



## **Three Valleys Municipal Water District 2022 Legislative Priorities**

The following state/federal legislative priorities for the ongoing 2021-22 legislative session supports the District's mission and incorporates its overall water supply reliability and water quality objectives.

### **Top Legislative Priorities for 2022**

1. Pursue equitable amendments to the Brown Act that will allow public agencies to participate more seamlessly in teleconference-based meeting while adhering to traditional meeting standards.
2. Support administrative/legislative actions and funding for demand management activities and new local supply projects to conserve existing supplies and prepare for a dry future.
3. Support funding to defray the costs of planning, financing, constructing, and rehabilitating all types of water infrastructure projects, including, but not limited to, water recycling, storage, treatment, repairs to existing water delivery structures and environmental restoration projects.
4. Support actions to initiate, expedite and secure funding for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) Regional Recycled Water Program and related projects.
5. Support administrative/legislative actions to ensure the reliability of imported water supplies including, but not limited to, ensuring progress on the Delta Conveyance Project and funding for Colorado River system water conservation projects, salinity control measures, and cleanup of contaminated sites.
6. Support administrative/legislative actions and funding to facilitate and expedite EcoRestore and non-mitigation habitat restoration projects that benefit water supply and/or endangered and threatened species.
7. Support administrative/legislative actions to secure and disburse funding to help public water systems defray the costs associated with COVID-19 (e.g., loss of revenue, deferred infrastructure maintenance, personal protective equipment, workplace health and safety improvements, and on-site testing) and for direct financial relief to low-income households facing substantial utility bill arrearages post COVID-19.
8. Support administrative/legislative actions and funding for research and partnerships on water science, including snowpack and streamflow monitoring, runoff, drinking water quality, salinity control, source water protection, soil moisture monitoring, healthy soils, and watershed research.
9. Support administrative/legislative actions to secure funding to help public water systems defray the costs of monitoring and/or remediation of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances and ensure drinking water and wastewater facilities are not liable for the cleanup of contamination.
10. Support tax exemptions and/or credits for water conservation or efficiency incentives for measures including, but not limited to, turf removal, local stormwater capture (e.g., rain barrels, cisterns), and other measures to reduce consumption of water or enhance the absorption and infiltration capacity of the landscape.

## 2022 Legislative Policy Principles

The following *Legislative Policy Principles* are intended to guide and inform the district's engagement on state and federal legislative and regulatory activities. These principles address key strategic areas of policy that promote the district's mission ***to supplement and enhance local water supplies to meet our region's needs in a reliable and cost-effective manner.***

- I. Drought Response –Southern California's two main sources of imported water are currently in drought conditions. With sound planning, smart investments and a strong conservation ethic, the region is prepared to meet current year demands for water. District support for legislative efforts promoting investments in additional conservation and local supplies will be necessary in the event drought conditions continue or worsen.
- II. Regional Water Resource Management – The district collaborates with its member agencies to plan for future water supply needs and the challenges in a reliable, cost-effective, and environmentally responsible manner. This involves managing imported water supplies and quality, supporting local resource development, advancing water use efficiency, and supporting ecosystem protection and restoration.
- III. Imported Water Supply – The district provides imported water supplies to its member agencies from two primary sources - the Colorado Aqueduct and the State Water Project (SWP) via the MWD Weymouth Treatment Plant in La Verne, and the SWP through the Miramar Treatment Plant at the district's headquarters in Claremont. Acting upon Bay-Delta initiatives and programs impacting the SWP and legislation pertaining to the Colorado River will be necessary to ensure the reliable delivery of water from these two imported water sources.
- IV. Climate Change and the Environment – Regarding California climate change goals, the district supports policies and funding that encourage sustainable practices and environmental compliance, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and improves energy sustainability.
- V. Infrastructure – The district invests in key capital projects in our region to enable long-term, reliable water deliveries. Projects identified in the Capital Investment Plan focus on security enhancements, local water supply groundwater wells and ongoing pipeline rehabilitation.
- VI. System Resiliency – The district diligently maintains and invests in its water treatment and distribution system with ongoing emergency preparedness training, safeguarding of the physical and cyber security systems and promotion of chemical safety.
- VII. Innovation – Supporting and promoting innovation and emerging technologies continues the district's long tradition of creatively solving difficult challenges.