

From: [Jennifer Woodworth](#)
Subject: Items for 4/26/17 Board meeting
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 11:42:19 AM
Attachments: [20170426_FYI_GMLegPositionsUpdate.pdf](#)

Good morning,

Please find the response Director Cyr's question below submitted regarding tonight's agenda items. Additionally, I have attached a copy of a memo regarding positions taken by the General Manager in time-sensitive situations on pending legislation. I will copies of both on the dais at tonight's meeting. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Jen

Claims Question: \$450.00 for a press release?

[Leigh Ann Gessner from Confluence Communications](#) helped with drafting, editing, and revising the Mount Umunhum Grand Opening press release for staff distribution via email and on the website. Once the opening date was decided on by general management, we knew a formal press release with key messages needed to be drafted quickly, so we looped in Leigh Ann whom we have a contract with for writing and consulting projects when needed. Total time spent and billed was 5 hours.



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DATE: April 26, 2017
MEMO TO: MROSD Board of Directors
FROM: Joshua Hugg, Legislative/External Affairs Specialist
THROUGH: Stephen E. Abbors, General Manager
SUBJECT: General Manager Legislative Positions Update to Board

Background:

Board Policy 1.11 titled “Positions on Ballot Measures and Legislative Advocacy,” Section 2(b), provides the General Manager the ability to take position on pending legislation in time-sensitive situations.

- b. When time is so short that neither the full Board nor LFPAC can be convened to consider positions to support or oppose local, state or federal legislation, the General Manager is authorized to take a position on behalf of the District if the legislation:
 - i. Is related to the District’s mission; AND
 - ii. Would directly impact the District’s business, such as project delivery, operations, finances, legal authority, or other District responsibilities; AND
 - iii. The position being taken is consistent/inconsistent with existing District policy, past action, or District Strategic Plan; OR
 - iv. The legislation carries other considerations that make it contrary to the District’s interests.

In such instances, the General Manager or designee shall report to the Board any actions taken to support or oppose the legislation at or before the next Board meeting.

Discussion:

On behalf of the District, the General Manager has taken the following time-sensitive actions:

1. **AB 898 (Frazier) - Property taxation: revenue allocations: East Contra Costa Fire Protection District.** This bill, for the 2018–19 fiscal year and for each fiscal year thereafter, would require the auditor of the County of Contra Costa to allocate those ad valorem property tax revenues that would otherwise be allocated to the county’s Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund from the East Bay Regional Park District, if the East Bay Regional Park District was not a multicounty special district, to the East Contra Costa Fire Protection District. The bill would limit the amount allocated to the East Contra Costa Fire Protection District pursuant to these provisions to \$10,500,000 per fiscal year.

Action: At the behest of EBRPD, Midpen has taken an OPPOSE position and communicated it to the Assembly Local Government Committee (4/12/17)

2. **AB 907 (Garcia) - Office of Outdoor Recreation and Public Lands Enhancement.** This bill would establish the Office of Outdoor Recreation and Public Lands Enhancement in the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development for specified purposes, including promoting active healthy lifestyles and improving the quality of life for all Californians, and would require the director of the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development to administer the Office of Outdoor Recreation and Public Lands Enhancement. The bill would require the Office of Outdoor Recreation and Public Lands Enhancement to create an advisory group to offer advice, expertise, support, and service to it, without compensation.

Action: At the behest of CPRS, Midpen has taken a SUPPORT position and communicated it to the Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee as part of a coalition of parks and open space organizations. (3/22/17)

3. **AB 1608 (Kalra): Vibrant landscapes for climate, people, and multiple benefits.** This bill would require the Department of Conservation to develop the Vibrant Landscape Program to assist eligible applicants in the development and implementation of county and regional plans to, among other things, integrate the conservation and management of natural and working lands with other sectors to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases and achieve other public and environmental benefits. The bill would require the department, in collaboration with the Strategic Growth Council and the State Air Resources Board, to develop guidelines and criteria for the program.

Action: At the behest of bill sponsor, Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority, Midpen has taken a SUPPORT position and communicated it via group sign-on letter to the Assembly Natural Resources Committee. (3/28/17)

4. **AB 1630 (Bloom): California Transportation Plan: wildlife movement and barriers to passage.** This bill would authorize the Department of Fish and Wildlife or the Department of Transportation to pursue development of a programmatic environmental review process with appropriate state and federal regulatory agencies for wildlife connectivity-related transportation infrastructure.

Action: At the behest of the statewide Wildlife Corridor Working Group, Midpen has taken a SUPPORT position and communicated it to the Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee as part of a coalition of parks and open space organizations. (3/22/17)

5. **SB 287 (Dodd): Habitat restoration: invasive species: Phytophthora pathogens.** This bill would require the department, on or before December 31, 2019, to adopt regulations to minimize the risk of Phytophthora pathogens in plant materials used for habitat restoration projects authorized, funded, or required by the state.

Action: At the behest of the Phytophthoras in Native Habitats working group, Midpen has taken a SUPPORT position and communicated it Senator Dodd, author of the bill. (3/7/17)

6. **SB-424 (Allen): The California Regional Environmental Education Community Network.** This bill would establish the California Regional Environmental Education Community Network under the direction and control of a 5-member governing board appointed, as specified, for the purpose of facilitating the implementation of high quality environmental literacy in California public schools, as specified. The bill would appropriate \$4,500,000 from the General Fund to the Superintendent who shall apportion these funds to the fiscal agent for purposes of the California Regional Environmental Education Community Network.

Action: At the behest of environmental literacy organization Ten Strands, Midpen took a SUPPORT position and communicated it to the Senate Education Committee. (4/7/17)

7. **SB 496 (Cannella) - Construction contracts: indemnity.** This bill would require special districts and other local agencies to defend private engineers and architects against lawsuits related to their work.

Action: At the behest of the California Special District Association (CSDA), Midpen has taken an OPPOSE position and communicated this to CSDA as part of a group sign-on letter they have assembled. (4/11/17)

8. **SB 519 (Beall) Santa Clara Valley Water District.** The Santa Clara Valley Water District Act authorizes the district to prevent contamination, pollution, or otherwise rendering unfit for beneficial use the surface or subsurface water used or useful in the district, and to commence, maintain, and defend actions and proceedings to prevent interference with the waters that may endanger or damage the inhabitants, lands, or use of water in, or flowing into, the district. This bill would specify that the district has the authority to engage in acts the board of the district deems appropriate and beneficial to reduce impacts on the waters from activity in and around waterways in the district, as specified.

Action: At the behest of the Santa Clara Valley Water District, Midpen has taken a SUPPORT position and communicated it to bill author Senator Beall. (3/29/17)

9. **SCR 23 (Monning): California Wildlife Day.** This measure would proclaim the Spring Equinox of every year as California Wildlife Day.

Action: At the behest of bill author, Senator Monning, Midpen has taken a SUPPORT position and communicated it to the bill author. (2/28/17)