
MEMORANDUM

To: Orange County Sanitation District
From: Townsend Public Affairs
Date: November 22, 2023
Subject: Monthly Legislative Report

STATE UPDATES

With the Legislature adjourned until January, the month of November largely focused on looking ahead to next year. In the coming weeks and months, lawmakers are expected to stay in their districts to meet with constituents and local stakeholders, hold staff retreats to determine policy priorities for the next year, and participate in informational hearings in preparation for major policy reforms anticipated next year.

Looking to next year, there are over 1,240 measures that did not meet specified deadlines for passage in 2023 and were held as “Two-Year Bills.” These measures will be eligible for consideration in January of 2024 and may be re-integrated into the legislative process along with other measures introduced at the beginning of the new session.

New Assembly Committee Chairs Announced

On November 21, Speaker Robert Rivas released his list of 2024 committee chairmanships and initial list of committee assignments. This has been widely expected for several weeks since Speaker Rivas took over from Speaker Rendon during the session this year. Committee chairmanships have a profound impact on legislation that is passed by the Legislature. Chairs of committees have power to determine which bills are heard or held in committee, as well as access to additional staff resources. It is likely that some of the new committee chairs will be in their position for several legislative sessions. Below is a list of the new committee chairs:

Assembly Appropriations Committee – Buffy Wicks (D-Oakland)

Assembly Arts, Entertainment, Sports, and Tourism Committee – Mike Gipson (D-Carson)

Assembly Budget Committee – Jesse Gabriel (D-Encino)

Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee – Eduardo Garcia (D-Coachella)

Assembly Governmental Organization Committee - Blanca Rubio (D-Baldwin Park)

Assembly Health Committee – Mia Bonta (D-Oakland)

Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee – Chris Ward (D-San Diego)

Assembly Human Services Committee – Alex Lee (D-San Jose)

Assembly Judiciary Committee – Ash Kalra (D-San Jose)

Assembly Labor and Employment Committee – Liz Ortega (D-San Leandro)

Assembly Natural Resources Committee – Isaac Bryan (D-Los Angeles)

Assembly Privacy and Consumer Protection Committee – Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (D-Orinda)

Assembly Public Safety Committee – Kevin McCarthy (D-Sacramento)
Assembly Rules Committee – Blanca Pacheco (D-Downey)
Assembly Transportation Committee – Lori Wilson (D-Fairfield)
Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee – Cottie Petrie-Norris (D-Irvine)
Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee – Diane Papan (D-San Mateo)

The bolded committees above are the most important for OC San going into next year, as the majority of legislation and funding that OC San will care about will be heard in these committees.
The Senate has yet to announce any changes to committee chairmanships for 2024 but is expected to announce those changes in the next couple of weeks.