



TO: Orange County Sanitation District

FROM: Whittingham Public Affairs Advisors

DATE: January 23, 2025

SUBJECT: Local Legislative Report

The month of December was highlighted by the holiday celebrations throughout the county, as well as the departures of numerous elected officials and the return to office for others. Following is a few of the more notable developments and issues of the month:

- The Yorba Linda Water District Board of Directors appointed Colonel Wayne Scott to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of longtime Board member Phil Hawkins.
- The City of Brea's longtime City Manager Bill Gallardo, citing health issues, resigned from the City. Assistant City Manager Kristin Griffith is serving as Interim City Manager.
- The City of Placentia announced that former Costa Mesa City Manager Tom Hatch will serve as Interim City Manager during the recruitment of a new City Manager to replace Damien Arrula, who officially left the City in November.
- Patrick Gallegos is currently serving as Interim City Manager for the City of Seal Beach, while Travis Hopkins is serving in the same capacity for the City of Huntington Beach.
- OC San Board members Stephen Faessel (Anaheim), Bruce Whitaker (Fullerton), Farrah Khan (Irvine), Brad Avery (Newport Beach), Schelly Sustarsic (Seal Beach), and Robbie Pitts (Villa Park) concluded their service on their respective City Councils and the OC San Board. New Board members Carlos Leon, Jamie Valencia, Melinda Liu, Erik Weigand, and Lisa Landau have joined the OC San Board of Directors.
- Former State Senator Janet Nguyen was officially sworn in as the new 1<sup>st</sup> District Supervisor in early December and held a ceremonial swearing in event in January at the Pavillion in the County's Mile Square Park in Fountain Valley.

- The filing period closed for the February 25 special election primary to fill Supervisor Nguyen's former 36<sup>th</sup> Senate District. If none of the four qualified candidates are able to garner 50 percent plus one of the vote, a runoff election will be held on April 29.
- The Irvine City Council voted to revise the default renewables level for residents and business owners enrolled in the Orange County Power Authority as the Authority prepared for the addition of the City of Fountain Valley.
- Earlier this month, the Board of Supervisors elected 4<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor and OC San Board member Doug Chaffee to serve as Chair of the Board in 2025. Fifth District Supervisor Katrina Foley was elected to serve as Vice Chair. Chair Chaffee was also elected Chairman of the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors for this year.

As part of our scope of work, Whittingham Public Affairs Advisors has continued to monitor the various City Council agendas of each of OC San's member agencies and highlighted issues and items of relevance to OC San. We also continued to monitor activities at the South Coast Air Quality Management District, including the ongoing consideration of Proposed Amended Rule (PAR) 410, dealing with Odors from Transfer Stations and Materials Recovery Facilities; Proposed Rules 1110.2 and 1110.4, related to Emissions from Emergency Generators; and PAR 1133.3, which will seek to reduce volatile organic compounds and ammonia emissions from green waste and organics composting.

It is a pleasure to work with you and to represent the Orange County Sanitation District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Whittingham".

Peter Whittingham