

AGENDA
COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING
WITH BOARD OF DIRECTORS*
ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, CA (714) 378-3200
Thursday, February 7, 2019, 8:00 a.m. - Conference Room C-2

*The OCWD Communications and Legislative Liaison Committee meeting is noticed as a joint meeting with the Board of Directors for the purpose of strict compliance with the Brown Act and it provides an opportunity for all Directors to hear presentations and participate in discussions. Directors receive no additional compensation or stipend as a result of simultaneously convening this meeting. Items recommended for approval at this meeting will be placed on the **February 20, 2019** Board meeting Agenda for approval.

ROLL CALL

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt resolution determining need to take immediate action on item(s) and that the need for action came to the attention of the District subsequent to the posting of the Agenda (requires two-thirds vote of the Board members present, or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, a unanimous vote of those members present.)

VISITOR PARTICIPATION

Time has been reserved at this point in the agenda for persons wishing to comment for up to three minutes to the Board of Directors on any item that is not listed on the agenda, but within the subject matter jurisdiction of the District. By law, the Board of Directors is prohibited from taking action on such public comments. As appropriate, matters raised in these public comments will be referred to District staff or placed on the agenda of an upcoming Board meeting.

At this time, members of the public may also offer public comment for up to three minutes on any item on the Consent Calendar. While members of the public may not remove an item from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion, a Director may do so at the request of a member of the public.

CONSENT CALENDAR (ITEM NO. 1)

All matters on the Consent Calendar are to be approved by one motion, without separate discussion on these items, unless a Board member or District staff request that specific items be removed from the Consent Calendar for separate consideration.

1. MINUTES OF COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING HELD DECEMBER 6, 2018

RECOMMENDATION: Approve minutes as presented

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

2. STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION: Agendize for February 20 Board meeting:

- 1) Approve the 2019-2020 OCWD Legislative Platform; and,
- 2) Approve the 2019-2020 OCWD Federal & State Legislative Goals

3. FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION: Agendize for February 20 Board meeting: Take action as Appropriate

4. OCWD MASCOT

RECOMMENDATION: Agendize for February 20 Board meeting: Approve up to \$15,000 to design and create a new OCWD mascot

CHAIR DIRECTION AS TO WHICH ITEMS IF ANY TO BE AGENDIZED AS A MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE FEBRUARY 20 BOARD MEETING

DIRECTOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

GENERAL MANAGER'S ANNOUNCEMENT/REPORT

ADJOURNMENT

COMMUNICATION AND LEGISLATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Cathy Green- Chair
Jordan Brandman - Vice Chair
Steve Sheldon
Roger Yoh
Bruce Whitaker

Tri Ta
Kelly Rowe
Dina Nguyen
Denis Bilodeau
Vicente Sarmiento

Agenda Posting: In accordance with the requirements of California Government Code Section 54954.2, this agenda is posted in the window of the guard shack at the main entrance of the Orange County Water District, 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, CA and on the OCWD website: www.ocwd.com not less than 72 hours prior to the meeting date and time above. All written materials relating to each agenda item are available for public inspection in the office of the Assistant District Secretary. Backup material for the Agenda is available at the District offices for public review and can be viewed online at the District's website: www.ocwd.com.

Accommodations to the Disabled: Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons with a disability who require a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, may request such modification or accommodation from the District Secretary at (714) 378-3233, by email at jdurant@ocwd.com by fax at (714) 378-3373. Notification 24 hours prior to the meeting will enable District staff to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to the meeting.

Availability of Agenda Material: As a general rule, agenda reports or other written documentation that has been prepared or organized with respect to each item of business listed on the agenda can be reviewed at www.ocwd.com. Copies of these materials and other disclosable public records distributed to all or a majority of the members of the Board of Directors in connection with an Open Session agenda item are also on file with and available for inspection at the Office of the District Secretary, 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, California, during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. If such writings are distributed to members of the Board of Directors on the day of a Board meeting, the writings will be available at the entrance to the Board of Directors meeting room at the Orange County Water District office.

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WITH COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE
ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
December 6, 2018 @ 8:00 a.m.

Director Sarmiento called the Communications and Legislative Liaison Committee meeting to order in Conference Room C-2 at the District office. The Assistant District Secretary called the roll and reported a quorum as follows:

Committee Members

Vicente Sarmiento
Shawn Dewane (absent)
Cathy Green
Steve Sheldon (absent)
Tri Ta

OCWD Staff

John Kennedy – Executive Director
Eleanor Torres – Director of Public Affairs
Alicia Dunkin – Legislative Affairs Liaison
Christina Fuller – Assistant District Secretary

Alternates

Roger Yoh (absent)
James Vanderbilt (absent)
Bruce Whitaker
Dina Nguyen (absent)
Denis Bilodeau

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar was approved upon motion by Director Green, seconded by Director Ta and carried [4-0] as follows.

Ayes – Sarmiento, Green, Ta, Whitaker

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the November 8, 2018 Communications/Legislative Liaison Committee meeting are approved as presented.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

2. State Legislative Update

Legislative consultants provided an update on election outcomes reporting that Democrats hold a 2/3 majority in the California State Legislature, which is needed to approve new taxes and place measures on the ballot. Consultants also provided an update on upcoming OCWD initiatives and potential state funding for Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO).

3. Federal Legislative Update

Federal consultants provided an update on legislation of interest to the District, expected leadership changes in Congress, and anticipated spending bills. Legislative Affairs Liaison Alicia Dunkin reported that OCWD staff and consultants have been reaching out to newly elected Orange County representatives for meetings and tours of the Groundwater Replenishment System. James McConnell reported he is coordinating with Congressman Louis Correa and Congressman Alan Lowenthal to host an Orange County delegation dinner in Washington, D.C. to introduce OCWD to newly elected members of Congress.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

4. Public Affairs Outreach Report

Director of Public Affairs Eleanor Torres stated the report is contained in the packet and noted that 27 tours were given during the month of November.

5. 12th Annual Orange County Water Summit

Ms. Torres reported that the Joint OC Water Summit Ad Hoc Committee has selected the theme of "Water, Under the Microscope" for the event to be held on May 31, 2019.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 a.m.

Vicente Sarmiento, Chair

AGENDA ITEM SUBMITTAL

Meeting Date: February 7, 2018
To: Communications/Leg. Liaison Cte
Board of Directors
From: Mike Markus
Staff Contact: E. Torres/A. Dunkin

Budgeted: N/A
Budgeted Amount: N/A
Cost Estimate: N/A
Funding Source: N/A
Program/Line Item No.: N/A
General Counsel Approval: N/A
Engineers/Feasibility Report: N/A
CEQA Compliance: N/A

POLICY ISSUE: STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

SUMMARY

The Orange County Water District's (OCWD; the District) state legislative consultants and staff will provide a verbal report on bills of interest to the District. Federal and State legislative goals for 2019-2020 are also attached for Committee consideration.

Attachment(s):

- Joe A. Gonsalves and Son – Edelstein Gilbert Robson & Smith January 2019 State Legislative Update
- 2019-2020 OCWD Legislative Platform text
- 2019-2020 OCWD Federal & State Legislative Goals

RECOMMENDATION

Agendize for February 20 Board meeting:

- (1) Approve the 2019-2020 OCWD Legislative Platform; and,
- (2) Approve the 2019-2020 OCWD Federal & State Legislative Goals.

DISCUSSION

Background

The Orange County Water District works to influence legislation and funding in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. to ensure the Orange County Groundwater Basin is protected and supports a reliable, affordable and safe water supply for the 2.5 million people that it serves.

OCWD maintains an active presence in the government arena to forge and maintain long-term, positive and proactive relationships with legislative offices, to support water supplies from the State Water Project and Colorado River, to expand water reuse, to enable the development of new water supplies, to expand the use of new technologies, and to promote water conservation.

OCWD Legislative Platform

OCWD's legislative platform reflects policy positions adopted by the OCWD Board of Directors (the Board) in 2019 and 2020. Legislation of interest to the District is brought before the Board's Communication and Legislative Affairs Committee (Comm/Leg) for consideration. It is also the primary committee in which the staff recommends action on bills. Additionally, ideas for new legislation are presented to the Board for action when the District or other water agencies and associations are seeking sponsorship of a bill.

Recommended action items from the Comm/Leg Committee then go to the full Board at the next available Board meeting. However, during the legislative session, the timing of votes on a bill and/or deadlines to draft legislation may not coincide with the Comm/Leg Committee meeting schedule for formal Board positions on a particular bill. Legislation that needs to be acted upon in between Board meetings will be taken to the Board President and General Manager for guidance in advance of any position being taken by staff or the District's legislative advocates.

The 2019-2020 legislative platform provides guidance to the Board President and General Manager when they evaluate proposed legislation that may affect the District, its groundwater producers or regional water management. Legislation that meets or fails to meet the principles set forth in the Board-adopted platform may be supported or opposed accordingly. Pending approval by the Board President and General Manager, the platform also allows staff and the District's legislative advocates to act in a timely fashion in between Board meetings on issues that are clearly within the legislative platform. Such actions are then reported to the Board at the next available monthly Comm/Leg Committee meeting or Board meeting.

The 2019-2020 legislative platform is a summary of District goals, key issues and policy positions. The legislative policies contained in the platform have been developed by District staff and legislative advocates in consideration of OCWD's groundwater producers and policy needs. These Board-approved policies serve as the District's official positions of support or opposition on issues of importance to the agency.

The legislative platform is a dynamic document, which will be updated as needed to meet the needs of the District. The legislative team, in conjunction with the Board, may take appropriate action consistent with the legislative platform, including, but not limited to, drafting letters, lobbying legislators and staff, engaging in legislative work groups, and drafting bills.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- February 8 Assemblymember Diep and staff to tour the Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS)
- February 22 Senator Archuleta and staff to tour the GWRS
- March 22 Senator Umberg and staff to tour the GWRS



EDELSTEIN GILBERT ROBSON & SMITH^{LLC}



Joe A. Gonsalves & Son
Anthony D. Gonsalves
Jason A. Gonsalves
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TO: ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

FROM: JOE A. GONSALVES AND SON
EDELSTEIN GILBERT ROBSON & SMITH^{LLC}

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

DATE: January 31, 2019

The Legislature returned to session on January 7, 2019. As we have reported previously, Democrats in the Legislature enjoyed many victories in the 2018 General Election. When they reconvened on the 7th, Democrats held 29 of the 40 seats in the Senate. The Assembly convened with 60 Democrats and 20 Republicans, the largest majority held by Democrats in the Assembly since 1883. Their numbers were recently bolstered when a San Diego Republican reregistered as a Democrat bringing the Assembly's total to 61 Democrats.

With the Legislature back in session, new bills are slowly being introduced. While just over 500 have been introduced thus far, we expect to see another 1,500 or more by the February 22 bill introduction deadline. We will continue to review these bills and forward anything that appears to be relevant to OCWD staff.

January also saw the inauguration of Governor Gavin Newsom. Governor Newsom's first weeks were marked by a whirlwind of new policy initiatives and the presentation of his first budget proposal. The Governor is proposing a \$144.2 billion General Fund Budget for the 2019-2020 Legislative Session. Generally speaking, the budget includes more one-time and ongoing expenditures in comparison to Governor Brown's most recent budgets. Among other things, the budget includes additional funding for homelessness and housing, healthcare, and education initiatives.

Of particular relevance to OCWD was the inclusion of a water tax proposal in the Governor's budget. The proposal called for a new set of fees consistent with the policy framework of SB 623 (Monning) from the 2017-2018 Legislative Session. As you know, SB 623 called for a tax on water service, taxes and fees on the agricultural and dairy industries, and granted immunity from liability to those industries for groundwater pollution from the use of fertilizers.

While it is concerning that the Governor raised this issue in the budget and has taken his staff to be briefed on the subject in an impacted community, there is reason to believe that a SB 623-like proposal will have a tough road ahead. As we have discussed previously, a

new tax on water requires a two-thirds vote of the Legislature for approval. Despite the large Democratic majorities in the Senate and Assembly, this is a high hurdle politically. Many of the newest members represent competitive districts, and the recall of former Senator Newman, has made many members wary of tax votes.

Additionally, OCWD has helped draft an alternative proposal co-sponsored by the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA) and ACWA. The alternative would appropriate a portion of the state's large General Fund surplus to a trust. The net revenue from the trust would be used to provide operations and maintenance money to small communities without clean drinking water. We believe this proposal will be an attractive alternative to legislators for a number of reasons. First, it is a one-time expenditure when the state has a windfall surplus in the budget. It also does not grant immunity to the agricultural industry, which is especially controversial in the Assembly. Finally, it is a majority vote proposal, which could make passage significantly easier than the two-thirds majority needed to approve a water tax. We continue to be engaged in this effort on behalf of OCWD, and will provide further updates during the Communications and Legislative Committee meeting.

We also continue to work with OCWD staff and other interested water agencies to develop a strategy to get an appropriation in the budget to support atmospheric rivers research and Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO).

2019-2020 OCWD Legislative Platform (*underlined text indicates new proposed policies not previously included in OCWD's 2017-2018 Legislative Platform*)

Water Supply

- Support legislation that adds to the reliability and security of water supplies to Orange County.
- Protect the quality of surface and groundwater and support entities to meet state and federal water quality standards.
- Encourage water conservation and climate-based landscape development, where appropriate.
- Expand water recycling, potable reuse, groundwater recharge, storage, brackish and ocean desalination, and surface water development.
- Allow for local governmental agencies to provide input to statewide water resource planning decisions.
- Encourage and facilitate voluntary water transfers.
- Support water storage and exchange/transfer programs where the primary benefits occur to OCWD, its Groundwater Producers, and the ratepayers they serve.

Groundwater

- Legislation should not interfere with the authority of governance of adjudicated and ~~special~~ non-adjudicated ~~act~~ basins.
- Existing laws and court/agency decisions that effectively govern groundwater production and recharge should not be disturbed. The rights of parties to take water pursuant to prior court decisions, decisions of the State Water Resources Control Board (the State Board) or inter-agency agreements must be protected, and existing legal obligations imposed on parties should remain enforceable.
- Support legislation and programmatic reforms that expedites the appropriate and applicable use of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and/or leads to the clean-up of toxic chemical contamination in groundwater.
- Existing groundwater basin management boundaries created through statute or court decision should not be modified, and new groundwater management areas should not be carved out of existing groundwater management plan areas without the approval of the affected groundwater management agency(ies). Similarly, where a statute or a court decree has authorized an entity to manage a groundwater basin, legislation should not create or empower other local entities with duplicative or overlapping authority.

- Local agencies are in the best position to implement sustainable groundwater management. Groundwater management can best be accomplished at the local level - by agencies that have the technical expertise and existing or newly-granted authority to ensure aquifer health is maintained and competing uses balanced.
- Any definition of sustainable groundwater management should allow groundwater managers, including OCWD, sufficient flexibility to manage groundwater, recognizing the following:
 - Sustainability varies as a function of local hydrogeologic conditions, water supply availability and historic groundwater utilization.
 - Sustainable groundwater management can include periods when groundwater withdrawals exceed recharge if it causes no long-term negative impacts and there is a commitment to balance pumping over time with natural or artificial replenishment.
 - Managed aquifer recharge is a key tool that allows for sustainable groundwater management. As such, groundwater recharge should be recognized as a beneficial use of the water supplies of the state.

Recycled Water

- Recognize that recycled/reused water is a resource.
- Authorize local government agencies to regulate the discharge of contaminants to the sewer collection system that may adversely affect water recycling and reuse.
- Reduce regulatory burdens on water recycling and brackish or ocean water desalination projects.
- Authorize, promote and provide incentives for potable reuse projects.
- Support funding for research needed by the State Water Resources Control Board to be able to develop direct potable reuse regulations.

Stormwater

- Support stormwater capture projects that are cost-effective.
- Support policies, programs and projects that enhance stormwater capture, sediment management, water conservation, and ecosystem restoration.
- Support adequate state and federal funding to increase understanding and prediction of atmospheric rivers that provide most of California's precipitation.
- Support adequate state and federal funding for development of Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO) and modifications to dam water control manuals to incorporate FIRO to increase water supplies to Orange County.

Imported Water

- Support administrative/legislative action and state funding to keep the California WaterFix on schedule to advance conveyance and ecosystem improvements to help achieve the coequal goals of water supply reliability and Delta ecosystem restoration.
- Support the California WaterFix and EcoRestore and projects that facilitate delivery of high-quality water from the Bay-Delta and the Colorado River.
- Support projects that enhance the Bay-Delta's ecological health, while employing sound scientific research and ensuring that costs of such projects are shared equitably among beneficiaries.
- Oppose projects that would reduce water reliability or would increase the cost of imported water without improving reliability or quality. Also, opposed to any water fee that does not fund water supply improvements in the Delta.

Greywater

- Any state greywater policy should encourage generating new water supplies for the state. Specifically,
 - Avoid adding a new upstream greywater system that would significantly impact the current flows to the Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS) and waste capacity of OCWD's existing or future GWRS water recycling infrastructure.
 - Encourage the State Water Resources Control Board's greywater policy to be flexible enough to consider local conditions where there is already an investment in water recycling facilities.
 - Advocate that the State Board not develop a uniform statewide policy, but instead address local conditions where extensive recycling is already occurring, and new greywater systems would lead to the diverting of water that could be recycled for potable reuse projects.

Water Transfers

- Support voluntary water transfers and mitigating the impacts on the environment, aquifers, water rights holders and third parties to the transfer, including those with interests in the facilities being used.
- Oppose regulatory or procedural barriers to water transfers and legislation that interferes with the financial integrity of a water utility or compromises water quality.

Environment

- Support legislation to streamline and modernize the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
- Preserve OCWD's state and federal rights to seek cost recovery for groundwater cleanup projects that are compliant with the National Contingency Plan (NCP).

Energy

- Encourage energy efficiency through incentives, funding and other assistance to facilitate water use efficiency partnerships with the energy sector, including wastewater programs.
- Support legislation and policies that encourage and incentivize energy storage and creates incentives for demand response use by water districts.
- Seek available funding for water projects under existing programs for climate resiliency and/or climate change response;
- Support legislation or regulations that facilitate the development or expansion of clean, renewable energy in California if it does not significantly increase the cost of water.

Funding

Distribution of Bond Funds

- Support adequate funding to expand statewide and/or regional above ground and/or below groundwater storage, newly created water supplies through water recycling/ reuse, brackish water and seawater desalination, stormwater capture, and remediation of groundwater contamination.
- Support regional projects through the Integrated Regional Water Management Planning (IRWMP) process.
- Funding for any Delta restoration project shall support the co-equal goals of water supply reliability and ecosystem restoration.
- Bond proceeds should be distributed to beneficial projects throughout the state in an equitable, balanced and reasonable manner.
- Any water infrastructure financing measure should include specific criteria which must be met before a project obtains funding. The specific criteria should include cost-effectiveness, a project proponent's ability to implement the project, specific timelines for project implementation, and a high-level of measurable benefit.

- Bond proceeds should be leveraged to the maximum extent possible utilizing local or federal matching funds. Projects funded with a higher percentage of non-state funds should be given priority.
- The allocation of bond funds should be handled with minimal bond administration costs.

Water Infrastructure Financing and Project Funding

- Support establishing grants or other funding opportunities for local and regional water infrastructure projects and support programs that reduce the cost of financing water infrastructure planning and construction, such as tax-credit financing, tax-exempt municipal bonds, Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), Water Infrastructure Finance Innovation Act (WIFIA), Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN), the Environmental Infrastructure Accounts, revitalization of the Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI program, and other funding mechanisms.
- Support water infrastructure funding from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE; Corps), and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) as part of a Congressional Infrastructure funding package.
- Advocate for funding and federal appropriations of low-interest loans through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) State Revolving Fund (SRF) to support water infrastructure funding in California.
- Continue to build on federal appropriations of funding for expanding the existing Army Corps of Engineers Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO) program from Lake Mendocino to Prado Dam and support for study of atmospheric river precipitation events that impact California water supplies.
- Support legislation that allows for Congressional earmarks.
- No unfunded mandates. For newly mandated federal and state costs or regulatory actions - support legislation that requires the federal and/or state governments to provide reimbursement to local governments.
- Protect special district ad valorem tax revenues.

Water Rate Structures

- Support legislation that allows flexibility in water rate structures and does not mandate a specific rate structure for its groundwater producers.
- Oppose a "public goods charge" or "water tax" on public water agencies or their ratepayers.

Local

- Support annexations if they are cost neutral to Orange County groundwater producers.
- Proposed New Legislation
- 32.— Support incentivizing water reuse, when requiring 25% water conservation during times of drought or as a permanent policy, by counting Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR) as part of the 25% savings or any future required savings goals.
- 33.— As the comparative standards for water use efficiency are re-visited for the development of any temporary or permanent statutory or regulatory direction, OCWD supports the State Board in considering local conditions and existing water reuse infrastructure investments that have already been made to avoid inadvertently causing a net reduction in the reuse and conservation of water in Orange County.

2019-2020 OCWD Federal and State Legislative Goals

2019-2020 Federal Legislative Goals

Funding

- Seek funding and federal appropriations of low-interest loans through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) State Revolving Fund (SRF). Seek funding from the EPA, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the Corps), and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) as part of a Congressional infrastructure funding package. Finalize the Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS) Final Expansion loan documents.
- Continue to build on federal appropriations of funding for expanding the existing Army Corps of Engineers Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO) program from Lake Mendocino to Prado Dam and support for study of atmospheric river precipitation events that impact California water supplies.
- Finalize the Prado Dam Feasibility Study and prepare for Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2020.
- Finalize EPA listing or alternative remediation agreement for the North Basin cleanup site.
- Work with the USBR and the Desalination and Water Purification Research Program to continue historical funding of research grants.

Policy

- Monitor proposed new legislation or amendments to bills that may impact OCWD.

Outreach

- Make sure new members of Congress (and key committee staff) are familiar with OCWD and its federal goals. Also meet with chairs of committees and key staff.
- Build coalitions with other entities to support updating the federal funding formula for State Revolving Funds provided to states.
- Continue to develop relationships with key staff at the Corps, USBR, Fish and Wildlife Service, and EPA so they are familiar with OCWD, support its goals and see OCWD as a resource.
- Host tours of the GWRS for new members of Congress and key staff.
- Brief new members of Congress on National Priority Listing (NPL) efforts and continue to provide regular updates on cleanup projects.
- Work with coalitions to build support for the study of weather patterns that affect California water supplies.

2019-2020 Federal Legislative Goals (cont.)

Research and Development

- Work with federal agencies, departments and stakeholders to advance the knowledge and use of water technologies and to develop collaborative undertakings with OCWD.

Regulatory Affairs

- Support regulatory reforms to ensure expedited project reviews and approvals. Also support extended permit terms to provide for conformance with life cycle costs of projects.
- Monitor and participate in Waters of the United States discussions

2019-2020 State Legislative Goals

Funding

- Gain grant funding from Proposition 68 and 1 for the Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS) Final Expansion.
- Work with regulatory agencies on groundwater cleanup of North and South Basin Sites.
- If OCWD board approves project(s), gain grant and low-interest loan funding (if applicable) for brackish and ocean desalinated drinking water to residences and businesses.
- Gain state programmatic funding within the Department of Water Resources for activities relating to Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations
- Work to continue historical grants through the Cal Energy Commission to fund water research, due to the nexus between water and energy.
- Seek Proposition 68 and other funding for a visitor center.

Policy

- Monitor proposed new legislation or amendments to bills that may impact OCWD.
- Improve coordination and joint operations with other Orange County water agencies.
- Seek new Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP) funding region for North Orange County.
- Continue to oppose any new tax or fee on water.
- Monitor the implementation of water conservation legislation.

2019-2020 State Legislative Goals (cont.)

- Continue to work with state agencies and stakeholders to develop Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) regulations.

Outreach

- Make sure new state elected officials (and key committee staff) are familiar with OCWD and its state goals.
- Distinguish OCWD's role, infrastructure and water production from other Orange County water agencies.
- Build coalitions to support OCWD's proposed legislation or positions (if OCWD board approves new legislation or takes positions on bills).
- Provide brief updates on OCWD activities to city councils.
- Hold one-on-one meetings with groundwater producers and OCWD staff and pertinent board members to provide updates and discuss producer projects, goals and needs.
- Host tours for new state elected officials and staff.

Research and Development

- Work with state agencies, departments and stakeholders to advance the knowledge and use of water technologies and to develop collaborative undertakings with OCWD.

Regulatory Affairs

- Support regulatory reforms to ensure expedited project reviews and approvals. Also support extended permit terms to provide for conformance with life cycle costs of projects.
- Monitor rulemaking for enacted water quality legislation (microplastics and other).
- Monitor and participate in discussions on Waters of the United States as to how it impacts California.

AGENDA ITEM SUBMITTAL

Meeting Date: February 7, 2019

Budgeted: N/A

To: Communications/Leg. Liaison Cte
Board of Directors

Budgeted Amount: N/A

Cost Estimate: N/A

Funding Source: N/A

From: Mike Markus

Program/Line Item No.: N/A

General Counsel Approval: N/A

Engineers/Feasibility Report: N/A

Staff Contact: E. Torres/A. Dunkin

CEQA Compliance: N/A

POLICY ISSUE: FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

SUMMARY

The Orange County Water District's (OCWD; the District) staff and federal consultants James McConnell, Eric Sapirstein of ENS Resources and Holland and Knight will provide a verbal update on legislation of interest to the District, committee changes in Congress, and a proposed visit to Washington D.C.

Attachment(s):

- James McConnell January 2019 Report
- ENS Resources January 2019 Report
- Holland & Knight January 2019 Report

RECOMMENDATION

Agendize for February 20 Board meeting: Take action as appropriate.

RELEVANT STANDARDS

- Forge long-term, positive and proactive relationships with elected officials and policy makers.
- Keep abreast of federal funding opportunities and legislation that may impact OCWD, other water agencies and/or special districts.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

On January 3, the United States Congress convened in Washington, D.C. Orange County has four new House Representatives, Representatives Gil Cisneros, Mike Levin, Katie Porter, and Harley Rouda, in addition to the two returning Members of the delegation, Congressmen Lou Correa and Alan Lowenthal.

OCWD staff and consultants are working to schedule meetings with the new Members in D.C. or Orange County, tours of the Groundwater Replenishment System, or both.

Those efforts are on-going. Plans were impacted in part by the five-week long partial closure of the Federal Government from December 21 to January 25. More than half of

federal departments and agencies saw their temporary funding expire on December 21 when the latest Continuing Resolution (CR) ran out.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) experienced the closure, which may add delays to some of OCWD's ongoing projects, such as the Prado Feasibility Study. The reopening of the government on January 25 is for three weeks with funding running out on February 15.

An OCWD trip to Washington, D.C. is tentatively being planned for mid-February; however, the ever-changing schedule of Congress will dictate the actual dates.

ACTIVITIES

January 31 Boardmembers and staff briefed Congressman Levin and staff regarding OCWD's role and projects

February 19 Congresswoman Porter and staff to tour the GWRS

February 21 Congressman Rouda and staff to tour the GWRS

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ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
Washington Report
January 2019

The 116th Congress convened in Washington on January 3. In the new Congress, Democrats are in the majority in the House of Representatives, while Republicans maintain control of the U.S. Senate. So, for the second half of the Trump Administration there will be divided government in Washington.

Orange County has four new Representatives, representing some two-thirds of the county's congressional delegation. The four new Members are Representatives Gil Cisneros, Mike Levin, Katie Porter and Harley Rouda. They join two returning Members of the delegation: Congressmen Lou Correa and Alan Lowenthal.

I attended the swearing-in ceremonies for the new Members and took advantage of the occasion to introduce myself and OCWD to new staff members of the new Representatives. I worked throughout the month, in conjunction with OCWD staff, to schedule either meetings with the new Members in Washington or Orange County, or tours of the Groundwater Replenishment System, or both.

Those efforts are on-going. They were frustrated in part by the five-week long partial closure of the Federal Government from December 21 to January 25. More than half of federal departments and agencies saw their temporary funding expire on December 21 when the latest Continuing Resolution (CR) ran out.

The federal fiscal year began on October 1 and half of the government had full fiscal year 2019 funding at the start, including the Army Corps of Engineers. However, other parts of the government, including the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), did not. Those agencies were funded temporarily by a CR, the latest of which expired without agreement for temporary or full year funding. As has been reported, the issue causing the partial closure is over funding for a border wall between the United States and Mexico as part of the funding for the Department of Homeland Security.

However the reopening of the government on January 25 is only for three weeks. Funding runs out again on February 15. The Trump Administration and Democratic congressional leadership are to use that time to negotiate full year funding for the remainder of FY 2019, plus \$5.7 billion for the "border Wall" that the President has demanded.

If there is no funding for the wall by February 15, the President has said he will either shut the government again or declare a national emergency and bypass Congress to take funds from various federal agencies to fund construction of the wall. The Administration has already prepared a federal declaration of national emergency to use in this case. It would take some \$7 billion from other departments or agencies for the border wall project.

Unfortunately, \$3 billion of the proposed \$7 billion is to come from the Army Corps of Engineers. This would decimate the Corps' construction budget for FY 2019, though not all \$3 billion could be used in one fiscal year nor could the wall be constructed in such an abbreviated time period. In addition, internal Administration planning identifies the Army Corps as the agency which would oversee construction of the wall. That would have a significant effect on the Corps manpower.

Thus, a declaration of national emergency would have the potential to severely impact Corps ongoing projects and studies. On the other hand, any declaration of national emergency would be immediately challenged in court by the House of Representatives. No doubt an injunction would be issued to delay implementation of the policy. However, in the case of litigation between two co-equal branches of the Federal Government, the Supreme Court would hear the arguments fairly judiciously.

Until February 15, this all remains speculative, however.

While these high level policy and political issues were being played out in Washington in January, we had hoped that it might be possible to secure meetings with the new Members of Congress from Orange County during the week-long recess starting with the Martin Luther King holiday. And, some meetings were arranged while others were in the process of being set up. However, the recess was canceled in light of the government shutdown and thus Members were not in their new district offices the week of January 21.

Further attempts to schedule meetings have been ongoing with the possibility of district office meetings and/or tours of the Groundwater Replenishment System. Meanwhile, an OCWD trip to Washington is being planned for mid-February. The emphasis there will be on congressional committee meetings and, perhaps, with the new Members not already schedule for meetings in their Orange County district offices.

As a result of the government shutdown the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of the Army announced they would postpone a planned January 23 public hearing on the proposed new "Waters of the United States" (WOTUS) definition until after appropriations have passed to fund the EPA. Publication of the proposed rule in the Federal Register is also postponed.

On December 11, 2018, EPA and Army signed a proposed rule that would provide a clear, understandable, and implementable definition of "waters of the United States" that clarifies federal authority under the Clean Water Act while respecting the role of states and tribes in managing their own land and water resources. The agencies have submitted the proposed rule to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Both EPA and Army will take comments on the proposed rule for 60-days after publication of the proposed rule in the Federal Register. Comments can be submitted online or provided orally at the public hearing once rescheduled.

The White House this month nominated Andrew Wheeler, acting Administrator for the EPA, to be Administrator. His nomination comes during a time when the agency remains closed during the partial government shutdown, and thousands of its employees are on furlough.

Mr. Wheeler was confirmed as EPA's deputy administrator in April 2018. He has been acting EPA chief since Scott Pruitt stepped down in July after allegations of misusing his public office. Senate Democrats are expected to mostly oppose his confirmation as Administrator.

In addition, Ryan Zinke, Secretary of the Interior, stepped down at the end of 2018. His permanent replacement has yet to be named but Acting Secretary David Bernhardt is in charge of departmental activities in the interim.

It remains to be seen whether Secretary Zinke's effort to overhaul the Interior Department and reorganize its roughly 70,000 employees will continue now that he has departed. The announced agency plan was to have 12 new "unified regions" in place by July 1 of this year. The reorganization aimed to align the agency's various bureaus along state boundaries and watersheds in an effort often compared to the military's joint command structure.

Much of the federal agenda for the remainder of 2019 will be determined in February by the negotiations between Congress and the Administration as to how to handle the issue of the border wall and funding the Federal Government.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Alicia Dunkin
FROM: Eric Sapirstein
DATE: January 30, 2019
SUBJECT: Washington Update

Efforts to develop a pathway to finalize fiscal year 2019 spending bills, including USEPA, are in the process of being compromised after the Congress passed a three-week spending bill and the president signed it into law. By February 15, a final funding solution must be enacted to avoid a second shutdown. By all accounts, there is every desire to finalize the spending bill. As Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) stated, there is no education in the third kick of the mule, vividly demonstrating that he will not allow a repetition of the shutdown strategy. This suggests that Congress will develop a final spending agreement that cannot be vetoed. The president will make his State of the Union Address on February 5. At this address, we expect an outline of an acceptable budget path forward may be presented. In addition to the FY 2019 budget debate, the Administration is working to finalize its FY 2020 budget request. Because of the shutdown, the submission will be delayed for several weeks that could complicate the timely development of federal spending bills for the coming fiscal year.

The 116th Congress Convenes and Committee Assignment Announced

On January 3, the 116th Congress convened and elected the leadership for the next two years. As reported, Representative Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) was elected Speaker, becoming the first Member of Congress in fifty-five years to reclaim the Speakership. The Republican leader will be Representative Kevin McCarthy (R-CA). It is important to note that for the first time in modern history of the House of Representatives, the chamber's leaders will be from the same state.

The new House committee structure appears to provide OCWD's congressional delegation with significant roles. First, Representative Alan Lowenthal was selected to chair the Subcommittee on Minerals and Energy of the Committee on Natural Resources that includes jurisdiction over energy production matters. As a chair, he will play an important role in developing policy for the committee. Lowenthal will also remain on the key Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure. The Committee on Natural Resources' key Subcommittee on Water, Oceans and Wildlife will be chaired by Rep. Jared Huffman, who has been supporter of OCWD's recycling efforts. Huffman will be joined on the subcommittee by OCWD's newly elected Rep. Mike Levin. Rep. Harley Rouda will sit on the key Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure. Rouda was also selected to become the Chair of the Subcommittee on Environment of the Committee on Oversight and Investigations. These appointments will play an important role in advancing OCWD's federal priorities ranging from FIRO to water recycling and resiliency needs. A listing of the delegation's committee assignments is attached.

In the Senate, Senator Dianne Feinstein will continue to serve as the senior Democrat on the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development Appropriations. In this role, Feinstein will continue to advocate for funding of water infrastructure programs and projects. The Senator will also continue to sit on the Subcommittee on Interior and Environment Appropriations with the responsibility for funding USEPA water infrastructure programs and overall water quality programs. In each instance, we expect the Senator will continue to work to provide California with maximum funding of water infrastructure assistance.

Rewrite of the Clean Water Rule (WOTUS) Impacted by Shutdown

Efforts to clarify which waters are subject to regulation under the Clean Water Act could have consequences for OCWD operations. Specifically, USEPA, prior to the shutdown, was expediting the rewrite of the Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) rule. USEPA planned to launch the public comment period in January. This comment period would then lead, after the closing of the comment period, to finalization of the rule. It is unclear when the rule might be finalized due to the delay attributable to the shutdown. The existing WOTUS regulatory framework provides that water recycling and treatment facilities are not subject to further regulation and this currently remains in place with the proposed rewrite, but because the rulemaking process remains frozen, it will require continued monitoring to ensure that the exemption remains in place once a final rule is drafted in the coming months.

Infrastructure Policy Front and Center

As Congress and the White House debate a funding resolution to reopen the federal government, congressional committees with jurisdiction over infrastructure are proceeding to develop an agenda to address water infrastructure policy. In the House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure, staff inform us that renewing the Clean Water SRF and addressing disadvantaged communities' needs is a top priority for action by the committee in the early months of the year. Additionally, our discussions with committee staff indicates a willingness to consider "common sense" regulatory reforms like permit term extension as part of infrastructure legislation.

Within the water recycling arena, Representative Grace Napolitano (D-CA) and Representative Jared Huffman indicated that they will introduce legislation to expand the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's water recycling program, Title XVI/WIIN, providing \$500 million to support project construction assistance. In the Senate, we have also learned that Senator Feinstein will also seek to enhance funding of water recycling project assistance. Based on the Senator's efforts last year, we anticipate that any effort to renew WIIN could include providing a minimum of \$100 million in new assistance. Assuming that such efforts are successful, OCWD could benefit.

Finally, the Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure will kick-off its policymaking effort when it convenes a hearing next week to examine infrastructure needs across the nation, including water infrastructure. This will be the first of a series of hearings into the issue over the next several months that should lead to development of legislation later this year.

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Orange County Water District Federal Update January 2019

H&K 2019 Congressional Calendar Available: Holland & Knight's [2019 congressional calendar](#) is now available online.

Congress and President Reach Deal to End Shutdown: On January 25, the Senate advanced a three-week short-term funding bill to fully reopen the federal government, after President Trump agreed to end the 35-day shutdown without securing funding for a border wall. The deal was reached after reports of major delays at key airports around the country due to staffing issues, and many of the 800,000 furloughed federal workers were set to miss their second pay check. The legislation, which includes a continuing resolution (CR) to extend last year's funding until February 15 for the unfinished appropriations bills, cleared the Senate by voice vote, passed in the House later that same day, and signed by the President late Friday evening. Though the shutdown is expected to have lasting damage on operations, the CR reopened the following departments and agencies:

Spending Bill	Covered Agencies	
Agriculture-FDA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FDA • Agriculture Department <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Marketing Service • Agricultural Research Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service • Farm Service Agency • Food Safety and Inspection Service • Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Commerce-Justice-Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commerce Department <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Census Bureau • National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration • Patent and Trademark Office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justice Department <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FBI • Drug Enforcement Administration • Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives • NASA
Financial Services-General Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasury Department <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal Revenue Service • Executive Office of the President • Federal judiciary • Federal Communications Commission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Services Administration • Federal Trade Commission • Office of Personnel Management • Small Business Administration • Securities and Exchange Commission • U.S. Postal Service
Homeland Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeland Security Department <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customs and Border Protection • Coast Guard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Emergency Management Agency • Transportation Security Administration • U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Interior-Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Protection Agency • Interior Department <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bureau of Indian Affairs • Bureau of Land Management • National Park Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service • U.S. Geological Survey • U.S. Forest Service • Indian Health Service • Smithsonian Institution
State-Foreign Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Department • Democracy Fund • Millennium Challenge Corporation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace Corps • U.S. Agency for Global Media • U.S. Agency for International Development
Transportation-HUD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation Department <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Aviation Administration • Federal Highway Administration • Federal Railroad Administration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Transit Administration • Maritime Administration • Housing and Urban Development Department

Source: Bloomberg Government

The passed legislation also extended the following programs through February 15:

- The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)
- Several immigration authorities, including EB-5 visas and the E-Verify program
- An authorization for the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority to keep certain data and scientific information confidential
- An exemption from antitrust laws for meetings related to pandemic and biodefense vaccine and drug development
- Fees and related authorities of the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act

Importantly, during the three-week CR, the deal requires lawmakers to form a conference committee to negotiate homeland security funding, including border security funding. The committee will hold its first meeting on January 30, though both Republicans and Democrats continue to have hardline positions on “wall” funding.

After announcing the deal, the President warned that if by February 15, Congress did not reach a deal on border security, which he [believes](#) is “less than a 50-50 chance,” the government could shut down again, or he may declare a national emergency to sidestep Congress and build a border wall. This move would likely draw immediate legal challenges. House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) suggested that a deal combining money for a border wall and protection of individuals covered under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program should be pursued. Meanwhile, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) have remained firm on their position that Democrats will not offer funding for a wall.

New Congressional Leadership: The new Congress brings changes to committee leadership and members in both the Senate and the House.

Rep. Raúl Grijalva (D-Ariz.) will be the new chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, which oversees the Department of Interior. Rep. Frank Pallone (D-N.J.) will be the new chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee which oversees the Department of Energy and many of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) programs. Pallone is expected to focus on climate change (his first hearing will be on global warming), and Superfund. The House has not named committee members yet but it is rumored that Rep. Tom O’Halloran (D-AZ) will be a new member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR) will be the new chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee which oversees the EPA water programs, including WIFIA. He is expected to focus on infrastructure legislation, reauthorization of the surface transportation bill (FAST Act), pipeline safety, and reauthorization of WRDA which is expected to be finalized in 2020. Currently, unclear if the infrastructure bill will include water programs (i.e. WIFIA, SRF) as the WRDA of 2018 authorized funding for Army Corps and EPA SRF and WIFIA programs. Chairman DeFazio has also stated that the committee will hold hearings on Administration’s plan to repeal WOTUS.

The House has also created a new committee called the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, which Rep. Kathy Castor (D-Fla.) will chair. The select committee is opposed by House Energy and Commerce Chairman Pallone and many Republican members. The House environmental committees will probably hold joint hearings with this select committee.

New leadership on the House Appropriations Subcommittees include:

- Energy and Water Development (oversees Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation): Chairwoman Marcy Kaptur (D-OH) and Ranking Member Mike Simpson (R-ID)
- House Interior and Environment (oversees the EPA/SRF/WIFIA): Chairwoman Betty McCollum (D-MN) and Ranking Member David Joyce (R-OH)—Rep. Ken Calvert (R-CA) is now Ranking Member of Defense Appropriations Subcommittee

AGENDA ITEM SUBMITTAL

Meeting Date: February 7, 2019

To: Communications/Leg. Liaison Cte
Board of Directors

From: Mike Markus

Staff Contact: E. Torres/G. Ayala

Budgeted: No

Budgeted Amount: N/A

Cost Estimate: \$15,000

Funding Source: N/A

Program/Line Item No.: N/A

General Counsel Approval: N/A

Engineers/Feasibility Report: N/A

CEQA Compliance: N/A

POLICY ISSUE: OCWD MASCOT

SUMMARY

The Orange County Water District's (OCWD; the District) mascot is Ginny Groundwater. Ginny was created years ago to tell the story of groundwater in Orange County along with the Municipal Water District of Orange County's mascot, Ricki Raindrop, who tells the story of imported water. Ginny was created as a physical mascot in the late 1990s. The costume is outdated dated and needs cleaning/repairs. Staff is exploring the feasibility of creating a new mascot to support OCWD public affairs strategic goals.

RECOMMENDATION

Agendize for February 20 meeting: Approve up to \$15,000 to design and create a new OCWD mascot.

RELEVANT STANDARDS

- Build confidence and support with the community by increasing awareness of OCWD.
- Forge new partnerships through the use of a mascot.
- Develop and maintain long-term and positive relationships with stakeholders through social media.
- Increase OCWD visibility and water education through the engagement of new audiences.

ISSUE(S)

A mascot aids the District in increasing brand/name recognition, supporting events and tours, increasing social media engagement and followers, providing regular and meaningful community engagement, and enhancing employee communications.

The Orange County Water District's mascot is Ginny Groundwater. Ginny was created years ago to tell the story of groundwater in Orange County along with the Municipal Water District of Orange County's mascot, Ricki Raindrop, who tells the story of imported water. In the late 1990s, the design and creation of a Ginny costume was

approved. This costume is now dated and needs cleaning/repairs. The current costume is not durable, uncomfortable, cumbersome, and restricts free range of motion—a key mascot feature. This feature enables a mascot to come to life, to tell a story and to be animated.

SOLUTION

Contract with a company with experience designing successful mascots to design and create a costume for an amount not to exceed \$15,000.

TIMING CONCERNS

The Ginny Groundwater costume has been used at the Children’s Water Education Festival, at community events and more recently in videos to promote water education and the District. Staff would like to continue to use a mascot to support 2019-2020 public affairs strategic goals, as well as future goals.

RAMIFICATIONS OF NOT ACTION

The District would retire Ginny Groundwater and no longer use a mascot. It would miss the opportunity to capitalize on mascot uses such as youth education outreach, brand recognition, social media viral potential, animated videos for youth education, and providing an unchanging face for an agency, to name a few.

Additionally, many water and government agencies have a mascot and use it to promote the agency in positive ways. These agencies include, but are not limited to, Municipal Water District of Orange County, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Central Basin Municipal Water District, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Las Virgenes Water District, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, Caltrans, American Water Works Association, Environmental Protection Agency, United States Army Corps of Engineers, United States Department of Agriculture, and Denver Water.

CONSIDERED ALTERNATIVES

OCWD would not have a mascot. Ginny would retire and a new mascot would not be created and designed.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For years, mascots have been successfully used globally and across many industries. Staff has researched this topic and found prime examples where mascots bring positive results and help companies/agencies reach important goals. Some examples are below and more will be shared at the Committee meeting.

- Mickey Mouse (Disney): 1.8 million followers on Instagram; helped build the Disney brand
- Puddles (University of Oregon): 105,000 Twitter followers

- Gritty (Philadelphia Flyers): 220,000 followers in five months; each post receives 1,000 to 76,000 likes

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION(S):

None.