



Southeast Water Coalition

A joint powers authority to protect the Central Groundwater Basin

Meeting Agenda Announcement

On March 12, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order No. N-25-20, which allows SEWC Members to attend meetings telephonically. Please be advised that some, or all, SEWC Members may attend this meeting telephonically.

Consistent with mandates of Executive Order No. N-29-20, a physical location from which members of the public may observe the meeting or offer public comment will not be made available. Commerce City Hall will not be open to the public for this meeting; however viewing and public comment options are provided below.

View live open session meeting remotely via Zoom:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/94883144982?pwd=NERqbkJuTnpjNjRuZDZ1R1Z3TUowQT09>

Meeting ID: 948 8314 4982

Password: 440871

Public Comment/Question options:

- Email: kjservicesenviro@gmail.com
- Voicemail: (323) 722-4805 ext. 2812

Please submit email and voicemail public comments by at least 2:30 p.m. on the date of the meeting to ensure SEWC Members receive and have time to review them. All email and voicemails received by 2:30 p.m. are forwarded to SEWC Members. Email and voicemails received after 2:30 p.m. but before the conclusion of the public comment portion will be entered into the record.

AGENDA

SOUTHEAST WATER COALITION

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2021
3:00 PM**

- 1. ROLL CALL**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- 3. CONSENT CALENDAR**

*****Consent Calendar items will be considered and approved in one motion unless removed by an Administrative Entity Member for discussion.*****

- a. **SEWC ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY MINUTES OF JULY 15, 2021
REGULAR MEETING**

Recommendation: Approve minutes as submitted.

*****End of Consent Calendar*****

- 4. AN INTRODUCTION TO MWD'S REGIONAL RECYCLED WATER PROGRAM**

Ivonne Castillo, Community Relations, MWD

Recommendation: That the Administrative Entity take the following action:

Receive and file a presentation on MWD's Regional Recycled Water Program.

- 5. UPDATE ON WRD PFAS REMEDIATION PROGRAM**

Gina Nila, AE Chair, City of Commerce

Recommendation: That the Administrative Entity take the following action:

Receive and file an update on WRD'S PFAS Remediation Program.

6. UPDATE ON CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

Gina Nila, AE Chair, City of Commerce
Nick Ghirelli, Richards, Watson & Gershon

Recommendation: That the Administrative Entity take the following action:

Receive and file an update on the latest from the Central Basin Municipal Water District.

7. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Gina Nila, AE Chair, City of Commerce

Recommendation: That the Administrative Entity take the following action:

Receive and file an update on the status of water-related legislation in the State Legislature.

8. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

9. ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY MEMBER COMMENTS

Disability-related services are available to enable persons with a disability to participate in this meeting, consistent with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Spanish interpreters are also available. For information or to request services, please contact the City of Commerce Public Works Department at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting at (323) 722-4805 ext. 2812.

The next meeting of the Southeast Water Coalition Administrative Entity will be on Thursday, September 16, 2021, 3:00pm, at Commerce City Hall, 2535 Commerce Way, Commerce, CA, 90040.

I, Michelle Keshishian, City of Commerce, do hereby certify, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing notice was posted pursuant to Government Code Section 54950 Et. Seq. and City of Commerce Ordinance at the following locations: Commerce City Hall, Rosewood Neighborhood Library, and the Commerce Senior Center.

Dated: September 13, 2021

Michelle Keshishian
Environmental Coordinator
City of Commerce

**MINUTES OF THE
SOUTHEAST WATER COALITION
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY**

**THURSDAY, JULY 15, 2021
3:00 PM**

The Regular Meeting of the Southeast Water Coalition Joint Powers Authority Administrative Entity, conducted telephonically via Zoom, was called to order at 3:04 p.m. by AE Chair Gina Nila. At the time the meeting was called to order a quorum of members were present. Kristen Sales (KJServices Environmental Consulting) called for a voice vote of the roll call and the following Administrative Entity members were present:

1. ROLL CALL

Javier Martinez	City of Cerritos
Kanna Vancheswaran	City of Cerritos
Gina Nila, AE Chair	City of Commerce
Jason Wen	City of Lakewood
Derwin Dy	City of Lakewood
Glen Kau	City of Norwalk
Adriana Figueroa	City of Paramount
Chris Castillo	City of South Gate (left at 4:08 p.m.)
Joanna Moreno	City of Vernon
Ray Cordero	City of Whittier
Others in Attendance	
Daniel Hernandez	Director of Public Works, City of Commerce
Kristen Sales	KJServices Environmental Consulting
Nick Ghirelli	Richards Watson & Gershon

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public Comments were received.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

Administrative Entity (AE) Chair Gina Nila (Commerce) called for a motion to approve the Consent Calendar.

Adriana Figueroa (Paramount) made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar.

The motion was seconded by Glen Kau (Norwalk). The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote of the Administrative Entity members.

4. UPDATE ON MWD'S REGIONAL RECYCLED WATER PROGRAM

AE Chair Gina Nila (Commerce) provided an update on this program from the Metropolitan Water District that she had received a presentation on earlier in the month. AE Chair Nila proposed that the AE bring this presentation to the SEWC Board.

AE Chair Nila stated that the Regional Recycled Water Program (RRWP) is a joint project, a regional project that affects everyone in the region. Jason Wen (Lakewood) added that Lakewood also received a presentation from MWD because the proposed pipeline will go through Lakewood. Mr. Wen agreed that regional projects are a good thing to bring to the Board, even though the project has a very long term timeline. Mr. Wen added that MWD started this process several years ago, and their pilot program is up and running. Mr. Wen stated that if the SEWC Board wanted to add any comments about the program, they should do so early in the outreach period.

Glen Kau (Norwalk) asked if MWD has to get easements to build the pipeline through cities? Mr. Wen answered yes, and Adriana Figueroa (Paramount) added that this process is what makes the project timeline so long. Ms. Figueroa agreed that the earlier SEWC submit comments, the better. Mr. Kau inquired if MWD proposed to build through the Edison easement, adding that it would be difficult. Mr. Wen replied that MWD has the money and the political will to get it done for the RRWP pipeline.

Ms. Figueroa asked if the AE could get a presentation from MWD first, before presenting this item to the SEWC Board. Mr. Kau agreed this was a good idea. AE Chair Nila suggested MWD present to the AE in September, and then to the Board in October. AE Chair Nila asked if MWD had agreements for the future use of the recycled water? Mr. Kau stated that the biggest issue with the project is how to distribute the recycled water, since one mile of pipe cost \$1million, and distribution within cities will be equally challenging to building the pipeline. Mr. Kau added that AE members will review and vet the presentation at the September meeting.

The item was received and filed by the Administrative Entity.

5. UPDATE ON ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT'S PFAS TREATMENT TESTING STUDY AND FINAL REPORT

AE Chair Nila provided a summary of this item, stating that OCWD seems to be much farther ahead in dealing with PFAS remediation than WRD is in the Central Basin.

AE Member Javier Martinez (Cerritos) stated that OCWD had over \$200m to distribute among their pumpers, and they had to raise their RA significantly. Mr.

Martinez said that their RA will probably never decrease from this level. Jason Wen (Lakewood) added that more OCWD was overburdened with PFAS, as $\frac{1}{3}$ of their suppliers had PFAS and 9 out of their pumpers had PFAS hits. Compared to Central Basin, Mr. Wen added, where not every WRD purveyor is dealing with PFAS detections, a much higher percentage of OCWD purveyors were affected. Adriana Figueroa (Paramount) added that OCWD's cost-sharing model made sense because everybody in their service area was equally affected. AE Chair Nila stated that the AE should get the details on OCWD's PFAS treatment to their pumpers' replenishment assessment.

The item was received and filed by the Administrative Entity.

6. UPDATE ON PROP 1 GROUNDWATER GRANT PROGRAM (GWGP) FUNDING

AE Chair Gina Nila (Commerce) circled back to this item after Item 7. AE Chair Nila asked the group if the GWGP funds were available for regional projects for PFAS remediation. Jason Wen (Lakewood) suggested that WRD would be a better vehicle for applying for Prop 1 funds, since they serve multiple pumpers. Mr. Wen stated that SEWC can ask WRD if they will apply for Prop 1 funds on behalf of their purveyors, which would then benefit SEWC member agencies.

Adriana Figueroa (Paramount) asked the AE members if anyone had a dedicated grants consultant that could apply for Prop 1 funding. AE Chair Nila suggested that it may be best if purveyors approached Prop 1 funding via the Gateway Water Authority, and submit the request with an on-call list of grant consultants. Mr. Wen added that SEWC can send a letter of support if WRD is pursuing Prop 1 funds. Mr. Wen suggested SEWC contact WRD and have them address it at the next SEWC Board Meeting.

The item was received and filed by the Administrative Entity.

7. UPDATE ON WRD

AE Chair Gina Nila (Commerce) suggested the AE discuss Item 7 after Item 5, skipping Item 6 and then returning to that item after Item 7.

AE Chair Nila told the AE that she had not heard back from WRD since the purveyor meeting. WRD has conducted site visits with Commerce and Pico Rivera, who, of all the SEWC agencies, is the most far along in their construction timeline. AE Chair Nila added that Commerce's plan is to begin construction in the Fall, with the site coming online by December. AE Chair Nila said that Mark Grajeda of Pico Water has yet to receive a revised agreement from WRD, which had been expected by the end of June. A revised agreement with Pico Rivera might be the "test case" for more widespread program revisions, and could be done by the end of July. AE Chair Nila stated that she wanted to send a letter to WRD asking for an update on their timeline, given that Commerce and Pico Rivera have already provided the documentation on their projects.

Adriana Figueroa (Paramount) asked AE Chair Nila what the delay was. AE Chair Nila answered that that was unclear. WRD has the requested data from the purveyors. Jason Wen (Lakewood) added that, as a member of WRD's BAC/TAC, he had not received a timeline yet from WRD on the project review. Ms. Figueroa stated that Downey thinks they had an application in already. Mr. Wen stated that no single purveyor in the Central Basin has a signed agreement with WRD for PFAS Remediation. Mr. Wen suggested that SEWC invite WRD to provide an update on the funding of remediation programs. Ms. Figueroa agreed, stating that Board Members can ask for answers to the delay of seven months.

The item was received and filed by the Administrative Entity.

8. CENTRAL BASIN UPDATE

Mr. Nick Ghirelli (RW&G) provided a summary of this update.

AE Chair Gina Nila asked Mr. Ghirelli if Central Basin is working towards redistricting? Mr. Ghirelli answered yes, they are engaged in the redistricting process, but it is a long timeline. The delay in Federal Census information is causing a delay in redistricting that is affecting everyone.

Jason Wen (Lakewood) added that Central Basin sales have increased, and they have a lot of surplus money right now. Mr. Wen added that they are not taking on full-time employees, but only using contractors.

The item was received and filed by the Administrative Entity.

9. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

A summary of this item was provided by Kristen Sales (KJServices Environmental Consulting). Ms. Sales provided an update on SB 223, SB 222, SB 776, AB 1195, and on the Governor's FY 2021-2022 State Budget. The item was received and filed by the Administrative Entity.

10. AUGUST 3, 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA

Kristen Sales, KJServices Environmental Consulting

Recommendation: Consider Draft SEWC JPA Board of Directors Agenda

- 1) WRD Update - New General Manager, PFAS Remediation Project, Prop 1 Funding
- 2) Update on the Drought (WRD)
- 3) Legislative Update

11. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Kristen Sales (KJServices) stated that she had received email communications from Nick Ghirelli regarding the Central Basin Update agenda item.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY MEMBER COMMENTS

Nick Ghirelli (RW&G) stated that the deadline for the expiration of the Governor’s Executive Order allowing digital meetings is September 30th. Adriana Figureoa (Paramount) asked if the deadline will be extended due to cases of the Delta variant. AE Chair Gina Nila (Commerce) asked Nick if meetings have to be in-person starting in October. Mr. Ghirelli answered that, assuming the State goes back to the pre-COVID Brown Act rules, all public meetings would need to have a physical meeting location, and SEWC would have to publicly notice any member who chose to “Zoom” into the meeting, including the specific address of their location, and post the agenda live. AE Chair Nila asked the AE if they would prefer to continue to meet via Zoom? Jason Wen (Lakewood) stated that he liked Zoom and would like to continue. Ms. Figueroa stated that, logistically, it would be very difficult to continue meeting remotely if the Executive Order is not extended. AE Member Ray Cordero (Whittier) stated that he is okay with meeting in person for AE meetings, but if that were to be the case, he would prefer the meeting time return to 11:30am.

Mr. Wen (Lakewood) asked the AE members if anyone had received an email from DDW about forgiving drinking water debt. Mr. Cordero and Ms. Figueroa stated that they had both received the email from DDW, and that their Finance Departments were handling it. Mr. Wen added that DDW has not yet come up with the parameters and process for forgiving that debt and administering these funds to overdue bills.

13. ADJOURNMENT

AE Chair Gina Nila adjourned the meeting at 4:27 p.m.

CHAIR

ATTEST:



A joint powers authority to protect the Central Groundwater Basin

**SOUTHEAST WATER COALITION
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
AGENDA REPORT**

Date: September 13, 2021
To: Southeast Water Coalition Administrative Entity
From: Ivonne Castillo, Community Relations, MWD

Subject: An Introduction to MWD's Regional Recycled Water Program

Recommendation: That the Administrative Entity take the following action:

Receive and file a presentation on MWD's Regional Recycled Water Program.

Background

The Regional Recycled Water Program (RRWP) is a partnership between the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) and the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (LACSD) to purify and reuse wastewater that is currently being discharged to the Pacific Ocean.

Cleaned wastewater from the Sanitation Districts' Joint Water Pollution Control Plant in Carson is sent to the RRWP Advanced Purification Center (APC), where it is further purified through a series of membrane bioreactors, reverse osmosis, and UV/advanced oxidation processes. The APC is a 500,000 gallons/day demonstration facility, built at a construction cost of \$17 million, and will be used to test the water purification process and monitor results. The water at the APC is not reused.

The second phase of the plan is the building and operation of a full-scale Advanced Water Treatment Plant that would produce up to 150 million gallons/day (168,000 af/year), or enough to serve more than 500,000 homes. The purified water could then be delivered through 60+ miles of new pipelines to groundwater basins, industrial facilities, and even potentially two MWD water treatment plans. The cost of the Advanced Water Treatment Plant is \$3.4 billion to build plus \$129 million to operate annually, which would result in a water cost of \$1,826/af. The project is currently in the environmental planning stage from 2021 to 2024. Once approved, design and construction will take an estimated eight years.

It is recommended the AE receive and file this report and present an update to the Board of Directors at their meeting on October 7, 2021.

Attachments:

1. An Introduction to MWD's Regional Recycled Water Program: A New Source of Water for Southern California



An Introduction to the **REGIONAL RECYCLED WATER PROGRAM**

A New Source of Water for Southern California

A Virtual Presentation
Southeast Water Coalition Administrative Entity

9-16-21

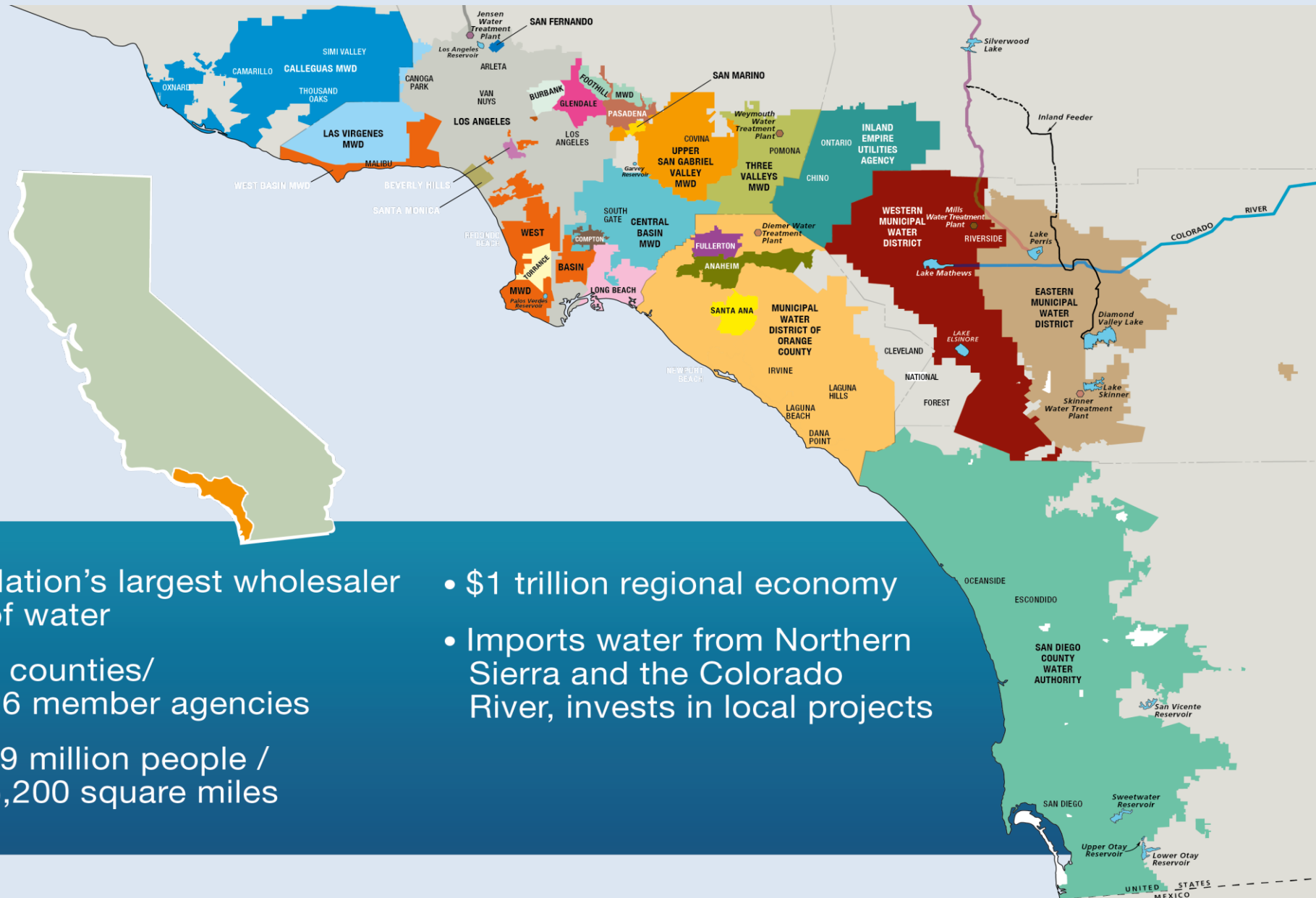
AGENDA

- Introductions
- Background on Metropolitan and Regional Recycled Water Program
- Conveyance System Alignments
- Program Next Steps
- Q&A/Discussion

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

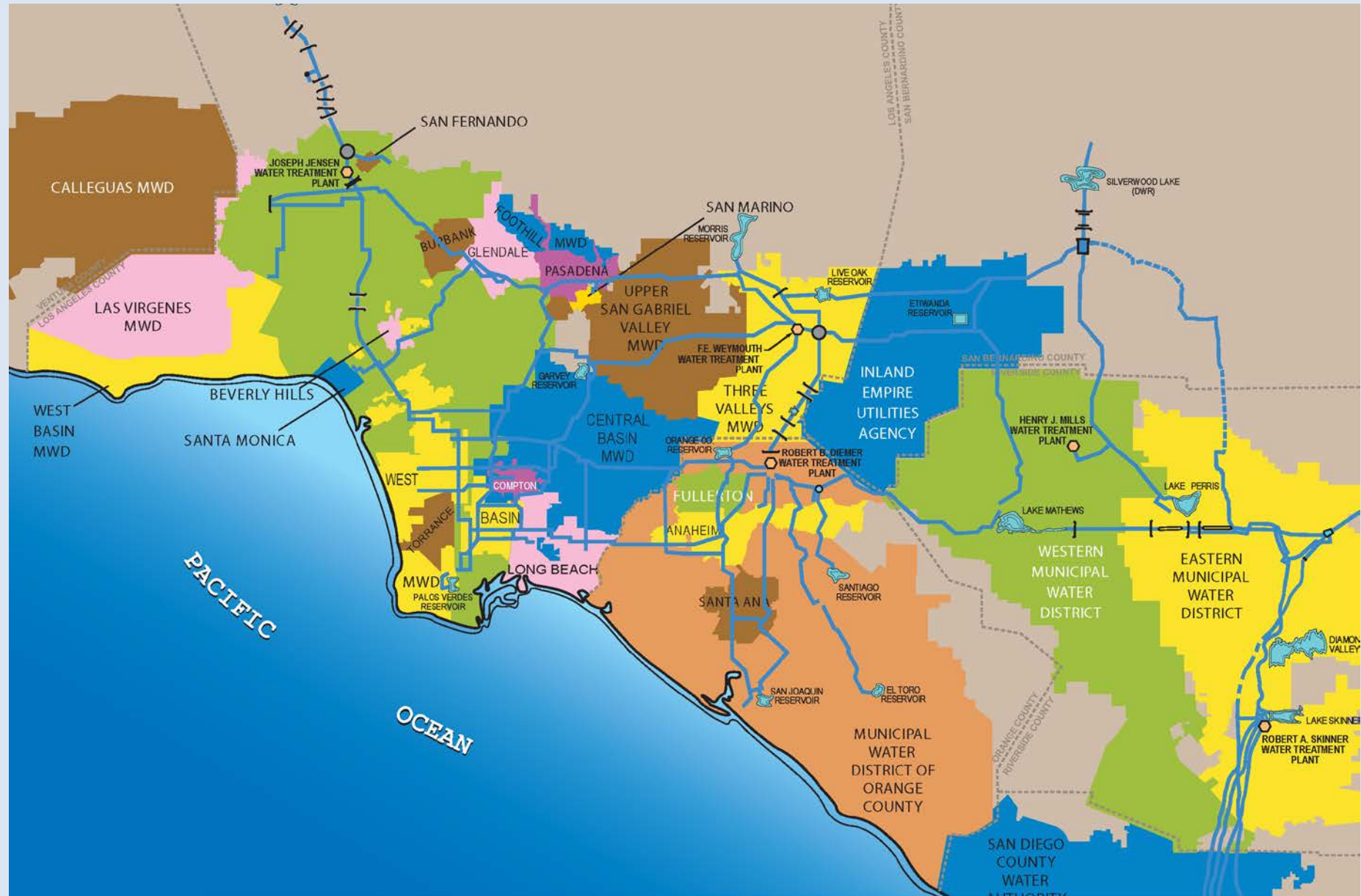
METROPOLITAN OVERVIEW



- Nation's largest wholesaler of water
- 6 counties / 26 member agencies
- 19 million people / 5,200 square miles
- \$1 trillion regional economy
- Imports water from Northern Sierra and the Colorado River, invests in local projects

EXTENSIVE WATER DELIVERY SYSTEM

Metropolitan's distribution system consists of **830** miles of large diameter pipeline and tunnels and about **400** connections to member agencies



LEADERS IN DEVELOPING WATER SUPPLIES



1930s:
Colorado River
Aqueduct



1970s:
State Water
Project



Today:
Local Supplies &
Conservation



Future:
Regional
Recycled Water
Program



A New Source of Water for Southern California

REGIONAL RECYCLED WATER PROGRAM

REGIONAL RECYCLED WATER PROGRAM

A \$3.4 billion investment



①

Wastewater from homes, businesses, and industries in LA County

②

Treated at Sanitation Districts' Joint Water Pollution Control Plant

③

Purified at Metropolitan's advanced water treatment plant

④

Conveyed through over 60 miles of pipeline to groundwater basins, industries, or Metropolitan's treatment plants

⑤

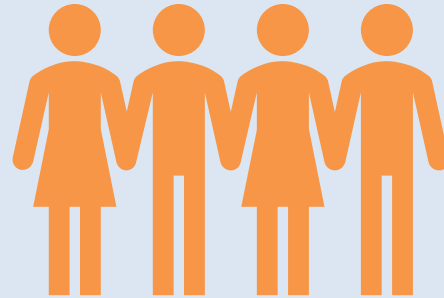
A new purified source of water for Southern California

REGIONAL RECYCLED WATER PROGRAM

In numbers



Up to 150 million
gallons per day or
168,000 acre-feet
per year



Enough water
for over
1.5 million
people



One of the
largest programs
of its kind in
world

PROGRAM BENEFITS

Benefits of the Regional Recycled Water Program



Earthquake

Prepares the Southland for the event of a catastrophic earthquake by increasing local water supplies.



Drought

Produces a drought-proof source of water, readily available rain or shine.



Groundwater

Replenishes groundwater basins, which provide 30% of Southern CA's water supply and have seen levels drop to historic lows in recent years.



Economy

Helps meet needs of region's growing economy and population at a cost comparable to other local water resources. Could provide 50,000 jobs.



Wastewater

Uses region's largest untapped source of wastewater, currently sent to the ocean.

POTENTIAL FULL-SCALE PROGRAM

Up to 150 million gallons per day



WASTEWATER PARTNER

Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts

Joint Water Pollution Control Plant

- Average flow of ~260 MGD
- Primary and secondary treatment
- Currently discharges to the ocean
- Largest untapped source of treated wastewater



— A FULL-SCALE ADVANCED WATER TREATMENT PLANT —



Three-step purification process featuring membrane bioreactors, reverse osmosis and ultraviolet light/advanced oxidation



Rendering of full-scale facility

PROGRAM PARTNERS

Wastewater Partner



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SANITATION DISTRICTS**
Converting Waste Into Resources

Groundwater Basin Managers



WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT



Main San Gabriel Basin
WATERMASTER

Metropolitan Member Agencies



UPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT



Central Basin
Municipal Water District



WEST BASIN
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT



CITY OF LONG BEACH
INCORPORATED 1897



BALANCED CITY
TORRANCE
INDUSTRIAL • RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL



THREE VALLEYS
MWD



LA
DWP

Colorado River Partners



SOUTHERN NEVADA
WATER AUTHORITY



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT
OF WATER RESOURCES
EST. 1980



CAP
CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT

Other Key Partners



US Army Corps
of Engineers



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
EDISON
Energy for What's Ahead



Public Works
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

PROGRAM HISTORY

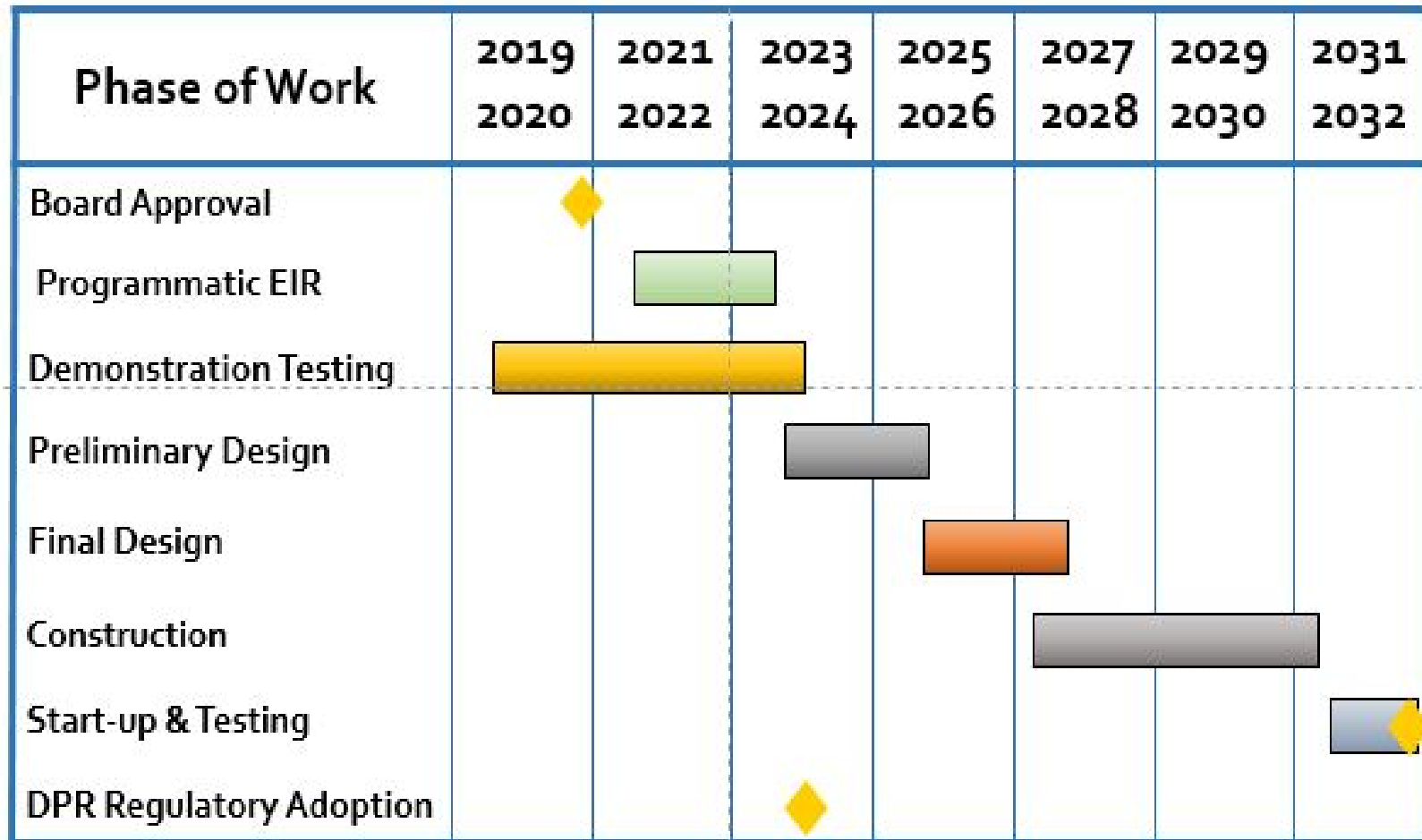
Major progress to date

- Technical Studies – 2009
- Bench Scale Testing – 2012
- Feasibility Study – 2016
- Demonstration Plant – 2019-present
- Conceptual Study – 2019
- Environmental planning phase – approved Nov. 2020
 - Engineering and Technical Studies
 - Program Environmental Impact Report
 - Public Outreach support



Demonstration Facility

SCHEDULE



◆ Milestone

Note: Assumes Late 2020 Board Approval

PROGRAM COSTS (2018 COSTS)

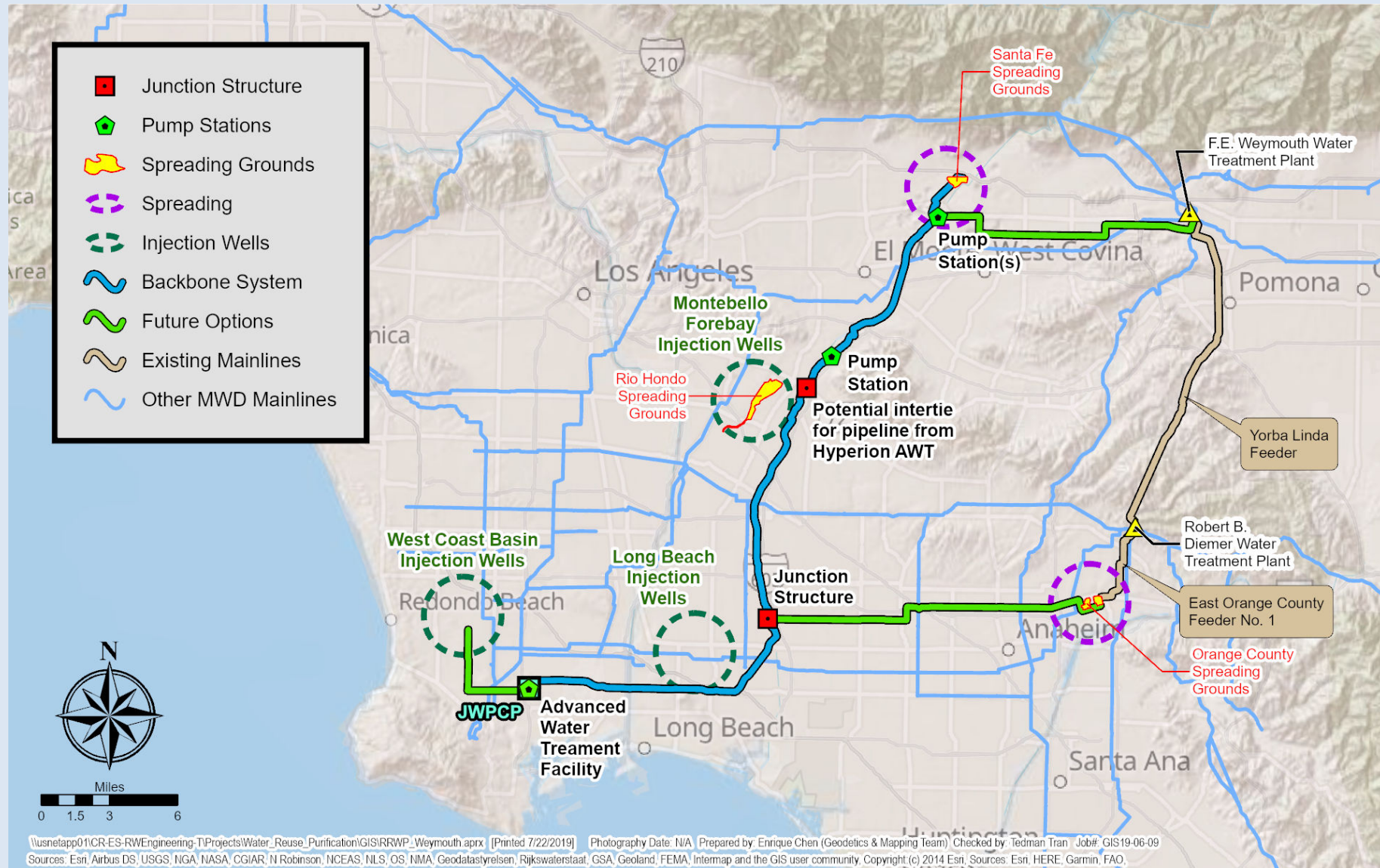
Cost Description	Backbone System (2018 Dollars)	Full Program (2018 Dollars)
Production Capacity (mgd)	100	150
Capital Program Cost ¹	\$2.6 billion	\$3.4 billion
Annual O&M Cost (\$/year)	\$69 million	\$129 million
Program Unit Cost of Yield		
Capital Unit Cost	\$1,181/AF	\$1,054/AF
<u>O&M Unit Cost</u>	<u>\$631/AF</u>	<u>\$772/AF</u>
Total Program Unit Cost	\$1,813/AF	\$1,826/AF

1. Costs are from the Conceptual Planning Studies Report (2018 dollars). Costs will be updated during the PEIR phase, if approved by the Board. Does not include cost of DPR

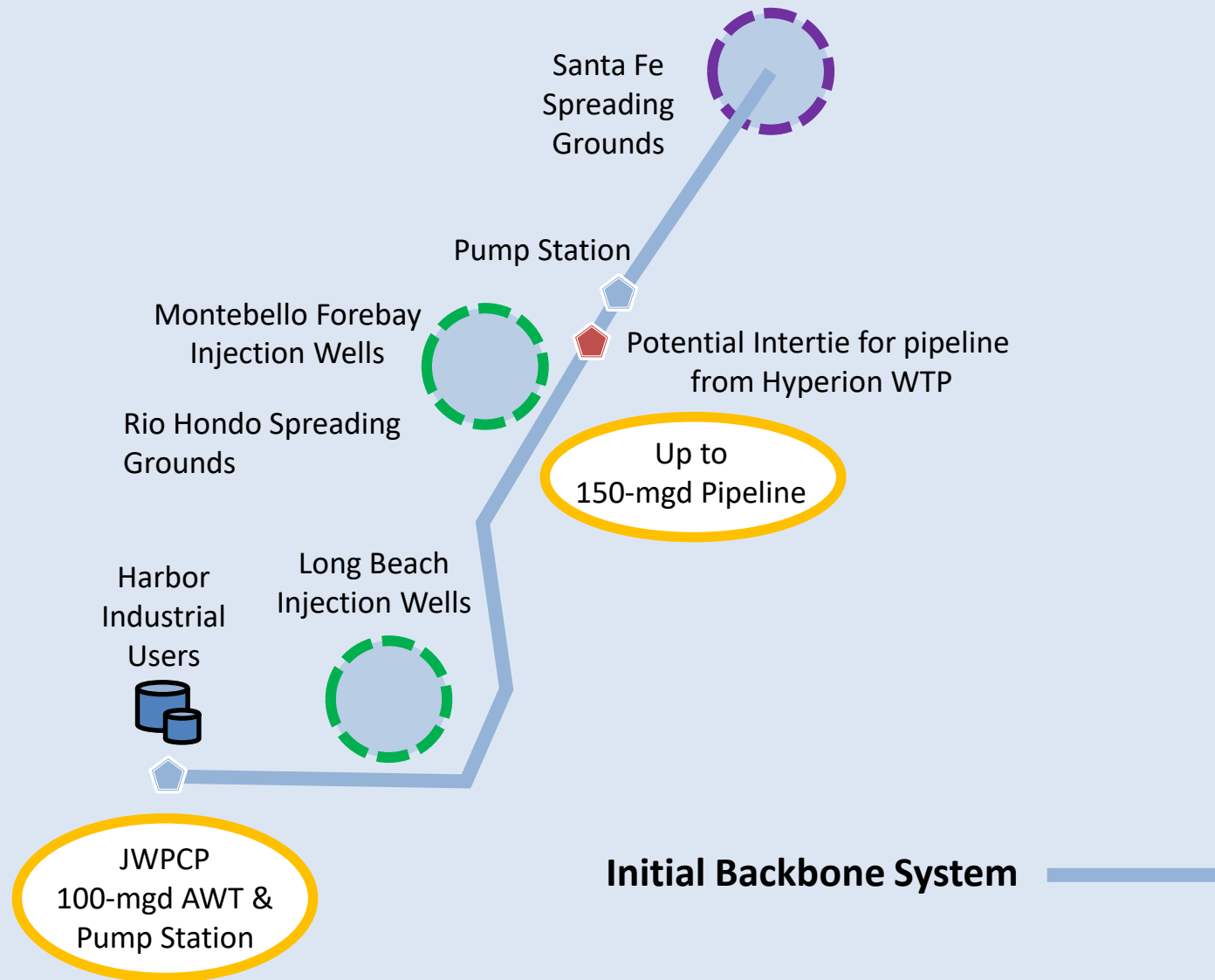


CONVEYANCE SYSTEM ALIGNMENTS

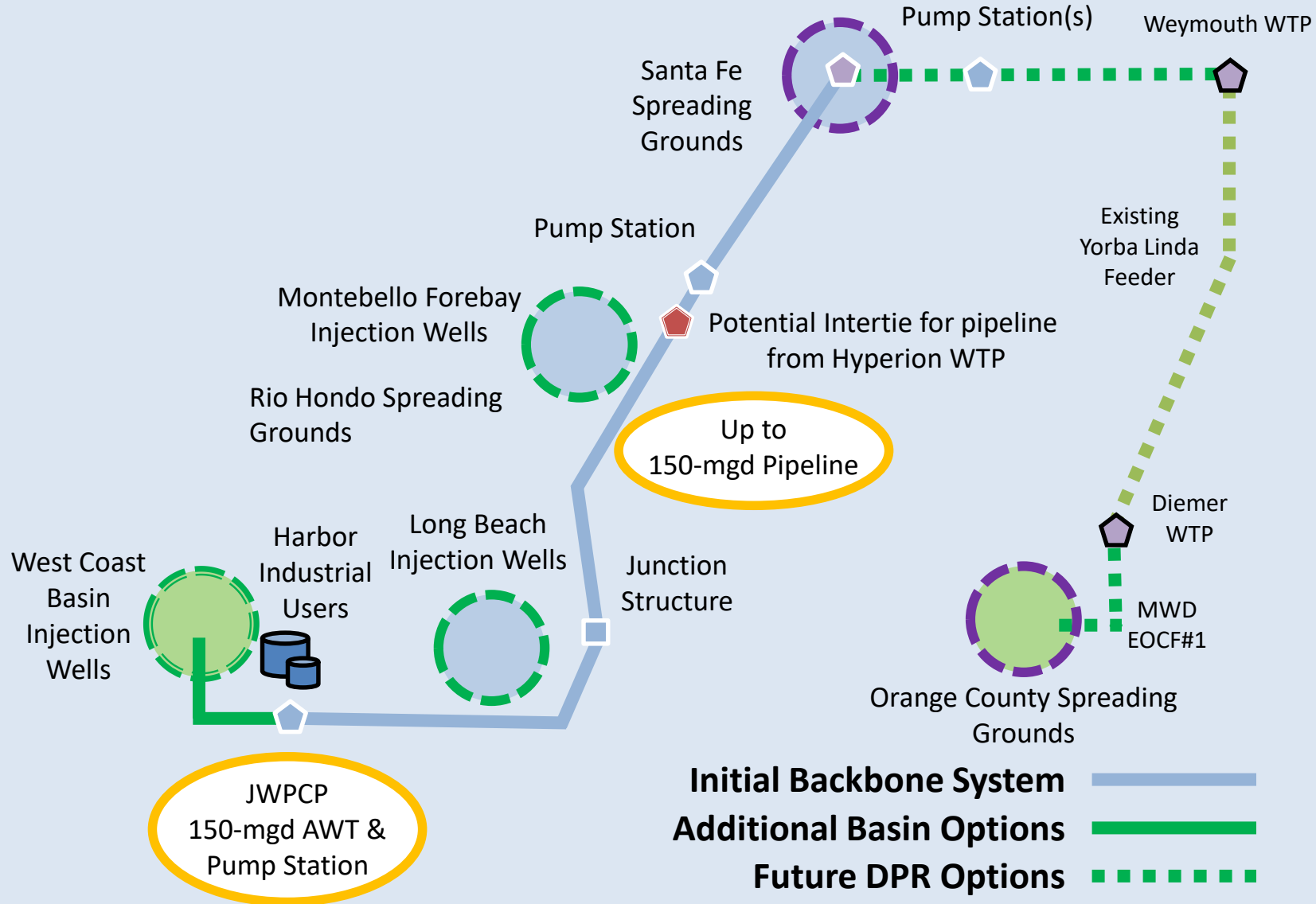
PROJECT COMPONENTS



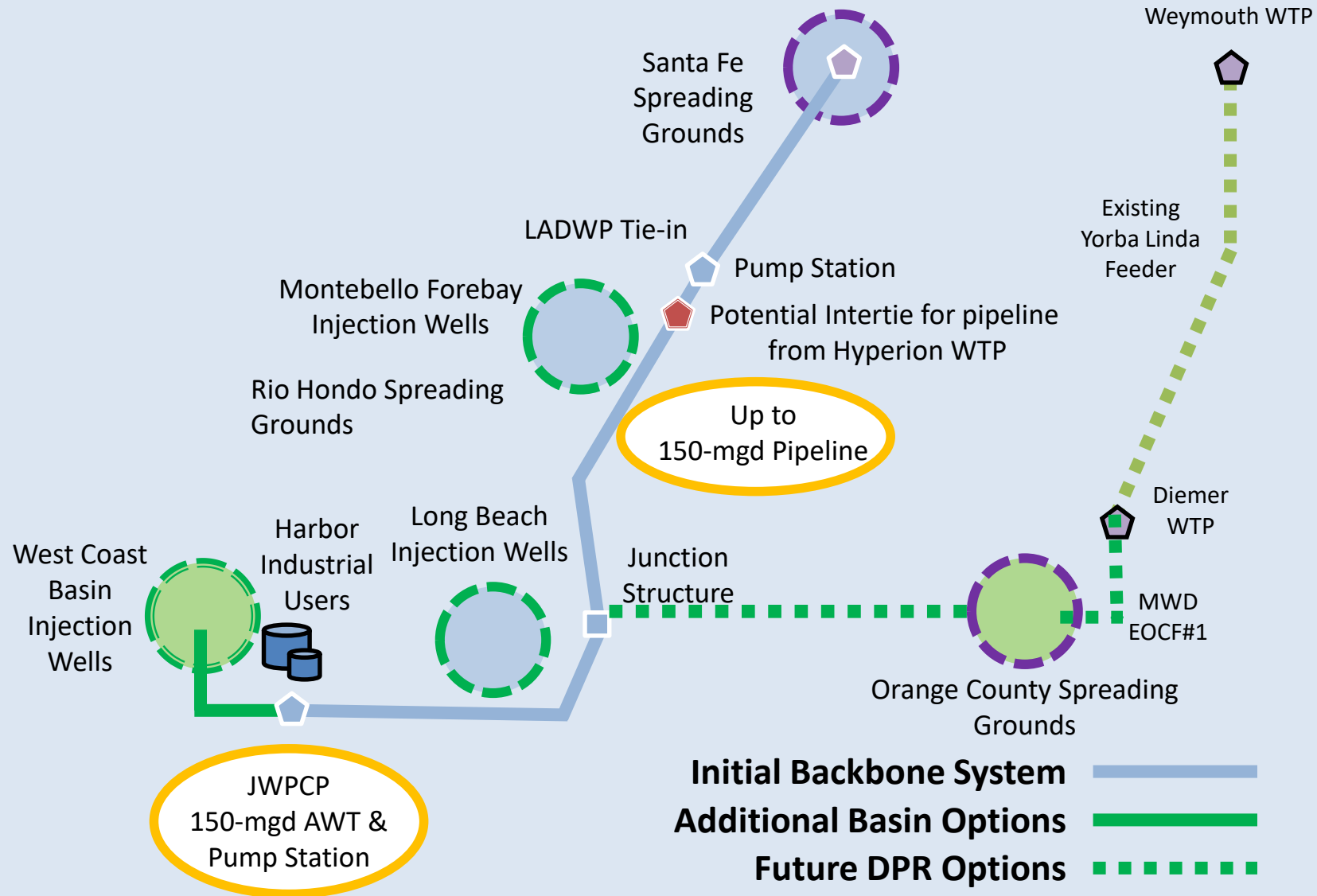
PHASE 1: BACKBONE SYSTEM



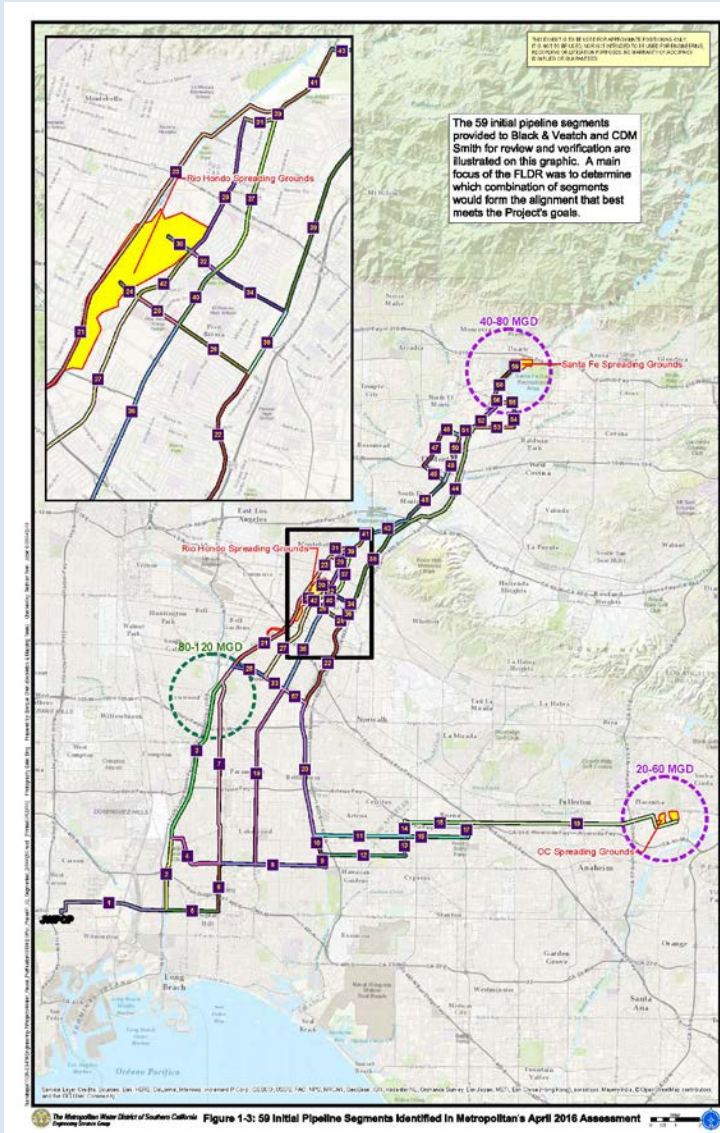
DPR OPTIONS: NORTHERN ROUTE



DPR OPTIONS: SOUTHERN ROUTE



WORK COMPLETED TO DATE



- Internal MWD conveyance alignment study completed in 2016
 - Identified feasible pipeline alignments
- *Backbone Conveyance Feasibility Level Design* study completed in June 2020
 - Identified a base-case alignment used for Program analysis in the Feasibility Study Report and Conceptual Planning Studies Report
 - Furthered alternative studies and identified 3 potential backbone conveyance pipeline options
- On-going coordination with these entities:
 - Southern California Edison
 - Los Angeles County Flood Control District
 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 - Los Angeles Department of Water & Power (Operation NEXT)
 - Cities & Municipalities



Constructability

**Use of Existing
Infrastructure**

**Alignment
Development
Criteria**

**Environmental
Considerations**

**Real Property
Considerations**

CONSIDERATIONS



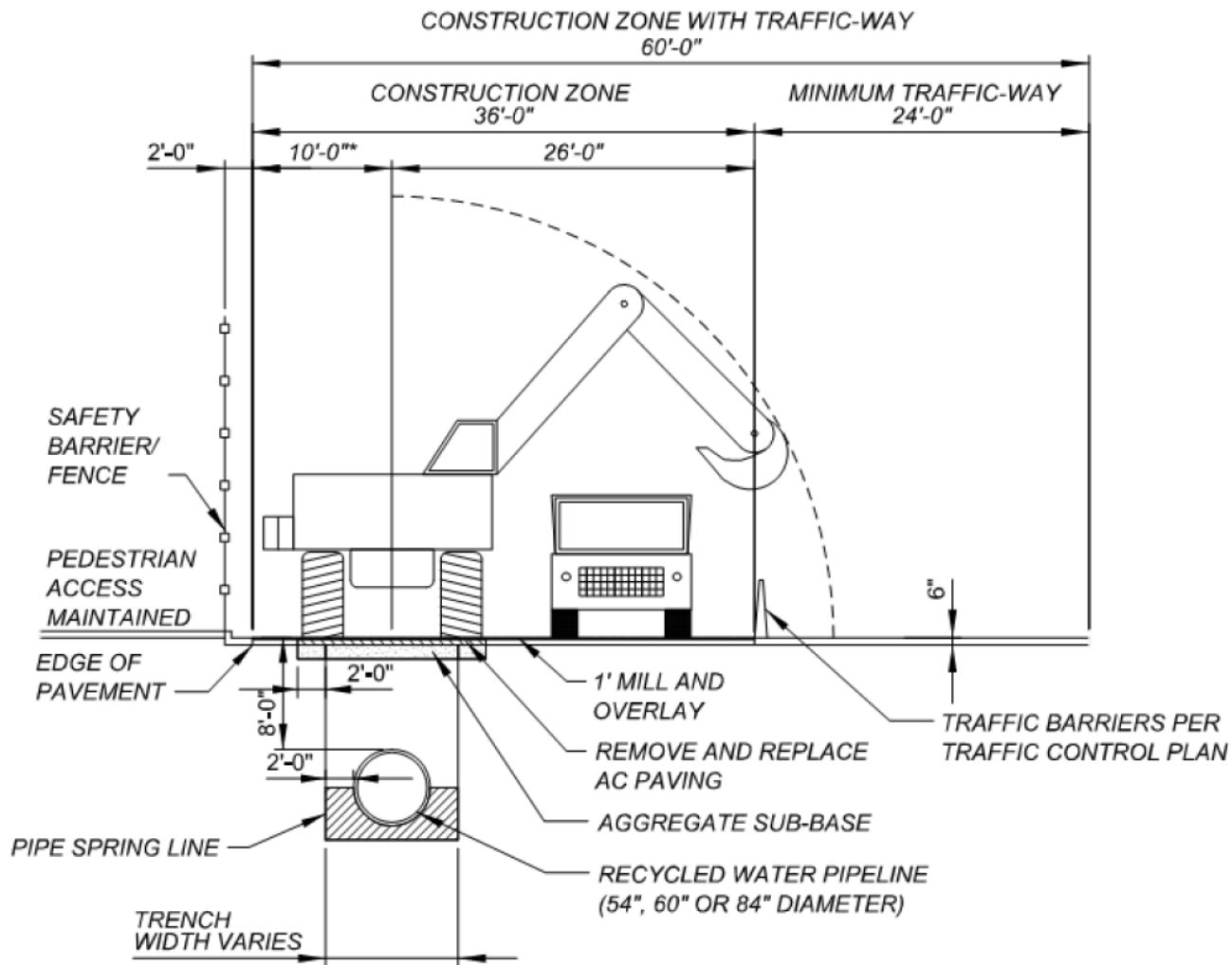
Pipeline alignment development across rivers, freeways, intersections, and other challenging features

Pipeline alignment development within dense urban areas and utility corridors



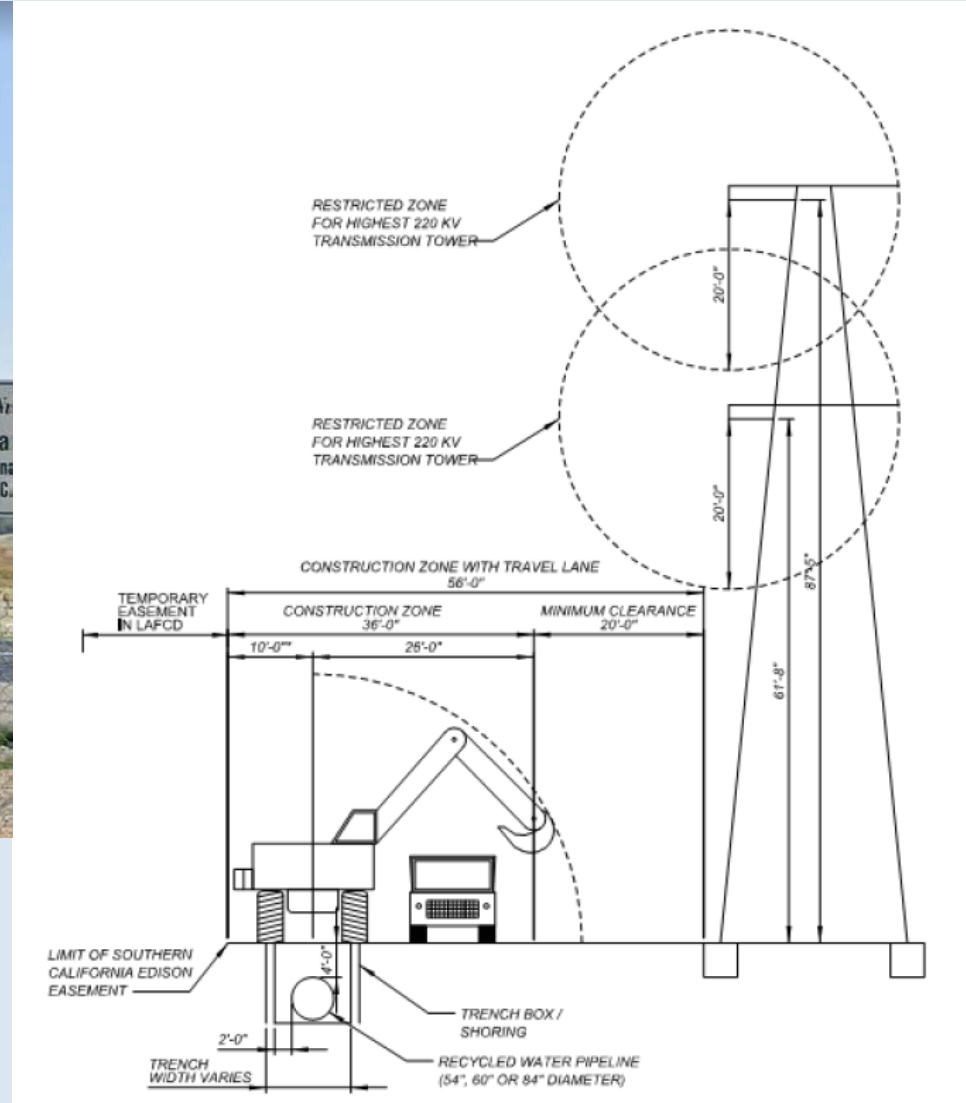
CONSTRUCTION METHODS: CUT & COVER

Street ROW



CONSTRUCTION METHODS: CUT & COVER

SCE ROW



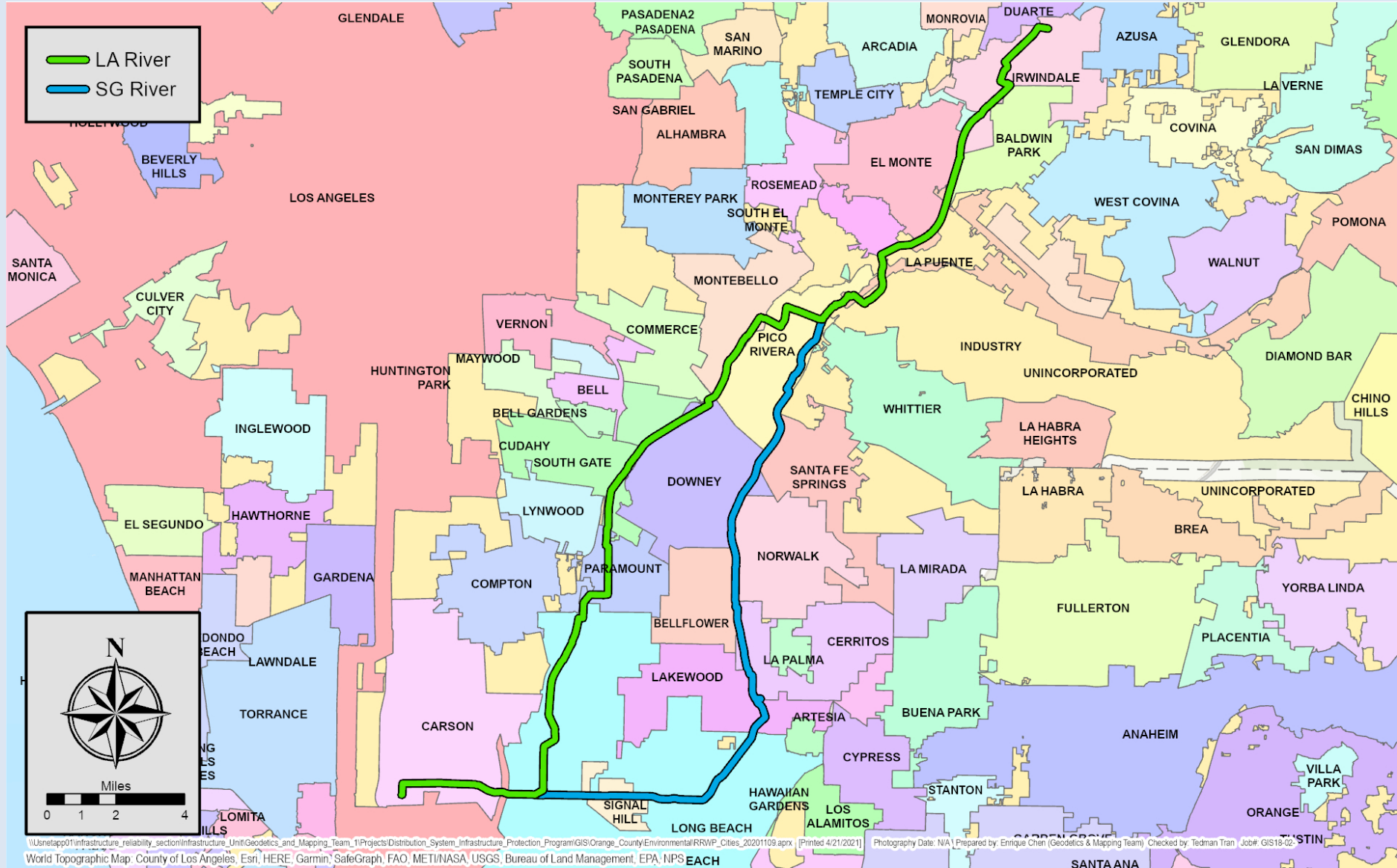
ALIGNMENT DEVELOPMENT: GEOLOGIC FEATURES



Note: Approximate ground elevations. Not all features may be shown on these GIS map exhibits.

A NEW CONVEYANCE SYSTEM

Up to 40 miles of new pipeline



SCOPE OF WORK: CONSULTANT

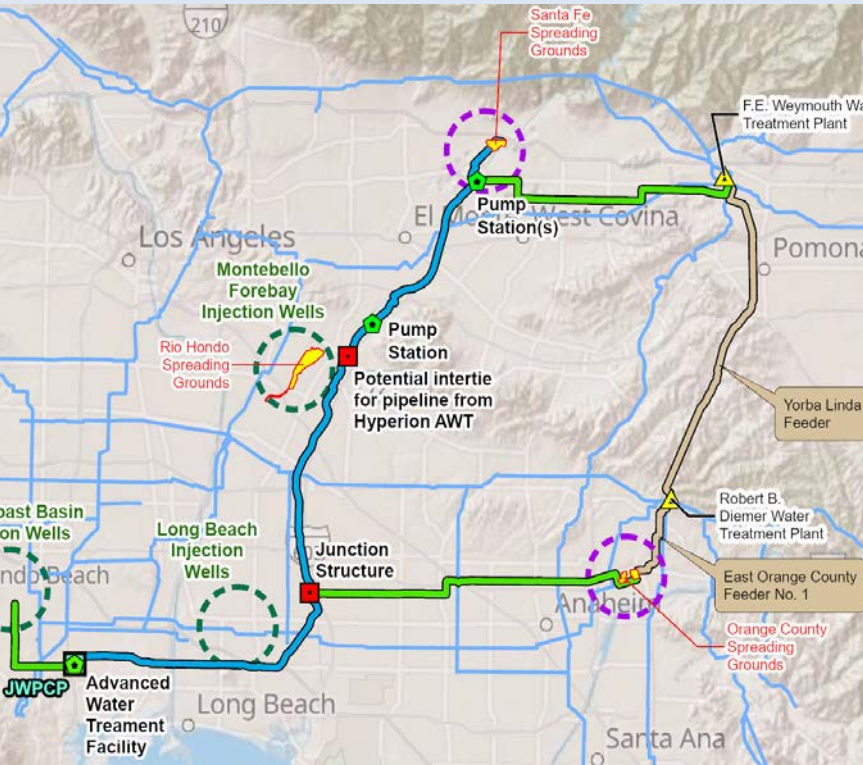
Task No.	Tasks/Subtasks
1	Environmental Planning Support Program-Level Environmental Clearances Project-Level Environmental Clearances
2	Validate Studies Completed To-Date
3	Conceptual Facilities Plan of Conveyance & Recharge Facilities Geotechnical Report Jurisdictional Permits Utility Research Pump Stations & Flow Control Facilities Recharge Facilities Direct Potable Reuse Applications
4	Real Property and Right-of-Way Coordination
5	Construction Cost Estimate
6	Construction Schedule
7	Public Outreach Support Services
8	Project Funding Support
9	Project Management



PROGRAM NEXT STEPS

WHAT'S NEXT

Working together with your city



Conceptual Engineering



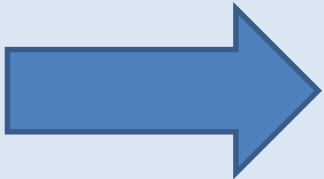
Environmental Planning



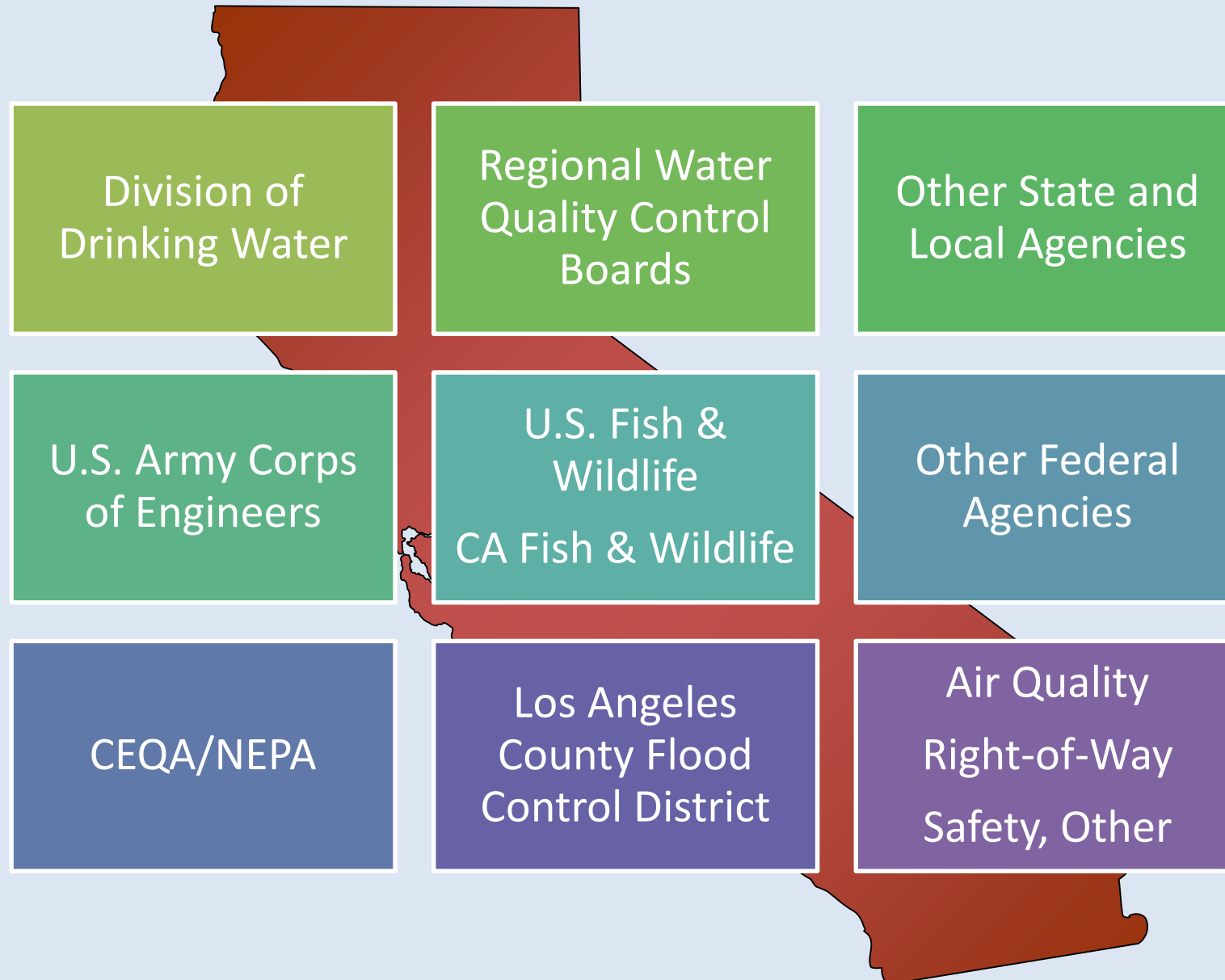
Community Outreach

CONCEPTUAL ENGINEERING

- Final Feasibility-Level Design Report for the Conveyance System completed in June 2020
 - 38 mile backbone system from AWT in Carson to Santa Fe Spreading Grounds in Irwindale
 - 84" ID Pipeline, 2 Pump Stations
 - Potential for connections to Metropolitan's existing water treatment plants when direct potable reuse regulations emerge
 - 3 potential alignments identified: 1 in street ROW, 1 along the Los Angeles River, 1 along the San Gabriel River
 - Portions of alignments within SCE's ROW
- Continued refinement in the next phase with a recommendation of a preferred alignment corridor for environmental permitting and conceptual engineering purposes



ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING/PERMITTING



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Starting environmental planning and associated public outreach

- Raise awareness of program and new water supply
- Reach out to communities affected by project



DISCUSSION/Q&A

Ivonne Castillo

Community Relations, icastillo@mwdh2o.com

Jay Arabshahi and Hedieh Esfahani

Conveyance Engineering, jarabshahi@mwdh2o.com and heesfahani@mwdh2o.com

Bruce Chalmers

Regional Recycled Water Program Manager, rchalmers@mwdh2o.com

Ana Reyes and Brenda Marines

Env. Planning, areyes@mwdh2o.com and bmarines@mwdh2o.com

mwdh2o.com/rrwp



@mwdh2o



METROPOLITAN RECYCLED WATER WEBSITE



The image shows a screenshot of a website header and main content area. The header is a dark blue bar with the logo on the left and a navigation menu on the right. The logo consists of a blue water drop with green and blue curved lines around it. The navigation menu includes links for INTRODUCTION, HOW IT WORKS, PROCESS, BENEFITS, STRATEGY, MILESTONES, RESOURCES, and PARTNERSHIP. The main content area has a light blue background with a large logo on the left and text on the right. The text reads 'Regional Recycled Water Advanced Purification Center' in green and blue. Below this is the headline 'A NEW SOURCE OF WATER FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA' in white, followed by a paragraph of text in white.

Regional Recycled Water
Advanced Purification Center

INTRODUCTION HOW IT WORKS PROCESS BENEFITS STRATEGY MILESTONES RESOURCES PARTNERSHIP

Regional Recycled Water
Advanced Purification Center

A NEW SOURCE OF WATER FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Water is too precious to use just once. So the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is making a major investment in a potential water recycling project that will reuse water currently sent to the ocean.

www.mwdh2o.com/RRWP



Southeast Water Coalition

A joint powers authority to protect the Central Groundwater Basin

SOUTHEAST WATER COALITION JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY AGENDA REPORT

Date: September 16, 2021
To: Southeast Water Coalition Administrative Entity
From: Gina Nila, AE Chair, City of Commerce

Subject: Update on WRD PFAS Remediation Program

Recommendation: That the Administrative Entity take the following action:

Receive and file an update on WRD's PFAS Remediation Program.

Discussion

It is recommended the AE members discuss the status of agreements between WRD and pumpers for PFAS remediation funding.



A joint powers authority to protect the Central Groundwater Basin

**SOUTHEAST WATER COALITION
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
AGENDA REPORT**

Date: September 16, 2021
To: Southeast Water Coalition Administrative Entity
From: Gina Nila, AE Chair, City of Commerce
Nick Ghirelli, Richards, Watson & Gershon

Subject: Update on Central Basin Municipal Water District

Recommendation: That the Administrative Entity take the following action:

Receive and file an update on the latest from the Central Basin Municipal Water District.

Background

For several months, SEWC has been monitoring the situation at the Central Basin Municipal Water District (CBMWD). The SEWC Board of Directors has requested that a Central Basin Update be included as a standing item on meeting agendas going forward.

Discussion:

At the August 23rd Central Basin Board of Directors meeting, the CB Board considered an item to approve an amendment to the interim General Manager's employment agreement.

The Central Basin Summer "Central Focus" Newsletter reports that the Central Basin Board "approved a 14% reduction in imported water rates" for pumpers and "reduced fixed costs for customers by approximately \$300,000 per year." In addition, the newsletter reports that Central Basin is "ending the year with \$22 million in unrestricted and restricted cash reserves."

The next Central Basin Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 27th at 10am. The next status conference in the District's lawsuit against Director Vasquez is scheduled for Tuesday, September 28. It is recommended the Administrative Entity members also discuss any issues related to Central Basin not summarized in this staff report.

Attachments:

1. "Central Focus" Summer 2021 Newsletter



Message from the GM



*DOING THE
RIGHT THING
WHEN NO
ONE IS
WATCHING*

The Central Basin Municipal Water District is coming off a spectacular year that saw the District achieve fiscal stability, reduce fixed costs for customers, reduce operating expenses, improve customer satisfaction, and lower imported water rates by an unprecedented 14 percent. However, one of our greatest achievements has been returning public trust and integrity to the operations and DNA of the District.

For too long our elected officials and customers cringed at some of the antics of previous administrations. Policymakers moved legislation to eliminate and/or take over the District and customers lost confidence in our ability to do a good job as sentinels of quality water supplies and services.

However, over the past year, that has all turned around as legislative attempts to take over the District have subsided, and customer satisfaction has increased significantly. Much of that can be attributed to bringing back public honesty, integrity and transparency in doing our business.

Given the current national debate and discourse on public integrity in government, honesty, transparency and integrity is paramount to regaining the public's trust. In the American experience, accountability of public officials is deeply ingrained within the constitutional framework of our nation.

Our nation's political and civic culture is based on the notion that public officials should always perform their duties honestly with integrity and in the public interest.

We at the Central Basin Municipal Water District must set the highest

continued



Central Basin Municipal Water District Ends Fiscal Year On Positive Note In A Sweeping Turnaround

The Central Basin Municipal Water District (CBMWD) ended its fiscal year on a positive note with a position of strong fiscal stability, a reorganization that has yielded a significant reduction (\$1.8 million annually) in operating expenses and vastly improved customer satisfaction.

All point to a significant achievement given the District's previous governance, operational and fiscal challenges.

Additionally, the District's Board of Directors has coalesced around their vision of an improved and efficient District and are working together to support the new direction of the District.

This positive development for Central Basin did not happen overnight but began with the arrival of the District's new general manager.

Selected by the Board of Directors, Dr. Alejandro (Alex) Rojas came to Central Basin with a reputation as a turnaround specialist who managed to use his prior public administrative experience to promote and secure

the District's fiscal stability marked by the highest level of average monthly operating and unrestricted cash reserves since 2016, at \$12 million and ending the year with \$22 million in unrestricted and restricted cash reserves.

Upon arriving at Central Basin, Dr. Rojas immediately implemented a district reorganization resulting in nearly a \$1.8 million reduction in annual operating expenses; furthermore, he developed a cross-functional operations team made up of internal employees and external contractors making the District more efficient while improving organizational performance.

Additionally, the District reduced fixed costs for customers by approximately \$300,000 per year and approved \$1.5 million in grants for recycled water system expansion, which will be used to improve local water supply reliability specifically to local disadvantaged communities.

Despite a projected statewide drought, the Central Basin Board

continued

Message from the GM

Continued from Page 1

standards of integrity and morality. This requires self-sacrifice, a concept that rises above individualism and self-indulgence to create an environment of public duty among our staff. Integrity requires self-discipline, focus and willpower capable of resisting temptation.

Its reward is knowing that we have accomplished our mission while doing the public good. An exemplary civil servant is not simply one who obeys the laws and behaves within the confines of law but is also one who strives for moral governance.

We believe if we act with integrity, people will trust us, and word will spread faster than any advertising campaign we could ever come up with. Similarly, a lack of integrity will ruin our reputation, blunt employee morale and create distrust among community leaders, customers and our elected officials.

It requires us to incorporate the values of honesty, sympathy, empathy, compassion, fairness, self-control and duty,



so that we will be able to uphold high personal and professional standards in all circumstances when doing business with our customers.

If we lead by example and act with integrity, even when no one is watching, it will spread throughout our service area and enhance our ability to do a stellar job, inspire trust, build confidence and create good will.

We have already seen that integrity, honesty and transparency are good for building customer satisfaction. If our customer reviews are any indication, clearly Central Basin Municipal Water District is moving in the right direction.

CBMWD Ends Fiscal Year On Positive Note In A Sweeping Turnaround

Continued from Page 1

of Directors took bold action during its monthly Board meeting on May 24 and approved a 14 percent reduction in imported water rates for customers in its service area, while other districts are raising their rates.

Many California counties are currently under a severe drought forecast precipitated by low water levels and little snow in the Sierras.

This has been the second dry year in a row, and 2021 might bring some additional changes.


Central Basin was able to lower water rates because of prudent measures taken to regain fiscal control of its budget.


The goals for the District are to lower the cost of imported water, ensure long-term fiscal stability, improve customer service, diversify revenue streams and grow recycled water services.


With its end year report the District accomplished that goal.


For more info, visit centralbasin.org


Water Saving Tips

 Water your garden one fewer time a week: This could save about 260 gallons of water.

 Reduce shower time by two minutes: This could save 12 to 15 gallons of water a day.

 Upgrade your utilities: For example, a newer toilet could save 33 gallons a day.

 Turn off the sink tap while brushing your teeth or shaving: This could save around 24 to 30 gallons of water a day.

 Check for leaks in faucets and toilets: A toilet leak can amount to 30 gallons per day.



Central Basin
Municipal Water District

Contact Us:

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Water District**
6252 Telegraph Road
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Follow Us On:





Southeast Water Coalition

A joint powers authority to protect the Central Groundwater Basin

SOUTHEAST WATER COALITION JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY AGENDA REPORT

Date: September 16, 2021
To: Southeast Water Coalition Administrative Entity
From: Gina Nila, AE Chair, City of Commerce

Subject: Legislative Update

Recommendation: That the Administrative Entity take the following action:

Receive and file an update on the status of water-related legislation in the State Legislature.

Background

September 10, 2021 was the last day for each house to pass bills. October 10th is the last day for the Governor to sign or veto bills on his desk. The Legislature is in recess until January 3, 2022.

SEWC's legislative consultant, Jason Gonsalves of Gonsalves & Sons, has provided a memo (see Attached) summarizing the outcome of relevant water-related legislation for the following bills:

- **AB 304** (Quirk) Contaminated sites: waste releases or surface or groundwater contamination: local oversight: remedial actions
- **AB 1195** (C. Garcia) Drinking water
- **SB 129** (Skinner) Budget Act of 2021
 - Drought & Water Infrastructure Provisions:
 - \$60 million for implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
 - \$650 million for drinking water projects
 - \$85 million for groundwater cleanup and recycled water projects
- **SB 222** (Dodd) Water Rate Assistance Program
- **SB 223** (Dodd) Discontinuation of residential water service
- **SB 230** (Portantino) State Water Resources Control Board: Constituents of Emerging Concern Program
- **SB 403** (Gonzalez) Drinking water: consolidation
- **SB 776** (Gonzalez) Safe drinking water and water quality

Attachment(s): _____

1. SEWC Legislative Update - Gonsalves & Son



Joe A. Gonsalves & Son
 Anthony D. Gonsalves
 Jason A. Gonsalves
 Paul A. Gonsalves
 PROFESSIONAL LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATION
 825 L ST. · SUITE 250 · SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-3768
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**SEWC Legislative Update
 Monday, September 13, 2021**

AB 148

(Committee on Budget) Public resources.

Current Text: Chaptered: 7/23/2021 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 1/8/2021

Status: 7/22/2021-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 115, Statutes of 2021.

Location: Assembly Chaptered

Calendar:

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary: Current law, including the General Corporation Law and the Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law, specifies the formal requirements for filing corporate names and articles of incorporation with the Secretary of State. Current law authorizes the Governor, or the Governor’s designee, to incorporate Golden State Energy as a nonprofit public benefit corporation for the purpose of owning, controlling, operating, or managing electrical and gas services for its ratepayers and for the benefit of all Californians. This bill would prohibit the Secretary of State from reserving a corporate name or filing articles of incorporation using the name Golden State Energy unless those articles are for Golden State Energy, incorporated and operating as specified.

AB 304

(Quirk D) Contaminated sites: waste releases or surface or groundwater contamination: local oversight: remedial actions.

Current Text: Enrollment: 9/9/2021 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 1/25/2021

Status: 9/9/2021-Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling.

Location: Assembly Enrollment

Calendar:

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary: Whenever a release of waste occurs and remedial action is required, current law authorizes a responsible party, as defined, to request that a local officer supervise the remedial action. Current law authorizes a local officer to agree to supervise the remedial action if the local officer determines that certain conditions have been met. Current law requires that remedial action to be carried out only pursuant to a remedial action agreement, which includes specified elements, entered into by the local officer and the responsible party, and authorizes the local officer to withdraw from the agreement, after giving the responsible party adequate notice, at any time after making specified findings. Current law requires a local officer to provide written notification that includes specified information to the Department of Toxic Substances Control and the appropriate regional water quality control board at least 10 working days before entering into a remedial action agreement with a responsible party. This bill would authorize a responsible party to request the local officer to oversee a remedial investigation, as defined, or a remedial action, as defined, or both, only if the release of waste is not being overseen by the department or a regional water quality control board.

AB 1195

(Garcia, Cristina D) Drinking water.

Current Text: Amended: 5/24/2021 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/18/2021

Status: 7/14/2021-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was N.R. & W. on 6/9/2021) (May be acted upon Jan 2022)

Location: Senate 2 year

Calendar:

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	2 year	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary: Current law establishes the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund in the State Treasury to help water systems provide an adequate and affordable supply of safe drinking water in both the near and long terms. Current law authorizes the state board to provide for the deposit into the fund of certain moneys and continuously appropriates the moneys in the fund to the state board for grants, loans, contracts, or services to assist eligible recipients. This bill would prohibit a public water system from transferring or abandoning a water right held by the public water system except upon approval of the state board, as prescribed.

[SB 129](#)

(Skinner D) Budget Act of 2021

Current Text: Chaptered: 7/12/2021 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 1/8/2021

Status: 7/12/2021-Approved by the Governor with item veto. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 69, Statutes of 2021. In Senate. Consideration of Governor's item veto pending.

Location: Senate Chaptered

Calendar:

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary: The Budget Act of 2021 made appropriations for the support of state government for the 2021-22 fiscal year. This bill would amend the Budget Act of 2021 by amending, adding, and repealing items of appropriation and making other changes. This bill contains other related provisions.

[SB 222](#)

(Dodd D) Water Rate Assistance Program.

Current Text: Amended: 8/30/2021 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 1/14/2021

Status: 9/3/2021-Ordered to inactive file on request of Assembly Member Robert Rivas.

Location: Assembly Inactive File

Calendar:

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary: Would establish the Water Rate Assistance Fund in the State Treasury to help provide water affordability assistance, for both drinking water and wastewater services, to low-income ratepayers and ratepayers experiencing economic hardship in California. The bill would require the Department of Community Services and Development to develop and administer the Water Rate Assistance Program established by the bill.

[SB 223](#)

(Dodd D) Discontinuation of residential water service.

Current Text: Amended: 5/3/2021 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 1/14/2021

Status: 5/25/2021-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/17/2021)(May be acted upon Jan 2022)

Location: Senate 2 year

Calendar:

Desk	Policy	2 year	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary: Current law requires an urban and community water system to have a written policy on discontinuation of residential service for nonpayment, including, among other things, specified options for addressing the nonpayment. Current law requires an urban and community water system to provide notice of that policy to customers, as provided. This bill would apply those provisions, on and after July 1, 2022, to a very small community water system, defined as a public water system that supplies water to 200 or fewer service connections used by year long residents.

[SB 230](#)

(Portantino D) State Water Resources Control Board: Constituents of Emerging Concern Program.

Current Text: Introduced: 1/19/2021 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 1/19/2021

Status: 5/25/2021-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. on 3/15/2021)(May be acted upon Jan 2022)

Location: Senate 2 year

Calendar:

Desk	Policy	2 year	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary: Would require the State Water Resources Control Board to establish, maintain, and direct an

ongoing, dedicated program called the Constituents of Emerging Concern Program to assess the state of information and recommend areas for further study on, among other things, the occurrence of constituents of emerging concern (CEC) in drinking water sources and treated drinking water. The bill would require the state board to convene, by an unspecified date, the Science Advisory Panel to review and provide recommendations to the state board on CEC for further action, among other duties. The bill would require the state board to provide an annual report to the Legislature on the ongoing work conducted by the panel.

[SB 403](#)

(Gonzalez D) Drinking water: consolidation.

Current Text: Enrollment: 9/9/2021 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/12/2021

Status: 9/9/2021-Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 1 p.m.

Location: Senate Enrolled

Calendar:

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary: The California Safe Drinking Water Act authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board to order consolidation with a receiving water system where a public water system or a state small water system, serving a disadvantaged community, consistently fails to provide an adequate supply of safe drinking water or where a disadvantaged community is substantially reliant on domestic wells that consistently fail to provide an adequate supply of safe drinking water. This bill would revise those consolidation provisions, including, among other revisions, authorizing the state board to also order consolidation where a water system serving a disadvantaged community is an at-risk water system, as defined, or where a disadvantaged community is substantially reliant on at-risk domestic wells, as defined.

[SB 776](#)

(Gonzalez D) Safe drinking water and water quality.

Current Text: Enrollment: 9/9/2021 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/19/2021

Status: 9/9/2021-Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 1 p.m.

Location: Senate Enrolled

Calendar:

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

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. Current law provides that the California Safe Drinking Water Act does not apply to small state water systems, except as specified. This bill would expand the application of the act to small state water systems, as specified.

Total Measures: 9

Total Tracking Forms: 37