



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/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, NOVEMBER 18, 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 SEPTEMBER 16, 2021
REGULAR MEETING**

Recommendation: Approve minutes as submitted.

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

- 4. EPA STRATEGIC ROADMAP FOR PFAS**

Gina Nila, AE Chair, City of Commerce

Kristen Sales, KJServices Environmental Consulting

Recommendation: That the Administrative Entity take the following action:

Receive and file a presentation on EPA's Strategic Roadmap for PFAS.

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

Gina Nila, AE Chair, City of Commerce

Recommendation: That the Administrative Entity take the following actions:

1) 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.

8. DECEMBER 2, 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA

Kristen Sales, KJServices Environmental Consulting

Recommendation: Consider Draft SEWC JPA Board of Directors Agenda

9. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

10. 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: November 15, 2021

Michelle Keshishian
Environmental Coordinator
City of Commerce

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

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 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 3:08 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
Gina Nila, AE Chair	City of Commerce
Michelle Keshishian	City of Commerce
Jason Wen	City of Lakewood
Derwin Dy	City of Lakewood
Adriana Figueroa	City of Paramount (left at 4:05 p.m.)
Chris Castillo	City of South Gate (left at 4:06 p.m.)
Joanna Moreno	City of Vernon
Ray Cordero	City of Whittier
Others in Attendance	
Cesar Rangel	City of Whittier
Kristen Sales	KJServices Environmental Consulting
Nick Ghirelli	RWG
Ivonne Castillo	Metropolitan Water District
Rupam Sonia	MWD
Tuannee Holmes	MWD
Hedieh Esfahani	MWD
Jay Arabshahi	MWD
Ana Reyes	MWD
Brenda Marines	MWD
Lizeth Martinez	MWD
Bruce Chalmers	MWD

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 Jason Wen (Lakewood). The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote of the Administrative Entity members.

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

Ivonne Castillo of the Metropolitan Water District gave an overview of the project. MWD is the nation's largest water wholesaler, providing water to 19M residents. The Regional Recycled Water Program is the first time Met has pursued a regional water supply. They are working with San Districts' Joint Water Pollution Control Plant in Carson to provide a new source of water for Southern California to homes & businesses. RRWP will eventually provide direct potable reuse when regulations allow. RRWP will provide up to 150M gallons of water per day, which would be the largest program of its kind in the world. It would supply the Main San Gabriel, West, and Orange County Basins, providing replenishment via spreading ground and injection wells.

The Advanced Water Treatment Plant has membrane bioreactors, reverse osmosis & UV light/advanced oxidation (near distilled quality for potable & non-potable uses). The AWTP is currently in the environmental planning phase (CEQA, EIMP, public outreach) and at about the halfway point (construction veins around 2027/28). It will cost \$3.4M for capital, plus an annual \$129M for O&M (not including any grants or loans).

Hedieh Esfahani of the MWD explained the construction of the conveyance pipelines. She stated that Phase 1 would be the backbone system that runs from Carson to Irwindale. The goal is to minimize impacts to cities through which the backbone pipeline runs. Phase 2 would be the expansion for Direct Potable Reuse, with pump stations at La Verne and Yorba Linda for injection. WRD is considering Northern and Southern routes for Phase 2. WRD has an Alignment Development Criteria which considers constructability, use of existing infrastructure, environmental considerations, and real property consideration. MWD RRWP would build up to 40 miles of new pipeline.

Bruce Chalmers of MWD provided an update on the Program Next Steps, including conceptual engineering, environmental planning, and community outreach (during CEQA phase). Mr. Chalmers described the three optional alignments, via the L.A. River, San Gabriel River, and streets in-between, to determine a preferred alignment by the end of 2021. MWD wants to move the project along faster, to meet

their goals prior to the 2032 deadline goal. MWD will meet with all potentially impacted cities to work on mitigation measures during the CEQA phase, and is working on a stakeholder database.

AE Chair Gina Nila (Commerce) then opened the floor to questions and comments. AE Member Jason Wen (Lakewood) stated that the RRWP is of particular interest to SEWC, since lots of wells in the area are impacted by PFAS & all of those wells are very close to recharge & injection wells. Mr. Wen asked how this project will handle treatment of PFAS, considering that PFAS levels have been found in effluent from recycled water being recharged. How is that being dealt with?

Jay Arabshahi of MWD answered that it is 10 years before the project is online, so substantial modeling work is ahead, but reiterated that treated water will meet drinking water standards. Bruce Chalmers added that it was unknown if recycled water would push PFAS towards purveyor wells. The RRWP will use reverse osmosis for all water, including tertiary. All the water will be of the same 'cleanliness' level, regardless of the end use of the water. Mr. Arabshahi added that he will put Mr. Wen in contact with Matt Hacker, the groundwater expert for the project.

AE Member Adriana Figueroa (Paramount) asked if MWD had a more specific conveyance system map that goes through specific cities at a more granular level. She asked where specifically in each city they are considering for the pipeline. Jay Arabshahi answered that MWD studied alignment options from 2015 to 2018. The third alignment would be on the streets, between the LA River and the San Gabriel River, along Rosemead Blvd. Mr. Arabshahi added that in the next 6 to 8 months, MWD will have more specific information from their alignment assessments.

AE Chair Gina Nila (Commerce) added that, regardless of which alignment will be chosen, some SEWC member agencies will be impacted, and SEWC Board Members will want a more specific map that goes into detail, street by street. Jay Arabshahi said that the boundary MWD is looking at in the City of Paramount is just below the 91 freeway, and down North Atlantic. He added that this preliminary alignment is only for the space for the pipeline, without consideration of right of way or environmental factors, etc. AE Chair Nila asked what the diameter of the pipeline will be. Mr. Arabshahi answered that the pipeline is 82 inches in diameter, and they will have about 5-10 feet of cover over the pipeline. WMD is looking into the public right of way as an option.

AE Chair Nila stated that, in order to prepare for the SEWC Board Meeting, MWD will need to prepare a more granular look that specifically includes all the possible/potential alignments, and the AE needs advance notice on the details. Mr. Arabshahi answered that they are not prepared to discuss plans in that level of detail at this time, adding that MWD has to meet with cities individually for their input. AE Chair Nila added that SEWC Board Members are also members of their City Councils, and will ask for these details, even if they are conceptual and potential.

Rupam Sonia op MWD thanked AE Chair Nila for the feedback and stated that for

the October 7th Board Meeting, the chief engineer’s presentation will be a more high-level overview. She stated they will keep working with each individual city, but the chief engineer may be able to answer those specific questions. AE Chair Nila asked MWD to be prepared to talk about agreements for the end-use of RRWP water, adding that SEWC Board Members are well-informed on stormwater and recycled water issues, and they will want to ask more questions, especially about beneficial use (agreements, easements, etc.). AE Chair Nila asked if there would be a recommended alignment by the end of the calendar year 2021, or the end of the Fiscal Year. She requested additional information on the timeline so the AE can prepare their Board Members.

Adriana Figueroa (Paramount) posted the following comment in the Zoom chat: “Sorry, but I have to leave the meeting to attend another, however, I think you should be prepared to answer questions regarding PFAS and more detail on the alignment, potential issues, and of course cost impacts.”

AE Chair Nila stated that they will review MWD’s revised presentation for the October 7th SEWC Board Meeting, and added that she looked forward to the presentation.

This item was received and filed by the Administrative Entity. After Item 4 was received & filed by the Administrative Entity, Members Adriana Figueroa (Paramount) and Chris Castillo (South Gate) left the meeting and the AE lost quorum.

11. ADJOURNMENT

AE Chair Gina Nila adjourned the meeting at 4:06 p.m., due to loss of quorum.

CHAIR

ATTEST:



Southeast Water Coalition

A joint powers authority to protect the Central Groundwater Basin

SOUTHEAST WATER COALITION JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY AGENDA REPORT

Date: November 18, 2021
To: Southeast Water Coalition Administrative Entity
From: Gina Nila, AE Chair, City of Commerce
Kristen Sales, KJServices Environmental Consulting

Subject: EPA Strategic Roadmap for PFAS

Recommendation: That the Administrative Entity take the following action:

Receive and file a presentation on EPA's Strategic Roadmap for PFAS.

Background

On October 18, 2021, the U.S. EPA announced a Strategic Roadmap to address PFAS contamination nationwide. The Roadmap centers three strategies: investment in research, proactive prevention to restrict PFAS entering the environment, and accelerated and broadened cleanup of existing PFAS contamination. Multiple EPA Offices will be in charge of various aspects of the Roadmap.

Actions include establishing a national primary drinking water regulation for PFOA and PFOS (proposed rulemaking Fall 2022, rule expected Fall 2023), and publishing health advisories for GenX and PFBS (Spring 2022). EPA also proposes to designate certain PFAS as CERCLA hazardous substances, meaning their remediation could be classified as a Superfund site. In addition, EPA will establish timelines for Effluent Guidelines Limitations under the Clean Water Act for nine industrial categories.

EPA will also announce a new testing strategy that requires PFAS manufacturers to provide the agency with toxicity data and information on categories of PFAS chemicals.

The newly approved bipartisan infrastructure will include \$10 billion nationwide for PFAS relief: \$5 billion for small and disadvantaged communities, \$4 billion to drinking water utilities to remove PFAS, and \$1 billion to help wastewater utilities address PFAS in wastewater discharges.

Attachments:

1. October 18, 2021 - EPA Administrator Regan Announces Comprehensive National Strategy to Confront PFAS Pollution
2. PFAS Strategic Roadmap: EPA's Commitments to Action 2021-2024

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News Releases from Headquarters > Office of the Administrator (AO)

CONTACT US <<https://epa.gov/newsreleases/forms/contact-us>>

EPA Administrator Regan Announces Comprehensive National Strategy to Confront PFAS Pollution

October 18, 2021

Contact Information

EPA Press Office (press@epa.gov)

WASHINGTON (Oct. 18, 2021) – Today U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Michael S. Regan announced the agency’s comprehensive Strategic Roadmap to confront PFAS contamination nationwide. The Roadmap is the result of a thorough analysis conducted by the EPA Council on PFAS that Administrator Regan established in April 2021. EPA’s Roadmap is centered on three guiding strategies: Increase investments in research, leverage authorities to take action now to restrict PFAS chemicals from being released into the environment, and accelerate the cleanup of PFAS contamination. North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper and other elected leaders will join Administrator Regan at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC, for the announcement.

“For far too long, families across America – especially those in underserved communities – have suffered from PFAS in their water, their air, or in the land their children play on,” **said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan.** “This comprehensive, national PFAS strategy will deliver protections to people who are hurting, by advancing

bold and concrete actions that address the full lifecycle of these chemicals. Let there be no doubt that EPA is listening, we have your back, and we are laser focused on protecting people from pollution and holding polluters accountable.”

"This roadmap commits the EPA to quickly setting enforceable drinking water limits for these chemicals as well as giving stronger tools to communities to protect people's health and the environment," **said North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper**. "As we continue partnering with the EPA on this and other important efforts, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal and the larger budget resolution would provide critical help by dedicating significant resources to address PFAS contamination."

The Strategic Roadmap delivers on the agency's mission to protect public health and the environment and answers the call for action on these persistent and dangerous chemicals. Today, alongside the release of the Roadmap, the agency is announcing a new national testing strategy that requires PFAS manufacturers to provide the agency with toxicity data and information on categories of PFAS chemicals. The PFAS to be tested will be selected based on an approach that breaks the large number of PFAS today into smaller categories based on similar features and considers what existing data are available for each category. EPA's initial set of test orders for PFAS, which are expected in a matter of months, will be strategically selected from more than 20 different categories of PFAS. This set of orders will provide the agency with critical information on more than 2,000 other similar PFAS that fall within these categories.

The Roadmap lays out:

- Aggressive timelines to set **enforceable drinking water limits** under the Safe Drinking Water Act to ensure water is safe to drink in every community.
- **A hazardous substance designation** under CERCLA, to strengthen the ability to hold polluters financially accountable.
- Timelines for action—whether it is data collection or rulemaking—on **Effluent Guideline Limitations under the Clean Water Act for nine industrial categories**.
- **A review of past actions on PFAS taken under the Toxic Substances Control Act** to address those that are insufficiently protective.
- Increased **monitoring, data collection and research** so that the agency can identify what actions are needed and when to take them.

- A final **toxicity assessment for GenX**, which can be used to develop health advisories that will help communities make informed decisions to better protect human health and ecological wellness.
- Continued efforts to build the **technical foundation needed on PFAS air emissions** to inform future actions under the Clean Air Act.

“I’m encouraged that EPA is giving this urgent public health threat the attention and seriousness it deserves,” **said Senator Tom Carper**. “This is truly a soup-to-nuts plan—one that commits to cleaning up PFAS in our environment while also putting protections in place to prevent more of these forever chemicals from finding their way into our lives. After the previous administration failed to follow through on its plan to address PFAS contamination, EPA’s new leadership promised action. I look forward to working with them on living up to this commitment.”

“Communities contaminated by these toxic forever chemicals have waited decades for action,” **said Ken Cook, President of the Environmental Working Group**. “So, it’s good news that Administrator Regan will fulfill President Biden’s pledge to take quick action to reduce PFOA and PFOS in tap water, to restrict industrial releases of PFAS into the air and water, and to designate PFOA and PFOS as hazardous substances to hold polluters accountable. It’s been more than 20 years since EPA and EWG first learned that these toxic forever chemicals were building up in our blood and increasing our likelihood of cancer and other health harms. It’s time for action, not more plans, and that’s what this Administrator will deliver. As significant as these actions are, they are just the first of many actions needed to protect us from PFAS, as the Administrator has said.”

EPA’s Strategic Roadmap is a critical step forward in addressing PFAS pollution. Every level of government – from local, to state, to Tribal, to federal will need to exercise increased and sustained leadership to continue the momentum and make progress on PFAS. President Biden has called for more than \$10 billion in funding to address PFAS contamination through his Build Back Better agenda and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal. These critical resources will enable EPA and other federal agencies to scale up the research and work, so that they meet the scale of the PFAS challenge.

Over the coming weeks, EPA will be working to partner for progress on PFAS. The agency will be engaging with a wide range of stakeholders to continue to identify collaborative solutions to the PFAS challenge, including two national webinars that will

be held on October 26 and November 2. Please RSVP to the webinars using the hyperlinked dates.

Background

In April 2021, Administrator Regan established the EPA Council on PFAS to address the dangerous impacts of PFAS contamination and meet the needs of EPA's partners and communities across the United States. To date, under the Biden-Harris Administration, EPA has:

- Launched a national PFAS testing strategy.
- Restarted rule development process for designating PFOA and PFOS as CERCLA hazardous substances.
- Built momentum to set national primary drinking water standard for PFOA and PFOS,
- Announced actions to stop companies from dumping PFAS into America's waterways.
- Formed a workgroup to champion regulating PFAS as categories.
- Proposed a rule to expand data collection efforts on PFAS.
- Started planning to conduct expanded nationwide monitoring for PFAS in drinking water.
- Announced robust review process for new PFAS.
- Released preliminary Toxics Release Inventory data on PFAS.
- Updated a toxicity assessment for PFBS after rigorous scientific review.
- Released a draft PFBA toxicity assessment for public comment and external peer review.

Additional information on the Strategic Roadmap: www.epa.gov/pfas

<<https://epa.gov/pfas>>.

Contact Us <<https://epa.gov/newsreleases/forms/contact-us>> to ask a question, provide feedback, or report a problem.



PFAS Strategic Roadmap: EPA's Commitments to Action 2021-2024

epa.gov/pfas

Overview of Today's Briefing

- **EPA Council on PFAS:** Roadmap and Early Actions
- **EPA's Approach to Tackling PFAS:** Principles and Goals
- **Actions:** Commitments and Timelines
- **Next Steps:** Engagement and Implementation

EPA Council on PFAS: Roadmap and Early Actions

- EPA Administrator Michael Regan established the EPA Council on PFAS in April 2021 and charged it to develop a bold, strategic, whole-of-EPA strategy to protect public health and the environment from the impacts of PFAS.
- The Council is comprised of senior technical and policy leaders from across EPA program offices and Regions and is chaired by Assistant Administrator for Water Radhika Fox and Acting Region 1 Administrator Deb Szaro.
- The PFAS Council developed a strategic roadmap to lay out EPA's whole-of-agency approach to tackling PFAS and set timelines by which the Agency plans to take concrete actions during the first term of the Biden-Harris Administration. The Roadmap fills a critical gap in federal leadership, provides a basic floor of federal protection, and supports states' ongoing efforts to address PFAS.
- Complementing the strategic roadmap, EPA has already taken bold actions on PFAS since January 2021, including on drinking water, hazardous substance designation, effluent guidelines, and chemical safety.

EPA's Approach to Tackling PFAS: Principles

PFAS contamination poses unique challenges, and EPA must use every tool in its tool box. EPA's approach is centered around the following principles:

- Consider the Lifecycle of PFAS.
- Get Upstream of the Problem.
- Hold Polluters Accountable.
- Ensure Science-Based Decision-Making.
- Prioritize Protection of Disadvantaged Communities.

EPA's Approach to Tackling PFAS: Goals

RESEARCH

Invest in research, development, and innovation to increase understanding of PFAS exposures and toxicities, human health and ecological effects, and effective interventions that incorporate the best available science.

RESTRICT

Pursue a comprehensive approach to proactively prevent PFAS from entering air, land, and water at levels that can adversely impact human health and the environment.

REMEDiate

Broaden and accelerate the cleanup of PFAS contamination to protect human health and ecological systems.

Actions: Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

- **Publish a national PFAS testing strategy.** Expected Fall 2021.
- **Ensure a robust review process for new PFAS.** Efforts ongoing.
- **Review existing PFAS under TSCA.** Expected Summer 2022 and ongoing.
- **Enhance PFAS reporting under the Toxics Release Inventory.** Expected Spring 2022.
- **Finalize new PFAS reporting under TSCA Section 8.** Expected Winter 2022.

Actions: Office of Water

- **Undertake nationwide monitoring for PFAS in drinking water.** Final rule expected Fall 2021.
- **Establish a national primary drinking water regulation for PFOA and PFOS.** Proposed rule expected Fall 2022, final rule expected Fall 2023.
- **Publish final toxicity assessment for GenX and five additional PFAS (PFBA, PFHxA, PFHxS, PFNA, PFDA).** Expected Fall 2021 and ongoing.
- **Publish health advisories for GenX and PFBS.** Expected Spring 2022.
- **Restrict PFAS discharges from industrial sources through a multi-faceted Effluent Limitations Guidelines program.** Expected 2022 and ongoing.
- **Leverage National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permitting to reduce PFAS discharges to waterways.** Expected Winter 2022.
- **Publish improved analytical methods.** Expected Fall 2022 and Fall 2024.
- **Publish final recommended ambient water quality criteria for PFAS.** Expected Winter 2022 and Fall 2024.
- **Enhance data availability on PFAS in fish tissue.** Expected Summer 2022 and Spring 2023.
- **Finalize risk assessment for PFOA and PFOS in biosolids.** Expected Winter 2024.

Actions: Office of Land and Emergency Management and Office of Air and Radiation

Land and Emergency Management

- **Propose to designate certain PFAS as CERCLA hazardous substances.** Proposed rule expected Spring 2022, Final rule expected Summer 2023.
- **Issue advance notice of proposed rulemaking on various PFAS under CERCLA.** Expected Spring 2022.
- **Issue updated guidance on destroying and disposing PFAS.** Expected Fall 2023.

Air and Radiation

- **Build the technical foundation to address PFAS air emissions.** Expected Fall 2022 and ongoing.

Actions: Office of Research and Development

- **Develop and validate methods to detect and measure PFAS in the environment.** Ongoing actions.
- **Advance the science to assess human health and environmental risks from PFAS.** Ongoing actions.
- **Evaluate and develop technologies for reducing PFAS in the environment.** Ongoing actions.

Actions: Cross-Program

- **Engage directly with affected communities in every EPA Region.** Expected Fall 2021 and ongoing.
- **Use enforcement tools to better identify and address PFAS releases at facilities.** Ongoing actions.
- **Accelerate public health protections by identifying PFAS categories.** Expected Winter 2021 and ongoing.
- **Establish a PFAS voluntary stewardship program.** Expected Spring 2022.
- **Educate the public about the risks of PFAS.** Expected Fall 2021 and ongoing.
- **Issue an annual public report on progress towards PFAS commitments.** Winter 2022 and ongoing.

Next Steps

- **EPA is committed to transparent, equitable, and inclusive engagement with all stakeholders to inform the Agency's work.**
- **EPA is beginning a national engagement effort as it seeks to partner for progress on PFAS.**
 - **National webinars** to share the strategic roadmap and its actions.
 - **Stakeholder listening sessions** with non-governmental organizations; Congressional stakeholders; federal partners; Tribal, state, and local governments; environmental justice organizations; and industry groups
 - **A focus on impacted communities**, engaging directly with communities in every EPA Region.
- **Through the roadmap, EPA seeks to harness the collective resources and authority across federal, Tribal, state, and local governments to empower meaningful action now.**



PFAS Strategic Roadmap

EPA's Commitments to Action 2021-2024

epa.gov/pfas



A joint powers authority to protect the Central Groundwater Basin

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

Date: November 18, 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.

PFAS Remediation Program

At the November 9, 2021 WRD Water Quality Committee Meeting, the Committee received an update on the status of the PFAS Remediation Program. See attached Status of Projects.

WRD lawsuit over PFAS

The WRD Board of Directors has approved the filing of a lawsuit against 3M, DuPont and other potential responsible parties for redress over PFAS contamination in the District. Please see attached WaterOnline article.

Attachments:

- 1) WRD PFAS Remediation Program - Status of Projects
- 2) November 9, 2021 - The Water Replenishment District Files A Lawsuit Against 3M, DuPont And Others Over PFAS Contamination

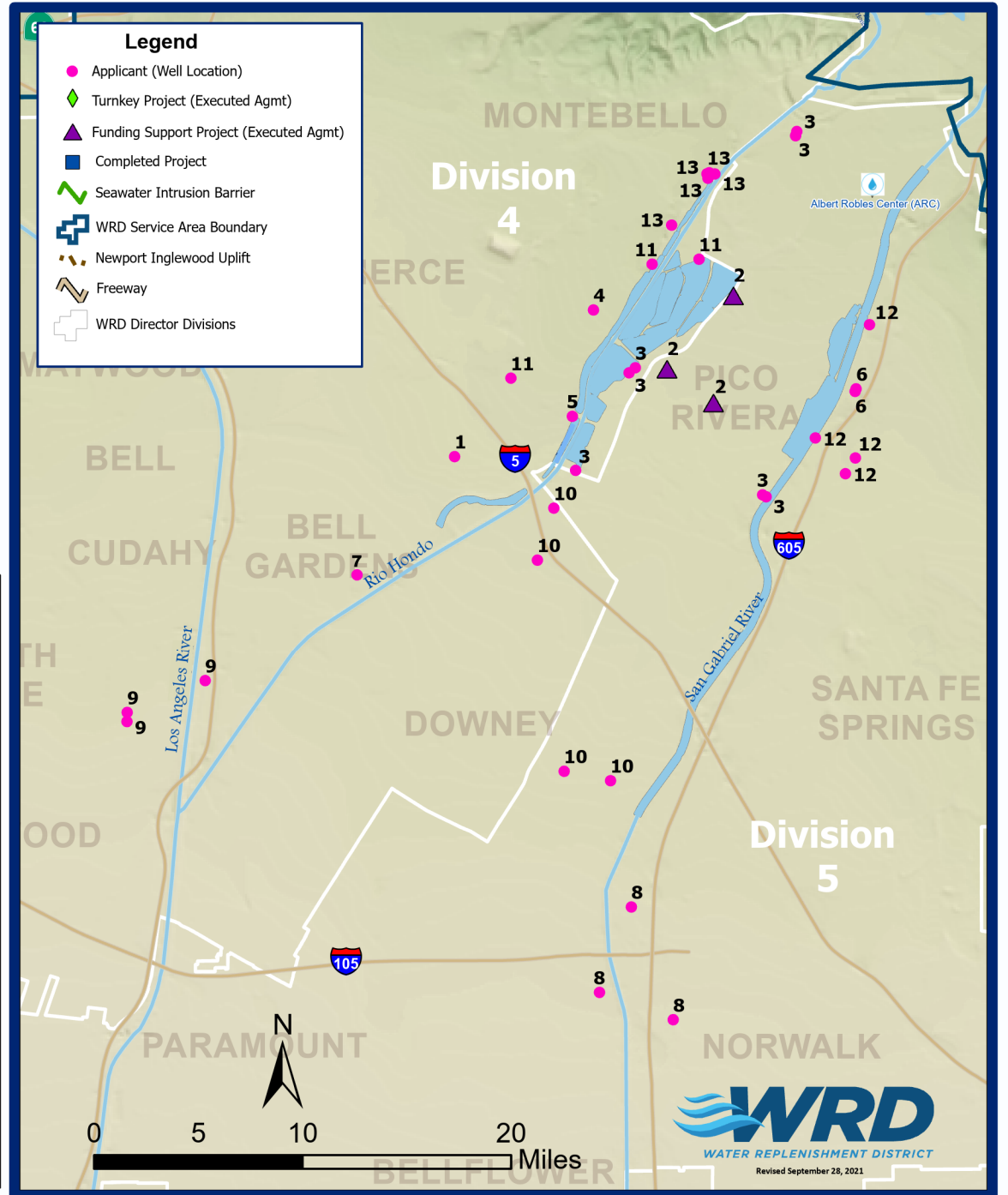
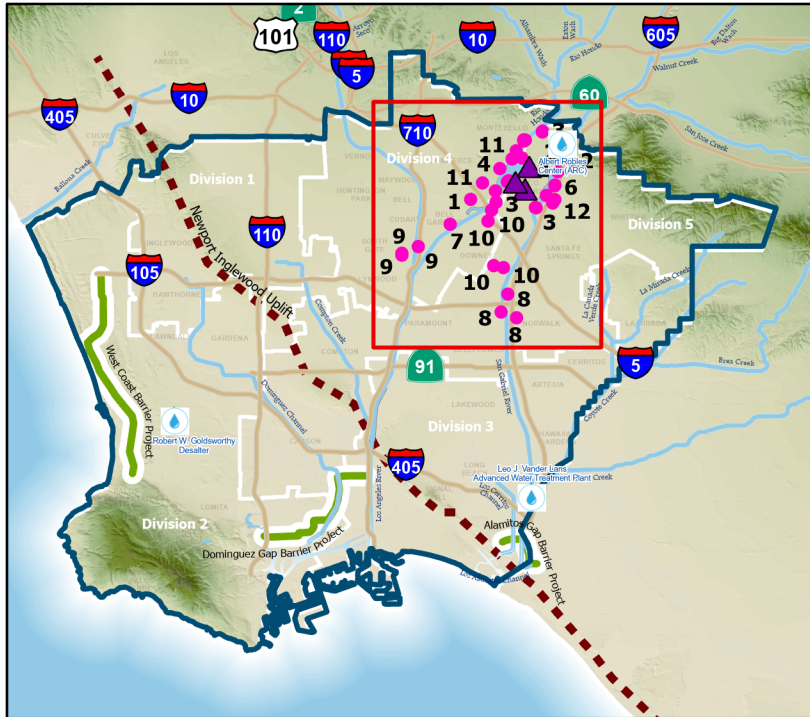


WRD PFAS Remediation Program - Status of Projects

No.	Pumper	Type of Funding Requested	PFAS-Impacted Wells	Quantity of Proposed PFAS Treatment Systems	Pumper's Estimated Total Project Cost	Program Funding Amount	Status
1	City of Commerce	Funding Support	Only 1 well: Well 7-01	1	\$2.5M	\$1.14M	Pumper to submit backup information regarding project costs. Draft Funding Agreement under review by Pumper.
2	Pico Water District	Funding Support	Total of 3 wells: Well 11 Well 8 Well 5A	3	\$5.44M	\$4.25M	Funding Agreement executed on 9/23/21. WRD processing monthly reimbursements.
3	City of Pico Rivera	Funding Support	Total of 7 wells: Well 1 Well 2 Well 3 Well 4 Well 5 Well 11 Well 12	4	\$13.9M	\$4.18	WRD waiting on revised Funding Application from Pumper.
4	California Water Service Company (Cal Water), East Los Angeles (ELA)	Funding Support	Only 1 well: Well 63-01	1	\$4.2M	\$4.11	WRD waiting on revised Funding Application submittal from Pumper.
5	City of Montebello	Funding Support	Only 1 well: Well MONT1	1	TBD	TBD	WRD waiting on Funding Application submittal by Pumper.
6	San Gabriel Valley Water Company	Funding Support	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	WRD waiting on Funding Application submittal by Pumper.
7	City of Bell Gardens	TBD	Only 1 well: Well 1	1	TBD	TBD	WRD waiting on Funding Application submittal by Pumper. Initial PFAS Application from Pumper not submitted during Round 1 (by Oct 2020).

WRD PFAS REMEDIATION PROGRAM

PROJECT NO.	PUMPER	CITY
1	City of Commerce	Commerce
2	Pico Water District	Pico Rivera
3	City of Pico Rivera	Pico Rivera
4	California Service Water Company	Montebello
5	City of Montebello	Montebello
6	San Gabriel Valley Water Company	West Whittier
7	City of Bell Gardens	Bell Gardens
8	Liberty Utilities	Bellflower
9	City of South Gate	South Gate
10	City of Downey	Downey
11	South Montebello Irrigation District	Montebello
12	La Habra Heights County Water District	West Whittier
12	Orchard Dale Water District	West Whittier
13	Montebello Land and Water Company	Montebello



The Water Replenishment District Files A Lawsuit Against 3M, DuPont And Others Over PFAS Contamination

SL Environmental Law Group has filed a lawsuit on behalf of the Water Replenishment District (WRD) against 3M Company, E.I. DuPont de Nemours, Inc., and other manufacturers of aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) for their involvement in the manufacture and sale of per and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (“PFAS”) that have contaminated groundwater supplies within WRD's service area, which includes 43 cities and covers a 420-square-mile region of southern Los Angeles County.

John D.S. Allen, President of the Board of Directors of the Water Replenishment District, said, "WRD is working with the water systems throughout its service area to identify and treat wells that have been contaminated with PFAS to ensure the safety of these crucial water supplies. Through this lawsuit, WRD is seeking to protect the ratepayers in our service area and ensure that the costs of cleaning up these contaminants are borne by 3M, DuPont, and the other companies that sold and profited from their products containing PFAS."

PFAS are persistent toxic chemicals that bioaccumulate when released into the environment. Exposure to certain PFAS have been associated with several negative health outcomes in both humans and animals. PFAS has impacted surface water and groundwater throughout the country resulting in hundreds of similar suits brought forward by water providers, and mostly against the same defendants, in an ongoing Multidistrict Litigation supervised by a federal judge in South Carolina.

PFAS have been used for decades in AFFF, certain industrial processes, and in the production of thousands of common household and commercial products that are heat resistant, stain resistant, long lasting, and water and oil repellent. The PFAS family of chemicals are entirely man-made and do not exist in nature.

“The manufacturers and sellers of PFAS containing products—3M, DuPont, and other defendants—knew that these products would likely pollute groundwater, yet they failed to take reasonable and available steps to avoid the use of PFAS in products and failed to provide warnings that using these products as directed could result in groundwater contamination,” said Ken Sansone, partner at SL Environmental Law Group. “Through this lawsuit, WRD is asserting its rights under California law to ensure the quality and availability of water resources to the millions of citizens and businesses who rely on those resources. WRD wants to ensure that it is the corporations whose products are responsible for contaminating its water pay the substantial costs of cleaning it up.”

SL Environmental Law is handling WRD's case as part of a consortium of law firms that has decades of experience representing municipalities and other water providers across the nation in efforts to recover the costs of treating groundwater contamination from the corporations whose products caused the contamination. This group of firms is representing many of the water systems within WRD's service area, as well as many other water systems throughout southern California and across the country, affected by PFAS. Francisco Leal and Ana Maria Quintana, of Leal Trejo in Long Beach, California, serve as District counsel in coordinating the litigation efforts.

About SL Environmental Law Group

SL Environmental Law Group focuses exclusively on water contamination litigation on behalf of city and state governments and public and private water utilities and other well owners. SL Environmental Law Group has delivered over \$1B from corporate polluters to their clients. For more information, visit www.slenvironment.com.

About The Water Replenishment District of Southern California

The Water Replenishment District (WRD) has managed and protected groundwater resources for over 60 years. WRD manages two of the most utilized groundwater basins that provide nearly half of the drinking water for over 4 million residents in 43 cities of southern Los Angeles County. Through WRD's Water Independence Now (WIN) Program, the District has developed a resilient and locally sustainable source of water for groundwater replenishment. For more information, visit www.wrd.org.

Source: *SL Environmental Law Group*

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A joint powers authority to protect the Central Groundwater Basin

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

Date: November 18, 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.

Purveyor City Representative Election

Ballots have been sent out to the purveyors for the election of the new city representative. AE Chair Gina Nila will provide an oral update on the status of the election.

Administrative Code

At the October 25, 2021 Central Basin Board Meeting, the Board Members approved a motion to remove SEWC, among other organizations, from the list of meetings for which CB Board Members can be paid per diem for attending. This motion amended CB Administrative Code related to the Directors' Code of Conduct: Article 1 - Section: 1.25 - Ad Hoc and Non-District Meetings. The motion was approved 5 to 2, with Directors Camacho-Rodriguez and Vasquez dissenting.

Redistricting

On September 15, Central Basin Board received an update on the status of the District's redistricting process. See slides attached. The Census results were released at the end of September, with Division 3 losing ~%5 of its population, and much smaller decreases in population in Division 1 and 4. Division 5 increased its population by 2.3%, and Division 2 had a slight population increase of less than 1%.

The Central Basin Board of Directors will decrease its elected members from 5 to 4, following the conclusion of current Board Member terms. No incumbent Members' terms will be cut short due to redistricting.

Lucien Partners plan to release the first draft map of the District the first week of December, followed by a period of stakeholder input. The first election with the new, redrawn four Divisions will be in November, 2022.

The next meeting of the Central Basin Board of Directors is scheduled for November 22, 2021.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Administrative Entity discuss any further issues regarding Central Basin not included in this staff report.

Attachments:

1. Introduction to 2021 Redistricting A Presentation to the Central Basin Municipal Water District November 15, 2021

THE



REDISTRICTING COLLABORATIVE

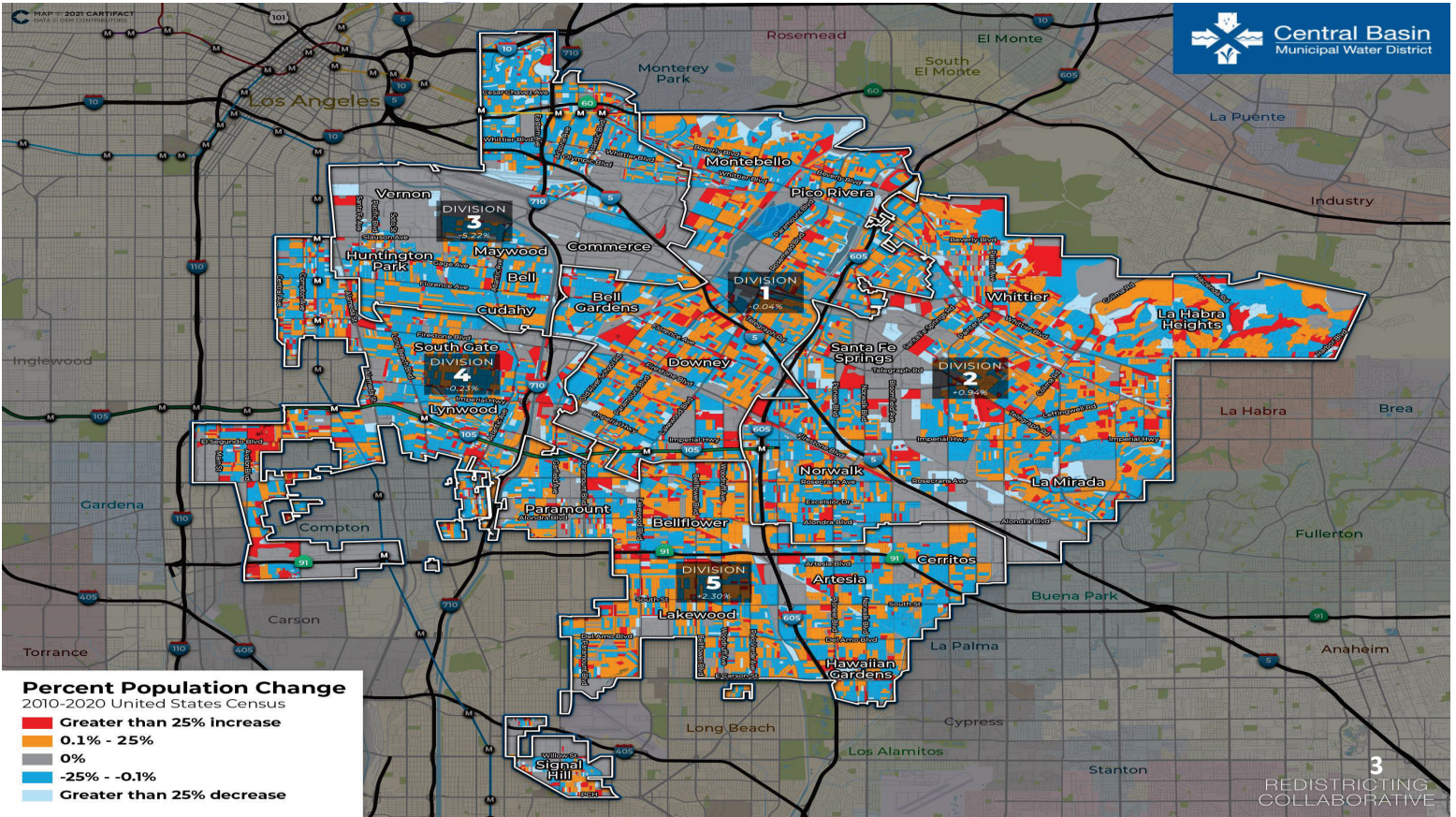
Introduction to 2021 Redistricting

*A Presentation to the
Central Basin Municipal Water District
November 15, 2021*

Population Changes

Division #	2010 Population	2020 Population	Percent Change
1	303,974	303,844	-0.04
2	329,132	332,234	0.94
3	302,429	286,649	-5.22
4	299,887	299,200	-0.23
5	303,543	310,536	2.30





Board Member Feedback

Are there any neighborhoods or communities, within the city that you live in, that **Should** be grouped together in a district?

Are there any neighborhoods or communities that **Should NOT** be combined with your neighborhood?

Are there any policy or social goals that our mapping team should keep in mind as we are creating these districts?

Are there any issues that you are concerned about that you would like our **Mapping** or **Legal** team to know as we undertake this process?

PROCESS & TIMELINE

Sample Step-by-Step Timeline

Public/stakeholder outreach	Spring/Summer 2021 & ongoing
Census Bureau/Statewide Database population counts, demographic data released	9/27/2021
Update re final demographics; board directs preparation of mapping options for consideration at future meetings, advises re criteria for same	11/15/2021
Publish draft maps & first public hearing on draft maps	12/6 or 13/2021
Publish revised map(s)	1/5/2022
Second public hearing on draft maps	1/24/2022
Publish any revised maps	2/5/2022
Final hearing and adoption	2/28/2022
Current legal deadline to adopt (Registrars pushing for earlier completion)	5/22/2022 (E-180)
Election	November 2022

Process: Effect on Incumbents

- No director's term cut short (see Wat. Code § 71266; Elec. Code § 22000(e))
- When his or her term ends, an incumbent can only run from the new director division in which he or she resides (see Wat. Code § 71266; Elec. Code § 22000(f))

Intro to 2021 Redistricting – Central Basin Municipal Water District

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LEGAL & POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Intro to 2021 Redistricting – Central Basin Municipal Water District

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Southeast Water Coalition

A joint powers authority to protect the Central Groundwater Basin

SOUTHEAST WATER COALITION JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY AGENDA REPORT

Date: November 18, 2021
To: Southeast Water Coalition Administrative Entity
From: Gina Nila, AE Chair, City of Commerce

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 Administrative Entity take the following actions:

- 1) 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.

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 and AE only meets every other month, staff believes that it is appropriate to make these findings at every Board and AE 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:

It is recommended the Administrative Entity 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.