



## Orange County Sanitation District

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### LEGISLATIVE AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

#### Agenda Report

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**File #:** 2020-942

**Agenda Date:** 3/9/2020

**Agenda Item No:** 6.

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**FROM:** James D. Herberg, General Manager

**SUBJECT:**

**LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE NATION ACT**

**GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION**

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Letter of Support for Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN).

**BACKGROUND**

Federal funding for resource recovery projects is very important for the Orange County Sanitation District (Sanitation District). Recently, we have been successful in applying for and receiving federal funding including: \$450,000 for the Effluent Reuse Feasibility Study and \$1.325 million for the Groundwater Replenishment System Final Expansion. Funding from grants helps to offset our cost, which is then passed down to our ratepayers.

**RELEVANT STANDARDS**

- Maintain influential legislative advocacy and a public outreach program
- Build brand, trust, and support with policy makers and community leaders
- Maintain collaborative and cooperative relationships with regulators, stakeholders, and neighboring communities

**PROBLEM**

Without appropriate federal funding, water recycling projects like the Groundwater Replenishment System may be delayed until funding is available or may not happen at all.

**PROPOSED SOLUTION**

Staff has drafted a letter of support for WIIN funding opportunities.

### **TIMING CONCERNS**

It is important that the Sanitation District take a position on the letter as soon as possible to ensure that the Sanitation District is in a good position to apply for any upcoming grant opportunities.

### **RAMIFICATIONS OF NOT TAKING ACTION**

If we do not support funding opportunities, we may lose out on potential grants in the future.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

N/A

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Possible grant opportunities in the future.

### **ATTACHMENT**

*The following attachment(s) are included in hard copy and may also be viewed on-line at the OCSD website ([www.ocsd.com](http://www.ocsd.com)) with the complete agenda package:*

- Letter of Support for WIIN