



Date: April 9, 2020

To: **Public Outreach and Legislation Committee**
Jerry Gladbach, Chair
B.J. Atkins
Kathy Colley
R.J. Kelly
Gary Martin
Lynne Plambeck

From: Steve Cole, Assistant General Manager *SC*

The **Public Outreach and Legislation Committee** is scheduled to meet via teleconference on **Thursday, April 16, 2020 at 5:30 PM**, dial information is listed below.

**TELECONFERENCE ONLY
NO PHYSICAL LOCATION FOR MEETING**

TELECONFERENCE NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order N-29-20 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 17, 2020, any Director may call into an Agency Committee meeting using the Agency's **Call-In Number 1-877-568-4106, Access Code 832-075-293** **or GoToMeeting by clicking on the link <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/832075293>** without otherwise complying with the Brown Act's teleconferencing requirements.

Pursuant to the above Executive Order, the public may not attend the meeting in person. Any member of the public may listen to the meeting or make comments to the Committee using the call-in number or GoToMeeting link above. Please see the notice below if you have a disability and require an accommodation in order to participate in the meeting.

We request that the public submit any comments in writing if practicable, which can be sent to **ekang@scvwa.org** or mailed to **Eunie Kang, Administrative**, Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, 27234 Bouquet Canyon Santa Clarita, CA 91350. All written comments received before 4:00 PM the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Committee members and posted on the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency website prior to the meeting. Anything received after 4:00 PM the day of the meeting will be posted on the SCV Water website the following day.

MEETING AGENDA

<u>ITEM</u>		<u>PAGE</u>
1.	Public Comments – Members of the public may comment as to items not on the Agenda at this time. Members of the public wishing to comment on items covered in this Agenda may do so now or at the time each item is considered. (Comments may, at the discretion of the Committee Chair, be limited to three minutes for each speaker.)	
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*	Indicates Attachment	
◆	Indicates Handout	

NOTICES:

Any person may make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation needed for that person to be able to participate in the public meeting by telephoning Eunie Kang, at (661) 297-1600, or in writing to Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency at 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. Requests must specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested. A telephone number or other contact information should be included so that Agency staff may discuss appropriate arrangements. Persons requesting a disability-related accommodation should make the request with adequate time before the meeting for the Agency to provide the requested accommodation.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt public records that relate to open session agenda items and are distributed to a majority of the Committee less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection at the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, located at 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350, during regular business hours. When practical, these public records will also be made available on the Agency's Internet Website, accessible at <http://www.yourscvwater.com>.

Posted on April 9, 2020.



To: Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency; Public Outreach & Legislation Committee
From: Van Scoyoc Associates (VSA); Geoff Bowman & Pete Evich
Date: April 3, 2020
Subject: April 2020 Report

COVID-19 Pandemic

In just a few weeks, the coronavirus outbreak has upended American life. In response to the pandemic, state and local governments have canceled schools, closed-down restaurants and other businesses, and even postponed elections. In order to keep physical separation to arrest the spread of the virus, several states and areas have issued “shelter in place” orders. All facets of the workforce that can conduct their jobs and business remotely - including federal agencies and Congressional offices - are teleworking. Travel, especially air travel, has come to a grinding halt. In Washington, DC, the Capitol complex is shut down to only essential personnel and visitors. While Congress has not yet instituted remote voting, three Members of Congress - two House Members and one Senator - have tested positive for COVID-19. In addition, at least 30 Members of Congress have self-quarantined due to encountering individuals who have the virus. The U.S. economy, which began the year with historically low levels of unemployment and a record run on Wall Street, has turned upside down. The country is now bracing for uncertain economic conditions as job losses take hold.

National Emergency Declaration

On March 13th, President Trump issued a National Emergency Declaration. As part of this declaration, the President granted the Secretary of Health and Human Services emergency power to waive or modify certain requirements of the Medicare, Medicaid and State Children’s Health Insurance programs and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Privacy Rules that govern hospitals and healthcare providers.

The President also declared a national emergency under the Stafford Act, which allows the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to deploy aid and assistance to overwhelmed state and local governments. Considering this announcement, VSA has provided SCV Water with information on those eligible COVID-19 related emergency activities that could be reimbursed by the federal government.

Congressional COVID-19 Funding and Stimulus Packages – Phases I, II, & III

Congress has taken three significant actions to provide resources and relief to address the COVID-19 pandemic. On March 6th, Congress enacted the \$8.3 billion Coronavirus

Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act (P.L. 116-123) and on March 18, President Trump signed into law H.R. 6201, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (P.L. 116-127), which provided a second round of supplemental appropriations and tax credits for new sick, family and medical leave requirements. As part of this measure, state and local governments are required to provide extended paid sick, family and medical leave to its employees, but are excluded from the corresponding payroll tax credits.

On March 27th President Trump signed into law H.R. 748, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act or the CARES Act (P.L. 116-136), a more than \$2 trillion COVID-19 stimulus-rescue package. This measure is intended to provide emergency financial and health care assistance to individuals, families, and businesses affected by the coronavirus pandemic. In addition to extensive assistance for small businesses, the measure will provide significant financial assistance to states to help residents and local governments in distress. Direct monetary relief for individuals and families will also be part of the legislation. VSA provided SCV Water with summaries and other details related to the relevant provisions of the CARES Act.

Below is an overview of the COVID-19 measures which have been signed into law legislation.

Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act (Phase I)

The Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act provides \$8.3 billion in supplemental appropriations to select agencies to aid in the development of therapies and vaccines for COVID-19. The majority, \$6.2 billion of the funding, went to the Department of Health and Human Services for the Food and Drug Administration, the Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health and the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund. The CDC funding includes \$950 million in grants to state, local, territory, tribes or health service providers for “surveillance, epidemiology, laboratory capacity, infection control, mitigation, communications, and other preparedness and response activities.” The Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund received appropriations for grants for the “construction, alteration, or renovation of non-federally owned facilities” to aid in the response to COVID-19.

The legislation also provided supplemental funds to administer the Small Business Administration’s Disaster Loan Program Account, which is currently authorized to provide up to \$30 billion in economic injury disaster loans for small businesses.

Lastly, the supplemental appropriation provided \$1.6 billion to the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development for support of embassies and other diplomatic outposts and to provide humanitarian aid to other affected countries.

Families First Coronavirus Response Act (Phase II)

This law provides focused on paid and unpaid leave, funds and tax credits for assisting individuals and employees who are affected by COVID-19 and the disruptions the virus has caused.

The law makes testing and related services for COVID-19 free regardless of whether someone has health care through an insurer, Medicare, Medicaid or other federally funded health care programs. Additionally, the Act increases states' federal medical assistance percentages in providing for the testing of COVID-19. It also provides for tax credits to employers who grant emergency sick leave or emergency paid family and medical leave. State and local governments are not eligible for the tax credit.

The law also provides emergency paid sick leave, which provides eligible full-time employees with emergency paid sick leave for 2 weeks (80 hours) of fully paid time off to self-quarantine, seek a diagnosis or preventive care, or receive treatment for COVID-19. Eligible part-time employees are entitled to fully paid time off on a pro rata basis. Additionally, eligible full-time employees are entitled to 2 weeks (80 hours) paid time off at 2/3 of their regular pay to care for a family member or a child whose school has closed, or if their childcare provider is unavailable due to COVID-19. Eligible part-time employees are entitled to 2/3 pay on a pro rata basis.

The law also provides emergency paid family leave, which provides eligible full-time employees and part-time employees with 12 weeks of job-protected leave to take care of their children in the event of a school closure or if their child care provider is unavailable due to COVID-19. These 12 weeks of job-protected leave include 2 weeks of unpaid leave, followed by 10 weeks of paid leave at a rate no less than 2/3 of the employee's usual pay. Eligible employees may elect (or be required) to substitute accrued paid leave (whether it be vacation time, PTO, sick leave) for the 2 weeks of unpaid leave.

Employees are eligible for emergency paid sick leave and emergency paid family leave if they work at companies with less than 500 employees, at a local, state or federal government, or work under a multi-employer collective agreement and whose employers pay into a multi-employer plan. Businesses with less than 50 workers may qualify for a narrow exemption if the Department of Labor determines that providing these benefits would jeopardize the viability of the business.

The Act also allows for 26 weeks of unemployment benefits (in most states), and potential extensions of benefits for an additional 13 or 20 weeks.

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act or the CARES Act (Phase III)

The CARES Act includes more than \$2 trillion of spending and tax breaks to bolster the U.S. economy and fund a nationwide effort to contain the coronavirus. The plan includes approximately \$500 billion that can be used to back loans and assistance to companies, including \$50 billion for loans to U.S. airlines, as well as state and local governments. It also includes \$377 billion in loans for small business. For individuals, the package would provide direct payments to lower- and middle-income Americans of \$1,200 for each adult, as well as \$500 for each child. The bill would add \$600 per person per week onto the base maximum unemployment benefit for four months.

The law also includes \$339 billion in new funding to address the needs of state and local governments; support for hospitals and health care workers; funding to purchase personal protective equipment and medical equipment; support for law enforcement, firefighters, and first responders; funding for scientists researching treatments and vaccines; support for small businesses; support for local schools and universities; and funding for affordable housing and homelessness assistance programs.

The CARES Act is divided into two divisions: Division A – Keeping Works Paid and Employed Act, and Division B – Emergency Appropriations for Coronavirus Health Response and Agency Operations.

Keeping Workers Paid and Employed Act (Division A)

Division A of the CARES Act would provide \$377 billion to help prevent workers from losing their jobs and small businesses from going under due to economic losses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Paycheck Protection Program would provide 8 weeks of cash-flow assistance through 100 percent federally guaranteed loans to small employers who maintain their payroll during this emergency. If the employer maintains its payroll, then the portion of the loan used for covered payroll costs, interest on mortgage obligations, rent, and utilities would be forgiven, which would help workers to remain employed and affected small businesses and our economy to recover quickly from this crisis. This proposal would be retroactive to February 15, 2020 to help bring workers who may have already been laid off back onto payrolls.

The largest chunk of the Division A appropriations provides \$350 billion to support loans through a new Paycheck Protection Program for:

- Small employers with 500 employees or fewer, as well as those that meet the current Small Business Administration (SBA) size standards;
- Self-employed individuals and “gig economy” individuals; and
- Certain non-profits, including 501(c)(3) organizations and 501(c)(19) veteran organizations, and tribal business concerns with under 500 employees.

The size of the loans would equal 250 percent of an employer’s average monthly payroll, and the maximum loan amount would be \$10 million. Furthermore, covered payroll costs include: 1) salary, wages, and payment of cash tips (up to an annual rate of pay of \$100,000); 2) employee group health care benefits, including insurance premiums; 3) retirement contributions; and 4) covered leave.

Division A would also provide \$265 million for grants to SBA resource partners, including Small Business Development Center and Women’s Business Centers, to offer counseling, training, and related assistance to small businesses affected by COVID-19.

The text of Division A also covers Emergency Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) Grants, which would expand eligibility for entities suffering economic harm due to COVID-19 to access

SBA's EIDL Grants, while also giving SBA more flexibility to process and disperse small dollar loans.

Lastly, the bill would provide \$17 billion for small business debt relief, and as such would require the SBA to pay all principal, interest, and fees on all existing SBA loan products, including 7(a), Community Advantage, 504, and Microloan programs, for six months to provide relief to small businesses negatively affected by COVID-19.

Emergency Appropriations for Coronavirus Health Response and Agency Operations (Division B)

Division B of the CARES Act would provide \$340 billion for federal agencies to support state and local governments and communities. Highlights of the package include:

- \$117 Billion for Hospitals and Veterans Health Care
- \$45 Billion for the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund
- \$16 Billion for the Strategic National Stockpile of protective equipment, ventilators and other medical supplies
- \$4.3 Billion for the Centers for Disease Control
- \$11 Billion for Vaccines, Therapeutics, Diagnostics, & Other Medical Needs

Under the Department of Agriculture, USDA/Food and Nutrition Service, the legislation provides additional funding of \$8.8 billion for Child Nutrition Programs, as well as \$15.51 billion for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The bill also provides funding for commodities and distribution of emergency food assistance through community partners, including food banks.

Within the Department of Commerce, Division B text provides \$1.866 billion, with \$1.5 billion of the funding to go to the Economic Development Administration to support economic development grants for states and communities suffering economic injury as a result of the coronavirus.

Following the Department of Commerce, the legislation appropriates \$1 billion to the Department of Justice, of which \$850 million will be marked for the Byrne JAG Program to assist state, local, and tribal officers in responding to coronavirus. These funds will go directly to state and local governments, with no match required, and will support criminal justice needs related to coronavirus, including overtime for state, local, and tribal officers; personal protective equipment and supplies; and medical needs and other supplies for inmates in state, local, and tribal prisons, jails, and detention centers.

As it pertains to Energy and Water Development, the Army Corps of Engineers is appropriated an additional \$70 million, of which \$50 million to support Emergency Operations Centers and emergency operations in Corps districts to ensure the continuous operation of Corps projects across the country related to the coronavirus.

Additionally, Division B text provides for \$45.4 billion to the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) to continue FEMA's entire suite of response and recovery activities and reimbursements provided to states and localities nationwide by the Disaster Relief Fund for emergency and major disaster declarations, as well as funding for FEMA facilities and information technology required to support FEMA's lead role in coordinating federal response activities. The bill also includes \$400 million for grants that can be disbursed in a timely manner for firefighters, emergency managers, and providers of emergency food and shelter.

Of the Departments, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is additionally funded at one of the largest amounts - \$140.4 billion – highlights include:

- \$100 billion in reimbursements to hospitals and healthcare providers;
- \$16 billion for the strategic national stockpile – to procure personal protective equipment, ventilators and other medical supplies;
- \$11 billion in vaccine, therapeutics, diagnostics and other medical or preparedness needs;
- \$250 million for hospital preparedness; and
- \$275 million for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to expand services and capacity for rural hospitals, telehealth, poison control centers, and the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program.

Additionally, within HHS \$4.3 billion is provided for the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), of which \$1.5 billion is appropriated for State and Local Preparedness Grants. When combined with the first supplemental Congress has provided \$2.5 billion for state and local needs.

The Department of Transportation is funded at \$31.1 billion, of which \$10 billion is to maintain operations at the nation's airports – these funds will be distributed by formula. Another \$20 billion is provided for Transit Infrastructure Grants for transit providers, including states and local governments across the country, for operating and capital expenses. Funding will be distributed using existing FTA formulas.

Lastly, the Department of Housing and Urban Development is provided additional funding at \$17.4 billion. Highlights include:

- \$5 billion for Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) to provide a wide range of resources to address COVID-19, such as services for senior citizens, the homeless, and public health services;
- \$4 billion for Homeless Assistance Grants;
- \$1.25 billion for Tenant-Based Rental Assistance; and
- \$1 billion for Project Based Rental Assistance

Two provisions of specific interest to municipal water districts like SCV Water were \$1.5 billion for states and territories to provide financial assistance to low income and other adversely

affected individuals to assist with payments for drinking water and wastewater expenses, and another provision prohibiting the termination of drinking and wastewater service by water agencies for the duration of the emergency. Ultimately these were not part of the final Phase III law, but these are anticipated to be part of the Phase IV or Phase V discussions which will take place when House and Senate Members return to Washington, D.C. later in the month of April.

COVID-19 Phase IV and Phase V

At a news conference on April 1st, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi stated that the basis for Phase IV of the COVID-19 stimulus will be the sweeping \$760 billion infrastructure framework unveiled in January by House Democrats.

That framework included \$10 billion in funds for flood control, navigation, and to address the impact of severe weather events by tackling the backlog of Army Corps' projects designed to protect communities at risk of flooding, to enhance community resiliency, and to enhance national, regional, and local economic growth. The framework also included more than \$50 billion for drinking water and clean water infrastructure, including more than \$40 billion to recapitalize the State Revolving Loan Funds (SRF).

In addition to tens of billions toward infrastructure upgrades, clean energy projects, and public transit, there is also expected to be funds for community health centers, as well as education and housing programs. Speaker Pelosi said she's hoping for a House vote on Phase IV shortly after the chamber's scheduled return on April 20th -- but added, "God willing and coronavirus willing."

This spurred President Trump, who campaigned on a \$1 trillion infrastructure bill, also renewed his calls for repairing the nation's roads, bridges and highway, but this time he tacked another \$1 trillion on to his preferred price tag. In a tweet earlier in the week Trump stated: "With interest rates for the United States being at ZERO, this is the time to do our decades long awaited Infrastructure Bill." While there's broad agreement about the need for more investment, there's far less consensus about how to pay for it or what it should look like.

But Democrats' aggressive move to draft a 4th recovery package could put them on a collision course with senior Republicans, who have expressed a desire to wait-and-see before plunging into another potential multi-trillion-dollar bill. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) is warning Democrats that they can't use the crisis to fulfill their ideological wish-list. The early skirmishing suggests that the next round of deal-making might not go nearly as quickly as the last rescue package.

Senate and House Republicans have come out saying they are against rushing into a new round of stimulus talks until the impact of the \$2 trillion measure signed into law last week can be assessed. And, while President Trump reiterated his support for a \$2 trillion infrastructure package, he tweeted "That doesn't mean we're going to do the Green New Deal.

On April 3rd, Speaker Pelosi reversed course and scaled back her ambitions for the next coronavirus stimulus package to focus on additional direct payments to individuals and expanded loans to businesses, possibly leaving an \$760 billion infrastructure plan and other Democratic priorities for a later bill.

“While I’m very much in favor of doing what we need to do to meet the needs of clean water, more broadband and the rest of that, that may have to be for a bill beyond this,” Pelosi said. “I think right now we need a fourth bipartisan bill -- and I think the bill could be very much like the bill we just passed.”

Pelosi said the \$350 billion included the last stimulus for small business to maintain payrolls for two months won’t be sufficient. She said the nation also will need an extension of the expanded unemployment benefits and additional direct payments to middle income individuals.

House Natural Resources Committee Advances Water Recycling and Desalination Bills

On March 11th, the House Committee on Natural Resources approved four water infrastructure measures along party lines after an often-fiery debate that pitted members of California's Congressional delegation against one another. California Representatives Jared Huffman and Mike Levin traded barbs with fellow Representative Tom McClintock over the merits of addressing water supply shortages in the West by investing in desalination, reuse and recycling, as opposed to building more dams and reservoirs.

It started with debate over Levin's H.R. 3723, which would increase funding by \$260 million over the next four years for a Bureau of Reclamation desalination grant program, among other provisions. Levin said desalinating groundwater and ocean water provides a "drought-proof water supply" that will only become more important as the climate warms. He and Huffman argued that desalination is far less expensive than building dams and reservoirs or increasing the storage capacity of existing dams. "Well-designed desalination projects can be cost-competitive and play an important role in diversifying vulnerable water supplies," Levin said. "Those are the facts." His bill later passed in a 13-10 roll call vote along party lines — but not before McClintock blasted it as "bordering on lunacy," arguing that more surface water storage is needed. "The cheapest source of water is good old-fashioned surface storage — dams and reservoirs," he said. And yet, he added, "we continue to see a drive to discourage dam construction, even tear down existing dams, while pouring billions of dollars into desalination and recycling that promises only scarce and expensive water for our future."

Huffman repeatedly disputed McClintock directly, accusing him of spreading inaccurate information. "We've got a lot of communities across the state of California and around the West that are interested in real, wet water and not stubborn fictions or ideology or high sanctimony from folks who frankly just mangle the facts over and over again," Huffman said.

The full committee also voted along party lines to approve three other water-related bills including:

H.R. 1162, sponsored by Rep. Grace Napolitano, which would provide \$500 million in funding to address a "huge backlog" in already-approved water recycling and reuse projects. "Water recycling is one of the best ways to increase water supply," she said. It was approved 19-12.

H.R. 2473, sponsored by Rep. Josh Harder, the "Securing Access for the Central Valley and Enhancing Water Resources Act", establishing a "water infrastructure and drought solutions fund" that, among other things, the Interior secretary could use to build "new surface or groundwater storage" and "water reclamation and reuse projects." The secretary would also use a portion of the fund to issue grants under the Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART program that funds reuse and reclamation projects. The committee approved the bill 19-12, along party lines.

H.R. 4891, sponsored by Rep. Xochitl Torres Small (D-NM), which proposes to increase funding for Western states and Native American tribal governments to improve water infrastructure and drought resilience. The "Western Water Security Act of 2019" was approved 14-11, along party lines.

Senate Committee Reviews Invasive Species and Impacts to Water Resources

On March 5th, the Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Water and Power held a hearing to examine the impact of invasive species on Bureau of Reclamation facilities and management of water resources in the West.

Chairman Martha McSally (R-AZ) highlighted the threat caused by invasive plants, such as the salt cedar plant, that are harmful to native plant species, lowers the water table and increases fire frequency. McSally noted that according to data compiled by the National Invasive Species Council, invasive species cost the U.S. approximately \$120 billion annually. McSally is a co-sponsor of S. 2862, the Drought Relief through Innovative Projects Act, which would establish a competitive grant program to remove and replace non-native plants.

Ranking Member Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV) emphasized the success of the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act, which authorizes funding to protect Lake Tahoe's water quality and has enabled the deployment of smart technologies to prevent invasive species from entering the Tahoe Basin.

Scott Cameron, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy Management and Budget for the U.S. Department of the Interior testified to the impacts of invasive species, such as quagga and zebra mussels on Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) reservoirs, water intakes and power plants. Cameron noted that USBR's FY 2021 budget request includes \$5.6 million for the prevention, early detection and monitoring, containment, and control of invasive mussels.

EPA Memo Outlines Changes to Enforcement Policy in Response to COVID-19

On March 26th, the Environmental Protection Agency released a memo outlining temporary policy on how the Agency intends to exercise its enforcement discretion. Citing worker

shortages, social distancing needs and travel restrictions for both agency employees and contractors as a result of the pandemic, EPA is scaling back operations to enforce certain regulations and standards. For water utilities, EPA explicitly says "Public water systems have a heightened responsibility to protect public health because unsafe drinking water can lead to serious illnesses and access to clean water for drinking and handwashing is critical during the COVID-19 pandemic." And while EPA expects all regulated entities to "continue to manage and operate their facilities in a manner that is safe and that protects the public and the environment," if compliance with certain requirements is not practicable due to COVID-19, the policy states that EPA will generally not seek penalties for violations.

EPA will excuse penalties for violations such as failing to comply with routine compliance monitoring, training, sampling, and reporting requirements caused by COVID-19 related impacts. These provisions apply if facilities have acted responsibly, taken best steps to avoid noncompliance, and properly documented and, where applicable, reported noncompliance. EPA laid out a tiered level of priorities for utilities, with the highest priority being placed on monitoring to protect against microbial pathogens, followed by monitoring Lead and Copper Rule compliance and for nitrates/nitrites, and then monitoring for contaminants for which the system has been non-compliant. The memo states that this new policy "does not provide leniency for intentional criminal violations." The policy is in effect indefinitely (until repealed) and is retroactive, applying to events beginning on March 13th.

Environmental and public health stakeholders are broadly concerned that EPA's announcement will trigger bad behavior by diminishing the deterrents and consequences of breaking the law. Regardless of this policy, most water agencies, are focused on maintaining highest level of service during this crisis and the memo will have little practical effect its operations. However, the U.S. Water Alliance warns that "...utilities should be on the lookout for new contaminants in source water and wastewater as industrial and other polluting entities may take advantage of the relaxed enforcement policy. Should that occur, utilities may need to adjust operations to protect customers and the environment. "

EPA encourages all Americans to only flush toilet paper

On March 30th, EPA issued a press release encouraging Americans to only flush toilet paper, not disinfecting wipes or other non-flushable items that should be disposed of in the trash. The release stated that flushing only toilet paper ensures the toilets, plumbing, sewer systems and septic systems will continue working properly to safely manage our nation's wastewater. While the Agency encourages using approved disinfecting wipes to clean your home and reduce the spread of COVID-19, EPA said those wipes should never be flushed. In its statement, EPA warned that preventable backups to sewer systems can pose a threat to human health and challenge water utilities and their workforce. "Flushing anything other than toilet paper, including disinfecting wipes, can damage internal plumbing, local sewer systems and septic systems," the EPA said. "Fixing these backups is costly and takes time and resources away from ensuring that wastewater management systems are otherwise working properly." EPA also highlighted that having fully operational wastewater services is critical to containing COVID-19 and protecting people from other public health risks.

WRDA Legislation

Chairman of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Peter DeFazio (D-OR), Ranking Member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Sam Graves (R-MO), Chair of the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment Grace F. Napolitano (D-CA), and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment Bruce Westerman (R-AR) sent a letter to their colleagues urging them to finalize their priorities for the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2020.

An online portal was created on April 2nd for Committee Members to submit their WRDA requests and will be open to the rest of the House Members during the week of April 7th. Currently, WRDA is on track to move separately from any of the COVID-19 stimulus packages. And while WRDA appears to still be on track to move independently of the COVID-19 stimulus packages, the House Full Committee Mark-up may be pushed back until June 2020.

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-VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL-

April 3, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Steve Cole, Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency

FROM: Dennis K. Albiani, Anthony Molina, California Advocates, Inc.

SUBJECT: April Report

In this unprecedented time, COVID-19 has rapidly spread throughout the state of California. On March 19th, Governor Newsom announced a statewide “shelter in place” or “stay at home” directive to businesses and citizens if they are not an “essential service.” As of March 20th, the Legislature has suspended legislative business, until April 13th – this includes policy committees and budget-sub committees. On April 3, Senate pro tem Toni Atkins stated on a San Diego based show that the returning the legislature on April 13th was not “feasible” at this time. Speaker Anthony Rendon has not responded with a similar statement as of the timing of this report. Upon adjournment, the Legislature passed two emergency bills in rapid response to COVID-19, which included the following:

SB 89 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) Budget Act of 2019.

Provides \$500 million General Fund to help California fight COVID-19 and authorizes increases up to \$1 billion. The funding will:

- Increase hospital bed capacity and purchase medical equipment to combat the coming surge in COVID-19 patients;
- Protect hospitals, nursing homes, and other facilities most vulnerable to COVID-19 spread;
- Provide lifesaving services to Californians isolating at home;
- Support local government to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in homeless populations and provide safe beds for people experiencing homelessness; and
- Provide funding to clean child care facilities that remain open.

SB 117 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) Education finance: average daily attendance and timeline waivers: protective equipment and cleaning appropriation: COVID-19.

Provides \$100 million Proposition 98 General Fund for personal protective equipment and cleaning for schools that remain open. It also allows schools to maintain funding despite service disruptions.

In addition, Senate and Assembly Leadership have provided the option for Capitol and District Office staffs to work remotely. The Capitol Building and Legislative Office Building have also been closed to the public “until further notice.” All business conducted with legislative staff is now being conducted through phone, email, or web-based interactions. As we continue to receive updates on this critical public health issue, procedures moving forward in the legislature, and key dates and deadlines, we will provide timely updates to SCVWA.

Governor Newsom Issues Exec Order Prohibiting Water Disconnections

Governor Gavin Newsom on April 1 signed an executive order that will restrict water shutoffs to homes and small businesses while the state responds to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The order protects consumers who may not be able to pay for their water service from shutoffs. Already, over 100 public and private water systems across California have voluntarily suspended water shutoffs for non-payment as a result of COVID-19. Under the order, the State Water Resources Control Board will issue best practices and guidelines on support for the state's water systems during this time.

"This executive order will help people who have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic by ensuring they have water service," said Governor Newsom. "Water is critical to our very lives, and in this time, it is critically important that it is available for everyone."

Additionally, the executive order will restore water for occupied residences that may have had their water shut off as of March 4, 2020, which is when the Governor proclaimed a state of emergency due to COVID-19.

CDFW Issues Permit to DWR operation of State Water Project

On Monday March 30, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) issued an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) for long-term operations of the State Water Project (SWP). The permit covers four species protected under the California Endangered Species Act: Delta smelt, longfin smelt, winter-run Chinook salmon and spring-run Chinook salmon.

DWR Director Karla A. Nemeth and CDFW Director Charlton H. Bonham issued the following statement:

"California's water operations need to support our communities while protecting our fish and wildlife. This Incidental Take Permit (ITP) enables this balance. Most importantly, it ensures that our state water infrastructure operates in a manner protective of fish species listed under state's endangered species law. It does so in many ways, including by dedicating water for Delta outflows during drier periods when fish and habitat need it the most. The permit also provides flexibility to capture and store water during wet years for both water supply and the environment. The ITP also better utilizes existing infrastructure to improve habitat conditions; creates a new barrier to minimize entrainment of migrating salmon at SWP pumps; and commits significant new funding to ecosystem improvements and expanded scientific research. It enables adaptive water management based on scientific monitoring while providing final decision-making authority to CDFW on operational changes that protect fish. Together, DWR and CDFW will implement this permit to meet the needs of Californians and our state's natural environment."

Background

Under the California Endangered Species Act, DWR is required to obtain an ITP to minimize, avoid and fully mitigate impacts to threatened or endangered species as a result of State Water Project operations. In past years, DWR obtained coverage for SWP operations under CESA by securing a consistency determination from DFW based on federal biological opinions issued by federal regulatory agencies. In 2018, as federal agencies were working to update biological opinions, President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum to greatly accelerate their completion.

In February 2019, state agencies announced they would for the first time pursue a separate state permit to ensure SWP's compliance with CESA. Pursuing a separate permit enables the state to avoid relying on federal permits and provides the opportunity to utilize transparent, science-based guidelines to establish rules to protect endangered fish.

In November 2019, DWR issued a draft document prepared under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) that identified potential operational changes to protect species and manage the SWP based on real-time conditions in the Delta ecosystem, including additional flows dedicated to the environment. After a public comment period, DWR developed and submitted an application for an ITP to DFW in December 2019.

DWR certified its final environmental document on March 27, and DFW issued the ITP on March 31.

The State Water Contractors Issued an immediate rebuke of the permit conditions and are positioned to oppose the implementation of the permit.

March 3, 2020 Primary Election

There was a lot of action that took place in Santa Clarita on March 3rd. The biggest news in all of the races came from Assembly District 38 – the district was flipped from Democrat to Republican. The top-two vote getters who will face off it out in the November 3rd General Election are Suzette Martinez Valladares (Rep.) and Lucie Lapointe Volotzky (Rep.).

In the Senate races, Senator Scott Wilk (Rep.) will face off against Kipp Mueller (Dem.) for Senate District 21. Senator Wilk held a commanding lead in front of all candidates in the primary. In addition, Senate District 27, Senator Henry Stern (Dem.) will face Houman Salem (Rep.). In this race incumbent Senator Henry Stern also held a commanding lead and a wide victory margin against his opponent.

And finally, for the United States House of Representatives 25th Congressional District (CD 25) race, current Assemblymember Christy Smith (Dem.) will face off against Mike Garcia (Rep.) in both the May 12th "Special Election Runoff," as well as the November 3rd General Election. While Assemblymember Smith was the highest vote-getter of the primary election, this will be no easy task going forward, with candidate Mike Garcia gaining momentum. Also, during this COVID-19 public health crisis, Governor Newsom signed an Executive Order requiring counties to mail every voter a ballot for Special Elections, which includes CD 25. This will be a very close race to follow. Stay tuned for updates and the race continue to heat up.

Climate Resiliency/Water Bonds

As of the bill introduction deadline, there are now four "Climate Resiliency/Water Bonds" in play this legislative session. Each plan covers watershed, resource conservation, fire resiliency, and water infrastructure. Should one pass the legislature, it will be placed on the ballot for the voters to approve or disapprove at the November 3rd General Election.

Governor's Climate Resiliency Bond "Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, and Natural Resources Protection Bond Act of 2020"

The Governor and his administration are proposing a \$4.75 billion climate resilience bond for the November 2020 ballot to support investments over the next five years to reduce specific climate risks across California through long-term investment in natural and built infrastructure, especially in the state's most climate-vulnerable communities. The bond is structured based on climate risks, and approximately 80 percent of the funds are allocated to address immediate, near-term risks (floods, drought, and wildfires), while the remaining funds lay the groundwork for addressing long-term climate risk (sea level rise and extreme heat). The bond aligns with the Administration's draft Water Resilience Portfolio in addressing drought and flood risks, and also makes strategic investments in community resilience. A link to the released budget trailer bill language can be found below:

Bond Language: <https://esd.dof.ca.gov/dofpublic/public/trailerBill/pdf/25>

Status: Currently apart of the Budget negotiations with the Legislature.

Position: Watch

AB 352 (E. Garcia) Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020.

This bill would enact the Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$3,920,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a wildfire prevention, safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection program. The bill would provide for the submission of these provisions to the voters at the November 3, 2020, statewide general election.

Status: This bill was referred to the Senate Environmental Quality Committee. This is a two-year bill.

Position: Watch

AB 3256 (E. Garcia) Climate risks: bond measure.

This bill would enact the Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Climate Resilience, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$6,980,000,000 (Billion) pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law. The bond would finance projects for wildfire prevention, safe drinking water, climate resilience, drought preparation, and flood protection program.

Status: Assembly Rules, pending referral.

Position: Watch

SB 45 (Allen) Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020.

This bill would This bill would enact the Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$ 5,510,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for a wildfire prevention, safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection program. This bill would provide for the submission of these provisions to the voters at the November 3, 2020, statewide general election.

Status: Assembly Rules, pending referral.

Position: Watch

Public Safety Power Shutoffs

AB 2182 (Rubio) Emergency backup generators: water and wastewater facilities: exemption.

This bill would provide flexibility for all critical service providers to use and maintain emergency power generators for Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events. This flexibility would be accomplished by: (1) confirming that backup power generation during PSPS events is considered emergency use of generators; (2) ensuring that generator use for PSPS events is not limited by any time constraints; and, (3) by providing testing and maintenance flexibility for these backup generators due to the strenuous nature of their use during PSPS events.

Status: Double referred to Assembly Energy and Utilities Committee and Natural Resources Committee.

Position: None

SB 1099 (Dodd) Emergency backup generators: critical facilities: exemption.

This bill would require air districts to adopt a rule, or revise its existing rules, to allow critical facilities with a permitted emergency backup generator to use that emergency backup generator during a deenergization event or other loss of power, and to test and maintain that emergency backup generator, without having the usage, testing, or maintenance count toward that emergency backup generator's time limitation on actual usage and routine testing and maintenance. The bill would also prohibit air districts from imposing a fee on the issuance or renewal of a permit issued for those critical facility emergency backup generators.

Status: This bill has been referred to Senate Environmental Quality Committee.

Position: None

Water Quality

SB 996 (Portantino) State Water Resources Control Board: Constituents of Emerging Concern Program.

This bill would establish a "Constituent of Emerging Concern" (CEC) Drinking Water Program at the State Water Board that would identify, evaluate, and prioritize actions for CECs in drinking water sources. A dedicated funding source would be created to establish and maintain the program in the State Treasury. This fund would additionally support the creation of a Science Advisory Panel to assist the State Water Board in its considerations when prioritizing and making regulatory determinations for CECs, as well as a Stakeholder Advisory Group that would advise the State Water Board in meeting the purposes of the CEC program.

Status: This bill has been referred to the Senate Environmental Quality Committee.

Position: None

SB 1056 (Portantino) Drinking water: testing: perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.

This bill would require the SWRCB, on or before January 1, 2022, to validate and certify a method or methodologies to measure perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) substances in drinking water, groundwater, surface water and wastewater.

Status: This bill has been referred to Senate Environmental Quality Committee.

Position: None

Governance

AB 2560 (Quirk) Water quality: notification and response levels: procedures.

This bill would require the SWRCB to comply with public notice, comment, and peer review procedures, when establishing or revising notification or response levels.

Status: This bill has been referred to the Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee.

Position: None

SB 797 (Wilk) Water resources: permit to appropriate: application procedure.

This bill requires the publication of a “new notice of application” by the SWRCB, if the SWRCB has not rendered a final determination on an application for a permit to appropriate water within 30 years from its original filing date. The new notice would re-open the protest period other administrative processes, as if it were being undertaken for the first time.

Status: This bill has been referred to the Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee

Position: None

California Advocates, Inc. Activity Report

- Participated in at least daily briefings for Covid 19, pass along pertinent information to SCWA staff.
- Participated in Newsom Administration call of CDFW permit for long-term operations of the SWP.
- Reviewed and provided details of Gov Exec Order prohibiting water shut offs.
- Attended ACWA MMLG meetings.
- Participated in the Southern California Water Coalition (SCWC) Legislative Task Force calls.
- Participated in the State Water Contractors Advocate call for an update on the Voluntary Agreements; federal BiOps; Section 2081 permit for long-term SWP operations; Delta conveyance; and FEMA reimbursement for Oroville.
- Drafted budget proposal bill language for PFAS pilot project proposal. Submitted language to Legislative Counsel.
- Shared and discussed the budget PFAS language for feedback with the following individuals:
 - Kathy Viatella, Executive Legislative Representative, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
 - Jason Ikerd, Legislative Advocate, Orange County Water District
- Meet with Kathy Viatella, Executive Legislative Representative, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to discuss 2020 water priorities for the year.
- Reviewed introduced legislation and tagged bills for SCVWA to monitor and take bill positions on for the year.
- Reaching out to legislative staff on bill introductions to receive background on both substantive and non-substantive bills, and how they can effect SCVWA.
- Discussions with Chief of Staff to the Assembly Budget Sub 3 Committee on Natural Resources with regards to the Governor’s Climate Resiliency Bond proposal as well as AB 3256 (E. Garcia) Climate Resiliency Bond proposal.

- Participated in the California Natural Resources Agency, Department of Fish & Wildlife, and Governor’s Office briefing call on the “Incidental Take Permit” (ITP).

Regulatory

- The Legislative Analyst Office put out a report on the impact of COVID-19 actions on the state budget. While it is very early in the process and the impact is unknown, they are watching the budget closely and warned that the “Governor’s May Revise” will need to substantially amend the current budget. You can find the LAO report [HERE](#).
- The Department of Finance sent a letter to Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee and the Assembly Budget Committee, informing them that the department will not be sending any “Spring Finance Letters” this year, due to the novel coronavirus pandemic. Finance is typically required to provide the California Legislature with updated expenditure and revenue information for policy adjustments related to the governor’s January budget by April 1st, but that won’t be happening this year. According to the letter, the Department of Finance now will reevaluate all budget changes within the context of a workload budget, that will include all April 1st and May 1st requests. All potential adjustments will be included in the May revision, as well as previously approved adjustments incorporated in the governor’s budget.
- This week, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) issued an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) for long-term operations of the State Water Project (SWP). The permit covers four species protected under the California Endangered Species Act: Delta smelt, longfin smelt, winter-run Chinook salmon and spring-run Chinook salmon. DWR’s final environmental document can be found [here](#) and CDFW’s ITP can be found [here](#).
- Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 1:00pm the State Water Resources Control Board will hold a public workshop via video and teleconference to discuss the draft definition for “microplastics” in drinking water. The workshop will not begin before 1:00pm. Written public comments on the draft definition of microplastics in drinking water must be received by Friday, April 24, 2020 at Noon.
- DWR has extended the public comments periods for several documents and public notices that were recently opened for comment.
 - Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) public comment periods have been extended 30 days. The new deadlines for public comment are May 15, 2020 and June 3, 2020. Visit the SGMA Portal to submit your comment.
 - The Water Budget Handbook public comment period has been extended by 30 days until May 7, 2020.
 - The Delta Conveyance Project scoping period has been extended by four weeks and will now close at 5 p.m. Friday on April 17, 2020.

Important Dates and Deadlines for 2020

April Deadlines:

- March 20, 2020 – April 12th Legislative Recess. Session reconvening TBD.
- Apr. 24th, Last day for policy committees to hear and report fiscal bills to fiscal committees introduced in their house.

May Deadlines:

- May 1st, Last day for policy committees to meet and report nonfiscal bills to the floor.
- May 8th, Last day for policy committees to meeting prior to June 1st.
- May 15th, Fiscal policy deadline to report bills to the floor.
- May 25th, Memorial Day (Observed Holiday)
- May 26th – 29th, Floor Session only “House of Origin” deadline.

June Deadlines:

- June 1st, Committee meetings may resume.
- June 15th, Budget bill must be passed by midnight.
- June 25th, Last day for a measure to qualify for the November 3rd General Election Ballot.
- June 26th, Last day for policy committees to hear and report fiscal bills to fiscal committees introduced in their house.

Writer's Email: hbraly@pooleshaffery.com

MEMORANDUM

TO: STEVE COLE, SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY

FROM: HUNT BRALY

RE: March 2020 Report

DATE: 4-3-2020

I have provided a synopsis of activities performed on behalf of the Agency in March.

1. Continued to work with staff regarding PFAS Contamination issue.
2. Continued to work with staff and Dennis Albiani to discuss our potential projects for funding in Sacramento. Contacted local Legislative offices
3. Continued to participate in efforts with Federal Advocates potential federal legislation and funding opportunities.
4. Continued to work with staff on Groundwater Management Committee.
5. Began initial planning of Legislative Staff Briefing in June.

RECURRING ACTIVITIES/MEETING ATTENDANCE:

6. Participated in meeting as a Member of the Safe, Clean Water Program (Measure W) Watershed Area Steering Committee Santa Clara River on March 5.

The meeting primarily focused on further discussion of percent allocation target, Scientific study and confirm Final Stormwater Investment. Decisions deferred to March 19 meeting. Subsequently the March 19 meeting was cancelled due to the Stay at Home order. We are waiting to hear a schedule for an online meeting toward the end of April.

7. Attended Special City Council Meeting on March 19

This was called to deal with a legal demand calling on the City to enact Election Districts by the November 2020 election due to the requirements of the California Voting Rights Act. The Council consistently stated that they thought districts were not in the benefit of the City, but that their likelihood of success in fighting a law suit was very slim since no local government entity has ever successfully challenged these actions. If litigation were to occur, then the cost of litigation, including the payment of Plaintiff's attorney fees would be in the millions of dollars. The Council voted 4 to 0, with Councilman Kellar absent, to proceed with districts and hire the necessary consultants. This process will require 5 public meetings and must be concluded in July in time for the filing for the November elections. While 5 districts will be created, only two will be up in 2020, Cameron Smyth and the vacant

seat of Councilman Kellar. In 2021 the City Council will need to redistrict again using the 2020 census data. The attorney who sent the letter was asked to allow the council to wait until the 2022 election so it could use the new data and not unnecessary waste resources, but he refused. The public process should begin in May.

Monitored Special City Council Meeting on March 31.

There was one consent item and the main topic was to enact a City ban on residential and commercial evictions until the end of May to be consistent with the order from Los Angeles County. 4 councilmembers were physically in attendance and Councilman Marsha McLean. Called in. This was the first council meeting where the public was not allowed to personally attend and had to sign up electronically. 4 members of the public spok3, 3 in favor and 1 neutral. In addition, the SCV Chamber sent a support letter.

8. Monitored and reviewed Agency Board Agendas.
9. Reviewed daily emails regarding articles of interest from Agency.



Quarterly Dashboard Report
Q1: January - March 2020

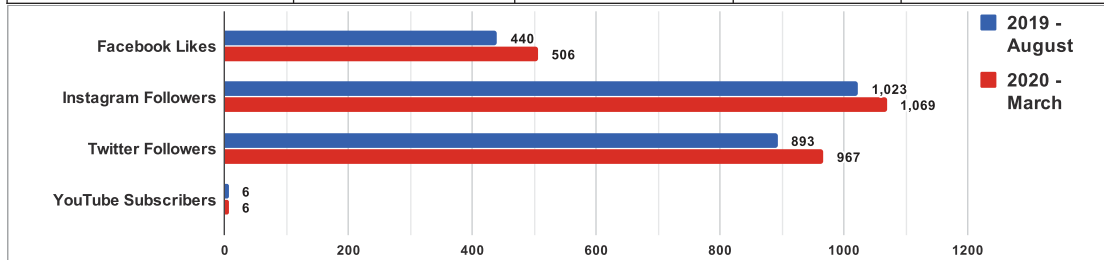
Prepared by:



ITEM NO.
3.1

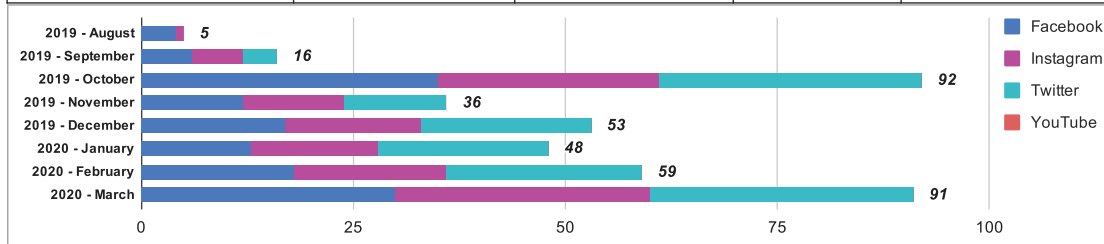
LIKES / FOLLOWERS / SUBSCRIBERS

	Facebook Likes	Instagram Followers	Twitter Followers	YouTube Subscribers
2019 - August	440	1,023	893	6
2019 - September	445	1,023	894	7
2019 - October	456	1,037	914	7
2019 - November	459	1,044	922	7
2019 - December	466	1,047	928	7
2020 - January	472	1,059	948	7
2020 - February	485	1,062	955	6
2020 - March	506	1,069	967	6



NUMBER OF POSTS

	Facebook	Instagram	Twitter [1]	YouTube
2019 - August	4	1	0	0
2019 - September	6	6	4	0
2019 - October [2]	35	26	31	0
2019 - November	12	12	12	0
2019 - December	17	16	20	0
2020 - January	13	15	20	0
2020 - February	18	18	23	0
2020 - March [3]	30	30	31	0



REACH [4]

	Facebook	Instagram	Twitter	YouTube	TOTAL
2019 - August	21,139	295	0	508	21,942
2019 - September	1,073	1,172	535	259	3,039
2019 - October [5]	5,659	5,677	10,331	259	21,926
2019 - November	1,388	2,260	8,049	300	11,997
2019 - December	2,483	3,447	7,925	180	14,035
2020 - January	3,663	4,660	9,993	204	18,520
2020 - February [6]	7,388	3,958	9,352	259	20,957
2020 - March [7]	15,444	6,970	14,109	310	36,833

ENGAGEMENT [8]

	Facebook	Instagram	Twitter	YouTube	TOTAL
2019 - August	3,647	136	0	259	4,042
2019 - September	263	143	5	144	555
2019 - October	1,265	388	149	148	1,950
2019 - November	101	139	31	133	404
2019 - December	325	206	33	230	794
2020 - January	321	206	62	144	733
2020 - February	495	141	64	162	862
2020 - March	1,641	370	185	126	2,322

Facebook Boosted Posts [9]

Published	Post	Type	Targeting	Reach	Engagement	Promote
02/11/2020 3:17 PM	During February 18-22, please stop all outdoor	📄	🌐	3.8K	168 73	View Promotion
02/14/2020 9:01 AM	Monday, February 17 is the LAST DAY to irrigate	📄	🌐	1.2K	61 28	View Promotion
02/18/2020 6:02 AM	Please stop all outdoor irrigation this week	📄	🌐	386	10 12	View Promotion

TOP SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS (excluding boosted posts) from Jan. '20 - Mar. '20 [10]

Facebook

Published	Post	Type	Targeting	Reach	Engagement	Promote
03/11/2020 9:49 AM	SCAM ALERT! It has come to our attention, that	📄	🌐	6.2K	475 100	Boost Post
03/10/2020 8:00 AM	SCV tap water is available, plentiful and	📄	🌐	4.6K	331 260	Boost Post
01/15/2020 9:00 AM	News reports recently provided inaccurate	📄	🌐	1.7K	87 24	Boost Post
03/13/2020 2:26 PM	Safe. Reliable. Plentiful. The COVID-19 virus has	📄	🌐	1.1K	77 91	Boost Post
01/31/2020 9:30 AM	BEWARE OF PHISHING PHONE CALLS: It has	📄	🌐	341	13 19	Boost Post

Instagram (by Engagement)

All ▾ 3 months ▾ Engagement ▾

36

25






22

22

21

20

Twitter

Tweets	Top Tweets	Tweets and replies	Promoted	Impressions	Engagements	Engagement rate
	SCV Water @scv_water · Mar 10	SCV tap water is available, plentiful and safe! You should always keep some bottled water at home in case of any emergency, but #SCVWater does not expect any disruption to our customers due to the COVID-19 virus. #WashYourHands #DrinkTapWater #COVID19 #Covid_19 #Coronavirus pic.twitter.com/15JX2upsvA		4,851	72	1.5%
		View Tweet activity				Promote
	SCV Water @scv_water · Feb 11	During February 18-22, please stop all outdoor irrigation while the Department of Water Resources (DWR) conducts annual maintenance at Castaic Lake. (1/2) pic.twitter.com/kdES3HHFq		3,375	39	1.2%
		View Tweet activity				Promote
	SCV Water @scv_water · Jan 30	Did you know that #SCVWater has rebates for residents, businesses, large landscapes and HOAs? We're here to serve you and help you conserve! #WaterWise #SantaClaritaValley		2,191	16	0.7%
		To get started today, read more: ow.ly/dO7t50y3qor pic.twitter.com/2h4BDYB2b8				Promote
		View Tweet activity				
	SCV Water @scv_water · Jan 16	January #GardeningTip : Cold weather is a great time to get your roses cut back and ready for gorgeous spring blooms. This is the time to really prune roses and apply horticultural oil to prevent insect damage on new growth. #SCVWater #WaterWise #SantaClarita pic.twitter.com/4wunaQtCn9		1,501	5	0.3%
		View Tweet activity				Promote
	SCV Water @scv_water · Jan 7	FREE Gardening Class on January 9 from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm.		1,144	7	0.6%
		Our "Creating a Landscape Plan and Budget" class will help you design the plants and hardscape, determine the labor needed, as well as estimate and manage a budget.				
		For more information, visit: ow.ly/JFDc50xKNKd pic.twitter.com/5iKGp0DJ79				Promote
		View Tweet activity				

[1] You may notice that Twitter usually has more posts than any other platform, this is because of their character limit. When a post is more than 140 characters, we split the post up into a threaded tweet, but each of these count as post.

[2] The number of posts in October 2019 is significantly higher than other months due to Water Professionals Week. During this week, SCV Water posted about each department within the Agency which drove up the number of posts on each platform.

[3] The number of posts in March 2020 is significantly higher than other months due to Water Summit and COVID-19. During this month, SCV Water put out several posts promoting the 2020 Water Summit and nine posts about COVID-19 which drove up the number of posts on each platform.

[4] Facebook Reach: The number of unique people who saw your post.

Instagram Reach: The number of unique people who saw your post.

Twitter Impressions: The number of times a Tweet shows up in somebody's timeline.

YouTube Impressions: How many times your thumbnails were shown to viewers on youtube.com

[5] Total Reach and Engagement from September to December 2019 across all platforms was the highest in October 2019 due to Water Professionals Week. The high number of posts this week significantly increased Reach and Engagement. High Reach and Engagement in August 2019 was due to a post about the Newhall Ranch Road closure. It was one of four posts during that month and had significantly higher reach and engagement than SCV Water's usual posts.

[6] Facebook's reach in February 2020 was higher than average because we ran three boosted posts on Facebook which nearly doubled Reach in this month.

[7] Total Reach and Engagement from January to March 2020 across all platforms was the highest in March 2020 due to Water Summit promotion and COVID-19. The high number of posts this month significantly increased Reach and Engagement.

[8] Facebook Engagement: calculated based on the number of likes, comments, shares, and clicks your posts are generating

Instagram Engagement: Anytime a user likes or comments on one of your posts.

Twitter Engagement: Total number of times users interacted with a Tweet (clicks anywhere on the Tweet including Retweets, replies, follows, likes, links, cards, hashtags, embedded media, username, profile photo, or Tweet expansion).

YouTube Watch Time: The amount of time that a viewer has watched a video. This gives you a sense of what content viewers actually watch (as opposed to videos that they click on and then abandon).

[9] We ran three boosted Facebook posts during February to promote the DWR Shutoff so customers would know to limit their outdoor water usage during this time.

[10] SCV Water's top posts varied across platforms from January 2020 to March 2020. On Facebook, awareness posts about phishing scams and assurance of tap water availability during COVID-19 were the most popular primarily due to Shares and Tags. On Instagram, posts about COVID-19 drove the most engagement. This is likely due to followers appreciation of communications during uncertain times of COVID-19. Top Tweets included COVID-19 posts and gardening.

Public Outreach Matrix of Selected Activities

March and April 2020

Website Statistics	MARCH	
Total users	16,821	Users who have initiated at least one session during the date range
Total Page Views	37,692	Total number of pages viewed. Repeated views of a single page are counted.
Most Popular Content		
Home page	15,086	
Customer Care	5,473	Customer Care (pay; locate division; start/stop; etc)
Save Water & Money	2,109	Conservation program home page
Residential	806	Residential conservation programs
Connect	618	Contact Us
Valencia Division Bill	868	How to read your bill
Governance	266	Board and committee agendas
Covid-19	604	Coronavirus Page
Digital Outreach	As of 4/2/20	
Social Media		Notable activity
Facebook	506 likes 547 follows	
Instagram	1069	
Twitter	959	
Constant Contact	MARCH/APRIL	
Water Currents eNewsletter (March)	19,196	Open rate: 30.6% (average industry open rate 21.64%)
Water Currents eNewsletter (April)	19,062	Open rate: 33% (average industry open rate 21.64%)
eBlast: Public Lobby Closures 3/16	23,794	Open rate: 42.3%
COVID-19 Special Update 3/18	23,717	Open rate: 47.5% (average industry open rate 21.64%)
Education	APRIL	2020 Totals
Students	849	1490
Teachers	92	150
Garden Classes – Saturdays	58	72
Garden Classes – evenings	38	39

* Data not available yet

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LEGISLATION TRACKING

Letters of Support/Opposition

ITEM NO.
3.3

Date	Bill/Initiative	Title	Stand	Notes	Leg. Policy*	Status
2/7/2020	Water Resilience Exec. Order N-10-19	Comments on draft resilience portfolio	Support	Signed on to coalition letter to Nancy Vogel, Director of the Governor's Water Portfolio Program on the resilience portfolio in development. Specifically addresses topics including water storage, conveyance, flood management, regulation and planning and others	2.0, 5.0	Letter sent
2/7/2020	Water Resilience Exec. Order N-10-19	Comments on draft resilience portfolio	Support	Also sent our own letter to Ms. Vogel, with similar points.	2.0, 5.0	Letter sent

* Reference to applicable section of Legislative Policy Guidelines
 Revised: April 1, 20
 Represents changes since last distribution.

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SPONSORSHIP TRACKING FY JULY 2020 - JULY 2021

ITEM NO.
3.4

Agency Name	Event	Event Date	Event Location	Registration Fee	Sponsorship	Amount
ACWA	2020 Fall Conference	Dec 1-4, 2020	Indian Wells	\$725	Wed: Ice Cream Break	2,000.00
					TOTAL SPONSORSHIP:	2,000.00
					FY 20/21 BUDGET:	20,000.00
					BALANCE:	18,000.00

PROJECTED SPONSORSHIPS

Agency Name	Event	Event Date	Event Location	Registration Fee	Previous Sponsorship	Amount
SCV Chamber	Annual Patriots Luncheon	July 2020	Hyatt Valencia	\$65	Event Sponsor: Preferred seating for 4, Logo placement on all event marketing materials, Chamber website highlight, Recognition in event program & in media & press	1,000.00
AWA	Annual Member & Elected Officials Reception	Sept 17, 20	Ronald Reagan Presidential Library	Free to members	Respresentative Sponsor: Listing on invitation & event program, agency name on signage	500.00
CSDA	2020 Annual Conference	Aug 24-27, 20	Palm Desert	\$675	Sponsorship of Morning Coffee Station & 2/3rd page ad in the 50th Anniversary commemorative program	2,000.00
SCV Chamber	Legislative Leaders Forum		Hyatt Valencia	N/A	Gold Sponsor: 6 reserved seats, logo placement on all event marketing materials, recognition in media & press	1,000.00
Santa Clarita Environmental Education Consortium (SCEEC)	Green STEM	Nov 2020	College of the Canyon	N/A	The event provides high school and college students with exposure to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) concepts, but with sustainability as a key focus. The Water Technology program at COC is one of the featured programs. (Decreasing from previous Family of Water sponsorship of \$5000)	2,000.00
					PROJECTED SPONSORSHIPS SUBTOTAL	6,500.00

Updated: Apr 1, 20

PROJECTED BALANCE FY 20/21 11,500.00



SPONSORSHIP TRACKING FY JULY 2019 - JULY 2020

Agency Name	Event	Event Date	Event Location	Registration Fee	Sponsorship	Amount
SCV Chamber	9th Annual Patriots Luncheon	July 11, 19	Hyatt Valencia	\$65	Event Sponsor: Preferred seating for 4, Logo placement on all event marketing materials, Chamber website highlight, Recognition in event program & in media & press	1,000.00
Urban Water Institute	Annual Water Conference	Aug 14-16, 19	Hilton San Diego Resort & Spa	\$575	Marketing Sponsor: Logo on website, agenda, on presentation screens and in registration area.	2,000.00
AWA	Annual Member & Elected Officials Reception	Sept 19, 19	Ronald Reagan Presidential Library	Free to members	Respresentative Sponsor: Listing on invitation & event program, agency name on signage	500.00
CSDA	2019 Annual Conference	Sept 25 -28, 19	Anaheim	\$675	Sponsorship of Morning Coffee Station & 2/3rd page ad in the 50th Anniversary commemorative program	2,000.00
SCV Chamber	Legislative Leaders Forum	Oct 4, 19	Hyatt Valencia	N/A	Gold Sponsor: 6 reserved seats, logo placement on all event marketing materials, recognition in media & press	1,000.00
Santa Clarita Environmental Education Consortium (SCEEC)	Green STEM	Nov 2019	College of the Canyon	N/A	Legacy Family of Water* sponsorship. The event provides high school and college students with exposure to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) concepts, but with sustainability as a key focus. The Water Technology program at COC is one of the featured programs. (Total cost - \$5000)	1,250.00
ACWA	2019 Fall Conference	Dec 2 -6, 19	San Diego	\$725	Wednesday Opening Breakfast (includes 1 meal ticket); sponsor ribbon for badges; acknowledgement in ACWA News, website, conference programs, screens at meals, mobile app.	2,500.00
CVWD - Cucamonga Valley Water District	ACWA Women in Water	Dec 2019 & May 2020	San Diego; Monterey	N/A	UNRULY: name & logo included on invitations & materials promoting the reception, as well as displayed on signage throughout the reception room	500.00
Valley Industry Assn (VIA)		Jan - Dec 2020	N/A	N/A	Gold Sponsor: Prepaid lunches for one year (one seat) 12 months participation in VIA pop banner program; recognition as a luncheon sponsor at each luncheon form stage & logo; luncheon presentation package inserts opportunity for 12 months	1,500.00

Agency Name	Event	Event Date	Event Location	Registration Fee	Sponsorship	Amount
Maven's Notebook	Public website providing in-depth & unbiased coverage of critical statewide water policy & science issues as they progress through key agency meetings, public meetings, legislative hearings	January 2020			Gold Sponsors: organizations receive a one-year subscription to Maven's Weekly Water Blast; one-year to California Water Library; recognized with large logo linked to organization's website. Renews annually	5,000.00
SCV Chamber	97th Annual Awards & Gala	Jan 24, 2020	Hyatt Valencia		1/2 page ad in program book	250.00
Urban Water Institute	Spring Water Conference	Feb 19-21, 20	Palm Springs	\$675	Continental Breakfast	1,500.00
Santa Clarita Valley Economic Development & College of the Canyons (SCVEDC)	2020 Economic Outlook	Mar 12, 2020 (RESCHEDULED: Sept 17, 2020)	Hyatt Valencia	\$140	Bronze: 2 reserved complimentary tickets to event at a sponsor table; Business card size color ad in Forecast program book; Company promotion through electronic and social media event marketing; Company logo in event presentation	1,100.00
KHTS	Sacramento Road Trip	March 16 -17, 2020 (CANCELLED)	Sacramento	\$603	(75) 60 sec. commercials & (100) promotional: 10 sec. tags, advertising signage on Road Trip literature & web material. Website banners, tiles, linkage. Sponsorship messages during road trip. Logo on poster at Banquet	2,250.00
AWA	28th Annual Water Symposium	April 16, 2020 (CANCELLED)	Oxnard Courtyard Marriott		Listing on printed materials; Company name of screen display; one comp. ticket	500.00
ACWA	2020 Spring Conference	May 5-8, 2020 (RESCHEDULED: July 28-31, 2020)	Monterey	\$725	Wed: Ice Cream Break	2,000.00
SCV Chamber	State of the County Luncheon	May 15, 2020 (RESCHEDULED Aug 5, 2020)	Hyatt Valencia	\$75	Bronze Sponsor: 4 complimentary tickets, social media recognition, sponsor recognition in all marketing	1,500.00
					TOTAL SPONSORSHIP:	26,350.00
					FY 19/20 BUDGET:	20,000.00
					BALANCE:	-6,350.00

PROJECTED SPONSORSHIPS

Agency Name	Event	Event Date	Event Location	Registration Fee	Previous Sponsorship	Amount
City of Santa Clarita	2020 Earth Arbor Day	April 2020 (postponed, TBD)	Central Park	N/A		1,000.00
KHTS	Home & Garden Show	April 2020 (postponed, TBD)	Central Park	N/A	Signage, on-air interview, logos, links & commercials	1,000.00
PROJECTED SPONSORSHIPS SUBTOTAL						2,000.00

Updated: April 1, 2020

PROJECTED BALANCE FY19/20 -8,350.00



2020 Public Outreach Events

ITEM NO. 3.5

This is a list of events where SCV Water participates as a vendor, or as the host, in the case of the garden classes and Open House. We set up a branded outreach booth with information on our classes, programs, water supply, conservation efforts, etc. All retail divisions will be represented under the SCV Water umbrella, with occasional expanded presence by conservation staff.

	Event	Location	Notes (Pre and/or Post)
January			
1/9	Landscape class (evening)	Rio Vista	Creating a Landscape Plan and Budget
1/11	Landscape class	Rio Vista	Proper Pruning
February			
2/6	Landscape class (evening)	Rio Vista	Designing a Sustainable Landscape
2/8	Landscape class	Rio Vista	Waterwise Vegetable Gardening
2/23	Mardi Gras Madness 5K/10K	Valencia Town Center	Students Off and Running: free afterschool program for youth in need through training for and completing a marathon. Fundraiser for SOAR: https://mgm5k.weebly.com/
March			
3/19	Landscape class (evening)	Rio Vista	Top 30 Plants for the SCV
3/21	Landscape class	Rio Vista	Your Landscape Project: Design to Construction
3/21	Michael Hoefflin 5K Walk for Kids with Cancer	COC	The Michael Hoefflin Foundation is a non-profit organization that assists children diagnosed with cancer and their families. https://www.mhf.org/mhf-walk-kids-cancer/
3/29	Free to be Me Concert	Skate Park	City of Santa Clarita
April			
4/9	Landscape class (evening)	Rio Vista	Irrigating a Sustainable Landscape
4/11	Landscape class	Rio Vista	Drip Irrigation
4/18-19	Cowboy Poetry Festival	Hart Park	City event - http://cowboyfestival.org/
4/25-26	Earth/Arbor Day/H&G Show	Central Park	City event - http://greensantaclarita.com/eartharborday/ KHTS event - http://www.santaclaritahomeandgardenshow.com/
May			
5/2	Fun & Fishing	Castaic Lake	Presented by Friends of Castaic Lake
5/2	LASD/Special Olympics Chili Cook off	Jack Bones Equestrian Center	Benefitting Special Olympics https://www.sosc.org/scvtv/chilicookoff
5/9	Open House	Central Park Patio/Garden	Annual Agency Open House to celebrate California Water Awareness Month
5/21	Landscape class (evening)	Rio Vista	Caring for the Top 30 Plants for the SCV
5/23	Landscape class	Rio Vista	Landscaping with Perennials

June			
6/6	Battens Disease 5K		www.projectsebastian.org
6/11	Landscape class (evening)	Rio Vista	Maintaining a Sustainable Landscape
6/13	Landscape class	Rio Vista	Shrubs and Native Plants
6/13	Dragon Boat Festival	Castaic Lake	
6/12	Jazz and Blues	Town Center Drive	valenciajazzandblues.com
6/14	Taste of Town	So Cal Innovation Park	Child and Family Center Fundraiser http://childfamilycenter.org/events/
TBD	Castaic Lake Fitness Challenge	Castaic Lake	
TBD	Rotary Car Show	So Cal Innovation Park	Rotary's 2 nd Annual People's Choice Car Show – fundraiser for Bridge to Home and Family Promise
July			
7/9	Landscape class (evening)	Rio Vista	Creating a Landscape Plan and Budget
7/11	Landscape class	Rio Vista	The Basics of a Sustainable Landscape
7/10	Jazz & Blues Concerts	Town Center Drive	valenciajazzandblues.com
August			
8/6	Landscape class (evening)	Rio Vista	Designing a Sustainable Landscape
8/8	Landscape class	Rio Vista	Proper Turf Care and Turf Substitutes
September			
9/12	CAST for Kids	Pyramid Lake	Kids with disabilities, ages 6-17, experience the sport of fishing. www.castforkids.org
9/17	Landscape class (evening)	Rio Vista	Top 30 Plants for the SCV
9/19	Landscape class	Rio Vista	Controlling Weeds, Pests and Diseases
9/19	River Rally	Newhall Community Center	Clean up of the Santa Clara River http://greensantaclarita.com/calendar/river-rally/
TBD	Circle of Hope Hoedown	Newhall	Circleofhopeinc.org/hoedown/
TBD	Be the Light 5K	West Creek Park	http://www.bethelight5k.org/ Supporting A Light Of Hope (ALOH) https://www.alightofhopescv.org/ , a program for recovery from addiction/self-destructive behaviors
October			
10/3	CAST for Kids	Castaic Lake	Kids with disabilities, ages 6-17, experience the sport of fishing http://castforkids.org/event/castaiclake/
10/15	Landscape class (evening)	Rio Vista	Irrigating a Sustainable Landscape
10/17	Landscape class	Rio Vista	Trees for the SCV
TBD	Haunted Jailhouse	Sheriff Station	Boys & Girls Club fundraiser
TBD	Pow Wow Festival	Hart Park	A festival celebrating Native American Culture. Hosted by William S. Hart County Park & Museum and the Friends of Hart Park. http://www.friendsofhartpark.org/Event_Pages/powwow.html
TBD	Kids Expo	Golden Valley HS	Child and Family Center benefit. http://childfamilycenter.org/events/

Purple = Events

Green = SCV Gardening Classes

Blue = Speakers' Bureau 36

November			
11/12	Landscape class (evening)	Rio Vista	Caring for the Top 30 Plants for the SCV
11/14	Landscape class	Rio Vista	Soils and Fertilizers
December			
12/3	Landscape class (evening)	Rio Vista	Maintaining a Sustainable Landscape
12/5	Landscape class	Rio Vista	How to Remove a Lawn
TBD	Family Literacy Festival	Newhall Library	Santa-clarita.com

as of 4/6/20

***cancellation
due to
coronavirus**

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**PUBLIC OUTREACH AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AGENDA PLANNING CALENDAR 2020**

ITEM NO. 3.6

January 16, 2020 Committee

1. Legislative Consultant Reports
2. Public Information Officer Activities:
 - Quarterly Social Media Report from Consultant Tripepi Smith
 - Monthly Outreach Matrix
 - Legislative Tracking
 - Sponsorship Tracking FY 2020/21
 - Public Outreach Event Calendar 2020
 - Committee Planning Calendar 2020

February 20, 2020 Committee

1. Legislative Consultant Reports
2. Public Information Officer Activities:
 - Washington D.C. Advocacy Trip
 - SCV Water Agency – Water Summit Update
 - Monthly Outreach Matrix
 - Legislative Tracking
 - Sponsorship Tracking FY 2020/21
 - Public Outreach Event Calendar 2020
 - Committee Planning Calendar 2020

March 19, 2020 Committee - CANCELLED

April 16, 2020 Committee

1. Legislative Consultant Reports
2. Public Information Officer Activities:
 - Quarterly Social Media Report from Consultant Tripepi Smith
 - Monthly Outreach Matrix
 - Legislative Tracking
 - Sponsorship Tracking FY 2019/20 and FY 2020/21
 - Public Outreach Event Calendar 2020
 - Committee Planning Calendar 2020
3. General Outreach Update on COVID-19

May 21, 2020 Committee

1. Legislative Consultant Reports
2. Public Information Officer Activities:
 - Monthly Outreach Matrix
 - Legislative Tracking
 - Sponsorship Tracking FY 2019/20 and FY 2020/21
 - Public Outreach Event Calendar 2020
 - Committee Planning Calendar 2020



**PUBLIC OUTREACH AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AGENDA PLANNING CALENDAR 2020**

June 18, 2020 Committee

1. Legislative Consultant Reports
2. Public Information Officer Activities:
 - Monthly Outreach Matrix
 - Legislative Tracking
 - Sponsorship Tracking FY 2019/20 and FY 2020/21
 - Public Outreach Event Calendar 2020
 - Committee Planning Calendar 2020