

SUMMARY FOR JUNE 2024 Office of Government Relations



STATE ADVOCACY EFFORTS



California State Capitol in Sacramento.

2024-2025 Final State Budget

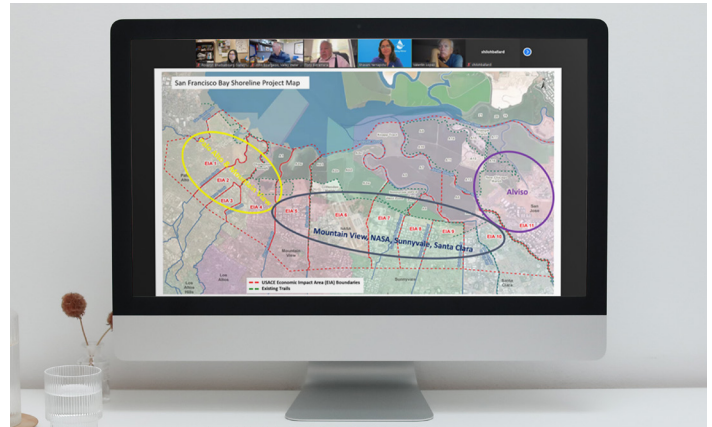
California’s state budget for fiscal year 2024-25 was adopted on June 27, totaling \$211.5 billion from the General Fund, \$86.4 billion from other state funds, and \$153 billion from federal contribution. The budget aims to sustain critical services while addressing fiscal realities of a \$37.86 billion shortfall. Several Valley Water priorities are impacted by the adjustments including a \$50 million reduction in the Dam Safety Program and cuts of \$392 million for the State Coastal Conservancy’s Coastal Protection and Adaptation Program intended to address the impacts of sea level rise.

Despite these reductions, the budget restores significant funding for other priorities, including \$511 million in funding for habitat and fisheries improvement that benefit the Voluntary Agreements. It also reinstates \$88.5 million for water recycling projects awarded grants by the State Water Resources Control Board that need additional funding due to budget cuts.

Assistance for the unhoused includes \$1 billion for the next round of the local Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Grant Program, which funds permanent housing solutions. Additionally, \$150 million in 2024-25 and \$100 million in 2025-26 is appropriated for additional rounds of the Encampment Resolution Grants Funds, which helps clean up encampments.

The adjustments highlight the state’s attempt to balancing immediate needs with long-term sustainability in the face of economic challenges.

LOCAL ADVOCACY AND ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS



Valley Water staff presenting on the San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project at the Environmentally Focused Stakeholders meeting.

Tri-Annual Environmentally Focused Stakeholders Meeting

On June 12, Chair Hsueh kicked off the first environmentally focused stakeholders meeting of the year hosted by Valley Water. Chair Hsueh greeted a diverse cross-section of environmental leaders at the virtual meeting and introduced Director Estremera, who was also in attendance. Valley Water staff presented on Baylands restoration projects, which included updates to the San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project, the Calabazas/San Tomas Aquino Creek-Marsh Connection Project, and the Pond A4 Resilient Habitat Restoration efforts. Participants engaged Valley Water directors and staff with questions about the projects and provided feedback on discussion items for the next meeting.

LOOKING AHEAD

- JUL 4 District 8 Councilmember Candelas 4th of July Fireworks Booth at Lake Cunningham Park
- JUL 4 District 10 Councilmember Batra’s 4th of July Fireworks Booth at Almaden Lake Park
- JUL 15 Booth at the NAACP National Convention’s Environmental and Climate Justice Program
- JUL 24-25 Mountain View Chamber Technology Showcase Booth

Federal Legislation Active in June 2024 with Board-Approved Positions

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
S. 24 (Feinstein)/ H.R. 516 (Lieu)	Fighting Homelessness Through Services and Housing Act	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 186 (McClintock)	Water Supply Permitting Coordination Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 872 (Calvert)	Federally Integrated Species Health (FISH) Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 2419 (Costa)/ S. 2161 (Feinstein)	Canal Conveyance Capacity Restoration Act	Support	H.R. 2419 Introduced; S. 2161 Heard in Committee
S. 2162 (Feinstein)	Support To Rehydrate the Environment, Agriculture, and Municipalities (STREAM) Act	Support and Amend	Heard in Committee
S. 2202 (Feinstein)	Restore Aging Infrastructure Now (RAIN) Act	Support and Amend	Heard in Committee
S. 1430 (Lummis)	Water Systems PFAS Liability Protection Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 2671 (Costa)	Restoring WIFIA Eligibility Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 1367 (Schakowsky)/ S. 660 (Markey)	Water System Threat Preparedness and Resilience Act of 2023	Support	Introduced
S. 919 (Duckworth)	A Donald McEachin Environmental Justice For All Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 873 (Donalds)	Water Quality and Environmental Innovation Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 1729 (Watson Coleman)/ S. 938 (Sanders)	Water Affordability, Transparency, Equity, and Reliability Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 1708 (Jayapal)	Housing Is a Human Right Act of 2023	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 3896 (Cohen)	Airport Infrastructure Resilience Act of 2023	Support	Introduced
S. 2203 (Padilla)	Atmospheric Rivers Reconnaissance, Observation, and Warning (ARROW) Act	Support	Introduced
S. 2166 (Padilla)	Voluntary Agricultural Land Repurposing Act	Support	Heard in Committee
S. 2148 (Markey)	Local Infrastructure Funding and Technical Assistance (LIFT) Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 4052 (Davis)	National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2023	Support	Introduced
S. 2654 (Padilla)/ H.R. 5016 (Levin)	Water Efficiency, Conservation, and Sustainability Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 5254 (Lieu)	Housing for All Act of 2023	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 5104 (Edwards)	National Dam Safety Program Reauthorization Act of 2023	Support	Introduced
S. 2250 (Bennet)/ H.R. 4902 (Caraveo)	Voluntary Groundwater Conservation Act of 2023	Support	Introduced

Federal Legislation Active in June 2024 with Board-Approved Positions (cont'd)

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
H.R. 5304 (Harder)	Safeguarding Our Levees Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 3490 (Gallego)	Water Infrastructure Modernization Act of 2023	Support	Introduced
H.R. 6093 (Lucas)	Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Reauthorization (WEATHER) Act of 2023	Support and Amend	Reported by Committee
H.R. 3655 (Swalwell)	Preventing Our Next Natural Disaster Act	Support	Introduced
S. 3830 (Padilla)	Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program Establishment Act	Support and Amend	Introduced
S. 3292 (Whitehouse)	Innovative Materials for America's Growth and Infrastructure Newly Expanded (IMAGINE) Act of 2023	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 5793 (Dingell)	Water Access Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 8682 (Huffman)	Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act	Support	Drafted
H.R. 7525 (Fallon)	Special District Grant Accessibility Act	Support	Reported by Committee
H.R. 7990 (Napolitano)	Large-Scale Water Recycling Reauthorization and Reinvestment Act of 2024	Support	Introduced
H.R. 8032 (Sorensen)	Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program Establishment Act	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 4247 (Harder)	Flood Prevention and Snowpack Management Act	Support and Amend	Introduced

State Legislation Active in June 2024 with Board-Approved Positions

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
AB 305 (Villapudua)	California Flood Protection Bond Act of 2024	Support if Amended	Pending - Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee - 2 Year Bill
AB 437 (Jackson)	Equity in State Government	Support	Pending - Senate Floor - Inactive File
AB 460 (Bauer-Kahan)	Civil Penalties for Water Rights Violations	Support	Pending - Senate Appropriations Committee
AB 518 (Wicks)	Paid Family Leave for Care of Designated Persons	Support	Pending - Senate Floor - Inactive File - 2 Year Bill
AB 1567 (Garcia)	Safe Drinking Water Bond Act of 2024	Support if Amended	Pending - Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee - 2 Year Bill
AB 1581 (Kalra)	Restoration Management Permit Act	Support	Pending - Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee - 2 Year Bill
AB 1785 (Pacheco)	California Public Records Act	Support	Pending - Senate Floor

State Legislation Active in May 2024 with Board-Approved Positions (cont'd)

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
AB 1827 (Papan)	Low Water User Protection Act	Support	Pending - Senate Floor
AB 2079 (Bennett)	Groundwater Well Permitting	Oppose Unless Amended	Pending – Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee
AB 2257 (Wilson)	Property-Related Water and Sewer Fees and Assessments	Support	Pending – Senate Local Government Committee
AB 2302 (Addis)	Teleconferenced Open Meetings for Local Agencies	Support	Pending - Senate Floor
AB 2501 (Alvarez)	State and Regional Water Boards: Donations	Support	Pending - Senate Appropriations Committee
AB 2655 (Berman)	Defending Democracy from Deepfake Deception Act	Support	Pending - Senate Judiciary Committee
AB 2661 (Soria)	Westlands Water District Solar Generation	Support	Pending – Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee
AB 2682 (Kalra)	Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority	Support	Pending - Senate Floor
AB 2875 (Friedman)	State Wetlands Policy	Support if Amended	Pending - Senate Floor
SB 366 (Caballero)	The California Water Plan: Long-Term Supply Targets	Support	Pending - Assembly Appropriations Committee
SB 638 (Eggman)	Climate Resiliency and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2024	Support If Amended	Pending – Assembly Water, Parks, & Wildlife Committee - 2 Year Bill
SB 867 (Allen)	Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024	Support	Pending – Assembly Natural Resources Committee
SB 1218 (Newman)	Emergency Water Supplies	Support	Assembly Appropriations Committee
SB 1395 (Becker)	Interim Housing Act	Support	Assembly Appropriations Committee