

Communications and Legislation Committee

### Update on Outreach and Research for Pure Water Southern California

Item 6-a October 10, 2022

#### Research on Public Attitudes in Project Area

Conducted four focus groups, an online QualBoard, and a survey = 1,000+ participants

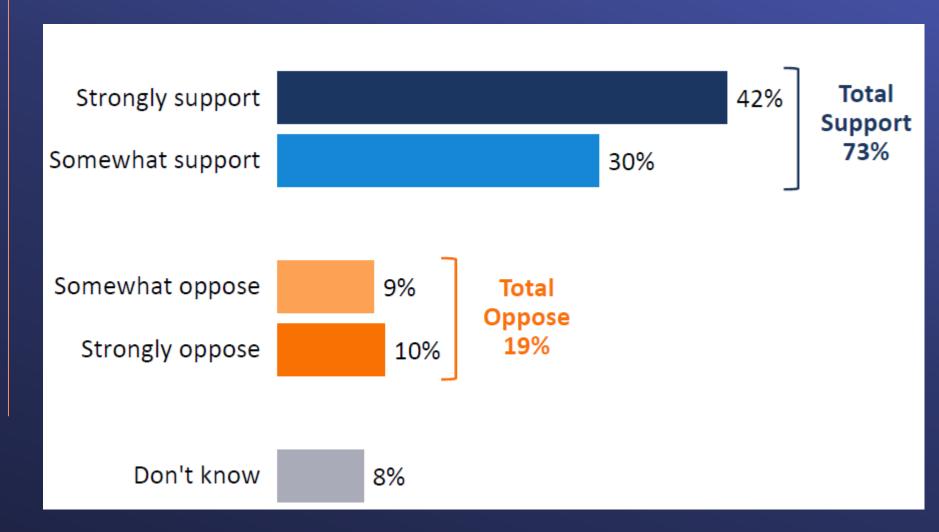
Only 13% of participants drink tap water straight from tap

Most had no idea where their drinking water came from Residents are most comfortable with using recycled water for non-potable uses (80% acceptable) versus as drinking water (36% acceptable)

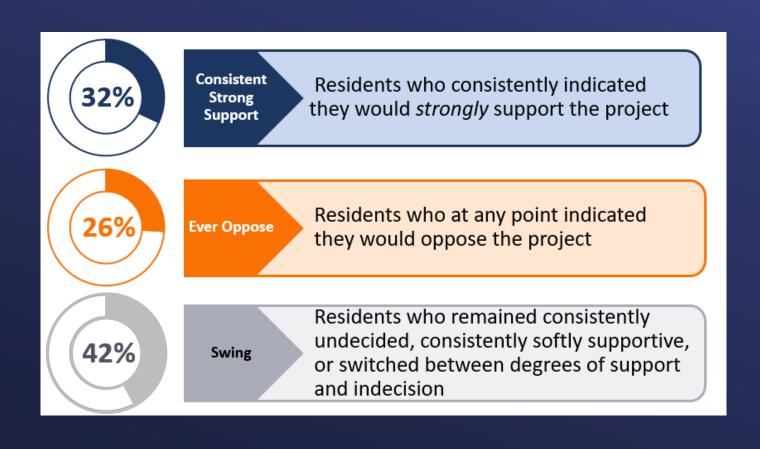
Acceptance
levels had
dropped
significantly
since last survey
conducted in
2017

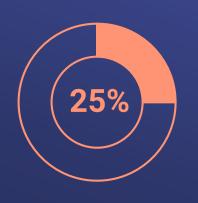
#### Support for Pure Water Southern California

After reading a description of the program to participants, nearly ¾ support the program



#### Identifying Persuadable Residents





One-quarter of residents become at least one degree more supportive after messaging.



Nearly two in five residents support the program after initially saying potable reuse was "unacceptable."

#### Messages that Resonate

Messages ranked by most

convincing

**47%** Future

We need to make investments in new, local water supplies today to ensure a reliable supply of water for future generations.

46% Environmental

The more recycled water we use, the less we have to take out of rivers and streams, and the less wastewater ends up in the ocean.

**44%** Water supply

This program creates a local supply of water that is drought-proof and reliable in case of emergencies like earthquakes.

43% Adoption

Many California communities already use recycled water. There's no reason LA County can't benefit from recycled water, too.

**42**% Principle

We already recycle glass, plastic, paper, even yard waste. We should recycle as much of our limited water supplies as we possibly can.

**41%** Groundwater

This program will produce high-quality water that can refill groundwater basins.

**41%**Purification

This process cleans water to a very high standard and ensures that drinking water produced is safe and free of harmful chemicals.

#### Qualitative Research

# Interviewed Community-Based Organizations

Survey participants rated community organizations of which they are members as their most trusted source of information

#### What the organizations shared:

- Inflation and cost of living is front of mind
- Go to people; don't expect them to come to you
- Language justice is important
- Trust takes time

#### Enhance Program Brand and Messages



Los Beneficios del Programa

OUR WATER | OUR FUTURE

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT F SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

- Apoyando los recursos locales y sostenibles y la economia ena de Pure Water Southern California en una asociación entre el Metropolitan rich of Southern Celifornia y Los Angeles County Sentration Districts. El programa ravevo suminismo de agua para ayudar a satisfacer las necesidades de la región coner hanta 150 millones de galones de agua diariamente o 165,000 acre pies suficiente para 1 3 millones de personas. El agua podría reponer las cuencas de terrânea, ser utilizada por refuettes y potencialmente integrante al sistema de



- New logo and brand
- Publicfriendly visuals
- Webpage revise









of Southern California und the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts







#### Outreach to Support Scoping

Notice of Preparation released on Sept. 30, beginning a 45-day scoping period for public comment

Period

# Share Information About Program and Public Scoping Period







Print and digital newspaper ads

Postcards

E-blast







**Flyers** 

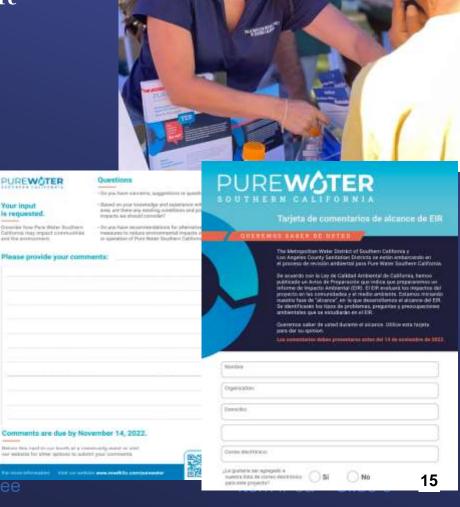
Social media

Webpage

#### Outreach to Support Scoping Period

#### Meet People Where They Are

- Opportunities to Comment and Learn More at Community Events
- Partnerships with Community-Based Organizations



PUREWOTER

is requested.

#### Outreach to Support Scoping Period

## Resources on How to Participate



## Many Ways to Provide Comments



Organization (optional



