



# **THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS**

## **Mayors Water Council**

**October 13 – 14, 2022  
Ontario, California  
(Tahoe/Sequoia)**



# THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

## Mayors Water Council

October 13-14, 2022

Ontario Airport Hotel  
700 North Haven Street  
Ontario, California 91764

## AGENDA

### Day 1

Thursday October 13, 2022

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>1:00 PM – 1:15 PM</b><br>(Tahoe/Sequoia) | <b>Welcome Remarks</b><br><b>Mayor Deborah Robertson</b> , City of Rialto, CA<br><b>Mayor Paul S. Leon</b> , City of Ontario, CA<br><b>Alan J. Wapner</b> , Chairman of the Ontario Airport Authority,<br>City of Ontario, CA |
| <b>1:15 PM – 1:30 PM</b><br><b>Remarks</b>  | <b>Gloria D. Gray</b><br>Chairwoman of the Board<br>Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  |
| <b>1:30 PM – 2:00 PM</b>                    | <b>Public Water Infrastructure and Federal Financial Assistance</b><br><i>Moderator: Mayor Deborah Robertson</i>  |
| <b>Remarks</b>                              | <b>Héctor Aguirre</b> , Assistant Director for Tribal and State Assistance<br>Water Division, U.S. EPA Pacific Southwest Region 9<br>United States Environmental Protection Agency  |
| <b>2:00 PM – 4:00 PM</b>                    | <b>Western City Water Supply: Status &amp; Plans</b><br><i>Moderator: Mayor Deborah Robertson</i>   |

A Century drought in the western states has reduced water supplies in the Colorado River and storage at lake reservoirs. Government officials are publicly acknowledging that water conservation is necessary element of water supply management but is insufficient by itself to meet future water demand while current demand levels challenge existing allocations. The traditional water rights regime is under scrutiny, and the federal government is stepping in to ration the Colorado River water while seeking state cooperation. Local governments

provide water services and changes in water supply and its timing and cost are critical to water supply planning and budgeting. How will federal actions to ration water affect cities, and what are cities doing to secure water supplies?

**Remarks**

**Gary Gold**, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science  
United States Department of the Interior

**Dorene D'Adamo**, Vice Chair  
California State Water Resources Control Board

**Mayor Patricia Lock Dawson**, City of Riverside, CA

**Mayor Fred Jung**, City of Fullerton, CA

**Evan Jacobs**  
Director of Communications & External Affairs,  
California American Water

**Jeff Neemann**  
California Area Director  
Black & Veatch

**4:00 PM – 4:15 PM**

**Break**

**4:15 PM – 4:45 PM**

**Central Valley Water**

*Moderator: Mayor Deborah Robertson*

**Channing Hawkins**  
Chairman of the Board  
West Valley Water District

**Soheil Sadighil**, General Manager  
Veolia Water

**Chandrasekar Venkatraman**  
Director of Capital Program Management  
Veolia Water

**4:45 PM – 5:15 PM**

**Southern California Area Government (SCAG)**  
**Resolution: No.22-647-3**

**Remarks**

**Supervisor Luis A. Plancarte**  
**Darin Chidsey**, COO  
**Sarah Jepson**, Director, Planning & Programs

**5:15 PM**

**Adjourn**

**6:00 PM - 8:00 PM**  
**(Ponderosa Room)**

**Reception:**

**Speakers Invited**  
**U.S. Representative Peter Aguilar**  
**U.S. Representative Norma Torres**

**State Senator Connie Leyva  
State Assembly Member James Ramos  
Chairman Channing Hawkins**

**Sponsor: Veolia Water**

**Day 2  
Friday October 14, 2022**

<b>8:00 AM – 9:00 AM (Tahoe/Sequoia)</b>	<b>Buffet Breakfast Sponsored by: CITY OF RIALTO</b>
<b>9:00 AM – 9:10 AM (Tahoe/Sequoia)</b>	<b>Opening Remarks</b> <i>Mayor Deborah Robertson, Co-Chair</i>
<b>Remarks</b>	<b>Mayor Acquanetta Warren, City of Fontana, CA</b>
<b>9:10 AM – 9:55 AM</b>	<b>Water/Sewer Infrastructure Investment</b> <i>Moderator: Mayor Deborah Robertson</i>
<b>Remarks</b>	Staff Report  <b>Mayor Deborah Robertson</b> Lake Rialto Habitat Management and Community Open Space Project  <b>John J. Burdette III, CEM, CDSM, LEED AP</b> Business Development Manager Facilities, Buildings and Service (FBS) VEOLIA NORTH AMERICA
<b>9:55 AM – 10:10 AM</b>	<b>EPA Changes to the Clean Water Act Financial Capability Assessment Tool</b> <i>Moderator: Mayor Deborah Robertson</i>
<b>Remarks</b>	<b>Fredric P. Andes, Esq.</b> Partner, Barnes & Thornburg LLP
<b>10:10 AM – 10:20 AM</b>	<b>Supreme Court Hears Arguments Challenging EPA Regulatory Authority over Waters of the United States (WOTUS)</b> <i>Moderator: Mayor Deborah Robertson</i>
<b>Remarks</b>	<b>Ana D. Schwab, Director of Government Affairs</b> Best Best & Krieger
<b>10:20 AM – 11:00 AM</b>	<b>Regulatory Status of PFOS/PFOA: EPA Proposes to Declare a Hazardous Waste</b> <i>Moderator: Mayor Deborah Robertson</i>
<b>Remarks</b>	Staff Report- Joint Comments of USCM, NLC and NACo  <b>“Prioritizing Risks in Drinking Water - Putting PFAS Risk into Context”</b>



**Chad Seidel**, Ph.D., P.E., President of Corona Environmental and Water & Health Advisory Council

**Adrienne Nemura**, P.E., Principal  
Geosyntec Consultants,

**Ana D. Schwab**, Director of Government Affairs  
Best Best & Krieger

## **Q&A**

**11:00 AM - 11:10 AM Break**

**11:10 AM – 11:30 AM Mayor’s Roundtable**

Mayors introduce themselves and provide a brief report on the use of ARPA Funding for local water, sewer and stormwater projects.

**11:30 AM – 12:00 PM Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and Federal Grants and Loans**

*Moderator: Mayor Deborah Robertson*

Staff Report –  
Implementation of the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund  
Provisions of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law:  
EPA Memorandum March 8, 2022

**Evan Jacobs**  
Director of Communications & External Affairs,  
California American Water

**12:00 PM**

**ADJOURN**

**Business casual attire suggested**



## **MAYORS WATER COUNCIL**

**2022 Mayoral Membership  
June 2022**



### ***Co-Chairs***

***Daniel Horrigan, Mayor of Akron, OH***

***Deborah Robertson, Mayor of Rialto, CA***

***Deborah Robertson***  
*Mayor of Rialto, CA*

***Cathy Murillo***  
*Mayor of Santa Barbara,  
CA*

***Joe Ganim***  
*Mayor of Bridgeport, CT*

***Philippe Bien-Aime***  
*Mayor of North Miami, FL*

***Frank Ortis***  
*Mayor of Pembroke Pines,  
FL*

***Rochelle Robinson***  
*City of Douglasville, GA*

***Michael Victorino***  
*Mayor of Maui, HI*

***Frank Cownie***  
*Mayor of Des Moines, IA*

***Kevin C. Richardson***  
*Mayor of Lake Barrington,  
IL*

***Mark W. Myers***  
*Mayor of Greenwood, IN*

***LaToya Cantrell***  
*Mayor of New Orleans, LA*

***Bridget Donnell Newton***  
*City of Rockville, MD*

***Debra March***  
*City of Henderson, NV*

***J. Christian Bollwage***  
*City of Elizabeth, NJ*

***David R. Mayer***  
*City of Gloucester, NJ*

***Timothy McDonough***  
*Mayor of Hope, NJ*

***Daniel Horrigan***  
*City of Akron, OH*

***Glenn Lewis***  
*Mayor of Moore, OK*

***Steve Callaway***  
*Mayor of Hillsboro, OR*

***Danene Sorace***  
*Mayor of Lancaster, PA*

***Shawn N. Reilly***  
*Mayor of Waukesha, WI*



## 2022 Water Development Advisory Board of The Mayors Water Council



### **Full Members**

American Water, Inc.

Veolia Water North America

### **Associate Members**

Badger Meter

Black & Veatch

Ductile Iron Pipe Research Association

Plastics Pipe Institute

Stantec

UNI-BELL PVC Pipe Association

Water & Health Advisory Council

### **Affiliate Members**

Barnes & Thornburg LLP

Best Best & Krieger (BB&K)

Earth & Water Law

Geosyntec Consultants

Hawkins Delafield & Wood

KHAFRA Engineering, Inc.



THE UNITED STATES  
CONFERENCE OF MAYORS



September 20, 2022

Mr. Barry Breen  
Acting Assistant Administrator  
Office of Land and Emergency Management  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20460

**RE: Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OLEM-2019-0341**

Dear Acting Assistant Administrator Breen:

On behalf of the nation's mayors, cities, and counties, we respectfully ask for a 60-day extension - at minimum - to submit comments on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Proposed *Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act Hazardous Substances: Designation of Perfluorooctanoic Acid and Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid*. We further request that EPA prepare and publicly report a full economic and regulatory impact analysis of the proposed action.

Implementing the proposed rule will impact the operations and budgets of local government drinking water, wastewater, airport, firefighting, and landfill facilities and could impose significant new financial burdens on households in our communities. Given the scope and magnitude of impacts that will occur when local governments are required to administer and implement a final version of this proposed rule, and the likelihood of additional legal implications for local governments, we request that EPA extend the comment deadline to allow additional time to review and provide appropriate comments.

It is for these same reasons that EPA must prepare and report with complete transparency a full economic and regulatory impact analysis. This analysis of the full direct and indirect costs and benefits has not been prepared by the agency to date despite the White House Office of Management and Budget's designation of the proposed rule as economically significant. Due to this current lack of critical information, local governments request the agency work expeditiously to complete the analysis.

This analysis is even more critical given EPA's failure to conduct a consultation consistent with E.O. 13132: Federalism, despite the clear economic significance of the rule and its implications for state and local governments.

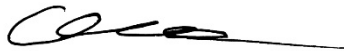
As intergovernmental partners, local leaders are dedicated to addressing concerns related to PFAS exposure and protecting the health and well-being of residents. We therefore urge the EPA to work with us to determine the best way to address PFAS in the environment.

On behalf of the nation's mayors, cities, and counties, we thank you for considering these requests and we look forward to working with the agency to ensure a final rule is practical and implementable at the local level. If you have any questions, please contact our staff: Judy Sheahan (USCM) at 202-861-6775 or [jsheahan@usmayors.org](mailto:jsheahan@usmayors.org); Carolyn Berndt (NLC) at 202-626-3101 or [Berndt@nlc.org](mailto:Berndt@nlc.org); or Sarah Gimont (NACo) at 202-942-4254 or [sgimont@naco.org](mailto:sgimont@naco.org).

Sincerely,



Tom Cochran  
CEO and Executive Director  
The U.S. Conference of Mayors



Clarence E. Anthony  
CEO and Executive Director  
National League of Cities



Matthew D. Chase  
Executive Director  
National Association of Counties



September 14, 2022

***SUBMITTED VIA E-MAIL***

Mr. Michael S. Regan, Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

RE: Proposed Rule - Designation of Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS) as CERCLA Hazardous Substances (EPA-HQ-OLEM-2019-0341; FRL-7204-02-OLEM)

Dear Administrator Regan:

The undersigned organizations respectfully request that the comment period for the above referenced rulemaking be extended by 60 days.

EPA requests comment on a number of important issues relating to the proposed designations of PFOA and PFOS under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). Given the magnitude and complexity of the proposed rule and its potential impact on the water sector, we believe that a 120-day comment period is necessary to adequately respond to EPA's request for comment and provide a reasonable opportunity for public review.

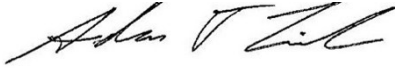
Furthermore, it is imperative that regulated entities – especially those in the water sector – have time for a thorough examination of the Economic Assessment of the Potential Costs and Other Impacts for the proposed rule. This document has not been previously seen by the public, and our organizations have serious concerns that the assessment significantly underestimates the potential economic costs on the water sector from the proposed rule. It is critical that the water sector have time to accurately determine the potential economic impacts of the proposal and provide that information to EPA so that the rulemaking record is as complete as possible.

We would appreciate a response to this request as soon as possible. Should you have questions or would like to discuss this matter, please contact Kristina Surfus at 202-833-4655 or [ksurfus@nacwa.org](mailto:ksurfus@nacwa.org).

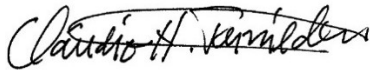
Sincerely,



Kristina Surfus  
Managing Director, Government Affairs  
National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA)



Adam D. Link  
Executive Director  
California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA)



Claudio H. Ternieden  
Chief Policy Officer  
Water Environment Federation (WEF)



G. Tracy Mehan, III  
Executive Director of Government Affairs  
American Water Works Association (AWWA)



Tom Dobbins  
CEO  
Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA)



THE UNITED STATES  
CONFERENCE OF MAYORS



July 11, 2022

Mr. Barry Breen  
Acting Assistant Administrator  
Office of Land and Emergency Management  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20460

Ms. Christine Kymn  
Chief  
Natural Resources and Environment Branch  
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs  
Office of Management and Budget  
725 17<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Washington DC, 20503

Dear Acting Assistant Administrator Breen and Ms. Kymn,

In the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) PFAS Strategic Roadmap, the Office of Land and Emergency Management committed to preparing a proposed rule to designate perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)



this year. As our respective associations have communicated to EPA and Congress, the designation of per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances as hazardous substances will have significant financial implications for local governments.

Recently, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce published a report, “PFOS and PFOA Private Cleanup Costs at Non-Federal Superfund Sites,” which illustrates that a direct outcome of the anticipated determination will, on average, lead to between \$700 million and \$800 million in cost every year for the next three decades.

Importantly, the Chamber analysis is a conservative estimate of the potential impact and does not address the impacts that will be borne by local governments and water/wastewater systems. Communities will likely bear significant legal fees, if not the cost of corrective action, if PFOA and PFOS are listed as hazardous substances under CERCLA. For context, there are almost 16,000 wastewater treatment works in the United States, which in keeping with EPA policy, historically and currently pursued beneficial uses for solids from their treatment processes. The nation’s roughly 50,000 community water systems are similarly at risk of such expenses and liability due to their need to dispose of PFOA and PFOS that are removed from drinking water supplies during the water treatment process. Finally, municipal governments could incur liability due to other facilities they have operated where PFOA and PFOS contamination occurred, such as fire training facilities and landfills.

The proposed rule has been in Executive Order 12866 review for several months. We urge the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs to ensure that prior to completing its review, the proposal is accompanied by and consistent with a robust economic analysis in keeping with both Office of Management and Budget and EPA guidance for such analyses (i.e., Executive Order 12866, Circular A-4, and EPA’s Guidelines for Preparing Economic Analyses). Adding PFOA and PFOS to the list of hazardous substances is a definitional change akin to EPA’s rulemakings for the definition of “Waters of the United States” – for which extensive economic analysis was conducted.

In a similar vein, the direct and indirect economic consequences on local governments and water/wastewater systems by this rulemaking warrant consultations required by statute and established practice. **The undersigned organizations ask that the proposed action not be undertaken in haste without EPA adhering to the consultation requirements of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Act (SBREFA), Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA), and Executive Order 13132: Federalism.**

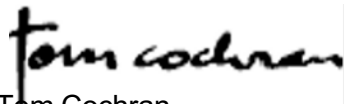
Congressional intent as outlined under UMRA and SBREFA clearly anticipate the agency engaging in pre-proposal consultation for a rulemaking of this magnitude, given the reasonable **prospect that the rule will impose new and significant economic burdens on local governments. Under the Executive Order, federal agencies must consult with state and local government officials early and often in the rulemaking process.** These consultation processes are beneficial in ensuring that rules are implementable and cost-effective. EPA’s

Local Government Advisory Committee has similarly called for consultation prior to setting regulatory standards for PFAS.

A hallmark of this administration is sound policy development that adheres to legal requirements. Prior to proceeding, EPA and this rulemaking would benefit from conducting the analyses and consultation that it must undergo according to statute and executive order.

We welcome an opportunity to discuss this matter. Please feel free to contact our staff: Judy Sheahan (USCM) at 202-355-8540 or [jsheahan@usmayors.org](mailto:jsheahan@usmayors.org); Carolyn Berndt (NLC) at 202-626-3101 or [Berndt@nlc.org](mailto:Berndt@nlc.org); Sarah Gimont (NACo) at 202-942-4254 or [sgimont@naco.org](mailto:sgimont@naco.org); Brian Redder (AMWA) at 202-331-2820 #108 or [redder@amwa.net](mailto:redder@amwa.net); Steve Via (AWWA) at 202-326-6130 or [svia@awwa.org](mailto:svia@awwa.org); Eric Saperstein (CASA) at 202.466.3755 or [esap@ensresources.com](mailto:esap@ensresources.com); Nathan Gardner-Andrews (NACWA) at (202)833-3692 or [NGardner-Andrews@nacwa.org](mailto:NGardner-Andrews@nacwa.org); Rik Hull (NAWC) at [rik@nawc.org](mailto:rik@nawc.org) or 267-691-7765; Mike Keegan (NRWA) at 202-294-4785 or [keegan@nrwa.org](mailto:keegan@nrwa.org); or Steve Dye (WEF) at 703.684.2400 or [sdye@wef.org](mailto:sdye@wef.org).

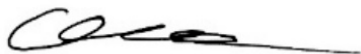
Sincerely,



Tom Cochran  
Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director  
U.S. Conference of Mayors



Tom Dobbins  
Chief Executive Officer  
Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies



Clarence E. Anthony  
Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director  
National League of Cities



Adam D. Link  
Executive Director  
California Association of Sanitation Agencies



Matthew D. Chase  
Chief Executive Officer / Executive Director  
National Association of County Officials



Adam Krantz  
Chief Executive Officer  
National Association of Clean Water Agencies



G. Tracy Mehan, III  
Executive Director of Government Affairs  
American Water Works Association



Robert F. Powelson  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
National Association of Water Companies



Matthew Holmes  
Chief Executive Officer  
National Rural Water Association



Walter T. Marlowe, P.E., CAE  
Executive Director  
Water Environment Federation

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-647-3**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
AFFIRMING A DROUGHT AND WATER SHORTAGE EMERGENCY IN THE SCAG  
REGION AND CALLING ON LOCAL AND REGIONAL PARTNERS TO JOIN TOGETHER  
TO ADOPT AN “ALL OF THE ABOVE” RESPONSE TO SUCH EMERGENCY, INCLUDING  
REDUCING WATER USE; IMPROVING WATER CONSERVATION, REUSE, AND  
EFFICIENCY; ENHANCING WATER SYSTEMS’ HEALTH AND RESILIENCE; PURSUING  
AND POTENTIALLY IMPLEMENTING NEW WATER SUPPLY AND STORAGE  
OPPORTUNITIES; AND SUPPORTING INVESTMENTS IN WATER INFRASTRUCTURE  
AND CONSERVATION PRACTICES THAT SUPPORT THE REGION’S ECONOMIC AND  
POPULATION GROWTH AND FOSTERS PLANNING FOR THE REGION’S HOUSING  
NEEDS IDENTIFIED IN CONNECT SOCIAL**

**REGIONAL COUNCIL OFFICERS**

President  
**Jan C. Harnik, Riverside County  
Transportation Commission**

First Vice President  
**Art Brown, Buena Park**

Second Vice President  
**Curt Hagman, County of  
San Bernardino**

Immediate Past President  
**Clint Lorimore, Eastvale**

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Executive/Administration  
**Jan C. Harnik, Riverside County  
Transportation Commission**

Community, Economic &  
Human Development  
**Frank Yokoyama, Cerritos**

Energy & Environment  
**Deborah Robertson, Rialto**

Transportation  
**Ray Marquez, Chino Hills**

**WHEREAS**, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is the largest metropolitan planning organization (MPO) in the United States covering six counties (Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura), and serving approximately 19 million people within 197 jurisdictions pursuant to 23 USC § 134 et seq. and 49 USC § 5303 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, SCAG is responsible for bringing Southern California’s diverse residents and local partners together with unifying regional plans, policies, and programs that result in healthy, livable, sustainable, and economically resilient communities; and

**WHEREAS**, clean, safe, affordable, and reliable water supply is central to Southern California’s people, economy, and natural systems; and

**WHEREAS**, the conservation, replenishment, and development of water supplies, mitigation of future water supply shortages, and investment in sustainable water infrastructure are essential to ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of communities, agriculture, and the environment, and to supporting the projected economic and population growth of the region; and

**WHEREAS**, investments in sustainable water infrastructure are required to support the 1.3 million units of housing required in the 6<sup>th</sup> cycle Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) including recycled water systems; greywater capture and reuse; groundwater recharge; and urban runoff capture; and

**WHEREAS**, climate change will continue to threaten California’s water supply and water quality resulting from a combination of persistent and extreme drought conditions, increased volatility in precipitation, continued reductions in snowpack,

unsustainable use of groundwater, decreased soil moisture, and higher overall in-stream temperatures<sup>1</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, higher temperatures associated with climate-related extreme heat conditions will continue to increase demand for water use, reduce available water supply and groundwater replenishment rates due to environmental factors<sup>2</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, infill and multifamily development generally require less water than expansive regional development patterns, and the type of new development has a significant bearing on more water use to maintain lawns and other landscaping<sup>3</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, in July 2020 the State released a Water Resilience Portfolio that includes a set of actions to meet California's water needs through the 21st century, with principles that include prioritizing multi-benefit approaches that meet several needs at once; utilizing natural infrastructure such as forests and floodplains; embracing innovation and new technologies; encouraging regional approaches among water users sharing watersheds; and incorporating successful approaches from other parts of the world; and

**WHEREAS**, in August 2022 the State released a Water Supply Strategy that lays out a series of actions aimed at preparing for an estimated 10% decrease in California's water supply by 2040 due to higher temperatures and decreased runoff by developing new water through recycling and desalination; capturing and saving more stormwater, above ground and below ground; reducing use of water in cities and on farms; and improving all water management actions with better data, forecasting, conveyance, and administration of water rights; and

#### **SUPPLY THREATS**

**WHEREAS**, on April 21, May 10, July 8, and October 19, 2021, Governor Newsom issued proclamations that a state of emergency exists statewide due to severe drought conditions and directed state agencies to take immediate action to preserve critical water supplies and mitigate the effects of drought<sup>4</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 18, 2022 and June 10, 2022, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted two emergency regulations to help conserve water as climate change continues to disrupt California's water system<sup>5</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, the Colorado River Basin supplies approximately 25 percent of Southern California's water<sup>6</sup>, and, on August 16, 2021, the US Department of the Interior declared the first-ever water shortage

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<sup>1</sup> Governor's Office of Planning and Research, California Energy Commission, and California Natural Resources Agency (2019). *California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment Statewide Summary Report*.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> SCAG (2020). *Connect SoCal, Sustainable Communities Strategy Technical Report*,

<sup>4</sup> State Water Resources Control Board (May 24, 2022). *Resolution 2022-0018 TO ADOPT AN EMERGENCY REGULATION TO REDUCE WATER DEMAND AND IMPROVE WATER CONSERVATION* State Water Resources Control

<sup>5</sup> State Water Resources Control Board (2022). *Water Conservation Portal, Water Conservation Emergency Regulations*.

<sup>6</sup> Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. *Our Foundation: Securing Our Imported Supplies*.

declaration in history for the Colorado River Basin as water flows and reservoir levels have dramatically declined due to climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, groundwater is a critical resource that accounts for 40 percent of California's total annual water supply in normal years and almost 60 percent in drought years when surface water is less available, but California's current groundwater levels are strained with approximately 63 percent of monitoring wells at historic lows<sup>7</sup> and groundwater overdraft has led to land subsidence and damage to infrastructure, drying up of local wells, depletion of streamflows, and decreased water quality<sup>8</sup>; and

#### **ECONOMIC THREATS**

**WHEREAS**, recent analysis from University of California, Davis estimates that the 2016 drought in California resulted in over \$600 million in direct economic damages (annual losses) and resulted in the loss of 4,700 jobs<sup>9</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, pressures from climate change, sanitation and water quality needs, and necessary infrastructure upgrades are placing increasing strain on water prices. Estimates of the cost to replace aging infrastructure in the United States are projected to be over \$1 trillion dollars in the next 20 years to replace outdated systems and could triple the cost of household water bills<sup>10</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, California spends about \$37 billion annually on its water system, with 84 percent of funding coming from local water bills and taxes, and urban utilities must raise funds to replace aging infrastructure, comply with requirements, and update infrastructure to adapt to climate change<sup>11</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, projected increases in water rates over the next five years estimate that the percentage of U.S. households who will find water bills unaffordable could triple from roughly 12 percent to over 35 percent<sup>12</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, monthly water bills have been growing two to three times faster than inflation in California's urban areas and lower-income households across California face growing affordability challenges as water bills increase, with nearly 13 percent statewide of single-family households with water bills that exceed 2 percent of their annual incomes<sup>13</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, water bills have been rising faster than inflation in many parts of California to cover rising costs and State Water Board estimates that 21 percent of California's water systems have water

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<sup>7</sup> State of California Department of Water Resources. *California's Groundwater Live Current Groundwater Conditions*.

<sup>8</sup> Cooley, H. et al. (Apr. 2022). *The Untapped Potential of California's Urban Water Supply: Water Efficiency, Water Reuse, and Stormwater Capture*.

<sup>9</sup> Medellín-Azuara, J. et al. (2016). *Economic Analysis of the 2016 California Drought on Agriculture*. 20.

<sup>10</sup> Mack, E, and Wrase, S (2017). *A Burgeoning Crisis? A Nationwide Assessment of the Geography of Water Affordability in the United States*.

<sup>11</sup> Chappelle, C. et al. (May 2021). Public Policy Institute of California. *Paying for California's Water System*.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> Hanak, E. et al. (Mar. 2014). Public Policy Institute of California. *Paying For Water in California*.

rates that are unaffordable (i.e., cost 1.5 percent or more of median household income) for basic needs<sup>14</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, renters and low-income households are less likely to participate in water conservation and efficiency programs<sup>15</sup>; and

#### **AGRICULTURE/NATURAL LAND/HEAT THREATS**

**WHEREAS**, agriculture is an invaluable asset to the SCAG region but agricultural production is increasingly vulnerable to drought impacts, water shortages, and over-reliance on groundwater to withstand droughts<sup>16</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, the direct economic impacts of prolonged drought on water quality and agriculture at national level are estimated to be greater than \$3 billion annually<sup>17</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2021 drought directly cost the California agricultural sector \$1.2 billion and approximately 8,745 jobs<sup>18</sup> and the total impacts including other economic sectors are estimated at \$1.7 billion and 14,634 jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, climate change related increases in extreme heat days reduce available water supply through evapotranspiration, and can lead to deadly pathogens in freshwater sources<sup>19</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, low water storage levels and water right curtailments as a result of drought reduced surface water deliveries to farms in 2021 and water shortages led to an additional estimated 395,000 acres of idled land and an estimated \$1.1 billion in crop revenue losses and increased pumping costs due to deficit irrigation<sup>20</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, the Colorado River is the Imperial Valley's only source of water and the Imperial Valley has been using less water, conserving over 7 million acre-feet of the Colorado River and California's water supplies<sup>21</sup>; and

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<sup>14</sup> Chappelle, C. and Hanak, E. (May 2021). Public Policy Institute of California. *Water Affordability in California Fact Sheet*.

<sup>15</sup> Pierce, G. et al. (Mar. 25, 2021). *Solutions to the problem of drinking water service affordability: A review of the evidence*.

<sup>16</sup> Governor's Office of Planning and Research, California Energy Commission, and California Natural Resources Agency (2019). *California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment Statewide Summary Report*.

<sup>17</sup> Governor's Office of Planning and Research, California Energy Commission, and California Natural Resources Agency (2019). *California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment Statewide Summary Report*.

<sup>18</sup> Medellín-Azuara, J. et al. (2022). *Economic Impacts of the 2021 Drought on California Agriculture. Preliminary Report*.

<sup>19</sup> UNICEF (Mar. 18, 2022). *Water and the global climate crisis: 10 things you should know*. W

<sup>20</sup> Escrivá-Bou, A. et al. (Apr. 2022). Public Policy Institute of California. *Policy Brief: Drought and California's Agriculture*.

<sup>21</sup> Hanks, J. (Jun. 16, 2022). *IID Board President Issues Statement on Federal Hearing Examining Solutions to Extreme Drought in Western U.S.*

**WHEREAS**, in June 2022, the Federal Bureau of Reclamation requested that states and Tribes in the Colorado River Basin, including California and the Imperial Valley that depends on water from the Colorado River, will need to collectively conserve between 2 to 4 million-acre feet in 2023<sup>22</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, extreme heat increases demand for potable drinking water to offset certain heat-related health impacts<sup>23</sup>; and

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

**WHEREAS**, conserving water and local water supplies can support climate change mitigation and adaptation, as saving water and replacing imported water with water reuse and stormwater capture requires less energy and reduces greenhouse gas emissions<sup>24</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, water systems that rely on groundwater tend to have lower rates, as treatment and delivery costs are relatively low<sup>25</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, natural areas play an important role in groundwater recharge, protecting watershed and riparian areas, and ensuring clean drinking water for the region, and on October 7, 2020, Governor Newsom issued the Nature-Based Solutions Executive Order N-82- 20, that committed California to the goal of conserving 30 percent of our lands and coastal waters by 2030<sup>26</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, water conservation is the easiest, most efficient, and most cost-effective way to quickly reduce water demand and extend limited water supplies<sup>27</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, within Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's service area, the percentage of local water supplies has increased, providing over 50 percent of the water used in 2020 through use of groundwater, local surface water, recycled water, and recovered groundwater<sup>28</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, even with greater conservation, our region will remain dependent to some degree on imported water, and it is therefore important for SCAG to join with water suppliers, local jurisdictions, and other agencies in efforts to protect and maintain these imported supplies; and

**WHEREAS**, many Southern Californians and water suppliers have made progress in reducing water use and improving efficiency; however, water use is outpacing water replenishment and reducing

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<sup>22</sup> United States Bureau of Reclamation (June 14, 2022). Colorado River Basin. *Commissioner Touton asks Basin States and Tribes to conserve an additional 2-4 million acre-feet of water in 2023*.

<sup>23</sup> Gisolfi, C. (1993). *Water Requirements During Exercise in the Heat*.

<sup>24</sup> Davis, M. (Jun. 2, 2022). SCAG Energy and Environment Committee, *The Evolving Role of Water in Regional Resilience Planning*. 96.

<sup>25</sup> Chappelle, C. and Hanak, E. (May 2021). Public Policy Institute of California. *Water Affordability in California Fact Sheet*.

<sup>26</sup> Executive Department State of California (Oct. 7, 2020). *Executive Order N-82-20*.

<sup>27</sup> State Water Resources Control Board (May 24, 2022). *Resolution 2022-0018 TO ADOPT AN EMERGENCY REGULATION TO REDUCE WATER DEMAND AND IMPROVE WATER CONSERVATION*.

<sup>28</sup> Davis, M. (Jun. 2, 2022). SCAG Energy and Environment Committee, *The Evolving Role of Water in Regional Resilience Planning*. 92.; Cooley, H. et al. (Apr. 2022). *The Untapped Potential of California's Urban Water Supply: Water Efficiency, Water Reuse, and Stormwater Capture*.



water supply at unsustainable rates, and additional conservation actions and water supply sources are needed to address the region's water challenges<sup>29</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, water is necessary to support growth in Southern California and build much-needed housing for the region, and a compact development pattern and the building of infill housing, along with development of thoughtfully conceived master planned communities that afford a variety of housing types, allows for less water consumption, greater water-efficiency, and lower infrastructure costs<sup>30</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 222 establishes the Water Rate Assistance Fund in the State Treasury to help provide water affordability assistance, for both drinking water and wastewater services, to low-income residential ratepayers<sup>31</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Conference of Mayors adopted a resolution in June 2022 clarifying that current state and federal funding of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) primarily supports transportation planning and related land use, stormwater and air quality considerations, and restricts use of funds for planning and technical assistance on many water related issues, which inhibits MPOs from holistically planning for water systems, including groundwater resources and associated infrastructure, resulting in a missed opportunity to integrate the program funding more effectively<sup>32</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, SCAG has adopted mitigation measures for its most recent long-range plan, Connect SoCal 2020, related to coordinating and working with local jurisdictions and water agencies; encouraging regional-scale planning for improved stormwater management, groundwater recharge, wastewater and stormwater management, water quality management, pollution prevention, and drainage patterns; and fostering the implementation of urban greening, greenbelts, and community separator land use strategies that promote improved water quality, groundwater recharge, watershed health, reduced urban runoff, stormwater and rainwater collection<sup>33</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, SCAG is developing a Regional Resilience Framework to help local agencies adapt to persistently arid and drought conditions in the region, with guidance and policy direction from the Resilience & Conservation Subcommittee and Energy & Environment Policy Committee;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Regional Council of SCAG affirms a commitment to support implementing agencies plan for reduced water use; improved water conservation, reuse, and efficiency; enhanced water systems' health and resilience; and investments in sustainable water infrastructure, supply and storage, and conservation practices that support the region's economic and population growth and fosters planning for the region's housing needs identified in Connect SoCal.

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<sup>29</sup> Mount, J., Ellen Hanak, et. al. (May, 2019). *Water Use in California*. Public Policy Institute of California.

<sup>30</sup> Decker, N. et al. (2020). *Right Type Right Place, Assessing the Environmental and Economic Impacts of Infill Residential Development through 2030*. Turner Center for Housing Innovation.

<sup>31</sup> California Legislative Information (September 1, 2022). *SB-222 Water Rate Assistance Program*.

<sup>32</sup> United States Conference of Mayors (June 2022). *Breaking Silos to Use the BIL Funding for Transportation, Land Use, and Water Planning*.

<sup>33</sup> SCAG (May 2020). *Connect SoCal Certified Final Program Environmental Impact Report*.


**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

1. SCAG shall support best practices in resource conservation as well as an integrated planning approaches to help local jurisdictions meet housing production needs in a drier environment.
2. SCAG shall continue to work with local jurisdictions to encourage planning for context sensitive infill, multifamily, and master planned community housing development to reduce per capita water consumption rates.
3. SCAG shall, through the Resilience & Resource Conservation Subcommittee, further explore regional water challenges and solutions and report findings for consideration by SCAG's Energy & Environment Committee.
4. SCAG's Energy & Environment Committee shall make recommendations to SCAG's Legislative Communications & Membership Committee to support legislative advocacy for increased affordability for low income retail customers, including consideration and funding of a state low-income rate program and state distribution of federal funds through an equity lens, and increased resources for water infrastructure, including investments in repairs, modernization, and enhancements of the region's aging infrastructure and related imported water supply infrastructure, that can serve the community and regional needs of Southern California and ensure effectiveness, efficiency, and resiliency of the region's water systems.
5. SCAG shall coordinate with local jurisdictions, water agencies and organizations, the State, and other stakeholders, including social and environmental justice organizations, housing and business groups, and public health organizations, to foster adoption of alternative groundwater recharge technologies, such as permeable pavements, surface infiltration, and well injection systems, and best practices to increase and maintain a sustainable water supply for the region.
6. SCAG will explore opportunities to support implementation of green infrastructure, greywater usage systems and policy, including the development of model ordinances and training and education programs, as well as urban cooling infrastructure with a focus on improving groundwater recharge and reducing water usage in urban areas.
7. SCAG shall hold an Industry Forum and seek national expertise on investments in sustainable water infrastructure that support housing production goals identified in the region's 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Elements.
8. SCAG shall identify, recommend and integrate into Connect SoCal 2024 policies and strategies to align investments in water infrastructure with housing needs and the adopted growth forecast and development pattern.
9. SCAG shall advocate with partners such as the United States Conference of Mayors, the National Association of Regional Councils, and other stakeholders for additional flexibility in the use of state and federal resources to support integrated planning and technical assistance for groundwater resources and associated infrastructure along with transportation, land use,

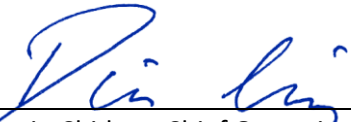
energy, stormwater and air quality, as well as advocate for projects that expand water resources and infrastructure.

10. SCAG staff shall prepare a white paper on the state of water in the region that addresses multiple sectors; addresses issues related to water acquisition, storage, supply, demand and quality; identifies challenges and opportunities to support sustainable and resilient regional development as well as local jurisdictions in developing and implementing water planning efforts in an increasingly arid environment; explores the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of a wide range of strategies under an all-of-the-above approach to addressing the region's water challenges; and includes recommendations for practical ways to support implementing agencies.
11. SCAG staff shall periodically update the Energy & Environment Policy Committee and seek guidance on the implementation of these aforementioned actions.


**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments at its regular meeting this 6<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jan C. Harnik  
President, SCAG  
Riverside County Transportation Commission

Attested by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer, on behalf of  
Kome Ajise  
Executive Director

Approved as to Form:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael R.W. Houston  
Chief Counsel

# Prioritizing Risks in Drinking Water

## Putting PFAS In Context



Visit Us Online

We urge lawmakers to consider a science-based approach to the regulation of PFOA and PFOS which include:

### More Robust Occurrence Data

More occurrence data is needed to determine where high-concentration areas of PFOS/PFOA exist nationally. A one-size-fits-all approach will require water systems to regularly monitor, test and invest millions of dollars and staffing to address contaminants that may not be impacting their community.

### More Substantial Epidemiological and Toxicity Data

Based on the current epidemiological and toxicological data available, regulating PFOA and PFOS does not represent a meaningful opportunity for health risk reduction as defined by previously regulated contaminants.

### A Careful Assessment of Cost and Impact

We must prioritize funding to the areas of highest need. We have great concern that national standards for PFOA/PFOS will shift funding priorities away from known threats impacting public health, such as failing and aging water infrastructure and protections against microbial contaminants.

We ask that policymakers continue to apply a science-based, risk- and cost-benefit analysis when approaching regulating PFOA / PFOS.

## Learn More About PFAS



Does regulating per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances represent a meaningful opportunity for health risk reduction?



What do human studies tell us about the toxicity of PFAS?



When did PFAS in drinking water become a concern?

# Who We Are

We are an independent, multidisciplinary group of professionals that care deeply about water quality, the environment and public health.



**Rob Renner**  
*Council Chair*  
Former Chief  
Executive Officer  
at Water Research  
Foundation



**Kathryn Sorensen**  
*Council Member*  
Director of Research  
at the Kyl Center for  
Water Policy, Arizona  
State University



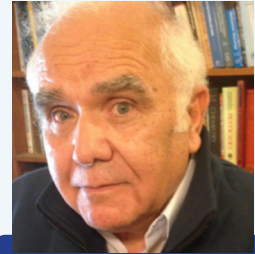
**Chad Seidel**  
*Council Member*  
President at Corona  
Environmental  
Consulting



**Manny Teodoro**  
*Council Member*  
Associate Professor  
of Public Affairs  
at University of  
Wisconsin-Madison



**Joyce Dinglasan-Panlilio**  
*Council Member*  
Division Chair and  
Associate Professor  
in Environmental  
Chemistry at University  
of Washington-Tacoma



**Joseph Cotruvo**  
*Council Member*  
President, Joseph  
Cotruvo & Associates  
and Former Director of  
the EPA Drinking Water  
Standards Division



Gloria D. Gray

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Gloria D. Gray took office as chairwoman of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Board of Directors on January 1, 2019. She is the first African-American to lead the board and only the second woman to do so in the district's 90-year history.

After retiring as a health care administrator from the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, Gray began her career in water in 2006 when she was elected to the West Basin Municipal Water District Board of Directors. She was the first African-American woman elected to that board in its 65 years and served as board president in 2010. She represents the Division II cities and communities of Inglewood, South Ladera Heights, Lennox and the areas of Athens, Howard, and Ross-Sexton.

In 2009, Gray was appointed as one of West Basin's two representatives to Metropolitan's board. In 2017, Gray was appointed chair of the Water Planning and Stewardship Committee and was the first African-American woman to lead the committee, which focuses on Metropolitan water projects, programs, and policies.

An Inglewood resident, Gray got her start in public service in 1995 when she was elected to the Inglewood Unified School District Board of Education, serving as president for two terms. In March 2009, she was appointed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to serve on its Water Quality Community Task Force, part of the county's Clean Water, Clean Beaches initiative to address pollution in local rivers, lakes, bays, beaches, and coastal waters.

In April 2010, Gray was appointed to a four-year term on the Delta Stewardship Council by former California Assembly Speaker Karen Bass. She was the first African-American and the first woman to serve on the council. In 2011, she met with stakeholders from all areas of the state and recommended the Delta Council hold public forums to gain broader input and understanding of key issues in order to develop a comprehensive Delta Plan.

In May 2012, she was confirmed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors as a member of the Oversight Commission for the dissolution of the city of Carson's Redevelopment Agency. In 2013, she was recruited by President Obama's administration to interview for a cabinet position in the Department of the Interior.

In 2014, West Basin's Board of Directors appointed Gray as their representative to the Association of California Water Agencies Region 8, where she currently serves as chair as well

as a representative to the ACWA Joint Powers Insurance Authority. She also was appointed to represent West Basin as a voting board member on the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission. . During her first term for West Basin, Gray initiated West Basin's Local Business Enterprise Program and Local Banking Program that allows local businesses to better compete for work and enhances the local community within West Basin's service area.

In October 2012, Gray received the "Honorable Harriett Wieder" award for her leadership in water from the Southern California Water Committee. She also has been honored by the Friends of the Sisters at the Well for her leadership in civic and public engagement, and the Friends of Ballona Wetlands for her leadership on current and future water supply issues.

In 2018, Gray was recognized for her work in the water industry as Visionary of the Year by Playa Vista Jobs. In 2017, Gray received the Esther Williams Award of Excellence for her continued commitment to community service and water reliability from the South Bay Workforce Investment Board. In recognition of her commitment to community service, Gray received an acknowledgement proclamation from Metropolitan's Board for her work and outstanding leadership on the Delta Stewardship Council, and later received the 2014 African Legacy Award as the first African-American woman to be elected to Metropolitan's Board. Among her other notable honors are the Outstanding Community Honoree award from the A-Man, Inc. STEM International in June 2013 and induction into the National Association of University Women's Hall of Fame for exceptional leadership in March 2013. Over the years, she has received commendations from former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, senators, members of Congress, and many other state and local elected officials.

Since taking office as Metropolitan's chairwoman, Gray has been honored by numerous organizations, including the California Black Chamber of Commerce and several Southern California water agencies. She also has been honored by the Los Angeles City Council and was recognized by the region's small business community at the Meet the Decision Makers Event for her significant contributions to the water industry. In 2019, Gray was honored by Labor 411 Foundation, which supports the creation and preservation of union jobs. The Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber of Commerce recognized and awarded Gray for her outstanding contributions that have led to the overall economic development of African-American businesses. As part of Black History Month in 2019, Gray was honored along with Metrolink Chief Executive Officer Wiggins by the two organizations' Black Employees associations for their leadership and commitment in water and the transportation industry.

Gray was one of 25 women from around the world recognized in a social media campaign by Suez Water on International Women's Day 2019. The National Association of Water Agencies honored Gray at a reception at the U.S. Capitol in Washington D.C., and she was invited to join with other top water leaders as a featured panelist at the California Water Policy conference. Gray also was honored by the non-profit Pacoima Beautiful as a long-time champion of environmental justice issues. In 2020, Gray was recognized by the League of Women Voters for her community engagement and leadership as a woman of color.



Gray has been interviewed and profiled in multiple publications, including the Municipal Water Leader Magazine, Bloomberg Environment, the Los Angeles Sentinel newspaper, and LA Focus magazine.

In 2019, Gray was honored by Delta Sigma Theta, the nation's largest African-American sorority public service organization, was the recipient of Leadership California's 2019 Legacy of Service Award for her extraordinary leadership in the public sector, and by the Women in Water organization of the Association of California Water Agencies. Most recently, Gray was honored with the Los Angeles County Business Federation's Bizzi award for her advocacy for common sense solutions to the communities' most pressing issues and her commitment to growing the economy and improving quality of life.

Demonstrating her support for and mentorship of young women, Chairwoman Gray has worked with representatives from the DIY (Do it Yourself) Girls organization to increase girls' interest and success in technology and engineering, and with members of the Blythe 4-H Youth Development program to address community health inequities, engaging in civil discourse and advocating for equity and inclusion for all. Gray has been a longtime member of SEIU Local 721 (formerly known as SEIU Local 660).

Additionally, Gray has taken multiple leadership roles in the water community outside of her role as Chairwoman of Metropolitan's board. She is vice chair of the Southern California Leadership Council Executive Committee and co-chair of the BizFed Water Committee.

Gray earned her Bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Redlands; a Health Services Management Certificate from the University of California, Los Angeles; and a Masters in Governance Certificate from the California School Boards Association.



**Gary Gold**  
**Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science**

Gary Gold serves as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science at the U.S. Department of the Interior, where he provides leadership and oversight to the Bureau of Reclamation and the United States Geological Survey. He is an attorney and engineer with extensive experience in water law and policy. During his career, Gary has represented a federal reclamation project as an attorney, served as a policy advisor for a U.S. Senator, worked as a water resources engineer for the City of Austin, and led research funded by the National Science Foundation. He holds a law degree, a bachelor's in civil engineering and hydrology, and a master's in water resources and environmental engineering.

## **Dorene D'Adamo**



Dorene D'Adamo was appointed to the State Water Resources Control Board in 2013 and reappointed by Governor Newsom in 2022. She serves as Vice-Chair and also as the member with experience in the field of water supply and water quality relating to irrigated agriculture. Ms. D'Adamo is on the Board of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley and previously served on the Valley Coalition for UC Merced's Medical School and on the Governor's Drought Task Force. She

was a member of the California Air Resources Board from 1999-2013 under the Brown, Schwarzenegger and Davis Administrations, where she was instrumental in the board's air quality and climate change programs and regulations.

Ms. D'Adamo served in various capacities for Members of Congress from the San Joaquin Valley over a 20-year period, working primarily on environmental, water and agricultural legislative policy.

Ms. D'Adamo earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California at Davis and a Juris Doctor from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law.

# **Mayor Patricia Lock Dawson**



Patricia Lock Dawson was elected the 18<sup>th</sup> Mayor of Riverside in November 2020, following nine years of service on the Riverside Unified School District Board of Trustees. Her election makes history as she is the first University of California, Riverside alumna to hold Riverside's mayoral position and the second woman elected Mayor in Riverside's 150-year history.

A Riverside native and small business owner, Mayor Lock Dawson is Principal and Owner of PLD Consulting, which assists organizations with land use, governmental affairs

and strategic planning. She has been instrumental in passing legislation to secure tens of millions of dollars in state and federal funds for regional conservation, habitat, and infrastructure projects. She has served at every level of government and has held many local and state leadership roles.

Since the 1990s, Mayor Lock Dawson has been a champion for the Santa Ana River. She led the Santa Ana River Partnership, a regional coalition of three counties, twenty-four cities and a variety of nonprofits in Riverside, San Bernardino and Orange Counties. Adding to her dedication to Riverside's natural landscape, she also established the Santa Ana River Trust, a non-profit community-involvement program and in 2014 assisted in the crafting of legislation to create the Santa Ana River Conservancy.

Mayor Lock Dawson has spent most of her career in public service, working to better the lives of her fellow community members. In addition to her service on the Riverside Unified School District Board of Trustees (2011-2020), Mayor Lock Dawson also worked for the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and the California State Legislature.

A passionate advocate for the delivery of mental health services, Mayor Lock Dawson is a three-time gubernatorial appointee to the California Board of Behavioral Sciences, serving as Vice-Chairperson for this board that oversees all behavioral science professionals in California. Her appointments are noteworthy as few state board members are appointed and subsequently reappointed by governors from different political parties.

As a committed community member, Mayor Lock Dawson has served as Chairperson for the city's Planning Commission, President of the Inland Chapter of California Women Lead, and has

served on the boards of the California Water Education Foundation, Riverside Art Museum, National Charity League and UCR Alumni Board of Directors, among others.

Honored for her service many times, Mayor Lock Dawson was recognized by The Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce as the Leadership Riverside Distinguished Alumni of the Year. Assemblymember Jose Medina named her a 61st District Woman of Distinction; Keep Riverside Clean and Beautiful presented her with its Lady Bird Johnson Award; and she was honored as Appointee of the Year by California Women Lead.

Mayor Lock Dawson received her Bachelor of Science degree in biology from the University of California, Riverside and her Master of Science degree in wildlife ecology from the University of Washington, in Seattle. She and her husband Scott have three children.

# **Mayor Fred Jung**



Mayor Fred Jung was elected to serve a four-year term representing Council District 1 on the Fullerton City Council in November 2020. Mayor Jung is the first Asian-American Fullerton City Council Member in over 20 years. The term expires in 2024.

Prior to joining Council, Mayor Jung served on the Parks and Recreation Commission and Traffic and Circulation Commission.

Born in Seoul, South Korea, Jung came to the United States at the age of 5. Jung has lived in Fullerton District 1 since 1987. He attended Sunny Hills High School and has volunteered as a Sunny Hills High School football coach for many years.

Mayor Jung has owned many successful small businesses. He also went on to found one of North Orange County's largest youth sports nonprofit organizations. He started the jazz magazines All About Jazz Los Angeles, All About Jazz Chicago, All About Jazz San Francisco, and Jazz Weekly. He also served on the Board of Directors of the Jazz Journalists Association.

Mayor Jung serves as the Vice Chair to the Orange County Power Authority. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and the Board of Directors of the Orange County Housing Finance Trust.

He attended the University of Southern California.

Mayor Fred Jung was elected to a full four-year term representing District 1 in 2020. The term expires in 2024.

Mayor Fred Jung can be reached at (714) 738-6311 and at [fred.jung@cityoffullerton.com](mailto:fred.jung@cityoffullerton.com)



**Evan Jacobs**  
**Director, Communications & External Affairs**  
**California American Water**

Evan got his start in the water industry in 2003 when he began consulting for American Water on local public policy issues. His current role is Director of Communications and External Affairs for California and Hawaii American Water. Previously Evan served as an external affairs manager for American Water in Northern California, New Mexico and Texas and as the director of government affairs for California American Water. During the last drought, Evan managed California American Water's state drought response team and lead successful efforts to achieve a 26 percent reduction in water use. He serves on the boards of several Groundwater Sustainability Agencies in Yolo, Sacramento, and Sonoma Counties and is the President of the California Water Association. Evan met his wife when they attended Trinity College in Hartford, CT and now lives in Davis, CA.

California American Water

California American Water, a subsidiary of American Water (NYSE: AWK), provides high-quality and reliable water and/or wastewater services to more than 880,000 people.

*With a history dating back to 1886, American Water is the largest and most geographically diverse U.S. publicly traded water and wastewater utility company. The company employs more than 7,000 dedicated professionals who provide regulated and market-based drinking water, wastewater and other related services to 15 million people in 46 states. American Water provides safe, clean, affordable and reliable water services to our customers to help make sure we keep their lives flowing. For more information, visit [amwater.com](http://amwater.com) and follow American Water on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).*

###

## **Jeff Neemann**



Dr. Jeff Neemann, P.E. is the California Area Director for Black & Veatch in Irvine, CA. His background is in the development and application of advanced treatment technologies for drinking water, water reclamation, and water reuse. He also has experience in developing and applying big data and technology solutions for the water industry.

He received his B.S. in Civil Engineering and his M.S. in Environmental Engineering from Missouri University of Science and Technology and his D.E. in Civil Engineering from the University of Kansas. He is a licensed engineer in the state of Kansas and a member of IUVA, IOA, IWA, WEF and AWWA.



# Channing Hawkins



The people of the West Valley Water District elected Channing Hawkins to the Board of Directors in November 2019. Director Hawkins represents District 4, which includes the communities of Rialto, Colton, Bloomington and unincorporated areas of San Bernardino County. Understanding that water is a vital public resource, he serves based on the belief that the West Valley Water District must be transparent, accountable and create opportunities that benefit local families. Through his role, he is committed to providing safe, reliable and affordable water for the inland empire.

Director Hawkins is a longtime organizer for worker rights, civil rights and social injustices causes and has served as an adviser to members of the California State Assembly, U.S. Congress and U.S. Department of Agriculture. He currently serves as a County of Riverside worker's rights advocate, City of Rialto human relations commissioner, adult literacy volunteer to City of Colton residents and mentor to County of San Bernardino at-risk youth.

Director Hawkins earned a law degree and undergraduate degree from Howard University in Washington, D.C., is a proud member of the Ecclesia Christian Fellowship in the Del Rosa Community of San Bernardino and is a committed husband and father of three boys. To contact Director Hawkins, please email him at [chawkins@wwwd.org](mailto:chawkins@wwwd.org).

# Soheil Sadighi



Soheil Sadighi obtained his Bachelor's Degree from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and his Juris Doctor from Chapman University School of Law. After years of service at Toyota Financial Services, Soheil joined Veolia as a Regional Contracts Manager. After making a significant impact across the West projects, specifically in Rialto, Soheil filled the Southern California Area

Manager role supporting energy and water/wastewater projects and was directly involved in project management, business development, complex issues, and client management.

Coming full circle in his Veolia career, Soheil returned to Rialto as the Assistant General Manager and for the past two years serving as the General Manager overseeing the operations & maintenance of the City of Rialto's WWTP, Water Distribution System, and Customer Service Center for utility billing.

# **Chandrasekar Venkatraman**



Chandrasekar Venkatraman (“CV”) is the Director of Capital Projects for US-West Region and manages a portfolio of \$100M in Water, Wastewater, Telemetry and Energy upgrade construction projects. He has over 20 years of experience in Engineering, Project Management and Management Consulting.

CV’s education includes Master of Business Administration (MBA) from UCLA Anderson School of Management, Master of Science (MS) in Electrical Engineering from University of Wyoming and Bachelor of Engineering (BE) in Instrumentation from University of Mumbai. CV is a licensed Contractor in General Engineering (ClassA) and a Professional Engineer (PE) in Electrical Engineering in the State of California.

## **John Burdette**



John Burdette serves as the Business Development Manager for Veolia North America from the San Francisco, CA Office. He has over 25 years experience in helping his clients develop comprehensive solutions in water, waste and energy with expertise in energy conservation, indoor air quality, renewable energy generation, energy storage, water conservation, cogeneration, central utility plants, and custom-tailored financing solutions.

He has experience with federal, state and local governments, K-12 school districts, water & wastewater districts, higher education, health care, mission critical data centers, commercial, and industrial facilities and infrastructure.

## **Fredric P. Andes**



Fredric P. Andes is a partner in the Chicago and Washington, D.C. offices of Barnes & Thornburg LLP. He is the leader of the firm's Water Team. He advises trade associations, municipalities, and industries on TMDLs, water quality standards, discharge permits, and other water quality regulatory, compliance and enforcement matters on the state and federal levels.

He is also the coordinator of the Federal Water Quality Coalition, which is a broad-based group of regulated parties that participates in EPA rulemakings concerning Clean Water Act programs and helps manage the activities of the PFAS Regulatory Coalition. Mr. Andes graduated *cum laude* from Harvard Law School and obtained his undergraduate degree from Northwestern University.

## **Ana D. Schwab**



Director of Government Relations Ana D. Schwab works with communities, special districts and stakeholders on matters regarding water, wastewater, environmental and infrastructure issues. Ana draws on her years of experience working in Washington, D.C. to track, advance and guide the development of legislative and regulatory language to build solutions for clients. Ana utilizes the nexus of legal, policy, funding, and regulatory processes to advance clients' goals.

Accomplishments include playing an instrumental role in the passage of land transfer legislation and amendments to legislation regarding primary water and infrastructure funding and regulatory policy, as well as other pieces of legislation and amendments. Additionally, Ana secured federal funding for water, wastewater, and recycling projects. She works with key stakeholders on developing funding and infrastructure solutions for cross-border water pollution.

Before joining Best Best & Krieger LLP, Ana served as a legislative coordinator and legislative assistant at two national law firms. She also served as professional staff for two members of the U.S. House of Representatives.

# Chad Seidel



Chad Seidel, Ph.D., P.E.

Chad Seidel is President of Corona Environmental Consulting and a Research Affiliate at the University of Colorado Boulder. He also a member of the Water & Health Advisory Council. He obtained his Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from CU-Boulder and is a registered engineer in several states. Chad and the Corona Environmental team are helping water utilities, regulatory agencies, and research entities in California and across the U.S. addressing the most challenging public health concerns in drinking water.

Chad has devoted his career to researching and improving how drinking water is regulated and implemented - including the MDBP Rule package, arsenic, nitrate, hexavalent chromium, TCP, lead, PFAS and more. He and his team particularly focus on addressing small water systems challenges.



**Adrienne Nemura, P.E.** (MI, NC, OH)  
**Principal**



Adrienne Nemura is an environmental engineer with Geosyntec Consultants in the Cleveland/Akron region. She has dedicated her 37-year career to helping clients find cost-effective and affordable ways to comply with the Clean Water Act. Her clients include municipalities, industries, agriculture, attorneys, and non-governmental organizations throughout the United States. Adrienne has been at the forefront of influencing new approaches for implementing the Clean Water Act including the development of integrated planning for municipal wastewater and stormwater, permitting approaches for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, and modifications to surface water quality standards. She supports several national and state organizations on Clean Water Act issues and is the Chair of the Water Environment Federation's Integrated Planning Task Force.



As a Civil Engineering graduate of Virginia Tech, Adrienne began her career at the Virginia Water Control Board. While at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments in D.C., she supported 18 local governments with regional wastewater and water resources. Adrienne has been in private consulting for 24 years.