

Agenda Item: {{section.number}}C

January 22, 2025

TO: THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Laura Roughton, President
Fauzia Rizvi, Vice President
Brenda Dennstedt, Secretary-Treasurer
Gracie Torres
Mike Gardner

FROM: Craig D. Miller, P.E., General Manager

WESTERN WATER'S 2025 LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES, PRIORITIES, AND PLATFORM

RECOMMENDATION:

The Community and Government Affairs Committee and Staff recommend the Board of Directors:

1. Adopt Western Municipal Water District's updated Legislative Policy Platform, Principles, and 2025 State and Federal Priorities.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

As part of Western Municipal Water District's legislative program, each year staff reviews the Legislative Policy Platform and Principles and makes changes as needed; each year staff reviews and changes the State and Federal Priorities based on the year-to-year changing priorities. By adopting these documents, the program can be implemented in a timely manner as legislative issues arise.

BUDGET IMPACT:

Not applicable.

DETAIL:

Annually, State and Federal Governments bring forward legislative or regulatory proposals that may have impacts on Western Municipal Water District (Western Water) directly or the agencies and customers we serve. To ensure Western Water is ready and able to respond to those proposals in a timely manner, Western Water has adopted three documents: 1. Legislative Policy Platform and Principles (Platform), 2. State Legislative Priorities (State Priorities), and 3. Federal Legislative Priorities (Federal Priorities).

The Platform is reviewed annually but is only updated as needed. The State and Federal Priorities are updated annually due to the year-to-year changing nature of legislative priorities. By adopting these documents, the Board of Directors authorizes Western Water staff to take positions on state and federal legislative and regulatory action, as described in those documents. In the case where an issue is not listed within the State or Federal Priorities, or when an issue is listed but may be deemed “controversial”, the issue will be brought back to the Community and Government Affairs Committee for direction.

Reason for Action:

As part of the annual process and in preparation for the 2025 legislative year, Western Water staff seeks authorization to implement the legislative program through the adoption of updated guidance documents.

Solution:

Adopt the updated 1. Legislative Policy Platform and Principles, 2. State Legislative Priorities, and 3. Federal Legislative Priorities.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES REFERENCE:

This action aligns with Western Water’s Strategic Priority of Superior Service.

LEGAL COUNSEL REVIEW:

Not applicable.

Respectfully submitted by:

Craig D. Miller, P.E., General Manager

Regular Board Meeting

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Attachments:

1. Western Water Legislative Policy Platform and Principles
2. Proposed State Legislative Priorities: 2025
3. Proposed Federal Legislative Priorities: 2025
4. Western Water 2025 Legislative Policy Platform and Priorities Presentation