



TO: Orange County Sanitation District

FROM: Whittingham Public Affairs Advisors

DATE: November 21, 2025

SUBJECT: Local Legislative Report

Following are a few of the more notable developments and issues that have transpired in Orange County over the last several weeks:

- The Cypress City Council held a special meeting on November 19 to interview seven finalists for potential appointment to replace former Council member Scott Minikus, who resigned from City Council October 1.
- Multiple cities countywide continue to experience leadership changes. The Irvine City Council officially named Interim City Manager Sean Crumby as its new City Manager, while Cecilia Gallardo-Daly continues to serve as Interim City Manager in Costa Mesa. Looking forward, Newport Beach Assistant City Manager Seimone Jurjis will step into the City Manager role on January 1, 2026, succeeding Grace Leung, and Dana Point City Manager Mike Killebrew announced that he will be retiring as well at the end of the year.
- Final negotiations are ongoing between the County of Orange and a coalition of cities and sanitation districts regarding landfill tipping fees, known as the Waste Infrastructure System Enhancements (WISE) agreements. Upon final approval by the Board of Supervisors (currently scheduled for December 2), each jurisdiction will work to complete their respective Prop 218 hearings and approve the rate increases prior to the new fees going into effect July 1, 2026.
- The Anaheim City Council voted unanimously to increase sewer impact fees for new development in the Anaheim Hills area. The Council recently rejected a proposal to establish a 3 percent gate fee on various tourism destinations in the city, choosing instead to consider generating revenue from established sources. Per the staff report, the current sewer fee for a single-family home is \$491; under the increase, the fee for a new single family home will be \$667.

- The South Coast Water District (SCWD's) Board of Directors unanimously approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding a potential public agency to public agency partnership, wherein Orange County Waste & Recycling (OCWR) would generate renewable energy from the Prima Deshecha Landfill and provide it as a long-term power supply for SCWD's Doheny Ocean Desalination Project. Prior to consideration of the MOU, a task force was formed between the staff of both agencies in 2022 and a corresponding report, entitled Assessment of Joint Opportunities to Benefit South Orange County Through Renewable Energy and Local Water Supply, was finalized in September 2025. The draft MOU was subsequently approved by the Board of Supervisors, and OCWR is also in discussions with other South County agencies about a similar partnership.
- The Board of Supervisors also approved new rules that will enable Sheriff's deputies to remove homeless encampments from County-owned property, including parks and flood control channels. Santa Ana, Anaheim, Irvine, Garden Grove, and Fullerton are among the cities that previously approved similar rules in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's 2024 decision that enabled local jurisdictions to take such actions.

As part of our scope of work, Whittingham Public Affairs Advisors has continued to monitor the various City Council agendas and highlighted issues and items of relevance to OC San. We also continue to monitor activities at the South Coast Air Quality Management District, Orange County Water District, and South Orange County Wastewater Authority.

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

Sincerely,



Peter Whittingham