



FALL 2025 MAYORS WATER COUNCIL

October 23-24, 2025

Livermore, California

DRAFT AGENDA

(as of October 8, 2025 – subject to change)

Thursday, October 23rd

1:00 PM - 1:05 PM **Welcome Remarks**

Remarks John P. Marchand
Mayor of Livermore, CA
Co-Chair, Mayors Water Council

1:05 PM - 1:45 PM **Mayor's Roundtable**
Mayors share information on the current water concerns in their communities. You are encouraged to bring up information and issues including capital needs, rate and affordability pressures, lead pipes, preparing for PFAS compliance and other critical issues.

John Marchand (*Moderator*)
Mayor of Livermore, CA
Co-Chair, Mayors Water Council

1:45 PM - 2:00 PM **City of Livermore Best Practice**

2:00PM - 3:00 PM **Water Sector Regulatory Review**

The session is intended to cover several current regulatory policies in process or in the courts. Staff and water sector experts will provide briefings on the EPA's ongoing regulatory development programs, with a focus on PFAS and Lead. We will also provide an update on EPA's

Financial Capability Assessment (FCA). Attendees are encouraged to provide information and ask questions on the following topics:

Mary Lou Pauly (*Moderator*)
Mayor of Issaquah, WA
Vice Chair for Water, USCM Environment Committee

PFAS and Drinking Water

Water sector regulatory concerns about PFAS drinking water standards remain under court review and EPA has made announcements about defending the rule and has also proposed to extend compliance by two years. Key PFAS issues include the maximum containment level (MCL) and the Hazard Index comprised of 4 PFAS chemicals. Additionally, a second round of class action lawsuits is underway, and cities need to file by January of 2026.

Kassidy Klein (Confirmed)
Legislative & Regulatory Affairs Associate, USCM

Chad Seidel (Invited)
President, Corona Environmental

PFAS in Municipal Public Works Operations

Andre Monette (Confirmed)
Partner, Best Best & Krieger LLP

Judy Sheahan (Confirmed)
Assistant Executive Director, USCM

Lead and Copper Rule

The Lead and Copper Rule imposes several annual local responsibilities such as lead pipe inventory updates and public notifications. This session reviews what those annual responsibilities are and what resources are available. Additionally, we will review information on federal financial assistance.

Financial Capability Assessment (FCA)

Affordability issues are a critical concern for municipalities as they deal with funding ongoing water and wastewater operations, as well as new and expanding regulatory mandates. EPA's current guidance on affordability poses challenges for communities in seeking reasonable control requirements and compliance schedules for Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act obligations. Fred Andes of the law firm Barnes & Thornburg (an MWC affiliate member) will discuss strategies for addressing these affordability issues, as well as opportunities to address our concerns with the EPA guidance.

Fred Andes (Confirmed)
Partner, Barnes & Thornburg

Question & Answer

3:00 PM - 3:15 PM

BREAK

3:15 PM - 3:45 PM

Compliance Challenges with Drinking Water Standards and Wastewater Quality Standards

Cities are facing challenges to comply with regulations in their utilities. Some cities are facing drinking water standards that may be too expensive or impractical to eliminate. Other cities face the constant challenge of maintaining and improving water quality in their lakes, streams, and estuaries. This session will explore some of those challenges.

Managing Arsenic in Local Drinking Water Systems

Javier Perea (Confirmed)
Mayor, City of Sunland Park, NM

Nutrient Management

Maisha Everhart (Invited)
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Local Stormwater Solutions

Sewer Sentry (Invited)

3:45 PM - 5:00 PM

Cybersecurity and Physical Resilience for Water Infrastructure

With rising cyber threats and more frequent weather events, water utilities face increasing pressure to boost both cybersecurity and physical resilience. This session will cover current federal oversight and evolving roles across federal, state, and local governments to support stronger infrastructure protections for these critical infrastructure facilities. Best practices will also be explored.

Environmental Protection Agency (Invited – Pending due to Shutdown)
Water Infrastructure and Cyber Resilience Division

Michael Luu (Confirmed)
SVP, Corporate Services and Chief Risk Officer
California Water Service

Evan Jacobs (Confirmed)
External Affairs, California and Hawaii American Water

Speaker TBD (Confirmed)
Veolia North America

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Open Evening Reception

Located in the hotel.

Friday, October 24th

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Breakfast Available

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

Water Sector Innovative Technologies & Services

Panelists will introduce new technologies and services designed to improve water quality, efficiency, and infrastructure resilience.

Jess Bromley (Confirmed)
Sr. Director of Enterprise Sales
Kamstrup North America

From Data to Decisions: The Expanding Role of AI & Machine Learning Toolkits for Utilities

Sandeep Sathyamoorthy (Confirmed)
Vice President, Director of Water Innovation & Technology
Stantec

Speaker TBD
Black & Veatch (Confirmed)

9:40 AM - 10:20 AM

Western Water Supplies

Water conservation is a common and necessary element of water supply management but may prove to be insufficient to meet future water demand. Current debate over the water supply from the Colorado River and annual water allocations are spurring western cities to secure long-term water security while also addressing the pressures of population growth, economic development, and the expansion of data centers?

John P. Marchand (*Moderator*)
Mayor of Livermore, CA
Mayors Water Council, Co-Chair

Kathryn Sorenson (Confirmed)
Director of Research
Kyl Center for Water Policy, Arizona State University

Mayra Jimenez (Confirmed)
Veolia North America

Ken Jenkins (Invited)
VP, Water Resources Planning and Sustainability
California Water Service

10:20 AM - 10:35 AM **BREAK**

10:35 AM - 10:50 AM **EPA Municipal Ombudsman**

Jamie Piziali (Invited – Pending Due to Government Shutdown)

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM **Water Affordability Crisis**

Local government spent over \$150 billion on water and sewer utilities in 2022, the latest data available. Several factors are driving the price up including inflation, population shift, and compliance costs. As water bills consume a growing share of household income, the affordability gap strains local governments struggling to maintain aging infrastructure without further burdening residents.

Mary Lou Pauly (*Moderator*)

Mayor of Issaquah, WA

Vice-Chair of Water, USCM Environment Committee

Evan Jacobs (Confirmed)

External Affairs, California and Hawaii American Water

Jennifer Capitolo (Confirmed)

Executive Director, California Water

Discussion

11:30 AM - 12:00 PM **Federal Financial Assistance - Update**

Federal stimulus provided by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) boosted aid to the water sector by some \$53 billion dollars. As the funding ends in 2026, and local government will need to tap new resources to maintain systems and comply with regulations. This session will review the President's FY 26 budget request and the House appropriations legislation.

Staff Briefing

12:00 PM

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