



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

**NOTICE OF CALL  
AND AGENDA FOR  
SPECIAL MEETING**  
**(Government Code § 54956(a))**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the President of the Board of Directors of the West Valley Water District has called a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors for

**Tuesday, January 13, 2026, 6:00 PM**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Kelvin Moore, President**  
**Angela Garcia, Vice President**  
**Estevan Bennett, Director**  
**Daniel Jenkins, Director**  
**Gregory Young, Director**

---

**"In order to comply with legal requirements for posting of agendas, only those items listed in this NOTICE OF CALL AND SPECIAL AGENDA MEETING will be considered by the Board of Directors."**

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).

## **OPENING CEREMONIES**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call of Board Members
3. Approval of Any Board Member Requests for Remote Participation
4. Pledge of Allegiance

## **ADOPT AGENDA**

### **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.

### **BUSINESS MATTERS**

Consideration Of:

1. 2026 Federal Advocacy Strategy     **Pg. 5**
2. 2026 Federal Priorities     **Pg. 25**

## **ADJOURN**

**Please Note:**

Material related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Board 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 Acting Board Secretary, Paola Lara, at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to ensure availability of the requested service or accommodation. Ms. Lara may be contacted by telephone at (909) 875-1804 ext. 702, 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 January 8, 2026.

*Paola Lara*

Paola Lara, Acting Board Secretary

Date Posted: January 8, 2026





## STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** January 13, 2026

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Mary Jo Hartley, Senior Public Outreach & Government Affairs Rep

**SUBJECT:** 2026 Federal Advocacy Strategy

---

### **STRATEGIC GOAL:**

Strategic Goal 3 - Develop and Grow Effective Communication and Advocacy Practices, 3F - Increase Efficacy of Advocacy Efforts at the Local, State, and National Level

Strategic Goal 4 - Strengthen Partnerships with Outside Agencies, 4D - Develop and Maintain Strong Relationships with Local, State, and Federal Agencies

### **MEETING HISTORY:**

11/24/2025 External Affairs Committee

12/18/2025 Regular Board Meeting

### **BACKGROUND:**

West Valley Water District (WVWD) conducts an annual federal advocacy trip to Washington, D.C. during the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) D.C. Advocacy Trip. In addition to participating in the conference, the District engages with congressional offices, federal departments, and policy stakeholders on priority issues including funding opportunities, regulatory matters, and legislative support.

In partnership with David Turch & Associates, staff has evaluated the District's current federal outreach model and explored potential improvements modeled after WVWD's successful advocacy structure in Sacramento.

### **DISCUSSION:**

Staff and lobbyist reviewed the District's existing level of engagement and identified opportunities to strengthen federal relationships and increase visibility with congressional and agency partners - Proposed suggested changes are as follows:

#### 1 - ACWA Conference and Advocacy Trip (Current Practice)

- Interested Board Members travel to D.C. to attend ACWA D.C. Conference and advocate on behalf of the District. All members may attend.

- District lobbyist coordinates meeting with Congressional and Agency offices; interested Board Members attend.
- Board Members register and participate in ACWA DC Conference when time permits.

## 2 – New ACWA D.C. Advocacy Trip (proposed changes to current practice)

- Specific number of Board Members travel to D.C. to attend ACWA D.C. Conference and advocate on behalf of the District.
- District lobbyist coordinates meeting with Congressional and Agency offices; Appropriation requests introduced.
- A secondary delegation will then meet later in the year with delegates in D.C. to discuss project funding, regulatory matters and targeted agency engagement.
- **Significance of change for Option 2:** This approach would change how WVWD participates in federal advocacy by increasing the number of engagements and distributing participation across smaller groups. It would allow groups to address district approved projects, funding topics, and relationship-building with federal stakeholders. This approach is consistent with the structure used for current Sacramento advocacy trips, which involve smaller groups delivering focused messages.

## 3 – Standalone Federal Advocacy Trip (Spring/Summer)

- Interested Board Members would travel to D.C. to meet with Congressional and Agency offices to discuss project funding, regulatory matters and targeted agency engagement.
- **Significance of change for Option 3:** This approach secures more focused attention from policymakers, more dedicated time on their agendas, and better positioning the agency's priority issues apart from those of other districts. Meetings can be harder to secure when competing for time and space with other water agencies during the ACWA Conference.
- Interested Board members may still attend ACWA D.C., however no advocacy will be done at that time.

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

Option 1: No impact; current practice.

Option 2: Cost for travel is estimated to remain about the same and split between two trips. Possible cost savings due to fewer Board Members registering for the ACWA Conference.

Option 3: Cost for travel would decrease due to fewer trips. Possible cost savings due to fewer Board Members registering for the ACWA Conference.

## **REQUESTED ACTION:**

Discuss and direct staff as to the District's federal advocacy approach, including whether to:

- Continue with a single annual ACWA D.C. advocacy trip; or
- Expand to a second, standalone WVWD federal outreach trip in the spring/summer; and
- Level of Board Member participation for each trip.

**Attachments**

[2026 National Conferences.pdf](#)

[2026 House Calendar.pdf](#)

[2026 Senate Calendar.pdf](#)

[David Turch and Associates - DC Advocacy Options 2026.pdf](#)

# *David Jurch and Associates*

## **2026 National Conference List Washington, D.C.**

### **Conferences: January-June**

- U.S. Conference of Mayors
  - January 28-30
- 2026 National Association of Counties Legislative Conference
  - February 21-24
- Association of California Water Agencies DC2026 Conference
  - February 24-26
- American Council of Education 2026 Convention
  - February 25-28
- 66<sup>th</sup> Annual American Legion Washington Conference
  - February 28-March 4
- National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials Conference
  - March 9-11
- 2026 NLC Congressional City Conference
  - March 14-18
- American Public Transportation Association Legislative Conference
  - April 12-14
- National Police Week
  - May 11-16
- American Water Works Association Annual Conference and Expo
  - June 21-24

# HOUSE CALENDAR

January 2026

Majority Leader Steve Scalise | 119<sup>th</sup> Congress | Second Session

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 New Year's Day	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 MLK Jr. Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



House in Session



District Work Week

# HOUSE CALENDAR

Majority Leader Steve Scalise | 119<sup>th</sup> Congress | Second Session

## February 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Presidents' Day	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28



House in Session



District Work Week

# HOUSE CALENDAR

March 2026

Majority Leader Steve Scalise | 119<sup>th</sup> Congress | Second Session

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

House in Session

District Work Week

# HOUSE CALENDAR

April 2026

Majority Leader Steve Scalise | 119<sup>th</sup> Congress | Second Session

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 <b>Passover Begins at Sundown</b>	2	3	4
5 <b>Easter Sunday</b>	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



House in Session



District Work Week

# HOUSE CALENDAR

May 2026

Majority Leader Steve Scalise | 119<sup>th</sup> Congress | Second Session

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 <b>Mother's Day</b>	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 <b>Memorial Day</b>	26	27	28	29	30
31						

 House in Session

 District Work Week

# HOUSE CALENDAR

June 2026

Majority Leader Steve Scalise | 119<sup>th</sup> Congress | Second Session

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 Juneteenth	20
21 Father's Day	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

House in Session

District Work Week

# HOUSE CALENDAR

July 2026

Majority Leader Steve Scalise | 119<sup>th</sup> Congress | Second Session

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4 Independence Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



House in Session



District Work Week

# HOUSE CALENDAR

August 2026

Majority Leader Steve Scalise | 119<sup>th</sup> Congress | Second Session

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



House in Session



District Work Week

# HOUSE CALENDAR

September 2026

Majority Leader Steve Scalise | 119<sup>th</sup> Congress | Second Session

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 <b>Labor Day</b>	8	9	10	11 <b>Rosh Hashanah</b> <b>Begins at Sundown</b>	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 <b>Yom Kippur</b> <b>Begins at Sundown</b>	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

 House in Session

 District Work Week

# HOUSE CALENDAR

October 2026

Majority Leader Steve Scalise | 119<sup>th</sup> Congress | Second Session

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5 Columbus Day	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

House in Session

District Work Week

# HOUSE CALENDAR

November 2026

Majority Leader Steve Scalise | 119<sup>th</sup> Congress | Second Session

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving	27	28
29	30					

House in Session

District Work Week

# HOUSE CALENDAR

December 2026

Majority Leader Steve Scalise | 119<sup>th</sup> Congress | Second Session

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4 Hanukkah Begins	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas	26
27	28	29	30	31		

House in Session

District Work Week

# STEVE SCALISE



## MAJORITY LEADER

# January

4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17				
18	19	20	21	22	23	24				
25	26	27	28	29	30	31				

April

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

July

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## October

# February

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

May

3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
31								

# August

2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29			
30	31								

## November

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

# March

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30

# September

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12			
13	14	15	16	17
	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24
25	26			
27	28	29	30	

## December

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12			
13	14	15	16	17
18	19			
20	21	22	23	24
25	26			
27	28	29	30	31

# *David Jurch and Associates*

## **West Valley Water District, CA**

## **D.C. Advocacy Options 2026**

### **OPTION 1:**

Travel to D.C. during ACWA Conference

- Attend ACWA Conference
- Meet with federal agencies
- Meet with Congressional Delegation and other congressional offices

### **OPTION 2:**

D.C. Advocacy Trip during ACWA Conference

- Attend ACWA Conference
- Meet with Congressional Delegation and other congressional offices

Follow-up DC advocacy trip

- Meet with federal agencies
- Meet with Congressional Delegation and other congressional offices

### **OPTION 3:**

Do not attend ACWA Conference

D.C. Advocacy Trip in February or March

- Meet with federal agencies

- Meet with Congressional Delegation and other congressional offices





## STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** January 13, 2026

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Socorro Pantaleon, Public Outreach & Government Affairs Manager

**SUBJECT:** 2026 Federal Priorities

---

### **STRATEGIC GOAL:**

Strategic Goal 3 - Develop and Grow Effective Communication and Advocacy Practices

F. Increase Efficacy of Advocacy Efforts at the Local, State, and National Level

Strategic Goal 4 - Strengthen Partnerships with Outside Agencies

A. Engage in Regional Projects, Advocacy, and Grant Pursuits

D. Develop and Maintain Strong Relationships with Local, State, and Federal Agencies

### **MEETING HISTORY:**

N/A

### **BACKGROUND:**

West Valley Water District (WVWD) has proactively engaged at the federal level to pursue funding opportunities through congressional appropriations and competitive grant programs. The District works closely with federal legislators, congressional staff, and agency partners to advance priority projects that support critical water infrastructure, system reliability, and long-term resiliency.

WVWD strategically identifies and communicates project priorities through federal legislative visits to advance district priorities. Through consistent advocacy efforts, coordinated outreach, and timely submission of funding requests, the District has strengthened its federal presence and enhanced its ability to secure external funding.

Below is a synopsis of the outcomes and successes associated with the District's federal appropriations requests to date:

- FY 22 - Bloomington Phase 3B (Torres) \$2,000,000
- FY 24 - Bunker Hill Well (Aguilar) - \$959,757
- FY 24- 5-2 Emergency Generators (Aguilar) - \$525,000

- FY 25- Cybersecurity and Water Reliability Project (Aguilar) - \$1,105,080 (Not received)
- FY 26- Cybersecurity and Water Reliability Project (Aguilar) - \$1,092,000

**DISCUSSION:**

WVWD staff has reviewed District capital and operational needs and identified a prioritized list of projects suitable for federal funding opportunities. These projects were evaluated based on eligibility, project readiness, alignment with federal funding criteria, and which supports the District's Strategic Plan.

In preparation for the FY 2027 federal appropriations process and future competitive grant opportunities, staff seeks Board review of the proposed project priority list, as well as guidance on other District priorities—such as, but not limited to, education and outreach initiatives—to be advanced as part of a unified advocacy message in Washington, D.C.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Federal appropriations and grant funding, when awarded, reduce the need for local funding sources and help offset capital and operational costs associated with priority infrastructure projects.

**REQUESTED ACTION:**

Provide direction to staff to proceed with preparing necessary materials for the identified priority projects and other District initiatives to support federal appropriations and grant opportunities.

**Attachments**

[Workshop Project 2026.pdf](#)

Priority Group	Project	Project Description	Reason for Project	Estimated Cost
1	Fire Hydrant Retrofit	This project involves the systematic retrofitting and upgrading of existing system fire hydrants to improve operational reliability, flow performance, and compliance with current fire protection standards. Improvements may include replacement of aging components, enhancement of valves and fittings, and upgrades to ensure hydrants remain functional during emergency and wildfire response events. Estimated Project completion: 2-3 years throughout the service area.	The project supports public safety, by protecting life and property. It also supports fire suppression capabilities, reduces water loss and overall system resilience, in alignment with the District's strategic plan.	\$1,000,000
1	Seismic Retrofitting	This project focuses on improving the resilience of the District's critical water infrastructure through targeted seismic retrofitting. It involves retrofitting nine (9) steel reservoirs at five (5) sites. This Pre Disaster Mitigation Project will reduce the risk of the loss of 33,000,000 gallons of stored potable water in a key area of West Valley Water District's Distribution System, and property damage associated to the release of water in moderate to major earthquakes. The purpose of a Seismic Valve Controller is to close or partially close the isolation valve at the side of an enclosed steel reservoir when the seismic instrument detects a level of ground movement that would be likely to cause extensive damage to the distribution system resulting in water loss and damage caused by water main leaks. The Seismic Valve Controller is a retrofit to the existing manually operated valves on reservoirs selected for this project. The hand wheel used to manually open and close the valve is removed, and electric powered operating unit is mounted on the valve and connected to the shaft in place of the hand wheel. The Control Unit/ Seismic Instrument will mount on a concrete pad adjacent to the valve and the entire device is powered by a 24v DC battery. The battery charging is maintained by a solar charging unit in the controller so the unit will operate without utility power, and the solar panel will be mounted on top of the reservoir.	The project will reduce the risk of infrastructure failure during earthquake events by strengthening vulnerable facilities, pipelines, and pertinent structures. Improvements are intended to maintain system integrity, minimize service disruptions, and ensure continued water delivery for emergency response and fire suppression during and after seismic events. This effort supports public safety, emergency preparedness, and long-term system reliability.	\$750,000
1	Water Storage Tank(s)	This project involves the construction of new above ground welded steel water storage tank(s) designed to enhance system capacity and reliability. The scope of work includes site excavation and preparation, construction of ring walls with anchors for structural stability, and installation of all necessary appurtenances. The reservoirs will be painted to meet industry standards for corrosion protection and longevity. Additional work includes providing electrical power to support operational needs, installing site piping for proper integration with the existing distribution system, and performing site grading and paving for improved accessibility and drainage. Improvements will be made to access roads as needed to ensure safe and efficient entry to the sites.	The district's 2020 Water Facilities Master Plan identifies a critical need for additional water storage tanks to meet operational, emergency, and fire protection requirements. Storage reservoirs are essential for maintaining reliable service during peak demand periods and providing adequate fire flow capacity as mandated by fire codes. Our service area boundary is adjacent to the Angeles National Forest and the Lytle Creek Wash, which significantly increases wildfire risk. Additional water storage is therefore critical during a fire event to ensure sufficient supply for firefighting efforts and to protect life and property.	\$15,000,000

1	<p>Cyber Security / SCADA Upgrades</p> <p>Automation for West Valley Water District (District) facilities is tied to one system with one interface called Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition (SCADA). The current SCADA system at the Oliver P. Roemer Water Filtration Facility (Roemer WFF) as well as the rest of the District's facilities is outdated and expensive to repair or update due to the system being proprietary to one system integrator. The Roemer WFF is undergoing a major expansion / upgrade that will allow the District to utilize non-proprietary SCADA hardware and software. Upgrading of the existing automation and telemetry at other District facilities is needed to match and standardize with the new upgraded Roemer WFF and strengthen the Districts cyber security posture. <b>The estimated cost is to completely replace the SCADA system minus Roemer and FBR (Roemer and FBR still fully integrated with and able to see, communicate, and control those sites). The cost will include servers, head-end programming, head-end radio replacement and integration, integration with current user interface (Wonderware), remote site PLC and radio replacement, remote site programming and integration (including antenna replacement and radio propagation studies where necessary). The cost will include a historian, an auto dial alarm dialing system, and security integration.</b></p>	<p>Upgrading our cybersecurity and SCADA systems is critical to ensuring the safety and reliability of our water facilities. Cyber threats targeting water infrastructure have become increasingly sophisticated, and a successful attack could compromise water quality, disrupt operations, and endanger public health. To mitigate these risks, we must implement robust cybersecurity measures and install new SCADA equipment that will safeguard our systems from unauthorized access and malicious activity.</p>	\$3,900,000
1	<p>Emergency Backup Generators</p> <p>Purchase and install three (3) 500 KVA standby generator set and fuel tank for our District including all site modifications needed to operate. Although the District has portable generators that will be mobilized in the event of an emergency, there are more facilities than portable generators that would need to be operated in an emergency situation.</p>	<p>A standby emergency diesel generator is needed in the event of an emergency power outage. The back-up generator would supply power to the pump station and allow it to boost needed water supplies to customers in the upper pressure zone.</p>	\$3,000,000
1	<p>Water Use Efficiency Education and Water Conservation</p> <p>Provide education and outreach to a diverse group of students and residents/businesses to facilitate the learning of water use efficiency and also make available water conservation programs or opportunities to implement achievable environmental stewardship.</p>	<p>Water is a limited resource and we must continue to use it wisely. Educating our customers on the use of water efficient fixtures, irrigation practices, drought tolerant landscaping and water conservation is vital to ensure water supply reliability for years to come. How we use water indoors is just as important as how and when we use it outdoors.</p>	\$150,000, will increase amount if funding is available.