



QUARTERLY

Report

FY26 4th Quarter Update

July 15, 2026



SUCCESS TO DATE: SINCE NOVEMBER 2025



BIG WIN OF THE QUARTER: Congressman Obernotle’s FY2027 Community Project Funding
Recommendation advanced through the House appropriations for \$1M



9

Legislative
& Agency
Meetings



\$1M

Federal CPF Advancements:
Chromium-6 Treatment
Project



2

Legislative
Days



1

District
Visits



OVERALL FOCUS:

Advance the Chromium-6 Treatment Project While Expanding
State and Federal Funding Opportunities for the District

FEDERAL ADVOCACY UPDATES

Congress Advanced the FY2027 Appropriations Process

- House Appropriations Subcommittees began reviewing Community Project Funding (CPF) requests.
- Congressional offices continued evaluating Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) requests.
- Projects selected by House Members advanced through committee consideration.
- Congressional offices continued applicant follow-up and project review.

What This Meant for JBWD

- Chromium-6 Treatment Project advanced through the House Appropriations Committee.
- Continued coordination with Congressman Obernolte's office regarding the District's \$1 million Community Project Funding request.
- Hosted Senator Adam Schiff's District Office for an on-site project tour highlighting the Chromium-6 Treatment Project and infrastructure priorities.
 - Maintained engagement with federal offices to position the District as Congress advances FY2027 appropriations.

Key Upcoming Dates

- **Summer 2026:** House and Senate continue reviewing FY2027 appropriations bills.
- **Summer–Fall 2026:** Continued congressional negotiations on Community Project Funding requests.
- **September 30, 2026:** End of the federal fiscal year; Congress works toward completing FY2027 appropriations.
- **Ongoing:** Maintain communication with congressional offices and respond to project follow-up requests.



STATE ADVOCACY UPDATES

California Completed the FY2026–27 State Budget Process

- The Governor released the May Revision, outlining updated funding priorities and fiscal adjustments.
- State agencies began preparing grant guidelines and implementation plans for newly funded programs.
- Proposition 4 implementation and additional infrastructure funding opportunities continue to roll out across state agencies.

What This Meant for JBWD

- Submitted the District's FY2026–27 State Budget Member Request to the Legislature.
- Monitored the Governor's May Revision and provided the District with an analysis of potential impacts on water and infrastructure funding.
- Participated in the Department of Water Resources' Proposition 4 Sustainable Groundwater Management and Watershed Resilience Grant Workshop.
 - Continued identifying and monitoring future state funding opportunities to support the District's Chromium-6 Treatment Project and other infrastructure priorities.

Key Upcoming Dates

- **Summer 2026:** State agencies begin releasing grant guidelines and funding opportunities.
- **August 3, 2026:** Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess.
- **August 31, 2026:** Last day for each house to pass bills.
- **September 30, 2026:** Last day for the Governor to sign or veto legislation.
- **Ongoing:** Proposition 4 implementation and additional infrastructure funding opportunities continue becoming available.



APRIL ACTIVITIES

- Coordinated and submitted District support letters for SB 1062 and SB 1063.
- Advanced the Chromium-6 Treatment Project through the House Appropriations process by preparing written testimony and strategic project messaging.
- Presented the Q1 2026 Legislative Advocacy Report to the Board of Directors.
- Informed the District that the Chromium-6 Treatment Project was selected by Congressman Jay Obernolte for FY2027 Community Project Funding.
- Met with Senator Alex Padilla's District Office to discuss federal funding priorities and next steps.
- Attended the DWR Proposition 4 Sustainable Groundwater Management and Watershed Resilience Grant Workshop.
- Submitted the District's FY2026–27 State Budget Member Request to the Legislature.



April 7, 2026

The Honorable Josh Becker, Chair
Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee
1021 O Street, Room 3220
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1062 – Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act: life-sustaining services: conditions.

Dear Senator Becker,

Joshua Basin Water District supports Senate Bill 1062 (Ochoa Bugh), which ensures that essential utilities can be installed, maintained, and repaired without delays or costly permitting requirements under the Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act (WJTCA). The bill creates an expedited pathway for permits to be issued without fees or complex mitigation when needed to provide life-sustaining services such as water, electricity, gas, telecommunications, or wildfire hardening.

While protections for the Western Joshua tree serve an important conservation purpose, the current permitting process has created significant challenges not only for homeowners, but also for public agencies responsible for delivering these services. For a District like ours, routine and emergency work, such as maintaining infrastructure, is critical to support the community.

For example, large diameter pipe projects for Western Joshua trees, where project costs are high, are often delayed or canceled, leaving communities without access to water. In small communities, where water is a critical resource, this is a significant challenge.

SB 1062 provides a model for CDFW. This helps reduce costs for the agencies and the Basin Water District.

By clarifying state law, SB 1062 reduces costs for the agencies and the Basin Water District.

Sincerely,

Sarah Johnson
General Manager
Joshua Basin Water District



April 7, 2026

The Honorable Josh Becker, Chair
Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee
1021 O Street, Room 3220
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1063 – Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act: life-sustaining services: take permit

Dear Senator Becker,

Joshua Basin Water District supports Senate Bill 1063 (Ochoa Bugh), which ensures that essential utilities can be installed, maintained, and repaired without delays or costly permitting requirements under the Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act (WJTCA). The bill creates an expedited pathway for permits to be issued without fees or complex mitigation when needed to provide life-sustaining services such as water, electricity, gas, telecommunications, or wildfire hardening.

While protections for the Western Joshua tree serve an important conservation purpose, the current permitting process has created significant challenges not only for homeowners, but also for public agencies responsible for delivering these services. For a District like ours, routine and emergency work, such as maintaining infrastructure, is critical to support the community.



April 15, 2026

RE: Written Testimony in Support of FY 2027 Funding for Joshua Basin Water District Chromium 6 Treatment Project Design

Dear Chair and Members of the Subcommittee:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Joshua Basin Water District, we respectfully submit this testimony in strong support of **\$3,500,000 in FY 2027 funding through the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee** for the design phase of the District's Chromium-6 Treatment Project.

Access to safe and reliable drinking water is fundamental to the health, stability, and future of our community. Joshua Basin Water District serves a rural and severely disadvantaged population of approximately 7,500 residents, many of whom face economic constraints that limit the ability to absorb significant increases in water rates. At the same time, the District serves as a critical gateway to Joshua Tree National Park, supporting regional tourism and economic activity that extend far beyond our boundaries.

The District is confronting a systemwide water quality challenge: all active groundwater wells exceed the state's Chromium-6 standard. With no alternative water supply or blending options available, the District must implement a full-scale treatment solution across its entire system.

The Board has worked closely with District staff and technical experts to identify a feasible path forward, resulting in the selection of a Strong Base Anion Exchange treatment approach. While this solution is effective, the cost of implementation, estimated at approximately \$60 million, places a significant burden on a small ratepayer base.

Federal partnership is essential to ensuring that communities like Joshua Tree are not left behind. Investment in the design phase is a critical step toward achieving compliance with the State's October 1, 2027 deadline and advancing a long-term solution that protects public health and supports regional resilience.

We are grateful for the attention this project has received and for the continued collaboration with our federal partners. This investment represents more than infrastructure, it is an investment in equity, sustainability, and the long-term viability of rural communities.

MAY ACTIVITIES

- Coordinated and participated in Senator Adam Schiff's district staff visit to highlight the District's Chromium-6 Treatment Project and infrastructure priorities.
- Updated the District that the Chromium-6 Treatment Project advanced through the House Appropriations Committee as part of the FY2027 Community Project Funding process.
- Continued coordination with Congressman Jay Obernolte's office regarding the status of the District's federal funding request.
- Distributed a summary and analysis of the Governor's May Revision and its potential impacts on local funding opportunities.
- Distributed updated member request materials and program information to legislative offices and the Budget committee following the Governor's May Revision.



JUNE ACTIVITIES

- Conducted federal funding research to identify potential EPA and USDA funding opportunities supporting Chromium-6 compliance and drinking water infrastructure improvements.
- Monitored the release of the Extreme Heat & Community Resilience Program (Round 2), reviewed program eligibility and project requirements, attended the State's informational webinar, and shared funding guidance, deadlines, and application resources with District staff.

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Jasmid Enciso

Fwd: Extreme Heat Program Round 2 Final Guidelines Are Live!

To: Sarah Johnson, Cc: Jaime Rojas, Anne Roman, David Shook, Bcc: 47075350@bcc.na2.hubspot.com

June 17, 2026 at 3:21PM

Details

Hello Sarah,

I wanted to forward the **Extreme Heat Program Round 2 Final Guidelines** released yesterday, as this may be a funding opportunity worth exploring for future District projects.

I also attended today's **Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program Round 2 Special Presentation**, which provided an overview of the program, shared best practices from the City of Tucson, Arizona, and highlighted what the State is looking for in competitive applications.

Round 2 provides **\$27.5 million** for infrastructure projects that help communities prepare for and reduce the impacts of extreme heat.

The program offers two funding tracks:

- **Early Infrastructure Projects:** \$750,000–\$1.2 million for planning efforts paired with a demonstration project.
- **Advanced Infrastructure Projects:** \$3 million–\$4.5 million for implementation-ready infrastructure projects.

Examples of eligible projects include:

- Shade structures
- Cooling centers
- Building cooling upgrades
- Hydration stations
- Transit shelters
- Tree planting and urban forestry
- Park and public space improvements
- Cool pavement
- Green stormwater infrastructure
- Other heat resilience infrastructure projects

Key Deadlines

- **Pre-Application Window 1: July 21, 2026 (2:00 PM PST)**
 - Applicants who submit during this window are eligible to receive **one-on-one Technical Assistance (TA)** and early feedback from the program.
- **Pre-Application Window 2: August 11, 2026 (2:00 PM PST)**
 - Applicants may still submit a pre-application and receive feedback but are **not eligible** for one-on-one Technical Assistance.
- **Full Application Deadline: October 13, 2026 (2:00 PM PST)**

Based on today's presentation, I strongly encourage the District to consider submitting a **Pre-Application Interest Form during Window 1** if there is a potential project that aligns with the program. The Technical Assistance offered through the first window provides an excellent opportunity to strengthen project concepts and receive guidance from the program before preparing the full application.

The State is also hosting a series of upcoming webinars featuring additional project examples and grant guideline kickoff sessions. These webinars provide an opportunity to learn more about the program, hear successful project examples, and ask questions directly to program staff. The webinar schedule and registration links are included in the forwarded email below, and I encourage anyone interested in pursuing this funding opportunity to attend.

I encourage the District to review this opportunity and consider whether a project aligns with its current or future capital improvement priorities, particularly given the availability of one-on-one Technical Assistance during the first pre-application window.

We will continue monitoring additional funding opportunities released under Proposition 4 and share those that may align with the District's priorities.

Best,

Jasmid

WHAT'S NEXT - FEDERAL



FY27 1st QUARTER ACTIVITIES

Monitor Selections & Plan Local Visits

July - September

- Senate develops and passes its appropriations bills.
- House and Senate negotiate a final appropriations package (conference or negotiated package).
- Regular Updates - RPA informs clients of the selections made.
- Local Visits - Invite U.S. Congressmembers, U.S. Senators, and staff for tours and events during summer recess.
- Congress works to finalize the FY2027 appropriations package, including selected Community Project Funding requests.

Key Legislative Dates:

- **July 15 - 19** - U.S. House District Work Week
- **July-Aug.** - Appropriations negotiations continue; funding decisions maybe finalized or delayed
- **July 15** - President transmits Mid-Session Review of the budget
- **July 27 - Aug. 28** - U.S. House District Work Week
- **Aug. 10 - Sept 7; 21-** U.S. Senate not in session
- **Sept. 7 - 11** - U.S. House District Work Week
- **Sept. 30** - End of the 2026 Fiscal Year



Fiscal Year Timeline 2027

1st QUARTER ACTIVITIES

Monitor Selections & Plan Local Visits

July - September

Report - Summary of RPA activities sent the week of July 15.

Appropriations Approvals - Subcommittees review and approve PF and CDS requests for inclusion in the appropriations bill.

Local Visits - RPA informs clients of the selections made. Invite U.S. Congressmembers, U.S. Senators, and staff for tours and events during summer recess.

Appropriation Approval - Selected CPF requests approved (funds to be received the following summer 2027).

2nd QUARTER ACTIVITIES

Monitor Progress and Identify Project Priorities

October - December

Report - Summary of RPA activities sent early in the week.

Local Visits - Another opportunity to invite U.S. Congressmembers, U.S. Senators, and staff to visit (on election years).

Preparation Meeting - Schedule meeting to discuss priorities and key issues for the upcoming session.

Priorities and Issues - Summarize findings from the meeting to formalize CPF, i.e. earmarks for the upcoming session.

Emails - Send congratulatory emails to newly elected U.S. Congressmembers and U.S. Senators, and staff of RPA and client.

U.S. Congressmembers and Staff - Verify and update contact database.

Key Legislative Dates:

- **July 15 - 19** - U.S. House District Work Week
- **July-Aug.** - Appropriations negotiations continue; funding decisions maybe finalized or delayed
- **July 15** - President transmits Mid-Session Review of the budget
- **July 27 - Aug. 28** - U.S. House District Work Week
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- **Sept. 7 - 11** - U.S. House District Work Week
- **Sept. 30** - End of the 2026 Fiscal Year

Key Legislative Dates:

- **Oct. 1** - Federal Fiscal Year begins, i.e. 2027 Fiscal Year
- **Oct. 5 - Nov. 6** - U.S. House District Work Week; U.S. Senate not in session
- **Nov. 11 - 13** - U.S. Senate not in session
- **Nov. 23 - Nov. 27** - U.S. House District Work Week; U.S. Senate not in session
- **Dec. 21 - Dec. 31** - U.S. House District Work Week; U.S. Senate not in session

is the CPF and CDS process used since its establishment in 2022. Given ongoing federal budget uncertainty surrounding the appropriations process, timelines and procedural steps are subject to change. Updates will be provided as additional guidance becomes available.

WHAT'S NEXT - STATE



FY27 1st QUARTER ACTIVITIES

Proactively Monitor and Respond

July - September

- Ongoing Communication with Legislative Staff - Regularly communicate with legislative staff regarding priorities.
- Department Outreach - Contact State departments, if allowable, related to budget requests.
- Invite Legislators for Location Tours and Events - Extend an invitation to Assemblymembers and Senators to visit Client facilities or events during winter recess.
- Schedule Client Annual Advocacy Preparation Meeting - Schedule a meeting with staff to discuss priorities and key issues for the upcoming year.

Key Legislative Dates:

- **July 1** - California's fiscal year begins
- **July 2** - Last day for policy committees to meet and report bills
- **July 2 - Aug. 3** - Summer recess for Legislature
- **Aug. 21** - Last day to amend bills on the floor
- **Aug. 31** - Last day for each house to pass bills. Interim recess begins
- **September** - State Departments submit Budget Change Proposals to the Dept. of Finance



State Legislative Advocacy Fiscal Year Timeline 2027

1st QUARTER ACTIVITIES

Proactively Monitor and Respond

July - September

Report - Summary of RPA activities early July.

Communication with Legislative Staff - Regularly communicate with legislative staff regarding priorities.

Committee Meetings - Monitor legislative meetings regarding relevant bills or budget considerations.

Initials - As needed, draft and/or present letters related to bills or budget requests presented.

Monitor - Monitor progress and outcomes on key bills as they move through the year.

Outreach - Contact State departments, if allowable, related to budget requests.

Invite Legislators for Location Tours and Events - Extend an invitation to Assemblymembers and Senators to visit Client facilities or events during winter recess.

Annual Advocacy Preparation Meeting - Schedule a meeting with staff to discuss priorities and key issues for the coming year.

2nd QUARTER ACTIVITIES

Ensure Success and Future Considerations

October - December

Report - Summary of RPA activities sent early January.

Review of Bills Passed by Legislature - Verify if any bills monitored for the year.

Priorities - Internal preparation, including reviewing budget and state budget documents.

Annual Advocacy Preparation Meeting - Meet with client to firm priorities and legislative issues.

Priorities and Issues - Summarize preparation and client member requests and legislative issues for the coming year.

Emails - Send congratulatory emails to newly elected legislators on behalf of RPA and client.

Representatives and Staff - Verify changes in legislative representatives, update contact database.

Key Legislative Dates:

- **July 1** - California's fiscal year begins
- **July 2** - Last day for policy committees to meet and report bills
- **July 2 - Aug. 3** - Summer recess for Legislature
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THANK YOU!

Jasmid Enciso

Jasmid@RojasPublicAffairs.com

