

MAY 26, 2020

Office of Government Relations Legislative Update



FEDERAL ADVOCACY EFFORTS

Valley Water Working to Advance Infrastructure Priorities

As Congress contemplates its next move to stimulate the national economy, staff is working closely with congressional offices and stakeholder partners to advocate for Valley Water infrastructure priorities. There is a lot of discussion about the next stimulus package, if there is to be one, and whether that could include infrastructure. Staff has compiled a list of projects that could break ground anywhere from immediately to 18 months from now and create thousands of new jobs in our region, which will help inform our advocacy with congressional offices and committees. While the stimulus discussions continue, Congress is moving forward with a package of water infrastructure bills that could present significant opportunities to advance Valley Water projects and



U.S. Capitol

priorities. The Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works on May 6 reported two water resources bills, and the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure is currently working on its Water Resources Development Act. As these bills advance, along with any future stimulus packages, staff will continue to advocate for Valley Water interests.



State Capitol

STATE ADVOCACY EFFORTS

State Bill to Expedite Anderson Passes Key Policy Committee

On May 14, AB 3005 (R. Rivas), Valley Water's sponsored bill to expedite the Anderson Dam project, passed the Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee in a unanimous, bipartisan vote of 14-0. Mayor Rich Constantine of Morgan Hill and Valley Water staff spoke as witnesses in support of the bill. The Office of Government Relations (OGR), in collaboration with the author's office, organized Zoom meetings with the Committee's members' offices in

the days leading up to the hearing to advocacy for and discuss the urgency of the bill.

AB 3005 is supported by local governments and membership groups such as the Association of California Water Agencies and California Municipal Utilities Association, along with labor, environmental, and business organizations. The bill now goes to the Assembly Appropriations Committee for a hearing in early June, and if passed, then goes to the Assembly Floor where a 2/3 vote is required. OGR is vigorously advocating with Assembly members and their staff about the urgency of the Anderson Dam Project for public safety, water supply, and environmental protection.

State Senate Releases Economic Stimulus Plan

On May 12, Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins released the Senate's plan to address the expected multi-year budget shortfall, estimated to be \$54 billion for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. The plan proposes to appropriate \$41.2 billion through reserves, spending reductions, fund shifts, internal loans, and deferrals. In addition, the plan accounts for \$53.6 billion in federal support solutions. Of



particular interest is the inclusion of a \$25 billion Economic Recovery Fund (ERF) which would establish a voluntary program for taxpayers to pre-pay taxes for tax years 2024 to 2033. The ERF would in turn make funding available for programs and projects to provide assistance and economic stimulus. Funding would be made available for rental assistance, small business, infrastructure projects, green economy investments, wildfire prevention education, and local government relief. OGR staff is closely monitoring the budget and is advocating for the inclusion of critical public infrastructure projects and small business funding as the budget is being developed.



Commerce President and CEO Mark Turner, Director Varela outlined the reliability and safety measures Valley Water has implemented in response of COVID-19 pandemic, to ensure that we continue to provide safe, clean and reliable drinking water to the region. Director Varela also provided an update to Chamber members on the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project and noted the progress that Valley Water's sponsored legislation AB 3005 is making as it moves through the legislative process.

LOCAL ADVOCACY AND ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS

Gilroy Chamber of Commerce Hosts Virtual Legislative Summit

On Monday April 20, Director John Varela participated in Gilroy Chamber of Commerce's first virtual Legislative Summit. Speaking via Zoom with Gilroy Chamber of

UPCOMING EVENTS

Note: due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, staff is not physically participating in any events during the month of May. Staff is participating in virtual events as they are planned, including the Silicon Valley Leadership Group Regional Game Changers event on May 22 and Acterra's Business Environmental Awards on May 28, and will assess participation in events in June as we approach the end of the current shelter in place order

Federal Legislation Active in May 2020 with Board-Approved Positions

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
H.R. 548 (Calvert)	Federally Integrated Species Health (FISH) Act	Support	Introduced and referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources
H.R. 357 (Garamendi)	Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area Act	Support	Signed into law as part of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (P.L. 116-9)
S. 40 (Barrasso)	Bureau of Reclamation Transparency Act	Support and Amend	Introduced and referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
H.R. 1137 (Garamendi)	To amend the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 to repeal the authority relating to reprogramming during national emergencies	Support	Introduced and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
S. 326 (Udall)	Restrictions Against Illegitimate Declarations for Emergency Re-appropriations (RAIDER) Act of 2019	Support	Introduced and referred to the House Committee on Appropriations
H.R. 1162 (Napolitano)	Water Recycling Improvement and Investment Act	Support	Hearing held in the House Committee on Natural Resources (June 13, 2019)
H.R. 1132 (Speier)	San Francisco Bay Restoration Act of 2019	Support	Markup held in House Committee on Natural Resources, ordered to be reported favorably (September 19, 2019)
H.R. 1497 (DeFazio)	Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act	Support	Markup held in House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, ordered to be reported favorably (October 29, 2019)
H.R. 658 (DeLauro)	National Infrastructure Development Bank Act of 2019	Support	Introduced and referred to the House Committees on Energy and Commerce; Transportation and Infrastructure; Financial Services; and Ways and Means
H.R. 1417 (Lawrence) / S. 611 (Sanders)	Water Affordability, Transparency, Equity, and Reliability (WATER) Act of 2019	Support	H.R. 1417: Introduced and referred to the House Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure; Energy and Commerce; Ways and Means; and Agriculture; S. 611: Introduced and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
H.R. 1621 (McClintock)	Water Supply Permitting Coordination Act	Support	Introduced and referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources
H.R. 2313 (Huffman)	Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act	Support	Introduced and referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means
S. 923 (Feinstein)	Fighting Homelessness Through Services and Housing Act	Support	Introduced and referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions
H.R. 2473 (Harder)	Securing Access for the central Valley and Enhancing (SAVE) Water Resources Act	Support and Amend	Hearing held in the House Committee on Natural Resources (June 13, 2019)
H.R. 363 (Calvert)	Reducing Environmental Barriers to Unified Infrastructure and Land Development (REBUILD) Act of 2019	Support	Introduced and referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources
S. 1932 (Gardner)	Drought Resiliency and Water Supply Infrastructure Act	Support and Amend	Hearing held in the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources (July 18, 2019)
S. 1730 (Harris) / H.R. 3115 (Pallone)	The Living Shorelines Act of 2019	Support	S. 1730: Introduced and referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; H.R. 3115: Markup held in the House Committee on Natural Resources, ordered to be reported favorably (September 25, 2019)
H.R. 3723 (Levin)	The Desalination Development Act	Support	Hearing held in the House Committee on Natural Resources (July 25, 2019)

H.R. 855 (Peters)	The Strengthening The Resiliency of Our Nation on the Ground (STRONG) Act	Support	Introduced and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
S. 403 (Whitehouse) / H.R. 1159 (Cicilline)	Innovative Materials for America's Growth and Infrastructure Newly Expanded (IMAGINE) Act of 2019	Support and Amend	S. 403: Introduced and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works; H.R. 1159: Introduced and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; Committee on Science, Space, and Technology; and Committee on Energy and Commerce
H.R. 4033 (Kildee)/ S.2466 (Harris)	Water Justice Act	Support and Amend	Introduced and referred to the House Committees on Energy and Commerce; Budget; Ways and Means; Natural Resources; Agriculture; and Transportation and Infrastructure
S. 1837 (Gillibrand) / H.R. 3254 (Delgado)	Protecting Infrastructure and Promoting the Economy (PIPE) Act	Support and Amend	S. 1837: Introduced and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works; H.R. 3254: Introduced and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Energy and Commerce
H.R. 3091 (Loeb sack)	National Flood Research and Education Center Act	Support	Introduced and referred to the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.
S. 2236 (Booker) / H.R. 3923 (Ruiz)	Environmental Justice Act of 2019	Support	Introduced and referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.
H.R. 5752 (Costa)	Conveyance Capacity Correction Act	Support	Introduced and referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.
H.R. 5504 (Brownley)	To amend the National Dam Safety Program Act with respect to the definition of eligible high hazard potential dam, and other purposes	Support	Introduced and referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.
H.R. 5302 (McNerney)	Western Water Recycling and Drought Relief Act	Support and Amend	Introduced and referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.
H.R. 5316 (Cox)	Move Water Now Act	Support and Amend	Marked up in the House Committee on Natural Resources and reported favorably.

State Legislation Active in May 2020 with Board-Approved Positions

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
AB 292 (Quirk)	Recycled Water: Raw Water and Groundwater Augmentation	Support	2-year bill
AB 1580 (Levine)	Major Infrastructure Construction Projects: Oversight Committees.	Oppose	2-year bill
AB 2560 (Quirk)	Water Quality: Notification and Response Levels: Procedures	Support	Pending - Assembly Appropriations Committee
AB 3005 (Rivas)	Expedited Dam Safety for Silicon Valley Act	Support	Pending - Assembly Appropriations Committee
AB 3232 (Friedman)	Commercial Washing Machines: Microfiber Filter	Support	Pending - Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee
ACA 1 (Aguiar-Curry)	Local Government Financing: Voter Approval for Affordable Housing and Public Infrastructure	Support	Pending - Assembly Daily File - Motion to Reconsider
SB 414 (Caballero)	Small System Water Authority Act of 2019	Support	2-year bill
SB 952 (Nielsen)	Sales and Use Taxes: Exemption: Backup Electrical Resources: Deenergization Events	Support	Pending - Senate Governance and Finance Committee
SB 971 (Hertzberg)	Small Water Supplier and Countywide Water Shortage Contingency Planning	Support	Pending - Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee
SB 1044 (Allen)	Firefighting Equipment and Foam: PFAS Chemicals	Support	Pending - Senate Environmental Quality Committee