

CALLEGUAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

Rancho Simi Recreation & Park District
Oak Park Community Center-Nature Room
1000 N. Kanan Road, Oak Park, CA 91377
www.calleguas.com

SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

September 17, 2025, 12:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Written communications from the public must be received by 8:30 a.m. on the Thursday preceding the Special Board meeting in order to be included on the agenda and considered by the Board at that meeting. Government Code Section 54954.2 prohibits the Board from taking action on items not posted on the agenda except as provided in Subsection 54954.2(b).

1. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Raul Avila, President
Thibault Robert, Vice-President
Reddy Pakala, Secretary
Jacquelyn McMillan, Treasurer
Scott H. Quady, Director

2. BOARD LEADERSHIP RETREAT – Clint Carmac, Leadership Development Network

The following agenda items will begin at 4:00 p.m.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

This portion of the agenda may be utilized by any member of the public to address the Board of Directors on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Board that does not appear on the agenda and on matters that are on the agenda but are not designated as action items. Depending on the subject matter, the Board of Directors may be unable to respond at this time, or until the specific topic is placed on the agenda at a future Calleguas Board Meeting, in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act. Please limit remarks to three minutes.

4. ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA – GOVERNMENT CODE 54954.2(b)

Consideration of any items that require addition to the agenda due to the existence of an emergency situation, the need to take immediate action, and requests for remote participation due to emergency circumstances.

5. REVIEW OF THE AGENDA

Discussion regarding the need to postpone or delete any items or take any items out of order.

6. PRESENTATIONS

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

Consent Calendar items are to be approved or accepted by vote on one motion unless a Board member requests separate consideration. If any Board member requests that an item be removed from the Consent Calendar for further discussion, it will be moved to the first item on the Action Items portion of the Agenda.

- A. Approve the Minutes of the August 27 and September 3, 2025 Board Meetings
- B. Approve Contract Documents and Award the Contract for Lake Bard Water Filtration Plant Roof Replacements (Project No. 621) to Rite-Way Roofing Corporation in the Amount of \$357,646.31

8. ACTION ITEMS

Action Items call for separate discussion and action by the Board for each agendized topic.

9. REPORTS

Report items are placed on the agenda to provide information to the Board and the public and no Board action is sought.

A. GENERAL MANAGER AND STAFF REPORTS

- 1. Update Regarding Potential Changes to the Board of Directors' Medical Benefits, Including the Potential Addition of a Health Reimbursement Arrangement

B. GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT

C. BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS

1. Committee Meeting Reports
2. Board Member Reports on Ancillary Duties

Reports on ancillary duties are placed on the agenda to provide a forum for discussion concerning the activities of external entities to which Calleguas Board members are assigned in a representative capacity.

- a. Report of ACWA Region 8 Director
 - b. Report of ACWA Joint Powers Insurance Authority Representative
 - c. Report of Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County Representative
 - d. Report of Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency Representative
 - e. Report of Metropolitan Water District Director
 - f. Report of Ventura LAFCo Commissioner
 - g. Report of Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance Representative
 - h. Report of Ventura County Special Districts Association Representative
3. Directors' List of Administrative Code Reimbursable Meetings Other than Ancillary Duties

Reimbursable meetings reports are placed on the agenda to comply with statutory and Calleguas Administrative Code requirements for members of a legislative body who attend a meeting at the expense of the local agency to provide a report of the meeting.
4. Discussion regarding upcoming meetings to be attended by Board members

10. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

11. BOARD COMMENTS

Comments by Board members on matters they deem appropriate. A Board member may ask a question for clarification, make a brief announcement, or make a brief report on his or her own activities.

12. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Support Letter to Assemblymember Steve Bennett, Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel, Senator Monique Limón, and Senator Henry Stern re: Delta Conveyance Project - August 29, 2025
- B. Support Coalition Letter to Governor Newsom, Pro Tem McGuire, and Speaker Rivas re: Support for Delta Conveyance Project Streamlining Trailer Bill - September 2, 2025
- C. Support Letter from Conejo Simi Moorpark Association of Realtors to Senator Henry Stern re: Delta Conveyance Project - September 4, 2025
- D. Support Letter to Governor Newsom, Pro Tem McGuire, Speaker Rivas, Budget Chairs Wiener and Gabriel, and Budget Subcommittee Chairs Allen and Bennett re: Golden Mussel Trailer Bill - August 28, 2025
- E. Support Coalition Letter to Governor Newsom re: SB 394 (Allen) - August 26, 2025
- F. Support Coalition Floor Alert re: Budget Trailer Bills (AB/SB 149) pertaining to invasive golden mussels – September 10, 2025

13. CLOSED SESSION

14. ADJOURNMENT to Board Meeting October 1, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

Note: Calleguas Municipal Water District conducts in-person meetings in accordance with the Brown Act. The District has also established alternative methods of participation which permit members of the public to observe and address public meetings telephonically and/or electronically. These methods of participation can be accessed through the internet link provided at the top of this agenda.

In addition to the above referenced methods of participation, members of the public may also participate by submitting comments by email to info@calleguas.com by 5:00 p.m. on the calendar day prior to the public meeting. Email headers should refer to the Board meeting for which comments are offered. Comments received will be placed into the record and distributed appropriately.

Agendas, agenda packets, and additional materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Board after distribution of the agenda packet are available on the District website at www.calleguas.com.

Pursuant to Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and applicable federal rules and regulations, requests for disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to attend or participate in a meeting, should be made to the Secretary to the Board in advance of the meeting to ensure the availability of the requested service or accommodation. Notices, agendas, and public documents related to the Board meetings can be made available in appropriate alternative format upon request.

CALLEGUAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

August 27, 2025

MINUTES

The meeting of the Board of Directors of Calleguas Municipal Water District was held in-person at 2100 E. Olsen Road, Thousand Oaks CA 91360. The District also provided telephonic and electronic methods of participation for the public as noted on the meeting agenda.

The meeting was called to order by Raul Avila, President of the Board, at 4:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

Directors Present at District Headquarters:	Raul Avila, President Thibault Robert, Vice President (arrived at 4:10 p.m.) Reddy Pakala, Secretary Jacquelyn McMillan, Treasurer
Director Participating via Videoconference:	Scott Quady, Director
Staff Present at District Headquarters:	Kristine McCaffrey, General Manager Ian Prichard, Deputy General Manager Fernando Baez, Manager of Engineering Omar Castro, Manager of Operations and Maintenance Daniel Cohen, Emergency Response Coordinator Tricia Ferguson, Manager of Human Resources and Risk Management Henry Graumlich, Executive Strategist Jennifer Lancaster, Manager of Water Resources Wes Richardson, Manager of Information Technology Steve Sabbe, IT Specialist Dan Smith, Manager of Finance Kara Wade, Clerk of the Board
Staff Participating via Videoconference:	Charlotte Holifield, Manager of External Affairs
Legal Counsel Present at District Headquarters:	Walter Wendelstein, Wendelstein Law Group, PC, District Counsel

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

3. ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA – GOVERNMENT CODE 54954.2(b)

None

4. REVIEW OF THE AGENDA

No changes to the agenda.

5. PRESENTATIONS

None

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approve the Minutes of the August 6, 2025 Board Meeting
- B. Increase Sustainable Mitigation Landscape Contract by \$21,000 from \$375,000 to \$396,000
- C. Adopt Resolution No. 2114, Approving the Plans and Specifications and Calling for Bids; Approve Capital Project Budget Allocation in the Amount of \$1,900,000; and Approve Professional Services by Phoenix Civil Engineering in the Amount of \$136,000 for CCSB Strengthening for Metrolink SCORE Improvements (Project No. 614)

On a motion by Director Pakala, seconded by Director Robert, the Board of Directors voted 5-0 to approve the Consent Calendar.

AYES: Directors Quady, McMillan, Pakala, Robert, Avila

NOES: None

7. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approve Changes to the 2026 District Dental Coverage and Authorize the General Manager to Execute the Agreement with ACWA JPIA

On a motion by Director Pakala, seconded by Director McMillan, the Board of Directors voted 5-0 to Authorize the General Manager to Execute the Agreement with ACWA JPIA.

AYES: Directors Quady, McMillan, Pakala, Robert, Avila

NOES: None

8. REPORTS

A. GENERAL MANAGER AND STAFF REPORTS

1. July 2025 Water Use and Sales, June 2025 Power Generation, and July 2025 Investment Summary Reports – Dan Smith, Manager of Finance

The Manager of Finance presented the report.

2. Discussion Regarding the Potential Addition of a Health Reimbursement Arrangement Option for Board Members – Tricia Ferguson, Manager of Human Resources and Risk Management

The Manager of Human Resources and Risk Management presented the report. The Board requested that this item be added to a future agenda for potential action.

B. GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT

1. General Counsel's Report

General Counsel discussed the extensive efforts Calleguas staff has undertaken to coordinate with purveyors and Assemblymember Bennett's office to improve AB 367.

C. BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS

1. Committee Meeting Report

The Manager of Engineering said that the Ad Hoc Committee on Employee Housing met on August 7 to discuss options for staff housing. They discussed possible replacement or rehabilitation of Staff House No. 3 and potential concurrent replacement of Staff House No. 2.

2. Board Member Reports on Ancillary Duties

a. Report of ACWA Region 8 Director

Director Quady said he forwarded the vote from Calleguas on August 7 for the slate of officers. On August 13, he attended the quarterly policy committee meetings.

b. Report of ACWA Joint Powers Insurance Authority Representative

No report.

c. Report of Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County Representative

No report.

d. Report of Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency Representative

Director Pakala said he attended the August 27 Board Meeting remotely. John Demers was named as the new FCGMA Executive Officer; he has groundwater adjudication experience. They also discussed potential FCGMA Board Member compensation; currently Board Members may be compensated by the organization they represent, but not all are.

e. Report of Metropolitan Water District Director

Director McMillan provided a written report on the Metropolitan meetings she attended from August 7 to August 27. Director McMillan's report is attached and made part of the approved minutes on file with the District.

f. Report of Ventura LAFCo Commissioner

No report.

- g. Report of Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance Representative

Director Quady said that he attended the August 21 meeting. There were three key discussions: 1) Climate Action Plan Programs, 2) Three County Regional Scopes of Domestic Service, and 3) Clean Power Alliance programs.

- h. Report of Ventura County Special Districts Association (VCSDA) Representative

Director Robert mentioned that the VCSDA meeting would be held at Calleguas on September 2.

- 2. Directors' List of Administrative Code Reimbursable Meetings Other than Ancillary Duties

Board members provided reports on various meetings that they attended that are subject to the District's reimbursement policy.

- 3. Discussion regarding upcoming meetings to be attended by Board members

The General Manager highlighted two upcoming meetings: The VCSDA Meeting on September 2 and the September 17 Board Retreat and Special Board meeting that will be located at Oak Park Community Center, in person only.

9. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

10. BOARD COMMENTS

None

11. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Support Letter from Conejo Recreation and Park District to Senator Henry Stern re: Delta Conveyance Project – Increasing Water Availability and Reliability for Conejo Recreation & Park District – August 8, 2025.

12. CLOSED SESSION

- A. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4) – Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Initiation of litigation (1 case)
- B. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) Conference with Legal Counsel
 - Existing Litigation, Las Posas Valley Water Rights Coalition, et.al., v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, et.al., Santa Barbara Superior Court Case No. VENCI00509700
 - Existing Litigation, OPV Coalition et. al. vs Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, et. al., Santa Barbara Superior Court Case No. VENCI00555357

At 5:15 p.m., Director Avila adjourned to Closed Session to discuss Item 12.A as stated on the agenda. Closed Session began at 5:20 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION CONTINUING

At 6:41 p.m., Closed Session ended. At 6:42 p.m., Director Avila reconvened to Open Session.

Regarding Items 12.A and 12.B, direction was given to staff and counsel on both items. No reportable action was taken.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Director Avila declared the meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Hereby certified,

Reddy Pakala, Board Secretary

CALLEGUAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
September 3, 2025

MINUTES

The meeting of the Board of Directors of Calleguas Municipal Water District was held in-person at 2100 E. Olsen Road, Thousand Oaks CA 91360. The District also provided telephonic and electronic methods of participation for the public as noted on the meeting agenda.

The meeting was called to order by Raul Avila, President of the Board, at 4:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

Directors Present at District Headquarters:	Raul Avila, President Thibault Robert, Vice President Reddy Pakala, Secretary Jacquelyn McMillan, Treasurer Scott Quady, Director
Staff Present at District Headquarters:	Kristine McCaffrey, General Manager Ian Prichard, Deputy General Manager Fernando Baez, Manager of Engineering Daniel Cohen, Emergency Response Coordinator Kat Ehret, Management Analyst Tricia Ferguson, Manager of Human Resources and Risk Management Ronnie Flores, Senior Maintenance Crew Leader, Painting & Coatings Matt Gomez, System Maintenance Supervisor Henry Graumlich, Executive Strategist David Hernandez, Assistant Operations Supervisor Charlotte Holifield, Manager of External Affairs Jennifer Lancaster, Manager of Water Resources Chris Naster, Cross Connection Control Specialist Steve Sabbe, IT Specialist Wes Richardson, Manager of Information Technology Dan Smith, Manager of Finance Jenyffer Vasquez, Principal Water Resources Specialist Kara Wade, Clerk of the Board

Staff Participating via
Videoconference:

Megan Schneider, Senior Communications Specialist
Kayde Maddox, Senior Administrative Assistant
Sue Taylor, Accounting Supervisor

Legal Counsel Present at
District Headquarters:

Walter Wendelstein, Wendelstein Law Group, PC, District
Counsel

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

3. ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA – GOVERNMENT CODE 54954.2(b)

None

4. REVIEW OF THE AGENDA

None

5. PRESENTATIONS

- a. Presentation of California Special Districts Association Award for Exceptional Public Outreach (Large District) – Charlotte Holifield, Manager of External Affairs

The Manager of External Affairs presented the award to the Board. The award was received for “Ventura County Mountain Fire Rapid Response for providing timely and accurate information to the community and serving as a resource during an emergency.”

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Receive and Affirm the Payment Register for the District’s Activities from July 29, 2025 to August 21, 2025

On a motion by Director Pakala, seconded by Director Quady, the Board of Directors voted 5-0 to approve the Consent Calendar.

AYES: Directors Quady, McMillan, Pakala, Robert, Avila
NOES: None

7. ACTION ITEMS

None

8. REPORTS

A. GENERAL MANAGER AND STAFF REPORTS

1. Monthly Status Report

Staff highlighted five items from the Monthly Status Report. The Board asked questions and staff answered them.

2. State and Federal Legislative Update – Charlotte Holifield, Manager of External Affairs

The Manager of External Affairs presented the report. The Board asked questions and staff answered them.

3. FY 2024-2025 Conservation and Water Use Efficiency Programs Recap – Jenyffer Vasquez, Principal Water Resources Specialist

The Principal Water Resources Specialist presented the report. The Board asked questions and staff answered them.

B. GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT

None

C. BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS

1. Committee Meeting Reports

None

2. Board Member Reports on Ancillary Duties

a. Report of ACWA Region 8 Director

No report.

- b. Report of ACWA Joint Powers Insurance Authority Representative

No report.

- c. Report of Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County Representative

Director Avila said he attended the planning committee meeting for the Annual Member & Policymakers' Reception at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library.

- d. Report of Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency Representative

No report.

- e. Report of Metropolitan Water District Director

Director McMillan provided a written report on the Metropolitan meetings she attended from August 28 to September 3. Director McMillan's report is attached and made part of the approved minutes on file with the District.

- f. Report of Ventura LAFCo Commissioner

No report.

- g. Report of Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance Representative

No report.

- h. Report of Ventura County Special Districts Association Representative

Director Robert reported that he attended the meeting on September 2. It was hosted by Calleguas and General Manager Kristine McCaffrey was the speaker. The group went on a tour of Lake Bard and the Lake Bard Water Filtration Plant.

3. Directors' List of Administrative Code Reimbursable Meetings Other than Ancillary Duties

Board members provided reports on various meetings that they attended that are subject to the District's reimbursement policy.

4. Discussion regarding upcoming meetings to be attended by Board members

The General Manager noted that the next Special Board Meeting will be on September 17 at Oak Park Community Center. The Board meeting will consist of a leadership retreat followed by essential Board business. This meeting will be in-person only.

9. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

10. BOARD COMMENTS

None

11. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Calleguas Careers in Water Flyer
- B. Coalition Support Letter to President pro Tempore Mike McGuire, Senator Scott Wiener, Senator Benjamin Allen, Speaker Robert Rivas, Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel, and Assemblymember Steve Bennett, re: Proposition 4 Implementation – August 20, 2025.

12. CLOSED SESSION

- A. Pursuant to Government Code 54957(a) Conference with Legal Counsel – Public Services or Facilities

At 5:53 p.m., Director Avila adjourned to Closed Session to discuss Item 12.A as stated on the agenda. Closed Session began at 6:03 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION CONTINUING

At 6:36 p.m., Closed Session ended. At 6:37 p.m., Director Avila reconvened to Open Session.

Regarding Item 12.A, the Board received an update from Counsel and no action was taken.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Director Avila declared the meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Hereby certified,

Reddy Pakala, Board Secretary

RAUL AVILA, PRESIDENT
DIVISION 1

REDDY PAKALA, SECRETARY
DIVISION 3

SCOTT H. QUADY, DIRECTOR
DIVISION 2



THIBAUT ROBERT, VICE PRESIDENT
DIVISION 4

JACQUELYN MCMILLAN, TREASURER
DIVISION 5

KRISTINE McCaffrey, P.E.
GENERAL MANAGER

BOARD MEMORANDUM

Date: September 17, 2025

To: Board of Directors

From: Fernando Baez, P.E., Manager of Engineering

Subject: Item 7.C – Approve Contract Documents and Award the Contract for Lake Bard Water Filtration Plant Roof Replacements (Project No. 621) to Rite-Way Roofing Corporation in the Amount of \$357,646.31

Objective: Accomplish the District’s mission in a cost-effective manner and ensure infrastructure reliability by replacing four roofs on buildings at Lake Bard Water Filtration Plant (LBWFP).

Recommended Action: Approve Contract Documents and award the contract for Lake Bard Water Filtration Plant Roof Replacements (Project No. 621) to Rite-Way Roofing Corporation in the amount of \$357,646.31.

Budget Impact: None. Capital project budget was previously allocated as part of the capital project budget allocation for the Crew Building Improvements and Networking Center Relocation (Project No. 603).

Discussion: The existing roofs at the LBWFP Control, Chemical, Ozone, and Preozone Contactor Buildings were installed in the 1990s as part of the LBWFP’s original construction and are in poor condition. Roof tiles have fallen off, exposing the underlayment to the elements, and posing a safety hazard. The roofing materials to be replaced are similar to those previously replaced at the Administration Building in 2021.

These roof replacements were originally part of the Crew Building Improvements and Networking Center Relocation (Project No. 603). That project was bid twice and each time received only a single bid approximately 60% higher than the Engineer’s Estimate; it was therefore never awarded. A subsequent value engineering study recommended that the LBWFP roof replacements be separated into a different contract to improve competitiveness by enabling more potential contractors to bid.

As required by the Public Contract Code and Administrative Code, the District must engage in a competitive procurement process for public works construction to ensure that it receives goods

and services at a price that represents the best value to the District and its ratepayers. The District is also authorized to engage in competitive procurements through cooperative agreements as set forth in Public Contract Code Section 10298. Cooperative purchasing approaches are a cost-effective and efficient way for public agencies to execute projects, particularly ones that are small and straightforward, saving significant time and effort in streamlining the Contract Documents and the procurement process.

Utilizing a cooperative purchasing solution called Sourcewell, Rite-Way Roofing Corporation submitted a proposal for \$357,646.31. The proposal is 22% below the Engineer's Estimate of \$462,000. This proposal is reasonable for the work required.

The LBWFP Roof Replacements were previously determined to be exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act as part of the Crew Building Improvements and Networking Center Relocation (Project No. 603) as it meets Class 1 exemption criteria relating to the minor alteration of existing facilities, involving negligible expansion of existing use.

The Contact Documents are complete and the project is ready to be awarded and constructed. The plans and specifications can be found here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/p7kh37zvhk1ic9gn6zaqf/AA3LCmWGSMiDD-azNB1cqH4?rlkey=v3awiyhgzgfw1f7tn9ekl81az&st=qewa2u9d&dl=0>

RAUL AVILA, PRESIDENT
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DIVISION 4

JACQUELYN MCMILLAN, TREASURER
DIVISION 5

KRISTINE MCCAFFREY
GENERAL MANAGER

BOARD MEMORANDUM

Date: September 17, 2025

To: Board of Directors

From: Tricia Ferguson, Manager of Human Resources and Risk Management

Subject: Item 9.A.1 – Update Regarding Potential Changes to the Board of Directors’ Medical Benefits, Including the Potential Addition of a Health Reimbursement Arrangement

The District currently provides two medical benefit options for Directors, as outlined in the District’s Administrative Code Section 2.12(a).2. Directors have directed staff to provide information about a third option (HRA), as shown in the attached table. Directors may also elect not to accept any medical benefits from the District.

As staff have investigated the potential addition of an HRA, complications have emerged. Due to tax rules under the Internal Revenue Service, it has been determined that the existing reimbursement option needs to be reimbursed as taxable income or handled under an HRA; however, HRA rules limit the reimbursement of premiums, which limits the applicability of that option.

Staff will present potential alternatives that could help the Board achieve its goals of flexibility and fairness, while ensuring compliance with tax rules.

Attachment:

Summary of Existing and Potential Additional District Medical Benefit Options for Directors

Summary of Existing and Potential Additional District Medical Benefit Options for Directors

Status	Description	2025 Maximum Coverage Amount	Covered Parties	Covered Expenses
Existing	District paid premiums for CalPERS health insurance	\$15,105	Director Only*	Premium for CalPERS health insurance
Existing	Reimbursement of medical premiums for Director-procured health insurance	\$15,105	Director Only	Premiums for other Director-procured health insurance
Potential	Health Reimbursement Arrangement	TBD by Board if implemented	Director & Dependents	Deductibles, coinsurance, and copays. Premiums may qualify in certain circumstances.

*Dependents are also eligible for Directors elected in 2012 or earlier.

Upcoming Meetings

This table includes meetings that can be attended by all Board members. In order to ensure Brown Act compliance, a majority of members should not discuss Calleguas specific issues at meetings other than designated Calleguas Board Meetings.

AWA Water Issues	Tue. 09/16, 8:00 a.m.	1701 Lombard Street, Oxnard Hybrid Event
Calleguas Board Retreat/Meeting	Wed. 09/17, noon	Oak Park Community Center, 1000 Kanan Rd., Oak Park IN PERSON ONLY
AWA Reception for Members and Policymakers*	Thu. 09/18, 5:00 p.m.	Reagan Library Presidential Library IN PERSON ONLY
AWA CCWUC Award BBQ*	Wed. 09/24, 10:30 a.m.	Camarillo Grove Park IN PERSON ONLY
Calleguas Purveyor Meeting	Thu. 09/25, 10:00 a.m.	4232 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas IN PERSON ONLY
Calleguas Board Meeting	Wed. 10/01, 4:00 p.m.	2100 Olsen Road, Thousand Oaks Hybrid Event
Employee Appreciation BBQ	Sat. 10/04, noon	Conejo Creek Park North, 1379 E Janss Rd., Thousand Oaks
Calleguas-LVMWD Interconnection Joint Board Tour*	Tue. 10/07, 10:00 a.m.	Calleguas-LVMWD Interconnection, 10 Lindero Canyon Rd., Oak Park IN PERSON ONLY
Calleguas Board Meeting	Wed. 10/15, 4:00 p.m.	2100 Olsen Road, Thousand Oaks Hybrid Event
AWA WaterWise*	Thu. 10/16, 8:00 a.m.	2100 Olsen Road, Thousand Oaks Hybrid Event
United Water Conservation District Sustainability Summit*	Thu. 10/16, 1:00 p.m.	1701 Lombard Street, Oxnard Hybrid Event
AWA Water Issues	Tue. 10/21, 8:00 a.m.	1701 Lombard Street, Oxnard Hybrid Event
AWA CCWUC*	Wed. 10/22, 11:30 a.m.	Orchid Professional Building, 816 Camarillo Springs Rd., Camarillo IN PERSON ONLY
CoLAB Annual Meeting*	Wed. 10/22, 5:30 a.m.	Moorpark Country Club, 11800 Championship Dr., Moorpark IN PERSON ONLY
Calleguas Purveyor Meeting	Thu. 10/23, 10:00 a.m.	2100 Olsen Road, Thousand Oaks IN PERSON ONLY
Southern California Water Coalition Annual Meeting & Dinner*	Thu. 10/23, 5:30 p.m.	Balboa Bay Resort, 1221 West Coast Highway, Newport Beach IN PERSON ONLY
Calleguas Board Meeting	Wed. 11/05, 4:00 p.m.	2100 Olsen Road, Thousand Oaks Hybrid Event
Ventura County Special Districts Association*	Tue. 11/04, 5:30 p.m.	Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center, 1901 Spinnaker Dr, Ventura IN PERSON ONLY

* Reservations required. Contact Kara if you would like to attend.

RAUL AVILA, PRESIDENT
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DIVISION 2



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DIVISION 4

JACQUELYN MCMILLAN, TREASURER
DIVISION 5

KRISTINE MCCAFFREY
GENERAL MANAGER

web site: www.calleguas.com

2100 OLSEN ROAD • THOUSAND OAKS, CALIFORNIA 91360-6800 805/526-9323 • FAX: 805/522-5730

August 29, 2025

The Honorable Steve Bennett, Assemblymember
California State Assembly, 38th District
1021 O Street, Suite 4710
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Henry Stern, Senator
California State Senate, 27th Senatorial District
1021 O Street, Suite 7710
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Monique Limón, Senator
California State Senate, 21st Senatorial District
1021 O Street, Suite 7610
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel, Assemblymember
California State Senate, 46th Senatorial District
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Delta Conveyance Project Support

Dear Senator Limón, Senator Stern, Assemblymember Bennett, and Assemblymember Gabriel:

Calleguas Municipal Water District delivers safe, clean, and affordable drinking water to more than 650,000 Ventura County residents—primarily from the State Water Project (SWP)—and has been doing so for many decades. We deliver this water through 19 retail water providers, which include cities (Camarillo, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Simi Valley, and Thousand Oaks), special districts, investor-owned utilities, mutual water companies, and County waterworks districts. We take pride in the essential service we perform to support the vibrant quality of life Ventura County provides for its residents and businesses.

We understand that there may be a legislative proposal related to the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) coming before you in these final weeks of session, and we strongly urge you to support it. The SWP is an existential source of supply for your constituents in Ventura County, and it is in desperate need of modernization to more reliably deliver water supplies under changing climatic conditions. ***The DCP is that modernization.*** Without it, SWP supplies are anticipated to decrease by up to 23 percent and a reduction of that magnitude would have devastating consequences for our region.

The drought of 2021-22 dramatically underscored the importance of the reliability of the SWP to Ventura County. Back-to-back SWP allocations of just 5% resulted in drastic cutbacks in water use (outdoor watering was only allowed once per week) and significant uncertainty about water supply reliability in Ventura County. Had the DCP been operational during this period, more water could have been captured during the infrequent storms that did occur, and these extreme water restrictions likely could have been avoided. Through the DCP, we have the opportunity to enhance Ventura County's primary water supply to help protect against inevitable future extreme droughts.

The anticipated legislative proposal is intended to provide commonsense clarifications to existing law to ensure the DCP is able to move past frivolous challenges and delays, saving the state and public water agencies like ours—and, by extension, your constituents and local ratepayers—significant time and cost. These changes would streamline the pre-construction process, while continuing to incorporate ample opportunity for public input and comment, just as the DCP has over its long history to date.

Over the course of many years, the environmental review of this project has been extremely comprehensive and detailed, culminating in the certification of the Environmental Impact Report in December 2023. Throughout the 142-day public-comment period included in this review, thousands of comments were received and considered. This public input was used to address multiple concerns, including avoiding the central Delta, reducing pile driving, minimizing the project footprint, and other mitigation measures.

We understand that some legislators also have concerns about the project providing adequate protections for Tribal Resources. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has conducted more than 150 government-to-government Tribal consultations, along with site visits and extensive Tribal review and comment. These efforts have helped identify Tribal resources so that measures can be implemented to mitigate or eliminate impacts. Mitigation measures also include on-site Tribal monitoring during construction to avoid or eliminate impacts.

DCP critics have noted the price tag of constructing the project as exorbitant, but the cost of not completing this project is far higher. SWP water is among the lowest-priced water available. Other options have much larger price tags and regulatory hurdles—and all project costs continue to rise. It is estimated that each year of delay of the DCP adds nearly half a billion dollars to total project costs. As supplies shrink, expenses rise—and affordability for households (especially those in low-income areas) diminishes.

Project opponents also suggest that water suppliers pursue other means of securing supply in lieu of DCP, such as water use efficiency measures, water recycling, groundwater recharge, and desalination. Calleguas and our retailers have long used all of these measures to supplement water imported from the SWP. For example, over the last 10 years, an average of 36,200 acre-feet of groundwater has been used annually to supply municipal and agricultural uses. Desalination of brackish (salty) water supplies have come online, with over 4,000 acre-feet of water produced in 2024 alone. Recycled water is delivered for agriculture and irrigation, averaging around 7,000 acre-feet per year. Water use efficiency efforts through customer rebates for grass replacement and efficient devices have yielded billions of gallons in conserved water, with more than 16.6 million square feet of grass removed in the past decade, saving more than 2,260 acre-feet per year, and water-saving devices saving more than 994 acre-feet annually

since 2008. ***Remarkably, as a result of these measures, our service area is currently using the same amount of imported water as it did in 1980, despite an 86% increase in population.***

Yet while we are pursuing new local sources of supply, those will never substitute for the water delivered by the SWP to Ventura County. The development of southeast Ventura County was predicated on the importation of outside sources of supply. It would be impossible to fully eliminate imported water as a significant portion of our water supply portfolio. **Our best option for continued water supply reliability is optimizing and modernizing the system that is the backbone of our region.**

A DWR report published in late August finds that the DCP presents the single most effective action for California's sustainable water future. In 2025 alone, nearly 1 million acre-feet of water could have been captured and delivered via the DCP, serving 3 million households. Additionally, upgrading this aging infrastructure helps mitigate the risk of levee failure in the event of a major earthquake, which could cut off water supplies for months or even years.

After debating this project in one form or another for half a century, the time for action is now. We understand there is highly organized and vocal opposition to this project, especially in Northern California. But as representatives of this County, which requires the SWP to survive, we ask that you put your constituents' needs first. And not only is the DCP significant to Ventura County, ***it affects two-thirds of the state's population as a whole.*** It is a statewide project that will create thousands of jobs for the duration of the decade-long construction. Real work has been done over the years to mitigate the impacts of the project on the Delta Counties, such as a \$200 million Community Benefits Program, realignment of the route to lessen impacts, and reduction of the proposed project from two tunnels to one. It is time for generational investment and bold action.

As the primary water wholesaler in Ventura County, we respectfully request that you prioritize and support the continued advancement and funding of the Delta Conveyance Project. California's future depends on forward-thinking investments like this one.

Thank you for your leadership and your commitment to a sustainable water future.

Sincerely,



Kristine McCaffrey, P.E.
General Manager

cc: The Honorable Jacqui Irwin, Assemblymember, 38th District
Ventura County Supervisor Janice Parvin, Chair, District 4
Ventura County Supervisor Jeff Gorell, Vice Chair, District 2
Ventura County Supervisor Matt LaVere, District 1
Ventura County Supervisor Kelly Long, District 3
Ventura County Supervisor Vianey Lopez, District 5

Mayor Kevin Kildee, City of Camarillo

Mayor Chris Enegren, City of Moorpark

Mayor Luis A. McArthur, City of Oxnard

Mayor Martha R. McQueen-Legohn, City of Port Hueneme

Mayor Dee Dee Cavanaugh, City of Simi Valley

Mayor David Newman, City of Thousand Oaks

NAACP
California Hawaii
STATE CONFERENCE



CalChamber



ACEC
California



Rebuild SoCal
Partnership

Association of California Cities
Orange County

LOS ANGELES AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



SV LG
SILICON VALLEY
LEADERSHIP GROUP



Biz Fed
Los Angeles
County
Business
Federation
Strengthening the Voice of Business Since 2008

CICWQ
Construction Industry
Coalition on Water Quality



The Chamber
Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce



InlandAction

SCLC SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

ORANGE COUNTY
BUSINESS COUNCIL



San Diego County
Water Authority



CHAMBERS of COMMERCE

SWCLC Southwest California
Legislative Council



Valley Water
Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection



CCA
CENTRAL CITY
ASSOCIATION
OF LOS ANGELES



SCAG
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS



California
Business
Roundtable

SCCA
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
CONTRACTORS
ASSOCIATION



CALASIAN
chamber of commerce

Sd
San Diego
Regional
Chamber



NORTH SAN DIEGO
BUSINESS CHAMBER
CONNECTIONS START HERE.



September 2, 2025

Governor Gavin Newsom
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Senate President Pro Tempore Mike
McGuire
1021 O St., Suite 8518
Sacramento, CA 95814

Speaker of the Assembly Robert
Rivas
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0029



RE: Support for Delta Conveyance Project Streamlining Trailer Bill

Dear Governor Newsom, Pro Tem McGuire, and Speaker Rivas,

On behalf of a broad coalition of labor, business, infrastructure, social justice and nonprofit organizations, we would like to express our strong support for the budget trailer bill that is





intended to streamline processes for advancing the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) to a point where informed decisions can be made regarding construction investment.

This budget trailer bill is NOT about circumventing public engagement and review – this budget trailer bill is all about breaking through redundant, archaic processes that have resulted in endless delays, duplicative reviews, and millions upon millions of dollars of additive costs, while impeding the State’s ability to complete the DCP and other critical, needed infrastructure projects.

The DCP is a critical component of California’s plans to fortify the State Water Project (SWP) in preparation for the impacts of extreme weather and climate change. The SWP delivers water to more than 27 million Californians and 750,000 acres of farmland and is the engine that powers California’s economic success. However, this system is vulnerable to extreme weather and unpredictable precipitation patterns and, as a result, our state’s main water supply is at serious risk.

According to the Department of Water Resources’ SWP Delivery Capability Report, the SWP is expected to lose up to 23% of its supply in the next 20 years due to changing flow patterns and extreme weather shifts. It is critical that we act *NOW* by advancing the DCP to prepare California’s water infrastructure to protect the long-term reliability and affordability of water for the millions of Californian homes and businesses that rely upon the SWP.

The 2024 Benefit/Cost Analysis of the Delta Conveyance Project found that water conveyed through the SWP is the most affordable source of water compared to alternatives like desalination or recycling. These alternative sources are necessary, but the volume of water delivered by the SWP cannot be replaced.

For decades, the DCP has been stalled by frivolous lawsuits and duplicative reviews. These are the universal problems facing major infrastructure throughout California, and foundational to why it is so difficult to do big things in our state and bring major infrastructure to completion.

The budget trailer bill proposal restores balance to this process – ensuring legitimate concerns are addressed, while removing tools for obstruction and delay. Every year of delay in construction of the DCP costs California’s water ratepayers – including nearly 8 million people living in disadvantaged communities – approximately \$600 million. The budget trailer bill proposal reduces bureaucratic red tape, which translates into real savings for Californians and for the State budget.

The proposed trailer bill smooths administrative processes to help move the Delta Conveyance Project in a way that balances environmental protections while improving the efficiency of the review and approval process.

It needs to be said, that this DCP *“is not your grandparent’s water conveyance project.”* The DCP has been redesigned to be smaller, more environmentally responsive, and less intrusive to Delta communities. At the same time, the DCP will generate thousands of good-paying



union construction jobs and stimulate local economies, especially in areas hardest hit by economic downturns and drought-related agricultural cutbacks.

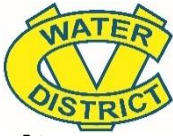
For these reasons, **our coalition urges you to support the DCP trailer bill**. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to working with you to advance this important legislation.



Sincerely,

Deven Upadhyay, General Manager
**The Metropolitan Water District of
Southern California**

Rick Callender, President
NAACP California Hawaii State Conference



Joe Cruz, Executive Director
California State Council of Laborers

Kristopher Anderson, Policy Advocate,
Water, Agriculture and Resources
California Chamber of Commerce



Matthew Cremins, Legislative Consultant
**CA/NV Conference of Operating
Engineers**

Michael Quigley, Executive Director
California Alliance for Jobs



Dan Denham, General Manager
San Diego County Water Authority

Ernesto Medrano, Executive Secretary
**LA/OC Building & Construction Trade
Council**

Tyler Munzing, Director of Government
Affairs
**American Council of Engineering
Companies – California**

Robert Saucedo, Chairman
Groundswell for Water Justice



Peter Tateishi, Chief Executive Officer
**Associated General Contractors of
California**

Thomas D. McCarthy, General Manager
Kern County Water Agency

Valerie Pryor, General Manager
Zone 7 Water Agency



Kris Murray, Executive Director
**Association of California Cities – Orange
County**

Aaron Baker, P.E., Chief Operating Officer –
Water Utility
Santa Clara Valley Water District

Adrian Covert, Senior Vice President of
Public Policy
Bay Area Council

Richard Lambros, Managing Director
Southern California Leadership Council



Jeff Montejano, Chief Executive Officer
**Building Industry Association of
Southern California**

Charley Wilson, Executive Director
Southern California Water Coalition



Tracy Hernandez, CEO
**Los Angeles County Business Federation
(LA BizFed)
New California Coalition**

Jon Switalski, Executive Director
Rebuild SoCal Partnership

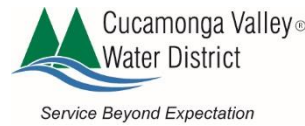
Dave Sorem, President
Secure Water Alliance



Dan Dunmoyer, President & CEO
California Building Industry Association

Ahmad Thomas, CEO
Silicon Valley Leadership Group

Mayor Rex Richardson
City of Long Beach



**Irvine Ranch
Water District**



Garden Grove
— Chamber of Commerce —
FOUNDED 1907

Mayor Sharona R Nazarian, PsyD.
City of Beverly Hills

Nella McOsker, President
Central City Association of Los Angeles

Amanda Walsh, VP of Government Affairs
Orange County Business Council

Mike Lewis, Senior Vice President
**Construction Industry Coalition on
Water Quality (CICWQ)**

Joe Mouwad, P.E., General Manager
Eastern Municipal Water District

Monica Garcia-Diaz, Chair
**South Bay Association of Chambers of
Commerce**

Chisom Obeolu, Assistant General
Manager -- Water
Glendale Water and Power

Joe Cina, President & CEO
Glendora Chamber of Commerce

Danielle Borja, President & CEO
**Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of
Commerce**

Peggi Hazlett, President & CEO
Greater Ontario Business Council

Zeb Welborn, President & CEO
Chino Valley Chamber of Commerce

Bobby Spiegel, President & CEO
Corona Chamber of Commerce

Erin Sasse, Chair
Southwest California Legislative Council

Nina Jazmadarian, General Manager
Foothill Municipal Water District

Claudette J. Baldemor, President & CEO
Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce

Rev. Jonathan Mosely, Director
**National Action Network – Western
Region**

Stuart Waldman, President
Valley Industry & Commerce Association

Matthew Stone, General Manager
Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency

Paul Granillo, President & CEO
Inland Empire Economic Partnership

Carlos A. Singer, SVP & Chief Policy Officer
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce

Julie B. Michaels, Executive Director
Inland Action

Shivaji Deshmukh, P.E., General Manager
Inland Empire Utilities Agency

Luis Portillo, President & CEO
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership

Charlie Nobles, Executive Director
**Southern California Contractors
Association**

Gus Flores, Director of Government Affairs
United Contractors

Jeremy Harris, President & CEO
Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce

Kristine McCaffrey, General Manager
Calleguas Municipal Water District

David Pedersen, General Manager
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

Henry Rogers, Executive Director
**Harbor Association of Industry and
Commerce**

Supervisor Don Wagner, 3rd District
Orange County



Matthew Hargrove, President & CEO
California Business Properties Association

Pat Fong Kushida, President & CEO
California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce

Rob Lapsley, President
California Business Roundtable

Lance Eckhart, General Manager
San Geronio Pass Water Agency

Aldo E. Schindler, City Manager
City of Tustin

Monica Farias, President & CEO
Greater West Covina Business Association

Randall Reed, Board President
Cucamonga Valley Water District

Victoria Hernandez, Executive Director
South Orange County Economic Coalition

Matthew Litchfield, General Manager
Three Valleys Municipal Water District

Donna Duperron, President & CEO
Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce

Paul Shoenberger, General Manager
Mesa Water District

Justin M. Scott-Coe, General Manager
Monte Vista Water District

Tom Love, General Manager
Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Upper Water)

Louise Lamparra, Executive Director
Ventura County Coalition of Labor, Agriculture and Business (CoLAB)

Edward J. Caldwell, General Manager
West Basin Municipal Water District

Jim Barrett, General Manager
Coachella Valley Water District

Harvey De La Torre, General Manager
Municipal Water District of Orange County

Adam Eventov, President
Murietta Temecula Group

John Kennedy, General Manager
Orange County Water District

Eileen Hupp, President & CEO
Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce

Jason Martin, General Manager
Rancho California Water District

Mara Santos, President & CEO
Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce

Marisa Creter, Executive Director
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

Robb Grantham, General Manager
Santa Margarita Water District

Dennis Cafferty, General Manager
El Toro Water District

Mandip Samra, General Manager
Burbank Water and Power

Pete Martinez, General Manager
Channel Islands Beach Community Services District

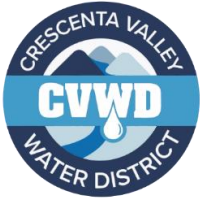
Dennis D. LaMoreaux, CEO/General Manager
Palmdale Water District

Darin Kasamoto, General Manager
San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

Heather Dyer, General Manager
San Bernardino Valley MWD



PASADENA
Water & Power





MULTICULTURAL
BUSINESS ALLIANCE

Steve L. Johnson, P.E., General Manager
Desert Water Agency

Adnan Anabtawi, General Manager
Mojave Water Agency

Marsha Hansen, President & CEO
El Segundo Chamber of Commerce

John Thiel, General Manager
West Valley Water District

Andy Conli, President & CEO
West Ventura County Business Alliance

Councilman Brian Tisdale, City of Lake
Elsinore
Chair, Advocacy Committee
**Western Riverside Council of
Governments**

Craig D. Miller, General Manager
Western Water District

James Lee, General Manager
Crescenta Valley Water District

Mary Leslie, President
Los Angeles Business Council

Roberto C. Arnold, Chairman & Founder
Multicultural Business Alliance

Ethan Smith, Chairman
INVEST Fresno

Chris Thorne, Chief Executive Officer
North San Diego Business Chamber

Brian Brennan, Executive Director
21st Century Alliance

Kelly Gardner, Executive Secretary
Central Basin Water Association

Carlos Solórzano-Cuadra, CEO
**Hispanic Chambers of Commerce of San
Francisco**

Alma Quezada, P.G., General Manager
Ventura River Water District

Paul A. Cook, General Manager
Irvine Ranch Water District

Jennifer Spindler, General Manager
**Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water
Agency**

Caren Spilsbury, Executive Director
Gateway Chamber Alliance

James Lee, General Manager
**Crescenta Valley Water District
(CVWD)**

Greg Thomas, General Manager
**Elsinore Valley Municipal Water
District**

David Youngblood, P.E., General
Manager
East Orange County Water District

David Reyes, General Manager
Pasadena Water & Power

Gail Delihant, Sr. Director, CA
Government Affairs
Western Growers Association

Will Oliver, President & CEO
**Fresno County Economic
Development Corporation**

Norman Huff, General Manager
Camrosa Water District

Lacy Schoen, President & CEO
Brea Chamber of Commerce

Amy Valdiva, Chairman of the Board
Upland Chamber of Commerce

Gary Arant, General Manager
Valley Center Municipal Water District





Monica Garcia-Diaz, Executive
Director
Wilmington Chamber of Commerce

Lynda Noriega, President
**California Domestic Water
Company**

Chris Neighbor, President & CEO
SummerHill Homes

Chris Berch, General Manager
Jurupa Community Services District

Sarah Johnson, General Manager
Joshua Basin Water District

Anatole Falagán, General Manager
Long Beach Utilities Department

Mauricio Guardado, General
Manager
United Water Conservation District

Stephen Bise, PE, TE, Director of
Public Works
City of Fullerton

Nicholas Adcock, President & CEO
**Greater Riverside Chambers of
Commerce**

Britt Huff, Ph.D.
**President, Los Angeles County
Division, League of California Cities
Council Member, City of Rolling
Hills Estates**

David Ellis, President
Delta Ventures, Inc

Kimberly A. Thorner, General Manager
Olivehain Municipal Water District

Caren Spilsbury, Executive Director
Norwalk Chamber of Commerce

Ruben Guerra, Chairman
Latin Business Association

Rick Shintaku, General Manager
South Coast Water District

**Central Basin Municipal Water
District**

Chris Cate, President & CEO
**San Diego Regional Chamber of
Commerce**

Joanne McClasky, Executive Director
Industry Business Council

Kome Ajise, Executive Director
**Southern California Association of
Governments**

CC:

Members of the Assembly
Members of the Senate



Dear Senator Stern,

On behalf of the Conejo Simi Moorpark Association of Realtors (CSMAR), I am writing to express our strong support for the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP), a critical modernization of the State Water Project (SWP) that is essential to sustaining reliable water supplies for Ventura County.

As the leading voice for real estate professionals in the Conejo, Simi Valley, and Moorpark communities, our Association represents more than 1800 members who serve families, businesses, and property owners across the region. A stable and reliable water supply is a cornerstone of healthy neighborhoods, thriving local economies, and sustainable housing. Without a reliable water source, we cannot maintain strong property values, attract new residents, or support balanced community growth.

In Ventura County, the importance of the reliability of the SWP was clearly demonstrated in 2021 and 2022, when back-to-back SWP allocations of 5% resulted in drastic cutbacks in water use. Particularly concerning to not only for homeowners and businesses struggling to maintain their properties and landscaping, but also for the broader real estate market. When water reliability is in question, confidence in housing markets, community investments, and long-term regional planning is undermined.

The DCP is a commonsense, climate-resilient solution that captures stormwater that would otherwise be lost. Its importance only increases as the “weather whiplash” we’ve begun to experience, with its wetter wet periods and longer, more frequent dry periods, exacerbates, as anticipated under climate change.

Weather aside, without the DCP, the SWP remains incredibly vulnerable to risks associated with seismic activity in the Delta, which could result in the loss of this crucial water supply for many months or even several years.

On behalf of our members and the communities we serve, we respectfully request your support should this issue come before you in the Legislature. The DCP is vital to ensuring that Ventura County remains a place where families want to live, businesses can thrive, and investments in housing and community development remain strong.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Tami Jo Colburn

Tami Jo Colburn (Sep 4, 2025 16:19:19 PDT)

Tami Jo Colburn, President

Conejo Simi Moorpark Association of REALTORS

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0115



August 28, 2025

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Mike McGuire
Senate President Pro Tempore
1021 O Street, Suite 8518
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Scott Wiener
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
1020 N Street, Room 502
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Ben Allen
Chair, Senate Budget Sub No. 2
1020 N Street, Room 502
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Robert Rivas
Assembly Speaker
1021 O Street, Suite 8330
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Steve Bennett
Chair, Assembly Budget Sub No. 4
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Addressing Golden Mussel Threat through Policy Changes in Resources Trailer Bill

Dear Governor Newsom, Pro Tempore McGuire, Speaker Rivas, Budget Chairs Wiener and Gabriel, and Budget Subcommittee Chairs Allen and Bennett:

As representatives of California who recognize the importance of protecting California's water infrastructure and recreational opportunities, we are writing to express support for including policy language in a Resources Trailer Bill to address the emerging threat of the golden mussel.

First detected in California in October 2024, golden mussels are an invasive species known for spreading rapidly and causing significant harm to water infrastructure, water quality, and aquatic ecosystems. Like dreissenid mussels (e.g., quagga and zebra mussels), golden mussels attach to water infrastructure in dense colonies that clog pumps, pipelines, and conveyance systems. They also alter the ecology of lakes and rivers and can severely impact fisheries. Unlike dreissenid mussels, however, golden mussels can survive in a wider range of environmental conditions, posing an even greater threat to water infrastructure statewide.

In December 2024, the California Fish and Game Commission took emergency action to add golden mussels to the restricted species list for purposes of possession and transport. However, current law does not grant the state and state departments the same authority to manage golden mussels as it does for dreissenid mussels. The spread of golden mussels will threaten water infrastructure, water quality, and recreational opportunities for Californians. A consistent, statewide approach to protect against the spread of golden mussels is urgently needed.

Water districts and other entities responsible for water storage and conveyance infrastructure face potential liability and significant costs for controlling and eradicating invasive mussel infestations. Amending Fish and Game Code Section 2301 would provide immunity from liability for agencies with approved golden mussel management plans – similar to existing provisions for quagga and zebra mussel control management. In addition, corresponding updates to Fish and Game Code Section 2302 would require reservoir operators without golden mussel infestation to adopt and implement prevention programs, including watercraft inspections, education, and outreach to recreational boaters.

Additionally, golden mussels are expected to have significant economic impacts, including costly repairs and maintenance for water facilities, reduced water availability, and effects on Californians who recreate in the state's valuable freshwater resources. To provide initial funding for these efforts, amending Harbors and Navigation Code Sections 675–676.1 and Vehicle Code Sections 9853, 9860, and 9863 could make much-needed resources immediately available for critical prevention work.

We recognize that the spread of the invasive golden mussel is a serious issue with potential legal and financial consequences for local, state, and federal water managers and poses harm to our state's precious freshwater ecosystems. Therefore, we support efforts to quickly update the state's policies to help prevent further spread and provide protections for water districts and other entities.

Given the complexity of this issue, we understand that more work will be needed in the coming years to protect the state's waters and ensure consistent and sufficient support for these containment measures across all water users.

We look forward to your leadership in guiding focused and prompt attention to this critically needed policy update.

Sincerely,



Blanca E. Rubio
Assemblymember, 48th District



Diane Papan
Assemblymember, 21st District



Sasha Renée Pérez
Senator, 25th District



Lori D. Wilson
Assemblymember, 11th District



Jerry McNerney
Senator, 5th District



Celeste Rodriguez
Assemblymember, 43rd District



Susan Rubio
Senator, 22nd District



Jesse Arreguín
Senator, 7th District



Suzette Martinez Valladares
Senator, 23rd District



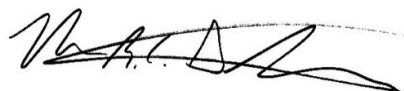
Greg Wallis
Assemblymember, 47th District



Damon Connolly
Assemblymember, 12th District



Monique Limón
Senator, 21st District



Nick Schultz
Assemblymember, 44th District



Laurie Davies
Assemblymember, 74th District



Dr. Darshana R. Patel
Assemblymember, 76th District



Pilar Schiavo
Assemblymember, 40th District



Ash Kalra
Assemblymember, 25th District



Buffy Wicks
Assemblymember, 14th District



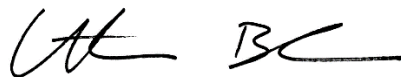
Tri Ta
Assemblymember, 70th District



Rhodesia Ransom
Assemblymember, 13th District



John Harabedian
Assemblymember, 41st District



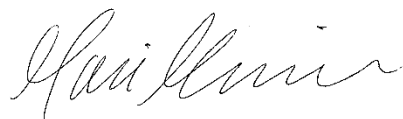
Catherine Blakespear
Senator, 38th District



Rebecca Bauer-Kahan
Assemblymember, 38th District



Bob Archuleta
Senator, 30th District



Marie Alvarado-Gil
Senator, 4th District



Heather Hadwick
Assemblymember, 1st District



José Luis Solache Jr.
Assemblymember, 62nd District



Shannon Grove
Senator, 12th District



Tony Strickland
Senator, 36th District



Steven Choi
Senator, 37th District



Kelly Seyarto
Senator, 32nd District



Michelle Rodriguez
Assemblymember, 53rd District



Dr. Jasmeet Kaur Bains
Assemblymember, 35th District



Alexandra M. Macedo
Assemblymember, 33rd District



Mike A. Gipson
Assemblymember, 65th District



Dr. Corey A. Jackson
Assemblymember, 60th District



Mark González
Assemblymember, 54th District



Juan Alanis
Assemblymember, 22nd District



Juan Carrillo
Assemblymember, 39th District



Blanca Pacheco
Assemblymember, 64th District



Mike Fong
Assemblymember, 49th District



Anamarie Ávila Farías
Assemblymember, 15th District



Jeff Gonzalez
Assemblymember, 36th District



Josh Hoover
Assemblymember, 7th District



Megan Dahle
Senator, 1st District



Thomas Umberg
Senator, 34th District



Stan Ellis
Assemblymember, 32nd District



Joe Patterson
Assemblymember, 5th District



Tina S. McKinnor
Assemblymember, 61st District



Gail Pellerin
Assemblymember, 28th District



Patrick J. Ahrens
Assemblymember, 26th District



Gregg Hart
Assemblymember, 37th District



Chris Rogers
Assemblymember, 2nd District



Stephanie Nguyen
Assemblymember, 10th District



David J. Tangipa
Assemblymember, 8th District



Maggy Krell
Assemblymember, 6th District



Lisa Calderon
Assemblymember, 56th District



Kate Sanchez
Assemblymember, 71st District



Phillip Chen
Assemblymember, 59th District



Christopher Cabaldon
Senator, 3rd District



Melissa Hurtado
Senator, 16th District



Laura Richardson
Senator, 35th District



Sharon Quirk-Silva
Assemblymember, 67th District



Diane B. Dixon
Assemblymember, 72nd District



Leticia Castillo
Assemblymember, 58th District



Thomas Lackey
Assemblymember, 34th District



Catherine Stefani
Assemblymember, 19th District



Liz Ortega
Assemblymember, 20th District



August 26, 2025

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 394 (Allen) – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we are writing to respectfully request your signature on SB 394, which would enhance penalties for water theft from fire hydrants. Water agencies are responsible for delivering safe, clean, and affordable drinking water throughout California. However, in recent years, water theft has posed a serious threat to water agencies' ability to fulfill that responsibility.

Water theft takes many forms, the most egregious being water theft from fire hydrants for commercial uses. Illegal actors have been documented connecting to and filling water trucks from fire hydrants without the proper use of hydrant meters to avoid paying for water. These water trucks can hold up to 6,000 gallons of water, resulting in significant loss for water agencies. The stolen water is typically used or sold for profit for commercial purposes, such as by construction companies, landscaping companies, and water trucks selling the water to other users. **Current fine amounts are not strong enough to deter this theft** and may instead be seen as the cost of doing business for some bad actors.

SB 427 of 2021 carried by Senator Eggman established authority for public water agencies to adopt an ordinance that prohibits water theft and makes a violation of that ordinance subject to an administrative fine or penalty. The existing authority breaks theft into two categories: meter tampering and all other forms of water theft. Fines for meter tampering range from \$130 for the first violation up to \$1,300 for the third and additional violations within one year. All other forms of water theft, which currently includes theft from a fire hydrant, can be fined up to \$1,000 for the first violation, up to \$3,000 for the third and additional violations within a year.

At the time these fines were established, the impact to residential customers was a strong consideration that led to the final fine amounts. SB 394 is targeting commercial operators that are illegally diverting water from hydrants for profit.

Water theft from fire hydrants poses serious risks to public health and safety, water affordability, and water efficiency. During water theft from hydrants, contamination can occur when non-potable sources are illegally connected to a drinking water system and anti-backflow devices are not used. This cross-contamination between the water system and non-potable source connections poses a serious health risk to everyone in the system.

Further, unauthorized use of a hydrant can lead to water pressure in the system dropping which can jeopardize response to emergency situations such as fires. This potential issue is especially timely given the devastating fires in Southern California.

Illegal connections also often result in costly damage to the fire hydrant and system infrastructure that can impair the hydrant's function. The revenue lost from water theft and the cost of damage to infrastructure as a result of theft is ultimately borne by law-abiding paying customers, having a negative impact on water affordability. Water theft also works against efforts by water districts to comply with State water use efficiency goals under the State's newly adopted Making Conservation a California Way of Life framework.

The current penalties for water theft are an insufficient deterrent and fail to prevent this criminal activity from occurring. SB 394 recognizes and addresses these inefficiencies in existing penalties by authorizing local agencies that provide water services to adopt an ordinance with enhanced penalties specifically for water theft from a fire hydrant. The intent of this bill is to specifically deter commercial water theft, rather than residential water theft. Under SB 394, local agencies could adopt an ordinance allowing them to set fines not to exceed \$2,500 for the first violation and up to \$10,000 for the third and any additional violations.

This bill would also remove the one-year reset on existing penalties for the third and additional violations for water theft committed via meter tampering and other forms of water theft. Further, this bill would help agencies recover damages as a result of water theft from a fire hydrant by authorizing a utility to bring a civil action for damages against any person who, without authorization, tampers with or diverts water from a fire hydrant. These provisions on civil action would be available to both public agencies and other types of retail water agencies that face these same challenges.

For the reasons above, ACWA and the undersigned organizations strongly support SB 394 and respectfully request your signature. If you have any questions about our position, please contact Julia Hall at JuliaH@acwa.com.

Sincerely,

Julia Bishop Hall
State Legislative Director
Association of California Water Agencies

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City of Roseville

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James Lee
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Crescenta Valley Water District

Elizabeth Salomone
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Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control
& Water Conservation Improvement

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General Manager
Rosamond Community Services District

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General Manager
San Juan Water District

Edward A. Castaneda
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Foothill Municipal Water District

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Councilmember – District 5
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City of Sacramento

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Harvey De La Torre
General Manager
Municipal Water District of Orange County

FLOOR ALERT

AB/SB 149 – SUPPORT



FLOOR ALERT

AB/SB 149 – SUPPORT

PROTECT CALIFORNIA'S WATER SUPPLIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE FROM INVASIVE GOLDEN MUSSELS

Golden mussels were first detected in California in October 2024 and are now spreading rapidly. Left unaddressed, they will clog pipelines, pumps, and water conveyance facilities, harm water quality, and disrupt ecosystems—posing a major risk to California's water supply reliability, groundwater recharge, hydropower facilities, agriculture, and recreation.

AB/SB 149 TAKES NECESSARY ACTION

The Legislature has amended AB/SB 149 to update Fish and Game Code (FGC) §§ 2301–2302 and Harbors and Navigation Code (HNC) §§ 675–676.1 to:

1. **Extends quagga and zebra mussel protections to golden mussels and other invasive freshwater mussels.**
2. **Authorizes water agencies** operating under approved mussel control plans to continue water deliveries without fear of enforcement actions.
3. **Provides that reservoir operators** allowing boating implement mussel prevention programs.
4. **Ensures collected fees** can support mussel prevention and control.

WHY IT MATTERS

- **Infrastructure Protection:** Prevents costly damage to water systems and hydropower facilities.
- **Water Supply Reliability:** Ensures imported water can be moved and stored for urban, agricultural, and environmental needs statewide.
- **Affordability:** Funds recreational reservoir control to contain costs and prevent local ratepayers from bearing the full burden of invasive mussel management.
- **Ecosystem Health:** Reduces the spread of invasive mussels that threaten native species and fisheries.

We urge your “AYE” vote on AB/SB 149

Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency
African American Farmers of California
Alameda County Water District
Association of California Water Agencies
Burbank Water and Power
California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association
California Special Districts Association
Calleguas Municipal Water District
Central Basin Municipal Water District
Central Coast Water Authority
Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency
Contra Costa Water District
Desert Water Agency
Eastern Municipal Water District
El Dorado Irrigation District
Foothill Municipal Water District
Inland Empire Utilities Agency
Irvine Ranch Water District

Kern County Water Agency
Kings River Conservation District
Kings River Water Association
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Milk Producers Council
Municipal Water District of Orange County
Mountain Counties Water Resources Association
Napa County Flood Control
Nisei Farmers League
Northern California Water Association
Palmdale Water District
Placer County Water Agency
San Benito County Water District
San Bernardino Valley MWD
San Gabriel Valley MWD
San Luis Canal Company
San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority
Santa Clara Valley Water District

Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
State Water Contractors
Solano County Water Agency
Sonoma Water
Southern California Water Coalition
Stockton East Water District
Three Valleys Municipal Water District
Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District
Twain Harte Community Services District
Union Public Utility District
Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
Utica Water and Power Authority
Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley
Western Growers Association
West Basin Municipal Water District
Western Municipal Water District
Western Tree Nut Association
Zone 7 Water Agency