



**AGENDA
COMMUNITY AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY***

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2021
9:00 A.M.**

**INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY*
VIEW THE MEETING LIVE ONLINE AT IEUA.ORG
TELEPHONE ACCESS: (415) 856-9169 / Conf Code: 635 663 326#**

PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF EXECUTIVE ORDERS N-25-20 AND N-29-20 ISSUED BY GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM IN MARCH 2020 AND IN AN EFFORT TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19, THERE WILL BE NO PUBLIC LOCATION AVAILABLE FOR IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE.

The public may participate and provide public comment during the meeting by dialing into the number provided above. Alternatively, public comments may be emailed to the Board Secretary/Office Manager Denise Garzaro at dgarzaro@ieua.org no later than 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time. Comments will be read into the record during the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public may address the Board on any item that is within the jurisdiction of the Board; however, no action may be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda unless the action is otherwise authorized by Subdivision (b) of Section 54954.2 of the Government Code. Those persons wishing to address the Board on any matter, whether or not it appears on the agenda, are requested to email the Board Secretary/Office Manager no later than 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time or address the Board during the public comments section of the meeting. Comments will be limited to three minutes per speaker. Thank you.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

In accordance with Section 54954.2 of the Government Code (Brown Act), additions to the agenda require two-thirds vote of the legislative body, or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, a unanimous vote of those members present, that there is a need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the attention of the local agency subsequent to the agenda being posted.

1. ACTION ITEMS

A. MINUTES

Approve Minutes of the July 14, 2021 Community and Legislative Affairs Committee meeting.

2. INFORMATION ITEMS

**A. FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE REPORT AND MATRIX – INNOVATIVE
FEDERAL STRATEGIES (WRITTEN)**

**B. STATE LEGISLATIVE REPORT AND MATRIX – WEST COAST
ADVISORS (WRITTEN)**

C. CALIFORNIA STRATEGIES MONTHLY REPORT (WRITTEN)

D. PUBLIC OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION (WRITTEN)

3. GENERAL MANAGER’S COMMENTS

4. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

5. COMMITTEE MEMBER REQUESTED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURN

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Board Secretary/Office Manager (909-993-1736), 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting so that the Agency can make reasonable arrangements.

DECLARATION OF POSTING

I, Denise Garzaro, Board Secretary/Office Manager of the Inland Empire Utilities Agency, A Municipal Water District, hereby certify that a copy of this agenda has been posted by 5:30 p.m. to the IEUA Website at www.ieua.org and outside the Agency's main office, 6075 Kimball Avenue, Building A, Chino on Thursday, September 2, 2021.



Denise Garzaro, CMC

**ACTION
ITEM
1A**



**MINUTES
COMMUNITY AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY*
AGENCY HEADQUARTERS, CHINO, CA**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 2021
9:00 A.M.**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT via Video/Teleconference

Jasmin A. Hall, Chair
Steven J. Elie

STAFF PRESENT

Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager
Christiana Daisy, Deputy General Manager
Denise Garzaro, Board Secretary/Office Manager
Wilson To, Technology Specialist II

STAFF PRESENT via Video/Teleconference

Kathy Besser, Executive Manager of External & Government Affairs/AGM
Randy Lee, Executive Manager of Operations/AGM
Christina Valencia, Executive Manager of Finance & Administration/AGM
Jerry Burke, Manager of Engineering
Andrea Carruthers, Manager of External Affairs
Javier Chagoyen-Lazaro, Manager of Finance & Accounting
Jennifer Hy-Luk, Administrative Assistant II
Sylvie Lee, Manager of Strategic Planning & Resources
Scott Lening, Deputy Manager of Operations
Scott Oakden, Manager of Operations & Maintenance
Cathleen Pieroni, Manager of Inter-Agency Relations
Jesse Pompa, Manager of Grants
Sushmitha Reddy, Manager of Laboratories
Daniel Solorzano, Technology Specialist I
Teresa Velarde, Manager of Internal Audit

OTHERS PRESENT via Video/Teleconference

Beth Olhasso, West Coast Advisors
Sarah Persichetti, Innovative Federal Strategies
Drew Tatum, Innovative Federal Strategies
Letitia White, Innovative Federal Strategies

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Jasmin A. Hall called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. She gave the public the opportunity to comment and provided instructions for unmuting the conference line. There were no public comments received or additions to the agenda.

1A. ACTION ITEM

The Committee:

- ◆ Approved Minutes of the June 9, 2021 Community and Legislative Affairs Committee meeting.

2A – 2E. INFORMATION ITEMS

The following information items were presented or received and filed by the Committee:

- ◆ Federal Legislative Report and Matrix – Innovative Federal Strategies
- ◆ State Legislative Report and Matrix – West Coast Advisors
- ◆ Census 2020 Redistricting Update
- ◆ California Strategies Monthly Report
- ◆ Public Outreach and Communication

3. GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

General Manager Shivaji Deshmukh stated that on July 8, Governor Newsom called on Californians to cut water use by 15 percent and expanded his drought emergency declaration by adding nine more counties to the list of those covered by the emergency declaration that was announced in April. He also stated that the Agency will be hosting the Member Agencies Managers retreat on Friday, July 16. Metropolitan Water District Chairwoman Gloria Gray will be joining, and Karla Nemeth, Director of California Department of Water Resources, will provide an update on drought conditions statewide. Discussions will be focused on drought conditions and messaging, and to gain an understanding of the issues that agencies feel are of most importance in the coming years.

4. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no Committee member comments.

5. COMMITTEE MEMBER REQUESTED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no Committee member requests for future agenda items.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Committee Chair Hall adjourned the meeting at 9:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Garzaro
Board Secretary/Office Manager

*A Municipal Water District

APPROVED: SEPTEMBER 8, 2021

INFORMATION
ITEM
2A

INNOVATIVE FEDERAL STRATEGIES, LLC

Comprehensive Government Relations

MEMORANDUM

To: IEUA Community and Legislative Affairs Committee

From: Letitia White, Jean Denton, Drew Tatum, and Sarah Persichetti

Date: August 27, 2021

Re: August Monthly Legislative Update

Senate Passes Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill

The Senate on Tuesday, August 10 passed a roughly \$1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure deal, a significant win for President Biden and the first step on his top legislative priority.

Senators voted 69-30 on the bill, which was spearheaded by a bipartisan group of senators led by Senators Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ) and Rob Portman (R-OH). Nineteen GOP senators voted with all Democrats to pass the legislation.

The Senate's passage of the bipartisan measure gives a victory for Biden and the centrist-minded group that led the legislation, and placed big bets and months of time on the ability to get a bipartisan deal on infrastructure.

"Congress has talked about truly modernizing our nation's infrastructure for as long as we can remember. The United States Senate delivered so that we can finally give the American people the safe, reliable, and modern infrastructure they deserve," Portman, Sinema and the eight other senators who were the core negotiators said in a joint statement after the vote.

The bipartisan deal includes roughly \$550 billion in new funding, making it substantially smaller than the \$2.6 trillion proposed by Biden earlier this year.

It includes money for new investments for infrastructure projects like roads, bridges, broadband, water and rail. According to a Congressional Budget Office (CBO) analysis, the bill would add \$256 billion to the deficit, though negotiators argue that "hard" infrastructure projects pay for themselves over time and that CBO didn't give them full credit for their work.

"The new spending under the bill is offset through a combination of new revenue and savings, some of which is reflected in the formal CBO score and some of which is reflected in other savings and additional revenue identified in estimates, as CBO is limited in what it can include in its formal score," Senators Sinema and Portman said in a joint statement on the analysis.

To pass the bill through the Senate, Democrats needed at least 10 GOP votes. Though they got several more than that, they also lost GOP senators who had helped advance the bill over earlier procedural hurdles.

Senator Todd Young (R-IN), who is up for reelection next year, announced before the vote that he could no longer support the deal.

“Having reviewed the Congressional Budget Office’s (CBO) estimated fiscal impact of this legislation as currently constructed, and frankly still not being comfortable with a number of the Democratic priorities contained in this version, I will vote ‘no,’” Young said in a statement.

The bill is now heading to the House, where it faces an uncertain future and skepticism from progressives. Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) had vowed she won’t take it up until the Senate passes the second part of its infrastructure two step, a sweeping \$3.5 trillion spending package that includes Democrats’ top priorities. During negotiations over consideration of the Concurrent Budget Resolution in the House, Democrats agreed to bring the bipartisan infrastructure legislation to the floor by September 27—ahead of the expiration of the current surface transportation authorization legislation.

House, Senate Democrats Approve Budget Resolution, Teeing Up \$3.5T Spending Plan

Senate Democrats then approved a budget resolution in the early morning hours of August 11 that will allow them to pass a \$3.5 trillion spending plan without GOP support later this year.

The Senate voted 50-49 to adopt the resolution, capping off a chaotic, hours-long debate on the floor during which senators voted on dozens of largely nonbinding amendments that offer a preview of the fight to come on the spending bill.

Senator Mike Rounds (R-SD) was absent for votes, meaning the vote of Vice President Kamala Harris was not necessary to break a tie.

Though the budget resolution doesn’t get signed into law, it’s the first step toward bypassing the 60-vote threshold required to pass most legislation in the Senate. Democrats will try to unify their entire 50-member caucus to pass the spending bill on their own as soon as late September. The package is expected to include top Democratic priorities like immigration reform, combating climate change and universal pre-K.

The Senate’s vote on the budget comes less than a day after they passed a roughly \$1 trillion infrastructure bill that was negotiated by a bipartisan group of senators and the White House.

The votes fulfill Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer’s (D-NY) pledge to make progress on both pieces of President Biden’s infrastructure plan — the bipartisan bill and the Democratic-only measure — before letting senators leave for their August recess.

“So despite this long road we’ve taken, we have finally, finally reached the finish line. Of course, we Democrats believe we need to do much more. The bipartisan infrastructure bill is a very significant bill, but our country has other very significant, very important challenges. ... We are moving on to a second track which will make generational transformation,” Schumer said on Tuesday.

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Though 19 Republicans helped pass the bipartisan infrastructure bill, Democrats approved the budget resolution without any GOP support and are expected to go it alone to pass their \$3.5 trillion spending package that sparks fierce opposition from Republicans.

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) accused Democrats of “playing Russian roulette” with the country.

“This new reckless taxing and spending spree will fall like a hammer blow on workers and middle-class families. Fewer jobs, lower wages, more inflation, pushing costs higher and higher. What our colleagues are proposing and planning is absolutely jaw-dropping,” Minority Leader McConnell said.

The budget resolution includes few details about what will be in the Democratic spending plan, instead providing broad top lines that committees will need to start formally drafting their bills.

But the subsequent spending package it greenlights, according to a memo sent to Democratic senators this week, will be a sweeping bill that touches on almost every facet of American life, including child care, health care, housing, education, job training and manufacturing.

It will tackle big Democratic priorities that outside of the budget process would likely fail to defeat the filibuster, including immigration reform, combating climate change and free community college.

Democrats still need to hash out many of the details, a balancing act that will require them to craft a bill that can win over centrists like Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) and Senator Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ) without losing progressives like Senator Bernie Sanders (D-VT) and Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA).

Senator Manchin said in a statement that he has "serious concerns about the grave consequences ... if Congress decides to spend another \$3.5 trillion."

“Given the current state of the economic recovery, it is simply irresponsible to continue spending at levels more suited to respond to a Great Depression or Great Recession — not an economy that is on the verge of overheating," Manchin said.

Democrats for example are expected to include “lawful permanent status for qualified immigrants” and border security measures in the spending package, according to the memo to Democratic offices, but they haven’t specified who would qualify. And the budget resolution provides even less clarity, only providing the Senate Judiciary Committee with a price tag for its bill but no guidance on what should be included in it.

Democrats are proposing to pay for the bill, in part, by increasing taxes on wealthy earners and some corporations.

Unity on the spending package later this year isn't guaranteed. Sinema has raised concerns about the price tag, and Manchin has expressed concerns both about the debt and some of the energy language.

Even though the House left for its traditional August recess in late July, Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) announced in a letter to lawmakers that they would return on August 23 to consider the budget resolution and "will remain in session until our business for the week is concluded."

As expected the House returned on Monday, August 23, but leadership had not yet secured the votes from a block of moderate Democrats led by House Problem Solvers Caucus Co-Chairman Josh Gottheimer (D-NJ). Gottheimer and a block that grew to 9 other Democrats threatened to withhold their support from the Senate-passed Concurrent Budget Resolution unless they first were able to vote on the bipartisan infrastructure bill.

Democrats held multiple closed-door caucus meetings on Monday and Tuesday as their leaders attempted to work to a compromise to secure the votes to pass the rule to set up floor consideration of the legislation later in the week.

In the end, the moderate block of Democrats dropped their demand for a vote on the infrastructure legislation first, instead opting allow the budget resolution to pass upon adoption of the rule, which also set a deadline of September 27 for the House to vote on the infrastructure package.

All 220 Democrats voted for a \$3.5 trillion budget resolution embedded in a House rule.

Committees in the House and Senate now have an informal deadline of September 15 to report out legislation that comports with the reconciliation instructions included in the budget resolution.

Senate Panel Advances First Three Spending Bills

The Senate Appropriations Committee on Wednesday, August 4 advanced its first spending bills for fiscal 2022 as senators prepare for their fall recess and the deadline to avert a government shutdown quickly approaches.

The panel passed appropriations bills to fund the departments of Energy, Agriculture and Veteran Affairs (VA) among other agencies, marking the passage of three of the 12 appropriations bills the committee has to send to the full chamber for consideration.

The legislation includes discretionary funding of \$25.855 billion for the Department of Agriculture and Food and Drug Administration, a \$2.5 billion increase over spending levels for the agencies in the previous fiscal year.

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The fiscal 2022 Energy and Water Development bill passed by the panel contains \$53.625 billion in discretionary budget authority, an amount that met President Biden's budget request and exceeded the previous year's spending levels by \$1.873 billion.

The bill would provide record funding of more than \$8.7 billion for the Army Corps of Engineers' Civil Works program and set a high-water mark for funding for the Energy Department's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

Sec. 505 of the bill provides for \$450M in "emergency" funding for the Bureau of Reclamation Water and Related Resources Account that will remain available until expended for activities to address drought, as determined by the Secretary of Interior.

Funding Levels (report):

Program	House Recommendation	Senate Recommendation
WIIN 4007 Water Storage Program	\$67M	\$134M
Drought Contingency Plan for the Lower Colorado River Basin	\$50M	\$40M
Funding for Reclamation canals where operations conveyance capacity has been seriously impaired by age and/or land subsidence	No callout for funding	\$10M
WaterSMART Grants	\$75M	\$48M
Water Conservation Field Services Program	\$2.318M	\$2.318M
Cooperative Watershed Management	\$10M	\$2.25M
Basin Studies	\$15M	\$13.5M
Drought Response & Comprehensive Drought Plans	\$25M	\$25M
Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse	\$63.617M	\$32M

The bill also includes language encouraging the Bureau of Reclamation to prioritize eligible water conservation projects that will provide water supplies to meet the needs of threatened and endangered species.

The legislation also includes the following language on drought resiliency:

The Committee remains intently focused on the need for improving drought resiliency as well as in finding opportunities for agencies to combine water supply benefits with other mission priorities. The impacts of the current severe drought in the west display there is more work to be done. The Committee continues to invest in the drought resiliency programs authorized in the WIIN Act and believes a solution to these chronic droughts is a combination of additional storage, substantial investments in desalination and recycling, improved conveyance, and increased efficiencies in the uses of water both for agriculture and potable purposes. As the West has consistently been the fastest growing part of the country, it is incumbent on Reclamation to lead the way in increasing the water that is available from year to year and to incentivize more efficient use of the water that is available.

Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT), who chairs the Senate Appropriations Committee, said in opening statements at the first markup of the fiscal year that, typically, the chairman “would bring a recommended allocation for each of the 12 appropriations bills before the Committee, and seek a vote on that recommendation.”

“The Budget Control Act has expired for Fiscal Year 2022, so there are no spending caps set in law, and the Senate has not yet passed a Budget Resolution establishing a 302(a) allocation for this Committee,” Leahy said.

Chairman Leahy said he would put forward an allocation in the absence of a top-line figure because he believed that “would only divide” and delay its bipartisan efforts. However, he also said he didn’t want the lack of a top-line or allocation to keep the panel from making progress on its bills.

“The Committee should do its work, and the end of the fiscal year is rapidly approaching. I am glad that we could reach agreement to consider these three important bills today,” he said.

Though the legislation saw bipartisan support, with each measure seeing backing from Senate Appropriations Committee Vice Chairman Richard Shelby (R-AL) upon passage so far, the panel’s progress on the bills without a larger deal on spending did not go without warning from Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY).

“When it comes to floor consideration, we cannot and will not start planting individual trees before we have bipartisan consensus on the shape of the forest,” Senator McConnell said.

Supreme Court Lifts Biden’s Eviction Pause

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on Tuesday, August 3 issued a moratorium on evictions targeting areas of the country with high levels of COVID-19 transmission, extending an eviction ban for much of the nation just days after a blanket moratorium had expired.

President Biden acknowledged at a news conference that the CDC order may not hold up in court. But he argued it would minimally buy time for state and local governments to distribute aid to renters and landlords.

The U.S. Supreme Court lifted the Biden administration’s moratorium on evictions on Thursday, August 26, ending protections for millions of people who have fallen behind on rent payments during the Covid-19 pandemic. Siding with landlords who said they were being subjected to unwarranted hardships, the court said the moratorium exceeded the authority of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The court had left intact a previous CDC moratorium in June, but Justice Brett Kavanaugh said at the time that congressional authorization would be required for any further extension.

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The court issued an eight-page majority opinion, an unusual move in a ruling on an application for emergency relief, where terse orders are more common. The court's three liberal justices dissented.

The majority opinion, which was unsigned, said the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention had exceeded its authority.

"The C.D.C. has imposed a nationwide moratorium on evictions in reliance on a decades-old statute that authorizes it to implement measures like fumigation and pest extermination," the opinion said. "It strains credulity to believe that this statute grants the C.D.C. the sweeping authority that it asserts."

Justice Stephen G. Breyer, writing for the three dissenting justices, faulted the court for its haste during a public health crisis.

"These questions call for considered decision-making, informed by full briefing and argument," he wrote. "Their answers impact the health of millions. We should not set aside the C.D.C.'s eviction moratorium in this summary proceeding."

The majority said the issues were fully considered and straightforward. "It is indisputable that the public has a strong interest in combating the spread of the Covid-19 Delta variant," the opinion said. "But our system does not permit agencies to act unlawfully even in pursuit of desirable ends."

"If a federally imposed eviction moratorium is to continue," the opinion said, "Congress must specifically authorize it."

Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA), who leads the House Financial Services Committee, said she would "immediately set to work on a legislative solution to address issues with the slow implementation of the emergency rental assistance program." "My new proposal would ensure that both renters and landlords can independently apply for emergency rental assistance so that landlords get paid their back rent, and that the program works with less bureaucracy and red tape," Waters said in a statement issued after the ruling.

House Passes Voting Rights Legislation

House lawmakers approved new legislation aimed at protecting the right to vote on Tuesday, August 24, amid a wave of what they call restrictive new elections laws from Republican-controlled state legislatures.

The bill is named for the Georgia congressman and civil rights leader John Lewis, who died last year.

"Old battles have become new again," said Alabama Democratic Rep. Terri Sewell, who introduced the legislation. "I want you to know that the modern day barriers to voting are no less

pernicious than those literacy tests and those poll taxes. And what we must do, as we did back in the '60s, is when we see states running amok, we need federal oversight."

Democrats say the bill, known as H.R. 4, would strengthen the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which had been weakened by a pair of Supreme Court rulings over the course of the last decade. Its supporters say that would make it more difficult for states to restrict future voting access.

In the Shelby County decision seven years ago, the Supreme Court made preclearance provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 unenforceable due to what it found to be an outdated formula used to determine which states had to seek permission to make certain election changes. This legislation creates a new coverage formula that applies to all states and hinges on a finding of repeated voting rights violations in the preceding 25 years, which "rolls" or continuously moves to keep up with current conditions.

The legislation would also establish a targeted process for reviewing voting changes in jurisdictions nationwide, focused on measures that have historically been used to discriminate against voters. The process for reviewing changes in voting is limited to a set of measures, such as the institution of a voter ID law or the reduction of multilingual voting materials – practices Democrats say have historically been found to have the greatest discriminatory impact.

The legislation passed the House along party lines, with 219 Democrats in favor and all 212 Republicans opposed. The bill will now face steep GOP opposition in the evenly divided Senate. Republicans have characterized the legislation as a federal overreach into the state's role in election processes.

Republicans have already opposed and blocked the consideration of a separate sweeping elections and voting bill known as the For The People Act. That legislation seeks to end gerrymandering of congressional districts, set mandates for early and mail-in voting and increase transparency in campaign financing. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) has said that the Senate will turn to voting rights legislation when lawmakers return to Washington in September.

Bill Number	Sponsors	Title and/or Summary	Summary/Status	Latest Action
H.R. 4502	Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)	Labor, HHS, Education, Agriculture, Rural Development, Energy and Water, Financial Services and General Government, Interior, Environment, Military Construction and VA, Transportation-HUD Appropriations Act, 2022	The legislation combines 7 of the annual spending bills into one package.	The legislation passed the House on Thursday, July 29 by a vote of 219 – 208 on party lines.
H.R. 4505	Rep. Matt Cartwright (D-PA)	Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2022	The legislation provides FY2022 appropriations to the Department of Commerce, the Department of Justice (DOJ), the science agencies, and several related agencies including the Office of Science and Technology Policy, the National Space Council, NASA, and the National Science Foundation.	The legislation was reported out of committee on July 19, 2021 and was set to be considered on the House floor during the week of July 26. Policy language surrounding funding for the police caused Democratic leaders to pull the legislation from the floor. It is unclear when it may be brought back to the House floor.
H.R.4431	Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA)	Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2022	The legislation provides FY2022 appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security.	The legislation was reported out of committee on July 15, 2021. The bill is not expected to be considered on the House floor until after the August recess, if at all.
XX	President Joe Biden	American Families Plan	The American Families Plan calls for \$1 trillion in new spending and \$800 billion in new tax credits. The plan would provide \$200 billion program offering universal pre-k; \$109 billion for tuition-free community college; \$85 billion to increase Pell Grants to benefit low-income and minority students; and more than \$4 billion in funding for larger scholarships, certification and support programs for teachers.	President Biden unveiled the companion package to the American Jobs Plan on April 28th prior to his address to a Joint Session of Congress. Legislative text for the proposal has not yet been developed, but Congressional Democrats hope to use the budget reconciliation process to pass elements of the plan due to lack of support from Republicans.

Senate Amendment to H.R.3684	President Joe Biden & Bipartisan Group of Senators including Sens. Krysten Sinema (D-AZ) and Rob Portman (R-OH)	Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework (“Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act”)	<p>The framework includes \$550 billion in new spending for a total around \$1.2 trillion over eight years.</p> <p>Total “new spending” includes: \$110 billion for roads, bridges and major projects; \$73 billion for electric grid upgrades; \$66 billion for rail and Amtrak improvements; \$65 billion for broadband expansion; \$55 billion for clean drinking water; \$39 billion for transit; \$17 billion for ports and \$25 billion for airports; and \$7.5 billion for electric vehicle chargers.</p>	<p>President Biden announced that he'd reached an infrastructure deal with a group of Republican and Democratic Senators on Thursday, June 24.</p> <p>Following a month of negotiations on legislative text, the Senate passed the package on Tuesday, August 10, 2021.</p> <p>The deal faces the challenge of convincing progressives to support the deal - Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi has expressed that the House would not vote on a bipartisan bill until the Senate passes a larger set of Democratic priorities though budget reconciliation.</p> <p>The House has agreed to vote on the legislation by September 27, 2021 in a deal reached between the Democratic leadership and moderate members of the Democratic caucus.</p>
S.Con.Res.14	Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT)	Concurrent Budget Resolution	<p>The Budget Resolution includes reconciliation instructions that instructs certain committees in the House and Senate by what amount would be allowed for them to report legislation that would raise the deficit. Committees are required to submit their reconciliation recommendations to the House and Senate Budget Committees by September 15, 2021.</p> <p>The agreement calls for the \$3.5 trillion in long-term investments to be fully offset by a combination of new tax revenues, health care savings, and long-term economic growth. In addition, the agreement would prohibit new taxes on</p>	<p>The resolution was introduced on August 9. Following the Senate passage of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework on August 10th, the Senate proceeded to a “vote-a-rama” in which they took a number of amendment votes overnight, passing the resolution early in the morning of August 11th.</p> <p>The Resolution passed by a vote of 50-49. Senator Mike Rounds (R-SD) was absent for the votes.</p> <p>The House passed the resolution via a self-executing provision of a rule to consider other legislation on the floor. The adoption through the rule</p>

			families making less than \$400,000 per year, and on small businesses and family farms.	meant that lawmakers did not have to take a separate vote on the budget resolution.
H.R. 3684	Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR)	INVEST in America Act	<p>The legislation addresses provisions related to federal-aid highway, transit, highway safety, motor carrier, research, hazardous materials, and rail programs of the Department of Transportation (DOT).</p> <p>The Legislation has also incorporated the Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2021 and Assistance, Quality, and Affordability Act of 2021 which reauthorize clean and drinking water provisions.</p>	<p>Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Peter DeFazio introduced the legislation on June 4, 2021.</p> <p>Markups were held on the legislation on June 9-10th and the legislation passed out of committee on June 10th by a vote of 38-26.</p> <p>The legislation passed the House on July 1, 2021 by a vote of 221-201.</p> <p>This legislation and the associated local transportation priorities likely won't move forward since the bipartisan infrastructure proposal also includes the 5-year surface transportation reauthorization bill.</p>
S. 29 / H.R. 2008	Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) / Rep. Angie Craig (D-MN)	Local Water Protection Act	A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize certain programs relating to nonpoint source management, and for other purposes.	<p>The Senate legislation was introduced on January 22, 2021 and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.</p> <p>The legislation in the House was introduced on March 18, 2021 and passed the House under suspension of the rules on June 15.</p>

H.R 1563	Rep. Mike Garcia (R-CA)	To extend the authorities under the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act of 2016 providing operational flexibility, drought relief, and other benefits to the State of California	The legislation would extend the authorities under the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act of 2016 providing operational flexibility, drought relief, and other benefits to the State of California. The legislation would extend 4007 authorities through January 1, 2028.	The legislation was introduced on March 3, 2021 and was referred to the House Committees on Natural Resources and Science, Space, and Technology.
H.R.1915	Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR) / Rep. Grace Napolitano (D-CA)	Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2021	The legislation would reauthorize the Alternative Water Source Grants Pilot Program, which authorizes the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to grant up to \$200 million per year to state, interstate, and intrastate water resource development agencies to engineer, design, construct, and test water reuse projects throughout the country.	<p>The legislation was introduced on March 16, 2021.</p> <p>The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure held a mark-up session on June 9-10th and the legislation was passed out of committee on June 10th by a vote of 42-25.</p> <p>The legislation was incorporated into the INVEST in America Act, which passed the House on July 1, 2021.</p>
H.R.2238	Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR) / Rep. Alan Lowenthal (D-CA)	Break Free from Plastic Pollutions Act	The comprehensive legislation would require corporations to take responsibility for pollution, incentivize corporations to make reusable products and items that can be recycled, create a nationwide beverage container refund program, and other items to promote recycling and other investments in U.S. domestic recycling.	The legislation was introduced on March 25, 2021.

H.R 866	Rep. Ken Calvert (R-CA)	FISH Act	This bill gives the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) the sole authority to protect endangered or threatened species that are anadromous species (species of fish that spawn in fresh or estuarine waters and that migrate to ocean waters) or catadromous species (species of fish that spawn in ocean waters and migrate to fresh waters). Currently, the FWS shares this authority with the National Marine Fisheries Service.	The legislation was introduced on February 5, 2021 and referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.
H.R. 1015	Rep. Grace Napolitano (D-CA)	Water Recycling Investment and Improvement Act	This bill makes permanent, and otherwise revises, the Bureau of Reclamation's grant program for the funding of water recycling and reuse projects. Specifically, the bill removes priority under the program for projects in areas that, in the preceding four-year period, have been (1) identified as experiencing severe, extreme, or exceptional drought; or (2) designated as a disaster area by a state. Additionally, the bill increases through FY2025 the authorization of appropriations for the program and otherwise revises provisions related to program funding.	The legislation was introduced on February 11, 2021, and referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.
H.R.4099	Rep. Grace Napolitano (D-CA)	Large Scale Water Recycling Project Investment Act	Created a competitive grant program for large-scale water recycling and reuse projects. Large-scale water recycling projects are those estimated to cost \$500 million or greater. \$750 million would be authorized over 5 fiscal years beginning in FY23.	<p>The legislation was introduced on June 23, 2021 and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. The Water Subcommittee held a hearing on the legislation on Tuesday, June 29, 2021.</p> <p>The House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing on the legislation on June 29, 2021.</p>

H.R.1881	Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA)	To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to permitting terms, and for other purposes.	The legislation would extend permit terms for publicly owned water infrastructure projects under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) from 5 years to a maximum of 10 years.	The legislation was introduced on March 12, 2021 and referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.
S.914	Sen. Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)	Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021	Authorizes more than \$35 billion for water resource development projects across the country with a focus on upgrading aging infrastructure, addressing the threat of climate change, investing in new technologies, and providing assistance to marginalized communities.	Introduced on March 23, 2021 and referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. The legislation passed the Senate on April 29, 2021 by a vote of 89-2.
H.R. 737	Rep. David Valadao (R-CA)	RENEW WIIN Act	The legislation would extend the authorities under the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act of 2016 providing operational flexibility, drought relief, and other benefits to the State of California.	The legislation was introduced on February 2, 2021, and referred the House Committee on Natural Resources. 10 members of the California delegation have cosponsored the legislation.
S.91 / H.R.535	Sen. Krysten Sinema (D-AZ) / Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA)	Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act	The legislation would include special districts in the coronavirus relief fund and direct the Secretary of the Treasury to include special districts as an eligible issuer under the Municipal Liquidity Facility.	The legislation was introduced on January 28, 2021 in both the House and Senate. It has been referred to relevant committees in both chambers.
H.R. 895 / S. 209	Rep. David Rouzer (R-NC) / Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)	Emergency Assistance for Rural Water Systems Act	To provide for assistance to rural water, wastewater, and waste disposal systems affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and for other purposes.	The legislation was introduced on February 5, 2021, and referred to the House Committee on Agriculture. The Senate version of the legislation was introduced on February 3, 2021 and referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture.

H.R. 2515	Rep. Garret Graves (R-LA)	Building U.S. Infrastructure through Limited Delays and Efficient Reviews (BUILDER) Act	The legislation modernizes the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and aims to make infrastructure project reviews more efficient, reduce project costs, and spur economic recovery.	<p>The legislation was introduced on April 14, 2021 and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.</p> <p>The legislation's 46 cosponsors are all Republican, including members of GOP leadership.</p>
H.R. 939	Rep. Doug LaMalfa (D-CA)	Combustion Avoidance along Rural Roads (CARR) Act	The bill exempts wildfire mitigation activities conducted within 300 feet of a road from all laws governing environmental review of proposed agency actions or protection of endangered or threatened species. Mitigation activities are those that are conducted by Department of the Interior or the Department of Agriculture on federal land that is administered by the National Park System, the Bureau of Land Management, or the Forest Service. Mitigation activities include forest thinning, hazardous fuel reduction, prescribed burning, and vegetation management.	The legislation was introduced on February 8, 2021 and was referred to the House Committees on Natural Resources and Agriculture.
H.R.3267	Rep. Brendan Boyle (D-PA)	Protect Drinking Water from PFAS Act	The bill amends the Safe Drinking Water Act to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to publish a maximum contaminant level goal and promulgate a national primary drinking water regulation for total per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances.	The legislation was introduced on May 17, 2021 and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.
H.R. 1512	Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ)	The Climate Leadership and Environmental Action for our Nation's Future (CLEAN) Act	The legislation aims to achieve net zero greenhouse gas pollution, combat the climate crisis, and create jobs. The bill authorizes \$565 billion over ten years to enable deep decarbonization.	The legislation was introduced on March 2, 2021, and referred to the relevant committees.

S. 953	Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR)	Water for Conservation and Farming Act	The legislation would create a Bureau of Reclamation fund of \$300 million to support water recycling projects, water-use efficiency projects and dam safety projects; the WaterSMART program to increase water supply reliability by funding infrastructure and conservation projects that conserves water, increases water use efficiency and improves the condition of natural water recharge infrastructure; Establishes a grant program for any Reclamation States, Tribes, nonprofit conservation organizations, irrigation or water districts, and regional and local authorities to complete habitat restoration projects that improve watershed health and mitigate climate change; among other actions.	The legislation was introduced on March 24, 2021, and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
H.R.3293	Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE)	Low-Income Water Customer Assistance Programs Act	The legislation would amend the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish programs to assist low-income households in maintaining access to drinking water and wastewater services.	<p>The legislation was introduced on May 18, 2021, and referred to the relevant committees.</p> <p>The legislation has passed out of the House Energy and Commerce Committee by a vote of 32-24 and now moves on to consideration on the House floor.</p>

H.R.3291	Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY)	AQUA Act	The legislation would invest \$105 billion over 10 years in the nation's water systems including \$53 billion for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund,\$45 billion to fully replace every lead service line, and \$5 billion to provide assistance to systems with PFAS contamination. Additionally, the legislation would require the EPA to set national standards for PFAS, 1,4-dioxane, and microcystin toxin, and makes it easier for EPA to set standards in the future. The bill would authorize \$4 billion emergency relief program to provide forgiveness for utility customers facing debts and unpaid fees since March 1, 2020.	<p>The legislation was introduced on May 18, 2021, and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.</p> <p>The legislation was included in the INVEST in America Act, which passed the House on July 1, 2021 by a vote of 221-201.</p>
H.R. 3286	Rep. Raul Ruiz (D-CA)	Emergency Order Assurance, Safety, and Inspection of water Systems (Emergency OASIS Act)	The legislation would require the EPA to establish regulations to flush a drinking water system if contaminants were present in the system for longer than six months, or if water stood motionless in the system for longer than six months.	The legislation was introduced on May 17, 2021 and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.
H.R. 3622 / S. 1907	Rep. Chris Pappas (D-NH) / Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)	Clean Water Standards for PFAS Act	The legislation would require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to develop effluent limitations guidelines and standards and water quality criteria for PFAS under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, to provide Federal grants to publicly owned treatment works to implement such guidelines and standards	<p>The legislation was introduced in the House on May 28, 2021, and in the Senate on May 27, 2021.</p> <p>The legislation in the House is bipartisan.</p>
S. 2168	Sen. Mike Braun (R-IN)	Define WOTUS Act	The legislation would amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to modify the definition of navigable waters, and to make the definition of the "waters of the United States" permanent.	The legislation was introduced on June 22, 2021, and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. It was introduced in response to the EPA's announcement earlier in June of its intent to rewrite the Navigable Waters Protection rule.

H.R. 3814 / S. 717	Rep. Liz Cheney (R-WY) / Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT)	Undoing NEPA's Substantial Harm by Advancing Concepts that Kickstart the Liberation of the Economy Act (UNSHACKLE Act)	<p>The legislation combines the following five stand-alone NEPA reform bills on agency process, state expansion, legal changes, and data reporting into one comprehensive text.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NEPA Agency Process Accountability Act - NEPA Accountability and Enforcement Act - NEPA State Assignment Expansion Act - NEPA Legal Reform Act - NEPA Data Transparency Act 	<p>The Senate legislation was introduced on March 11, 2021, and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.</p> <p>The House legislation was introduced on June 11, 2021, and referred to the House Committees on Natural Resources; Judiciary; Transportation and Infrastructure; and Energy and Commerce.</p>
H.R. 1352	Rep. Brenda Lawrence (D-MI)	Water Affordability, Transparency, Equity, and Reliability Act of 2021	<p>The bill would create a trust fund to support drinking water and clean water infrastructure. Additionally, the bill provides \$34.85 billion a year to drinking water and wastewater improvements; creates a water trust fund; creates up to nearly 1 million jobs across the economy and protect American workers; prioritizes disadvantaged communities with grants and additional support; expands funding for technical assistance to small, rural, and indigenous communities; funds projects to address water contamination from PFAS; requires US EPA to study water affordability, shutoffs, discrimination, and civil rights violations by water providers; upgrades household wells and septic systems; helps homeowners replace lead service lines; and provides more than \$1 billion a year to update water infrastructure in public schools.</p>	<p>The legislation was introduced on February 25, 2021 and was referred to the relevant committees.</p> <p>The legislation has 86 cosponsors, including 14 members of the California delegation.</p>

H.R. 4647 / S. 2430	Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA) / Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)	Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act	The legislation would amend federal tax law so that homeowners wouldn't pay income tax on rebates from water utilities for water conservation and water runoff management improvements	The House legislation was introduced on July 22, 2021 and referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. The legislation in the Senate was introduced on July 22, 2021, and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.
S.2454	Sen. Alex Padilla (D-CA)	Water Reuse and Resiliency Act	The legislation would authorize \$1 billion over five years for the EPA's Pilot Program for Alternative Water Source Projects grants program. This is an increase from the \$125 million over five years authorized for the program in the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act passed by the Senate in April.	The legislation was introduced on July 22, 2021 and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.
S.2567	Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)	Navigable Waters Protection Act of 2021	The legislation would enact into law the Navigable Waters Protection Rule: Definition of 'Waters of the United States' as proposed by the EPA/USACE under the Trump administration.	The legislation was introduced on July 29, 2021 and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.
H.R.4915	Rep. Tom McClintock (R-CA)	Water Supply Permitting Coordination Act	The legislation would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to coordinate Federal and State permitting processes related to the construction of new surface water storage projects on lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture and to designate the Bureau of Reclamation as the lead agency for permit processing.	The legislation was introduced on August 3, 2021 and referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

H.R.4979 / S.1783	Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-MI) / Rep. Jeff Merkley (D-OR)	Maintaining Access to Essential Services Act	The legislation provides \$13.5 billion in low-interest loans to public and private water utilities, which will be forgiven when the utility forgives household water arrears; and provides \$13 billion in low-interest loans to power utilities, which will be forgiven when the utility forgives household arrears. The legislation also provides \$13 billion in low-interest loans to broadband utilities, which will be forgiven when the utility forgives household arrears. The bill Requires loan recipients to suspend utility shutoffs and restore any disconnected service, suspend late fees and charges, stop the sale of household debt to debt collectors, stop placing or selling liens on households due to outstanding utility debt, and stop filing adverse reports on households due to unpaid utility bills to credit agencies.	<p>The legislation in the House was introduced on August 6, 2021 and was referred to the House Committees on Financial Services and Ways and Means.</p> <p>The legislation in the Senate was introduced on May 20, 2021 and was referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.</p>
H.R. 4976	Rep. Elissa Slotkin (D-MI)	Ensuring PFAS Cleanup Meets or Exceeds Stringent Standards Act	The legislation directs the Secretary of Defense to ensure that removal and remedial actions relating to PFAS contamination result in levels meeting or exceeding certain standards.	The legislation was introduced in the House on August 6, 2021, and was referred to the House Committees on Armed Services, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Energy and Commerce.
S.2372 / H.R.2773	Sen. Heinrich, Martin (D-NM) / Representatives Debbie Dingell (D-MI) and Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE)	Recovering America's Wildlife Act of 2021	The legislation would fund conservation efforts for more than 12,000 species of wildlife and plants in need of assistance by providing \$1.3 billion in dedicated annual funding for proactive, on-the-ground efforts across the country, ensure wildlife recovery efforts will be guided by the Congressionally-mandated State Wildlife Action Plans, which identify specific strategies to restore the populations of species of greatest conservation need, accelerate	<p>The legislation was introduced on July 15, 2021 and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.</p> <p>The House bill was introduced on April 22. The House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing on the legislation on July 29, 2021.</p>

			<p>the recovery of 1,600 U.S. species already listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act, and include improvements to ensure funds are appropriately targeted to the areas of greatest need and facilitate additional investments in protecting at-risk plant species.</p> <p>In the Senate, RAWA also directs fees and penalties assessed for environmental violations to help fund RAWA, using fee and penalty amounts that aren't already targeted for existing environmental funds.</p>	
H.R.4602	Rep. Alan Lowenthal	WIPPES Act	<p>The legislation would direct the Federal Trade Commission to issue regulations requiring certain products to have "Do Not Flush" labeling</p>	<p>The legislation was introduced on July 21st and referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.</p> <p>Rep. Lowenthal introduced the stand-alone bill after introducing a similar amendment to the House's infrastructure bill.</p>

INFORMATION
ITEM
2B



August 27, 2021

To: Inland Empire Utilities Agency

From: Michael Boccadoro
Beth Olhasso

RE: August Report

Overview:

Drought conditions continue to dominate headlines and drive conversations about water conservation. With major reservoirs dropping into capacity levels around 20 percent or lower, regulators are starting to take aggressive action. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) issued curtailment orders in the Delta and a water shortage was declared on the Colorado River. Regulators and interested parties are trying to balance water supplies for urban and agricultural users while ensuring consideration for fish and habitat. A statewide drought declaration is expected from Governor Newsom at the end of the water year on September 30.

As water managers try to navigate this drought, environmental groups are attacking the Voluntary Agreements as not doing enough to protect fish and habitat. The Newsom administration seems to still be committed to the process and are pushing for the VAs to be completed soon.

The SWRCB has hit the ground running with allocating almost \$1 billion in arrearage funding to California water and wastewater utilities. A survey has been sent to all utilities to gauge the need statewide. Program guidelines are expected by mid-October with the funding to be allocated by the end of January 2022.

The Legislature and the administration continue to work on the final pieces of the state budget. Before session adjourns in September a final drought package and a three-year climate resiliency package are expected. Funding for recycled water and integrated regional water management are key issues looking for funding.

The Legislature returned from summer recess on August 14 for the final few weeks before the September 10 adjournment of the first year of the two-year session. The final Appropriations Committee Suspense Files were taken up on August 26 and now all bills are pending on the house floors. Many of the bills IEUA is supporting did not have a fiscal impact, so they are already on the floor awaiting final action.

Inland Empire Utilities Agency

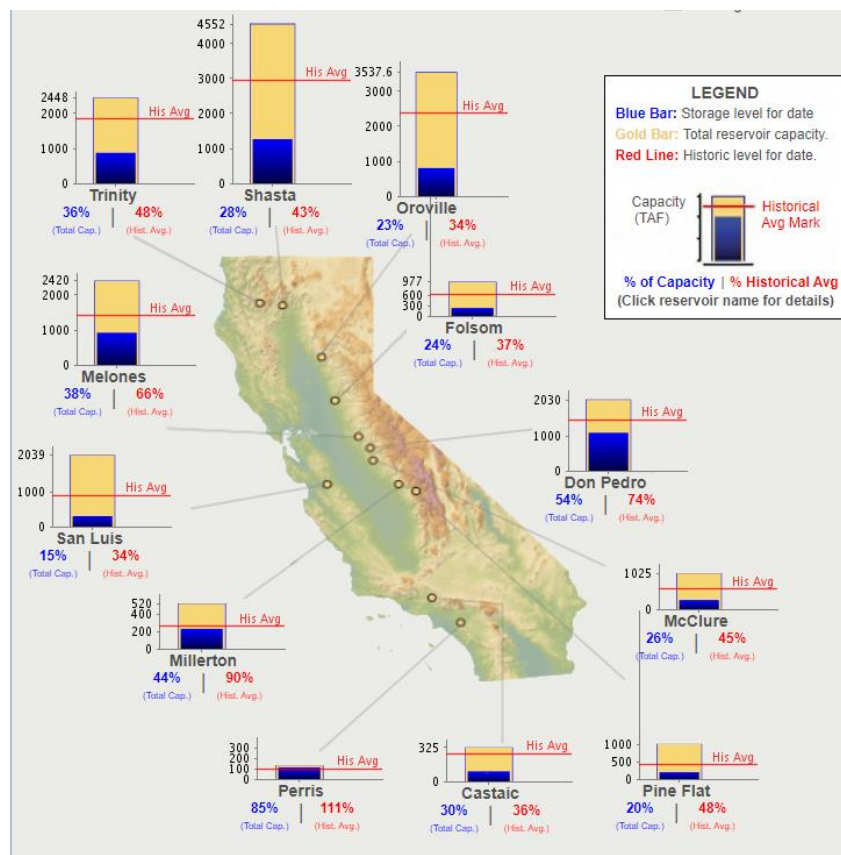
Status Report – August 2021

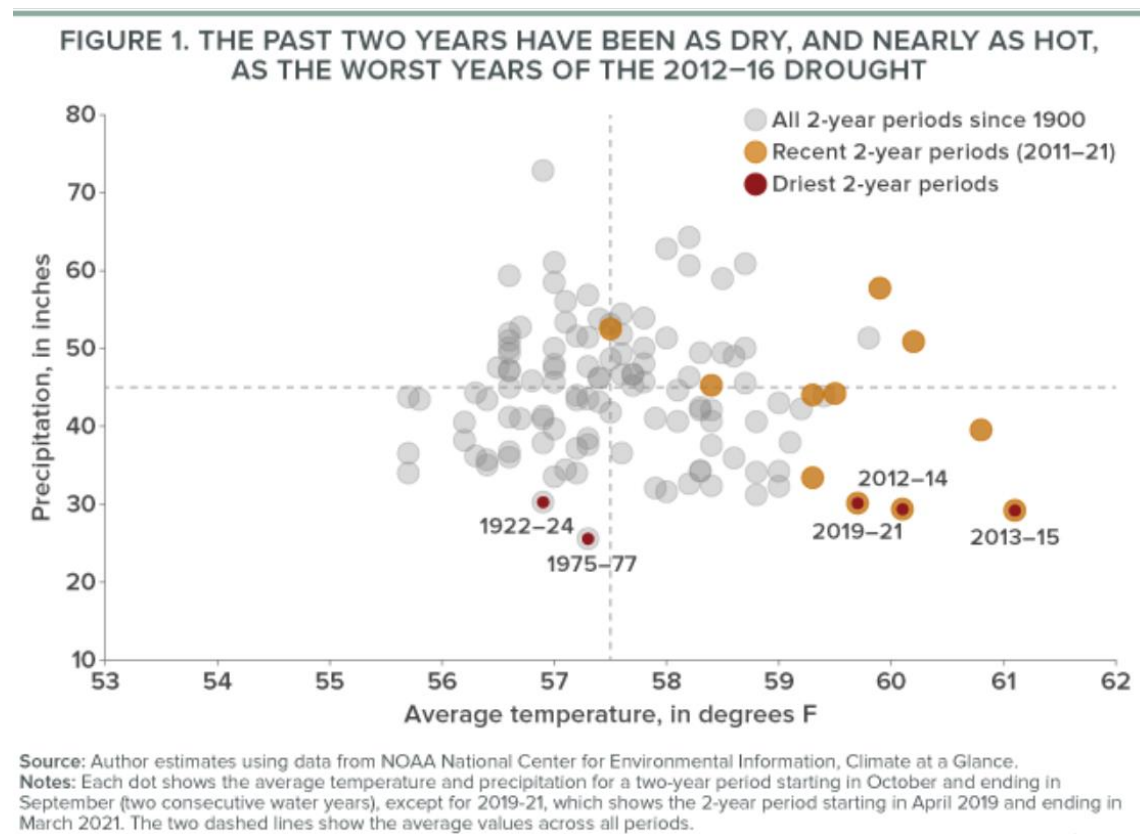
Water Supply Conditions

As expected, news on the water supply situation is increasingly negative. While Southern California storage is in better shape, keeping an eye on the statewide situation is imperative to anticipate the water supply situation in the coming years. There is so little water in Oroville and San Luis Reservoir, it will take a major snowpack in the winter of 2021/spring 2022 to bring northern California reservoir levels back to comfortable levels.

Current reservoir levels are bleak. San Luis Reservoir, the main south-of-Delta storage facility for the State Water Project, is at 34 percent of average for this time of the year and 15 percent capacity. Lake Oroville is at 34 percent of average and 23 percent capacity. Finally, over 88 percent of the state is in extreme drought conditions, and over 47 percent of the state is in “exceptional drought” conditions, the most extreme condition measured.

When the water year ends on September 30, it is expected that Governor Newsom (should he still be Governor) will issue a statewide drought declaration, setting the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) on a path to call for water reductions throughout California. The SWRCB will hold an informational webinar on August 31 to provide an overview of the recent curtailment and reporting orders in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta watershed. While not specifically impacting IEUA, the unprecedented August 20 curtailment order to over 4,500 water rights holders on top of the first-ever declared water shortage on the Colorado River is indicative of the extreme drought conditions facing California and the West. Predictions of a very dry fall and early winter are also adding to increased concern among water managers and regulators.





Arrearage Funding

The first step in administering the CA Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program to distribute the \$985 million is for community water systems to complete a State Water Resources Control Board survey about the extent of the shortfalls at each local agency. Agencies have until Sept. 10 to complete the survey.

Program guidelines must be adopted by October and the funding has to be allocated by January 31, 2021.

Environmental Groups Express Opposition to Voluntary Agreements

A group of 20 environmental, tribal and fishing groups have sent a letter to the Legislature opposing \$466 million in state funding designated for the Voluntary Agreements (VAs) concerning Sacramento River flows and water quality objectives.

Signers include the Sierra Club, CA Coastkeeper, National Resources Defense Council, and others. The letter states that the VA process is just a stall tactic by water users and that the ideas being discussed in the negotiations have no chance of helping improve conditions for critically endangered salmon.

By all accounts, the Newsom Administration is still committed to the VA process.

Environmental groups aren't stopping at a letter to legislators. CalMatters recently published an opinion piece by Sandi Satsumoto and Julie Zimmerman of The Nature Conservancy supporting the

SWRCB curtailment orders, but calling for protections of environmental water as well. Groups have been highlighting how current water supply allocations are going to be insufficient to protect salmon this fall because of not enough cold water in the river system.

State Budget Update

As mentioned in previous reports, the state budget process has been uncharacteristically long and drawn out this year. The state continues to struggle with how to spend unprecedented budget surplus and federal stimulus funds totaling about \$100 billion. Legislators met their constitutional deadline of passing a budget by June 15, but what they passed didn't have the support of the Governor. They passed a "budget bill junior" on June 28 which contained more of a compromise reached by the Legislature and the Governor but still left out key aspects of the budget that are yet to be worked out between the Legislature and the Governor. Chief among them is a \$750 million- \$2 billion drought relief package and a \$3 billion three-year climate package.

While work continues on the upcoming drought and climate packages, there is also work continuing on the funding from the "budget bill junior." A provision was included that limited over \$600 funding allocated to the Department of Water Resources to only be available in counties that have a declared drought emergency, essentially excluding Southern California from accessing the funding. The exclusion is particularly concerning for IRWM, which now faces diminished opportunities.

There are efforts to not only ensure similar language isn't included in the upcoming drought package, but potentially correcting the limitation. The Assembly Budget Committee has noticed hearings September 2 and September 7 with the end of the legislative session on September 10.

If the drought and climate resilience packages are successfully negotiated between the administration and legislative leaders, it is expected that the language will be introduced and voted on within 72 hours, leaving no opportunity for public input.

Legislative Update

Members left for summer recess on July 15 and returned on August 16 for the final weeks of the first year of the two-year session, ending on September 10. On August 26 both Appropriations Committees took up their respective Suspense Files- the final step for legislation before it hits the floor of each house. From August 30 to September 10 members will only be working on bills that have reached the house floor. Once the legislature gavel the session closed on September 10, members will not return to Sacramento until January.

Updates on Priority Bills

- AB 818 (Bloom)- Solid Waste: premoistened nonwoven disposable wipes: Co-Sponsored by CASA and disposable wipes industry. Would require specific "Do Not Flush" labeling on specific disposable wipes. The bill has been sailing through the process and is sitting on the Senate floor consent calendar.
- SB 273 (Hertzberg) Water Quality: municipal wastewater agencies: This legislation, sponsored by CASA, would authorize a wastewater agency to capture and treat stormwater utilizing ratepayer funds. The bill sailed through the Senate on the Consent Calendar and has had little trouble in the Assembly where it is currently on the Consent Calendar.

- SB 372 (Leyva) medium and heavy-duty fleet purchasing assistance program: zero emission vehicles. The bill, while still a work in progress, seeks to make financing tools available to help transition medium and heavy-duty truck fleets to zero emission vehicles. The Senator took amendments as it came out of the Appropriations Committee to include construction or earth-moving equipment as eligible under the program. The bill has easily moved through the Assembly and is not on the Assembly floor.
- AB 361 (R. Rivas): Sponsored by the California Special Districts Association would allow for public agencies to use teleconferencing without complying with certain Brown Act teleconferencing requirements provide that a teleconference location is accessible to the public, a quorum of members participate at the jurisdiction and the public has access to the legislative body at a specified location. These rules would only apply during a local or state emergency. The bill is on the Senate Floor.

[illegible]

Bill Number	Author/Sponsor	Title and/or Summary	Summary	IEUA Position/ Bill Location	Positions Taken by Associations & Regional Agencies
AB 361	Asm R. Rivas	Open Meetings: Local Agencies: Teleconferences	Would authorize a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with the teleconferencing requirements imposed by the Ralph M. Brown Act when a legislative body of a local agency holds a meeting for the purpose of declaring or ratifying a local emergency, during a declared state or local emergency, as those terms are defined, when state or local health officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, and during a declared local emergency provided the legislative body makes certain determinations by majority vote.	Senate Floor	Sponsored by CSDA
AB 377	Asm. R. Rivas/ CA Coastkeeper	Water quality: impaired waters	Would require all California surface waters to be fishable, swimmable, and drinkable by January 1, 2050, as prescribed. 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, unless specified conditions are met.	Oppose Two-Year Bill	Opposed by SAWPA, MWD, CASA, ACWA
AB 703	Rubio/ Three Valleys Municipal Water District	Open Meetings: Local Agencies: Teleconferences	Current law, by Executive Order N-29-20, suspends the Ralph M. Brown Act's requirements for teleconferencing during the COVID-19 pandemic, provided that notice requirements are met, the ability		

			<p>of the public to observe and comment is preserved, as specified, and that a local agency permitting teleconferencing have a procedure for receiving and swiftly resolving requests for reasonable accommodation for individuals with disabilities, as specified. This bill would remove the requirements of the act particular to teleconferencing and allow for teleconferencing subject to existing provisions regarding the posting of notice of an agenda and the ability of the public to observe the meeting and provide public comment. The bill would require that, in each instance in which notice of the time of the teleconferenced meeting is otherwise given or the agenda for the meeting is otherwise posted, the local agency also give notice of the means by which members of the public may observe the meeting and offer public comment and that the legislative body have and implement a procedure for receiving and swiftly resolving requests for reasonable accommodation for individuals with disabilities, consistent with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, as provided.</p>	Two-Year Bill	
AB 818	Asm. Bloom/ CASA	Solid Waste: premoistened nonwoven disposable wipes	<p>Would require, except as provided, certain premoistened nonwoven disposable wipes manufactured on or after July 1, 2022, to be labeled clearly and conspicuously with the phrase “Do Not Flush” and a related symbol, as specified. The bill would prohibit a covered entity, as defined, from making a representation about the flushable attributes, benefits, performance, or efficacy of those premoistened nonwoven disposable wipes, as provided. The bill would establish enforcement provisions, including authorizing a civil penalty not to exceed \$2,500 per day, up to a maximum of \$100,000 per violation, to be imposed on a covered entity who violates those provisions.</p>	<p>SUPPORT</p> <p>Senate Floor</p>	Supported by CASA, ACWA, MWD

AB 1434	Asm. Friedman	Urban water use objectives: Indoor water use	Would establish, beginning January 1, 2023, until January 1, 2025, the standard for indoor residential water use as 48 gallons per capita daily. The bill would establish, beginning January 1, 2025, the standard as 44 gallons per capita daily and, beginning January 1, 2030, 40 gallons per capita daily. The bill would eliminate the requirement that the department, in coordination with the state board, conduct necessary studies and investigations and jointly recommend to the Legislature a standard for indoor residential water use.	OPPOSE Two-Year Bill	OPPOSED by ACWA, CASA, WatReuse, CSDA
AB 1500	Asms. E. Garcia/Mullin	Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2022	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.	SUPPORT IF AMENDED Assembly Rules Committee	
SB 45	Sen. Portantino	Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond act of 2022	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.	SUPPORT IF AMENDED SEN Floor	
SB 222	Sen. Dodd	Water Affordability Assistance Program	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. The bill would make moneys in the fund available upon appropriation by the Legislature to the state board to provide, as part of the Water Affordability Assistance Program established by the	Asm Floor	Opposed by ACWA

SB 273	Sen. Hertzberg/ CASA	Water quality: municipal wastewater agencies	Would authorize a municipal wastewater agency, as defined, to enter into agreements with entities responsible for stormwater management for the purpose of managing stormwater and dry weather runoff, to acquire, construct, expand, operate, maintain, and provide facilities for specified purposes relating to managing stormwater and dry weather runoff, and to levy taxes, fees, and charges consistent with the municipal wastewater agency's existing authority in order to fund projects undertaken pursuant to the bill. The bill would require the exercise of any new authority granted under the bill to comply with the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000. To the extent this requirement would impose new duties on local agency formation commissions, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.	SUPPORT Asm Floor	Supported by CASA, ACWA
SB 372	Sen Leyva/ NRDC	Medium and heavy-duty fleet purchasing assistance program: zero-emission vehicles	Would require an unspecified agency to establish a program to make financing tools and nonfinancial supports available to the operators of medium- and heavy-duty vehicle fleets to enable those operators to transition their fleets to zero-emission vehicles. The bill would require the agency to consult with various state agencies and stakeholders in the development and implementation of the program.	SUPPORT Asm Floor	

INFORMATION
ITEM
2C



CALIFORNIA STRATEGIES, LLC

Date: August 27, 2021
To: Inland Empire Utilities Agency
From: John Withers, Jim Brulte
Re: California Strategies, LLC August 2021 Activity Report

- 1) This month Jim Brulte and John Withers participated in a senior staff meeting via Microsoft Teams on August 2nd due to the Coronavirus:
- 2) Topics of discussion included:
 - a) Regional Relations
 - i) A general discussion with staff about various stakeholders and customers.
 - ii) Ongoing discussion related to Census and Redistricting was held
 - b) CBP/WSIP
 - i) Discussion was held regarding the WSIP. As a follow up, the July 21 Workgroup Meeting Power Point deck was distributed for review and comment.
 - ii) Upcoming Go/No Go deadline by IEUA Board was noted.
A WSIP fact sheet of talking points for the development community and cities was distributed and comments were forwarded to IEUA staff.
 - c) Regional Items
 - i) Recent Committee meetings and activities were discussed and reviewed with the outstanding issues of governance and reclaimed water noted.
 - d) IEUA Outreach
 - i) Future meetings with member agency city managers will be scheduled.
 - e) IEUA Director dynamics
 - i) Board President Hall was seated as CASA President at August conference in San Diego. John Withers attended the conference with IEUA staff.

INFORMATION
ITEM
2D

Date: September 15, 2021

To: The Honorable Board of Directors

ADD
From: Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager

Committee: Community & Legislative Affairs

09/08/21

Executive Contact: Kathy Besser, Executive Manager of Ext. & Government Affairs/AGM

Subject: Public Outreach and Communication

Executive Summary:

In early August, staff launched a drought messaging campaign in partnership with EMWD, WMWD and SBVMWD. This partnership (aka Inland Empire Clean Water Partnership) has developed a scalable campaign that is flexible for all agencies with unique water supply conditions. Messaging for this campaign recognizes the State's conditions while highlighting local supply conditions, as well as the efforts that continue to be made to ensure a reliable water supply through investments and community water-use efficiency efforts. Staff is working closely with MWD, regional and member agencies to ensure a consistent and impactful regional message. Staff developed a toolkit for member agencies to utilize for creative outreach and the IECWP microsite (iewaterpartners.com) has launched to include an information hub for drought messaging.

Staff published the first "Coffee with the General Manager" video to all social media channels. There are over 6,000 total impressions across all channels.

Staff's Recommendation:

This is an informational item for the Board of Directors to receive and file.

Budget Impact *Budgeted (Y/N): Y Amendment (Y/N): Y Amount for Requested Approval:*

Account/Project Name:

Fiscal Impact (explain if not budgeted):

Prior Board Action:

N/A

Environmental Determination:

Not Applicable

Business Goal:

IEUA is committed to providing a reliable and cost-effective water supply and promoting sustainable water use throughout the region.

IEUA is committed to enhancing and promoting environmental sustainability and the preservation of the region's heritage.

Attachments:

Attachment 1 - Background

Background

Subject: Public Outreach and Communication

September

- September, National Preparedness Month
- September 4, National Wildlife Day
- September 6, Labor Day
- September 10 – (Tentative) Meet and Greet with MWD GM Adel Hagekhalil, IEUA Koopman Room, 9:00 a.m.
- September 11, Patriot Day
- September 15, National Online Learning Day
- September 18, World Water Monitoring Day
- September 19-24, Pollution Prevention Week
- September 20-26, Climate Week
- September 25, National Public Lands Day
- September 26, World Rivers Day
- September 26, World Environmental Health Day
- September 28, Chino Hills High School Solar Cup Recognition, Chino Hills Council Meeting

Media and Outreach

- Staff began publishing drought-related outreach to encourage the community to keep up their water saving efforts. The creatives used in this campaign were part of the collaboration of the Inland Empire Clean Water Partnership. Staff continues to work closely with MWD, regional and member agencies to ensure a consistent and impactful regional drought message is communicated to the public. A communication toolkit was sent to member agencies the week of August 16. The IECWP website went live the week of August 23. This site is an information hub for member agencies to access resources and information on drought messaging and PFAS.
- Staff recognized August as National Water Quality Month. Throughout the month, IEUA's Water Quality Laboratory and multiple Agency staff members were highlighted on social media for the role they play in providing a high-quality source of water to the community.
- Staff published the first "Coffee with the General Manager" video to all social media channels. In the video, General Manager Shivaji Deshmukh discusses IEUA's projects and initiatives as it relates to the current and past fiscal year. The video has over 6,100 impressions across all platforms.
- The Agency continues to remind the public on what can and cannot be flushed through the *No Wipes in the Pipes* campaign.

- The Chino Creek Wetlands and Educational Park (@chinocreekwetlands) Instagram page continues to publish Reels on various plants and animals found at the Park. Respectively, the two most recent reels have accumulated 3,328 and 3,862 views.
- The @IEUAWater Instagram account published its first reel in the new “Day in the Life” series. The series will follow various IEUA employees through a “day” in their life at the office and highlight the great work they do, as well as provide insight into what duties their job description entails for potential recruitment purposes.
- The Agency continues to publish content on LinkedIn and has gained 41 followers since July 2021, with 548 page views in the last 30 days.
- August: 28 posts were published to the IEUA Facebook page, 28 tweets were sent on the @IEUAWater Twitter handle, 28 posts were published to IEUA’s Instagram grid, and 17 posts were published to the IEUA LinkedIn page.
 - The top three Facebook posts, based on reach and engagement, in the month of August were:
 - 8/19 Water Quality Laboratory Highlight
 - 8/1 Water Quality Month
 - 8/5 Drought Messaging
 - The top three Twitter tweets, based on reach and engagement, in the month of August were:
 - 8/13 President Hall installment as CASA Board President
 - 8/11 Coffee with the General Manager
 - 8/5 Senator Newman RP-5 Tour
 - The top three Instagram posts, based on reach and engagement, in the month of August were:
 - 8/19 MWD Water Supply Alert/Drought Message
 - 8/24 Daisy Puga, RW/Groundwater Maintenance Technician, Feature-Water Quality Month
 - 8/5 Niki Becker, Laboratory Scientist II, Feature- Water Quality Month
 - The top three LinkedIn posts, based on impressions and reactions, in the month of August were:
 - 8/13 Jerry Burke, Manager of Engineering/CM, CMAASC Guest of Honor Recognition
 - 8/11 Coffee with the General Manager
 - 8/16 Cathleen Pieroni, Manager of Inter-Agency Relations, BIA Southern CA Water Conference-Water Use Efficiency Panel Moderator Recognition
- A “Water-Wise Tips” ad ran on July 31 in the Champion newspaper.
- A “Water-Wise Tips” ad ran on July 21 in the La Opinion newspaper.

For the month of August, there were 12,221 searches for a park in IEUA’s service area on Yelp, where Chino Creek Wetlands and Educational Park was viewed 730 times, with 695 views coming from a mobile device.

Education and Outreach Updates

- IEUA and WEWAC (Water Education Water Awareness Committee) hosted a virtual Project WET (Water Education Today) Facilitator Training Workshop on August 23 led

by Brian Brown, California Project WET Coordinator-Water Education Foundation. Participants became certified to lead activities such as Blue Planet, Seeing Watersheds, H2Olympics, Incredible Journey, as well as facilitate Project WET workshops.

- Staff is preparing a “Super Road Show” for early fall to meet with District administrators and principals to outline the Agency’s free education program opportunities.

Agency-Wide Membership Updates

- External Affairs staff hosted a Project WET Facilitator Training Workshop with the Water Education Foundation on August 23.
- Randy Lee, Executive Manager of Operations/Assistant General Manager, attended the National Water Research Institute (NWRI) Board of Directors Meeting on July 13.
- Richard Lao, Senior Environmental Resources Planner, attended the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Water Regulatory Workgroup Meeting on July 15.
- Jeff Ziegenbein, Manager of Regional Composting Authority, attended the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Regulatory Workgroup Meeting on July 15.
- Randy Lee, Executive Manager of Operations/Assistant General Manager, attended the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Region 3 Virtual Event on July 20.
- Robert Delgado, Manager of Operations and Maintenance, attended the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Understanding the Impacts of the California Air Resources Board’s Advanced Clean Fleets Rule, Region 2 (Virtual) on July 20.
- Richard Lao, Senior Environmental Resources Planner, attended the Southern California Alliance of Publicly Owned Treatment Works (SCAP) Air Quality Committee Meeting on July 21.
- Richard Lao, Senior Environmental Resources Planner, attended the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Air Quality, Climate Change, and Energy Workgroup Meeting on July 22.