



SCV
WATER



**SCV WATER AGENCY
TELECONFERENCE
PUBLIC OUTREACH AND LEGISLATION
COMMITTEE MEETING**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2021

START TIME: 5:30 PM (PST)

Join the Board meeting from your
computer, tablet or smartphone:

<https://scvwa.zoomgov.com/j/1600226669>

-OR-

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To participate in public comment from your computer, tablet, or smartphone:

When the Chair announces the agenda item you wish to speak on, click the “**raise hand**” feature in **Zoom***. You will be notified when it is your turn to speak.

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When the Chair announces the agenda item you wish to speak on, **dial *9 to raise your hand**. Phone participants will be called on by the **LAST TWO digits** of their phone number. **When it is your turn to speak, dial *6 to unmute**. When you are finished with your public comment dial ***6 to mute**.

Can't attend? If you wish to still have your comments/concerns addressed by the Committee, all written public comments can be submitted by 4:00 PM the day of the meeting by either e-mail or mail.** Please send all written comments to Eunie Kang. Refer to the Committee Agenda for more information.

*For more information on how to use Zoom go to support.zoom.us or for “raise hand” feature instructions, visit <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/205566129-Raise-Hand-In-Webinar>

**All written comments received after 4:30 PM the day of the meeting will be posted to [yourscvwater.com](https://www.yourscvwater.com) the next day. Public comments can also be heard the night of the meeting.

Please Note: Pursuant to the provisions of AB 361 and SCV Water Resolution SCV-235, the SCV Water Board will continue to hold remote Board and Committee meetings due to the continuing State of Emergency for COVID-19 and the ongoing imminent risks to the health or safety of the attendees from COVID-19. The public may not attend meetings in person. The public may use the above methods to attend and participate in the public Committee meetings.

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Date: October 14, 2021

To: **Public Outreach and Legislation Committee**
Jerry Gladbach, Chair
Kathye Armitage
B.J. Atkins
R.J. Kelly
Lynne Plambeck

From: Steve Cole, Assistant General Manager *SC*

The **Public Outreach and Legislation Committee** is scheduled to meet via teleconference on **Thursday, October 21, 2021, at 5:30 PM**, dial information is listed below.

**TELECONFERENCE ONLY
NO PHYSICAL LOCATION FOR MEETING**

TELECONFERENCING NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of AB 361 and SCV Water Resolution SCV-235, the SCV Water Board will continue to hold remote Board and Committee meetings due to the continuing State of Emergency for COVID-19 and the ongoing imminent risks to the health or safety of the attendees from COVID-19. Any Director may call into an Agency Committee meeting using the Agency's **Call-In Number 1-833-568-8864, Webinar ID: 160 022 6669** **or Zoom Webinar by clicking on the link <https://scvwa.zoomgov.com/j/1600226669>** without otherwise complying with the Brown Act's teleconferencing requirements.

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 Zoom Webinar link above. Please see the notice below if you have a disability and require an accommodation in order to participate in the meeting.

If the State of Emergency for COVID-19 expires prior to this meeting and after the posting of this Agenda, this meeting will be held in person at the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350 in the Board and Training Rooms.

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, Executive Assistant**, 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 start of the meeting. Anything received after 4:00 PM the day of the meeting will be made available at the meeting and 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 within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Agency that are not on the Agenda at this time. Members of the public wishing to comment on items covered in this Agenda may do so at the time each item is considered. (Comments may, at the discretion of the Committee Chair, be limited to three minutes for each speaker.)	
2.	Legislative Consultant Report:	
* 2.1	Van Scoyoc Associates	1
* 2.2	California Advocates	5
* 2.3	Poole & Shaffery	13
3. *	Review of Outreach on Rent and Utility Relief Program	15
4.	Communications Manager Activities:	
* 4.1	Legislative Tracking	17
* 4.2	Grant Status Report	19
* 4.3	Sponsorship Tracking FY 2021/22	21
* 4.4	Committee Planning Calendar FY 2021/22	23
5.	Adjournment	
*	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 October 14, 2021



To: Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency; Public Outreach & Legislation Committee
From: Van Scoyoc Associates (VSA); Geoff Bowman, Pete Evich, and Ashley Strobel
Date: October 11, 2021
Subject: October 2021 Report

Infrastructure Framework Update

On September 27th, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) delayed a vote on the “Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act” (IIJA), the \$550 billion bipartisan infrastructure framework. Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) stated that both chambers are now working to strike a deal on the infrastructure package by October 31st. Moderate Democrats are upset with Speaker Pelosi for not fulfilling her original promise of bringing the IIJA to the House floor for a vote on September 27th. The bipartisan infrastructure package includes \$55 billion for drinking water and clean water programs administered by the Environmental Protection Agency, including funds for the Clean Water and Drinking Water SRF’s at \$23.4 billion over five years. The legislation also includes \$8.3 billion in Bureau of Reclamation administered western water programs, including \$550 million for Title XVI projects and \$400 million for WaterSMART grants.

On October 1st, President Biden met with House and Senate leadership and members of the Democratic Caucus and insisted that the bipartisan infrastructure package should not be voted on until a deal is struck on his social infrastructure reconciliation package, the “Build Back Better Act.” The Congressional Democratic caucus has discussed reducing the original \$3.5 trillion price tag of the reconciliation package to a number in the \$2 trillion range. The White House has stated that the target range is \$1.9 trillion to \$2.3 trillion. President Biden said that negotiating the reconciliation package could take weeks and reiterated that the IIJA should not be voted on until the Senate advances a reconciliation package.

The current Build Back Better Act includes some key water funding and tax provisions, such as the following:

- \$500 million in emergency western drought funding to Bureau of Reclamation
- \$125 million for the EPA Alternative Water Source grant program
- \$2 billion for Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse program
- \$500 million for the Department of Health and Human Services’ (LIHWAP) low-income drinking/wastewater ratepayer assistance

- \$500 million for the Community Water System Risk and Resilience grant program (This EPA administered program is for community water systems serving a population greater than 3,300)
- \$450 million for installation, repair, or replacement of domestic septic systems, including investments in connecting households with failing septic systems public sewer systems
- Water conservation tax parity rebate provision (excludes from gross income water conservation, storm water management, and wastewater management subsidies provided by public utilities, or storm water management providers).
- Restoration of tax-exempt advance refunding bonds

Congress Passes Continuing Resolution

On September 30th, Congress passed a Continuing Resolution which averted a government shutdown. President Biden signed the bill that same day, which temporarily extends federal funding through December 3rd. The bill contained \$200 million in emergency funding to the Bureau of Reclamation for activities to address the western-wide drought.

Debt Limit Issue Resolved...For Now

According to Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen, the existing U.S. debt limit is on track to be breached on or around October 18th. Not raising or suspending the debt limit would likely have calamitous impacts on the U.S. economy. The Senate agreed to temporarily increase the debt limit from \$480 billion to \$28.9 trillion until December 3rd, the same day the continuing resolution will end, to avert a default on U.S. debt obligations. While Senate Republicans previously blocked Democrats' efforts to suspend the debt limit for a longer period, neither party has an agreement on a long-term strategy. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) has stated that Republicans are insistent that Democrats will have to work without Republican support to raise the debt ceiling after December 3rd. The House is slated to pass the debt limit extension on or about October 10th.

House Transportation and Infrastructure Hearing on PFAS

The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Subcommittee on Water and Environment, held a hearing on October 6th to examine the effects of PFAS substances on public health and water quality. Subcommittee Chair Grace Napolitano (D-CA) expressed concern over the potential negative effects of PFAS on human and aquatic ecosystems. PFAS contamination has been a high priority for the Biden Administration's EPA, which has already created a PFAS Council to shape a formal action plan to address the contamination. The EPA is expected to release an outline of the action plan this month, though it will likely focus more on drinking water.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Hearing

On October 6th, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on Water & Power, held a hearing to examine the status and management of drought in the western U.S. The Assistant Secretary for the Office of Water and Science at the Interior, Tanya Trujillo,

testified in the hearing and expressed concern over the government's shortage declaration for the Colorado River.

Biden Administration Requests Reinitiation of Consultation on Operation of the CVP & SWP

On Friday, October 1st, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) requested reinitiation of an Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation with the U.S Fish and Wildlife (FWS) and National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) on 2019 biological statements regarding the coordinated long-term operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project. Reclamation's Mid-Pacific Regional Director Ernest Conant stated in a letter to his counterparts at the FWS and NMFS that the *"reinitiation is warranted based on anticipated modifications to the Proposed Action that may cause effects to listed species or designated critical habitats not analyzed in the Biological Opinions dated Oct. 21, 2019."*

California's eleven-member House Republican delegation condemned the decision which they asserted will delay water flow to the Central Valley. In a release dated October 2nd, the House members stated: *"We strongly oppose the Biden administration's reckless, anti-scientific, and politically-motivated attempt to rewrite the 2019 biological opinions."* These members further said the 2019 opinions reflected years of work by career staff experts at the U.S. Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Commerce, incorporating the latest data available to ensure a reliable supply of water.

USBR Commissioner Nominee Vote

On September 21st, the Senate Energy and Commerce Committee voted to advance Camille Touton Calimlim to be the Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation. The next step for Touton is a vote from the full Senate for approval. Touton has extensive experience in the private and public sectors and immense qualifications for the role.

FY2022 House NDAA Reauthorization Requires PFAS Cleanup to State Standards

The House recently passed its version of the FY2022 National Defense Authorization Act NDAA) legislation (H.R. 4350). Like last year's House version, the bill includes a provision to require DoD to clean up PFAS contamination to State-required levels. The Senate concluded committee action on its version of the FY2022 NDAA reauthorization in late July, but that legislation did not contain a similar provision. Senate floor action on the FY2022 NDAA is planned for this month.

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-VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL-

October 11, 2021

Michael D. Belote

MEMORANDUM

Dennis K. Albiani

TO: Steve Cole, Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency

Faith Lane Borges

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

Cliff Costa

SUBJECT: October Report

Anthony Molina

The Governors bill signing period ended on Sunday, October 10th at midnight. This year the Governor had a total of 836 bills sent to his desk. The Governor signed a total 772 bills and vetoed 66 bills. The Governor's signature rate was at 92% for the year and his veto rate was 7.9%. Bills that were signed by the Governor will take effect on January 1, 2022. Should the bill have an "urgency clause" it would then take effect immediately.

Furthermore, given this year's historic budget, there are several workshops, comment periods, and draft programs being developed at the regulatory agencies. Due to the various programs and funding allocations, CalAd has begun meeting with key agency staff to better understand how to best position SCVWA for different funding priorities such as PFAS, habitat restoration, groundwater wells, recycled water, and zero-emission vehicles and charging infrastructure. It is our goal to work with SCVWA leadership to identify priorities and help position them for success in the grant funding process.

State Water Contractors – Subsidence Funding

As previously discussed, SB 559 (Hurtado) was significantly amended coming off the Assembly Appropriations Committee "Suspense File." The amendments outlined below were added into the bill by the Assembly Appropriations committee, against the author's desire:

- Delete legislative intent language.
- Require the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to ensure funding supports public benefits, in consultation with the State Water Resources Control Board and Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- Ensure accountability for funding, particularly for federal projects.
- Require the DWR Director to apportion funding among the identified conveyance projects based on certain factors.
- Require beneficiaries to pursue recovery of restoration costs from responsible parties.

The author and the bill sponsors made a strategic decision to "park" the bill on the Assembly Floor, turning the legislation into a two-year bill. The author will work with the Governor's Administration and Assembly leadership to seek a resolution with the bill language. However, it should be noted that the Legislature has funded this conveyance project in the budget at \$100

million dollars, with a commitment for an additional \$100 million next year. The Budget funding has been approved and signed by the Governor.

SB 559 (Hurtado) Department of Water Resources: water conveyance systems: Canal Conveyance Capacity Restoration Fund.

This bill establishes the Canal Conveyance Capacity Restoration Fund in the State Treasury to be administered by the Department of Water Resources. Funds are to be expended in support of subsidence repair costs, including environmental planning, permitting, design, and construction and necessary road and bridge upgrades required to accommodate capacity improvements. The bill directs funds to restore the capacity of 4 specified water conveyance systems, with 2 of those 4 expenditures being in the form of a grant to the Friant Water Authority and to the San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority.

Status: Assembly Floor, Inactive File

Position: Support

Water Affordability Assistance

The author of this bill and the stakeholders worked diligently through the entire legislative process to reach agreements on several provisions in the legislation. However, a significant piece required for the bill to become operative was a “funding source.” Unfortunately, the author was unable to resolve this issue.

Additionally, during the final week of the legislative session, the Governor’s office requested that the Senator “hold” the bill and continue to work on the legislation through the Fall. The author agreed and moved the bill to the Assembly Floor’s Inactive File. The author’s office would like to move the bill early next year, if possible.

SB 222 (Dodd) Water Affordability Assistance Program.

This bill would establish the Water Affordability Assistance Fund in the State Treasury to help provide water affordability assistance, for both drinking water and wastewater services, to low-income ratepayers and ratepayers experiencing economic hardship in California. This bill will only become operative if an appropriation in the annual Budget Act or another statute occurs.

Status: Assembly Floor, Inactive File

Position: Oppose Unless Amended

Legislative Tracking

SB 223 (Dodd) Discontinuation of residential water service.

The bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board (Board) to provide technical assistance to very small community water systems. The bill would require the Board to establish a bridge loan program to assist very small community water systems that may suffer revenue loss or delayed collection while complying. To the extent funding is available, partial loan forgiveness would be made available to systems that offer debt forgiveness to low-income residents with past due accounts. This bill would also require an urban water supplier and an urban and community water system to update policies to comply this chapter by July 1, 2022.

Status: Senate Appropriations Committee – “Held” on the Suspense File. Two-year bill.

Position: Watch

SB 230 (Portantino) State Water Resources Control Board: Constituents of Emerging Concern

This bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board to establish, maintain, and direct an ongoing, dedicated program called the Constituents of Emerging Concern Program to assess the state of information and recommend areas for further study on the occurrence of constituents of emerging concern (CEC) in drinking water sources and treated drinking water. The bill would require the state board to convene the Science Advisory Panel to review and provide recommendations to the state board on CEC for further action.

Status: Two-year bill

Position: Support

SB 323 (Caballero) Local government: water or sewer service: legal actions.

This bill would authorize a local agency or interested person to bring a validation action in a superior court to determine the validity of a fee or charge for water and sewer service. The proposal would require an interested party bring an action within 120 days after the local agency adopts the fee or charge.

Status: Signed by the Governor.

Position: Support

SB 626 (Dodd) Construction Manager/General Contractor Procurement Method: Department of Water Resources.

This bill would give Department of Water Resources the ability to use Design Build and Construction Manager/General Contractor (CM/GC) procurement processes for construction contracts. This authority would accelerate project delivery and allow DWR to advance critical public safety, infrastructure, and habitat restoration projects in a more expeditious and efficient manner.

Status: Signed by the Governor.

Position: Support

AB 377 (Rivas) Water quality: impaired waters.

This bill would require all California surface waters to be fishable, swimmable, and drinkable by January 1, 2050. The bill would prohibit the state board and regional boards from authorizing an NPDES discharge, waste discharge requirement, or waiver of a waste discharge requirement that causes or contributes to an exceedance of a water quality standard, or from authorizing a best management practice permit term to authorize a discharge that causes or contributes to an exceedance of a water quality standard in receiving waters. The bill would prohibit, on or after January 1, 2030, a regional water quality control plan from including a schedule for implementation for achieving a water quality standard that was adopted as of January 1, 2021 and would prohibit a regional water quality control plan from including a schedule for implementation of a water quality standard that is adopted after January 1, 2021.

Status: Two-year bill

Position: Oppose

AB 979 (Frazier) Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta: projects: sea level rise analysis report.

This bill requires an entity undertaking a project in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to complete a report analyzing the impact of current sea-level rise projections on the project.

Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee – “Held” on the Suspense File. Two-year bill.

Position: Oppose

AB 1434 Urban water use objectives: indoor residential water use.

This bill lowers the indoor residential water use standard from 55 gallons per capita daily (gpcd) to 48 gpcd beginning January 1, 2023, from 52.5 gpcd to 44 gpcd beginning January 1, 2025, and from 50 gpcd to 40 gpcd beginning January 1, 2030.

Status: Two-Year bill

Position: Oppose

Utilities

SB 52 (Dodd) State of emergency: local emergency: sudden and severe energy shortage: planned power outage.

This bill would expand the definition of “sudden and severe energy shortage” to include a “deenergization event,” as a planned power outage and would make a deenergization event one of those conditions constituting a state of emergency and a local emergency.

Status: Signed by the Governor.

Position: Watch

AB 1161 (E. Garcia) Electricity: eligible renewable energy and zero-carbon resources: state agencies: procurement.

This bill would enact the Clean Economy and Clean Jobs Stimulus Act of 2021 and would require the Department of Water Resources to procure newly developed eligible renewable energy resources or zero-carbon resources and energy storage in an amount that satisfies 100 percent of the electricity procured to serve all state agencies by December 31, 2030.

Status: Two-year bill

Position: Oppose

Local Government

AB 339 (Lee) State and local government: open meetings.

This bill requires, until December 31, 2023, that city councils and boards of supervisors in jurisdictions with over 250,000 residents provide both in-person and teleconference options for the public to attend their meetings. This bill will sunset on December 31, 2023.

Status: This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Position: Watch

AB 361 (Rivas) Open meetings: state and local agencies: teleconferences.

This bill builds upon the Governor’s Executive Orders, allowing local legislative bodies to meet remotely during a state of emergency, as declared by the Governor, until January 2024.

Additionally, this bill extends the current EO that enables state agencies and CSU boards to meet remotely for the next four months until January 2022. This bill had an “Urgency Clause” added and was supposed to take effect immediately upon signature by the Governor.

The Governor issued an Executive Order waiving the application of AB 361 until October 1, 2021, when the provisions of a prior executive order that established requirements for public agencies to meet remotely during the COVID-19 emergency will expire.

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-15-21 TEXT: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/9.20.21-executive-order.pdf>

Status: Signed by the Governor.

Position: Watch

AB 703 (Rubio) Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.

This bill will eliminate the previously existing concept of “teleconference locations”; will revise existing law to ensure minimum standards for public participation; and will revise notice requirements to allow for greater public participation in teleconference meetings of local agencies. The bill does not require teleconferencing but modernizes existing law to ensure greater public participation in meetings of the legislative bodies of local agencies which choose to utilize teleconferencing.

Status: Two-year bill

Position: Watch

Budget

During the last week of the legislative session, the Legislature passed the final pieces of the 2021/22 State Budget. Closing out this budget included an additional Budget Bill Jr., [SB 170](#), making final budget adjustments and settling major outstanding budget packages in water and drought, wildfire prevention, and climate resiliency. Also, 15 additional trailer bills that added details and made edits to existing budget bills. Of the Budget trailer bills, [SB 155 "Resources"](#) has provisions of importance to SCVWA. Below is a summary of the highlights from the Budget Bill Jr, SB 170, and the Resources trailer bill SB 155. Both bills have been signed by the Governor.

SB 170 – Budget Bill Jr.

Water and Drought Package

Provides \$4.6 billion over three years to respond to drought conditions and invest in a more resilient water future with funding for water recycling, sustainable groundwater management, cleaning up toxic contaminants, restoration of the Salton Sea and Clear Lake, and preventing flooding.

Wildfire Prevention Package

In addition to the \$536 million early action package, the budget provides \$988 million for wildfire prevention and forest health in the fiscal year 2021-2022. This equals a \$1.5 billion investment in this year alone to protect California’s communities and wildlands from historic wildfires exacerbated by climate change and drought conditions. This budget also extends the

state's commitment to funding these efforts in the future by continuously appropriating \$200 million a year from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund until the fiscal year 2028-2029.

Climate Resiliency Package

Provides \$3.688 billion over three years to make needed climate resiliency investments or about \$2.5 billion more than what was proposed in the Governor's May Revision. A \$369 million down payment in this fiscal year provides funding to help plan for regional adaptation investments, plant trees to reduce extreme heat, increase air quality, and build healthy and sustainable communities with the Transformative Climate Communities program. Future investments will respond to extreme heat, build community resource centers, address sea-level rise, and help reach California's commitment to conserve at least 30 percent of California's land and coastal waters by 2030.

SB 155 – Resources Trailer Bill

Safe and Affordable Drinking Water (SADW) Eligibility

Expands the list of eligible funding recipients to include technical assistance providers and provides that a privately owned public utility may serve as a technical assistance provider.

Water Arrearages

Prohibits, until December 31, 2021, all community water systems from discontinuing water service to customers due to nonpayment.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Biodiversity

Exempts from CEQA projects that conserve, restore, protect, or enhance, and assist in the recovery of California native fish and wildlife, habitat upon which they depend or that restore or provide habitat for California native fish and wildlife, until January 1, 2025.

Bonds

Both bond proposals bills have been put to a halt for the immediate future. The Senate moved their bond proposal to the Senate Floor "Inactive File" and the Assembly moved their bond proposal to the Assembly Rules Committee. At this time both bills will be held until leadership in both houses decides to move forward with each proposal in the legislative process. To make it on the November 2022 ballot, either bill must pass the Legislature before June 2022.

SB 45 (Portantino) Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022.

This bill would enact the Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022, 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.

Status: Senate Floor – Inactive File

Position: Support

AB 1500 (E. Garcia) Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2022.

This bill would enact the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2022, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$6,700,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, and workforce development programs.

Status: Assembly Rules Committee

Position: Working with ACWA Support Amendments, Santa Clara River Amends

Regulatory

- **State Water Board Adopts Guidelines for Paying off Pandemic-Related Water Bill Debt.**
The State Water Resources Control Board adopted guidelines that will determine how the agency will administer the \$1 billion financial relief program for community water systems' unpaid water bill debt from residential and commercial customers who were unable to pay their bills due to COVID-related financial hardship. The California Water and Wastewater Arrearages Payment Program will disburse funds between November 1, 2021 and January 31, 2022, prioritizing small drinking water systems first. Water systems must apply for the funding, which covers residential and commercial accounts that are 60 days or more behind on payments for debt accrued between March 4, 2020 and June 15, 2021. As a condition of receiving the funds, participating systems must credit their customers' accounts and notify them that their water bill debt has been cleared or reduced. Customers will not be paid directly. Pending budget legislation negotiated by the Administration and the Legislature would extend the moratorium on water shutoffs to December 31, 2021. The press release can be found [HERE](#).

California Advocates, Inc. Activity Report

- Participated in briefings for COVID-19 and passed along pertinent information to SCVWA staff.
- Participated in the final 2021 ACWA Monday Morning Lobby Group (MMLG) meeting.
- Participated in the Southern California Water Coalition meetings.
- Participated in multiple the State Water Contractors meetings on SB 559 (Hurtado) to strategize for the Assembly Floor.
- Participated in Governor's Administration briefing with lead Secretaries and Directors on the \$15 Billion Climate Resilience Budget Package. Obtained information on drought and water resilience, climate resilience, and wildfires.
- Met with Senator Scott Wilk to receive an update/briefing on redistricting.
- Meet with Department of Water Resources Legislative Director, Kasey Schimke, to discuss the Department of Water Resources budget programs and funding opportunities.
- Meet with Department of Water Resources Director of Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGMA), Paul Gosselin, to discuss funding opportunities under SGMA.
- Obtained meetings with the California Air Resources Board, to discuss budget related programs and funding opportunities for zero-emission vehicles, vehicle rebates, and charging infrastructure.
- Met with SCVWA management staff to discuss potential budget funding opportunities in various areas through the 2021/22 state budget (PFAS, Habitat Restoration, Groundwater Wells, Recycled Water, Zero-emission Vehicles, and Solar/Battery Storage).

Important Dates and Deadlines for 2021

January

- Jan 1. – Statutes take effect.
- Jan 3. – Legislative Session Reconvenes.

MEMORANDUM

TO: STEVE COLE, SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY

FROM: HUNT BRALY

RE: September 2021 Report

DATE: 10-10-2021

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

1. Continued to monitor state and federal PFAS Contamination legislation and communicate with legislative delegation as requested.
2. Responded to inquiries from Federal Advocates regarding potential federal legislation and funding opportunities. Engage with Congressman Garcia's District Staff regarding Agency's positions.
3. Continued to monitor Groundwater Management Committee. Attended Virtual GSA SAC Meeting on September 8 discussing draft GSP.
4. Continued to work with staff and City/County on new rental/utility assistance programs established by state and federal funding totaling \$1.3 million for residents of the City of Santa Clarita and additional funding for LA County. Engaged with City Staff regarding additional \$5 million funding available. Worked with Agency Staff in identifying methods of communicating and promoting the availability of utility funding. Continued outreach to Legislative offices to promote utility repayment aspect of program.

RECURRING ACTIVITIES/MEETING ATTENDANCE:

5. Safe, Clean Water Program (Measure W) Watershed Area Steering Committee Santa Clara River Meeting scheduled for September 2nd was cancelled. Next scheduled meeting is October 7.
6. Attended City Council Meeting on September 14.

This was a short meeting and there were no items of note on the Agenda with all action items on the Consent calendar.

There were public comments including speakers on the ongoing issue regarding the Human Relations Roundtable. In addition, there were Council comment updates on the status of the review of the potential change in the types of individuals being sent to the local juvenile camps off of Bouquet.

Attended City Council Meeting on September 28.


The Council approved additional funding for the design of its watershed management program for Measure W grant application for the project at Via Princessa Park in the amount of \$289,000. The Council also approved 4 new full-sized multipurpose fields facilities at Central Park. The Council also amended the existing contract with the Solid Waste Consultant to prepare for a new RFP for the City's trash contracts in 2022 with a decision on new contracts in 2023.

There were two public hearings. The first approved release of funding from Henry Mayo Hospital for a skilled nursing facility previously approved by the Planning Commission and an update to the City's 2020-21 Annual Action Plan for CDBG funding.

7. Participate partially in Virtual Public Outreach and Legislation Committee on September 16.
8. Monitored and reviewed Agency Board Agendas.
9. Reviewed weekly emails regarding articles of interest from Agency.



COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 21, 2021
TO: Public Outreach and Legislation Committee
FROM: Steve Cole
Assistant General Manager 
SUBJECT: Review of Outreach on Rent and Utility Relief Program

SUMMARY

Various state and federal programs have been made available to help people who have fallen behind in rent and utilities for reasons related to the COVID-19 pandemic. While there was some confusion when they first rolled out earlier this year, SCV Water has used our communication channels to let our customers know of these resources. This discussion will cover the CA COVID Rent (and utility) Relief Program, and the CA Water and Wastewater Arrearages Payment Program, and the past and upcoming outreach efforts.

DISCUSSION

Staff will share a PowerPoint presentation with more details, but below is a high-level summary.

CA COVID-19 RENT RELIEF

This program provides up to 100% for past due rent and utilities for income-eligible renters and landlords, and covers April 1, 2020, through September 30, 2021. The program is managed by the state. There was some confusion early on when, although the program description included utilities, the home page of the website and early collateral materials only referenced "rent relief". Utilities were called out in the most recent materials provided.

CA Water and Wastewater Arrearages Payment Program

Through \$985 million in federal funding allocated by the state legislature, the State Water Board has created a new program to provide relief to community water and wastewater systems for unpaid bills related to the pandemic. The funding will cover water debt from residential and commercial customers accrued between March 4, 2020 and June 15, 2021.

The Program will initially prioritize drinking water residential and commercial arrearages. Funding to community water systems will be disbursed through January 31, 2022. If the Program still has funding available, it will extend to wastewater residential and commercial arrearages by February 2022.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None at this time.

RECOMMENDATION

None at this time. For information only.

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LEGISLATION TRACKING
Letters of Support/Opposition

ITEM NO.
4.1

Date	Bill/Initiative	Title	Stand	Notes	Leg. Policy*	Status
2/19/2021	House-version of the \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 Relief Package	State and local government emergency assistance provisions	Support	Sent our own letter to Congressman Mike Garcia	12.0	Letter sent 2/19/21
3/4/2021	SB 45 (Portantino)	Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022	Support If Amended	Signed on to coalition letter from The State Water Contractors (SWC) Date of Hearing: Mar 16, 21 Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee	7.0	Letter sent 3/5/21. 6/1/21 - Ordered to inactive file.
3/4/2021	SB 369 (Pan)	Yolo Bypass Cache Slough Partnership Multibenefit Program	Support	Signed on to coalition letter from The State Water Contractors (SWC)	2.0	9/23/21 Chaptered
3/22/2021	SB 323 (Caballero)	Water and Sewer Service: Legal Actions	Support	Sent our own letter Senate Committee on Governance and Finance Chair, Mike McGuire	9.0	9/22/21 Chaptered
3/24/2021	AB 1500 (E. Garcia and Mullin)	Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022	Support If Amended	Signed on to coalition letter from The State Water Contractors (SWC)	7.0	Letter sent. 5/20/21: Referred to Committee on Rules
3/24/2021	SB 45 (Portantino)	Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022	Support If Amended	Signed on to coalition letter from The State Water Contractors (SWC) Date of Hearing: Apr 8, 21 Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee	7.0	Letter sent 3/24/21. 6/1/21 ordered to Inactive File
3/24/2021	SB 559 (Hurtado)	State Water Resiliency Act of 2021 (including repairs to SWP due to subsidence)	Support	Signed on to coalition letter from The State Water Contractors (SWC)	2.0	Updated letter sent 5/26/21. 9/8/21 - now a two-year bill. Moved to Assembly Inactive File.
3/24/2021	AB 1161 (E. Garcia)	Eligible Renewable Energy and Zero-Carbon Resources	Oppose	Signed on to coalition letter from The State Water Contractors (SWC)	3.0	Letter sent 3/30/21
3/30/2021	SB 626 (Dodd)	Construction Manager/General Contractor Procurement Method - would allow Design Build and Construction Manager/General Contractor processes which could accelerate project delivery (i.e., SWP facilities)	Support	Signed on to coalition letter from The State Water Contractors (SWC)	9.0	9/23/21 Chaptered
4/12/2021	Valley Industry Association (VIA) SCV Helping Hand	Establish funding opportunities for local small businesses to provide financial aid for debt payments	Support	Sent our own letter to Congressman Mike Garcia	9.0	Letter sent 4/13/21
4/22/2021	AB 979 (Frazier)	Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta: Sea Level Rise Analysis Report	Oppose	Signed on to coalition letter from The State Water Contractors (SWC)	10.0	Letter sent 4/22/21. 5/20/21
5/12/2021	Forest Health Program Grant Application FY 2020-21/2021-22 Funding Opportunity	Santa Clara River Water Arundo Removal and Fire Resilience Program	Support	Sent our own letter to Ca. Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE)	10.0	Letter sent 5/13/21
5/26/2021	Drought Relief and Water Infrastructure Investments for Inclusion in State Budget	Support for critical funding for drought relief and water infrastructure projects	Support	Signed on to coalition letter from The State Water Contractors (SWC)	9.0	Letter sent 5/26/21
6/30/2021	SB 222 (Dodd)	Water Rate Assistance Program	Oppose Unless Amended	Sent our own letter to Assembly Member Chris Holden	9.0	Letter sent 6/30/21. 9/3/21 moved to ASM inactive file.
7/14/2021	AB 148 (Committee on Budget, Chair Ting)	Public Resources	On Watch	California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program (CWWAPP) at the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)	9.0	Summary from Ca. Municipal Utilities Association
8/19/2021	Coalition PFAS Funding	Public Resources	On Watch	Support the inclusion of at least \$250 million for PFAS treatment in the drought and water resilience package in the state budget	9.0	Letter sent 8/20/21

* Reference to applicable section of Legislative Policy Guidelines

Updated: Oct 14, 21

Represents changes since last distribution.

DEFINITIONS:

- enrolled:** Whenever a bill passes both houses of the Legislature, it is ordered enrolled. In enrollment, the bill is again proofread for accuracy and then delivered to the portion of the Daily File containing legislation that is ready for floor consideration, but, for a variety of reasons, is dead or dormant. An author may
- inactive file:** move a bill to the inactive file and subsequently move it off the inactive file at a later date.
- presentation:** Presentation of a bill before the House by reading its title. The Constitution requires a bill's title to be read three times in each House prior to its passage.
- reading:** A bill is either on First, Second, or Third Reading until it is passed by both Houses.
- chaptered:** A bill is "chaptered" by the Secretary of State once it passes both houses and has been signed by the Governor or becomes law without the Governor's signature

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**SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
GRANT APPLICATION COSTS**

**ITEM NO.
4.2**

Grant	Start Date	End Date	# of SCVWA Projects within Grant	SCV Water Project Name	SCVWA PROJECTS ONLY				% Grant Share Billed on Funder Approved Invoices*	Cost of Application
					Total Project Costs	Grant Funding	Required Funding Match (Non-State/Federal Share)	Other Non-State/Federal Share		
DWR Prop 84 Round 1 Implementation	4/10/2012	3/31/2022	4	1. Grant Administration 2. SCV Water Use Efficiency Plan 3. Santa Clara River Sewer Truck Line Relocation 4. Recycle Water Project Phases 2B & 2D	\$ 14,057,107	\$ 6,264,551	\$ 4,110,280	\$ 7,792,556	92%	\$37,700
DWR Prop 84 Round 2 Implementation <i>(Complete - DWR official notification of closed grant received on 5/11/2021)</i>	6/17/2014	12/31/2020	4	1. Grant Administration 2. CLWA SCV WUE Program 3. SCWD WUE Programs 4. Foothill Feeder Connection	\$ 7,804,002	\$ 4,003,399	\$ 3,800,603		99.79% FINAL	\$84,175
DWR Prop 84 2014 Drought Grant <i>(Complete - DWR official notification of closed grant received on 5/11/2021)</i>	7/20/2015	12/31/2020	3	1. Grant Administration 2. RRB/CLWA Banking Program 3. CLWA/SWSD Extraction & Conveyance	\$ 15,616,780	\$ 11,535,067	\$ 4,081,713		99.68% FINAL	\$80,000
DWR Prop 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning <i>(includes Prop 1 SGWP & Prop 68 SGP grants)</i>	12/5/2018	12/31/2022	3	a. Grant Administration b. Planning Activities c. Monitoring	\$ 2,047,434	\$ 1,307,265	\$ 740,169		70%	Prop 1 - \$24,778 Prop 68 - \$29,822
Community Power Resiliency Allocation - Special Districts Program - CalOES subaward	3/12/2021	11/30/2021	1	Generator Replacement at Earl Schmidt Filtration Plant	\$ 249,854	\$ 249,854	\$ -		100% allocated funds received	\$0 - No charge from Consultant
DWR Prop 1 Round 1 IRWM Implementation	9/24/2020	3/21/2026	2	1. Grant Administration 2. Recycle Water Phase 2C	\$ 9,200,450	\$ 3,216,800	\$ 489,205	\$ 1,154,445	0%	\$99,192 Cost share between project proponents on a pro-rata basis
CalOES-FEMA Public Assistance Program FEMA-4482-DR-CA (Project 1)	7/30/2020		1	COVID-19 Assistance (PPE & Sanitation Supplies)		\$ 34,380	\$ -		100%	\$0

*Based on Funder approved invoices. Receipt of payment may be delayed in Funder's normal course of business

APPLICATIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION - PENDING									Cost of Application
Grant	Start Date	End Date	# of SCVWA Projects within Grant	SCV Project Name	Total Project Cost	Requested Grant Funding	Required Funding Match (Non-State/Federal Share)	Other Non-State/ Federal Share (Funding Match)	
CalOES-FEMA Public Assistance Program FEMA-4482-DR-CA (Project 2)	N/A	N/A	1	COVID-19 Assistance (Sanitation of Agency Facilities)		\$ 43,700	\$ -		\$0
BOR WaterSmart Drought Resiliency Projects	7/1/2022	6/30/2025	1	Rosedale Phase 2 Wells Project* <i>*Total project cost does not include cost to purchase well sites or easements.</i>	\$ 4,200,000	\$ 2,917,974	\$ 1,458,987		

UNSUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS									Cost of Application
Grant	Start Date	End Date	# of SCVWA Projects within Grant	SCV Project Name	Total Project Cost	Grant Funding	Required Funding Match (Non-State/Federal Share)	Other Non-State/ Federal Share (Funding Match)	
DWR Prop 84 IRWM Round 3 Grant	N/A	N/A	2	1. Grant Administraton 2. CLWA Res & Comm Turf Removal 3. Santa Clara River Trunk Sewer Line Project Phase II (NCWD?) 4. Valencia WRP Advanced Water Treatment Facilities	\$ 40,565,007	\$ 16,229,000	\$ 24,427,007		\$110,000 Cost Share between Project Proponents on a pro -rata basis
WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grants BOR-DO-21-F001	N/A	N/A	1	Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Project (SCV Water Phase 1)	\$ 3,475,860	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 2,475,860	\$50,000 Included in FY20/21 Blanket Agreement with ESS including grant application prep, research and planning for required documentation
WaterSMART Drought Response Program BOR-DO-20-F002	N/A	N/A	1	Saugus Wells 3 & 4 Equipment and Site Improvement Project	\$ 3,744,829	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 744,829	

Last Update: 10/11/2021



SPONSORSHIP TRACKING FY JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022

**ITEM NO.
4.3**

Updated: Oct 14, 2021

Agency Name	Event	Date	Location	Reg. Fee	Committed	Paid	Sponsorship	Previous Amount
CSDA	2021 Annual Conference	Aug 30 - Sep 2, 2021	Monterey, CA	\$675				2000
Urban Water Institute (UWI)	2021 Fall Conference	Sept 8 -9, 2021	Costa Mesa, CA	\$290-\$375		\$1,500	Silver Sponsor: Company logo listed in all promotional materials; logo on cover of program; logo projected on presentation screens; logo during Welcome Receptio; logo displayed in registration area; 4 conference registrations	
Santa Clarita Valley Economic Development & College of the Canyons (SCVEDC)	2021 Economic Outlook Spring and Fall Event	Mar 26, 2021 and Sept 17, 2021	Hybrid event; in person for sponsors only	FREE		\$1,100	Bronze Sponsor: 2 complimentary tickets to the spring virtual event, and 2 in-person* tickets plus 2 virtual tickets to the fall event. Business card size color ad in fall Economic Outlook Book. Company promotion through electronic and social media event marketing Company logo in event presentations	
AWA	Annual Member & Elected Officials Reception	Sept 30, 2021	Ronald Reagan Presidential Library	Free to members		\$500	Respresentative Sponsor: Acknowledgement on invitation & program, Agency name on signage	500
Santa Clarita Environmental Education Consortium (SCEEC)	Green STEM	Oct 9, 2021	College of the Canyons (VIRTUAL)	N/A		\$2,000	Provides high school and college students with exposure to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) concepts, but with sustainability as a key focus. Water Technology program at COC is one of the featured programs.	2000
AWA	29th Annual Water Symposium	Oct 21, 2021	VIRTUAL	\$55		\$500	Listing on printed materials; Company name of screen display; one comp. ticket (Non-Refundable)	500
ACWA	2021 Fall Conference	Nov 30 - Dec 3, 2021	Pasadena					2500
SCV Chamber	State of the County Luncheon	Dec 9, 2021 (rescheduled)	Magic Mountain	\$75		\$1,500	Bronze Sponsor: 4 VIP theatre seating, 4 sponsor dinner reception, 4 park entry, social media recognition in all marketing	



**PUBLIC OUTREACH AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AGENDA PLANNING CALENDAR FY 2021-2022**

**ITEM NO.
4.4**

July 15, 2021 Committee – VIRTUAL MEETING

1. Legislative Consultant Reports
2. Recommendation to Serve on the ACWA Legislative Committee
3. Equitable and Inclusive Engagement
4. Communications Manager Activities:
 - Legislative Tracking
 - Grant Status Report
 - Sponsorship Tracking FY 2021/22
 - Committee Planning Calendar FY 2021/22

August 19, 2021 Committee – VIRTUAL MEETING

1. Legislative Consultant Reports
2. Communications Manager Activities:
 - Social Media Report from Consultant Tripepi Smith
 - Legislative Tracking
 - Grant Status Report
 - Sponsorship Tracking FY 2021/22
 - Committee Planning Calendar FY 2021/22

September 16, 2021 Committee – VIRTUAL MEETING

1. Legislative Consultant Reports
2. Discussion on Community Event Participation
3. Equitable and Inclusive Engagement
4. Communications Manager Activities:
 - Legislative Tracking
 - Grant Status Report
 - Sponsorship Tracking FY 2021/22
 - Committee Planning Calendar FY 2021/22

October 21, 2021 Committee – VIRTUAL MEETING

1. Legislative Consultant Reports
2. Review of Outreach on Rent and Utility Relief Program
3. Communications Manager Activities:
 - Legislative Tracking
 - Grant Status Report
 - Sponsorship Tracking FY 2021/22
 - Committee Planning Calendar FY 2021/22

November 18, 2021 Committee

1. Legislative Consultant Reports
2. Communications Manager Activities:
 - Social Media Report from Consultant Tripepi Smith
 - Legislative Tracking
 - Grant Status Report
 - Sponsorship Tracking FY 2021/22
 - Committee Planning Calendar FY 2021/22

December 16, 2021 Committee

1. Legislative Consultant Reports
2. Communications Manager Activities:

- Legislative Tracking
- Grant Status Report
- Sponsorship Tracking FY 2021/22
- Committee Planning Calendar FY 2021/22

January 20, 2022 Committee

1. Legislative Consultant Reports
2. Communications Manager Activities:
 - Legislative Tracking
 - Grant Status Report
 - Sponsorship Tracking FY 2021/22
 - Committee Planning Calendar FY 2021/22

February 17, 2022 Committee

1. Legislative Consultant Reports
2. Discussion of Community Education (“Ambassador”) Programs
3. Communications Manager Activities:
 - Social Media Report from Consultant Tripepi Smith
 - Legislative Tracking
 - Grant Status Report
 - Sponsorship Tracking FY 2021/22
 - Committee Planning Calendar FY 2021/22

March 17, 2022 Committee

1. Legislative Consultant Reports
2. Communications Manager Activities:
 - Legislative Tracking
 - Grant Status Report
 - Sponsorship Tracking FY 2021/22
 - Committee Planning Calendar FY 2021/22

April 21, 2022 Committee

1. Legislative Consultant Reports
2. Communications Manager Activities:
 - Legislative Tracking
 - Grant Status Report
 - Sponsorship Tracking FY 2021/22
 - Committee Planning Calendar FY 2021/22

May 19, 2022 Committee

1. Legislative Consultant Reports
2. Communications Manager Activities:
 - Social Media Report from Consultant Tripepi Smith
 - Legislative Tracking
 - Grant Status Report
 - Sponsorship Tracking FY 2021/22
 - Committee Planning Calendar FY 2021/22