



WEST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
855 W. Base Line Road, Rialto, CA 92376
PH: (909) 875-1804 FAX: (909) 875-1849

**SPECIAL EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING
AGENDA**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2022 - 6:00 PM

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

On March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom declared a State of Emergency resulting from the threat of COVID-19. On September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill No. 361 into law. Assembly Bill No. 361 amends Government Code section 54953(e) by adding provisions for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without the requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to the existence of certain conditions. The West Valley Water District adopted a resolution determining, by majority vote, that, as a result of the declared State of Emergency, a meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. Accordingly, it has been determined that all Board and Workshop meetings of the West Valley Water District will be held pursuant to Assembly Bill No. 361, the Brown Act and will be conducted via teleconference. There will be no public access to the meeting venue. Members of the public may listen and provide public comment via telephone by calling the following number and access code: Dial: (888) 475-4499, Access Code: 840-293-7790 or you may join the meeting using Zoom by clicking this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8402937790>. Public comment may also be submitted via email to administration@wvwd.org. If you require additional assistance, please contact the Executive Assistant at administration@wvwd.org.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Director Angela Garcia, (Chair)
Director Channing Hawkins

- 1. CONVENE MEETING**
- 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The public may address the Board on matters within its jurisdiction. Speakers are requested to keep their comments to no more than three (3) minutes. However, the Board of Directors is prohibited by State Law to take action on items not included on the printed agenda.

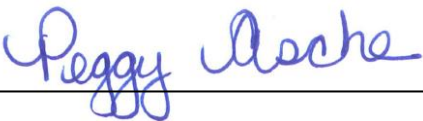
- 3. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- a. General Updates to the External Affairs Committee.
- b. Legislative Principles.

4. **ADJOURN**

DECLARATION OF POSTING:

I declare under penalty of perjury, that I am employed by the West Valley Water District and posted the foregoing External Affairs Committee Agenda at the District Offices on February 22, 2022.



Peggy Asche, Board Secretary

West Valley Water District

Legislative Principles

West Valley Water District (WVWD) is committed to working with its stakeholders and representatives in Sacramento and Washington D.C. to effectively communicate our agencies legislative priorities. Our mission is to provide ratepayers with safe, high quality and reliable water service at a reasonable rate.

We are instituting this legislative platform to create a more efficient review process of legislation that may impact our agency or industry and better position WVWD to meet, maintain and exceed its goals.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Participate in meetings with legislators, agency representatives and other stakeholders;
- Testify on behalf of WVWD, as needed;
- Review and advise on adopting legislative platform for the incoming legislative year;
- Refrain from taking positions on behalf of WVWD, unless adopted as a Board. Directors can take positions as private citizens of the community;

GENERAL MANAGER & GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

- Staff and legislative advocates will maintain list of bills or proposed legislation that may affect WVWD and its ratepayers;
- Staff will monitor bills and work with associations such as, but not limited to: Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), California Special Districts Association (CSDA), and American Water Works Association (AWWA), and Southern California Water Coalition (SCWC);
- Staff will submit letters and give direction to its lobbyist to advocate or identify positions
- If a bill does not fall in the scope of the legislative platform or is a politically controversial issue, staff will seek direction from the General Manager and/or the External Affairs Committee
- Participate in meetings with lobbyist and other stakeholders;
- Staff will establish relationships with stakeholders, legislators, staff and others on behalf of WVWD's advocacy efforts;

LOBBYST

- Will provide a monthly report to staff and members of the External Affairs Committee on appropriate bills;
- Advise staff on State and Federal legislation, relevant budget impacts, funding opportunities, and issues directly or indirectly impacting WVWD in a timely manner;
- As necessary, attend hearings and provide testimony on behalf of WVWD, as directed by staff;
- Maintain relationships with legislators, stakeholders and staff on behalf of WVWD;
- Maintain bi-weekly meetings with WVWD;

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Packet Pg. 3

West Valley Water District

Legislative Principles

WVWD will use the monthly Legislative Report to inform the External Affairs Committee on legislative positions and generate discussion of significant legislative or regulatory items. As WVWD continues to build its legislative program, the committee may be asked to provide feedback on legislative policies to bring to the Board of Directors.

SUPPORT

- Support legislation that is beneficial to Special Districts;
- Support appropriations legislation, bonds, programs, and projects that provide funding for infrastructure construction, water quality, water conservation;
- Support legislation that provides funding for disadvantaged communities, without creating affordability issues;
- Support measures that promote innovative technologies;
- Support measures that promote environmental stewardship;
- Support state funding for cost-effective water-use efficiency and conservation measures;
- Support legislation that minimizes cost impacts of new or expanded regulations;
- Support funding opportunities for investment in back-up energy storage, and other infrastructure needs to prepare public agencies to address Public Safety Power Shutoff events;
- Support preparation for broader deployment of zero-emission fleet vehicles, and support efforts to manage energy use;
- Support expanded definitions of renewable resources;
- Support legislation that creates workforce and training opportunities in the water industry;
- Support legislation that addresses economic equity across the water/wastewater industry, and encourages more protected class inclusion;
- Support regional efforts/programs that strengthen the water industry and its workforce;

OPPOSE

- Oppose measures that impose a fee on a retail water agency that does not directly benefit our ratepayers and does not allow for some control in how the funding is spent;
- Oppose measures that impose mandates upon local government that create costly and unnecessary regulations;
- Oppose "one-size-fits-all" policy approach;

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Packet Pg. 4