MEETING OF THE
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
4040 PARAMOUNT BLVD., LAKEWOOD, CA 90712
11:00 AM, MONDAY, JULY 13, 2020

AGENDA

SPECIAL NOTICE REGARDING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT MEETINGS OF THE WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (WRD)

The President of the United States and the Governor of California have both declared a State of Emergency as a result of the threat of the novel coronavirus COVID-19. The Governor issued Executive Order N-33-20 which orders all individuals to stay at home, and also Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20 which direct Californians to cancel all large gatherings and allows for teleconferencing of public meetings. Additionally, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health issued a Safer At Home Order on April 10, 2020 prohibiting public gatherings or events of any size, and on May 13, 2020 extended the order indefinitely.

To that end, no members of the public will be allowed to attend in-person meetings, including this meeting. Instead, members of the public may teleconference by calling toll free (800) 309-2350 and pressing 9215521# for the Conference ID. You will be able to listen to the meeting, but in order to speak and provide Public Comment, you will need to press Star 5 (*5) on your phone at which time you will be placed in the que for the eventual opportunity to be un-muted and speak. Consistent with Section 6.2 of the District Administrative Code, speakers will be limited to three minutes. You may also provide your public comments via email to board@wrd.org up to one hour before the meeting is scheduled to begin.

Each item on the agenda, no matter how described, shall be deemed to include any appropriate motion, whether to adopt a minute motion, resolution, payment of any bill, approval of any matter or action, or any other action. Items listed as "For information" or "For discussion" may also be the subject of an "action" taken by the Board or a Committee at the same meeting.

1. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

2. PUBLIC COMMENT
   Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3
   To make a Public Comment, press Star (*5) on your phone to be recognized, and when un-muted please announce your name and affiliation. All comments are limited to three minutes consistent with the provisions of the District Administrative Code.

3. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 9, 2020
   Staff Recommendation: The External Affairs Committee approves the minutes as submitted.
4. **APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 13, 2020**  
*Staff Recommendation:* The External Affairs Committee approves the minutes as submitted.

5. **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**  
*Staff Recommendation:* For discussion and possible action.

6. **CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NO. 5**  
*Staff Recommendation:* The External Affairs Committee recommends that the Board of Directors support California Assembly Constitutional Amendment 5.

7. **SAFE TAP WATER SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN**  
*Staff Recommendation:* For discussion and possible action.

8. **LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISION (LAFCO) NOMINATION**  
*Staff Recommendation:* For discussion and possible action.

9. **DEPARTMENT REPORT**  
*Staff Recommendation:* For discussion and possible action.

10. **DIRECTORS’ REPORTS, INQUIRIES AND FOLLOW-UP OF DIRECTIONS TO STAFF**

11. **ADJOURNMENT**  
*The Committee will adjourn to its next meeting currently scheduled on August 10, 2020 at 11:00 AM.*

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if special assistance is needed to participate in the meeting, please contact Deputy Secretary at (562) 921-5521 for assistance to enable the District to make reasonable accommodations.

All public records relating to an agenda item on this agenda are available for public inspection at the time the record is distributed to all, or a majority of all, members of the Board. Such records shall be available at the District office located at 4040 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California 90712.

Agendas are available at the District’s website, [www.wrd.org](http://www.wrd.org).

**EXHAUSTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES** – If you challenge a District action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Deputy Secretary at, or prior to, the public hearing. Any written correspondence delivered to the District office before the District’s final action on a matter will become a part of the administrative record.
DATE: JULY 14, 2020

TO: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 09, 2020

SUMMARY
A special meeting of the External Affairs Committee of the Board of Directors of the Water Replenishment District of Southern California was held on March 9, 2020 at 9:45 AM in the Silverado Conference Room, 4040 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California 90712. Committee Alternate Chair John D.S. Allen called the meeting to order and presided thereafter.

FISCAL IMPACT
None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION
The External Affairs Committee approves the minutes as submitted.
A meeting of the External Affairs Committee of the Board of Directors of the Water Replenishment District of Southern California was held on March 9, 2020 at 9:45 AM in the Silverado Conference Room, 4040 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California 90712. Committee Alternate Chair John D.S. Allen called the meeting to order and presided thereafter.

1. **DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**
   A quorum was present, which included:
   
   **Committee:** President Vera Robles-DeWitt, Director John D. S. Allen; Director Sergio Calderon; Director Rob Katherman arrived at 10:12 AM; Director Willard H. Murray, Jr. was excused
   
   **Staff:** Dina Hidalgo; Diane Gatza; Jenn Swart; Robb Whitaker; Angie Mancillas; David Alvarez; Francisco Leal; Lawrence Chiu; Kimberly Badescu; Tenisha Simeon
   
   **Public:** (via phone) Maria Kennedy – Kennedy Communications; Julie Chlopecki - Pacific Atlantic Partners; Bob Reeb - Reeb Government Relations, LLC; Bob Giroux - Lang, Hansen, O'Malley & Miller

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
   Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3
   None

   Upon a motion made by Director Allen and seconded by Director Calderon, subsequent need item 6A was added to the agenda by a vote of 3-0 (Director Katherman arrived at 10:12 AM after the subsequent need item was added to the agenda and did not vote on item).

3. **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**
   This item was tabled for later discussion.

4. **WRD EDUCATION PROGRAMS REPORT**
   This item was tabled for later discussion.
5. AWARD OF GENERAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GEIGER WEST FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROMOTIONAL ITEMS
Manager of External Affairs Angie Mancillas provided an overview.

| First:     | Allen      |
| Second:    | DeWitt     |
| Discussion:| None       |
| Vote:      | DeWitt, Yes; Allen, Yes; Calderon, Yes; Katherman, 10:12 Arrival; Murray, Excused |
| Result:    | The External Affairs Committee recommended that the Board of Directors enter into a General Services Agreement, subject to approval as to form by District Counsel, with Geiger West for an amount not to exceed $80,000 for a one-year contract. |

4. WRD EDUCATION PROGRAMS REPORT
This item was taken out of order.

Ms. Mancillas provided an overview and updated the Committee. Discussion followed.

No action was taken.

7. DIRECTORS' REPORTS, INQUIRIES AND FOLLOW-UP OF DIRECTIONS TO STAFF
This item was taken out of order.

Director Allen inquired about pictures of WRD Board members on mailing items. Comments followed. Discussion was tabled.

3. LEGISLATIVE REPORT
This item was taken out of order.

Legislative consultant for WRD Julie Chlopecki provided a report via phone call.

Next, State legislative consultant Bob Giroux presented.

Finally, Bob Reeb of Reeb Government Relations provided details for the March Board trip to Sacramento and additional discussion.

No action was taken.

Upon a motion made by Director Katherman and seconded by Director Allen, subsequent need item 6B LOBBYING AND STRATEGIC CONSULTING FIRM was added to the agenda 4-0.

6. DEPARTMENT REPORT
Ms. Mancillas reported on future water events.

Manager of Water Resources Diane Gatza recommended a date of April 2nd from 1 to 3 p.m. and provided specifics for the PFAS working group. Discussion followed.
Ms. Mancillas proceeded to list calendar events. Public Affairs Representative Kimberly Badescu then distributed a list of conferences to the Committee.

No action was taken.

7. DIRECTORS’ REPORTS, INQUIRIES AND FOLLOW-UP OF DIRECTIONS TO STAFF
Director Allen inquired about the District’s partnership with LA County Public Works as well as spreading grounds and barriers. General Manager Robb Whitaker provided elucidation.

Director Katherman reminded the Committee of the RoundHouse Aquarium Event. No action was taken.

6B. LOBBYING AND STRATEGIC CONSULTING FIRM
This item was taken out of order.

Upon a motion made by Director Katherman and seconded by Director Allen, this item was tabled to be discussed at the next External Affairs Committee meeting agenda.

6A. CLOSED SESSION
The Committee went into closed session at 11:17 a.m. to discuss anticipated litigation.

The Committee reconvened at 11:57 AM. No formal action was taken.

8. ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:57 AM to the next meeting scheduled for April 13, 2020.
Chair

ATTEST:

___________________________
Member

Approved in minutes of:

___________________________
DATE: JULY 14, 2020
TO: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER
SUBJECT: APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 13, 2020

SUMMARY
A special meeting of the External Affairs Committee of the Board of Directors of the Water Replenishment District of Southern California was held on April 13, 2020 at 11:05 AM in the Silverado Conference Room, 4040 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California 90712. Committee Chair Sergio Calderon called the meeting to order and presided thereafter.

FISCAL IMPACT
None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION
The External Affairs Committee approves the minutes as submitted.
MINUTES OF APRIL 13, 2020  
MEETING OF THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

A meeting of the External Affairs Committee of the Board of Directors of the Water Replenishment District of Southern California was held on April 13, 2020 at 11:05 AM in the Silverado Conference Room, 4040 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California 90712. Committee Chair Sergio Calderon called the meeting to order and presided thereafter.

1. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM
A quorum was present, which included:
Committee: President Vera Robles-DeWitt, Director John D. S. Allen; Director Sergio Calderon; Director Rob Katherman joined at 11:13 AM. (Via phone); Director Willard H. Murray, Jr. (Via phone)
Staff: Dina Hidalgo; Ted Johnson; Robb Whitaker; Angie Mancillas; David Alvarez; Francisco Leal; Lawrence Chiu; Kimberly Badescu; Tenisha Simeon
Public: (via phone) Maria Kennedy – Kennedy Communications; Julie Chlopecki - Pacific Atlantic Partners; Bob Reeb - Reeb Government Relations, LLC

2. PUBLIC COMMENT
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3
Manager of External Affairs Angie Mancillas introduced the new Senior Government Affairs Representative Stephanie Cuevas to the Committee.

3. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 25, 2020
Staff Recommendation: The External Affairs Committee approves the minutes as submitted.

| First:   | Allen |
| Second:  | DeWitt |
| Discussion: | None |
| Vote:    | DeWitt, Yes; Allen, Yes; Yes; Murray; Yes; Calderon, Director Katherman arrived at 11:13 AM after the minutes were approved (Did not vote on item). |
| Result:  | ITEM 3 PASSED |
4. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Manager of External Affairs Angie Mancillas opened the discussion of the item before introducing the District’s federal legislative consultant Julie Chlopecki who provided a presentation via phone call. Ms. Chlopecki stated that Congress is out of session until April 19, 2020 and she does not anticipate that they will return this month. WRD completed its Washington DC trip, submitted letters and made visits. Ms. Chlopecki stated that they are waiting to see how they will tackle infrastructure with economic stimulus package. She also indicated that she is working on grants with staff.

Director Allen asked the status of the funding from the Bureau of Reclamation. Ms. Chlopecki replied that it is being processed.

State legislative consultants Bob Reeb, Awet Kidane, Maria Kennedy – Kennedy Communications and Rick Taylor also presented.

Mr. Reeb stated that staff is largely working from home and it has been very quiet.

State Capitol will resume regular session on May 4, 2020 and will mainly focus on COVID-19 response efforts. Mr. Reeb also presented a review of additional information on the state’s legislative efforts.

Director Katherman asked for a copy of the Hertzberg bill.

Ms. Mancillas stated that one of the things the Committee does every year is anticipate legislation pertaining to water. Many legislative efforts will be directed to COVID-19 economic efforts during this time.

Mr. Reeb asked for a motion to approve the District’s positions on the bills. Mr. Reed clarified that in the past, the process has been to identify legislation that may be impactful to WRD. A discussion followed regarding the District’s position on legislation as approved by the Board.

Recommended action of the Board is the following:

AB2611 watch and monitor bill
AB2677 watch bill
AB1056 watch bill
SB996 recommended support if amended
SB1056 watch bill
AB1205 District will write letter of support
Upon a motion made by Director Allen and seconded by President DeWitt to approve the Bill Positions.

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<th>First:</th>
<th>Allen</th>
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<td>Second:</td>
<td>DeWitt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion:</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vote:</td>
<td>DeWitt, Yes; Allen, Yes; Yes; Murray; Yes; Calderon, Director Katherman</td>
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<td>Result:</td>
<td>Item 4 Passed</td>
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The item will be placed on the Board agenda.

Michael Gagan was on the call regarding any Los Angeles County updates. He reported that the County is doing just as much as the state and federal level.

Director Allen asked regarding Congress Huffman’s Bill and asked that the Committee take a motion to support Huffman’s bill.

Director Allen motioned, Katherman seconded. Upon a motion made by Director Allen and seconded by President DeWitt to approve the Huffman’s bill.

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<td>Second:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion:</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vote:</td>
<td>DeWitt, Yes; Allen, Yes; Yes; Murray; Yes; Calderon, Director Katherman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Result:</td>
<td>Item Passed 5-0</td>
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Maria Kennedy also provided follow up on the legislative report, specifically SB996 recommended support if amended.
5. **COVID-19 OUTREACH UPDATE**
Manager of External Affairs Angie Mancillas provided an update on item. Discussion followed.

Ms. Mancillas added that there has been a very good response from the ads from Directors from social media and other media platforms. Staff continues to post on various newspaper outlets.

Eric Verdusco also presented and indicated that approximately 185,000 people have engaged on ads sent out to community in one week’s timeframe. WRD had good success in the social media ad campaign. Mr. Verdusco indicated that WRD will continue to see good ratings on the social media campaigns.

Director Calderon was interviewed this morning on AM 1020.

Director Katherman stated that for the next messaging campaign, he would like to see a message of appreciation to first responders specifically medical, EMT, police and fire fighters for their efforts during the pandemic. Discussion was had regarding including other essential works such as grocery workers and staff working in the field.

Director Allen asked that we cover other languages represented in the service area.

6. **APPROVAL AND AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT THE COMPLETION OF PHASE II OF THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT CONTRACT NO. 919 WITH MAD SYSTEMS, INC.**

Manager of External Affairs Angie Mancillas provided an overview.

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<td>Second:</td>
<td>DeWitt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion:</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote:</td>
<td>DeWitt, Yes; Allen, Yes; Calderon, Yes; Katherman, Yes; Murray, Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result:</td>
<td>The External Affairs Committee recommends that the Board of Directors accept the Phase II of Mad Systems Contract No. 919 as complete, authorize the completion of the Professional Services Agreement Contract No. 919, subject to approval as to form by District Counsel, and authorize release of professional services contract retention in an amount not to exceed $50,000. Item 6 Passed</td>
</tr>
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7. **WRD EDUCATION FOUNDATION AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATE**
Manager of External Affairs Angie Mancillas opened the item up for discussion and introduced Jenn Swart to provide an update on the WRD Education Foundation. Letters will be sent out to prospective Education Foundation Board members.
8. DEPARTMENT REPORT
None

9. DIRECTORS’ REPORTS, INQUIRIES AND FOLLOW-UP OF DIRECTIONS TO STAFF
Director Allen would like a hard copy of the Daily Breeze, Press Telegram, LA Times and other local subscriptions.

10. ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM to the next meeting scheduled for May 11, 2020.
MEMORANDUM
ITEM NO. 5

DATE: JULY 13, 2020
TO: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER
SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE REPORT

SUMMARY
WRD’s Federal and State Legislative Consultants will update the External Affairs Committee on legislation impacting the District. They will also alert the Committee about potential funding opportunities available to the District that will allow WRD to accomplish its goals.

Legislative Consultants:
Julie Chlopecki, Pacific Atlantic Partners
Bob Reeb, Reeb Government Relations, LLC
Awet Kidane, Lang Hansen, O’Malley & Miller
Bob Giroux, Lang, Hansen, O’Malley & Miller

FISCAL IMPACT
None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION
For discussion and possible action.
MEMORANDUM
ITEM NO. 6

DATE: JULY 13, 2020
TO: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER
SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 5

SUMMARY
The California Legislative Black Caucus, led by Assemblymember Shirley Weber, is pursuing a constitutional amendment, Assembly Constitutional Amendment (ACA) 5. ACA 5 would allow California voters to repeal Article I, Section 31 of the Constitution (Proposition 209), which went into effect 24 years ago.

Proposition 209 (Prop. 209), entitled the California Civil Rights Initiative, was approved by California voters in 1996 and added Article I, Section 31 to the California Constitution. This provision prohibits race- and gender-conscious remedies that rectify the underutilization of women and people of color in public employment, contracting and education. California is one of only eight states to have a ban on equal opportunity hiring programs in these sectors of employment.

Affirmative action and equal opportunity programs began in earnest with the Kennedy Administration’s Executive Order 10925, which required all government contractors to “take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, creed, color, or national origin.”

Federal statutes require government entities to take proactive steps to ensure fair and equal opportunities for previously excluded groups. In California, prior to Prop. 209, the opportunity gap faced by women and people of color began to dissipate as state agencies enacted policies to eliminate traditional patterns of segregation and exclusion in the workforce, and to increase the representation of women and minorities in the state service, without effectuating quota systems. The passage of Prop. 209 impeded California’s ability to continue these policies and the state’s efforts to enforce anti-discrimination policies on public projects.

California ended its Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) program due to the passage of Prop. 209 and only a few MWBEs regained contracts with the state. California’s MWBEs have lost $1 billion annually in public contract awards directly due to Prop. 209 barriers.
Assembly Constitutional Amendment 5 passed the California State Senate on a 30-10 vote and the Assembly on a 60-10 vote. It has been chaptered by California Secretary of State. The next step is developing a statewide campaign for the November 3, 2020 election.

FISCAL IMPACT
None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION
The External Affairs Committee Recommends that the Board of Directors support California Assembly Constitutional Amendment 5.
Assembly Constitutional Amendment No. 5

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 23

Assembly Constitutional Amendment No. 5—A resolution to propose to the people of the State of California an amendment to the Constitution of the State, by repealing Section 31 of Article I thereof, relating to government preferences.

[Filed with Secretary of State June 25, 2020.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

The California Constitution, pursuant to provisions enacted by the initiative Proposition 209 in 1996, prohibits the state from discriminating against, or granting preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in the operation of public employment, public education, or public contracting. The California Constitution defines the state for these purposes to include the state, any city, county, public university system, community college district, school district, special district, or any other political subdivision or governmental instrumentality of, or within, the state.

This measure would repeal these provisions. The measure would also make a statement of legislative findings in this regard.

WHEREAS, Equal opportunity is deeply rooted in the American ideals of fairness, justice, and equality. Programs to meet the goals of equal opportunity seek to realize these basic values. Equal opportunity not only helps individuals, but also helps communities in need and benefits our larger society. California's equal opportunity program was upended by the passage of Proposition 209 in 1996; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 209, entitled the California Civil Rights Initiative, amended Article I of the California Constitution to prohibit race- and gender-conscious remedies to rectify the underutilization of women and people of color in public employment, as well as public contracting and education; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 209 invalidated a series of laws that had been enacted by the California Legislature over the 20 years prior to it that required state agencies to eliminate traditional patterns of segregation and exclusion in the workforce, to increase the representation of women and minorities in the state service by identifying jobs for which their employment was underrepresented due to discrimination, and to develop action plans to remedy such underrepresentation without effectuating quota systems; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 209 also overshadowed other landmark civil rights and antidiscrimination laws. In 1959, after a 37-year campaign by
labor and civil rights groups, the Unruh Civil Rights Act was passed, which was the forerunner of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; and

WHEREAS, As a result of the passage of Proposition 209, women and people of color continue to face discrimination and disparity in opportunities to participate in numerous forms of association and work that are crucial to the development of talents and capabilities that enable people to contribute meaningfully to, and benefit from, the collective possibilities of national life; and

WHEREAS, The State of California has provided employment opportunities for people of color and women of all races. However, lingering, and even increasing, disparity still exists, particularly for Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, Black Americans, Latino Americans, Native Americans, and women, and should be rectified; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 209 has impeded California’s continuing interest in supporting the equal participation of women in the workforce and in public works projects, in addressing the historical and present manifestations of gender bias, and in promulgating policies to enforce antidiscrimination in the workplace and on public projects; and

WHEREAS, In the wake of Proposition 209, California saw stark workforce diversity reductions for people of color and women in public contracting and in public education. Studies show that more diverse workforces perform better financially and are significantly more productive and focused; and

WHEREAS, Since the passage of Proposition 209, the state’s minority-owned and women-owned business enterprise programs have been decimated. A 2016 study conservatively estimates that the implementation of Proposition 209 cost women and people of color over $1,000,000,000 annually in lost contract awards. Most procurement and subcontracting processes remain effectively closed to these groups due to the changes brought on by Proposition 209; and

WHEREAS, Women are vastly underrepresented among firms receiving public contracts and the dollars awarded to certified women-owned business enterprises fell by roughly 40 percent, compared to levels before Proposition 209. In addition, only one-third of certified minority business enterprises in California’s transportation construction industry are still in operation today, compared to 20 years ago; and

WHEREAS, Women, particularly women of color, continue to face unequal pay for equal work. White women are paid 80 cents to every dollar paid to white men doing the same work. Black women are paid 60 cents for every dollar paid to white men doing the same work and would theoretically have to work an extra seven months every year to overcome that differential. This persistent gender wage gap continues to harm women, their families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, Despite a booming economy with almost full employment, a persistent racial wealth gap remains rooted in income inequality. Improving minority access to educational and labor market opportunity reduces the wealth gap and strengthens the economy; and
WHEREAS, Proposition 209 has had a devastating impact on minority equal opportunity and access to California’s publicly funded institutions of higher education. This violates the spirit of the California Master Plan for Higher Education by making it more difficult for many students to obtain an affordable and accessible high quality public education. While federal law allows schools to use race as a factor when making admissions decisions, California universities are prohibited by Proposition 209 from engaging in targeted outreach and extra efforts to matriculate high-performing minority students. This reduces the graduation rates of students of color and, in turn, contributes to the diminution of the “pipeline” of candidates of color for faculty positions; and

WHEREAS, Since the passage of Proposition 209, diversity within public educational institutions has been stymied. Proposition 209 instigated a dramatic change in admissions policy at the University of California, with underrepresented group enrollment at the Berkeley and Los Angeles campuses of the University of California immediately falling by more than 60 percent and systemwide underrepresented group enrollment falling by at least 12 percent. Underrepresented group high school graduates faced substantial long-term declines in educational and employment outcomes as a result of these changes; and

WHEREAS, Among California high school graduates who apply to the University of California, passage of Proposition 209 has led to a decreased likelihood of earning a college degree within six years, a decreased likelihood of ever earning a graduate degree, and long-run declines in average wages and the likelihood of earning high wages measured by California standards. The University of California has never recovered the same level of diversity that it had before the loss of affirmative action nearly 20 years ago, a level that, at the time, was widely considered to be inadequate to meet the needs of the state and its young people because it did not achieve parity with the state’s ethnic demographics; and

WHEREAS, The importance of diversity in educational settings cannot be overstated. The Supreme Court of the United States outlined the benefits that arise from diversity, as follows, “the destruction of stereotypes, the promotion of cross-racial understanding, the preparation of a student body for an increasingly diverse workforce and society, and the cultivation of a set of leaders with legitimacy in the eyes of the citizenry”; and

WHEREAS, Federal courts continue to reaffirm the value of diversity in favor of race conscious admissions, as exemplified by United States District Judge Allison D. Burroughs who stated, “race conscious admissions programs that survive strict scrutiny have an important place in society and help ensure that colleges and universities can offer a diverse atmosphere that fosters learning, improves scholarship, and encourages mutual respect and understanding. Further, Judge Burroughs recognized that there are no race-neutral alternatives that would allow a university to achieve an adequately diverse student body while still perpetuating its standards for academic and other forms of excellence; and
WHEREAS, It is the intent of the Legislature that California remedy discrimination against, and underrepresentation of, certain disadvantaged groups in a manner consistent with the United States Constitution and allow gender, racial, and ethnic diversity to be considered among the factors used to decide college admissions and hiring and contracting by government institutions; and

WHEREAS, It is further the intent of the Legislature that California transcend a legacy of unequal treatment of marginalized groups and promote fairness and equal citizenship by affording the members of marginalized groups a fair and full opportunity to be integrated into state public institutions that advance upward mobility, pay equity, and racial wealth gap reduction; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly, the Senate concurring, That the Legislature of the State of California at its 2019–20 Regular Session commencing on the third day of December 2018, two-thirds of the membership of each house concurring, hereby proposes to the people of the State of California, that the Constitution of the State be amended as follows:

That Section 31 of Article I thereof is repealed.
MEMORANDUM
ITEM NO. 7

DATE: JULY 13, 2020
TO: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER
SUBJECT: SAFE TAP WATER SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN

SUMMARY
Tap water is integral to our way of life, providing water daily for drinking, cleaning, and hygiene. The importance of clean, safe, and reliable tap water has been highlighted during the Covid-19 epidemic, as residents are asked to wash their hands regularly and maintain good hygiene and sanitation in their home and work environments. The coronavirus does not transmit through drinking water and residents have been encouraged to use tap water as normal throughout the response measures.

However, with other challenges to drinking water that have emerged recently, WRD remains committed to protecting and managing a safe and reliable supply of groundwater for its network of water providers in southern Los Angeles County.

Tap water is highly regulated, widely available, and protected from shut-offs during the Covid-19 response period. Residents should be assured that their water is safe and that they do not need to stockpile bottled water for home use.

At the June 8, 2020 External Affairs Committee meeting, a request was made to explore a Drink Tap Water social media campaign that highlights the importance and safety of tap water in our everyday lives.

FISCAL IMPACT
Funds currently exist in the External Affairs Budget for this campaign including social and print media advertising funds.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION
For discussion and possible action.
MEMORANDUM
ITEM NO. 8

DATE: JULY 13, 2020
TO: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER
SUBJECT: LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION (LAFCO) NOMINATION

SUMMARY
Since 1994, special districts in Los Angeles County have been represented by two members to the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO).

The office of the alternate representative became vacant in December 2019 and there will be an election to fill this vacancy.

By law, independent special district seats on LAFCO are filled by the Special District Selection Committee. That Committee is made up of the presiding officers of each independent special district in Los Angeles County.

Nominations for the Committee’s consideration are welcome until July 24, 2020 no later than 5:00pm. Nominees must be an elected official or appointed to the board for a fixed term.

After nominations are received, each district will receive a complete package of nominee resumes along with a ballot for consideration by the presiding officer of the WRD Board of Directors.

FISCAL IMPACT
None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION
For discussion and possible action.
MEMORANDUM

To: Los Angeles County Independent Special Districts
From: William F. Kruse, Special Counsel
Date: May 26, 2020
Subject: Nomination of Candidate; LAFCO Alternate

As you know, since 1994 special districts in Los Angeles County have been represented by two members of the Local Agency Formation Commission. The office of the alternate representative, Joseph T. Ruzicka, became vacant with his untimely death in December, 2019. On behalf of the special districts of Los Angeles County, LAFCO has appointed us to assist in conducting the election to fill this vacancy. The term will expire in May, 2022.

By law, independent special district seats on LAFCO are filled by the Special District Selection Committee. That Committee is made up of the presiding officers of each independent special district in Los Angeles County.

In order to expedite the process of electing the alternate, I have included a form to be used to nominate candidates for consideration for the position. After nominations are received, each district will receive a complete package of nominee resumes, together with a ballot for consideration by the presiding officer of your board. Voting will be conducted by mailed ballot.

Nominations for the Committee’s consideration are welcome. Please provide as much relevant information about the candidate as reasonably possible. Any biographical information and/or candidate statement should be limited to one page. Please remember that, to be eligible, the nominee must be an elected official or appointed to your board for a fixed term. Nominations must be received in the office of Lagerlof, LLP, ATTN: WILLIAM F. KRUSE, no later than 5:00 p.m., on July 24, 2020.

Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions.
Voice: (626) 793-9400
Fax: (626) 793-5900
NOMINATION
OF
INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICT ALTERNATE
TO THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

To: Independent Special District Selection Committee

From: __________________________________________________________

Date: _________________________________________________________

Name of Candidate: _____________________________________________

________________________________________________________________ is pleased to nominate

________________________________________________________________ as a candidate for appointment as special district alternate

representative to the Los Angeles Local Agency Formation Commission. The nominee is an elected
official or a member of the board of an independent special district appointed for a fixed term. For your
consideration, we submit the following additional information together with a resume of the candidate’s
qualifications.

Elective office: _________________________________________________

Agency: _______________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

Type of Agency: _________________________________________________

Term Expires: ___________________________________________________

Residence Address: _____________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

Telephone: _____________________________________________________

PLEASE ATTACH RESUME OR CANDIDATE STATEMENT (limit one page)

________________________________________________________________

(Name of Agency)

By: ____________________________________________________________

Its: ____________________________________________________________