



# ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

## Agenda Report

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**File #:** 2026-4797

**Agenda Date:** 2/25/2026

**Agenda Item No:** 14.

**FROM:** Robert Thompson, General Manager  
Originator: Jennifer Cabral, Director of Communications

**SUBJECT:**

**LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS UPDATE FOR THE MONTHS OF DECEMBER 2025 AND JANUARY 2026**

**GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION**

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file the Legislative Affairs Update for the months of December 2025 and January 2026.

**BACKGROUND**

The Orange County Sanitation District's (OC San) legislative affairs program includes advocating for OC San's legislative interests, sponsoring legislation (where appropriate), and seeking local, state, and federal funding for projects and programs.

**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 a strong advocacy program, elected officials may not be aware of OC San's mission, programs, and projects, or how they could be impacted by proposed legislation.

**PROPOSED SOLUTION**

Continue to work with Local, State, and Federal officials to advocate for OC San's interests and help identify, create, and monitor legislation and grants opportunities that would benefit OC San, the wastewater industry, and the community. To strengthen relationship building efforts, OC San will continue to engage elected officials through facility tours, one-on-one meetings, and outreach trips to Washington D.C. and Sacramento.

## **RAMIFICATIONS OF NOT TAKING ACTION**

If OC San does not actively engage with Local, State, and Federal elected officials, legislation could be enacted that negatively impacts OC San and the wastewater industry. Additionally, lack of engagement may result in missed funding opportunities.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **Activities in December 2025:**

- The State Legislature returned in December with bills being introduced through February. OC San staff and lobbyists are evaluating bills as they are introduced to determine whether a position is warranted and will bring recommended items to the Administration Committee for review, comments, and guidance as needed.

### **Activities in January 2026:**

- OC San staff attended the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Winter Conference held in Indian Wells on January 14-16. While at the conference, OC San representatives participated in the State Legislative Committee and Federal Legislative Committee where they discussed current and upcoming bills and desired positions.

### **Upcoming Activities in February:**

- The Legislative Analyst's Office reported that the November 2025 Cap-and-Invest auction generated about \$844 million, below budget assumptions and down roughly \$150 million from last year. Auctions resume in February 2026, and the results will be closely watched to determine whether Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund revenues stabilize or remain below projections. February outcomes could influence mid-year budget adjustments and future funding availability.

## **PRIOR COMMITTEE/BOARD ACTIONS**

N/A

## **CEQA**

N/A

## **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

All items mentioned are included in OC San's FY 2025-26 adopted Budget.

**ATTACHMENT**

*The following attachment(s) may be viewed on-line at the OC San website ([www.ocsan.gov](http://www.ocsan.gov)) with the complete agenda package:*

- Federal Legislative Update
- Federal Matrix
- State Legislative Update
- State Matrix
- Local Legislative Update
- Presentation