

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.



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

**March 27, 2025
7:30 a.m.**

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

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:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81819411989> (Meeting ID: 818 1941 1989).

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 Gaskins

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Director Havens

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. **Presentation of Awards, Recognitions, Certifications and Introductions**

- a. Service Awards

Mr. Cafferty will recognize and congratulate Rory Harnisch, Engineering Department Senior Engineer for 5 years of service with the District

3. **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 February 27, 2025 Board meeting

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

4. **Director Reports for Meetings Attended** (Oral Report)

GENERAL MANAGER ACTION ITEMS

5. **Strategic Plan** (Reference Materials Included)

Staff will review and comment on a proposal received from Means Consulting for Strategic Planning services.

Recommended Action: Staff recommend that the Board of Directors authorize the District's General Manager to enter into a consulting contract with Means Consulting in the amount of \$35,904 for consulting services associated with the development of an updated ETWD Strategic Plan.

6. **California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Board of Directors, Southern Network - Seat B Election** (Reference Material Included)

Staff will comment on the potential nomination of a candidate to the California Special Districts Association Board of Directors, Southern Network, Seat B, and the requirement to submit the nomination by the April 11, 2025 deadline.

Recommended Action: Staff recommend the Board consider nominating a candidate to the California Special Districts Association Board of Directors, Southern Network, Seat B, and direct staff to submit any such nomination to CSDA by the April 11, 2025 deadline.

7. **AB 259 (Rubio) – Open Meetings: Local Agencies: Teleconferences AB** (Reference Material Included)

Staff will review and comment on AB 259 (Rubio) – Open Meetings: Local Agencies: Teleconferences - Sunset Elimination for Modified Brown Act Meeting Procedures.

Recommended Action: Staff recommend the Board of Directors adopt a support position on AB 259 (Rubio) – Open Meetings: Local Agencies: Teleconferences, the sunset elimination for modified Brown Act meeting procedures and authorize staff to authorize CSDA to submit position letters supporting the bill on behalf of ETWD.

8. **SB 350 (Durazo) – Water Rate Assistance Program** (Reference Material Included)

Staff will review and comment on SB 350 (Durazo) – Water Rate Assistance Program.

Recommended Action: Staff recommends the Board of Directors adopt an oppose unless amended position on SB 350 (Durazo) – Water Rate Assistance Program and authorize staff to sign onto ACWA's future coalition letters regarding the bill.

9. **SB 454 (McNerney) – State Water Resources Control Board: PFAS Mitigation Program** (Reference Material Included)

Staff will review and comment on SB 454 (McNerney) – State Water Resources Control Board: PFAS Mitigation Program.

Recommended Action: Staff recommend the Board of Directors adopt a support position on SB 454 (McNerney) – State Water Resources Control Board: PFAS Mitigation Program and authorize staff to sign onto ACWA's coalition letter supporting the bill.

GENERAL MANAGER INFORMATION ITEMS

10. **SB 496 (Hurtado) – Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation: Appeals Advisory Committee: Exemptions** (Reference Material Included)

Staff will review and comment on SB 496 (Hurtado) – Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation: Appeals Advisory Committee: Exemptions.

11. **AB 514 (Petrie-Norris) – Emergency Water Supplies** (Reference Material Included)

Staff will review and comment on AB 514 (Petrie-Norris) – Emergency Water Supplies.

12. **General Manager’s Monthly Report** (Reference Material Included)

Staff will review and comment on the General Manager’s Monthly Report.

13. **Legislative Reports** (Reference Material Included)

Staff and General Counsel will review and comment on the Legislative reports.

14. **Public Education and Outreach Report** (Reference Material Included)

Staff will review and comment on the Public Education and Outreach report.

15. **Water Use Efficiency Report** (Reference Material Included)

Staff will review and comment on the Water Use Efficiency Report.

16. **SOCWA Report** (Reference Material Included)

- a. SOCWA Board Meeting – March 6, 2025
- b. SOCWA Engineering Committee Meeting – March 13, 2025
- c. SOCWA Finance Committee Meeting – March 18, 2025

17. **South OC Watershed Management Area** (Reference Material Included)

Report on the March 6, 2025 SOCWMA Executive Committee meeting

18. **Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) Report** (Reference Material Included)

- a. MWDOC Planning/Operations Meeting – March 3, 2025
- b. MWDOC MET Directors Workshop – March 5, 2025
- c. MWDOC Admin/Finance Meeting – March 12, 2025
- d. MWDOC Board Meeting – March 19, 2025

19. **Local Agency Formation Commission Report** (Reference Material Included)
Report on the March 12, 2025 LAFCO meeting
20. **ISDOC Meetings Report** (Reference Material Included)
Report on the March 4, 2025 ISDOC Executive Committee meeting
21. **WACO Meetings Report** (Reference Material Included)
Report on the March 7, 2025 WACO meeting

COMMITTEE AND GENERAL INFORMATION

22. **Dates to Remember for March/April** (Reference Material Included)
23. **WEROC Mobile EOC Van Presentation**

WEROC Director of Emergency Management, Vicki Osborn and WEROC Specialist Gabby Landeros, will provide an overview of the WEROC Mobile EOC Van.

COMMENTS REGARDING NON-AGENDA ITEMS

ATTORNEY REPORT

REGULAR SESSION REPORT

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, Marisol Melendez 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: Marisol Melendez.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
EL TORO WATER DISTRICT
February 27, 2025

President Gaskins called the meeting of the Board of Directors of the EL TORO WATER DISTRICT to order at 7:30 a.m.

Vice President Freshley led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Committee Members MARK MONIN, MIKE GASKINS, KAY HAVENS, KATHRYN FRESHLEY, and WYATT McCLEAN participated.

Also present were DENNIS P. CAFFERTY, General Manager, GILBERT J. GRANITO, General Counsel, VISHAV SHARMA, CFO, JUDY CIMORELL, Director of Human Resources, HANNAH FORD, Director of Engineering, SCOTT HOPKINS, Operations Superintendent, MIKE MIAZGA, IT Manager (Zoom), VICKI TANIOUS, Senior Accountant (Zoom), SHERRI SEITZ, Public Affairs Manager, VU CHU, Water Use Efficiency Analyst, MARCOS AVALOS, Maintenance Worker I, JULIE SCHROCK, Member of the Public, and MARISOL MELENDEZ, Recording Secretary.

Determination of a Quorum

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

Oral Communications/Public Comments

There were no comments.

Items Received Too Late to be Agendized

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

Presentation of Awards, Recognitions, Certifications and Introductions

Mr. Cafferty recognized and congratulated Marcos Avalos, Collections Department Maintenance Worker I for 5 years of service with the District.

Mr. Avalos left the meeting at approximately 7:36 a.m.

Consent Calendar

President Gaskins asked for a Motion.

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

Ordinance No. 2025-1 – Directors' Compensation

Mr. Cafferty stated that Ordinance No. 2025-1 pertains to the proposed increase in Board compensation which has been previously discussed.

Public Hearing Regarding Adoption of Proposed Ordinance No. 2025-1

Mr. Cafferty mentioned that there has been no increase in Board compensation since 2018. An Orange County Board of Directors per diem survey was provided in the package.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Gaskins stated that the Notice of Public Hearing was published in the Orange County Register on February 13, 2025 and February 20, 2025.

There were no public comments.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

President Gaskins closed the Public Hearing.

Regular Session

Resolution No. 25-2-1 Adopting Ordinance No. 2025-1

Mr. Cafferty stated Resolution No. 25-2-1 adopts Ordinance No. 2025-1 which provides for the increase in Directors' stipend from \$219.00 to \$240.90 per day.

President Gaskins asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Monin made a Motion, seconded by Director Havens to adopt Resolution No. 25-2-1 which adopts Ordinance No. 2025-1 to increase the compensation of the members of the Board of Directors of the El Toro Water District.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Directors Reports for Meetings Attended

Director Havens stated that she attended the MWDOC P&O meeting, the MWDOC Met Directors Workshop, CAG, the WACO Meeting, the Water Education and Energy Alliance Roundtable, the MWDOC A&F meeting, the MWDOC Board meeting, the SOCWMA Agenda Review, the Engineering and Finance meeting, and today's Board meeting.

Vice President Freshley stated that she attended ETWD's regular Board meeting, ETWD's Engineering and Finance meeting, the SOCWA Board meeting, the RRC meeting, the WACO meeting, the Laguna Woods City Council meeting, the OCWA luncheon, the MWDOC P&O meeting, the MWDOC/MET Directors Workshop meeting, the LAFCO meeting, and the Agenda Review meeting.

Director McClean stated that he attended the MWDOC P&O meeting, the ISDOC Quarterly meeting, the MWDOC Met Directors Workshop, CAG, the WACO meeting, the MWDOC Admin/Finance meeting, the Lake Forest City Council meeting, the Engineering and Finance meeting, the regular Board meeting, and the MWDOC Executive Committee meeting as a member of the public.

Director Monin stated that he attended the MWDOC P&O meeting, the ISDOC Executive Committee meeting, the MWDOC Met Directors Workshop, CAG, the WACO meeting, the MWDOC A&F meeting, the MWDOC Board meeting, the MWDOC Executive Committee meeting, and the two District regular Board meetings.

President Gaskins stated that he attended the MWDOC P&O meeting, the RRC meeting, the MWDOC Met Directors Workshop, the SOCWA Board meeting, CAG, the MWDOC Admin/Finance meeting, the MWDOC Board meeting, the OCWA luncheon, ETWD's Engineering and Finance meeting, today's Board meeting, the President/VP/GM meeting, and the Boy Scouts event at the Reclamation Plant.

General Manager Action Items

Resolution No. 25-2-2 El Toro Water District Administrative Code

Mr. Cafferty stated this amendment covers several items, including the Directors' terms of office, the Directors' compensation policy (incorporating Ordinance 2025-1), the Directors' Travel and Expense Reimbursement policy, the Water Capital Facilities Fees, and the Communication Facilities License Program.

Director Monin inquired whether staff is actively pursuing additional site agreements and whether the revenue from these agreements is allocated to a specific fund or goes into the general account. Mr. Cafferty stated that the District's consultant, ATS Communications, is actively working on new developments for the District. He explained that a portion of the revenue is earmarked through the tiered rate system, with the Tier 1 rate intentionally reduced to create a gap between Tier 1 and Tier 2. This reduction is offset by revenue from the cell sites. The remaining revenue goes into the general fund.

Vice President Freshley asked how lease revenue is classified on the balance sheet. Mr. Sharma responded that this matter will be discussed with the auditors for clarification.

President Gaskins asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Havens made a Motion, seconded by President Gaskins to adopt Resolution No. 25-2-2 which adopts the amended El Toro Water District Administrative Code.

Roll Call Vote:

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

General Manager Information Items

General Manager's Monthly Report

Mr. Cafferty reported that Terra Verde evaluated two battery projects: The Ocean Outfall Pump Station and the P1 Pump Station, along with a solar project at the plant. There is significant potential for funding for the Ocean Outfall Pump Station project, while the P1 Pump Station is currently on the waitlist. The application for the

Ocean Outfall Pump Station project was accepted, and the refundable application fee is \$25,000. Terra Verde also reevaluated the financials, separating the two sites to assess the payback and upfront capital requirement for each project.

Mr. Cafferty provided an update on the potential financial participation in a mural on the retaining wall near the channel the District adopted along Avendia De La Carlota. He mentioned meeting with Jared Mathis, CEO of the Moulton Museum and Council member for the City of Laguna Hills. If the District decides to participate, input would be accepted for the mural's design. The estimated cost for the mural is \$35,000, with a request the District fund 50% of the total. The Board offered their input and requested additional project details before making a decision.

Mr. Cafferty provided an update on a recent meeting with SPC global, the agency responsible for the District's bond ratings. He noted that when the bonds were issued in 2022, the District secured an AA rating. However, after a recent reevaluation the District's rating was reduced to AA-. The primary factor for the reduction was the debt coverage ratio for the 2022-23 fiscal year, as it was the first year with new debt service and there wasn't enough time to increase rates to generate the necessary coverage. Another contributing factor was the calculation of days of cash on hand. Mr. Cafferty explained that the requirement for the coverage ratio is 110%, and the District only met this requirement by using reserves to cover the difference. However, the debt coverage ratio improved significantly in the 2023-24 fiscal year, and the 2024-25 budget is projected to come in at approximately 1.5%. He added that in one to two years, if the coverage ratio is restored, SPC Global may consider raising the rating back to AA.

Legislative Reports

There were no comments.

Public Education and Outreach Report

Ms. Seitz reported that a press release was issued announcing the appointment of Director McClean.

Director Monin encouraged staff to continue public education efforts on fire preparedness. Mr. Cafferty confirmed that staff continues to provide a balanced message on fire preparedness through the District's website, public speaking events, and the District newsletter.

Water Use Efficiency Report

Mr. Chu reported that the Department of Water Resources (DWR) has increased the State Water Project allocation to 35%, citing improved water conditions in Northern California due to higher rain and snow pack levels.

SOCWA Reports

Vice President Freshley reported that most discussions at the Board meetings have centered around the approval of capital projects. She also stated that Ms. Boone has been appointed as SOCWA's new General Manager.

MWDOC

Mr. Cafferty reported that MWDOC is engaging with member agency managers to discuss MET's financial status.

SOCAG

There were no comments.

LAFCO

Vice President Freshley reported that the CALAFCO was discussed and whether the funding and participation of it should continue.

ISDOC

Director Monin reported that he stepped down from the Secretary position.

WACO

Director Monin stated that there will be an upcoming ACWA meeting regarding fire preparedness.

COMMITTEE AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Dates to Remember for February/March

There were no comments.

Comments Regarding Non-Agenda Items

Mr. Cafferty stated that WEROC has inquired about parking their Mobile EOC at the new warehouse site. He further explained that having multiple EOCs allows WEROC to support different functions effectively.

Attorney Report

Mr. Granito reported that there is no need for a Closed Session today.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:09 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

MARISOL MELENDEZ
Recording Secretary

APPROVED:

MIKE GASKINS, 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



STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Directors

Meeting Date: March 27, 2025

From: Dennis Cafferty, General Manager

Subject: El Toro Water District Strategic Plan

In 2019 the District completed a facilitated, detailed strategic planning process culminating in the production of the El Toro Water District 2020 Strategic Plan document. The preliminary planning effort that produced the 2020 Strategic Plan included discussions between the facilitator, Means Consulting, and the General Manager, the review by Means of background documents, interviews with each Director and strategic planning workshops with the Board and staff.

Following the preliminary planning effort the Board of Directors, senior management, staff and general counsel participated in strategic planning workshops facilitated by Means Consulting. The process resulted in the development and description of several goals and objectives ultimately defined in the Strategic Plan document.

While the 2019 strategic planning process was a productive effort and the subsequent Strategic Plan document has provided valuable guidance to staff, many of the identified goals and objectives have been accomplished. Strategic Plans typically have an approximate five-year life span. The Board directed staff to begin the process to engage in a new strategic plan effort in early 2025.

The General Manager recently met with Ed Means of Means Consulting to discuss the new strategic planning effort. Ed Means has extensive experience in the water industry working with Boards of Directors and developing strategic plans much like that being considered by the District and has the benefit of his involvement in the District's previous strategic planning process.

Following that discussion, Means Consulting submitted a proposal for Strategic Planning Services. The proposal is attached for reference. The proposed scope of work represents a detailed effort to gather information and conduct workshops with the Board of Directors and District staff. The scope includes six tasks that will provide the necessary preliminary research and workshops to develop a Strategic Plan and document that plan in a report for a cost of \$35,904.

Staff propose to issue the contract, following Board approval, and work with Ed Means to develop a proposed schedule. The proposal indicates the strategic planning process should take approximately four to five months to complete.

Recommended Action:

Staff recommend that the Board of Directors authorize the District's General Manager to enter into a consulting contract with Means Consulting in the amount of \$35,904 for consulting services associated with the development of an updated ETWD Strategic Plan.



March 17, 2025

Dennis Cafferty, P.E.
El Toro Water District
General Manager
24251 Los Alisos Blvd
Lake Forest, CA 92630

Means Consulting LLC is pleased to present this proposal for Strategic Planning Services to the El Toro Water District (ETWD). It is intended to be flexible and can be adapted based upon negotiations. I believe there are three attributes that I can bring to ETWD's strategic planning effort that are of uniquely high value:

- 1) I have **deep experience and familiarity with water utilities** having worked in it for 39 years including 18 with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. As a consultant, I have worked with dozens of water and wastewater utilities and professional associations.
- 2) I have **extensive experience working with Boards of Directors**. I have interacted with Boards of Directors in dozens of strategic planning efforts. I understand the importance of strong board and management teams working collectively to achieve organizational goals.
- 3) I have a **strong professional reputation in the Southern California utility arena**. References are available if required.

I am available and committed to helping ETWD explore the opportunities and create a durable strategic plan to guide the activities of the utility and set the stage for greater coordination, accountability and progress. I can be contacted at (949) 439-9120 should you have any questions regarding this proposal.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Ed Means'.

Ed Means
President
Means Consulting LLC
2100 Serrano Avenue, Newport Beach, CA 92661

Introduction

ETWD desires assistance in revising the current Strategic Business Plan. The services to be provided include managing the project, developing an understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing ETWD and addressing these challenges in a strategic plan for the next 5-year period.

The strategic planning process can (and should) be structured to be a learning and consensus building experience for the participants. Considering the major internal and external drivers facing the utility and challenging assumptions about those drivers will help create a strong revised strategic plan. It is important that key stakeholders be engaged to ensure that the final product:

- Is understood by the stakeholders,
- Is a realistic assessment of the challenges and opportunities facing the organization,
- Contains a rational and practical set of goals/guiding principles and objectives or initiatives, and
- Reflects a realistic assessment of the resource needs to accomplish the goals and objectives.

There are a number of challenges that ETWD faces that must be thoughtfully considered including:

- Managing water rates,
- Addressing reserve policies, and
- Long-term water supply reliability.

Proposed Scope of Work

Means Consulting LLC (MC) will perform the following Scope of Work:

TASK 1 – Project Management

- This Task includes a kick-off meeting with ETWD Project Manager and appropriate staff. Topics of discussion will include project scope, expectations, communications, project and meeting schedule, and coordination
- Provide overall project management and maintain effective communications with ETWD's project manager.
- Track and monitor project budget and schedule.
- Prepare monthly invoices.
- Participate in project team conference calls as required.

TASK 2 – Review District Materials and Gather Information

As part of an “environmental scan” MC will review ETWD documents as needed, including those of past strategic planning efforts, customer surveys, long-range finance plans, and board letters, to gain an understanding of recent activities of the District and its organization.

TASK 3 – Interview Board Directors

MC will conduct one on one interviews with each Director. The interview will be structure around a “strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats” (SWOT) discussion. The results of the interviews will be summarized in a PowerPoint presentation and shared with management. (The results will be presented at the first Board workshop, see below).

TASK 4 – Conduct Strategic Planning Workshops to Gather Information

MC will conduct 2 strategic planning workshops with the stakeholders including:

- **Workshop 1** – This workshop is with the Board and will focus on validating the existing Mission, Vision, Values, and Goals of ETWD and discuss the plan format (including whether to focus on strategies/objectives or focus on initiatives).
- **Workshop 2** – This workshop will engage staff in a SWOT analysis. The workshops are anticipated to be up to two hours each over the course of a day and will help engage invited staff in the planning effort and identify key opportunities for ETWD to consider in the plan. Approximately 50 total participants are anticipated. Scheduling will be done by ETWD.

TASK 5 – Develop Plan Content

Based upon input from the Board and staff workshops MC will prepare a draft plan.

TASK 6 – Draft and Final Plan Review

- **Workshop 3** – This workshop is with the management team to conduct a detailed review of the draft plan.
- **Workshop 4** – This workshop will present the revised plan to the Board of Directors for revision/approval and discuss implications for General Manager evaluation process.
- MC will work with the ETWD graphics staff to generate a final version of the document.



Firm and personnel information is included below.

Personnel

BASIC FIRM INFORMATION

Firm name: Means Consulting LLC

Address: 2100 Serrano Avenue, Newport Beach, CA 92661

Type of business: Limited Liability Company

Length of time in this type of business: 44 yrs

Principal contact person and phone number: Ed Means, (949) 439-9120

Mr. Ed Means, President of Means Consulting LLC, will manage and work on the project including facilitating all workshops.

Experience and Qualifications



Means Consulting LLC was established in 2012 to provide consulting services to water utilities in the areas of water resources, water quality and strategic management.

Mr. Means brings 44 years of experience in water and wastewater strategic issues including 18 years with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, culminating in the position of Acting General Manager. In his work there he directly managed the water quality, resources, and operations divisions and, as Chief Operating Officer, all organizational functions including finance and outreach. That service was followed by 26 years providing consulting service to water and wastewater utilities as a principal with McGuire Environmental Consultants, Malcolm Pirnie and ARCADIS through successive acquisitions. Mr. Means' areas of expertise include: operations, water resources planning, strategic planning, utility, water rate development, drinking water regulatory development and compliance implementation. His ability to facilitate stakeholder deliberations has been repeatedly demonstrated in his career as well as his presentation skills. He has given numerous conference keynote addresses to national and international audiences on water utility trends and has over 125 publications on water issues (including climate change) in industry journals, 2 books, and contributions to several others.

Examples of strategic and strategic planning projects Mr. Means has been involved in include:

- Long Beach Water Department Board workshop on strategic trends (2025)
- Zone 7 Water Agency Strategic Plan. Worked with Board and management staff to prepare a 5-year strategic plan (2020, 2024)

- State Water Contractors Board Strategic Workshops (2022, 2023, 2024)
- Co-Principal Investigator, Water Tower-funded project on Building a Narrative of Innovation within Utilities (2022)
- Facilitate Board Strategic Workshop for State Water Contractors (2020, 2022, 2023)
- Facilitate Expert Panels on climate change and demand management for Metropolitan Water District of Southern California in support of their Integrated Resources Plan update (2021)
- Conduct wholesale business model evaluation for Western Municipal Water District (2021)
- Provide Chino Basin Water Bank JPA support services (2021)
- Lead facilitator under contract to National Water Research Institute for Pure Water San Diego and Pure Water Southern California expert panels (2021-25)
- Provide support services on the Water Storage Investment Program application by Inland Empire Utilities Agency to the California Water Commission (2020-24)
- Provide scenario planning services to City of Scottsdale, AZ (2020)
- Provide scenario planning services to City of Glendale, AZ (2020)
- Prepare strategic plan for Zone 7 Water Agency (2020)
- Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District Strategic Plan. Facilitating an update of the agency's current Strategic Plan (2018, 2023)
- Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency Strategic Plan development. Facilitated staff and Board workshops to review and revise their strategic plan (2020, 2024)
- Coachella Valley Water District Strategic Initiatives. Facilitated multiple workshops to develop strategic initiatives for inclusion in annual budget (2020, 2022)
- East Orange County Water District Strategic Plan development. Facilitated multiple staff and Board workshops to develop the agency's strategic plan (2017, 2020)
- El Toro Water District Strategic Plan. Worked with Board and Management staff to prepare a 5-Year Strategic Plan (2020)
- Marin Municipal Water District Strategic Plan. Worked with staff and the Board to develop their strategic plan (2015, 2018)
- Castaic Lake Water Agency Strategic Plan. Facilitated staff and Board workshops to review and revise their strategic plan (2017)
- Rancho California Water District. Worked with Board and Management staff to prepare a 5-year strategic plan (2008). Was brought back in 2012 and 2016 to update the plan
- Antelope Valley/East Kern Water Agency Strategic Plan (2016-17). Developed first strategic plan working collaboratively with staff and the Board of Directors
- Central Basin Municipal Water District Strategic Plan. Worked with the Board and staff to develop their first comprehensive strategic plan (2017)
- West Basin Municipal Water District "Strategic Plan". Managed development of the strategic plan for the Board of Directors (2007-17)

- Palm Beach County Water Utilities District. Strategic planning services. Facilitator for Executive management team developing strategic plan. Conducted two multi-day workshops and assisted in developing goals, strategies and objectives (2010)
- Municipal Water District of Orange County Strategic planning services. Facilitator for Board workshop on development of strategic plan goals (2010). Follow on strategic consulting services included conduct of staff and member agency manager trend/planning workshops and assistance in preparation of 5-year strategic plan. Continue to provide retainer strategic consulting services
- American Water Services. Guest strategic planning keynote speaker for the executive management team on water trends (2010)
- City of Calgary Utilities and Environmental Protection Division. Organized and conducted three-day strategic planning session and provided future trends consulting (2010)
- Washington Aqueduct “Future Treatment Alternatives Study”. Lead facilitator for large stakeholder process to select the long-term water treatment strategy for WA’s Dalecarlia and McMillan water treatment plants. Led branding workshops (2009-10)
- Denver Water. Assistance in development of scenario planning for the Integrated Resources Plan for Denver Water (2009-10)
- AWWA Water Utility Council Climate Change Strategy Development (2009). Facilitated WUC legislative committee development of a federal legislative strategy to position the drinking water utility industry on climate change issues
- Broward County Water Master Plan. Conducted scenario planning for development of the water master plan (2009)
- Los Angeles Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. Area Manager and key consultant team member for development of the integrated water resources plan for a 10M person planning area.
- AWWA Water Utility Council Strategic Plan. Facilitated the council’s development of their strategic plan for legislative and regulatory activities in Washington, D.C. (2008)
- Principal Investigator for WRF 2604, “A Strategic Assessment of the Future of Water Utilities”. Published book entitled “Watercourse: Charting Your Utility’s Future” (2005)

Schedule

The plan development is anticipated to require 4-5 months (primarily related to the sequential nature of workshops and review). MC would be prepared to start the process (conduct interviews) in May.

Proposed Budget

The proposed budget for the project is \$35,904 (shown in Table 1 below) and includes labor and

direct costs (detailed in Table 2).

Table 1: Proposed Budget			
Task #	Task Description	Ed Means, \$350 / Hours	Cost
1	Project management	8	\$ 2,800
2	Document review	4	\$ 1,400
3	Interview Board	10	\$ 3,500
4	Prepare for and conduct Workshop 1 & 2	24	\$ 8,400
5	Draft plan content development	32	\$ 11,200
6	Draft plan review and plan finalization Workshop 3 and 4	24	\$ 8,400
	Total hours	102	\$ 35,700
	Direct costs		\$ 204
	Total		\$ 35,904
	Grand Total	102	\$ 35,904

Table 2: Direct Costs			
	Mileage	\$/mile	Subtotal
Workshop 1	45	\$ 0.70	\$ 26.10
Workshop 2	45	\$ 0.70	\$ 26.10
Workshop 3	45	\$ 0.70	\$ 26.10
Workshop 4	45	\$ 0.70	\$ 26.10
Misc meals			\$ 100.00
Total	180	0.7	\$ 204.40



STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Directors **Meeting Date: March 27, 2025**

From: Dennis Cafferty, General Manager

Subject: California Special Districts Association (CSDA) 2026-2028 Board of Directors Call for Nominations – Southern Network Region, Seat B

The leadership of CSDA is elected from its six geographical networks. Each of the six networks has three seats on the board with staggered three year terms. The CSDA Elections and Bylaws Committee is looking for independent special district Board Members or their General Managers from the Southern Network who are interested in leading the direction of the California Special Districts Association for the 2026-2028 term, Seat B. Candidates must be affiliated with an independent special district that is a CSDA Regular Member in good standing and located within the Southern Network (see attached CSDA Network Map).

The incumbent for Seat B, Don Bartz, General Manager, Phelan Pinon Hills Community Services District is running for re-election.

The CSDA Board of Directors is the governing body responsible for all policy decisions related to CSDA's member services, legislative advocacy, professional development, and other resources for members. The Board of Directors is crucial to the operation of the Association and to the representation of the common interests of all California's special districts before the Legislature and the State Administration. Serving on the Board requires one's interest in the issues confronting special districts statewide.

Details regarding the Commitment and Expectations are described as follows:

- Attend all board meetings, usually 4-5 meetings annually, at the CSDA office in Sacramento.
- Participate on at least one committee, meets 3-5 times a year at the CSDA office in Sacramento. (CSDA reimburses directors for their related expenses for board and committee meetings as outlined in board policy.)
- Attend, at minimum, the following CSDA annual events: Special Districts Legislative Days - held in the spring, and the CSDA Annual Conference - held in the summer/fall. (CSDA does not reimburse travel related expenses for the two conferences even if a board or committee meeting is held in conjunction with the event.)

- Complete all four modules of CSDA's Special District Leadership Academy within 2 years of being elected. (CSDA does not reimburse expenses for the academy classes even if a board or committee meeting is held in conjunction with the event.)

Any Regular Member district in good standing is eligible to nominate one person, a board member or managerial employee (as defined by that district's Board of Directors), for election to the CSDA Board of Directors. The deadline for receiving nominations in the Southern Network is April 11, 2025. CSDA will begin electronic voting on June 10, 2025 with voting concluding on July 25, 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommended Action at the March 27, 2025 Board Meeting:

Staff recommend the Board consider nominating a candidate to the California Special Districts Association Board of Directors, Southern Network, Seat B, and direct staff to submit any such nomination to CSDA by the April 11, 2025 deadline.



STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Directors

Meeting Date: March 27, 2025

From: Sherri Seitz, Public Affairs Manager

**Subject: AB 259 (Rubio) – Open Meetings: Local Agencies: Teleconferences
Sunset Elimination for Modified Brown Act Meeting Procedures**

Bill Summary

Assembly Bill 259 (Rubio) eliminates the sunset on provision added to the Brown Act by Assembly Bill 2449 (Rubio, 2022), a bill that provided additional flexibility with alternative Brown Act meeting procedures able to be observed in the event of a board member's absence in connection with a "just cause" or "emergency circumstances," allowing for those members so-affected to participate in the meeting remotely consistent with the process detailed in the bill. The provisions of AB 2449 include restrictions on how often its provisions may be invoked and require that a majority of the board be present in-person in order to constitute a quorum. The alternative Brown Act meeting procedures established by AB 2449 expire at the end of 2025. CSDA issued an important "Call to Action" on AB 259 and request agencies support the bill. A sample letter follows this report.

Link to AB 259 bill language: [Bill Text - AB-259 Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.](#)

Link to AB 2449 bill language: [Bill History - AB-2449 Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.](#)

Background

In 2022, the Legislature passed Assembly Bill 2449 (Rubio), a bill related to the Ralph M. Brown Act ("the Brown Act"). Beginning in 2023, local agencies were provided with alternative Brown Act meeting procedures able to be observed in the event of a board member's absence in connection with a "just cause" or "emergency circumstances," allowing for those members so-affected to participate in the meeting remotely consistent with the process detailed in the bill. Since that time, several special districts and other local agencies have utilized the procedures established by AB 2449, successfully facilitating remote participation for legislative policymakers that would otherwise been encumbered by illness, official travel, or medical emergency.

Though the terms of AB 2449 have been amended since their passage (most notably by Assembly Bill 2302 (Addis, 2024)), the sunset date associated with its terms has not been changed; the alternative Brown Act meeting procedures established by the bill expire at the end of 2025. To avoid this outcome and preserve the meeting flexibility provided by AB 2449, CSDA is sponsoring AB 259 (Rubio) legislation to remove the sunset associated with the bill.

Next Steps

The bill was referred to the Committee on Legislative Government on February 10, 2025.

CSDA is partnering with the office of Assembly Member Blanca Rubio (D-Baldwin Park), author of the original bill, to run this legislation.

Recommended Action:

Staff recommend the Board of Directors adopt a support position on AB 259 (Rubio) – Open Meetings: Local Agencies: Teleconferences, the sunset elimination for modified Brown Act meeting procedures and authorize staff to authorize CSDA to submit position letters supporting the bill on behalf of ETWD.

[Agency Letterhead]

March 19, 2025

The Honorable Blanca Rubio
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 5250
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 259 (Rubio) – Support [As Introduced]

Dear Assembly Member Rubio:

The [Agency Name] is pleased to support your Assembly Bill 259, related to the Ralph M. Brown Act. [Insert a brief description of your agency, particularly the services it provides.]

Recognizing the evolving landscape of public meetings and the demonstrated value of remote participation options when members of governing bodies are unable to attend a physical gathering, your office introduced, and the Legislature passed, Assembly Bill 2449 in 2022, which amended the Ralph M. Brown Act. Beginning in 2023, special districts and other local agencies began using the procedures established by AB 2449, successfully facilitating remote participation for officials that would otherwise been encumbered by illness, official travel, or medical emergency. The provisions of that bill, having been negotiated by civil society groups and local government stakeholders, contained numerous safeguards and requirements, including the presence of an in-person quorum at the official meeting location. [If applicable, describe an occasion or two where members of your agency used AB 2449 to positive effect, and the beneficial impact of the participation of the remote members.]

While the provisions added by AB 2449 were modified slightly by technical amendments made by subsequent legislation, the January 1, 2026 sunset included in the original bill remains. To preserve the flexibility provided by your AB 2449, Assembly Bill 259 would eliminate this sunset date, thereby preserving indefinitely the remote meeting procedures added by the earlier legislation. AB 259 would not otherwise change any other elements of the remote meeting provisions.

For these reasons, [Agency Name] is pleased to support your Assembly Bill 259. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Printed Name]

[Title]

[Agency Name]

CC: [Your local Assembly Member]

[Your local Senator]

Marcus Detwiler, Legislative Representative, California Special Districts Association [advocacy@cda.net]



STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Directors

Meeting Date: March 27, 2025

From: Sherri Seitz, Public Affairs Manager

Subject: SB 350 (Durazo) – Water Rate Assistance Program

Bill Summary

ACWA is urging member agencies to join an association-led coalition to oppose SB 350 (Durazo), unless the bill is appropriately amended to create a workable and efficient low-income rate assistance (LIRA) program.

ACWA submitted a letter on March 12, 2025 outlining how the legislation, as currently drafted, could be improved to better serve communities and reduce unreasonable burdens on public water agencies. A copy of ACWA's letter follows this report.

If enacted into law, the bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board to create a water rate assistance program to provide financial assistance for both drinking water and wastewater services to low-income residential ratepayers. The bill was introduced in February by Senator María Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles) and has been double-referred to the Senate Environmental Quality Committee and Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee.

Link to SB 350 bill language: [Bill Text - SB-350 Water Rate Assistance Program.](#)

Background

ACWA believes a water and wastewater low-income rate assistance program – if designed in a reasonable, efficient and effective manner – is an appropriate approach. However, SB 350 could be improved to maximize the funding spent on direct assistance to ratepayers, enhance public process and reduce unreasonable burdens on water providers. Also, any LIRA legislation must recognize and allow to continue local LIRA programs already operating through a number of ACWA member agencies.

Next Steps

The bill is currently scheduled to be heard on March 19, 2025 by the Senate Environmental Quality Committee.

ACWA staff is committed to working with the bill's author and proponents to positively amend the bill and requests our support for these changes when the bill is heard in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee.

Recommended Action:

Staff recommend the Board of Directors adopt an oppose unless amended position on SB 350 (Durazo) – Water Rate Assistance Program and authorize staff to sign onto ACWA's future coalition letters regarding the bill.

March 12, 2025

The Honorable Catherine Blakespear
Chair, Senate Environmental Quality Committee
1021 O Street, Room 7720
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 350 (Durazo) – Water Rate Assistance Program
Position: OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED

Dear Chair Blakespear:

On behalf of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), I am writing to respectfully express our “Oppose Unless Amended” position on SB 350, relating to the establishment of a statewide water low-income rate assistance (LIRA) program.

ACWA believes that SB 350 could be amended in a way that accomplishes the goals of the author and that meets the needs of the public water agencies that will play a key role in the administration of a LIRA program. Some water agencies already administer their own LIRA programs. However, many water agencies are precluded from funding a local LIRA program because of financial constraints and limits placed on how ratepayer dollars can be spent by Proposition 218. If a statewide LIRA program were to be established, ACWA would want to see that program succeed. The concerns summarized below are intended to improve the bill and make a statewide LIRA program as cost-effective and efficient as possible.

1) The Bill Does Not Identify a Funding Source

AB 401 (Dodd, 2015) directed the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to develop a study outlining how it would fund and implement a LIRA program. The AB 401 Report, which was released in 2018, has been used as the framework for multiple LIRA proposals and was developed with a robust public process. The cost estimate for direct water bill assistance at the time the report was released was approximately \$140 million. Notably, neither AB 401 nor the AB 401 Report includes wastewater, whereas SB 350 does. With the inclusion of wastewater and persistent inflation since the report’s release, the annual cost for the program proposed by SB 350 is likely much higher. It is vital that the funding mechanism for a LIRA program is not regressive and does not challenge water affordability (i.e. a tax on water).

2) The Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) is the Appropriate Implementing Agency

The bill proposes a LIRA program implemented by the State Water Board. ACWA’s strong preference is that the Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) implement the program because CSD is experienced with implementing other statewide low-income assistance programs. CSD implemented the federally-funded Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) from 2020 – 2024 as part of the federal government’s COVID assistance package.

3) Wastewater Should Be Removed from the Bill

SB 350 would provide rate assistance to low-income households for both retail water and wastewater. Including wastewater in a LIRA program adds significant logistical complexity and cost. As noted above, wastewater was not included in the State Water Board's AB 401 report, which outlined how they would fund and implement such a program. In many instances it is not possible to apply a credit to a wastewater bill because some wastewater agencies collect revenue through property taxes and do not have the same customer billing relationships as public water agencies that provide retail water. Some public water agencies provide drinking water services but not wastewater services, while some provide drinking water services to all customers and wastewater services to some customers. In addition to the inflated cost and logistical constraints, including wastewater in a LIRA program would create an equity issue by providing a benefit to some eligible customers and not others. It may be appropriate to explore an assistance mechanism for wastewater at a later date. ACWA strongly recommends removing it from this bill.

4) The Proposed Prioritization Framework is Not Appropriate for a LIRA Program

SB 350 directs the State Water Board to develop a process for determining how implementation will be prioritized among eligible systems in the event that full funding is not immediately available. The bill directs the State Water Board to prioritize eligible systems that have historically been overburdened by pollution and industrial development or faced other environmental justice hurdles. Because SB 350 is creating a LIRA program aimed at mitigating water affordability issues, not water quality issues, ACWA suggests that this is the wrong metric to use when determining funding priority. ACWA instead recommends using a prioritization framework that is based on financial need.

5) The Cap on Administrative Costs for Local Water Agencies May Be Insufficient

SB 350 proposes to cap reimbursement to water providers for reasonable costs of administration at the greater of 5% of total funds for water bill assistance or \$2,000. Whether this provision would adequately cover the costs of implementation for all local water agencies is difficult to assess. The bill does not provide for situations where implementation costs exceed 5% or \$2,000 and cannot be recovered from the State Water Board or from local ratepayers due to Proposition 218 limits, even in instances where local agencies make a good-faith effort to keep costs low. ACWA suggests that the bill be amended to give the State Water Board flexibility to grant an exemption to the cap on a case-by-case basis. We also suggest that the \$2,000 limit be increased, as we expect most local water agencies to exceed \$2,000 in administrative costs.

6) The Implementing Agency Should Make Advanced Payments to Local Water Agencies

SB 350 directs the State Water Board or third-party providers to provide funding to eligible systems that would be applied to ratepayer accounts. Small and medium public water agencies may not have the financial flexibility to carry a significant balance related to LIRA for a year before being reimbursed by the state. ACWA recommends that the bill specify that funds be provided to eligible systems in advance (as opposed to through reimbursement) based on an estimate of needed funding. The bill would already allow for eligible systems to return excess funding.

7) Existing LIRA Programs Should Be Able to Continue in Their Existing Form

Some public water agencies have existing LIRA programs at the local level. We appreciate that SB 350 provides for those existing programs. ACWA supports this approach and suggests that the bill specify that existing LIRA programs be allowed to maintain their existing systems and processes, where possible, to reduce redundancy and inefficiency.

8) The Bill Should Be Implemented with Regulations, Not Guidelines

The bill directs the State Water Board to adopt guidelines for implementation of the program following one public hearing and in consultation with other relevant agencies. The importance and complexity of the proposed program merits a more comprehensive public engagement process that allows for meaningful public input, multiple hearings, and draft reviews. This is a brand-new program that will, if approved and funded, provide benefits to millions of Californians. ACWA believes that a regulatory process would provide more appropriate opportunities for public engagement.

9) The Proposed Enforcement Mechanism is Out of Step with a LIRA Program

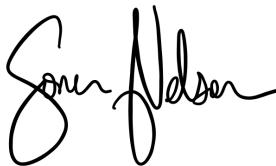
The bill proposes authorizing the Attorney General to take enforcement action. Enforcement by the implementing state agency is sufficient for a financial assistance program. Additionally, the proposed authority for the Attorney General fails to consider that there is a difference between an eligible system that refuses to participate in the program and a system that is trying to participate but is working through administrative or funding agreement issues that preclude them from complying. The bill also proposes to have the State Water Board qualify financial awards of financial assistance on the establishment of a water LIRA program. This language does not provide reasonable avenues for appeal or exceptions for extenuating circumstances in cases where local water agencies make good-faith efforts to comply with the law.

10) LIRA Funding Should Not Be Used to Fund Pilot Projects

SB 350 proposes to allocate 5% of the program's funds to pilot projects. This bill should be narrowly focused on providing water rate assistance. Support for water use efficiency projects can be funded with climate and/or drought resilience state budget funding that is separate from this program. ACWA is not opposed to pilot projects related to a LIRA program, but we do not believe they should be funded in a way that reduces the funding available for direct assistance to those who need it.

For these reasons, ACWA respectfully opposes SB 350 unless it is amended to address these concerns. ACWA is committed to working with the bill's author and proponents to positively amend the bill and requests your support for these changes when the bill is heard in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee. Please contact me at SorenN@acwa.com if you have any questions about these comments.

Sincerely,



Soren Nelson
Senior Policy Advocate



STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Directors

Meeting Date: March 27, 2025

From: Sherri Seitz, Public Affairs Manager

Subject: SB 454 (McNerney) – State Water Resources Control Board: PFAS Mitigation Program

Bill Summary

ACWA is urging members to sign a coalition letter in support of SB 454, which would create a statewide PFAS Mitigation Fund intended to help local agencies pay for manmade PFAS contamination cleanup in drinking water and wastewater. The bill - introduced by Sen. Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton) - is co-sponsored by ACWA and the League of California Cities. A copy of the ACWA's coalition letter follows this report.

If approved, the bill would create a much-needed funding tool to help water and wastewater agencies pay for costs that would otherwise be covered by local ratepayers on their water and wastewater bills. There are currently multiple sources of funding aimed at addressing PFAS contamination (current and potentially future legal settlements, federal funding, state bond funding, etc.) that could be directed to this fund.

Link to AB 454 bill language: [Bill Text - SB-454 State Water Resources Control Board: PFAS Mitigation Program.](#)

Background

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), also known as “forever chemicals,” are a group of thousands of man-made chemicals that have been used extensively in numerous consumer products, such as Teflon pans, stain resistant carpets, fast food packaging, fire-fighting foams and other materials designed to be waterproof, stain-resistant or non-stick.

Local water agencies are not the source of these chemicals or responsible for the development of the products that introduced PFAS into the water supply and wastewater systems, yet they are responsible for the costs of monitoring for their presence, treating the water and disposing of the contamination. These costs challenge water affordability, particularly in disadvantaged communities.

In April 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced a new national maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 4.0 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOA and PFOS as

individual contaminants and a standard of 10 ppt for three other chemicals — PFNA, PFHxs, and HFPO-DA (commonly referred to as GenXChemicals). Utilities have five years to come into compliance with the rule.

ACWA advocated that the EPA set drinking water standards that are based on sound science and robust analysis, and adequately assess the cost of compliance.

In a separate effort, the California Office of Environmental Health and Hazard Assessment in April 2024 adopted and published public health goals of 0.007 ppt for PFOA and 1.0 ppt for PFOS. A public health goal is a drinking water objective that does not pose a significant risk to health and is not an enforceable standard.

Additionally, the State Water Resources Control Board has identified development of a statewide PFAS MCL among its highest priorities in 2025.

Next Steps

The bill has been assigned to the Senate Environmental Quality Committee, but a hearing has not yet been scheduled.

ACWA staff is working with the League of California Cities and Sen. McNerney to support the bill as it moves through the Legislature and will notify members when it is scheduled for committee hearings.

Recommended Action:

Staff recommend the Board of Directors adopt a support position on SB 454 (McNerney) – State Water Resources Control Board: PFAS Mitigation Program and authorize staff to sign onto ACWA’s coalition letter supporting the bill.

Coalition logos here

March X, 2025

The Honorable Catherine Blakespear
Chair, Senate Environmental Quality Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 7720
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 454 (McNerney) – Support

Dear Chair Blakespear:

On behalf of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), the League of California Cities (Cal Cities), and the undersigned organizations, we are writing to express our strong support for SB 454, which would establish a statewide PFAS Mitigation Fund intended to help local water agencies, including cities, leverage funding to pay for cleanup of manmade PFAS contamination in drinking water and wastewater. This much-needed funding tool would help water and wastewater agencies pay for costs that would otherwise be covered by local ratepayers on their water and wastewater bills to help maintain water affordability.

Public water agencies are responsible for delivering safe, clean, and affordable drinking water throughout California. To fulfill that responsibility, local water agencies must comply with federal and state drinking water standards. Drinking water standards can have significant financial impacts on public water agencies, which are passed on to water ratepayers and ultimately, impact water affordability.

PFAS, characterized as “forever chemicals” due to their stability in the environment and resistance to breaking down, are a large group of man-made chemicals that have been used extensively since the 1940s and can today be found in our food system, drinking water supplies, and air. Despite legislative efforts, PFAS are still manufactured, distributed, and used globally and continue to passively contaminate water supplies and wastewater systems. Local water agencies are not the source of these chemicals or responsible for the development of the products that introduced PFAS into the water supply and wastewater systems, yet they are responsible for the costs of monitoring for their presence, treating the water, and disposing of the contamination.

In April 2024, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced new national, legally enforceable maximum contaminant levels (MCL) of 4.0 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOA and PFOS as individual contaminants and a standard of 10 ppt for three other chemicals – PFNA, PFHx, and HFPO-DA (commonly referred to as GenXChemicals). The EPA estimates that the nationwide cost for public water agencies to comply with the proposed PFAS National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR) will be between \$772 million and \$1.2 billion annually. The specific cost for California’s public water agencies to comply with the NPDRWs is currently unknown.

This year, the State Water Resources Control Board is expected to initiate a formal rulemaking process to set a drinking water standard for PFAS. Existing law requires a contaminant’s MCL to be established at a

level as close to its Public Health Goal as is technologically and economically feasible. Existing law also requires state drinking water standards to be at least as stringent as federal standards set by the EPA. **With California's MCL anticipated to be at least as protective as the federal MCL, the costs associated with treating California's water supplies will be significant.**

SB 454 would propose the development of the PFAS Mitigation Fund to leverage current and future state, federal, and private funding sources to dedicate funding for the State Water Resources Control Board to support local water agencies in addressing the critically important infrastructure costs to treat for PFAS and help ensure safe drinking water supplies for communities.

For the reasons above, ACWA, Cal Cities, and the undersigned organizations strongly support SB 454 and respectfully request your "AYE" vote when the bill is heard in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee. If you have any questions about our position, please contact Chelsea Haines at chelseah@acwa.com or Melissa Sparks-Kranz at msparkskranz@calcities.org.

Sincerely,

[advocate signature here]

Chelsea Haines
State Regulatory Director
Association of California Water Agencies

Melissa Sparks-Kranz
Legislative Advocate
League of California Cities

Signature blocks here



STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Directors

Meeting Date: March 27, 2025

From: Sherri Seitz, Public Affairs Manager

Subject: SB 496 (Hurtado) – Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation: Appeals Advisory Committee: Exemptions

Bill Summary

CSDA, in partnership with local government advocates representing cities and counties, has co-sponsored SB 496 (Hurtado) to provide relief to local agencies in their efforts to comply with the ambitious deadlines and requirements of the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) / Zero-Emission Vehicles (ZEV) mandates. CSDA, League of California Cities, California State Associations of Counties, Rural County Representatives of California submitted a letter to the California State Senate on March 4, 2025 outlining the compliance reforms needed. A copy of the letter and information flyer follows this report.

As local agencies strive to achieve the State's climate and emissions goals, while confronting the barriers outside their control, SB 496 will help state and local agencies more effectively navigate the ACF regulation and its associated risks and costs to our communities. Of critical concern to local governments, the ACF mandates on medium-duty and heavy-duty fleets are creating unnecessary challenges to maintaining the many critical services Californians rely upon for their most essential daily needs as well as during emergencies and disasters.

SB 496 will help state and local agencies meet both the needs of our communities and California's climate goals in three important areas:

- **Protecting the health and safety of our communities:**
 - SB 496 updates the emergency vehicle exemption within the ACF to allow those vehicles that respond to and support critical operations related to emergencies and disasters, often under austere conditions, to continue to protect our communities. Our front-line workers need to be able to rely on their vehicle working under any condition during a fire, earthquake, storm, or other emergency where their service is critical.

- **Prioritizing affordability for our hard-working families:**
 - SB 496 modifies the requirements of the daily usage exemption, removing barriers for the applicant to comply with the mandate. Moreover, the legislation promotes affordability amid rapidly rising cost pressures on essential local services by averting the costly acquisition of ZEVs before it is possible to install the infrastructure required to use them.
- **Promoting transparency and accountability for our government:**
 - SB 496 establishes an Appeals Advisory Committee by which local agencies may request a review of exemption request denials. This ensures transparency while protecting due process for those seeking further review.

Link to SB 496 bill language: [Bill Text - SB-496 Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation: appeals advisory committee: exemptions.](#)

Background

On October 1, 2023, CARB's Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) regulation took effect. This mandate, among other things, generally requires a phased transition of medium- and heavy-duty fleets from internal combustion engines (ICEs) to zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) by 2045.

These regulations are having a significant effect on state and local government agencies, by increasing the amount of reporting required annually for all vehicles added to and removed from a state or local government agency's fleet, the unfunded procurement of new technologies, and the development of the infrastructure needed to service these new technologies, while still meeting the same the performance as current technologies.

SB 496 (Hurtado) will protect communities and provide relief to local agencies.

Next Steps

The bill is currently scheduled to be heard on April 2, 2025 by the Senate Environmental Quality Committee.

CSDA staff and bill co-sponsors are committed to working to positively amend the bill and requested our support for the bill.

To comply with the March 26, 2025 deadline ahead of the April 2, 2025 committee meeting, staff submitted an automated form letter to CSDA supporting the SB 496 (Hurtado) bill regarding Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation: Appeals Advisory Committee: Exemptions. This form authorizes CSDA to submit a position letter supporting the bill on behalf of ETWD.



California Special
Districts Association
Districts Stronger Together



SB 496: Safe and Clean Fleets

(Hurtado, Archuleta, Niello, and Alanis)

In 2023, CARB imposed the Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) regulation on state and local agencies to transition medium and heavy duty fleets from internal combustion engines to zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) by 2045

SB 496 is bipartisan legislation that ensures California can continue to move forward in achieving its climate and emissions goals, while improving the ACF to:

- **Protect HEALTH AND SAFETY in our communities**

SB 496 updates the ACF's emergency vehicle exemption to include vehicles that respond to and support critical operations related to emergencies and disasters, often under severe and difficult conditions not suitable for ZEVs.



- **Uphold compliance with our CLIMATE GOALS**

SB 496 ensures local agencies can continue to work diligently to decarbonize their fleet operations by providing clarity without compromising our priorities.

- **Promote AFFORDABILITY for our hard-working families**

Amid rapidly rising cost pressures on essential local services, SB 496 streamlines unnecessary bureaucratic barriers to compliance and averts the costly acquisition of unusable ZEVs before it is possible to install the infrastructure they require.



- **Ensure TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY in our government**

SB 496 establishes an Appeals Advisory Committee by which local agencies can request review. This committee must act within 60 days of receiving a request, and all meetings must be 1) open to the public, and 2) recorded with the video posted online.

Our front-line workers need to be able to rely on their vehicles under any conditions during a fire, earthquake, storm or other emergency where their service is critical.





**California Special
Districts Association**
Districts Stronger Together



March 4, 2025

The Honorable Melissa Hurtado
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Suite 6510
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SPONSORS - Senate Bill 496 (Hurtado): Advanced Clean Fleets

Senator Hurtado,

On behalf of the League of California Cities (Cal Cities), California State Associations of Counties (CSAC), Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), and California Special Districts Association (CSDA), we are pleased to co-sponsor Senate Bill 496 which would ensure disaster service workers are able to effectively respond to emergency situations, create an Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) Appeals Advisory Committee, and provide some much needed and common-sense reforms for compliance.

Local agencies are working diligently to reduce the carbon intensity of fleet operations while ensuring that they continue to provide the many critical services Californians rely upon for their most essential daily needs as well as their most trying times.

The ACF sets ambitious compliance deadlines for fleets to transition to an increasing proportion of Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEVs). The ACF's ZEV transition requires access to adequate utility infrastructure for alternative fueling such as EV charging, as well as access to ZEVs that operationally can deliver the full spectrum of important and highly specialized services that fleets provide (many which are vital to the health and safety of Californians). While the ACF allows that fleets may request exemptions granting compliance flexibility in cases where, for reasons beyond their control, fleets cannot meet the compliance timetables, the ACF does not provide clarity on how such exemption requests are to be evaluated and decided upon, nor does it provide a process for any administrative review of exemption request denials by the California Air Resources Board (CARB).

SB 496 establishes an Appeals Advisory Committee by which local agencies may request a review of exemption request denials. Allowing a formal appeals process ensures transparency while protecting due process for those seeking further review. In cases where a regulation allows for exemptions and extensions, best practices necessitate an appeals process. Such a process can be particularly helpful and impactful by offering clear and feasible pathways to compliance without diminishing CARB's authority as this Appeals Advisory Committee would only operate in an advisory role.

Additionally, SB 496 would update the emergency vehicle exemption, allowing those vehicles that respond to and support critical operations related to emergencies and disasters, often under austere conditions, to continue to protect our communities. Our front-line workers and the communities they

serve rely on vehicles that must be able to do the job the emergency dictates, even when the power is out. Especially given the rising toll of natural disasters in our state, we must prioritize the safety of our communities and the public servants that work around the clock through these unprecedented events.

SB 496 also modifies the requirements of the daily usage exemption, removing barriers for the applicant to comply with the mandate

Finally, this measure promotes affordability in the midst of rapidly rising cost pressures on essential local services by averting the costly acquisition of ZEVs before it is possible to install the infrastructure required to use them. The infrastructure needs to be in place before the vehicles can be purchased.

These improvements to the ACF will protect the health and safety of Californians, avoid unnecessary costs detrimental to our shared long-term goals, and ensure that local agencies can continue to work diligently to decarbonize their fleet operations and comply with the ACF without being penalized for factors beyond their control. For these reasons, Cal Cities, CSAC, RCRC, and CSDA are pleased to co-sponsor Senate Bill 496, and we urge the Legislature to approve this critical legislation. If you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to contact Damon Conklin at DConklin@calcities.org, Mark Neuburger at MNeuburger@counties.org, Staci Heaton at Sheaton@rcrcnet.org, and Anthony Tannehill at Anthonyt@cdda.net.

Thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Damon Conklin
League of California Cities



Mark Neuburger
California State Association of Counties



Staci Heaton
Rural County Representatives of California



Anthony J. Tannehill
California Special Districts Association



STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Directors

Meeting Date: March 27, 2025

From: Dennis Cafferty, General Manager

Subject: AB 514 (Petrie-Norris) – Emergency Water Supplies

AB 514 (Petrie-Norris) – Emergency Water Supplies, which is sponsored by IRWD, strives to have emergency water supplies recognized in the Water Code.

California has always had a climate that cycles between periods of large amounts of precipitation and times of drought. With climate change, California is experiencing greater weather cycle fluctuations. As the state sees more rainfall / less snow, earlier snowmelt, more intense rain events, aridification, and increasingly more frequent droughts, the state needs to focus on water supply resilience. One way to mitigate the impacts of these more frequent droughts is to develop emergency water supplies. IRWD has sponsored AB 514 in the belief that more water suppliers will make the investment in emergency supplies if the State formally recognizes these supplies.

AB 514 seeks to address this issue by enacting a policy in the Water Code that encourages and incentivizes the development of emergency water supplies. The bill does not mandate the development of these supplies, but rather it recognizes and supports their use during periods of water emergencies.

AB 514 is the reintroduction of the language that was in SB 1218 (Newman) last year. ETWD was a supporter of SB 1218.

AB 514 (Petrie-Norris) will be heard in the Assembly Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife on Tuesday, March 25. In order to meet the deadline for the Committee hearing, the General Manager authorized IRWD to continue to use the ETWD logo on its coalition letters.

The AB 514 bill and coalition letters are attached for reference.

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 514

Introduced by Assembly Member Petrie-Norris

February 10, 2025

An act to add Section 106.6 to the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AB 514, as introduced, Petrie-Norris. Water: emergency water supplies.

Existing law, the Urban Water Management Planning Act, requires every public and private urban water supplier that directly or indirectly provides water for municipal purposes to prepare and adopt an urban water management plan. The act requires an urban water management plan to include a water shortage contingency plan, as provided.

This bill would declare that it is the established policy of the state to encourage, but not mandate, the development of emergency water supplies by local water suppliers, and to support their use during times of drought or unplanned service or supply disruption, as provided.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of
- 2 the following:
- 3 (a) California has a climate that cycles between periods of large
- 4 amounts of precipitation and times of drought.

1 (b) California’s weather cycles are already affecting water
2 resources throughout the state, which in turn negatively impact
3 ecosystems, economies, and communities.

4 (c) In addition to enhancing water efficiency, California can
5 and should take action to build water resilience into its water
6 resource management and planning that accounts for these changes,
7 allowing the state to better adapt to and mitigate the impacts of
8 climate change on water supplies and watersheds.

9 (d) With climate change likely bringing more frequent and
10 intense droughts to California, the state needs to evaluate how it
11 will ensure sufficient water supplies during times of shortage.

12 (e) An emergency water supply is one way the state can ensure
13 sufficient water supplies during times of drought, and the
14 development of emergency water supplies can aid the state in
15 mitigating the impacts of more frequent droughts.

16 (f) Despite this, few water suppliers have made an investment
17 in emergency water supplies.

18 (g) Establishing as state policy a role for emergency water
19 supplies can help encourage and incentivize greater investment
20 and development of those supplies across the state.

21 SEC. 2. Section 106.6 is added to the Water Code, to read:

22 106.6. (a) It is hereby declared to be the established policy of
23 this state to encourage, but not mandate, the development of
24 emergency water supplies by local water suppliers, and to support
25 their use during times of drought or unplanned service or supply
26 disruption.

27 (b) For purposes of this section, “emergency water supplies”
28 means water supplies identified in a water shortage contingency
29 plan or drought plan by a local water supplier that have been
30 developed to increase a water supplier’s water supply reliability
31 during a drought or unplanned service or supply disruption and
32 that are in addition to the baseline water supplies the water supplier
33 draws on during nonshortage times to meet water demands within
34 its service area.

35 (c) This section does not require a water supplier to add or
36 modify any operation or demand management plan, or to interfere
37 with any water right or contractual right related to water exchange,
38 conveyance, or storage.



March 10, 2025

The Honorable Cottie Petrie-Norris
California State Assembly, 73rd District
1021 O Street, Suite 8120
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 514 (Petrie-Norris): Emergency Water Supplies- Support

Dear Assemblymember Petrie-Norris:

We, the undersigned coalition of statewide associations, cities, water suppliers, business organizations, and regional stakeholders are writing to express our support for AB 514 (Petrie-Norris) and to thank you for authoring this important measure, which would enact a state policy to encourage investment in and development of emergency water supplies across the state.

California has always had a climate that cycles between periods of large amounts of precipitation and times of drought. With climate change, however, we are experiencing greater weather whiplash. As the state sees more rainfall and less snow, earlier snowmelt, more intense rain events, aridification, and increasingly more frequent droughts, the state should support every responsible tool to enhance water resilience.

While adherence to feasible water use efficiency standards will continue to play an important role in the face of climate change, water resilience for the future will also require California to maximize various innovative approaches to ensure sufficient water for the state's ecosystem, urban, and agriculture needs in times of shortage.

The development of emergency water supplies — a water supply that has been developed by a water supplier to enhance its water supply reliability during times of shortage and is a supply in addition to the baseline water supplies that the agency draws upon during non-shortage times to meet water demands within its service area — is one tool that can aid the state in mitigating the impacts of more frequent droughts. Unfortunately, few water suppliers have made the investment in emergency supplies because the state has not formally recognized them.

AB 514 seeks to remedy this by enacting a policy in the Water Code that recognizes emergency water supplies, encourages their development, and supports their use during times of shortage. Our coalition believes that such a policy will encourage investment in and development of emergency supplies— making communities more resilient, better able to withstand drought and flood, and more prepared to provide safe and reliable water supplies to residents, businesses and the environment.

For these reasons, we strongly support AB 514 and urge you and your colleagues to vote “Aye” on this important measure. Please feel free to contact Christine Compton with the Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) at (949) 453-5338 or IRWD's Sacramento advocate Alfredo Arredondo at (805) 598-9350 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kris Murray
Executive Director
Association of California Cities – Orange
County

Dennis P. Cafferty, P.E.
General Manager
El Toro Water District

Samuel K. Kim, P.E.
Public Works Deputy Director
City of Garden Grove

Greg Thomas
General Manager
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District

Krista Bernasconi
Mayor
City of Roseville

Dave Coffaro
Interim CEO
Greater Irvine Chamber of Commerce

David Youngblood, P.E.
General Manager
East Orange County Water District

Paul A. Cook
General Manager
Irvine Ranch Water District

Joe Mouawad, P.E.
General Manager
Eastern Municipal Water District

Jeremy Wolf
Legislative Program Manager
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

The Honorable Cottie Petrie-Norris
California State Assembly, 73rd District
March 10, 2025
Page 3

Ivy Brittain
Legislative Affairs Director
Northern California Water Association

Kim Thorner
General Manager
Olivenhain Municipal Water District

Jeff Ball
CEO
Orange County Business Council

Jason Martin
General Manager
Rancho California Water District

Dan Denham
General Manager
San Diego County Water Authority

Rick Shintaku
General Manager
South Coast Water District

Victoria Hernandez
Executive Director
South Orange County Economic Coalition

Charley Wilson
Executive Director
Southern California Water Coalition

Matthew Litchfield
General Manager
Three Valleys Municipal Water District

Craig Miller
General Manager
Western Municipal Water District



March 14, 2025

The Honorable Diane Papan
 Chair, Assembly Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife
 1020 N Street, Suite 160
 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 514 (Petrie-Norris): Emergency Water Supplies- Support

Dear Chair Papan:

We, the undersigned coalition of statewide associations, cities, water suppliers, business organizations, and regional stakeholders are writing to express our support for AB 514 (Petrie-Norris) which would enact a state policy to encourage investment in and development of emergency water supplies across the state.

California has always had a climate that cycles between periods of large amounts of precipitation and times of drought. With climate change, however, we are experiencing greater weather whiplash. As the state sees more rainfall and less snow, earlier snowmelt, more intense rain events, aridification, and increasingly more frequent droughts, the state should support every responsible tool to enhance water resilience.

While adherence to feasible water use efficiency standards will continue to play an important role in the face of climate change, water resilience for the future will also require California to maximize various innovative approaches to ensure sufficient water for the state's ecosystem, urban, and agriculture needs in times of shortage.

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For these reasons, we strongly support AB 514 and urge you and your colleagues to vote “Aye” on this important measure. Please feel free to contact Christine Compton with the Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) at (949) 453-5338 or IRWD's Sacramento advocate Alfredo Arredondo at (805) 598-9350 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kris Murray
Executive Director
Association of California Cities – Orange
County

David Youngblood, P.E.
General Manager
East Orange County Water District

Andrea Abergel
Director of Water
California Municipal Utilities Association

Joe Mouawad, P.E.
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Eastern Municipal Water District

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City of Roseville

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General Manager
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District

Caity Maple
Councilmember, District 5
City of Sacramento

Dave Coffaro
Interim CEO
Greater Irvine Chamber of Commerce

The Honorable Diane Papan
Chair, Assembly Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife
March 14, 2025
Page 3

Paul A. Cook
General Manager
Irvine Ranch Water District

Jeremy Wolf
Legislative Program Manager
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

Ivy Brittain
Legislative Affairs Director
Northern California Water Association

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Executive Director
Southern California Water Coalition

Matthew Litchfield
General Manager
Three Valleys Municipal Water District

Craig Miller
General Manager
Western Municipal Water District

cc: The Honorable Members, Assembly Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife
The Honorable Cottie Petrie-Norris, California State Assembly, 73rd District
Pablo Garza, Chief Consultant, Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee
Brent Finkel, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

March 2025

I. OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

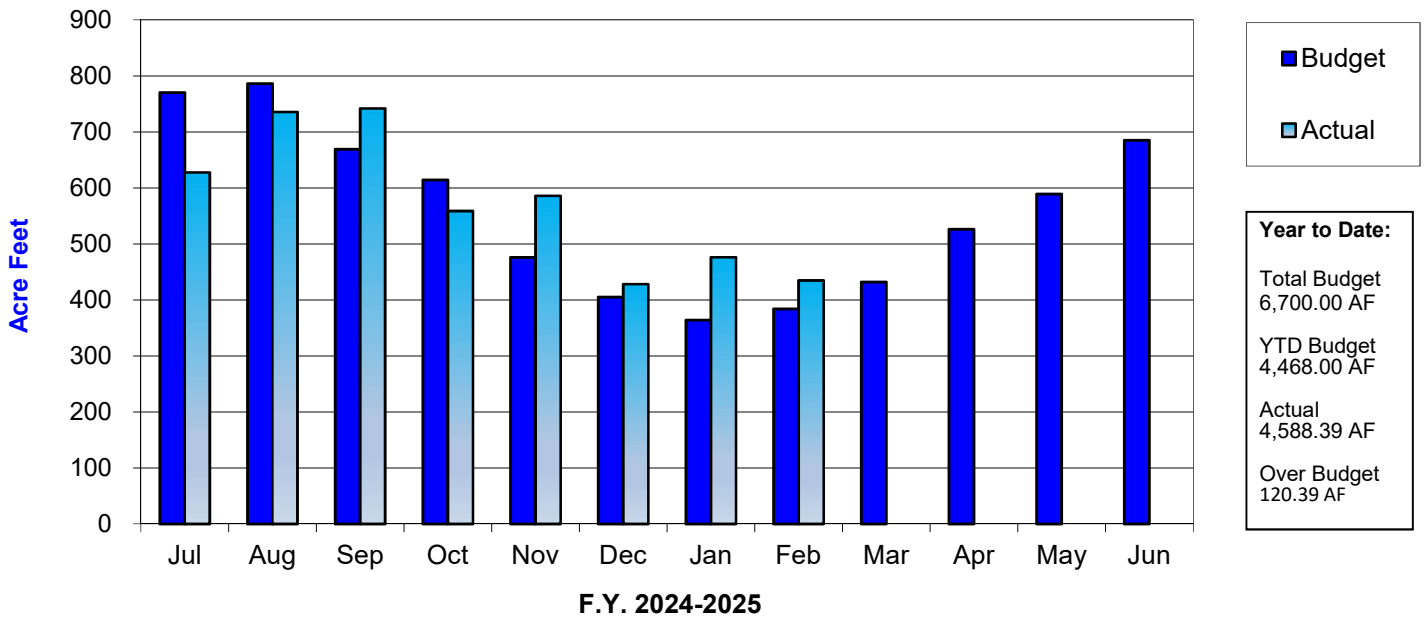
- MWDOC Board Meeting
- MWDOC P&O Committee Meeting
- MWDOC A&F Committee Meeting
- MWDOC / MET Directors Meeting
- MWDOC Managers Meeting
- MWDOC Meeting Regarding MET Business Model Discussions
- SOCWA Board Meeting
- SOCWA Finance Committee Meeting
- SOCWA Managers Meeting
- Orange County Water Association Luncheon
- South Orange County Economic Committee Meet the Mayors Meeting
- Presentation to Laguna Woods Village Republican Club
- Presentation to Laguna Woods Village Garden Villa Association
- Meeting with Ed Means
- Meeting with Empower
- Meeting with Chris Macon
- Meetings with Raftelis
- ETWD President / Vice President / GM Meetings
- ETWD All Employee Meeting
- ETWD Budget Committee Meetings
- ETWD RRC Meeting
- ETWD Agenda Review Meeting
- ETWD Regular Engineering & Finance Committee Meetings
- ETWD Regular Board Meeting

II. DOMESTIC AND RECYCLED WATER SALES

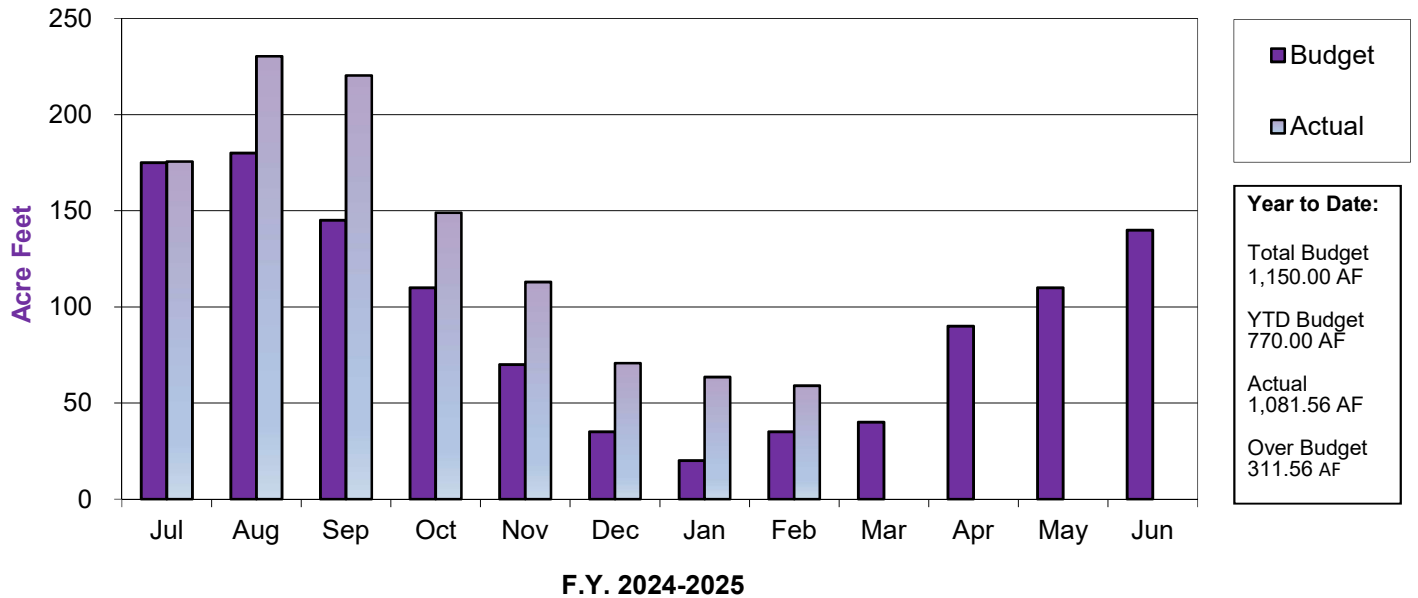
Actual domestic sales for the year-to-date as of February 28, 2025 are 4,588.39 acre-feet. This compares to year-to-date budgeted domestic sales of 4,468.00 acre-feet. The year-to-date variation in actual to budgeted sales reflects an increase of 120.39 acre-feet. Actual sales are 499.13 acre-feet higher than last year-to-date actual sales for the same period.

Actual recycled sales for the year-to-date as of February 28, 2025 are 1,081.56 acre-feet. This compares to year-to-date budgeted recycled sales of 770.00 acre-feet. The year-to-date variation in actual to budgeted sales reflects an increase of 311.56 acre-feet. Actual sales are 207.10 acre-feet higher than last year-to-date actual sales for the same period.

POTABLE WATER SALES



RECYCLED WATER SALES



Customer Service Activity Report

Regular Service Calls	FEB 2025	FEB 2024	Telephone Calls	FEB 2025	FEB 2024
Serviceman Dispatched to Read, Connect/Disconnect Service	97	57	Change of Service: Connections and Disconnections	40	43
Field Investigations:			Billing / Payments & Graph Inquires	231	150
Check for leaks - calls to CS			Assistance with online payments and ETWD's portal (cc, e-checks, other.)	30	17
Office:(irrigation,meter,street leaks)					
Customer Responsible	10	21	Variance / Adjustment Inquiries	10	17
District Responsible	3	4	Variance / Adjustment Requests Processed	14	19
None found/other	5	12	Ordinance Infraction / Water Waste Complaints	1	2
High Reads Checked - High Consumption (Billing Dept.)	26	19			
Cust Leaks: 11 No Leaks: 15					
Check Stopped Slowed Meters-Low Consumption (Billing)	19	26	Outside Utility Districts	27	39
Re-Check Read	17	14	Phone calls Transfer to other Departments within ETWD	55	25
Ordinance Infraction	0	0	Phone calls for the Board of Directors	1	0
Recycled Water	0	0	Recycled Water	0	0
Water Quality: Taste / Odor / Color	0	0	Water Quality Taste - Odor - Color	1	1
Phone response: _0_ Field response: _0_			Leaks / Breaks	7	13
Flooding (Hydrant) Meters issued	0	0	Flooding Meter calls (Hydrant)	4	2
Sewer - Odor/Stoppage/ Manhole Covers	1	1	Sewer Problems (odor / spills)	1	2
Meter Box: Lids / Covers Replaced	39	23			
Meter Box Clean, Digout	3	3	Backflow / Cross Connection (questions or yearly testing forms)	0	0
			ETWD facilities inquiries:		
Raised Meter Box	0	1	Boxes/Covers/Lids/Hydrants/Pump Stations/Graffiti/ "Gen. Maint"	3	0
Trim Bushes / Meter Obstruction	5	19			
General Maintenance Response	3	25	Tyco (ADT) Calls	0	0
Fire Hydrants: Hit / Leaks / Caps	0	0	(Alarms to ETWD facilities)		
Pressure(psi) Checks / Reads	4	0	ATT Calls (access to tower sites)	0	0
CSSOV (Angle Meter/Ball Valve/Gate Valve/Globe Valve) chk,repair,replaced	8	8	SCE Calls (access to tower sites)	0	3
AMS angle-meter-stop replace/repair	0	4	Pager Calls specifically for Pump Stations - SCADA	0	0
Bees Removed	0	2			
Backflow / Cross Connection	0	8	Payment Extensions	92	16
			Delinquent Payment Calls to Customer 's prior to shut off per billing calendar (automatic courtesy dialer)		28
Fogged Registers	59	12	Return Calls from customers left on our voice mail system. Ext 500	9	16
OMCOP: Old Meter Change - Out Program	1	1	Email Correspondence:	54	45
Other: (uncommon non-maintenance calls)	1	4	Maintenance Service Order Requests (bees, psi, fogged-dirty registers)	14	4
On-Call After Hrs. CS Response	14	14	Misc. (other: employment, deliveries, sales calls)	20	26
# Posting Notice & 24 Hr. Door Hangers Hung	231	101			
#Shut Offs/Disconnect for Non-Payment (DNP)	49	6	Payment Processing Fee Complaints	0	0
Removed Meter	0	0	Customers Complaints non bill related.	0	0
New Meter	1	1	Billing Disputes	0	0
Unread Meters	2	6			
Total Field Investigations	598	392	Total Telephone Calls	614	468
Uncollectible Accounts:			Credit Card Payments	FEB 2025	FEB 2024
Budget YTD	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 11,333.00	REGULAR	2301	\$616,196.67
Actual YTD	\$ (247.00)	\$ (369.00)		1394	\$269,986.31

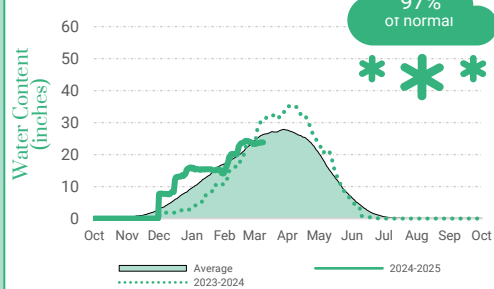


The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's Water Supply Conditions Report (WSCR)

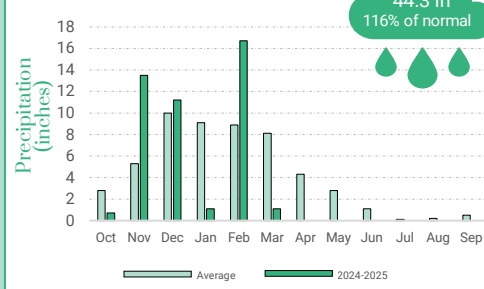
Water Year 2024-2025
As of: 03/09/2025

State Water Project

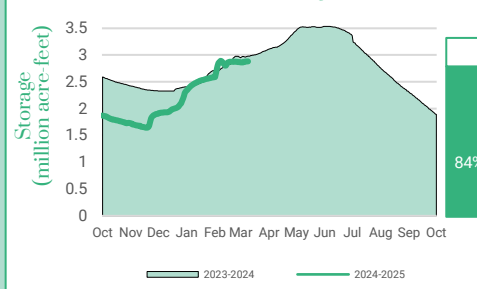
Northern Sierra Snow



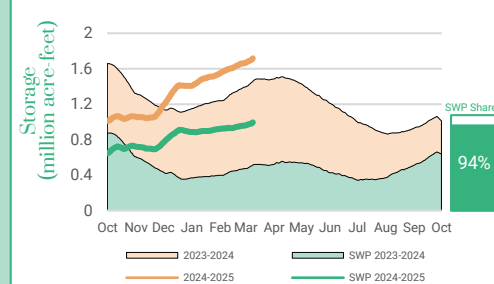
8 Station Index Rain



Lake Oroville

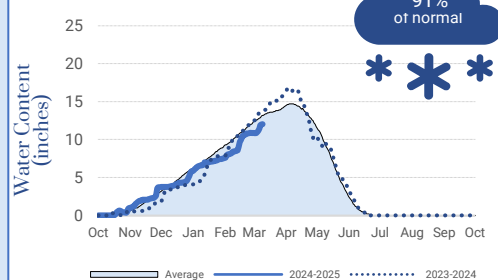


San Luis Reservoir

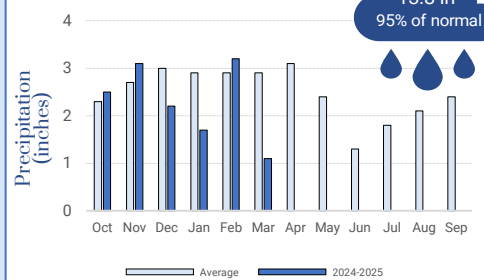


Colorado River

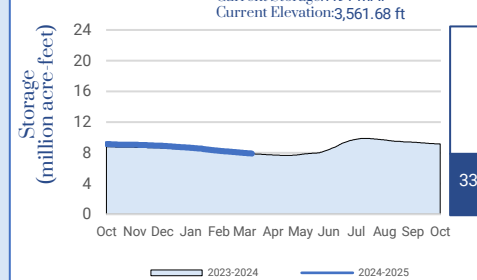
Colorado River Basin Snow



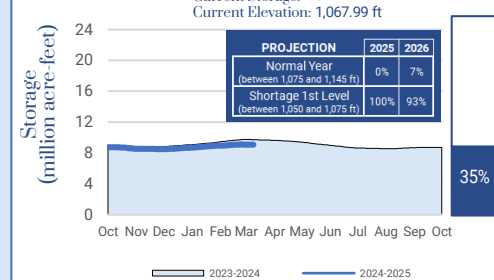
Colorado River Basin Rain



Lake Powell

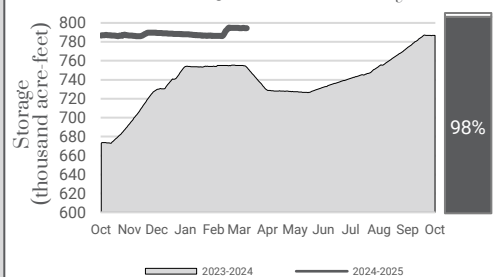


Lake Mead

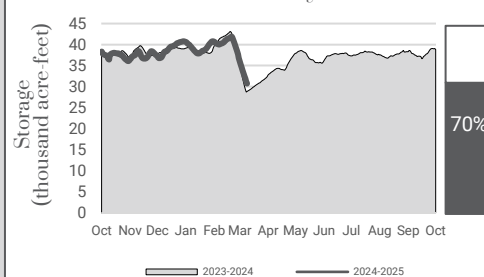


Metropolitan

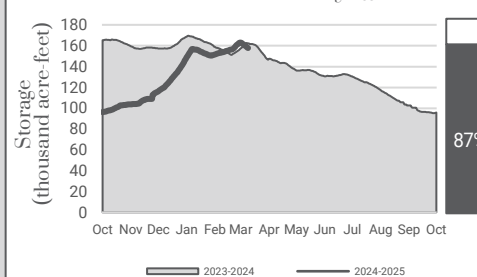
Diamond Valley Lake



Lake Skinner



Lake Mathews



2025 State Water Project Allocation

35%
of Table A

(Third increase from the initial allocation)

This report 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.

<https://www.mwdh2o.com/WSCR>

WILL SERVE SUMMARY REPORT MARCH 2025

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	Will Serve Letter Date	PHASE	CFF
The Village at Laguna Hills (Retail Phase)	Installation of various sized water, fire, and sewer services at the former mall site.	Forthcoming	Plan Check	Not Yet Calculated
The Village at Laguna Hills (Central Residential Phase)	Installation of various sized water, fire, and sewer services at the former mall site.	Forthcoming	Plan Check	Not Yet Calculated
The Village at Laguna Hills (Southern Residential Phase)	Installation of various sized water, fire, and sewer services at the former mall site.	Forthcoming	Plan Check	Not Yet Calculated
Laguna Hills Inn Fire Sprinkler Upgrade	Fire System upgrades including conversion of a fire hydrant to private and addition of a 6-inch DCDA	4/1/2022	Close-Out	\$ -
Indian Super Mart Kitchen	Addition of a kitchen.	Forthcoming	Plan Check	\$ 3,207
Parentis Health Sewermain Relocation	Relocating an existing sewermain.	Forthcoming	Plan Check	Not Yet Calculated
Whoop Axe Water Service Upgrade	Upgrade of existing water service.	Forthcoming	Planning	Not Yet Calculated
Central Utilities Plant 24451 Health Center Drive	Additional domestic and fire services for a medical central utility plant.	12/20/2024	Plan Check	Not Yet Calculated
24178 Me Spa Massage	Conversion of existing chiropractic office into a massage parlor.	Forthcoming	Plan Check	Not Yet Calculated
23272 & 23282 Mill Creek	Additional domestic and fire services for a medical central utility plant	Forthcoming	Planning	Not Yet Calculated
23172 Plaza Pointe Dr and 23441 S Pointe Laguna Hills	Conversion of an office building into a medical outpatient facility	Forthcoming	Planning	Not Yet Calculated
Calle Plata Womens Health & Primary Care	Conversion of an office building into a medical outpatient facility	Forthcoming	Planning	Not Yet Calculated
Laguna Woods Shell and Carwash	Removal of a DCDA and installation of a Blow Off Appurtenance	3/13/2025	Plan Check	-
23370 Moulton Pkwy Sewer Improvements	Modifications to the sewer lateral	Forthcoming	Planning	Not Yet Calculated
Texas Roadhouse BBQ	Conversion of El Torito into Texas Roadhouse BBQ	Forthcoming	Planning	Not Yet Calculated
23161 Mill Creek	Residential development for 43 attached condo units	Forthcoming	Planning	Not Yet Calculated



Mailing Address

P.O. Box 20895
Fountain Valley, CA 92728

Meeting Location

MWDOC/OCWD
18700 Ward Street
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

(714) 963-3058
(714) 964-5930 fax

www.isdoc.net

Executive Committee

President

Hon. Bob McVicker
Municipal Water District of Orange County

1st Vice President

Hon. Paul Mesmer
Surfside Colony Community Services District

2nd Vice President

Hon. Marilyn Thoms
East Orange County Water District

3rd Vice President

Hon. Scott Nelson
Placentia Library District

Secretary
Vacant

Treasurer

Hon. Sandra Jacobs
Santa Margarita Water District

Immediate Past President

Hon. Greg Mills
Serrano Water District

Staff Administration

Heather Baez

Municipal Water District of Orange County

Tina Dubuque

Municipal Water District of Orange County

March 12, 2025

PLEASE DISSEMINATE TO ALL BOARD MEMBERS

Re: ISDOC Executive Committee Secretary Vacancy

This email shall serve as official notice and call for candidates to fill the vacancy for the Secretary position on of the Independent Special Districts of Orange County (ISDOC). The ISDOC Executive Committee will fill the vacancy by appointment.

Per the ISDOC bylaws, Article III Section II Point E: "With the exception of the immediate past president, if a vacancy occurs on the Executive Committee, the Committee shall, within 60 days from the commencement of the vacancy, either fill the vacancy by appointment or call a special election to fill the vacancy. A person appointed or elected to fill a vacancy shall hold office for the unexpired term of the former incumbent."

Nominations will close on **Friday, April 25, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.** Any Board Member/Trustee of a regular ISDOC member agency is eligible for nomination for this open position. Individuals who wish to be considered should submit a letter of interest, together with a resolution from their Board authorizing their candidacy. The appointment will be made by the ISDOC Executive Committee **on Tuesday, May 6, 2025.**

Responsibilities of the positions are as follows:

SECRETARY: The Secretary or his/her designee shall be responsible for all correspondence and the dissemination of information to members. This includes meeting agendas, announcements, and official correspondence.

Meetings of the Executive Committee typically occur on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 a.m. virtually, via teleconference until further notice.

If you are seeking nomination to the Secretary position on the Executive Committee, please send your letter/email of interest and a copy of your Board's authorizing resolution to Heather Baez at hbaez@mwdoc.com. All nomination requests must be received by **April 25, 2025.**

If you have any questions about the any of the positions or the election process, please contact Heather Baez at (714) 593-5012 or hbaez@mwdoc.com.

Sincerely,

Bob McVicker

Bob McVicker, President
Independent Special Districts of Orange County



To: Board of Directors, *Municipal Water District of Orange County*
From: Natural Resource Results
RE: Monthly Board Report – February 2025

Federal Funding Freeze

While funding is beginning to flow again, the spigot has not fully opened. Bureau of Reclamation projects that are funded with annual appropriations or with funds from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) seem to be in the clear, while projects funded through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) are still under review at the Department of the Interior (DOI). The timeline for completing the IRA funding review is still not clear. We understand that Senator Padilla is circulating a letter among other Lower Basin State Senators to Secretary Burgum to register concerns about the frozen IRA funds for the Colorado River and to urge the Secretary to release those funds.

Department of the Interior Staffing

To reduce the size of the federal government, the DOI has been told that it needs to reduce its workforce by 30%-40% and we are already seeing cuts being made within Reclamation. We understand that the California – Great Basin regional office laid off 150 staff. Additionally, Karl Stock, the Regional Director, has resigned. It is unclear when further cuts will be made but we expect that they are coming, both to the regional office and Bureau wide.

MWDOC Washington, DC Meetings

While in DC for the ACWA Conference, MWDOC met with Congressman Correa, Congresswoman Kim, Congressman Min, Congressman Tran, staff for Congressman Levin and the Bureau of Reclamation.

Our goals for the congressional meetings were to:

1. Introduce MWDOC to new members of the delegation (Tran and Min).
2. Seek assistance with the Bureau of Reclamation should the Bureau continue to say that MWDOC's Water Loss Control Program is not eligible for WaterSMART Grants.
3. Build support for the Tax Parity for Water Conservation Rebates Act, which would directly benefit MWDOC and its customers.

Our goals with the Bureau of Reclamation were to:

1. Highlight the modifications that MWDOC has made to the Water Loss Control Program over the last year to address concerns previously raised by the Bureau.

2. Begin a meaningful dialogue with the Bureau to determine if the Program can now compete for WaterSMART funds. Or does Reclamation need to see additional changes?

The meetings were very successful – MWDOC has broad support from its congressional delegation for its ongoing efforts with the federal government. Additionally, the Bureau was pleased to see that MWDOC had been responsive to its previous feedback and committed to beginning a dialogue around future WaterSMART eligibility.

Cabinet Nominations

Doug Burgum has been confirmed by the Senate to be the Secretary of the Interior. Andrea Travnicsek has been nominated to be the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Water and Science, which oversee the Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Geological Survey. Ms. Travnicsek previously held this role in an acting capacity during the first Trump Administration and has been a Senior Advisor to Governor Burgum prior to his nomination.



To:	MWDOC Workshop
From:	Syrus Devers
Date:	March 5th, 2025
Re:	State Legislative Report

Legislative Report

The bills have arrived; all 2,502 of them, of which 1,300 were introduced last week. The total is slightly higher than last year but within the normal range. Unfortunately, there is still significant uncertainty over what type of year we will have due to a higher than normal number of spot bills, which an ACWA lobbyist described as “a bunch of grenades waiting to explode.” (Spot bills make non substantive changes and are placeholders for later legislation.) The Assembly has put a very short deadline of March 8th on their spot bills. That means Assembly authors must submit substantive language to the Rules Committee by then to get the bill assigned to a committee. The Senate is allowing authors until March 21st to amend their spot bills.

As a reminder, per the Constitution new bills cannot be heard or amended for 30 days after introduction. For that reason, no bills had been set for a hearing by the date this report was prepared.

Administrative Report

Governor Newsom, on Valentine’s Day no less, announced that the Delta Conveyance Incidental Take Permit had been issued. That was about the only good news out of the Administration in February as Newsom tries to balance being the top protagonist of President Trump and having to ask for federal aid for the Los Angeles fires.

Other News

PPIC says the quiet part out loud: The Public Policy Institute of California published a blog on February 24th detailing what happens in the new normal of dry periods interrupted by lines of atmospheric rivers. After an exceptionally dry January, four atmospheric rivers slammed into Northern California in the first two weeks of February. The blog detailed the three bottlenecks in California’s water system: flood control requirements, the Delta, and...(drum roll)...lack of storage. The combined result of these restraints meant that in a two-week period 5.1 million acre feet of water that could have been diverted without harm to the environment was lost to the ocean. The article is a short, fairly easy read, which makes it great to share with the uninitiated, and can be found here: <https://www.ppic.org/blog/how-februarys-atmospheric-rivers-affected-californias-water-supply/>

While all of that was happening up north, Southern California officially got itself into a drought and the snowpack will likely end up around 80% of normal. Welcome to California.

ACKERMAN CONSULTING

Legal and Regulatory

March 5, 2025

1. **Life on Earth:** Scientists around the world have and will continue to study when and how life first arose on the planet Earth. A Rutgers research team thinks they have made significant progress in both of these areas. The stages of development of a planet from dust and gas into a solid planet is called late accretion. This refers to the process where the gas and dust accumulate in such a fashion as to form a solid object. After that, three necessary elements need to be present for life to begin. These are water, energy and a combination of chemicals including carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen, phosphorus, and sulfur. When water actually was present on Earth is a major unanswered question in this science area. Scientists generally agree that water appeared on Earth from a meteorite. Using thermal ionization mass spectrometry and new analytical methods, scientists have examined the element of molybdenum, which is contained in meteorites. This isotope is found in meteorites and Earth rocks from Greenland, South Africa, Canada, the United States and Japan. The research thus far shows that most of the water on the earth came after the moon was formed, which is at a much later time than had been previously thought.
2. **Asteroids in the Inland Empire:** In 2016, NASA launched a rocket to an asteroid named Bennu. Bennu is a large asteroid billions of miles away from Earth. In 2023, a capsule returned to Earth with samples of the surface material from the asteroid. The sample contained calcite, dolomite, gaylussite, pirssonite, thenardite, trona and halite. Strangely enough, this combination matched the minerals in San Bernardino County's Searles Lake. This lake near the Mojave Desert has been described as the world's richest chemical storehouse because it contains over half of the natural elements that we know of today. This area, which has spires rising to 140 feet tall and looking like a moonscape, has been used in various movies including Star Trek, Lost in Space and Battlestar Galactica. This area has become more and more popular for rockhounds and scientists studying the mysteries of how our Earth was formed.
3. **SGMA Update:** Fresno State has been studying the progress of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, which was passed 10 years ago. Their study focused on the counties of Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and Kern and the 12 sub basins contained therein. Their study reflected the concerns of farmers and managers in the area with respect to the Act. It is clear that there is a lack of trust between the farmers and their various agencies with respect to the amount and quality of information being received. The goal of the Act is to reach a sustainable position within 20 years of the Acts formation. Many of the responses suggested looking at a broader water picture of California as opposed to the groundwater situation itself. A significant majority of the farmers interviewed say they were not represented in the process at all.
4. **Nutria Update:** We recently reported on the severe condition of nutria management in the state of California. The state of Louisiana has a much more critical situation than California. Over 430,000 acres have been damaged or

destroyed by the nutria from 2002 to 2021. The 25,000,000 nutria currently living in Louisiana have turned marshes into open water, accelerated coastal land loss, and destroyed embankments and other habitat involving crawfish and rice. Louisiana to date has eliminated over 5 million nutria. As a result of this, the House of Representatives a few weeks ago passed a \$60 million Nutria Control Act by a vote of 361 to 56. The support for this bill was actually greater, but many Republicans voted no because they did not want to increase the national debt. The nutria were first brought to Louisiana for its fur. Now there is a bounty on them of \$6 per tail.

5. **Water Rights Analysis:** Caltech is weighing into the water rights dispute. One of the basic principles of water rights is the doctrine of first in time, first in right. This doctrine however requires the beneficial use of the water occur. A 1908 US Supreme Court case established the water rights for Indians. Basically, it said that they are entitled to water rights from whatever treaty established their reservation, and that that water was for the purpose of sustaining life on the reservation. As we have seen, the establishment of these tribal rights can take years and years through the court system to be established. These researchers claim that during their time, much pollution occurs due to the uncertainty of who has the rights and responsibilities connected with the water being litigated. They argue that the federal government should expedite and speed up the process by use of scientific data as to the Indians presence and use of the water.
6. **Water Prices too Low??:** UCI professor, Richard McKenzie, argues that part of the damage caused by the LA fires may be to the low price of water in Southern California. He claims that a 2022 study by major water pipe manufacturers shows that the water rates in Southern California are much cheaper than states around the country that have four or more times the annual rainfall that we have. He argues that the low cost of water is responsible for the overgrown backyard plantings which occur on a regular basis in Southern California. This increased foliage puts us in a more dangerous position when it comes to fire risk. He claims that the city of Los Angeles loses more than a billion gallons of water annually from water pipe leaks. Yet they do not spend the money to cure these leaks or take other actions to improve the aging infrastructure due to the increased cost. He therefore concludes that the low water rates are attributable to political actions by the water rate setters.
7. **Cigarettes Fight Pollution:** A common element used in reducing pollution in waterways is activated carbon. Another product often used is char, which comes from wood or other biosolids. The James Cook University in Australia has been experimenting with char made from cigarette butts. These cigarette butts are thermally decomposed in an oxygen free chamber. Their success rate of removing toxic metals has been in the 50 to 90% range depending on the metal. I am guessing you will have to use this method in an area where you have a lot of people smoking cigarettes. This could run afoul of the many programs that we have to reduce smoking.
8. **Cloud Seeding:** The state of North Dakota is considering a law which would outlaw cloud seeding in the state. Cloud seeding is generally done by releasing silver iodide in the clouds via airplanes to reduce the size of hail and increase rainfall. Opponents argue that we should not mess with Mother Nature and that the programs are ineffective. In 2016, there was a ballot measure in North Dakota to eliminate the Weather Modification Authority, which is responsible for cloud seeding. The measure failed. North Dakota's hail suppression program is the longest running program in the world and has been in existence since the early 1960s. Currently, it is in use in many states, including California. Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming, as well as parts of

Canada. This bill would make it a crime to engage in weather modification efforts such as cloud seeding. Stay tuned.

9. **Better Water Systems:** As a result of recent fires in Santa Rosa, Paradise, Boulder County, Lahaina and Lisa, Los Angeles, many industry representatives are suggesting that our water systems need to be improved. Most experts agree that you cannot fireproof a local area just by increasing the capabilities of each individual water system. However, this author is suggesting some ideas which can be done somewhat economically to help the firefighting effort. A. Remote shut off valves- A common occurrence in many of our recent large fires is as homes and businesses burn, their pipes also are destroyed, and that water is running free from each house or business. A remote shutoff at each house or property, or a regional shut off could eliminate this happening. Many of these shut offs are electrically actuated which could be a problem, however they could install a manual shut off. B. Emergency water sources- Many cities and water districts are employing heli hydrants so that helicopters have a place to load up water close to the fire. Storing water on site is also an option, and many areas do have significant tanks and reservoirs available for firefighting. These options can be expensive. C.-Dedicated pipes for fires- After the 1906 earthquake and fire, the city of San Francisco made significant efforts to make sure that this did not occur again. They have over 100 miles of pipe and special tanks which are reserved for only firefighting. They also can use salt water in their systems if needed. Many recent fires occurred close the ocean, which would make these options a possibility. D.-Backup power- Many areas have backup power which are dependent on electricity or natural gas. Oftentimes in major fires, these two utilities are not available. Diesel generators are a must. If you want to have efficient, reliable, and long-lasting power. E. Contamination mitigation- A common risk in any major fire is chemical contamination of drinking water. Backflow prevention devices at each home and major areas can help prevent that. The utilities in Paradise, CA are installing them as they rebuild homes.
10. **LA Fires and Benzene:** All of the water districts servicing the Eaton and Palisades fire areas are experiencing problems with benzene in the water system. Benzene is a common chemical in many materials relating to houses associated with wood products, plastics, paints, and gasoline. As the fires progress, more of this benzene is released into the water system and surrounding grounds. The California State Water Resources Control Board has limitations on the amount of benzene allowable in the water. They have various mandated instructions depending on the level from Do not use, do not drink, do not boil. They also have recommendations for when you can use hot water showers, dishwashers, dryers, etcetera. The science relating to them is not fully settled, but we generally err on the side of safety when it comes to drinking water. It should be noted that in many areas where these orders are being given there are no residents being allowed in the area due to evacuation orders. The impacted water districts are Lincoln Ave Water Company, Rubio Canyon Land and Water Association, Los Flores Water Company and LA DWP.



March 5, 2025

TO: MWDOC Board of Directors

FROM: Peter Whittingham

SUBJECT: March 2025 Report

The month of February was marked by the first significant rain events of the season. Following is a few of the more notable developments and issues of the month:

- Powerful atmospheric river storms brought the first significant rainfall of the season to Southern California, with four to five inches of rain falling over a 24-hour period in many of Orange County's canyon communities. Evacuation orders were issued for canyon residents and Trabuco Canyon Road was closed for several days, with Trabuco Creek Road closed through the President's Day weekend to allow work crews to clear out debris and reposition barriers. Mudslides occurred in much of the area impacted by last year's Airport Fire, which burned more than 23,000 acres after a county public works crew accidentally started a fire in the canyons.
- The filing period closed for the April 15 special election to fill the City of Irvine Fifth District City Council seat vacancy created by former Councilmember Larry Agran's election as Mayor. Four candidates qualified for the ballot but former Councilmember Tammy Kim, who finished second to Mayor Agran last November, withdrew from the race on February 7.
- The Newport Beach City Council recently approved a plan that put an end to years of debate over the disposal of contaminated sediment in Newport Harbor. When the Army Corps of Engineers begin dredging the main navigational channels of Newport Harbor this June, a portion of the contaminated sediment will be transported to the Port of Long Beach to fill a huge slip that once fit some of the largest container ships. Roughly 225,000 of the 950,000 cubic yards to be dredged will help fill the slip, with the remainder to be dumped roughly six miles out in the open ocean.

- At its meeting of February 11, the Orange County Board of Supervisors approved settlement offers from Southern California Edison for \$18.125 million to pay for county damages from the 2020 Silverado fire and the 2022 Coastal fire. The Silverado fire broke out on Oct. 26, 2020, near Santiago and Silverado Canyon roads, blackening roughly 12,400 acres and leading to evacuation orders for some 70,000 people in Irvine and about 9,500 in Lake Forest. Two firefighters suffered severe burns while battling the blaze.
- The Brea City Council voted unanimously to name Kristin Griffith permanent City Manager at its meeting of February 18. The new City Manager has been with the City since 2022 and had been serving as interim City Manager since the retirement of Bill Gallardo in December.
- Longtime County administrator Jessica Witt was elevated to County Chief Operating Officer by interim CEO Michelle Aguirre. Ms. Witt started her career with the County in 2003.

It is a pleasure to work with you and to represent the Municipal Water District of Orange County.

Sincerely,



Peter Whittingham

MWDOC Workshop

Bill Matrix

March, 2025

A. High

[AB 259](#) ([Rubio, Blanca, D](#)) **Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.**

Location: 02/10/2025 - Assembly Local Government

Summary: The Ralph M. Brown Act authorizes the legislative body of a local agency to use teleconferencing, as specified, and requires a legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing to comply with specified requirements, including that the local agency post agendas at all teleconference locations, identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and have each teleconference location be accessible to the public. Current law, until January 1, 2026, authorizes the legislative body of a local agency to use alternative teleconferencing if, during the teleconference meeting, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participates in person from a singular physical location clearly identified on the agenda that is open to the public and situated within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, and the legislative body complies with prescribed requirements. Current law requires a member to satisfy specified requirements to participate in a meeting remotely pursuant to these alternative teleconferencing provisions, including that specified circumstances apply. Current law establishes limits on the number of meetings a member may participate in solely by teleconference from a remote location pursuant to these alternative teleconferencing provisions, including prohibiting such participation for more than 2 meetings per year if the legislative body regularly meets once per month or less. This bill would remove the January 1, 2026, date from those provisions, thereby extending the alternative teleconferencing procedures indefinitely. (Based on 01/16/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: A. High

Notes:

Proposed support - March 5th Workshop

[AB 523](#) ([Irwin, D](#)) **Metropolitan water districts: alternate representative.**

Location: 02/24/2025 - Assembly Local Government

Summary: Under the Metropolitan Water District Act, the board of a metropolitan water district is required to consist of at least one representative from each member public agency, as prescribed. The act authorizes each member public agency to appoint additional representatives not exceeding one additional representative for each 5% of the assessed valuation of property taxable for district purposes within the entire district that is within the boundaries of that member public agency. The bill would authorize each member public agency that is entitled to designate or appoint only one representative to the board of directors to designate or appoint one alternate representative for the limited purpose of participating in a meeting of the board of directors when the member public agency's designated or appointed representative will be absent from the meeting. (Based on 02/10/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: A. High

[AB 620](#) ([Jackson, D](#)) **Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicle Fleet Purchasing Assistance Program: rental vehicles.**

Location: 02/13/2025 - Assembly PRINT

Summary: Current law establishes the Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicle Fleet Purchasing Assistance Program (program) within the Air Quality Improvement Program to make financing tools and nonfinancial supports available to operators of medium- and heavy-duty vehicle fleets to enable those operators to transition their fleets to zero-emission vehicles. This bill, for any regulation adopted to develop or implement the program, or other regulations that are regarding the procurement or use of medium- and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles by a public or private fleet, would require the

state board to consider specified things, including, among other things, the environmental and supply chain benefits of renting medium- and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles compared to procuring them. (Based on 02/13/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: A. High

AB 638 (Rodriguez, Celeste, D) Stormwater: reuses: irrigation.

Location: 02/13/2025 - Assembly PRINT

Summary: The Stormwater Resource Planning Act authorizes one or more public agencies to develop a stormwater resource plan that meets certain standards to address the capture of stormwater, as defined, and dry weather runoff, as defined. The act requires the State Water Resources Control Board, by July 1, 2016, to establish guidance for purposes of the act. This bill would require the board, by June 1, 2026, to establish guidance for stormwater capture and reuse for the irrigation of urban public lands, as defined. The bill would require the guidance to include, but not be limited to, the use of captured stormwater for irrigation to offset the use of potable water, as specified, and criteria including, among other things, pathogens and pathogen indicators and total suspended solids. (Based on 02/13/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: A. High

SB 31 (McNerney, D) Water quality: recycled water.

Location: 02/19/2025 - Senate Natural Resources and Water

Summary: The Water Recycling Law generally provides for the use of recycled water. Current law requires any person who, without regard to intent or negligence, causes or permits an unauthorized discharge of 50,000 gallons or more of recycled water in or on any waters of the state to immediately notify the appropriate regional water board. This bill would, for the purposes of the above provision, redefine "recycled water" and provide that water discharged from a decorative body of water during storm events is not to be considered an unauthorized discharge if recycled water was used to restore levels due to evaporation. (Based on 02/10/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: A. High

Notes:

Sponsored by WaterReuse

SB 72 (Caballero, D) The California Water Plan: long-term supply targets.

Location: 01/29/2025 - Senate Natural Resources and Water

Summary: Current law requires the Department of Water Resources to update every 5 years the plan for the orderly and coordinated control, protection, conservation, development, and use of the water resources of the state, which is known as "The California Water Plan." Current law requires the department to include a discussion of various strategies in the plan update, including, but not limited to, strategies relating to the development of new water storage facilities, water conservation, water recycling, desalination, conjunctive use, and water transfers, that may be pursued in order to meet the future needs of the state. Current law requires the department to establish an advisory committee to assist the department in updating the plan. This bill would revise and recast certain provisions regarding The California Water Plan to, among other things, require the department to expand the membership of the advisory committee to include tribes, labor, and environmental justice interests. The bill would require the department, as part of the 2033 update to the plan, to update the interim planning target for 2050, as provided. The bill would require the target to consider the identified and future water needs for a sustainable urban sector, agricultural sector, and environment, and ensure safe drinking water for all Californians, among other things. (Based on 01/15/2025 text)

Position: support

Priority: A. High

Notes:

Support position taken on 2/5

SB 350 (Durazo, D) Water Rate Assistance Program.

Location: 02/19/2025 - Senate Environmental Quality

Summary: Would establish the Water Rate Assistance Program. As part of the program, the bill would establish the Water Rate Assistance Fund in the State Treasury to provide water affordability assistance, for both drinking water and wastewater services, to low-income residential ratepayers, as specified. The bill would require the state board to take various actions in administering the fund, including, among other things, track and manage revenue in the fund separately from all other revenue. The bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board, in consultation with relevant agencies and after a public hearing, to adopt guidelines for implementation of the program and adopt an annual report to be

posted on the state board's internet website identifying how the fund has performed, as specified. The bill would require the guidelines to include minimum requirements for eligible systems, including the ability to confirm eligibility for enrollment through a request for self-certification of eligibility under penalty of perjury. By expanding the crime of perjury, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would require the state board to take various actions in administering the program, including, but not limited to, providing guidance, oversight, and funding for low-income rate assistance for residential ratepayers of eligible systems. The bill would authorize the Attorney General to bring an action in state court to restrain the use of any method, act, or practice in violation of these provisions, except as provided. (Based on 02/12/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: A. High

SB 394 (Allen, D) Water theft: fire hydrants.

Location: 02/14/2025 - Senate Rules

Summary: Current law authorizes a utility to bring a civil action for damages against any person who commits, authorizes, solicits, aids, abets, or attempts certain acts, including, diverting or causing to be diverted, utility services by any means whatsoever. Current law creates a rebuttable presumption that there is violation of these provisions if, on premises controlled by the customer or by the person using or receiving the direct benefit of utility service, certain actions occur, including that there is an instrument, apparatus, or device primarily designed to be used to obtain utility service without paying the full lawful charge for the utility. This bill would add to the list of acts for which a utility may bring a civil cause of action under these circumstances to include tampering with a fire hydrant, fire hydrant meter, or fire detector check, or diverting water, or causing water to be diverted, from a fire hydrant with knowledge of, or reason to believe, that the diversion or unauthorized connection existed at the time of use for nonfirefighting purposes or without authorization from the appropriate water system or fire department. (Based on 02/14/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: A. High

Notes:

Proposed support - March 5th Workshop

SB 496 (Hurtado, D) Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation: appeals advisory committee: exemptions.

Location: 02/19/2025 - Senate Rules

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 establishes the state board as the state agency responsible for monitoring and regulating sources emitting greenhouse gases and requires the state board to adopt rules and regulations to achieve the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective greenhouse gas emission reductions from those sources. This bill would require the state board to establish the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation Appeals Advisory Committee by an unspecified date for purposes of reviewing appeals of denied requests for exemptions from the requirements of the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation. The bill would require the committee to include representatives of specified governmental and nongovernmental entities. The bill would require the committee to meet monthly and would require recordings of its meetings to be made publicly available on the state board's internet website. The bill would require the committee to consider, and make a recommendation on, an appeal of an exemption request denial no later than 60 days after the appeal is made. The bill would require specified information relating to the committee's consideration of an appeal to be made publicly available on the state board's internet website. The bill would require the state board to consider a recommendation of the committee at a public meeting no later than 60 days after the recommendation is made. (Based on 02/19/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: A. High

Notes:

Proposed support - March 5th Workshop

SB 614 (Stern, D) Potable water: nonfunctional turf.

Location: 02/20/2025 - Senate Rules

Summary: Currentlaw prohibits the use of potable water, as defined, for nonfunctional turf located on common areas of properties of homeowners' associations, common interest developments, and community service organizations or similar entities, starting January 1, 2029. This bill would prohibit that use of potable water one year earlier. (Based on 02/20/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: A. High

SB 697 (Laird, D) Determination of water rights: stream system.

Location: 02/21/2025 - Senate Rules

Summary: Current law authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board to hold proceedings to determine all rights to water of a stream system whether based upon appropriation, riparian right, or other basis of right. Current law provides various requirements for the board when determining adjudication of water rights, including, among other things, performing a detailed field investigation of a stream system, as defined, issuing an order of determination, providing notice and a hearing process, and filing a final order. This bill would revise the above-described provisions regarding the board's statutory adjudication of water rights during an investigation of a stream system to, among other things, require representatives of the board to investigate in detail the use of water with the authority, but no requirement, to conduct a field investigation, authorize the board to issue information orders that require claimants to submit monthly reports of water use from the stream system through a form provided by the board, and require claimants to respond to that order within 45 days of the date of issuance by the board. (Based on 02/21/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: A. High

B. Watch

AB 93 (Papan, D) Water resources: demands: artificial intelligence.

Location: 01/07/2025 - Assembly PRINT

Summary: Would express the intent of the Legislature to enact future legislation that would maintain water and energy efficiency to the extent that new technology, including, but not limited to, artificial intelligence, increases the demands on already limited resources. (Based on 01/07/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 267 (Macedo, R) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: high-speed rail: water infrastructure and wildfire prevention.

Location: 02/18/2025 - Assembly Transportation

Summary: Would suspend the appropriation to the High-Speed Rail Authority for the 2026–27 and 2027–28 fiscal years and would instead require those amounts from moneys collected by the State Air Resources Board to be transferred to the General Fund. The bill would specify that the transferred amounts shall be available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to augment funding for water infrastructure and wildfire prevention. (Based on 01/17/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 293 (Bennett, D) Groundwater sustainability agency: transparency.

Location: 02/18/2025 - Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife

Summary: Current law requires a groundwater sustainability plan to be developed and implemented for each medium- or high-priority basin by a groundwater sustainability agency. Current law authorizes any local agency or combination of local agencies overlying a groundwater basin to decide to become a groundwater sustainability agency for that basin, as provided. Current law requires members of the board of directors and the executive, as defined, of a groundwater sustainability agency to file statements of economic interests with the Fair Political Practices Commission using the commission's online system for filing statements of economic interests. This bill would require each groundwater sustainability agency to publish the membership of its board of directors on its internet website, or on the local agency's internet website, as provided. The bill would also require each groundwater sustainability agency to publish a link on its internet website or its local agency's internet website to the location on the Fair Political Practices Commission's internet website where the statements of economic interests, filed by the members of the board and executives of the agency, can be viewed. (Based on 01/22/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 295 (Macedo, R) California Environmental Quality Act: environmental leadership development projects: water storage, water conveyance, and groundwater recharge projects: streamlined review.

Location: 02/10/2025 - Assembly Natural Resources

Summary: The Jobs and Economic Improvement Through Environmental Leadership Act of 2021 authorizes the Governor, until January 1, 2032, to certify environmental leadership development projects that meet specified requirements for certain streamlining benefits related to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The act, among other things, requires a lead agency to prepare the record of proceedings for an environmental leadership development project, as provided, and to provide a specified notice within 10 days of the Governor certifying the project. The act is repealed by its own term on January 1, 2034. This bill would extend the application of the act to water storage projects, water conveyance projects, and groundwater recharge projects that provide public benefits and drought preparedness. Because a lead agency would be required to prepare the record of proceedings for water storage projects, water conveyance projects, and groundwater recharge projects pursuant to the act, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. (Based on 01/23/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 307 (Petrie-Norris, D) Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024:
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: fire camera mapping system.

Location: 02/10/2025 - Assembly Natural Resources

Summary: The Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024 authorized the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$10,000,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience, wildfire and forest resilience, coastal resilience, extreme heat mitigation, biodiversity and nature-based climate solutions, climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands, park creation and outdoor access, and clean air programs. Of these funds, the act makes available \$1,500,000,000, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for wildfire prevention, including, among other things, by making \$25,000,000 available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for technologies that improve detection and assessment of new fire ignitions. This bill would require, of the \$25,000,000 made available to the department, \$10,000,000 be allocated for purposes of the ALERTCalifornia fire camera mapping system. (Based on 01/23/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 372 (Bennett, D) Office of Emergency Services: state matching funds: water system infrastructure improvements.

Location: 02/03/2025 - Assembly PRINT

Summary: Current law establishes, within the office of the Governor, the Office of Emergency Services (OES), under the direction of the Director of Emergency Services. Current law charges the OES with coordinating various emergency activities within the state. The California Emergency Services Act, contingent upon an appropriation by the Legislature, requires the OES to enter into a joint powers agreement pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to develop and administer a comprehensive wildfire mitigation program relating to structure hardening and retrofitting and prescribed fuel modification activities. Current law authorizes the joint powers authority to establish financial assistance limits and matching funding or other recipient contribution requirements for the program, as provided. This bill, contingent on funding being appropriated pursuant to a bond act, as specified, would establish the Rural Water Infrastructure for Wildfire Resilience Program within the OES for the distribution of state matching funds to communities within the Wildland Urban Interface in designated high fire hazard severity zones or very high fire hazard severity zones to improve water system infrastructure, as prescribed. (Based on 02/03/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 404 (Sanchez, R) California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: prescribed fire, reforestation, habitat restoration, thinning, or fuel reduction projects.

Location: 02/18/2025 - Assembly Natural Resources

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency to prepare a mitigated negative declaration for a project that may have a significant effect on the environment if revisions in the project would avoid or mitigate that effect and there is no substantial evidence that the project, as revised, would have a significant effect on the environment. Current law, until January 1, 2028, except for the issuance of a permit or other permit approval, exempts from the requirements of CEQA prescribed fire, reforestation, habitat restoration, thinning, or fuel reduction projects, or related activities, undertaken, in whole or in part, on federal lands to reduce the risk of high-severity wildfire that have been reviewed under the federal National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 meeting certain requirements. Current law requires a lead agency, if it determines that a project qualifies for the above exemption and it determines to approve or carry out the project, to file a notice of exemption with the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation and with the county clerk in the county in which the project will be located and to post the notice of exemption on its internet website together with a

description of where the documents analyzing the environmental impacts of the project under the federal act are available for review. Current law requires the lead agency, if it is not the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, to provide the notice of exemption and certain information to the department. This bill would extend the above exemption and requirements on the lead agency indefinitely. (Based on 02/04/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 430 (Alanis, R) State Water Resources Control Board: emergency regulations.

Location: 02/18/2025 - Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife

Summary: Current law provides that an emergency regulation adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board following a Governor's proclamation of a state of emergency based on drought conditions, for which the board makes specified findings, may remain in effect for up to one year, as provided, and may be renewed if the board determines that specified conditions relating to precipitation are still in effect. This bill would require the board, before the 2nd renewal of any emergency regulation or upon its repeal, to conduct a comprehensive economic study assessing the impacts of the regulation and would require the board to make the study publicly available on its internet website (Based on 02/05/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 514 (Petrie-Norris, D) Water: emergency water supplies.

Location: 02/24/2025 - Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife

Summary: The Urban Water Management Planning Act requires every public and private urban water supplier that directly or indirectly provides water for municipal purposes to prepare and adopt an urban water management plan. The act requires an urban water management plan to include a water shortage contingency plan, as provided. This bill would declare that it is the established policy of the state to encourage, but not mandate, the development of emergency water supplies by local water suppliers, and to support their use during times of drought or unplanned service or supply disruption, as provided. (Based on 02/10/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 532 (Ransom, D) Water rate assistance program.

Location: 02/11/2025 - Assembly PRINT

Summary: Current federal law, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, among other things, requires the federal Department of Health and Human Services to carry out a Low-Income Household Drinking Water and Wastewater Emergency Assistance Program, which is also known as the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program, for making grants to states and Indian tribes to assist low-income households that pay a high proportion of household income for drinking water and wastewater services, as provided. Current law requires the Department of Community Services and Development to administer the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program in this state, and to receive and expend moneys appropriated and allocated to the state for purposes of that program, pursuant to the above-described federal law. The Low Income Household Water Assistance Program was only operative until March 31, 2024. This bill would repeal the above-described requirements related to the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program. The bill would instead require, upon appropriation by the Legislature, the Department of Community Services and Development to establish and administer the California Low Income Household Water Assistance Program. (Based on 02/11/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 580 (Wallis, R) Surface mining: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Location: 02/12/2025 - Assembly PRINT

Summary: The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 prohibits a person, with exceptions, from conducting surface mining operations unless, among other things, a permit is obtained from, a specified reclamation plan is submitted to and approved by, and financial assurances for reclamation have been approved by, the lead agency for the operation of the surface mining operation. Current law authorizes the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) to prepare a master reclamation plan, as provided, that identifies each individual surface mining operation in specified counties and satisfies all reclamation plan requirements for each individual surface mining site. Current law requires the State Mining and Geology Board to act as the lead agency for surface mining operations conducted by the MWD and authorizes the board to conduct an inspection of an individual surface mining operation once every 2 calendar years during a period when that individual surface mining operation is idle or the site has no mineral production. Current law requires the MWD to be the

lead agency for any environmental review of the master reclamation plan. Existing law repeals the provisions authorizing the preparation and approval of the master reclamation plan for the MWD on January 1, 2026. This bill would make those provisions operative indefinitely. (Based on 02/12/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

Notes:

Proposed support - March 5th Workshop

AB 591 (Caloza, D) Emergency services: mutual aid: public works.

Location: 02/12/2025 - Assembly PRINT

Summary: The California Emergency Services Act establishes the Office of Emergency Services within the Governor's office under the supervision of the Director of Emergency Services and makes the office responsible for the state's emergency and disaster response services. The office serves as the State Disaster Council for the purposes of the California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement. Current law states it is the purpose of the Legislature to facilitate the rendering of aid to areas stricken by an emergency and to make unnecessary the execution of written agreements customarily entered into by public agencies exercising joint powers, and that emergency plans duly adopted and approved as provided by the Governor shall be effective as satisfying the requirement for mutual aid operational plans provided in the Master Mutual Aid Agreement. Current law requires outside aid be rendered in accordance with approved emergency plans during any state of war emergency or state of emergency when the need arises in any county, city and county, or city. This bill would additionally state that it is the purpose of the Legislature to facilitate the rendering of public works resources critical for disaster response and recovery to areas stricken by an emergency. The bill would require that outside aid rendered during any state of war emergency or state of emergency includes public works personnel, equipment, and materials. (Based on 02/12/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 615 (Davies, R) Power facilities: emergency response and action plan.

Location: 02/13/2025 - Assembly PRINT

Summary: Current law requires an application to be filed with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission for certification of a site and related facility which includes an electric transmission line or thermal powerplant, or both. Current law requires the application to contain, among other things, safety and reliability information, including planned provisions for emergency operations and shutdowns, as specified. This bill would require the application to also contain an emergency response and action plan that incorporates impacts to the surrounding areas in the event of an emergency and that would be conducted and coordinated with local emergency management agencies, unified program agencies, and local first response agencies. (Based on 02/13/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 707 (Soria, D) San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority: B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion Project.

Location: 02/14/2025 - Assembly PRINT

Summary: Would appropriate \$455,500,000 from the General Fund to the San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority for the purpose of funding the State Highway 152 Route improvements required to complete the B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion Project. (Based on 02/14/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

AB 794 (Gabriel, D) California Safe Drinking Water Act: emergency regulations.

Location: 02/18/2025 - Assembly PRINT

Summary: The California Safe Drinking Water Act requires the State Water Resources Control Board to administer provisions relating to the regulation of drinking water to protect public health. The state board's duties include, but are not limited to, enforcing the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (federal act) and adopting and enforcing regulations. Current law authorizes the state board to adopt as an emergency regulation, a regulation that is not more stringent than, and is not materially different in substance and effect than, the requirements of a regulation promulgated under the federal act, with a specified exception. This bill would provide that the authority of the state board to adopt an emergency regulation pursuant to these provisions includes the authority to adopt requirements of a specified federal regulation that was in effect on January 19, 2025, regardless of whether the requirements were repealed or amended to be less stringent. The bill would prohibit an emergency regulation adopted pursuant to these provisions from implementing less stringent drinking water

standards, as provided, and would authorize the regulation to include requirements that are more stringent than the requirements of the federal regulation. (Based on 02/18/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

SB 90 (Sevarto, R) Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: grants: improvements to public evacuation routes: mobile rigid water storage.

Calendar: 03/11/25 S-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION 9:30 a.m. - 1021 O Street, Room 1200 PADILLA, STEPHEN, Chair

Location: 01/29/2025 - Senate Governmental Organization

Summary: The Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024 makes \$135,000,000 available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the Office of Emergency Services for a wildfire mitigation grant program to provide, among other things, loans, direct assistance, and matching funds for projects that prevent wildfires, increase resilience, maintain existing wildfire risk reduction projects, reduce the risk of wildfires to communities, or increase home or community hardening. The act provides that eligible projects include, but are not limited to, grants to local agencies, state agencies, joint powers authorities, tribes, resource conservation districts, fire safe councils, and nonprofit organizations for structure hardening of critical community infrastructure, wildfire smoke mitigation, evacuation centers, including community clean air centers, structure hardening projects that reduce the risk of wildfire for entire neighborhoods and communities, water delivery system improvements for fire suppression purposes for communities in very high or high fire hazard areas, wildfire buffers, and incentives to remove structures that significantly increase hazard risk. This bill would include in the list of eligible projects grants to the above-mentioned entities for improvements to public evacuation routes in very high and high fire hazard severity zones, mobile rigid dip tanks, as defined, to support firefighting efforts, prepositioned mobile rigid water storage, as defined, and improvements to the response and effectiveness of fire engines and helicopters. (Based on 01/22/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

SB 224 (Hurtado, D) Department of Water Resources: water supply forecasting.

Location: 02/05/2025 - Senate Natural Resources and Water

Summary: Current law requires the Department of Water Resources to gather and correlate information and data pertinent to an annual forecast of seasonal water crop. Current law also requires the department to update every 5 years the plan for the orderly and coordinated control, protection, conservation, development, and use of the water resources of the state, which is known as "The California Water Plan." This bill would require the department, on or before January 1, 2027, to adopt a new water supply forecasting model and procedures that better address the effects of climate change and implement a formal policy and procedures for documenting the department's operational plans and the department's rationale for its operating procedures, including the department's rationale for water releases from reservoirs. (Based on 01/27/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

SB 239 (Arreguin, D) Open meetings: teleconferencing: subsidiary body.

Location: 02/14/2025 - Senate Local Government

Summary: The Ralph M. Brown Act requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body, as defined, of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. The act generally requires for teleconferencing that the legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing post agendas at all teleconference locations, identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and have each teleconference location be accessible to the public. Current law also requires that, during the teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, except as specified. Current law, until January 1, 2026, authorizes specified neighborhood city councils to use alternate teleconferencing provisions related to notice, agenda, and public participation, as prescribed, if, among other requirements, the city council has adopted an authorizing resolution and 2/3 of the neighborhood city council votes to use alternate teleconference provisions, as specified. This bill would authorize a subsidiary body, as defined, to use alternative teleconferencing provisions and would impose requirements for notice, agenda, and public participation, as prescribed. The bill would require the subsidiary body to post the agenda at the primary physical meeting location. The bill would require the members of the subsidiary body to visibly appear on camera during the open portion of a meeting that is publicly accessible via the internet or other online platform, as specified. (Based on 01/30/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

SB 348 (Hurtado, D) State Air Resources Board: Low-Carbon Fuel Standard.

Location: 02/12/2025 - Senate Rules

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 requires the State Air Resources Board to adopt rules and regulations, as provided, to achieve the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective greenhouse gas emissions reductions to ensure that the statewide greenhouse gas emissions are reduced to at least 40% below the statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit, as defined, no later than December 31, 2030. Pursuant to the act, the state board has adopted the Low-Carbon Fuel Standard, or regulations. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact future legislation that would, among other things, require the board to revise the Low-Carbon Fuel Standard program, as provided. The bill would make related findings and declarations. (Based on 02/12/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

Notes:

Potential vehicle for ACF

SB 742 (Pérez, D) Water systems and water districts.

Location: 02/21/2025 - Senate Rules

Summary: The California Water District Law provides for the establishment of water districts, and grants a district the power to acquire, plan, construct, maintain, improve, operate, and keep in repair the necessary works for the production, storage, transmission, and distribution of water for irrigation, domestic, industrial, and municipal purposes. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation related to the regulation of water systems and water districts. (Based on 02/21/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: B. Watch

spot bill

AB 497 (Wilson, D) San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary Water Quality Control Plan.

Location: 02/10/2025 - Assembly PRINT

Summary: Current law makes available to the Natural Resources Agency bond funds for, among other things, implementing an updated State Water Resources Control Board's San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary Water Quality Control Plan (Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan), which establishes water quality control measures and flow requirements needed to provide reasonable protection of beneficial uses in the watershed. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact future legislation relating to the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan. (Based on 02/10/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: spot bill

AB 1146 (Papan, D) Water infrastructure: dams and reservoirs.

Location: 02/20/2025 - Assembly PRINT

Summary: Existing law provides for the regulation and supervision of dams and reservoirs exclusively by the state. This bill would make a non-substantive change to that provision. (Based on 02/20/2025 text)

Position: B. Watch

Priority: spot bill

Total Measures: 33

Total Tracking Forms: 33



STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Directors

Meeting Date: March 27, 2025

From: Sherri Seitz, Public Affairs Manager

Subject: Public Education and Outreach Report

Laguna Woods Village Television (LWVT)

Director Monin is scheduled for an LWVT interview on April 28, 2025.

ETWD Newsletter

A copy of ETWD's Spring 2025 newsletter follows this report.

Aliso Creek Sewer Lift Station Improvement Project

The Aliso Creek Sewer Lift Station Improvement Project flyer follows this report.

ETWD Water Quality Report

ETWD staff is working with the Gemini Group and MWDOC in a shared services project for the 2025 Water Quality Report.

Community/Speaking Engagement Events

Scouts BSA Clinic – February 22, 2025

The Scouts BSA clinic that ETWD cohosted with the Municipal Water District of Orange County at the Water Recycling Plant was a successful event educating 60 scouts plus their families. President Gaskins provided opening remarks at the clinic. The Scouts earned their Water Conservation Merit Badge by completing a 4-hour clinic learning about the relationship between soil and water, various soil and water conservation practices, water pollution and water treatment through a tour of the Water Recycling Plant. Photos from the event follow.













LWV Republican Club – March 7, 2025

Dennis Cafferty spoke on ETWD Services and Reliability at the LWV Garden Villa General Meeting on March 7, 2025.

LWV Garden Villa General Meeting – March 13, 2025

Dennis Cafferty spoke on ETWD Services and Reliability at the LWV Garden Villa General Meeting on March 13, 2025.



LWV Concerned Citizens Earth Day – April 17, 2025

ETWD staff will host a booth at the LWV Concerned Citizens Earth Day event on Thursday, April 17, 2025 from 12:00 - 2:30 p.m. in Clubhouse 5. A flyer follows this report.

Children's Water Education Festival – April 23-24, 2025

Staff will have a booth at the Children's Water Education Festival on April 23 – 24, 2025. The location is new this year at Oak Canyon Park in Silverado.

City of Lake Forest Pop Up Event – May 3, 2025

Staff will have a booth at the City of Lake Forest's Pop Up Event located in the neighborhood behind the District to inform residents of upcoming city improvements.



El Toro Water District · Spring 2025

WATER VIEWS

SERVING THE PUBLIC, RESPECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

ETWD'S COMMITMENT TO PROTECTING THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE

El Toro Water District (ETWD) extends our sincere appreciation to the brave firefighters and first responders who worked tirelessly to protect lives and property during the recent wildfire events. Through ongoing investments in water, sewer, and recycled water infrastructure, ETWD remains committed to protecting our communities to the best of our ability during emergencies.

While water systems are not designed to withstand extreme, uncontrolled wildfires, ETWD proactively implements key measures to maintain a safe and reliable water supply for our customers and to support firefighting efforts.

RESERVOIRS

- Our team of water professionals closely monitors weather conditions and takes proactive steps to protect critical infrastructure. This includes increasing reservoir levels to ensure an ample water supply is available to support firefighting efforts and meet community needs.
- ETWD operates six drinking water reservoirs with a combined capacity of 287 million gallons and shares the 275-million-gallon El Toro Regional Reservoir with Santa Margarita Water District and Moulton Niguel Water District. ETWD's capacity totals 124.5 million gallons.

FIRE HYDRANTS

- All ETWD fire hydrants are fully operational and equipped with sufficient water supply, enabling local fire authorities to respond quickly and effectively during emergencies.
- Our staff inspects and maintains over 1,900 fire hydrants across the District's service area. Regular water pressure and water flow checks ensure that each hydrant functions properly.

EMERGENCY WATER CONNECTIONS

- ETWD has emergency water connections with six neighboring water districts, allowing the movement of water between agencies as needed during emergencies.

BACKUP EMERGENCY GENERATORS

- ETWD has invested in multiple backup generators to provide emergency power during outages or planned electrical shutdowns.

FIRE-HARDENED LANDSCAPING AT ETWD FACILITIES

- Regular brush control and weed abatement are maintained at all ETWD facilities to create safer buffer zones around critical infrastructure, reducing fire risks.

WEROC AND CALWARN PARTNERSHIPS

- **WEROC:** ETWD partners with the Water Emergency Response Organization of Orange County which supports and manages countywide emergency preparedness, planning, response, and recovery efforts among Orange County water and wastewater utilities.
- **CalWARN:** ETWD is a member of the California Water-Wastewater Agency Response Network (CalWARN), which is California's statewide mutual aid/assistance network for the water and wastewater sector.

ETWD TRAINING

- ETWD staff is certified in California's Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and National Incident Management System (NIMS) and regularly train for a variety of emergencies.

LEARN MORE

For more information about ETWD's emergency preparedness, please contact us at **949-837-7050, District@etwd.com**.



SIGN UP FOR ALERTOC TO RECEIVE EMERGENCY ALERTS

AlertOC is a mass notification system designed to keep OC residents and businesses informed of emergencies that may require immediate life-saving actions. By registering with AlertOC, time-sensitive voice messages from ETWD, the County or City in which you live or work may be sent to your home, cell or business phone. Text messages may also be sent to cell phones.

Go to AlertOC.org to create and manage your own account to receive alerts that may impact where you live, work or play.

VISIT
[ALERTOC.ORG](https://AlertOC.org)
TO REGISTER

EL TORO WATER DISTRICT

 **24251 Los Alisos Blvd**
Lake Forest, CA 92630

 **district@etwd.com**

 **(949) 837-7050**

 **etwd.com**



DIVE INTO SPRING WITH WATER-SAVER REBATES



Give your home and landscape a water-wise makeover this spring with rebates. Take advantage of currently available indoor and outdoor rebates for ETWD customers today.

Residential Indoor Rebates

PROGRAM/DEVICE	REBATE LEVEL
High Efficiency Clothes Washers	Up to \$200
Premium High Efficiency Toilets (4-Liter) Replace existing 1.6 gpf toilets with a 1.1 gpf or less toilet.	Up to \$100 per toilet

Residential Outdoor Rebates

PROGRAM/DEVICE	REBATE LEVEL
Weather Based Smart Sprinkler Timer	Up to \$250
Soil Moisture Sensor Controller	Up to \$150
Rotating Sprinkler Nozzles	Up to \$2 per nozzle (min. 15)
Drip Irrigation	\$0.75 sq. ft. up to 5,000 sq. ft.
Rain Barrels and Cisterns	Up to \$50 per rain barrel and \$250 – \$350 per cistern
Turf Removal	\$4 sq. ft. up to 5,000 sq. ft. (annual maximum)*

Note: Rebate amounts are not guaranteed and may vary depending on funding availability.

**Turf rebates do not apply to designated recycled water sites.*

**If you have already removed your turf, your project is not eligible for this program. Additionally, projects must not be started prior to the receipt and acknowledgment of this Program's Letter to Proceed*

Water Saving Programs

Landscape Design and Maintenance Assistance Programs

- **FREE** (for turf removal participants) landscape design and maintenance guide from a qualified professional

California Friendly Landscape Designs

- **FREE** OC Friendly Landscape Designs for your use

Learn More

Get started at [ETWD.com/conservation/rebates](https://www.etwd.com/conservation/rebates). For specific landscape questions, please contact ETWD's Water Use Efficiency Analyst, Vu Chu at **(949) 837-7050, ext. 253**.



BEHIND THE SCENES AT ETWD



Michelle Ramirez

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

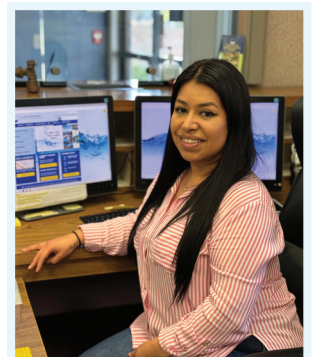
Top Priorities

- Ensuring ETWD customers receive reliable and efficient support.
- Assisting customers with inquiries about billing, payments and water service.
- Processing service requests, including new connections or disconnections.

NEW EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Inspiration

Michelle was inspired to pursue a career in the water industry to contribute to public health and sustainability. She enjoys helping customers and making a meaningful impact as part of a team that provides safe, reliable water to the community.



"Providing water service isn't just about delivering a utility — it's about delivering trust, reliability and care to every customer, every day."

IN THE COMMUNITY



Orange County CERT Training

ETWD partnered with the Water Emergency Response Organization of Orange County (WEROC) and the Orange County cities Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Volunteers in their annual training. WEROC trained CERT members to become a workforce multiplier for water agencies when needed following a water disruption that can occur following an earthquake of significant magnitude. Volunteers learned how to assist and

manage water distribution from a hydrant setup with ETWD staff and a drinking water trailer with the City of Orange to support water agency staff during an emergency.

Scouts BSA Soil and Water Conservation Merit Badge Clinic

ETWD co-hosted a clinic with the Municipal Water District of Orange County for the Orange County Scouts BSA to earn their Soil and Water Conservation Merit Badge. The Scouts completed a four-hour clinic learning about the role clean water plays in maintaining a healthy environment, various soil and water conservation practices, water pollution and water treatment through a tour of ETWD's Water Recycling Treatment Plant. Approximately 60 scouts earned their merit badge.



SPRING LANDSCAPE CHECKUP

ETWD customers are invited to freshen up their landscapes with FREE Virtual Workshops in landscape design and irrigation principles to help you plant, care for and maintain a beautiful water efficient garden. The classes are offered through Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and are led by the Green Gardens Group virtual instructors. If you are looking to renovate your landscape or learn more how to create a water-wise landscape, reserve a spot in one of the upcoming free workshops on the topics below.

- **California Friendly and Native Landscape Training Workshops**
- **Turf Removal and Garden Transformation Workshops**
- **Garden Design Workshops**

For more information or to sign up, visit etwd.com/conservation/landscape-workshops.





FIX A LEAK WEEK

March 17 - 25

Sneaky household water leaks can waste nearly 1 trillion gallons of water annually nationwide. ETWD is encouraging our customers to spend a few minutes finding and fixing any leaks at their homes during this year's Fix a Leak Week. Common types of leaks include worn toilet flappers, dripping faucets, leaking showerheads and other leaking valves. These leaks are often easy to fix, requiring only a few tools and hardware that can pay for themselves in water savings.

Here are some quick tips to find leaks:



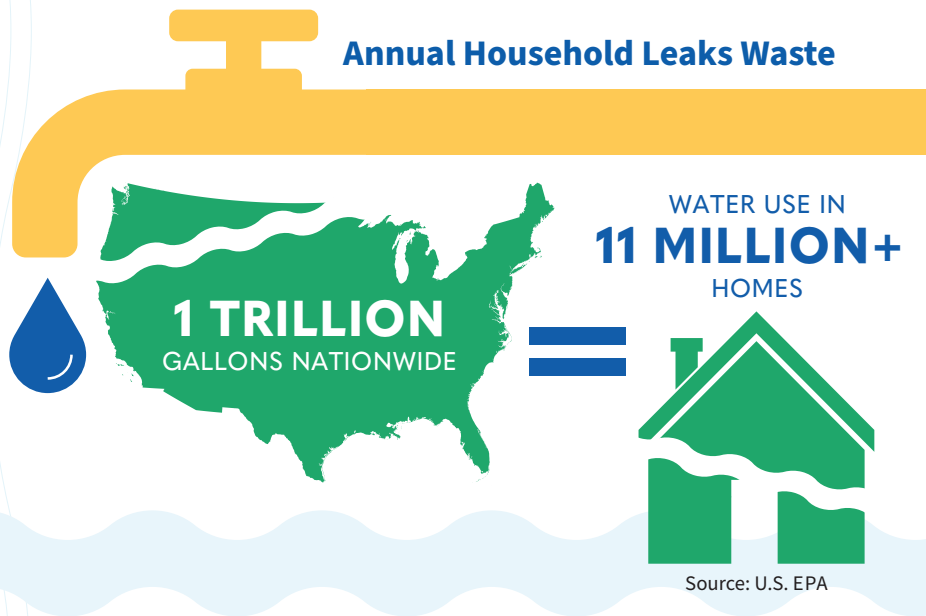
Old or worn out toilet flappers can cause silent leaks wasting thousands of gallons per year. Inspect and replace your toilet flapper periodically.



Check your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter changes at all, you probably have a leak.



Examine faucet gaskets and pipe fittings for any water on the outside of the pipe to check for surface leaks.



Free Toilet Leak-Check Tabs

Identify toilet leaks with free toilet leak-check tabs. If any color shows up in the bowl after 10 minutes, you have a leak. You can pick up a toilet dye tab at the District's customer service office located at 24251 Los Alisos Blvd., Lake Forest, CA 92630.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



PRESIDENT

Mike Gaskins

DIRECTOR

Kay Havens

VICE PRESIDENT

Kathryn Freshley

DIRECTOR

Wyatt McClean

DIRECTOR

Mark Monin

GENERAL MANAGER

Dennis P. Cafferty

The Board of Directors meeting takes place on the fourth Thursday of the month, and the Engineering and Finance Committee meets on the Monday before the Board of Directors meeting at 7:30 a.m. in person and via Zoom teleconference.

We encourage you to join us. Meeting agendas are posted on our website and include teleconference access and instructions. Learn more: etwd.com/governance/meetings-agendas-minutes

ETWD delivers drinking water, recycled water and wastewater services to customers in the City of Laguna Woods and portions of the cities of Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Laguna Hills and Aliso Viejo

Have questions? Call us at (949) 837-7050 or email us at district@etwd.com.





EL TORO WATER DISTRICT

ALISO CREEK SEWER LIFT STATION

IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR 30-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW

El Toro Water District (ETWD) is planning an improvement project at the **Aliso Creek Sewer Lift Station**, located at **24091 Avenida Sevilla, Laguna Woods**. This vital infrastructure supports **a significant portion of ETWD's sewer flows**. The project includes the demolition of the existing lift station and the construction of a new one to enhance performance and meet sewer demands.

Design is currently underway, and implementation of the project will be scheduled in the future. Affected customers will be notified before construction begins. This notice is to inform the community of the upcoming project and that **initial environmental studies are available for public review for 30 days from March 7, 2025, through April 7, 2025.**

REVIEW THE DOCUMENTS ONLINE

Visit www.etwd.com/aliso-creek-lift-station-project to access the environmental documents.



SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS BY APRIL 7, 2025

Comments must be submitted
by **5:00 p.m. on April 7, 2025**,
via mail or email:

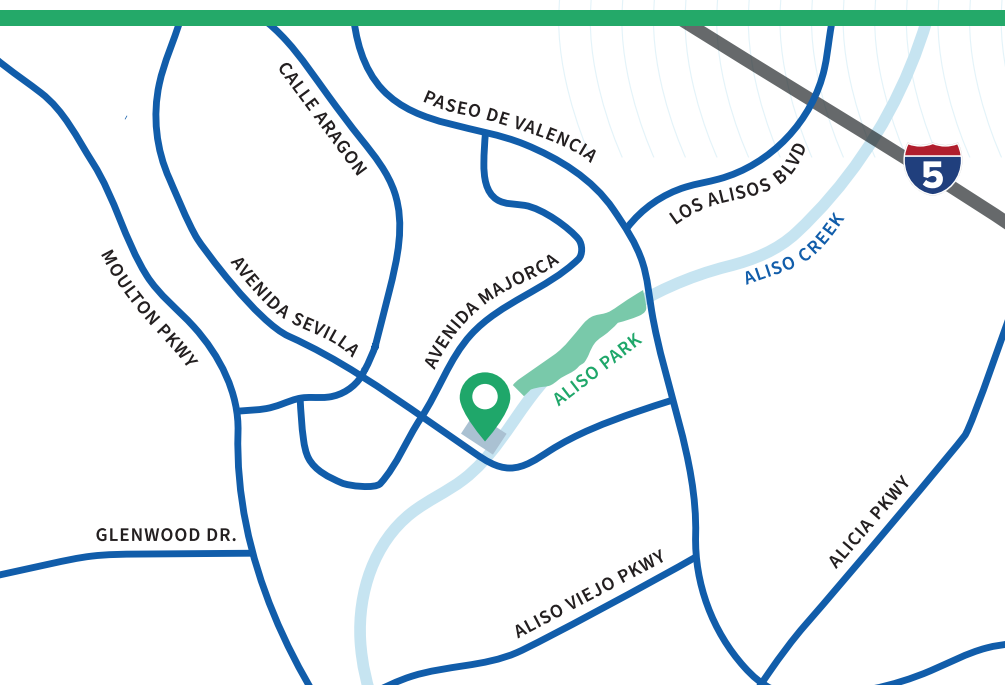
MAIL TO:

El Toro Water District
Attn: Hannah Ford,
Director of Engineering
24251 Los Alisos Blvd.
Lake Forest, CA 92630

EMAIL TO:

hford@etwd.com

For questions, please contact
ETWD at **(949) 837-0660**.



Earth Day 2024

It Takes A Village... To Sustain A Planet

Thursday, April 18, 2024 12 – 2:30 PM Clubhouse 5

Visit bit.ly/concernedseniors for an updated list of exhibits and activities!

Snacks and Sips

Singalong

FREE ADMISSION!

GIVEAWAYS!

EV Auto Show

Raffle Prizes



Exhibitors

El Toro Water District
City of Laguna Woods
Sierra Sage of South OC
Sea & Sage Audubon of OC
Pacific Marine Mammal Center
Laguna Woods Village Transportation
Trash Talk with CR&R and the Village
Village Landscape and Plants
Climate Reality Project of OC
Climate Action Campaign

Speakers

"The Truth in 10"
Fran Delaney-Barron, Chair
Climate Reality Project of OC

"Tackling Trash for a Healthier Earth"
Sudha Warriar, Ph.D.
Conservation Committee
Sea and Sage Audubon Society of OC



Sponsored by the Environment Committee
Email: cclagunawoodsvillage@gmail.com
Website: bit.ly/concernedseniors

Events are for Laguna Woods Village residents and their guests



STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Directors

Meeting Date: March 27, 2025

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 through the collaboration of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the Municipal Water District of Orange County, and ETWD.

Eligible device purchases may qualify for rebates, contingent on meeting eligibility criteria and subject to fund availability. Detailed residential and commercial rebate information is accessible at:

www.etwd.com/conservation/rebates

www.etwd.com/commercial-rebates

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 in February 2025.

The table below also shows the ETWD residential and commercial rebates approved between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025.

Rebate Program	February 2025	FY 2024/25
Turf Replacement – Commercial		40,749 sq. ft.
Turf Replacement – Residential	1,270 sq. ft.	1,270 sq. ft.

High Efficiency Clothes Washer	3	16
Irrigation Controller (Commercial)		58
Irrigation Controller (Residential)		2
Hose Bib Irrigation Controller		1
Faucet Aerators		2
Low-flow Showerheads	3	10

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 February 2025, residential customers accounted for 76.9% of Tier 3 usage and dedicated irrigation accounted for 23.1%. For Tier 4, residential customers accounted for 62.1% and dedicated irrigation accounted for 37.9% during the same period.](#)

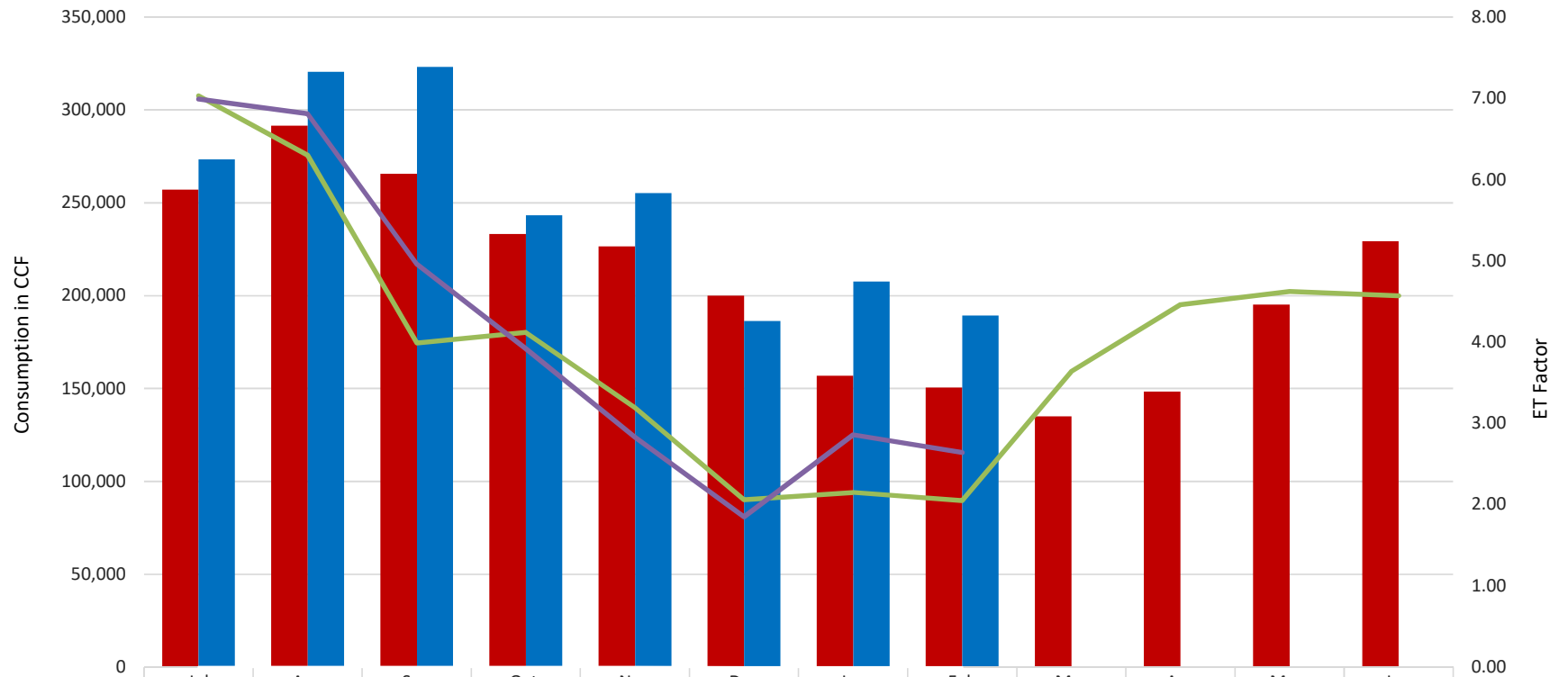
Total Consumption Comparison to Evapotranspiration (ET) Factor:

Included in this month's Water Use Efficiency Report is a chart comparing the current fiscal year consumption and ET factor to the fiscal 2023/24 consumption and ET factor. [Total potable water consumption increased by 25.87% in February 2025 versus February 2024. On a year-to-date basis, total potable water consumption increased 12.21% over the same period in FY 2023-2024. The ET factor increased from 2.15 to 2.86 during the same period.](#)

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

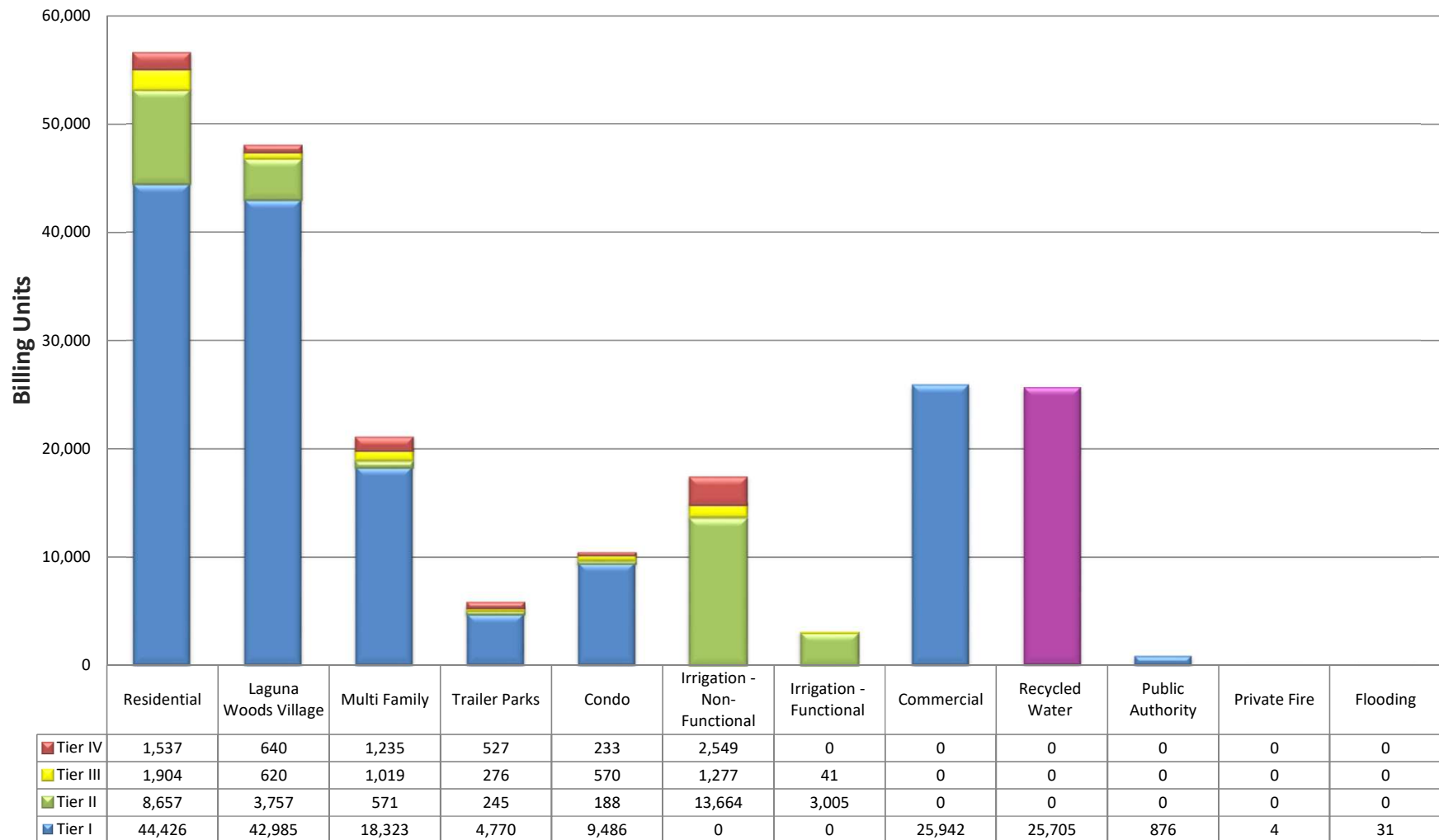
The following graphs highlight ETWD year-to-date consumption and consumption by tier for the current fiscal year compared to the 2023-2024 fiscal year. ETWD water consumption compared to 2013 and 2020 are also included.

Total Consumption Comparison (CCF)

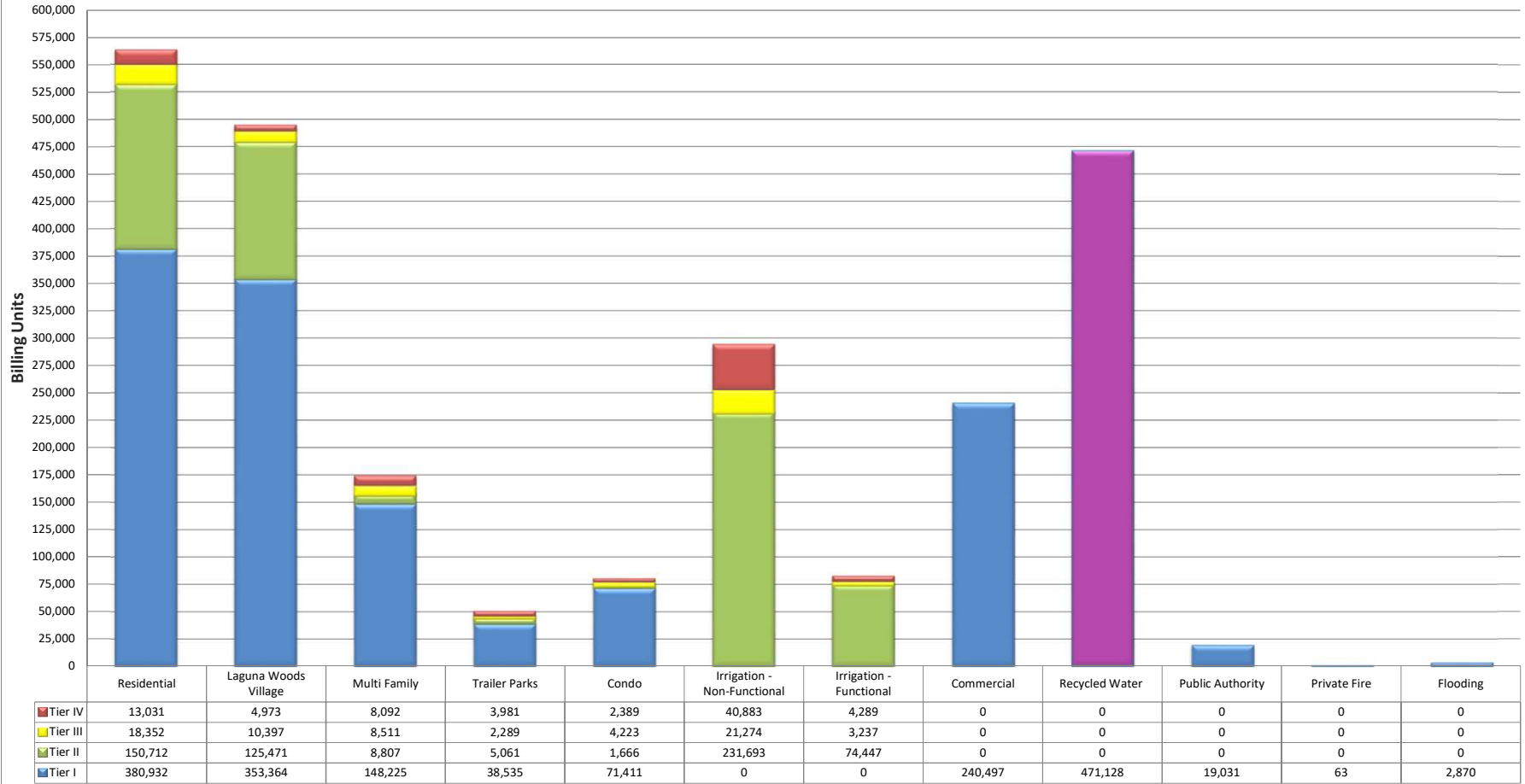


	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
FY 2023-2024	257,133	291,565	265,582	233,191	226,607	199,886	156,877	150,439	134,969	148,347	195,115	229,339
FY 2024-2025	273,341	320,463	323,129	243,352	255,163	186,426	207,474	189,358				
% Change	6.30%	9.91%	21.67%	4.36%	12.60%	-6.73%	32.25%	25.87%				
FY 23/24 ET	7.03	6.30	3.99	4.12	3.19	2.06	2.15	2.05	3.64	4.46	4.62	4.57
FY 24/25 ET	6.99	6.81	4.96	3.92	2.83	1.85	2.86	2.64				

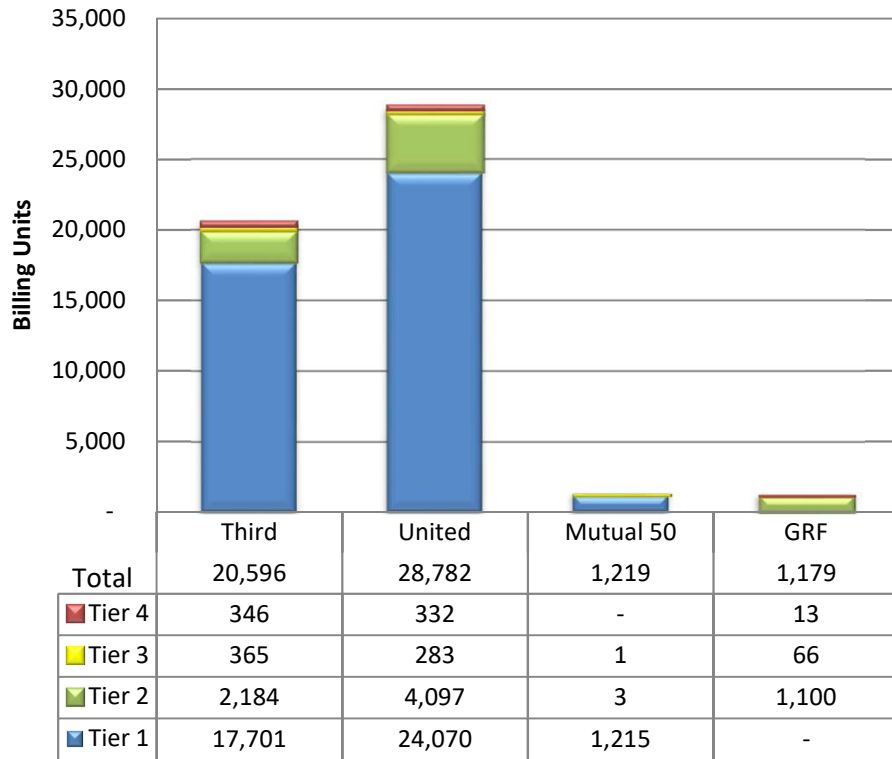
February 2025 Water Sales



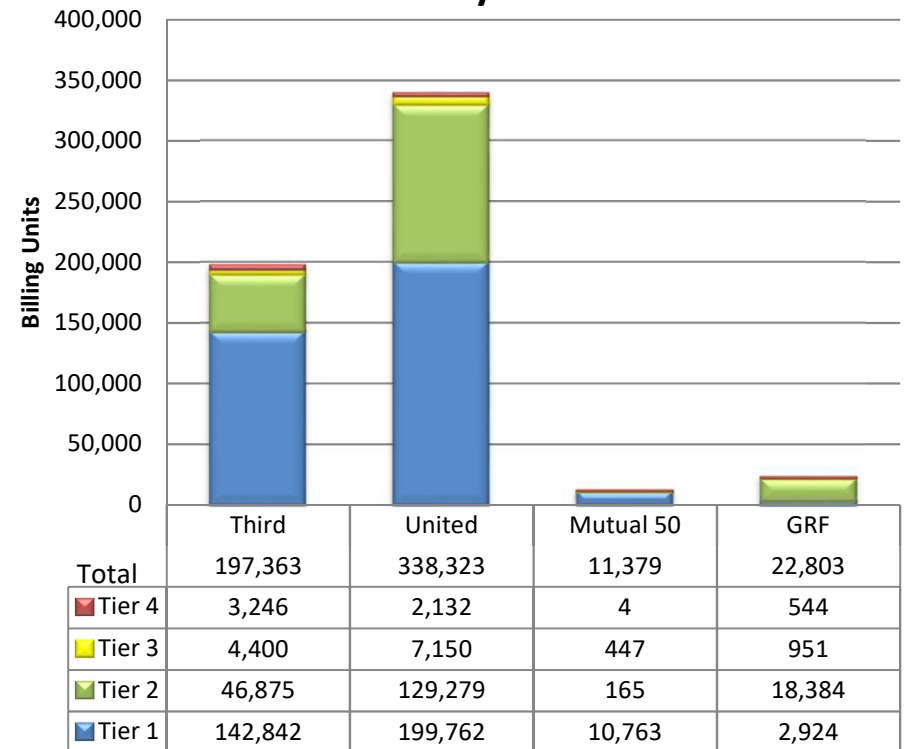
Year-to-Date Water Sales as of February 2025



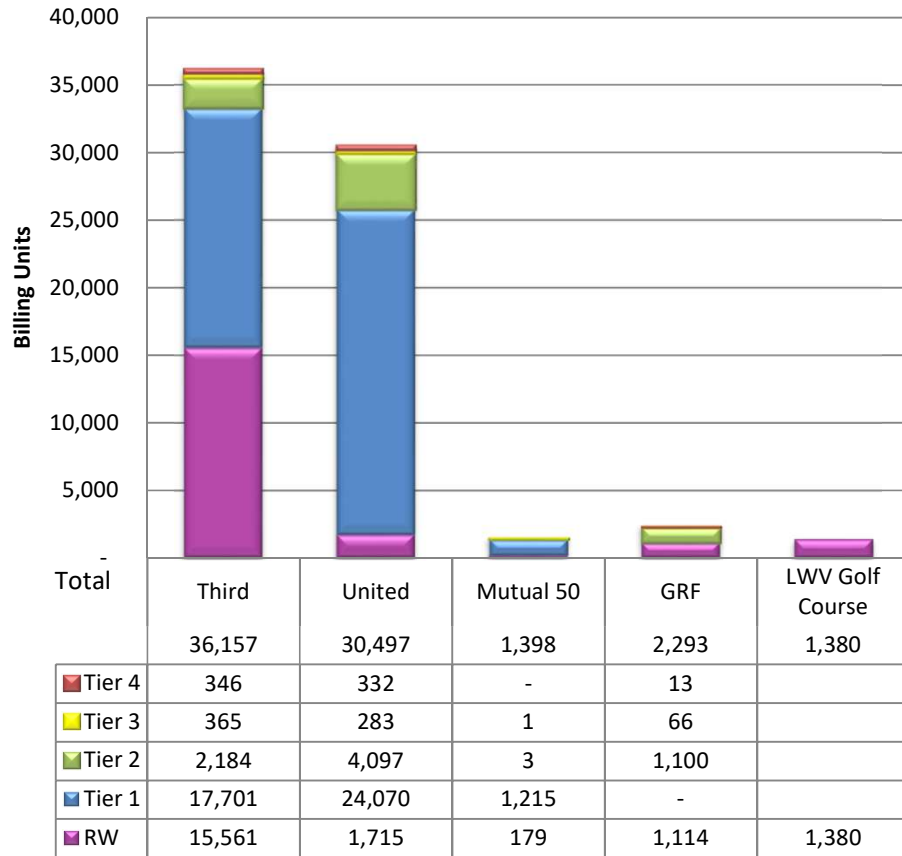
Laguna Woods Village February 2025 Water Sales



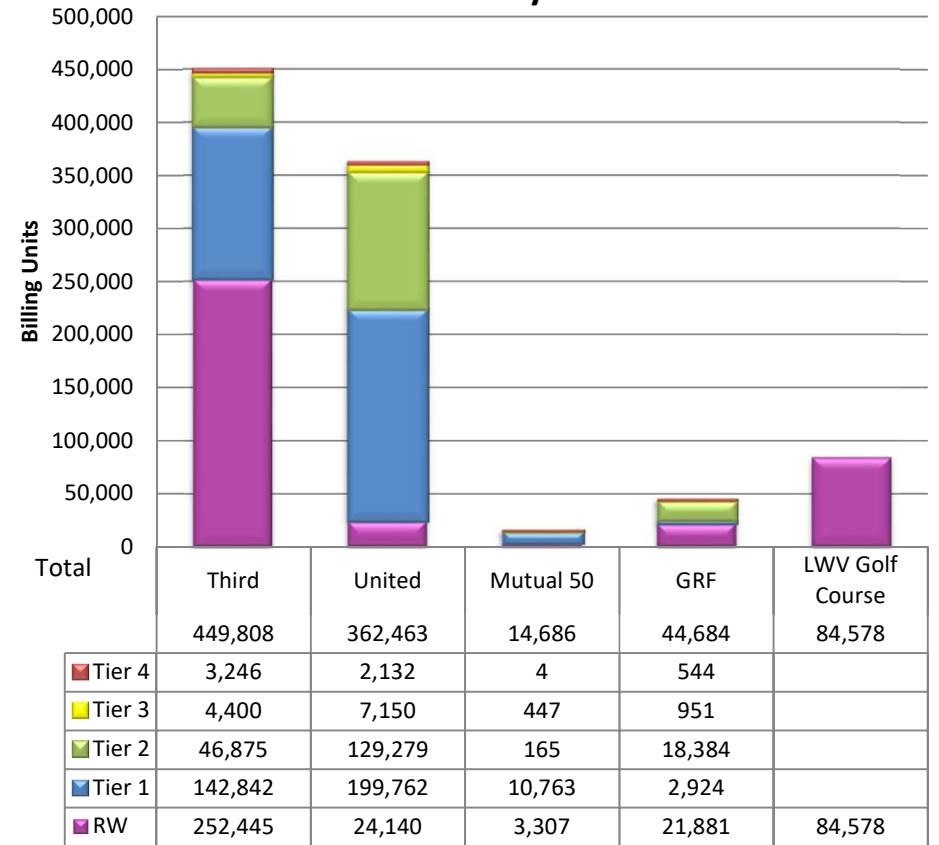
Laguna Woods Village Year-to-Date Water Sales February 2025



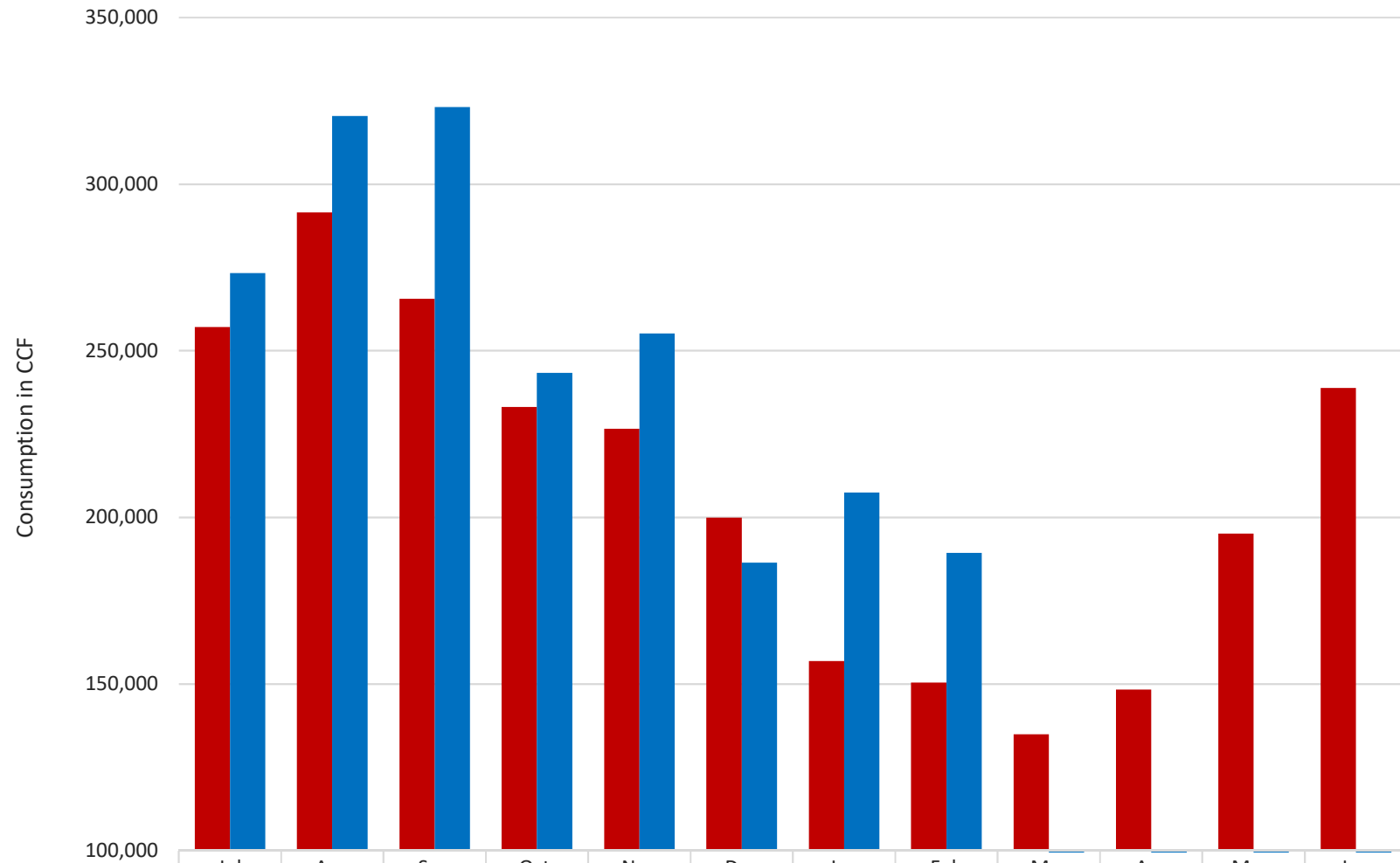
Laguna Woods Village February 2025 Water & RW Sales



Laguna Woods Village Year-to-Date Water & RW Sales February 2025

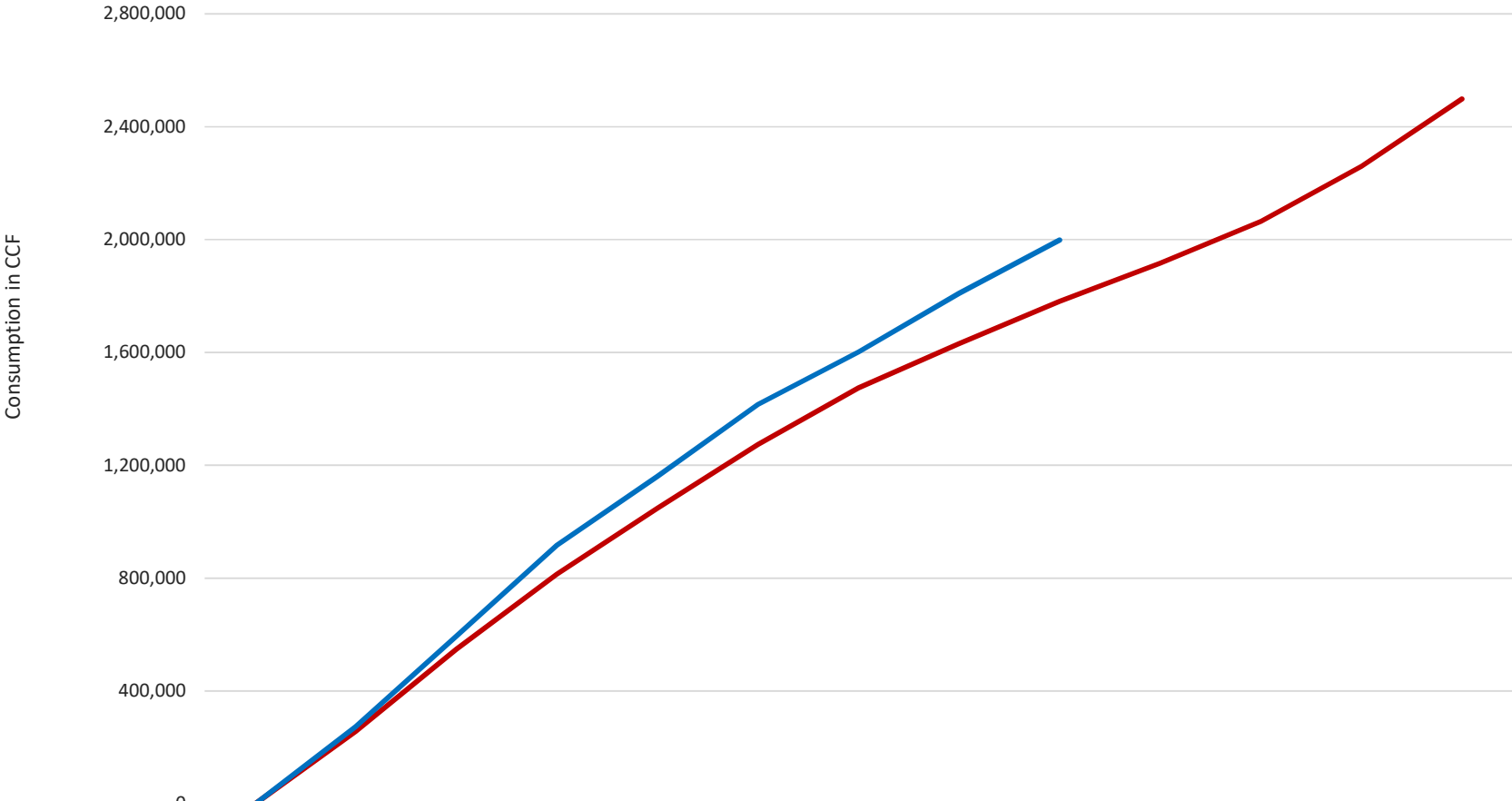


ETWD Total Consumption



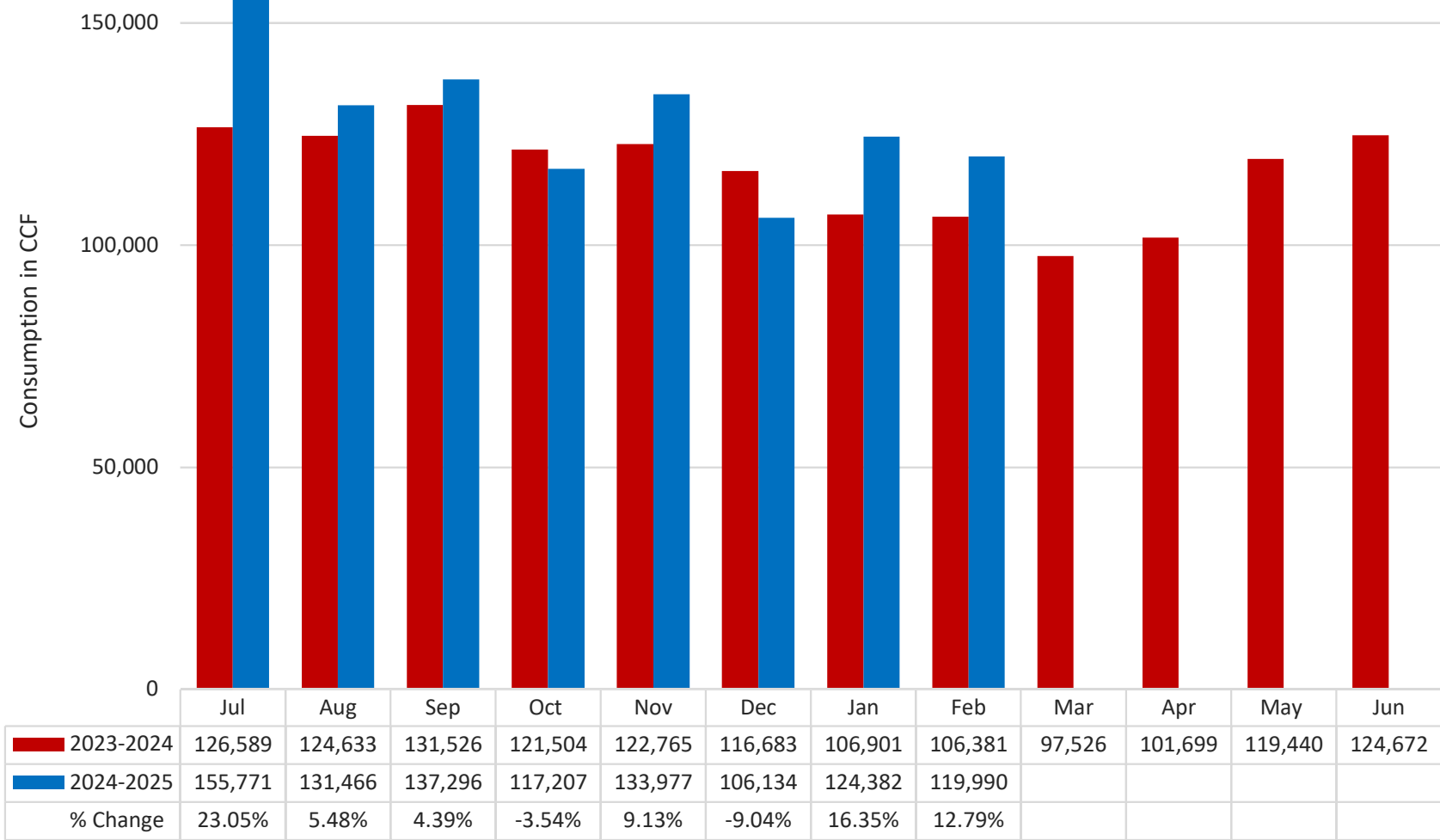
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
2023-2024	257,133	291,565	265,582	233,191	226,607	199,886	156,877	150,439	134,969	148,347	195,115	238,802
2024-2025	273,341	320,463	323,129	243,352	255,163	186,426	207,474	189,358				
% Change	6.30%	9.91%	21.67%	4.36%	12.60%	-6.73%	32.25%	25.87%				

ETWD Fiscal YTD Consumption

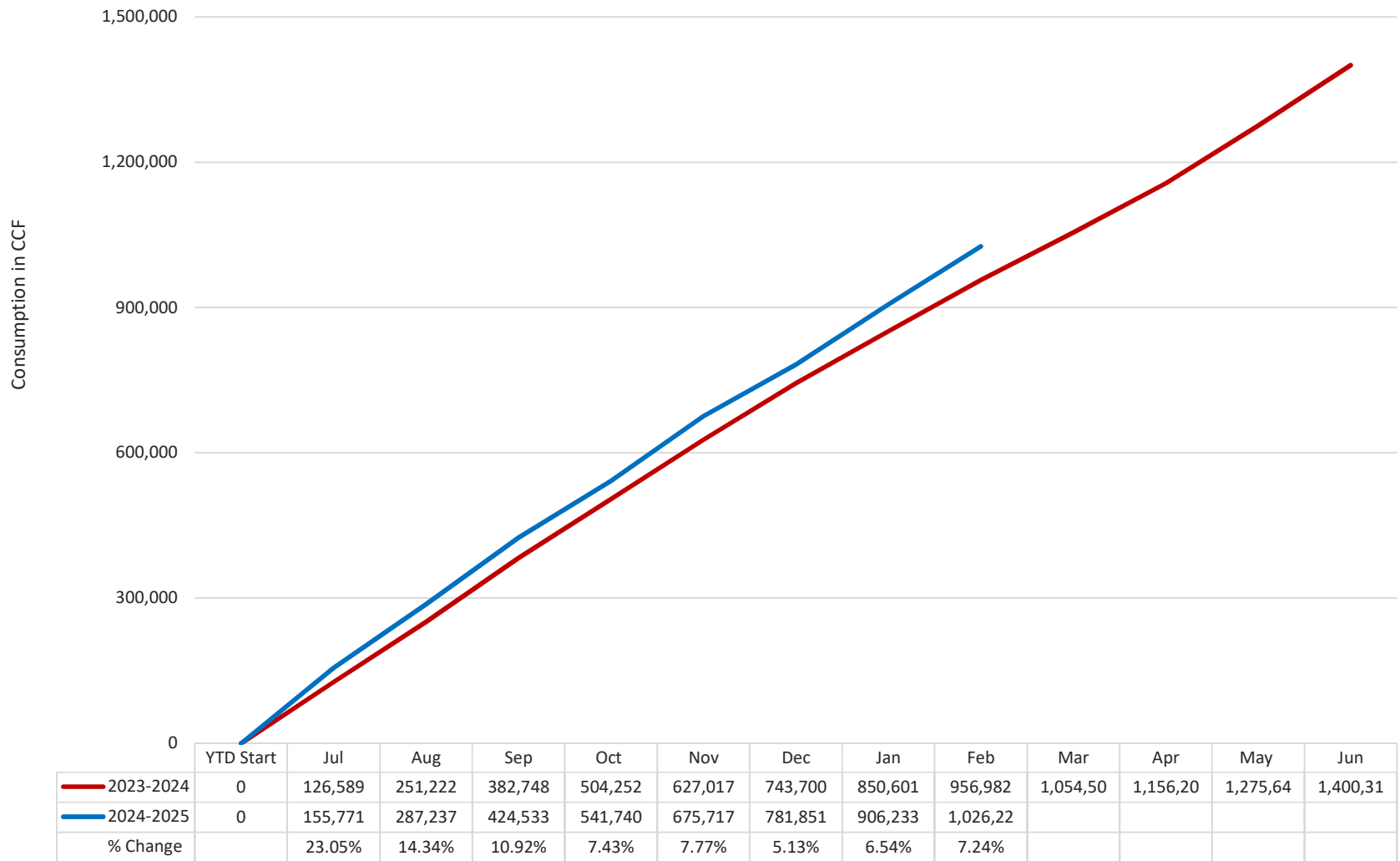


	YTD Start	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
2023-2024	0	257,133	548,698	814,280	1,047,47	1,274,07	1,473,96	1,630,84	1,781,28	1,916,24	2,064,59	2,259,71	2,498,51
2024-2025	0	273,341	593,804	916,933	1,160,28	1,415,44	1,601,87	1,809,34	1,998,70				
% Change		6.30%	8.22%	12.61%	10.77%	11.10%	8.68%	10.95%	12.21%				

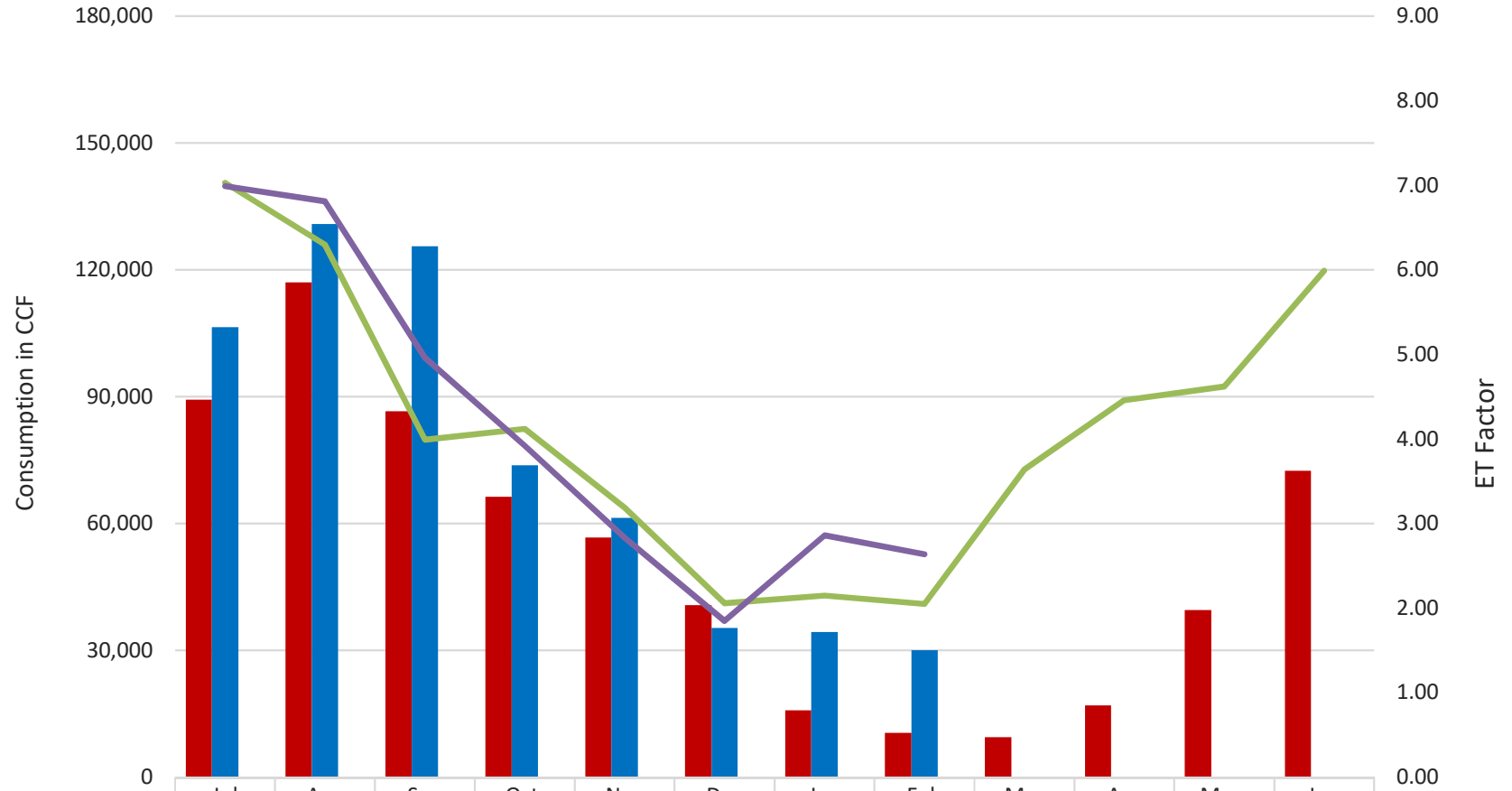
Tier I Consumption



Tier I Fiscal YTD Consumption

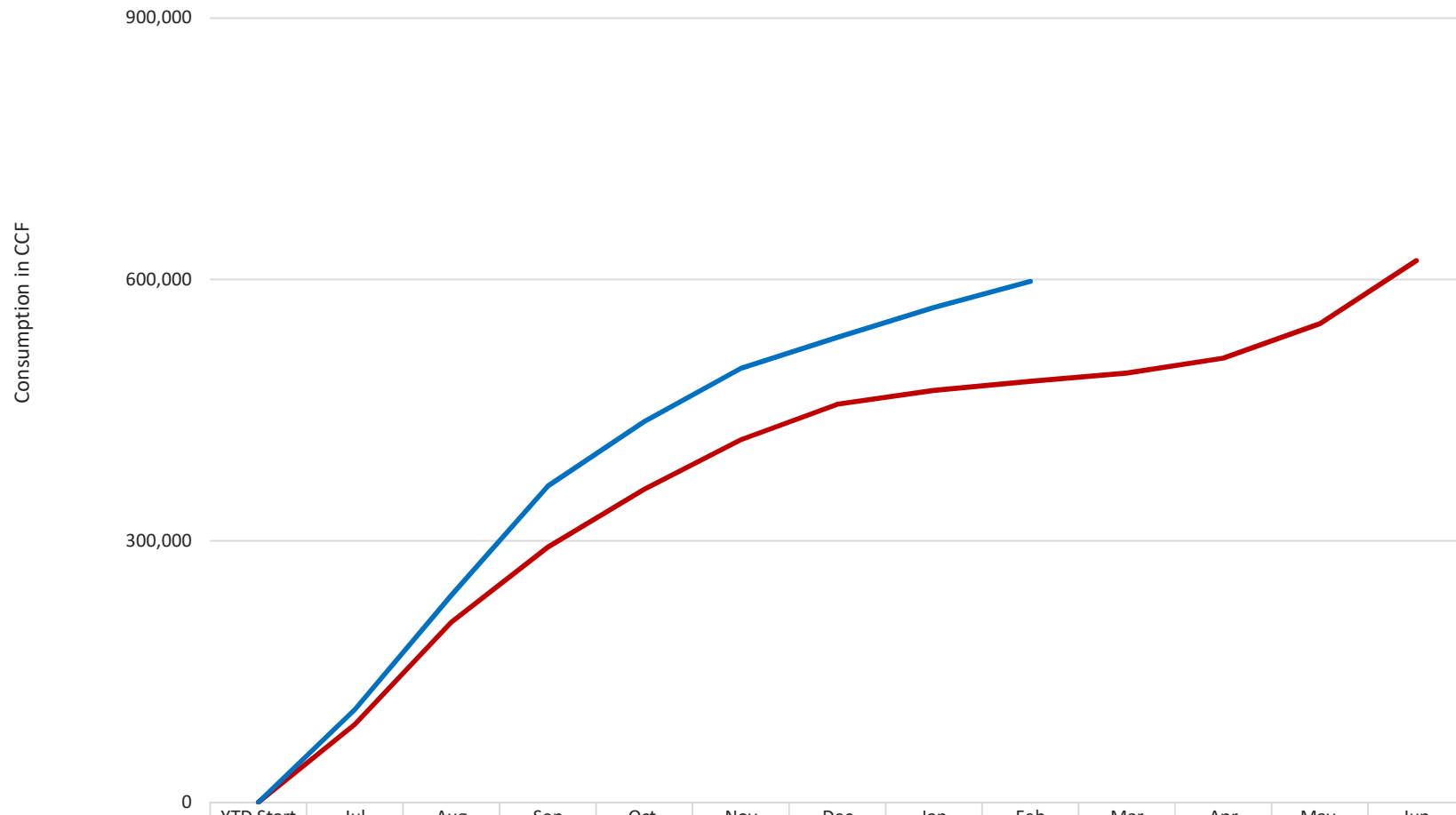


Tier II Consumption



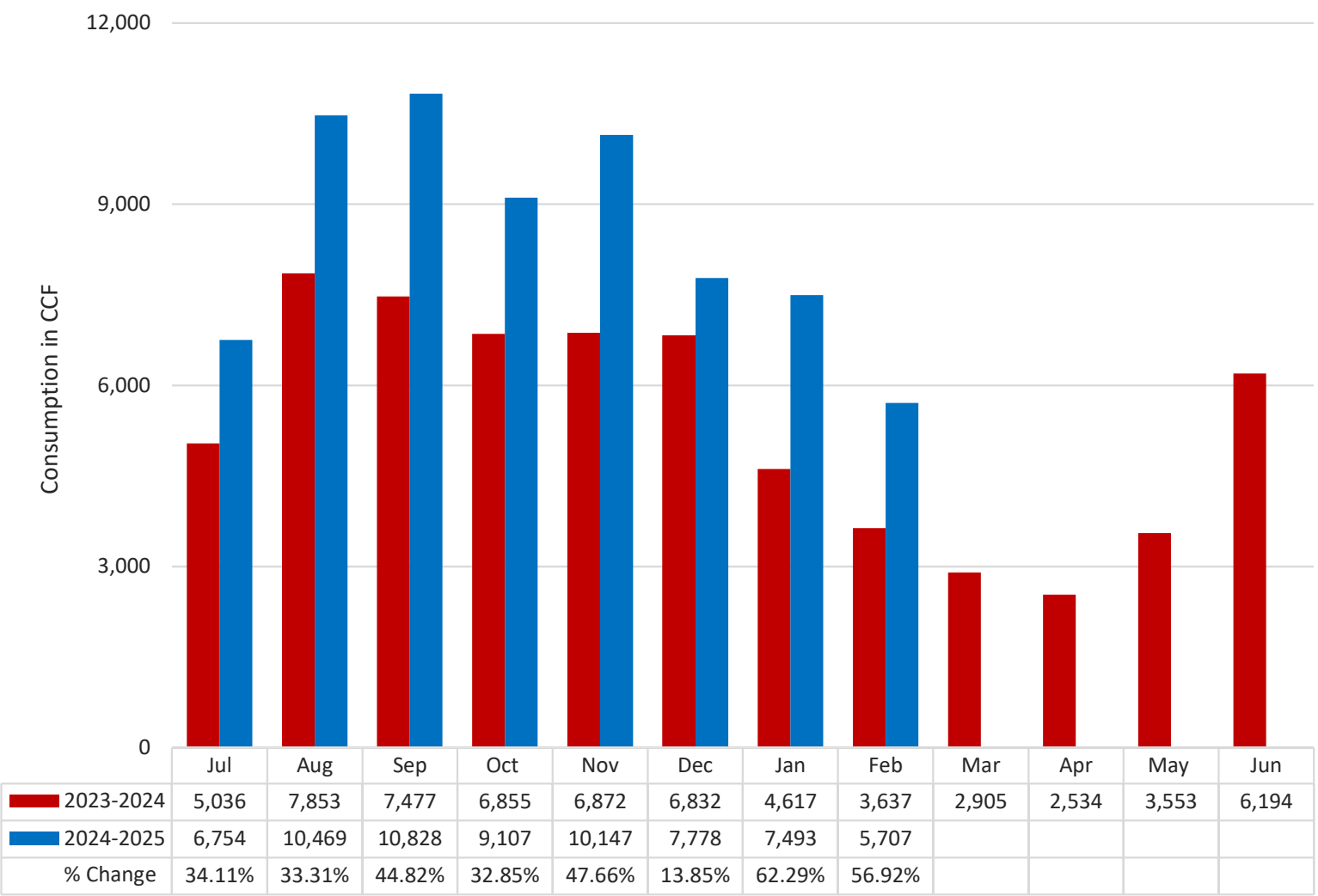
2023-2024	89,331	117,071	86,517	66,331	56,689	40,691	15,857	10,558	9,481	17,013	39,555	72,538
2024-2025	106,453	130,835	125,611	73,825	61,340	35,325	34,381	30,087				
% Change	19.17%	11.76%	45.19%	11.30%	8.20%	-13.19%	116.82%	184.97%				
23/24 ET	7.03	6.30	3.99	4.12	3.19	2.06	2.15	2.05	3.64	4.46	4.62	5.99
24/25 ET	6.99	6.81	4.96	3.92	2.83	1.85	2.86	2.64				

Tier II Fiscal YTD Consumption

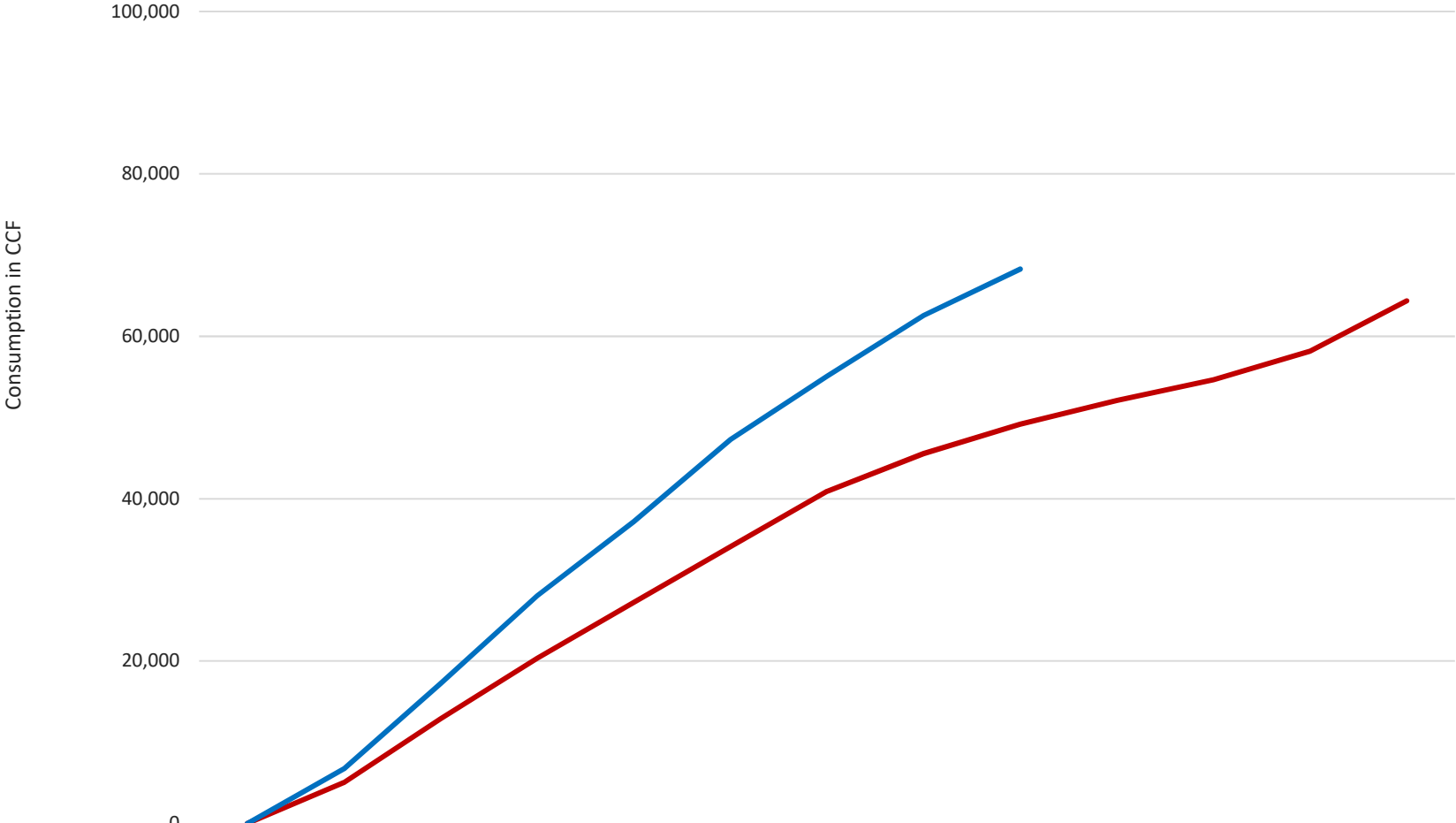


	YTD Start	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
2023-2024	0	89,331	206,402	292,919	359,250	415,939	456,630	472,487	483,045	492,526	509,539	549,094	621,632
2024-2025	0	106,453	237,288	362,899	436,724	498,064	533,389	567,770	597,857				
% Change		19.17%	14.96%	23.89%	21.57%	19.74%	16.81%	20.17%	23.77%				

Tier III Consumption

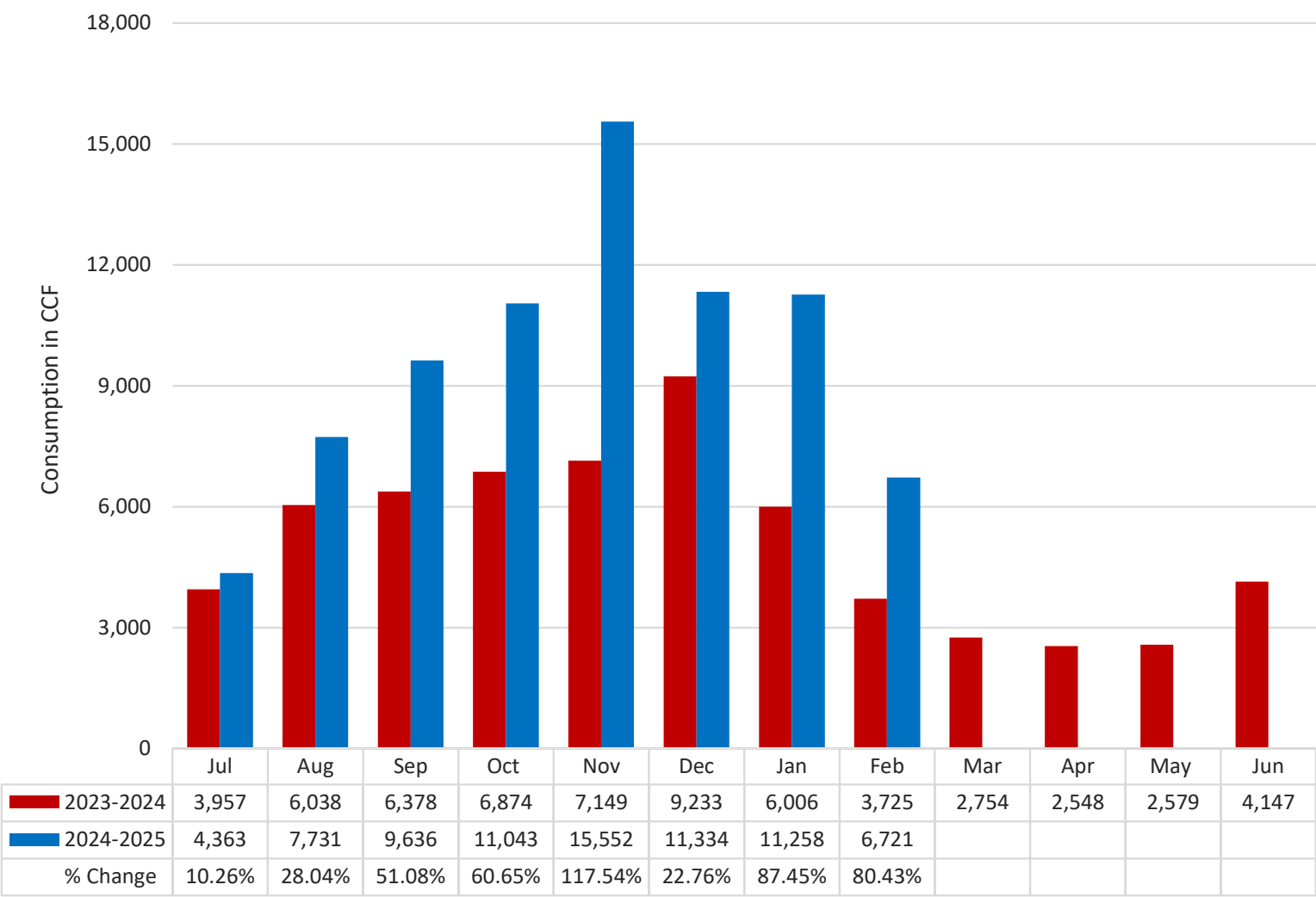


Tier III Fiscal YTD Consumption

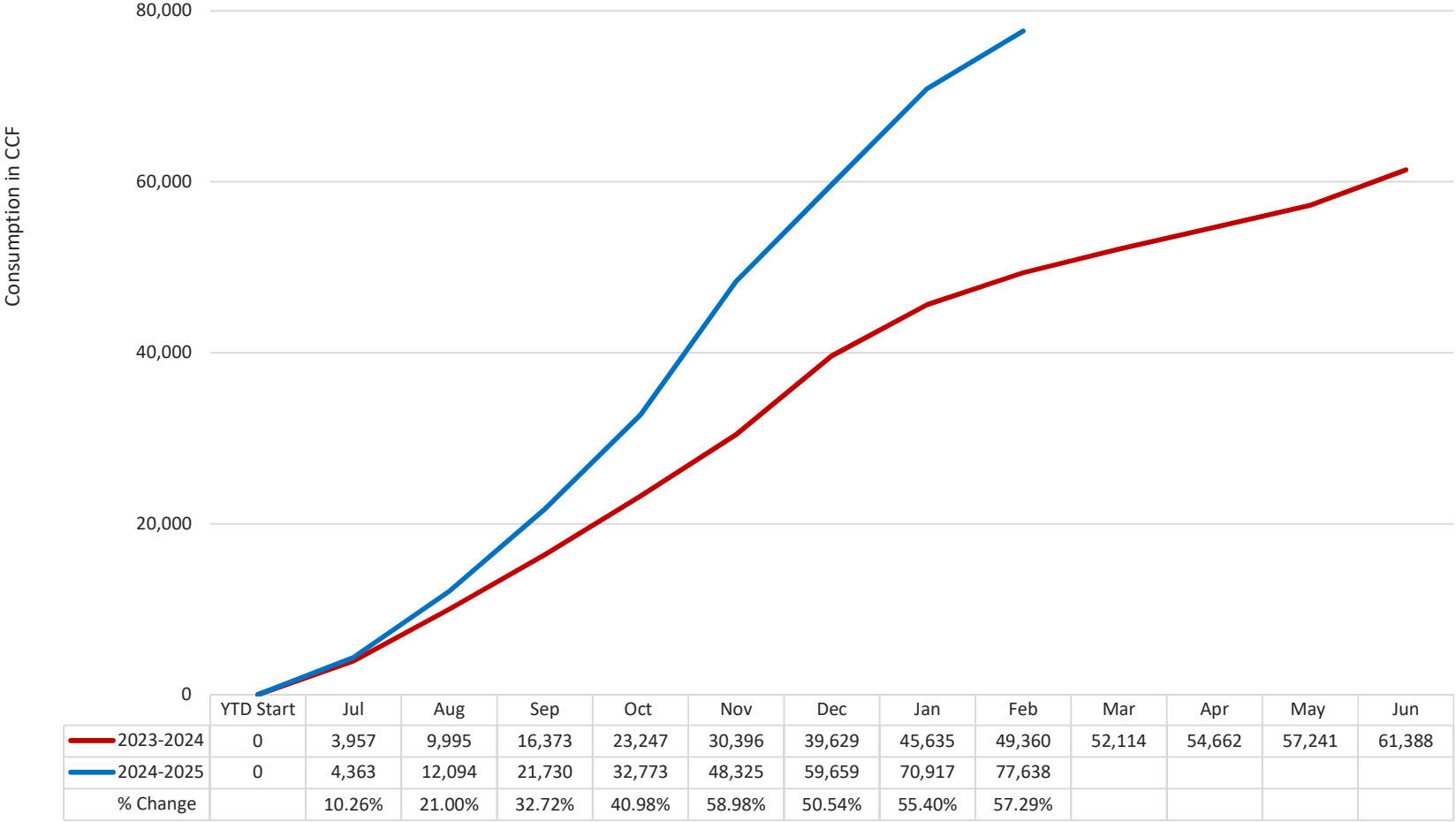


	YTD Start	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
2023-2024	0	5,036	12,889	20,366	27,221	34,093	40,925	45,542	49,179	52,084	54,618	58,171	64,365
2024-2025	0	6,754	17,223	28,051	37,158	47,305	55,083	62,576	68,283				
% Change		34.11%	33.63%	37.73%	36.50%	38.75%	34.59%	37.40%	38.85%				

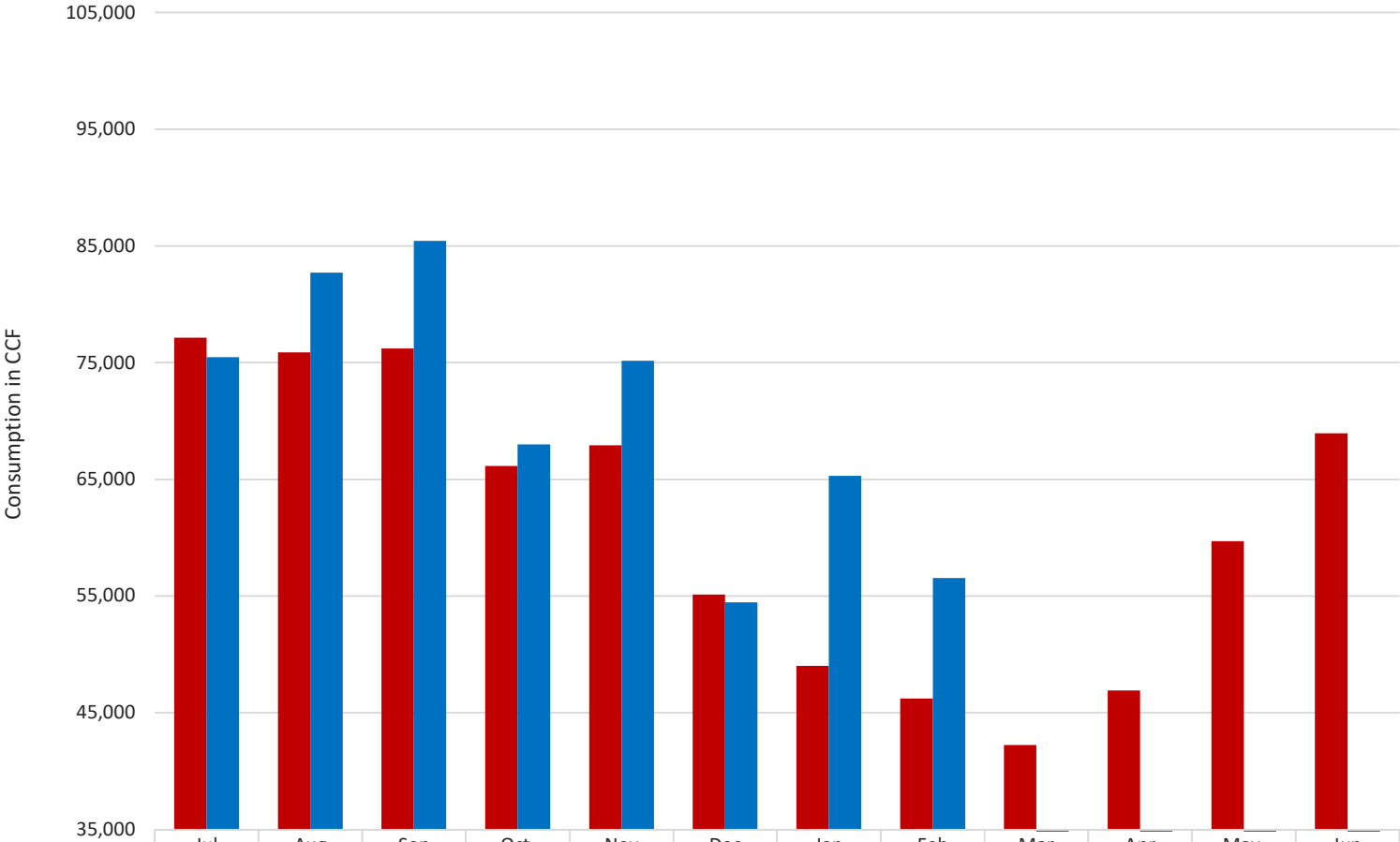
Tier IV Consumption



Tier IV Fiscal YTD Consumption

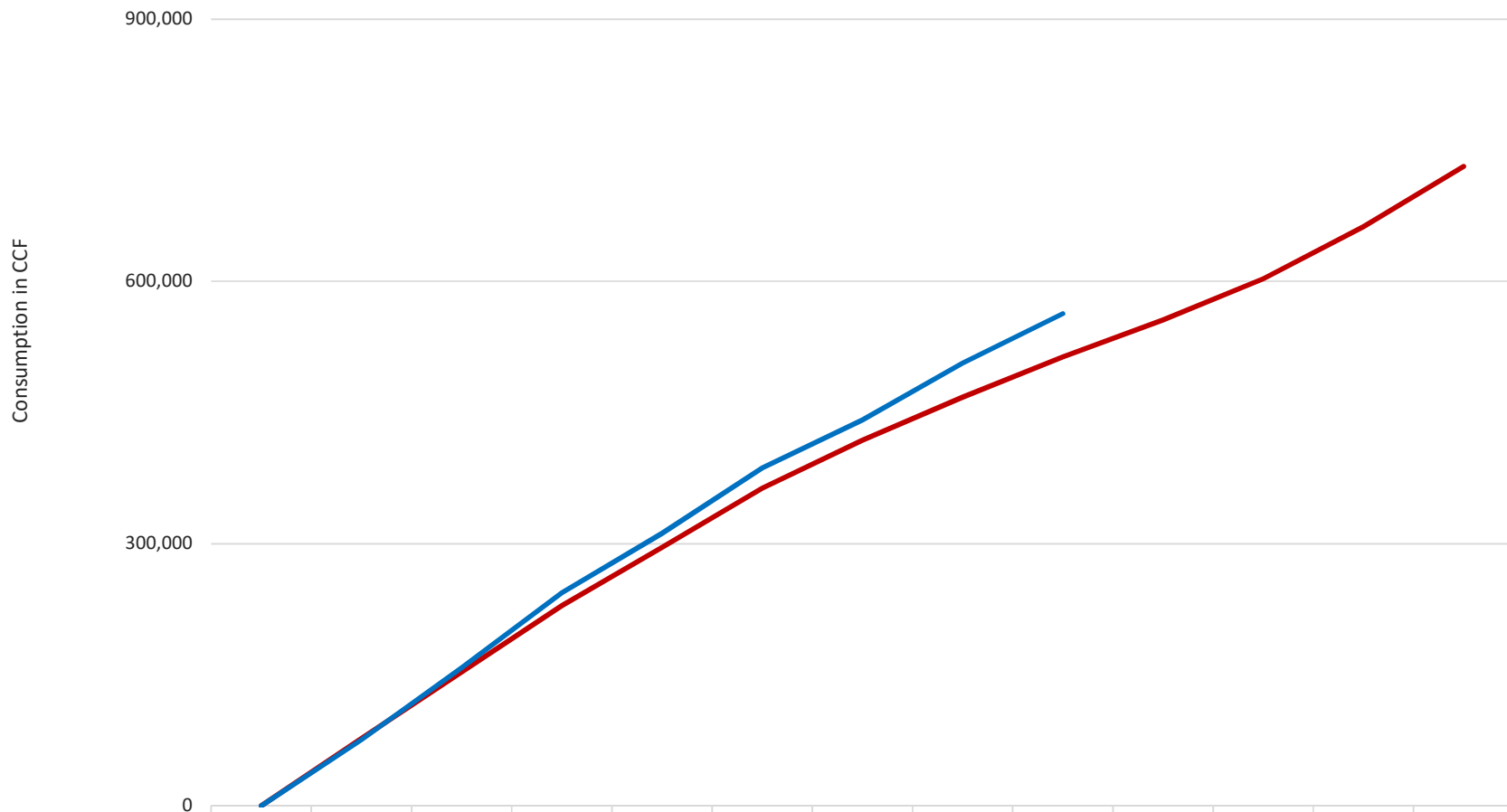


Single Family Residents Consumption



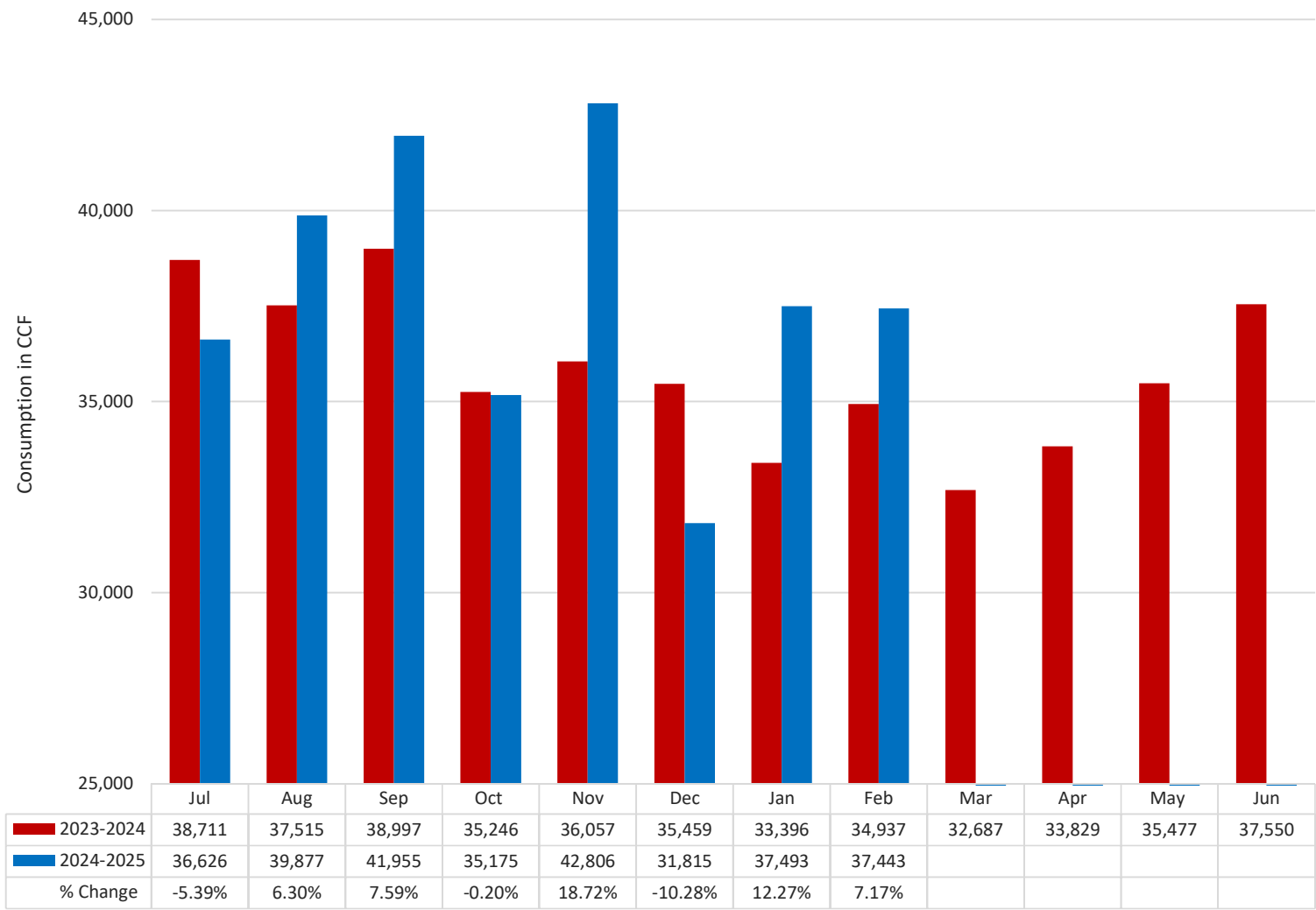
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
2023-2024	77,138	75,888	76,225	66,154	67,909	55,131	49,006	46,215	42,228	46,910	59,694	68,945
2024-2025	75,474	82,708	85,443	67,979	75,147	54,456	65,296	56,524				
% Change	-2.16%	8.99%	12.09%	2.76%	10.66%	-1.22%	33.24%	22.31%				

Single Family Residents YTD Consumption

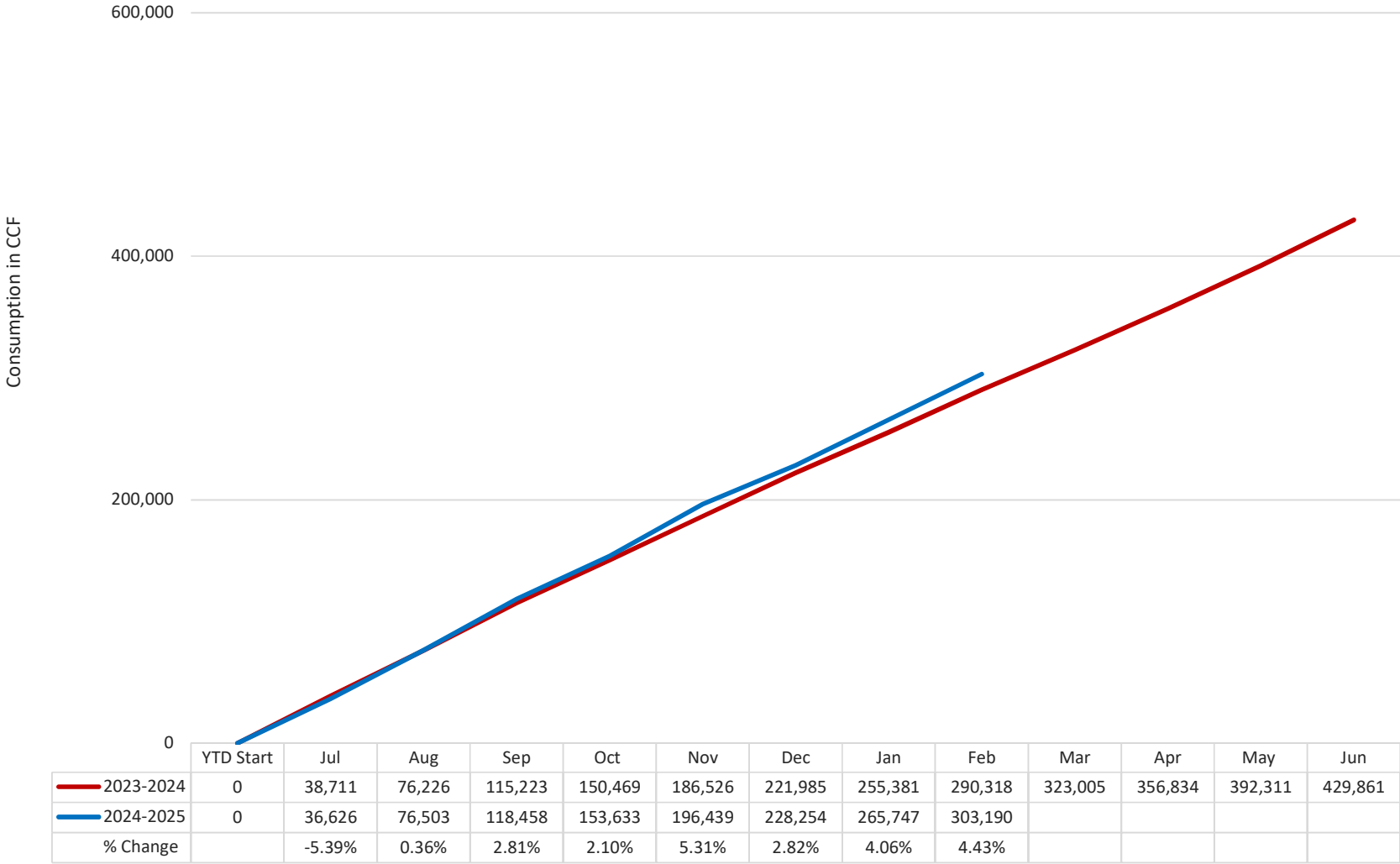


	YTD Start	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
2023-2024	0	77,138	153,026	229,251	295,405	363,314	418,445	467,451	513,666	555,894	602,804	662,498	731,443
2024-2025	0	75,474	158,182	243,625	311,604	386,751	441,207	506,503	563,027				
% Change		-2.16%	3.37%	6.27%	5.48%	6.45%	5.44%	8.35%	9.61%				

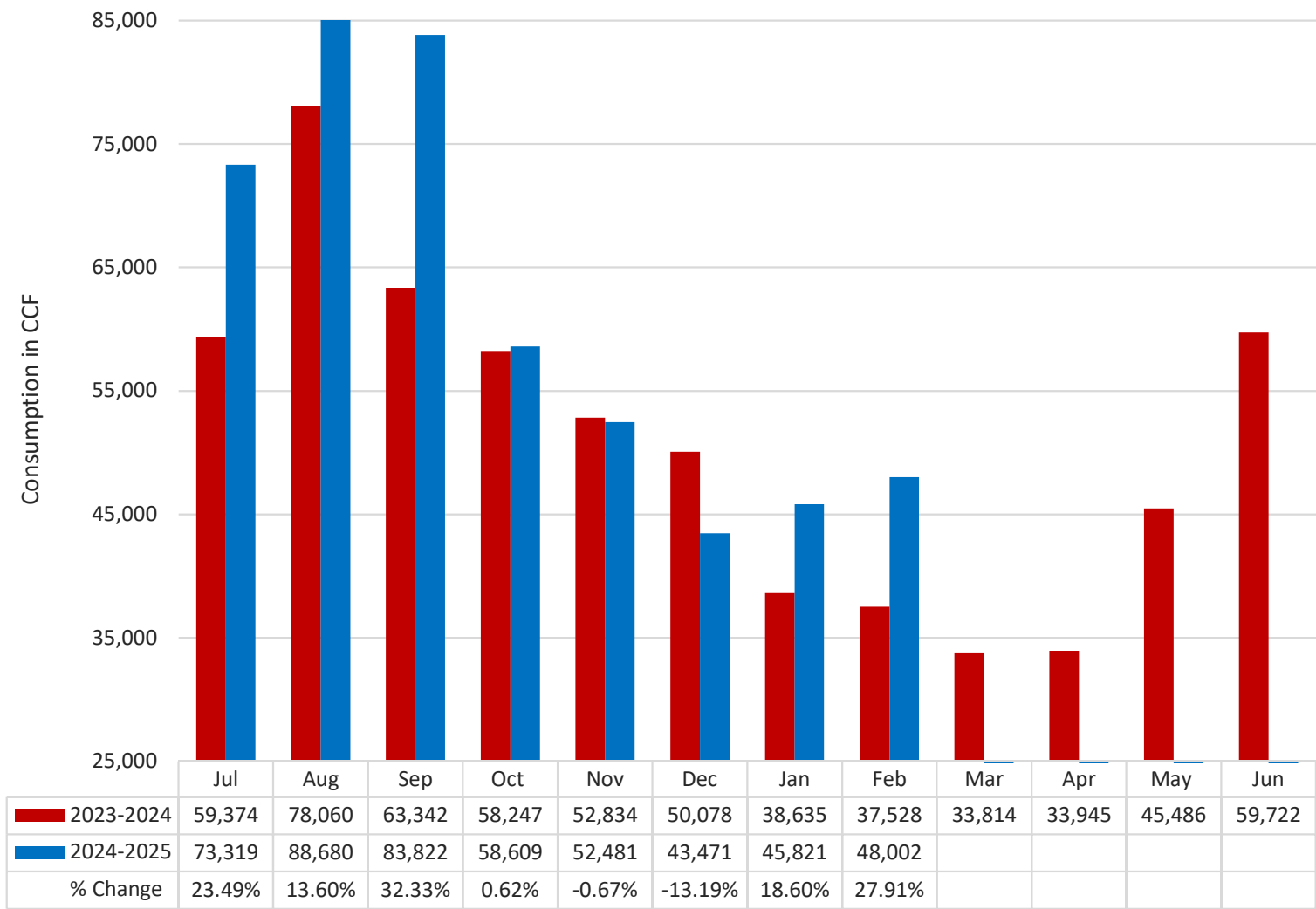
Multi Family Residents Consumption



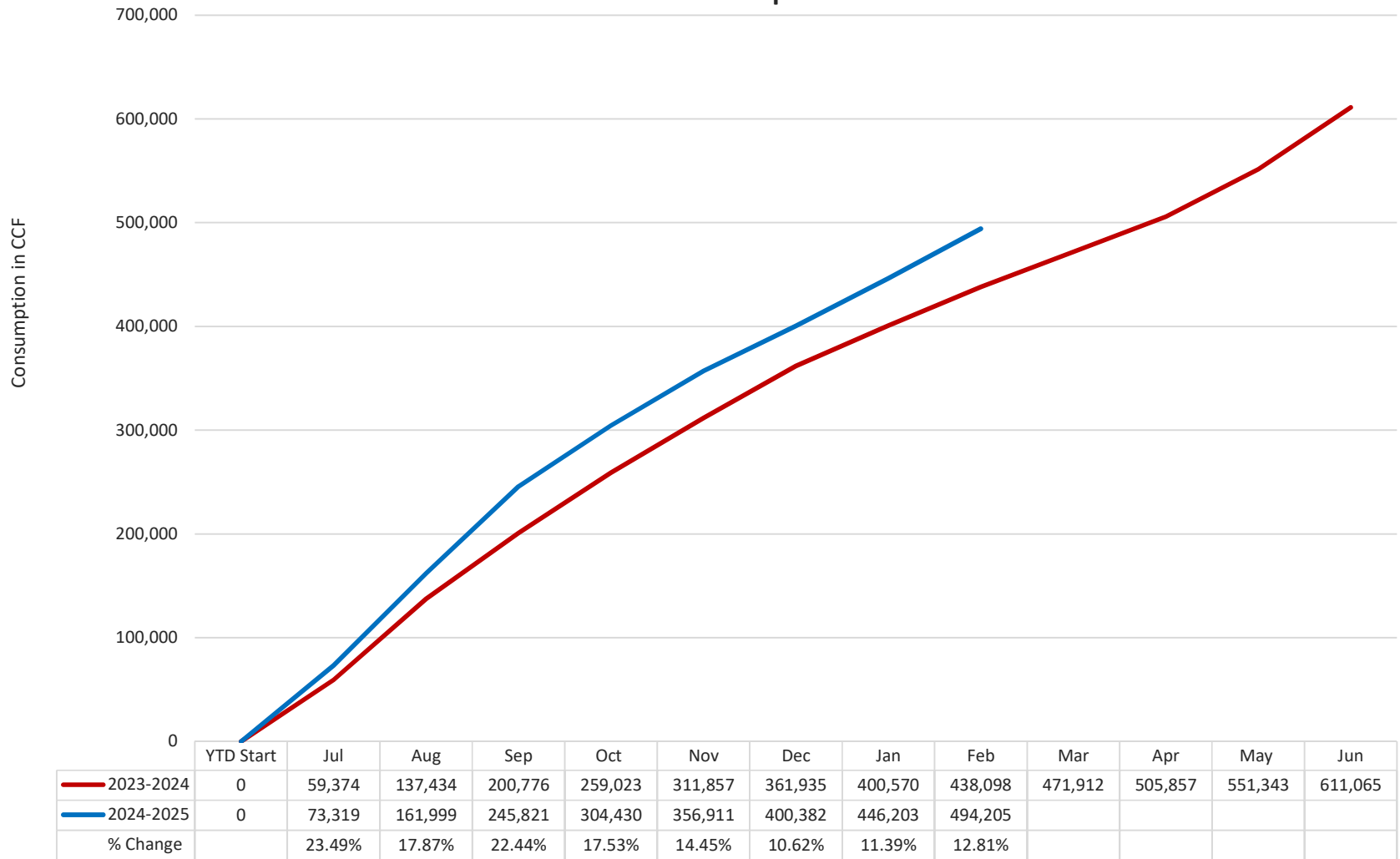
Multi Family Residents YTD Consumption



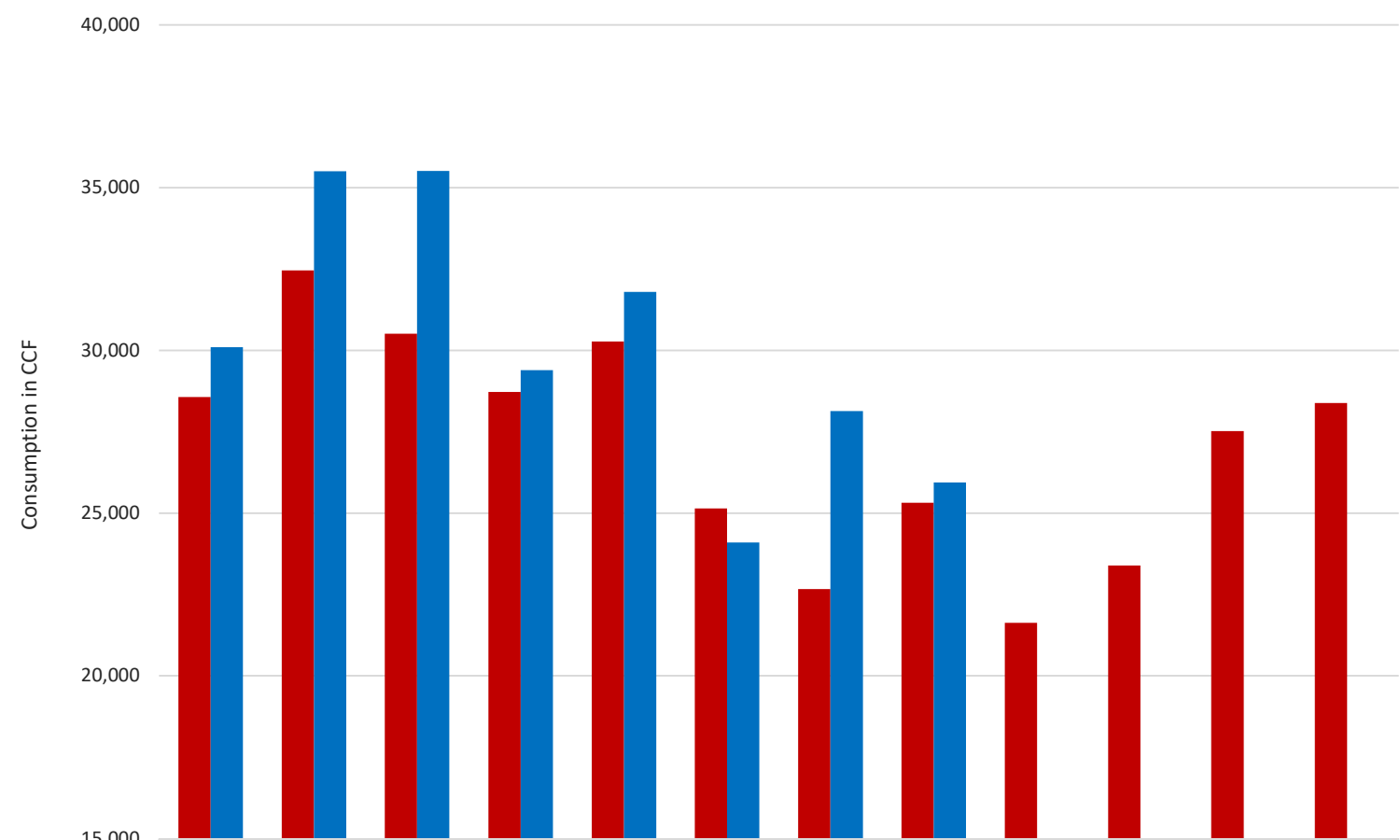
Laguna Woods Village Consumption (Excluding Dedicated Irrigation)



Laguna Woods Village (Excluding Dedicated Irrigation) YTD Consumption

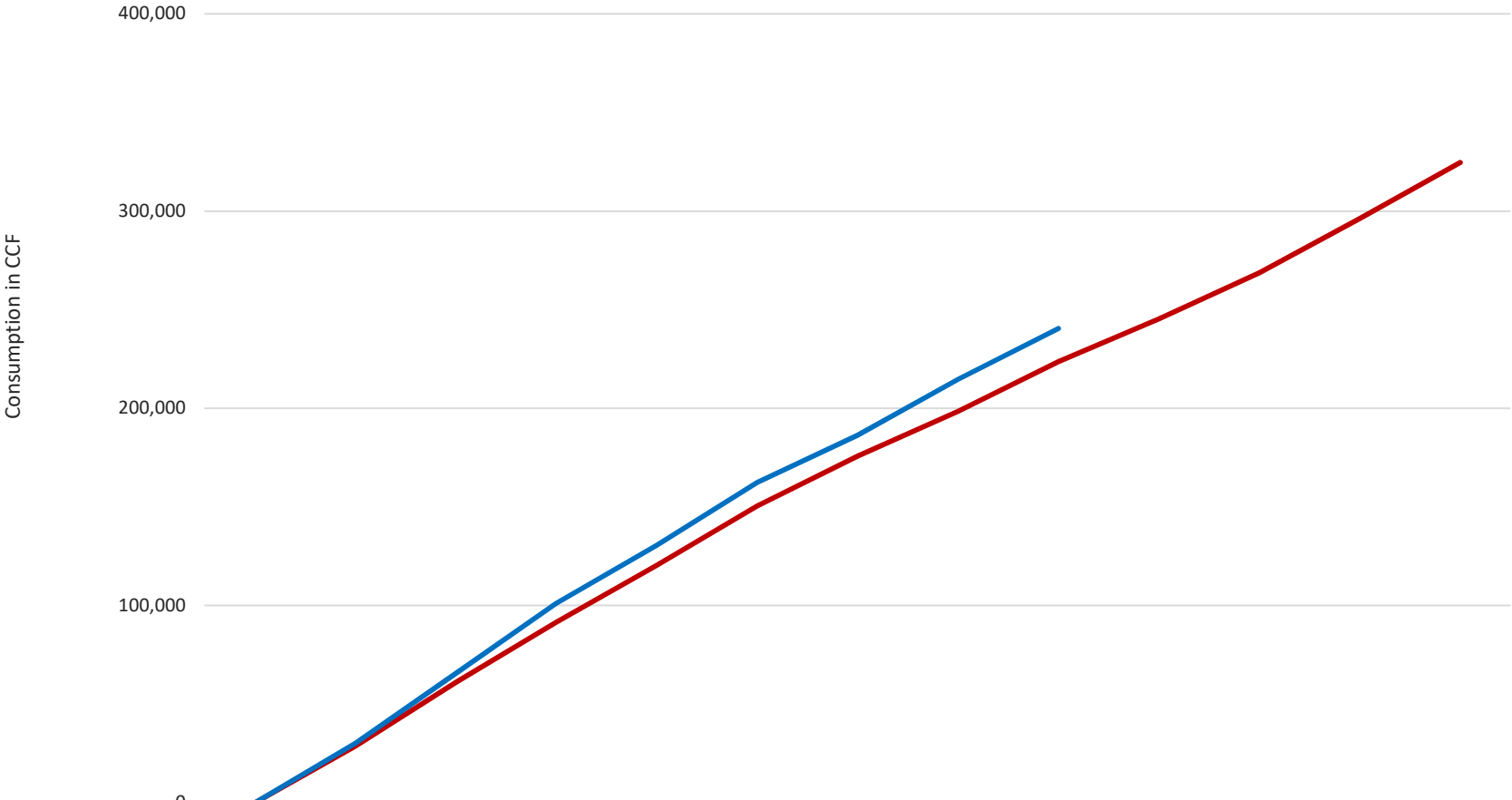


Commercial Consumption



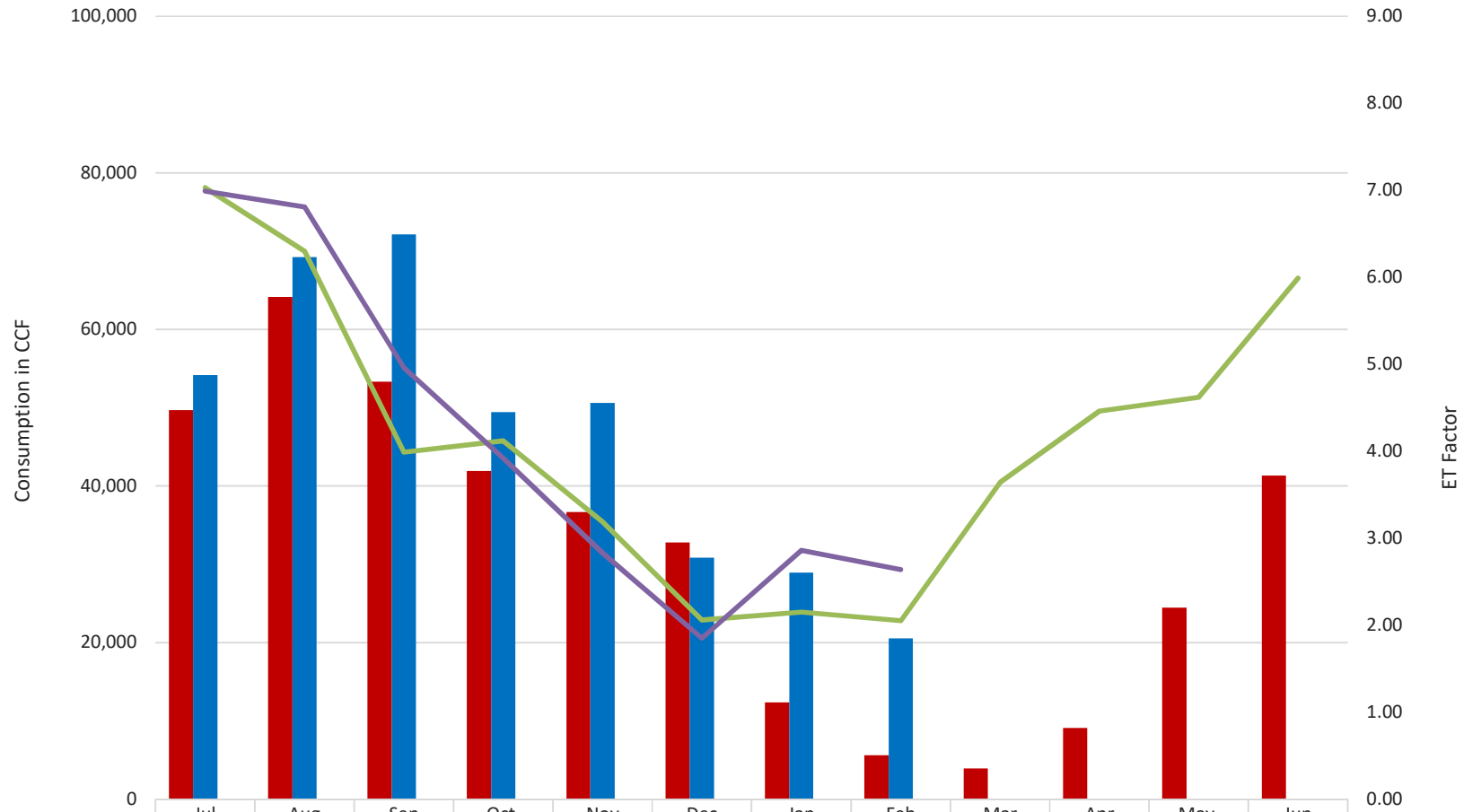
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
2023-2024	28,574	32,456	30,520	28,727	30,275	25,147	22,665	25,319	21,631	23,391	27,520	28,390
2024-2025	30,101	35,509	35,514	29,395	31,800	24,094	28,142	25,942				
% Change	5.34%	9.41%	16.36%	2.33%	5.04%	-4.19%	24.17%	2.46%				

Commercial YTD Consumption



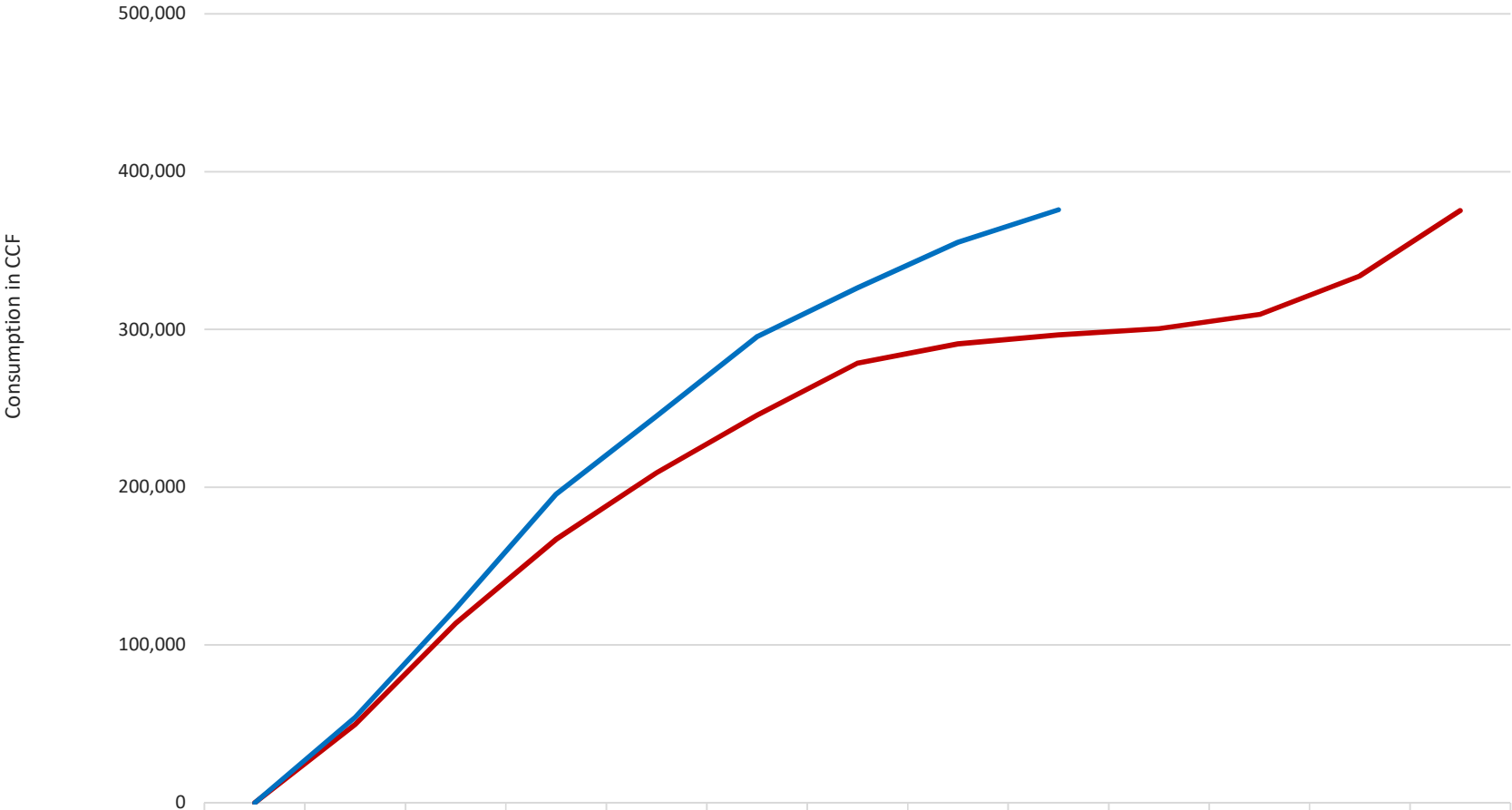
	YTD Start	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
2023-2024	0	28,574	61,030	91,550	120,277	150,552	175,699	198,364	223,683	245,314	268,705	296,225	324,615
2024-2025	0	30,101	65,610	101,124	130,519	162,319	186,413	214,555	240,497				
% Change		5.34%	7.50%	10.46%	8.52%	7.82%	6.10%	8.16%	7.52%				

Dedicated Irrigation Consumption (including LWV)



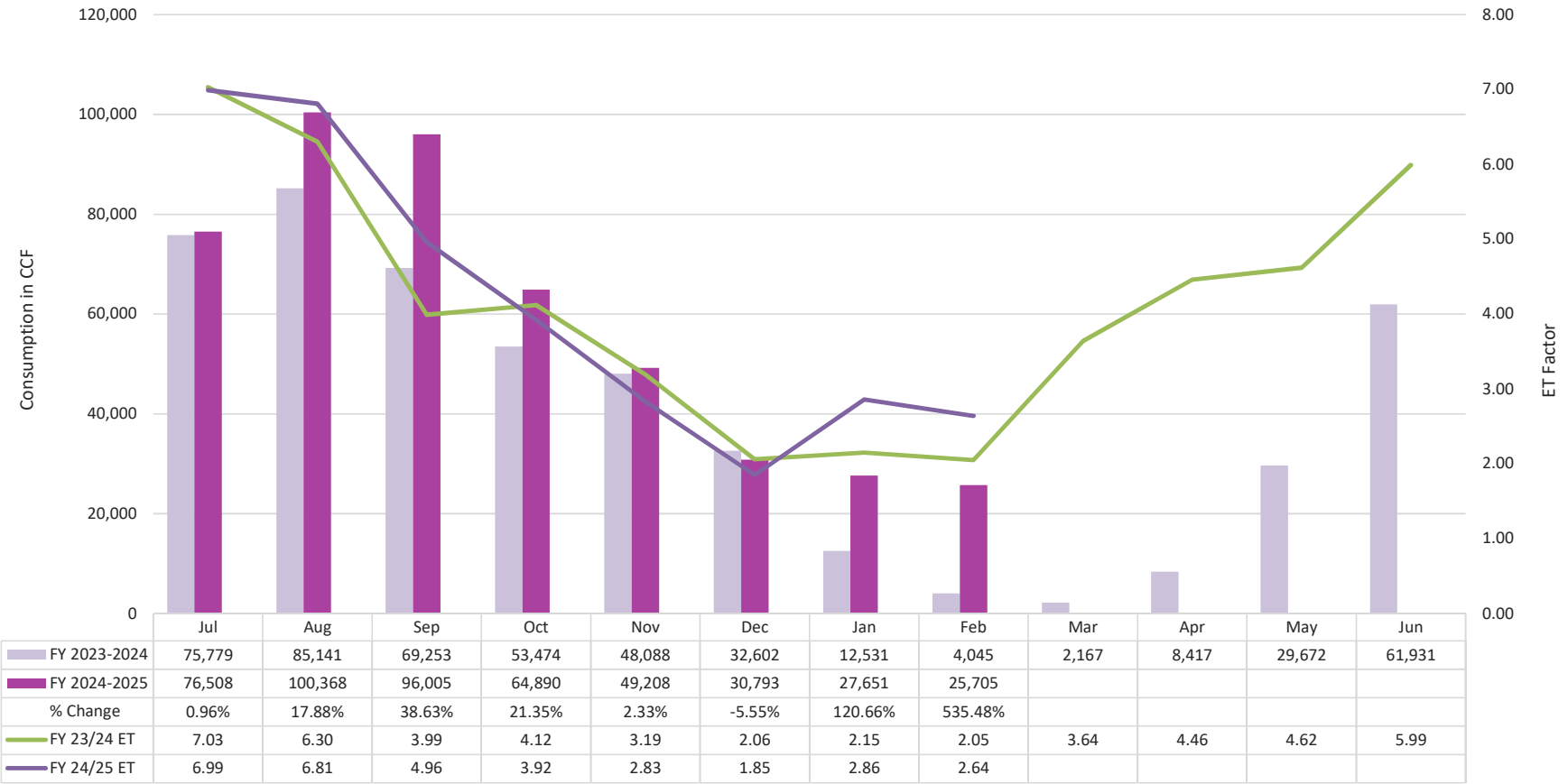
2023-2024	49,690	64,132	53,334	41,917	36,675	32,771	12,344	5,621	3,937	9,110	24,470	41,334
2024-2025	54,166	69,236	72,151	49,419	50,582	30,829	28,904	20,536				
% Change	9.01%	7.96%	35.28%	17.90%	37.92%	-5.93%	134.15%	265.34%				
23/24 ET	7.03	6.30	3.99	4.12	3.19	2.06	2.15	2.05	3.64	4.46	4.62	5.99
24/25 ET	6.99	6.81	4.96	3.92	2.83	1.85	2.86	2.64				

Dedicated Irrigation Consumption (including LWV)
YTD Consumption

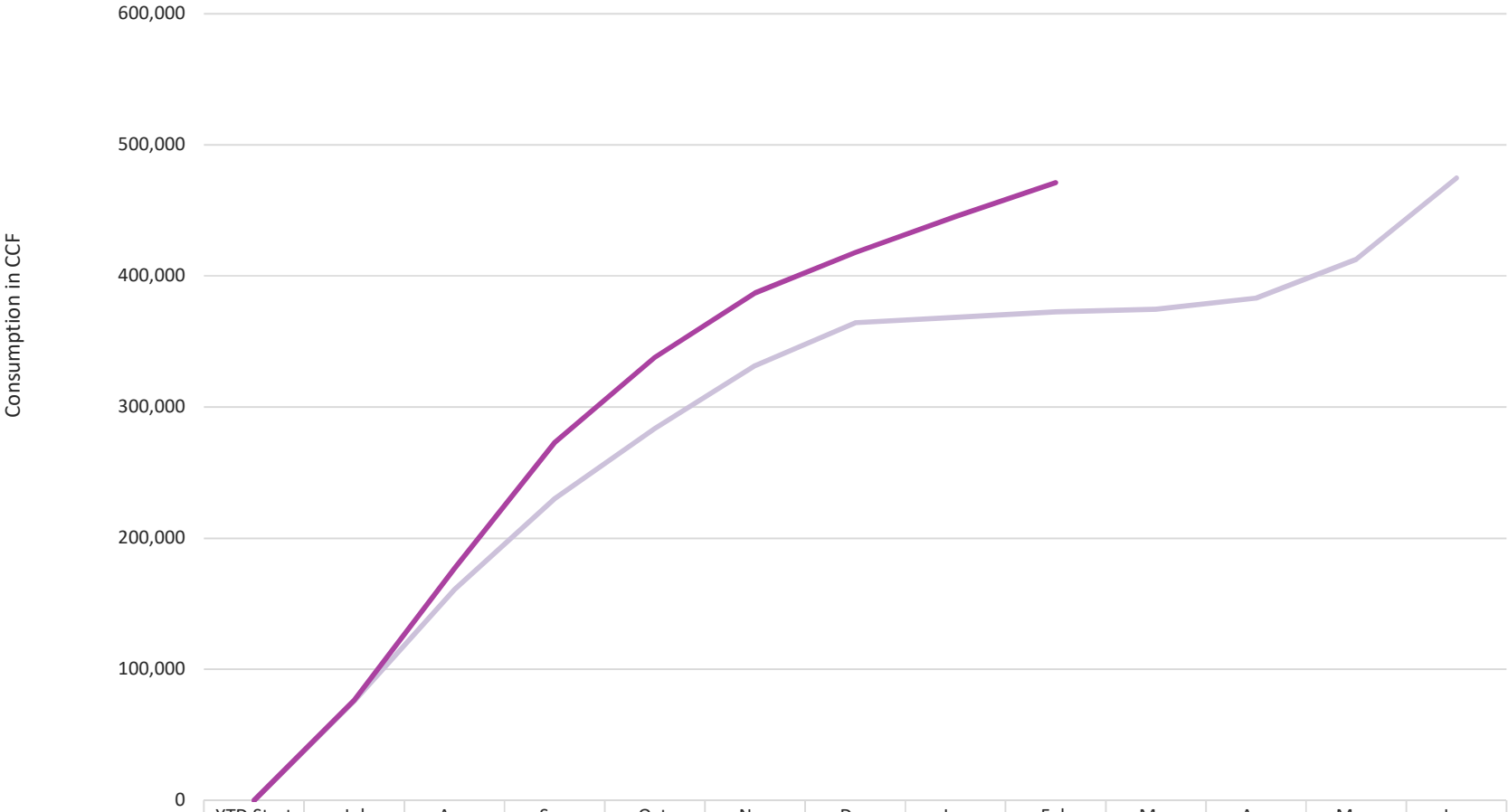


	YTD Start	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
2023-2024	0	49,690	113,822	167,156	209,073	245,748	278,519	290,863	296,484	300,421	309,531	334,001	375,335
2024-2025	0	54,166	123,402	195,553	244,972	295,554	326,383	355,287	375,823				
% Change		9.01%	8.42%	16.99%	17.17%	20.27%	17.19%	22.15%	26.76%				

Recycled Water Consumption

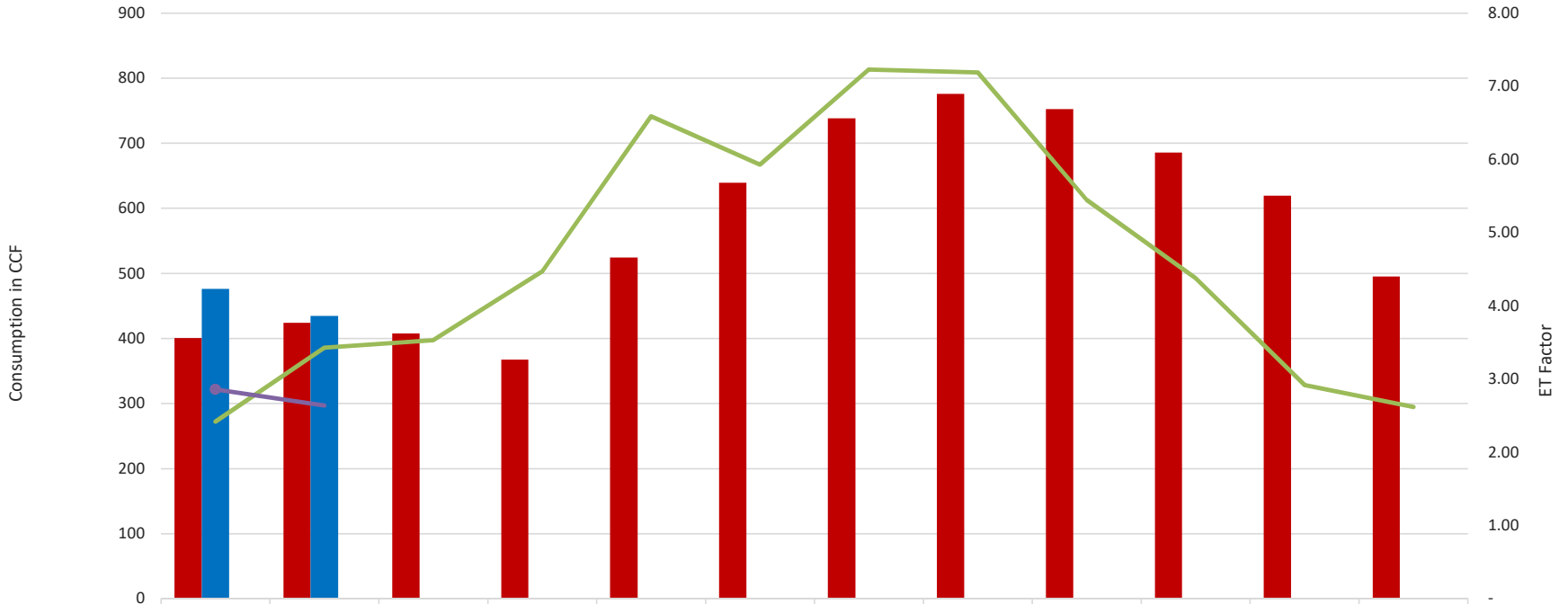


Recycled Water YTD Consumption

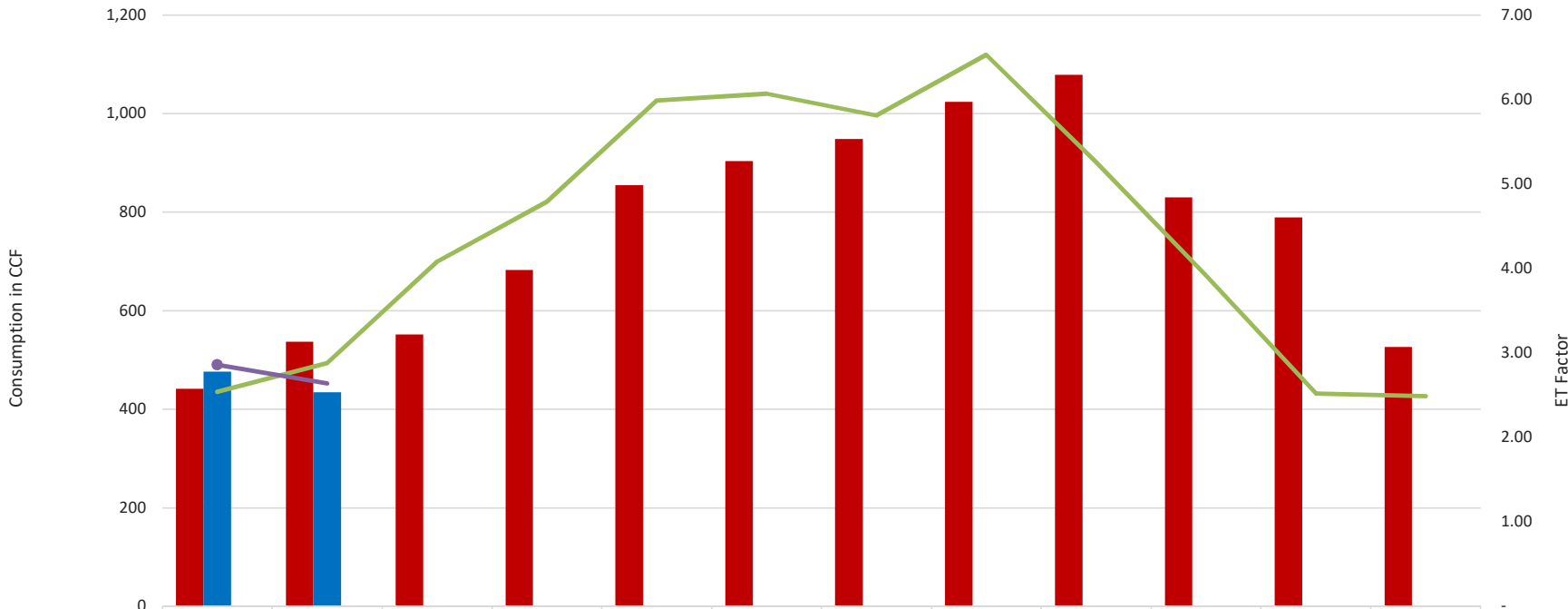


	YTD Start	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
2023-2024	0	75,779	160,920	230,173	283,647	331,735	364,337	368,489	372,534	374,701	383,118	412,790	474,721
2024-2025	0	76,508	176,876	272,881	337,771	386,979	417,772	445,423	471,128				
% Change		0.96%	9.92%	18.55%	19.08%	16.65%	14.67%	20.88%	26.47%				

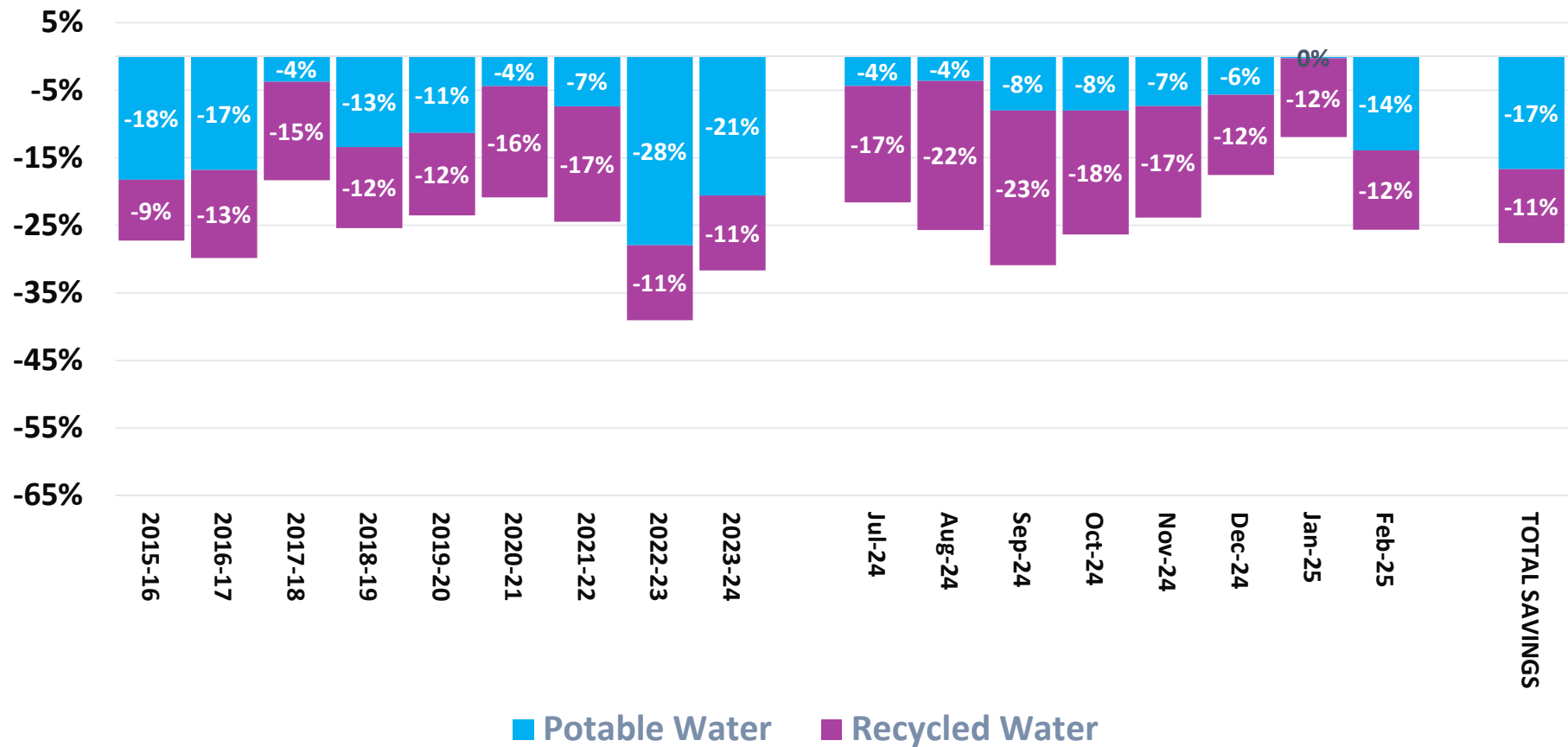
ETWD Customer Consumption vs 2020 (Potable AF)

[illegible]

ETWD Customer Consumption vs 2013 (Potable AF)

[illegible]

ETWD WATER USAGE COMPARED TO 2013



I hereby certify that the following Agenda was posted at least 72 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 www.socwa.com.



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

Revised

*Regular Meeting of The
South Orange County Wastewater Authority
Board of Directors*

March 6, 2025
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 SEVENTY-TWO (72) 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 SEVENTY-TWO (72) 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 SEVENTY-TWO (72) 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: 891 7567 2656

Passcode: 493779

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/j/kd4kiF1gOB>

South Orange County Wastewater Authority
Board of Directors Meeting
March 6, 2025

Revised Agenda

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Members of the public may address the Board regarding an item on the agenda or may reserve this opportunity during the meeting at the time the item is discussed by the Board. There will be a three-minute limit for public comments.

4. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEMBER REQUEST FOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION

ACTION Board Discussion/Direction and Action.

PAGE NO.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Minutes of Board of Directors..... 1

- Board of Directors Regular Meeting of February 6, 2025

ACTION The Board will be requested to approve the subject Minutes.

B. Minutes of Project Committee 2.....7

- Project Committee 2 Meeting of February 6, 2025

ACTION The Project Committee 2 Members will be requested to approve the subject Minutes, and the Board will be requested to receive and file the subject Minutes.

C. Minutes of Joint Project Committee 2/Project Committee 15.....8

- Project Committee 2/Project Committee 15 Joint Meeting of January 23, 2025

ACTION The Project Committee 2/Project Committee 15 Members will be requested to approve the subject Minutes, and the Board will be requested to receive and file the subject Minutes.

D. Minutes of Engineering Committee 10

- Engineering Committee Meeting of November 14, 2024

ACTION The Board will be requested to receive and file the subject Minutes.

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South Orange County Wastewater Authority
Board of Directors Meeting
March 6, 2025

Revised Agenda

PAGE NO.

- E. December 2024 Operations Report14
1. Monthly Operational Report
 2. SOCWA Ocean Outfall Discharges by Agency
 3. Quarterly Report on Key Operational Expenses
 4. Beach Ocean Monitoring Report
 5. Recycled Water Report
 6. Pretreatment Report (February 2025)

ACTION The Board will be requested to receive and file subject reports as submitted.

- F. Capital Improvement Program Status Report (February).....61

ACTION Information item.

- G. Capital Improvement Construction Projects Progress and Change Order Report (February)
[Project Committees 2 and 15]65

ACTION Information Item.

- H. North Coast Interceptor Project Property Acquisition and Coastal Development
Permit Application [Project Committee 23]72

ACTION The Engineering Committee recommends that the PC 23 Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to execute all necessary permits, applications, and related documents where SOCWA is a co-applicant for the PC-23 North Coast Interceptor Forcemain Project being managed by the City of Laguna Beach.

6. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. OC Food Waste Diversion and Co-Digestion MOU.....74

ACTION Staff recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to sign the OC Food Waste Diversion and Co-Digestion MOU.

- B. Resolution No. 2025-03, A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority Amending "Exhibit A" Engineering Committee Bylaws Revising the membership from seven (7) to six (6) with the meeting quorum Requirements to remain at four (4) members80

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South Orange County Wastewater Authority
Board of Directors Meeting
March 6, 2025

Revised Agenda

PAGE NO.

- ACTION The Engineering Committee recommends that the Board of Directors approve Resolution No. 2025-03, A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority Amending “Exhibit A” Bylaws revising the Engineering Committee membership from seven (7) to six (6) with the meeting quorum requirements to remain at four (4) members.
- C. Resolution No. 2025-04, A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority Amending Executive Committee Bylaws “Exhibit A” 84
- ACTION Staff recommends that the Board of Directors approve Resolution No. 2025-04, A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority Amending the Executive Committee Bylaws “Exhibit A”.
- D. SOCWA Staff Reorganization: Resolution No. 2025-05, A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority Approving Revised Employee Salary Ranges and The South Orange County Wastewater Authority Employee Manual 88
- ACTION Staff Recommends that the Board of Directors approve Resolution 2025-05, A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority Approving Revised Employee Salary Ranges and the South Orange County Wastewater Authority Employee Manual.
- E. General Counsel’s Update.....
- ACTION Board Discussion/Direction and Action.
- F. General Manager’s Report 99
- ACTION Board Discussion/Direction and Action.
- G. Upcoming Meetings Schedule:
- March 6, 2025 – Board of Directors Regular Meeting
 - March 13, 2025 – Engineering Committee Meeting
 - March 18, 2025 – Finance Committee Meeting
 - April 3, 2025 – Board of Directors Regular Meeting
- ACTION Information Item.

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South Orange County Wastewater Authority
Board of Directors Meeting
March 6, 2025

Revised Agenda

7. OTHER MATTERS

Determine the need to take action on the following item(s) introduced by the General Manager, 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.]

8. ADJOURNMENT

THE NEXT SOCWA BOARD MEETING
April 3, 2025

**NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY
ENGINEERING COMMITTEE**

March 13, 2025

8:30 a.m.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Regular Meeting of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA) Engineering Committee was called to be held on **March 13, 2025, 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 SEVENTY-TWO (72) 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 SEVENTY-TWO (72) 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 SEVENTY-TWO (72) 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.

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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..... 1
 - Engineering Committee Minutes of February 13, 2025

Recommended Action: Staff requests that the Engineering Committee approve the subject Minutes as submitted.
4. General Manager's Report 6

Recommended Action: Information Item.
5. Operations Report..... 7

Recommended Action: Information Item.
6. Capital Improvements Construction Projects Progress and Changer Order Report (March) [Project Committees 2 and 15]..... 8

Recommended Action: Information Item.
7. J.B. Latham Treatment Plant (JBL) Flare System and Underground Piping Replacement Final Design [Project Committee 2] 15

Recommended Action: Committee Discussion/Direction/Action.
8. JBL and CTP Master Plan Scoping Services [Project Committees 2 and 15] 89

Recommended Action: Committee Discussion/Direction/Action.

9. Adjournment

I hereby certify that the foregoing Notice was personally emailed or mailed to each member of the SOCWA Engineering Committee at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled time of the Regular Meeting referred to above.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Notice was posted at least 72 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 www.socwa.com.

Dated this 6th day of March 2025.



Danita Hirsh, Assistant Secretary
SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY

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

**March 18, 2025
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 **March 18, 2025, 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.

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Find your local number: <https://socwa.zoom.us/j/kcoBTMNpfs>

AGENDA

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Public Comments

THOSE WISHING TO ADDRESS THE FINANCE 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..... 1

- Finance Committee Meeting of January 21, 2025

Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the Finance Committee approve the subject minutes as submitted.

4. Financial Reports for the Month of January 2025 & Cash Disbursements for the Months of December 2024 & January 2025. FY2024-25 Q2 Capital Cash Roll Forward 4

The reports included are as follows:

- a. Summary of Disbursements for December 2024 & January 2025
(Exhibits A.1 & A.2)
- b. Schedule of Funds Available for Reinvestment (Exhibit B)
 - Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)
- c. Schedule of Cash and Investments (Exhibit C)
- d. Capital Schedule (Exhibit D)
 - Capital Projects – Graph (Exhibit D-1)
- e. Budget vs. Actual Expenses:
 - Operations and Environmental Summary (Exhibit E-1)
 - Operations and Environmental by PC (E-1.2)
 - Residual Engineering, after transfer to Capital (Exhibit E-2)
 - Administration (Exhibit E-3)
 - Information Technology (IT) (Exhibit E-4)

Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the Finance Committee recommend that the Board of Directors (i) ratify the December 2024 disbursement for the period from December 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, totaling \$3,167,378, (ii) ratify the January 2025 Disbursement for the period from January 1, 2025, through January 31, 2025, totaling \$7,158,373, (iii) receive and file the January 2025 Financial Reports, and (iv) receive and file the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Q2 Cash Roll Forward as submitted.

5. FY 25-26 Draft Budget39

Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the Finance Committee recommend that the Board of Directors approve the FY 25-26 Budget

6. Employee Reimbursement to Moulton Niguel Water District.....45

Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the Finance Committee recommend that the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to execute the payment of \$196,168.77 to Moulton Niguel Water District for SOCWA terminated employees leave balances.

7. Adjournment

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 www.socwa.com.

Dated this 14th day of March 2025.



Danita Hirsh, Assistant Secretary
SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY



AGENDA
March 6, 2025
2:30 – 4:30 p.m.
at Moulton Niguel Water District
26161 Gordon Rd
Laguna Hills, CA 92653
[Map](#)

Kay Havens, Chair
El Toro Water District
Debbie Neev
Laguna Beach County Water District
Sandra Jacobs
Santa Margarita Water District
Kelly Jennings
City of Laguna Niguel
Matthew Kunk
City of Dana Point
Natalie Palacio
Irvine Ranch Water District
Sue Kempf
City of Laguna Beach
Don Caskey
City of Laguna Hills
Cynthia Vasquez
City of Mission Viejo
Robert Pequeño
City of Lake Forest
Howard Hart
City of San Juan Capistrano

Carol Moore, Vice Chair
City of Laguna Woods
Bill Moorhead
Moulton Niguel Water District
Randall Crane
Municipal Water District of OC
Katrina Foley
County of Orange
Keri Lynn Baert
City of Rancho Santa Margarita
Steve Knoblock
City of San Clemente
Erica Castillo
San Juan Basin Authority
Tiffany Ackley
City of Aliso Viejo
Doug Erdman
South Coast Water District
Kathryn Freshley
South OC Wastewater Authority
Ed Mandich
Trabuco Canyon Water District

The South Orange County Watershed Management Area Executive Committee welcomes you to this meeting and encourages your participation. This agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. Except as otherwise provided by law, no action shall be taken on any items not appearing in the following agenda. However, items may be taken up in a different sequence.

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 Executive Committee less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available on the South OC Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) website at www.southocirwm.org.

In compliance with the American Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodations for this meeting should notify the SOCWMA Meeting Administrator 72 hours prior to the meeting at 714-955-0605 or Ryane.Gill@ocpw.ocgov.com.

REGULAR BUSINESS

CALL TO ORDER

WELCOME AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ITEM # 1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ROLL CALL

ITEM # 2 APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes of the November 04, 2024, meeting.

ITEM # 3 PUBLIC COMMENTS, NON-AGENDA ITEMS

ITEM # 4 COMMITTEE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR NOMINATIONS

MICHAEL MORI, COUNTY OF ORANGE

Recommended Action: Form a nominating committee to return on June 5, 2025, with nominations for Chair and Vice Chair to serve a two-year term ending June 30, 2027.

PRESENTATIONS & DISCUSSION

ITEM # 5 H2OC RAINSMART REBATES PILOT PROGRAM FOLLOW UP

MICHAEL MORI, COUNTY OF ORANGE

Recommended Action: Receive and File

ITEM # 6 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE DISCUSSION RECOMMENDATIONS: BASIN STUDY

LAURA ROCHA, MOULTON NIGUEL WATER DISTRICT

Recommended Action: Discuss recommended actions on the USBR Basin Study and provide recommendations to staff.

ITEM # 7 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE DISCUSSION RECOMMENDATIONS: IRWM

LAURA ROCHA, MOULTON NIGUEL WATER DISTRICT

Recommended Action: Discuss recommended actions regarding the future of IRWM and provide recommendations to staff.

ITEM # 8 FY 2025 – 27 COST-SHARE BUDGET & WORK PLAN DISCUSSION

MICHAEL MORI, COUNTY OF ORANGE

Recommended Action: Discuss the proposed FY 2025 – 27 Cost-Share Budget & Work Plan and provide direction to staff. Approval of a FY 2025-27 Cost-Share Budget & Work Plan will be requested at the June 2025 Executive Committee meeting.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT – NEXT MEETING DATE: JUNE 5, 2025



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY
Jointly with the
PLANNING & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
18700 Ward Street, Conf. Room 101, Fountain Valley, CA 92708
March 3, 2025, 8:30 a.m.

Teleconference Sites:
25652 Paseo De La Paz, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
17420 Walnut Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708
2800 Keller, #301, Tustin, CA 92782

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:
Director Seckel, Chair
Director Yoo Schneider
Director Dick

Staff: H.De La Torre, J. Berg, V. Osborn,
T. Dubuque, D. Micalizzi, H. Baez,
M. Baum-Haley, C. Busslinger,
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 Web site, accessible at <http://www.mwdoc.com>.

ACTION ITEMS

1. ADMINISTRATION OF THE COUNTY OF ORANGE RAINSMART PILOT PROGRAM

2. ADOPTION OF THE 2025 ORANGE COUNTY WATER AND WASTEWATER MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

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.)

3. 2025 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT UPDATE
4. ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE WORKGROUP UPDATE
5. WATER POLICY FORUM & DINNER - MARCH 20, 2025
6. PUBLIC AFFAIRS HIGHLIGHTS
7. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES REPORTS
 - a. Ongoing MWDOC Reliability and Engineering/Planning Projects
 - b. WEROC
 - c. Water Use Efficiency Projects
 - d. Public and Government Affairs
8. REVIEW OF ISSUES RELATED TO PLANNING OR ENGINEERING PROJECTS, WEROC, WATER USE EFFICIENCY, FACILITY AND EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE, WATER STORAGE, WATER QUALITY, CONJUNCTIVE USE PROGRAMS, EDUCATION, PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMS AND EVENTS, PUBLIC INFORMATION PROJECTS, PUBLIC INFORMATION CONSULTANTS, DISTRICT FACILITIES, and MEMBER AGENCY RELATIONS

ADJOURNMENT

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

Accommodations for the Disabled. Any person may make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation needed for that person to be able to participate in the public meeting by telephoning 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
March 5, 2025, 8:30 a.m.

Teleconference Sites:
25652 Paseo De La Paz, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
17420 Walnut Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708
2800 Keller, #301, Tustin, CA 92782

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

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Telephone Audio: (669) 900 9128 fees may apply
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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. 2155

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. PRESENTATION/UPDATE BY BILL HASENCAMP REGARDING COLORADO RIVER ACTIVITIES

Recommendation: Discuss and file the information presented.

2. METROPOLITAN BUSINESS MODEL UPDATE

Recommendation: Discuss and file the information presented.

3. LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

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

Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.

4. 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.

ACTION ITEM

5. AB 259 (RUBIO) – OPEN MEETINGS: LOCAL AGENCIES: TELECONFERENCES

Recommendation: Adopt a support position on Assembly Bill 259 (Rubio) and join the California Special Districts Association's (CSDA) coalition and outreach efforts.

6. SB 394 (ALLEN) – WATER THEFT: FIRE HYDRANTS

Recommendation: Adopt a support position on Senate Bill 394 (Allen) and join the Association of California Water Agencies' (ACWA) coalition and outreach efforts.

7. AB 580 (WALLIS) – SURFACE MINING: METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Recommendation: Adopt a support position on AB 580 (Wallis) and send a letter of support to the author and the Orange County delegation.

INFORMATION ITEMS

8. 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.

9. METROPOLITAN (MET) BOARD AND COMMITTEE AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Summary regarding February 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
18700 Ward Street, Conf. Room 101, Fountain Valley, CA 92708
March 12, 2025, 8:30 a.m.

Teleconference Sites:
25652 Paseo De La Paz, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
17420 Walnut Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708
2800 Keller, #301, Tustin, CA 92782

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#

A&F Committee:
Director Crane, Chair
Director Thomas
Director Nederhood

Staff: H. De La Torre, C. Harris,
H. Chumpitazi, M. Baum-Haley,
K. Davanaugh, M. Goldsby

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 Web site, accessible at <http://www.mwdoc.com>.

PROPOSED BOARD CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

1. **TREASURER'S REPORT**
 - a. Revenue/Cash Receipt Report – February 2025
 - b. Disbursement Approval Report for the month of March 2025

- c. Disbursement Ratification Report for the month of February 2025
 - d. GM Approved Disbursement Report for the month of February 2025
 - e. Consolidated Summary of Cash and Investment – January 2025
 - f. OPEB and Pension Trust Fund statement
2. FINANCIAL REPORT
- a. Combined Financial Statements and Budget Comparative for the Period Ending January 31, 2025

ACTION ITEMS

- 3. APPROVE CHANGES TO RECORDS RETENTION SCHEDULE
- 4. AWARD CONTRACT FOR GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS) NEEDS ASSESSMENT
- 5. RECOMMENDATION ON WHETHER TO LEAVE AN INCREASE IN DIRECTOR COMPENSATION AS A PLACEHOLDER IN THE DRAFT FY 2025-26 BUDGET

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 6. MWDOC FY 2025-26 2nd DRAFT BUDGET

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.)

- 7. WATER ENERGY EDUCATION ALLIANCE (WEEA) BUSINESS RATIONALE & BUDGET NARRATIVE
- 8. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES REPORTS
 - a. Administration
 - b. Finance and Information Technology
- 9. MONTHLY WATER USAGE DATA AND WATER SUPPLY INFORMATION

OTHER ITEMS

- 10. 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
March 19, 2025, 8:30 a.m.

Teleconference Sites:
25652 Paseo De La Paz, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
17420 Walnut Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708
2800 Keller, #301, Tustin, CA 92782

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.

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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 <http://www.mwdoc.com>.

NEXT RESOLUTION NO. 2155

CONSENT CALENDAR (Items 1 to 7)

(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

- a. February 5, 2025 Workshop Board Meeting
- b. February 19, 2025 Regular Board Meeting

Recommendation: Approve as presented.

2. COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS

- a. Planning & Operations Committee: February 3, 2025
- b. Administration & Finance Committee: February 12, 2025
- c. Executive Committee Meeting: February 20, 2025

Recommendation: Receive and file as presented.

3. TREASURER'S REPORTS

- a. MWDOC Revenue/Cash Receipt Register as of February 28, 2025
- b. Disbursement Registers (February/March)

Recommendation: Ratify and approve as presented.

- c. Summary of Cash and Investment and Portfolio Master Summary Report (Cash and Investment report) as of January 31, 2025
- 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 January 31, 2025

Recommendation: Receive and file as presented.

5. ADMINISTRATION OF THE COUNTY OF ORANGE RAINSMART PILOT PROGRAM

Recommendation: Authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with the County of Orange for MWDOC's administration of the County's RainSmart Rebates Pilot Program through MWDOC's existing Turf Replacement Program rebate processing infrastructure, with an administrative fee of up to \$265 for each RainSmart application processed.

6. APPROVE CHANGES TO RECORDS RETENTION SCHEDULE

Recommendation: Approve the changes to the Records Retention Schedule and authorize staff to incorporate these changes into the Administrative Code.

7. AWARD CONTRACT FOR GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS) NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Recommendation: Authorize the General Manager to enter into a professional services agreement with FLO Analytics to conduct a Geographic Information System (GIS) Needs Assessment in an amount not to exceed \$35,435 plus a 15% contingency (\$5,315) for a total cost not to exceed \$40,750.

End Consent Calendar

ACTION ITEMS

8-1 RECOMMENDATION ON WHETHER TO LEAVE AN INCREASE IN DIRECTOR COMPENSATION AS A PLACEHOLDER IN THE DRAFT FY 2025-26 BUDGET

Recommendation: Review and discuss whether to (1) leave the 5% Director compensation increase as a placeholder in the draft FY 2025-26 budget which will initiate the required Public Hearing notifications, etc. at a cost of approximately \$3,000; or (2) remove the placeholder and not proceed with a compensation increase for the FY 2025-26.

8-2 ADOPTION OF THE 2025 ORANGE COUNTY WATER AND WASTEWATER MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN RES. NO. _____

Recommendation: Adopt by resolution (attached) the 2025 Orange County Water and Wastewater Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

9. MEMBER AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – SANTA MARGARITA WATER DISTRICT

Recommendation: Receive and file presentation.

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

10. UPDATE TO OC LAFCO FOCUSED MSR AND CONSOLIDATION FEASIBILITY STUDY

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

11. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT, MARCH (ORAL AND WRITTEN)

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

12. MWDOC GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. 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.

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF ORANGE COUNTY

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

**Wednesday, March 12, 2025
8:15 a.m.**

**County Administrative North (CAN)
First Floor Multipurpose Room 101**

400 W. Civic Center Drive, Santa Ana, CA 92701

Members of the public may access the audio live-streamed meeting at

<https://youtube.com/live/9Jps7is5nYg?feature=share>

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.) [February 19, 2025 – Regular Commission Meeting Minutes](#)

The Commission will consider approval of the February 19, 2025 meeting minutes.

7. PUBLIC HEARING

a.) Fiscal Year 2025-26 OC LAFCO Proposed Budget and Fee Schedule

The Commission will consider the adoption of the Proposed FY 2025-26 OC LAFCO Budget and a resolution approving the agency's fee schedule.

b.) Focused Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update for Orange County Water District (MSR 23-06 and SOI 23-06) and Feasibility Analysis of the Potential Consolidation of the Orange County Water District and Municipal Water District of Orange County

The Commission will receive the Focused Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update for the Orange County Water District prepared in accordance with Government Code Sections 56425 and 56430 and consider adoption of the statement of determinations. As the lead agency, the Commission will consider the approval of the Notice of Exemption prepared for the Focused MSR and SOI in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

8. COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND ACTION

a.) Personnel Policies and Procedures

The Commission will consider proposed amendments to the Personnel Policies and Procedures.

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.) 2025 Strategic Planning Workshop

The Commission will hold its Strategic Planning Workshop on Friday, April 4, 2025, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Santa Ana Police Department, Community Room, 60 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana, CA 92701. ***There will be no regular meeting of the Commission during the month of April.***

12. CLOSED SESSION

No closed session items scheduled.

13. ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

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) **In-person** 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) **Audio Live Streaming:** The public may listen to the meeting live on YouTube using the link provided on the website homepage (www.oclafco.org). However, LAFCO cannot guarantee that the public's access will be uninterrupted, and technical difficulties may occur from time to time. The meeting will continue despite technical difficulties for participants using audio live streaming unless otherwise prohibited by State open meeting laws.
- 3) **Written** general comments or comments on specific agenda items may be submitted by email to the Commission Clerk at ccarter-benjamin@oclafco.org. 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 www.oclafco.org.

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 www.oclafco.org. 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.



Independent Special Districts of Orange County

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 20895
Fountain Valley, CA 92728

Meeting Location

MWDOC/OCWD
18700 Ward Street
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

(714) 963-3058
(714) 964-5930 fax

www.isdoc.net

Executive Committee

President

Hon. Bob McVicker
*Municipal Water District of
Orange County*

1st Vice President

Hon. Paul Mesmer
*Surfside Colony Community Services
District*

2nd Vice President

Hon. Marilyn Thoms
East Orange County Water District

3rd Vice President

Hon. Scott Nelson
Placentia Library District

Secretary

Vacant

Treasurer

Hon. Sandra Jacobs
Santa Margarita Water District

Immediate Past President

Hon. Greg Mills
Serrano Water District

Staff Administration

Heather Baez

*Municipal Water District of
Orange County*

Tina Dubuque

*Municipal Water District of
Orange County*

Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 4, 2025
7:30 a.m.

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

AGENDA

I. Welcome

II. Approval of Minutes

- Approval of Minutes: February 4, 2025

III. Public Comments on items not on the agenda

IV. New Business

- Secretary Vacancy

V. Old Business

- Update on Membership Dues Invoices for 2025
- Update on Changes to 2025 Quarterly Lunch Meeting

VI. Treasurer's Report – Director Jacobs

- Report of accounts

VII. CSDA Report – Director Arlene Schafer or Chris Palmer

- Receive, discuss and file the CSDA Report

VIII. LAFCO Report – Director Jim Fisler

- Receive, discuss and file the LAFCO report

IX. ACWA Report – Director Jacobs

- Receive, discuss and file the ACWA report

X. OCCOG Report – Director Mike Scheafer

- Receive, discuss and file OCCOG report

XI. California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Report – SOCWA Representative

- Receive, discuss and file the CASA report

XII. Subcommittee Reports

- Programs – Director Mesmer
- Membership - Director Thoms
- Legislative – Trustee Nelson

XIII. Adjourn



Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO) Virtual Meeting

Friday, March 7, 2025
7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Zoom Registration:

[Click here to register](#)

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Officers

Chair
Hon. Greg Mills
Serrano Water District

Vice Chair
Hon. Karl Seckel
Municipal Water District of Orange County

Staff Contacts

Medha Paliwal / Dani Berch
Orange County Water District (OCWD)
(714) 378-3200
www.ocwd.com/news-events/events/waco

Heather Baez / Pari Francisco
Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC)
(714) 963-3058
www.mwdoc.com/waco

AGENDA

Welcome

- Greg Mills, Serrano Water District

Reports

- Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MET)
- California Special Districts Association (CSDA)
- Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)

Program

Safeguarding the Source: Securing California's Water Future by
Investing in the Sierra

Justin Caporusso
Mountain Counties Water Resources Association

Agency Spotlight

- Mesa Water District

Agency Announcements

Adjourn

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Next WACO Meeting

Friday, April 4, 2025 at 7:30 a.m. via Zoom

Next WACO Planning Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 7:30 a.m. via Zoom

DATES TO REMEMBER
MARCH/APRIL 2025

1. Mar 27 – 12:00 p.m. – SOCAG
2. Mar 28 – 12:00 p.m. – Pres/VP/GM Meeting
3. Apr 1 – 7:30 a.m. – ISDOC Executive Meeting
4. Apr 1 – 10:00 a.m. – RRC Meeting
5. Apr 2 – 8:30 a.m. – MWDOC Met Directors Workshop
6. Apr 3 – 8:30 a.m. – SOCWA Board Meeting
7. Apr 4 – DISTRICT OFFICE CLOSED
8. Apr 4 – 7:30 a.m. – WACO
9. Apr 4 – 9:00 a.m. – LAFCO Strategic Planning
10. Apr 8 – 9:00 a.m. – SOCWA Executive Committee Meeting
11. Apr 9 – 8:30 a.m. – MWDOC Admin/Finance Meeting
12. Apr 10 – 7:30 a.m. – Board Budget Workshop
13. Apr 10 – 8:30 a.m. – SOCWA Engineering Committee Meeting
14. Apr 11 – 12:00 p.m. – Pres/VP/GM Meeting
15. Apr 14 – 8:30 a.m. – MWDOC P&O
16. Apr 14 – 10:00 a.m. – Agenda Review Meeting
17. Apr 15 – 10:30 a.m. – SOCWA Finance Special Committee Meeting
18. Apr 16 – 8:30 a.m. – MWDOC Board Meeting
19. Apr 16 – 5:00 p.m. – Lake Forest Chamber of Commerce – Meet the Mayor
20. Apr 17 – 11:30 a.m. – OC WateReuse Meeting
21. Apr 18 – DISTRICT OFFICE CLOSED
22. Apr 21 – 7:30 a.m. – Regular Engineering and Finance Meeting
23. Apr 23 – 8:30 a.m. – MWDOC/OCWD Joint Planning Meeting
24. Apr 24 – 7:30 a.m. – Regular Board Meeting
25. Apr 25 – 12:00 p.m. – Pres/VP/GM Meeting
26. Apr 29 – 10:00 a.m. – RRC Meeting
27. Apr 30 – 11:30 a.m. – ISDOC Quarterly Meeting

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 bacteria 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 known as 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 process, 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 1970's. 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 untended 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.

Evapotranspiration: 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.

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 1000,000 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 is 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 member of the ACWA.

LAI: 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

OCBD: 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 homeowners 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 of 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 Publicity. 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 the 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 form 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

SRE: 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 of 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 30th 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.