

TO: Orange County Sanitation District

FROM: Whittingham Public Affairs Advisors

DATE: August 30, 2024

SUBJECT: Local Legislative Report

The month of August was marked by the close of the filing period for candidates running for election in November at all levels of government. Following is a few of the more notable developments and issues of the month:

- A number of elected officials representing OC San member agencies are either termed out or have chosen not to seek reelection in November. The list includes Supervisor Andrew Do (OC Board of Supervisors); Directors Brett Eckles (CMSD) and Karen McLaughlin (IRWD); Councilmembers Jose Diaz and Steve Faessel (Anaheim); Councilmember Art Brown (Buena Park); Councilmember Bruce Whitaker (Fullerton); Mayor Steve Jones and Councilmembers Kim Nguyen, Stephanie Klopfenstein and John O'Neill, with the latter two running for Mayor (Garden Grove); Mayor Farrah Khan and Councilmember Tammy Kim, the latter of whom is running for Mayor (Irvine); Councilmember Marshall Goodman (La Palma); Mayor Will O'Neill and Councilmem Brad Avery (Newport Beach), Councilmember Rhonda Shader (Placentia); Mayor Thomas Moore and Councilmember Shelly Sustarsic (Seal Beach); Mayor pro Tem Carol Warren (Stanton); Councilmembers Letitia Clark and Becky Gomez (Tustin); and Councilmember Kimberly Ho (Westminster).
- County of Orange Chief Financial Officer Michelle Aguirre continues to serve as interim Chief Executive Officer for the County of Orange. The Board of Supervisors meets next on Tuesday, September 10.
- In addition to these various elected offices, a number of cities countywide, in the face of significant structural budget deficits, have placed local sales tax measures on the November ballot. The Orange City Council placed a one-half cent local sales tax measure before voters in the city, and voters in Seal Beach and Buena Park will consider one cent sales tax measures in their cities. The San Clemente City Council also voted to place a one-half cent measure before its voters to address the costs of sand replenishment along the city's coastline.

• The County of Orange finalized the Draft Preliminary Climate Action Plan (CAP), which is slated to come before the Board of Supervisors in September. More information about the CAP may be found here - <u>Title (oclandfills.com)</u>.

As part of our scope of work, Whittingham Public Affairs Advisors (WPAA) has monitored the various City Council agendas of each of the District's members and highlighted issues and items of relevance to OC San. We also monitored activities at the South Coast Air Quality Management District, including the ongoing consideration of Proposed Rule 1405, which will impact wastewater treatment facilities.

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

Sincerely,

Peter Whittingham

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