

Sweetwater Authority Legislative Update



August 23, 2023

2023 Legislative Session

- **Key legislative deadlines upcoming**
 - August 14 – Legislature returned from Summer recess
 - September 1 – Fiscal committee deadline
 - September 14 – Legislature adjourns – **only 15 legislative session days remaining this year**
 - October 14 – Governor completes action on legislation



State Budget

- State Budget and primary budget trailer bills approved on June 27
 - Resources budget trailer bill approved
 - \$600 M in extended arrearages funding for water systems (from June 15, 2021 through December 31, 2022)
 - Governor's infrastructure-related budget trailer bill proposals approved by Legislature
 - **SB 146:** Progressive design-build authority for DWR
 - **SB 147:** Fully protected species reclassification
 - **SB 149:** CEQA - Expedited judicial review and Administrative record streamlining
- Sweetwater Authority budget allocation included in final budget package (AB 102)
 - \$750,000 for Loveland Reservoir trail restoration project secured by Senator Brian Jones



37 (21) \$750,000 for Streetwater Authority for planning, design,
38 and construction activities related to trail system restoration at
39 Loveland Reservoir.

Assembly Leadership Transition

- Assemblymember Robert Rivas transition to Assembly Speaker role on July 1
 - Speaker Anthony Rendon has transitioned to “Speaker Emeritus” role
 - Most of Rendon policy staff have also transitioned out of Speaker’s office
- New leadership team
 - Speaker Pro-Tem: Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry (Davis)
 - Assembly Majority Leader: Isaac Bryan (Los Angeles)
- Committee leadership and composition changes expected – likely following adjournment of 2023 session
 - Announced to-date
 - Assm. Esmerelda Soria – Chair of Assembly Agriculture Committee
 - Assm. Juan Carrillo – Chair of Assembly Local Government Committee
 - Assm. Gail Pellerin – Chair of Assembly Elections Committee



Sweetwater Authority Position Bills

BILL NUMBER/AUTHOR	SUMMARY	STATUS	SWA POSITION
AB 399 (Boerner)	Would modify voting requirements under the County Water Authority Act for proposed detachment proceedings.	Senate Appropriations Committee	OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED
AB 460 (Bauer-Kahan)	Would authorize the SWRCB to issue an interim relief order to implement or enforce provisions of law.	Two-year bill	OPPOSE
AB 1337 (Wicks)	Would expand statutory authority for the SWRCB to issue water curtailment orders	Two-year bill	OPPOSE
AB 1594 (Garcia)	Would provide flexibility related local utilities' procurement of electric fleet vehicles	Senate Appropriations Committee	SUPPORT
SB 389 (Allen)	Would expand authority for the SWRCB to investigate the diversion and use of water from a stream system.	Assembly Appropriations Committee	OPPOSE WATCH

Resources/Climate Resilience Bond

- AB 1567 (Garcia)
 - \$15.995 B total
 - \$5.225 B for drought, flood, and water resilience
 - March 2024 primary election ballot
- SB 867 (Allen)
 - \$15.5 B total
 - \$5.2 B for drought, flood, and water resilience
 - March 2024 primary election ballot

Increasing indications that the resources/climate resilience bond measure will be pushed to the November 2024 general election ballot



Resources Bond Funding Components

FUNDING ELEMENT	AB 1567 (Garcia)	SB 867 (Allen)
Recycled water	\$300 M	\$300 M
Groundwater storage	\$250 M	\$400 M
Urban water use efficiency	--	\$50 M
Desalination	\$200 M	\$100 M
Stormwater capture and management	Eligibility in various bond categories	\$250 M
Regional and interregional conveyance	--	\$100 M
Dam safety and reservoir operations	\$900 M	\$400 M
Surface water storage inflation adjustments	--	\$300 M
Clean water and contaminant prevention	\$670 M	\$400 M
Water data management and stream gages	\$100 M	\$100 M
Implementation of Salton Sea Management Program	\$430 M	\$100 M
Implementation of IRWMPs	\$350 M	--
Water quality at CA-Mexico border	\$175 M	--
Tribal water infrastructure projects	\$200 M	--

August 22 – SWA Visit to Sacramento

- **Key topics and issues**
 - Shaping resources/climate resilience bond package
 - Increased funding: Dam safety, water use efficiency, recycled water
 - Priority eligibility for “severely disadvantaged urbanized water supplier”
 - SWA position bills
 - AB 399 (Boerner)
 - AB 1594 (Garcia)



QUESTIONS?