

#### **BEAUMONT-CHERRY VALLEY WATER DISTRICT**

560 Magnolia Avenue, Beaumont, CA 92223

# NOTICE AND AGENDA REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ENGINEERING WORKSHOP

This meeting is hereby noticed pursuant to California Government Code Section 54950 et. seq. and California Governor's Executive Order N-08-21

Thursday, September 23, 2021 - 6:00 p.m. 560 Magnolia Avenue, Beaumont, CA 92223

#### **COVID-19 NOTICE**

This meeting of the Board of Directors is open to the public who would like to attend in person. COVID-19 safety guidelines are in effect pursuant to the Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Emergency Temporary Standards

- Face coverings are mandatory for unvaccinated persons and must be properly worn over the nose and mouth at all times
- Maintain 6 feet of physical distancing from others in the building who are not in your party
- There will be no access to restrooms in the building

#### **TELECONFERENCE NOTICE**

The BCVWD Board of Directors will attend in person at the BCVWD Administrative Office **and/or** via Zoom Video Conference To access the Zoom conference, use the link below: https://us02web.zoom.us/i/84318559070?pwd=SXIzMFZCMGh0YTFIL2tnUGlpU3h0UT09

To telephone in, please dial: (669) 900-9128 Enter Meeting ID: 843 1855 9070 Enter Passcode: 113552

For Public Comment, use the "Raise Hand" feature if on the video call when prompted, if dialing in, please dial \*9 to "Raise Hand" when prompted

Meeting materials are available on the BCVWD's website: <a href="https://bcvwd.org/document-category/regular-board-agendas/">https://bcvwd.org/document-category/regular-board-agendas/</a>

#### **BCVWD ENGINEERING WORKSHOP – SEPTEMBER 23, 2021**

Call to Order: President Slawson

Roll Call - Board of Directors

Pledge of Allegiance: Director Williams

Invocation: Director Ramirez

Announcement of Teleconference

Roll Call - Board of Directors

President Daniel Slawson

Vice President Lona Williams

Secretary Andy Ramirez

Treasurer David Hoffman

Member John Covington

Participation

Roll Call

**Teleconference Verification** 

**Public Comment** 

**PUBLIC COMMENT: RAISE HAND OR PRESS \*9 to request to speak when prompted** At this time, any person may address the Board of Directors on matters within its jurisdiction which are not on the agenda. However, state law prohibits the Board from discussing or taking action on any item not listed on the agenda. Any non-agenda matters that require action will be referred to Staff for a report and possible action at a subsequent meeting. **Please limit your comments to three minutes.** Sharing or passing time to another speaker is not permitted.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

Action may be taken on any item on the agenda. Information on the following items is included in the full Agenda Packet.

- 1. Adjustments to the Agenda: In accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2, additions to the agenda require a 2/3 vote of the legislative body, or if less than 2/3 of the members are present, a unanimous vote of those members present, which makes the determination that there is a need to take action, and the need to take action arose after the posting of the agenda.
  - a. Item(s) to be removed or continued from the Agenda
  - b. Emergency Item(s) to be added to the Agenda
  - c. Changes to the order of the agenda
- Request for Extension of Will Serve Letter for Tentative Tract Map 31470 (a portion of the Sundance Specific Plan) located in the City of Beaumont (pages 5 - 13)
- 3. Discussion regarding Sites Reservoir Project Phase 2, Amendment 3 inclusion on the SGPWA Statement of Charges (No Staff Report)
- 4. Discussion of California Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 and N-08-21 regarding Brown Act Requirement Suspensions and the Return to Pre-Covid Teleconferencing Procedures after September 30, 2021 and a review of AB 361 (pages 14 17)

- Continued Review of Anticipated California Drought Conditions, District Urban Water Management Plan Drought Restrictions and BCVWD Resolution 2014-05 Regarding Issuance of Will-Serve Letters and Other Drought Response (page 18 - 22)
- 6. Status of Local Emergency regarding the Impact of the Respiratory Illness Pandemic COVID-19 pursuant to Resolution 2020-07 (No Staff Report)
- 7. Status of Declared Local Emergencies related to Fires
  - a. Impact of the Apple Fire pursuant to Resolution 2020-17 (No Staff Report)
  - b. Impact of the El Dorado Fire pursuant to Resolution 2020-20 (No Staff Report)
- 8. Update: Legislative Action and Issues Affecting BCVWD (pages 23 35)

#### 9. Reports for Discussion

a. Directors' Reports

In compliance with Government Code § 53232.3(d), Water Code § 20201, and BCVWD Policies and Procedures Manual Part II Policies 4060 and 4065, directors claiming a per diem and/or expense reimbursement (regardless of pre-approval status) will provide a brief report following attendance.

- b. Directors' General Comments
- c. General Manager's Report
- d. Legal Counsel Report

#### 10. Action List for Future Meetings

- Water supply for BCVWD and the region
- Matrix for delivery of recycled water
- Update and legal perspective on the Delta Conveyance Project
- Legal Counsel report on changes in Proposition 218
- Legal update on drought conditions in the west
- Maintenance costs at 800-hp well sites
- Policy on rotation of Board President

#### 11. Announcements

Pursuant to Governor's Executive Order N-08-21, BCVWD Board and Committee meetings may be held via Teleconference only. Meetings listed below will be held both in-person at the BCVWD Administrative Office AND via Zoom teleconference unless otherwise indicated below:

- Beaumont Basin Watermaster Committee: Wednesday, Oct. 6, 2021 at 10 a.m.
- Finance and Audit Committee Meeting: Thursday, Oct. 7, 2021 at 3 p.m.
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2021 at 6 p.m.
- Personnel Committee Meeting: Monday, Oct. 18, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
- Engineering Workshop: Thursday, Oct. 28, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
- Collaborative Agencies Meeting: Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. *Teleconference only.*

#### 12. Closed Session

a. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVELUATION Pursuant to Government Code Section 54947 Title: General Manager

#### 13. Report on Closed Session

#### 14. Adjournment

#### **NOTICES**

AVAILABILITY OF AGENDA MATERIALS - Agenda exhibits and other writings that are disclosable public records distributed to all or a majority of the members of the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District Board of Directors in connection with a matter subject to discussion or consideration at an open meeting of the Board of Directors are available for public inspection in the District's office, at 560 Magnolia Avenue, Beaumont, California ("District Office"). If such writings are distributed to members of the Board less than 72 hours prior to the meeting, they will be available from the District Office at the same time as they are distributed to Board Members, except that if such writings are distributed one hour prior to, or during the meeting, they can be made available from the District Office in the Board Room of the District's Office. Materials may also be available on the District's website: www.bcvwd.org.

REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA - In accordance with §54954.2(a) of the Government Code (Brown Act), revisions to this Agenda may be made up to 72 hours before the Board Meeting, if necessary, after mailings are completed. Interested persons wishing to receive a copy of the set Agenda may pick one up at the District's Main Office, located at 560 Magnolia Avenue, Beaumont, California, up to 72 hours prior to the Board Meeting.

REQUIREMENTS RE: DISABLED ACCESS - In accordance with §54954.2(a), requests for a disability related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to attend or participate in a meeting, should be made to the District Office, at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting to ensure availability of the requested service or accommodation. The District Office may be contacted by telephone at (951) 845-9581, email at info@bcvwd.org or in writing at the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District, 560 Magnolia Avenue, Beaumont, California 92223.

#### **CERTIFICATION OF POSTING**

I certify that on or before September 20, 2021, a copy of the foregoing notice was posted near the regular meeting place of the Board of Directors of Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District and to its website at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting (Government Code §54954.2(a)).

William Clayton

Digitally signed by William Clayton

DN: cn=William Clayton, o=Beaumont-Cherry Valley

Water District, ou,
email=william clayton@bcvwd.org, c=US

Date: 2021.09.16 17:42:48-07'00'

William Clayton

Acting Director of Finance and Administrative Services



#### Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District Regular Board Meeting September 23, 2021

Item 2

#### STAFF REPORT

**TO**: Board of Directors

**FROM**: Dan Jaggers, General Manager

SUBJECT: Request for Extension of Will Serve Letter for Tentative Tract Map 31470 (a

portion of the Sundance Specific Plan) located in the City of Beaumont

#### **Staff Recommendation**

Consideration of request for extension of *Will Serve Letter* for Tentative Tract Map 31470 related to the Sundance Specific Plan located in the City of Beaumont, subject to payment of all fees to the District and securing all approvals from the City of Beaumont, and:

- A. Approve the Extension to the WSL for Water Service or;
- B. Deny the Extension to the WSL for Water Service

#### **Background**

The Applicant, Tri Pointe Homes (formerly Pardee Homes), has requested an extension of the signed *Will Serve Letter*, dated October 3, 2018, for Tentative Tract Map 31470 (TTM 31470 [See Attachment 1]).

The request for the extension of the *Will Serve Letter* that was presented to the Board at the September 12, 2018, Regular Meeting has expired and requires Board approval. During said Regular Meeting, the Board approved the request for 859 equivalent dwelling units (EDUs) consisting of six (6) tracts (Tract 31470-1 through 31470-6). The portion of TTM 31470 remaining to complete the development is within the Altis Community (55+ active adult living) which consists of Tracts 31470-3 through 31470-6 (704 lots overall).

Since the issuance of the attached October 3, 2018, *Will Serve Letter*, the Applicant has continuously engaged in development and construction activities associated with the development of the Sundance Specific Plan. The Applicant's completed work over the last three years has included continuous processing of water improvement plans for the in-tract development associated with TTM 31470.

The requested *Will Serve Letter* extension includes domestic (potable) water service and non-potable (recycled) water service as part of the development of TTM 31470.

The Applicant will need to secure the final improvement plan approvals from the District and the City of Beaumont for the last tract (31470-6) located within TTM 31470 (see Table 1 for remaining lots).



TABLE 1: TTM 31470 TRACTS REMAINING AND UNDER DEVELOPMENT

Tract #	Planning Area	Dwelling Units in Construction Phase	Anticipated Start Date	Total Lots	Lots Not Developed	Lots Requiring Extension
31470-3	31	168	N/A	188	20	0
31470-4	30	140	N/A	186	46	0
31470-5	33	0	1/15/2022	205	205	0
31470-6	34	0	1/15/2023	125	125	125

TOTAL LOTS FOR "WILL SERVE" EXTENSION: 12

Currently, Tracts 31470-3 and 31470-4 are under construction with new homes for sale. Tract 31470-5 has approved Water Improvement Plans and has an executed Water Main Extension and Facilities Construction Agreement. Tract 31470-6 does not have approved Water Improvement Plans, nor does it have an executed Water Main Extension and Facilities Construction Agreement, therefore the *Will Serve Letter* extension requested is required for 31470-6 only.

Based upon the understanding that the overall project has been under continuous development and construction during the last several years, District Staff recommends that the Board of Directors provide the *Will Serve Letter* extension for the remaining lots associated with TTM 31470 and particularly Tract 31470-6.

#### **Conditions:**

The Applicant shall conform to all District requirements for water service and all City of Beaumont requirements.

- The Applicant shall enter into a water facilities extension agreement and pay all fees
  associated with the domestic and non-potable water services for the Project. The
  Applicant shall also pay all fees related to new fire service facilities including any facilities
  improvements that may be necessary to meet the fire flow requirements.
- 2. The Applicant shall connect to the non-potable water system for irrigation supply. To minimize the use of potable water, the District requires the applicant conform to the City of Beaumont Landscaping Ordinances and Zoning Requirements and/or County of Riverside Landscaping Ordinances (whichever is applicable) which pertain to water efficient landscape requirements and the following:
  - a. Landscaped areas which have turf, shall have "smart irrigation controllers" which use Evapotranspiration (ET) data to automatically control the watering. Systems shall have an automatic rain sensor to prevent watering during and shortly after rainfall and automatically determine watering schedule based on weather conditions, and not require seasonal monitoring changes. Orchard areas, if any, shall have drip irrigation.
  - b. Landscaping in non-turf areas should be drought tolerant consisting of planting materials which are native to the region. Irrigation systems for these areas should be drip or bubbler type.



- 3. As named as the enforcing agency for landscape water use efficiency (City of Beaumont, Chapter 17.06.130), the District prohibits the conversion from drought tolerant landscaping to turf within front yards. Developer shall provide a copy of the approved development landscape improvement plans to the District.
- 4. The Applicant shall conform to all District requirements and all City of Beaumont requirements.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

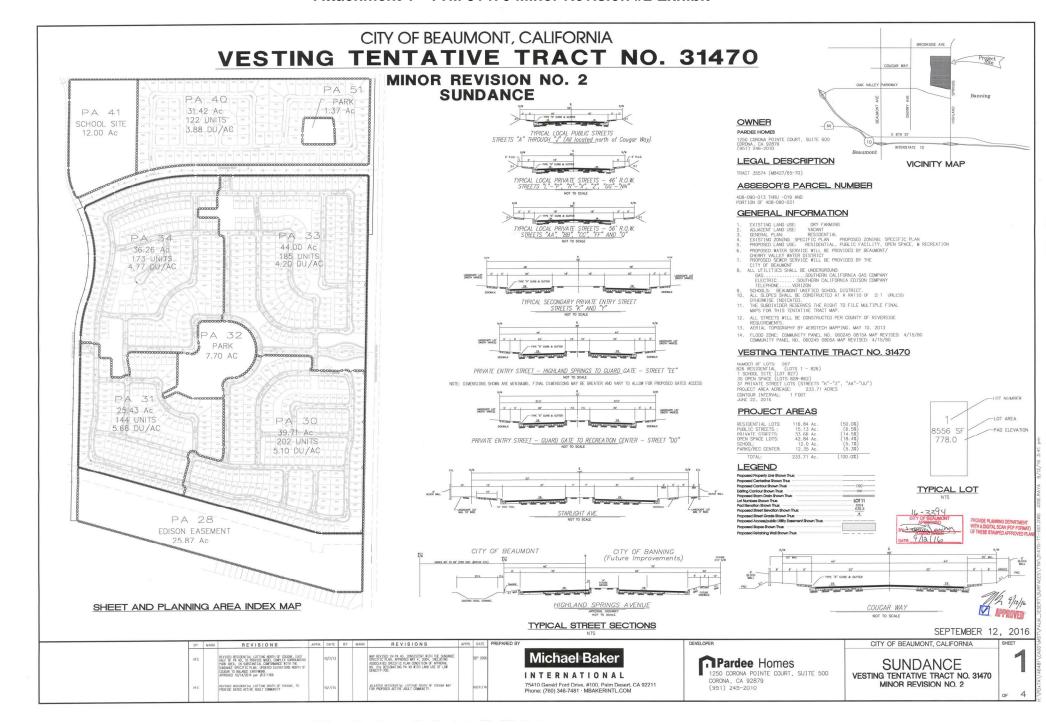
None. All fees and deposits will be paid by the Applicant prior to providing service.

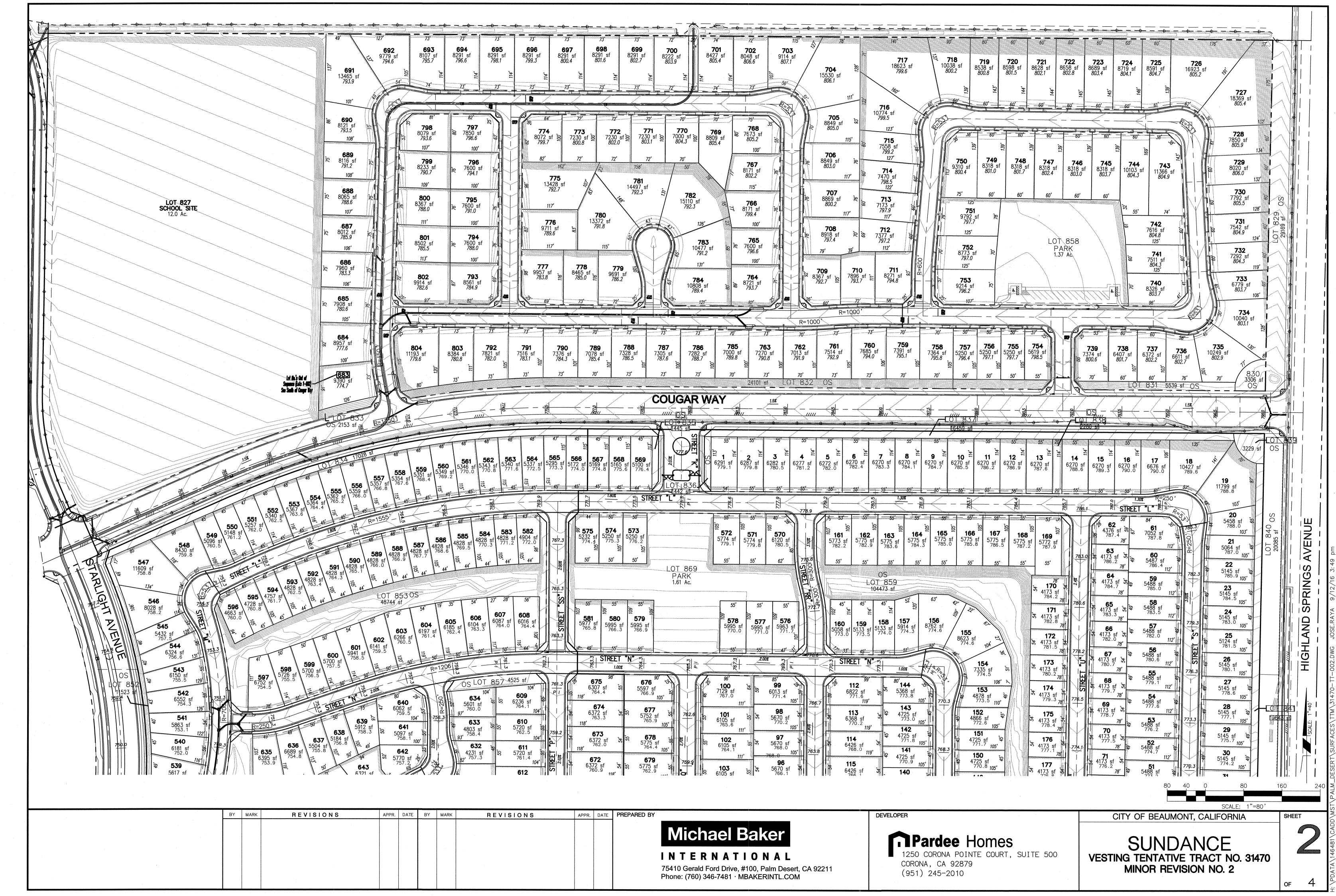
#### Attachment(s)

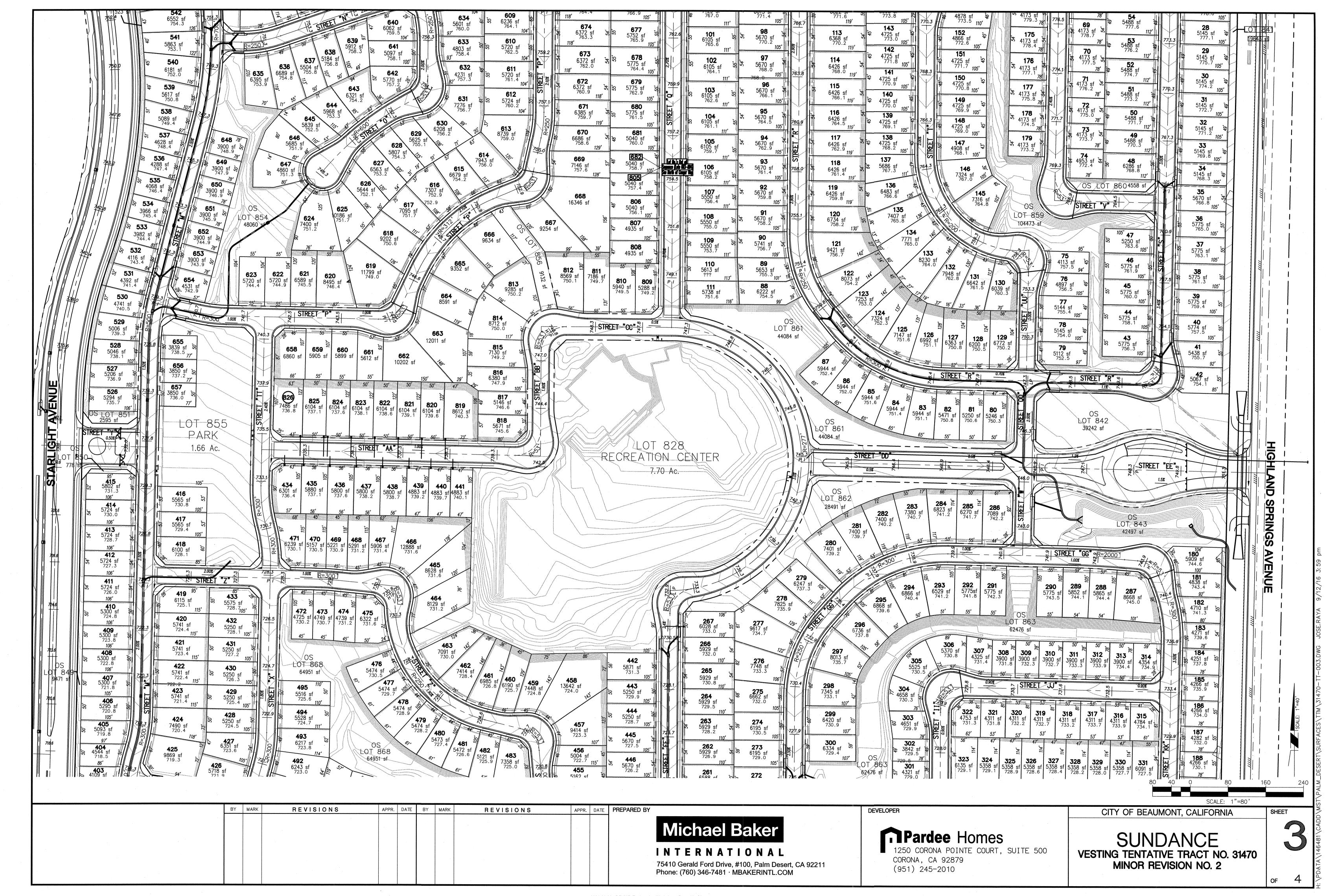
Attachment 1 – TTM 31470 Minor Revision #2 Exhibit (Dated September 12, 2016)

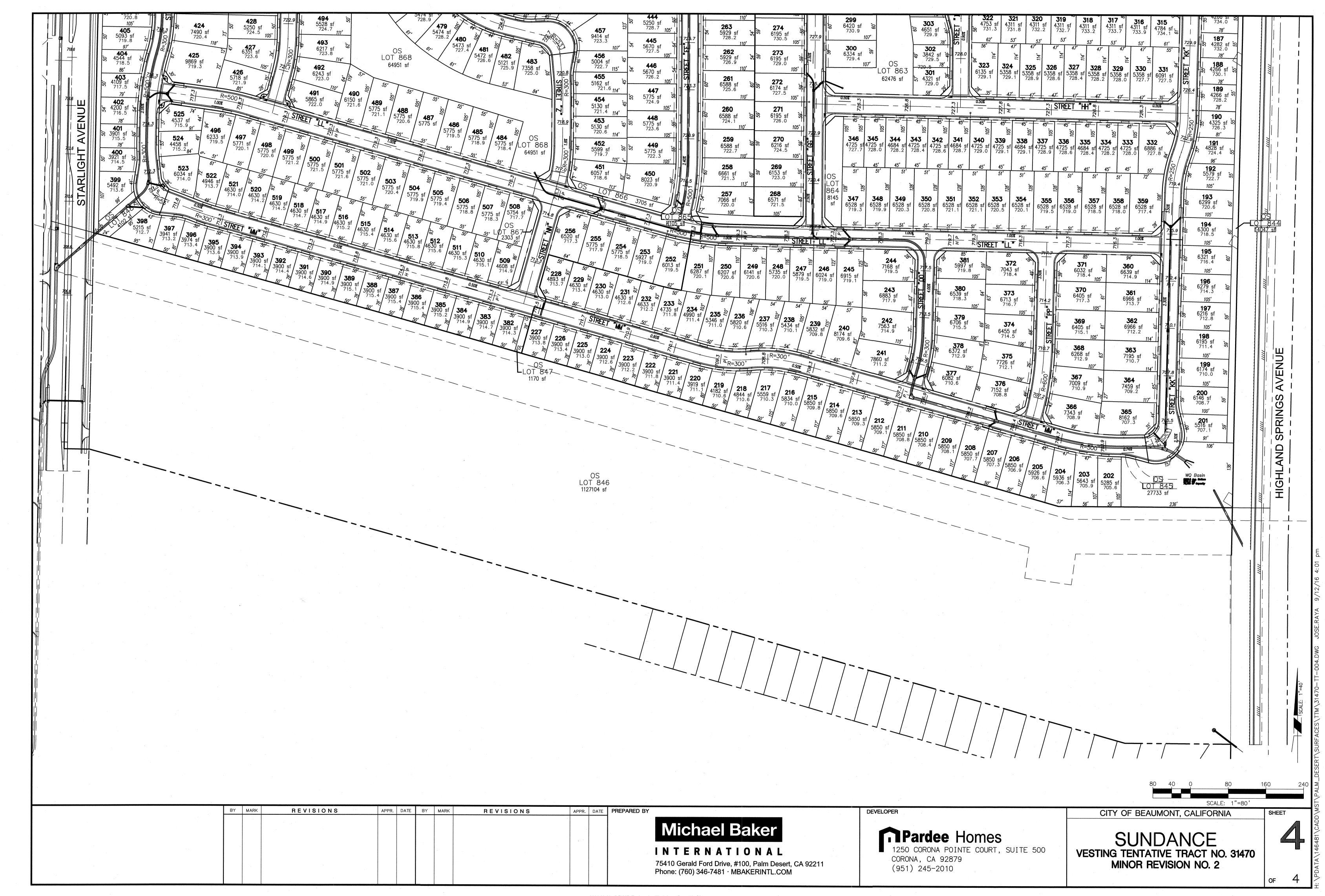
Attachment 2 – October 3, 2018, Will Serve Letter for TTM 31470

Staff Report prepared by Mark Swanson, Senior Engineer and Aaron Walker, Development Services Rep.











http://www.bcvwd.org

#### **Board of Directors**

David Hoffman Division 5

John Covington Division 4

Daniel Slawson Division 3

Lona Williams Division 2

Andy Ramirez Division 1

## Attachment 2 - October 3, 2018, Will Serve Letter for TTM 31470 **Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District**

Phone: (909) 845-9581 Fax: (951) 845-0159 Email: info@bcvwd.org

October 3, 2018

Michael Heishman, Project Manager 1250 Corona Pointe Dr., Suite 600 Corona, CA 92879

Subject: Update of Will Serve Letter

Tract Map 31470 Beaumont, CA

Dear Mr. Heishman:

At the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors held on September 12, 2018, Pardee Homes request for water service ("Will Serve") for the above referenced property (Tract Map 31470) was approved for domestic and non-potable water service for the proposed 859 residences.

The Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District will provide water service to the subject property assuming all obligations to provide service are met including, but not limited to, the Rules and Regulations Governing Water Service as amended by the Board of Directors from time to time.

#### **Conditions of Continued Development:**

During the continued project development the following conditions must be met:

- 1. The Applicant shall enter into a water facilities extension agreement and pay all fees associated with the domestic and non-potable water services for each specific development area (Final Tracts within Tentative Tract Map 31470). The Applicant shall also pay all fees related to new fire service facilities including any facilities improvements that may be necessary to meet the fire flow requirements.
- 2. The Applicant shall pay front footage fees along all property frontages where facilities are currently installed.
- 3. The Applicant shall connect to the non-potable water system for irrigation supply. To minimize the use of potable water, the District requires the applicant conform to the City of Beaumont Landscaping Ordinances and Zoning Requirements and/or County of Riverside Landscaping Ordinances (as applicable) which pertains to water efficient landscape requirements and the following:
  - a. Landscaped areas which have turf, shall have "smart irrigation controllers" which use Evapotranspiration (ET) data to automatically control the watering.

Page 1 of 2 560 Magnolia Avenue Beaumont CA 92223



### Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District

Phone: (909) 845-9581 Fax: (951) 845-0159 Email: info@bcvwd.org

**Board of Directors** 

**David Hoffman** Division 5

John Covington Division 4

Daniel Slawson Division 3

Lona Williams Division 2

**Andy Ramirez** Division 1

- b. Systems shall have an automatic rain sensor to prevent watering during and shortly after rainfall and automatically determine watering schedule based on weather conditions, and not require seasonal monitoring changes. Orchard areas, if any, shall have drip irrigation.
- c. Landscaping in non-turf areas should be drought tolerant consisting of planting materials. Irrigation systems for these areas should be drip or bubbler type.
- 4. The Applicant shall conform to all District requirements and all City of Beaumont requirements.

We look forward to working with you in the coming months and please feel free to contact the office should you have any questions.

This letter will expire 12 months from the date of issue.

Sincerely,

Daniel K. Jagge General Manager

**BCVWD** 

Attachments: 1. September 12, 2018 Staff Report Requesting Will Serve Letter for

Tract 31470

DKJ/aew

Page 2 of 2 560 Magnolia Avenue Beaumont CA 92223



#### Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District Regular Board Meeting September 23, 2021

Item 4

#### STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Dan Jaggers, General Manager

SUBJECT: Discussion of California Governor's Executive Order N-23-20 and N-08-21

regarding Brown Act Requirement Suspensions and the Return of Pre-Covid Teleconferencing Procedures after September 30, 2021 and a review

of AB 361

#### **Staff Recommendation**

No recommendation; information only.

#### **Background**

In 2020, due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 which waived the part of the Brown Act related to teleconference meetings and required postings. Earlier this year, the provision was extended to September 30, 2021 by the Governor's Executive Order N-08-21.

The California legislature responded to the upcoming expiration with AB 361, which passed on September 15, 2021 and is on the Governor's desk for signature. It allows the continued waiver of the Brown Act provisions regarding teleconferencing and will go into effect immediately upon signature. AB 361 reads, in part:

This bill, until January 1, 2024, would authorize a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with the teleconferencing requirements imposed by the Ralph M. Brown Act when a legislative body of a local agency holds a meeting during a declared state of emergency, as that term is defined, when state or local health officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, during a proclaimed state of emergency held for the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and during a proclaimed state of emergency when the legislative body has determined that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, as provided.

The State of California is still under a declared COVID-19 state of emergency, and until the governor declares its end, the teleconferencing rules waiver will be in effect if Governor Newsom signs the legislation.

The provisions for teleconferencing affect the Board's regular meetings, special meetings, and standing Committee meetings (personnel and Finance). It does not affect the ad hoc committees.



#### **Summary**

AB 361 will allow the District to continue holding hybrid meetings – in person and via teleconference (Zoom technology) – under the current gubernatorial proclaimed COVID-19 state of emergency. Once the state of emergency is ended by the Governor, the Board may consider taking action pursuant to the requirements of AB 361 to continue its hybrid meetings.

Currently, BCVWD meetings follow the guidelines of the Riverside County Public Health Department, and the requirements are clearly stated on the meeting agendas.

Without the provisions of AB 361, the teleconference requirements will revert to the existing Brown Act provisions after September 30, 2021:

- Those directors teleconferencing into the meetings must post a copy of the agenda (not the entire packet, just the agenda) at their location in a publicly accessible spot no less than 72 hours in advance of the meeting, and make sure that their location is open to the public at the time of the meeting.
  - Directors who are at home will need to admit members of the public to the room where they may join the meeting.
  - Directors who are on vacation will have to post the agenda and admit attendees to their location. (Savvy business travelers usually give the address of their hotel's business center and teleconference from there.)
- Those Directors teleconferencing will need to provide the address of their teleconference location to staff no longer than seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting to assure that the location information gets onto the agenda.

These requirements preclude teleconferencing from a vehicle while driving. The teleconference location must be stationary, at the location indicated on the agenda, and accessible to the public.

The provisions of AB 361 will sunset on January 1, 2024.

Staff awaits news of the governor's signing the legislation and will respond accordingly to keep the District in compliance.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

None.

#### **Attachments**

1. Best Best & Krieger article: Brown Act Amendment AB 361 Awaits Gov. Gavin Newsom's Signature (9/15/2021)

Staff Report prepared by Lynda Kerney, Administrative Assistant

September 15, 2021

# Brown Act Amendment AB 361 Awaits Gov. Gavin Newsom's Signature

Ruben Duran, Michael Maurer

Best Best & Krieger LLP



Contact



#### **Urgency Bill to Allow Continued Virtual Meetings Under Certain Circumstances**

As the California State Legislative session drew to a close on September 10, AB 361, one of several bills that had been introduced to deal with the anticipated expiration of Executive Order N-29-20, not only survived, but passed with wide margins with the addition of an urgency clause. If signed into law, AB 361 will allow local government to continue to conduct virtual meetings as long as there is a state-proclaimed state of emergency, but it won't be quite as flexible as it has been under the Executive Order.

#### The Executive Order allowed for flexible approaches to virtual meetings.

As part of a package of executive orders adopted soon after the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, Executive Order N-29-20 allowed local governments to meet remotely without having to adhere to all of the traditional teleconferencing rules that had been part of the Brown Act for decades, including public posting of agendas at the location of remote participation by members of the legislative body and public access to those locations. With the assistance of teleconferencing and remote video technology, local governments statewide have been able to continue the business of the people while following mandated protocols against indoor gatherings. At the same time, interested members of the public could virtually attend meetings safely from home and offer public comment using a variety of methods, from emails to voicemails and video participation, through applications that had previously only been used in corporate boardrooms or for social interactions between friends.

## With the end of the Executive Order looming, AB 361 allows for some virtual meetings still, with a few more restrictions.

Executive Order N-29-20 expires on September 30, and with it, local government's authority to continue with this broader remote participation. So the legislature adopted AB 361—as an urgency measure that goes into effect immediately if signed by the governor. The bill amends the

Brown Act to allow local legislative bodies to continue using teleconferencing and virtual meeting technology as long as there is a gubernatorial "proclaimed state of emergency." But this allowance also depends on state or local officials imposing or recommending measures that promote social distancing or a legislative body finding that meeting in person would present an imminent safety risk to attendees. Though adopted in the context of the pandemic, AB 361 will allow for virtual meetings during other state-proclaimed emergencies, such as earthquakes or wildfires, where physical attendance may present a risk.

#### Real-time public comment is required.

The key difference between Executive Order N-29-20 and AB 361 is that AB 361 requires a public comment period where the public can address the legislative body directly. It expressly prohibits councils and boards from limiting public comments to only comments submitted in advance and specifies that the legislative body "must provide an opportunity for the public to ... offer comment in real time." Additionally, the body must allow for public comment up until the public comment period is closed at the meetings. The agenda must include information on the manner in which the public may access the meeting and provide comments remotely, and if technical problems arise that result in the public's access being disrupted, the legislative body may not take any vote or other official action until the technical disruption is corrected and public access is restored.

#### Watch the sunset.

Finally, AB 361 will sunset on January 1, 2024, and requires the legislative body to make findings by majority vote that the state of emergency still exists and continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person, or that officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

#### **Takeaway**

Local agencies that want to continue holding virtual meetings or allowing remote participation by the public under the Brown Act should ensure that the public can make real-time comments up until the close of the public-comment period. Limiting comment to emails sent at least an hour before the meeting starts will no longer be acceptable. And push pause if there is a technical disruption: Don't hold the vote until the public is back online.

#### **LATEST POSTS**

• Brown Act Amendment AB 361 Awaits Gov. Gavin Newsom's Signature



#### Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District Regular Board Meeting September 23, 2021

Item 5

#### STAFF REPORT

TO: Board of Directors

**FROM:** Dan Jaggers, General Manager

SUBJECT: Continued Review of Anticipated California Drought Conditions, District

Urban Water Management Plan Drought Restrictions and BCVWD Resolution 2014-05 Regarding Issuance of Will-Serve Letters and Other

**Drought Response** 

#### **Staff Recommendation**

Task the Ad Hoc Communications Committee with producing conservation messaging for social media and development of local press releases on drought.

#### **Attachments**

- 1. Current Reservoir Conditions September 12, 2021
- 2. California Drought Monitor Map September 14, 2021

#### News:

California reservoir levels continue to drop. Here's why relief may be coming even later in the year.

New drone video shows just how low California's biggest reservoir, Shasta Lake, is getting as the state dips deeper into drought.

ABC 10 Sacramento (9/7/2021)

https://www.abc10.com/article/weather/california-drought/reservoir-levels-california/103-a3f855d0-98ba-4597-b334-b30086c50cb6

California drought continues to worsen

July was the driest on record in the past 127 years

The Reporter (9/7/2021)

https://www.thereporter.com/2021/09/07/california-drought-continues-to-worsen/

Significant summer rain not enough to erase SoCal drought Spectrum News 1 (8/30/2021)

https://spectrumnews1.com/ca/la-west/weather/2021/08/26/monsoon-thunderstorms-dropped-significant-rain-this-summer--but-not-enough-to-make-a-dent-in-the-drought

Commentary from San Benito Water Resources Association: It is time for residents to conserve water voluntarily. San Benito County Water District Water Shortage Contingency Plan Stage 1 Benito Link (9/12/2021)

https://benitolink.com/commentary-california-drought-update/

'This is a lose-lose': Drought, wildfires complicate Biden's California water plans Politico (8/18/2021)



https://www.politico.com/states/california/story/2021/08/18/drought-fires-and-politics-put-bidens-california-water-plans-on-hold-1389265

Amid California drought, Santa Clara County's water conservation isn't going well One of the largest water districts in the Bay Area is falling dramatically short of water conservation goals amid extreme drought conditions.

SF Gate (9/9/2021)

https://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Santa-Clara-Valley-Water-water-conservation-16443908.php

Years later, California voters still wait on water projects

(RE: Sites Reservoir) AP (8/31/2021)

https://apnews.com/article/business-environment-and-nature-california-droughts-science-74bbbd535f6519b8aa79d57737e6eef4

Increased Pumping in California's Central Valley During Drought Worsens Groundwater Quality USGS (9/1/2021)

https://www.usgs.gov/news/increased-pumping-california-s-central-valley-during-drought-worsens-groundwater-quality

California drought driving up greenhouse gas emissions: study The Hill (9/9/2021)

https://thehill.com/policy/equilibrium-sustainability/571434-california-drought-driving-up-greenhouse-gas-emissions

How California's drought is stressing a water system that delivers water to millions of residents PBS Newshour (9/3/2021)

https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/how-californias-drought-is-stressing-a-water-system-that-delivers-water-to-millions-of-residents

California enacted a groundwater law 7 years ago. But wells are still drying up – and the threat is spreading.

Cal Matters (8/24/2021)

https://calmatters.org/environment/2021/08/california-groundwater-dry/

#### Resources:

NOAA National Integrated Drought Information System <a href="https://www.drought.gov/states/california">https://www.drought.gov/states/california</a>

Water Education Foundation – All Things Drought https://www.watereducation.org/post/all-things-

drought?utm campaign=&utm medium=email&utm source=bundle and blast&mc cid=c0f3e5
4898&mc eid=1759354f4e

Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-10-21 (Voluntary 15 percent reduction)



 $\underline{\text{https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/7.8.21-Conservation-Executive-Order-N-10-21-.pdf}$ 

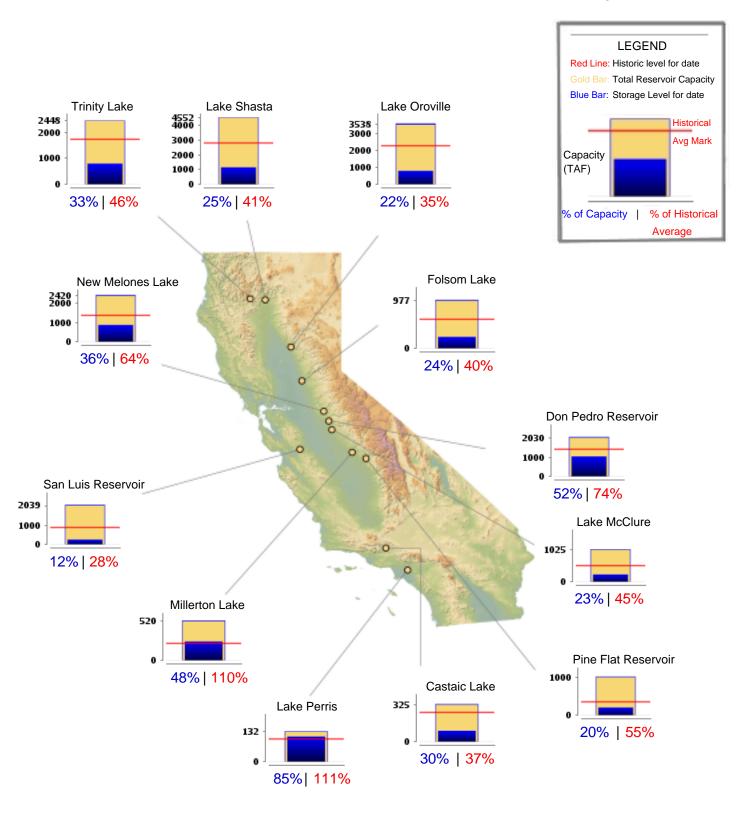
California Department of Water Resources – Drought page <a href="https://water.ca.gov/drought/">https://water.ca.gov/drought/</a>



## **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS**

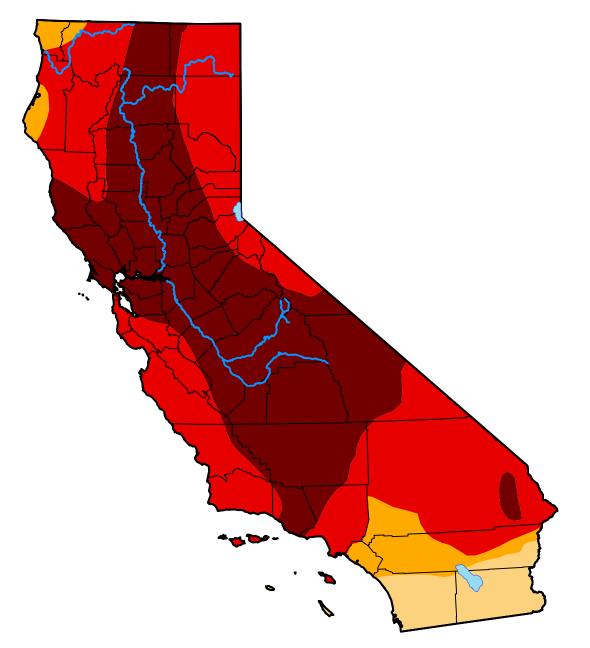
#### SELECTED WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS

Midnight: September 12, 2021



## U.S. Drought Monitor

## California



## **September 14, 2021**

(Released Thursday, Sep. 16, 2021)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

#### Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	100.00	93.93	87.94	45.66
Last Week 09-07-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	93.93	87.94	45.66
3 Months Ago 06-15-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	94.75	85.44	33.32
Start of Calendar Year 12-29-2020	0.00	100.00	95.17	74.34	33.75	1.19
Start of Water Year 09-29-2020	15.35	84.65	67.65	35.62	12.74	0.00
One Year Ago 09-15-2020	15.62	84.38	67.09	35.26	3.17	0.00

#### Intensity:

None D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought
D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions.

Local conditions may vary. For more information on the

Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

#### Author:

**Brad Rippey** 

U.S. Department of Agriculture









droughtmonitor.unl.edu



#### Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District Regular Board Meeting September 23, 2021

Item 8

**Update: Legislative Action and Issues Affecting BCVWD** 

CHANGES MAD	E SINCE LAST UPDATE	NO CHANGES MADE	NEW TO THIS UPDATE		
FEDERAL					
hearings. Eight House President Biden's prop and <u>Veterans Affairs</u> C Tuesday and Wednesd development, extend ta these priorities." Five H and <u>Education and Lab</u> markup. The earliest th The House and Senate	9/14/21 CSDA Federal Update: The Senate is in session while the House is in recess this week. However, several House committees are holding virtual/hybrid markups and hearings. Eight House committees will complete markups of their parts of congressional Democrats' \$3.5 trillion budget reconciliation package, which incorporates large swaths of President Biden's proposed American Jobs and Families Plans unveiled earlier this year. On Monday, the House Agriculture: Judiciary: Energy and Commerce: Financial Services: and Veterans Affairs Committees will hold their markups. On Tuesday, the House Transportation and Infrastructure and Homeland Security Committees will hold their markups. And on Tuesday and Wednesday, the House Ways and Means Committee will complete its markup "to combat the climate crisis, create jobs, encourage economic and affordable housing development, extend tax cuts for workers and families, lower health care costs, and reinstate key tools to help states and localities finance investments, as well as measures on funding these priorities." Five House committees have already completed their markups: Oversight and Reform: Natural Resources; Small Business; Science, Space and Technology; and Education and Labor. The House committees face a Wednesday, September 15 deadline to markup their sections and send them to the House Budget Committee for a final markup. The earliest the House will consider the legislation is during the week of September 20, however, this timeline could easily slip to the week of September 27 or early October. The House and Senate will also need to pass a short-term spending bill (i.e., Continuing Resolution [CR]) by Thursday, September 30 to temporarily fund the federal government and avoid a shutdown beginning the first day of Fiscal Year 2022 on October 1. The House will likely vote on the CR during the week of September 20, and the CR will likely last through				
Issue	Status	Description			
HR535: Special Districts Provide Essential Services	1/28/21 – Introduced. Ref to Committee on Oversight and	trillion stimulus bill. The bill is now in the U.S. Senate, where rule, which includes the ability for Senators to propose amer			
Act Senate companion bill: S. 91	Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services		ator Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz., re-introduced landmark special districts de Essential Services Act) to provide special districts with certain access		

#### Continued on next page

HR 199: Direct
Support for
Communities Act
To provide funding
for cities, counties,
and other units of
general local
government to
prevent, prepare for
and respond to
coronavirus.

1/5/21 – Introduced, ref to Com on Appropriations 7/14/21 – No change in status Rep. Antonio Delgado Press Release: Re-introduced bipartisan *Direct Support for Communities Act* to ensure that every single community, regardless of size, can access urgently needed COVID-19 relief funding from the federal government.

In March 2020, Congress passed the *CARES Act*, which provided \$500 billion for communities with over 500,000 residents, meaning smaller towns and cities were unable to access desperately needed federal COVID-19 relief funding to help make ends meet. In May of last year, to respond to the concerns of local communities, Reps. Delgado and Zeldin introduced a bipartisan solution: the *Direct Support for Communities Act*. The bill creates a funding mechanism that allows smaller communities direct access to federal funding. These funds will help prevent the layoffs of public health care workers, firefighters, police, sanitation workers, teachers, and other vital public servants, and ensure that all counties, cities, towns, and villages, regardless of size, have the financial resources needed to continue to provide these necessary services and to avoid local tax and fee increases that will put more burden on already cash-strapped families and businesses in this crisis. The *Direct Support for Communities Act* was the formula adopted in both the *Heroes* and *Updated Heroes Act*, which the House passed in 2020.

#### S 91: Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act

Companion Bill: HR 535

1/28/21 – Introduced 7/14/21 – No change in status This bill makes special districts eligible for the Coronavirus Relief Fund and the Municipal Liquidity Facility program. Specifically, the bill makes special districts eligible for payments from amounts paid to states from any new appropriations to the fund. A special district must submit a request for payment to the state with information demonstrating that the special district has experienced or is likely to experience during the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) emergency

- reduced revenue or operational funding derived from provided services, taxes, fees, or other sources of revenue;
- reduced indirect funding from the federal government, the state, or a unit of general government below the state level: or
- as a result of the COVID-19 emergency, increased expenditures necessary to continue operations.

The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System shall include special districts as eligible issuers in the Municipal Liquidity Facility program, which was created in response to the COVID-19 emergency to buy municipal securities. While elements of <u>S. 91</u>, the Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act, were not incorporated in the Senate's package, explicit authority for state and local government receiving relief monies to transfer aid to special districts is included. CSDA and national partners continue to explore approaches to legislatively insert S. 91's five percent set-aside for state relief allocations, as substantive amendments to the underlying legislation have been discouraged from Senate leadership

#### HR 2482 - "Making Imperiled Communities Resistant to Outages with Generation that is Resilient, Islandable, and

4/13/21 – Introduced 7/14/21 – No change in status From CSDA: To incentivize microgrid development and rehabilitation to provide backup power to communities and essential facilities during power outages and emergencies. Special districts would be eligible for reimbursements on qualified microgrid projects. The Act is an effort to develop climate-resilient infrastructure as extreme weather events become increasingly common, and it is a response to ongoing threats of power outages and Public Safety Power Shutoff events. "The MICROGRID Act is a solution to facilitate local governments' ability to develop much-needed resources and continue providing reliable, critical services in times of PSPS events and grid unreliability," said Neil McCormick, CEO of the California Special Districts Association, in a statement provided to Panetta's office ahead of the bill's introduction. "California's special districts applaud Congressman Panetta for leading on this legislation, and

Distributed" (MICROGRID) Act		for ensuring special districts are included in direct credits for developing qualified microgrids."  The legislation clarifies tax credit eligibility for elements necessary for microgrid construction. Special districts would be eligible for 30 percent reimbursements in the form of direct payments for qualified projects through 2025. Credits phase out to 10 percent by 2028 and sunset in 2029. Eligible microgrids would provide as little as 4 kilowatts and as high as 50 megawatts, which would be sufficient to island critical infrastructure such as water pumps at well sites, wastewater treatment facilities, medical facilities, emergency facilities and other essential infrastructure necessary for continuity of special districts' services.  Congressman Panetta engaged CSDA early in the bill's development for special districts' feedback and to ensure districts, as units of local government defined in the bill, would be eligible to access reimbursements
S 914 Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021	3/23/21 Introduced 4/29/21 Passed Senate. 4/30/21 – Held at Desk in House	Authorizes the investment of more than \$35 billion in water infrastructure projects across the country that "focus on upgrading our aging infrastructure, addressing the threat of climate change, investing in new technologies, and providing assistance for marginalized communities." The bill includes nearly \$30 billion in funding for the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF) and the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF) and an additional \$6 billion in grant funding over fiscal years 2022-2026

CHANGES MADE SI	NCE LAST UPDATE	NO CHANGES MADE	NEW TO THIS UPDATE
CALIFORNIA			
Revise to the state budget prand revenue gaps related to details as they become avail 9/13/21: Friday (9/11) was the provisions of interest to many	roposes that \$1 billion in Ar the pandemic. Details of th able. he last day for bills to pass in y special districts have pass	nerican Rescue Plan Act funds be used to provide direct p is program are still being worked out through the legislative in the 2021 legislative session. The Senate and Assembly of	r residential customers. Governor Newsom's 2021–22 May ayments to water systems to address customer arrearages e budget process. The State Water Board will share additional continued to deliberate on the floor, but two trailer bills with SB 170, a Budget Bill Jr., and SB 155, the Public Resources
Issue	Status	Description	
AB 128 The Budget Act of 2021 ("Budget Bill in Chief")	Chaptered 6/28/21	Included a \$100 million State General Fund appropriation f	for independent special districts.
SB 170: Budget Bill Jr.	Governor for		rities in resources, wildfire prevention, climate, drought, higher ion. SB 170 represents the appropriation of these funds, which al budget package. Notable provisions include:

		COVID-19 Relief to Special Districts. Updates provisional language for the \$100 million COVID-19 fiscal relief funds for independent special districts (item 9210-101-0001). Specifically, there are now two periods of eligibility:  Revenue loss will be calculated by comparing revenue from all fund sources for fiscal year 2020-21 against revenue from revenue from all fund sources from the 2018-19 fiscal year (base year)  Unanticipated costs experienced between March 4, 2020 and June 15, 2021 are eligible claims under the program.  Wildfire Prevention and Forest Health. Appropriates an additional \$913 million for wildfire prevention and forest health in budget year 2021-2022. Budget year funding includes \$159 million for Forest Health grants, \$120 million for Fire Prevention grants, \$40 million for the Forest Health Improvement Program for Small Landowners, \$181 million for stewardship of state-owned lands, \$53 million for various conservancies, \$27 million for the forestry corps, \$13 million for defensive space inspectors, \$20 million for a Prescribed Fire Liability Pilot Program, and \$14.3 million for contract counties to hire additional fuels crews. This increases the total appropriation this year, including early action and cap and trade funding, to \$1.524 billion.  Water and Drought Resilience. Allocates an additional \$855 million in budget year for water and drought resilience and adopts a three-year \$4.649 billion package. This increases budget year spending to \$3.269 billion with \$880 million for 2022-2023 and \$500 million for 2023-2024. Additional funding for this year includes \$120 million for the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act program with at least \$60 million for the San Joaquin Valley, \$115 million for water recycling and groundwater cleanup, \$30 million for PFAS cleanup, \$50 million for multi benefit land repurposing, \$40 million for Salton Sea, and \$20 million for border rivers.  Parks Access. Appropriates an additional \$200 million to build parks along urban water ways including partnership
SB 155: Public Resources trailer bill	Passed, headed to Governor for signature	Existing law establishes the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund in the State Treasury to help water systems provide an adequate and affordable supply of safe drinking water in both the near and long terms. Existing law authorizes the state board to provide for the deposit into the fund of certain moneys, and also provides that, beginning in the 2020–2021 fiscal year, and until June 30, 2030, 5% of the annual proceeds of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, up to the sum of \$130,000,000, is annually transferred to the fund. Existing law continuously appropriates the moneys in the fund to the state board for grants, loans, contracts, or services to assist eligible recipients. Existing law specifies eligible recipients of funding, which include public agencies, nonprofit organizations, mutual water companies, Native American tribes, as provided, administrators, and groundwater sustainability agencies.  This bill would expand the list of eligible funding recipients to include community water systems and technical assistance providers and would define a "technical assistance provider" to mean a person whom the state board has determined is competent to assist a water system by providing administrative, technical, operational, legal, or managerial services, as provided. The bill would provide that a privately owned public utility may serve as a technical assistance provider. By expanding the list of recipients eligible for moneys from the continuously appropriated Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund, this bill would make an appropriation.

		Existing law establishes the California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program in the State Water Resources Control Board. Existing law requires the State Water Resources Control Board, following an appropriation in the annual Budget Act for these purposes, to survey community water systems to determine statewide arrearages and water enterprise revenue shortfalls and adopt a resolution establishing guidelines for application requirements and reimbursement amounts for those arrearages and shortfalls, as specified.  Existing law requires a community water system to provide customers with arrearages accrued during the defined COVID-19 pandemic bill relief period a notice that they may enter into a payment plan. Existing law prohibits a community water system that receives program funds from discontinuing water service due to nonpayment before September 30, 2021, or the date the customer misses the enrollment deadline for, or defaults on, a payment plan, whichever is later.  This bill would expand this prohibition to all community water systems regardless of funding sources and would change the date described above to December 31, 2021.
loguo	Ctotus	Description

Issue	Status	Description
ACA 1 - Local government financing: affordable housing and public infrastructure: voter approval.	12/7/20 – Introduced 4/22/21 – Ref to Coms on Local Govt and Appropriations 9/9/21 No change in status	CSDA description: 55% vote threshold for special taxes  Summary: The California Constitution prohibits the ad valorem tax rate on real property from exceeding 1% of the full cash value of the property, subject to certain exceptions. This measure would create an additional exception to the 1% limit that would authorize a city, county, city and county, or special district to levy an ad valorem tax to service bonded indebtedness incurred to fund the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of public infrastructure, affordable housing, or permanent supportive housing, or the acquisition or lease of real property for those purposes, if the proposition proposing that tax is approved by 55% of the voters of the city, county, or city and county, as applicable, and the proposition includes specified accountability requirements.
SCR 5: State of emergency: COVID-19: termination	12/22/20 – Introduced 2/2/21 – Amended in Com on Rules 2/10/21 – Ref to Com on Gov Organization	This measure, in accordance with specified law, would declare that the state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor on March 4, 2020, is at an end, thereby terminating the emergency powers granted to the Governor as a result of that proclamation.  9/9/21 – No change in status.
AB 15: COVID-19 relief: Tenant Stabilization Act of 2021	12/7/20 – Introduced 1/11/21 – Ref to Com on Housing and Community Development	Press Release: California State Assembly Bills 15 & 16, from Asm. David Chiu (D-San Francisco), will extend and improve AB 3088. AB 15 will:  • Extend the time period prohibiting evictions for inability to pay rent in full through 2021 and expanding just-cause provisions for eviction.  • Curb predatory forms of rent debt collection in court, curb predatory rental repayment agreements, prohibit late fees, and minimize the negative effects of debt for tenants applying for new housing.

	9/9/21 – No change in status	<ul> <li>Allow city governments to pass stronger local protections if they so choose.</li> <li>AB 16 will address longer-term concerns around debt, harassment, and relief for rents and mortgages.</li> <li>AB 15 must pass with a 2/3 majority in the Assembly and State Senate before January 31, 2021 to take effect immediately, while AB 16 needs a simple majority to pass in the coming months.</li> <li>CSDA Summary 1/13/21: Would extend the definition of "COVID-19 rental debt" as unpaid rent or any other unpaid financial obligation of a tenant that came due between March 1, 2020, and December 31, 2021. The bill would also extend the repeal date of the act to January 1, 2026. The bill would make other conforming changes to align with these extended dates. By extending the repeal date of the act, the bill would expand the crime of perjury and create a statemandated local program.</li> </ul>
AB 16: COVID-19 Tenant, Small Landlord, and Affordable Housing Provider Stabilization Act of 2021	12/7/20 – Introduced 1/13/21 – Amended and ref to Com on Housing and Community Development	CSDA Summary 1/13/21: Would state the intent of the Legislature to enact the Tenant, Small Landlord, and Affordable Housing Provider Stabilization Act of 2021 to address the long-term financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on renters, small landlords, and affordable housing providers, ensure ongoing housing stability for tenants at risk of eviction, and stabilize rental properties at risk of foreclosure. This bill would include legislative findings and declarations in support of the intended legislation.  9/9/21 – No change in status
AB 37: Elections: vote by mail ballots. (See also SB 29 – SB 29 has been CHAPTERED	12/7/20 – Introduced 1/11/21 – Ref to Com on Elections 4/8/21 – Amended by author, re-ref to Com on Elections 9/8/21 – ENROLLED. NOW LAW	This will affect the cost of BCVWD elections. CSDA Summary 1/13/21: Current law required county elections officials to mail a ballot to every registered voter for the November 3, 2020, statewide general election. Existing law, for the November 3, 2020, statewide general election, also required county elections officials to use a specified Secretary of State vote by mail tracking system or a system that meets the same specifications. This bill would extend these requirements to all elections. By requiring county elections officials to mail a ballot to every registered voter, and to take other actions, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.  Would require elections officials to mail a ballot to every active registered voter and to make a ballot tracking system available for all future elections. That bill is not an urgency measure and, so, would apply to elections held after 2021.
AB 100: Drinking water: end point devices: lead content	12/11/20 – Introduced 4/7/21 – Amended in Assembly, ref to Com on Appropriations 6/24/21 Amended by author, re-ref to Com on Environmental Quality	The California Safe Drinking Water Act prohibits, with certain exceptions, the use of any pipe, pipe or plumbing fitting or fixture, solder, or flux that is not lead free in the installation or repair of any public water system or any plumbing in a facility providing water for human consumption. The act defines "lead free" for purposes of conveying or dispensing water for human consumption to mean not more than 0.2% lead when used with respect to solder and flux and not more than a weighted average of 0.25% lead when used with respect to the wetted surfaces of pipes and pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, and fixtures. This bill would additionally define "lead free," with respect to endpoint devices, as defined, to mean that the devices do not leach more than one microgram of lead under certain tests and meeting a specified certification. This bill would, commencing January 1, 2023, prohibit a person from manufacturing, and offering for sale in the state, an endpoint device, as defined, that does not meet a certain lead leaching standard. The bill would, commencing July 1, 2023, prohibit a person from introducing into commerce or offering for sale in the state an endpoint device that does not meet that lead leaching standard. The bill would require the consumer-facing product packaging or product labeling of an

·		9/7/21 – Amended in Senate, passed Assembly.	endpoint device to bear specified lettering if the endpoint device meets that lead leaching standard and the above-described definition of "lead free."
	AB 135 Budget Trailer Bill – Human Services Omnibus	7/12/21 – Introduced Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Com 7/16/21 - CHAPTERED	Budget trailer bill dealing with human services and includes the language for distributing almost \$1 billion for past due electric and gas utility bills. (The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program is established in Section 16367.51 to prioritize and expedite services that reduce energy arrearages for low-income households. It is in the human services trailer bill because the program is administered by the Department of Community Services and Development, which is under the Health and Human Services Agency.)  The California Arrearage Payment Program (CAPP) will be implemented by the Department of Community Services and Development (CSD).
			Additionally, it establishes the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program in Section 12087.2 to prioritize and expedite services that reduce arrearages for low-income households. The state has received \$116 million in federal relief dollars to fund this program, which will be implemented CSD according to federal guidelines.
			<b>STATUS</b> : No information is likely to be made available on application guidelines for several months, as the administering regulatory agencies will undergo a process to develop the programs.
	AB 148: Budget Trailer Bill – Public Resources	7/12/21 – Introduced Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Com 7/22/21CHAPTERED	Budget public resources trailer bill which includes the program for distributing just shy of \$1 billion for water and wastewater arrearages. It also contains drought relief language.: Existing law, the California Emergency Services Act, sets forth the emergency powers of the Governor and empowers the Governor to proclaim a state of emergency for certain conditions, including drought.  This bill would authorize specified state implementing agencies, to, subject to an appropriation for these purposes, make grants and direct expenditures for interim or immediate relief in response to conditions arising from a drought scenario to address immediate impacts on human health and safety and on fish and wildlife resources and to provide water to persons or communities that lose or are threatened with the loss or contamination of water supplies. The bill would define drought scenario as when the Governor has issued a proclamation of a state of emergency pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act based on drought conditions or when the State Water Resources Control Board determines, subject to specified requirements, that drought conditions necessitate urgent and immediate action to ensure availability of safe drinking water, to protect public health and safety, or to avoid serious and irreparable harm to fish or wildlife.  This bill would, subject to an appropriation to an implementing agency to provide grants and direct expenditures for interim or immediate relief to drought scenarios, authorize the implementing agency to, among other things, provide advance payment of up to 25% of grant funds awarded to certain entities.  (The California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program is established in Section 116773.4.)

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AB 343: California Public Records Act: Ombudsperson	1/28/21 – Introduced 6/1/21 Passed Assembly. 6/9/21 Senate Com on Judiciary 9/9/21 – No change in status	CSDA Summary: Would establish, within the California State Auditor's Office, the California Public Records Act Ombudsperson. The bill would require the California State Auditor to appoint the ombudsperson subject to certain requirements. The bill would require the ombudsperson to receive and investigate requests for review, as defined, determine whether the denials of original requests, as defined, complied with the California Public Records Act, and issue written opinions of its determination, as provided. The bill would require the ombudsperson to create a process to that effect and would authorize a member of the public to submit a request for review to the ombudsperson consistent with that process. The bill would require the ombudsperson, within 30 days from receipt of a request for review, to make a determination, as provided, and would require the ombudsperson to require the state agency to provide the public record if the ombudsperson determines that it was improperly denied.
AB 361: Open Meetings: local agencies:	2/1/21 – Introduced 2/12/21 – Ref to Com on Local Govt	CSDA Update 9/9/21: Amended to include an urgency clause, making its provisions immediately effective upon its potential approval by Governor Newsom.
teleconferences	4/7/21 – Amended by author, re-ref to Com	Under normal circumstances, bills signed into law during the year take effect at the beginning of the following calendar year – in this case, January 1, 2022. Governor Newsom's July 11 <a href="Executive Order N-08-21">Executive Order N-08-21</a> rescinded many previous
Similar to, but less severe than AB 703	on Local Govt 5/17/21 Passed Assembly. 9/7/21 – Amended and re-ref to	Orders related to the Ralph M. Brown Act ("the Brown Act" or "the Act"), with the modified Brown Act procedures ending effective September 30, 2021. After this time, agencies that are required to follow the Brown Act will be required to follow the usual requirements and procedures found within the Act, rather than the modified procedures implemented during the pandemic.
	Committee on Judiciary 9/15/21 - ENROLLED	This had meant that after September 30, special districts would have had to resume the publication of the locations from which special district board members were remotely participating in meetings within meeting notices and agendas, post meeting agendas and notices at all teleconference locations, provide the public with a physical location from which they would be able to observe the meeting and provide public comment, and ensure that all special district board members participating remotely were within the territorial bounds of the district. This would have been the case for approximately 90 days until January 1, 2022, at which point the provisions of AB 361 would have come into effect.
		However, with the inclusion of an urgency clause, AB 361's provisions would come into effect upon receiving Governor Newsom's signature, thereby eliminating the "90-day" time period where special districts would have been forced to meet under the pre-pandemic requirements of the Brown Act. AB 361 codifies many of the practices observed during the pandemic, allowing special districts to meet remotely during emergency situations under modified Brown Act procedures.
		The inclusion of an urgency clause means that the bill must receive a two-thirds (%) vote in both the Assembly and Senate. CSDA staff will engage legislators and their staff in support of this measure along with other supporters of this bill.

AB 473: California Public Records Act	2/8/21 – Introduced 2/18/21 – Ref to Com on Judiciary 6/3/21 Passed Assembly. 9/8/21 - ENROLLED	Nonsubstantive. CSDA Summary: The California Public Records Act requires state and local agencies to make their records available for public inspection, unless an exemption from disclosure applies. This bill would recodify and reorganize the provisions of the act. The bill would include provisions to govern the effect of recodification and state that the bill is intended to be entirely nonsubstantive in effect. The bill would contain related legislative findings and declarations. The bill would become operative on January 1, 2023.
AB 474: California Public Records Act: conforming revisions.	2/8/21 – Introduced 6/2/21 Passed Assembly 9/3/21 ENROLLED	Summary: Would enact various conforming and technical changes related to another bill that recodifies and reorganizes the California Public Records Act. The bill would only become operative if the related bill recodifying the act is enacted and becomes operative on January 1, 2023. The bill would also specify that any other bill enacted by the Legislature during the 2021 calendar year that takes effect on or before January 1, 2022, and that affects a provision of this bill shall prevail over this act, except as specified
AB 602: Development Fees: impact fee nexus study	2/11/21 Introduced 9/7/21 – Passed Assembly 9/8/21 - ENROLLED	CSDA Opposed unless amended. Summary: Current law requires a city, county, or special district that has an internet website to make available on its internet website certain information, as applicable, including its current schedule of fees and exactions. This bill, among other things, would require, on and after January 1, 2022, a local agency that conducts an impact fee nexus study to follow specific standards and practices, including, but not limited to, (1) that prior to the adoption of an associated development fee, an impact fee nexus study be adopted, (2) that the study identify the existing level of service for each public facility, identify the proposed new level of service, and include an explanation of why the new level of service is necessary, and (3) if the study is adopted after July 1, 2022, either calculate a fee levied or imposed on a housing development project proportionately to the square footage of the proposed units, or make specified findings explaining why square footage is not an appropriate metric to calculate the fees.
AB 1500: Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2022	2/19/21 – Introduced. 5/12 – Ref to Com on Appropriations 5/20/21 Passed and ref to Com on Rules 9/9/21 – No change in status	CSDA = support if amended. This would authorize bonds in the amount of \$6.7 billion to finance projects to address climate resiliency. According to the Daily Journal: The bill would earmark \$1.1 billion for wildfire protection; \$1.2 billion to address sea level rise; \$1.6 billion for safe drinking water; \$1.06 billion for natural disaster response; \$800 million for fish and wildlife adaptation; \$640 million to protect against extreme heat; and \$300 million to protect farms, ranches, and other land from climate risks.  Similar bill to SB 45
SB 37: Contaminated Site Cleanup and Safety Act	12/7/20 – Introduced 5/20/21 Passed Appropriations 6/2/21 Assembly – read first time	CSDA Summary 1/13/21: Current law requires the State Department of Health Care Services to compile a list of all public drinking water wells that contain detectable levels of organic contaminants and that are subject to water analysis by local health officers. Current law also requires the State Water Resources Control Board to compile a list of specified information, including, but not limited to, all cease-and-desist orders and cleanup and abatement orders issued under the Water Code that concern the discharge of wastes that are hazardous materials. Current law requires these agencies to

	9/8/21 – Ordered to inactive at request of author	update the information as appropriate, but at least annually, and to submit the information to the Secretary of Environmental Protection. Under current law, the Secretary for Environmental Protection is required to consolidate the information provided by these state agencies and distribute the information in a timely fashion to each city and county in which sites on the lists are located and to any other person upon request. The information consolidated and made available by the Secretary for Environmental Protection is commonly known as the "Cortese List." This bill would enact the Dominic Cortese "Cortese List" Act of 2021 and would recodify the above-described provisions with certain revisions.
SB 45: Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022.	12/7/20 – Introduced 1/28/21 – Ref to Com on Natural Resources and Water, and Com on Govt and Finance 4/8/21 – Amended in Senate 6/1/21 – Ordered to inactive on request of Senator	Climate Resiliency Bond. CSDA Summary 1/13/21: Would enact the Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$5,510,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for a wildfire prevention, safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection program. Included is \$45 million for multi-benefit projects that conserve ecosystems while presenting some water storage benefits.  From The Desert Sun: "We can achieve our climate action goals as part of a robust economic strategy,"  Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia, D-Coachella, who sponsored the version in his chamber, said in a statement. "By making serious, targeted investments now, California has the opportunity to mitigate climate impacts, improve disaster response, and prevent future catastrophes while uplifting underserved, environmentally vulnerable areas and creating new jobs where they are needed the most."  The idea would not be cheap, though. His bill calls for a bond worth \$6.7 billion, higher than both Newsom's original \$4.75 billion ask and the current Senate version worth \$5.51 billion. Among other things, Garcia's version would include \$240 million for Salton Sea restoration, \$250 million for groundwater management and \$300 million for grants for clean and reliable drinking water.  The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association is one group raising concerns about the cost. Jon Coupal, the organization's president, said in a statement, "The Legislature has decided to elevate climate-related matters above all other priorities, and that's their prerogative, but if these are their top priorities, they should fund them out of the General Fund and not with bond financing in which half the money spent goes to the bondholders."
SB 52: State of emergency: local emergency: sudden and severe energy shortage: planned power outage	12/7/20 – Introduced 4/29/21 Passed Senate, moved to Assembly 8/26/21: Read 3 <sup>rd</sup> time and amended 9/3/21- ENROLLED	CSDA Summary 1/13/21: Current law defines the terms "state of emergency" and "local emergency" to mean a duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state or the territorial limits of a local government caused by, among other things, a sudden and severe energy shortage. Current law defines a "sudden and severe energy shortage" as a rapid, unforeseen shortage of energy, resulting from, but not limited to, events such as an embargo, sabotage, or natural disasters, and that has statewide, regional, or local impact. This bill would expand the definition of "sudden and severe energy shortage" to include a "de-energization event," defined as a planned power outage, as specified, and would make a de-energization event one of those conditions constituting a state of emergency and a local emergency.

SB 222 - Water Affordability Rate Assistance Program	1/15/21 – Introduced 2/8/21 – Ref to Energy, Utilities and Communications and Environmental Quality Committees 4/5/21 – Amended in Senate, re-ref to Com on EU&C 6/1/21 Passed Senate 6/10/21 Ref to Committees 6/17/21 – Amended by author 7/5/21 Passed committees and ref to Appropriations 9/3/21 – Ordered to inactive	9/9/21: CSDA has withdrawn its opposition due to amendments made. ACWA moved to "Watch." Existing law required the state board to develop a plan for the funding and implementation of the Low-Income Water Rate Assistance Program.  This bill would establish the Water Affordability Assistance Fund in the State Treasury to help provide water affordability assistance, for both drinking water and wastewater services, to low-income ratepayers and ratepayers experiencing economic hardship in California. The bill would make moneys in the fund available upon appropriation by the Legislature to the state board to provide, as part of the Water Affordability Assistance Program established by the bill, direct water bill assistance, water bill credits, water crisis assistance, affordability assistance, and short-term assistance to public water systems to administer program components. The bill would impose requirements on the state board in connection with the program, including, among others, developing guidelines and fund oversight procedures for implementation of the program by January 1, 2023, consulting with an advisory group, and adopting an annual fund expenditure plan.  ACWA comments: SB 222, introduced by Senator Bill Dodd (D-Napa), would create a state-run water rate financial assistance program for low-income Californians. This bill follows a 2020 report from the State Water Resources Control Board — mandated by AB 401 (Dodd, 2015) — that studied how such a program could be organized and financed. ACWA provided the State Water Board with detailed comment letters to help shape the recommendations in that report. ACWA has not yet adopted a position on SB 222, but has identified this bill as a priority this year. ACWA believes there is a way to create a reasonable and effective water rate assistance program; however, SB 222 presents several concerns. For example, while the State Water Board report estimates that such a program could cost the state more than \$600 million, SB 222 does not identify a funding source for t
SB 223: Discontinuation of residential water service	1/14/21 – Introduced. 5/3/21 Amended and ref to Appropriations 5/20/21 Hearing held, placed under submission Suspense File 9/9/21- No change in status	ACWA and CSDA Oppose unless amended. ACWA comments: Companion legislation to SB 222, SB 223 (Dodd) would create new restrictions on the ability of water suppliers to discontinue residential service for nonpayment. The bill comes three years after the legislature passed SB 998 (Dodd), which created a one-size-fits-all statewide water service shutoff law, and just one year after water agencies began implementing that law. The author's intent with SB 223 is to strengthen and extend existing statutorily required protocols and procedures to protect low-income households that face, or have already experienced, discontinuation of water service due to nonpayment. However, the bill re-writes several key provisions in SB 998, without any evidence that such changes are necessary. The bill also proposes that water agencies forgive unpaid debt, raising significant concerns about the bill's compliance with Proposition 218 and the potential financial impact on ACWA member agencies. ACWA adopted an oppose unless-amended position and anticipates working closely with the author throughout the year.  ACWA sent a Coalition letter in opposition, available here: <a href="https://www.acwa.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/SB-223-4-5-21-SenEUC-coalition-modified.pdf">https://www.acwa.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/SB-223-4-5-21-SenEUC-coalition-modified.pdf</a>

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SB 323: Local	2/5/21 – Introduced 5/6/21 – Passed	<b>Support requested. CSDA and</b> ACWA urge support. Would improve financial stability for public agencies by creating a statute of limitations for legal challenges to water and sewer service rates. The bill would provide public agency water
government: water or sewer service:	Senate.	and sewer service rates the same protections already afforded to fees and charges that fund other essential government
legal actions	6/24/21 Assembly	services. It would also give ACWA member agencies more financial certainty by helping to prevent costly and time-
legal actions	amended and re-ref	consuming litigation challenging rates and charges years after they have been adopted and collected, while still ensuring
	to Appropriations	that adopted rates and charges comply with Proposition 218 and other existing laws.
	7/7/21 Read second	CSDA Summary: Current law prohibits a local agency from imposing fees for specified purposes, including fees for
	time with author's	water or sewer connections, as defined, that exceed the estimated reasonable cost of providing the service, unless voter
	amendments, re-ref	approval is obtained. Current law provides that a local agency levying a new a water or sewer connection fee or
	to Appropriations	increasing a fee must do so by ordinance or resolution. Current law requires, for specified fees, including water or sewer
	8/23/21 Second	connection fees, any judicial action or proceeding to attack, review, set aside, void, or annul an ordinance, resolution, or
	reading, passed	motion adopting a new fee or service charge or modifying an existing fee or service charge to be commenced within 120
	Senate	days of the effective date of the ordinance, resolution, or motion according to specified procedures for validation
		proceedings. This bill would apply the same judicial action procedure and timelines, as stated above, to ordinances,
		resolutions, or motions adopting, modifying, or amending water or sewer service fees or charges, except as provided.
SB 594: Elections:	3/4/21 – Introduced	CSDA News 8/19/21: Amendments taken August 16 to Senate Bill 594 (Glazer) will, among other things, consolidate the
Redistricting	9/7/2021 – Enrolled	2022 deadline for special districts to adopt maps adjusting electoral division boundaries using the recently released census
		data.
	NOW LAW	The measure now requires all special districts to pass a board resolution adopting their updated maps by April 17,
		2022, if their regular election is on the same day as the statewide November 2022 general election. If a special
		district's regular election is on another day, the deadline will be 180 days prior to that election.
		SB 594 is intended to address the unique circumstances of the pandemic-delayed 2020 United States Census. Accordingly,
		the bill includes a January 1, 2023 sunset date and would not apply to elections and map-making deadlines beyond 2022. As
		amended August 16, SB 594 pushes the November 1, 2021 deadline back five and a half months to April 17, 2022. However,
		in response to the concerns of county registrars, the new deadline applies to all special districts with a regular election that
		coincides with the November 8, 2022 statewide general election. Therefore, under SB 594, some special districts may be
		required to adopt their updated electoral divisions as many as 25 days sooner than existing law. Special districts
		looking to conduct by-division elections in 2022 should consult their legal counsel to assess the effect of SB 594 in
		anticipation of its potential enactment.
		Elections officials requested the consolidated April 17, 2022 map adoption deadline to afford sufficient time to manage the
		growing number of by-district election contests. Recent legislation adjusted the dates for counties and general law cities to
		adopt their re-districting maps 205 days prior to a November general election and 174 days prior for a June election. CSDA
		advocated against any amendments that would reduce the time available for special districts to conduct a thorough map-
		making process, while supporting amendments to provide sufficient time for those special districts with the infeasible November 1, 2021 deadline.
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SB 821: Committee on Natural Resources and Water: Sacramento- San Joaquin Delta: Delta Independent Science Board	3/9/21 – Introduced 7/1/21 Passed com and re-ref to Com on Appropriations 7/8/21 Read second time, ordered to consent calendar 9/1/21 - ENROLLED	CSDA Summary: Current law establishes the Delta Independent Science Board and sets forth the composition of the board, including requiring the board to consist of no more than 10 members appointed by the Delta Stewardship Council. Current law requires the board to provide oversight of the scientific research, monitoring, and assessment programs that support adaptive management of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta through periodic reviews of each of those programs, as specified. Current law requires the board to submit to the council a report on the results of each review, including recommendations for any changes in the programs reviewed by the board. This bill would provide that members of the Delta Independent Science Board are not employees of the Delta Stewardship Council and would require the members of the board to exercise their scientific judgment and perform their functions independently from the council.
Governor Newsom's Water Resilience Portfolio		https://waterresilience.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Final California-Water-Resilience-Portfolio-2020 ADA3 v2 ay11-opt.pdf
Dept. of Water Resources – Groundwater Update		https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Bulletin-118
What is this place called the Delta? Understanding California's Bay-Delta in 63 photos		https://www.kcet.org/redefine/understanding-californias-bay-delta-in-63-photos

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