



## **USCM Mayors Water Council Meeting The Lancaster Marriot at Penn Square Lancaster, PA**

April 3-4, 2025

### **AGENDA**

#### **Thursday, April 3**

2:00PM - 4:00PM

##### **City of Lancaster Environmental Walking Tour**

Kick off our meeting with us with a guided walking tour through downtown Lancaster to explore how green infrastructure is helping the city meet its water, energy and climate related goals. This is an outdoor event, so please dress accordingly and wear comfortable closed-toe shoes.

*Note: The tour will start at Ewell Plaza, 123 N Queen Street, Lancaster, PA 17603. (Located one block away from the hotel).*

5:00PM - 7:00PM

##### **Opening Evening Reception: The Exchange**

Located atop the Lancaster Marriot, please join us for food and drinks at *The Exchange*, a rooftop venue offering the best views of the city's historic district.

The reception will be partially open. Please dress comfortably according to the weather.

**Friday, April 4**

8:00AM - 9:00 AM  
**Heritage Salon C**

**Buffet Breakfast Available**

9:00 AM - 9:15 AM  
**Heritage Salon C**

**Welcome Remarks and Introductions**

MAYOR DANENE SORACE  
Chair, Mayors Water Council

9:15 AM - 10:15 AM

**The Chesapeake Bay and Achieving Regional Water Quality Goals**

Join us for a panel discussion on advancing shared water quality goals in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Discover how regional leaders are working to improve water quality and its impacts — from healthier waterways and safe drinking water to economic growth and active recreational spaces. How can leaders collaborate across municipal boundaries to take a more holistic approach toward our collective water quality goals?

Remarks

DANENE SORACE, (Moderator)  
Chair, Mayors Water Council

LEE McDONNELL  
Acting Director, Chesapeake Bay Program  
United States Environmental Protection Agency

SENATOR GENE YAW  
Pennsylvania's 23rd District

ANNA KILLIUS  
Executive Director, Chesapeake Bay Commission

ALLYSON GIBSON  
Executive Director, Lancaster Clean Water Partners

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

**Briefing on New EPA Regulations and Update on Key Litigation and Federal Water Policy**

This panel will cover two emerging regulations, microbial and disinfection byproducts rule and perchlorate. Additionally, a review of litigation concerning the Lead and Copper Rule and PFAS drinking water standards is provided.

Remarks

**Update on Microbial Disinfection Byproducts Rule**

ADRIENNE NEMURA

Principal Engineer, Geosyntec Consultants

**Update on Perchlorate in Drinking Water**

KIMBERLY WHITE

Vice President, Regulatory and Scientific Affairs

American Chemistry Council

**PFAS Drinking Water Standards:**

**Litigation, Administrative Regulatory Freeze, and UCMR 5 Update**

ANDRE MONETTE

Partner, Best Best & Krieger

CHAD SEIDEL

President, Corona Environmental Consulting

**Lead and Copper Rule Improvements:**

**Litigation, and Administrative Regulatory Freeze**

JUDY SHEAHAN

Assistant Executive Director, USCM

**Mayoral Commentary**

MARY LOU PAULY

Mayor of Issaquah, WA

Mayors and city staff are requested to identify issues relating to implementing the regulations.

11:15 AM - 12:00 PM

**Risk Communication Messaging for Local Leaders**

This panel will include a discussion from experts on how Mayors and public water systems can best communicate public health risk with their residents, media, and other key stakeholders. Topics will include key messaging regarding lead pipe notifications and PFAS contaminants.

Moderator: Danene Sorace

Mayor of Lancaster

Chair, Mayors Water Council

Remarks

CHELSEA BOOZER

Executive Director, Rogue Water Lab

RUBEN RODRIGUEZ

Senior Director, External Communications

American Water

LARRY FINNICUM

Regional President, Municipal Water

Mid-Atlantic Operations, Veolia North America

CHAD SEIDEL

President, Corona Environmental Consulting

KIMBERLY WHITE

Vice President, Regulatory and Scientific Affairs

American Chemistry Council

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

**Working Lunch**

**Local Water Management Innovation**

Remarks

JOHN AULICK

Engineer, Sewer Sentry

**A Quality Meter Partner to Guide Your Unique Smart Water Journey**

Remarks

JAMES SWANTEK

Enterprise Account Executive, Kamstrup Water Metering

**Congressional Briefing**

Remarks

JUDY SHEAHAN

Assistant Executive Director, USCM

1:00 PM - 2:15 PM

**Utility Affordability in America**

This panel will focus on current water affordability challenges affecting communities and utilities across the country. Mayors will share how rising water bills continue to burden households and legal experts will offer an overview of available tools for local governments as well as next steps on how best to address these concerns with the new Administration.

Remarks

**EPA's 2024 Water Affordability Needs Assessment Report**

ANDREW SAWYERS

Director, Office of Wastewater Management

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

**Water Affordability and Impacts on Ratepayers**

Remarks

DANENE SORACE (Moderator)  
Mayor of Lancaster, PA  
Chair, Mayors Water Council

ANGELA BIRNEY  
Mayor of Redmond, WA

PAIGE COGNETTI  
Mayor of Scranton, PA

DON HARDY  
Mayor of Kinston, NC

MARK MYERS  
Mayor of Greenwood, Indiana

NANCY HAUSRATH  
Director of Utilities, Hagerstown, MD

Mayors and city staff are encouraged to join in comments.

2:15 PM - 2:35 PM

**Integrated Planning and Permitting and Financial Capability Assessment**

The integrated planning concept has allowed communities to prioritize projects and get the most environmental benefit for their water investments. Communities also need to understand EPA's Financial Capability Guidance, so they can show why they need flexible plans with realistic schedules that decrease the cost burden on the ratepayers. Speakers will explain the integrated planning and financial capability issues and discuss how those concepts can be used by communities to get the best control plans possible.

Remarks

FRED ANDES  
Partner, Barnes & Thornburg

ERIKA POWERS  
Partner, Barnes & Thornburg

2:35 PM - 3:15 PM

**Financing Resilient Water and Wastewater Infrastructure**

Federal financial assistance for capital investment is available through the states for construction, lead pipe removal, and for monitoring contaminants. This panel will review SRF funding information and financial assistance for resilient infrastructure.

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Remarks           | <b>SRF Capitalization Grants and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act</b><br>KASSIDY KLEIN, USCM Staff Report  |
| Remarks           | <b>Alternative Project Delivery Models - P3s</b><br>ROBERT HACKING<br>Senior Vice President of Sales & Marketing<br>Municipal Water Operations, Veolia North America<br><br>MARCUS KOHL<br>Director of Business Development, American Water  |
| 3:15 PM - 3:30 PM | <b>Federal and State Financial Assistance for Local Infrastructure Resiliency</b>  |
| Remarks           | DAVID GOLDWATER<br>Senior Vice President, Public Policy<br>Stantec   |
| 3:30 PM - 3:50 PM | <b>Local Water Utility Roundtable</b><br>Discover how diverse regions are tackling the challenges of providing water and sewer services in their communities. They'll share insights on key projects and strategies focused on improving water quality management, wastewater treatment, and environmental protection.<br><br>THOMAS ROACH<br>Mayor of White Plains, NY<br><br>JAVIER PEREA<br>Mayor of Sunland Park, NM |
| 3:50 PM - 4:05 PM | <b>EPA Municipal Ombudsman Update</b><br>JAMIE PIZIALI<br>Municipal Ombudsman<br>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  |
| 4:05 PM - 4:15 PM | <b>New Business</b><br>This session provides an opportunity for Mayors to raise new or existing pressing issues of concern.  |
| 4:15 PM           | <b>ADJOURN</b>   |

**Attire; Business Casual**