

**PLEASE JOIN US AT AN IMPORTANT MEETING
TO DECIDE OC's FUTURE WATER SUPPLY**

The Directors of the Orange County Water District will be deciding next years budget this month. The first discussion of the budget will be

**Wednesday, April 19 - at 5:30pm
18700 Ward St
Fountain Valley, CA 92708**

As we all know, the recent historic drought put our water reliability at risk. While the recent rains have been a welcome relief, it has not yet mitigated the long-term effects of the drought. **The groundwater basin was significantly depleted during the drought and it takes a long time for the basin to recharge. And now is the opportunity to do that.**

The Orange County Water District is the agency responsible for managing the groundwater basin to ensure reliability. When this most recent drought started, the basin was already well below full. And the extra withdrawals during the drought, when imported water was less available, further depleted our water storage. As we all know, as sure as the sun will come up tomorrow, we will experience another long dry period in the coming years.

There are 2 ways to ensure the basin is recharged and full when the next drought comes. And both ways are available now when the state's reservoirs are full, and more snowmelt this spring will spill out of the overfilled reservoirs. First, OCWD can buy additional imported water and start putting it into the basin. And second, the OCWD member agencies can agree to reduce how much they are pumping and buy additional imported water for immediate use. Without doing both, there's a chance the basin will not refill before it turns dry again. **The next drought will surely come, and now is the time to prepare.**

**The OCWD Board will consider buying additional water to put in the basin.
WE SUPPORT THAT PLAN!**

**But the OCWD and the member agencies also need to agree to reduce their pumping until the basin is full - and they seem to resist that.
TELL THEM TO "Reduce the Basin Pumping Percentage!"**

You might ask: What does this have to do with Poseidon? The reason the member agencies oppose reasonable limits on how much they pump is because the groundwater is so much cheaper than imported water. But, ironically, the reason they're considering the Poseidon deal is because they may run out of groundwater during droughts.

That short-term thinking is what is often called "Penny wise, and pound foolish." Poseidon water is twice the cost of imported water. So buying imported water now, when it's available, is half the cost of buying Poseidon water later when imported

water will be scarcer. And we'll have to pay for Poseidon water year in and year out -- whether we need it or not.

If we don't show up to the meetings and tell them what we want, they will continue doing what they have done in the past.

Tell the OCWD Board:

- **The OCWD Board is responsible for properly managing the basin and minimizing long-term costs to us ratepayers.**
- **It's a "penny wise and pound foolish" mistake not to do everything they can to recharge the basin.**
- **We support buying the additional imported water to help recharge the basin AND lowering the "Basin Pumping Percentage" to help ensure water reliability for the future.**
- **AND WE DON'T MIND PAYING A LITTLE EXTRA NOW TO AVOID PAYING A LOT MORE IN THE FUTURE!!**

AND it never hurts to remind them it's not just the cost of Poseidon water we are opposed to. We also don't want more industrial facilities on our beach, our streets torn up for the new pipes to deliver the Poseidon water, and all the negative impacts to our environment.

Tell the OCWD Board:

- **Don't miss this opportunity to ensure water reliability, then come back next year and tell us we need Poseidon for water reliability.**
- **We won't forget this vote!!**