



**WEST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT  
855 W. BASE LINE ROAD, RIALTO, CA 92376  
PH: (909) 875-1804  
WWW.WVWD.ORG**

**SPECIAL EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING  
AGENDA**

Monday, February 10, 2025, 12:00 PM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that West Valley Water District has called a meeting of the External Affairs Committee to meet in the Administration Conference Room, 855 W. Base Line Road, Rialto, CA 92376.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Director Angela Garcia, Chair  
Director Kelvin Moore**

**Members of the public may attend the meeting in person at 855 W. Base Line Road, Rialto, CA 92376, or you may join the meeting using Zoom by clicking this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8402937790>. Public comment may be submitted via Zoom, by telephone by calling the following number and access code: Dial: (888) 475-4499, Access Code: 840-293-7790, or via email to [administration@wvwd.org](mailto:administration@wvwd.org).**

**If you require additional assistance, please contact [administration@wvwd.org](mailto:administration@wvwd.org).**

## CALL TO ORDER

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Any person wishing to speak to the Board of Directors on matters listed or not listed on the agenda, within its jurisdiction, is asked to complete a Speaker Card and submit it to the Board Secretary, if you are attending in person. For anyone joining on Zoom, please wait for the Board President's instruction to indicate that you would like to speak. Each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes. Under the State of California Brown Act, the Board of Directors is prohibited from discussing or taking action on any item not listed on the posted agenda. Comments related to noticed Public Hearing(s) and Business Matters will be heard during the occurrence of the item.

Public communication is the time for anyone to address the Board on any agenda item or anything under the jurisdiction of the District. Also, please remember that no disruptions from the crowd will be tolerated. If someone disrupts the meeting, they will be removed.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Federal Legislative Update (Verbal)
2. State Legislative Update (Verbal)
3. WVWD Legislative Report
4. Updates to the External Affairs Committee
5. Social Media Report

## ADJOURN

### **Please Note:**

**Material related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Committee after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the District's office located at 855 W. Baseline, Rialto, during normal business hours. Also, such documents are available on the District's website at [www.wvwd.org](http://www.wvwd.org) subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting.**

**Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a), any request for a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to attend or participate in the above-agendized public meeting should be directed to the Board Secretary, Elvia Dominguez, at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to ensure availability of the requested service or accommodation. Ms. Dominguez may be contacted by telephone at (909) 875-1804 ext. 703, or in writing at the West Valley Water District, P.O. Box 920, Rialto, CA 92377-0920.**

## DECLARATION OF POSTING:

**I declare under penalty of perjury, that I am employed by the West Valley Water District and posted the foregoing Agenda at the District Offices on February 6, 2025.**

*Elvia Dominguez*

Elvia Dominguez, Board Secretary



# MONTHLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

February 2025

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# 2025 Legislative Deadlines

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| January 24, 2025   | Last day to submit bill request to the Office of Legislative Counsel  |
| February 21, 2025  | Last day for bills to be introduced   |
| April 10, 2025     | Spring Recess   |
| April 21, 2025     | Legislature reconvenes from Spring Recess   |
| May 2, 2025        | Last day for policy committees to hear and report to fiscal committees fiscal bills introduced in their house                               |
| May 9, 2025        | Last day for policy committees to hear and report to the floor nonfiscal bills introduced in their house                                    |
| May 16, 2025       | Last day for policy committees to meet prior to June 9  |
| May 23, 2025       | Last day for fiscal committees to hear and report to the floor bills introduced in their house  |
| June 6, 2025       | Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in the house   |
| June 9, 2025       | Committee meetings may resume   |
| June 15, 2025      | Budget bill must be passed by midnight  |
| July 18, 2025      | Summer Recess begins (provided Budget Bill has been passed)   |
| August 18, 2025    | Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess   |
| August 29, 2025    | Last day for fiscal committees to meet and report bills   |
| September 5, 2025  | Last day to amend bills on the floor  |
| September 12, 2025 | Interim Recess begins, last day for each house to pass bills  |
| October 12, 2025   | Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature before Sept. 12 and in the Governor's possession on or after Sept. 12 |

**Below is a high-level look at recent ACWA Priority issues, including key legislation that ACWA has advocated for on behalf of its members:**

## **Federal Fire Legislation:**

The Fix Our Forest Act passed the U.S. House of Representatives on Jan. 23 and is advancing to the U.S. Senate. ACWA supports the bill and organized a coalition letter supporting this legislation aimed at improving forest health and reducing the intensity of catastrophic wildfires. The bill enjoys strong bipartisan support and is co-authored by U.S. Rep. Scott Peters (D-CA) and U.S. Rep. Bruce Westerman (R-AR), who is Chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee. If passed by the Senate and signed into law, the Fix Our Forests Act would improve forest management activities and increase wildfire resiliency by: improving federal agency collaboration; authorizing targeted environmental streamlining authorities; providing litigation reform; expanding good neighbor authorities; and investing in research and technology aimed at improving forest health.

## **ACWA Responding to Southern California Fire Devastation:**

Southern California has been hit by several significant climate-driven wildfire disasters exacerbated by dry conditions and unprecedented wind events. ACWA staff have initiated advocacy efforts, including outreach to key state legislative committees and legislators whose districts have been affected, to be a point of contact as questions arise about these wildfires. As this tragic and unprecedented situation unfolds, ACWA will also work on ways to best help its many member agencies that have been affected by these significant events, including connecting these members with one another. ACWA staff will continue to be engaged on this issue and will collaborate with the impacted ACWA member agencies and partner organizations.

## **Governor's Proposed Budget:**

Gov. Gavin Newsom on Jan. 10 unveiled his \$322.2 billion proposed state budget for the 2025-'26 fiscal year that would allocate some funding from the voter approved climate bond (Proposition 4). As part of achieving a balanced budget, the proposal also includes shifting some current General Fund allocations, including dam safety and recycled water, to bond funding. The governor's budget proposes \$1.074 billion of the bond's total \$3.8 billion for safe drinking water, drought, flood and water resilience funding be allocated as part of the 2025-'26 budget year. Relevant categories include:

- Dam Safety and Climate Resilience — \$231.5 million
- Water Quality, Safe Drinking Water and Tribal Water Infrastructure — \$183.2 million
- Flood Management Projects — \$173.1 million
- Water Reuse and Recycling — \$153.4 million
- Salton Sea Management Program — \$148.2 million

## **Bay-Delta Plan Updates:**

TACWA on Jan. 10 submitted comments to the State Water Resources Control Board on the draft of potential updates for the Sacramento/Delta portions of the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Watershed (Bay-Delta Plan). The draft changes include options for incorporating an unimpaired flow pathway or a pathway based on the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program, formerly referred to as the Voluntary Agreements. The ACWA coalition letter expresses strong support for the HRL Program as the preferred pathway for updating the Bay-Delta Plan by requesting that the State Water Board make specific changes to the revised draft of the Sacramento/Delta updates and Staff Report. Based on the public input received, State Water Board staff will develop a revised draft of proposed updates to the Bay-Delta Plan. The State Water Board is expecting to consider approval of the draft final Sacramento/ Delta updates as early as the second quarter of 2025.

## **Advanced Clean Fleets:**

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) on Jan. 17 announced it is not enforcing portions of the Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) regulation that would have required federal authorization, such as the portions that apply to high-priority and drayage fleets. However, CARB will continue to enforce the state and local fleet requirements which were effective as of Jan. 1, 2024. The announcement came days after CARB withdrew its Clean Air Act Waiver Request to administer the ACF regulation in California from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The original waiver request, which California sought to enable it to require medium- and heavy-duty fleets operating in the state to convert to zero-emission trucks, was submitted to U.S. EPA in November 2023 and resulted in questions about whether CARB retained its ability to enforce ACF. According to CARB, this withdrawal does not impact ACF enforcement requirements on state and local government fleets in California because CARB was not required to request a waiver for state and local fleets under the Federal Clean Air Act. ACWA will continue to engage as CARB evaluates next steps.

# POGA's Legislative Efforts

05

Since the Start of the new legislative session, POGA has been sat in on calls from:

| Date    | Meeting   | Comments   |
|---------|---|--|
| 1/16/25 | ACWA Region 9 State Legislative Committee Meeting                         | Reviewed AB 43, and a legislative proposal from Las Virgenes Water District for Water Thrift Penalties.  |
| 1/23/25 | Metropolitan's Monthly Member Agency Legislative Coordinator meetings     | Discussion included an overview of Budget Bills, Executive Orders, Legislative Calendar, and key bills including: AB 259, SB 1390, SB 72, Water theft legislation, and LIRA legislation. |
| 1/27/25 | Southern California Water Coalition (SCWC) Legislative Task Force Meeting | Overview of legislative issues emerging in 2025: Wildfires, affordability and LIRA, Energy-water nexus, and permit reform and newly introduced legislation.                              |
| 2/6/25  | Region 9 ACWA State Legislative Committee                                 |  |



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# WVWD LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS

06

The next few pages provide high level summaries on both Federal and State legislation that is critical to our district, along with positions and coalitions taken/led by other agencies.

## **Acronym List:**

- **ACWA - Associations of Clean Water Agencies**
- **CMUA - California Municipal Utilities Association**
- **CSDA - California Special Districts Association**
- **SBVMWD - San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District**
- **EVWD - East Valley Water District**
- **WMVWD - Western Municipal Water District**
- **EMWD - Eastern Municipal Water District**
- **IEUA - Inland Empire Utilities Agency**

### Federal Legislation – High Priority

| Bill | Summary | Positions taken by other agencies | WVWD Position | WVWD Impact |
|------|---------|-----------------------------------|---------------|-------------|
|      |         |                                   |               |             |

### State Legislation – High Priority

| Bill  | Summary   | Positions taken by other agencies  | WVWD Position | WVWD Impact |
|---|---|--|---------------|-------------|
| <b>Assembly Bills</b>   |   |  |               |             |
| <p><a href="#">AB 259</a> Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.</p> <p><b>Introduced by:</b> Assemblymember Rubio</p> | <p>In 2022, Assemblymember Blanca Rubio (AD-48, Baldwin Park) authored AB 2449, which took effect on January 1, 2023. AB 2249 allows local agencies to use alternative Brown Act meeting procedures in the event a board member is absent due to “just cause” or “emergency circumstances.” The bill allows board members affected by illness, travel, or emergencies to participate remotely. Although AB 2449’s provisions have been amended since its enactment, its sunset date has remained unchanged, and these “just cause” and “emergency” provisions are set to expire at the end of 2025. AB 259, which is sponsored by</p> | <p>CSDA – Sponsor<br/>ACWA – Support<br/>TVMD – Support<br/>IRWD – Support</p> |               |             |

|   |  |               |  |  |
|---|--|---------------|--|--|
|   | the California Special Districts Association (CSDA), would eliminate the sunset  |               |  |  |
| <p><a href="#">AB 269</a> Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program</p> <p>Introduced by: Assemblymember Bennett</p> | <p>AB 269, as introduced by Assemblymember Steve Bennett (AD-38, Ventura), proposes to add a new category of eligible projects to those eligible for funding under the State’s Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program. The Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program is the program the District and the Dam Safety Coalition were successful in getting established to fund dam safety improvements. AB 269, in addition to dam safety improvement projects, would allow the program to fund dam removal projects. At the time the Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program was being created, the inclusion of dam removal projects, as eligible projects, was debated, but that category of projects was left out of the program because there are other funding programs available to fund dam removals projects.</p> | IRWD – Oppose |  | <p>Although it may not be relevant to WVWD, lots of opposition in the water world so good to put on the radar. Given that AB 269 would divert limited funding away from dam safety improvement projects, many are taking an oppose position</p>                |
| <p><a href="#">AB 293</a> Groundwater sustainability agency: transparency.</p>  | <p>Current law requires a groundwater sustainability plan to be developed and implemented for each medium- or high-priority basin by a groundwater sustainability agency. Current law authorizes any local agency or combination of local agencies overlying a</p>   |               |  | <p>Still early in its tracks, but last session assemblymember Bennett introduced a very problematic bill (AB 2079 ) which was opposed by many water agencies as it pushed for extra protection over adjudicated basins that are already heavily protected.</p> |

|   |  |   |  |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| <p><b>Introduced by:</b><br/>Assemblymember<br/>Bennett</p>                       | <p>groundwater basin to decide to become a groundwater sustainability agency for that basin, as provided. Current law requires members of the board of directors and the executive, as defined, of a groundwater sustainability agency to file statements of economic interests with the Fair Political Practices Commission using the commission's online system for filing statements of economic interests. This bill would require each groundwater sustainability agency to publish the membership of its board of directors on its internet website, or on the local agency's internet website, as provided. The bill would also require each groundwater sustainability agency to publish a link on its internet website or its local agency's internet website to the location on the Fair Political Practices Commission's internet website where the statements of economic interests, filed by the members of the board and executives of the agency, can be viewed</p> |   |  |  |
| <p><b>Senate Bills</b></p>  |  |   |  |  |
| <p><a href="#">SB 72</a> The California Water Plan: long-term supply targets.</p> | <p>Senator Anna Caballero (SD-14, Merced) has introduced SB 72. SB 72 would establish long-term water supply targets and call for the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to use those targets in future updates to the California Water Plan. The bill is a reintroduced version of</p>   | <p>CMUA – Sponsor<br/>ACWA – Support<br/>WMWD – Support<br/>IRWD- Support</p> |  | <p>Previously known as SB 366 and supported by ACWA, CMUA, CSDA, SBVMWD, WMWD, EMWD, and IEUA.</p> |

|  |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| <p><b>Introduced by:</b><br/>Senator Caballero</p> | <p>SB 366 (2024), that was authored by Senator Caballero, unanimously pass by both houses of the legislature, and then vetoed by the Governor. SB 366 was supported by the District along with a broad coalition of water agencies, special districts, and associations, including the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA), California Council of Economic and Environmental Balance (CCEEB), and the California State Association of Counties (CSAC). According to SB 366's veto message, the bill was vetoed by the Governor due to fiscal concerns at the end of the last legislative session. Since then, the coalition has refined the bill's language to reduce costs associated with its implementation should it be enacted</p> |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|

JAN. - FEB.

2025

SOCIAL MEDIA

Report



## MAIN KPI'S



No. of Followers  
**1,160**



Reach  
**1,400**



Engagement  
**149**

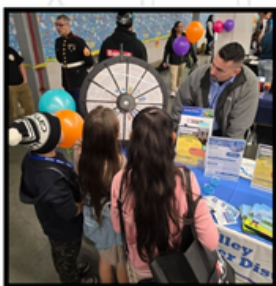


No. of Posts  
**18 posts**

## TOP POST



**STEAM**  
**EXPO**



### Post Impressions

392 Impressions

### Post Engagement

11 interactions

# Instagram

## MAIN KPI'S



No. of Followers  
**1,378**



Reach  
**2003**



Engagement  
**372**



No. of Posts  
**18 posts**

## TOP POST

*Now Hiring!*

Water Conservation Specialist

LEARN MORE  
[WWW.GOVERNMENTJOBS.COM/CAREERS/WESTVALLEYWD](http://WWW.GOVERNMENTJOBS.COM/CAREERS/WESTVALLEYWD)

### Post Impressions

178 Impressions

### Post Engagement

20 interactions



# LinkedIn

## MAIN KPI'S



No. of Followers  
**731**



Reach/Impressions  
**4,607**



Engagement  
**117**



No. of Posts  
**8 posts**

## TOP POST



### Post Impressions

989 Impressions

### Post Engagement

88 interactions

## MAIN KPI'S



No. of Followers  
**436**



No. of Posts  
**18 posts**

## TOP POST

**WVWD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Win up to \$1,000!

Visit:  
[www.wvwd.org/scholarships](http://www.wvwd.org/scholarships)

**ELIGIBILITY**

- ✓ HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR
- ✓ PLANNING TO ATTEND A TWO- OR FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE OR TRADE SCHOOL
- ✓ 2.5 GPA OR HIGHER
- ✓ RESIDE OR ATTEND SCHOOL IN WVWD SERVICE AREA

**DEADLINE**  
FEB. 28, 2025

West Valley Water District

### Post Impressions

68 Impressions

### Post Engagement

1 interactions

## 2024 RECAP

We had another great year sharing information, resources and all things WVWD across our social media platforms this past year.

Throughout the year, our social media presence has grown significantly, increasing engagement with our community and strengthening the way we share information about our key initiatives.

This year, we also included our mascots, Halle and Creek to our social media. The POGA team has been working to create engaging videos and posts that feature them. Halle's first video "Get Ready With Me" garnered over 2,200 views, followed closely by her "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" video showcasing our conservation box, with over 1,900 views.

Additionally, we continue to see engagement with posts about our people, our initiatives and how we are continuing to invest in our infrastructure. Below is a snapshot of how our followers have increased across all our social media platforms.

Instagram followers: **Increased by 115 followers**

Facebook followers: **Increased by 40 followers**

X followers: **Increased by 19 followers**

Linkedin followers: **Increased by 214 followers**

As we look to the new year, social media will be a critical assets to our department as we go through the Prop 218 process and continue to engage our communities about the District.