responses	**17**	**100%**

MULTIPLE CHOICE

9. How likely are you to attend future MWDOC Water Policy Forum & Dinner events?

Answer Choice	0% 100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
Likely		17	100%
Neutral		0	0%
Unlikely		0	0%
	Total Responses	**17**	**100%**

OPEN QUESTION

10. Are there specific topics or speakers you would like see for future events?

No

water recycling

Colorado River, el nino, SGMA and ag survival in San Joaquin

4 Response(s)

OPEN QUESTION

11. Is there anything else you would like to tell us?

This was one of the best programs in years. Good format, great panelists.

The centerpieces were a great idea and a reminder to conserve.

Great job!!

8 Response(s)

Item No. 4

INFORMATION ITEM
July 6, 2026

TO: **Planning & Operations Committee**

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

Staff Contact: Damon Micalizzi, Director of Public Affairs

SUBJECT: **ORANGE COUNTY WATER SUMMIT UPDATE**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

REPORT

Purpose

This report provides the Planning & Operations Committee with an update on planning for the 18th Annual Orange County Water Summit, which will be held on Friday, September 25, 2026, at The Westin South Coast Plaza.

Background

The Orange County Water Summit (Summit) is Southern California's premier water policy forum, bringing together elected officials, water industry leaders, business executives, policymakers, educators, and community stakeholders to discuss California water issues.

The Summit is a joint initiative between the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC or District) and the Orange County Water District (OCWD), with leadership of the event alternating each year. As the lead agency for the 2026 Summit, MWDOC is coordinating program development, sponsorships, speaker outreach, and event logistics.

Discussion

Planning for the 2026 Summit, a collaborative effort between MWDOC and OCWD, remains on schedule. The program is being designed to feature timely discussions on significant water policy issues, including workforce development, water infrastructure, local water supply reliability, and California's long-term water future.

Veteran broadcaster **Fritz Coleman** will return as the Summit emcee.

Staff is pursuing several nationally recognized keynote and featured speakers, including former Governor **Arnold Schwarzenegger** and California Gubernatorial Candidates **Steve Hilton** and **Xavier Becerra** (former U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services), subject to availability and confirmation.

Program development currently includes sessions focused on:

- Workforce development and the future of the water industry;
- Local water supplies and major statewide infrastructure investments; and
- Water policy, economic growth, and California's future.

Sponsorship support continues to grow. Current sponsors include:

- **Luncheon Sponsor:** Mesa Water District
- **Program Sponsor:** Irvine Ranch Water District
- **Audio/Visual Sponsor:** Orange County Sanitation District
- **Multimedia Design Sponsor:** Hashtag Pinpoint
- **Session Sponsor:** Butier Engineering, Inc.
- **Associate Sponsors:** Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Western Municipal Water
- **Table Sponsors:** Black & Veatch, Disneyland Resort, Dopudja & Wells Consulting, Hazen and Sawyer, Michael Baker International, Moulton Niguel Water District, PACE Advanced Water Engineering, and Yorba Linda Water District
- **Next Gen Workforce Sponsor:** Water Energy Education Alliance
- **Exhibitor Sponsor:** Verdantas

Additional sponsorship opportunities remain available and can be secured online by completing the form at https://www.ocwatersummit.com/sponsors. Staff will continue outreach to prospective sponsors and strategic partners.

Next Steps

Staff will continue to finalize the program, confirm speakers and sponsors, and coordinate event logistics. Individual registration will be open and promoted on July 6, 2026. Additional updates will be provided to the Board as planning progresses.

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.*

Budgeted: ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A		Budgeted amount: $20,000
Core: ☒	Choice: ☐	Movement between funds: ☐ Yes ☒ No
Action item amount: N/A		

Attachments/Links:
N/A

Item No. 5

INFORMATION ITEM
July 6, 2026

TO: **Planning & Operations Committee**

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

Staff Contact: Sarah Wilson, Public Affairs Supervisor

SUBJECT: **QUARTERLY K-12 CHOICE SCHOOL PROGRAMS UPDATE**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

REPORT

Purpose

This item provides an update on the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC or District) K-12 Choice School Programs, including program participation and overall program performance.

Discussion

MWDOC K-12 Choice School Program contractors, Shows That Teach, and the Orange County Department of Education's Inside the Outdoors (OCDE/ITO), have completed all live, interactive water lessons for the 2025-2026 school year.

For access to the complete calendar of scheduled visits or to request notifications for the upcoming school year, please contact the Education & Workforce Development Division of the Public Affairs Department.

Attachments 1-3 outline participation progress for the elementary, middle, and high school programs, including student reach, teacher feedback, and additional program details. All MWDOC K-12 Choice School Programs include hands-on activities and pre- and post-program learning opportunities. A snapshot of overall program performance is provided below:

FY 2025-2026 Student Counts

Grade Level	Students Seen
K-2	18,481
3-5	15,922
6-8	3,376
9-12	629
Total	**38,408**

FY 2025-2026 Sessions Completed

Grade Level	Students Seen
K-2	95
3-5	266
6-8	127
9-12	25
Total	**513**

Following a competitive RFP process, the MWDOC Board awarded a new agreement to the Orange County Department of Education's Inside the Outdoors (OCDE/ITO) at its April 15th Board Meeting. Inside the Outdoors will provide K–12 programming for the 2026–2027 school year.

Next Steps

With the 2025–2026 school year complete, MWDOC staff is preparing for the upcoming academic year. MWDOC and OCDE/ITO have completed a kickoff meeting to align program goals, needs, and implementation plans. MWDOC member agencies and the Three Cities have been invited to participate, and teacher outreach will begin in July 2026 as schools prepare schedules for the upcoming school year.

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.*

Budgeted: ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A		Budgeted amount: $511,211
Core: ☐	Choice: ☒	Movement between funds: ☐ Yes ☒ No
Action item amount:		

Attachments/Links:
Attachment 1: MWDOC K-2 Choice Elementary School Program
Attachment 2: MWDOC 3-5 Choice Elementary School Program
Attachment 3: MWDOC 6-12 Choice Middle and High School Programs

Attachment #1
MWDOC Choice K-2 School Program
June 2026

Shows That Teach offers Orange County students in grades K-2 fun and informative assemblies that use music, humor, and audience participation to engage students in water-centric topics such as the water cycle, water supply resources, and using water wisely. This interactive program also includes hands-on pre- and post-activities that encourage students to reflect on their relationship with water. This program is offered either in person or virtually to K-2 students combined. Multiple classrooms and grade levels can participate simultaneously.

COMPLETED PARTICIPATION:

Totals reflect the number of presentations *completed* and students seen since the start of the 2025-2026 school year.

- **In-person presentations hosted:** 95
- **Virtual presentations hosted:** 0
- **Total number of students seen:** 18,481
- **Presentations have been completed in the following service areas:** City of Anaheim, City of Brea, City of Buena Park, El Toro Water District, City of Fountain Valley, City of Fullerton, City of Garden Grove, City of Huntington Beach, City of La Habra, Moulton Niguel Water District, City of Orange, City of San Clemente, City of Santa Ana, Santa Margarita Water District, South Coast Water District, City of Tustin, City of Westminster

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS AND MEASUREMENTS:

“I thought the assembly was great! The content was presented in a fun and entertaining way, and the students were completely engaged.” — *Second-grade teacher, Santa Margarita Water District service area*

“The assembly was put together, engaging, and entertaining to the students.” – *Kindergarten teacher, City of Anaheim service area*

“It was highly engaging for my students in first grade. They enjoyed the songs.” – *First-grade teacher, City of San Clemente service area*

Attachment #2
MWDOC Choice 3-5 School Program
June 2026

Stefan Bean, Ed.D.
County Superintendent of Schools

Orange County Department of Education's Inside the Outdoors offers Orange County students in grades 3-5 interactive, grade-specific lessons that engage students in valuable instruction on the history of California water, local climate and water sources, and how to use water efficiently. Each session includes student-prompted interaction, demonstrations, and pre- and post-activities that guide students to examine how access to a reliable source of drinking water is important to every community. Participating students and their families also receive resources that complement the topics covered during the classroom session. This program is offered either in person or virtually to students in grades 3-5.

- **3rd Grade:** Compare and describe diverse weather and climate data and explore personal choices to protect our local water resources.
- **4th Grade:** Identify the key role water plays in California's history, including the growth and expansion of towns and cities.
- **5th Grade:** Examine existing water management solutions and determine ways to protect the quality and quantity of water.

COMPLETED PARTICIPATION:

Totals reflect the number of presentations *completed* and students seen since the start of the 2025-2026 school year.

- **In-person presentations hosted:** 266
- **Virtual presentations hosted:**
- **Total number of students seen:** 15,922
- **Presentations have been completed in the following service areas:** City of Anaheim, City of Brea, City of Buena Park, East Orange County Water District, El Toro Water District, City of Fountain Valley, City of Fullerton, City of Garden Grove, City of Huntington Beach, City of La Habra, Moulton Niguel Water District, City of Orange, City of Santa Ana, Santa Margarita Water District, South Coast Water District, Serrano Water District, Trabuco Canyon Water District, City of Tustin, City of Westminster, Yorba Linda Water District

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS AND MEASUREMENTS:

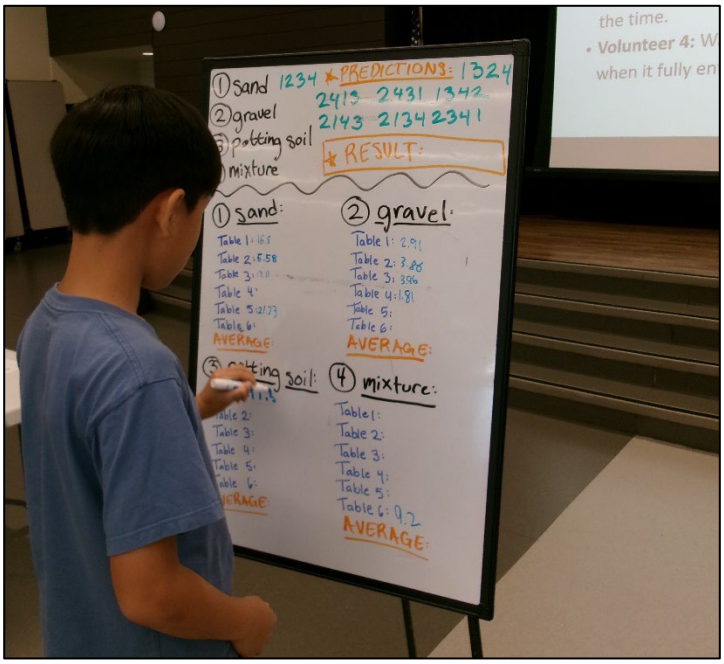
"They now understand where our water comes from and how important conservation is." *-Third-Grade Teacher, City of Huntington Beach*

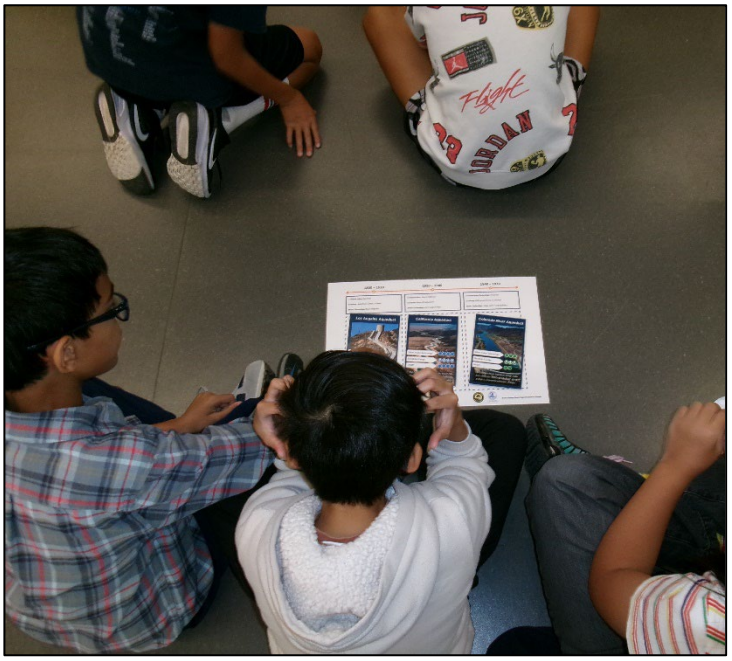
"My students enjoyed learning about where their water comes from and how to conserve water. We were just learning about the water cycle, and this helped support that understanding." *-Fifth-Grade Teacher, City of La Habra*

"The program benefited me by allowing more time spent on science and aligned curriculum practice. It benefited my students by learning about something relevant to them, applying their knowledge to their lives/surroundings, and being able to collaborate."*-Fifth-Grade Teacher, City of Garden Grove*









4th and 5th students from Olinda School in the City of Brea

Attachment #3
MWDOC Choice 6-12 School Program
June 2026

Orange County Department of Education's Inside the Outdoors offers Orange County students in grades 6-12 grade-specific classroom sessions that guide students to investigate challenges faced by water providers and identify sources of human impact on the quality, quantity, and availability of water in their communities. Each session includes student-prompted interaction, demonstrations, and pre- and post-activities that engage students in developing solutions to real-world problems. This program is offered either in person or virtually to students in grades 6-12.

- **6th-8th Grade:** Students analyze water samples to identify sources of potential pollution and form strategies to monitor or minimize pollution.
- **9th-12th Grade:** Students collect and analyze data to explore the role of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and its connection to our local water resources.

COMPLETED PARTICIPATION:

Totals reflect the number of presentations *completed* and students seen since the start of the 2025-2026 school year.

Middle School Program (grades 6-8)

- **In-person presentations hosted:** 127
- **Virtual presentations hosted:**
- **Total number of students seen:** 3,376
- **Presentations have been completed in the following service areas:** City of Anaheim, City of Brea, City of Buena Park, El Toro Water District, City of Fullerton, City of Garden Grove, City of Huntington Beach, City of La Habra, City of San Clemente, City of Santa Ana, Santa Margarita Water District, Trabuco Canyon Water District, City of Tustin, City of Westminster, Yorba Linda Water District

High School Program (grades 9-12)

- **In-person presentations hosted:** 25
- **Virtual presentations hosted:**
- **Total number of students seen:** 629
- **Presentations have been completed in the following service areas:** City of La Habra**,** City of Santa Ana**,** Santa Margarita Water District**,** City of Westminster

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS AND MEASUREMENTS:

"It was interactive and well presented in a straightforward manner, easy to understand." *-AP Environmental Science Teacher, City of Huntington Beach*

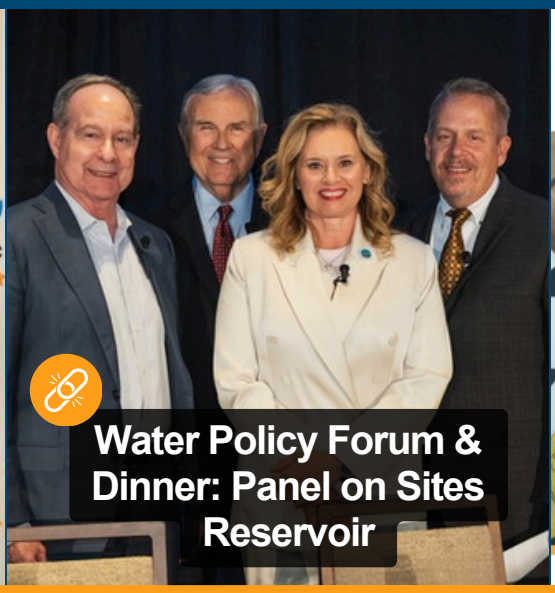
"The best part of the program was when we were able to conduct experiments to find out what water came from where." *-Sixth-grade student in the Santa Margarita Water District*

Public Affairs Department: Activity Highlights

Join Our Email List



Water Awareness Poster Contest Awards Ceremony



Water Policy Forum & Dinner: Panel on Sites Reservoir



June eCurrents
6,615 opens
Open rate of 51%



Metropolitan Education Coordinators Roundtable



Water Loss Control Video: 75th Anniversary Reflections Series



Santiago Canyon College Employer Engagement Day



Inaugural Water Leaders Academy 2-Week Internship Kickoff Water Replenishment District with Compton Unified School District





9% Social Media Engagement Rate

May 27 - June 30, 2026. View this PDF online at: go.mwdoc.com/PAActivities

Engineering & Planning

2025 Urban Water Management Plan and 2025 Water Shortage Contingency Plans

At its May 20th Regular Meeting, the MWDOC Board adopted Resolution Nos. 2174 and 2175 approving the adoption of the MWDOC 2025 Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) and the 2025 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), respectively. The final adopted MWDOC 2025 UWMP and WSCP were submitted to the CA Department of Water Resources (DWR), the California State Library, and cities and county(s) that we serve. They were also posted to the MWDOC website.

Regarding the UWMP Shared Services Program, as of this writing, the final documents have been delivered to 16 of the 23 Participating Agencies and submitted to DWR on their behalf, if they elected to have the consultant team do so. All remaining work will be completed and final documents submitted by July 1, 2026, State deadline.

Geographic Information System (GIS) Implementation

At its May 20th Regular Meeting, the MWDOC Board approved awarding Hazen and Sawyer a 1-year contract to provide Geographic Information System (GIS) implementation assistance and authorized the General Manager to execute the contract, with the option for an additional 1-year renewal. The project kicked off in mid-June 2026.

Lead and Copper Rule Improvements Shared Services Program

A survey of MWDOC member agencies conducted in late May indicated a desire from at least 10 agencies for MWDOC to assist them with certain aspects of the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) through a Shared Services Program, similar to the technical assistance provided under the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) Shared Services Program completed in October 2024.

Under the LCRI, water systems will be required to develop and submit a baseline service line inventory, due by November 1, 2027. The baseline inventory introduces several additions and stricter reporting requirements compared to the initial October 2024 service line inventory. Water systems must identify all service line connectors (pigtails, goosenecks) and categorize them as non-lead, lead, unknown, or no connector present. Water systems must also implement state-approved methods to validate the classification of service lines previously designated as “non-lead” that are not based solely on physical visual inspection. An annual inventory update is also required after 2027.

The State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW), is in the process of adopting the federal LCRI into the CA Code of Regulations, thereby reaffirming DDW as the state’s

primacy agency. DDW indicated in mid-June 2026 that it intends to provide guidance for California water agencies in late 2026, subsequent to USEPA's anticipated summer release.

Given the apparent similarity of this compressed timeline for the LCRI inventory, as we experienced with the LCRR initial inventory guidance release and the LCRR submission deadline, MWDOC staff will work to organize and communicate the components of a shared services program to potential participants in anticipation of the DDW guidance release. Staff will then bring an action item to the MWDOC Board for approval, with a defined Scope of Work for the LCRI Shared Services Program that aligns with the needs of our member agencies. Additional informational updates will be provided as DDW releases further guidance.

Upcoming Metropolitan Shutdowns

Metropolitan staff have begun planning for the FY 2026-27 shutdown season. MWDOC staff are currently coordinating with Metropolitan and affected agencies for shutdown events:

- 7-day shutdown of the Allen McColloch Pipeline (AMP) for Metropolitan to inspect the remaining 7 miles of unlined Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipeline (PCCP) to assess its condition, to assist with planning of future PCCP rehabilitation of the remaining unlined reaches of the AMP. Tentative dates to perform AMP inspection are either in October 2026 or February 2027.
- An additional shutdown for OC-88 is also being coordinated to complete additional electrical work.
- 10-day shutdown of a portion of the Second Lower Feeder for PCCP inspection to assess its condition.

Water Emergency Response Organization of Orange County

Incidents/Events - June

(Incident/events listed below only include Water Emergency Response Organization of Orange County (WEROC) involvement. Events and incidents happen every day, but may not require reporting or coordination with WEROC.)

Nothing significant to report, WEROC is monitoring the International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) events in Orange County.

WEROC Member Agency Planning, Coordination, and Program Efforts

America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) Compliance

In June, Herndon Solutions Group (HSG) completed the final workshop series for the Tier 2 agencies to finalize their Emergency Response Plans (ERPs) and for the Tier 3 agencies to complete their Risk and Resilience Assessments (RRAs). Final compliance documents were delivered to the participating agencies, enabling them to meet the June 30 regulatory deadline.

HSG has initiated the final phase of the AWIA project by scheduling kickoff meetings with the Tier 3 agencies to begin updating their Emergency Response Plans. The WEROC team will continue supporting member agencies by participating in workshops, providing technical assistance, and assisting with plan development to ensure continued compliance with AWIA requirements.

Lifelines Working Group

On June 9th, the WEROC team participated in the Q2 Southern California Critical Lifelines Working Group Meeting at the Version Wireless facility in Azusa to support continued collaboration across member organizations. The meeting featured a presentation and discussion from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in addition to the Joint Regional Intelligence Center (JRIC) regarding threats and impacts on critical infrastructure. Attendees were also given a tour of the Verizon Facility, providing firsthand insight into network operations supporting critical lifeline functions.

Cybersecurity Working Group

The group was established to provide member agencies a centralized and collaborative platform for Information Technology (IT) and cybersecurity professionals across WEROC's 36 member water and wastewater agencies to share threat intelligence, coordinate incident responses and stay current on cybersecurity developments relevant to the water sector. To support the working group, WEROC is developing and testing a dedicated Microsoft 365 environment, leveraging SharePoint as a resource hub and Microsoft Teams as a primary communication and collaboration tool.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Readiness/Mobile Command Vehicle and Peters Canyon Location
The Mobile Command Vehicle is maintained through regular testing protocols to ensure sustained operational readiness. This month, WEROC and MWDOC IT have tested the Mobile Command Vehicle's internet capabilities via Starlink and Cradlepoint. Peter's Canyon's location is in a continuous state of readiness.

WEROC On-Call Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) Services Project
The WEROC team participated in the Request for Qualification (RFQ) evaluation process for consulting firms that will provide on-call professional services to support multiple MWDOC departments. The procurement is being led by the MWDOC Engineering Department, and WEROC appreciated the leadership in coordinating and supporting this collaborative effort.

Orange County Fire Authority Urban Search and Rescue Training Support
WEROC assisted the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) by coordinating a regional request to member agencies for concrete and utility infrastructure materials that are no longer in service to support the development of a realistic structural collapse training site. The training area will be used by OCFA's Urban Search and Rescue and Technical Rescue Teams to simulate collapsed buildings, parking structures, freeway structures, and other disaster environments. Member agencies were asked to identify concrete slabs, utility vaults, pipes, and other infrastructure materials that are no longer needed for operational use and can be repurposed for emergency response training. This initiative provides an opportunity to support a regional public safety partner while giving agencies a productive use for materials that would otherwise be stored or disposed of.

This effort reflects the continued partnership between WEROC member agencies and the Orange County Fire Authority and demonstrates the value of regional collaboration in strengthening emergency preparedness and technical rescue capabilities throughout Orange County.

WEROC Personnel
Both the WEROC Emergency Management Specialist and WEROC Emergency Management Coordinator successfully completed their probationary periods. This milestone reflects their strong performance, professionalism, and commitment to supporting WEROC, its member agencies, and regional emergency management initiatives. While this marks a significant achievement, it is only the beginning of their professional development. Emergency management is a complex and continually evolving field that requires ongoing training, experience, and collaboration, and WEROC remains committed to supporting their continued growth and development.

Presentations, Training, and Exercises
<u>Presentations:</u>
June 24: CalChiefs Emergency Management Section – Garden Grove Hazmat Incident (Vicki)

<u>Trainings:</u>
June 10: WEROC Monthly Radio Test
June 15: WEROC Agencies AlertOC System User Virtual Training (County Provided)
June 23-24: G626 - EOC Action Planning (WEROC/Vicki Trainer)
June 25: WEROC Agencies WebEOC System User Virtual Training (County Provided)

WEROC Regional Fuel Planning Project
In June, the Regional Fuel Plan Request for Proposals (RFP) was submitted to legal for another round of formal review, advancing it through the RFP approval process in the final stages. In support of this initiative, staff continues to conduct open conversations with member agencies through meetings to identify operational gaps and strengthen fuel planning efforts. This coordination remains critical to ensuring the Regional Fuel Plan's operational effectiveness during emergency response. Stakeholder discussions focused on fuel types, operational protocols, and the identification and establishment of Fuel Points of Distribution (FPODs) to support emergency continuity of operations, as recommended by WEROC member agency operations staff. To maximize distribution and visibility, WEROC identified recommended online portal locations to post the Fuel RFP, including the MWDOC website and additional portals and connections.

An updated version was provided to legal based on their last round of feedback. At this time of this report, BBK is reviewing the documents provided. With guidance from MWDOC, WEROC will determine the next steps in the contracting process while continuing to develop the fuel plan with input from our Member Agencies.

Operational Area, State, Federal, and other partner meetings

(Specific details can be provided as requested by the Board of Directors)

June 4: Orange County Emergency Management Organization – Canceled due to GG Incident
June 9: Monthly Operational Area Tests (Radio, WebEOC, AlertOC)
June 9: Garden Grove HazMat Incident Initial Damage Estimates Meeting with California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES)
June 11: CalOES Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) Advisory Board
June 15: Water Policy Dinner
June 16: AWWA Security and Emergency Management Committee
June 16: CalWARN Improvement Meeting – AAR from 2024
June 18: MWDOC Managers Meeting
June 18: CalWARN and CUEA Meeting
June 26: WARN Chair Meeting
June 30: CalWARN Board Meeting

Water Use Efficiency

May 2026 Rebates

Turf Replacement: This month, 426,662 square feet of turfgrass were converted to Orange County-friendly landscapes across 30 projects, receiving a total of $2,579,187 in incentives. To date, approximately 31.4 million square feet of turfgrass have been replaced.

New Trees: This month, 12 trees were planted as part of Turf Replacement projects. Since March 2024, the planting of 600 trees has been incentivized.

Spray-to-Drip: This month, 167,537 square feet of irrigated area were converted to drip irrigation across 19 projects, receiving a total of $167,537 in incentives. To date, approximately 6.5 million square feet of landscaped area have been converted from traditional spray to drip irrigation.

Landscape Design: This month, 3 professionally created landscape designs were rebated. To date, 1,205 landscape design and/or landscape maintenance packages have been incentivized to support turf replacement projects.

Smart Timer Rebate: This month, 45 smart irrigation timers were installed. To date, 36,520 smart timers have been installed through this program.

High-Efficiency Nozzles: This month, 79 high-efficiency rotating nozzles were installed in place of traditional spray nozzles. To date, 587,317 nozzles have been installed through this program.

Rain Barrels: This month, 1 rain barrel was installed in Orange County. To date, the installation of 9,109 rain barrels has been incentivized.

High-Efficiency Clothes Washers: This month, 19 high-efficiency clothes washers were installed instead of lower-efficiency models. To date, 131,884 high-efficiency clothes washers have been incentivized.

Residential High-Efficiency Toilets: This month, 7 residential premium high-efficiency toilets were incentivized. To date, 62,034 high-efficiency toilets have been installed through this program.

Flow-Monitoring Devices: This month, 8 residential flow-monitoring devices were installed. To date, 1,131 flow-monitoring devices have been incentivized. More than 3,300 verified flow-monitoring devices have been installed in Orange County; however, not all were processed through the rebate program.

Commercial Devices: This month, no commercial devices were incentivized. To date, 119,833 high-efficiency devices (e.g., plumbing fixtures, ice machines, cooling tower conductivity controllers) have been installed at commercial properties through this program.

Water Savings Incentive Program (WSIP): This month, no commercial/industrial water users completed a customized water-savings upgrade to their equipment, services, or other water-intensive processes. To date, 53 customized projects have been completed.

Recycled Water Retrofit Program: This month, Las Flores HOA, in coordination with Santa Margarita Water District, completed the customer-side conversion from potable to recycled water for 2,566,327 square feet of irrigated area. Additionally, Irvine United Congregational Church, in coordination with Irvine Ranch Water District, completed the customer-side conversion to recycled water for 20,000 sq ft of irrigated area. To date, 196 sites irrigating a total of 1,815 acres of landscape have been converted from potable to recycled water.

California Water Efficiency Partnership (CalWEP) Research & Evaluation Committee Planning Meeting

On June 9, Rachel Waite-Harvey, as Vice Chair, joined CalWEP staff and the Committee Chair to plan activities related to the CalWEP Research and Evaluation Committee meeting. Planning is ongoing.

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for June 30.

Orange County Data Acquisition Partnership (OCDAP) Steering and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) Meeting

On June 9, Cassidy Harding attended the OCDAP STAC meeting. The working group collaborates on a regional effort to cost-share the acquisition of high-resolution aerial imagery and related products and to plan the OC GIS Users Meetings. Discussion focused on confirmed financial commitments from participating agencies to purchase 2026 Cycle #3 imagery, the participation agreement and invoicing logistics, and software platform setup.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 7.

CalWEP Education & Outreach Task Force Meeting

On June 10, Tina Fann attended the CalWEP Education & Outreach Task Force meeting. Topics on the agenda included:

- Successes from Recent Events
- Takeaways from Peer to Peer

The next meeting is scheduled for July 8.

Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Wholesaler Meeting

On June 11, Rachel W-H. attended the WUE Wholesaler Meeting, spearheaded by San Diego County Water Authority staff and attended by staff from wholesale Metropolitan member agencies. Discussion focused on AB1572, the ban of potable irrigation on nonfunctional turf

(NFT), the Conservation Framework, and potential unintended consequences of turf removal and how to mitigate them.

The next meeting will be scheduled next quarter.

Project Advisory (PA) 22 Committee Meeting

On June 11, Rachel W-H. attended the PA 22 Committee hosted by the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) and attended by SAWPA member agencies and MWDOC staff. Discussion focused on SAWPA's Draft Residential Parcel Level Landscape Analysis webpage and regional alternative data acceptance by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) as relates to the Conservation Framework.

The next meeting will be scheduled as needed.

CA-NV American Water Works Association (AWWA) Water Loss Control Committee Meeting

On June 11, Rachel Davis, Committee Chair, hosted the CA-NV AWWA Water Loss Control Committee meeting via Zoom. There were approximately 48 attendees. Items on the agenda included:

- CalWEP Peer to Peer Recap
- DWR Leak Detection and Water Loss Webinar Recap
- Upcoming Events
    - CA-NV AWWA Water Education Seminar at Santiago Canyon College
- DWR Compliance Letters
- Small Agency Meter Testing
- Energy Intensity and Savings Associated with Water Loss Control
- Call for Future Topics

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for July 30.

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) One Water Award

On June 12, MWD staff visited the MWDOC office to film Rachel D. speaking about the MWDOC Leak Detection Program. This footage will be used in a social media post announcing that the MWDOC Leak Detection Program has won the 2026 One Water Award.

CalWEP Program Committee Meeting

On June 16, Sam Fetter, as Vice Chair, along with Rachel W-H., Rachel D., Tina F., and Cristal Castro, attended the CalWEP Program Committee meeting via Zoom. Items on the agenda included:

- CalWEP and Alliance for Water Efficiency (AWE) Updates
- CalWEP Committee Updates
- Public Agency NFT Deadline Presentations and Discussion
- Peer-to-Peer Debrief and New Opportunities

Orange County Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) - Water Loss Control Joint Workgroup Meeting

On June 16, Rachel D. hosted the Orange County Water Loss Control Workgroup meeting via Zoom. Approximately 46 agency staff attended this meeting. Items on the agenda included:

- Learning Module
    - East Bay Municipal Utilities District – David Wallenstein, Large Customer Leaks and Apparent Loss
    - Other AMI Insight
    - Sacramento Suburban Water District – Greg Bundesen, Constant Flow Detection and Leak Repair Rebate
- Information Sharing
- Topics of Particular Interest / Pain Points / Concerns

The next Water Loss Control Workgroup meeting is scheduled for July 14.

Metropolitan Water Use Efficiency Workgroup Meeting

On June 17, Rachel W-H., Sam, Tina F., and Cristal attended Metropolitan's Water Use Efficiency Workgroup meeting via Zoom. Items on the agenda included:

- Metropolitan Board Meeting Update
- Metropolitan Conservation Program Updates
    - Fiscal Year 2027/2028 Budget
    - Grant Funding Update
- Metropolitan External Affairs Update
- Direct Install Programs

The next Workgroup meeting is scheduled for July 16.

WaterView Wholesale Landscape Area Measurements (LAM) Explorer Tutorial and Requirements Gathering Session

On June 17, Cassidy and Rachel W-H. attended the WaterView Wholesale Tutorial and Requirements Gathering Session. The meeting provided an opportunity to give structured feedback on the web-based mapping application developed by CalWEP in partnership with Eagle Aerial to support wholesale agencies with retailer compliance and landscape analytics under Making Conservation a California Way of Life. The session also included a detailed walkthrough of the platform with MWDOC-specific use cases.

California Data Collaborative (CaDC) California Water Data Summit Planning Committee Meeting

On June 17, Cassidy attended the CaDC California Water Data Summit Planning Committee meeting. The bi-weekly meeting is designed to plan the 2026 California Water Data Summit scheduled for August 19-20, 2026. Topics included finalizing the agenda and refining the sponsorship outreach strategy.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 30.

Making Conservation a CA Way of Life Framework

In the month of June, the following activity occurred for the Way of Life Framework Technical Assistance Program (Framework TAP):

- On June 18, Rachel W-H. and Sam met with Environmental Incentives (EI) to discuss project status and timelines for the compliance plan, CII classifications, and best management plan deliverables to Orange County agencies.
- On June 19, Rachel W-H. met with EI and City of Garden Grove staff to begin work on EI's AB 1572 compliance support services for the City.
- On June 26, Rachel W-H. and Sam met with EI and City of Seal Beach staff to begin work on EI's AB 1572 compliance support services for the City.

On June 23, Rachel D., Rachel W-H., Sam, Tina F., Cassidy, and Cristal attended the State Water Resources Control Board's technical assistance webinar series for Making Conservation a California Way of Life via Zoom. Presentation items included:

- Regulatory Landscape and Key Technical Requirements
- Data and Reporting Technical Assistance Pilot, with the California Data Collaborative
- Resources Available from CalWEP

In June, NV5 completed the City of Anaheim's reconciliation of DWR-provided residential landscape data and NV5-provided commercial dedicated irrigation meter data to ensure multi-family landscapes are grouped correctly.

Laguna Beach Fire Department (LBFD) Pump-Pod DRAFTS Unit Demo

On June 24, Rachel W-H., in coordination with the Public Affairs Communications Manager, joined LBFD for a live demonstration of their newly purchased Direct Recirculating Apparatus Firefighter Training Sustainability (DRAFTS) Unit training equipment, which was largely funded through DWR funding acquired by Metropolitan. The equipment allows most training evolutions for the firefighting and engineering tests to be performed while capturing and immediately recirculating the same water, thereby saving large quantities of water. The MWDOC team captured footage of the unit in action and interviewed an LBFD representative to develop content to highlight LBFD efforts to conserve water.

Colorado River Basin (CRB) Water Efficiency Network

On June 25, Rachel W-H. joined the CRB Water Efficiency Network roundtable on communicating water constraints to the public. The CRB network focuses on connecting water use efficiency and land professionals across the basin to advance municipal water efficiency. Participants from Southern California, Arizona, Nevada, and Colorado joined the roundtable. Discussion focused on public communication challenges, strategies, lessons learned, and emerging opportunities.

The next meeting will be scheduled over the next several months.

Public & Government Affairs

Member Agency Support:

Public Affairs Staff:

- Partnered with the City of Fountain Valley to provide artwork from the 2026 Poster Contest to the City to be featured on a utility box.
- Sent a report to Moulton Niguel Water District (MNWD) highlighting Poster Contest submissions and winning artwork from within its service area.
- Partnered with the Orange County Water District (OCWD) to provide a Groundwater Replenishment System tour during the Poster Contest Awards Ceremony.

Government Affairs Staff:

- Circulated the monthly Grants Tracking and Acquisition report to all participating member agencies.
- Served on an interview panel for Santa Margarita Water District's (SMWD) Government Affairs Manager position.
- Provided two letters of support for SMWD's Bureau of Reclamation grant applications.

Community and Special Events:

Public Affairs Staff:

- Prepared and hosted the June 15 Water Policy Forum & Dinner, featuring a panel on the Sites Reservoir Project, and posted the event video and photos.
- Hosted the Water Awareness Poster Contest Awards Ceremony, honoring 40 student winners with 160 guests. Event photos featured the ceremony, which included remarks from General Manager Harvey De La Torre and Director Megan Yoo Schneider.
- Coordinated the pick-up of prizes and posters for the Poster Contest winners who were not able to attend the awards ceremony.
- Hosted a planning meeting for the 2026 OC Water Summit with MWDOC and OCWD.

Government Affairs Staff:

- Attended the Association of California Cities – Orange County (ACC-OC) Legislative and Regulatory Committee meeting.

Education Initiatives

General Education and Workforce Development

Public Affairs Staff:

- Participated in the annual in-person Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's (Metropolitan) Education Coordinators Meeting.

- Met with K-12 Undaunted to explore how the California Seal of Climate Literacy (SB-1048) could support education and workforce development goals if adopted.
- Met with the Sustain OC Foundation to discuss current initiatives and identify opportunities for future collaboration.
- Kicked off the inaugural Water Replenishment District's Water Leaders Academy for 20 rising high school seniors from Compton Unified School District. Through collaboration with the Water Energy Education Alliance (WEEA) and MWDOC Education, students completed career assessments, explored water industry career pathways through interactive, high-energy, hands-on activities, and connected with industry professionals from regional higher education institutions.
- Shared a registration flyer with Orange County teachers for the California Environmental Education Foundation's (CEEF) Teacher Institute.
- Participated in a CEEF Teacher Institute planning meeting to prepare for the MWDOC and WEEA session introducing water careers with classroom-ready activities for educators.
- Prepared a workforce development panel outline and identified recommended speakers for the OC Water Summit.
- Confirmed a new date for the Project WET (Water Education Today) Orange County Educators Training with MNWD and secured the Orange County Department of Education as a partner for the event.
- Provided educational resources, lesson materials, and giveaways to support the International School of Orange County's annual science fair.
- Represented the District at Santiago Canyon College's Employer Engagement Day, participating in mock interviews, resume reviews, and networking opportunities with students.

Choice K-12 School Programs

Public Affairs Staff:

- Met with Choice School Program contractor, Orange County Department of Education's Inside the Outdoors, to establish priorities and implementation plans for the upcoming school year.
- Provided MWDOC Choice K-12 School Program year-end participation numbers to MNWD.
- Distributed requests for participation in the MWDOC Choice K-12 School Programs. Strong participation has been confirmed, with commitments received from 20 agencies and responses from three (3) additional agencies pending.

Water Energy Education Alliance (WEEA)

Public Affairs Staff:

- Met with Metropolitan's Workforce and Education teams to align activities, discuss shared metrics, and explore collaborative opportunities for the new fiscal year.
- Met with the Water UCI (University of California, Irvine) research team to explore opportunities for collaboration, support, and in-kind sponsorship.
- Secured commitments from all returning sponsors for the new fiscal year and welcomed OCWD as a new sponsor.

- Provided follow-up materials and engagement activities from the recent WEEA Leadership Roundtable to the State Water Resources Control Board Office of Public Engagement, Equity, and Tribal Affairs.
- Initiated outreach to partner organizations to recruit and prepare students for WEEA's NextGen Workforce sponsorship at the Orange County (OC) Water Summit.
- Reviewed and provided feedback on the Water Career Pathways Initiative, a proposed online platform designed to connect career seekers with jobs, pathways, resources, mentors, and more.

Digital Communications, Publications, and Media Engagement

Public Affairs Staff:

- Developed and distributed the eCurrents Newsletter June Edition that garnered 6,615 opens (an email open rate of 51%).
- Developed and distributed social media content across all MWDOC social media channels.
- Supported the Water Use Efficiency department with the transition of resources from Droplet to the MWDOC website.
- Attended the Water Use Efficiency Workgroup Conservation Framework Learning Network meeting and developed a social media post.

Special Projects

Public Affairs Staff:

- Released the Water Loss Control Program Video featuring speakers from MWDOC as well as Yorba Linda Water District, SMWD, and the City of La Palma.
- Met with the Water Use Efficiency department and staff from the San Diego County Water Authority to learn about the landscape contest in their region.
- Completed a Public Relations Society of America certification program on Public Affairs: Practical Skills for Communicators.
- Delivered giveaways to the Central Library in Huntington Beach for their Seed Center.
- Completed a six-week virtual AI for Water Management Professionals course, developed by CEO Leadership Alliance Orange County, MNWD, UC Irvine Division of Continuing Education, and the California Data Collaborative.
- Attended a Focus Group with Institutional Skeptics, hosted by Metropolitan and facilitated by Adam Probolsky.
- Attended an Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Event, The Future is Flowing: AI & Innovation in Water Management.

Government Affairs Staff:

- Completed two California Special Districts Association (CSDA) training courses: Organizational Development and Overview of Special District Laws.
- Drafted the Independent Special Districts of Orange County (ISDOC) Executive Committee agenda and edited the monthly meeting minutes.
- Circulated the ISDOC Executive Committee meeting documents and meeting information.
- Reviewed and scored the submissions for the CSDA Annual Awards that recognize outstanding achievements, innovation, and advocacy/outreach among special districts. This included 75 applications covering nine categories.

- Participated in the CSDA Professional Development Committee meeting, where we reviewed the award application scores, discussed, and made final award recipient determinations.
- Staffed the Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO) meeting on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.
- Updated, edited, and circulated the WACO Planning Committee agenda to all members.
- Staffed the WACO Planning Committee meeting.

Outreach Metrics

Public Affairs Staff:

- Google Performance Analytics (Timeframe: May 27-June 30)
  - 156 business profile interactions
  - 1,736 people viewed the business profile
- mwdoc.com Website Analytics (May 27-June 30)
  - 15,079 page views
  - Top pages:
    - Home Page – 3,355
    - Turf Replacement – 770
    - Board Meetings – 645
    - Residential Rebates – 613
    - Water Use Efficiency – 519
    - RFPs/RFQs – 475
- ocwatersmartgardens.com Website Analytics (May 2026)
  - 804 Number of Sessions, 563 New Users
  - Top pages:
    - Home Page
    - Eligible Sustainability Feature Trees
    - Fire Resistant
- ocwatersmartparks.com Website Analytics (June 1-30)
  - 4 Site Sessions
- Social Media Analytics (May 27-June 30)
  - 9.25% Engagement Rate (a good rate is between 1% and 5%)
  - 16,398 Post Impressions (number of times a post was viewed)
  - 463 Post Reactions & Likes

Legislative Affairs

Government Affairs Staff:

- Attended the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA) SB 72 Workgroup Meeting.
- Participated in the ACWA State Legislative Committee meeting.
- Attended the CMUA discussion on the new second round of the Advanced Clean Fleet 15-day language.
- Attended the CMUA Regulatory Committee meeting.
- Participated in the CMUA Legislative Committee meeting.
- Participated in the CSDA Legislative Committee meeting.
- Attended the California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance (CCEEB) Water, Chemistry, and Waste Project meeting.
- Attended the ACWA State Legislative Committee meeting.

- Attended the special meeting of the ACWA State Legislative Committee.
- Attended the CMUA special Legislative Committee meeting.
- Participated in the Metropolitan Member Agency Legislative Coordinators meeting.
- Worked with Metropolitan to be added to their coalition letter in support of $25M in Prop 4 dollars for the Sepulveda Feeder Pump Station project.