

2018-19 Legislative Advocacy Plan

This plan establishes the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District legislative and government affairs priorities for FY 2018-19.

Federal Strategy

- 1) Continue relationship and services with The Ferguson Group
 - Identifying legislation or proposed regulatory changes that may impact the District.
 - Track opportunities from 2017 WIIN Act and proposed 2018 Napolitano bill
 - Track Title XVI Reform, Funding for Pure Water Monterey
 - Track Trump Administration budget actions and Infrastructure Funding/Financing Proposals
 - Consult with staff to develop positions on relevant legislation.
 - Advocate the District's position on bills and matters of interest.
 - Identify funding opportunities and notify of timing, requirements, and advocate on behalf of District or District's partners (e.g. WaterSMART)
 - Prepare materials for briefing – talking points, briefing books, letters, as necessary
 - Coordinate with other water district lobbyists and organizations
 - Maintain close relationships with Monterey legislative delegation
- 2) Maintain Washington DC profile:
 - Work with The Ferguson Group to organize timely trips as needed, but at least once a year separate from ACWA trip
 - Both Congressional delegation and regulatory departments related to water, including but not limited to BLM, NOAA (NMFS), USBR, USDA, and EPA. Emphasis on developing staff relationship with Senator Harris
 - Attend ACWA trip each year
 - Direct contact with associations including ACWA, WaterReuse, etc.
- 3) Provide support for relevant legislation.
- 4) Expedite Pure Water Monterey/CSIP Annexations.
- 5) Perform on existing federal grants:
 - Drought Contingency Plan (\$200,000 USBR 2-year project)
 - Salinas and Carmel Rivers Basin Study (\$900,000 USBR 3-year project)

State of California Strategy

- 1) Monitor and pursue grant opportunities:
 - IRWM: We have been awarded a Central Coast-wide Disadvantaged Community planning grant that may also be used for implementation. We intend to apply it to the District's "HEART Program" for retrofits in low income and multi-family settings. Will maintain our lobbying effort to retain the funding agreement to ensure we receive over \$3 million in the next IRWM round of Prop 1 moneys'
 - Storm water: Funds are available for multi-benefit storm water management projects. A Storm Water Resource Plan (SWRP) is required to be eligible for implementation or project-specific planning funding. The SWRP will be due within 90 days of award of an implementation grant. The District's Local Project Grant to the City of Monterey will lay groundwork for this plan.
- 2) Maintain Sacramento profile:
 - Work with JEA Associates to organize timely trips as needed, but at least once a year separate from needs-based visits.
 - Meet with legislative team locally
 - Attend CSDA, ACWA, and/or WaterReuse legislative days
- 3) Provide support/opposition for relevant legislation.
 - Maintain JEA bill-tracking
 - Provide letters of support or opposition on legislation and regulations that affect the water industry. Current effort on Budget Trailer bill, AB 1668/SB 606, AB 401, SB 623, and proposed SWRCB permanent conservation regulations.
- 4) Develop helpful relationships: ACWA, WaterReuse, Latino Water Coalition

Local Strategy

- 1) Maintain District role in regional water issues related to:
 - Pure Water Monterey – CSIP expansion and expansion for MCWD
 - Los Padres Dam and Reservoir studies
 - Funding plan for portion of desal project
- 2) Participate in County-wide efforts (CEQA, OES, Water planning, Carmel River/Lagoon)
- 3) Maintain outreach to local associations government affairs committees (Chambers, MCAR, MCHA, Coalition of Peninsula Businesses, jurisdictions' mayors and councils)
- 4) Better articulate CPUC activities to local ratepayer groups