

Drivers of Change

General Comments:

- Consider the economic impacts of COVID-19 and income inequality as an important driver of change in all areas
 - Financial risk of revenue loss or insolvency for local water agencies serving poorer areas
- Mix of reliance on Metropolitan and Local Agencies
- Climate Change as a driver that impacts all areas (specific impacts will be noted in each area)

State Water Project

- WaterFix / Delta Conveyance outcome
 - The future success of Delta Conveyance. If not successful, there will be greater motivation to construct local sources

Legislative

- Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)
- Measure W "Safe Clean Water Program" (LA County)
- Scott River decision on public trust (connection between groundwater withdrawal and surface water)
- Governor's Water Resilience Portfolio - finding regional congruencies with statewide priorities
- Changes to surface water rights and groundwater adjudications

Regulatory

- Constant water quality requirement updates - PFAS/PFOS
- Direct Potable Reuse
- Dam safety regulations
- Local restrictions on the use of Graywater
 - Potential to incentivize larger industrial water users to switch to graywater
- Consideration on wildlife habitats

Local Water Supply

- Depletion of local groundwater
 - Climate change impact: changes in precipitation patterns leading to less recharge
 - Vulnerability to over-drafting
 - Cost of pumping groundwater
- Availability of water for groundwater recharge
- Local supply diversification by local agencies
- New regional-local water synergies as a potential driver
- New technology of recovery of potable water from the sea (seawater desalination)
- Interaction between recycled water and water conservation
 - More recycled water requires reduced conservation
- Recycled water project's dependence on high volume industrial users "large purple pipe"
- LA County's Measure W funding to capture stormwater for local groundwater recovery
- Opportunity for capture of extreme stormwater events through floodplain reclamation
- Impacts of wildfires to local watersheds (ash and sediments going into and contaminating streams and reservoirs)
- Investment in distributed parcel-based stormwater capture and conservation
- Technology improvements and potential partnerships on Desalination, both ocean and groundwater
- Brine management for desalination and recycled water
- The balance between spreading grounds' performance and local real estate costs would erode the cost effectiveness of maintaining the facility

Colorado River

- Increasing salinity on Colorado River
- The future of the Salton Sea & Coachella Valley
- Development of tribal water rights on Colorado River supplies available to Metropolitan

Water Demands

- Declining demands are a significant driver for the region and existing policies
- Updated water conservation technologies
- Changes to water use behavior (a new conservation ethic)

Infrastructure

- Water conservations technologies
- Evolving need for storage both large infrastructure projects and local storage "grass roots storage options" (rain barrels, graywater systems, cisterns etc.)
- Increasing O&M costs for facilities
- Carbon costs of traditional grey infrastructure (concrete and steel) projects
 - Climate change impacts of infrastructure projects
- Vulnerability to extreme climate events due to climate change (flooding) or other impacts (sea level rise)
- Closed-loop systems