



ZONE 7 WATER AGENCY Legislative Framework

Updated March 2023



ZONE 7
ALAMEDA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION NO. 21-99

INTRODUCED BY DIRECTOR SMITH MCDONALD
SECONDED BY DIRECTOR GREEN

Adopt Legislative Framework

WHEREAS, it was the Board intent to create a Legislative Committee to review and recommend positions on key legislative actions; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of a legislative framework will provide a roadmap for the Legislative Committee and staff and supports Strategic Plan, Goal F – Stakeholder Engagement, engage our stakeholders to foster understanding of their needs, the Agency, and its function; and Goal G - Fiscal Responsibility, Initiative No. 23 – Track State and Federal funding opportunities; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Zone 7 Board of Directors of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District does hereby adopt the attached Legislative Framework.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

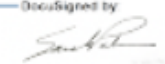
AYES: DIRECTORS FIGUERS, GAMBS, GREEN, PALMER, SANWONG, SMITH MCDONALD

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: DIRECTOR RAMIREZ HOLMES

ABSTAIN: NONE

I certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of Zone 7 of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District on December 15, 2021.

Decafigned by

By: _____
Vice President, Board of Directors

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The guiding principles represent the Agency’s adopted policies and plans and frames the Agency’s legislative interests with respect to the Agency’s mission, vision, and values. Recurring planning efforts for which legislative action may be monitored for impacts to the Agency include updates to capital improvement plans, water supply plans (i.e., Urban Water Management Plan, Groundwater Sustainability Plan, Water Supply Evaluation), flood management plans, and fiscal plans and budgets.

GOALS

Advocate

The Agency’s legislative interests:

- State
- Region
- Federal Levels

Inform

Provide information to:

- Legislators, Board of Directors, and staff on the legislative process and key issues and legislation that could have an impact on the Agency

Serve

Actively participate with:

- Other water districts, the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), California Special Districts Association (CSDA), and regional agencies on legislative/regulatory issues that are important to the Agency

FOCUS AREAS

The following Focus Areas identify potential areas of legislative interest based on the Agency’s Strategic Planning Priorities and Mission.

1. Water Supply, Conservation, and Source Water
 - a. The Agency supports legislation and policies that protect or enhance Zone 7’s ability to fulfill our Mission to deliver safe, reliable, efficient and sustainable water services; and
 - b. The Agency supports legislation and policies that align with and further the Goals and Initiatives of our 5-Year Strategic Plan as they relate to water supply, conservation, or source water matters.

FOCUS AREAS (Continued)

2. Water Quality and Treatment

- a. The Agency supports legislation and policies that further science-based and evidence-driven water quality standards and treatment methods; and
- b. The Agency supports exploring funding opportunities that further treatment methodologies, facilities, and standards.

3. Flood Protection and Stormwater

- a. The Agency supports legislation and policies that protect or enhance Zone 7's ability to fulfill our Mission to deliver safe, reliable, efficient and sustainable flood protection services; and
- b. The Agency supports legislation and policies that align with and further the Goals and Initiatives of our 5-Year Strategic Plan as they relate to flood protection and stormwater matters.

4. Environmental Regulations and Related Climate Impacts

- a. The Agency supports legislation and policies that align with and further the Agency's ability to fulfill our Mission and meet the Goals and Initiatives of our 5-Year Strategic Plan.

5. Fiscal Matters Impacting Water, Flood, or Special Districts

- a. The Agency supports legislation and policies that protect existing federal, state, and local funding sources that provide revenues to Zone 7; and
- b. The Agency supports exploring funding opportunities that further our Mission.

6. Energy Matters Impacting Water, Flood, or Special Districts

- a. The Agency supports legislation and policies that align with and further Agency's ability to fulfill our Mission and meet the Goals and Initiatives of our 5-Year Strategic Plan, including the implementation of cost-effective energy projects and programs to optimize Zone 7's energy use portfolio, energy resiliency, and carbon footprint.

STRATEGIES

Communication:

Communicate legislative positions on proposed federal, state, county and local legislation, measures, initiatives, and governmental regulations.

- Work with legislative advocates to develop positions on proposed legislative measures
- Review positions and analysis by the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), California Special Districts Association (CSDA), and others in formulating Agency's position
- The Agency will only take positions on proposals that clearly impact our Agency or state water policy
- Actively track key bills through the legislative process
- Communicate the Agency's position through correspondence, testimony, and meetings
- Meet with legislators and their representatives on a regular basis to discuss issues, proposed legislation, and Agency services

Advocate, as directed, and Seek Funding:

- Seek federal, state, regional, and county funding for Agency projects.
- Advocate and request letters of support for Agency projects and grant applications

PROCESS

The Legislative Committee of the Zone 7 Board of Directors will meet regularly to review and discuss pending and/or potential legislation. The Committee will also review proposed regulatory actions and forward a recommendation to the Board for consideration and adoption. Once a determination has been made, if appropriate, a letter outlining the Agency's position will be drafted for the Board President or General Manager's signature. A copy of all legislative letters will be distributed to the Board of Directors.

POSITIONS

Options for positions are identified below:

- **Support (S)** — Agency actively supports the proposed legislation.
- **Support if Amended (S/A)** — Agency will actively support the proposed legislation, if it is amended to address specific shortcomings identified by the Agency.
- **Favor (F)** — Agency will join with other organizations in support but will not engage actively in advocacy for the measure.
- **Favor, if Amended (F/A)** — Agency will join with other organizations in support, if legislation is amended to address specific shortcomings identified by the Agency but will not engage actively in advocacy for the measure.
- **Watch (W)** — Measures or general issues have not been sufficiently defined for a formal position.
- **Not Favor (NF)** — Agency will join with other organizations in opposition but will not engage actively in advocacy against the measure.
- **Oppose Unless Amended (O/A)** — Agency will actively oppose the proposed legislation unless it is amended to address specific shortcomings.
- **Oppose (O)** — Agency actively opposes the proposed legislation.

