



Southeast Water Coalition

A joint powers authority to protect the Central Groundwater Basin

Meeting Agenda Announcement

Assembly Bill (“AB”) 361, signed into law on September 16, 2021, amends Government Code section 54953 to provide authority and specific requirements for public agencies to hold virtual meetings during a proclaimed state of emergency and remain in compliance with the Brown Act (Gov. Code §§ 54950 et seq.).

Consistent with mandates of AB 361, some, or all, SEWC Board Members may attend this meeting virtually. 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/91450167100?pwd=WmpGMES5WjhMaDdzK3g2WFhiV2c5dz09>

Meeting ID: 914 5016 7100

Password: 693196

One tap mobile:

+ 16699009128,,9145016700#,,,,,0#,,693196# US

Public Comment/Question options:

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

Please submit email and voicemail public comments by at least 5:30 p.m. on the date of the meeting to ensure SEWC Board Members receive and have time to review them. All email and voicemails received by 5:30 p.m. are forwarded to SEWC Board Members. Email and voicemails received after 5:30 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 POLICY BOARD**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2021
6:30 PM**

- 1. ROLL CALL**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- 3. CONSENT CALENDAR**
 - a. SEWC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES OF AUGUST 5, 2021
REGULAR MEETING**
Recommendation: Approve minutes as submitted.
 - b. WARRANT REGISTER**
Recommendation: Approve Warrant Register.

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

- 4. INTRODUCTION TO MWD'S REGIONAL RECYCLED WATER PROGRAM**
Ivonne Castillo, Community Relations, Metropolitan Water District
John Bednarski, Chief Engineer, Regional Recycled Water Program, MWD
Recommendation: That the Board take the following action:

Receive and file a report on the Regional Recycled Water Program from the Metropolitan Water District.

- 5. UPDATE ON WRD PFAS REMEDIATION PROGRAM**
Gina Nila, AE Chair, City of Commerce
Mark Grajeda, General Manager, Pico Water District
Recommendation: That the Administrative Entity take the following action:

Receive & 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

Kristen Sales, KJServices Environmental Consulting

Recommendation: That the Board take the following action:

Receive and file an update on the status of the Administrative Entity's monitoring of current water-related legislative issues.

8. MAKE FINDINGS PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953(E)(3) ESTABLISHED BY ASSEMBLY BILL 361 - NEW LEGISLATION REGARDING PUBLIC MEETINGS AND TELECONFERENCING

Nick Ghirelli, Richards, Watson & Gershon

Recommendation: That the Administrative Entity take the following actions:

- 1) Receive & file an update on Assembly Bill 361 from legal counsel, Nick Ghirelli;
- 2) Make the following findings pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(3):
 - a) the Board has reconsidered the circumstances of the COVID-19 state of emergency; and
 - b) state and local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing.

9. BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMENTS

10. ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY CHAIR / LEAD AGENCY COMMENTS

11. ADJOURNMENT

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 Board of Directors will be on Thursday, December 2, 2021, 6:30 pm, 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: October 4, 2021

Michelle Keshishian
Environmental Coordinator
City of Commerce

**MINUTES OF THE
SOUTHEAST WATER COALITION
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

REGULAR MEETING OF THE POLICY BOARD

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 2021
6:30 P.M.**

The regular meeting of the Southeast Water Coalition Joint Powers Authority Policy Board, conducted electronically over Zoom, was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Policy Board Chair Oralia Rebollo.

1. ROLL CALL

Kristen Sales (KJServices Environmental Consulting) called roll and the following Board Members were present on the Zoom call:

Oralia Rebollo	City of Commerce, Board Chair
Sean Ashton	City of Downey
Todd Rogers	City of Lakewood
Margarita Rios	City of Norwalk
Isabel Aguayo	City of Paramount
Annette Rodriguez	City of Santa Fe Springs
Maria Pilar Avalos	City of South Gate
Jessica Martinez	City of Whittier

Also Present:

Gina Nila	City of Commerce, AE Chair
Jason Wen	City of Lakewood
Adriana Figueroa	City of Paramount
Jesse Sira	City of Santa Fe Springs
Joanna Moreno	City of Vernon, AE Vice-Chair
Ray Cordero	City of Whittier

Others in Attendance:

Daniel Hernandez	City of Commerce
Cesar Rangel	City of Whittier
Todd Dusenberry	City of Vernon
Nick Ghirelli	RWG
Leticia Vasquez-Wilson	CBMWD Board
Martha Camacho Rodriguez	CBMWD Board
Alex Rojas	CBMWD GM
Phuong Watson	WRD
Brian Partington	WRD
Stephan Tucker	WRD GM
Kristen Sales	KJServices Environmental Consulting

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

SEWC Board Chair Oralia Rebollo (Commerce) stated that the chat function had been disabled for this Zoom meeting, so if any members of the public had a Public Comment to please use the Raise Hand feature on the call. Leticia Vasquez-Wilson (CBMWD Board) gave a Public Comment, stating that in Item #4 of the meeting minutes from the June 4, 2021 SEWC Board of Directors Meeting, the statements made by SEWC Board Member Andrew Lara (Pico Rivera) were false. Ms. Vasquez said that on June 10th and June 30th, 2021, Central Basin filed a restraining order to prevent her from offering Public Comment. Ms. Vasquez stated that Central Basin's most recent bill was \$125,000, and that the budget has been an issue at CBMWD. Ms. Vasquez added that her Public Comment at today's meeting was to correct the record. She added that Central Basin Board Meetings are the 4th Monday of every month, and that Central Basin's purveyors meetings are the 1st or 3rd Wednesday of the month. Ms. Vasquez invited all SEWC members to attend their meetings, and review the restraining order lawsuit documents.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

SEWC Board Chair Oralia Rebollo (Commerce) asked for a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was made by Board Member Rogers (Lakewood) and seconded by Board Member Jessica Martinez (Whittier). The motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote by all SEWC Board Members present.

4. WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT (WRD) UPDATE

AE Chair Gina Nila (Commerce) introduced Stephan Tucker, new General Manager of the Water Replenishment District, who provided an overview of his CV and a summary of WRD's mission. Mr. Tucker introduced Mr. Partington to provide an updated overview of the Statewide drought and larger western U.S. drought. Previously, the "exceptional drought" was in Nevada, Arizona in Utah. As of July, it has moved to California. Compared to 2015, the California numbers are similar, but the difference between 2021 and 2015 broadly is that more of the Western states are now in exceptional drought. Groundwater elevation in the Montebello Basin dropped 51 ft in the ten years between 2011 and 2021. July 8th Governor's proclamation, Executive Order N-10-21, expands coverage to 50 of 58 California counties, not including LA County. The EO mandated voluntary 15% water use reduction as compared to 2020 levels, and this is tracked by SWRCB. DWR is in charge of the state water usage campaign, Save Our Water, and they monitor Hydrologic Conditions. WRD emphasized the planned purchases to replenish the basin and overcome annual overdraft (AOD).

SEWC Board Chair Oralia Rebollo (Commerce) asked the Board if they had any questions for Mr. Partington. Hearing none, Phuong Watson took over and provided an update on the PFAS Remediation Program. Ms. Watson is the PFAS Remediation Program Manager. The qualifications for WRD funding are wells

with PFOA/PFOS at or above the RL. There are two types of funding available: funding support (monthly reimbursements, or lump sum at the end of project), or a turnkey program where WRD does the construction & hands the operational facility over to pumper. The total funding amount is \$34M, based on \$1000/af, capped at \$5M total funding per pumper. Compliance will require an annual report, and wells must be online for 20 years or until PFAS is below regulatory limits. Pumpers have a number of program requirements, including the responsibility for all O&M and associated costs.

Ms. Watson explained that non-compliance includes: funding requests outside program parameters, non-reimbursable costs, contract-required deliverables, or project compliance. Program requests that do not conform require a review by the TAC/BAC, made up of pumpers of Central and West Coast Basins, and the pumpers then make a recommendation to the WRD Board of Directors to vote to approve or reject agreement.

Reimbursement request form with backup documentation is required for monthly reimbursement payments. Ms. Watson reviewed a slide that showed production wells that are impacted by PFAS hits in the Central Basin. Most impacted wells are in the region of the Montebello Forebay.

Ms. Watson added that WRD has hosted many pumper meetings, and there are currently 6 pumpers in the funding process with WRD, including City of Commerce and City of Pico Rivera. Ms. Watson asked if there were any questions from the Board Members. Hearing none, SEWC Board Chair Oralia Rebollo wished Mr. Tucker good luck as GM of WRD.

The item was received and filed by the SEWC Board of Directors.

5. UPDATE ON AB 1794 COMPLIANCE: REDISTRICTING OF THE CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT (CBMWD)

Central Basin Municipal Water District General Manager Alex Rojas introduced himself and provided an overview of this item. He stated that all of the redistricting meetings are being held in the evenings to provide opportunity for public comment. AB 1794 established a “mixed governance” Board, with 3 appointed Members (the pumpers) and 4 elected Members. Central Basin hired Lucien Partners to implement their redistricting process, which includes an attorney, a cartographer and a project manager. CB is currently undergoing the process of refining their public outreach. CB established a website, RedistrictingCB.com, to provide information on CB Districts and the redistricting process. Delays in the publication of the Census have delayed outreach efforts; Census 2020 results are scheduled to be released in early Fall. CB outreach materials are in both English & Spanish. Mr. Rojas explained that the process of Civic Engagement is important for transparency. After stakeholder input, the CB Board will vote on a redistricted service area with 4 Divisions. CB has a large population, and possible communication outreach could be emails, landlines, and mobile phones. CB will be reaching out to many stakeholders, including labor unions, environmental groups, school districts, chambers of commerce, etc.

The Central Basin Board is utilizing text message notifications, email list purchase, telephone town hall, and robo-calls. Goals for outreach include educating the public on the District, the Redistricting Process, and how to participate in the Redistricting Process. Text message campaign costs are reimbursable. Lucien Partners recommends hosting one telephone town hall with a call-in feature similar to legislative hearings. Most communication will be via email because of its affordability. Total Campaign outreach cost could be between \$43k - \$53k to reach CB voters. Expenditure costs will be voted on by the Board. Digital media and mailings are more expensive options, but are available. Mailing would be approx. 377,000 households in the service area. Mr. Rojas offered to take comments/questions.

SEWC Board Chair Rebollo said that most members of the community don't know what Central Basin is or what they do, so she asked, in outreach efforts, has CB considered partnering with their member cities to do outreach at City events or attend a City Council meeting? SEWC Board Chair Rebollo asked what other methods CB considered to reach people, for example, attending community events. Mr. Rojas replied, yes, CB did look into this option but because COVID uncertainty, events are not guaranteed. Mr. Rojas added he may contact City Managers to coordinate time to sit down with City Council members, or even give Public Comments during meetings. Mr. Rojas agreed that community outreach is key, and ended by asking SEWC Board Members to reach out to him directly.

The item was received and filed by the SEWC Board of Directors.

6. CENTRAL BASIN UPDATE

SEWC Legal Counsel Nick Ghirelli (RW&G) provided an overview of the lawsuit against Central Basin Municipal Water District Director Leticia Vasquez-Wilson. Mr. Ghirelli stated that CB requested a temporary restraining order but Judge Strobel denied this application. There will be a case management conference in September, and there will probably be an actual hearing in the future. Central Basin General Manager Alex Rojas stated that SEWC Board Members are welcome to contact him directly if they have any questions about anything at Central Basin.

The item was received and filed by the SEWC Board of Directors.

7. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

AE Chair Gina Nila (Commerce) provided an overview of the relevant legislation. AB 148 prioritizes residential water customers and prohibits discontinuation of water supply. SB 129, the Budget Act of 2021, includes monies for drinking water projects and groundwater cleanup projects. AE Chair Nila added that SEWC will continue to closely monitor these funds. OEHHA released a PHG of 1 ppt for PFOA and 0.007 ppt for PFOS. AE Chair Nila stated that the PHG is very difficult to reach, as there is no adequate technology to remediate to this degree.

The item was received and filed by the SEWC Board of Directors.

6. BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMENTS

No Board of Directors Comments were received.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY CHAIR / LEAD AGENCY COMMENTS

No Administrative Entity Chair / Lead Agency Comments were received.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Policy Board Chair Rebollo (Commerce) adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Payment Register

From Payment Date: 7/30/2021 - To Payment Date: 9/30/2021

Number	Date	Status	Void Reason	Reconciled/ Voided Date	Source	Payee Name	Transaction Amount	Reconciled Amount	Difference
GENERAL ACCOUNT - CBB GENERAL ACCOUNT									
<u>Check</u>									
420212	08/02/2021	Open			Accounts Payable	KJ SERVICES ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING LLC	\$900.00		
420274	08/17/2021	Open			Accounts Payable	KJ SERVICES ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING LLC	\$1,280.00		
420328	08/16/2021	Open			Accounts Payable	RICHARDS, WATSON & GERSHON	\$1,112.50		
420386	09/07/2021	Open			Accounts Payable	AGUAYO, MARIA, ISABEL	\$150.00		
420389	09/07/2021	Open			Accounts Payable	ASHTON, SEAN	\$150.00		
420396	09/07/2021	Open			Accounts Payable	DEL PILAR AVALOS, MARIA	\$150.00		
420412	09/07/2021	Open			Accounts Payable	MARTINEZ, DELPHIN, JESSICA	\$150.00		
420420	09/07/2021	Open			Accounts Payable	REBOLLO, ORALIA	\$150.00		
420421	09/07/2021	Open			Accounts Payable	RICHARDS, WATSON & GERSHON	\$1,302.25		
420422	09/07/2021	Open			Accounts Payable	RIOS, MARGARITA, L	\$150.00		
420424	09/07/2021	Open			Accounts Payable	RODRIGUEZ, ANNETTE	\$150.00		
420425	09/07/2021	Open			Accounts Payable	ROGERS, TODD, SCOTT RANDALL	\$150.00		
420535	09/21/2021	Open			Accounts Payable	KJ SERVICES ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING LLC	\$960.00		
Type Check Totals:					13 Transactions		<hr/>	\$6,754.75	

Payment Register

From Payment Date: 7/30/2021 - To Payment Date: 9/30/2021

Number	Date	Status	Void Reason	Reconciled/ Voided Date	Source	Payee Name	Transaction Amount	Reconciled Amount	Difference
EFT									
2212	09/15/2021	Open			Accounts Payable	RICHARDS, WATSON & GERSHON	\$321.50		
Type EFT Totals:							\$321.50		
GENERAL ACCOUNT - CBB GENERAL ACCOUNT Totals									

Checks	Status	Count	Transaction Amount	Reconciled Amount
	Open	13	\$6,754.75	\$0.00
	Reconciled	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Voided	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Stopped	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Total	13	\$6,754.75	\$0.00

EFTs	Status	Count	Transaction Amount	Reconciled Amount
	Open	1	\$321.50	\$0.00
	Reconciled	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Voided	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Total	1	\$321.50	\$0.00

All	Status	Count	Transaction Amount	Reconciled Amount
	Open	14	\$7,076.25	\$0.00
	Reconciled	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Voided	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Stopped	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Total	14	\$7,076.25	\$0.00

Grand Totals:

Checks	Status	Count	Transaction Amount	Reconciled Amount
	Open	13	\$6,754.75	\$0.00
	Reconciled	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Voided	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Stopped	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Total	13	\$6,754.75	\$0.00

EFTs	Status	Count	Transaction Amount	Reconciled Amount
	Open	1	\$321.50	\$0.00
	Reconciled	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Voided	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Total	1	\$321.50	\$0.00

All	Status	Count	Transaction Amount	Reconciled Amount
	Open	14	\$7,076.25	\$0.00
	Reconciled	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Voided	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Stopped	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Total	14	\$7,076.25	\$0.00



Southeast Water Coalition

A joint powers authority to protect the Central Groundwater Basin

SOUTHEAST WATER COALITION JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY AGENDA REPORT

Date: October 7, 2021
To: Southeast Water Coalition Board of Directors
From: Ivonne Castillo, Community Relations, MWD
John Bednarski, Chief Engineer, RRWP, MWD

Subject: Introduction to MWD's Regional Recycled Water Program

Recommendation: That the Administrative Entity take the following action:

Receive and file a report on the Regional Recycled Water Program from the Metropolitan Water District.

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.

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

10-7-21

AGENDA

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

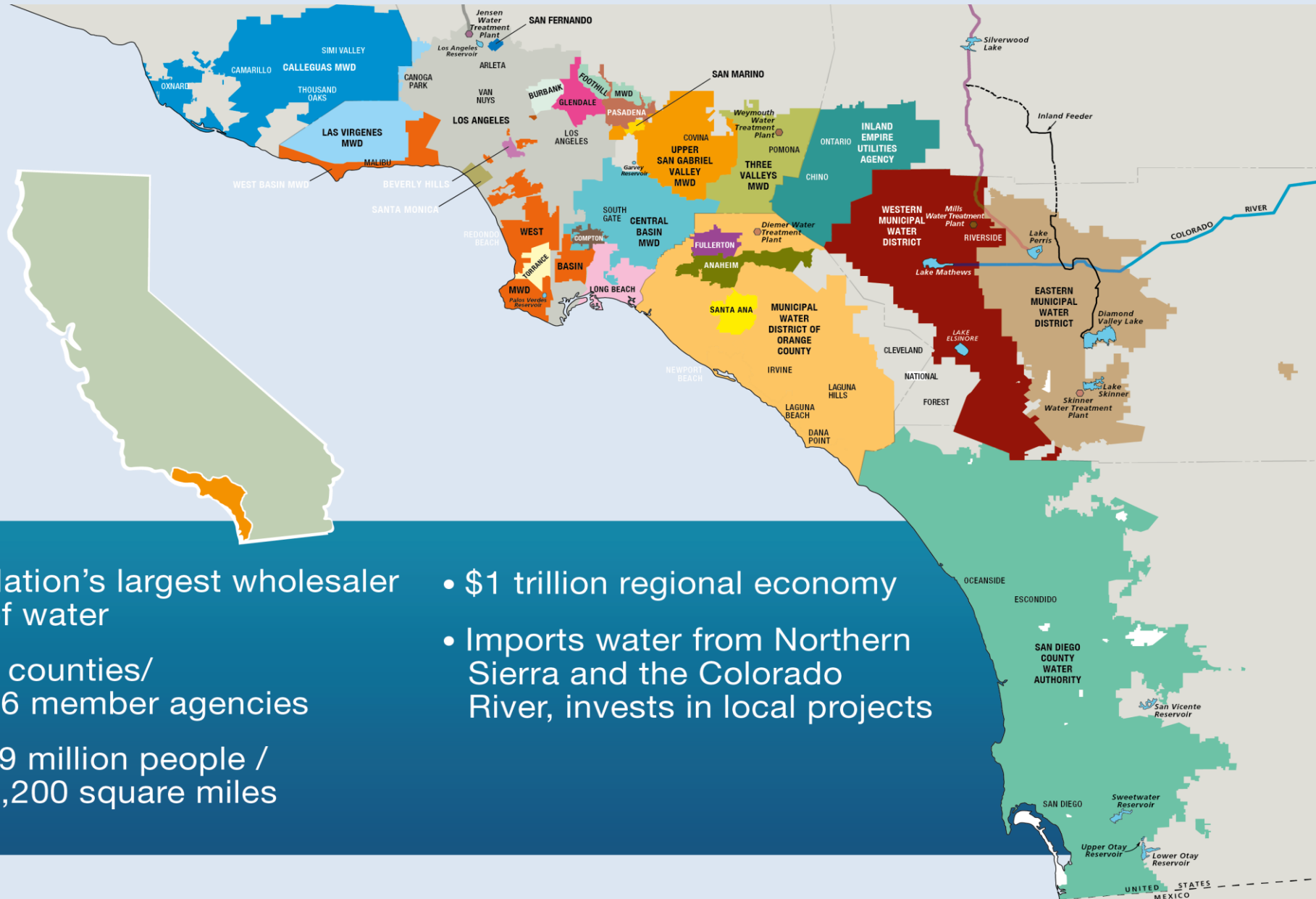




The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

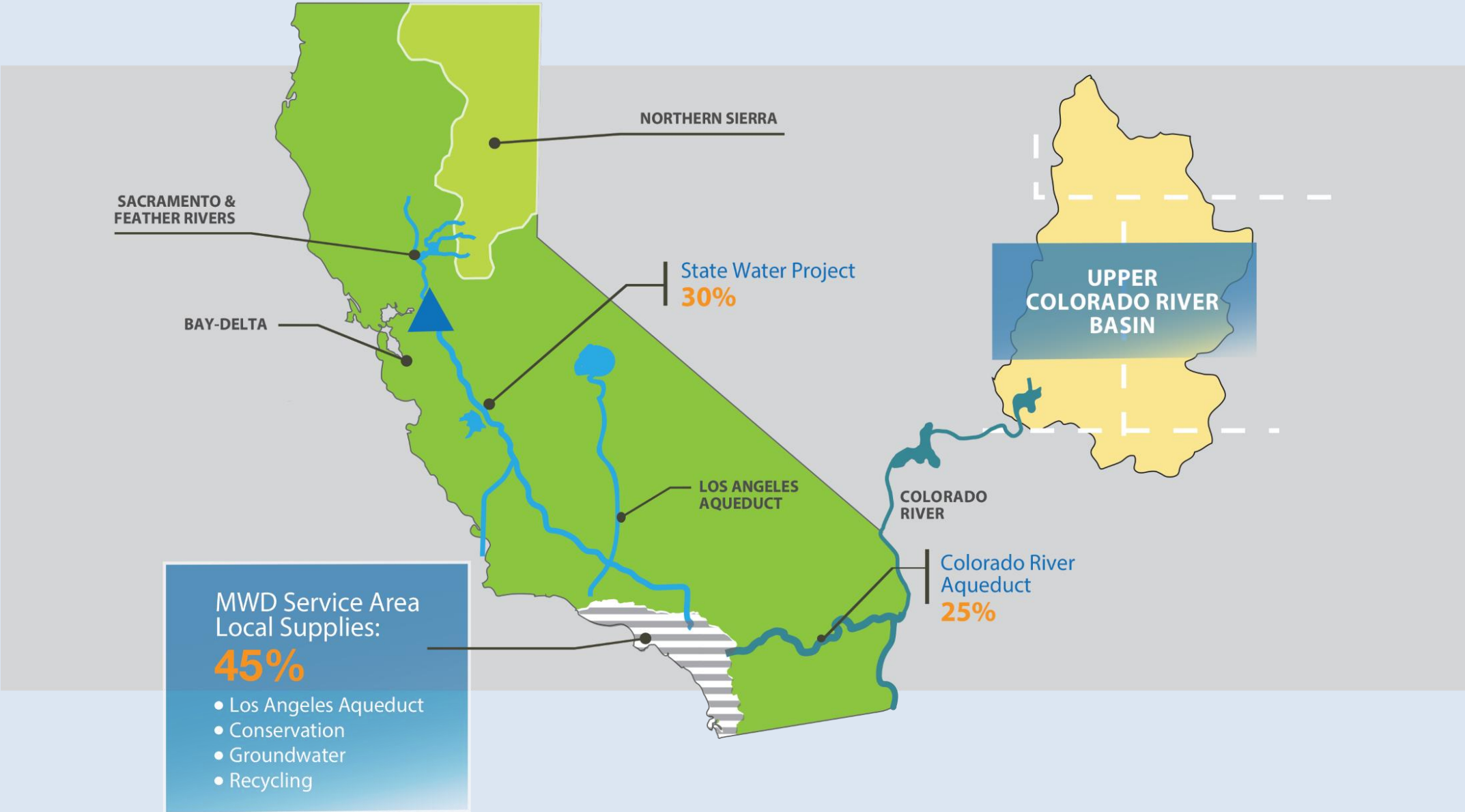
METROPOLITAN OVERVIEW



- 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

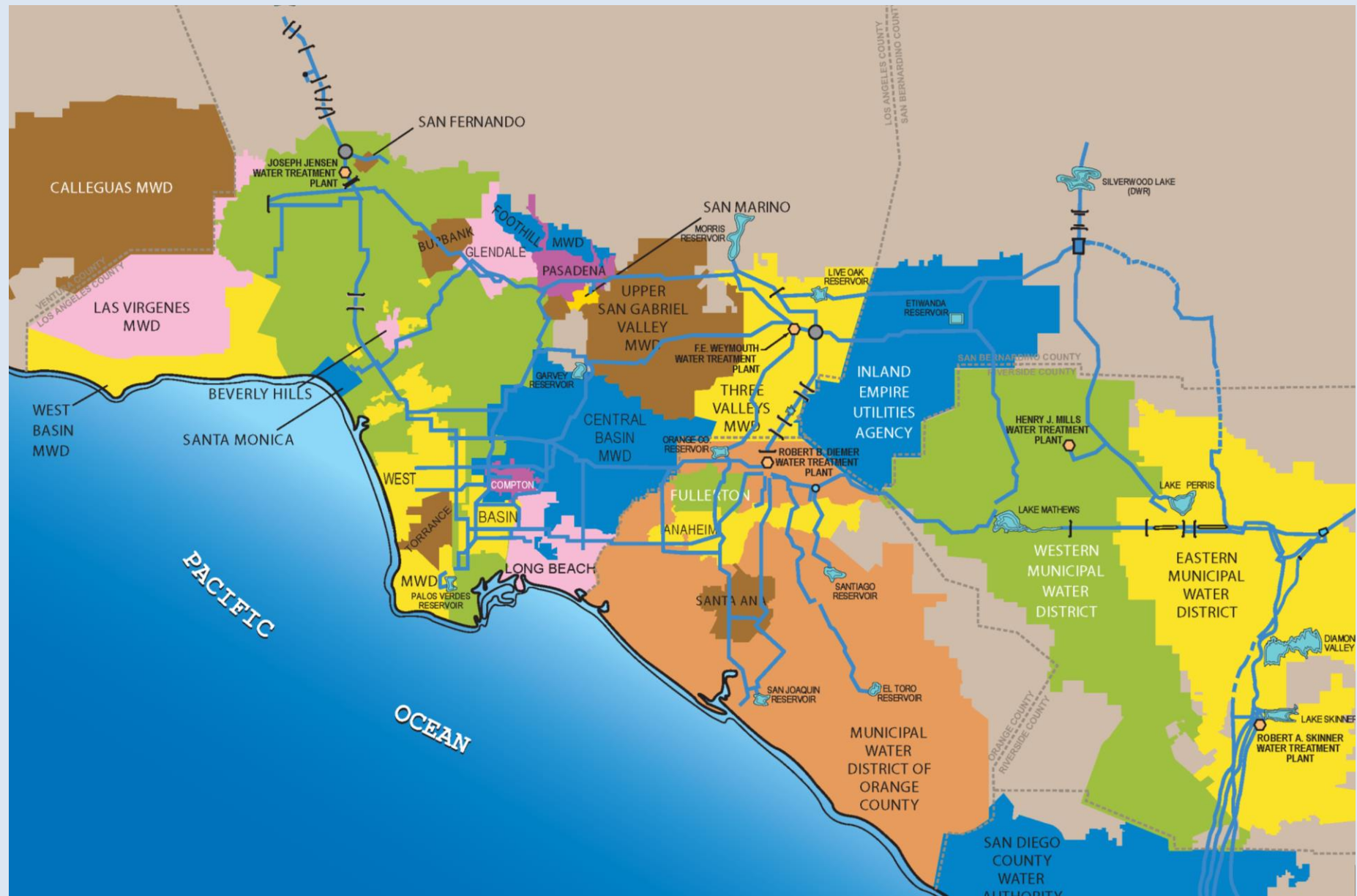


SOURCES OF WATER FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



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





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

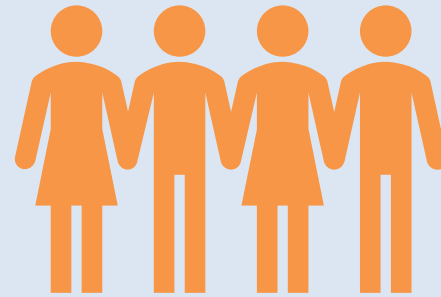


REGIONAL RECYCLED WATER PROGRAM

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.

Institutional Arrangements

- Water Replenishment District
- City of Long Beach
- City of Torrance

- Main San Gabriel Watermaster
- Three Valleys MWD
- Upper San Gabriel MWD

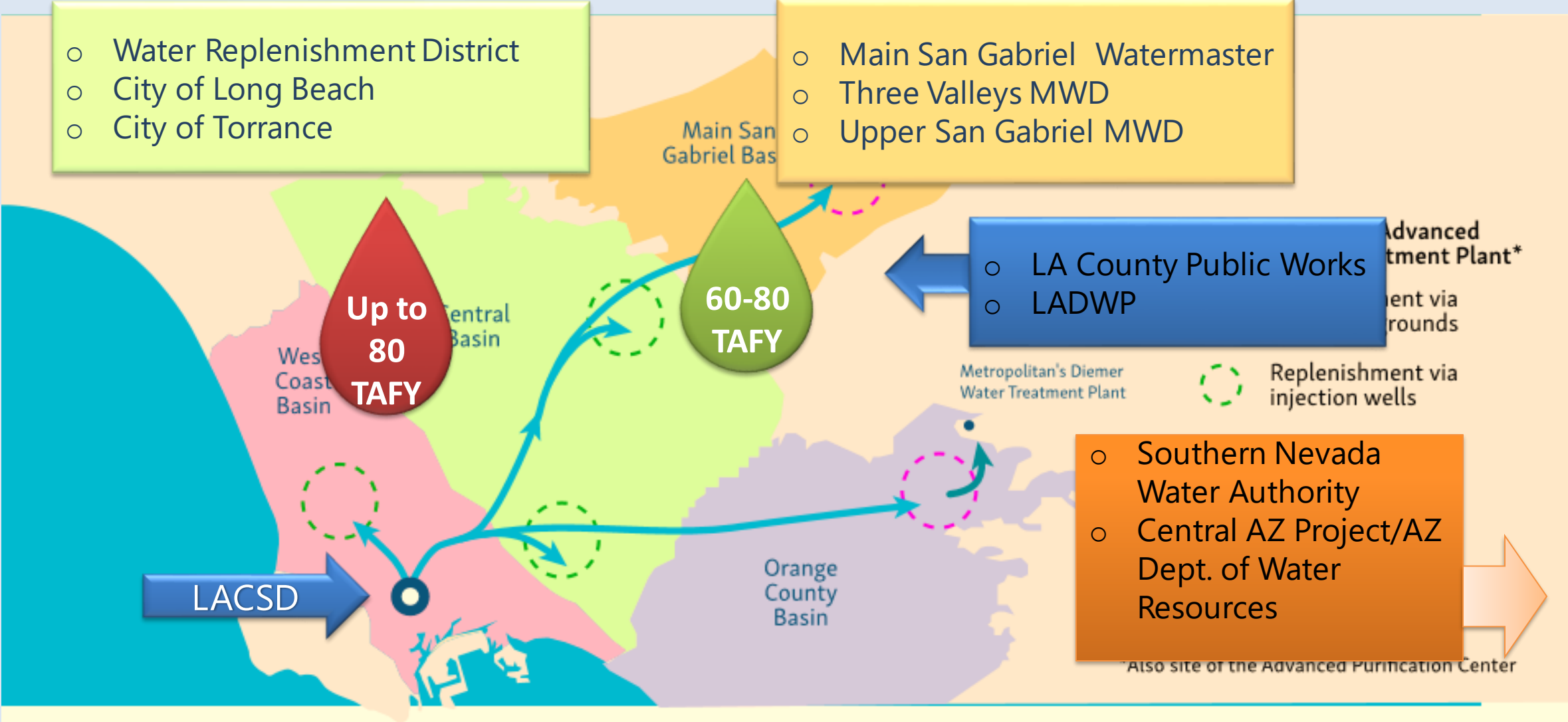
- LA County Public Works
- LADWP

Advanced
treatment Plant*
sent via
ground

Replenishment via
injection wells

- Southern Nevada Water Authority
- Central AZ Project/AZ Dept. of Water Resources

*Also site of the Advanced Purification Center



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

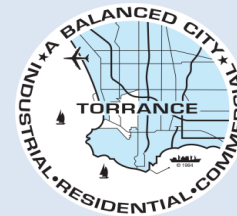


**Main San Gabriel Basin
WATERMASTER**

Metropolitan Member Agencies



Central Basin
Municipal Water District



Colorado River Partners



**SOUTHERN NEVADA
WATER AUTHORITY®**



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

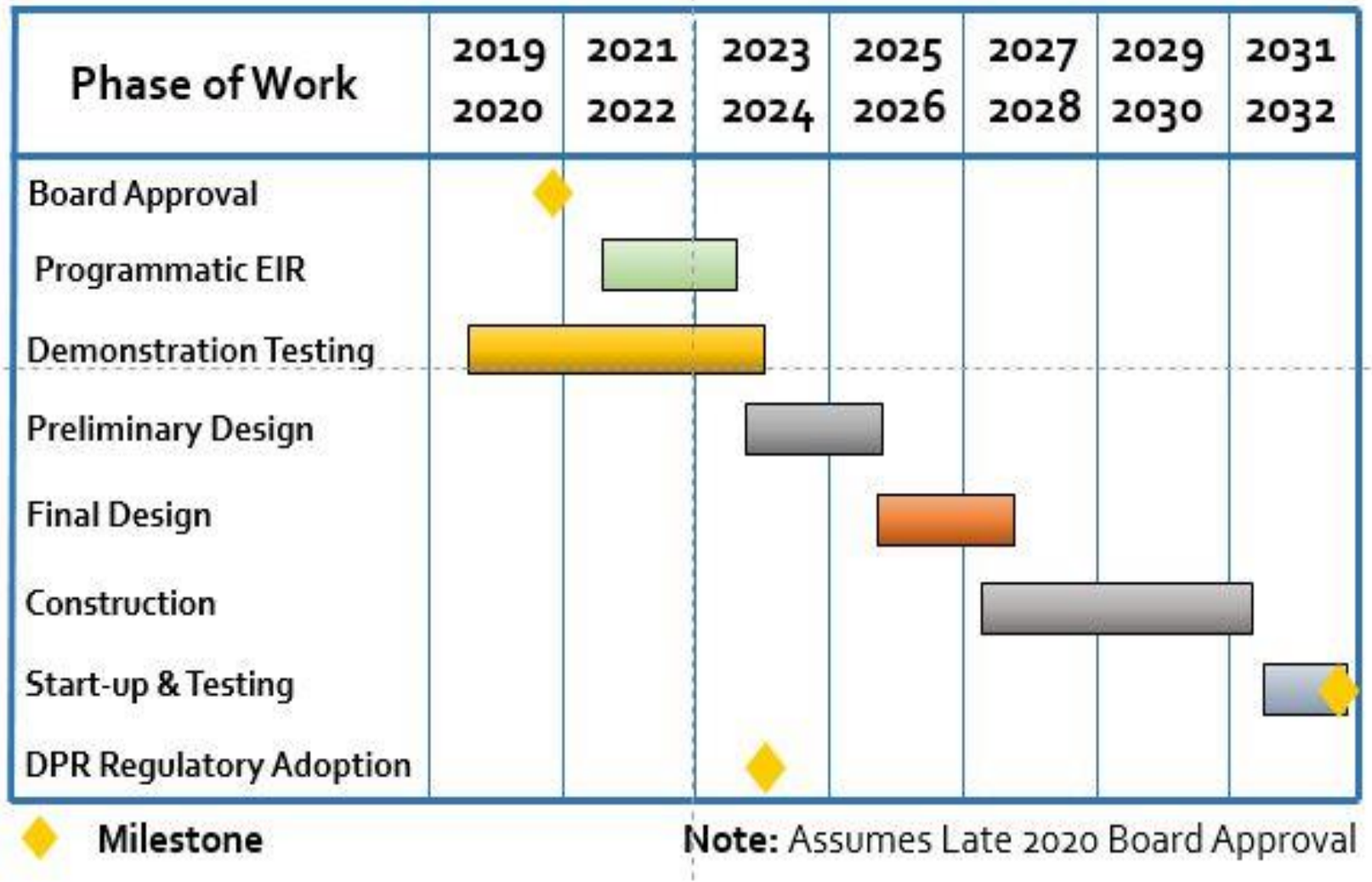
- Technical Studies – 2009
- Bench Scale Testing – 2012
- Feasibility Study – 2016
- Demonstration Plant – 2019-present
- Conceptual Study – 2019
- Environmental planning phase – approved Nov. 2020
 - Engineering and Technical Studies
 - Program Environmental Impact Report
 - Public Outreach support



Demonstration Facility



SCHEDULE



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

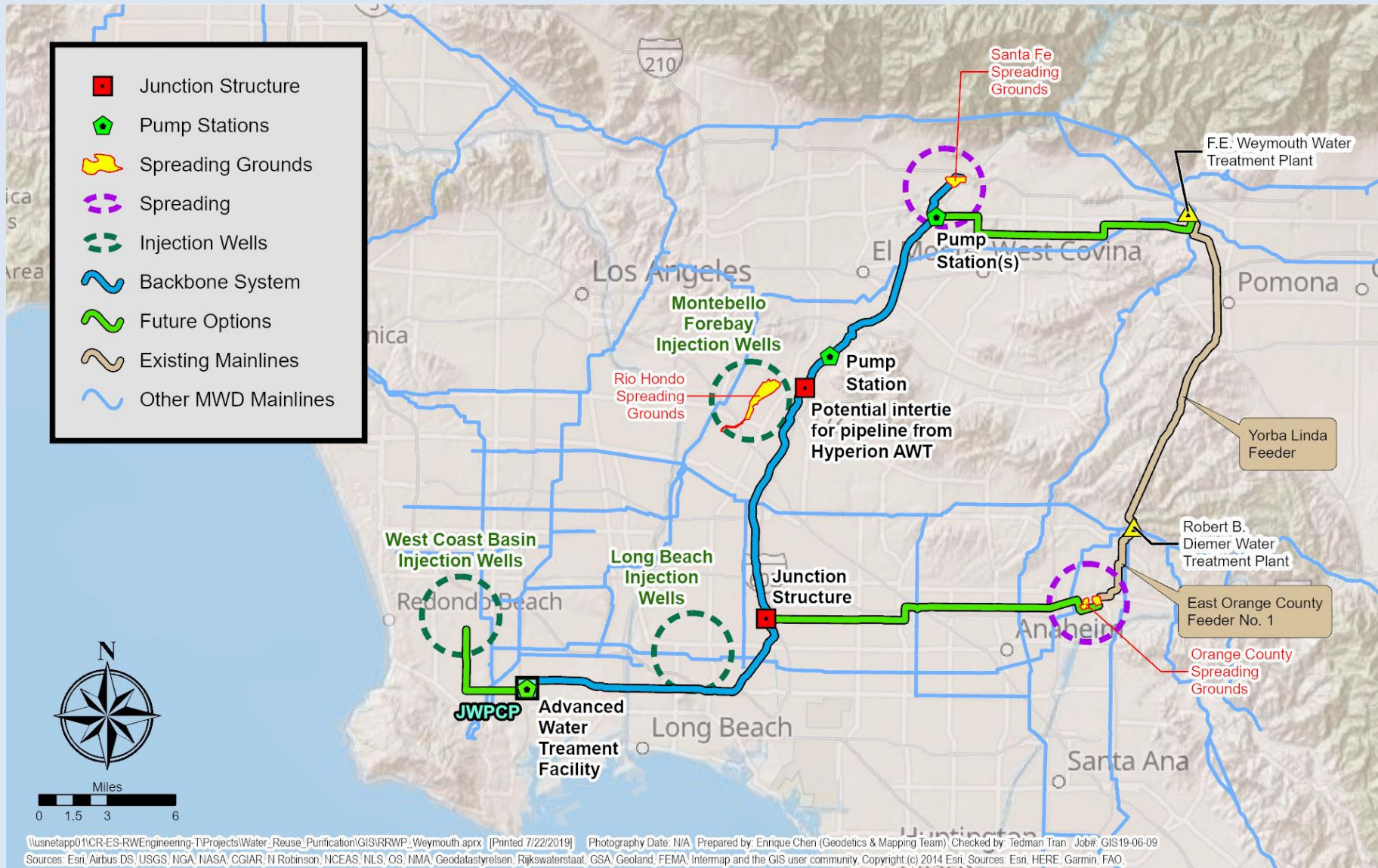
1. Costs are from the Conceptual Planning Studies Report (2018 dollars). Costs will be updated during the PEIR phase, if approved by the Board. Does not include cost of DPR



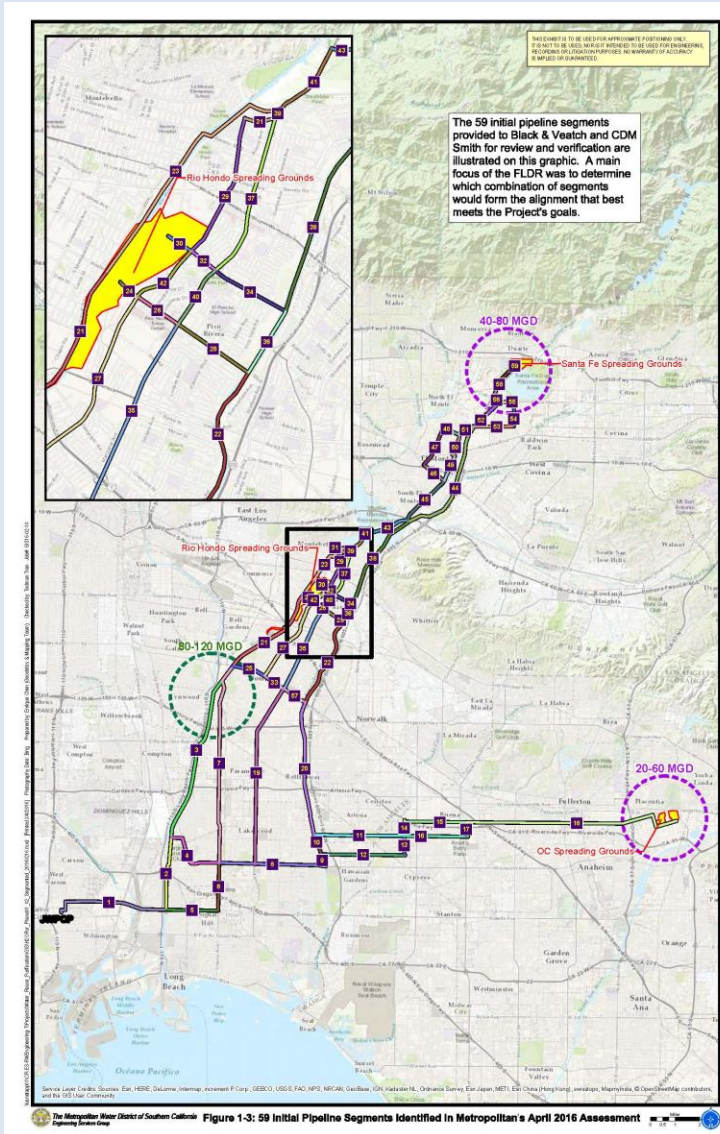


PIPELINE SYSTEM FOR WATER CONVEYANCE

PROJECT COMPONENTS

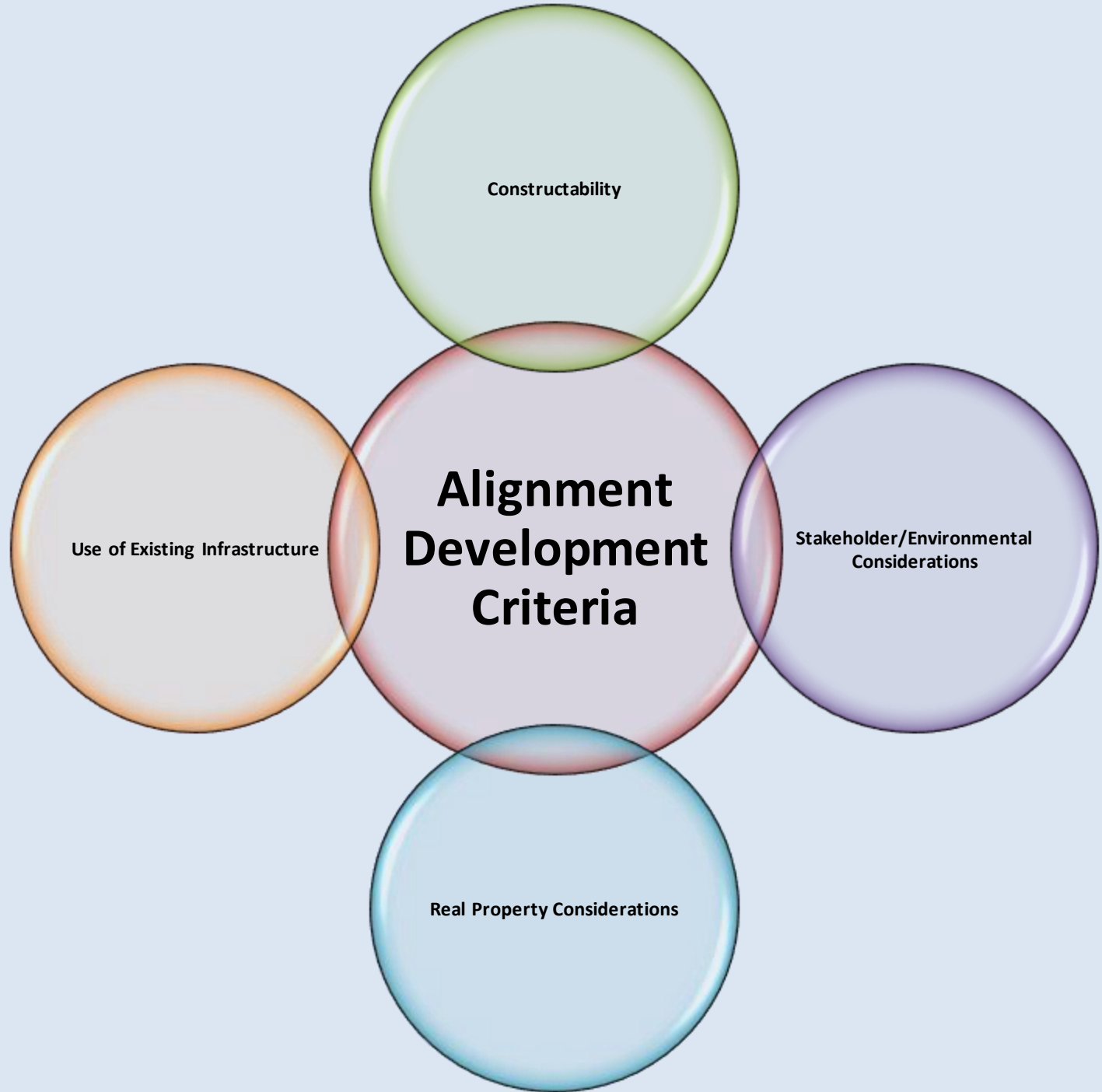


WORK COMPLETED TO DATE



- Internal MWD conveyance alignment study completed in 2016
 - Identified feasible pipeline alignments
- *Feasibility Level Design* study completed in June 2020
 - Identified a base-case alignment used for Program 2020 analysis
 - Identified multiple 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



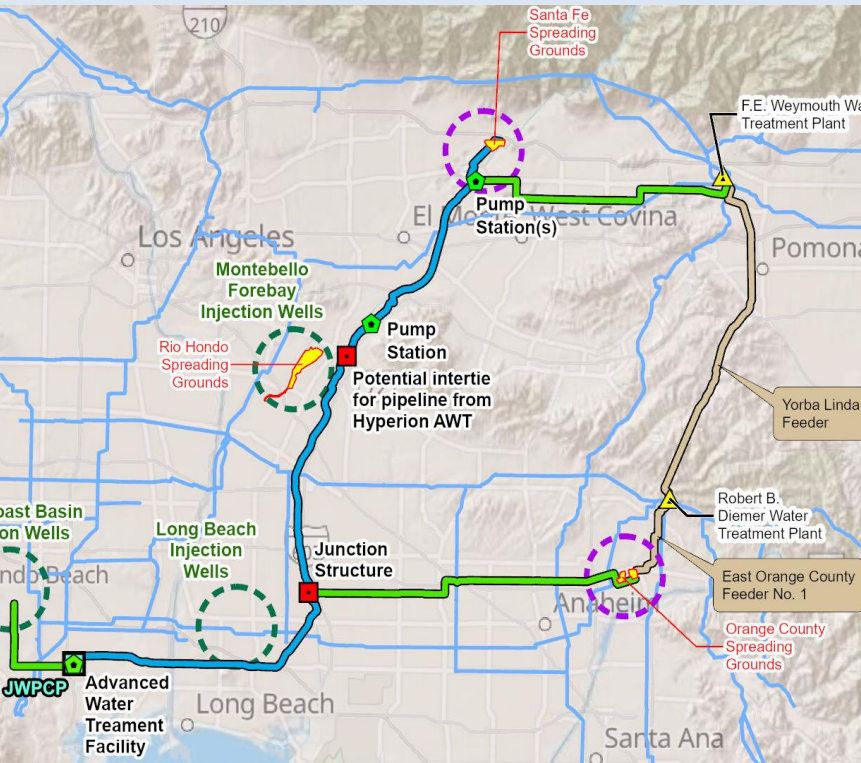




PROGRAM NEXT STEPS

WHAT'S NEXT

Working together with your city



Conceptual Engineering



Environmental Planning

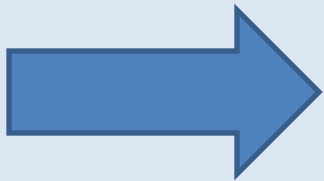


Community Outreach

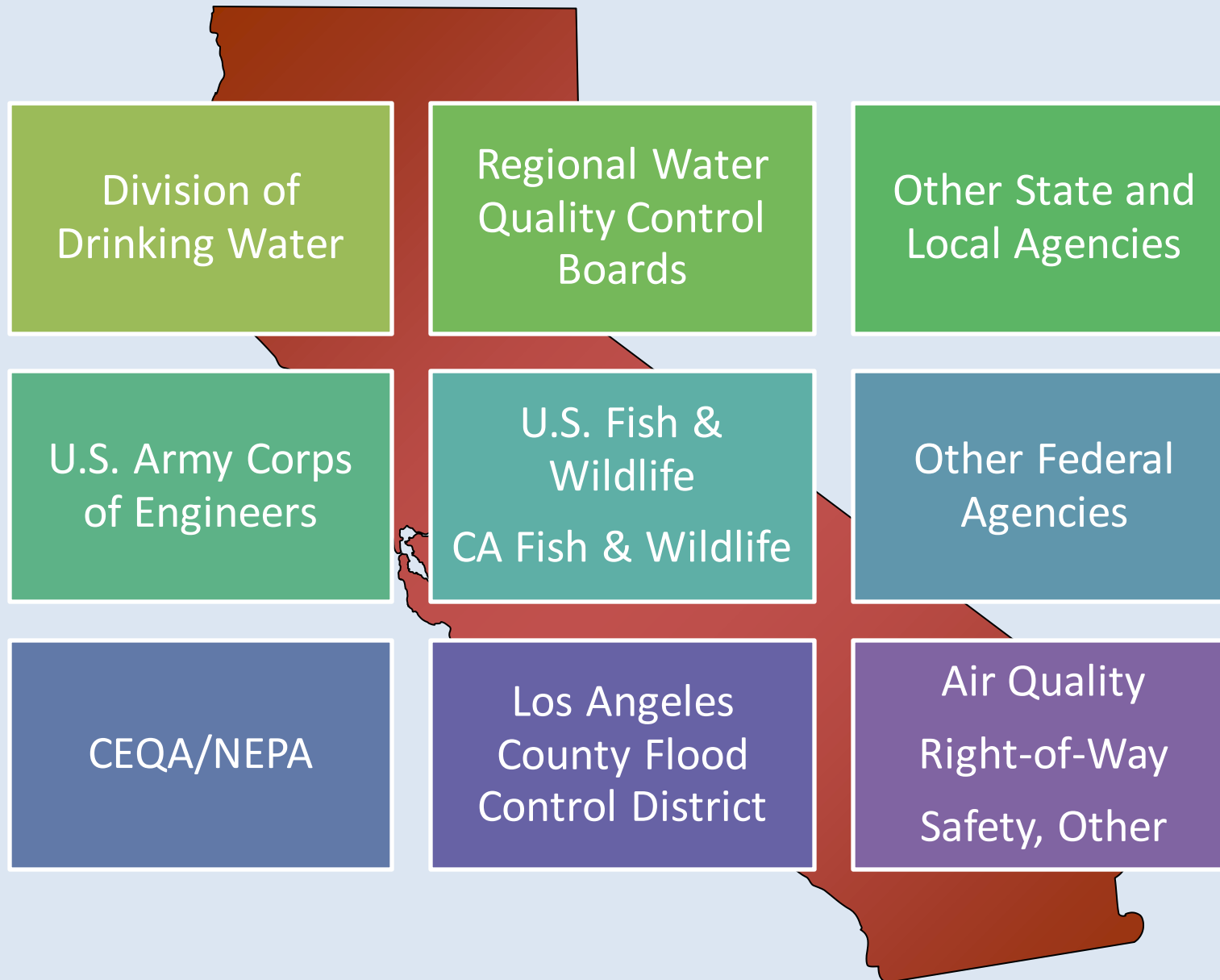


CONCEPTUAL ENGINEERING

- Continued refinement of alternative pipeline alignments
- Recommend preferred pipeline alignment corridor for environmental permitting and additional engineering studies



ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING/PERMITTING



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Starting environmental planning and associated public outreach

- Raise awareness of program needs and new water supply
- Reach out to communities potentially impacted by project





DISCUSSION/Q&A

John Bednarski

Chief Engineer, jbednarski@mwdh2o.com

mwdh2o.com/rrwp



@mwdh2o



METROPOLITAN RECYCLED WATER WEBSITE



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

EN Local Water Agency Director Login

Expanding Local Resources

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.

The Regional Recycled Water Program will purify wastewater to produce sustainable, high-quality water that could be used again. This partnership with Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts started with a demonstration facility and could eventually become one of the largest advanced water treatment plants in the world.

www.mwdh2o.com/RRWP





A joint powers authority to protect the Central Groundwater Basin

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

Date: October 7, 2021
To: Southeast Water Coalition Board of Directors
From: Gina Nila, AE Chair, City of Commerce
Mark Grajeda, General Manager, Pico Water District

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.

Background:

At the August 6, 2020 SEWC Board of Directors meeting, Directors received a report from WRD's Manager of Water Resources Diane Gatza, regarding WRD's PFAS Remediation Program. For more than a year, the Administrative Entity and Board of Directors have continued to receive updates on the status of the purveyors' applications for funding.

To date, only one local purveyor has entered into an agreement with the Water Replenishment District for PFAS Remediation. On September 23, 2021, WRD approved a contract with Pico Water District to provide grant funding in the amount of \$4,246,700 for the remediation of PFAS in 3 of their affected supply wells. Funds will pay for the design & construction of three separate treatment systems to remove PFAS from these 3 wells. Pico Water District estimated that the project would cost \$4.7M, but only qualified for \$4,246,700 from WRD.

It is recommended the Board of Directors receive an overview and status update on the PFAS funding agreement from the General Manager of Pico Water District, Mark Grajeda.

Attachments:

1. WRD Board of Directors staff report - September 23, 2021



MEMORANDUM
ITEM NO. 6

DATE: SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: STEPHAN TUCKER, GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: APPROVE AND EXECUTE A WRD PFAS REMEDIATION PROGRAM PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT WITH PICO WATER DISTRICT FOR FUNDING SUPPORT FOR PROPOSED PFAS TREATMENT SYSTEMS

SUMMARY

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals, which include perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS), and perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS) that have been manufactured and used in a variety of industries around the globe and the region since the 1940s. The State Water Resource Control Board's Division of Drinking Water (DDW) established Response Levels (RLs) of 10 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOA, 40 ppt for PFOS, and 5,000 ppt for PFBS. Assembly Bill 756, codified as Health and Safety Code Section 116378 which became effective January 1, 2020, requires that community water systems, including groundwater pumpers, either notify their customers of PFAS detections exceeding RLs or remove from service drinking water sources with PFAS exceeding RLs. In response, the WRD Board of Directors established the PFAS Remediation Program (the Program) on August 20, 2020, to provide either grants for water producers (i.e. groundwater pumpers) to install treatment systems (Funding Support Projects), or for WRD to construct treatment systems through management of the design and construction phases of the projects on behalf of the pumpers (Turnkey Projects) to remediate production wells that have been impacted by PFAS.

Pico Water District (PWD) has three production wells, specifically Wells 5A, 8, and 11, with PFOA concentrations that exceed the RL. As a result, PWD has applied for Program funding to design and construct a total of three separate treatment systems to remove PFAS from these production wells. PWD is seeking Funding Support only, and estimates the total cost of their project is \$4,700,893, excluding contingency costs. Based on the current Program requirements, PWD qualifies for grant funding in the amount of \$4,246,700. Staff recommends the Board of Directors approve and execute a WRD PFAS Remediation Program Participation Agreement with PWD with a funding amount not to exceed \$4,246,700 and an annual pumping requirement of 2,765 acre feet for their entire distribution system.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact to the FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 budget is \$4,246,700. This amount will be drawn from the 2018 Bond issuance allocated to Project 0480000 (PFAS Remediation Program).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors enter into a WRD PFAS Remediation Program Participation Agreement, subject to approval as to form by District Counsel, with Pico Water District for PFAS grant funding for an amount not to exceed \$4,246,700.



Southeast Water Coalition

A joint powers authority to protect the Central Groundwater Basin

SOUTHEAST WATER COALITION JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY AGENDA REPORT

Date: October 7, 2021
To: Southeast Water Coalition Board of Directors
From: 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:

It is recommended the Board of Directors receive and file this report from SEWC Legal Counsel Nick Ghirelli, of Richards, Watson & Gershon.



Southeast Water Coalition

A joint powers authority to protect the Central Groundwater Basin

SOUTHEAST WATER COALITION JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY AGENDA REPORT

Date: October 7, 2021
To: Southeast Water Coalition Board of Directors
From: Gina Nila, AE Chair, City of Commerce
Kristen Sales, KJServices Environmental Consulting

Subject: Legislative Update

Recommendation: That the Board take the following action:

Receive and file an update on current water-related bills under consideration in State Legislature.

Note: The deadline for the Governor to veto or chapter bills into law is Sunday, October 10, 2021.

AB 304 (Quirk) Contaminated sites: waste releases or surface or groundwater contamination: local oversight: remedial actions

This bill was enrolled on September 13, 2021 and is currently awaiting veto or chaptering on the Governor's desk.

Current law authorizes that, whenever a release of waste occurs and remedial action is required, a responsible party can request that a local officer supervise remedial action. Local health officers can oversee remediation sites pursuant to a voluntary agreement for any sites where there is no lead agency (i.e. DTSC or regional water board) providing oversight and where local health officers determine that they have the appropriate level of expertise. Current law does not provide state oversight or certification of local health officers implementing the voluntary cleanup program.

AB 304 would strengthen oversight of cleanups overseen by local health officers and includes provisions to increase transparency and public access to remedial site information. This bill also ensures that contaminated sites are cleaned up in a manner that is protective of public health regardless of whether local officers or state agencies are responsible for overseeing the site cleanup. If DTSC or the regional water board determine that local officers have insufficient resources to oversee the cleanup or insufficient enforcement authority to ensure compliance, this bill authorizes DTSC or the regional water board to retain oversight authority before or after entering into a remedial action agreement.

AB 1195 (Garcia, Cristina) Drinking Water

This bill failed to pass the Senate, and has become a two-year bill. AB 1195 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 Water Control Board.

SB 222 (Dodd) Water Rate Assistance Program

This bill was ordered to inactive file on September 3, 2021. SB 222 would establish the Water Rate Assistance Fund to help provide water affordability assistance, for both drinking water and wastewater services, to low-income ratepayers and ratepayers experiencing financial hardship. Would require the Department of Community Services and Development to develop and administer the Water Rate Assistance Program.

SB 223 (Dodd) Discontinuation of residential water service

This bill failed to move forward in the Senate and has become a two-year bill. SB 223 would apply the current provisions established by SB 998 to very small community water systems, defined as a public water system that supplies water to 200 or fewer residential service connections.

SB 403 (Gonzalez) Drinking water: consolidation

This bill was approved by the Governor on September 23, 2021 and chaptered into California law. SB 403 authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board to order consolidation where a water system serving a disadvantaged community is an at-risk water system, or where a disadvantaged community is substantially reliant on at-risk domestic wells.

SB 776 (Gonzalez) Safe drinking water and water quality

This bill was approved by the Governor on September 16, 2021 and chaptered into California law. SB 776 will expand the provisions of the California Safe Drinking Water Act to apply to small state water systems, as specified.



Southeast Water Coalition

A joint powers authority to protect the Central Groundwater Basin

SOUTHEAST WATER COALITION JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY AGENDA REPORT

Date: October 7, 2021
To: Southeast Water Coalition Board of Directors
From: Nick Ghirelli, Richards, Watson & Gershon
Subject: **Make Findings Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(3) Established by Assembly Bill 361 - New Legislation Regarding Public Meetings and Teleconferencing**

Recommendation: That the Board take the following actions:

- 1) Receive & file an update on Assembly Bill 361 from legal counsel, Nick Ghirelli;
- 2) Make the following findings pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(3):
 - a) the Board has reconsidered the circumstances of the COVID-19 state of emergency; and
 - b) state and local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing.

Summary:

Staff has placed this item on the agenda so that the Board can continue to meet virtually pursuant to AB 361's special Brown Act requirements for teleconference meetings. These special requirements give local public agencies greater flexibility to conduct teleconference meetings when there is a declared state of emergency and either social distancing is mandated or recommended, or an in-person meeting would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees.

Background:

On March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency to exist in California due to the spread of COVID-19. The Governor subsequently issued numerous executive orders suspending or modifying state laws to facilitate the response to the emergency. Among other things, these executive orders superseded certain Brown Act requirements and established special rules to give local public agencies greater flexibility to conduct teleconference meetings. Those special rules expired on September 30, 2021.

On September 16, 2021, in anticipation of the then-imminent expiration of his special rules for teleconference meetings, the Governor signed AB 361. In key part, this bill amends the Brown Act to establish special requirements for teleconference meetings if a legislative body of a local public agency holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency and either state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, or the body determines, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

To continue to hold meetings under these special teleconferencing requirements, a legislative body of a local public agency need to make two findings pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(3). First, there must be a declared state of emergency and the legislative body must find that it has “reconsidered” the circumstances of such emergency. Second, the legislative body must find that such emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the legislative body’s members to meet in person. Alternatively, for the second finding, the legislative body must find that state or local officials continue to impose or recommend social distancing measures. These findings must be made within 30 days after the legislative body teleconferences for the first time under AB 361 and on a monthly basis thereafter. Given that the Board only meets every other month, staff believes that it is appropriate to make these findings at every Board meeting.

The declared emergency is still in effect. Furthermore, the State of California and the County of Los Angeles have recommended measures to promote social distancing. The California Division of Occupational Safety and Health still requires that employers provide training on the effectiveness of physical distancing in the workplace. Additionally, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health still encourages people at risk for severe illness or death from COVID-19 to take protective measures such as social distancing and, for those not yet fully vaccinated, to physically distance from others whose vaccination status is unknown. The County Health Department also continues to recommend that employers take steps to support physical distancing.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Board make the following findings so that meetings of the Board will be subject to the special Brown Act requirements for teleconference meetings: (1) the Board has reconsidered the circumstances of the COVID-19 state of emergency; and (2) state and local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing.

Attachments:

- 1) RW&G Memorandum of September 22, 2021 - Assembly Bill 361 - New Legislation Regarding Public Meetings and Teleconferencing



Nicholas R. Ghirelli

T 213.253.0287
E nghirelli@rwglaw.com

350 South Grand Avenue
37th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90071
rwglaw.com

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kristen Sales, KJServices Environmental Consulting, LLC
Gina Nila, City of Commerce

FROM: Nicholas R. Ghirelli

DATE: September 22, 2021

SUBJECT: Assembly Bill 361 – New Legislation Regarding Public Meetings and Teleconferencing

On September 16, 2021 Governor Newsom signed [AB 361](#), new legislation that amends the Brown Act to allow local agencies to meet remotely during declared emergencies under certain conditions. AB 361 took effect immediately as an urgency measure, but the Governor subsequently suspended application of the legislation – with limited exceptions – until October 1, 2021.

AB 361 builds upon Executive Order (“EO”) N-29-20, issued by the Governor on March 17, 2020, which relaxed the teleconferencing requirements of the Brown Act to facilitate virtual meetings during the COVID-19 declared emergency. EO N-29-20’s provisions concerning public meetings generally apply through September 30, 2021.¹

AB 361 authorizes local agencies to continue meeting remotely without following the Brown Act’s standard teleconferencing provisions,² including the requirement that meetings be conducted in physical locations, if the meeting is held during a state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor and either of the following applies: (1) state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing;³ or (2) the agency has already determined

¹ EO N-08-21, ¶ 42, issued June 11, 2021; EO N-15-21, ¶ 1, issued September 20, 2021.

² The standard teleconferencing requirements found in Government Code Section 54953(b)(3) include the requirements to: (1) post agendas at all teleconference locations, (2) identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and (3) make each teleconference location accessible to the public.

³ We recommend that you consult with your RWG attorney to determine whether state or local officials have imposed or recommended any measures to promote social distancing at this time.

or is determining whether, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.⁴

EO N-29-20 required legislative bodies⁵ to make remote public meetings accessible telephonically or otherwise electronically to all members of the public seeking to observe and to address the local legislative body, and to make reasonable efforts to adhere as closely as reasonably possible to the provisions of the Brown Act. AB 361 adds new procedures and clarifies the requirements for conducting remote meetings as follows:

- ***Public Comment Opportunities in Real Time:*** A legislative body that meets remotely pursuant to AB 361 must allow members of the public to access the meeting via a call-in option or an internet-based service option, and the agenda for the remote meeting must provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the body in real time.⁶ Although the agency may still ask for public comments to be submitted in advance, the agency cannot require public comments to be submitted in advance of the meeting.⁷ Agencies may not close a public comment period until members of the public are given the opportunity to register and the time for that comment period has elapsed, whether it is for a specific agenda item or a general comment period.⁸ If an agency does not provide a timed public comment period, but takes public comment separately on each agenda item, it must allow a reasonable amount of time per agenda item to allow members of the public the opportunity to provide public comment, including time to register or “otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment.”⁹
- ***No Action During Disruptions:*** In the event of a disruption that prevents the local agency from broadcasting the remote meeting, or in the event of a disruption within the local agency’s control that prevents members of the public from offering public comments using the call-in option or internet-based service option, AB 361 prohibits the legislative

⁴ Gov. Code § 54953(e)(1). AB 361 also provides, until January 31, 2022, similar temporary relaxation of in-person meeting and teleconferencing requirements for state bodies subject to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act and legislative bodies of student body organizations subject to the Gloria Romero Open Meetings Act of 2000.

⁵ For purposes of the Brown Act, the term “legislative body” is defined to include the governing body of a local agency (e.g., the city council or the board of supervisors) and any commission, committee, board, or other body of the local agency, whether permanent or temporary, decision-making or advisory, that is created by formal action of a legislative body. Gov. Code § 54952(a)-(b).

⁶ Gov. Code § 54953(e)(2)(B), (E). AB 361 further provides that, “[i]n each instance in which notice of the time of the teleconferenced meeting is otherwise given or the agenda for the meeting is otherwise posted, the legislative body shall also give notice of the means by which members of the public may access the meeting and offer public comment.” Gov. Code § 54953(e)(2)(B).

⁷ Gov. Code § 54953(e)(2)(E).

⁸ Gov. Code § 54953(e)(2)(G).

⁹ Gov. Code § 54953(e)(2)(G)(ii). Accordingly, adequate time should be given to allow remote speakers to access the meeting, such as a few extra seconds to allow speakers to unmute, or overcome technical difficulties.

body from taking any further action on items appearing on the meeting agenda until public access to the meeting via the call-in or internet-based options is restored.¹⁰

- *Periodic Findings*: To continue meeting remotely pursuant to AB 361, an agency must make periodic findings that: (1) the body has reconsidered the circumstances of the declared emergency; and (2) the emergency impacts the ability of the body's members to meet safely in person, or state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.¹¹ These findings should be made not later than 30 days after teleconferencing for the first time pursuant to AB 361, and every 30 days thereafter. We recommend that the agency initially make these findings in October 2021, and place on the agenda (as a placeholder) "reconsideration" of the findings every month thereafter. AB 361 will sunset on January 1, 2024.¹²

While AB 361 took effect immediately as urgency legislation, the Governor issued an executive order on September 20, 2021 that generally suspends application of the legislation until October 1, 2021.¹³ This suspension does not apply, however, to any local legislative body that meets remotely to determine whether—as a result of a gubernatorial proclaimed emergency—meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; any such meeting held on or after September 20, 2021 must be conducted in accordance with the procedural requirements set forth in AB 361.¹⁴

For further information regarding AB 361, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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¹⁰ Gov. Code § 54953(e)(2)(D).

¹¹ Gov. Code § 54953(e)(3).

¹² Gov. Code § 54953(f).

¹³ EO N-15-21, ¶ 1, issued September 20, 2021.

¹⁴ *Id.*