



2020-21 Legislative Advocacy Plan

This plan establishes the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District legislative and government affairs priorities for FY 2020-21.

Federal Strategy

1) Continue relationship and services with The Ferguson Group

- Identifying legislation or proposed regulatory changes that may impact the District.
- Track additional Title XVI and WIIN Act 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) for, but not limited to:
 - ✓ Fisheries and watersheds
 - ✓ Pure Water Monterey Expansion
 - ✓ CSIP Annexations
 - ✓ Desalination (if proceeding)
- 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.
- Develop relationships with new legislative staff.
- Attend ACWA trip each year (Discuss: Every other year?)
- Direct contact with associations including ACWA, WateReuse, etc.

3) Provide support for relevant legislation.

- 4) Perform on existing federal grants:
 - Salinas and Carmel Rivers Basin Study (\$900,000 USBR to be completed in 2020 or 2021)

State of California Strategy

- 1) Monitor and pursue grant opportunities:
 - Fisheries Restoration Grant Program (FRGP): Position the District for a 2021 application for Monitoring Watershed Restoration (MO) for Carmel River in the aftermath of the San Clemente dam removal.
 - IRWM: Updated IRWM Plan was accepted by the State in February. Will maintain our lobbying effort to retain the funding agreement to ensure we receive over \$3 million in the next IRWM rounds of Prop 1 moneys
- 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 Governor Newsom's new appointee's in relevant key positions
 - 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 proposed SWRCB permanent conservation regulations.
- 4) Develop helpful relationships: ACWA, WaterReuse, others

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
 - Manage local IRWM effort
 - Groundwater Sustainability and Regionalism generally
- 2) Encourage information flow and public participation in Rule 19.8/Measure J feasibility analysis where possible.

- 3) Participate in County-wide efforts (CEQA, OES, Water planning, Carmel River/Lagoon)
- 4) Maintain outreach to local associations government affairs committees (Chambers, MCAR, MCHA, Coalition of Peninsula Businesses, jurisdictions' mayors and councils); Meet new councilmembers and board members.
- 5) Better articulate CPUC activities to local ratepayer groups