I hereby certify that the following agenda was posted at least 72 hours prior to the time of the meeting so noticed below at 24251 Los Alisos Boulevard, Lake Forest, California.



JORO WATER DISTRICT

DENNIS P. CAFFERTY, Secretary of the El Toro Water District and the Board of Directors thereof

# **AGENDA**

# EL TORO WATER DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**January 25, 2024** 

7:30 a.m.

BOARDROOM, DISTRICT OFFICE 24251 LOS ALISOS BLVD., LAKE FOREST, CA 92630

President Monin & Director Freshley will be attending remotely via Zoom at:

Hilton Palm Springs 400 East Tahquitz Canyon Way Palm Springs, CA 92262

This meeting will be held in person. As a convenience for the public, the meeting may also be accessed by Zoom and will be available by either computer or telephone audio as indicated below. Because this is an in-person meeting and the virtual 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.

Members of the public who wish to comment on any item within the jurisdiction of the District or on any item on the agenda, may attend the meeting in person at the District's office or may observe and address the Meeting by joining at this link: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87266226294">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87266226294</a> (Meeting ID: 872 6622 6294).

Members of the public who wish only to listen to the telephonic meeting may dial in at the following numbers (669) 900-6833 or (346) 248-7799 with the same Meeting ID noted above. Please be advised the Meeting is being recorded.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER –** President Monin

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE –** Vice President Gaskins

**ROLL CALL (Determination of a Quorum)** 

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the public may address the Board at this time or they may reserve this opportunity with regard to an item on the agenda, until said item is discussed by the Board. Comments on other items will be heard at the time set aside for "COMMENTS REGARDING NON-AGENDA ITEMS." The public may identify themselves when called on and limit their comments to three minutes.

#### ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED

Determine need and take action to agendize items which arose subsequent to the posting of the Agenda. (ROLL CALL VOTE: Adoption of this recommendation requires a two-thirds vote of the Board members present, or, if less than two-thirds of the Board members are present, a unanimous vote of those members present.)

# 1. Consider Board Member's Request for Remote Participation (AB 2449)

# 2. Consent Calendar

(All matters under the Consent Calendar will be approved by one motion unless a Board member or a member of the public requests separate action or discussion on a specific item)

a. Consider approving the minutes of the December 21, 2023 Board meeting

**Recommended Action:** The Board will consider approving the above Consent Calendar.

3. <u>Director Reports for Meetings Attended</u> (Oral Report)

#### **GENERAL MANAGER ACTION ITEMS**

4. Resolution No. 24-1-1 Modifying Standing and External Organization Board and Staff Assignments for Calendar Year 2024 (Reference Material Included)

Staff will review and comment on Resolution No. 24-1-1 modifying Standing and External Organization Board and Staff Assignments for calendar year 2024.

<u>Recommended Action:</u> Staff recommends approval of Resolution No. 24-1-1 modifying Standing and External Organization Board and Staff Assignments for calendar year 2024.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 24-1-1**

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EL TORO WATER DISTRICT MODIFYING STANDING AND EXTERNAL ORGANIZATION BOARD AND STAFF ASSIGNMENTS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2024

5. Resolution No. 24-1-2 El Toro Water District Administrative Code (Reference Materials Included)

Staff will review and comment on proposed revisions to the District Administrative Code.

**Recommended Action:** The Board of Directors will consider adopting Resolution No. 24-1-2 which adopts the amended El Toro Water District Administrative Code.

#### **RESOLUTION 24-1-2**

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE EL TORO WATER DISTRICT
ADOPTING THE AMENDED EL TORO WATER DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

#### GENERAL MANAGER INFORMATION ITEMS

- 6. General Manager's Monthly Report (Reference Material Included)
  Staff will review and comment on the General Manager's Monthly Report.
- Legislative Reports (Reference Material Included)
   Staff and General Counsel will review and comment on the Legislative reports.

- Public Education and Outreach Report (Reference Material Included)
   Staff will review and comment on the Public Education and Outreach report.
- Water Use Efficiency Report (Reference Material Included)
   Staff will review and comment on the Water Use Efficiency Report.
- **10. SOCWA Report** (Reference Material Included)
  - a. SOCWA Board Meeting January 11, 2024
  - b. SOCWA Finance Committee Meeting January 16, 2024
  - c. SOCWA Engineering Committee Meeting January 18, 2024

# 11. <u>Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) Report</u> (Reference Material Included)

- a. MWDOC Planning/Operations Meeting January 2, 2024
- b. MWDOC/MET Directors Workshop January 3, 2024
- c. MWDOC Admin/Finance Meeting January 10, 2024
- d. MWDOC Board Meeting January 17, 2024
- e. MWDOC Managers Meeting January 18, 2024
- f. MWDOC/OCWD Joint Committee Meeting January 24, 2024

# 12. <u>Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) Report</u> (Reference Material Included)

- a. Report on the January 10, 2024 LAFCO meeting
- 13. <u>ISDOC Meetings Report</u> (Reference Material Included)
  Report on the January 9, 2024 ISDOC Executive Committee meeting
- **14.** WACO Meetings Report (Reference Material Included)
  - a. Report on the January 5, 2024 WACO meeting
  - b. Report on the January 16, 2024 WACO Planning meeting

#### COMMITTEE AND GENERAL INFORMATION

**15.** <u>Dates to Remember for January/February</u> (Reference Material Included)

#### **COMMENTS REGARDING NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

#### ATTORNEY REPORT

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

- 1. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) to consult with legal counsel and staff regarding the following existing litigation: *Plaintiff, Marlene Jean v. Defendants, Dollar Tree Stores, Inc. et al.,* Superior Court of Los Angeles Case No. 19STCV25234.
- 2. Pursuant to Government Code Section 564956.9(d)(2) to consult with legal counsel and staff Potential Litigation (one matter).

#### **REGULAR SESSION**

# **REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION** (Legal Counsel)

Mr. Granito will provide an oral report on the Closed Session.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

The agenda material for this meeting is available to the public at the District's Administrative Office, which is located at 24251 Los Alisos Blvd., Lake Forest, Ca. 92630. If any additional material related to an open session agenda item is distributed to all or a majority of the board of directors after this agenda is posted, such material will be made available for immediate public inspection at the same location.

Request for Disability-Related Modifications or Accommodations

If you require any disability-related accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in this public meeting, please telephone the District's Recording Secretary, Polly Welsch at (949) 837-7050, extension 225 at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to said meeting. If you prefer, your request may be submitted in writing to El Toro Water District, P.O. Box 4000, Laguna Hills, California 92654, Attention: Polly Welsch.

#### MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

OF THE

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

OF THE

#### EL TORO WATER DISTRICT

December 21, 2023

President Havens called the meeting of the Board of Directors of the ELTORO WATER DISTRICT to order at 7:30 a.m.

Vice President Monin led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Directors KAY HAVENS, MIKE GASKINS, MARK MONIN, FRED ADJARIAN, and KATHRYN FRESHLEY participated.

Also present were DENNIS P. CAFFERTY, General Manager, JUDY
CIMORELL, Human Resources Manager, SCOTT HOPKINS, Operations
Superintendent, VISHAV SHARMA, CFO, HANNAH FORD, Engineering Manager, VU
CHU, Water Use Efficiency Analyst, JUDY WILSON, Accounting Supervisor, GILBERT
J. GRANITO, General Counsel, RANDALL CRANE, MWDOC Director (Zoom), and
POLLY WELSCH, Recording Secretary.

#### Determination of a Quorum

#### Roll Call:

Director Adjarian here
Director Gaskins here
Director Freshley here
Vice President Monin here
President Havens here

Five Board members were present for the meeting, therefore a quorum was determined.

# Oral Communications/Public Comments

There were no comments.

# <u>Items Received Too Late to be Agendized</u>

President Havens asked if there were any items received too late to be agendized. Mr. Cafferty replied no.

# Presentation of Awards, Recognitions, Certifications and Introductions

# Service Awards

Mr. Cafferty recognized and congratulated Judy Wilson, Accounting Supervisor, for 15 years of service with the District.

At approximately 7:35 a.m. Ms. Wilson left the meeting.

# Consent Calendar

President Havens asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Adjarian made a Motion, seconded by Vice President Monin to approve the Consent Calendar.

#### Roll Call Vote:

Director Adjarian	aye
Director Gaskins	aye
Director Freshley	aye
Vice President Monin	aye
President Havens	aye

# <u>Director Reports for Meetings Attended</u>

Director Gaskins stated that he attended the MWDOC Planning/Operations meeting, the MWDOC Board meeting, the ISDOC Executive Committee meeting, the MWDOC/MET Directors Workshop, the WACO meeting, and the regular ETWD Board meetings.

Director Freshley stated that she attended the LAFCO meeting, the MWDOC Planning/Operations meeting, the MWDOC/MET Directors workshop, the RRC meeting, the SOCWA Finance meeting, the SOCWA Board meeting, the ACWA Fall Conference, the WACO meeting, TV-6, and the regular ETWD Board meetings.

Vice President Monin stated that he attended the ISDOC Executive Committee meeting, the MWDOC/MET Directors workshop, the MWDOC Board meeting, the WACO meeting, the WACO Planning Committee meeting, the Board of Supervisors Open House, the ACWA Fall Conference, the ETWD Christmas lunch, the Agenda Review meeting, the Pres/VP/GM meeting, and the regular ETWD Board meetings.

Director Adjarian stated that he attended the WACO meeting, the MWDOC

Planning/Operations meeting, the MWDOC Board meeting, the MWDOC/MET Directors

workshop, the ACWA Fall conference, the SAC meeting, the Board of Supervisors

Open House meeting, the ETWD Christmas lunch, the LAFCO meeting, the Boy Scout

Merit Badge meeting, and the regular ETWD Board meetings.

President Havens stated that she attended the MWDOC Planning/Operations meeting, the MWDOC/MET Directors workshop, the WACO meeting, the Pres/VP/GM meeting, Agenda Review, the MWDOC Admin/Finance meeting, the ETWD Christmas lunch, the MWDOC Board meeting, and the regular ETWD Board meetings.

# General Manager Action Items

Resolution No. 23-12-1 Adopting the Ninth Amendment to the District's Bylaws

Mr. Cafferty stated that the Bylaws language has been slightly modified from that discussed at the November Board meeting while remaining conceptually the same.

President Havens asked for a Motion.

Motion: Vice President Monin made a Motion, seconded by Director Adjarian to

1) adopt Resolution No. 23-12-1 effective December 1, 2023, and 2) authorize and
direct the Secretary to record the Ninth Amendment to the District's Bylaws with the

Orange County Recorders Office.

# Roll Call Vote:

Vice President Monin aye
Director Gaskins aye
Director Freshley aye
Director Adjarian aye
President Havens aye

# Resolution No. 23-12-2 ETWD Administrative Code

Mr. Cafferty stated that the transfer of documents and policies are being included into our new Administrative Code. He further stated that each month additional policies will be added until the Administrative Code is complete.

President Havens asked for a Motion.

Motion: Vice President Monin made a Motion, seconded by Director Adjarian to adopt Resolution No. 23-12-2 which adopts the amended ETWD Administrative Code.

# Roll Call Vote:

Vice President Monin aye
Director Gaskins aye
Director Freshley no
Director Adjarian aye
President Havens aye

# General Manager Information Items

# General Manager's Monthly Report

Mr. Cafferty stated that MWD is proposing isolating the lower region of the Allen McCullough Pipeline for a period of 4-5 months downstream of the OC-88 pump station that puts water in the South County pipeline near Bake Parkway.

Mr. Cafferty stated that there is a scheduled Diemer shutdown in January and staff is working to resolve the TTHM issues in the R-6 Reservoir by January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Mr. Cafferty stated that the State has now approved the regulations on direct potable reuse and staff will be preparing a message to customers that indicate the regulations that were approved, and that these projects will take years to evaluate and develop.

Mr. Cafferty stated that staff received an email yesterday from US Bank that they have approved the credit to the District to resolve the credit fraud issue.

Mr. Cafferty stated that going forward we will report on what the District has collected from the Arrearage Program.

Director Adjarian complimented staff on obtaining the JPIA President's Special Recognition Award certificate for each program that the District qualifies in reducing claims.

# Legislative Reports

There were no comments.

#### Public Education and Outreach Report

Mr. Cafferty provided an update on the Adopt-a-Channel project and showed a picture of what our signage will look like at the location on Carlota near Lake Forest Drive.

# Water Loss Annual Report

Mr. Chu provided a presentation on Water Loss Audit & Performance Standards.

# Water Use Efficiency Report

Mr. Chu provided an update on the Water Use Efficiency Report.

# SOCWA Reports

There were no comments.

# MWDOC Reports

Director Adjarian reported on the MWDOC/MET Directors workshop on the Pure Water Southern California Cost Recovery Alternatives.

Mr. Cafferty stated that they announced two new MWDOC Officers for President (Bob McVicker) and Vice President (Jeff Thomas).

# LAFCO

Director Freshley stated that they discussed the Audit, and they conducted appointments for the Commission Chair and Vice Chair.

# ISDOC

Vice President Monin stated that they discussed the audit results and treasurers report.

# WACO

Vice President Monin stated that they had a presentation on the Colorado River; What's at Stake for California.

# Election of Officers

# Office of President

Mr. Cafferty stated that the Vice President moves up to the position of President, and therefore Vice President Mark Monin shall automatically succeed to the position of President following the conclusion of today's Board meeting for the 2024 calendar year.

# Election of Vice President

Mr. Cafferty stated that the Board will now accept nominations for Vice President.

Motion: Director Freshley made a Motion to elect Director Gaskins for the position of Vice President, seconded by Director Adjarian.

# Roll Call Vote:

Director Gaskins	aye
Director Adjarian	aye
Director Freshley	aye
Vice President Monin	aye
President Havens	aye

# Appointment of Treasurer

Motion: Director Freshley made a Motion to appoint Vishav Sharma to the position of Treasurer, seconded by Director Adjarian.

# Roll Call Vote:

Director Gaskins	aye
Director Adjarian	aye
Director Freshley	aye
Vice President Monin	aye
President Havens	aye

# Ratification of Existing Officer Appointments

Motion: Vice President Monin made a Motion, seconded by Director Gaskins to ratify the existing officer appointments of Secretary (Dennis Cafferty), and Assistant Secretary (Judy Cimorell).

# Roll Call Vote:

aye
aye
aye
aye
aye

# **COMMITTEE AND GENERAL INFORMATION**

# Dates to Remember for December 2023/January 2024

There were no comments.

# Comments Regarding Non-Agenda Items

There were no comments.

# Attorney Report

Mr. Granito reported that there is no need for a Closed Session at today's meeting and therefore Regular Session continued.

# <u>Adjournment</u>

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

POLLY WELSCH Recording Secretary

Respectfully submitted,

# APPROVED:

MARK MONIN, President of the El Toro Water District and the Board of Directors thereof

DENNIS P. CAFFERTY, Secretary of the El Toro Water District and the Board of Directors thereof

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 24-1-1**

# RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EL TORO WATER DISTRICT MODIFYING STANDING AND EXTERNAL ORGANIZATION BOARD AND STAFF ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2024

**WHEREAS,** the Board of Directors of the El Toro Water District deems it to be in the best interest of the District to modify the President's appointment of Board to Standing Committee assignments; and

**WHEREAS**, the list of appointments is attached hereto marked Exhibit "A," and made part of this Resolution.

# NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, as follows:

**RESOLVED,** that the Board of Directors of the El Toro Water District hereby confirms the Standing and External Organization Board and Staff Assignments as listed in Exhibit "A".

ADOPTED, SIGNED AND APPROVED this 25th day of January 2024.

MARK MONIN, President
El Toro Water District and of the
Board of Directors thereof

ATTEST:

DENNIS P. CAFFERTY, Secretary El Toro Water District and of the Board of Directors thereof

# EXHIBIT A RESOLUTION 24-1-1

#### BOARD/STAFF MEMBER ORGANIZATIONAL AND STANDING COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS - 2024

ETWD COMMITTEE	<b>CHAIRMAN</b>	<b>ALTERNATE</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>
Engineering Committee	Freshley	Adjarian	Monthly (Full Board)
Finance & Insurance Committee	Havens	Gaskins	Monthly (Full Board)
Agenda Review Committee	Monin	Gaskins	Monthly
Regional Reclamation Committee (RRC)	Freshley	Gaskins	Monthly
Community Advisory Group (CAG)	Adjarian	Havens	Quarterly
ORGANIZATION	REPRESENTATIVE	<u>ALTERNATE</u>	FREQUENCY
WACO Planning	Monin	Adjarian	Monthly
SOCWA Board	Freshley	Gaskins	Monthly
SOCWA Finance Committee	Cafferty	Freshley	Monthly
ISDOC	Monin	Gaskins	Monthly
LAFCO	Freshley	Gaskins	Monthly
Santiago Aqueduct Commission	Adjarian	Havens	Quarterly
South OC Agencies Group	Gaskins	Havens	<b>Bi-Monthly</b>
South OC Watershed Management Area Executive Committee	Havens	Monin	Quarterly

#### ADDITIONAL COMMITTEES THAT MEET ON AN OCCASIONAL OR AS NEEDED BASIS

ETWD COMMITTEE	<u>CHAIRMAN</u>	<u>ALTERNATE</u>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>
Computer Technology	Freshley	Monin	Annual/As Required
Audit Committee	Monin	Freshley	Annual/As Required
Budget Committee	Havens	Gaskins	Annual/As Required
Human Resources Committee	Gaskins	Havens	Annual/As Required
Water Quality Committee	Gaskins	Havens	Annual/As Required
JPIA	Gaskins	Freshley	Semi-Annual
ACWA Energy/Engineering Committee	Freshley	N/A	As Required
ACWA Water Quality Committee	Gaskins	N/A	As Required
ACWA Water Quality Committee	Havens	N/A	As Required
ACWA Membership Committee	Monin	N/A	As Required
<b>ACWA Business Development Committee</b>	Adjarian	N/A	As Required

DIRECTORS WILL NOT BE COMPENSATED FOR ATTENDING MEETINGS NOT LISTED ABOVE UNLESS AUTHORIZED BY THE BOARD PRESIDENT, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF: OCWA Luncheon Meetings, WateReuse Luncheon Meetings, WACO, CAG, ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon, MWDOC Quarterly Policy Forum events, MWDOC/Met Directors Workshop, MWDOC Elected Officials Forum, MWDOC Board Meeting, MWDOC Administration & Finance Committee Meeting, MWDOC Planning & Operations Committee Meeting, MWDOC/OCWD Joint Planning Committee Meeting, So Cal Water Committee, South Orange County Economic Coalition, Lake Forest Chamber of Commerce Events, City Council meetings in the 5 cities served by the District, Supervisor/Congressmen meetings in the areas served by the District.



# STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Directors Meeting Date: January 25, 2024

From: Dennis Cafferty, General Manager

**Subject: Administrative Code Amendment** 

At the November 2023 Board meeting the Board approved the initial version of the El Toro Water District Administrative Code. Staff continues to work to transition existing policies into the Administrative Code with revisions or updates as appropriate.

The current proposal moves the following existing policies to the recently created and adopted Administrative Code:

Current Policy Designation		Administrative Code Reference		
1997-14 (IV)	Committees of the Board	Section 2090		
1997-15 (IV)	Disposal of Surplus Property	Section 5070		
1985-1 (I)	Service Outside of District Boundaries	Section 6000		
	Construction of Water and Sewer Conveyance			
1992-23 (I)	Facilities for the Purpose of Providing Service to	Section 6010		
	New and Existing Customers			

The above policies incorporated in the Administrative Code represent the exact same language as the existing documents. Staff recommended changes or updates are noted as redline revisions in the proposed Administrative Code.

Two new policies are also proposed for addition to the Administrative Code to provide a description of duties of the offices of President and Vice President.

Section 3070 Duties and Powers of President Section 3080 Duties and Powers of Vice President

A redline document is included that shows only the excerpts from the Administrative Code in which changes or additions are proposed.

A clean version of the entire Administrative Code is also included for reference.

Recommended Action: The Board of Directors will consider adopting Resolution No. 24-1-2 which adopts the amended El Toro Water District Administrative Code.

# **RESOLUTION 24-1-2**

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE EL TORO WATER DISTRICT
ADOPTING THE AMENDED EL TORO WATER DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

# **RESOLUTION NO. 24-1-2**

# RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EL TORO WATER DISTRICT ADOPTING THE AMENDED EL TORO WATER DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of the El Toro Water District adopted an Administrative Code defining the policies the El Toro Water District in November, 2021; and

**WHEREAS,** it is in the best interest of the District that the District's Administrative Code be amended in its entirety to incorporate updates to, and additional policies in, the existing Administrative Code; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of the El Toro Water District has reviewed the Administrative Code which is incorporated herein by this reference.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Directors of the El Toro Water District does hereby adopt the Amended El Toro Water District Administrative Code effective January 25, 2024.

ADOPTED, SIGNED AND APPROVED, this 25th day of January 2024.

MARK MONIN, President
El Toro Water District and of the
Board of Directors thereof

ATTEST:

DENNIS P. CAFFERTY, Secretary El Toro Water District and of the Board of Directors there of

# **EL TORO WATER DISTRICT**



# **ADMINISTRATIVE CODE**

**Adopted** 

December 21, 2023 January 25, 2024

#### DISTRICT

1000 Principal Office

1010 Seal

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

2000 General Authority

2010 Membership

2020 Terms of Office

2030 Elections

2040 Meetings

2050 Quorum: Votes Necessary

2060 Compensation

2070 Board Staff Relationship

2080 Guidelines for Board Conduct

2090 Committees of the Board

#### **BOARD OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES**

3000 Officers Other Than Directors

3010 Elimination

3020 President (Term of Office)

3030 Succession to Presidency

3040 Vice President (Election – Term of Office – Succession to Presidency)

3050 Secretary

3060 Treasurer

3070 Duties and Powers of President

3080 Duties and Powers of Vice President

3070 Employees

3090

3080 District Legal Counsel

3100

3090 District Auditors

3110

#### **ETHICS**

4000 Ethics Training

#### **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

5000 District Claim Procedures

5010 Board Authorization of Fund Transfers With the District Capital Budget

5020 Budget Policy

5030 Designated Staff Credit Card Issuance / Usage Policy

5040 Cash Reserve Policy

5050 Debt Management Policy

5060 Capitalization Policy for Capital Assets

5070 Disposal of Surplus Property

SERVICE AND RATE

6000 Statement of Service Outside of District Boundaries
6010 Statement of Construction of Water and Sewer

# §2090 COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

# 1. PURPOSE

To facilitate the orderly conduct of business of the El Toro Water District ("District") the Board of Directors ("Directors") shall establish Standing and Ad-Hoc Committees.

# 2. **STANDING COMMITTES**

- A. The Board President shall appoint and publicly announcesubmit for ratification by the Board, the members of the standing committees for the ensuing two-years no later than the Board's regular meeting in January following the election.
- B. The Board's standing committees may be assigned to review District functions, activities, and/or operations pertaining to their designated concerns, as specified below. Said assignment may be made by the Board President or a majority vote of the Board. Any recommendations resulting from said review should be submitted to the Board via a written or oral report.
- C. All meetings of standing committees shall conform to all open meeting laws (e.g., "Brown Act"), compensation policies and reimbursement policies that pertain to regular meetings of the Board of Directors.

The following shall be standing committees of the Board:

- 1. Agenda Review Committee;
- 2. Regional Reclamation Committee;
- 3. Engineering Committee; and
- 4. Finance/Insurance Committee
- 5. Community Advisory Group
- 6. Computer Technology Committee
- 7. Audit Committee
- 8. Budget Committee
- 9. Human Resources Committee
- 8.10. Water Quality Committee

# 3. STANDING COMMITTEE SCOPE

# A. Agenda Review Committee

The Board's standing Agenda Review Committee shall review and approve agendas for Board meetings.

# B. Regional Reclamation Committee (RRC)

The Board's standing Regional Reclamation Committee shall be primarily concerned with coordinating Board policies and oversight of the District's participation in the South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA).

# C. Engineering Committee

The Board's standing Engineering Committee shall be primarily concerned with coordinating Board policies and oversight of the District's construction and maintenance projects. The Engineering Committee consists of the full Board.

# D. <u>Finance/Insurance Committee</u>

The Board's standing Finance/Insurance Committee shall be primarily concerned with coordinating Board policies and oversight of the District's financial operations and insurance programs. <a href="https://doi.org/10.2016/j.goz/">The Finance/Insurance</a> Committee consists of the Full Board.

# E. Community Advisory Group (CAG)

The Board's standing Community Advisory Group shall be primarily concerned with establishing and maintaining open and effective communication with the District's customers through specified representatives of the financial, business and residential sections of the District's Community.

# F. Computer Technology

The Board's standing Computer Technology Committee shall be primarily concerned with maintaining the District's computer system.

# G. Audit Committee

The Board's standing Audit Committee shall be primarily concerned with reviewing the Auditor's recommendations.

# H. <u>Budget Committee</u>

The Board's standing Budget Committee shall be primarily concerned with preparing a draft budget for the fiscal year.

#### I. Human Resources Committee

The Board's standing Human Resources Committee shall be primarily concerned with personnel matters associated with District staff.

# J. Water Quality Committee

The Board's standing Water Quality Committee shall be primarily concerned with issues pertaining to the quality and safety of the drinking water distributed by the District.

# 4. AD-HOC COMMITTEE SCOPE

- A. The Board President shall appoint ad hoc committees as may be deemed necessary or advisable by himself/herself and/or the Board. The duties of the ad hoc committees shall be outlined at the time of appointment, and the committee shall be considered dissolved when its final report has been made.
- B. The ad-hoc committee(s) shall address special and specific issues and consist of no more than two (2) members of the Board for a limited duration and jurisdiction.

R 97-5-2 05/22/97; R 97-6-3 06/19/97; R 98-2-2 02/19/98; R 99-7-2 07/15/99; R 00-3-16 03/16/00; R 03-4-2 04/24/03; R 06-2-1 02/23/06; R 07-2-1 02/22/07; R 15-1-1 01/22/15; R 24-1-2 01/25/24

# §3070 DUTIES AND POWERS OF PRESIDENT

The President of the Board of Directors shall be the presiding officer and shall preserve order and decorum at all District meetings. The President shall appoint (with ratification by the Board) all standing, special, and ad hoc committees (including the Committee Chairpersons). In the absence of the President, Vice President shall act as President. In the absence of the President and Vice President, the immediate past President(s) shall act as President, and in the absence of any immediate Past President(s), the Secretary acts as President until the Board selects one of its members President Pro Tempore, who shall have all of the Board powers of the President during the continuance of the meeting as well as during the absence of the President.

R 24-1-2 01/25/24

# §3080 DUTIES AND POWERS OF VICE PRESIDENT

<u>In the absence or disability of the President, the Vice President shall perform all of the</u> duties of the President.

R 24-1-2 01/25/24

#### §5070 DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

# 1. <u>APPLICATION OF POLICY</u>

This Policy applies to the disposal of surplus personal property. This Policy shall not apply to the disposition of surplus real property which is subsequent to the notification and disposition procedures set forth in Government Code Section 54220 et seq.

# 2. DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY

Any personal property belonging to the District which, in the opinion of the General Manager, is no longer required for the use of the District may be sold, or exchanged as part payment for the purchase of new equipment of like kind and nature, such sale or exchange to be made under such procedure, at such prices and upon such terms and conditions, as the General Manager may prescribe.

# 3. <u>ACCEPTABLE BIDDERS ON DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY</u>

District directors and the selected employees noted below, their spouses and dependent children may not bid on or otherwise purchase surplus personal property (as noted) from the District under any terms and conditions.

<u>Title</u> <u>Type of Property</u>					
Directors					
General Manager					
Assistant GM	All property				
Chief Financial Officer	All property				
Director Engineering & Operations	All property				
Purchasing Agent	All property				
Senior Mechanic	Vehicles				
Mechanic	Vehicles				
Applications and Network AdministratorInfo	ormation Technology Manager				
	Computer Equipment				

#### **SERVICE AND RATE**

# §6000 SERVICE OUTSIDE OF DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

The El Toro Water District will not generally provide permanent water and/or sewer service outside of its legal boundaries, except in those areas in which it is already providing such services, until the new areas requesting services are legally incorporated within the boundaries of El Toro Water District. Temporary service outside District boundaries may be provided for a reasonably short period of time where appropriate financial and legal safeguards are provided.

R 24-1-2 01/25/24

# §6010 CONSTRUCTION OF WATER AND SEWER CONVEYANCE FACILITIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING SERVICE TO NEW AND EXISTING CUSTOMERS

El Toro water District is a public entity responsible for the use and direction of public funds. Therefore, it is the responsibility of its directors and staff to coordinate the development of water and sewer conveyance facilities by which service is provided to its customers in a manner, which is most cost effective. Public liability exposure and maintenance expense to its local ratepayers must be minimized while providing property owners flexibility for future development.

The following guidelines are established for the purpose of coordinating construction of facilities to provide water and sewer service to new property and to property development.

# I. <u>New Property Development</u>

The property owner will construct, at no cost to El Toro Water District, domestic water, reclaimed recycled water and sewer facilities in accordance with District standards that are required to provide service to the property and maintain the District's ability to meet existing water and sewer demands. A point of service shall be established.

Prior to construction of new facilities or alteration to the District's existing facilities, the owner shall prepare and submit for approval detailed construction plans showing extensions, modifications and connections up to and including the point of service.

II. In situations where redevelopment requires expansion and modifications to existing on-site water sewer facilities currently operated and maintained by the District, the District will convey existing easements and facilities wherever physically and economically feasible to the property owner and provide service to the property line.

Facilities required to serve the property and enable the District to meet existing water and sewer demands shall be constructed in accordance with the guidelines established for new property development.

# **EL TORO WATER DISTRICT**



# **ADMINISTRATIVE CODE**

Adopted
January 25, 2024

#### DISTRICT

1000 Principal Office

1010 Seal

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

2000 General Authority

2010 Membership

2020 Terms of Office

2030 Elections

2040 Meetings

2050 Quorum: Votes Necessary

2060 Compensation

2070 Board Staff Relationship

2080 Guidelines for Board Conduct

2090 Committees of the Board

# **BOARD OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES**

3000 Officers Other Than Directors

3010 Elimination

3020 President (Term of Office)

3030 Succession to Presidency

3040 Vice President (Election – Term of Office – Succession to Presidency)

3050 Secretary

3060 Treasurer

3070 Duties and Powers of President

3080 Duties and Powers of Vice President

3090 Employees

3100 District Legal Counsel

3110 District Auditors

#### **ETHICS**

4000 Ethics Training

#### **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

5000 District Claim Procedures

5010 Board Authorization of Fund Transfers With the District Capital Budget

5020 Budget Policy

5030 Designated Staff Credit Card Issuance / Usage Policy

5040 Cash Reserve Policy

5050 Debt Management Policy

5060 Capitalization Policy for Capital Assets

5070 Disposal of Surplus Property

#### SERVICE AND RATE

6000 Statement of Service Outside of District Boundaries

6010 Statement of Construction of Water and Sewer

#### DISTRICT

# §1000 PRINCIPAL OFFICE

- 1. The principal office of the District shall be located in Orange County, State of California, at a place designated from time to time by the Board of Directors by resolution of the Board.
- 2. Until changed by resolution of the Board of Directors, the principal office of the District shall be located at 24251 Los Alisos Boulevard, Lake Forest, California 92630.

# §1010 SEAL

The District shall have and maintain a seal, described as follows:

Two concentric circles, the outer circle being approximately one and one-half inches in diameter and the inner circle approximately one inch in diameter; with the words "EL TORO WATER DISTRICT" in the upper part of the space between the circles: with the word "CALIFORNIA" in the lower part of the space between the circles; and with the words "FORMED September 25, 1960" inside the inner circle.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

# §2000 GENERAL AUTHORITY

The Board of Directors, except as otherwise provided by law, shall manage and conduct the business and affairs of the District.

# §2010 MEMBERSHIP

The Board of Directors of the District shall consist of five (5) Directors, elected as provided by law. Each Director shall be a resident of the District and shall be a registered voter in the County of Orange at the time of their election and/or appointment and during their term of office.

# §2020 TERMS OF OFFICE

The term of office of elected Directors shall be four (4) years and shall be on a staggered basis. The five (5) Directors Seats and the staggered terms of office of each are set forth in Schedule 1 hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

	Directors	JAN 2015	NOV 2016	JUL 2018	NOV 2018	APR 2019	NOV 2020	NOV 2022	SEPT 2023
Seat 1	Mark Monin	Α	Е	*	*	*	Е	*	*
Seat 2	Fred Adjarian								Α
Seat 3	Mike Gaskins				Е	*	*	Е	*
Seat 4	Kay Havens					Α	Е	*	*
Seat 5	Kathryn Freshley			Α	Е	*	*	Е	*

LEGEND: A - Appointed

E - Elected
\* - Served

# §2030 ELECTIONS

All general District elections shall be held in November of even-numbered years and shall be consolidated with the November statewide elections. The right to vote and the manner of the voting shall be the same as provided by the laws of the State of California.

# §2040 MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at such time and place as may be agreed upon by resolution of the Board.

#### §2050 QUORUM: VOTES NECESSARY

Three (3) Directors shall constitute a quorum of the Board for the transaction of business. The vote of a majority of the Directors present at any meeting attended by a quorum shall be necessary and sufficient to determine any proportion or resolution presented.

# §2060 COMPENSATION

The Officers and Directors shall receive the following compensation for their services:

- 1. The Secretary and Treasurer shall receive sums as shall be fixed by the Board.
- 2. Each Director shall receive compensation in the amount provided by Ordinance duly adopted by Resolution of the Board pursuant to Section 20200 et seq. of the Water Code of the State of California, together with any expenses incurred in the performance of his/her duties required or authorized by law and the Board.

# §2070 BOARD / STAFF RELATIONSHIP

Neither Board members nor Committee members shall give instructions to staff members. Any requests should be conveyed to the General Manager.

05/16/85; R 23-12-2 12/21/23

# §2080 GUIDELINES FOR BOARD CONDUCT

All elected or appointed officials of the El Toro Water District should be dedicated to the highest ideals of integrity and accountability to continue to earn the trust, confidence and support of the public they serve.

#### 1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The policy of the El Toro Water District is to maintain the highest ethical standards for its Board members. The proper operation of the District requires decisions and policy to be made within the proper channels of governmental structure, that public office not be used for personal gain, and that Board members remain objective and responsive to the needs of the public they serve. Accordingly, it is the policy of the District that Board members and District employees will maintain the highest standard of personal honesty and fairness in carrying out their duties. This policy sets forth the basic ethical standards to be followed by the Board of Directors of the El Toro Water District. The objectives of this policy are to (1) provide guidance for dealing with ethical issues, (2) heighten awareness of ethics and values as critical elements in Board members' conduct, and (3) improve ethical decision-making and values-based management.

#### 2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PUBLIC OFFICE

Board members are obligated to uphold the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California. Board members will comply with applicable laws regulating their conduct, including conflict of interest, financial disclosure and open government laws. Board members will strive to work in cooperation with other public officials unless prohibited from so doing by law or officially recognized confidentiality of their work.

#### 3. FAIR AND EQUAL TREATMENT

Board members, in the performance of their official duties and responsibilities, will not discriminate against or harass any person on the basis of race, religion, color, creed, age, marital status, national origin, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, medical condition or disability. A Board member will not grant any special consideration, treatment or advantage to any person or group beyond that which is available to every other person or group in similar circumstances.

# 4. PROPER USE AND SAFEGUARDING OF DISTRICT PROPERTY AND RESOURCES

Except as specifically authorized, a Board member will not use or permit the use of District-owned vehicles, equipment, telephones, materials or property for personal benefit or profit. A Board member will not ask or require a District employee to perform services for the personal benefit or profit of a Board member or employee. Each Board member must protect and properly use any District asset within his or her control, including information recorded on paper or in electronic form. Board members will safeguard District property, equipment, moneys and assets against unauthorized use or removal, as well as from loss due to criminal act or breach of trust.

#### 5. USE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

A Director is not authorized, without approval of the Board of Directors, to disclose information that qualifies as confidential information under applicable provisions of law to a person not authorized to receive it, that (1) has been received for, or during, a closed session meeting of the Board, (2) is protected from disclosure under the attorney/client or other evidentiary privilege, or (3) is not required to be disclosed under the California Public Records Act.

This section does not prohibit any of the following: (1) making a confidential inquiry or complaint to a district attorney or grand jury concerning a perceived violation of law, including disclosing facts to a district attorney or grand jury that are necessary to establish the alleged illegality of an action taken by the District, an elected official or employee, (2) expressing an opinion concerning the propriety or legality of actions taken by the District in closed session, including disclosure of the nature and extent of the allegedly illegal action, or (3) disclosing information acquired by being present in a closed session that is not confidential information. Prior to disclosing confidential information pursuant to (1) or (2), above, however, a Board member will first bring the matter to the attention of either the President of the Board or the full Board, to provide the Board an opportunity to cure an alleged violation.

A Director who willfully and knowingly discloses for pecuniary gain confidential information received by him or her in the course of his or her official duties may be guilty of a misdemeanor under Government Code Section 1098.

#### 6. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

A Board member will not have a financial interest in a contract with the District or be a purchaser at a sale by the District or a vendor at a purchase made by the District, unless the Board member's participation was authorized under Government Code Sections 1091 or 1091.5, or other provisions of law. A Board member will not participate in the discussion, deliberation or vote on a matter before the Board of Directors, or in any way attempt to use his or her official position to influence a decision of the Board, if

he or she has a prohibited interest with respect to the matter, as defined in the Political Reform Act, Government Code Sections 81000, and following, relating to conflicts of interest. Generally, a Director has a financial interest in a matter if it is reasonable foreseeable that the Board decision would have a material financial effect (as defined by Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) regulations) that is distinguishable from the effect on the public generally on (a) a business entity in which the Director has direct or indirect investment in the amount specified in FPPC regulations; (b) real property in which the Director has a direct or indirect investment interest, with a worth in the amount specified in FPPC regulations; (c) a source of income of the Director in the amount specified in FPPC regulations, within 12 months before the Board decision; (d) a source of gifts to the Director in an amount specified in FPPC regulations within 12 months before the Board decision; or (e) a business entity in which the Director holds a position as a director, trustee, officer, partner, manager or employee. An "indirect interest" means any investment or interest owned by the spouse or dependent child of the Director, by an agent on behalf of the Director, or by a business entity or trust in which the Director, or the Director's spouse, dependent child or agent, owns directly, indirectly or beneficially a 10 percent interest or greater. An elected official will not accept honoraria, or gifts that exceed the limitations specified in the Fair Political Practices Act or FPPC regulations. Board members will report all gifts, campaign contributions, income and financial information as required under the District's Conflict of Interest Code and the provisions of the Fair Political Practices Act and FPPC regulations. (Government Code Sections 87100 and following.)

If a member of the Board believes that he or she may be disqualified from participation in the discussion, deliberations or vote on a particular matter due to a conflict of interest, the following procedure will be followed: (a) if the Director becomes aware of the potential conflict of interest before the Board meeting at which the matter will be discussed or acted on, the Director will notify the District's General Manager and the District's legal counsel of the potential conflict of interest, so that a determination can be made whether it is a disqualifying conflict of interest; (b) if it is not possible for the Director to discuss the potential conflict with the General Manager and the District's legal counsel before the meeting, or if the Director does not become aware of the potential conflict until during the meeting, the Director will immediately disclose the potential conflict during the Board meeting, so that there can be a determination whether it is a disqualifying conflict of interest; and (c) upon a determination that there is a disqualifying conflict of interest, the Director (1) will not participate in the discussion, deliberation or vote on the matter for which a conflict of interest exists, which will be so noted in the Board minutes, and (2) leave the room until after the discussion, vote and any other disposition of the matter is concluded, unless the matter has been placed on the portion of the agenda reserved for uncontested matters. The Director may speak on an uncontested matter during the time the general public speaks on the issue.

A Board member will not recommend the employment of a relative by the District. A Board member will not recommend the employment of a relative to any person known by the Board member to be bidding for or negotiating a contract with the District.

A Board member who knowingly asks for, accepts or agrees to receive any gift, reward or promise thereof for doing an official act, except as may be authorized by law, may be guilty of a misdemeanor under Penal Code Section 70.

#### 7. SOLICITING POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Board members are prohibited from soliciting political funds or contributions at District facilities, or from District employees. A Board member will not accept, solicit or direct a political contribution from (a) District employees, officers, consultants or contracts, and (b) vendors and consultants who have a material financial interest in a contract or other matter while that contract or other matter is pending before the District. A Director will not use the District seal, trademark, stationery or other indicia of the District identity, or facsimile thereof, in any solicitation for political contributions contrary to state or federal laws.

#### 8. INCOMPATIBLE OFFICES

Any Board member appointed or elected to a public office of another public entity, the duties of which may require action contradictory or inconsistent with the interests of the first entity, will resign from the former office.

# 9. IMPROPER ACTIVITIES AND THE REPORTING OF SUCH ACTIVITIES; PROTECTION OF "WHISTLE BLOWERS"

The General Manager has primary responsibility for (1) ensuring compliance with the District Employee Handbook, and ensuring that District employees do not engage in improper activities, (2) investigating allegations of improper activities, and (3) taking appropriate corrective and disciplinary actions. The Board has a duty to ensure that the General Manager is operating the District according to law and the policies approved by the Board. Board members are encouraged to fulfill their obligation to the public and the District by disclosing to the General Manager to the extent not expressly prohibited by law, improper activities within their knowledge. Board members will not interfere with the General Manager's responsibilities in identifying, investigating and correcting improper activities, unless the Board determines that the General Manager is not properly carrying out these responsibilities.

A Board member will not directly or indirectly use or attempt to use the authority or influence of his or her position for the purpose of intimidating, threatening, coercing, commanding or influencing any other person for the purpose of preventing such person from acting in good faith or report or otherwise bring to the attention of the General Manager or the Board any information that, if true, would constitute: a work-related violation by a Board member or District employee of any law or regulation, gross waste of District funds, gross abuse of authority, a specified and substantial danger to public health or safety due to an act or omission of a District official or employee, use of a District office or position or of District resources for personal gain, or a conflict of interest of a District Board member or District employee.

A Board member will not use or threaten to use any official authority or influence to effect any action as a reprisal against a District Board member or District employee who reports or otherwise brings to the attention of the General Manager any information regarding the subjects described in this section.

#### 10. COMPLIANCE WITH THE BROWN ACT

The members of the Board of Directors, and persons elected but who have not yet assumed office as members of the Board, will fully comply with the provisions of the State's open meeting law for public agencies (the Brown Act).

#### 11. CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT

A Board member will not include false or misleading information in a candidate's statement for a general District election filed pursuant to Section 13307 of the Elections Code.

#### 12. VIOLATION OF POLICY

A perceived violation of this policy by a Board member should be referred to the President of the Board or the full Board of Directors for investigation, and consideration of any appropriate action warranted. A violation of this policy may be addressed by the use of such remedies as are available by law to the District, including but not limited to: (a) adoption of a resolution expressing disapproval of the conduct of the Board member who has violated this policy, (b) injunctive relief, or (c) referral of the violation to the District Attorney and/or the Grand Jury.

09/28/06; R 23-11-1 11/21/23

#### §2090 COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

#### 1. PURPOSE

To facilitate the orderly conduct of business of the El Toro Water District ("District") the Board of Directors ("Directors") shall establish Standing and Ad-Hoc Committees.

#### 2. STANDING COMMITTES

- A. The Board President shall appoint and submit for ratification by the Board, the members of the standing committees for the ensuing year no later than the Board's regular meeting in January.
- B. The Board's standing committees may be assigned to review District functions, activities, and/or operations pertaining to their designated concerns, as specified below. Any recommendations resulting from said review should be submitted to the Board via a written or oral report.
- C. All meetings of standing committees shall conform to all open meeting laws (e.g., "Brown Act"), compensation policies and reimbursement policies that pertain to regular meetings of the Board of Directors.

The following shall be standing committees of the Board:

- 1. Agenda Review Committee;
- 2. Regional Reclamation Committee;
- 3. Engineering Committee;
- 4. Finance/Insurance Committee
- 5. Community Advisory Group
- 6. Computer Technology Committee
- 7. Audit Committee
- 8. Budget Committee
- 9. Human Resources Committee
- 10. Water Quality Committee

#### 3. STANDING COMMITTEE SCOPE

#### A. Agenda Review Committee

The Board's standing Agenda Review Committee shall review and approve agendas for Board meetings.

#### B. Regional Reclamation Committee (RRC)

The Board's standing Regional Reclamation Committee shall be primarily concerned with coordinating Board policies and oversight of the District's participation in the South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA).

#### C. Engineering Committee

The Board's standing Engineering Committee shall be primarily concerned with coordinating Board policies and oversight of the District's construction and maintenance projects. The Engineering Committee consists of the full Board.

#### D. Finance/Insurance Committee

The Board's standing Finance/Insurance Committee shall be primarily concerned with coordinating Board policies and oversight of the District's financial operations and insurance programs. The Finance/Insurance Committee consists of the Full Board.

#### E. <u>Community Advisory Group (CAG)</u>

The Board's standing Community Advisory Group shall be primarily concerned with establishing and maintaining open and effective communication with the District's customers through specified representatives of the financial, business and residential sections of the District's Community.

#### F. Computer Technology

The Board's standing Computer Technology Committee shall be primarily concerned with maintaining the District's computer system.

#### G. Audit Committee

The Board's standing Audit Committee shall be primarily concerned with reviewing the Auditor's recommendations.

#### H. Budget Committee

The Board's standing Budget Committee shall be primarily concerned with preparing a draft budget for the fiscal year.

#### I. Human Resources Committee

The Board's standing Human Resources Committee shall be primarily concerned with personnel matters associated with District staff.

#### J. Water Quality Committee

The Board's standing Water Quality Committee shall be primarily concerned with issues pertaining to the quality and safety of the drinking water distributed by the District.

#### 4. AD-HOC COMMITTEE SCOPE

- A. The Board President shall appoint ad hoc committees as may be deemed necessary or advisable by himself/herself and/or the Board. The duties of the ad hoc committees shall be outlined at the time of appointment, and the committee shall be considered dissolved when its final report has been made.
- B. The ad-hoc committee(s) shall address special and specific issues and consist of no more than two (2) members of the Board for a limited duration and jurisdiction.

R 97-5-2 05/22/97; R 97-6-3 06/19/97; R 98-2-2 02/19/98; R 99-7-2 07/15/99; R 00-3-16 03/16/00; R 03-4-2 04/24/03; R 06-2-1 02/23/06; R 07-2-1 02/22/07; R 15-1-1 01/22/15; R 24-1-2 01/25/24

#### **BOARD OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES**

#### §3000 OFFICERS OTHER THAN DIRECTORS

In addition to the Directors, the officers of the District shall be: President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

#### §3010 ELIMINATION

The offices of the Assessor and Tax Collector have been eliminated by appropriate Resolution on or about July 10, 1975 pursuant to Section 34711 of the Water Code of the state of California.

#### §3020 PRESIDENT (TERM OF OFFICE)

The term of office of the President shall be for (1) one year. The term of office of the President shall expire following the conclusion of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors in December of each year.

#### §3030 SUCCESSION TO PRESIDENCY

The office of Vice President shall automatically succeed to the office of President when a vacancy occurs in the office of President or the current President's term of office has expired.

# §3040 <u>VICE PRESIDENT (ELECTION – TERM OF OFFICE – SUCCESSION TO PRESIDENCY)</u>

At the Board's organizational meeting in December, the Board shall elect a Vice President whose term of office shall be for (1) year. The President for the preceding year shall not be eligible for the Vice Presidency the following year. The term of office of the Vice President shall begin following the conclusion of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors in December of each year. The Vice President shall succeed to the office of President as provided in Section 3030 herein. In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of any President before the terms of said presidency has expired, the Vice President shall succeed to the office of President for the unexpired term of said presidency, in addition, to the one (1) year term regularly specified, had such vacancy not occurred.

#### §3050 SECRETARY

The Secretary shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and shall serve at its pleasure. The Secretary shall have the duties and authority assigned to him/her by law and such other duties and authority, not inconsistent therewith, as shall be assigned to him/her from time to time by the Board of Directors. The Board may from time to time appoint one or more Assistant Secretaries. Under the direction of the Board and Secretary, each such Assistant Secretary shall assist the Secretary in the performance of his/her duties and shall have such other duties and authority as shall be provided by the Board.

#### §3060 TREASURER

The Treasurer shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and shall serve at its pleasure. He/she shall have duties and authority assigned to him/her by law and such other duties and authorities, not inconsistent therewith, as shall be assigned to him/her from time to time by the Board of Directors.

#### §3070 DUTIES AND POWERS OF PRESIDENT

The President of the Board of Directors shall be the presiding officer and shall preserve order and decorum at all District meetings. The President shall appoint (with ratification by the Board) all standing, special, and ad hoc committees (including the Committee Chairpersons). In the absence of the President, Vice President shall act as President. In the absence of the President and Vice President, the immediate past President(s) shall act as President, and in the absence of any immediate Past President(s), the Secretary acts as President until the Board selects one of its members President Pro Tempore, who shall have all of the Board powers of the President during the continuance of the meeting as well as during the absence of the President.

R 24-1-2 01/25/24

#### §3080 <u>DUTIES AND POWERS OF VICE PRESIDENT</u>

In the absence or disability of the President, the Vice President shall perform all of the duties of the President.

R 24-1-2 01/25/24

#### §3090 EMPLOYEES

The Board of Directors may employ and appoint, from time to time, such other officers and such agents and employees as it shall deem appropriate to carry on the business of the District. The qualification, duties, authority, and compensation of such other officers and of such agents and employees shall be fixed by the Board of Directors.

#### §3100 DISTRICT LEGAL COUNSEL

- 1. The ETWD Legal Counsel shall be the legal adviser of the District and shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by the Board.
- 2. Counsel shall serve at the pleasure of theBoard and shall be compensated for services as authorized by the Board.
- 3. Legal Counsel shall be present at any regular or special meetings of the Board of Directors.
- 4. Minutes of Board meetings shall be reviewed by Counsel as to content and legal adequacy.
- 5. Counsel is to present a detailed monthly billing statement of their legal services with specificity.
- 6. Board members should not, as a general rule, have access to Legal Counsel. Requests should go through the Board President.

- 7. Administrative functions should not be included among duties of Legal Counsel, unless there is first management approval and then the action is brought to the attention of the Board.
- 8. The General Manager or his designated representative shall have access to the Legal Counsel when in their judgment legal advice is required.

R 85-3-1 03/21/85; R 85-5-2 05/16/85; R 03-4-2 04/24/03; R 23-12-2 11/21/23

#### §3110 DISTRICT AUDITORS

To ensure the integrity of the District's books and records and that they are maintained in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and applicable State Law, the District will have its books and records audited annually by a firm of Certified Public Accountants. For purposes of independence and to take advantage of fresh and new prospective, it is the policy of the District that no firm serves as District auditors more than five consecutive years.

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors will be vested with the responsibility of recommending the selection of an auditing firm to the Board, meeting with the District's auditing firm periodically to review reports and acting as the Board's primary contact with the auditing firm.

R 03-4-2 04/24/03; R 23-11-1 11/21/23

#### §4000 ETHICS TRAINING

#### 1. PURPOSE

- A. All Directors of the District shall receive two hours of training in general ethics principles and ethics laws relevant to public service within one year of election or appointment to the Board of Directors and at least once every two years thereafter, pursuant to Government Code Sections 53234 and 53235.2.
- B. This policy shall apply to members of all commissions, committees and other bodies of the District that are subject to the Ralph M. Brown Open Meeting Act.
- C. This policy shall also apply to the District's Legal Counsel and all staff members required in the District's Conflict Interest Code to file Form 700 with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of Orange County.

#### 2. POLICY

- A. All ethics training shall be provided by entities whose curricula have been approved by the California Attorney General and the Fair Political Practices Commission.
- B. Directors shall obtain proof of participation after completing the ethics training.
- C. District staff shall maintain records indicating both the dates that directors completed the ethics training and the name of the entity that provided the training. These records shall be maintained for at least five years after Directors receive the training and are public records subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act.
- D. District staff shall provide the Board of Directors with information on available training that meets the requirements of this policy at least once every year.
- E. Ethics training may consist of either a training course or a set of self-study materials with tests, and may be taken at home, in person or online.
- F. Any director of the District that serves on the board of another agency is only required to take the training once every two years.

06/02/01 02/23/06; R 23-11-1 11/21/23

#### **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

#### §5000 DISTRICT CLAIM PROCEDURES

In order to provide uniform handling of all claims against the District, the following procedures shall generally be followed:

- 1. Upon the occurrence of an event potentially leading to a cause of action against the District, the following action shall be taken:
  - A. The District's Administrative staff shall cause an incident report, identifying details of the claim, to be prepared and forwarded to the offices of JPIA, and the District's Legal Counsel.
  - B. The District's Legal Counsel, after first consulting with the District's General Manager, or their delegate, shall notify the potential claimant of the fact that the District is a public entity and of the necessity to follow the statutory claim procedures.
- 2. As a general rule, the District's Board of Directors will not take any action on claims that are filed. Instead, the District's Administrative staff shall forward said claims to JPIA for their appropriate handling of same. The District's Administrative Staff shall also forward copies of claims to the District's Legal Counsel.
  - Accordingly, at the expiration of 45-days following the presentation of any claim to the District, and in the event the Board has not acted on said claim, the District's Legal Counsel shall notify the claimant that said claim is deemed rejected by operation of law and shall provide the necessary warnings pursuant to Government Code Section 913.
- 3. The District's Administrative staff shall provide the Board of Directors with a quarterly status report on claims activities.

R 91-08-1 08/15/91; R 92-10-2 10/15/92; R 03-04-2 04/24/03; R 23-11-1 11/21/23

# §5010 BOARD AUTHORIZATION OF FUND TRANSFERS WITH THE DISTRICT CAPITAL BUDGET

Occasionally, after the Annual Capital Budget has been adopted by the Board of Directors, the need arises to allocate funds to projects or equipment whose priority has increased or was not contemplated when the budget was adopted. When this occurs for projects or equipment costs that exceed the General Manager's purchasing authority, staff may demonstrate to the Board that funds are available by utilizing a combination of surplus funds from jobs completed during the current budget year or by the utilization of Accumulated Capital reserves. If staff is unable to reallocate funds between current projects or reserves, the Board may consider revising the adopted budget.

#### §5020 BUDGET POLICY

There shall be prepared, under the direction of the General Manager, a final draft Budget which shall be submitted to the Board subsequent to review and discussion of same during two Standing Ad-Hoc Budget Committee Meetings consisting of two Board Members appointed by the President and a Budget Workshop consisting of the full Board. The proposed Budget shall indicate all anticipated expenses and required reserves. The proposed Budget shall also indicate the source of all revenues to be used to meet such expenses and provide such reserves.

After considering the proposed budget and making any revisions thereto that it may deem advisable, the Board shall adopt the Budget before the beginning of the fiscal year to which the budget applies.

The adoption of the Budget shall have no effect upon appropriations for capital projects/equipment except the amount provided in the proposed Budget for same with an estimated unit cost of \$50,000 or under shall be deemed to be appropriated from the funds indicated in the Budget.

R 94-5-4 05/19/94; R 03-4-2 04/24/03; R 18-3-2 03/22/18; R 23-11-1 11/21/23

#### §5030 DESIGNATED STAFF CREDIT CARD ISSUANCE/USAGE POLICY

The District will issue District credit cards to designated administrative and operations staff inclusive of the General Manager, Assistant General Manager, Human Resources Manager, Chief Financial Officer, Purchasing Agent, Executive Assistant, IT Manager, Operations Superintendent, and the Public Affairs Manager. The credit cards are the property of the District and are to be used for authorized District expenditures as outlined below. The credit cards are issued in the name of the designated administrative and operations staff and are not to be loaned or otherwise used by any other individual. Upon termination of employment or at the discretion of the General Manager, District credit cards will be returned to the District and cancelled.

The credit cards are issued as a convenient means for the recipients to pay for otherwise authorized expenditures. Possession of a District credit card is not in and of itself authorization for expenditures.

Designated administrative and operations staff may use the credit cards for authorized expenditures within their respective spending limits, including the limitations placed on the credit card or with proper prior approval within any approved category or expense classification. Documentation is required for all credit card expenditures. At a minimum, documentation will include a copy of the bill or charge, proof of receipt if goods are involved and an explanation of the nature of the expenditure along with the proper general ledger classification. For expenditures, which require pre-approval, the approved administrative or field requisition should be attached. All documentation must be turned into the Accounts Payable department monthly. Expenditures without documentation will be treated as personal charges.

#### §5040 CASH RESERVE POLICY

The District allocates its cash and investment balances into the following reserve categories.

- Restricted Reserves
- Committed Reserves
- Assigned Reserves

#### **Restricted Reserves**

The District is required to establish, maintain, and restrict certain Cash reserves to comply with external contractual and/or legal obligations ("Restricted Reserves"). Accordingly, the District restricts Cash from operational revenues and various other sources to fulfill the following potential Restricted Reserve obligations.

- A. <u>Debt Covenant Reserve:</u> Bond and Debt Indenture Agreements (including State Revolving Fund Loans) may require the District to establish and maintain certain reserve funds. These amounts may change from year to year as annual debt service requirements change, debt is retired or new debt is issued.
- B. <u>Debt Project Reserve:</u> Debt is typically issued by the District for specific projects and debt covenants may require the District to expend the debt proceeds within a certain timeframe or for the purposes identified in the Official Statement or loan document. Debt proceeds will be maintained in this Reserve until expended in compliance with the Debt Covenants.
- C. <u>Capital Facilities Fee Reserve:</u> State law requires the District to establish, maintain and separately account for Capital Facility fees collected from commercial and residential developments for improvements to the District's infrastructure. Funds are held in reserve until disbursed for the designated purpose.

#### **Committed Reserves**

Committed Reserves have been established by Board action and are intended to provide stability to the District's finances by establishing reserves that will be maintained unless the District is experiencing an emergency or other extreme circumstance. The Board may authorize the utilization of the Committed Reserves but a plan to replenish them will be identified when they are utilized. Any shortfalls in the Committed Reserves balances will be reported to the Board on a timely basis. The Committed Reserves include:

- A. <u>Rate Stabilization Reserve:</u> (7.5% to 15% of annual Operations & Maintenance expenses, excluding depreciation and interest expenses) This reserve is established to provide a source of funds when unusually wet weather or drought restrictions cause water sales to fall below levels used to prepare the budget for the year in question or when unusual conditions result in revenue shortfalls. In addition, the rate stabilization reserve will provide necessary funds in those years where budgeted revenues from all sources are not sufficient to meet budgeted expenses.
- B. <u>Operations & Maintenance Reserve:</u> (7.5% to 15% of annual Operations & Maintenance expenses, excluding depreciation and interest expenses) This reserve is established to provide a source of funds to ensure continual operations in challenging circumstances, such as:

- 1) Other revenue sources fall short of expectations. (i.e. interest income, property taxes, etc.)
- Budget overages are experienced; such as the need to complete major repairs to critical operating equipment when such equipment was not scheduled for major repair.
- 3) SOCWA operations expenditures that exceed the budgeted amounts.
- 4) Needed repairs that may be necessary to restore operations after a natural disaster. As a public agency providing a vital service to the community, the District cannot afford to be inoperable for an extended period of time.
- C. <u>Capital Improvement Reserve</u>: This reserve provides a funding source for the Capital Improvement Program. In addition, the reserve serves as a source of funds to meet construction project progress payments for planned or unplanned capital improvement projects for which other financing sources are not immediately adequate. Typically, capital expenditures are funded out of the current year collections of the water, sewer and recycled water Capital Charge. To the extent that the current year Capital Charge collections are not sufficient to cover capital expenditures for a particular year, the District then relies on capital reserves. Based on historical expenditures and future revenues, the Capital Improvement Reserve is targeted to be \$3.0 million at the end of each fiscal year.

Any funds remaining in the Capital Improvement Reserve at the end of a fiscal year greater than \$3.0 million that are not allocated to the Carryover Capital Reserve, should be allocated to future capital improvement related activities (Accumulated Capital Reserve, SOCWA Capital Reserve).

D. <u>Working Capital Reserve:</u> The Working Capital Reserve is intended to provide working capital for the operations and maintenance activities of the District. This Reserve will fluctuate throughout the year as revenues are received and expenses and liabilities are paid. At the end of each Fiscal Year, the District's goal is to have 7.5% to 15% of annual operations and maintenance expenses, excluding depreciation and interest, in the Working Capital Assigned Reserve. The Working Capital Reserve is the net cash remaining after the reconciled cash balance has been allocated to all of the other Reserve Balances.

The minimum total Committed Reserves has been set at \$9,300,000 as noted below. Interest earned on those funds held in reserve will be deemed unreserved and be utilized as a source of revenue to meet the needs of the operating budget. If the Board of Directors authorizes the General Manager to utilize a Committed Reserve balance and the balance is less than the minimum level established by this policy, the reserves will be replenished, to the extent available, from operating revenues or other revenue or cash flow sources as required. If operating revenues or other revenues or cash flow sources are not immediately sufficient to replenish any reserve that has been drawn below the minimum reserve level, the General Manager shall present the Board with a plan to replenish the reserve. If, in a particular year or for multiple years, the District anticipates it will not meet the Minimum Total Committed Reserve Balance, during the budget development process, the General Manager and Chief Financial Officer will develop a plan to replenish the reserves as necessary to meet the minimum total balance and present the plan to the Board of Directors for discussion. The Committed Reserve balances shall be reported to the Board as part of the monthly financial report.

Committed Reserves	Minimum <u>Level</u>
Capital Improvement Reserve	\$3,000,000
Rate Stabilization Reserve	\$2,100,000
Operating Continuity Reserve	\$2,100,000
Working Capital Reserve	\$2,100,000
Total	\$9,300,000

#### **Assigned Reserves**

The District has established the following three categories of Assigned Reserves:

- CIP Reserves
- Water Supply Program Reserves
- Debt Service Reserves

#### **CIP Reserves**

CIP Reserves consist of collected Capital Charge rate revenues or other capital funding sources that are allocated to capital projects.

The General Manager is authorized to create, amend, or close CIP Reserves provided such action does not impair any obligation that has been incurred by the District. Any remaining cash in a CIP Reserve that is closed will be returned to another CIP Reserve. The following CIP Reserves include:

- A. <u>Carryover Capital Projects Reserve</u> This Reserve is for capital budget items from prior years that were not completed but are intended to be completed in a future Capital Budget. The revenue for these projects was collected from the Capital Charge rates in the year in which the project was budgeted and is therefore allocated to this reserve to maintain budget funding for the project.
- B. Accumulated Capital Reserve This Reserve is cash that has been accumulated from capital budget items that were either cancelled or completed under budget and therefore had cash remaining at the end of the project. The Accumulated Capital Reserve is intended to provide resources for capital projects that may exceed their initial budget or for necessary capital projects that are unanticipated but need to be funded prior to the next fiscal year budget.
- C. <u>SOCWA Capital Projects Reserve</u> This Reserve is intended to provide stability to the District's finances by accumulating cash in anticipation of future SOCWA capital obligations. The District is contractually required to pay a portion of SOCWA capital projects but in certain years the District's obligation may exceed the entire Capital Facilities revenue received in that year. The SOCWA Capital Projects Reserve accumulates cash reserves in anticipation of these future SOCWA capital obligations.

- D. <u>Revenue Bond Unrestricted Reserve</u> This reserve accumulates cash recovered from partners in certain bond funded projects. This reserve is not subject to the timing restrictions of the Debt Project Reserve. The Revenue Bond Unrestricted Reserve will be used to supplement the Debt Project Reserve in the funding of significant infrastructure capital projects.
- E. <u>Current Year Capital Working Capital Reserve</u> During the course of a fiscal year, the Current Year Capital Working Capital Reserve will accumulate resources (primarily from Capital Charge revenues) and pay capital expenditures for the current year Capital Improvement Program. At the end of each fiscal year, the General Manager, working with the Finance Department, will allocate any remaining capital budget to the Carryover Capital Reserve for those projects or purchases that will be completed in future years or to other CIP Reserves as appropriate.

#### **Water Supply Program Reserve**

The Water Supply Program Reserve is made up of funds collected through the District's tiered rates. The amount of this reserve varies based upon Tier III and Tier IV water sales less the water supply and delivery rate component. This reserve is established to provide a source of revenue to fund Water Use Efficiency efforts and development of Water Supply Resources as follows:

- A. The Water Use Efficiency program inclusive of personnel, outreach, newsletters, website support, consultant support and any other efforts dedicated to supporting, encouraging and promoting water use efficiency and water conservation.
- B. To enhance, expand and/or add to water use efficiency rebate programs the District participates or initiates.
- C. To fund the investigation, study, design and construction of Recycled Water Treatment and Delivery Projects.
- D. To fund supplemental revenue as necessary to balance the revenues and operational expenses of the Recycled Water Enterprise.
- E. To fund the investigation, study, design and construction of Supplemental Potable Water Supply Projects.

#### **Debt Service Reserve**

<u>Baker Funding Reserve</u> – This Reserve accumulates a portion of the revenue generated from the Water Capital Facility Charge which is used to fund the debt associated with the Baker Water Treatment Plant project. Beginning with the 2021-2022 Budget, this amount will increase through 2025-2026 to eventually fully fund the Baker Water Treatment Plant Debt Service. This portion of the Water Capital Facility Charge revenue is accumulated in the Baker Funding Reserve to be used when the Baker Water Treatment Plant loan payments are due.

#### §5050 DEBT MANAGEMENT POLICY

#### **POLICY STATEMENT**

This policy documents the El Toro Water District ("ETWD" or the "District") goals for the use of debt instruments and provides guidelines for the use of debt for financing the District's infrastructure needs. While capital programs are primarily funded by reserves in accordance with the District's existing practice and while the District intends to limit long-term borrowing to capital improvements or projects that cannot be financed from current revenues, the District will evaluate on a case-by-case basis the merits of debt financing as part of the successful implementation of its goals and objectives.

ETWD's primary objective when issuing debt is to respond to and provide for the infrastructure and capital project needs of its customers while ensuring that debt is issued and managed prudently in order to maintain a sound fiscal position and protect credit quality. The District issues debt instruments, administers District-held debt proceeds and makes debt service payments, acting with prudence, diligence, and attention to prevailing economic conditions.

ETWD will endeavor to pay for all infrastructure and other projects from a combination of current revenues, user fees (rates), use of available reserves on a pay-as-you-go basis and prudently issued debt. The pay-as-you-go method (using current revenues to pay for long-term infrastructure and other projects) may be the preferred means of financing when sufficient revenues and reserves are available as it avoids interest expense. It is ETWD's intent to issue debt only when necessary to meet the capital improvement costs which exceed amounts reasonably available through pay-as-you-go funding, where a dedicated use-based revenue stream is attached to the project. The District believes that upon approval by its Board the issuance of debt can provide not only an equitable means of financing projects but also access to new capital that is needed for future infrastructure and project needs. Debt will be used to finance projects if: (i) there is an identified source of repayment, (ii) the debt meets the goals of equitable treatment of all customers, both current and future, including the concept of inter-generational equity, (iii) the debt is the most cost effective means available, and (iv) it is fiscally prudent, responsible, and diligent under the prevailing economic conditions.

#### 1. PURPOSE OF POLICY

ETWD's debt management policy is designed to:

- A. Establish parameters for issuing debt;
- B. Provide guidance to decision makers with respect to options available to finance infrastructure and other capital projects so that the most prudent, equitable and/or cost-effective method of financing can be chosen;
- C. Document the objectives to be achieved by staff both prior to issuance and subsequent to issuance;
- D. Promote objectivity in the decision-making process; and
- E. Facilitate the financing process by establishing important policy decisions in advance.

When issuing public debt, ETWD will adhere to the following legal requirements:

- A. The state law which authorizes the issuance of the debt;
- B. The federal and state laws which govern the eligibility of the debt for taxexempt status;
- C. The federal and state laws which govern the issuance of taxable debt; and
- D. The federal and state laws which govern disclosure, sale and trading of the debt.

#### 2. **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- A. ETWD will provide for a periodic review of its financial performance and review its performance relative to the financial policies outlined herein. These financial policies will be taken into account during the capital planning, budgeting and rate setting process.
- B. Necessary appropriations for annual debt service requirements will be routinely included in ETWD's annual budget.
- C. The District will maintain proactive communication with the investment community, rating agencies, credit enhancers and investors, as needed and if applicable, to ensure future capital market access at the lowest possible rates.
- D. ETWD utilizes a Capital Improvement Plan ("CIP") to determine its long-term infrastructure and other project needs with a specific emphasis on the next 5 years. The District's CIP is reviewed and adjusted annually. ETWD evaluates each project in relation to established levels of reserves, current rate structure, expected asset life/replacement timeline, and available revenue sources to ensure that adequate financial resources are available to support the District's financial obligations.
- E. ETWD's Cash Reserve Policy and Investment Policy are integrated into the decision-making framework utilized in the budgeting and capital improvement planning process. As such the following principles outline the District's approach to debt management:
  - 1. ETWD will evaluate funding for each capital project on a case-by-case basis. The District will assess whether to pay for such projects from current revenues and available reserves prior to or in combination with the use of debt. In general, debt will only be issued when necessary to meet the CIP costs which exceed amounts reasonably available through pay-as-you-go funding, where a dedicated use-based revenue stream is attached to the project.
  - 2. ETWD will <u>not</u> issue debt to cover operating or minor routine repair and replacement needs.
  - 3. ETWD will issue debt only in the case where there is an identified source of repayment. Bonds will be issued to the extent that (i) projected existing revenues and reserves are sufficient to pay for the proposed debt service together with all existing debt service covered by such existing revenues, or (ii) additional projected revenues have been

- identified as a source of repayment in an amount sufficient to pay for the proposed debt.
- 4. Rates and charges will be set at adequate levels, which are fair and nondiscriminatory, to generate sufficient revenues to pay all operation and administration expenses, to maintain sufficient operating reserves, and to pay debt service costs.

#### 3. <u>CONDITIONS FOR DEBT ISSUANCE</u>

The following guidelines formally establish parameters for evaluating, issuing, and managing ETWD's debt to promote sound financial management.

In issuing debt, ETWD's objectives will be to:

- Achieve the lowest cost of capital;
- Ensure ratepayer equity;
- Maintain high credit ratings and access to credit enhancement, if applicable, and
- Preserve financial flexibility.

#### A. Standards for Use of Debt Financing

When appropriate, ETWD will use long-term debt financing to achieve an equitable allocation of capital costs/charges between current and future customers, to provide more manageable rates in the near and medium term, and to minimize rate volatility.

ETWD shall not construct or acquire a project if it is unable to adequately provide for the subsequent annual operation and maintenance costs of the project throughout its expected life.

Capital projects financed through debt issuance will not be financed for a term longer than the expected useful life of the project.

#### B. Financing Criteria

Each debt issuance should be evaluated on an individual basis within the framework of ETWD's Long Term Finance Projection, as well as within the context of ETWD's overall financing objectives and current market conditions.

ETWD will evaluate alternative debt structures (and timing considerations) to ensure the most cost-efficient financing under prevailing market conditions.

- Credit Enhancement ETWD will consider the use of credit enhancement on a case-by-case basis if and as applicable. Only when clearly demonstrable savings can be realized shall credit enhancement be utilized.
- 2. Cash-Funded Reserve vs. Surety If the issuance of debt requires a cash-funded Debt Service Reserve Fund, then ETWD may purchase a surety policy or replace an already existing cash-funded Debt Service Reserve Fund when deemed prudent and advantageous. ETWD may permit the use of guaranteed investment agreements for the investment of reserve funds pledged to the repayment of any ETWD debt when it is approved by the Board.

- 3. *Call Provisions* In general, ETWD's securities should include optional call provisions. ETWD will avoid the sale of non-callable, long-term fixed rate bonds, absent careful evaluation of the cost and value of the call option.
- 4. Additional Bonds Test/Rate Covenants The amount and timing of debt issuance will be planned to comply with the additional bonds tests and rate covenants outlined in the appropriate legal and financing documents, and these policies.
- 5. Short-Term Debt ETWD may utilize short-term borrowing to serve as a bridge for anticipated revenues, construction financing or future bond issues.
- 6. Variable Rate Debt Variable rate debt products can take various forms. Some products are rolling series of short-term investments that are resold periodically and others are long-dated with adjustable interest rates. Each product is priced at the short-end of the yield curve. Variable rate debt may be appropriate for the District's portfolio, especially in an environment where increased interest earnings on invested funds offset the increased cost of variable rate debt. Variable rate debt products include variable rate demand obligations, commercial paper, and short-term notes. The District may consider the use of variable rate debt products to achieve a lower cost of borrowing or for short-term borrowing. In determining to use variable rate debt, the District will consult with its Municipal Advisor to analyze the benefits and risks associated with the variable rate debt products, including derivative products.
- 7. Investment of Bond Proceeds Bond proceeds will be invested in accordance with the permitted investment language outlined in the bond documents for each transaction, unless further restricted or limited in ETWD's Investment Policy. ETWD will seek to maximize investment earnings within the investment parameters set forth in the respective debt financing documentation. The reinvestment of bond proceeds will be incorporated into the evaluation of each financing decision; specifically addressing arbitrage/rebate position and evaluating alternative debt structures and refunding savings on a "net" debt service basis, where appropriate.

#### C. Refinancing Outstanding Debt

The Chief Financial Officer in consultation with the General Manager and the Board, as applicable, shall have the responsibility to evaluate potential refunding opportunities. ETWD will consider the following issues when analyzing potential refinancing opportunities:

- 1. Debt Service Savings ETWD shall establish a target savings level greater than or equal to 3% of the par of debt refunded on a net present value (NPV) basis for current refundings and 5% for advance refundings. These figures will serve only as a guideline; ETWD shall evaluate each refunding opportunity on a case-by-case basis. In addition to the savings guideline, the following shall be taken into consideration:
  - The remaining time to maturity;
  - Size of the issue;
  - Current interest rate environment:
  - Annual cash flow savings; and
  - The value of the call option.

The decision to take all savings upfront or on a deferred basis will be reviewed and ultimately approved by the General Manager in consultation with the Board, as applicable.

- Restructuring ETWD may seek to refinance a bond issue on a non-economic basis, in order to restructure debt, to mitigate irregular debt service payments, accommodate revenue shortfalls, release reserve funds, or comply with and/or eliminate rate/bond covenants.
- 3. Term/Final Maturity ETWD may consider the extension of the final maturity of the refunding bonds in order to achieve a necessary outcome, provided that such extension is legal. The term of the bonds shall not extend beyond the reasonably expected useful life of the asset being financed. ETWD may also consider shortening the final maturity of the bonds. The remaining useful life of the assets and the concept of inter-generational equity should guide these decisions.
- 4. Economic versus Legal Defeasance When evaluating an economic versus legal defeasance, ETWD shall take into consideration both the financial impact on a net present value basis as well as the rating/credit impact. ETWD shall take all necessary steps to optimize the yield on its refunding defeasance escrows investments and avoid negative arbitrage. A defeasance escrow is efficient if the yield on the defeasance escrow is as close as possible (i.e., generally less than 100<sup>th</sup> of a basis point) to the arbitrage yield on the refunding bonds. The Chief Financial Officer will select the appropriate defeasance securities.

#### D. Outstanding Debt Limitations

Prior to issuance of new debt, ETWD shall consider and review the latest credit rating agency reports and guidelines, if applicable, and/or projected future credit ratings, if applicable, to ensure ETWD's financial flexibility remain at levels consistent with the most highly-rated comparable public agencies.

#### E. Method of Issuance

ETWD will determine, on a case-by-case basis, whether to sell its bonds competitively or through negotiation. Unless otherwise recommended, the District shall issue debt through a negotiated sale.

- 1. Competitive Sale In a competitive sale, ETWD's bonds shall be awarded to the bidder providing the lowest true interest cost ("TIC"), as long as the bid adheres to requirements set forth in the official notice of sale.
- 2. Negotiated Sale ETWD recognizes that some bond issues are best sold through negotiation with a selected underwriter. ETWD has identified the following circumstances below in which this would likely be the case:
  - Issuance of variable rate or taxable bonds;
  - Complex structures or credit considerations (such as non-rated bonds),
     which require a strong pre-marketing effort;
  - Significant par value, which may limit the number of potential bidders;

- Unique/proprietary financing mechanism (such as a financing pool), or specialized knowledge of financing mechanism or process;
- Market volatility, such that ETWD would be better served by flexibility in the timing of its sale in a changing interest rate environment;
- When an underwriter has identified new financing opportunities or presented alternative structures that financially benefit ETWD; and
- As a result of an underwriter's familiarity with the project/financing, that enables ETWD to take advantage of efficiency and timing considerations.
- 3. Private Placement From time to time ETWD may elect to issue debt on a private placement basis. Such method shall be considered if it is demonstrated to result in cost savings or provide other advantages relative to other methods of debt issuance, or if it is determined that access to the public market is unavailable or inefficient at the given point in time and timing considerations require that a financing be completed.

# F. Market Communication, Debt Administration and Reporting Requirements

- 1. Rating Agencies Once ETWD has established a credit profile, the General Manager, or his (her) designee, shall be responsible for maintaining ETWD's relationships with Standard & Poor's Rating Services, Fitch Ratings and Moody's Investors Service, as applicable. ETWD may, from time to time, choose to deal with one, two, or all of these agencies as circumstances dictate. In addition to general communication, the General Manager shall: (1) communicate with credit analysts at least once each fiscal year or as requested by the rating agencies and (2) prior to each competitive or negotiated sale, offer conference calls with agency analysts in connection with the planned sale.
- 2. Observance of Debt Covenants The General Manager shall periodically, and at least annually, ensure that ETWD is, and is expected to remain, in compliance with all legal covenants for each debt issue.
- 3. Board Communication The General Manager shall include in an annual report to the Board feedback from rating agencies and/or investors and the District's independent auditor regarding ETWD's financial strengths and weaknesses and recommendations for addressing any weaknesses.
- 4. Continuing Disclosure ETWD shall remain in compliance with Rule 15c2-12(b)(5) by filing its annual financial statements and other financial and operating data for the benefit of its bondholders as covenanted in each applicable debt issue's Continuing Disclosure Agreement.
- 5. Record-Keeping A copy of all debt-related records shall be retained at ETWD's offices. At minimum, these records shall include all official statements, bid documents, bond documents / transcripts, resolutions, trustee statements, leases, and title reports for each ETWD financing (to the extent available). To the extent possible, ETWD shall retain an electronic copy of each document.

- 6. Arbitrage Rebate The use of bond proceeds and their investments must be monitored to ensure compliance with all Internal Revenue Code Arbitrage Rebate Requirements. The General Manager shall ensure that all bond proceeds and investments are tracked in a manner which facilitates accurate calculation and that if a rebate payment is due, such payment is made in a timely manner.
- 7. State Reporting Requirements Pursuant to Government Code section 8855(k), the District will submit annual debt transparency reports for any debt for which it has submitted a report of final sale on or after January 21, 2017 every year until the later date on which the debt is no longer outstanding and the proceeds have been fully spent. Pursuant to Government Code Section 5852.1, the District shall disclose specified good faith estimates in a public meeting prior to the authorization of the issuance of debt.
- Internal Controls In order to comply with CDIAC rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to SB 1029, the following internal controls shall be followed:

The Chief Financial Officer, or duly appointed designee, and the District's designated project manager for the project shall share responsibility to assure that disbursements are made only after each request for disbursement is substantiated with appropriate invoices, requisitions and other supporting documentation. Each of the aforementioned shall thoroughly review any request for disbursement and may request further documentation as may be deemed appropriate.

Proceeds of any Debt shall be managed and accounted for in accordance with its governing documents and this Policy. No disbursements shall be made without the written approval of the Chief Financial Officer, or designee. All draw requests shall be provided to the District by the designated project manager for the project with the consent of the Chief Financial Officer, or designee. Approval shall only be provided when the Chief Financial Officer, or designee, is in receipt of all appropriate certifications with supporting invoices from suppliers and or contractors evidencing appropriate expenses in connection with the project.

R 22-1-2 01/24/22; R 23-12-2 12/21/23

#### §5060 CAPITALIZATION POLICY FOR CAPITAL ASSETS

#### **PURPOSE OF POLICY**

To establish an accounting policy for capitalizing significant capital expenses, including land purchases, land improvements, building construction and improvements, infrastructure construction and improvements, and the purchase of vehicles and equipment.

A capital asset is defined as property, infrastructure, or equipment that meets all of the following requirements:

- 1. The asset is tangible and complete.
- 2. The asset is used in the operation of the District.

- 3. The asset has a useful life of at least five years.
- 4. The asset is of significant value, as noted below.

The District will regard the purchase of software programs as fixed assets subject to this capitalization policy if those software programs meet the capitalization requirements and will depreciate the software in accordance with the depreciation procedure included in this document. Costs associated with software maintenance and customer support are considered expenditures and will not be capitalized.

Capital assets can be acquired through donation or purchase, or can be constructed or consist of significant improvements to an existing asset. The asset value for donations will be the fair market value at the time of the donation. The asset value, when purchased, will be the initial cost plus the trade-in value of any old asset given up, plus all costs related to placing the asset into operation. The cost of constructed or improved assets will include all costs of engineering, design, construction and installation. For a financed project, interest during the construction period will be capitalized.

The District will capitalize assets when the cost of the asset (including installation) is \$25,000 or more. For assets acquired or constructed by the District where the cost is less than \$25,000 for individual components but the aggregate total is \$25,000 or more, such assets will be capitalized.

#### **REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE**

Repair and maintenance expenses that keep assets in ordinary efficient operating condition and do not add to the value or prolong the life of the asset will be considered ordinary expenses. All repair and maintenance expenses should be charged to the appropriate expense account when incurred.

#### **DEPRECIATION POLICY**

The "straight line" method of depreciation should be utilized to depreciate capital assets, except for land, over the estimated useful lives of the related assets principally as follows:

Asset Category	<b>Estimated Useful Life</b>
Building	25 to 40 years
Vehicles	5 to 25 years
Office Furniture & Equipment	5 to 10 years
Computer Software	3 to 5 years
Land Improvements	20 to 50 years
Water Facilities	
Reservoir	100 Years
Transmission & Distribution	20 to 60 years
Filtration Plant	30 to 40 years
Other Plant & Equipment	5 to 15 years
Sanitation Facilities	-
Collection & Transmission	15 to 50 years
Treatment & Disposal Plant	15 to 30 years
Other Plant & Equipment	5 to 15 years

Depreciation will be calculated utilizing the "Zero-Year convention." Under this convention, an asset is treated as though it were placed in service in the first month of the fiscal year following the year in which it was acquired or constructed. In the year the asset is disposed, a full year's depreciation expense will be recognized.

#### **DISPOSITION OF ASSETS**

When capital assets are sold or otherwise disposed of, Capital Assets should be relieved of the cost of the asset and the associated accumulated depreciation. Assets will be removed from the books and records on a periodic basis in conjunction with an updating of the capital assets books and records. The appropriate depreciation will be taken for the year of disposal.

For additional information see Policy Statement 1997-15 (IV), Disposal of Surplus Personal Property.

R 10-7-1 07/01/10; R 21-10-1 10/28/21; R 23-12-2 12/21/23

#### §5070 DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

#### APPLICATION OF POLICY

This Policy applies to the disposal of surplus personal property. This Policy shall not apply to the disposition of surplus real property which is subsequent to the notification and disposition procedures set forth in Government Code Section 54220 et seq.

#### 2. DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY

Any personal property belonging to the District which, in the opinion of the General Manager, is no longer required for the use of the District may be sold, or exchanged as part payment for the purchase of new equipment of like kind and nature, such sale or exchange to be made under such procedure, at such prices and upon such terms and conditions, as the General Manager may prescribe.

## 3. <u>ACCEPTABLE BIDDERS ON DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PERSONAL</u> PROPERTY

District directors and the selected employees noted below, their spouses and dependent children may not bid on or otherwise purchase surplus personal property (as noted) from the District under any terms and conditions.

<u>Title</u>	Type of Property
Directors	All property
General Manager	
Assistant GM	All property
Chief Financial Officer	All property
Director Engineering	All property
Purchasing Agent	All property
Senior Mechanic	Vehicles
Information Technology Manager	Computer Equipment

#### **SERVICE AND RATE**

#### §6000 SERVICE OUTSIDE OF DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

The EI Toro Water District will not generally provide permanent water and/or sewer service outside of its legal boundaries, except in those areas in which it is already providing such services, until the new areas requesting services are legally incorporated within the boundaries of EI Toro Water District. Temporary service outside District boundaries may be provided for a reasonably short period of time where appropriate financial and legal safeguards are provided.

R 24-1-2 01/25/24

# §6010 CONSTRUCTION OF WATER AND SEWER CONVEYANCE FACILITIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING SERVICE TO NEW AND EXISTING CUSTOMERS

El Toro water District is a public entity responsible for the use and direction of public funds. Therefore, it is the responsibility of its directors and staff to coordinate the development of water and sewer conveyance facilities by which service is provided to its customers in a manner which is most cost effective. Public liability exposure and maintenance expense to its local ratepayers must be minimized while providing property owners flexibility for future development.

The following guidelines are established for the purpose of coordinating construction of facilities to provide water and sewer service to new property and to property development.

#### 1. New Property Development

The property owner will construct, at no cost to El Toro Water District, domestic water, recycled water and sewer facilities in accordance with District standards that are required to provide service to the property and maintain the District's ability to meet existing water and sewer demands. A point of service shall be established.

Prior to construction of new facilities or alteration to the District's existing facilities, the owner shall prepare and submit for approval detailed construction plans showing extensions, modifications and connections up to and including the point of service.

2. In situations where redevelopment requires expansion and modifications to existing on-site water sewer facilities currently operated and maintained by the District, the District will convey existing easements and facilities wherever physically and economically feasible to the property owner and provide service to the property line.

Facilities required to serve the property and enable the District to meet existing water and sewer demands shall be constructed in accordance with the guidelines established for new property development.

#### **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

#### January 2024

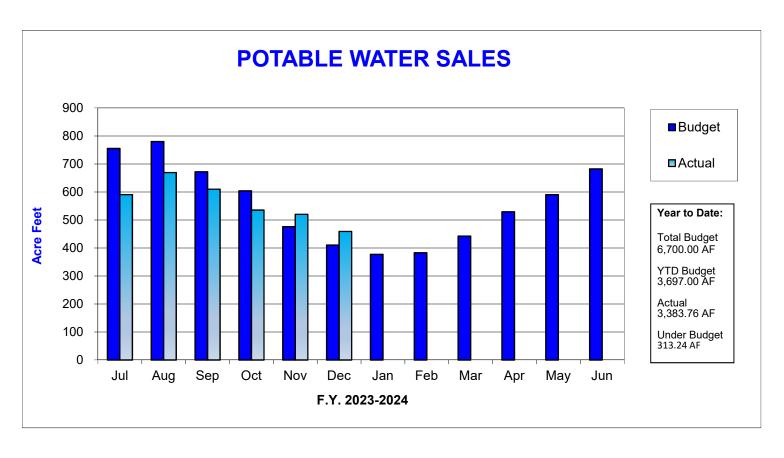
#### I. OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

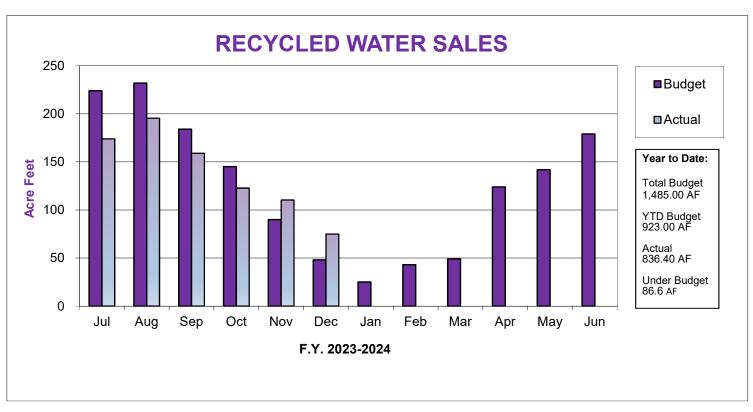
- MWDOC Board Meeting
- MWDOC A&F Committee Meeting
- MWDOC Managers Meeting
- MWDOC / OCWD Joint Planning Committee Meeting
- SOCWA Board Meeting
- SOCWA Finance Committee Meeting
- Orange County Water Association Luncheon
- CSDA Essential Leadership Skills Webinar
- CSDA CSDM Study Group Overview Meeting
- Meeting with Chris Macon City of Laguna Woods City Manager
- Meeting with Springbrook Utility Billing Conversion Project
- ETWD/IRWD Grant Discussion Meeting
- ETWD President / Vice President / GM Meeting
- ETWD Staff Budget Kickoff Meeting
- ETWD RRC Meeting
- ETWD Agenda Review Meeting
- ETWD Regular Engineering & Finance Committee Meetings
- ETWD Regular Board Meeting

#### II. DOMESTIC AND RECYCLED WATER SALES

Actual domestic sales for the year-to-date as of December 31, 2023 are 3,383.76 acre-feet. This compares to year-to-date budgeted domestic sales of 3,697.00 acre-feet. The year-to-date variation in actual to budgeted sales reflects a decrease of 313.24 acre-feet. Actual sales are 73.65 acre-feet lower than last year-to-date actual sales for the same period.

Actual recycled sales for the year-to-date as of December 31, 2023 are 836.40 acre-feet. This compares to year-to-date budgeted recycled sales of 923.00 acre-feet. The year-to-date variation in actual to budgeted sales reflects a decrease of 86.60 acre-feet. Actual sales are 15.76 acre-feet lower than last year-to-date actual sales for the same period.





#### **Customer Service Activity Report**

Regular Service Calls	DEC 2023	DEC 2022	Telephone Calls	DEC 2023	DEC 2022
Serviceman Dispatched to Read,			Change of Service:		47
Connect/Disconnect Service	44	94	Connections and Disconnections	30	
Field Investigations:			Billing / Payments & Graph Inquires	173	95
Check for leaks - calls to CS			Assistance with online payments and		5
Office:(irrigation,meter,street leaks)			ETWD's portal (cc, e-checks, other.)	28	5
Customer Responsible	3	33			
District Responsible	1	2	Variance / Adjustment Inquiries	9	13
None found/other			Variance / Adjustment Requests		9
	1	1	Processed	4	· ·
High Reads Checked - High Consumption (Billing Dept.)			Ordinance Infraction / Water Waste Complaints	1	0
Cust Leaks: 24 No Leaks: 25	49	35			
Check Stopped Slowed Meters-Low	4.0		Outside Utility Districts		31
Consumption (Billing)	12	6	•	31	
Re-Check Read	0	0	Phone calls Transfer to other	00	27
	9	3	Departments within ETWD	23	•
Ordinance Infraction	1	0	Phone calls for the Board of Directors	0	0
Recycled Water	0	0	Recycled Water	0	0
Water Quality: Taste / Odor / Color	0	1	Water Quality Taste - Odor - Color	2	3
Phone response: 0 Field response: 0			Leaks / Breaks	13	21
Construction (Hydrant) Meters issued	0	0	Construction Meter calls (Hydrant)	3	0
Sewer - Odor/Stoppage/ Manhole Covers	3	3	Sewer Problems (odor / spills)	5	0
Meter Box:1 Lids:11 / Covers Replaced:13	24	35			
Meter Box Clean, Digout			Backflow / Cross Connection		0
Micter Box Glean, Digout	2	8	(questions or yearly testing forms)	0	· ·
			ETWD facilities inquiries:		
Raised Meter Box			Boxes/Covers/Lids/Hydrants/Pump		1
	2	0	Stations/Graffiti/ "Gen. Maint"	1	
Trim Bushes / Meter Obstruction	7	6			
General Maintenance Response			Tyco (ADT) Calls	0	0
·	1	13	(Alarms to ETWD facilities)	-	
Fire Hydrants: Hit / Leaks / Caps	0	3	ATT Calls (access to tower sites)	0	0
Pressure(psi) Checks / Reads	0	1	SCE Calls (access to tower sites)	2	0
CSSOV (Angle Meter/Ball Valve/Gate	_	_	Pager Calls specifically for Pump	0	0
Valve/Globe Valve) chk,repair,replaced	6	7	Stations - SCADA	· ·	· ·
AMS angle-meter-stop replace/repair	0	1			
Bees Removed	2	1			
Backflow / Cross Connection	4	4	Payment Extensions:	18	35
			Delinquent Payment Calls to		
Fogged Registers			Customer 's prior to shut off per billing	42	53
	10	20	calendar (automatic courtesy dialer)		
OMCOP: Old Meter Change - Out Program	4	0	Return Calls from customers left on	47	3
ů ů	1	2	our voice mail system. Ext 500	17	00
Other: (uncommon non-maintenance calls)	3	2	Email Correspondence:	42	29
On-Call After Hrs. CS Response	15	5	Maintenance Service Order Requests (bees, psi, fogged-dirty registers)	4	16
# Posting Notice & 24 Hr. Door Hangers	10	3	Misc. (other: employment, deliveries,	7	
Hung	116	132	sales calls)	21	3
#Shut Offs/Disconnect for Non-Payment		102		۷.	
(DNP)	9	14	Payment Processing Fee Complaints	0	0
Removed Meter	0	0	Customers Complaints non bill	0	1
New Meter	Ō	1	Billing Disputes	Ö	0
Unread Meters	6	4	<u> </u>		-
Total Field Investigations	331	437	Total Telephone Calls	469	392
			_		
Uncollectible Accounts:			Credit Card Payments	DEC 2023	DEC 2022
Budget YTD	8,500	10,000	REGULAR 1,	459 <u>\$288,122.61</u> 1,2	224 \$235,445.62
Actual YTD	(369)	14,679	1		

# State Water Project Resources

2024 SWP Table A – 10% - 191,150 AF

39%

(% of normal)

5-Station

81%

(% of normal)

Los Angeles

93%

Diamond Valley 754 TAF

38%

(% of normal)

Northern Sierra

28%

% of normal)

Southern Sierra

36%

(% of normal)

San Diego

59%

% of normal)

8-Station

69%

Oroville 2.44 MAF

58%

San Luis

Total: 1.18 MAF SWP: 379 TAF

76%

Castaic 247 TAF



### WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS REPORT

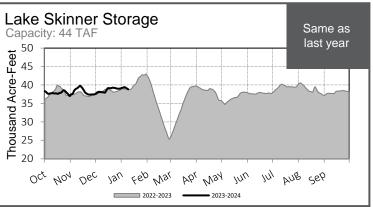
Water Year 2023-2024

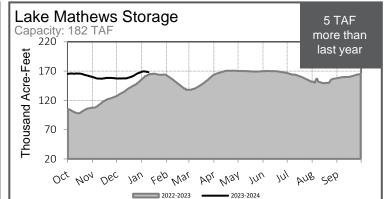
As of: January 09, 2024

## Colorado River Resources

Projected 2023 CRA Diversions – 652,000 AF

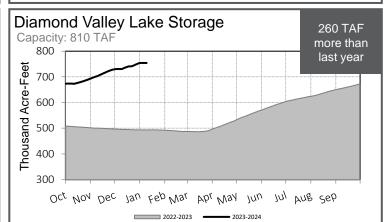
### Metropolitan Resources





# MWD WSDM Storage Calendar Year 2024

	Take Capacity (2024)
Lake Mead ICS	147,000 acre-feet
State Water Project System	593,000 acre-feet
In-Region Supplies and WSDM Actions	633,000 acre-feet



## Highlights

Learn more about imported supplies:

- State Water Project <a href="https://www.mwdh2o.com/state-water-project-map/">https://www.mwdh2o.com/state-water-project-map/</a>
- Colorado River Aqueduct <a href="https://www.mwdh2o.com/colorado-river-aqueduct-map/">https://www.mwdh2o.com/colorado-river-aqueduct-map/</a>



This report is produced by the Water Resource Management Group and contains information from various federal, state, and local agencies.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California cannot guarantee the accuracy or completeness of this information.

Readers should refer to the relevant state, federal, and local agencies for additional or for the most up to date water supply information.

Reservoirs, lakes, aqueducts, maps, watersheds, and all other visual representations on this report are not drawn to scale.

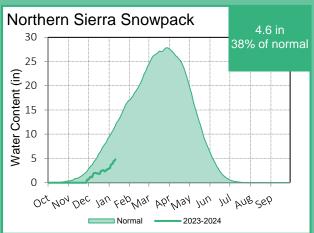
Questions? Email mferreira at mwdh2o dot com

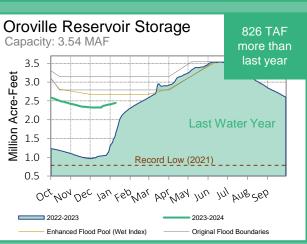
https://www.mwdh2o.com/WSCR

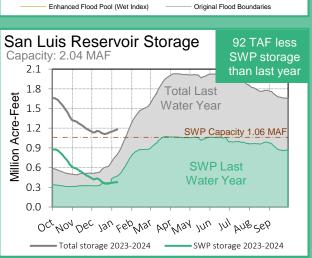


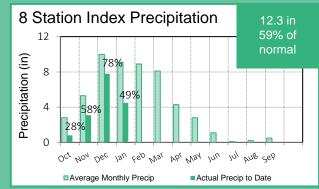
### State Water Project Resources

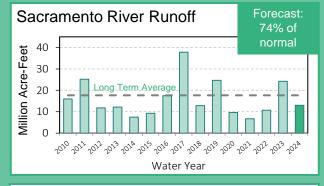
As of: 01/09/2024



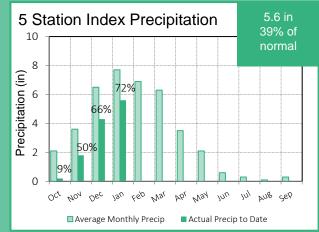






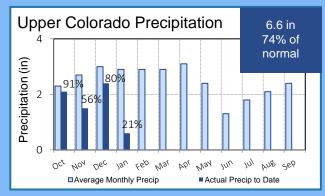


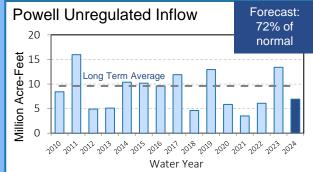




#### Colorado River Resources

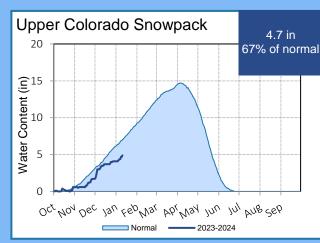
As of: 01/09/2024

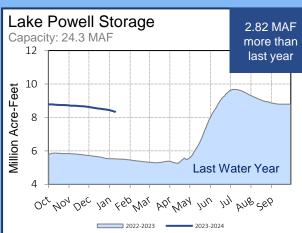






Forecasted Use for 2024: TBD





#### Projected Lake Mead ICS

Calendar Year 2024

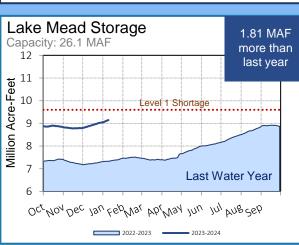
Put (+) / Take (-) TBD

#### Lake Mead Surplus/Shortage Outlook

	2024	2025	2026
Surplus	0%	0%	0%
Shortage	100%	93%	77%
Metropolitan DCP*			20% 195 TAF

Likelihood based on results from the August 2023 CRMMS in Ensemble Model/CRSS model run. Includes DCP Contributions

\* Chance of required DCP contribution by Metropolitan. Volume is average contribution when needed.



://www.mwdh2o.com/WSCR https://www.mwdh2o.co

# WILL SERVE SUMMARY REPORT December 2023

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	PHASE	CFF	
Arbors Access Ramp	Adding a 1-1/2" water service connection with backflow protection and connecting to the existing sewer system	Close-Out	\$	28,785
Burger Town Sewer Connection	Addition of a 4" sewer lateral	Construction	\$	-
The Village at Laguna Hills (Demo Phase)	Demolition of the various sized water services, irrigation services, fire services, and sewer services at the former mall site.	Close-Out	\$	-
The Village at Laguna Hills (Retail Phase)	Installation of various sized water, fire, and sewer services at the former mall site.	Plan Check	Not Yet Ca	lculated
The Village at Laguna Hills (Central Residential Phase)	Installation of various sized water, fire, and sewer services at the former mall site.	Plan Check	Not Yet Ca	lculated
The Village at Laguna Hills (Southern Residential Phase)	Installation of various sized water, fire, and sewer services at the former mall site.	Plan Check	Not Yet Ca	lculated
Womens Health Pavilion	New construction of a health pavilion with water services, irrigation services, sewer services, and fire water services.	Close-Out	\$	21,856
Target	Addition of an irrigation service, fire services, and potable water services (24440 Alicia Pkwy Bldg B Suite "A" Potable Service, 24440 Alicia Pkwy Bldg B Fire Service, 24420 Alicia Pkwy Bldg A Fire Service, 24440 Alicia Pkwy Irrigation)	Close-Out	\$	157,176
Laguna Hills Inn Fire Sprinkler Upgrade	Fire System upgrades including conversion of a fire hydrant to private and addition of a 6-inch DCDA	Construction	\$	-
Moulton Parkway Commercial Kitchens	Upgrade the existing domestic service, sewer service and installation of a DCDA.	Plan Check	Not Yet Ca	lculated
25376 Maximus Group Home	Upgrading the water service	Plan Check	Not Yet Ca	lculated
Hair Jungle Salon	Converting from retail to beauty salon	Plan Check	\$	3,267

Item 2a



**To:** Board of Directors, *Municipal Water District of Orange County* 

From: Natural Resource Results

**RE:** Monthly Board Report – December 2023

#### **EPA Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI)**

On December 5<sup>th</sup>, the EPA opened the 60-day public comment period for its proposed LCRI. he LCRI aims to build on the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) finalized in 2021. The proposed LCRI includes critical components such as: achieving 100% lead service line replacement within ten years, locating legacy lead service lines and galvanized steel pipe requiring replacement (GRR), updating tap sampling procedures, lowering the lead action level, and updating public notification requirements.

For California water providers, these improvements pose both challenges and opportunities. The requirement for 100% replacement of lead service lines within ten years will require significant planning, resources, and coordination. California water systems are already required to monitor lead and copper levels at consumers' taps under the California Lead and Copper Rule (CA LCR), which aligns with the US EPA's LCR. The proposed improvements will likely necessitate an update to these monitoring processes and potentially require installation or modifications to corrosion control treatment if action levels for lead or copper are exceeded.

Additionally, the requirement to locate legacy lead service lines will require water systems to conduct thorough inventories and maintain accurate records. This process may involve using exis9ng templates or developing new methods for inventory.

Moreover, lowering the lead action level from 15 parts per billion (ppb) to 10 ppb will mean that water agencies must adhere to stricter standards, necessitating potentially more rigorous testing and treatment methods and additional public outreach and notification requirements.

Of note. MWDOC staff has been reviewing the proposal and it appears to transfer the responsibility for replacing the private property side of the service line to the water provider which could violate the prohibition on the 'gift of public funds.' Because of this ambiguity, and because there are two major federal holidays that fall within the public comment period, we are seeking a 30-day extension of the comment period to allow for rigorous review of the proposal.

We are working with Rep. Kim (R-CA) on letter to EPA requesting an extension of the comment period and will hopefully have the entire MWDOC congressional delegation sign the letter. Additionally, ACWA and CMUA have sent a letter to EPA requesting an extension (attached).

#### Colorado River

On December 13 at the Colorado Water Users Association annual conference in Las Vegas, several California water agencies signed agreements with the Bureau of Reclamation to conserve up to 643,000 acre-feet of water in Lake Mead through 2025. These agreements include approximately \$295 million in new investments from the Inflation Reduction Act will fund projects for water conservation, water efficiency, and protection of critical environmental resources in the Colorado River System.

The agreements include a new contact with the Coachella Valley Water District to save up to 105,000 acre-feet of water through 2025, an agreement with the Quechan Indian Tribe to save up to 39,000 acre-feet through 2025, and an agreement with the Imperial Irrigation District to conserve approximately 100,000 acre-feet of water in 2023. Additional system conservation agreements were signed with the Palo Verde Irrigation District, Bard Water District in cooperation with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, and a second agreement with the Coachella Valley Water District which is expected to be finalized early next year.



To:	Municipal Water District of Orange County
From:	Syrus Devers Advocacy LLC
Date:	January 3rd, 2024
Re:	Monthly Report

#### **Legislature**

The Capitol community is anticipating the change in Senate leadership when Mike McGuire takes over as Pro Tem from Toni Atkins. Even absent a change in leadership, committee assignments were due for a shakeup as a result of Senators being termed out in 2024 or running for higher office. For that reason, there is an air of uncertainty in the halls regarding what 2024 is going to look like. The transition is planned for February 5th.

Pro Tem Designee McGuire (apparently that is a real title) will have the unpleasant task of dealing with a massive budget deficit in 2024. The Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) projected a \$68 billion deficit back on December 8th, but this projection is a bit different from past projections.

Briefly, extending the income tax deadline to November injected a degree of uncertainty into the 2023 budget process. Recent data shows that revenues were about \$26 billion less in 2023 than assumed. Instead of the LAO projecting an economic downturn resulting in declining revenues, which is speculative at best, it is saying that California had \$26 billion less than it thought it did when spending decisions were made last summer. That does not leave much room for hope.

#### Administration

The major news out of Sacramento is the certification of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Delta Conveyance. The final EIR was published on Dec. 8th and the Department of Water Resources certified the EIR on the 21st. By this action, DWR is claiming that they have responded to comments and mitigated impacts to the extent feasible, and that the proposed route—the Bethany Reservoir Alignment—is the final design.

The certification paves the way for further design, engineering, and permitting, but it also opens the door to new lines of legal attacks. Here are some comments from likely litigants.

#### Restore the Delta:

"We and our broad coalition of partners will engage in all necessary processes, and when necessary, litigation, to stop the Delta Conveyance Project once and for all."

#### Delta Counties Coalition:

"Tunnel proponents also must stop using false statements that the Tunnel would protect water supplies in the event of an earthquake, when there has been no evidence that past earthquakes have caused damage to existing water infrastructure."

(You might want to read that a second time. There's a lot of stupidity there and you may have missed some.)

Presumably, DWR is used to getting sued by now. On December 20th, the Center for Biological Diversity, Friends of the River, and several other groups filed a CEQA lawsuit against Sites Reservoir. The suit alleges harm to the fisheries in the Sacramento River.

#### In case you missed it:

The San Diego County Water Authority dropped its lawsuit to prevent Rainbow and Fallbrook water districts from joining the Eastern Municipal Water District. Both districts agreed to pay \$25 million to offset stranded costs. If any other districts want to follow suit, it will have to be approved by a vote of the entire county thanks to legislation taking effect on January 1st.

## **ACKERMAN CONSULTING**

#### **Legal and Regulatory**

January 3, 2024

- 1. Paradise Update: We all remember the fire that devastated the city of Paradise some five years ago. The fire also shut down their water department entirely. A recent interview with Mickey Rich the district assistant manager set forth some interesting facts to be considered in future such disasters. The main cause of the shutdown was the vacuum caused by lack of water in the system which allowed toxic remains from the fire to leach into the water system. This condition made the water dangerous for human consumption and required a shutdown of the entire system. The challenge to the water district was to attempt to get water service to remaining customers who still lived in the city. The battle began very quickly with the city having to debate with county state and federal agencies as to what to do and how to proceed. The water districts' early attempt at increasing testing at the home sites proved to be critical. The main lines in the system were OK and the problem was with the connecting lines to individual houses. Getting quick funding to pay for all the repairs and improvements was a big challenge. They received early assistance from FEMA after accelerated testing showed that over 50% of the service lines need to be replaced. They also received substantial money from PG&E as a result of the fire settlement. The next good decision they made was to attempt to get existing homeowners and citizens hooked up safely as soon as possible before attempting to do a citywide rebuild. They are now in the process of testing site by site when new building permits are submitted in the city. This process is now being considered in Lahaina as a result of their fire and hopefully they will have learned some things from the Paradise situation.
- 2. PVC Ban??: The US Environmental Protection Agency is currently reviewing PVC plastic production which could lead to a ban of PVC water lines. Vinyl chloride which is used in producing PVC was classified as a human carcinogen in 1974. However, it is still widely used in PVC pipes product packaging and siding panels for houses. The EPA is being quite aggressive in this area which could lead to a future ban. The industry is pushing back stating that they are producing safe products and question the cost benefit of this decision.
- 3. **South County Helopad:** We have all followed the success of the Yorba Linda Heli-Hydrants in firefighting in north county. Now a similar effort is taking place in South County. The Orange County Fire Authority in conjunction with Santa Margarita Water District has completed a Helo pad in San Juan Capistrano near Ortega highway. This helopad is set up to service Chinook helicopters CH-47 which can carry up to 3000 gallons of water. This helopad was installed and funded by the Santa Margarita Water District and can be operated automatically. Whenever a helicopter comes by to pick up water it will automatically refill itself at the rate of 850 gallons per minute. It is anticipated that this facility will be as helpful to South County in fighting fires as is its Yorba Linda sisters are.

- 4. **Biodegradable Plastics Harm Fish:** When the PFAS situation came to light, a popular solution was to convert to biodegradable plastics as opposed to the forever plastics. However, a study by the University of Otago in New Zealand has shown that might not be the case. Testing these biodegrade biodegradable plastics on fish has shown that this may not be the long-term solution. Fish that have ingested these products have shown that it impacts their swimming performance and metabolism. While biodegradable plastics are certainly not as harmful as the PFAS it appears that it still has a significant negative impact on them. The result of the research is a further study of the raw materials used in these products to see how they can be controlled or modified.
- 5. **Snowfall Disappearing:** NOAA has been studying the snowfall trend because of climate change around the world. Climate change is causing a reduction in snowfall and an increase in rainfall in many areas. It is particularly observed in the northern hemisphere which would include us. The decline in snowfall since 1973 has been approximately 2.7%. It is anticipated that these losses will continue in the future. This clearly will impact water supplies to areas such as California and the Mediterranean as the trend lines show that the decline in snowpack could be more than 90% overtime. Another part of the study explores the water content in the snow. A heavy snow with high water content can make a lot of difference compared to a lighter snow with low water content.
- 6. **Beer Threatened by Climate Change:** Climate change could negatively impact beer consumption worldwide. Production of hops in Europe and the United States is being noticeably lessened by changes in climate. Hops and in particular the alpha content of hops has already started to impact beer production. The estimated reduction in hops is 4 to 18% while the alpha content, which is more important, could drop by as much as 31% in the next few years. Hops are water intensive and reactionary to high temperatures. Hops is a form of flower which can survive some heat but not when it gets to the higher levels. The Pacific Northwest including Idaho Washington, Oregon, and Montana produce about 90% of all the hops in the United States.
- 7. **Artic Microplastics:** The University of Exeter in England has been exploring the quantity of micro plastics near the Barents Sea and the Arctic region. The increase in microplastics in the area is being attributed to tourism, inadequate waste infrastructure shipping activities and fishing. Also, the currents in the ocean are responsible for sending more microplastics to this area which is generally somewhat isolated. The impact on the food chain in the area could be severe. The zooplankton in the area have been determined to have increased quantities of micro plastics in their systems. This zooplankton is the bottom of the food chain of other fish, animals including humans in the area.
- 8. **Groundwater Saltier:** Last month we reported on some saltwater intrusion in various areas such as New Orleans. The US Geological Survey is studying the quantities of salt found in groundwater systems throughout the United States. They have been examining 82 systems around the US for over 10 years. The increase in salt like materials over this time has been significant. One of the areas in the northwest and upper Midwest regions of the US has been particularly involved. The main culprit in this area has been road salt which is still used extensively during the winter. Other areas of high impact, particularly in the southwest, are caused by high salinity in the soils and irrigation due to agricultural uses. These salt conditions can also negatively impact infrastructure as the water gets into general circulation.

- 9. **Beavers Not Always Good:** While Beavers generally enjoy a good reputation when it comes to the environment and natural habitat, that reputation is now being challenged. While their dam building and other activities can generally recharge areas and be useful to habitat there is a negative side. In watersheds and other areas that have already been altered by human activity they can be a large negative. In these areas they tend to build up their dam environment but then leave because of lack of food or other environmental situations. When they leave their dams behind unattended, they tend to significantly interfere with normal fish activity. This has been particularly evident in some areas in Nevada where the trout population has been seriously reduced due to the high number of beaver dams which have been left by the beavers. The interesting situation is that when politicians attempt to limit beaver activity by reducing the number of beavers there is a large pushback by the environmental groups and the general population. The bottom line is the beavers can be useful in their natural habitat but generally are negative in areas that have already been significantly changed by human activity.
- 10. Algae Used for Water Treatment: While algae and its various strains are generally a negative when it comes to water there are some exceptions. It has been discovered that certain algal strains that have phosphorus accumulation possibilities can help in treatment of wastewater. Generally, phosphorus is a major contributor to harmful algae blooms in lakes and other water bodies. However, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory has discovered a revolving algal biofilm which can help in the treatment of wastewater. This system uses a revolving belt which has phosphorus laden algae in the wastewater. This belt can collect algal biomass which can be used for fertilizer and feedstock and other useful products. This process is a normal process in nature but can be harnessed by the water world to help in the treatment of wastewater. An interesting factoid is that this alga can take up higher levels of phosphorus than its immediate nutritional needs. This allows it to be highly effective taking the bad stuff out of the water.
- 11. **State Power Grab:** As we have seen lately, the state has been extremely aggressive and attempting to control water rights in the state. This trend is now being seen in the energy world. Shasta county has been told that they must acquiesce in the building of 48 giant wind turbines in their area. Normally this is a decision made at the local level and not coming as a state mandate. This project is approximately 35 miles east of Redding. The county has filed suit to try and stop it and is joined by various tribes in the region. This will be an interesting case to follow as it gives jurisdiction for these matters to the California Energy Commission. Stay tuned.



#### STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Directors Meeting Date: January 25, 2024

From: Sherri Seitz, Public Affairs Manager

**Subject: Public Education and Outreach Report** 

#### **Bill Message**

Customer January/February bill message:

During the cooler months, landscapes require less water and adjusting your irrigation timers can make a significant difference in conserving water. Visit <a href="https://etwd.com/conservation/water-conservation/">https://etwd.com/conservation/water-conservation/</a> and use the outdoor watering calculator to obtain a customized water schedule for your landscape.

#### **Laguna Woods Village Television**

A link to Director Kathryn Freshley's Direct Potable Reuse presentation on "This Day" on December 29, 2023 can be found here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= 0fwODUB0ZM

Director	will be presenting on	"This Day" எ	on January 26,	2024.	The topic will
be on Fats, Oils and	d Grease (FOG).				

#### **ETWD Newsletter**

The Spring 2024 ETWD Newsletter will be distributed in March. Topics include Direct Potable Reuse, Fix-a-Leak Week, Rebates, GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, ETWD in the Community, Wipes, New Faces at ETWD, Spring Landscape Check Up and the New Billing System.

#### ETWD Newsroom

Staff is preparing news releases regarding ETWD's new President and Vice-President and the District receiving the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

#### **ETWD Website Redesign**

Staff has been working on preparing a Request for Proposal (RFP) to the update of the District's website. The website update is a crucial step in our ongoing efforts to modernize our communication channels and better serve the District's customers and the public. Staff's goals for the website update include streamlining information dissemination, improving navigation, and incorporating features that facilitate public engagement. Staff will update the board as the project continues.

#### **Community Events**

Dennis Cafferty and Vu Chu will speak on Water Supply Conditions and Opportunities at the Laguna Woods Village Third Mutual Water Committee Meeting being held on Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. in the LWV Community Center board room.

#### Metropolitan Water District Water Conservation Survey

A presentation of the results from the water conservation survey conducted by Probolsky Research for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California follows this report. The survey, conducted in November 2023, involved 1000 participants from the Southern California service area and aimed to understand attitudes and behaviors towards water conservation. It covered topics such as actions taken during droughts, opinions on the importance of water conservation in various conditions, views on climate change's impact on water supply, willingness to conserve water, knowledge about water-saving steps and trust in water agencies. The survey results are broken down by various demographics, including county, gender, age, ethnicity, household income, and more.

The survey revealed several key statistics about water conservation attitudes and behaviors.

A majority of respondents adopted various water-saving behaviors during the most recent serious drought in Southern California. The specific percentages for each behavior, such as turning off water while brushing teeth, reducing shower frequency, and changing lawn landscaping, are detailed in the report.

18% of the respondents were located in Orange County and the results were as follows:

### Public Education and Outreach Report Page 3

- 91% of Orange County respondents agree that it is important to conserve water every day, regardless of drought conditions.
- 73% of Orange County respondents agree that climate change will significantly impact Southern California's water supply in the future.
- 84% of Orange County respondents believe that Southern California will experience more droughts in the future.
- 74% of Orange County respondents agree that the region will face more weather whiplash in the future.
- 92% of Orange County respondents are willing to do their part to conserve water regardless of weather conditions.
- 76% of Orange County respondents are willing to do more than they currently do to conserve water.
- 88% of Orange County respondents are aware of the steps they can take to conserve more water.
- 80% of Orange County respondents agree that Southern California should be providing financial incentives to encourage replacing lawns.

These statistics reflect a strong awareness and willingness among the surveyed population to engage in water conservation practices, recognizing the impact of climate change and the likelihood of future water supply challenges.

The survey also revealed key statistics about the public's perception regarding water agencies:

- 38% of Orange County respondents agree that Southern California water managers are doing enough to properly manage and store available water supplies.
- 80% of Orange County respondents agree that Southern California water managers need to make changes to infrastructure and delivery system of the water supply.
- 44% of Orange County respondents agree that the state/local governments and local water agencies are asking too much water conservation of residents.
- Over the entire MWD service area, 36% of respondents say that they trust their local water agency with information on water issues.

These statistics highlight a significant opportunity to educate customers about an agency's efforts in water conservation, offering updates on infrastructure developments, and outlining plans for the management and storage of local and regional water supplies.

## Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Water Conservation Survey Results Presentation

December 2023



**Market and Opinion Research** 

### **Metropolitan Water District – Water Conservation Survey**

Survey Methodology\*

	Survey Details	
Mode	Phone (landline and mobile) Online (email and text-to-web)	
Language	English and Spanish	
Length	15 minutes	
Target Respondents	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California service area residents	
Survey Fielding	November 18 – 30, 2023	
Survey Participants	1,000	
Margin of Error	+/-3.2%	

### Sample

Our sample was developed from consumer data. We matched the demographics of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California service area residents.

### **Data Collection Explained**

Interviews were conducted by phone (33%) and online (67%) modes. Phone interviews were conducted via landline (38%) or mobile (62%). Online participants were invited by email (50%) and text message (50%).

Respondents in all modes chose their preferred language, English (92%) or Spanish (8%).

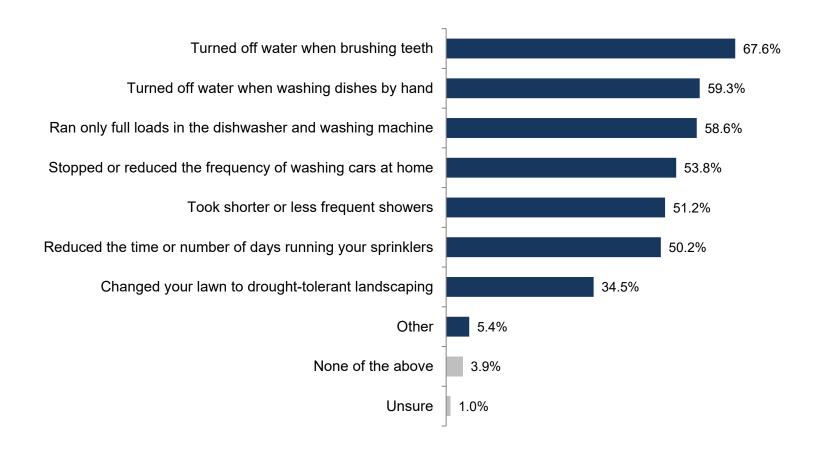
The online survey was accessible by computer, tablet, and smart phone.

Security measures precluded individuals from completing the survey more than once.



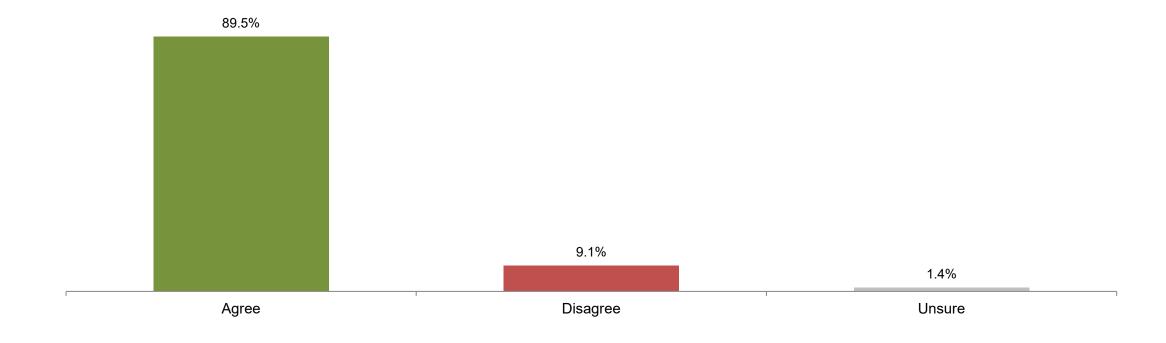
### A majority adopted many water saving behaviors during the most recent serious drought in Southern California

Question 1: We are going to list ways to save water at home. Which of these things did you do during the most recent serious drought in Southern California? Select all that apply.



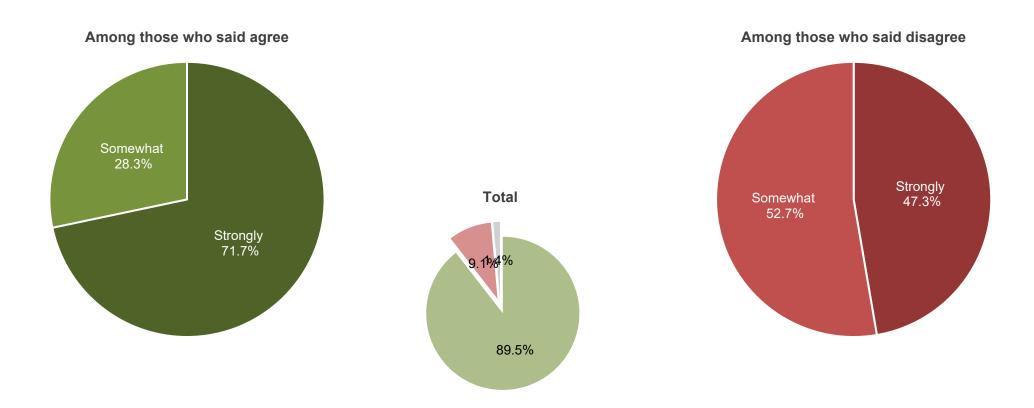


# 90% agree that it is important to conserve water every day, whether Southern California is in a drought or not



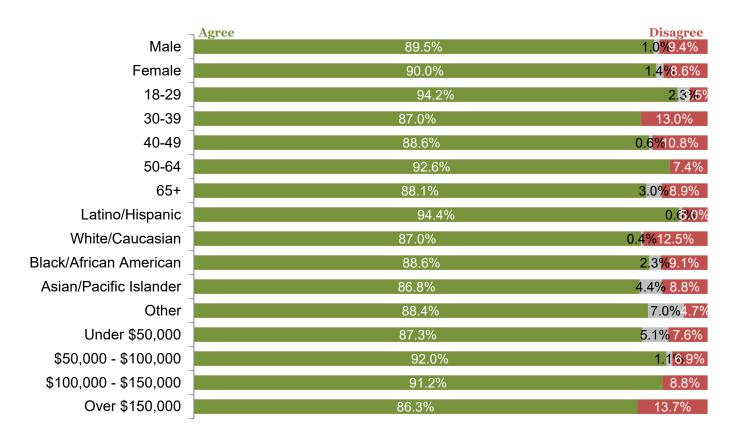


# Among those who said agree, 72% said strongly agree





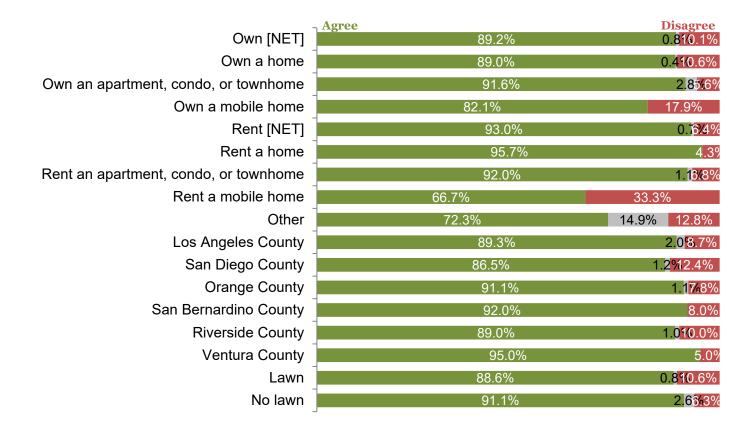
## Results by gender, age, ethnicity, and household income







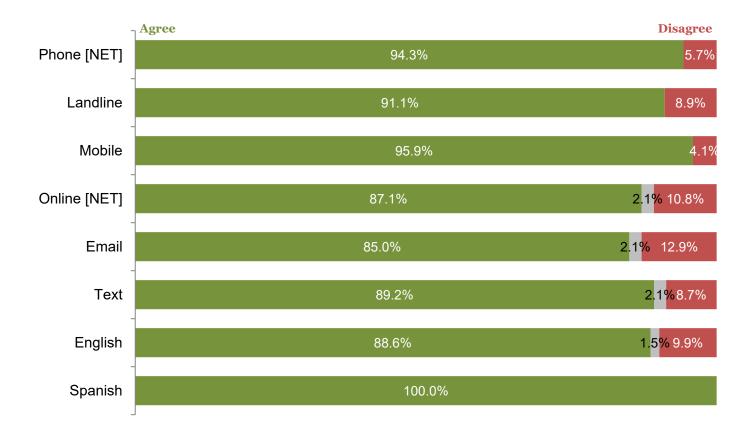
### Results by home type, county, and lawn household







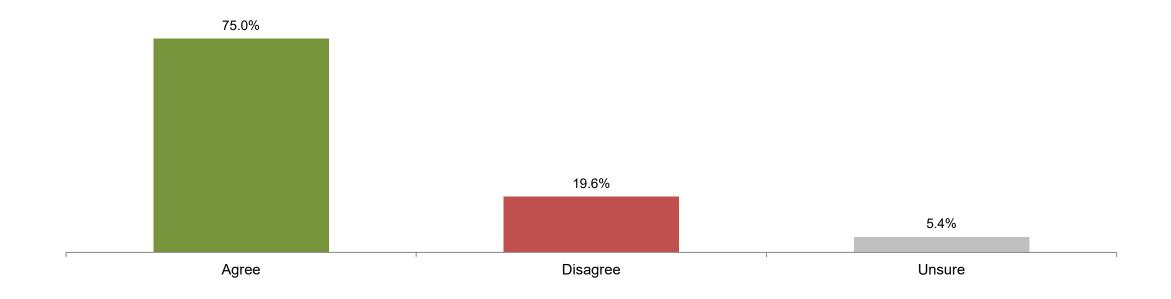
### Results by survey mode and survey language





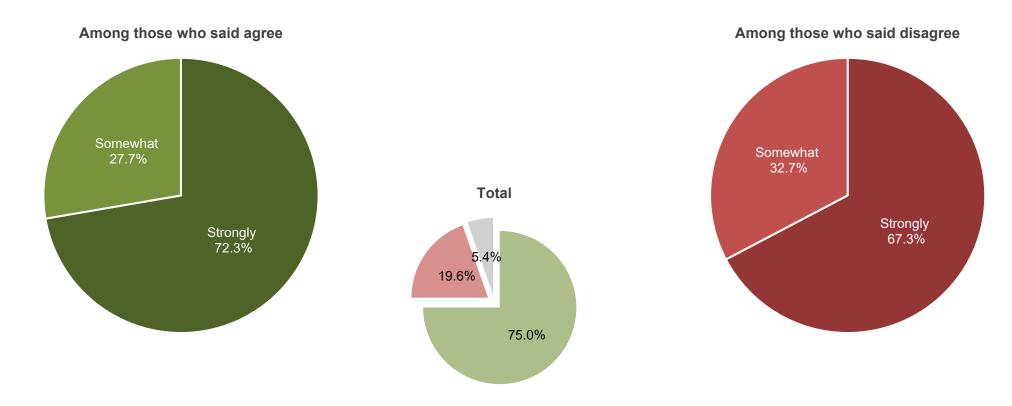


# 75% agree that climate change will significantly impact Southern California's water supply in the future



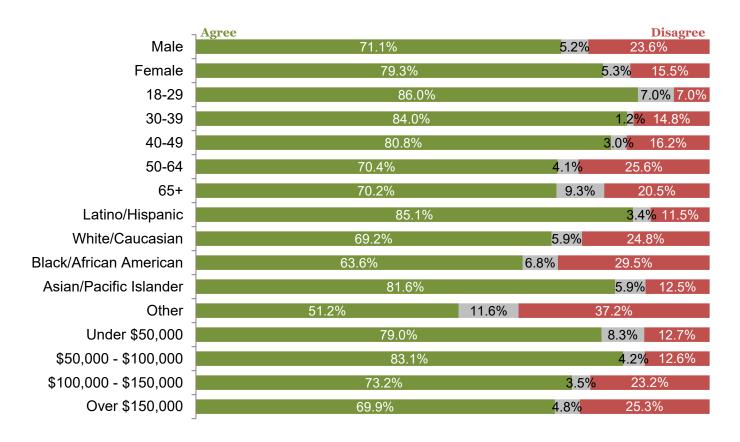


# Among those who said agree, 72% said strongly agree





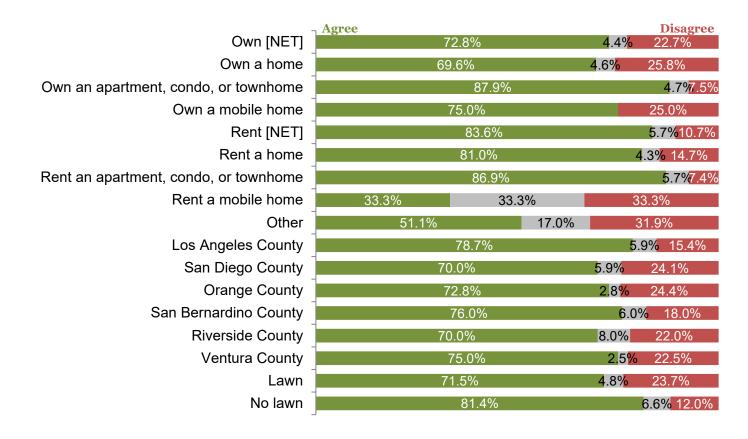
## Results by gender, age, ethnicity, and household income







### Results by home type, county, and lawn household

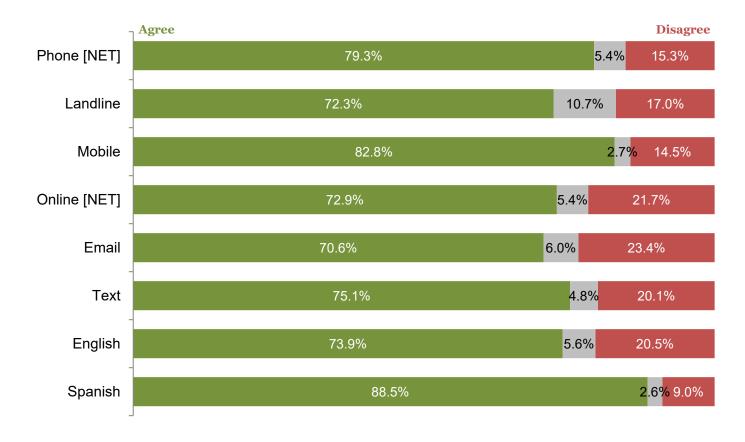






### Results by survey mode and survey language

Question 5: Agree or disagree: Climate change will significantly impact Southern California's water supply in the future.



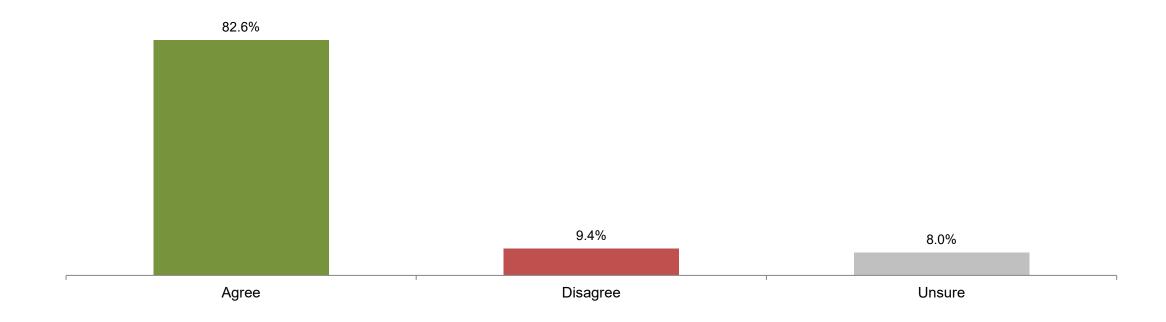


AgreeUnsure

■ Disagree

# 83% agree that Southern California will experience more droughts in the future

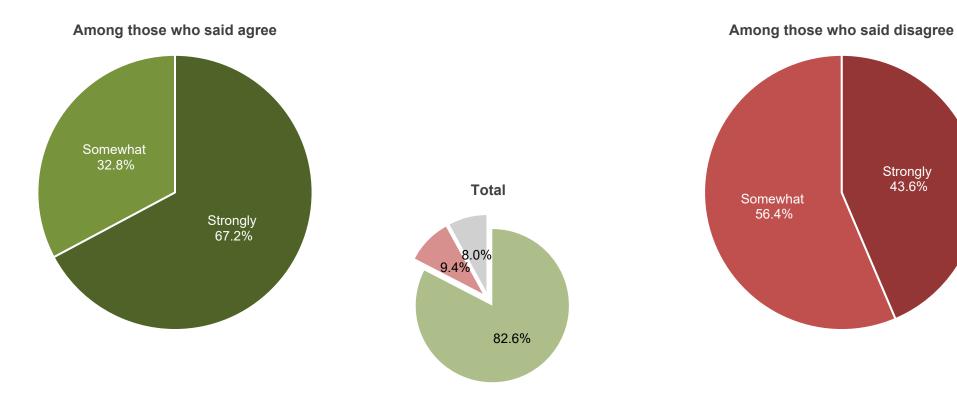
Question 6: Agree or disagree: Southern California will experience more droughts in the future.





### Among those who said agree, 67% said strongly agree

Question 6: Agree or disagree: Southern California will experience more droughts in the future.

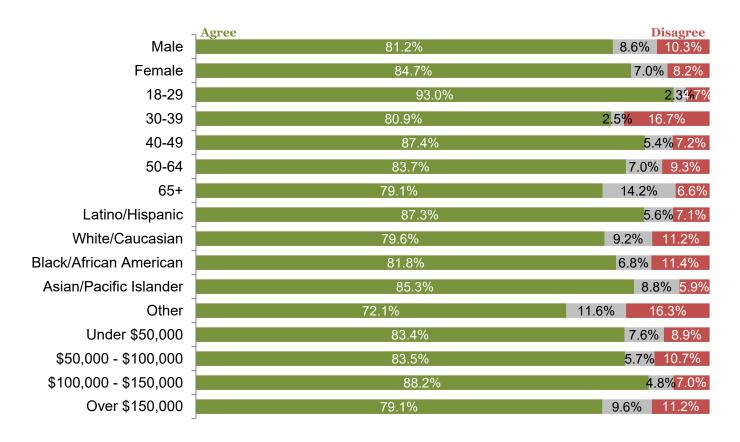




Strongly 43.6%

## Results by gender, age, ethnicity, and household income

Question 6: Agree or disagree: Southern California will experience more droughts in the future.

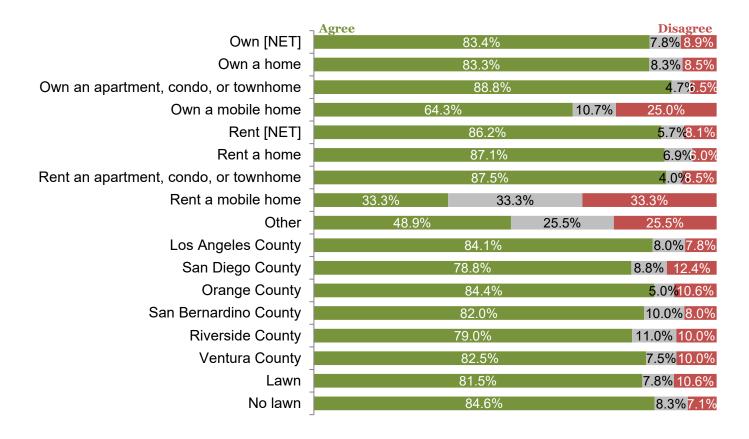


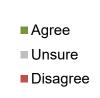




### Results by home type, county, and lawn household

Question 6: Agree or disagree: Southern California will experience more droughts in the future.

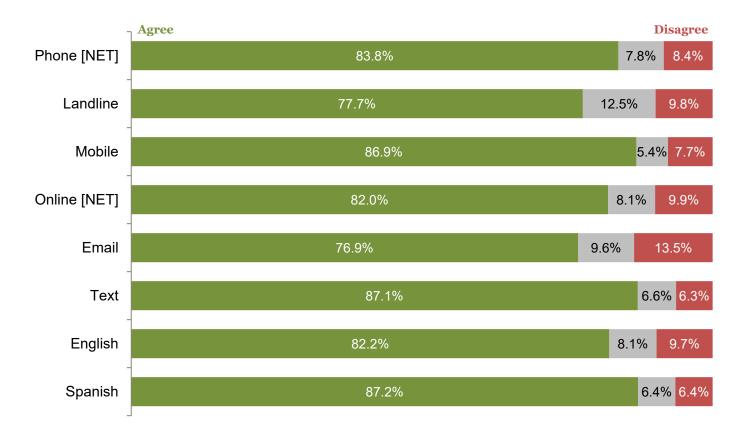






### Results by survey mode and survey language

Question 6: Agree or disagree: Southern California will experience more droughts in the future.





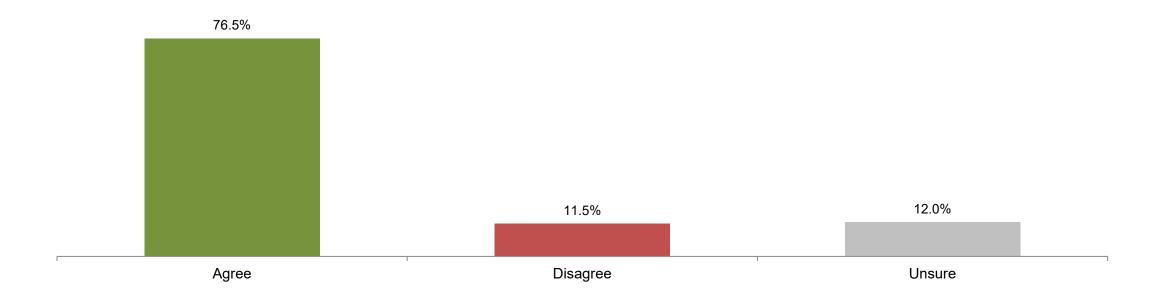
AgreeUnsure

■ Disagree

# 77% agree that Southern California will experience more weather whiplash in the future

Weather whiplash is a phenomenon where an area experiences extreme weather changes – often in a short span of time, like we did last year. In California, this can mean extreme drought followed by extreme rain and snow years with little to no "average weather" in between.

Question 7: Agree or disagree: Southern California will experience more weather whiplash in the future.

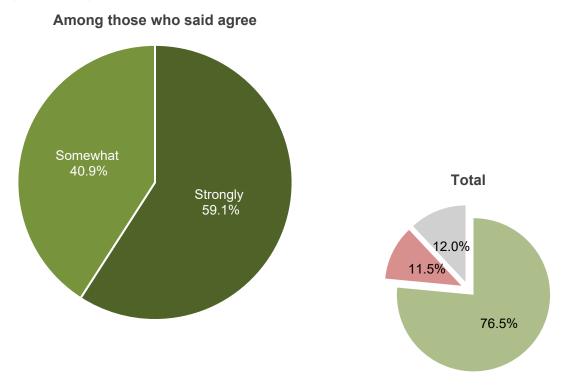


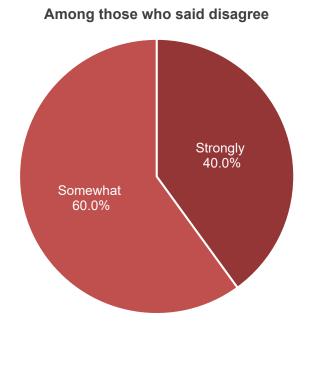


# Among those who said agree, 59% said strongly agree

Weather whiplash is a phenomenon where an area experiences extreme weather changes – often in a short span of time, like we did last year. In California, this can mean extreme drought followed by extreme rain and snow years with little to no "average weather" in between.

Question 7: Agree or disagree: Southern California will experience more weather whiplash in the future.



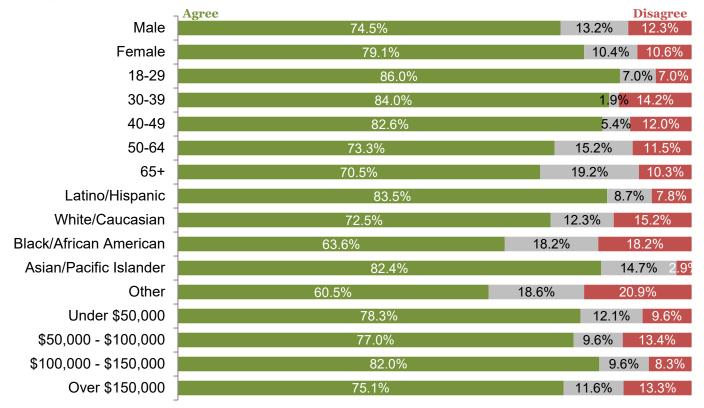




## Results by gender, age, ethnicity, and household income

Weather whiplash is a phenomenon where an area experiences extreme weather changes – often in a short span of time, like we did last year. In California, this can mean extreme drought followed by extreme rain and snow years with little to no "average weather" in between.

Question 7: Agree or disagree: Southern California will experience more weather whiplash in the future.



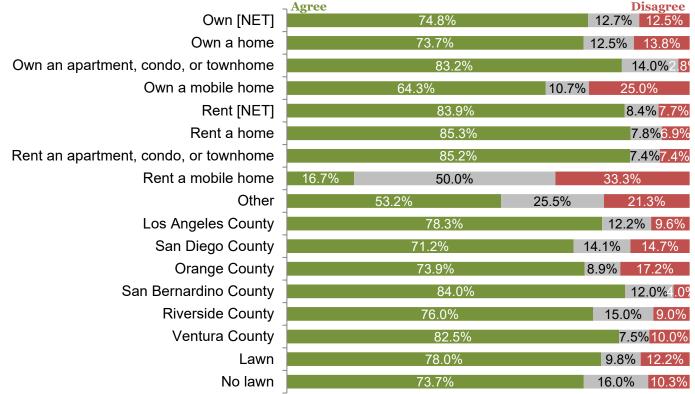


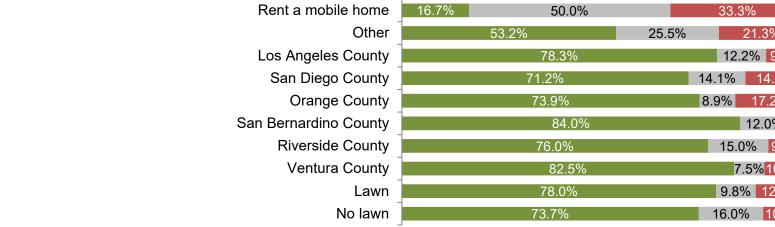


### Results by home type, county, and lawn household

Weather whiplash is a phenomenon where an area experiences extreme weather changes – often in a short span of time, like we did last year. In California, this can mean extreme drought followed by extreme rain and snow years with little to no "average weather" in between.

Agree or disagree: Southern California will experience more weather whiplash in the future.







Agree

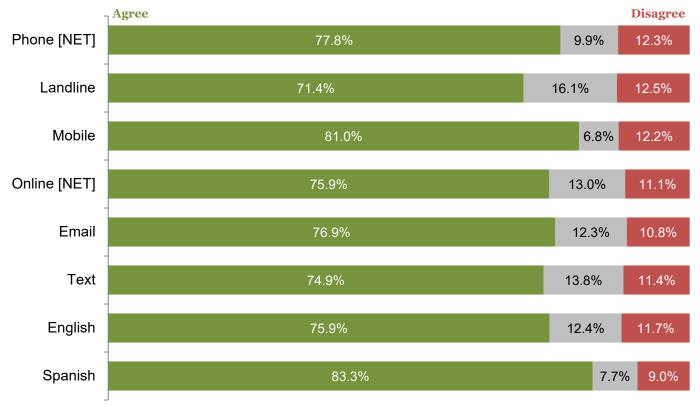
■Unsure

Disagree

### Results by survey mode and survey language

Weather whiplash is a phenomenon where an area experiences extreme weather changes – often in a short span of time, like we did last year. In California, this can mean extreme drought followed by extreme rain and snow years with little to no "average weather" in between.

Question 7: Agree or disagree: Southern California will experience more weather whiplash in the future.



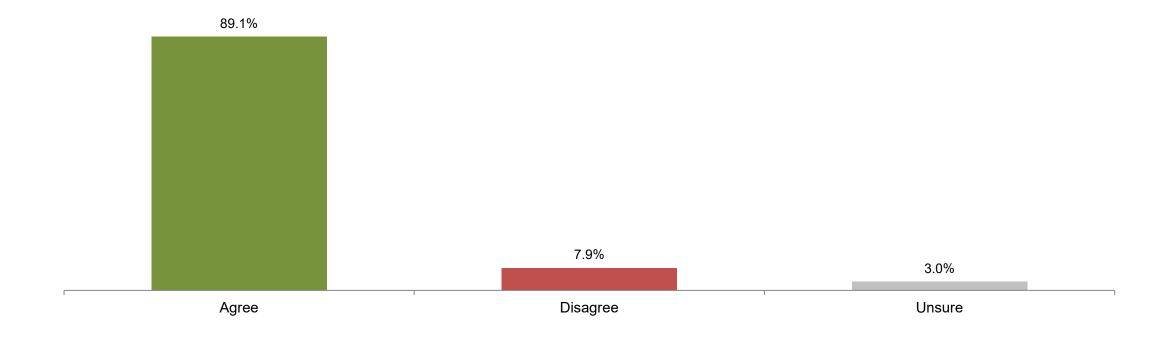


Agree

■Unsure

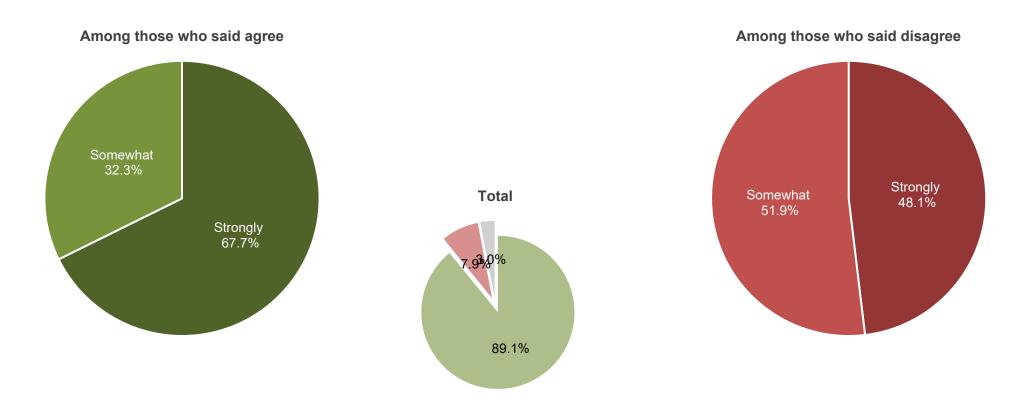
Disagree

## 89% agree that they are willing to do their part to conserve water regardless of weather conditions in Southern California



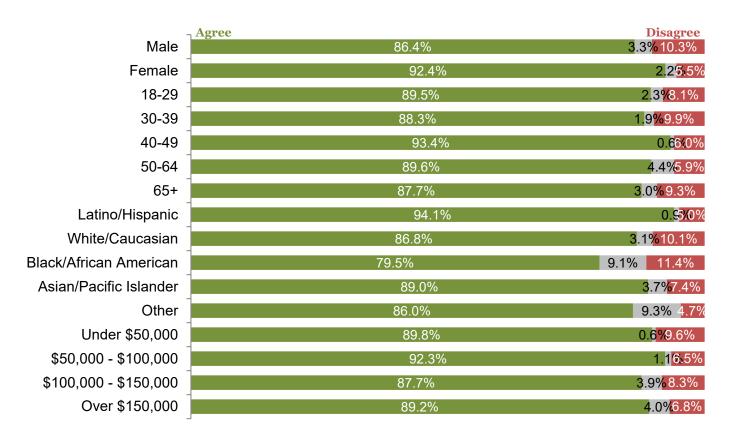


# Among those who said agree, 68% said strongly agree





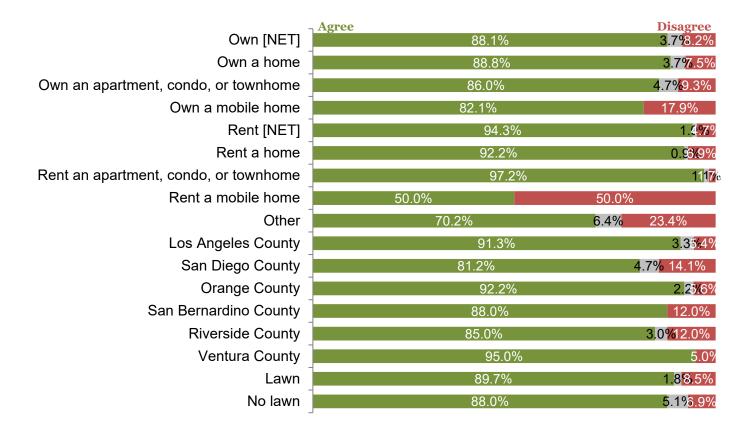
## Results by gender, age, ethnicity, and household income







### Results by home type, county, and lawn household

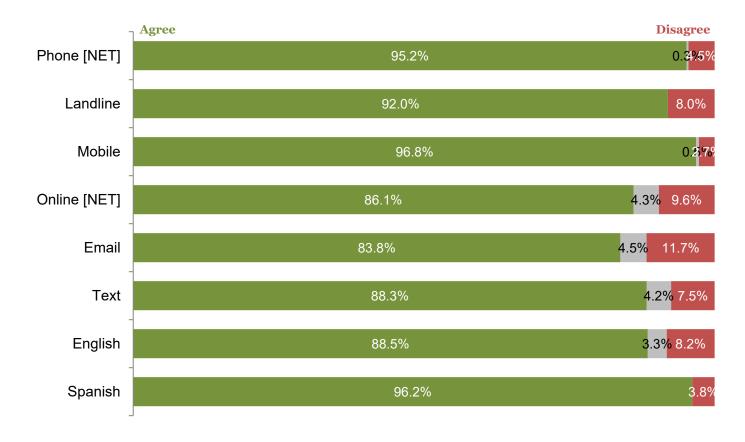






### Results by survey mode and survey language

Question 8: Agree or disagree: I am willing to do my part to conserve water regardless of weather conditions in Southern California.



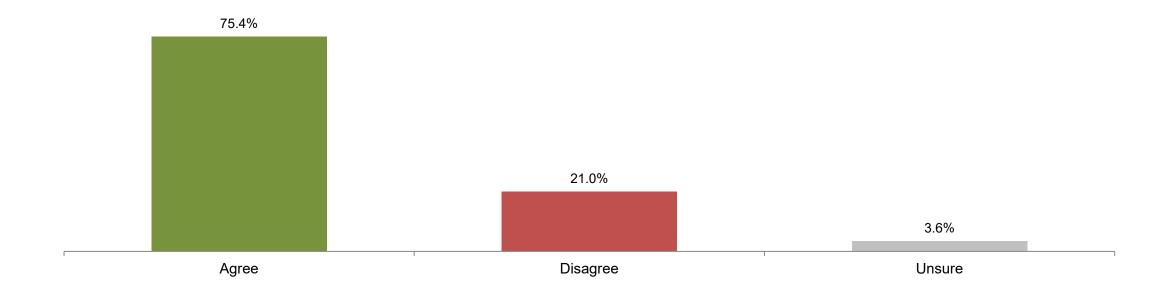


AgreeUnsure

■ Disagree

# 75% agree that they are willing to do more than they currently are to conserve water

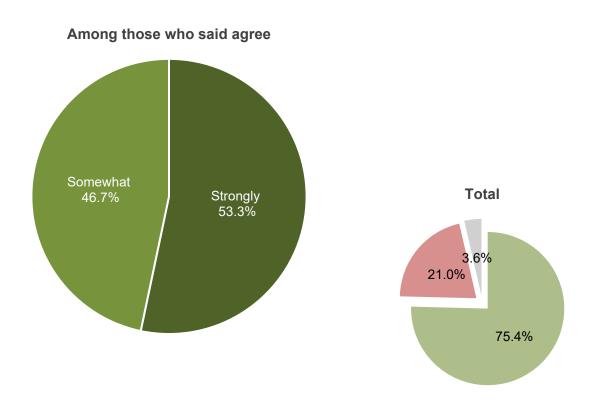
Question 9: Agree or disagree: I am willing to do more than I am currently to conserve water.

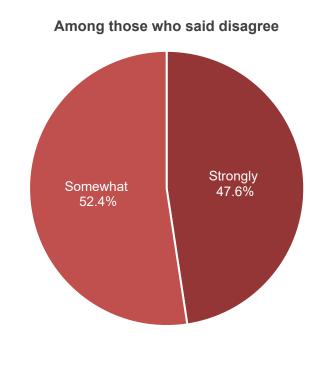




# Among those who said agree, 53% said strongly agree

Question 9: Agree or disagree: I am willing to do more than I am currently to conserve water.

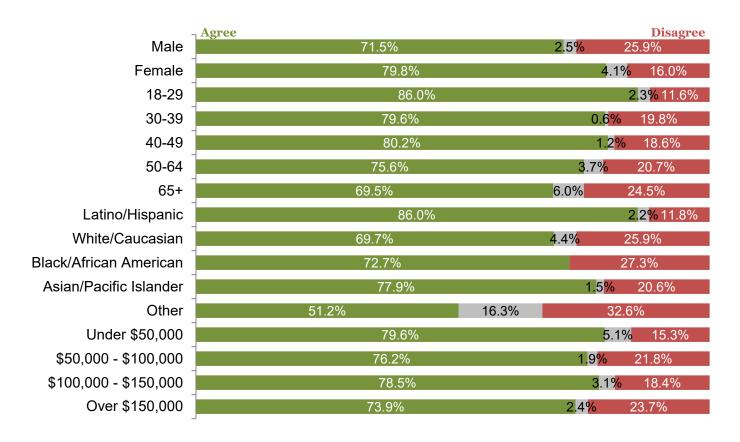






## Results by gender, age, ethnicity, and household income

Question 9: Agree or disagree: I am willing to do more than I am currently to conserve water.

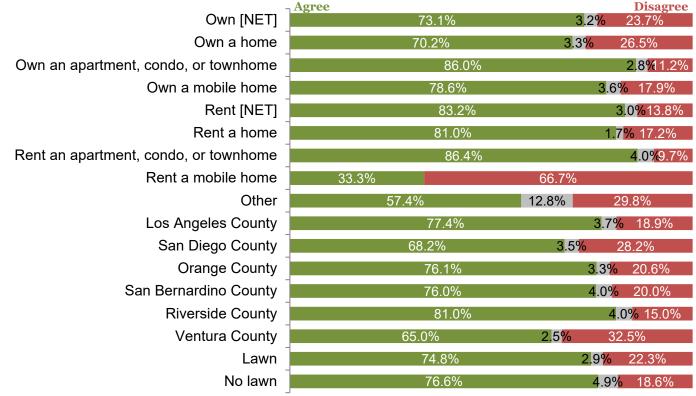






### Results by home type, county, and lawn household

Agree or disagree: I am willing to do more than I am currently to conserve water.



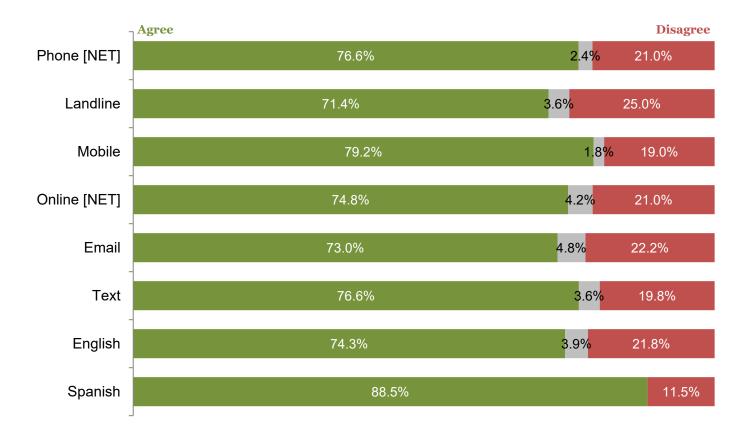






### Results by survey mode and survey language

Question 9: Agree or disagree: I am willing to do more than I am currently to conserve water.



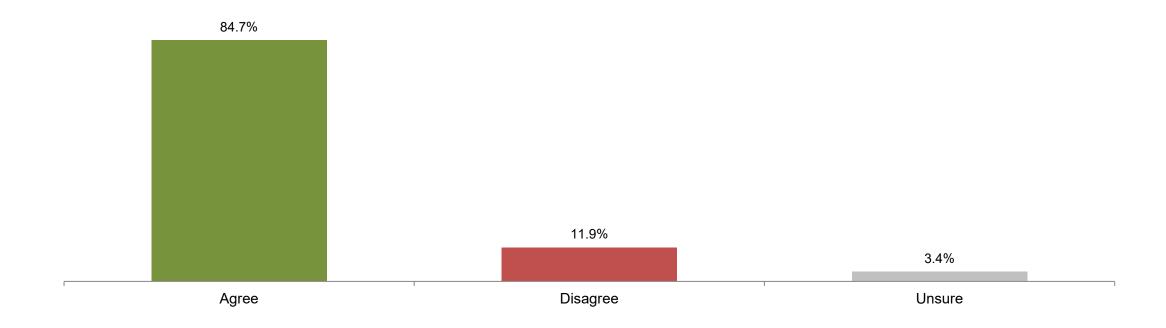


■ Agree ■ Unsure

■ Disagree

## 85% agree that they know what steps they can take to conserve more water

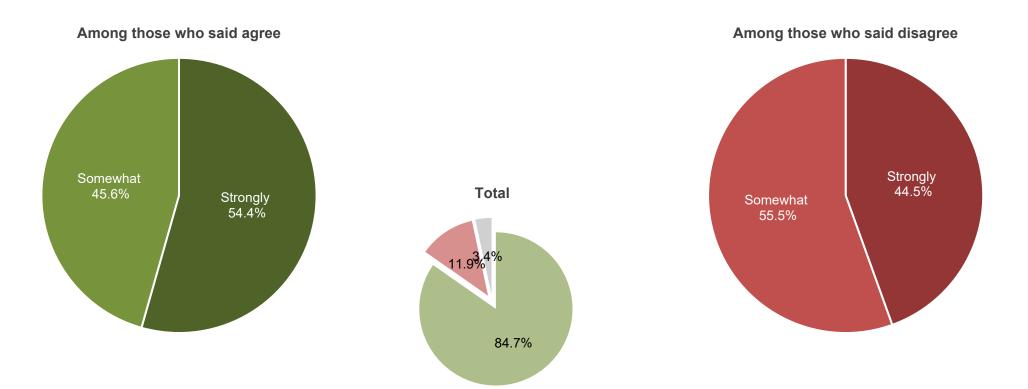
Question 10: Agree or disagree: I know what steps I can take to conserve more water.





# Among those who said agree, 54% said strongly agree

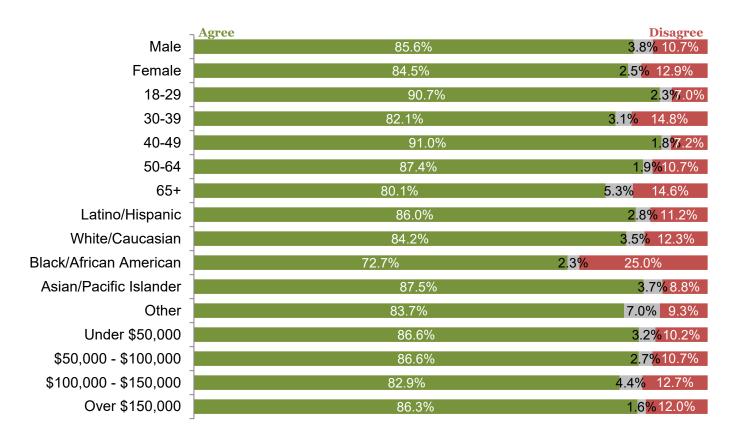
Question 10: Agree or disagree: I know what steps I can take to conserve more water.





## Results by gender, age, ethnicity, and household income

Question 10: Agree or disagree: I know what steps I can take to conserve more water.

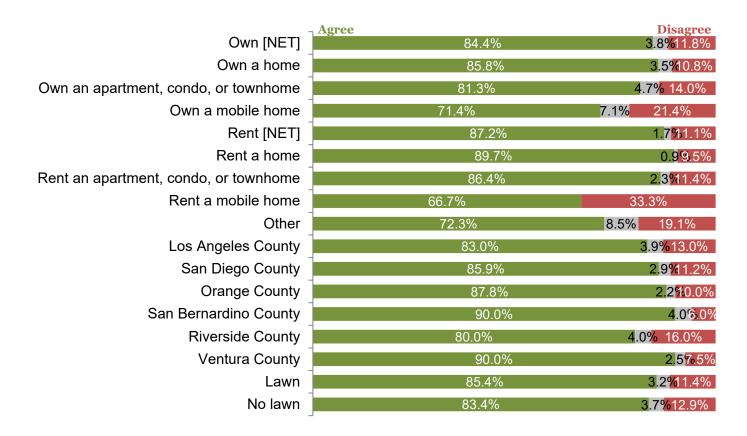






#### Results by home type, county, and lawn household

Question 10: Agree or disagree: I know what steps I can take to conserve more water.

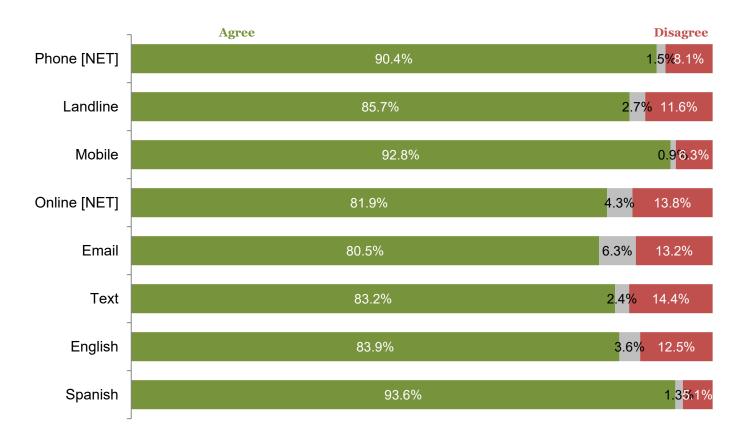






### Results by survey mode and survey language

Question 10: Agree or disagree: I know what steps I can take to conserve more water.



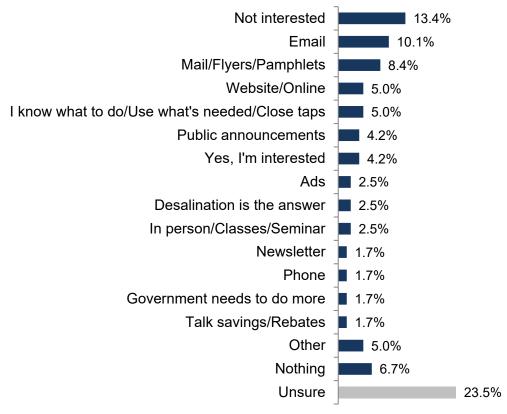


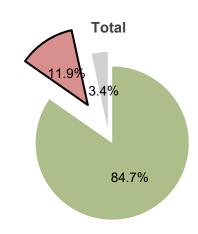
■ Agree ■ Unsure

■ Disagree

### Among those who don't know what steps they can take to conserve more water, 13% cite lack of interest

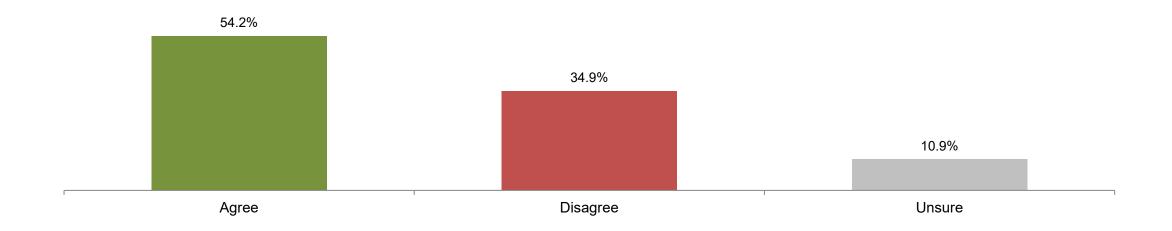
Question 11: How would you like to learn more about the next steps you can take to conserve more water? [AMONG THOSE WHO SAID 'DISAGREE' TO Q10] [OPEN-ENDED RESPONSE]





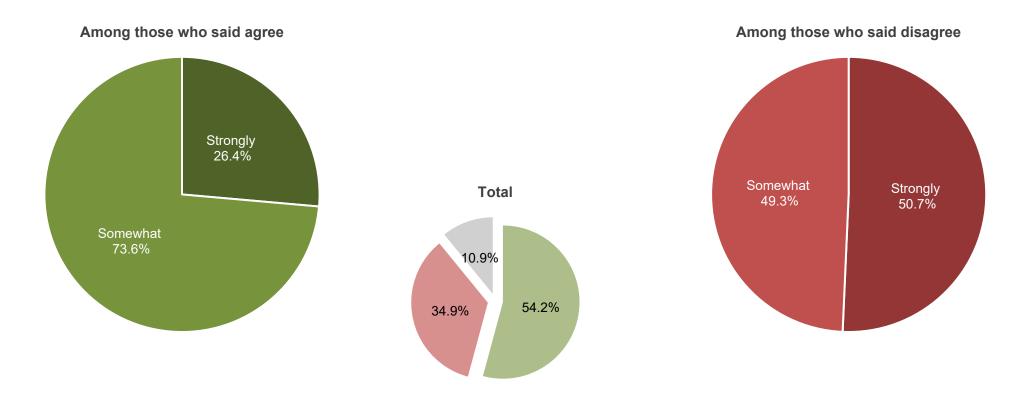


# 54% agree other Southern California residents are doing their fair share to conserve water



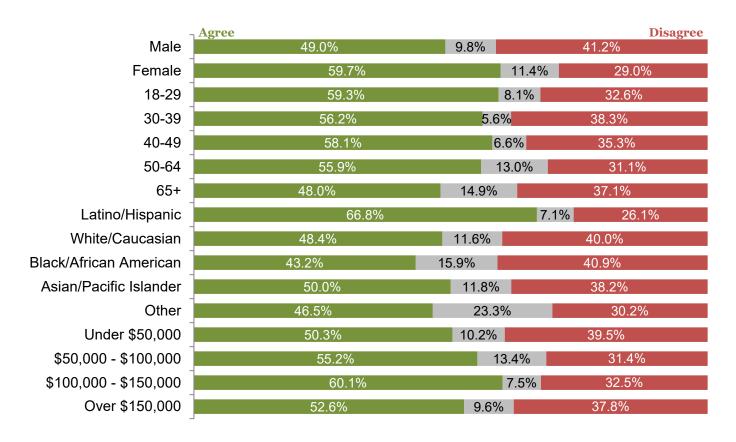


# Among those who said agree, 74% said somewhat agree





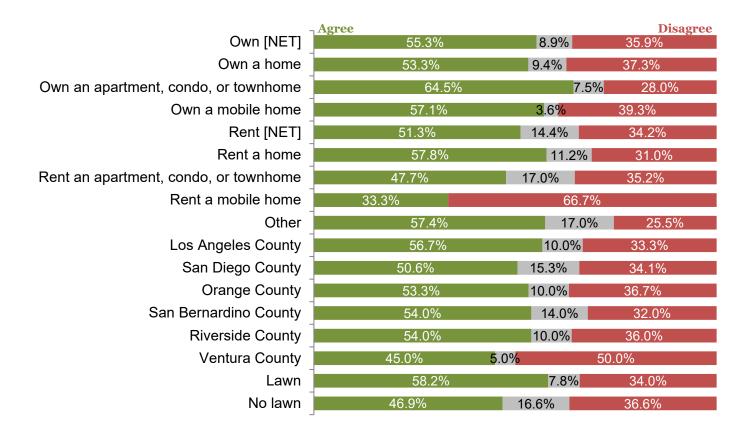
## Results by gender, age, ethnicity, and household income







#### Results by home type, county, and lawn household

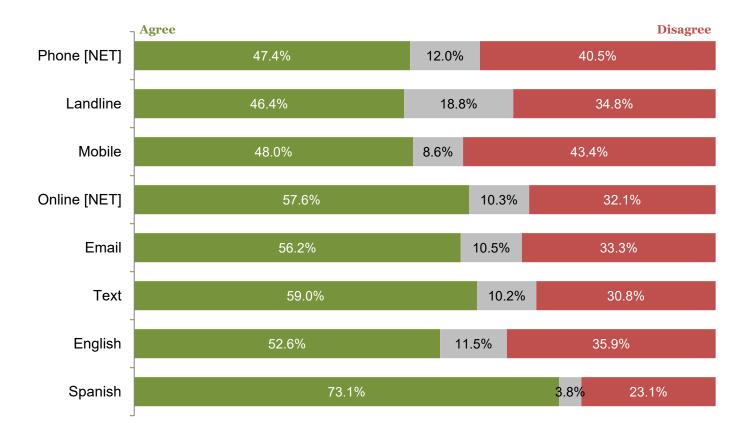






### Results by survey mode and survey language

Question 12: Agree or disagree: Other Southern California residents are doing their fair share to conserve water.



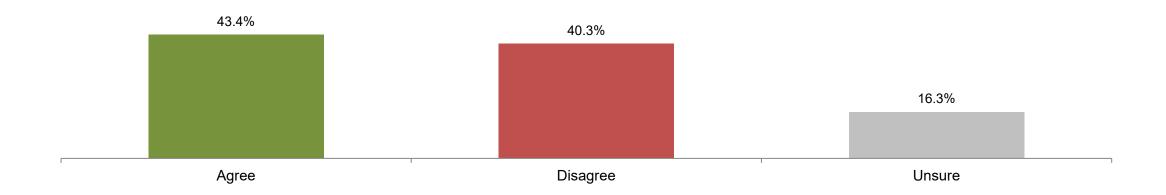


Agree

Unsure

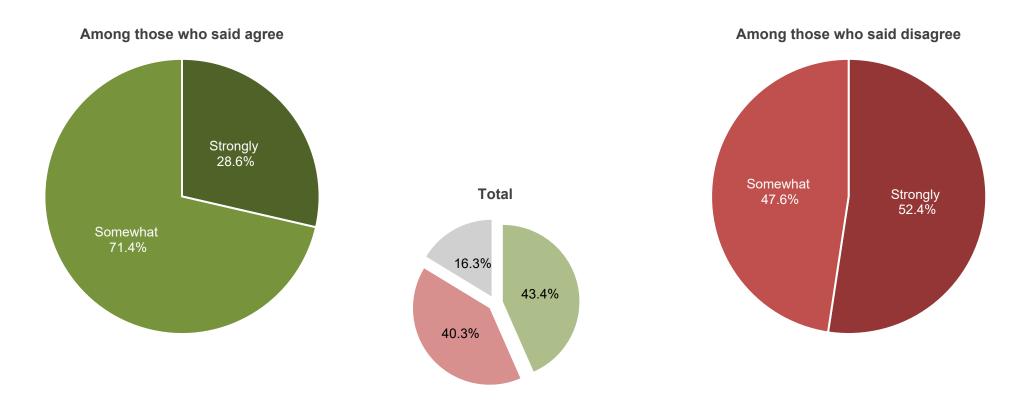
■ Disagree

# 43% agree Southern California businesses are doing their fair share to conserve water



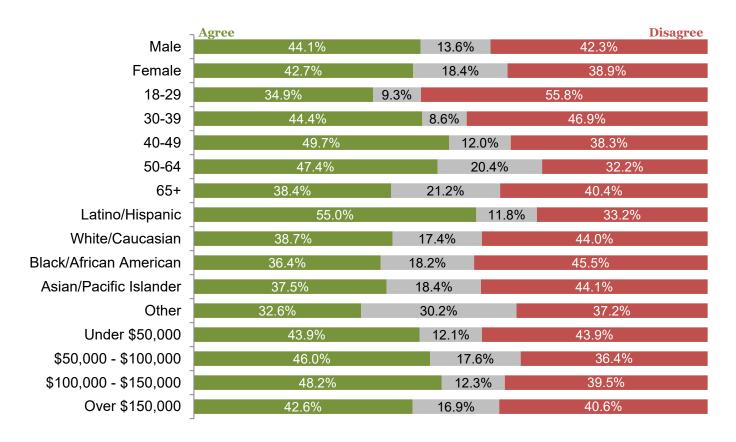


# Among those who said agree, 71% said somewhat agree





## Results by gender, age, ethnicity, and household income

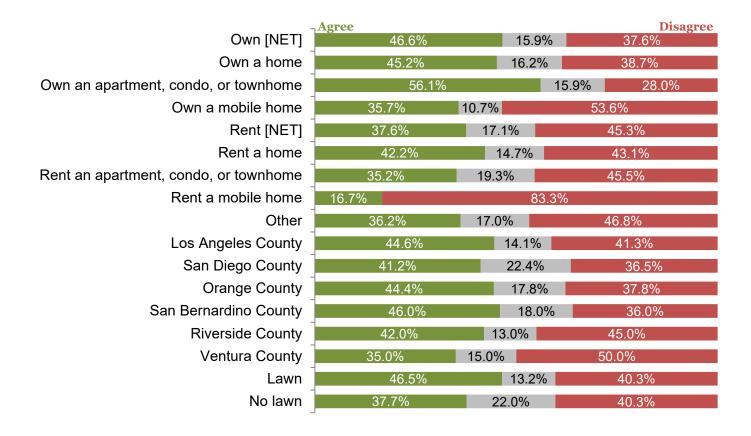






#### Results by home type, county, and lawn household

Question 13: Agree or disagree: Southern California businesses are doing their fair share to conserve water.





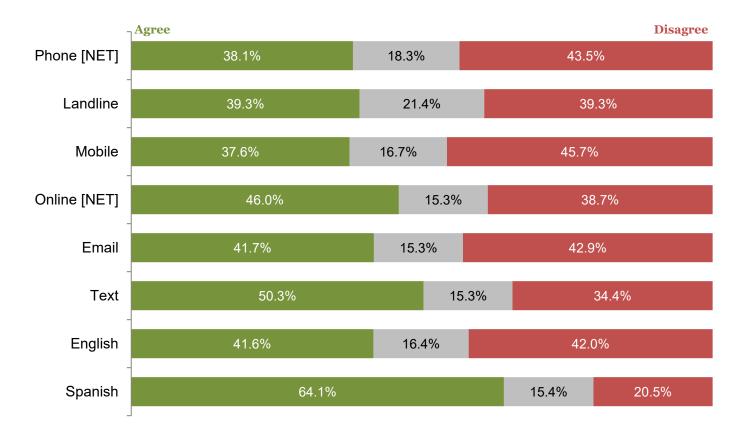
Agree

■Unsure

Disagree

### Results by survey mode and survey language

Question 13: Agree or disagree: Southern California businesses are doing their fair share to conserve water.



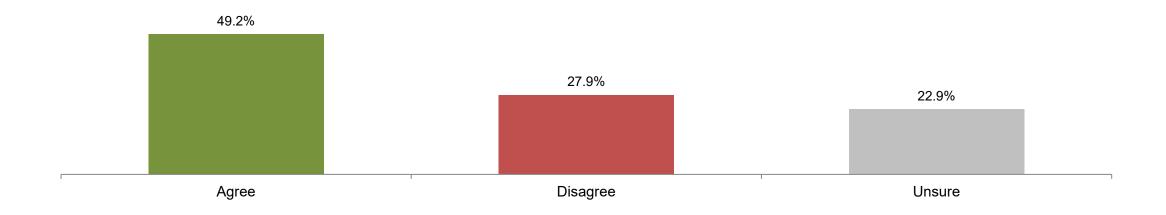


Agree

Unsure

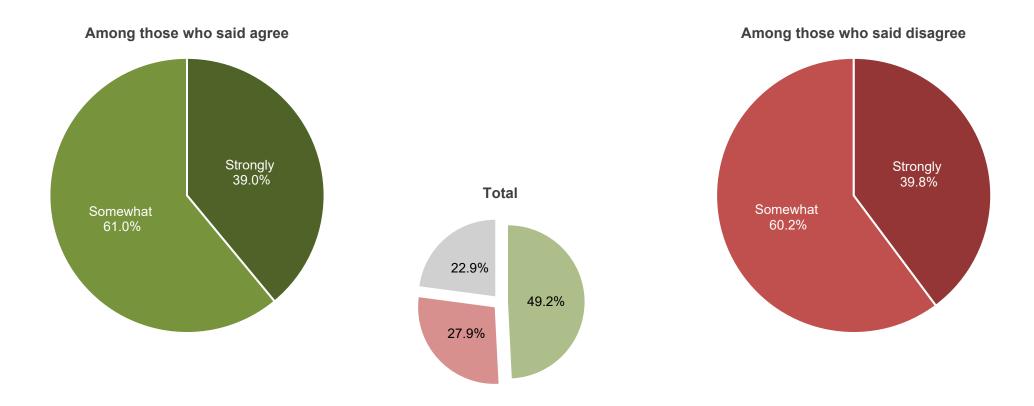
■ Disagree

# 49% agree the agriculture industry in Southern California is doing its fair share to conserve water



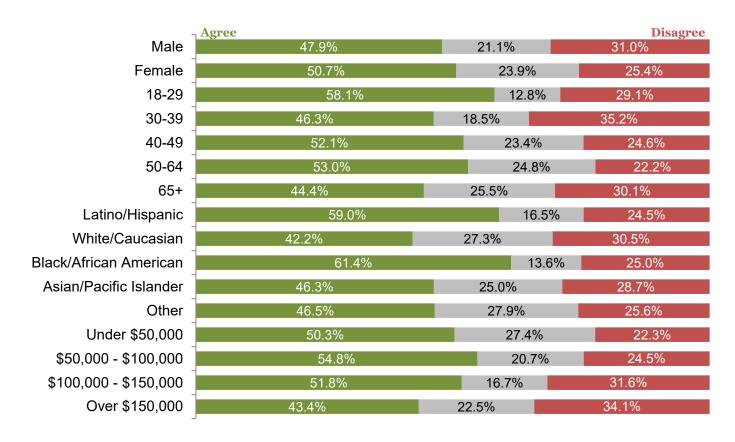


# Among those who said agree, 61% said somewhat agree





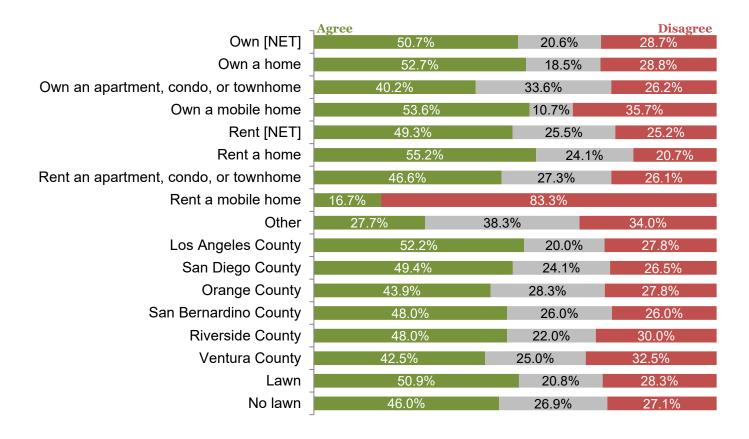
## Results by gender, age, ethnicity, and household income







#### Results by home type, county, and lawn household

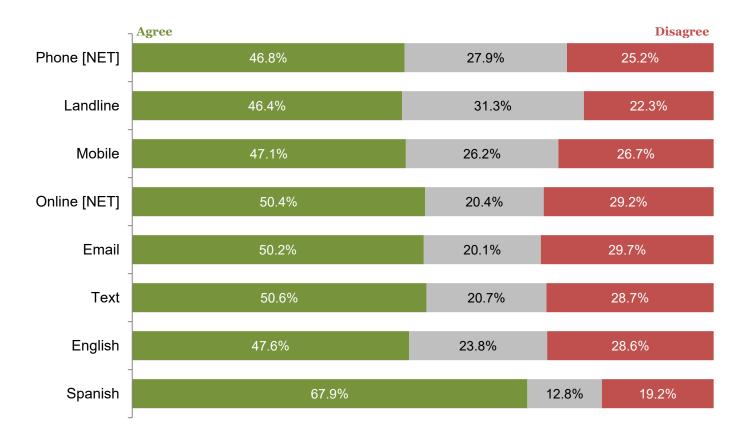






### Results by survey mode and survey language

Question 14: Agree or disagree: The agriculture industry in Southern California is doing its fair share to conserve water.

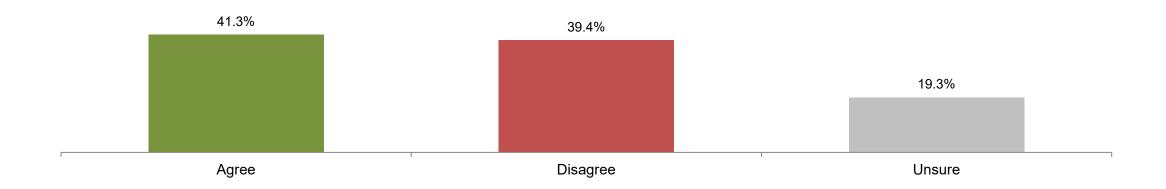






## 41% agree Southern California water managers are doing enough to properly manage and store available water supplies

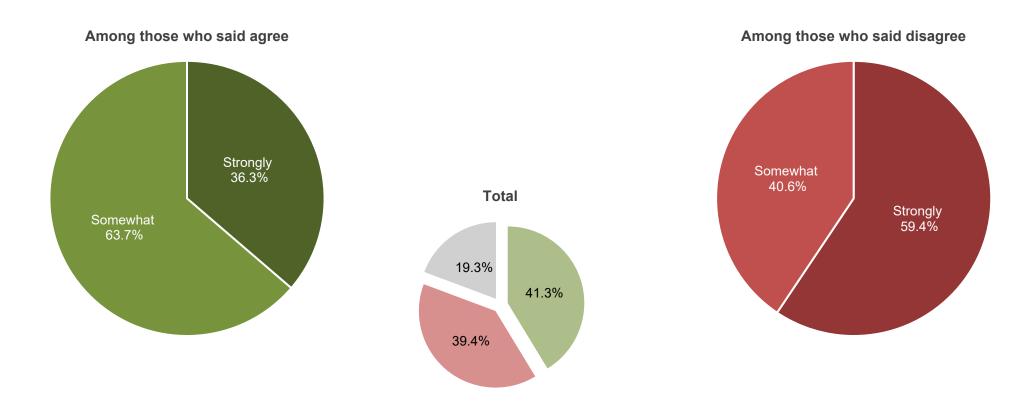
Question 15: Agree or disagree: Southern California water managers are doing enough to properly manage and store available water supplies.





# Among those who said agree, 64% said somewhat agree

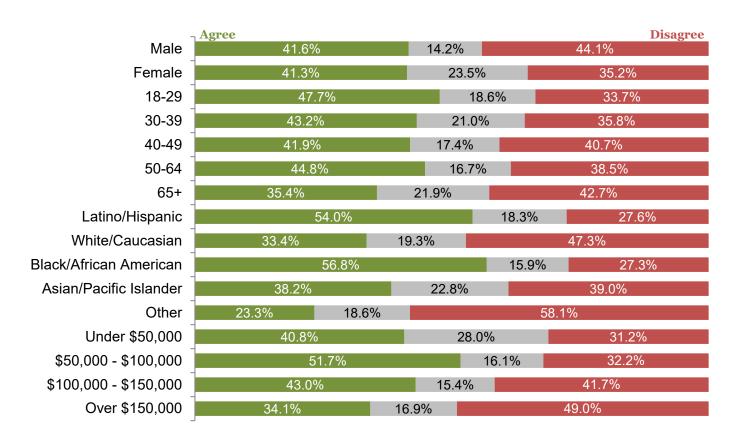
Question 15: Agree or disagree: Southern California water managers are doing enough to properly manage and store available water supplies.





## Results by gender, age, ethnicity, and household income

Question 15: Agree or disagree: Southern California water managers are doing enough to properly manage and store available water supplies.

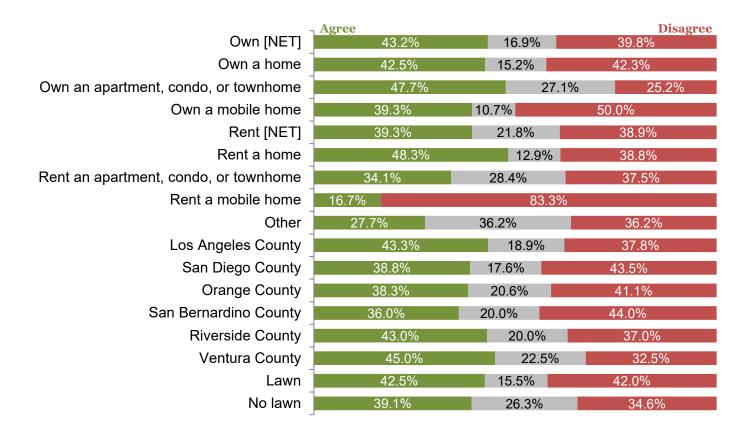






#### Results by home type, county, and lawn household

Question 15: Agree or disagree: Southern California water managers are doing enough to properly manage and store available water supplies.





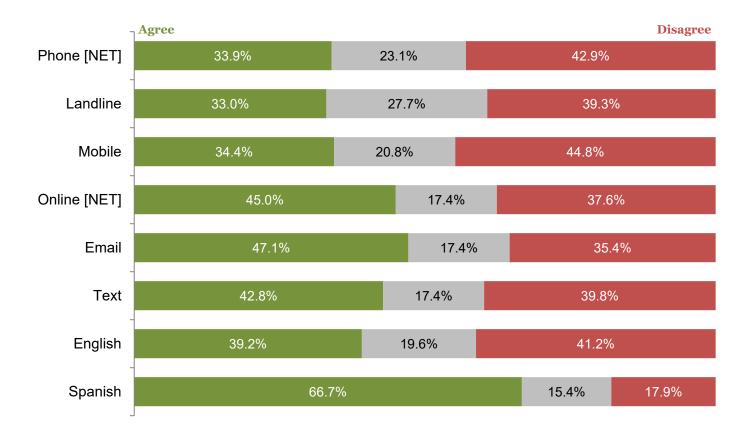
Agree

■Unsure

Disagree

### Results by survey mode and survey language

Question 15: Agree or disagree: Southern California water managers are doing enough to properly manage and store available water supplies.





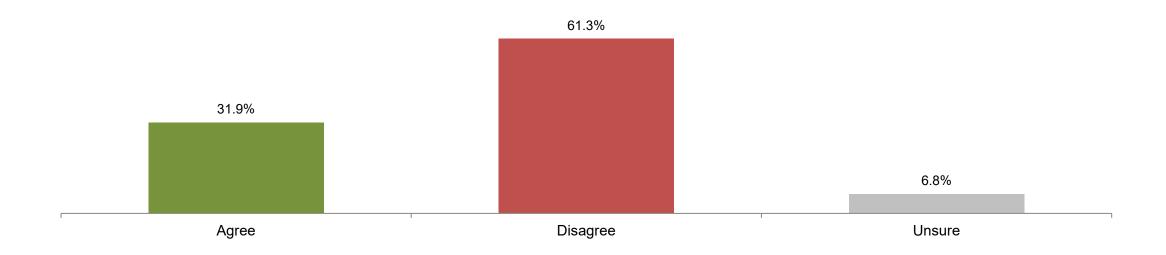
Agree

Unsure

■ Disagree

## 61% disagree that Southern California experienced a lot of rain and snow, so we do not need to conserve water

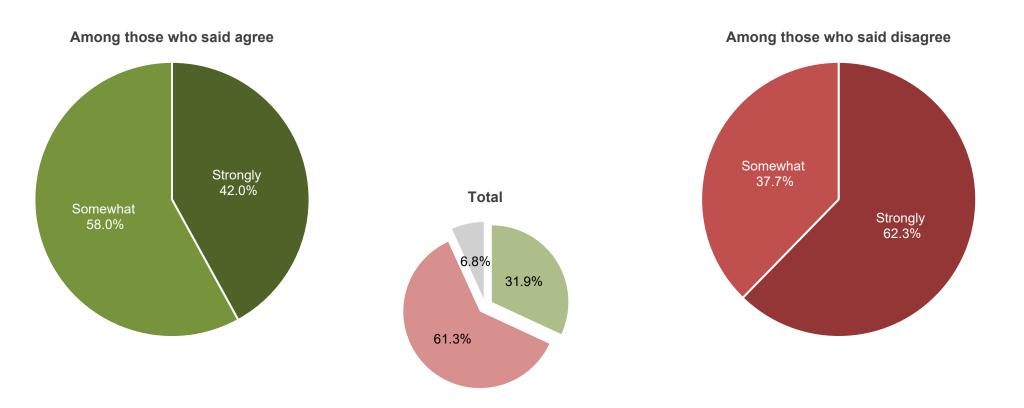
Question 16: Agree or disagree: Southern California experienced a lot of rain and snow last winter and is reportedly headed for another wet winter, which signals that we do not need to conserve water right now.





# Among those who said disagree, 62% strongly disagree

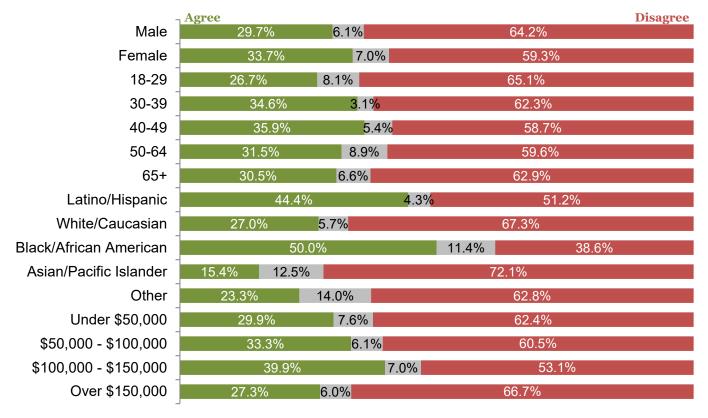
Question 16: Agree or disagree: Southern California experienced a lot of rain and snow last winter and is reportedly headed for another wet winter, which signals that we do not need to conserve water right now.





## Results by gender, age, ethnicity, and household income

Question 16: Agree or disagree: Southern California experienced a lot of rain and snow last winter and is reportedly headed for another wet winter, which signals that we do not need to conserve water right now.

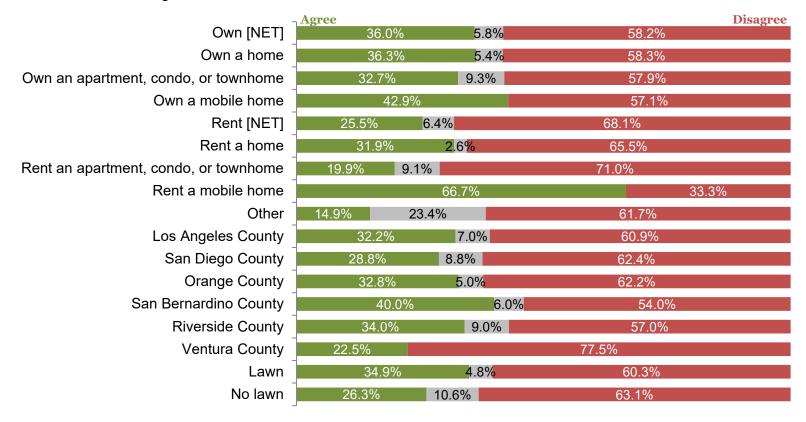






#### Results by home type, county, and lawn household

Question 16: Agree or disagree: Southern California experienced a lot of rain and snow last winter and is reportedly headed for another wet winter, which signals that we do not need to conserve water right now.





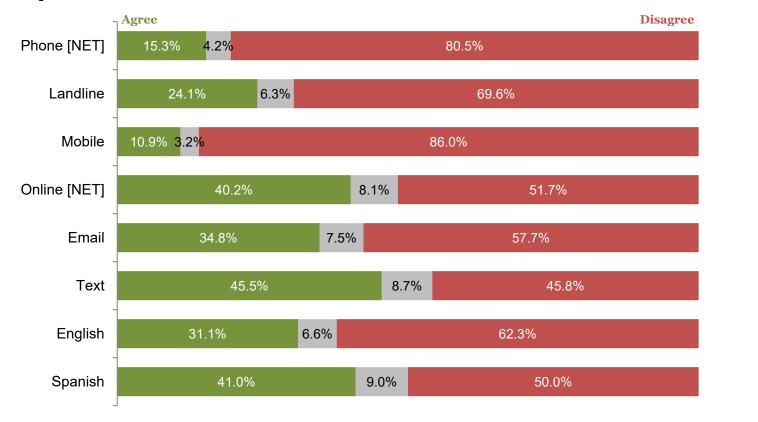
Agree

■Unsure

Disagree

### Results by survey mode and survey language

Question 16: Agree or disagree: Southern California experienced a lot of rain and snow last winter and is reportedly headed for another wet winter, which signals that we do not need to conserve water right now.



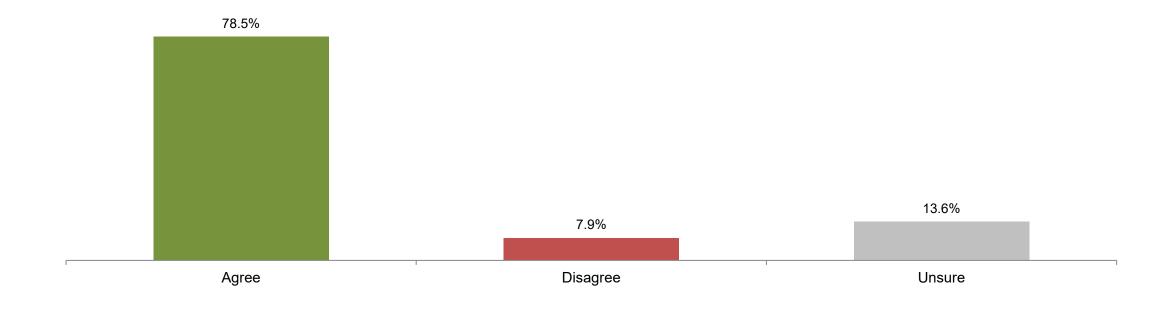


■ Agree ■ Unsure

■ Disagree

#### 79% agree that Southern California water managers need to make changes to infrastructure and delivery system of the water supply

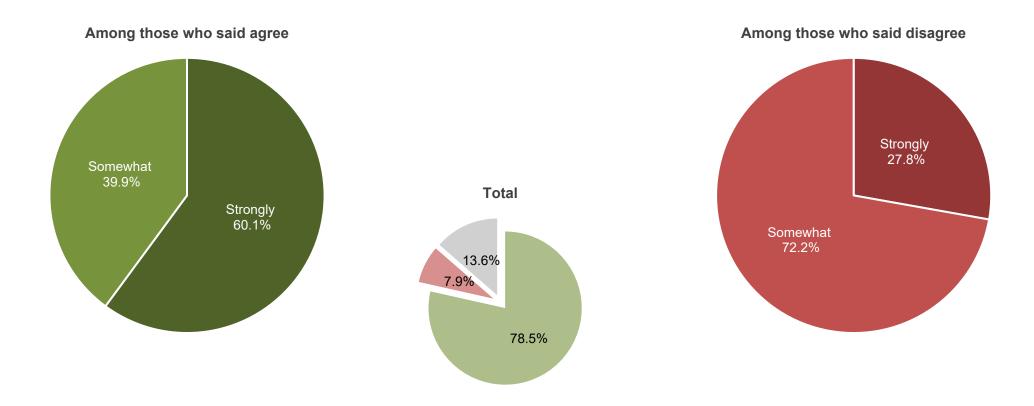
Question 17: Agree or disagree: Southern California water managers need to make changes to the infrastructure and delivery system for our water supply.





#### Among those who said agree, 60% strongly agree

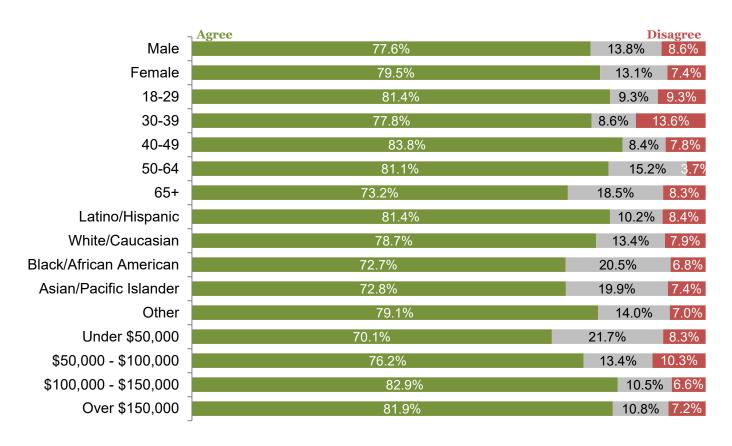
Question 17: Agree or disagree: Southern California water managers need to make changes to the infrastructure and delivery system for our water supply.





## Results by gender, age, ethnicity, and household income

Question 17: Agree or disagree: Southern California water managers need to make changes to the infrastructure and delivery system for our water supply.

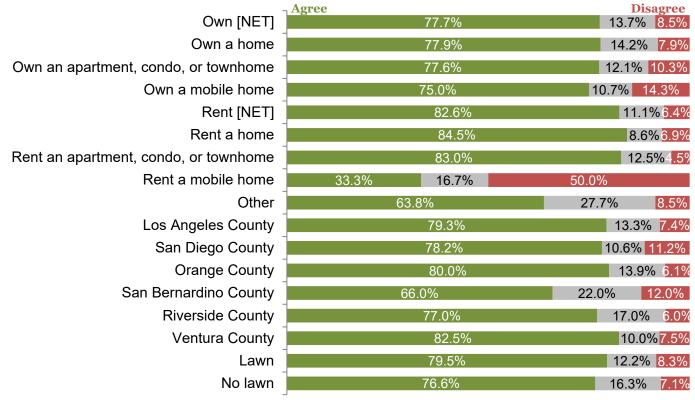


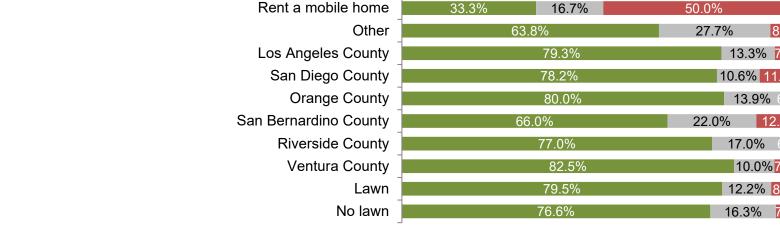




#### Results by home type, county, and lawn household

Question 17: Agree or disagree: Southern California water managers need to make changes to the infrastructure and delivery system for our water supply.







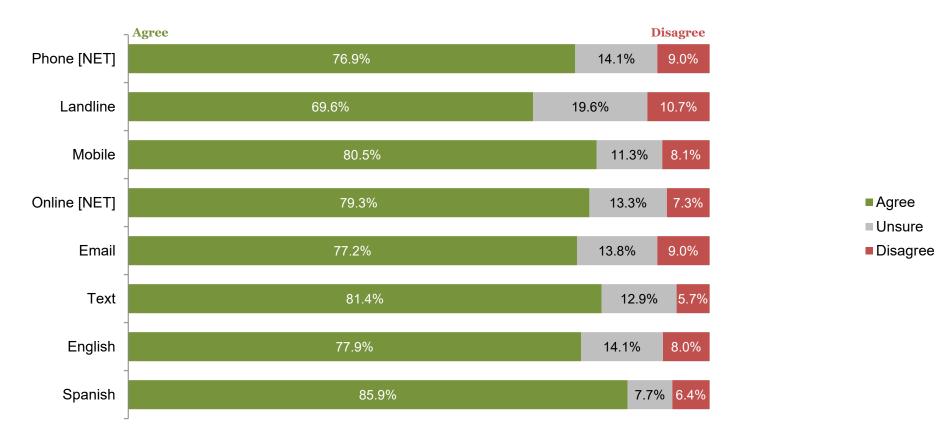
Agree

Unsure

Disagree

## Results by survey mode and survey language

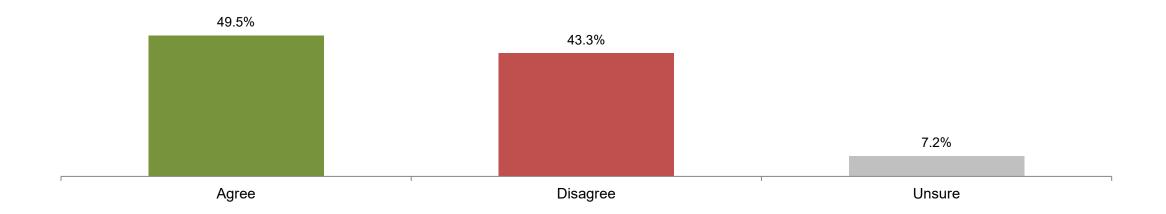
Question 17: Agree or disagree: Southern California water managers need to make changes to the infrastructure and delivery system for our water supply.





## 50% agree that state and local governments and local water agencies are asking too much water conservation of residents

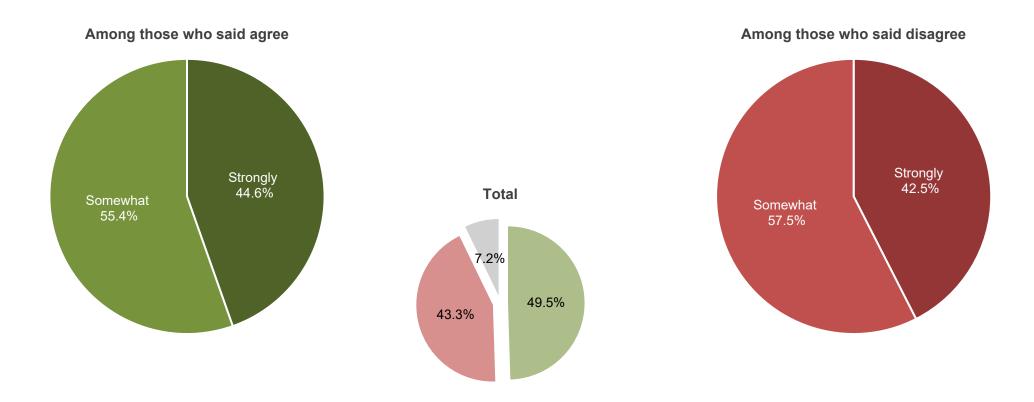
Question 18: Agree or disagree: State and local governments and local water agencies are asking too much of residents when it comes to water conservation.





## Among those who said agree, 45% strongly agree

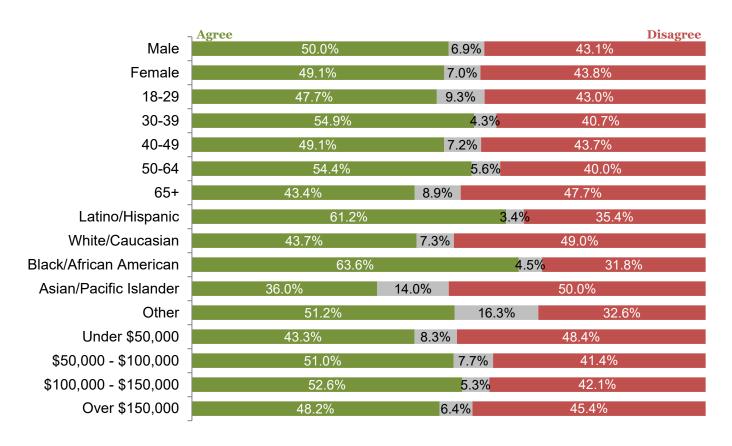
Question 18: Agree or disagree: State and local governments and local water agencies are asking too much of residents when it comes to water conservation.





## Results by gender, age, ethnicity, and household income

Question 18: Agree or disagree: State and local governments and local water agencies are asking too much of residents when it comes to water conservation.

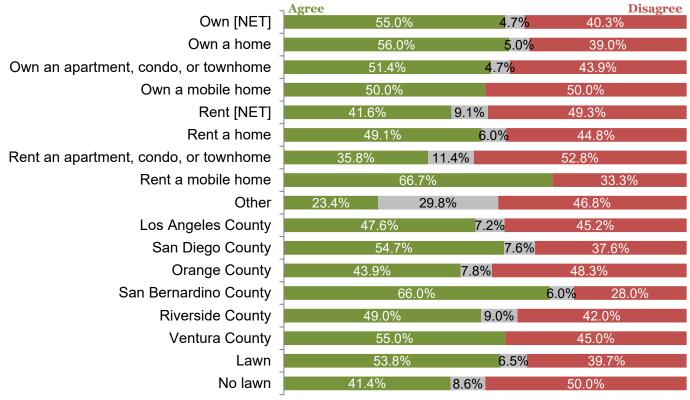


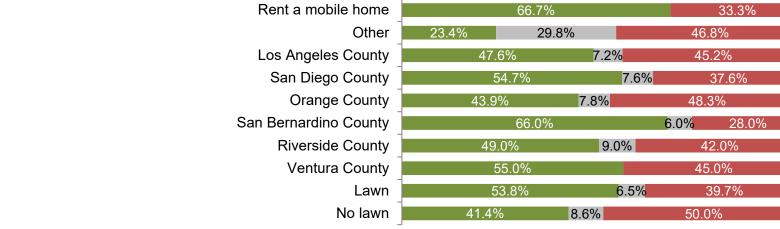




### Results by home type, county, and lawn household

Agree or disagree: State and local governments and local water agencies are asking too much of residents when it comes to water conservation.







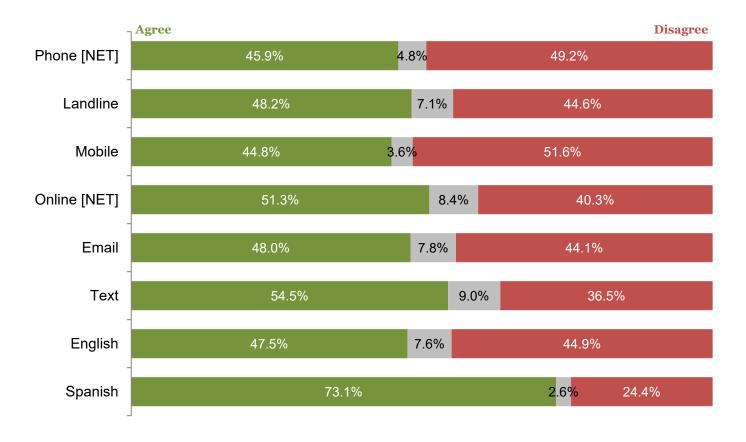
Agree

■Unsure

Disagree

## Results by survey mode and survey language

Question 18: Agree or disagree: State and local governments and local water agencies are asking too much of residents when it comes to water conservation.





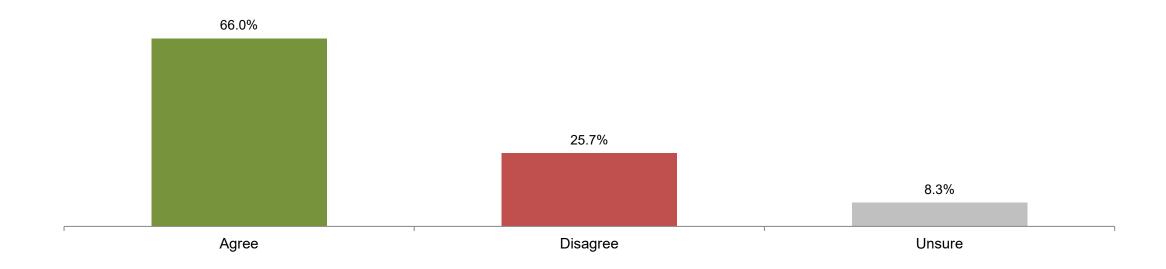
Agree

■ Unsure

■ Disagree

# 66% agree that Southern California should be moving faster to replace lawns with California-friendly landscapes

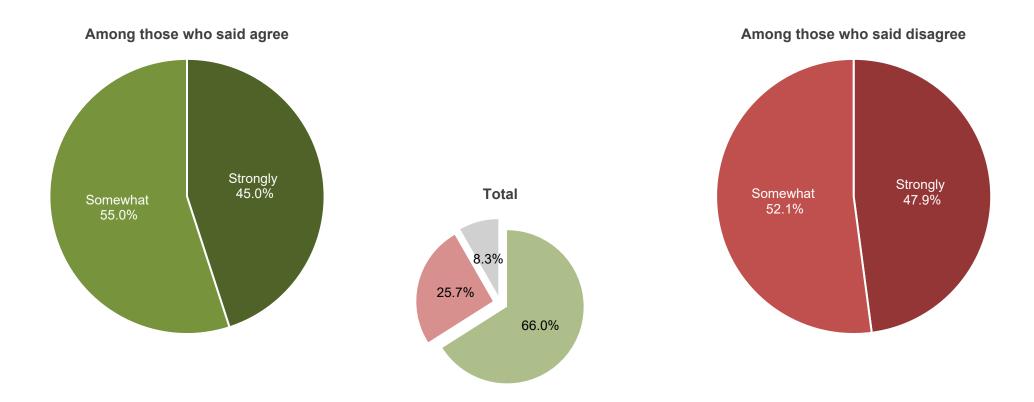
Question 19: Agree or disagree: Southern California should be moving faster to replace lawns with California-friendly landscapes.





## Among those who said agree, 45% strongly agree

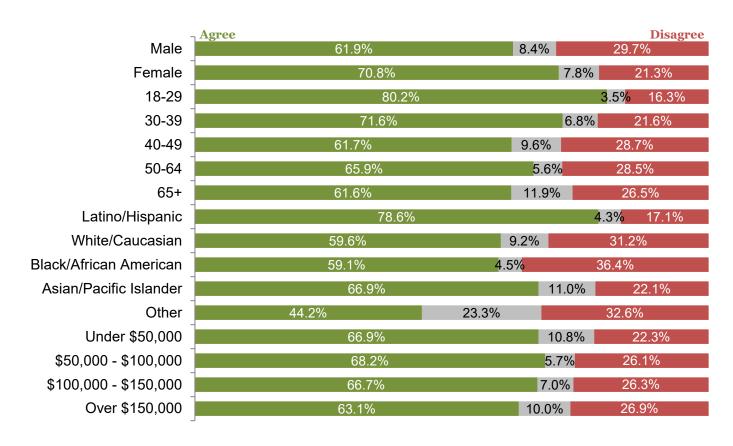
Question 19: Agree or disagree: Southern California should be moving faster to replace lawns with California-friendly landscapes.





## Results by gender, age, ethnicity, and household income

Question 19: Agree or disagree: Southern California should be moving faster to replace lawns with California-friendly landscapes.

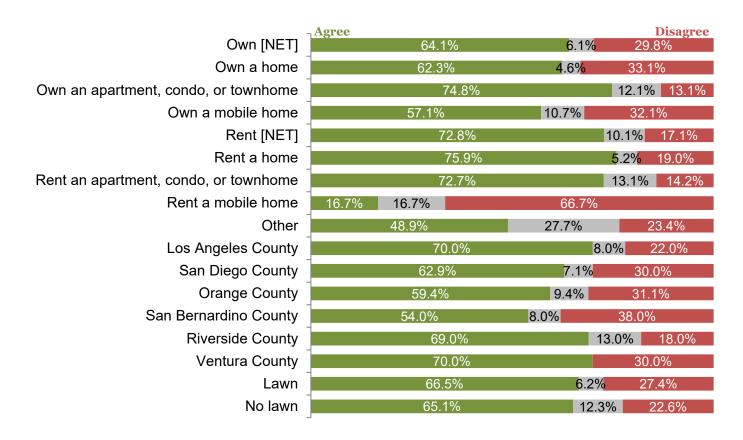






### Results by home type, county, and lawn household

Question 19: Agree or disagree: Southern California should be moving faster to replace lawns with California-friendly landscapes.

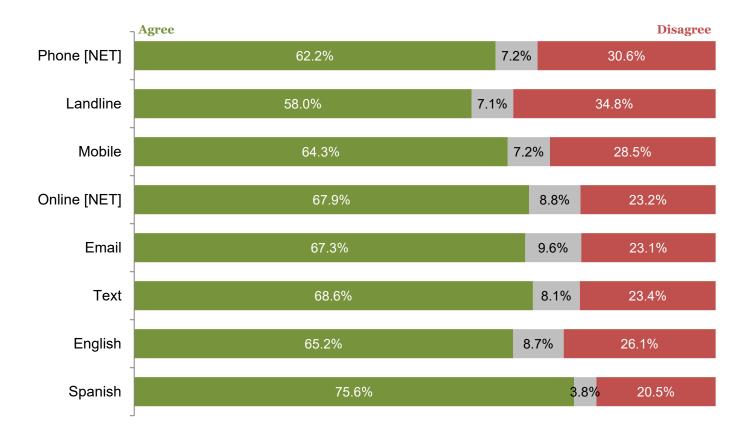






## Results by survey mode and survey language

Question 19: Agree or disagree: Southern California should be moving faster to replace lawns with California-friendly landscapes.





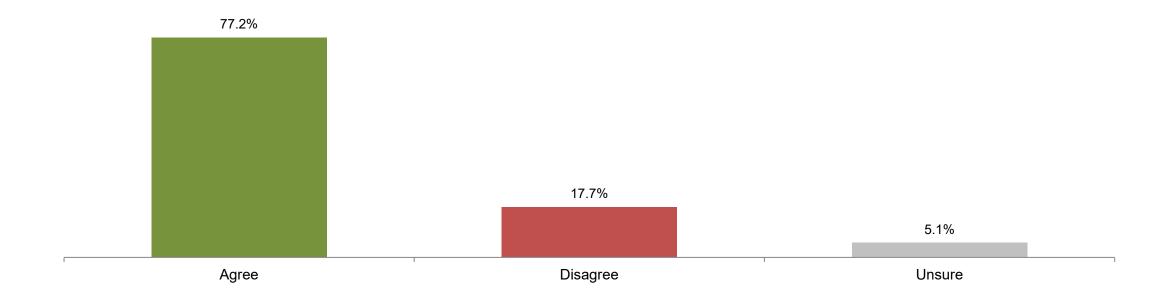
Agree

■ Unsure

■ Disagree

# 77% agree Southern California should be providing financial incentives to encourage replacing lawns

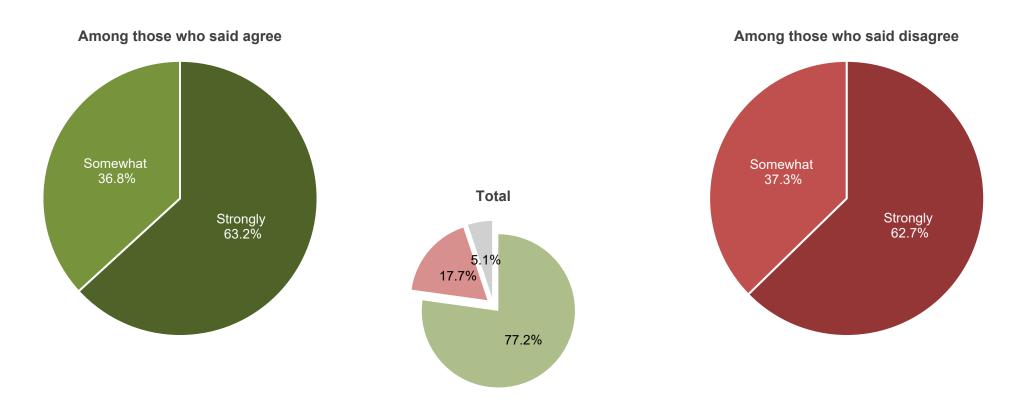
Question 20: Agree or disagree: Southern California should be providing financial incentives to homes and businesses to encourage replacing lawns with California-friendly landscapes.





## Among those who said agree, 63% strongly agree

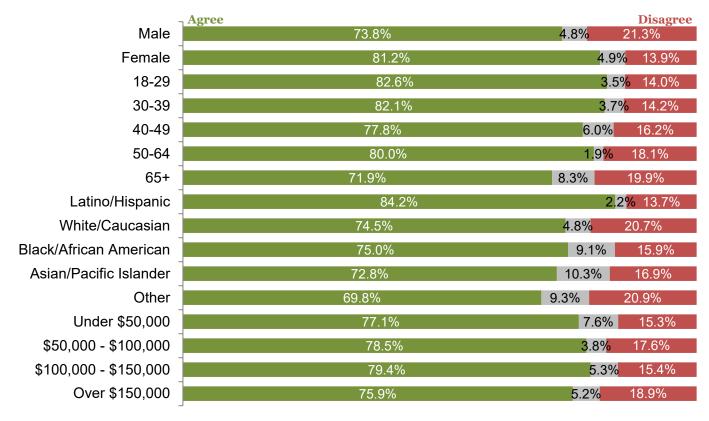
Question 20: Agree or disagree: Southern California should be providing financial incentives to homes and businesses to encourage replacing lawns with California-friendly landscapes.





## Results by gender, age, ethnicity, and household income

Question 20: Agree or disagree: Southern California should be providing financial incentives to homes and businesses to encourage replacing lawns with California-friendly landscapes.

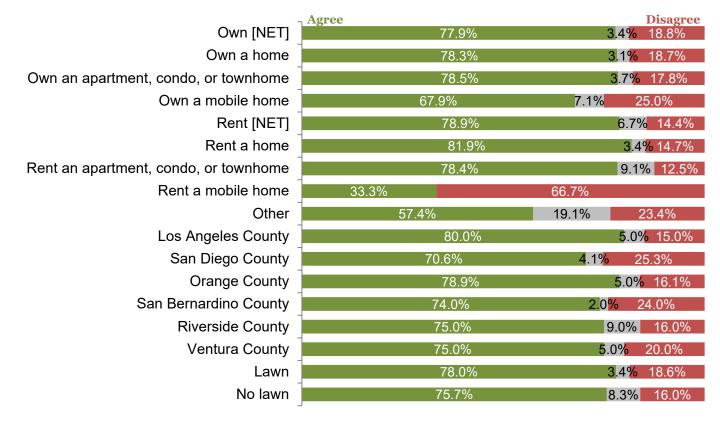






### Results by home type, county, and lawn household

Question 20: Agree or disagree: Southern California should be providing financial incentives to homes and businesses to encourage replacing lawns with California-friendly landscapes.





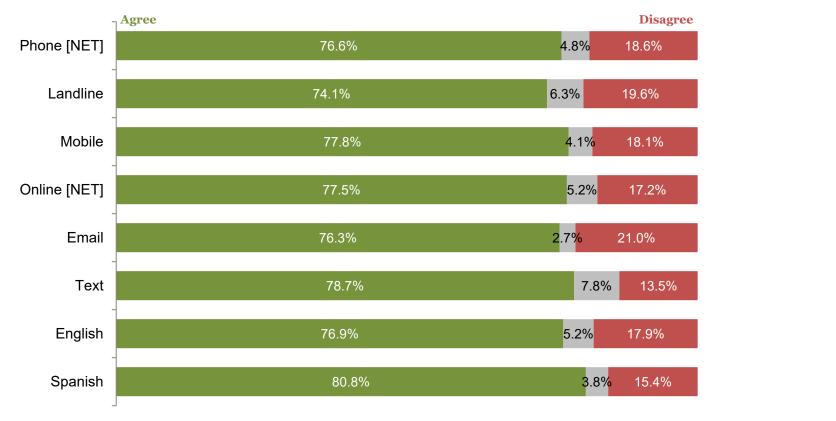
Agree

■ Unsure

Disagree

## Results by survey mode and survey language

Question 20: Agree or disagree: Southern California should be providing financial incentives to homes and businesses to encourage replacing lawns with California-friendly landscapes.





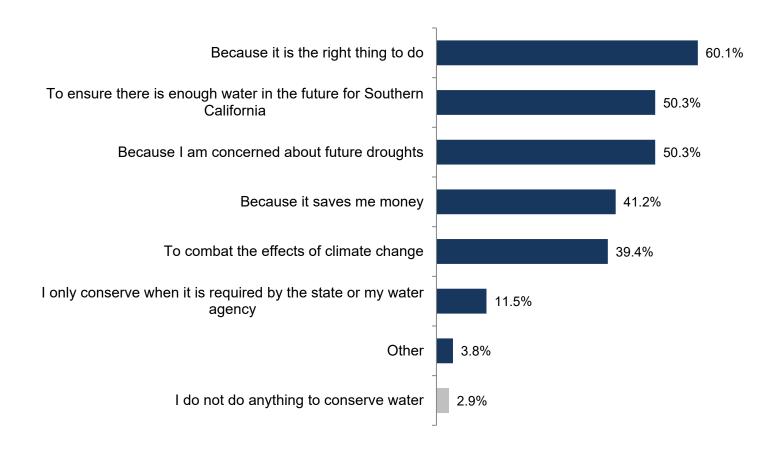
■ Agree

■ Unsure

■ Disagree

# 60% say they conserve water because it the right thing to do

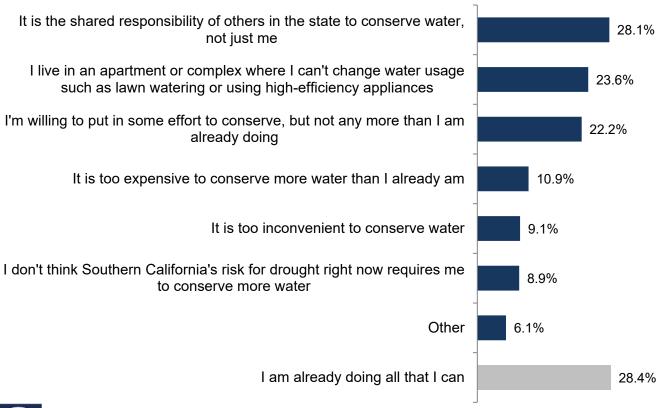
Question 21: Which of the following describes the reasons why you conserve water? Select all that apply.

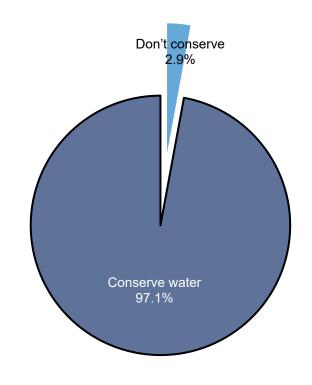




# Among those who conserve water, 28% say they do because it is the shared responsibility of everyone

Question 22: Which of the following describes the reasons that you don't conserve water more? Select all that apply. [ASK IF SELECTED ANYTHING EXCEPT 'I DO NOT DO ANYTHING TO CONSERVE WATER' TO Q21]

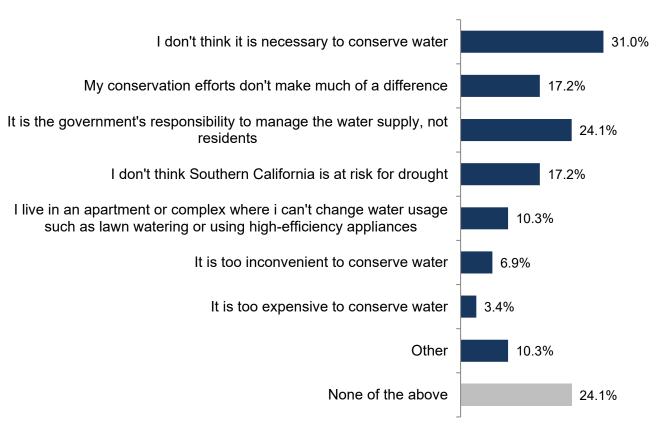


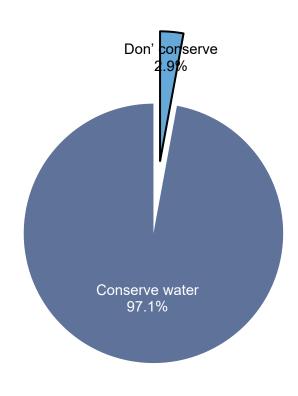




# Among those who don't conserve water, 31% say it's because they don't think it's necessary

Question 23: Which of the following describes the reasons that you don't conserve water? Select all that apply. [ASK IF ANSWERED 'I DO NOT DO ANYTHING TO CONSERVE WATER' TO Q21]

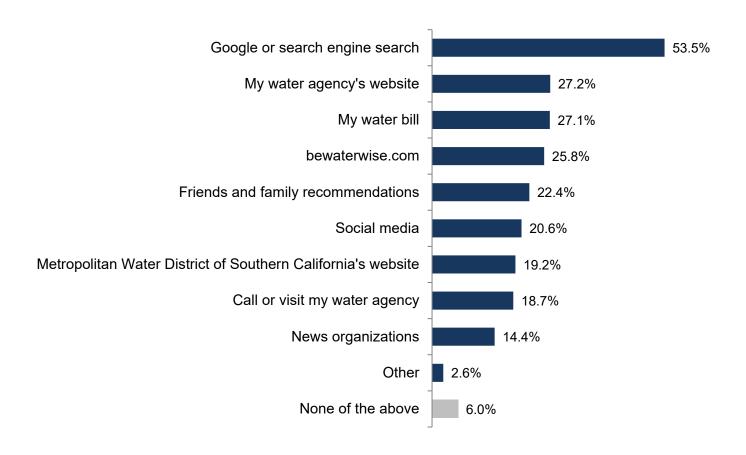






# 54% say they would find information about water conservation through Google or another search engine

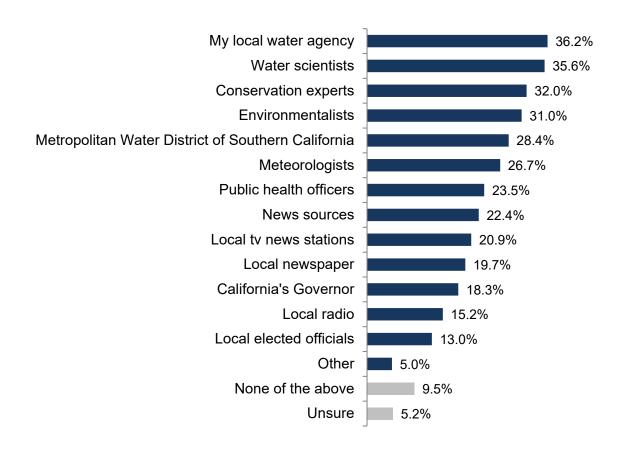
Question 25: If you wanted more information about how to conserve water, where would you go to find it? Select all that apply.





## 36% say they trust their local water agency with information on water issues

Question 26: Who do you trust to provide you with information on water issues? Select all that apply.

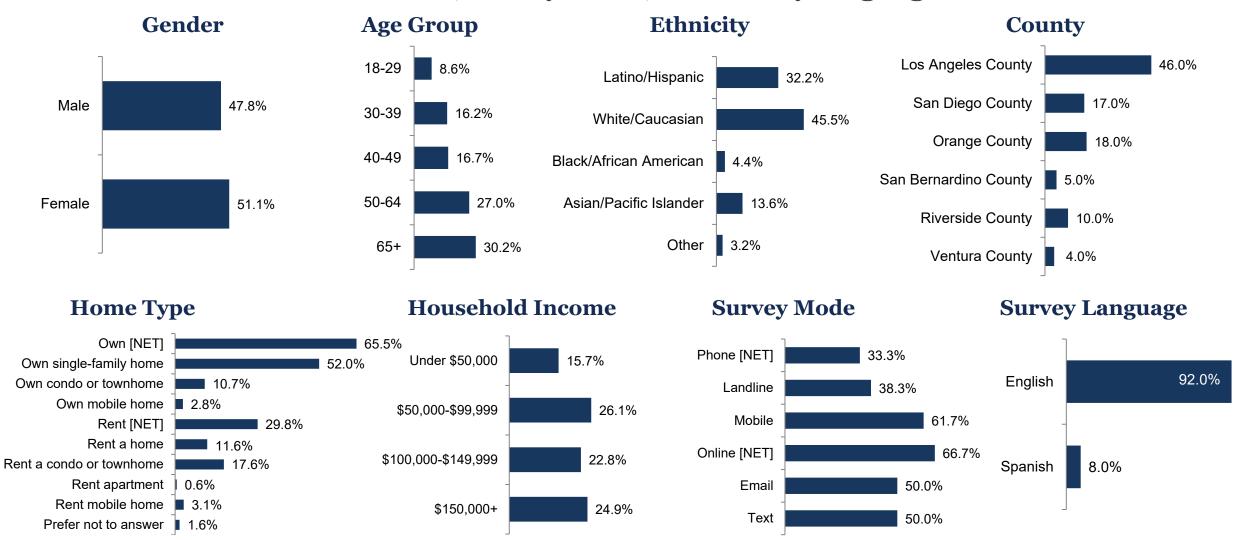




## **Demographics**



## Respondent demographics by gender, age group, ethnicity, county, home type, household income, survey mode, and survey language





## **Questions?**

### **Adam Probolsky, President**

O: 949-855-6400 | M: 949-697-6726

E: adamp@probolskyresearch.com

### **Alyce Basil, Senior Research Analyst**

O: 202-559-0270



**Market and Opinion Research** 





#### STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Directors Meeting Date: January 25, 2024

From: Vu Chu, Water Use Efficiency Analyst

**Subject: Water Use Efficiency Report** 

#### **Rebate Programs:**

The SoCal WaterSmart regional rebate program is available to ETWD customers provided by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the Municipal Water District of Orange County and ETWD.

The following tables reflect the ETWD customer device rebates available to customers from July 2022 through June 30, 2024.

Select device purchases are eligible for rebates while meeting eligibility requirements and subject to funding availability. Rebate information can be found at www.etwd.com/conservation/rebates.

#### **Residential Rebate Programs:**

Device	MET Rebate	MWDOC Grant	ETWD Rebate	Total Rebate (up to)
High Efficiency Clothes Washer	\$85		\$115	\$200
Premium High Efficiency Toilet	\$40		\$60	\$100
Rotating Sprinkler Nozzles (min 30 per home)	\$2 ea			\$2
Smart Irrigation Timer	\$80	\$100	\$70	\$250
Turf Removal Program (up to 5,000 sq ft)*	\$2 sq. ft.	\$1 sq. ft.	\$1 sq. ft.	\$4 sq. ft.
Soil Moisture Sensor System <1 Acre >1 Acre	\$80 \$35/station	\$100	\$70	\$250 \$35/station

Hose Bib Irrigation Controller	\$35			\$35
Rain Barrels Cisterns (200 -500 gallon) (501-999 gallon)	\$35 \$250 \$300			\$35 \$250 \$300
(1,000 gallon or more)	\$350			\$350
Spray to Drip Irrigation (up to 5,000 sf of converted area per fiscal year)		\$0.50 sq. ft.	\$0.25 sq. ft.	\$0.75 sq. ft.

<sup>\*</sup>Designated recycled water sites are not eligible for turf removal rebates. MWDOC Grant funding based on availability. ETWD has discontinued funding of synthetic turf rebates.

### **Commercial Rebate Programs:**

Device	MET Rebate	MWDOC Grant	ETWD Rebate	Total Rebate (up to)
Premium High Efficiency Toilet	\$40			\$40
Multi-family Premium High Efficiency Toilet	\$40			\$40
Zero Water/Ultra Low Water Urinal	\$200			\$200
Plumbing Flow Control Valve (min. 10)	\$5			\$5
Smart Irrigation Timer/Central Computer Irrigation Controller/Soil Moisture Sensor System/Hose Bib Irrigation Controller	\$35/station			\$35/station
Rotating Sprinkler Nozzles (minimum quantity of 15)	\$2			\$2
Rotating Nozzles – Large Rotary	\$13			\$13
Turf Removal Program (up to 50,000 sq ft MET- MWDOC/up to 10,000 sq. ft. ETWD funding)*	\$2 sq. ft*			\$2 sq. ft.*
Spray to Drip Irrigation (up to 45,000 sq. ft)		\$0.50 sq. ft.		\$0.50 sq. ft.

<sup>\*</sup>Designated recycled water sites are not eligible for turf removal rebates. Synthetic turf is not eligible for the turf removal rebate. Additional commercial rebates available online at ocwatersmart.com. MWDOC Grant funding based on availability.

#### **Actual Customer Rebates Analysis:**

The following ETWD residential customer and commercial customer device rebates were approved by the Metropolitan Water District and the Municipal Water District of Orange County during the month of December 2023.

Residential Device Rebates	Rebates Approved December 2023	ETWD Amount Paid	MET Amount Paid	Total Rebate Paid
High Efficiency Clothes Washer	1	\$115	\$85	\$200.00
Smart Irrigation Timer	1			

The following ETWD rebates for Turf Removal Program and Spray-To-Drip Program that have been paid during the current fiscal year 2023/2024 through the end of December 2023.

Turf Removal Program	Total Square Feet	ETWD Supplemental Amount	ETWD Supplemental Rebate Total
Turf Removal – Residential	5,231	\$1 sq. ft.	\$5,231.00
Turf Removal - Commercial	27,432	\$0	\$0
Spray-To-Drip - Residential	4,185	\$0.25 sq. ft.	\$1,046.25
Spray-To-Drip - Commercial	1,764	\$0	\$0

### Water Use Efficiency Plan Update:

The District Water Budget-Based Tiered Conservation Rate Structure (WBBTCRS) pricing structure is the primary plan that gives customers the incentive needed to be efficient. The Plan efforts initially will concentrate on those customers continually in the Inefficient and Excessive Tiers (Tiers 3 and 4). During December 2023, residential customers accounted for 65.9% of Tier 3 usage and dedicated irrigation accounted for 34.1%. For Tier 4, residential customers accounted for 37.1% and dedicated irrigation accounted for 62.9% during the same period.

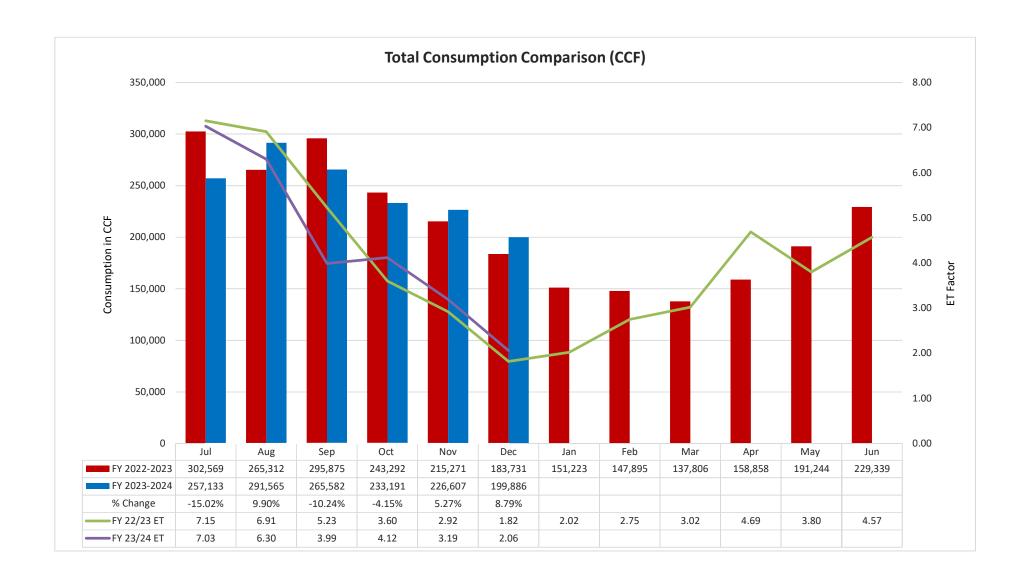
#### **Total Consumption Comparison to Evapotranspiration (ET) Factor:**

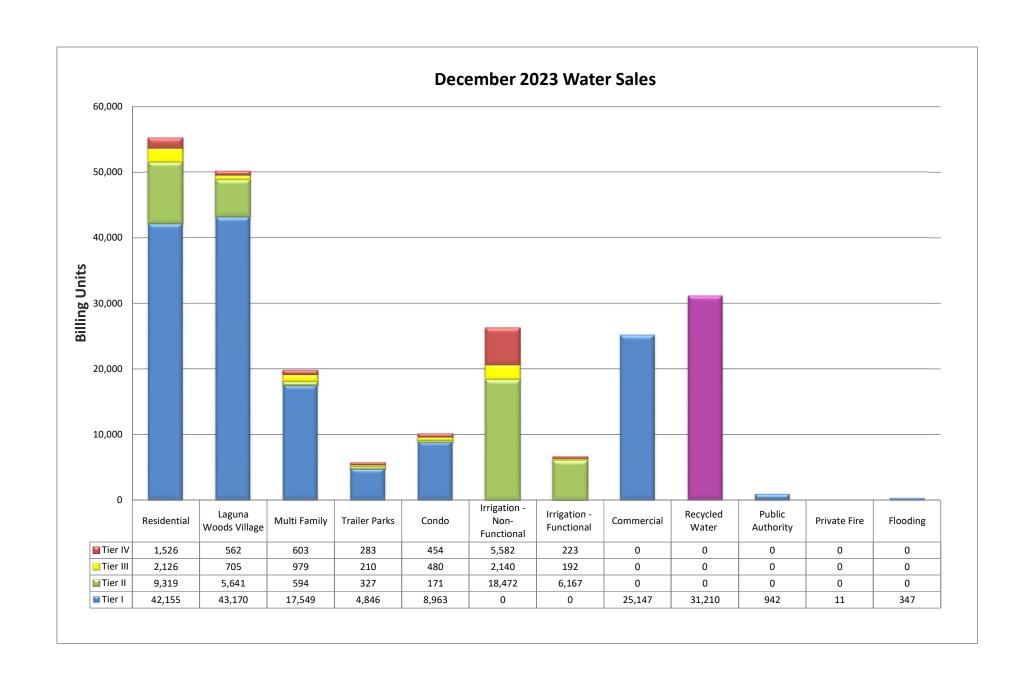
Water Use Efficiency Report Page 4

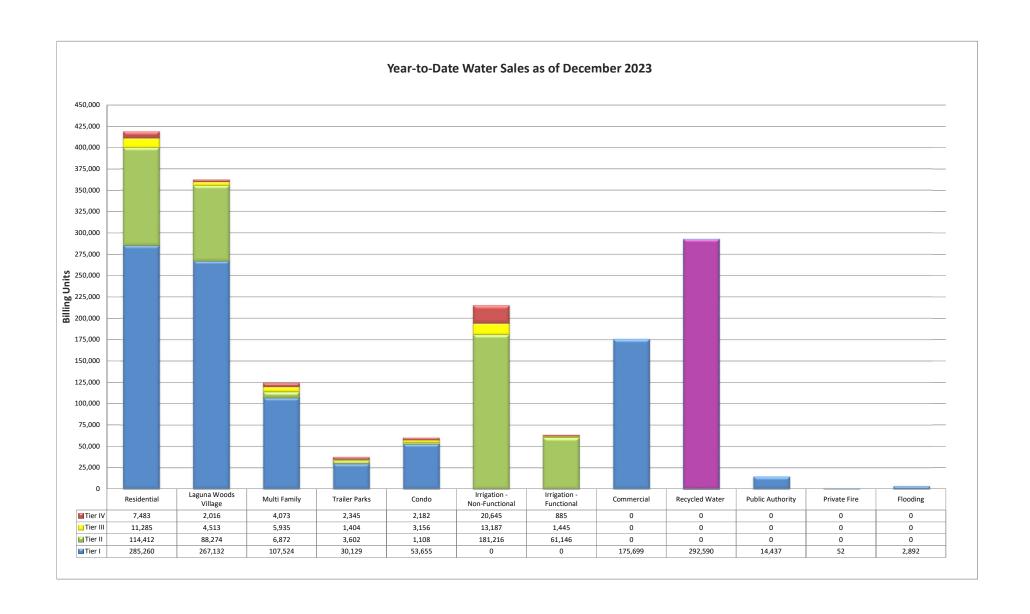
Included in this month's Water Use Efficiency Report is a chart comparing the current fiscal year consumption and ET factor to the fiscal 2022/23 consumption and ET factor. Total potable water consumption increased 8.79% in December 2023 versus December 2022. The ET factor increased from 1.82 to 2.06 during the same period.

### ETWD Tier Consumption Information and Usage Information Compared to Previous Years:

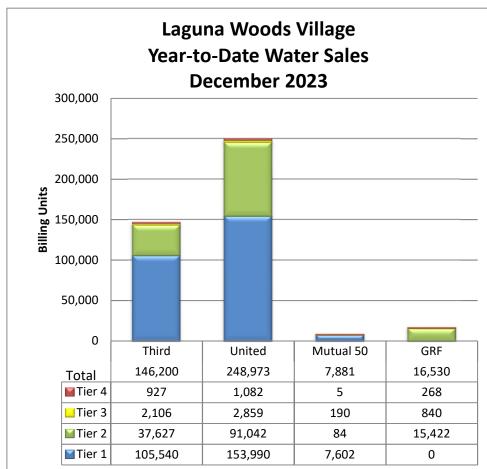
The following graphs highlight ETWD year-to-date consumption and consumption by tier for the current fiscal year compared to 2022-2023 fiscal year. ETWD water consumption compared to 2013 and 2020 are also included.



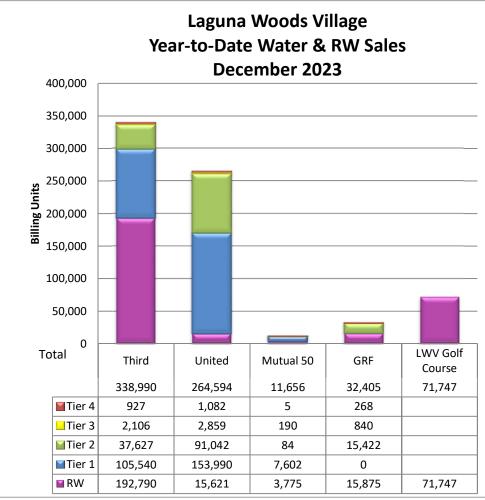


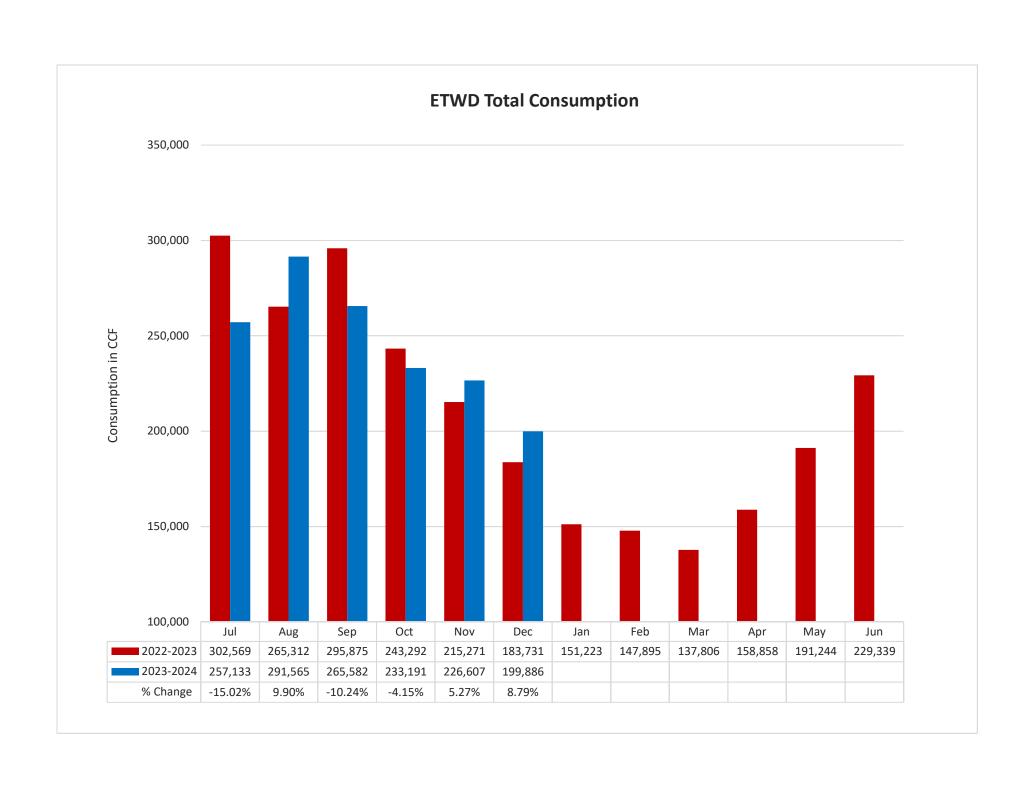


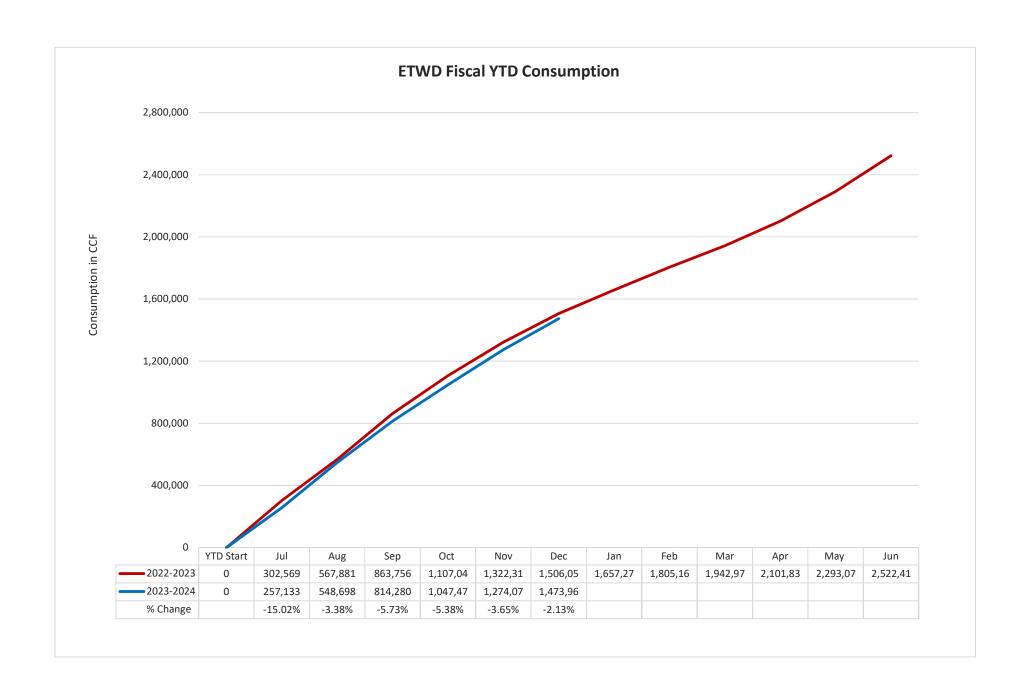


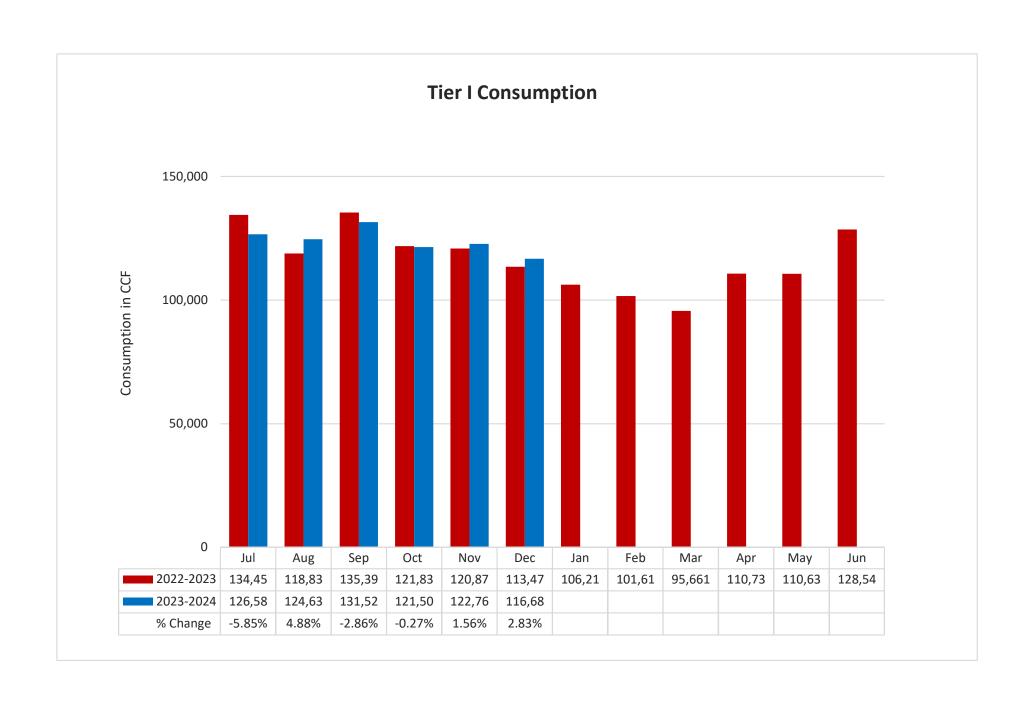


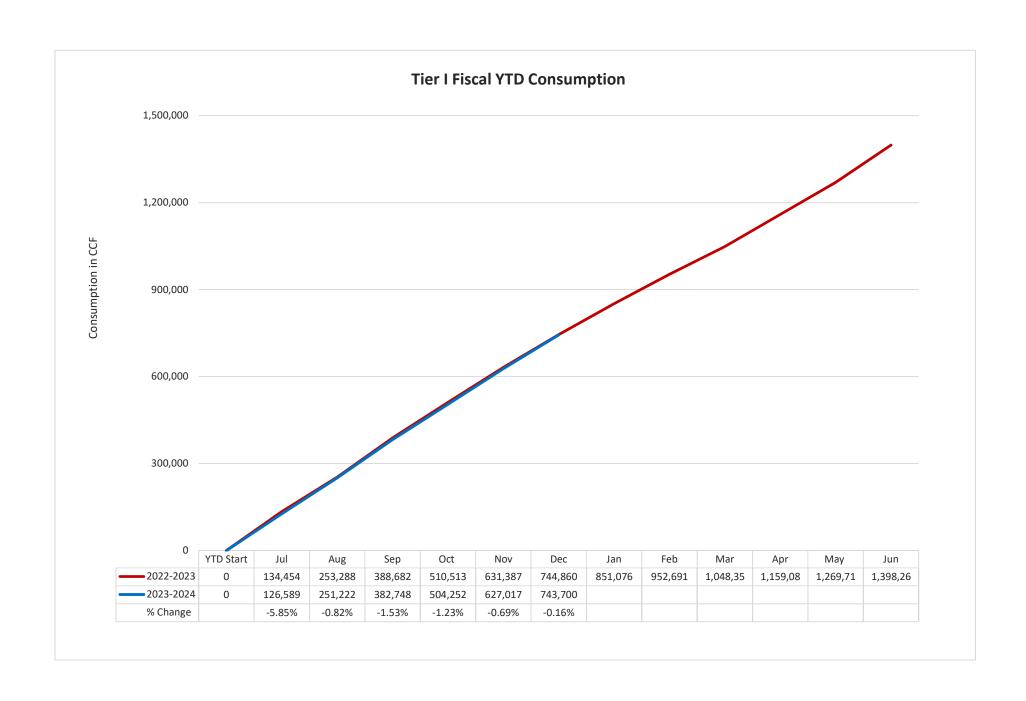


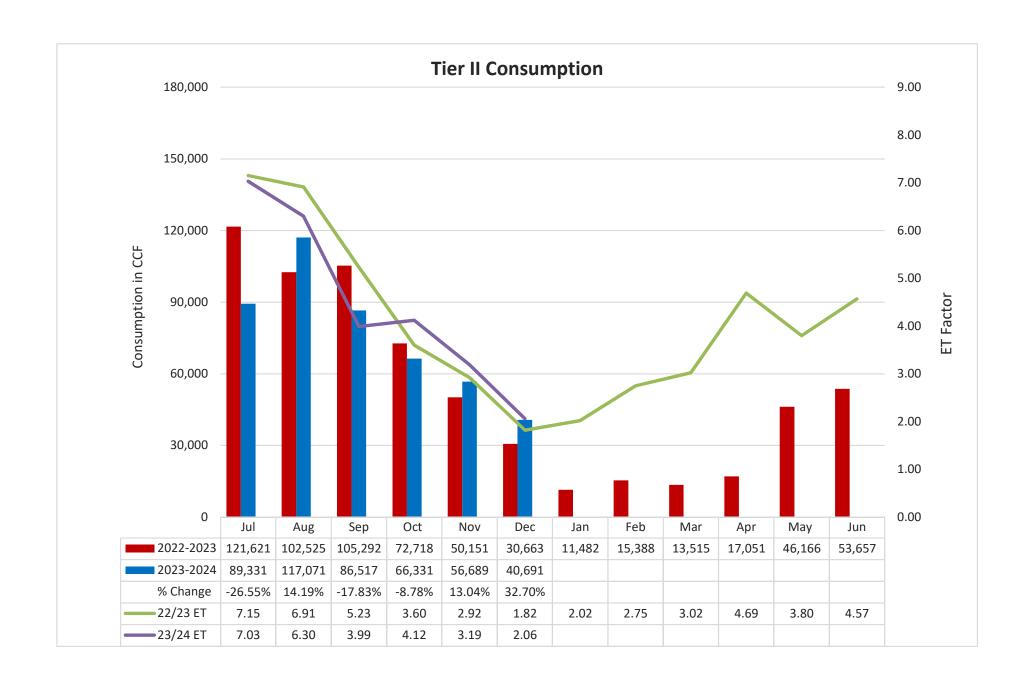


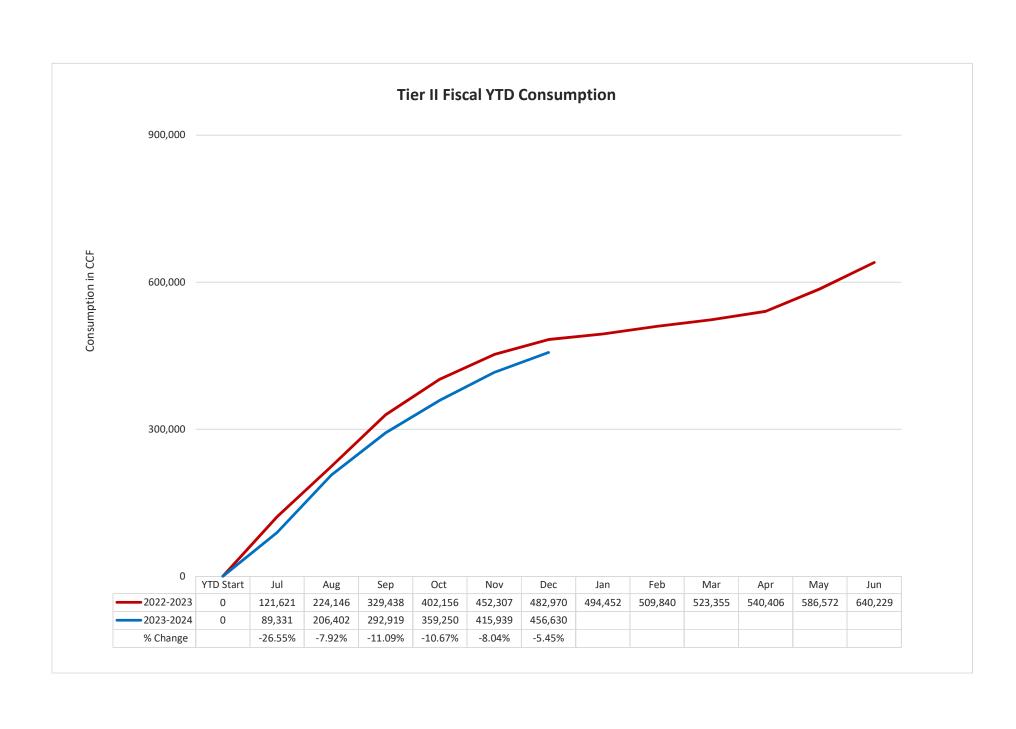


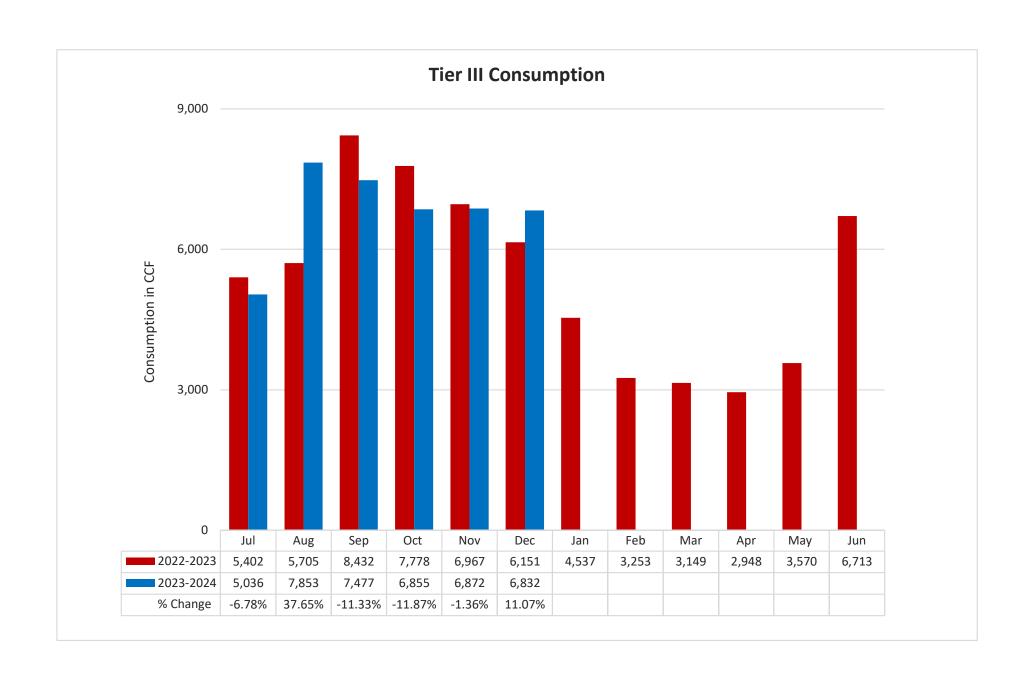


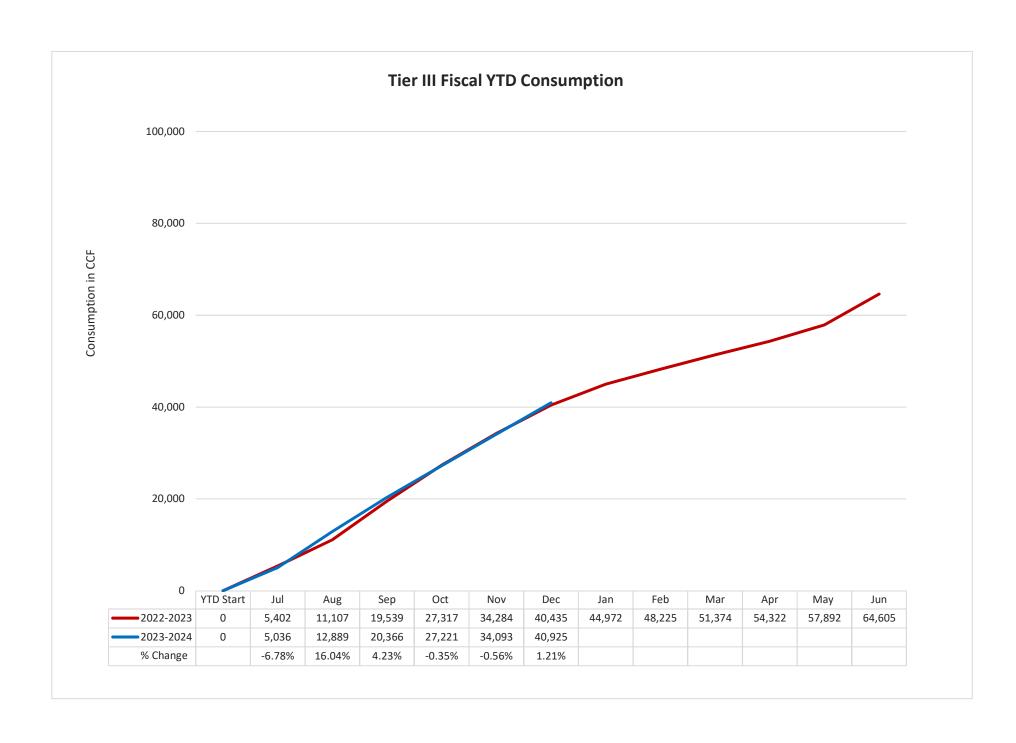


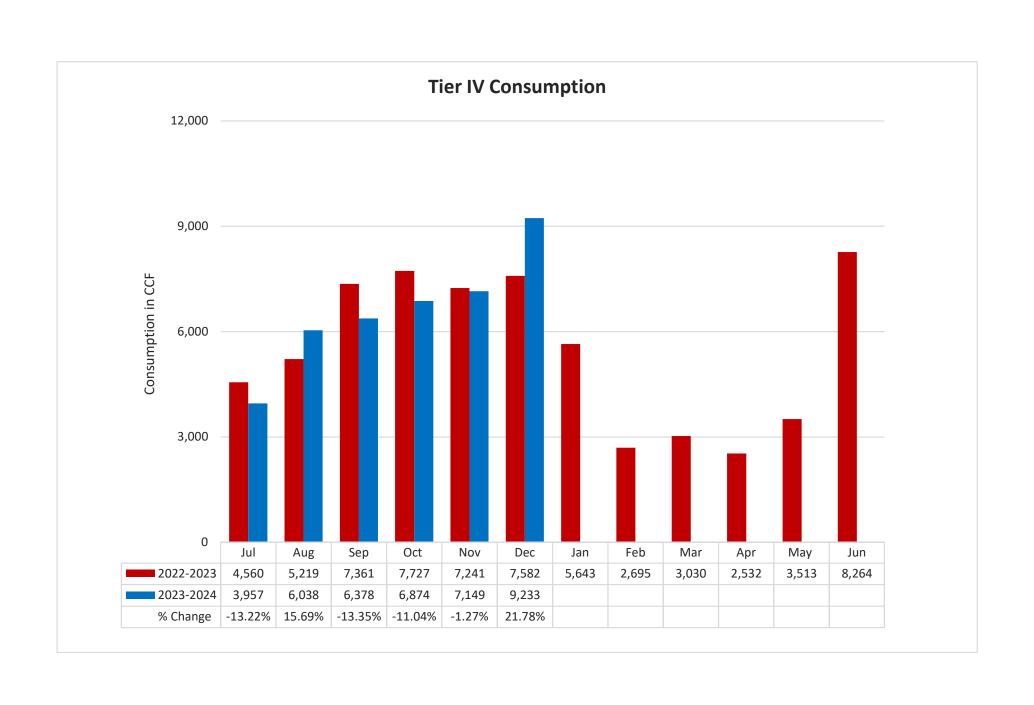


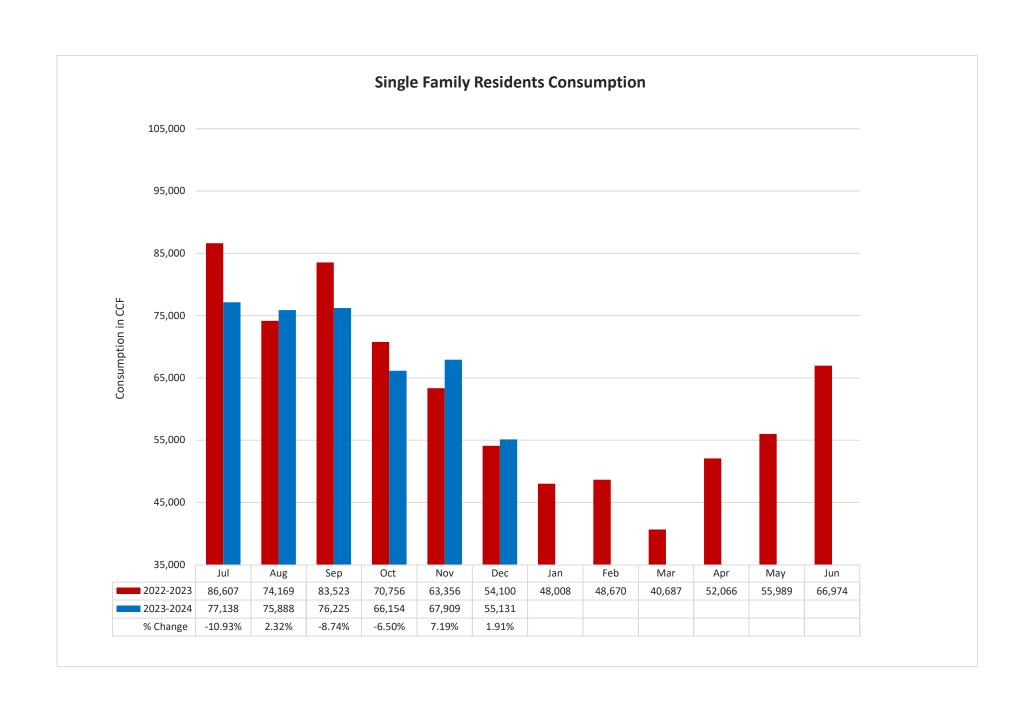


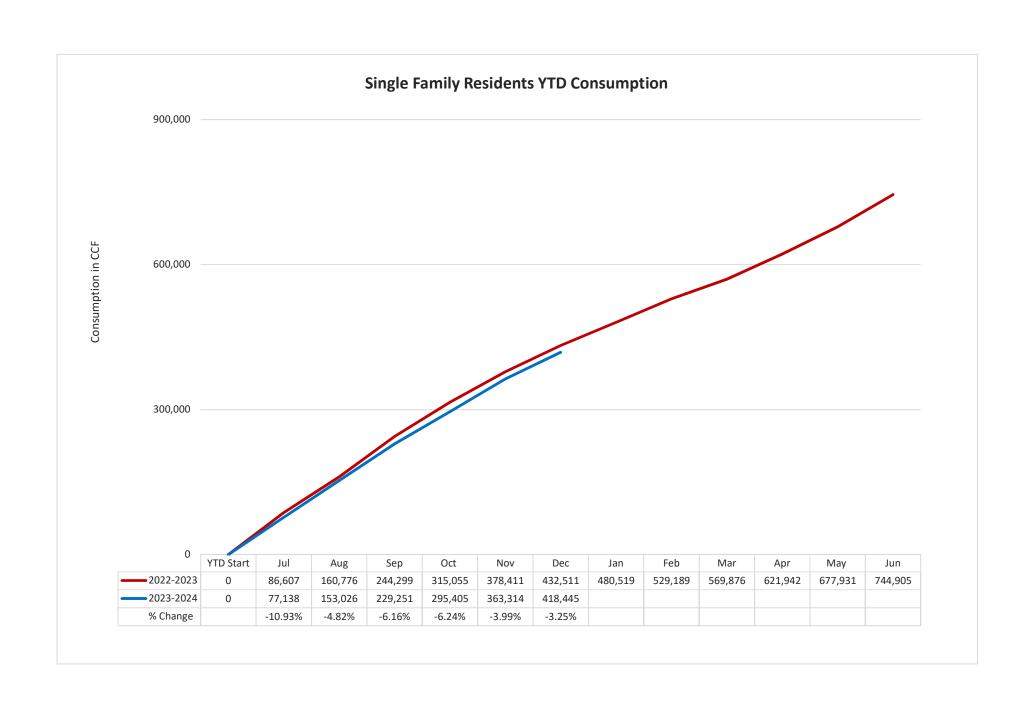


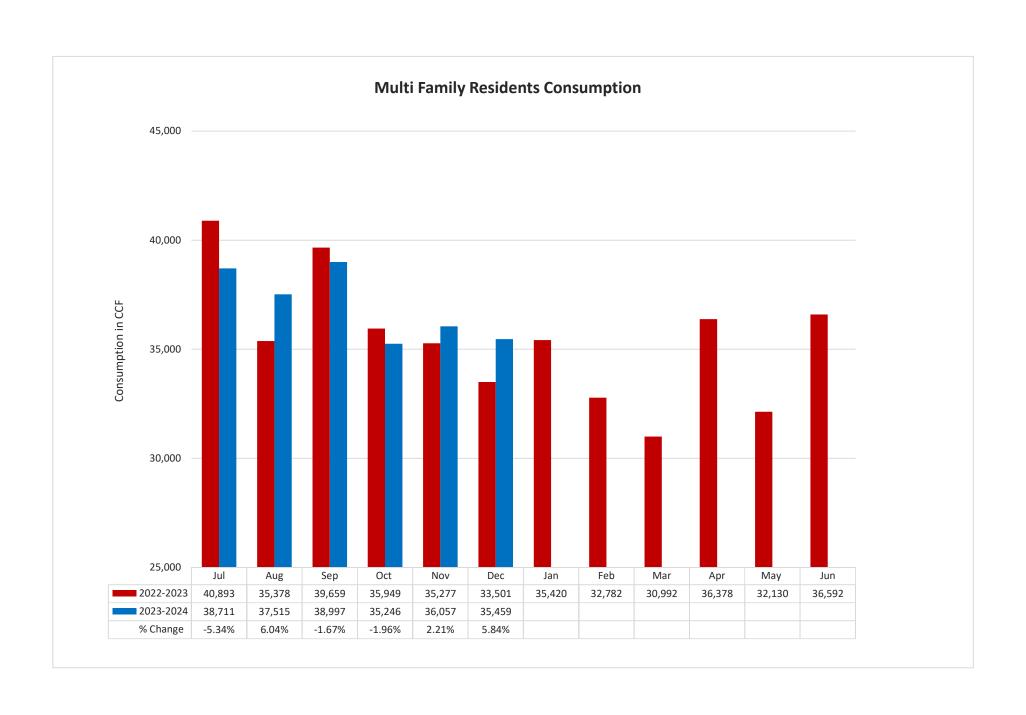


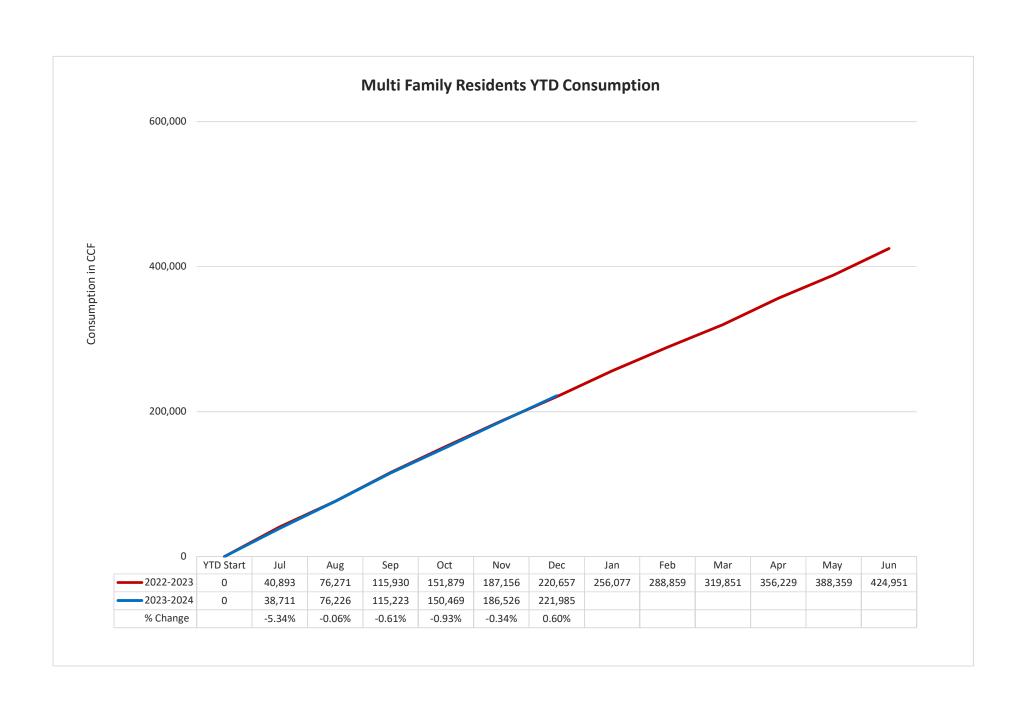


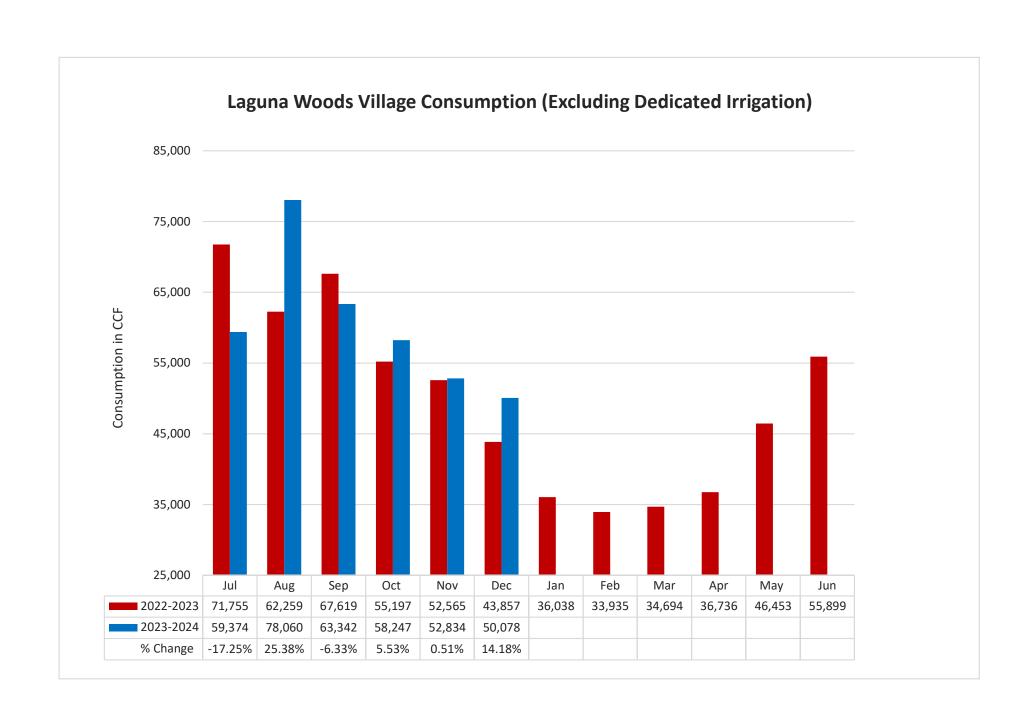


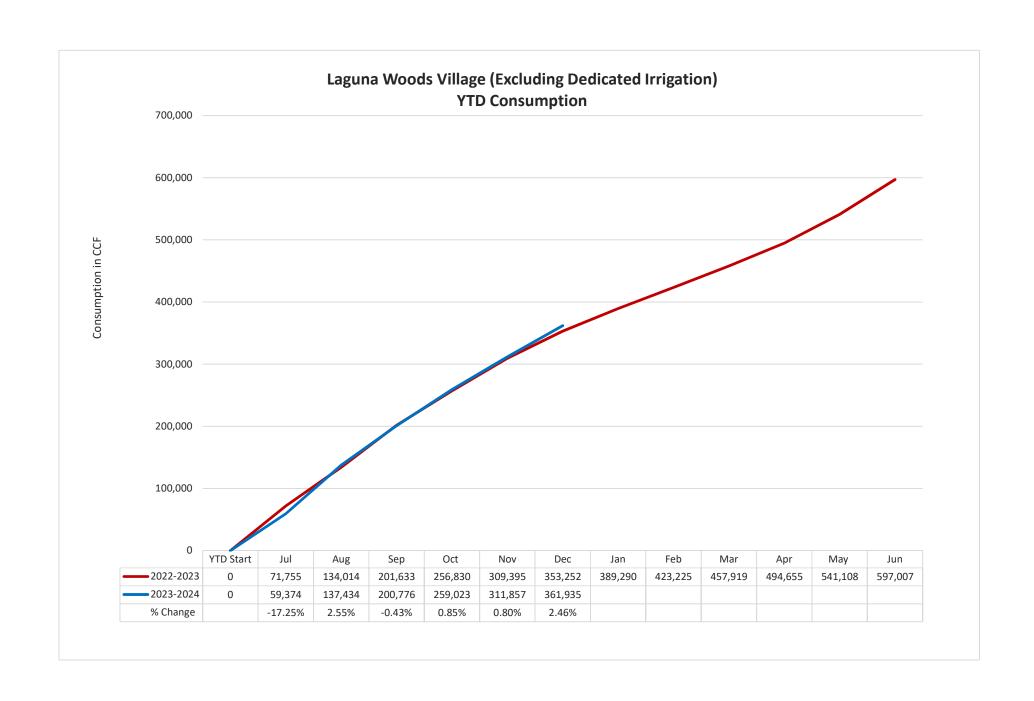


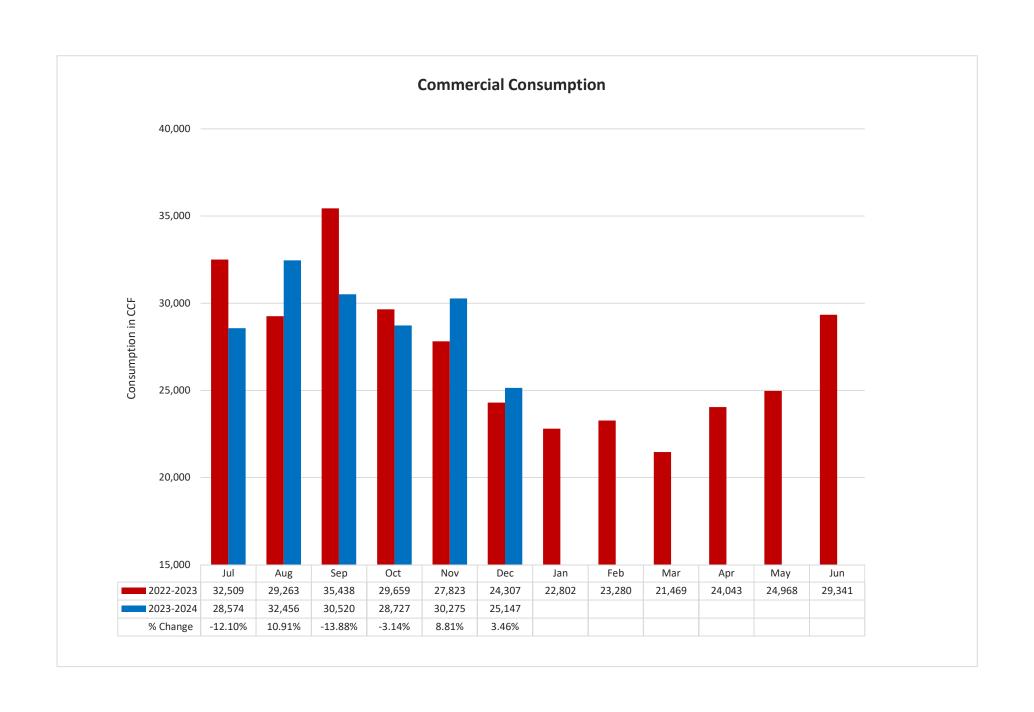


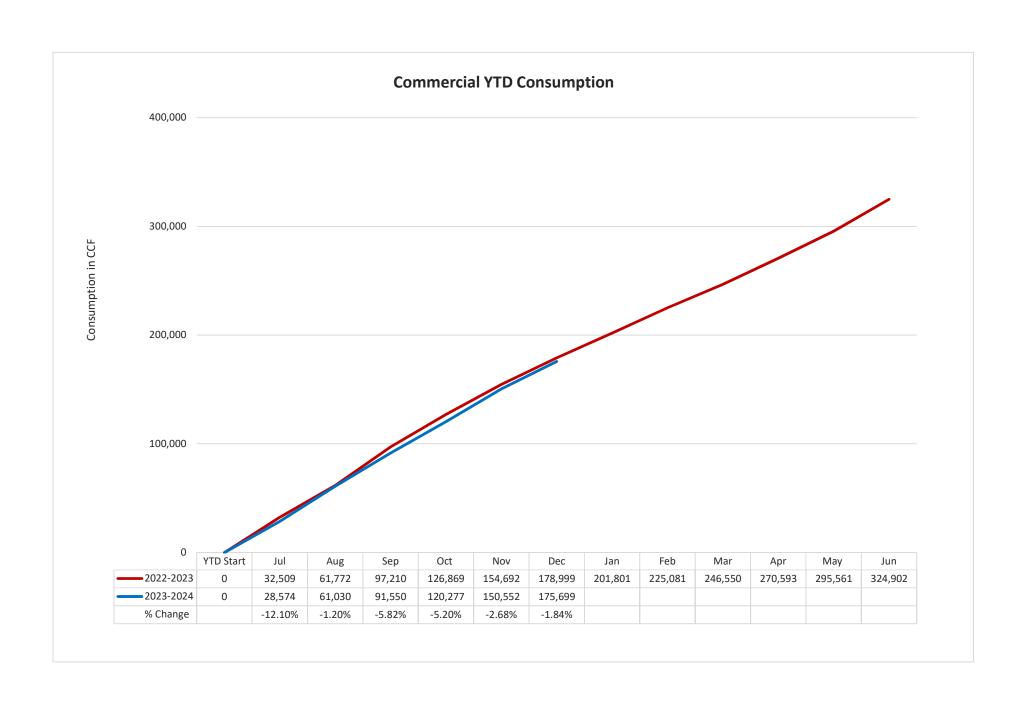


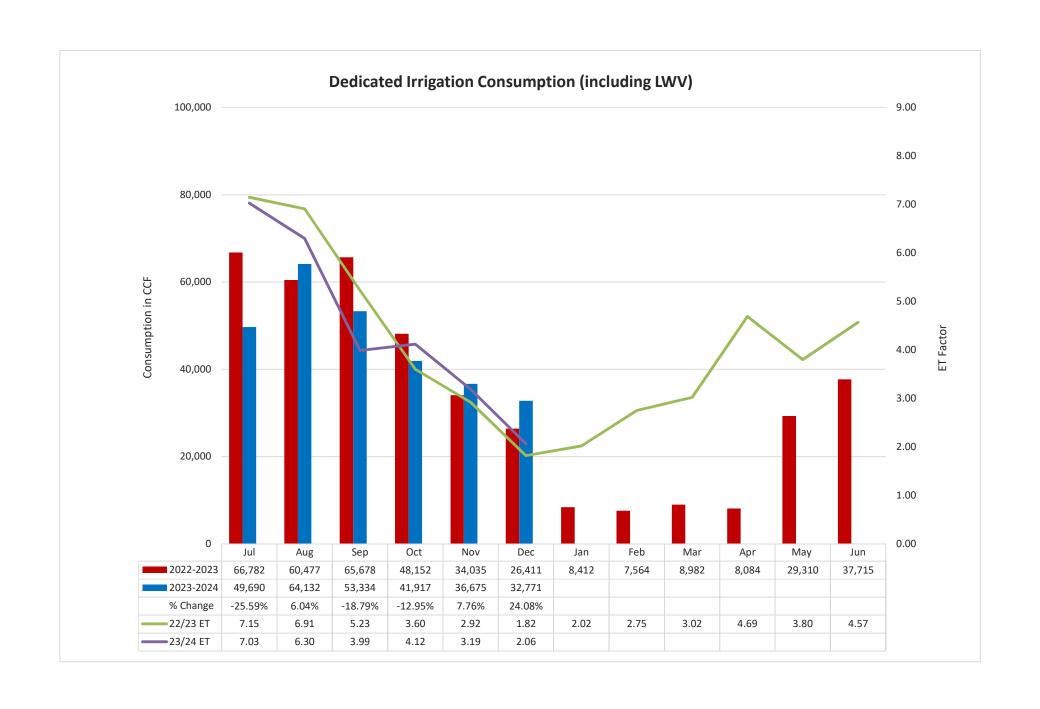


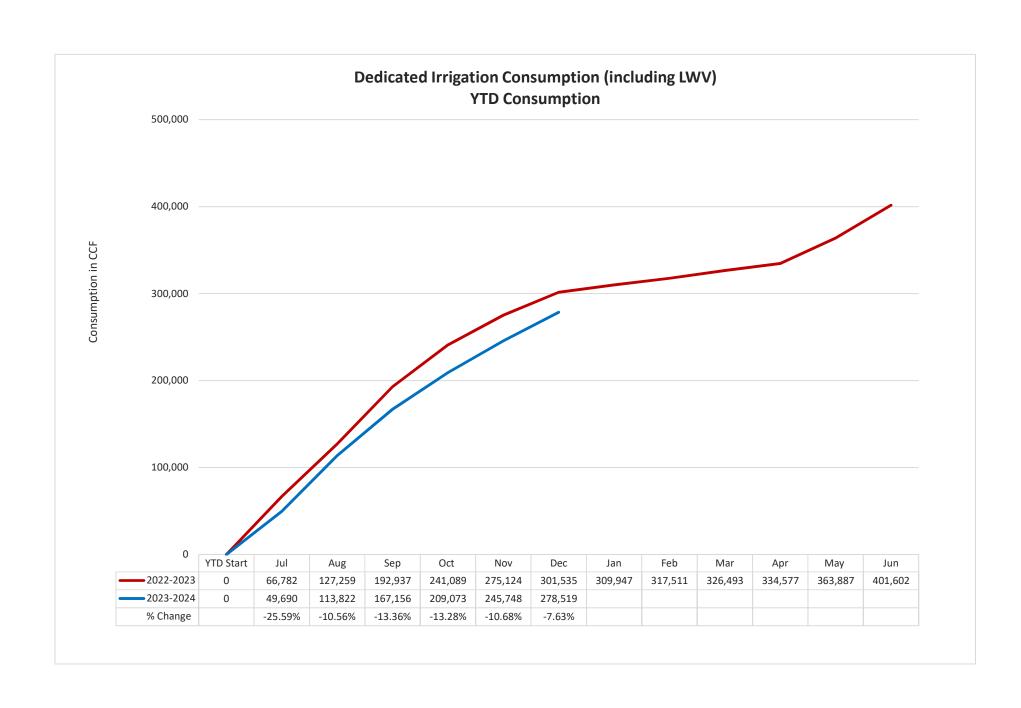




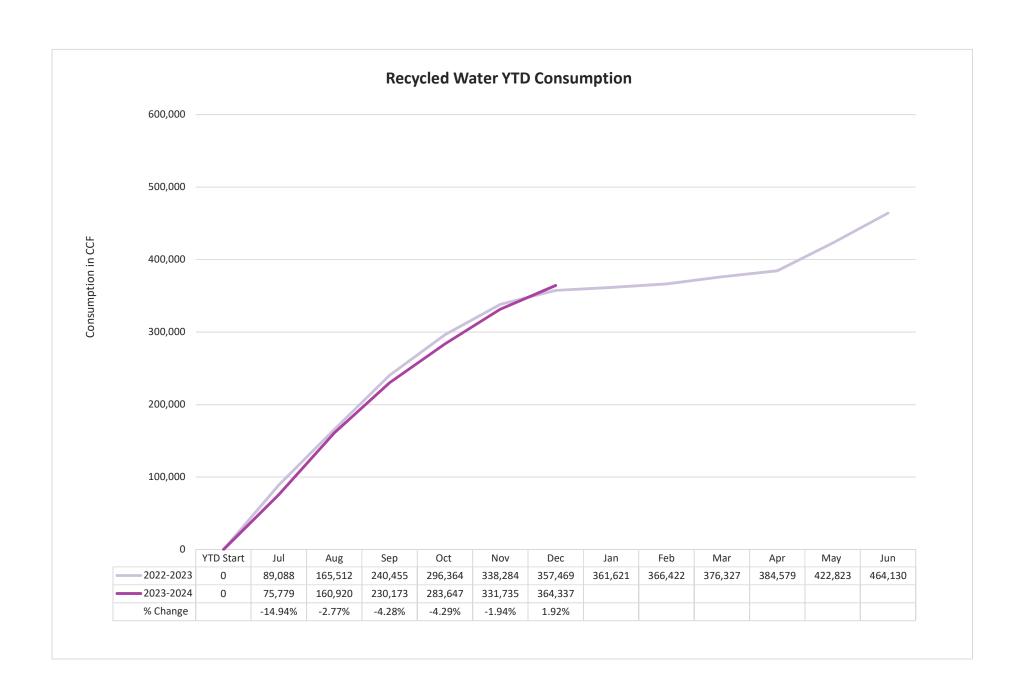


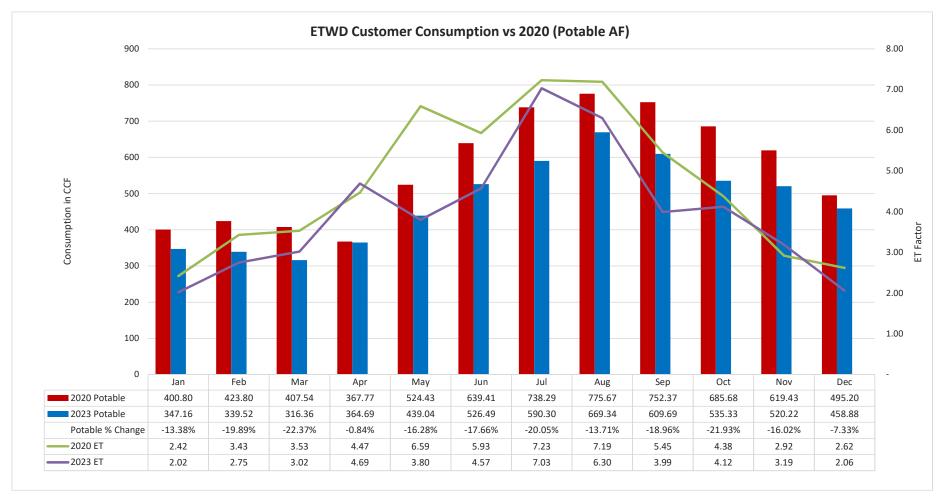




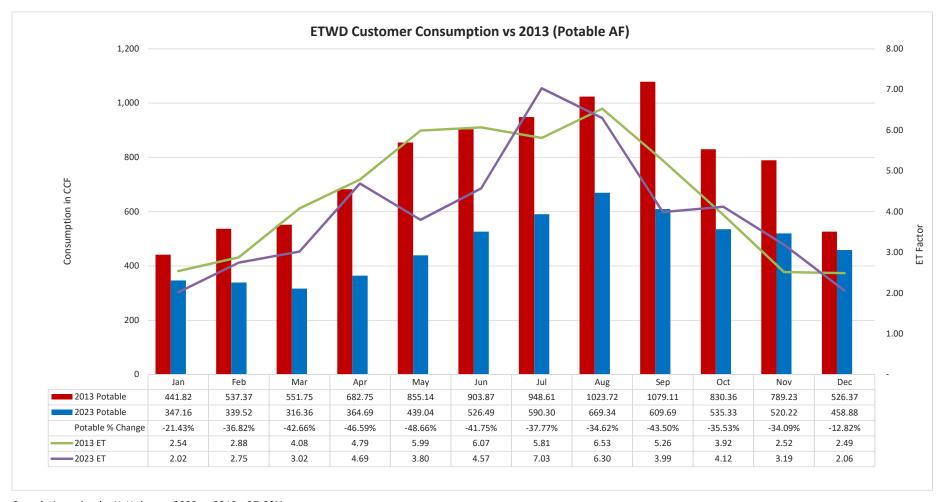






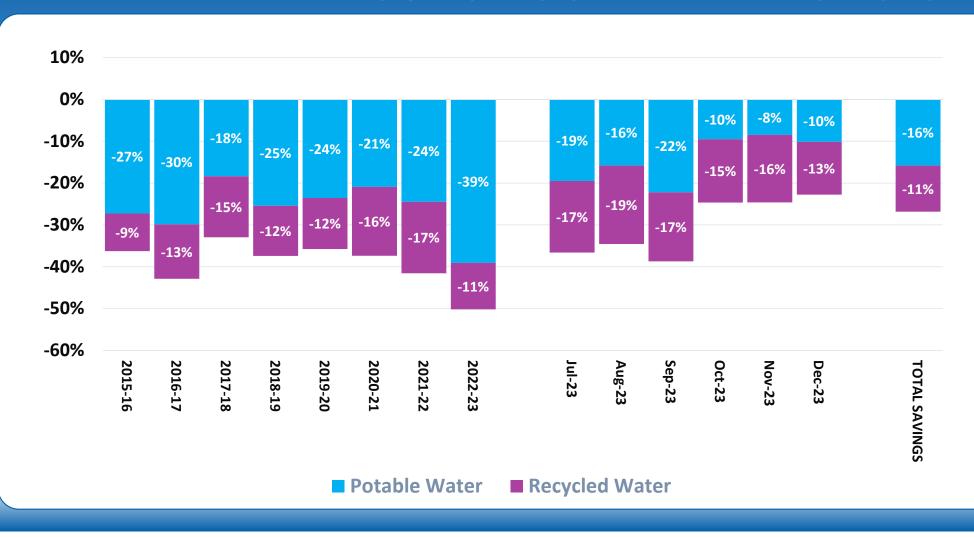


Cumulative calendar YoY change 2023 vs 2020: -16.30%



Cumulative calendar YoY change 2023 vs 2013: -37.66%

## **ETWD WATER USAGE COMPARED TO 2013**



I hereby certify that the following Agenda was posted at least 24 hours prior to the time of the Board Meeting, so noticed below at the usual agenda posting location of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA) and at <a href="https://www.socwa.com">www.socwa.com</a>.

Danita Hirsh, Assistant Secretary SOCWA and the Board of Directors thereof

Special Meeting of The
South Orange County Wastewater Authority
Board of Directors

January 11, 2024 8:30 a.m.

PHYSICAL MEETING LOCATION: South Orange County Wastewater Authority 34156 Del Obispo Street Dana Point, CA 92629

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING ROOM IS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE. IF YOU REQUIRE ANY SPECIAL DISABILITY RELATED ACCOMMODATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE AT (949) 234-5452 AT LEAST TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED MEETING TO REQUEST SUCH ACCOMMODATIONS. THIS AGENDA CAN BE OBTAINED IN ALTERNATE FORMAT UPON REQUEST TO THE SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY'S SECRETARY AT LEAST TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED MEETING. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HAVE THE OPTION TO PARTICIPATE IN AND MAY JOIN THE MEETING REMOTELY VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE FOR VISUAL INFORMATION ONLY (USE ZOOM LINK BELOW) AND BY TELECONFERENCE FOR AUDIO PARTICIPATION (USE PHONE NUMBERS BELOW). THIS IS A PHONE-CALL MEETING AND NOT A WEB-CAST MEETING, SO PLEASE REFER TO AGENDA MATERIALS AS POSTED ON THE WEBSITE AT WWW.SOCWA.COM. ON YOUR REQUEST, EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO ACCOMMODATE PARTICIPATION. FOR PARTIES PARTICIPATING REMOTELY, PUBLIC COMMENTS WILL BE TAKEN DURING THE MEETING FOR ORAL COMMUNICATION IN ADDITION TO PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED BY PARTIES PARTICIPATING IN PERSON. COMMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED PRIOR TO THE MEETING VIA EMAIL TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY DANITA HIRSH AT DHIRSH@SOCWA.COM WITH THE SUBJECT LINE "REQUEST TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT." IN THE EMAIL, PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME, THE ITEM YOU WISH TO SPEAK ABOUT, AND THE TELEPHONE NUMBER YOU WILL BE CALLING FROM SO THAT THE COORDINATOR CAN UN-MUTE YOUR LINE WHEN YOU ARE CALLED UPON TO SPEAK. THOSE MAKING PUBLIC COMMENT REQUESTS REMOTELY VIA TELEPHONE IN REAL-TIME WILL BE ASKED TO PROVIDE YOUR NAME, THE ITEM YOU WISH TO SPEAK ABOUT, AND THE TELEPHONE NUMBER THAT YOU ARE CALLING FROM SO THE COORDINATOR CAN UNMUTE YOUR LINE WHEN YOU ARE CALLED UPON TO SPEAK, ONCE THE MEETING HAS COMMENCED. THE CHAIR WILL INVITE YOU TO SPEAK AND ASK THE COORDINATOR TO UNMUTE YOUR LINE AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME.

AGENDA ATTACHMENTS AND OTHER WRITINGS THAT ARE DISCLOSABLE PUBLIC RECORDS DISTRIBUTED TO ALL, OR A MAJORITY OF, THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN CONNECTION WITH A MATTER SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION OR CONSIDERATION AT AN OPEN MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION IN THE AUTHORITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE LOCATED AT 34156 DEL OBISPO STREET, DANA POINT, CA ("AUTHORITY OFFICE") OR BY PHONE REQUEST MADE TO THE AUTHORITY OFFICE AT 949-234-5452. IF SUCH WRITINGS ARE DISTRIBUTED TO MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS LESS THAN TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING, THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE RECEPTION AREA OF THE AUTHORITY OFFICE AT THE SAME TIME AS THEY ARE DISTRIBUTED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND SENT TO ANY REMOTE PARTICIPANTS REQUESTING EMAIL DELIVERY OR POSTED ON SOCWA'S WEBSITE. IF SUCH WRITINGS ARE DISTRIBUTED IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO, OR DURING, THE MEETING, THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE MEETING ROOM OR IMMEDIATELY UPON VERBAL REQUEST TO BE DELIVERED VIA EMAIL TO REQUESTING PARTIES PARTICIPATING REMOTELY.

THE PUBLIC MAY PARTICIPATE REMOTELY BY VIRTUAL MEANS. FOR AUDIO OF MEETING USE THE CALL IN PHONE NUMBERS BELOW AND FOR VIDEO USE THE ZOOM LINK BELOW.

Join Zoom Meeting https://socwa.zoom.us/

Meeting ID: 890 4515 3786 Passcode: 833802

Dial by your location:

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose) +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) Find your local number: https://socwa.zoom.us/u/kdPEjUtIGm

#### South Orange County Wastewater Authority Board of Directors Meeting January 11, 2024

#### <u>Agenda</u>

1.	<u>C</u> A	LL TO C	ORDEF	<u>R</u>		
2.	PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE					
3.	ORAL COMMUNICATIONS					
	res	serve thi	s oppo	public may address the board regarding an item on the agenda ortunity during the meeting at the time the item is discussed by the ree-minute limit for public comments.		
4.	<u>AF</u>	PROVA	L OF E	BOARD MEMBER REQUEST FOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION		
	AC	TION	Boai	rd Discussion/Direction and Action.		
5.	<u>CC</u>	NSENT	CALE	NDAR_	PAGE NO	
	A.	Minutes	s of Bo	ard of Directors	1	
		•	Board	of Directors Special Meeting of December 7, 2023		
		ACTIO	N	The Board will be requested to approve the subject Minutes.		
	В.	Minutes	s of PC	2 Committee	6	
		•	PC 2 (	Committee Meeting of December 7, 2023		
		ACTIO	N	The PC 2 Committee will be requested to approve the subject Minutes and the Board will be requested to receive and file the Minutes.		
	C.	Minutes	s of Fir	nance Committee	8	
				ce Committee Meeting of February 21, 2023 ce Committee Meeting of March 21, 2023		
		ACTIO	N	The Board will be requested to receive and file the Minutes.		
	D.	Operati	ions R	eport (November)	13	
		2. 3. 4. 5.	SOCW Quarte Beach Recyc	ly Operational Report  /A Ocean Outfall Discharges by Agency erly Report on Key Operational Expenses Ocean Monitoring Report led Water Report atment Report (December/January)		
		ACTIO	N	The Board will be requested to receive and file subject reports as	S	

submitted.

#### South Orange County Wastewater Authority Board of Directors Meeting January 11, 2024

#### <u>Agenda</u>

	⊏.	Capital Impro	vement Program Status Report (December)5	3
		ACTION	Information item.	
	F.	•	vement Construction Projects Progress Report (November) mittees 2, 15, & 24]	56
		ACTION	Information Item.	
6.	<u>ΕΝ</u>	IGINEERING N	MATTERS	
	A.		rd for MCC-M, Switchgear Circuit Breaker, and Portable Generator re-Procurement [Project Committee 2]6	66
		ACTION	Staff recommends that the PC 2 Board of Directors approve the contract to Pacific Parts & Controls for a total of \$267,420, including a 20% contingency for the JBL MCC-M, switchgear circuit breaker, and portable generator connection pre-procurement.	
	B.		Freatment Plant (JBL) Effluent Pump Station and Energy Building Design mittee 2]	37
		ACTION	Staff recommends that the PC 2 Board of Directors approve the contract to Carollo Engineers for a total of \$175,516 for the JBL Effluent Pump Station and Energy Building improvements.	
7.	<u>GE</u>	NERAL MANA	AGER'S REPORT	
	A.	Wildlife Conse	oort for the County of Orange's Application for Grant Funds from the ervation Board (WCB) for the Aliso Creek Watershed Habitat mprovement Project: Phase I and II	93
			Staff recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the Acting General Manager to submit a letter of support on behalf of SOCWA supporting the County of Orange's application for grant funds from the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) for the Aliso Creek Watershed Habitat Connectivity Improvement Project: Phases I and	
	B.	Resolution No County Waste	II.  2. 2024-01: A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the South Orange  2. awater Authority Amending "Exhibit A" Bylaws and Establishing New  2. airements for the SOCWA Engineering Committee	97
			aff recommends that the Board of Directors approve Resolution No. 2024-01, A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority Amending "Exhibit A" Bylaws and Establishing New Quorum Requirements for the SOCWA Engineering Committee and revising the Engineering Committee membership from ten (10) to seven (7) and the meeting quorum requirements from five (5) members to four (4).	

#### South Orange County Wastewater Authority Board of Directors Meeting January 11, 2024

#### **Agenda**

C.	Discussion on the SCWD/SMWD Proposal Framework					
	<ul> <li>PC 15 Update carryover from October 24 Board Meeting</li> <li>PC 17 Discussion of ownership and operation transfer</li> <li>SMWD/SCWD Update [PC 2]</li> </ul>					
	ACTION Board Discussion/Direction and Action.					
D.	General Counsel's Update					
	JPA Revision Process (Standing item)					
	ACTION Information Item					
E.	Acting General Manager's Report					
	ACTION Board Discussion/Direction and Action.					
F.	<ul> <li>Upcoming Meetings Schedule:</li> <li>January 11, 2024 – Board of Directors Special Meeting</li> <li>January 18, 2024 – Engineering Committee Meeting</li> <li>January 16, 2024 – Finance Committee Meeting</li> <li>February 1, 2024 – Board of Directors Regular Meeting</li> </ul>					
	ACTION Information Item.					

#### 8. OTHER MATTERS

Determine the need to take action on the following item(s) introduced by the Acting General Manager/Director of Operations, which arose after the posted agenda. [Adoption of this action requires a two-thirds vote of the Board, or if less than two-thirds are present a unanimous vote.]

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

THE NEXT SOCWA BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 1, 2024

# NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY FINANCE COMMITTEE

January 16, 2024 10:30 a.m.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special Meeting of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA) Finance Committee was called to be held on **January 16, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.** SOCWA staff will be present and conducting the meeting at the SOCWA Administrative Office located at 34156 Del Obispo Street, Dana Point, California.

THE SOCWA MEETING ROOM IS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE. IF YOU REQUIRE ANY SPECIAL DISABILITY RELATED ACCOMMODATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE AT (949) 234-5452 AT LEAST TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED MEETING TO REQUEST SUCH ACCOMMODATIONS. THIS AGENDA CAN BE OBTAINED IN ALTERNATE FORMAT UPON REQUEST TO THE SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY'S SECRETARY AT LEAST TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED MEETING. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HAVE THE OPTION TO PARTICIPATE IN AND MAY JOIN THE MEETING REMOTELY VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE FOR VISUAL INFORMATION ONLY (USE ZOOM LINK BELOW) AND BY TELECONFERENCE FOR AUDIO PARTICIPATION (USE PHONE NUMBERS BELOW). THIS IS A PHONE-CALL MEETING AND NOT A WEB-CAST MEETING. SO PLEASE REFER TO AGENDA MATERIALS AS POSTED ON THE WEBSITE AT WWW.SOCWA.COM, ON YOUR REQUEST, EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO ACCOMMODATE PARTICIPATION. FOR PARTIES PARTICIPATING REMOTELY, PUBLIC COMMENTS WILL BE TAKEN DURING THE MEETING FOR ORAL COMMUNICATION IN ADDITION TO PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED BY PARTIES PARTICIPATING IN PERSON, COMMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED PRIOR TO THE MEETING VIA EMAIL TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY DANITA HIRSH AT DHIRSH@SOCWA.COM WITH THE SUBJECT LINE "REQUEST TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT." IN THE EMAIL, PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME, THE ITEM YOU WISH TO SPEAK ABOUT, AND THE TELEPHONE NUMBER YOU WILL BE CALLING FROM SO THAT THE COORDINATOR CAN UN-MUTE YOUR LINE WHEN YOU ARE CALLED UPON TO SPEAK. THOSE MAKING PUBLIC COMMENT REQUESTS REMOTELY VIA TELEPHONE IN REAL-TIME WILL BE ASKED TO PROVIDE YOUR NAME, THE ITEM YOU WISH TO SPEAK ABOUT, AND THE TELEPHONE NUMBER THAT YOU ARE CALLING FROM SO THE COORDINATOR CAN UN-MUTE YOUR LINE WHEN YOU ARE CALLED UPON TO SPEAK. ONCE THE MEETING HAS COMMENCED, THE CHAIR WILL INVITE YOU TO SPEAK AND ASK THE COORDINATOR TO UN-MUTE YOUR LINE AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME.

AGENDA ATTACHMENTS AND OTHER WRITINGS THAT ARE DISCLOSABLE PUBLIC RECORDS DISTRIBUTED TO ALL, OR A MAJORITY OF, THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY FINANCE COMMITTEE IN CONNECTION WITH A MATTER SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION OR CONSIDERATION AT AN OPEN MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION IN THE AUTHORITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE LOCATED AT 34156 DEL OBISPO STREET, DANA POINT, CA ("AUTHORITY OFFICE") OR BY PHONE REQUEST MADE TO THE AUTHORITY OFFICE AT 949-234-5452. IF SUCH WRITINGS ARE DISTRIBUTED TO MEMBERS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE LESS THAN TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING, THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE RECEPTION AREA OF THE AUTHORITY OFFICE AT THE SAME TIME AS THEY ARE DISTRIBUTED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND SENT TO ANY REMOTE PARTICIPANTS REQUESTING EMAIL DELIVERY OR POSTED ON SOCWA'S WEBSITE. IF SUCH WRITINGS ARE DISTRIBUTED IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO, OR DURING, THE MEETING, THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE MEETING ROOM OR IMMEDIATELY UPON VERBAL REQUEST TO BE DELIVERED VIA EMAIL TO REQUESTING PARTIES PARTICIPATING REMOTELY.

THE PUBLIC MAY PARTICIPATE REMOTELY BY VIRTUAL MEANS FOR AUDIO OF MEETING USE THE CALL IN PHONE NUMBERS BELOW AND FOR VIDEO USE THE ZOOM LINK BELOW.

Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://socwa.zoom.us/">https://socwa.zoom.us/</a>

Meeting ID: 819 7752 2041 Passcode: 465679

Dial by your location:

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose) +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) Find your local number: https://socwa.zoom.us/u/kpjJY9nVP

#### **AGENDA**

1. Call Meeting to Order

#### 2. Public Comments

THOSE WISHING TO ADDRESS THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ON ANY ITEM <u>LISTED</u> ON THE AGENDA WILL BE REQUESTED TO IDENTIFY AT THE OPENING OF THE MEETING AND PRIOR TO THE CLOSE OF THE MEETING. THE AUTHORITY REQUESTS THAT YOU STATE YOUR NAME WHEN MAKING THE REQUEST IN ORDER THAT YOUR NAME MAY BE CALLED TO SPEAK ON THE ITEM OF INTEREST. THE CHAIR OF THE MEETING WILL RECOGNIZE SPEAKERS FOR COMMENT AND GENERAL MEETING DECORUM SHOULD BE OBSERVED IN ORDER THAT SPEAKERS ARE NOT TALKING OVER EACH OTHER DURING THE CALL.

	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
3.	Approval of Minutes1
	Finance Committee Meeting of December 1, 2023
	<b>Recommended Action:</b> Staff recommends that the Finance Committee approve the subject minutes as submitted.
4.	Financial Reports for the Month of October and November 2023
	<ul> <li>The financial reports included are as follows: <ul> <li>a. Summary of Disbursements for October 2023 and November 2023 (Exhibit A);</li> <li>b. Schedule of Funds Available for Reinvestment (Exhibit B)</li> <li>&gt; Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)</li> <li>c. Schedule of Cash and Investments (Exhibit C)</li> <li>d. Capital Schedule (Exhibit D)</li> <li>&gt; Capital Projects – Graph (Exhibit D-1)</li> <li>e. Budget vs. Actual Expenses:</li> <li>&gt; Operations and Environmental Summary (Exhibit E-1)</li> <li>&gt; Operations and Environmental by PC (E-1.2)</li> <li>&gt; Residual Engineering, after transfer to Capital (Exhibit E-2)</li> <li>&gt; Administration (Exhibit E-3)</li> <li>&gt; Information Technology (IT) (Exhibit E-4)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<b>Recommended Action:</b> Staff recommends that the Finance Committee recommend that the Board of Directors (i) receive and file the October and November 2023 Financial Reports, (ii) ratify the October 2023 disbursement for the period from October 1, 2023, through October 31, 2023, totaling \$2,317,017, (iii) ratify the November 2023 disbursement for the period from November 1, 2023, through November 30, 2023, totaling \$2,919,536.
5.	Key Budget Assumptions for Preparing the Draft FY 2024-25 Budget

Recommended Action: Committee Discussion/Direction/Action

#### <u>Adjournment</u>

I hereby certify that the foregoing Notice was personally emailed or mailed to each member of the SOCWA Finance Committee at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled time of the Special Meeting referred to above.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Notice was posted at least 24 hours prior to the time of the above-referenced Finance Committee meeting at the usual agenda posting location of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority and at <a href="https://www.socwa.com">www.socwa.com</a>.

Dated this 10th day of January 2024.

Danita Hirsh, Assistant Secretary

SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY

anita Hersh

# NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY ENGINEERING COMMITTEE

January 18, 2024 8:30 a.m.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special Meeting of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA) Engineering Committee was called to be held on **January 18, 2024**, at 8:30 a.m. SOCWA staff will be present and conducting the meeting at the SOCWA Administrative Office located at 34156 Del Obispo Street, Dana Point, California.

THE SOCWA MEETING ROOM IS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE. IF YOU REQUIRE ANY SPECIAL DISABILITY RELATED ACCOMMODATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE AT (949) 234-5452 AT LEAST TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED MEETING TO REQUEST SUCH ACCOMMODATIONS. THIS AGENDA CAN BE OBTAINED IN ALTERNATE FORMAT UPON REQUEST TO THE SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY'S SECRETARY AT LEAST TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED MEETING. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HAVE THE OPTION TO PARTICIPATE IN AND MAY JOIN THE MEETING REMOTELY VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE FOR VISUAL INFORMATION ONLY (USE ZOOM LINK BELOW) AND BY TELECONFERENCE FOR AUDIO PARTICIPATION (USE PHONE NUMBERS BELOW). THIS IS A PHONE-CALL MEETING AND NOT A WEB-CAST MEETING, SO PLEASE REFER TO AGENDA MATERIALS AS POSTED ON THE WEBSITE AT WWW.SOCWA.COM. ON YOUR REQUEST, EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO ACCOMMODATE PARTICIPATION. FOR PARTIES PARTICIPATING REMOTELY, PUBLIC COMMENTS WILL BE TAKEN DURING THE MEETING FOR ORAL COMMUNICATION IN ADDITION TO PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED BY PARTIES PARTICIPATING IN PERSON. COMMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED PRIOR TO THE MEETING VIA EMAIL TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY DANITA HIRSH AT DHIRSH@SOCWA.COM WITH THE SUBJECT LINE "REQUEST TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT." IN THE EMAIL, PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME, THE ITEM YOU WISH TO SPEAK ABOUT, AND THE TELEPHONE NUMBER YOU WILL BE CALLING FROM SO THAT THE COORDINATOR CAN UN-MUTE YOUR LINE WHEN YOU ARE CALLED UPON TO SPEAK. THOSE MAKING PUBLIC COMMENT REQUESTS REMOTELY VIA TELEPHONE IN REAL-TIME WILL BE ASKED TO PROVIDE YOUR NAME. THE ITEM YOU WISH TO SPEAK ABOUT. AND THE TELEPHONE NUMBER THAT YOU ARE CALLING FROM SO THE COORDINATOR CAN UN-MUTE YOUR LINE WHEN YOU ARE CALLED UPON TO SPEAK. ONCE THE MEETING HAS COMMENCED, THE CHAIR WILL INVITE YOU TO SPEAK AND ASK THE COORDINATOR TO UN-MUTE YOUR LINE AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME.

AGENDA ATTACHMENTS AND OTHER WRITINGS THAT ARE DISCLOSABLE PUBLIC RECORDS DISTRIBUTED TO ALL, OR A MAJORITY OF, THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY ENGINEERING COMMITTEE IN CONNECTION WITH A MATTER SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION OR CONSIDERATION AT AN OPEN MEETING OF THE ENGINEERING COMMITTEE ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION IN THE AUTHORITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE LOCATED AT 34156 DEL OBISPO STREET, DANA POINT, CA ("AUTHORITY OFFICE") OR BY PHONE REQUEST MADE TO THE AUTHORITY OFFICE AT 949-234-5452. IF SUCH WRITINGS ARE DISTRIBUTED TO MEMBERS OF THE ENGINEERING COMMITTEE LESS THAN TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING, THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE RECEPTION AREA OF THE AUTHORITY OFFICE AT THE SAME TIME AS THEY ARE DISTRIBUTED TO THE ENGINEERING COMMITTEE AND SENT TO ANY REMOTE PARTICIPANTS REQUESTING EMAIL DELIVERY OR POSTED ON SOCWA'S WEBSITE. IF SUCH WRITINGS ARE DISTRIBUTED IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO, OR DURING, THE MEETING, THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE MEETING ROOM OR IMMEDIATELY UPON VERBAL REQUEST TO BE DELIVERED VIA EMAIL TO REQUESTING PARTIES PARTICIPATING REMOTELY.

THE PUBLIC MAY PARTICIPATE REMOTELY BY VIRTUAL MEANS. FOR AUDIO OF MEETING USE THE CALL IN PHONE NUMBERS BELOW AND FOR VIDEO USE THE ZOOM LINK BELOW.

Join Zoom Meeting https://socwa.zoom.us/

Meeting ID: 829 1105 4358 Passcode: 165596

Dial by your location:

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose) +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) Find your local number: https://socwa.zoom.us/u/kciKzs0dg

#### **AGENDA**

#### 1. Call Meeting to Order

#### 2. Public Comments

THOSE WISHING TO ADDRESS THE ENGINEERING COMMITTEE ON ANY ITEM LISTED ON THE AGENDA WILL BE REQUESTED TO IDENTIFY AT THE OPENING OF THE MEETING AND PRIOR TO THE CLOSE OF THE MEETING. THE AUTHORITY REQUESTS THAT YOU STATE YOUR NAME WHEN MAKING THE REQUEST IN ORDER THAT YOUR NAME MAY BE CALLED TO SPEAK ON THE ITEM OF INTEREST. THE CHAIR OF THE MEETING WILL RECOGNIZE SPEAKERS FOR COMMENT AND GENERAL MEETING DECORUM SHOULD BE OBSERVED IN ORDER THAT SPEAKERS ARE NOT TALKING OVER EACH OTHER DURING THE CALL.

	PAGE NO.
3.	Approval of Minutes
	Engineering Committee Minutes of November 9, 2023
	Recommended Action: Staff requests that the Engineering Committee approve the subject Minutes as submitted.
4.	Operations Report
	Recommended Action: Information Item.
5.	JBL Package B Project Verbal Update [Project Committee 2]
	Recommended Action: Information Item.
6.	Capital Improvement Construction Projects Progress Report (January) [Project Committees 2, 15, 17, & 24]
	Recommended Action: Information Item.
	Contract Award for Aliso Creek Ocean Outfall and San Juan Creek Ocean Outfall  Ballast Maintenance Contract Award [Project Committees 5 and 24]
	Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the Engineering Committee recommend that the PC 5 and PC 24 Boards; i. Find that the Aliso Creek Ocean Outfall and San Juan Creek Ocean Outfall Ballast Maintenance Project is statutorily exempt; ii. Approve a budget amendment for Project 34241O (ACOO Ballast Repair) to increase the Project budget by

\$30,000 to \$280,000; and iii. Approve the contract to Subsea Global Solutions, Inc., for a total amount of \$370,000 for the ACOO and SCJOO Ballast Maintenance Project with a

contingency of \$37,000 (10% of the contract).

- 7. Contract Award for MCC-M, Switchgear Circuit Breaker, and Portable Generator Connection Pre-Procurement [Project Committee 2]
  - Verbal Update

**Recommended Action:** Committee Discussion/Direction/Action

- 8. J.B. Latham Treatment Plant (JBL) Effluent Pump Station and Energy Building Design [Project Committee 2]
  - Verbal Update

Recommended Action: Committee Discussion/Direction/Action

#### Adjournment

I hereby certify that the foregoing Notice was personally emailed or mailed to each member of the SOCWA Engineering Committee at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled time of the Regular Meeting referred to above.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Notice was posted at least 24 hours prior to the time of the above-referenced Engineering Committee meeting at the usual agenda posting location of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority and at <a href="https://www.socwa.com">www.socwa.com</a>.

Dated this 15th day of January 2024.

Danita Hirsh, Assistant Secretary

SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY

## MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY

Jointly with the

#### **PLANNING & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

January 2, 2024, 8:30 a.m.

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 fees may apply

(877) 853 5247 Toll-free

Webinar ID: 882 866 5300#

P&O Committee:Staff:H.De La Torre, J. Berg, V. Osborn,<br/>T. Dubuque, D. Micalizzi, H. Baez,<br/>M. Baum-Haley, C. Busslinger,<br/>T. Baca

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 there is a need to take immediate action on item(s) and that the need for action came to the attention of the District 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 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 seventy-two (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 <a href="http://www.mwdoc.com">http://www.mwdoc.com</a>.

**INFORMATION ITEMS** (The following items are for informational purposes only – background information is included in the packet. Discussion is not necessary unless requested by a Director.)

PUBLIC AFFAIRS HIGHLIGHTS

- 2. MWDOC K-12 CHOICE SCHOOL PROGRAMS UPDATE
- 3. WATER FORUM & DINNER JANUARY 31, 2024
- 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 Maribeth Goldsby, District Secretary, at (714) 963-3058, or writing to Municipal Water District of Orange County at P.O. Box 20895, Fountain Valley, CA 92728. 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.

# WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WITH MET DIRECTORS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY 18700 Ward Street, Conference Room 101, Fountain Valley, California January 3, 2024, 8:30 a.m.

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 fees may apply

(877) 853 5247 Toll-free

Webinar ID: 882 866 5300#

#### **AGENDA**

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### **ROLL CALL**

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/COMMENTS**

At this time members of the public will be given an opportunity to address the Board concerning items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Members of the public may also address the Board about a particular Agenda item at the time it is considered by the Board and before action is taken.

The Board requests, but does not require, that members of the public who want to address the Board complete a voluntary "Request to be Heard" form available from the Board Secretary prior to the meeting.

#### 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. (ROLL CALL VOTE: Adoption of this recommendation requires a two-thirds vote of the Board members present or, if less than two-thirds of the Board members are present a unanimous vote.)

#### ITEMS DISTRIBUTED TO THE BOARD LESS THAN 72 HOURS PRIOR TO 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 seventy-two (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 Web site, accessible at http://www.mwdoc.com.

**NEXT RESOLUTION NO. 2145** 

#### PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. PRESENTATION REGARDING PRESTRESSED CONCRETE CYLINDER PIPE (PCCP) REHABILITATION FOR PORTIONS OF THE ALLEN-MCCOLLOCH PIPELINE (AMP)

Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.

#### 2. LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

- a. Federal Legislative Report (NRR)
- b. State Legislative Report (SDA)
- c. Legal and Regulatory Report (Ackerman)
- d. County Legislative Report (Whittingham)

Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.

### 3. QUESTIONS OR INPUT ON MET ISSUES FROM THE MEMBER AGENCIES/MET DIRECTOR REPORTS REGARDING MET COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

Recommendation: Receive input and discuss the information presented.

#### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

- **MET ITEMS CRITICAL TO ORANGE COUNTY** (The following items are for informational purposes only a write up on each item is included in the packet. Discussion is not necessary unless requested by a Director).
  - a. MET's Finance and Rate Issue
  - b. MET's Water Supply Condition Update
  - c. MET's Water Quality Update
  - d. Colorado River Issues
  - e. Delta Conveyance Activities and State Water Project Issues

Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.

#### 5. METROPOLITAN (MET) BOARD AND COMMITTEE AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Summary regarding December MET Board Meeting
- b. Review items of significance for MET Board and Committee Agendas

Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Note: 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 Maribeth Goldsby, District Secretary, at (714) 963-3058, or writing to Municipal Water District of Orange County at P.O. Box 20895, Fountain Valley, CA 92728. 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 accommodations should make the request with adequate time before the meeting for the District to provide the requested accommodations.

## MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY Jointly with the

#### **ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE COMMITTEE**

January 10, 2024, 8:30 a.m.

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/i/8828665300

Telephone Audio: (669) 900 9128 fees may apply (877) 853 5247 Toll-free

Webinar ID: 882 866 5300#

A&F Committee:Staff: H. De La Torre, C. Harris,Director Dick, ChairH. Chumpitazi, M. Baum-Haley,Director ThomasK. Davanaugh

**Director Crane** 

Ex Officio Member: President

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 there is a need to take immediate action on item(s) and that the need for action came to the attention of the District 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 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 seventy-two (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 Web site, accessible at http://www.mwdoc.com.

#### PROPOSED BOARD CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

- TREASURER'S REPORT
  - a. Revenue/Cash Receipt Report December 2023
  - b. Disbursement Approval Report for the month of January 2024
  - c. Disbursement Ratification Report for the month of December 2023

- d. GM Approved Disbursement Report for the month of December 2023
- e. Consolidated Summary of Cash and Investment November 2023
- f. OPEB and Pension Trust Fund statement
- 2. FINANCIAL REPORT Combined Financial Statements and Budget Comparative for the Period Ending November 30, 2023

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 3. FY 2023-24 RESERVES REVIEW AND FY 2024-25 BUDGET PROCESS
- 4. OPTIONS FOR REFRESHING THE DISTRICT'S WEBSITE

**INFORMATION ITEMS –** (THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY – BACKGROUND INFORMATION IS INCLUDED IN THE PACKET. DISCUSSION IS NOT NECESSARY UNLESS REQUESTED BY A DIRECTOR.)

- 5. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES REPORTS
  - a. Administration
  - b. Finance and Information Technology
- MONTHLY WATER USAGE DATA AND WATER SUPPLY INFORMATION

#### **OTHER ITEMS**

7. REVIEW ISSUES REGARDING DISTRICT ORGANIZATION, PERSONNEL MATTERS, EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FINANCE AND INSURANCE

#### **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 Maribeth Goldsby, District Secretary, at (714) 963-3058, or writing to Municipal Water District of Orange County at P.O. Box 20895, Fountain Valley, CA 92728. 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.

# REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY 18700 Ward Street, Board Room, Fountain Valley, California January 17, 2024, 8:30 a.m.

This meeting will be held in person. 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 fees may apply

(877) 853 5247 Toll-free

Webinar ID: 882 866 5300#

#### **AGENDA**

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**ROLL CALL** 

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS/PARTICIPATION

At this time, members of the public will be given an opportunity to address the Board concerning items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Members of the public may also address the Board about a particular Agenda item at the time it is considered by the Board and before action is taken. If the item is on the Consent Calendar, please inform the Board Secretary before action is taken on the Consent Calendar and the item will be removed for separate consideration.

The Board requests, but does not require, that members of the public who want to address the Board complete a voluntary "Request to be Heard" form available from the Board Secretary prior to the meeting.

#### ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED

Determine need and take action to agendize items(s) which arose subsequent to the posting of the Agenda. (ROLL CALL VOTE: Adoption of this recommendation requires a two-thirds vote of the Board members present, or, if less than two-thirds of the Board members are present, a unanimous vote of those members present.)

#### ITEMS DISTRIBUTED TO THE BOARD LESS THAN 72 HOURS PRIOR TO

**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 seventy-two (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 Web site, accessible at <a href="http://www.mwdoc.com">http://www.mwdoc.com</a>.

- ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OCWD GENERAL MANAGER MIKE MARKUS ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT
- EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARD

#### **NEXT RESOLUTION NO. 2145**

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR (Items 1 to 4)**

(All matters under the Consent Calendar will be approved by one motion unless a Board member requests separate action on a specific item)

#### 1. MINUTES

- December 6, 2023 Workshop Board Meeting
- b. December 20, 2023 Regular Board Meeting

Recommendation: Approve as presented.

#### 2. COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS

- a. Planning & Operations Committee Meeting: December 4, 2023
- b. Administration & Finance Committee Meeting: December 13, 2023
- c. Executive Committee Meeting: December 20, 2023

Recommendation: Receive and file as presented.

#### 3. TREASURER'S REPORTS

- a. MWDOC Revenue/Cash Receipt Register as of December 31, 2023
- b. Disbursement Registers (December/January)

Recommendation: Ratify and approve as presented.

- c. Summary of Cash and Investment and Portfolio Master Summary Report (Cash and Investment report) as of November 30, 2023
- d. PARS Monthly Statement (OPEB Trust)

Recommendation: Receive and file as presented.

#### 4. FINANCIAL REPORT

a. Combined Financial Statements and Budget Comparative for the Period Ending November 30, 2023

Recommendation: Receive and file as presented.

**End Consent Calendar** 

#### **ACTION CALENDAR**

#### 5-1 APPROVAL OF WEBSITE REFRESH

Recommendation: Authorize Option 1 (or A) as follows: Select L.A. Design

Studio as the vendor for Phase I, through a sole source contract (foregoing the RFP process) and begin the process of refreshing basic website components.

Assuming Phase II is not needed or urgent, with the

vendor in place, they are primed to begin work

immediately on additional recommendations from the MWDOC Board following the completion and approval of

an updated MWDOC Communications Plan. This contractor is the original architect of mwdoc.com (developed in 2017), has a repository of assets on hand, and is familiar with the brand, architecture, and codebase of the current website, including customizations, plugins, and integrations. The total project cost quoted is \$32,000, with total yearly maintenance, hosting, and compliance costs "not to exceed" \$6,300. The estimated time for completion is three (3) to six (6) months.

## 5-2 STANDING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS AND SUBJECT MATTER ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2024; SCHEDULE OF COMMITTEE MEETING DATES FOR 2024

Recommendation: (1) Ratify the list of Standing Committee and Subject

Matter Assignments as presented by the President of the Board; and (2) ratify Committee meeting dates/times for

2024.

### 5-3 ASSOCIATION AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS FOR 2024 RES. NO.

Recommendation: (1) Ratify the appointment of Representatives and

Alternates to Associations as presented by the President of the Board; and (2) Adopt proposed Resolution approving the appointment of one Representative and one Alternate

to the Santiago Aqueduct Commission (SAC), for

submission to SAC.

**INFORMATION CALENDAR** (All matters under the Information Calendar will be Received/Filed as presented following any discussion that may occur)

#### 6. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT, JANUARY (ORAL AND WRITTEN)

Recommendation: Receive and file report(s) as presented.

#### 7. MWDOC GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS

- Board of Directors Reports re: Conferences and Meetings
- b. Requests for Future Agenda Topics

Recommendation: Receive and file as presented.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Note: 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 contacting Maribeth Goldsby, District Secretary, at (714) 963-3058, or writing to Municipal Water District of Orange County at P.O. Box 20895, Fountain Valley, CA 92728. 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.



## GENERAL MANAGER REPORT OF STAFF ACTIVITIES

January 2024

### **MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY**

#### **MEMBER AGENCY MANAGERS MEETING**

There was no Member Agency Managers Meeting held in December of 2023.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 18, 2024.

#### **ENGINEERING & PLANNING**

### LEAD AND COPPER RULE REVISIONS – LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY CHOICE PROGRAM

In mid-March 2023, multiple agencies requested MWDOC's assistance in complying with US EPA Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) - Service Line Inventories, which all water systems are required to complete and submit to the primacy agency (for California, it is the State Water Resources Control Board) by October 16, 2024.

On May 24, 2023, MWDOC hosted an initial meeting with (18) OC agencies and the State Division of Drinking Water staff regarding the LCRR – Lead Service Line Inventory compliance requirements.

On June 19, 2023, MWDOC posted an RFP for technical assistance with multiple agencies' service line inventories and received five (5) proposals with the expectation that consultants provide volume discount rates for agencies under the Choice Program.

The MWDOC Board approved a contract award to Hazen and Sawyer (Hazen) on September 20, 2023. Following Board approval, MWDOC staff hosted one-on-one meetings with interested agencies to answer agency-specific questions related to the LCRR compliance approach, costs, and data needs to help agencies navigate the process.

The shared services program has 13 participating agencies. MWDOC is issuing Notices to Proceed to consultant Hazen as agencies sign the MWDOC shared services agreement for agencies' customized scopes of work.

The project remains on schedule. Hazen completed the LCRR Hub site, a central repository of project resources, and the setup of the initial GIS databases for each agency. Hazen continues to review available agency information and collect necessary data as part of the desktop analysis portion of the service line inventory development.

#### MNWD PUMP-IN TO EOCF #2 TECHNICAL STUDY

MWDOC continues to support Moulton Niguel Water District's (MNWD's) technical study of a potential pump-in project to East OC Feeder #2 from the City of Santa Ana's East Station well site. MWDOC has hosted multiple meetings with staff from MET's Water Quality, Operations, and Engineering Groups, MNWD, City of Santa Ana, Orange County Water District (OCWD), and MNWD's consultant Brown & Caldwell.

MWDOC hosted a 5th technical meeting on November 16, 2023, between MET staff, MWDOC, MNWD, the City of Santa Ana, and consultant Brown & Caldwell. Input from the meeting informed the Feasibility Assessment Technical Memorandum being prepared by Brown & Caldwell.

#### DOHENY OCEAN DESALINATION PROJECT

South Coast Water District (SCWD) continues to develop the Doheny Ocean Desalination Project. SCWD estimates an online date of 2028 if approved by the SCWD Board.

At the SCWD Board Meeting on June 22, 2023, Clean Energy Capital (CEC) provided an update on the financial implications of the project. CEC presented updated cost projections for a 5 MGD project where SCWD would take 2 MGD.

The updated estimated 1st-year water cost is \$2,597/AF (in 2028\$) or \$2,058/AF (discounted to 2023\$), which is a \$469/AF increase vs CEC's 2021 estimate. The increase is largely driven by increases in energy costs (with energy costs making up 60% of the overall cost increase).

#### SCWD Unit Cost of Water (\$/AF)

MWDOC Average of High and Low	\$	2,100
5 MGD Plant	\$	2,701
Difference	\$	601
SCWD Residential Average Monthly Cost		
No Desal	\$	141.63
With 5 MGD Plant	\$	145.64
Difference	\$	4.01
CEC estimates of Construction Costs:		
Escalated to a Feb 1, 2025, construction start date	\$13	37,642,914
Total Grants	(\$ 3	$0,423,241)^1$
Total Development & Financing Costs	\$ 3	0,685,350
Total Capitalized Costs	\$13	37,905,023
SCWD Staff Report is located here:		

https://scwd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\_id=3&clip\_id=2790&meta\_id=180312

CEC Presentation slides are located here:

https://scwd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\_id=3&clip\_id=2790&meta\_id=180313

On July 27, 2023, SCWD released the Request for Qualifications for the Progressive Design Build Operate and Maintain (DBOM) Project. SCWD received Statements of Qualifications from 7 teams and, after a qualifications review, has shortlisted three teams for the contract development phase (PCL/CDM/Veolia; Kiewit/IDE/Arcadis; Filanc/Acciona/Hazen).

<sup>1</sup>As of September 2023, SCWD has secured \$32.4M in grant funding for the Project, including \$10M from the California Department of Water Resources Desalination Construction Grant, \$20M from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Water Infrastructure Improvement for the Nation (WIN) Act Grant, and \$2.4M from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Grant.

#### **SHUTDOWNS**

#### AMP Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP) Inspection

MET inspected the PCCP sections of the AMP down-gradient of OC-70 between October 29 and November 4, 2023, to assess the condition of the high tensile strength prestressed structural steel wire in the pipe. MET staff will provide a presentation on the AMP Rehabilitation Project at the Joint Board Workshop on January 3, 2024.

#### **Diemer Water Treatment Plant**

MET has modified the scheduled shutdown of Diemer WTP from a 7-day shutdown to a 3-day shutdown. The shutdown is now scheduled for **January 14-16, 2024.** 

MET originally scheduled a 7-day shutdown to address a damaged chlorine diffuser at Diemer and to address maintenance issues in some pipelines that will be offline during the Diemer shutdown. However, due to issues associated with PFAS regulations and bringing new PFAS treatment systems online for groundwater wells in OC, MET has reduced the shutdown to 3 days. This shutdown will now only focus on repairing the chlorine solution line, repairing the Lower Feeder sample line, and modifying the fluoride feed. Another shutdown will be needed in 2025 to address the deferred pipeline maintenance items.

During the Diemer shutdown, the following pipelines will be affected:

- Allen-McColloch Pipeline
- East Orange County Feeder No.2
- Lower Feeder Treated and Untreated
- Second Lower Feeder (portions)

#### **Lake Mathews**

MET has scheduled a 2-day shutdown of Lake Mathews for **March 12-13, 2024**, to complete repairs to a forebay slide gate and to conduct a geologic survey of the forebay. This shutdown will impact the following pipelines:

- East OC Feeder #1 and
- Santiago Lateral

#### **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

#### **DECEMBER INCIDENTS/EVENTS**

#### 12.6.23 & 12.15.23 Public Safety Power Shutoff

The above events required coordination or efforts from the WEROC Office in support of member agencies. Vicki can provide additional information on events as warranted or requested.

## COORDINATION/PARTICIPATION WITH MEMBER AGENCIES AND OUTSIDE AGENCIES MEETINGS OUTSIDE OF PROGRAMS AREAS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- On 12/4, Vicki attended the state CESA board meeting specific to strategic planning for the state association. Vicki continues to serve as the member at large for the southern chapter on the state board. Vicki was also elected to the position of Vice President.
- On 12/7, Janine attended the monthly Orange County Emergency Management Organization (OCEMO) meeting.
- On 12/8, Vicki provided a WEROC update at WACO.
- On 12/11, Vicki attended the Emergency Management Mutual Aid SEMS Specialist Committee Quarterly meeting. The group changed the planning document and training slides before sending the information to the MARACS.
- On 12/13, Vicki attended the MET Emergency Management virtual meeting with the other members of MET.
- On 12/15, Vicki attended the CESA-Southern Chapter Strategic Planning meeting for 2024.
- On 12/15, Vicki had a meeting with CalWarn President Jim Wollbrick. The Vice President had to resign, so the entire board made appointments, and Vicki was selected to serve as Vice President for CalWARN.
- On 12/18, Vicki attended the NWS presentation on the upcoming storms.
- On 11/21, Vicki attended the OCEMO leadership meeting. This was a transition meeting as the immediate past chair. Vicki has served on this group for the last three years.

#### PLANNING AND PROGRAM EFFORTS

#### **AWIA & Hazard Mitigation**

Vicki is crafting a "Choice" Program RFP with a scope of work that includes the Risk Assessment, Emergency Response Plan Update, and Hazard Mitigation. Combining the three tasks should save money for the member agencies overall. Jurisdictions will not be required to participate in all three tasks but choose the ones that fulfill the agency's needs. Vicki will work with member agencies to review the scope of work after the WEROC quarterly meeting on January 9. The goal is to launch the RFP by the end of

January so agencies can potentially know the cost related to their FY245/25 budget cycle.

#### **EOC Readiness & EOC Project**

WEROC EOC Project – Vicki is waiting for updated documents and drawings from the company based on follow-up questions.

#### **Cyber Security and OCIAC Partnership**

WEROC continues to send out important information to the Cyber Security Distribution Group as received from DHS or the OCIAC.

WEROC has been providing information to the member agencies about highlighted threats to the water industry and other current world events as needed.

#### Member Agency and County/Operational Area Plan Review

No plans were reviewed this month.

#### **Regional Fuel Project**

Vicki continues to work on the project now that the member agencies provided their preliminary needs.

#### **Regional Mapping Project**

Janine continues to work on the revision of the 2017 WEROC Map Atlas and Public Safety Power Shut Off (PSPS) map updates.

#### **Regional Water Distribution Plan**

Vicki is finalizing the regional plan and will be meeting with the cities' emergency managers during quarter 1/2 of 2024 to socialize the tiered approach and capabilities of the plan. This will be done in 5 regions of OC based on the County Board of Supervisor Districts. Tabletop Exercises will be conducted in Q2/3 of 2024.

#### Training and Exercises

- On 12/7, Vicki supported the City of Orange by facilitating a portion of their exercise. Vicki worked with the city's policy group.
- Vicki is developing the 2024 training calendar.

#### OTHER WEROC INFORMATION

#### **WEROC Personnel Update**

No one was selected from the cycle of candidates. In the interim, Janine has been promoted to WEROC Specialist.

#### MET ITEMS CRITICAL TO ORANGE COUNTY

#### MET FINANCE AND RATE ISSUES

Water Transactions for October 2023 (for water delivered in August 2023) totaled 115.1 thousand acre-feet (TAF), which was 36.2 TAF lower than the budget of 151.3 TAF and translated to \$113.9 million in receipts for October 2023, which was \$39.6 million lower than the budget of \$153.5 million.

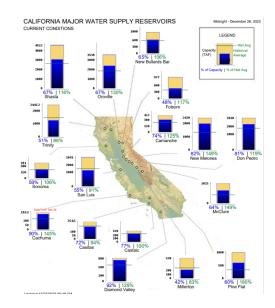
Year-to-date water transactions through October 2023 (for water delivered in May 2023 through August 2023) were 411.7 TAF, which was 145.2 TAF lower than the budget of 556.9 TAF. Year-to-date water receipts through October 2023 were \$422.7 million, which was \$150.9 million lower than the budget of \$573.6 million.

#### MET'S SUPPLY CONDITION UPDATE

The 2023-24 Water Year (2023-24 WY) officially started on October 1, 2023. Thus far, Northern California accumulated precipitation (8-Station Index) reported **9.3 inches or 56% of normal** as of December 26th. The Northern Sierra Snow Water Equivalent was **2.4 inches on December 26th**, which is **25% of normal** for that day. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has set the State Water Project's (SWP) initial "Table A" allocation for WY 2023-24 at 10%, which provides MWD with approximately 191,150 acres **of SWP supply.** 

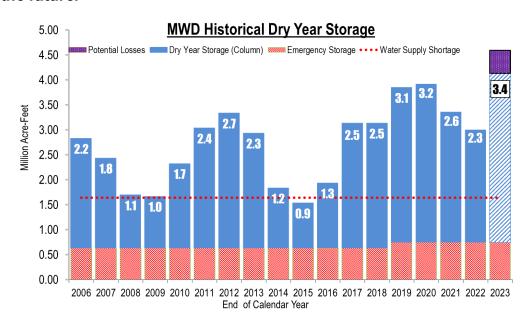
The Upper Colorado River Basin accumulated precipitation is reporting *5.8 inches or* 76% of normal as of December 26<sup>th</sup>. On the Colorado River system, snowpack is measured across four states in the Upper Colorado River Basin. The Upper Colorado River Basin Snow Water Equivalent was *4.2 inches as of December 26th*, which is *54% of normal* for that day. Due to the below-average inflows into Lake Powell over the past several years, the United States Bureau of Reclamation <u>declared a shortage at Lake Mead that has been ongoing since January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022</u>. As of December 2023, there is a 100% chance of shortage continuing in Calendar Year (CY) 2024, a 93% chance in CY 2025, and a 77% chance in CY 2026.

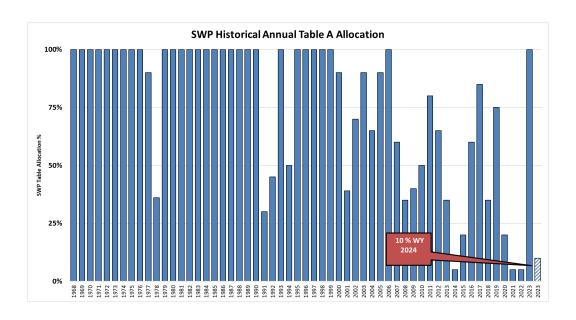
As of December 26<sup>th,</sup> Lake Oroville storage is **67% of total capacity and 130% of normal.** As of December 26<sup>th,</sup> San Luis Reservoir storage is at **55% of total capacity and is 91% of normal.** 



With CY 2023 estimated total demands and losses of 1.52 million acre-feet (MAF) and with a 100% SWP Table A Allocation, MWD is projecting that supplies will exceed demand levels in CY 2023. Based on this, the estimated total dry-year storage for Metropolitan at the end of *CY 2023 will increase to approximately 3.4 MAF*.

A projected dry-year storage supply of 3.4 MAF would be the highest level in MWD History. Unfortunately, due to the 100% SWP Table A Allocation, MWD cannot store approximately 563 TAF. In addition to a high water supply, a large factor in maintaining high water storage levels relies on lower-than-expected water demands. We are seeing regional water demands reaching a 40-year low. However, with most of MWD's water supplies stored in Lake Mead and still a 5-year shortage projection at Lake Mead, there remains a lot of uncertainty about where supply balances will be in the future.





#### **MET'S WATER QUALITY UPDATE**

#### **Water System Operations**

Metropolitan member agency water deliveries were 104,700 acre-feet (AF) for November, with an average of 3,500 AF per day, which was about 900 AF per day lower than in October. In addition, Metropolitan delivered 12,300 AF to Cyclic and Conjunctive Use Programs. Treated water deliveries were 4,400 AF lower than in October, for a total of 60,900 AF or 58 percent of total deliveries for the month. The Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) pumped a total of 57,000 AF in November. Metropolitan maintained a four-pump flow along the CRA for most of the month. State Water Project (SWP) imports averaged 4,300 AF per day, totaling about 127,500 AF for the month. The target SWP blend is around 80 percent for the Weymouth Plant, 35 percent for the Diemer Plant, and 50 percent for the Skinner Plant.

When combined with Colorado River supplies, the 100 percent State Water Project (SWP) allocation provides the region with more water than it demands. Water continues to be managed according to Water Surplus and Drought Management (WSDM) principles and operational objectives, emphasizing positioning SWP supplies to meet future demands in the SWP-dependent area. Metropolitan continues deliveries to Desert Water Agency and Coachella Valley Water District. With the higher SWP Allocation and low regional demands, Metropolitan is working to maximize its use of Table A supplies this year. Metropolitan staff works with member agencies to manage supplies through the Cyclic and Cyclic Cost Offset Program.

#### **Water Treatment and Distribution**

In November, the SWP target blend entering the Weymouth and Diemer plants was 80 percent and 35 percent, respectively. The SWP target entering Lake Skinner was 50 percent in November. The Skinner plant and raw water San Diego Pipeline No. 5 were on the lake bypass during the shutdown of San Diego Pipeline Nos—3 and 6 from

November 1 to 14. The SWP target blend for the San Diego Canal was 50 percent for the Skinner plant and Pipeline No. 5 while on the lake bypass.

Flow-weighted running annual averages for total dissolved solids from September 2022 through August 2023 for Metropolitan's treatment plants capable of receiving a blend of supplies from the SWP and the Colorado River Aqueduct were 474, 479, and 557 milligrams per liter (mg/L) for the Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner plants, respectively.

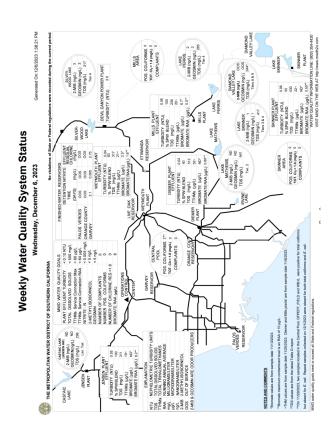
The status of nitrification in the distribution system was significantly improved in November, with nitrite concentrations below action levels in most samples. Limited flushing is still being conducted at a few sites on the west side of the system.

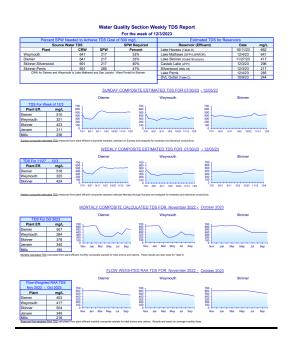
#### **Future Legislation and Regulation**

On November 6, Metropolitan submitted a second joint comment letter with the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts on the proposed direct potable reuse (DPR) regulations. While some of Metropolitan's earlier comments (e.g., the need for greater flexibility in achieving pathogen log-removal credits) were incorporated, the November letter reiterated the previous requests to establish a Science Advisory Panel for constituents of emerging concern, standardize on-line monitoring requirements, and to provide enhanced flexibility for the governance structure of DPR projects. Final regulations are expected to be adopted by SWRCB by December 31, 2023, with an estimated effective date of April 1, 2024. Metropolitan staff will continue to track the DPR rulemaking process.

On November 7, CARB released a 45-day rulemaking package for its Zero-Emission Forklift Regulation. The regulation prohibits fleet operators from purchasing new propane or gasoline-fueled Class IV and Class V forklifts with a rated capacity of up to 12,000 pounds starting in 2026. Metropolitan staff is reviewing the changes for any potential comments by the December 26, 2023 comment deadline. CARB has set the adoption hearing for this regulation on June 27, 2024.

On November 9, the EPA released the second of twelve sets of PFAS data collected under the fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5). The monitoring data on 29 PFAS and lithium will help the EPA make determinations about future regulatory actions (e.g., MCL setting or CERCLA designations). The remaining data will be released in batches through 2026. Metropolitan staff is evaluating these data for PFAS occurrence within our service area.





#### **COLORADO RIVER ISSUES**

Metropolitan staff participated in meetings and workshops with California, Lower Basin, and Upper Basin partners to continue developing a Basin States alternative for operating Lakes Mead and Powell after 2026, once the current operational guidelines (the 2007 Interim Guidelines) expire. Meetings included an online meeting of technical modeling teams from Metropolitan, Southern Nevada Water Authority, and the Central Arizona Project; a two-day meeting of Lower and Upper Basin States principals in Denver, Colorado; and a meeting of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's (USBR) Integrated Technical Education Workgroup in Denver for training on USBR's new online tool for modeling possible post-2026 reservoir operation alternatives. The post-2026 reservoir operation guidelines will significantly influence Metropolitan's future supply of Colorado River water.

Metropolitan staff submitted additional documentation to Reclamation on Metropolitan's Bucket 2 funding proposal for \$420 million. Other documentation included proposals for each of the six components from our initial portfolio proposal, expanding on the mechanisms to conserve water and clarifying how the proposed administrative costs had been determined. By submitting this additional information quickly and completely, further discussions on Bucket 2 projects can begin at Reclamation's earliest opportunity.

#### DELTA CONVEYANCE ACTIVITIES AND STATE WATER PROJECT ISSUES

#### **Delta Conveyance**

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) released a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for a public review that ended on December 16, 2022. The Final EIR is expected at the end of 2023. It will include responses to all substantive comments on the Draft EIR and edits to the Draft EIR, as appropriate, to respond to the comments.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), as part of its permitting review under the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act, released a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act for a public review that ended on March 16, 2023. USACE is in the process of developing responses to the comments received.

#### **Delta Conveyance related Joint Powers Authorities**

At the November 16 regularly scheduled Delta Conveyance Finance Authority (DCFA) Board meeting, the board approved an amendment to the bylaws authorizing the DCFA Board to adopt a policy that authorizes the disclosure of information disclosed in a DCFA closed session consistent with Government Code requirements. Amending the bylaws to include this policy will allow information to be shared with members' legislative bodies and their legal counsel and allow those agencies to act accordingly.

The DCFA Board retained the services of Richardson & Company to perform an annual audit of financial activities for the past fiscal year. The external auditor reported no material weaknesses or recommendations.

#### Sites Reservoir

At the November 17 Joint Reservoir Committee and Sites Authority Board meeting, the Reservoir Committee recommended to the Sites Authority Board to approve a resolution certifying the Final EIR, adopting the CEQA Findings, adopting the Statement of Overriding Considerations; adopting the Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program; approving the Sites Reservoir Project as described in the CEQA Findings; directing the Executive Director to file a Notice of Determination and pay all related fees; and authorizing the Executive Director to certify the CEQA record of proceedings.

#### **Science Activities**

Metropolitan science staff is reviewing the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan Draft Staff Report and Substitute Environmental Document released by the California State Water Resources Control Board on September 28, 2023. The deadline for written comments has been extended to January 19, 2024.

Metropolitan staff participated in the Delta Science Programs Workshop: Exploring Scientific and Management Implications of Upper Trophic Level Foodwebs in the Delta and spoke on Ecosystem Management in the Delta Panel. Additional panel members included CDFW, DWR, USBR, the Delta Conservancy, and the United Auburn Indian Community. This workshop aimed to determine the management needs for decision support tools of foodweb models for managing Delta and Suisun Bay. The workshop was held over two days with several breakout sessions to work out the scope and needs for these decision support tools.

#### **Delta Island Activities**

Metropolitan's Multi-Benefit Landscape Restoration Planning Grant for its Delta Islands (Islands) from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife is in its final phase of developing conceptual plans and the basis of designs for six recommended pilot projects and scientific research studies for Bouldin Island. The primary objective of this grant is to assist in identifying opportunities on Metropolitan's Islands to address land subsidence, habitat restoration, carbon sequestration, sustainable agricultural practices, and water quality/reliability. In addition, feedback was received from environmental interests, local stakeholders, Tribal Nation representatives, and other non-governmental organizations. This planning grant effort, with a final outcomes report, is anticipated to be completed by March 2024.

Final edits to the draft grant agreement for the Multi-Benefit Landscape Restoration Project on Webb Tract were completed, and the agreement is going through the Delta Conservancy's administrative review process. Metropolitan staff executed three

consultant agreements for design, environmental planning, and public outreach for the Multi-Benefit Landscape Restoration Project on Webb Tract. The final consultant agreement for scientific studies is expected to be completed in early December 2023. A New Project Authorization package was submitted to Engineering, and a Capital Investment Plan project number is expected to be issued shortly. A reimbursable project number will be issued after the grant agreement has been fully executed.

#### PUBLIC/GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

#### **MEMBER AGENCY SUPPORT**

#### **Public Affairs Staff:**

- Speakers Bureau –
- Coordinated and scheduled with Orange County water providers the February 2024 Public Affairs Workgroup meeting
- Provided El Toro Water District language prepared by MWDOC staff on Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)
- Met with South Coast Water District to discuss communication needs, education programs, and workforce efforts

#### **Government Affairs Staff:**

- Circulated the Grants Tracking and Acquisition report to member agencies
- Distributed the 2024 meeting calendars for ISDOC and WACO

#### **COMMUNITY AND SPECIAL EVENTS**

#### **Public Affairs Staff:**

 Hosted a Boy Scouts Clinic at El Toro Water District where 59 OC Boy Scouts received their Water and Soil Conservation Merit Badge

#### **Government Affairs Staff:**

- Attended the ACWA Fall Conference in Indian Wells, attending panels on Excellence in Communications, Colorado River, and the cost of conservation.
- Coordinated with OCBC for GM Harvey De La Torre to provide a short presentation at the OCBC Infrastructure Committee meeting.
- Attended the Colorado River Water Users Association, attending various meetings and panel discussions.

#### K-12 WATER EDUCATION

#### **Public Affairs Staff:**

- Provided information regarding the MWDOC K-12 Choice School Programs to the City of Garden Grove and Moulton Niguel Water District
- Met with MWDOC 3-12 Choice School Program contractor, Orange County Department of Education's Inside the Outdoors, to discuss program direction and goals
- Met with Discover Cube to discuss potential partnership opportunities

- Met with Orange County Department of Education's Inside the Outdoors to discuss community engagement opportunities
- Opened the 2024 Poster Contest competition to Orange County K-12 students
- Met with California Environmental Education Foundation to discuss Orange County teacher engagement in training

#### **WORKFORCE INITIATIVE**

#### **Public Affairs Staff:**

- Weekly meeting with Generation: Now! Orange County Community Foundation (OCCF) grant proposal discussion
- Participated in the Orange County Business Council's Workforce Committee meeting
- Met with the Wyland Foundation to discuss collaboration on a Bank of America workforce grant
- Met with OCCF and Dr. Wallace Walrod workforce grant proposal support discussion
- Met with Education Development Center, Inc. U.S. Division, to discuss a potential speaking opportunity and inclusion on a regional workforce committee
- Met with OC Environmental Solutions Network to discuss potential grant opportunities and partners

#### DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS, PUBLICATIONS, AND MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

#### Public Affairs Staff:

- Prepared and distributed content for social media
- Submitted content to the ACWA newsroom
  - o MWDOC Collaborates with Chapman University on Sustainable Landscaping
  - o Harvey F. De La Torre Appointed as MWDOC General Manager
  - MWDOC Board Elects Robert R. McVicker as Board President
- Updated the MWDOC website as requested by several departments
- Prepared and delivered the MWDOC December eCurrents newsletter
  - Open rate 58.9%

#### SPECIAL PROJECTS

#### **Public Affairs Staff:**

- Met with strategic digital communications contractor Hashtag Pinpoint to discuss direction, goals, and engagement opportunities
- Booked the Westin South Coast Plaza for the September 27, 2024, annual OC Water Summit

- Opened registration for the January 31, 2024, MWDOC Water Policy Forum & Dinner
- Attended the Orange County Business Council's 13th Annual Turning Red Tape into Red Carpet Awards Reception
- Met with Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to discuss upcoming Inspection Trips

#### **Governmental Affairs Staff:**

- Invited/confirmed Supervisor Don Wagner as the ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon speaker for January 2024
- Staffed the ISDOC Executive Committee meeting
- Staffed the WACO Meeting featuring speakers from the Imperial Irrigation District
- Drafted and distributed the ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon invitation for January 25, 2024

#### **OUTREACH METRICS**

#### Public Affairs Staff:

- Google Performance Analytics (December 2023)
  - 111 business profile interactions
  - o 1,140 people viewed the business profile
- Website Analytics (GM report timeframe)
  - 9.9k pageviews + 42 OC Water-Smart Parks Microsite site sessions
  - Top pages for this date range
    - MWDOC Homepage 1.3k
    - Water Use Efficiency 1.1k
    - Grab and Go Water Activities 612
    - Residential Rebates 498
    - Water Awareness Poster Contest 418
- ocwatersmartgardens.com Analytics (November 2023)
  - o 388 Sessions
  - Top pages for this date range
    - Landing Page
    - Helpful Plant List
    - Garden Resources Section
- Social Media (November 29st -December 20th)

According to Hootsuite – the global leader in social media management –a good engagement rate is between 1% to 5%.

For this period, MWDOC's engagement rate is at 17.39%%

- 51,468 Post reach (number of people)
- 8,953 Post engagement (actions taken likes, shares, etc.)

#### **LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS**

#### **Governmental Affairs Staff:**

- Along with Directors Dick and Crane, met with Assemblywoman Laurie Davies and provided an update on MWDOC priorities
- Reached out to Metropolitan staff to inquire about holding a Community Leaders Briefing in Orange County. This work is in progress.
- Attended the CCEEB Water, Chemistry & Waste Committee meeting
- Met with staff from various Met Member Agencies to discuss various elements of their program and best practices
- Finalized the Proposed Lead and Copper Rule Improvements briefing paper for our Congressional Delegation. MWDOC's DC advocates will be using it in briefing meetings and (to start) will be asking them to request a comment period extension from the EPA

#### **GRANTS TRACKING & ACQUISITION**

This table will be updated/shared quarterly. The below numbers are from July-December 2023:

Agencies contacted for updates to the project list Projects added to the project list	27 57
Agencies that do not have projects on the project list	4
Funding programs added to the tracking	
sheet Emails communicating funding	15
opportunities	300
Go/No-Go evaluations completed	10
Funding update conference calls with member agencies  Total amount received in grant/loan	66
awards	\$9,050,000
Total applications submitted by Soto Resources	6
Total amount requested (grants and loans)	\$116,675,584

#### WATER USE EFFICIENCY

### ORANGE COUNTY DATA ACQUISITION PARTNERSHIP (OCDAP) STEERING AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (STAC)

On December 12, Rachel Waite attended the OCDAP STAC. The working group collaborates on and organizes a regional effort to cost-share the acquisition of high-resolution aerial imagery and related products. Topics on the agenda included:

- Consent Calendar
- Discussion on Cycle 3 RFP and Cost Structure
- OCDAP Data Sharing/Efforts/Projects Underway and Cycle Derived Products
- OC GIS User Group Update

The next meeting is scheduled for January 9.

## ALLIANCE FOR WATER EFFICIENCY (AWE) WATER EFFICIENCY RESEARCH COMMITTEE (WERC)

On December 12, Sam Fetter joined the AWE WERC Meeting. Topics on the agenda included:

- Continuing the Climate Change Discussion: Information and/or Data Gaps
- Brainstorm on Database for Emerging Technologies
- Overview of Energy Star and WaterSense Data
- AWE Research and Project Updates
- Committee Member Research Activity

The next meeting is scheduled for February 27.

#### SB606 AND AB1668 (CONSERVATION FRAMEWORK) UPDATES

#### a) Dedicated Irrigation Meter (DIM) Landscape Area Measurements (LAM) Program

On December 14, Sam met with NV5 and Laguna Beach County Water District staff to discuss the DIM LAM Program, which supports Orange County retailers in complying with the Conservation Framework. This meeting focused on the classification of special landscape areas.

Follow-up meetings will be scheduled as needed.

#### b) Annual Water Use Reporting

As the Conservation Framework requires, urban water suppliers submitted their first Annual Water Use Report to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) by January 1, 2024. Since the Standards are still going through the regulatory process, DWR released an interim report template. Rachel W. and Rachel Davis assisted numerous Orange County retailers with filling out the template, including obtaining and distributing relevant data and deciphering what areas of the template should be addressed.

## ALLIANCE FOR WATER EFFICIENCY (AWE) ROUNDTABLE: STRATEGIES IN PARTNERING WITH LANDSCAPERS TO PROMOTE WATER-EFFICIENT PRACTICES

On December 19, Tina Fann attended the last AWE roundtable meeting of the year. The AWE roundtables allow members to discuss topics of interest via small and large group discussions and to explore strategies that have or have not yielded successful results. This roundtable focused on partnering with landscape professionals to promote water-efficient practices.

#### WATER-SAVING FIRE TRAINING UNITS MEETING WITH FIRE CHIEF

On December 19, Joe Berg and Rachel W. met with Chief deMetropolis, the City of Orange Fire Chief and outgoing President of the Orange County Fire Chiefs Association. The purpose of this meeting was to provide information regarding the newly available grant funding for Pump Pods Units, a water-efficient firefighting training tool. These units hold and recirculate water while the fire engine pumps and reuses that water during hose training and testing operations. The available grant funding has been awarded to Metropolitan through the Department of Water Resources Urban Community Drought Relief Program. It will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis through the Water Savings Incentive Program.

The next meeting regarding this topic will be on January 18 at the Orange County Fire Chiefs Association Meeting, where this information will be presented to all Fire Chiefs in Orange County.



Street Address: 18700 Ward Street Fountain Valley, California 92708

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 20895 Fountain Valley, CA 92728-0895

> (714) 963-3058 Fax: (714) 964-9389 www.mwdoc.com

Bob McVicker, P.E., D.WRE President

> Jeffery M. Thomas Vice President

Randall Crane, Ph.D. Director

> Larry D. Dick Director

Al Nederhood Director

Karl W. Seckel, P.E. Director

Megan Yoo Schneider, P.E. Director

> Harvey F. De La Torre General Manager

#### MEMBER AGENCIES

City of Brea City of Buena Park East Orange County Water District El Toro Water District **Emerald Bay Service District** City of Fountain Valley City of Garden Grove Golden State Water Co. City of Huntington Beach Irvine Ranch Water District Laguna Beach County Water District City of La Habra City of La Palma Mesa Water District Moulton Niguel Water District City of Newport Beach City of Orange Orange County Water District City of San Clemente Santa Margarita Water District City of Seal Beach Serrano Water District South Coast Water District Trabuco Canyon Water District City of Tustin City of Westminster

Yorba Linda Water District

## MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY AGENCIES MANAGERS MEETING

#### Location:

MWDOC Offices 18700 Ward St. Fountain Valley, CA 92708

WHEN: Thursday, January 18, 2024 from <u>10:30 am</u> to <u>12:00 pm</u>.

#### DRAFT AGENDA

1. Opportunity to add and discuss items not already listed.
Page #/Link
2. General Meeting Information/Discussion Items:
2-1. Draft Board Agendas( <u>Link</u> )
2-2. MWDOC Budget Schedule( <u>Link</u> )
2-3. AMI as a Choice-Based Technical Assistance and Grant Funding Shared Service
2-5. Engineering Update
a. AMP Update
b. Update on Shutdowns
2-6. WEROC Update
3. Announcements: 3-1. MWDOC Water Policy Dinner – January 31 <sup>st</sup>
4. Report Items
4-1. Monthly GM Report(Link)4-2. Legislative Reports(Link)4-3. WEROC Matrix(Link)4-4. Grant Funding Opportunities(Link)4-5. Additional Reports or Materials(Link)
<ul> <li>5.</li> <li>5-1. Next managers meeting February 22<sup>nd</sup></li> <li>5-2. Retirement Celebration Lunch for General Manager Mike Markus</li> </ul>

## AGENDA JOINT PLANNING COMMITTEE WITH BOARD OF DIRECTORS\* MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY AND ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

January 24, 2024, 8:30 A.M.

This meeting will be held in person. 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 fees may apply

(877) 853 5247 Toll-free

Webinar ID: 882 866 5300#

Teleconference Sites: 8865 Citrus Avenue, Westminster 601 N. Ross, Santa Ana

Members of the public may attend and participate in the meeting at all locations.

The meeting of the Joint Planning Committee will be conducted simultaneously with meetings of both Boards of Directors in order to allow all Board members to participate in the discussions and to ensure compliance with the Brown Act. Directors receive no additional compensation or stipend as a result of simultaneously convening this Board of Directors meetings. Items recommended for approval at this meeting will be placed on a future Board Agenda for approval by one or both agencies, as determined by the Committee.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS -** At this time, members of the public will be given an opportunity to address the Committee and the Boards concerning items within the subject matter jurisdiction of either Board. Members of the public may also address the Committee about a particular Agenda item at the time it is considered and before action is taken. The Committee requests, but does not require, that members of the public who want to address the Committee or the Boards complete a voluntary "Request to be Heard" form available from the Board Secretary prior to the meeting.

**ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED -** Determine there is a need to take immediate action on item(s) and that the need for action came to the attention of the Districts subsequent to the posting of the Agenda. (Requires a two-thirds vote of those present, or a unanimous vote if less than two-thirds are present.)

#### ITEMS DISTRIBUTED TO THE COMMITTEE LESS THAN 72 HOURS PRIOR TO 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 Committee less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection in the lobby of the Districts' 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 each of the District's Internet Web site, accessible at <a href="https://www.ocwd.com">www.mwdoc.com</a>.

- Conservation as a California Way of Life Presentation by the State Water Resources Control Board
- 2. Imported water supply update
- Groundwater basin update
- Update on MET's Water Surplus Management
- 5. PFAS Update
- 6. Any future agenda items
- 7. 2024 Meeting Dates: April 24, July 24, October 23

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 Christina Fuller, OCWD District Secretary at 714/378-3234, or Maribeth Goldsby, MWDOC District Secretary, at (714) 593-5006, or writing to Orange County Water District at P.O. Box 8300, Fountain Valley, CA, 92728, or Municipal Water District of Orange County at P.O. Box 20895, Fountain Valley, CA 92728. 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.



## LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF ORANGE COUNTY

#### **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

Wednesday, January 10, 2024 8:15 a.m.

County Administrative North (CAN)
First Floor Multipurpose Room 101
400 W. Civic Center Drive, Santa Ana, CA 92701

Any member of the public may request to speak on any agenda item at the time the Commission is considering the item.

- 1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 3. ROLL CALL
- 4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATION (Communications received after agenda distribution for agendized items.)
- 5. PUBLIC COMMENT

This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items not on the agenda, provided that the subject matter is within the jurisdiction of the Commission and that no action may be taken by the Commission on off-agenda items unless authorized by law.

#### 6. CONSENT CALENDAR

- a.) December 13, 2023 Regular Commission Meeting Minutes

  The Commission will consider approval of the December 13, 2023 meeting minutes.
- b.) Fiscal Year 2023-24 Quarterly Financial Report (Second Quarter)
  The Commission will receive the second quarter financial report for Fiscal Year 2023-24.

#### c.) Appointment Processes for OC LAFCO Expiring Terms and Vacancy

The Commission will receive a report on the appointment processes for member seats with expiring terms in 2024 or currently vacant.

#### d.) OC LAFCO Professional Services Agreements Update

The Commission will receive the annual update on the current professional services agreements.

#### 7. PUBLIC HEARING

No public hearing items scheduled.

#### 8. COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND ACTION

#### a.) Professional Consultant Services Agreement with RSG Inc.

The Commission will consider approval of a professional services agreement with RSG, Inc. to conduct a municipal service and sphere of influence reviews for the Central Region.

#### b.) Second Amendment to Agreement with Best Best & Krieger LLP

The Commission will consider approval of a second amendment to the professional services agreement with Best Best & Krieger to continue providing general counsel services.

#### c.) FY 23-24 Mid-Year Work Plan Update

The Commission will receive a report on the status of goals, objectives, and other projects of the agency's 2022-2025 Work Plan.

#### d.) County Unincorporated Areas Report

The Commission will receive a comprehensive report on the remaining county unincorporated areas and disadvantaged unincorporated communities.

#### 9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

This is an opportunity for Commissioners to comment on issues not listed on the agenda, provided that the subject matter is within the jurisdiction of the Commission. No discussion or action may occur or be taken except to place the item on a future agenda if approved by the Commission majority.

#### 10. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Executive Officer's announcement of upcoming events and brief report on activities of the Executive Officer since the last meeting.

#### 11. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### a.) Commission Study Session

The Commission will conduct a study session on February 14, 2024 to discuss efforts involving enhancement of agency communication. The session will convene immediately following the agency's regular meeting.

#### b.) Multipurpose Room Teleconference Capabilities

The Commission Clerk will give an oral report on the status of video recording of future OC LAFCO regular meetings.

#### 12. CLOSED SESSION

No closed session items scheduled.

#### 13. ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

The next Regular Commission Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at 8:15 a.m. at the County Administrative North (CAN), First Floor Multipurpose Room 101, 400 W. Civic Center Drive, Santa Ana, CA 92701.

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

The Local Agency Formation Commission of Orange County welcomes your participation. The public may share general comments or comments on agenda items through the following options:

- 1) <u>In-person</u> comments may be provided during the general comment period on off-agenda items and during the hearing of a specific agenda item. In accordance with the OC LAFCO guidelines, each speaker's comments may not exceed three (3) minutes for the respective item. If you have documents for the Commission, please bring 15 copies and submit to the Commission Clerk for distribution.
- 2) <u>Written</u> general comments or comments on specific agenda items may be submitted by email to the Commission Clerk at <u>ccarter-benjamin@oclafco.org</u>. Comments received no less than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the regular meeting will be distributed to the Commission and included in the record.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.5, public records that relate to open session agenda items that are distributed to a majority of the Commission less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be made available to the public on the OC LAFCO website at <a href="https://www.oclafco.org">www.oclafco.org</a>.

State law requires that a participant in an OC LAFCO proceeding who has a financial interest in a decision and who has made a campaign contribution of more than \$250 to any commissioner in the past year must disclose the contribution. If you are affected, please notify the Commission's staff before the hearing.

#### AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

All regular meeting agendas and associated reports are available at <a href="www.oclafco.org">www.oclafco.org</a>. Any person with a disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) may receive a copy of the agenda or associated reports upon request. Any person with a disability covered under the ADA may also request a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, to participate in a public meeting. Requests for copies of meeting documents and accommodations shall be made with OC LAFCO staff at (714) 640-5100 at least three business days prior to the respective meeting.

### **2024 MEETING AND EVENTS CALENDAR**

Approved November 8, 2023

2024



January									
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S			
	1	2	3	4	5	6			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27			
28	29	30	31						

	April									
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S				
	1	2	3	4	5	6				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27				
28	29	30								

July									
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S			
	1	2	3	4	5	6			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27			
28	29	30	31						

October								
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S		
		1	2	3	4	5		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
27	28	29	30	31				

February								
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S		
				1	2	3		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
25	26	27	28	29				

May									
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S			
			1	2	3	4			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25			
26	27	28	29	30	31				

August								
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S		
				1	2	3		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		

	November									
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S				
					1	2				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9				
10	11	12	13	14	15	16				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23				
24	25	26	27	28	29	30				

March									
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S			
					1	2			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30			
31									

	June					
S	М	Т	8	Т	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

September						
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

	December						
	S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Ī	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Ī	29	30	31				

OC LAFCO Regular Meeting (begins at 8:15 a.m.)

Location: County Administrative North, First Floor Multipurpose Room 101, 400 W. Civic Center Dr., Santa Ana, CA 92701.

Office closure due to legal holidays and flexible work schedule.

CALAFCO Annual Conference - October 16 - 18, 2024 at Tenaya Lodge at Yosemite.



#### **Executive Committee Meeting**

#### **Mailing Address**

P.O. Box 20895 Fountain Valley, CA 92728 Tuesday, January 2, 2024 7:30 a.m.

The next meeting of the ISDOC Executive Committee will be via teleconference only. The MWDOC/OCWD offices are closed to the public. Please use the information below to access the meeting.

#### **Meeting Location**

MWDOC/OCWD 18700 Ward Street Fountain Valley, CA 92708

(714) 963-3058 (714) 964-5930 fax

https://isdoc.specialdistrict.org/

**Executive Committee** 

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3840960436

Dial by your location 669 900 9128 US (San Jose) 877 853 5247 US Toll-free 888 788 0099 US Toll-free

President Hon. Grea Mills Serrano Water District

1st Vice President

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Hon. Bob McVicker Municipal Water District Orange County

Hon. Paul Mesmer Surfside Colony Community Services District

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Hon. Scott Nelson Placentia Library District

Secretary Vacant

Treasurer Hon. Saundra Jacobs Santa Margarita Water District

Immediate Past President

Hon. Mark Monin El Toro Water District

#### **Staff Administration**

**Heather Baez** 

Municipal Water District of Orange

Tina Dubuque

Municipal Water District of Orange County

#### **AGENDA**

Welcome, Introductions

[Please mute yourself when not speaking. Please raise hand on Zoom if you have a question or comment.]

II. Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes: 12/5/2023

III. Public Comments on items not on the agenda

IV. New Business

Associate Member Day Ad-Hoc Committee Update

V. Old Business

ISDOC Website Update

VI. Treasurer's Report - Director Jacobs

Report of accounts

VII. CSDA Report - Director Schafer or Chris Palmer

Receive, discuss and file the CSDA Report

VIII. LAFCO Report - Director Fisler

Receive, discuss and file the LAFCO report

IX. ACWA Report – Director Jacobs

Receive, discuss and file the ACWA report

#### X. OCCOG Report – Director Scheafer

• Receive, discuss and file OCCOG report

#### **XI. Subcommittee Reports**

- Programs Director McVicker
- Membership Director Mesmer
- Legislative Trustee Nelson

#### XII. Adjourn



## Executive Committee Meeting (Virtual Meeting via Zoom)

Tuesday, December 5, 2023, 7:30 a.m.

#### **MEETING MINUTES**

#### I. WELCOME:

President Mills called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. and welcomed all attendees.

#### **DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

Greg Mills	President	Serrano Water District (SWD)
Bob McVicker	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC)
Paul Mesmer	2nd Vice President	Surfside Colony Community Services District (SCCS)
Scott Nelson	3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President	Placentia Library District (PLD)
Vacant	Secretary	
Mark Monin	Immediate Past President	El Toro Water District (ETWD)

#### **DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

Saundra F.	Treasurer	Santa Margarita Water District (SMWD)
Jacobs		

#### **SUPPORT STAFF PRESENT:**

Tina Dubuque	MWDOC
Heather Baez	MWDOC
Sharon Brimer	Recording Secretary

#### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Alicia Dunkin	Orange County Water District (OCWD)
Arlene Schafer	Costa Mesa Sanitary District (CMSD)
Art Perry	CMSD
Ed Mandich	Trabuco Canyon Water District (TCWD)
Gavin Centeno	Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission (OC LAFCO)
Jeanette Contreras	Placentia Library District
Jim Fisler	Mesa Water District (MWD)
John Livas	Smart Energy Water (SEW)
Marnie Primmer	Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG)
Michelle Monaco	Five Star Bank
Mike Gaskins	ETWD
Mike Scheafer	CMSD
Peter Whittingham	Whittingham Public Affairs Advisors
Randal Crane	MWDOC
Stacy Taylor	MWD
Stephen Faessel	Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD)

#### II. MEETING MINUTES:

• Approval of Minutes: November 11, 2023, Executive Committee meeting minutes.

#### **MOTION:**

Motion by Director McVicker, second Director Monin, to approve the meeting minutes of the November 11, 2023, Executive Committee meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

### III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

President Mills acknowledged Michelle Monaco. Ms. Monaco provided introductory information about herself, noting she is the new Government Banking Manager with Five Star Bank and the new point of contact to ISDOC for Five Star Bank.

There were no further Public Comments, and President Mills continued the meeting.

# IV. NEW BUSINESS:

"Associate Member Day" exhibit in 2024

President Mills discussed having an Associate Member Day to allow Associate Members to introduce themselves to the membership and have one-on-one discussions with ISDOC members explaining the services they offer.

President Mills suggested forming an ad-hoc committee.

John Livas, Associate Member Smart Energy Water, offered their corporate offices in Irvine for the Associate Member Day. The offer included lunch.

President Mills thanked Mr. Livas for the generous offer.

Ms. Baez suggested that anyone interested in serving on the ad-hoc committee send President Mills or Heather Baez an email. Director Mesmer volunteered to serve on the ad-hoc committee. This topic will be scheduled for the January 2, 2024 Executive Session.

#### V. OLD BUSINESS:

Director Mesmer reported the ISDOC Website is scheduled to be rolled out in January 2024.

The agenda was reordered to take Item VIII - OC LAFCO REPORT.

#### Item VIII - LAFCO REPORT: DIRECTOR FISLER

Director Fisler reported the next OC LAFCO meeting was scheduled for December 13, 2023, at 8:15 a.m.

Agenda topics for the December 13, 2023, OC LAFCO Meeting:

- Adoption of a Resolution Approving the Fourth Amendment to Memorandum of Agreement for the Position of Executive Officer.
- Appointment of 2024 OC LAFCO Officers, Chair and Vice Chair for 2024

OC LAFCO Staff published the semi-annual publication of the Pulse (December 2023). It contains the Agency Report Card, What is Coming in 2024, and a spotlight article on Irvine Ranch Water District's General Manager Paul Cook.

An updated version of the OC LAFCO website will be released in December.

# VI. TREASURER'S REPORT: DIRECTOR JACOBS

President Mills reported that the ISDOC Financial Audit conducted by Serrano Water District's Business Manager/CPA was completed with no deviations or exceptions noted.

President Mills reported that the reconciled bank account balance on November 30, 2023, was \$7,658.24.

# Expenses:

\$315 was paid to Brimer and Associates, recording secretary services, for the September 28, 2023, Quarterly Meeting and October 3, 2023, Executive Committee Meeting, and \$135 was paid to Brimer and Associates for the Executive Committee Meeting on November 7, 2023,

Income/Deposit:

MWDOC \$75 Luncheon

# VII. CALIFORNIA SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION (CSDA) REPORT – DIRECTOR SCHAFER OR CHRIS PALMER

Director Schafer provided a year-end report:

- 1.327 Members in CSDA
- The Board Secretary/Clerk Conference was held November 6 − 8, 2023 in Monterey. There were 320 attendees.
- She referenced the CSDA webinars available to CSDA members.

Director Schafer named the committees she serves: Membership Committee, Finance Committee, Professional Development, and Alliance Committee.

#### VIII. LAFCO REPORT: DIRECTOR FISLER

Item taken after Item V.

#### IX. ACWA REPORT: DIRECTOR JACOBS

No report for this meeting.

# X. ORANGE COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (OCCOG) REPORT: DIRECTOR SCHEAFER

Director Scheafer reported on November 30, 2023, Board meeting.

- Approved an anti-discrimination policy.
- The Annual Conference, March 28, 2024, is being held at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum in Yorba Linda. The topics will be housing, transportation, water, and coastal infrastructure issues.
- There was a report from Darin Chidsey, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Chief Operating Officer, on the Connect SoCal 2024. There is PowerPoint available on the SCAG website that may be of value to ISDOC members.

Director Scheafer introduced OCCOG Executive Director Marnie Primmer.

Ms. Primmer reported that Director Schaefer is the ISDOC representative to OCCOG, with Director Monin as the alternate. She reviewed the scope of membership in OCCOG. The policy areas are land use and housing, transportation, water, energy, and air quality. OCCOG provides technical input on Orange County's behalf to strengthen the Connect SoCal plan. She noted that SCAG is required to produce a Connect SoCal plan every four years. She continued with a review of OCCOG's involvement with state issues.

Recap ISDOC dues – Historically, ISDOC paid \$5,000 yearly. A few years ago, the ISDOC dues were reduced to \$500. Two years ago, OCCOG took an executive position to raise dues, and ISDOC's dues were raised to \$1,000. She noted that in previous discussions regarding ISDOC's membership, ISDOC expressed an interest in retaining voting privileges.

She noted there is an opportunity to retain participation in OCCOG as an ex-officio member. This level does not require dues and would not grant voting privileges.

President Mills thanked Ms. Primmer for the information.

Director Monin said he attends OCCOG meetings and finds them very useful. He supports ISDOC membership at some level.

Director Schaefer said he would confer with Ms. Primmer regarding ISDOC's level of participation and present the information at the meeting on January 2, 2024.

President Mills thanked Ms. Primmer for the information.

# XI. CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF SANITATION AGENCIES (CASA) REPORT

There was no update for this meeting.

# XII. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Programs – Director McVicker

Director McVicker offered that the speaker on January 25, 2024, is Supervisor Donald P. Wagner. He noted Supervisor Wagner prefers an in-person meeting.

Director Mesmer offered Five Star Bank is currently scheduled as the Associate Member spotlight.

John Livas, Smart Energy Water, reiterated the offer to host the meeting and said they could accommodate a virtual component for the meeting.

A discussion ensued on the January 25, 2024, meeting format: In-person, hybrid, or zoom only.

### **MOTION:**

Motion by Director Nelson, second Director McVicker, to approve changing the format of the January 25, 2025, Quarterly Meeting from virtual to in-person with the meeting to be held at the MWDOC/OCWD Joint Boardroom . Motion passed unanimously.

• Membership – Director Mesmer

There was no report for this meeting.

Legislative - Trustee Nelson

Trustee Nelson reported that 2024 Special Districts Legislative Days in Sacramento are May 21 - 22, 2024. Dates for Special Districts Recognition Week will be forthcoming.

#### XIII. ADJOURN:

President Mills thanked the attendees and staff for their participation and assistance. The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 a.m.

The next Quarterly Meeting is on January 25, 2024, at 11:30 a.m. and will be held inperson at the MWDOC/OCWD Joint Boardroom.

The next ISDOC Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 2, 2024, at 7:30 a.m. via Zoom.

ISDOC President, Greg Mills

Sneg mills



# Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO) Virtual Meeting

Friday, January 5, 2024 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

# **Zoom Registration:**

Click here to register

#### Officers

Chair Hon. Mark Monin El Toro Water District

Vice Chair Hon. Greg Mills Serrano Water District

#### **Staff Contacts**

Medha Paliwal / Dani Berch
Orange County Water District (OCWD)
(714) 378-3200

www.ocwd.com/news-events/events/waco

Heather Baez / Christina Hernandez Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) (714) 963-3058 www.mwdoc.com/waco

# **AGENDA**

......

# **Welcome & Announcements**

• Mark Monin, El Toro Water District

# **Reports**

- Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MET)
   Linda Ackerman
- California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Chris Palmer
- Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Cathy Green

#### **Program**

Snowpack/Snow Melt: How Did We Do?

Michael Anderson
State Climatologist, California Department of Water Resources

Demetri Polyzos
Resources Planning Team Manager, Metropolitan Water District of
Southern California

Adjourn	
Next WACO Meeting	

Friday, February 2, 2024 at 7:30 a.m. via Zoom

**Next WACO Planning Committee Meeting** 

Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 7:30 a.m. via Zoom



# WACO Planning Committee Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 7:30 A.M.

Join Zoom Meeting: https://zoom.us/j/92882659982

Meeting ID: 928 8265 9982 Phone Audio: 669-900-9128

#### **AGENDA**

#### **WELCOME**

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

Mailing Address P.O. Box 20895

Fountain Valley, CA 92728

Meeting Location Virtual - Zoom

(714) 378-8232 (714) 963-0291 fax

www.mwdoc.com/waco www.ocwd.com/news-events/events/waco

#### **Officers**

Chair Hon. Mark Monin El Toro Water District

Vice Chair Hon. Greg Mills Serrano Water District

#### Staff Contacts:

Medha Paliwal/Dani Berch Orange County Water District

Heather Baez/Christina Hernandez

Municipal Water District of Orange County

- 1. February 2, 2024 WACO Meeting
  - o Reports: MET, ACWA
  - o Program: State of the Orange County Groundwater Basin
  - o Speaker: John Kennedy, General Manager, Orange County Water District
- 2. March 1, 2024 WACO Meeting
  - o Reports: MET, ACWA
  - Program: TBD Note: Daniel Swain was mentioned as an option for March or April; confirm if the committee would like staff to pursue this for March
- 3. April 5, 2024 WACO Meeting
  - o Reports: MET, ACWA
  - o Program: Delta Demonstration Project (San Joaquin Blueprint)
  - Speaker: Scott Hamilton, Executive Director, South Valley Water Resources Authority

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 1. Discuss potential topics for future meetings:
  - Atmospheric rivers (ARs), Marty Ralph, Director, Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes
  - o Colorado River users
  - Jay Lund, CALVIN Model
  - o California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS)
  - o OC demographics where we've been and where we are going
  - Forest restoration and headwaters
  - SWRCB's conservation as a way of life plan w/ speakers David Mitchell and Joe Berg (and possibly Dave Bolland)
  - MET's climate action master plan (June/Summer 2024?)
  - Salton Sea w/ members from the Salton Sea Authority
  - Aggregation of water rights
  - Offshore desalination, subsea reverse osmosis (SSRO) technology w/ Ocean Well Water (Tim Quinn)
  - Electrification, advanced car fleets, air quality
  - o Desal in CA: Present & Future w/ CalDesal Executive Director Glenn Farrel
  - Global Warming: Natural or Manmade? w/ speaker Roy Spencer, Ph.D.,
     Climatologist, Author & Former NASA Scientist (can also speak to related topics such as Urbanizations Effects on Temperatures and Colorado River shortages)
  - Updating California water laws to address drought and climate change w/ Holly Doremus, Professor of Law, Berkeley
- 2. Discussion of January 5 meeting: Snowpack/Snow Melt: How Did We Do?

#### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- 1. WACO meetings: Zoom meeting ID and meeting link change monthly
- Planning meetings: Zoom link is the same every month
- 3. Meeting materials are posted at: <a href="https://www.mwdoc.com/waco/">https://www.mwdoc.com/waco/</a>

#### **ADJOURN**

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

#### JANUARY/FEBRUARY

- 1. Jan 24-26 CASA Conference (Palm Springs)
- 2. Jan 25 11:30 a.m. ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon
- 3. Jan 25 12 Noon South County Agencies Group Meeting
- 4. Jan 26 DISTRICT OFFICE CLOSED
- 5. Jan 30 10:00 a.m. RRC Meeting
- 6. Jan 31 5:30 p.m. MWDOC Water Policy Forum Dinner (Westin Costa Mesa)
- 7. Feb 1 8: 30 a.m. SOCWA Board Meeting
- 8. Feb 2 7:30 a.m. WACO Meeting
- 9. Feb 2 12 noon Pres/VP/GM Meeting
- 10. Feb 5 8:30 a.m. MWDOC Planning/Operations Meeting
- 11. Feb 6 7:30 a.m. ISDOC Executive Committee Meeting
- 12. Feb 7 8:30 a.m. MWDOC/MET Directors Workshop
- 13. Feb 9 DISTRICT OFFICE CLOSED
- 14. Feb 12 7:30 a.m. Agenda Review
- 15. Feb 14 8:15 a.m. LAFCO Meeting
- 16. Feb 14 8:30 a.m. MWDOC Admin/Finance Committee
- 17. Feb 15 10:30 a.m. MWDOC Managers Meeting
- 18. Feb 16 12 noon Pres/VP/GM Meeting
- 19. Feb 19 Presidents Day DISTRICT OFFICE CLOSED
- 20. Feb 20 7:30 a.m. Regular Engineering/Finance Committee Meetings
- 21. Feb 20 7:30 a.m. WACO Planning Committee Meeting
- 22. Feb 21 8:30 a.m. MWDOC Board Meeting
- 23. Feb 22 7:30 a.m. Regular ETWD Board Meeting
- Feb 23 DISTRICT OFFICE CLOSED

# EL TORO WATER DISTRICT Glossary of Water Terms

**Accumulated overdraft:** The amount of water necessary to be replaced in the intake area of the groundwater basin to prevent the landward movement of ocean water into the fresh groundwater body.

**Acre-foot, AF:** A common water industry unit of measurement. An acre-foot is 325,851 gallons, or the amount of water needed to cover one acre with water one foot deep. An acre-foot serves annual needs of two typical California families.

ACWA: Association of California Water Agencies.

A statewide group based in Sacramento that actively lobbies State and Federal

Government on water issues.

**Advanced treatment:** Additional treatment processes used to clean wastewater even further following primary and secondary treatment. Also known as tertiary treatment.

AFY: Acre-foot per year.

Alluvium: A stratified bed of sand, gravel, silt, and clay deposited by flowing water.

AMP: Allen McCulloch pipeline.

Major pipeline transporting treated water to water districts between Yorba Linda, where it starts to El Toro Water District reservoir, where it terminates.

**Annexation:** The inclusion of land within a government agency's jurisdiction.

**Annual overdraft:** The quantity by which the production of water from the groundwater supplies during the water year exceeds the natural replenishment of such groundwater supplies during the same water year.

**Aqueduct:** A man-made canal or pipeline used to transport water.

**Aquifer:** An underground geologic formation of rock, soil or sediment that is naturally saturated with water; an aquifer stores groundwater.

Arid: Dry; deserts are arid places. Semi-arid places are almost as dry as a desert.

**Artesian:** An aquifer in which the water is under sufficient pressure to cause it to rise above the bottom of the overlying confining bed, if the opportunity is provided.

**Artificial recharge:** The addition of surface water to a groundwater reservoir by human activity, such as putting surface water into recharge basins. (See also: groundwater recharge and recharge basin.)

AWWA American Water Works Association

Nationwide group of public and private water purveyors and related industrial suppliers.

**Base flow:** The portion of river surface flow which remains after deduction of storm flow and/or purchased imported water.

**Bay-Delta**: The Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay-Delta is a unique natural resource of local, state and national significance. The Delta Is home to more than 500,000 people; contains 500,000 acres of agriculture; provides habitat for 700 native plant and animal species; provides water for more than 25 million Californians and 3 million acres of agriculture; is traversed by energy, communications and transportation facilities vital to the economic health of California; and supports a \$400 billion economy.

**BIA:** Building Industry Association.

Biofouling: The formation of bacterial film (biofilm) on fragile reverse osmosis membrane surfaces.

**Biosolids**: Solid organic matter recovered from a sewage treatment process and used especially as fertilizer.

**BMP:** Best Management Practice. An engineered structure or management activity, or combination of these, that eliminates or reduces adverse environmental effects.

**Brackish water:** A mixture of freshwater and saltwater.

**Brown Act:** Ralph M. Brown Act enacted by the State legislature governing all meetings of legislative bodies. Also know as the Open Meeting requirements.

Canal: A ditch used to move water from one location to another.

**CASA:** California Association of Sanitation Agencies The sanitation equivalent of ACWA concerned solely with issues affecting the treatment and disposal of solid waste and wastewater.

CEQA: California Environmental Quality Act.

**CERCLA:** Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act. This federal law establishes the Superfund program for hazardous waste sites. It provides the legal basis for the United States EPA to regulate and clean up hazardous waste sites, and if appropriate, to seek financial compensation from entities responsible for the site.

CFS: Cubic feet per second.

**Chloramines:** A mixture of ammonia and chlorine used to purify water.

Clarify: To make clear or pure by separation and elimination of suspended solid material.

**Coagulation:** The clumping together of solids so they can more easily be settled out or filtered out of water. A chemical called aluminum sulfate (alum) is generally used to aid coagulation in water treatment and reclamation.

**Coastkeepers**: A non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and preservation of the marine habitats and watersheds of Orange County through programs of education, restoration, enforcement and advocacy.

**Colored water:** Groundwater extracted from the basin that is unsuitable for domestic use without treatment due to high color and odor exceeding drinking water standards.

**Condensation:** The process of water vapor (gas) changing into liquid water. An example of condensation can be seen in the tiny water droplets that form on the outside of a glass of iced tea as warmer air touches the cooler glass.

**Confined aquifer:** An aquifer that is bound above and below by dense layers of rock and contains water under pressure.

**Conjunctive use:** Storing imported water in a local aquifer, in conjunction with groundwater, for later retrieval and use.

Contaminate: To make unclean or impure by the addition of harmful substances.

**CPCFA:** California Pollution Control Financing Authority. State agency providing funds for wastewater reclamation projects.

#### Crisis:

- 1. **a:** The turning point for better or worse **b:** a paroxysmal attack of pain, distress, or disordered function **c:** an emotionally significant event or radical change of status in a person's life <a midlife *crisis*>
- 2. The decisive moment (as in a literary plot)
- 3. **a:** An unstable or crucial time or state of affairs in which a decisive change is impending; *especially* : one with the distinct possibility of a highly undesirable outcome <a financial *crisis*> **b:** a situation that has reached a critical phase

CTP Coastal Treatment Plant

**CWPCA** California Water Pollution Control Association. A 7000 member non-profit educational organization dedicated to water pollution control.

Dam: A barrier built across a river or stream to hold water.

**Decompose:** To separate into simpler compounds, substances or elements.

**Deep percolation:** The percolation of surface water through the ground beyond the lower limit of the root zone of plants into a groundwater aquifer.

**Degraded water:** Water within the groundwater basin that, in one characteristic or another, does not meet primary drinking water standards.

**Delta:** Where the rivers empty; an outlet from land to ocean, also where the rivers deposit sediment they carry forming landforms.

**Delta Vision**: Delta Vision is intended to identify a strategy for managing the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta as a sustainable ecosystem that would continue to support environmental and economic functions that are critical to the people of California.

**Demineralize:** To reduce the concentrations of minerals from water by ion exchange, distillation, electro-dialysis, or reverse osmosis.

**De-nitrification:** The physical process of removing nitrate from water through reverse osmosis, microfiltration, or other means.

**Desalting (or desalination):** Removing salts from salt water by evaporation or distillation. Specific treatment processes, such as reverse osmosis or multi-stage flash distillation, to demineralize seawater or brackish (saline) waters for reuse. Also sometimes used in wastewater treatment to remove salts other pollutants.

**Desilting:** The physical process of removing suspended particles from water.

**Dilute:** To lessen the amount of a substance in water by adding more water.

**Disinfection:** Water treatment which destroys potentially harmful bacteria.

**Drainage basin:** The area of land from which water drains into a river, for example, the Sacramento River Basin, in which all land area drains into the Sacramento River. Also called catchment area, watershed, or river basin.

**Drought:** A prolonged period of below-average precipitation.

**DPHS:** California Department of Public Health Services. Regulates public water systems; oversees water recycling projects; permits water treatment devices; certifies drinking water treatment and distribution operators; supports and promotes water system security; provides support for small water systems and for improving technical, managerial, and financial (TMF) capacity; provides funding opportunities for water system improvements.

**DVL:** Diamond Valley Lake. Metropolitan's major reservoir near Hemet, in southwestern Riverside County.

**DWR:** California Department of Water Resources. Guides development/management of California's water resources; owns/operates State Water Project and other water facilities.

**Endangered Species:** A species of animal or plant threatened with extinction.

**Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA)**: The most wide-ranging of the dozens of United States environmental laws passed in the 1970s. As stated in section 2 of the act, it was designed to protect critically imperiled species from extinction as a "consequence of economic growth and development untendered by adequate concern and conservation.

Ecosystem: Where living and non-living things interact (coexist) in order to survive.

**Effluent:** Wastewater or other liquid, partially or completely treated or in its natural state, flowing from a treatment plant.

**Evaporation:** The process that changes water (liquid) into water vapor (gas).

Estuary: Where fresh water meets salt water.

**Evapotransporation:** The quantity of water transpired (given off), retained in plant tissues, and evaporated from plant tissues and surrounding soil surface. Quantitatively, it is expressed in terms of depth of water per unit area during a specified period of time.

FCH Federal Clearing House - Environmental Review/Processing

**FEMA** Federal Emergency Management Agency

**Filtration:** The process of allowing water to pass through layers of a porous material such as sand, gravel or charcoal to trap solid particles. Filtration occurs in nature when rain water soaks into the ground and it passes through hundreds of feet of sand and gravel. This same natural process of filtration is duplicated in water and wastewater treatment plants, generally using sand and coal as the filter media.

**Flocculation:** A chemical process involving addition of a coagulant to assist in the removal of turbidity in water.

**Forebay:** A reservoir or pond situated at the intake of a pumping plant or power plant to stabilize water level; also, a portion of a groundwater basin where large quantities of surface water can recharge the basin through infiltration.

**Gray water reuse:** Reuse, generally without treatment, of domestic type wastewater for toilet flushing, garden irrigation and other non-potable uses. Excludes water from toilets, kitchen sinks, dishwashers, or water used for washing diapers.

**Green Acres Project (GAP):** A 7.5 million gallons per day (MGD) water reclamation project that serves tertiary treated recycled water to irrigation and industrial users in Costa Mesa, Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, Newport Beach, and Santa Ana.

God Squad: A seven-member committee that is officially called the "Endangered Species Committee". Members consist of Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of the Army, the Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and one individual from the affected state. The squad was established in 1978 by an amendment to the 1973 Endangered Species Act (ESA). It has only been called into action three times to deal with proposed federal agency actions that have been determined to cause "jeopardy" to any listed species. Such actions may receive an exemption from the ESA if five members of the committee determine that the action is of regional or national significance, that the benefits of the action clearly outweigh the benefits of conserving the species and that there are no reasonable and prudent alternatives to the action.

**Groundwater:** Water that has percolated into natural, underground aquifers; water in the ground, not water puddled on the ground.

**Groundwater basin:** A groundwater reservoir defined by the overlying land surface and the underlying aquifers that contain water stored in the reservoir. Boundaries of success-ively deeper aquifers may differ and make it difficult to define the limits of the basin.

**Groundwater mining:** The withdrawal of water from an aquifer in excess of recharge over a period of time. If continued, the underground supply would eventually be exhausted or the water table could drop below economically feasible pumping lifts.

**Groundwater overdraft:** The condition of a groundwater basin in which the amount of water withdrawn by pumping exceeds the amount of water that recharges the basin over a period of years during which water supply conditions approximate average.

**Groundwater recharge:** The action of increasing groundwater storage by natural conditions or by human activity. See also: Artificial recharge.

**Ground Water Replenishment System (GWRS):** A joint project of the Orange County Water District and the Orange County Sanitation District that will provide up to 100,000 acre-feet of reclaimed water annually. The high-quality water will be used to expand an existing underground seawater intrusion barrier and to replenish the groundwater basin underlying north and central Orange County.

**Groundwater table:** The upper surface of the zone of saturation (all pores of subsoil filled with water), except where the surface if formed by an impermeable body.

GPM: Gallons per minute.

**Ground Water Replenishment System (GWRS):** Orange County Water District's state-of-the-art, highly advanced, waste-water treatment facility.

**Hydrologic balance:** An accounting of all water inflow to, water outflow from, and changes in water storage within a hydrologic unit over a specified period.

**Hydrologic cycle:** The process of water constantly circulating from the ocean, to the atmosphere, to the earth in a form of precipitation, and finally returning to the ocean.

**Imported water:** Water that has originated from one hydrologic region and is transferred to another hydrologic region.

**Inflatable rubber dams:** Designed to replace temporary sand levees that wash out during heavy storm flow, the dams hold back high-volume river flows and divert the water into the off-river system for percolation.

Influent: Water or wastewater entering a treatment plant, or a particular stage of the treatment process.

Irrigation: Applying water to crops, lawns or other plants using pumps, pipes, hoses, sprinklers, etc.

**JPIA** Joint Powers Insurance Authority. A group of water agencies providing self-insurance to members of the ACWA.

**LAIF** Local Agency Investment Fund. Statewide pool of surplus public agency money managed by State Treasurer.

**Leach**: To remove components from the soil by the action of water trickling through.

MAF: Million acre feet.

**MCL:** Maximum contaminant level set by EPA for a regulated substance in drinking water. According to health agencies, the maximum amount of a substance that can be present in water that's safe to drink and which looks, tastes and smells good.

MET: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

MGD: Million gallons per day.

**Microfiltration:** A physical separation process where tiny, hollow filaments members separate particles from water.

Microorganism: An animal or plant of microscopic size.

MWD: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

**MWDOC**: Municipal Water District of Orange County. Intermediate wholesaler between MWD and 27 member agencies including ETWD.

**Non-point source pollution:** Pollution that is so general or covers such a wide area that no single, localized source of the pollution can be identified.

NPDES National Pollution Discharge Elimination System

OCBC: Orange County Business Council.

**OCEMA** Orange County Environmental Management Agency

**OCWD:** Orange County Water District.

# Opportunity:

1. A favorable juncture of circumstances.

2. A good chance for advancement or progress.

Organism: Any individual form of life, such as a plant, animal or bacterium.

**PCM** Professional Community Management, Inc. Property Management company providing services to Laguna Woods Village and other homeowner associations.

**Perched groundwater:** Groundwater supported by a zone of material of low permeability located above an underlying main body of groundwater with which it is not hydrostatically connected.

Percolation: The downward movement of water through the soil or alluvium to the groundwater table.

Permeability: The capability of soil or other geologic formations to transmit water.

**Point source:** A specific site from which waste or polluted water is discharged into a water body, the source of which is identified. See also: non-point source.

Potable water: Suitable and safe for drinking.

PPB: Parts per billion.

**Precipitation:** Water from the atmosphere that falls to the ground as a liquid (rain) or a solid (snow, sleet, hail).

**Primary treated water:** First major treatment in a wastewater treatment facility, usually sedimentation but not biological oxidation.

**Primary treatment:** Removing solids and floating matter from wastewater using screening, skimming and sedimentation (settling by gravity).

**Prior appropriation doctrine:** Allocates water rights to the first party who diverts water from its natural source and applies the water to beneficial use. If at some point the first appropriator fails to use the water beneficially, another person may appropriate the water and gain rights to the water. The central principle is beneficial use, not land ownership.

Pumping Plant: A facility that lifts water up and over hills.

**Recharge:** The physical process where water naturally percolates or sinks into a groundwater basin.

**Recharge basin:** A surface facility, often a large pond, used to increase the infiltration of surface water into a groundwater basin.

**Reclaimed wastewater:** Wastewater that becomes suitable for a specific beneficial use as a result of treatment. See also: wastewater reclamation.

**Reclamation project:** A project where water is obtained from a sanitary district or system and which undergoes additional treatment for a variety of uses, including landscape irrigation, industrial uses, and groundwater recharge.

**Recycling:** A type of reuse, usually involving running a supply of water through a closed system again and again. Legislation in 1991 legally equates the term "recycled water" to reclaimed water.

**Reservoir:** A place where water is stored until it is needed. A reservoir can be an open lake or an enclosed storage tank.

**Reverse osmosis:** (RO) A method of removing salts or other ions from water by forcing water through a semi-permeable membrane.

**RFP** Request for Proposal

**Riparian:** Of or on the banks of a stream, river, or other body of water.

RO: Reverse osmosis. See the listing under "reverse osmosis."

**R-O-W** Right-of-way

**Runoff**: Liquid water that travels over the surface of the Earth, moving downward due to gravity. Runoff is one way in which water that falls as precipitation returns to the ocean.

**RWQCB** Regional Water Quality Control Board. State agency regulating discharge and use of recycled water.

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA): The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) was originally passed by Congress in 1974 to protect public health by regulating the nation's public drinking water supply. The law was amended in 1986 and 1996 and requires many actions to protect drinking water and its sources: rivers, lakes, reservoirs, springs, and ground water wells. (SDWA does not regulate private wells which serve fewer than 25 individuals.) SDWA authorizes the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) to set national health-based standards for drinking water to protect against both naturally-occurring and man-made contaminants that may be found in drinking water. US EPA, states, and water systems work together to make sure that these standards are met.

**Safe yield:** The maximum quantity of water that can be withdrawn from a groundwater basin over a long period of time without developing a condition of overdraft, sometimes referred to as sustained yield.

**SAFRA** Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency

**Salinity:** Generally, the concentration of mineral salts dissolved in water. Salinity may be measured by weight (total dissolved solids - TDS), electrical conductivity, or osmotic pressure. Where seawater is known to be the major source of salt, salinity is often used to refer to the concentration of chlorides in the water.

SAWPA: Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority.

SCADA Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition

**SCAP** Southern California Alliance of Publicly. Newly formed group of public agencies seeking reasonable regulation of sewer industry.

**SCH** State Clearing House – Environmental Review/Processing

Seasonal storage: A three-part program offered by Metropolitan Water District of Southern California:

STSS (Short Term Seasonal Storage) financially encourages agencies with local groundwater production capabilities to produce a higher percentage of their demand in the summer from their local groundwater supplies, thus shifting a portion of their demand on the MWD system from the summer to winter;

LTSS (Long Term Seasonal Storage) financially encourages retail agencies to take and store additional amounts of MWD water above their normal annual demands for later use; Replenishment Water provides less expensive interruptible water that is generally available and used to increase the operating yield of groundwater basins.

**Seawater intrusion:** The movement of salt water into a body of fresh water. It can occur in either surface water or groundwater basins.

**Seawater barrier:** A physical facility or method of operation designed to prevent the intrusion of salt water into a body of freshwater.

**Secondary treatment:** The biological portion of wastewater treatment which uses the activated sludge process to further clean wastewater after primary treatment. Generally, a level of treatment that produces 85 percent removal efficiencies for biological oxygen demand and suspended solids. Usually carried out through the use of trickling filters or by the activated sludge process.

**Sedimentation:** The settling of solids in a body of water using gravity.

Settle: To clarify water by causing impurities/solid material to sink to a container's bottom.

**Sewer:** The system of pipes that carries wastewater from homes and businesses to a treatment plant or reclamation plant. Sewers are separate from storm drains, which is a system of drains and pipes that carry rain water from urban streets back to the ocean. Overwatering your yard can also cause water to run into the streets and into storm drains. Storm drain water is not treated before it is discharged.

**SigAlert**: Any unplanned event that causes the closing of one lane of traffic for 30 minutes or more, as opposed to a planned event, like road construction, which is planned.

**SJBA** San Juan Basin Authority

**Sludge:** The solids that remain after wastewater treatment. This material is separated from the cleaned water, treated and composted into fertilizer. Also called biosolids.

**SOCWA** South Orange County Wastewater Authority. Regional Joint Powers Authority formed for collection and treatment of sewerage (previously known as AWMA/SERRA/SOCRA). SOCWA member agencies:

CSC - City of San Clemente

CSJC - City of San Juan Capistrano

CLB - City of Laguna Beach

ETWD - El Toro Water District

EBSD – Emerald Bay Service District

IRWD - Irvine Ranch Water District

MNWD – Moulton Niguel Water District

SCWD - South Coast Water District

SMWD – Santa Margarita Water District

TCWD - Trabuco Canyon Water District

**SRF** State Revolving Fund

**Storm Drain:** The system of pipes that carries rain water from urban streets back to the ocean. Overwatering your yard can also cause water to run into the streets and into storm drains. Storm drain

water is not treated before it is discharged. Storm drains are separate from sewers, which is a separate system of pipes to carry wastewater from homes and businesses to a treatment plant or reclamation plant for cleaning.

**Storm flow:** Surface flow originating from precipitation and run-off which has not percolated to an underground basin.

**SWP:** State Water Project. An aqueduct system that delivers water from northern California to central and southern California.

**SWRCB** State Water Resources Control Board

**TDS:** Total dissolved solids. A quantitative measure of the residual minerals dissolved in water that remain after evaporation of a solution. Usually expressed in milligrams per liter.

**Tertiary treatment:** The treatment of wastewater beyond the secondary or biological stage. Normally implies the removal of nutrients, such as phosphorous and nitrogen, and a high percentage of suspended solids.

**THM:** Trihalomethanes. Any of several synthetic organic compounds formed when chlorine or bromine combine with organic materials in water.

TMA: Too many acronyms.

**TMDL**: Total maximum daily load; A quantitative assessment of water quality problems, contributing sources, and load reductions or control actions needed to restore and protect bodies of water.

**Transpiration:** The process in which plant tissues give off water vapor to the atmosphere as an essential physiological process.

**Turbidity:** Thick or opaque with matter in suspension; muddy water.

**Ultraviolet light disinfection:** A disinfection method for water that has received either secondary or tertiary treatment used as an alternative to chlorination.

**VE** Value Engineering

**VOC:** Volatile organic compound; a chemical compound that evaporates readily at room temperature and contains carbon.

**Wastewater:** Water that has been previously used by a municipality, industry or agriculture and has suffered a loss of quality as a result.

**Water Cycle:** The continuous process of surface water (puddles, lakes, oceans) evaporating from the sun's heat to become water vapor (gas) in the atmosphere. Water condenses into clouds and then falls back to earth as rain or snow (precipitation). Some precipitation soaks into the ground (percolation) to replenish groundwater supplies in underground aquifers.

**Water rights:** A legally protected right to take possession of water occurring in a natural waterway and to divert that water for beneficial use.

**Water-use Efficiency**: The water requirements of a particular device, fixture, appliance, process, piece of equipment, or activity.

**Water year (USGS):** The period between October 1st of one calendar year to September 30<sup>th</sup> of the following calendar year.

**Watermaster:** A court appointed person(s) that has specific responsibilities to carry out court decisions pertaining to a river system or watershed.

**Water Reclamation:** The treatment of wastewater to make it suitable for a beneficial reuse, such as landscape irrigation. Also called water recycling.

**Watershed:** The total land area that from which water drains or flows to a river, stream, lake or other body of water.

Water table: The top level of water stored underground.

**WEF** Water Environment Federation. Formerly – Water Pollution Control Federation (WPCF). International trade group advising members of sewage treatment techniques and their effect on the environment.

Weir box: A device to measure/control surface water flows in streams or between ponds.

Wellhead treatment: Water quality treatment of water being produced at the well site.

**Wetland:** Any area in which the water table stands near, at, or above the land surface for a portion of the year. Wetlands are characterized by plants adapted to wet soil conditions.

Xeriscape: Landscaping that requires minimal water.