

BOARD MEETING DATE: February 6, 2026

AGENDA NO. 16

REPORT: Legislative Committee

SYNOPSIS: The Legislative Committee held a hybrid meeting on Friday, January 16, 2026. The following is a summary of the meeting.

Receive and file this report and approve agenda items as specified in this letter.

Michael A. Cacciotti, Committee Chair
Legislative Committee

LTO:CG:PC:DPG:EV:MC:MC

Call to Order

Committee Chair Michael Cacciotti called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Roll Call

Committee Members

Present: Chair Michael A. Cacciotti, Committee Chair
Supervisor Curt Hagman
Vice Mayor Brenda Olmos
Mayor Patricia Lock Dawson
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez
Councilmember Nithya Raman

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Update on South Coast AQMD Sponsored State Legislation

Carlos Gonzalez, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer, Legislative, Public Affairs and Media provided an update on South Coast AQMD sponsored state legislation. AB 1338 (Solache): Fenceline Monitoring at Metal Shredding Facilities. This is a 2-year bill that would allow South Coast AQMD to recover costs relating to fenceline monitoring requirements for metal shredding facilities. Staff is continuing to work with Assemblymember Mia Bonta and legislative staff on potential bill amendments. AB 907 (Chen): Fair Compensation for Air District Representatives on the CARB Board. This bill would allow air district representatives on the CARB Board to

receive similar compensation to other CARB Board Members. AB 907 passed the Assembly but was converted into a 2-year bill due to budget constraints. Staff will continue to work with the author's office and legislative staff to move this bill forward during this legislative session.

Chair Cacciotti inquired about compensation for air district representatives on the CARB Board in comparison to other CARB Board Members. Lisa Tanaka, Deputy Executive Officer, Legislative, Public Affairs and Media, responded that the local air district representatives who serve on the CARB Board are not compensated as opposed to the other Board Members who receive annual compensation.

There was no public comment.

For additional information, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 5:33.

WRITTEN REPORTS/ DISCUSSION ITEMS:

2. Update and Discussion on Federal Legislative Issues

South Coast AQMD's federal legislative consultants (Cassidy & Associates, Carmen Group and Kadesh & Associates, LLC) provided written reports on key Washington D.C. issues.

Samantha Swing, Cassidy & Associates, reported on congressional negotiations regarding potential permitting reform legislation. For additional information, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 11:24.

Dal Harper, Carmen Group, provided a status update on this year's Surface Transportation Reauthorization bill. For additional information, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 13:50.

Ben Miller, Kadesh & Associates, LLC, provided an overview of fiscal year 2026 appropriations bills. Councilmember Raman inquired about the federal funding process and potential for another government shutdown. Mr. Miller addressed the question. For additional information, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 15:30.

There was no public comment.

3. Update and Discussion on State Legislative Issues

South Coast AQMD's state legislative consultants (Resolute, Buckley Government Affairs LLC, and Joe A. Gonsalves & Son) provided written reports on key Sacramento issues.

David Quintana, Resolute, provided a brief overview of Governor Gavin Newsom's Proposed Budget for fiscal year 2026-27, projecting a modest \$2.9 billion deficit. For additional information, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 21:46.

Ross Buckley, Buckley Government Affairs LLC, reported that the Legislative Analyst's Office projects a significantly larger budget shortfall of approximately \$18 billion compared to the Governor's budget. For additional information, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 23:00.

Paul Gonsalves, Joe A. Gonsalves & Son, provided an update on new Senate leadership and committee appointments, and key legislative deadlines. For additional information, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 25:15.

Vice Mayor Olmos inquired about bills that may impact South Coast AQMD in 2026. Paul Gonsalves responded that many new bills will be introduced in the coming weeks. David Quintana added that the 2-year bills from 2025 have until the end of January to move out of their house of origin. For additional information please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 28:57.

There was no public comment.

OTHER MATTERS:

4. Other Business

There was no other business to report.

5. Public Comment Period

There was no public comment.

6. Next Meeting Date

The next regular Legislative Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 13, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Attachments

1. Attendance Record
2. Update on Federal Legislative Issues – Written Reports
3. Update on State Legislative Issues – Written Reports

ATTACHMENT 1

SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING ATTENDANCE RECORD – January 16, 2026

Councilmember Michael Cacciotti	South Coast AQMD Board Member
Supervisor Curt Hagman	South Coast AQMD Board Member
Vice Mayor Brenda Olmos	South Coast AQMD Board Member
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	South Coast AQMD Board Member
Councilmember Nithya Raman	South Coast AQMD Board Member
Mayor Patricia Lock Dawson	South Coast AQMD Board Member

Guillermo Gonzalez	Board Consultant (Perez)
Jackson Guze	Board Consultant (Raman)
Marisela Santana	Board Consultant (Olmos)
Ben Wong	Board Consultant (Cacciotti)

Ross Buckley	Buckley Government Affairs, LLC
Samantha Swing	Cassidy & Associates
Dal Harper	Carmen Group
Paul Gonsalves	Joe A. Gonsalves & Son
Ben Miller	Kadesh & Associates
David Quintana	Resolute
Alfredo Arredondo	Resolute

Sam Emmersen	Public Member
Grace Garner	Public Member
Ryan Kenny	Public Member
Bill LaMarr	Public Member
L. Fernandez	Public Member
Ramine Ross	Public Member
Erin Sheehy	Public Member
Patty Senecal	Public Member

Jason Aspell	South Coast AQMD Staff
Debra Ashby	South Coast AQMD Staff
Barbara Baird	South Coast AQMD Staff
Cindy Bustillos	South Coast AQMD Staff
Lara Brown	South Coast AQMD Staff
Maria Corralejo	South Coast AQMD Staff
Matthew Ceja	South Coast AQMD Staff
Philip Crabbe	South Coast AQMD Staff
Scott Gallegos	South Coast AQMD Staff
Bayron Gilchrist	South Coast AQMD Staff

Carlos Gonzalez	South Coast AQMD Staff
De Groeneveld	South Coast AQMD Staff
Alex Han	South Coast AQMD Staff
Sheri Hanizavareh	South Coast AQMD Staff
Aaron Katzenstein	South Coast AQMD Staff
Angela Kim	South Coast AQMD Staff
Alicia Lizarraga	South Coast AQMD Staff
Howard Lee	South Coast AQMD Staff
Jocelyn Lee	South Coast AQMD Staff
Jason Low	South Coast AQMD Staff
Terrence Mann	South Coast AQMD Staff
Ian McMillan	South Coast AQMD Staff
Nahal Mogharabi	South Coast AQMD Staff
Ron Moskowitz	South Coast AQMD Staff
Ghislain Muberwa	South Coast AQMD Staff
Robert Paud	South Coast AQMD Staff
Payam Pakbin	South Coast AQMD Staff
Denise Peralta	South Coast AQMD Staff
Sarah Rees	South Coast AQMD Staff
Mary Reichert	South Coast AQMD Staff
Lisa Tanaka	South Coast AQMD Staff
Brian Tomasovic	South Coast AQMD Staff
Mei Wang	South Coast AQMD Staff
Victor Yip	South Coast AQMD Staff

ATTACHMENT 2A



To: South Coast Air Quality Management District
From: Cassidy & Associates
Date: December 26, 2025
Re: December Report

HOUSE/SENATE

Congress

The House and Senate are out of session for the holiday break. The House will reconvene on January 6, 2026 and the Senate will reconvene on January 5, 2026. Prior to breaking for recess, Congress passed the National Defense Authorization Act, an annual authorization bill for defense spending and policy direction for the Department of Defense (DOD) and other federal agencies. Among the energy and environment provisions in the bill were 1) a direction to DOD to accelerate the remediation of PFAS in its facilities and 2) a ban on DOD procuring solar components from companies linked in China.

On December 18th the House passed the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act, a comprehensive permitting reform package that includes several changes to the National Environmental Policy Act. 11 Democrats voted in favor of the legislation despite language added in the amendment process that would allow the Administration to continue to block renewable energy permits. Staff level bipartisan discussions on permitting reform are ongoing, but the recent move by the Department of the Interior to pause all offshore wind construction caused key Democratic negotiators to publicly announce that they will not continue such negotiations until the offshore wind pause is lifted.

EPA

On November 20, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Army Corps of Engineers released a proposed rule updating the definition of “Waters of the United States,” or waters federally covered under the Clean Water Act. This update is designed to align with the U.S. Supreme Court’s 2023 decision in *Sackett v. Environmental Protection Agency* and narrows and clarifies federal jurisdiction. The comment period on the proposed rule closes on January 5, 2025.

On December 11, EPA launched the Clean Air Act (CAA) Resources for Data Centers webpage to provide data center developers and local stakeholders with a central hub for CAA related resources to provide regulatory information and technical tools to assist with modeling and air quality permitting for AI-related infrastructure.

Cassidy and Associates support in December:

- Provided guidance for the FY 26 appropriations process;
- Updated AQMD staff on surface transportation reauthorization;
- Continued conversations on permitting reform efforts in Congress and the Administration;
- Worked with SCAQMD staff to strategize on future DC outreach and plan for DC visits; and
- Participated in weekly strategy sessions with SCAQMD staff.

IMPORTANT LEGISLATIVE DATES

January 30, 2026: Deadline to fund the federal government. In November, Congress passed a Continuing Resolution (CR) providing Congress more time to complete its consideration and pass FY 2026 funding.



Carmen Group
I N C O R P O R A T E D

To: South Coast AQMD Legislative Committee

From: Carmen Group

Date: December 24, 2025

Re: Federal Update -- Executive Branch

Congress: In December, the Senate wrapped up its year-end business by confirming 97 presidential nominees en bloc and passing the annual National Defense Authorization Act, but failed to act on an enhanced ACA tax credit extension and a package of 5 additional appropriations bills leaving these critical items to January and dangerously close to the current government shutdown date of January 30, 2026. Confirmations of note include: Jeffrey Hall to be an Assistant Administrator for the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance of the Environmental Protection Agency, and Douglas Troutman to be Assistant Administrator for Toxic Substances of the Environmental Protection Agency.

In the House of Representatives, the SPEED Act passed which is a permitting reform bill designed to accelerate federal environmental reviews for energy and infrastructure projects. While bipartisan, the bill passed 221-196 and it's unclear if it will secure 60 votes for final passage in the Senate. In addition, a discharge petition forcing a vote on a 3 year extension of the enhanced ACA tax credits received enough signatures setting up a floor vote in January.

Environmental Protection Agency

EPA Unveils Clean Air Act Resource to Support Data Center Permitting: In December, EPA launched a centralized Clean Air Act (CAA) resource [page](#) for data center/AI facility developers and local communities, intended to clarify permitting considerations and available CAA-related tools. The EPA says these resources are designed to provide state and private sector partners with regulatory information, guidance and technical tools that can assist with modeling, air quality permitting, and regulatory interpretations relevant for data centers and AI facility development. EPA staff will also be available to consult with permit reviewing authorities.

Department of Transportation

DOT Unveils “Freedom Means Affordable Cars” Proposal to Reset Fuel Economy Standards: In December, USDOT announced a [proposed rulemaking](#) that will reset

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NHTSA’s CAFE standards, framing it as a deregulatory action and projecting reduced vehicle costs and changes in fleet turnover that can affect emissions trajectories. The new proposal would apply to passenger cars and light trucks for model years 2022-2031. Comments are due on January 20, 2026.

DOT Unveils First-Ever National Advanced Air Mobility Strategy: In December, USDOT announced a national Advanced Air Mobility [strategy](#) intended to guide deployment of new aviation/air mobility operations; long-term relevance for local air quality, noise, and community exposure as new flight operations scale. This strategy is for advanced air mobility (i.e. electric/novel aircraft operations), which could have downstream implications for aviation emissions, noise, and local air quality planning as deployment accelerates. This strategy was created as an output of the Advanced Air Mobility Coordination and Leadership Act that was signed into law in 2022 and the President’s Executive Order on Unleashing American Drone Dominance from June.

FRA to Enforce English Language Proficiency: In December, the FRA Administrator announced that the FRA will be cracking down on cross-border train operators who lack basic English language proficiency to make rail operations safer in the US. This fall, FRA inspectors discovered instances with Union Pacific Railroad and Canadian Pacific Kansas City Limited inbound crews having difficulty interpreting safety requirement and track bulletins.

Department of Energy

DOE Rescinds National Definition of “Zero Emissions” Buildings: In December, the DOE [announced](#) it is removing support for a 2024 national “zero emissions building” definition and will no longer provide technical assistance related to this definition. DOE says that this action lowers the costs and removes guidelines that never had the force or effect of law.

DOE Releases National Petroleum Council Recommendations on Permitting Reform: In December, DOE released key studies and [recommendations](#) from the National Petroleum Council (NPC) focused on removing regulator barriers to modernize America’s oil and natural gas infrastructure permitting. Two studies were released, one on gas-electric coordination and the other on oil and natural gas infrastructure permitting. The NPC is a federal advisory committee composed of leaders from the oil and natural gas industries, academia and other stakeholders.

Outreach: In December, Carmen Group continued to track the latest information on FY 26 appropriations, permitting reform, and transportation reauthorization issues.

KADESH & ASSOCIATES

South Coast AQMD Report for the January 2026
Legislative Meeting covering December 2025
Kadesh & Associates

Congress adjourned for the year without extending the Affordable Care Act (ACA) tax credits, thus ensuring that subsidies will expire. This sets up health care costs as a key political fight in 2026. On a near-party-line vote, the House did approve a health care bill before adjourning, but it did not address the health insurance subsidies.

Speaker Johnson is walking a difficult tightrope with his caucus on this issue: after a week-long intra-party debate, four members of his party crossed the aisle to join 214 Democrats in signing a discharge petition that will force a vote on a three-year extension of the ACA credits. This is the same procedural mechanism used to force a vote on the Justice Department's Epstein files: when a majority of House members (218 when the chamber is at full strength) join a discharge petition, that bill is discharged from committee and brought directly to the floor. The ACA credits vote will be scheduled in January.

House Republican leadership also publicly discussed whether to schedule another reconciliation bill in the new year, potentially giving the party a legislative path focused on health care costs. Speaker Johnson has suggested this as an option.

Some progress was made on FY26 appropriations bills, but the deadline is looming without any imminent votes. As a reminder, three full-year bills — Legislative Branch, Agriculture, Legislative Branch and MilCon-VA — were included in the November CR, which leaves nine more to be finalized. The Senate spent the early part of December negotiating the parameters of a five-bill “minibus” (that is, a smaller combination than a complete “omnibus”) that would merge together appropriations bills covering Interior-EPA, Labor-HHS-Education, Defense, Transportation-HUD, and Commerce-Justice-Science. These discussions stalled following the White House's announcement that it would defund the National Center for Atmospheric Research, located in Boulder, Colorado; Colorado's two Senators announced that they would hold up debate on the minibus until the NCAR funding was reinstated.

The current CR expires on January 30, and the House and Senate will return to Washington the week of January 5. However, the Senate is currently scheduled to be in recess the week of January 19, and the House has planned a recess the week of January 26, leaving only two scheduled session weeks to come to a resolution on FY26 bills.

Kadesh & Associates Activity Summary-

-Worked with South Coast AQMD and the congressional delegation on funding implications of shutdown, House and Senate clean air legislation, and other legislative developments.

Contacts: Contacts included staff and Members throughout the CA delegation, Senate offices, and members of key committees.

South Coast Air Quality Management District Legislative and Regulatory Update – December 2025

❖ Important Upcoming Dates

January 1, 2026 – New Statutes Take Effect
January 5, 2026 – Legislature Reconvenes

❖ RESOLUTE Actions on Behalf of South Coast AQMD. RESOLUTE partners David Quintana, and Alfredo Arredondo continued their representation of South Coast AQMD before the State's Legislative and the Executive branch. Selected highlights of our recent advocacy include:

- Provided ongoing updates as the Governor reached the final day to sign or veto bills.
- Followed up on bills for the 2025 legislative session, including for South Coast AQMD sponsored legislation.

❖ AB 907 (Chen). Assemblymember Philip Chen introduced AB 906, sponsored legislation for South Coast AQMD dealing with the inequity of pay for air district board members appointed to serve on the CA Air Resources Board.

The bill has been referred to Senate Environmental Quality Committee. The bill has been made into a 2-year bill.

❖ Pro Tem Limon Announces Leadership and Committee Changes. On December 23rd Senate Pro Tem Limon announced the following changes:

Leadership appointments and changes to Budget and Budget Subcommittees, and Natural Resources and Water Committee will take immediate effect. All other changes, including the creation of new committees, will take effect on February 1, 2026.

Majority Leader:

Senator Angelique Ashby (D-Sacramento)

Assistant Majority Leader:

Senator Aisha Wahab (D-Silicon Valley)

Assistant Majority Leader:

Senator Laura Richardson (D-San Pedro)

Democratic Caucus Chair:

Senator Caroline Menjivar (D-San Fernando Valley)

Majority Whip:

Senator Tim Grayson (D-Concord)

Assistant Majority Whip:

Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose)

Assistant Majority Whip:

Senator Steve Padilla (D-San Diego)

Assistant Majority Whip:

Senator Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park)

Presiding Officers:

Senator Christopher Cabaldon (D-Yolo)

Senator Anna Caballero (D-Merced)

Senator Lena Gonzalez (D-Long Beach)

Senator Tim Grayson (D-Concord)

Senator Caroline Menjivar (D-San Fernando Valley)

Senator Roger Niello (R-Fair Oaks)

Senator Akilah Weber Pierson (D-San Diego)

Standing Committees and Subcommittees**Agriculture**

Senator Anna Caballero (D-Merced) (Chair)

Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil (R-Jackson) (Vice Chair)

Senator Angelique Ashby (D-Sacramento)

Senator Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton)

Senator Steve Padilla (D-San Diego)

Appropriations

Senator Sabrina Cervantes (D-Riverside) (Chair)

Senator Kelly Seyarto (R-Murrieta) (Vice Chair)

Senator Christopher Cabaldon (D-Yolo)

Senator Megan Dahle (R-Bieber)

Senator Tim Grayson (D-Concord)

Senator Laura Richardson (D-San Pedro)

Senator Aisha Wahab (D-Silicon Valley)

Banking and Financial Institutions

Senator Tim Grayson (D-Concord) (Chair)

Senator Roger Niello (R-Fair Oaks) (Vice Chair)

Senator Sabrina Cervantes (D-Riverside)

Senator Melissa Hurtado (D-Bakersfield)

Senator Eloise Gómez Reyes (D-Colton)

Senator Laura Richardson (D-San Pedro)

Senator Tony Strickland (R-Huntington Beach)

Budget & Fiscal Review

Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz) (Chair)

Senator Roger Niello (R-Fair Oaks) (Vice Chair)

Senator Catherine S. Blakespear (D-Encinitas)

Senator Christopher Cabaldon (D-Yolo)

Senator Steven “Steve” Choi (R-Irvine)

Senator Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles)

Senator Lena Gonzalez (D-Long Beach)

Senator Shannon Grove (R-Bakersfield)

Senator Melissa Hurtado (D-Bakersfield)

Senator Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton)

Senator Caroline Menjivar (D-San Fernando Valley)

Senator Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh (R-Yucaipa)

Senator Sasha Renée Pérez (D-Pasadena)

Senator Eloise Gómez Reyes (D-Colton)

Senator Laura Richardson (D-San Pedro)

Senator Kelly Seyarto (R-Murrieta)

Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas (D-Los Angeles)
Senator Akilah Weber Pierson (D-San Diego)

Budget Subcommittee #1 on Education

Senator Lena Gonzalez (D-Long Beach) (Chair)
Senator Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh (R-Yucaipa)
Senator Sasha Renée Pérez (D-Pasadena)

Budget Subcommittee #2 on Resources, Environmental Protection and Energy

Senator Eloise Gómez Reyes (D-Colton) (Chair)
Senator Catherine S. Blakespear (D-Encinitas)
Senator Steven “Steve” Choi (R-Irvine)
Senator Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton)

Budget Subcommittee #3 on Health and Human Services

Senator Caroline Menjivar (D-San Fernando Valley) (Chair)
Senator Shannon Grove (R-Bakersfield)
Senator Akilah Weber Pierson (D-San Diego)

Budget Subcommittee #4 on State Administration and General Government

Senator Melissa Hurtado (D-Bakersfield) (Chair)
Senator Christopher Cabaldon (D-Yolo)
Senator Roger Niello (R-Fair Oaks)
Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas (D-Los Angeles)

Budget Subcommittee #5 on Corrections, Public Safety, Judiciary, Labor and Transportation

Senator Laura Richardson (D-San Pedro) (Chair)
Senator Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles)
Senator Kelly Seyarto (R-Murrieta)

Business, Professions & Economic Development

Senator Aisha Wahab (D-Silicon Valley) (Chair)
Senator Steven “Steve” Choi (R-Irvine) (Vice Chair)
Senator Bob Archuleta (D-Pico Rivera)
Senator Jesse Arreguín (D-Oakland)
Senator Anna Caballero (D-Merced)
Senator Tim Grayson (D-Concord)
Senator Caroline Menjivar (D-San Fernando Valley)
Senator Roger Niello (R-Fair Oaks)
Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas (D-Los Angeles)
Senator Tony Strickland (R-Huntington Beach)
Senator Thomas Umberg (D-Santa Ana)

Education

Senator Sasha Renée Pérez (D-Pasadena) (Chair)
Senator Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh (R-Yucaipa) (Vice Chair)
Senator Christopher Cabaldon (D-Yolo)
Senator Steven “Steve” Choi (R-Irvine)
Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose)
Senator Lena Gonzalez (D-Long Beach)
Senator Eloise Gómez Reyes (D-Colton)

Elections and Constitutional Amendments

Senator Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco) (Chair)
Senator Steven “Steve” Choi (R-Irvine) (Vice Chair)
Senator Benjamin Allen (D-Pacific Palisades)

Senator Sabrina Cervantes (D-Riverside)
Senator Thomas Umberg (D-Santa Ana)

Emergency Management

Senator Henry Stern (D-Los Angeles) (Chair)
Senator Kelly Seyarto (R-Murrieta) (Vice Chair)
Senator Benjamin Allen (D-Pacific Palisades)
Senator Angelique Ashby (D-Sacramento)
Senator Catherine S. Blakespear (D-Encinitas)
Senator Megan Dahle (R-Bieber)
Senator Tim Grayson (D-Concord)
Senator Sasha Renée Pérez (D-Pasadena)
Senator Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park)

Energy, Utilities & Communications

Senator Benjamin Allen (D-Pacific Palisades) (Chair)
Senator Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh (R-Yucaipa) (Vice Chair)
Senator Bob Archuleta (D-Pico Rivera)
Senator Jesse Arreguín (D-Oakland)
Senator Josh Becker (D-Menlo Park)
Senator Anna Caballero (D-Merced)
Senator Megan Dahle (R-Bieber)
Senator Lena Gonzalez (D-Long Beach)
Senator Shannon Grove (R-Bakersfield)
Senator Melissa Hurtado (D-Bakersfield)
Senator Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton)
Senator Eloise Gómez Reyes (D-Colton)
Senator Laura Richardson (D-San Pedro)
Senator Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park)
Senator Henry Stern (D-Los Angeles)
Senator Tony Strickland (R-Huntington Beach)
Senator Aisha Wahab (D-Silicon Valley)

Environmental Quality

Senator Catherine S. Blakespear (D-Encinitas) (Chair)
Senator Suzette Martinez Valladares (R-Santa Clarita) (Vice Chair)
Senator Benjamin Allen (D-Pacific Palisades)
Senator Megan Dahle (R-Bieber)
Senator Lena Gonzalez (D-Long Beach)
Senator Melissa Hurtado (D-Bakersfield)
Senator Caroline Menjivar (D-San Fernando Valley)

Governmental Organization

Senator Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park) (Chair)
Senator Suzette Martinez Valladares (R-Santa Clarita) (Vice Chair)
Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil (R-Jackson)
Senator Bob Archuleta (D-Pico Rivera)
Senator Angelique Ashby (D-Sacramento)
Senator Catherine S. Blakespear (D-Encinitas)
Senator Sabrina Cervantes (D-Riverside)
Senator Megan Dahle (R-Bieber)
Senator Melissa Hurtado (D-Bakersfield)
Senator Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh (R-Yucaipa)
Senator Steve Padilla (D-San Diego)
Senator Laura Richardson (D-San Pedro)

Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas (D-Los Angeles)
Senator Aisha Wahab (D-Silicon Valley)
Senator Akilah Weber Pierson (D-San Diego)

Health

Senator Akilah Weber Pierson (D-San Diego) (Chair)
Senator Suzette Martinez Valladares (R-Santa Clarita) (Vice Chair)
Senator Anna Caballero (D-Merced)
Senator Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles)
Senator Lena Gonzalez (D-Long Beach)
Senator Shannon Grove (R-Bakersfield)
Senator Caroline Menjivar (D-San Fernando Valley)
Senator Steve Padilla (D-San Diego)
Senator Sasha Renée Pérez (D-Pasadena)
Senator Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park)
Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas (D-Los Angeles)

Housing

Senator Jesse Arreguín (D-Oakland) (Chair)
Senator Kelly Seyarto (R-Murrieta) (Vice Chair)
Senator Christopher Cabaldon (D-Yolo)
Senator Anna Caballero (D-Merced)
Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose)
Senator Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles)
Senator Lena Gonzalez (D-Long Beach)
Senator Tim Grayson (D-Concord)
Senator Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh (R-Yucaipa)
Senator Steve Padilla (D-San Diego)

Human Services

Senator Josh Becker (D-Menlo Park) (Chair)
Senator Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh (R-Yucaipa) (Vice Chair)
Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz)
Senator Sasha Renée Pérez (D-Pasadena)
Senator Akilah Weber Pierson (D-San Diego)

Insurance

Senator Steve Padilla (D-San Diego) (Chair)
Senator Roger Niello (R-Fair Oaks) (Vice Chair)
Senator Josh Becker (D-Menlo Park)
Senator Brian W. Jones (R-San Diego)
Senator Caroline Menjivar (D-San Fernando Valley)
Senator Laura Richardson (D-San Pedro)
Senator Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park)

Judiciary

Senator Thomas Umberg (D-Santa Ana) (Chair)
Senator Roger Niello (R-Fair Oaks) (Vice Chair)
Senator Benjamin Allen (D-Pacific Palisades)
Senator Angelique Ashby (D-Sacramento)
Senator Anna Caballero (D-Merced)
Senator Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles)
Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz)
Senator Eloise Gómez Reyes (D-Colton)
Senator Henry Stern (D-Los Angeles)

Senator Suzette Martinez Valladares (R-Santa Clarita)
Senator Aisha Wahab (D-Silicon Valley)
Senator Akilah Weber Pierson (D-San Diego)
Senator Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco)

Labor, Public Employment and Retirement

Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas (D-Los Angeles) (Chair)
Senator Tony Strickland (R-Huntington Beach) (Vice Chair)
Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose)
Senator Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles)
Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz)

Local Government

Senator Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles) (Chair)
Senator Steven “Steve” Choi (R-Irvine) (Vice Chair)
Senator Jesse Arreguín (D-Oakland)
Senator Angelique Ashby (D-Sacramento)
Senator Sabrina Cervantes (D-Riverside)
Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz)
Senator Kelly Seyarto (R-Murrieta)

Military and Veterans Affairs

Senator Bob Archuleta (D-Pico Rivera) (Chair)
Senator Shannon Grove (R-Bakersfield) (Vice Chair)
Senator Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton)
Senator Caroline Menjivar (D-San Fernando Valley)
Senator Thomas Umberg (D-Santa Ana)

Natural Resources and Water

Senator Josh Becker (D-Menlo Park) (Chair)
Senator Kelly Seyarto (R-Murrieta) (Vice Chair)
Senator Benjamin Allen (D-Pacific Palisades)
Senator Christopher Cabaldon (D-Yolo)
Senator Shannon Grove (R-Bakersfield)
Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz)
Senator Henry Stern (D-Los Angeles)

Privacy, Digital Technologies, and Consumer Protection

Senator Christopher Cabaldon (D-Yolo) (Chair)
Senator Brian W. Jones (R-San Diego) (Vice Chair)
Senator Lena Gonzalez (D-Long Beach)
Senator Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton)
Senator Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh (R-Yucaipa)
Senator Steve Padilla (D-San Diego)
Senator Eloise Gómez Reyes (D-Colton)
Senator Thomas Umberg (D-Santa Ana)
Senator Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco)

Public Safety

Senator Jesse Arreguín (D-Oakland) (Chair)
Senator Kelly Seyarto (R-Murrieta) (Vice Chair)
Senator Anna Caballero (D-Merced)
Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose)
Senator Sasha Renée Pérez (D-Pasadena)
Senator Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco)

Revenue and Taxation

Senator Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton) (Chair)
Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil (R-Jackson) (Vice Chair)
Senator Angelique Ashby (D-Sacramento)
Senator Tim Grayson (D-Concord)
Senator Thomas Umberg (D-Santa Ana)

Rules

Senate President pro Tem Monique Limón (D-Santa Barbara) (Chair)
Senator Shannon Grove (R-Bakersfield) (Vice Chair)
Senator Brian W. Jones (R-San Diego)
Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz)
Senator Eloise Gómez Reyes (D-Colton)

Transportation

Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose) (Chair)
Senator Tony Strickland (R-Huntington Beach) (Vice Chair)
Senator Bob Archuleta (D-Pico Rivera)
Senator Jesse Arreguín (D-Oakland)
Senator Josh Becker (D-Menlo Park)
Senator Catherine S. Blakespear (D-Encinitas)
Senator Megan Dahle (R-Bieber)
Senator Lena Gonzalez (D-Long Beach)
Senator Tim Grayson (D-Concord)
Senator Caroline Menjivar (D-San Fernando Valley)
Senator Laura Richardson (D-San Pedro)
Senator Kelly Seyarto (R-Murrieta)
Senator Thomas Umberg (D-Santa Ana)
Senator Suzette Martinez Valladares (R-Santa Clarita)
Senator Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco)

Committee on Legislative Ethics

Senator Eloise Gómez Reyes (D-Colton) (Chair)
Senator Shannon Grove (R-Bakersfield) (Vice Chair)
Senator Anna Caballero (D-Merced)
Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose)
Senator Tim Grayson (D-Concord)
Senator Roger Niello (R-Fair Oaks)

Joint Committees**Joint Committee on the Arts**

Senator Benjamin Allen (D-Pacific Palisades) (Chair)
Senator Shannon Grove (R-Bakersfield)
Senator Sasha Renée Pérez (D-Pasadena)
Senator Laura Richardson (D-San Pedro)
Senator Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park)
Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas (D-Los Angeles)

Joint Committee on Fairs Allocation and Classification

Senator Angelique Ashby (D-Sacramento) (Vice Chair)
Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil (R-Jackson)
Senator Christopher Cabaldon (D-Yolo)
Senator Anna Caballero (D-Merced)
Senator Megan Dahle (R-Bieber)
Senator Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton)

Senator Steve Padilla (D-San Diego)

Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture

Senate President pro Tem Emeritus Mike McGuire (D-North Coast) (Chair)

Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose)

Senator Brian W. Jones (R-San Diego)

Senator Akilah Weber Pierson (D-San Diego)

Joint Committee on Rules

Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz) (Vice Chair)

Senator Angelique Ashby (D-Sacramento)

Senator Christopher Cabaldon (D-Yolo)

Senator Sabrina Cervantes (D-Riverside)

Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose)

Senator Lena Gonzalez (D-Long Beach)

Senator Tim Grayson (D-Concord)

Senator Shannon Grove (R-Bakersfield)

Senator Brian W. Jones (R-San Diego)

Senate President pro Tem Monique Limón (D-Santa Barbara)

Senate President pro Tem Emeritus Mike McGuire (D-North Coast)

Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas (D-Los Angeles)

Senator Suzette Martinez Valladares (R-Santa Clarita)

Senator Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco)

Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Senator Christopher Cabaldon (D-Yolo) (Vice Chair)

Senator Angelique Ashby (D-Sacramento)

Senator Josh Becker (D-Menlo Park)

Senator Sabrina Cervantes (D-Riverside)

Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose)

Senator Megan Dahle (R-Bieber)

Senator Suzette Martinez Valladares (R-Santa Clarita)

Joint Legislative Budget Committee

Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz) (Chair)

Senator Lena Gonzalez (D-Long Beach)

Senator Melissa Hurtado (D-Bakersfield)

Senator Caroline Menjivar (D-San Fernando Valley)

Senator Roger Niello (R-Fair Oaks)

Senator Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh (R-Yucaipa)

Senator Eloise Gómez Reyes (D-Colton)

Senator Laura Richardson (D-San Pedro)

Joint Legislative Committee on Climate Change Policies

Senator Henry Stern (D-Los Angeles) (Vice Chair)

Senator Catherine S. Blakespear (D-Encinitas)

Senator Melissa Hurtado (D-Bakersfield)

Senator Akilah Weber Pierson (D-San Diego)

Senator Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco)

Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency Management

Senator Henry Stern (D-Los Angeles) (Chair)

Senator Benjamin Allen (D-Pacific Palisades)

Senator Catherine S. Blakespear (D-Encinitas)

Senator Megan Dahle (R-Bieber)

Senator Tim Grayson (D-Concord)

Senator Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park)
Senator Kelly Seyarto (R-Murrieta)

Special Committees

Special Committee on International Sporting Events: Olympics and World Cup Soccer
Senator Benjamin Allen (D-Pacific Palisades) (Chair)
Senator Aisha Wahab (D-Silicon Valley) (Vice Chair)
Senator Bob Archuleta (D-Pico Rivera)
Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose)
Senator Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles)
Senator Lena Gonzalez (D-Long Beach)
Senator Laura Richardson (D-San Pedro)
Senator Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park)
Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas (D-Los Angeles)
Senator Thomas Umberg (D-Santa Ana)
Senator Suzette Martinez Valladares (R-Santa Clarita)

Select Committees

Nonprofit Sector

Senator Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton) (Chair)
Senator Benjamin Allen (D-Pacific Palisades)
Senator Anna Caballero (D-Merced)
Senator Tim Grayson (D-Concord)
Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz)
Senator Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh (R-Yucaipa)
Senator Sasha Renée Pérez (D-Pasadena)
Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas (D-Los Angeles)

ATTACHMENT 3B

South Coast AQMD, Legislative Committee Report

Buckley Government Affairs LLC

January 16, 2026

Legislative Session Update

On December 23, Senate President Pro Tempore Monique Limón announced the Senate Democratic Leadership team and committee membership assignments for the 2026 legislative year. These announcements outline several significant leadership changes that will shape the Senate's legislative and budget agenda.

Under the announcement, changes to the Budget and Budget Subcommittees and the Natural Resources and Water Committee take effect immediately. All remaining committee assignments will become effective on February 1, following the passage of the two-year bill deadline.

Several key leadership changes are particularly noteworthy:

- Sabrina Cervantes (Riverside) has been appointed Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee.
- John Laird (Santa Cruz) will serve as Chair of the Senate Budget Committee, overseeing the development and negotiation of the state's annual spending plan.
- Eloise Gómez Reyes (Colton) has been named Chair of Budget Subcommittee No. 2 on Resources, Environmental Protection, and Energy, a key panel with jurisdiction over funding for the AB 617 program.
- Josh Becker (Menlo Park) will assume the role of Chair of the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee.
- Senator Caroline Menjivar (San Fernando Valley) will become the Democratic Caucus Chair.

The Legislature is scheduled to reconvene in Sacramento on January 5. During the first week of session, Governor Gavin Newsom will deliver the State of the State address on January 8

at 10:30 a.m. This will mark the first time the Governor has appeared before a joint session of Legislature since 2020, and it will also be his final State of the State. Given that he is required to formally present his proposed budget to the Legislature by January 10, we expect there will be several references to what his budget priorities will be during the speech.

Budget Update

According to the Department of Finance's monthly budget report, preliminary General Fund agency cash receipts in November were \$454 million, or 3.9 percent, above the Budget Act forecast. This variance was primarily driven by personal income tax receipts, which exceeded projections by \$543 million due to higher withholding and lower-than-anticipated refunds. Partially offsetting this overperformance, sales and use tax receipts came in \$169 million below forecast, while corporation tax receipts were \$59 million under projections. Cumulatively since April, preliminary General Fund agency cash receipts total \$9.1 billion, or 6.5 percent, above projections, including an overage of \$2.7 billion attributable to cash collected during the 2024–25 fiscal year. However, as we reported last month, the Legislative Analysts Office (LAO) still expects a significant budget deficit even with these reports of a surplus.



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TO: South Coast AQMD

FROM: Anthony, Jason & Paul Gonsalves

SUBJECT: Legislative Update – December 2025

DATE: Friday, December 26, 2025

The month of December is typically quiet in Sacramento, and this year was no different. Legislators are back in their Districts focusing on constituent work while their capitol staff are starting to prepare their legislative package for 2026. The Legislature will reconvene on Monday, January 5, 2026, and they will have until the end of January to move all 2-year bills out of their house of origin. Additionally, all new bills must be submitted to Legislative Counsel for drafting by January 23, 2026, with all new bills being introduced by February 20, 2026.

The following will provide you with updates of interest to the District:

\$1.1B IN ZERO-EMISSION TRANSIT

On December 8, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) approved \$1.1 billion in transportation investments to advance zero-emission buses, charging infrastructure, and clean transportation projects, while also addressing critical needs to repair aging bridges, improve highway safety, and enhance local mobility.

Consistent with the Governor's Build More, Faster – For All infrastructure agenda, the funding is intended to strengthen climate resilience and improve safety and accessibility across California communities. Notable allocations include \$53 million for 12 clean-energy locomotives to replace diesel engines on Southern California's Metrolink system and \$13 million to restore fire-damaged portions of State Route 38 in San Bernardino County.

Of the total approved this month, \$463 million is funded through SB 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017, with an additional \$190 million from the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). Since its enactment, SB 1 has provided roughly \$5 billion annually for transportation improvements statewide, accelerating project delivery for both state and local agencies. Looking ahead, California is expected to receive nearly \$42 billion in federal infrastructure funding over five years, supporting

broad upgrades to roads, bridges, rail, public transit, airports, ports, and the statewide electric-vehicle charging network.

MAKING BIG POLLUTERS PAY

On December 10, Governor Newsom announced more than \$865 million in new California Climate Investments, funded entirely by major greenhouse-gas emitters, to support affordable housing, transit expansion, and climate-resilience efforts statewide.

The funding will deliver 39 affordable housing projects across 21 communities, enable the construction of thousands of new homes, and finance significant sustainable transportation improvements. Notably, \$185.6 million is allocated to Los Angeles County to help rebuild critical infrastructure following this year's devastating wildfires. These investments are financed through the state's Cap-and-Invest program and the funding directly advances the Governor's vision of building a California for All by addressing housing needs while confronting climate change.

The California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) surpassed a historic \$5 billion investment milestone with its largest single funding announcement to date. Nearly \$1 billion was awarded to projects that link affordable housing with transit access, protect agricultural lands, and support community-led climate solutions that deliver environmental, health, and economic benefits. The awards include \$835.3 million through the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program for 21 housing and green transportation projects, \$29.5 million through the Transformative Climate Communities Program using anticipated Proposition 4 funds to fully support four projects, and \$2.1 million through the Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program for capacity-building efforts across 25 counties.

2026 LEGISLATIVE DEADLINES

Jan. 1 - Statutes take effect.

Jan. 5 - Legislature reconvenes.

Jan. 10 - Budget must be submitted by Governor.

Jan. 16 - Last day for policy committees to hear and report to fiscal committees fiscal bills introduced in their house in the odd-numbered year.

Jan. 23 - Last day for any committee to hear and report to the Floor bills introduced in that house in the odd-numbered year. Last day to submit bill requests to the Office of Legislative Counsel.

Jan. 31 - Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house in the odd numbered year.

Feb. 20 - Last day for bills to be introduced.

Apr. 24 - Last day for policy committees to hear and report to fiscal committees fiscal bills introduced in their house.

May 1 - Last day for policy committees to hear and report to the Floor non-fiscal bills introduced in their house.

May 8 - Last day for policy committees to meet prior to June 1.

May 15 - Last day for fiscal committees to hear and report to the Floor bills introduced in their house. Last day for fiscal committees to meet prior to June 1.

May 26 – 29 - Floor Session only. No committees, other than conference or Rules committees, may meet for any purpose.

May 29 - Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house

June 1 - Committee meetings may resume.

June 15 - Budget Bill must be passed by midnight.

June 25 - Last day for a legislative measure to qualify for the Nov. 3 General Election ballot.

July 2 - Last day for policy committees to meet and report bills. Summer Recess begins upon adjournment of session, provided Budget Bill has passed.

Aug. 3 - Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess.

Aug. 14 - Last day for fiscal committees to meet and report bills to the Floor.

Aug. 17 – 31 - Floor Session only. No committee, other than conference and Rules committees, may meet for any purpose.

Aug. 21 - Last day to amend on the Floor.

Aug. 31 - Last day for each house to pass bills. Final recess begins upon adjournment.