



ROJAS
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

QUARTERLY REPORT

Legislative Advocacy Activities:
April - June 2026



JOSHUA BASIN
WATER DISTRICT

*Proudly providing water from an ancient
source...well into the future*

SUCCESS TO DATE

Since November 2025



9

Legislative
& Agency
Meetings



\$1M

Federal CPF
Advancements:
Chromium-6
Treatment Project



2

Legislative
Days



1

District
Visits



UPDATES



FEDERAL

Congress has transitioned from the FY 2027 Community Project Funding (CPF) and Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) application process to reviewing submitted requests as the annual appropriations process moves forward. Throughout the second quarter, House Appropriations subcommittees began reviewing eligible projects and drafting FY 2027 spending bills, while Senate offices continued evaluating submitted CDS requests. For local agencies, the focus has shifted from submitting requests to maintaining engagement with congressional offices, responding to follow-up questions, and preparing for committee consideration. Projects demonstrating strong community impact, clear federal eligibility, and readiness to proceed remain best positioned as Congress advances appropriations legislation.

Key Upcoming Dates

- **May–June 2026:** House Appropriations subcommittees begin reviewing FY 2027 spending bills.
- **Summer 2026:** Congressional offices continue evaluating submitted CPF/CDS requests and conducting applicant follow-up.
- **July 2026:** House Appropriations Committee markups continue, with eligible Community Project Funding requests beginning to appear in committee reports.
- **September 30, 2026:** End of the federal fiscal year; Congress works toward completing FY 2027 appropriations.



State

California concluded its annual budget process during the second quarter with the release of the Governor's May Revision and the Legislature's adoption of the FY 2026–27 State Budget by the June 15 constitutional deadline. Budget negotiations throughout the quarter focused on balancing fiscal priorities while maintaining investments in infrastructure, water, public safety, climate resilience, and community development.

As the new fiscal year begins, state agencies are preparing to implement enacted budget programs by developing grant guidelines, releasing funding opportunities, and providing program-specific guidance. Local agencies should continue refining project readiness and monitoring upcoming grant solicitations to take advantage of funding opportunities throughout the remainder of the year.

Key Upcoming Dates

- **June 15, 2026:** Legislature passes the FY 2026–27 State Budget.
- **Late June 2026:** Governor signs the enacted state budget.
- **Summer 2026:** State agencies begin releasing grant guidelines and funding opportunities authorized in the enacted budget.
- **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 Governor to sign or veto bills
- **Ongoing:** Proposition 4 implementation and additional infrastructure funding programs continue rolling out across state agencies.



FY26 4TH QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

State & Federal Advocacy Services

Throughout the quarter, Rojas Public Affairs continued advancing Joshua Basin Water District's federal and state advocacy priorities by supporting the Chromium-6 Treatment Project through the federal appropriations process, coordinating legislative engagement, and identifying strategic funding opportunities. The team also monitored emerging state and federal grant programs, provided timely budget and legislative updates, and strengthened the District's position for future infrastructure funding.

APRIL

- Coordinated with District staff to review, finalize, and submit letters of support for SB 1062 and SB 1063 to Senator Ochoa Bogh's office.
- Advanced the Chromium-6 Treatment Project through the federal appropriations process by preparing and coordinating written testimony submissions to the House Appropriations Subcommittee. Developed customized messaging from District leadership to strengthen the project's narrative and alignment with federal funding priorities.
- 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 inclusion in the FY2027 Community Project Funding process.
- Met with Senator Alex Padilla's District Representative to discuss the District's federal funding priorities and provided follow-up meeting notes and next steps.
- Attended the California Department of Water Resources Joint Workshop for the Proposition 4 Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program and Watershed Resilience Grant Program.
- Submitted the District's FY2026–27 State Budget Member Request to the Legislature.

MAY

- 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

- 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.