

**Agenda**  
**Sacramento Suburban Water District**  
**Special Board Meeting – Public Information Workshop**

3701 Marconi Avenue  
Sacramento, California 95821

Wednesday, January 31, 2024  
6:30 p.m.

**This meeting will be conducted both in-person in the District’s Boardroom at the address above, and by videoconference and teleconference using the information provided below. The public is invited to listen, observe, and provide comments during the meeting by any method provided. The President will call for public comment on each agenda item at the appropriate time.**

**For members of the public interested in viewing and having the ability to comment at the public meeting via Zoom, an internet-enabled computer equipped with a microphone and speaker or a mobile device with a data plan is required. Use of a webcam is optional. You also may call in to the meeting using teleconference without video. Please use the following login information for videoconferencing or teleconferencing:**

**Join the meeting from a computer, tablet or smartphone:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87414042040?pwd=b0F4aHVhZXMvVE9UT3JU0FxdDNmQT09>

**Meeting ID:** 874 1404 2040

**Password:** 151918

**You can also dial in using your phone:** 1 (669) 900-6833

New to Zoom? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts: <https://zoom.us/>  
Zoom uses encryption of data during Zoom meetings. The District uses a secure password to restrict access to scheduled meetings. The meeting host has control of content sharing, recording, and chat.

**Please mute your line.**

Where appropriate or deemed necessary, the Board may take action on any item listed on the agenda, including items listed as information items. Public documents relating to any open session item listed on this agenda that are distributed to all or a majority of the members of the Board of Directors less than 72 hours before the meeting are available for public inspection in the customer service area of the District’s Administrative Office at the address listed above.

The public may address the Board concerning an agenda item after the staff presentation but before Board’s consideration of that agenda item. Persons who wish to comment on either agenda or non-agenda items should fill out a Comment Card and give it to the General Manager. The President will call for comments at the appropriate time. Comments will be subject to reasonable time limits (3 minutes).

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you have a disability, and you need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, then please contact Sacramento Suburban Water District Human Resources at 916.679.3972. Requests must be made as early as possible and at least one full business day before the start of the meeting.

**Call to Order**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

**Public Comment**

This is the opportunity for the public to comment on non-agenda items within the Board’s jurisdiction. Comments are limited to 3 minutes.

**Items for Discussion and/or Action**

1. Public Information Workshop: Exploring a Study on Potential Combination with Carmichael Water District  
*Recommendation: No action. Receive staff presentation and allow for public comment and questions regarding continuing combination discussions between Carmichael Water District and Sacramento Suburban Water District.*

**Adjournment**

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**Upcoming Meetings**

Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at 3:00 p.m., CWD/SSWD 2x2 Committee Meeting

Monday, February 26, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting

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I certify that the foregoing agenda for the January 31, 2024, meeting of the Sacramento Suburban Water District Board of Directors was posted by January 26, 2024, in a publicly-accessible location at the Sacramento Suburban Water District office, 3701 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento, California, and was freely available to the public.

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Dan York  
 General Manager/Secretary  
 Sacramento Suburban Water District



## Agenda Item: 1

**Date:** January 31, 2024

**Subject:** Public Information Workshop: Exploring a Study on Potential Combination with Carmichael Water District

**Staff Contact:** Dan York, General Manager

**Recommended Board Action:**

No action. Receive staff presentation and allow for public comment and questions regarding continuing combination discussions between Carmichael Water District and Sacramento Suburban Water District.

**Attachment:**

1 – Public Information Workshop and Open House Power Point Presentation



# Public Information Workshop & Open House

*Potential Combination with Carmichael Water District*

January 31, 2024



CWD-SSWD Combination Discussions

# Welcome!



- Introductions
- Purpose and overview of Workshop and Open House
- Supporting materials available at [carmichaelwd.org](http://carmichaelwd.org) and [sswd.org](http://sswd.org)
- Questions and Comments (*after the presentation*)
  - In person: Submit a comment card to the facilitator
  - Online: Request through the chat feature or raise your electronic hand
- Housekeeping/guidelines for comment
  - Session is being recorded





### STEP 1:

#### **Exploring the Possible:**

*Discussing and Analyzing Potential Combination*

#### **COMPLETE:**

Occurred when the combination study was in progress.

Educated audiences that CWD and SSWD are in the process of identifying collaboration opportunities and that an independent, third-party researcher conducted an analysis.

### STEP 2:

#### **Community Conversation:**

*Sharing the Case for Considering Combination and Initial Study Results*

#### **COMPLETE:**

Occurred when the initial study was released and accepted by the CWD and SSWD Boards.

Educated audiences about the study findings.

The goal was to share information and hear initial questions and feedback for consideration by the Boards of Directors and to help shape the ongoing technical work.

### STEP 3:

#### **A Deeper Dive:**

*Exploring the Findings of the Further Analysis Report*

#### **WE ARE HERE:**

Began when the Further Analysis Report was released and accepted by the CWD and SSWD Boards.

Educate audiences about the findings of the Further Analysis Report.

The goal is to share information and hear questions and feedback for consideration by the Boards of Directors as they consider whether to move forward.

### STEP 4:

#### **Decision Time:**

*Providing Perspectives on Combination*

Begins when the CWD and SSWD Boards take a position on whether to move forward with the LAFCo process.

Educate audiences about the position and perspective of the CWD and SSWD Boards of Directors and next steps.

- If the position is to stop moving forward, then educate audiences about the reasons. Outreach concludes.

- If the position is to move forward with combination, then outline next steps for action by the Boards of Directors, including opportunities for audiences to learn more and provide input.

The goal is to share information about the position of the Boards of Directors either in favor of or against combination.

### STEP 5:

#### **Seeking Approval:**

*Engaging in the LAFCo Process*

Occurs during the LAFCo Process.

Educate audiences about the position of the Boards of Directors in favor of combination, next steps for combination, the LAFCo process and how the public can provide input.

The goal is to share information about the position of the Boards of Directors and to hear questions and feedback per the LAFCo process.

CWD-SSWD Combination Discussions

# Tonight's Presentation

1. Governance and Representation
2. Rates and Financial Considerations
3. Water Quality/Fluoride
4. Water Supplies and Rights
5. Model Merged District – Type of District
6. Opportunities for Employees
7. Benefits to Combination
8. LAFCo Process
9. Next Steps
10. Questions and Open House



*Scan the QR code to  
access the full report  
and other materials*



# Governance and Representation

## Board of Directors

- Begin with 11 directors from both districts
- Draft voting division maps to consider community interests, geography, topography
- Extensive review: public, legal, Sacramento County Registrar, special Board meetings
- Potential for greater influence
- *Tentative Decision: Transition to 7 directors by 2026*
  - *Avoid multiple elections*





# Rates and Financial Considerations

## Current Average Billing Per Month by Customer Type

*As of June 30, 2022*

	CARMICHAEL WATER DISTRICT	SACRAMENTO SUBURBAN WATER DISTRICT
Residential Customers	\$86.34	\$76.39
Non-Residential Customers	\$343.94	\$339.36
Fixed/Variable Charges	Typical 1-inch residential customer pays 55% fixed charge and 45% usage charge	All rates are constructed at 69% fixed charge and 31% usage charge

# Rates and Financial Considerations

## Current Debt and Debt Service

	<b>CARMICHAEL WATER DISTRICT</b>	<b>SACRAMENTO SUBURBAN WATER DISTRICT</b>
<b>Outstanding Debt</b>	\$32,508,528 or \$2,795 per account	\$54,915,515 or \$1,212 per account
<b>Annual Debt Service</b>	approximately \$2,500,000 or \$215 per account, fully amortized in 2038	approximately \$7,000,000 or \$154 per account, fully amortized in 2031

# Rates and Financial Considerations

## Future Rate Structure with a Combined District

- Rates based on combined O&M and capital costs
- Anticipated initial (one-time) costs expected to be offset by future savings
- Potential for greater rate and financial stability
- Potential for lower rate increases over time



# Rates and Financial Considerations

## Liability for Debt Management

- LAFCO mandate: Each agency responsible for its debt
- Rates remain separate until debt retired—subject to reassessment
- Continued debt repayment—potential reassessment for lower interest rate
- Larger rate base viewed favorably by rating agencies



CWD-SSWD Combination Discussions

# Rates and Financial Considerations

## Liability for Infrastructure

- Similar infrastructure condition
- LAFCo role: Ensures one district's debt not transferred
- Larger organization better positioned to invest in infrastructure improvements



CWD-SSWD Combination Discussions

# Water Quality



## Fluoride

- SSWD's South Service Area fluoridated until 2027
- No mandate to continue fluoridation post-agreement
- No mandate for CWD to fluoridate water

## Water Source

- Combination not expected to change water quality
- Carmichael customers would receive the same surface water, unless curtailed



CWD-SSWD Combination Discussions

# Water Supplies and Rights



## Supply Reliability

- Combination enhances supply reliability, especially during droughts
- Currently, both can meet demands; but challenged by climate change and regulations
- CWD faced recent water rights curtailments
- Integration opportunities for a more diverse, adaptable supply





CWD-SSWD Combination Discussions

# Water Supplies and Rights



## Supply Portfolio

- SSWD and CWD would share rights to surface water and groundwater
- Promotes a sustainable, reliable operation
- Clarify: Right does not equal delivery—constrained by infrastructure
- CWD would maintain historical access to surface water



# Model Merged District (Type of District)

## County Water District vs. Irrigation District

- CWD: Irrigation District—water, drainage, electric power, sewer services
- SSWD: County Water District—water, wastewater, fire protection, solid waste services
- More similarities than differences
- *Tentative Decision: County Water District*
  - *Aligns with operational needs and minimizes costs*



# Model Merged District (Type of District)

## Consolidation vs. Reorganization

- Both have advantages and disadvantages:
  - Consolidation: new entity, fresh start, opportunity to streamline
  - Reorganization: continuity, more complex operational integration, and public education
- *Tentative Decision: Consolidation*
  - *Fresh start and new identity*



CWD-SSWD Combination Discussions

# Opportunities for Employees



## Career Growth and Representation

- May aid in retention of employees at both districts
- Expanded career prospects and economies of scale for compensation and benefits
- New opportunities for specialization and advancement
- Some CWD employees represented by AFSCME: Continuation subject to majority vote



CWD-SSWD Combination Discussions

# Benefits to Combination

- Enhanced water supply reliability
- Long-term financial savings and stability
- Economies of scale and efficiency
- Opportunities for staff retention, growth and shared expertise
- Greater influence for expanded service area
- Infrastructure improvements





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# Questions, Comments?

Please submit a comment card (in person) or a request through chat (online)



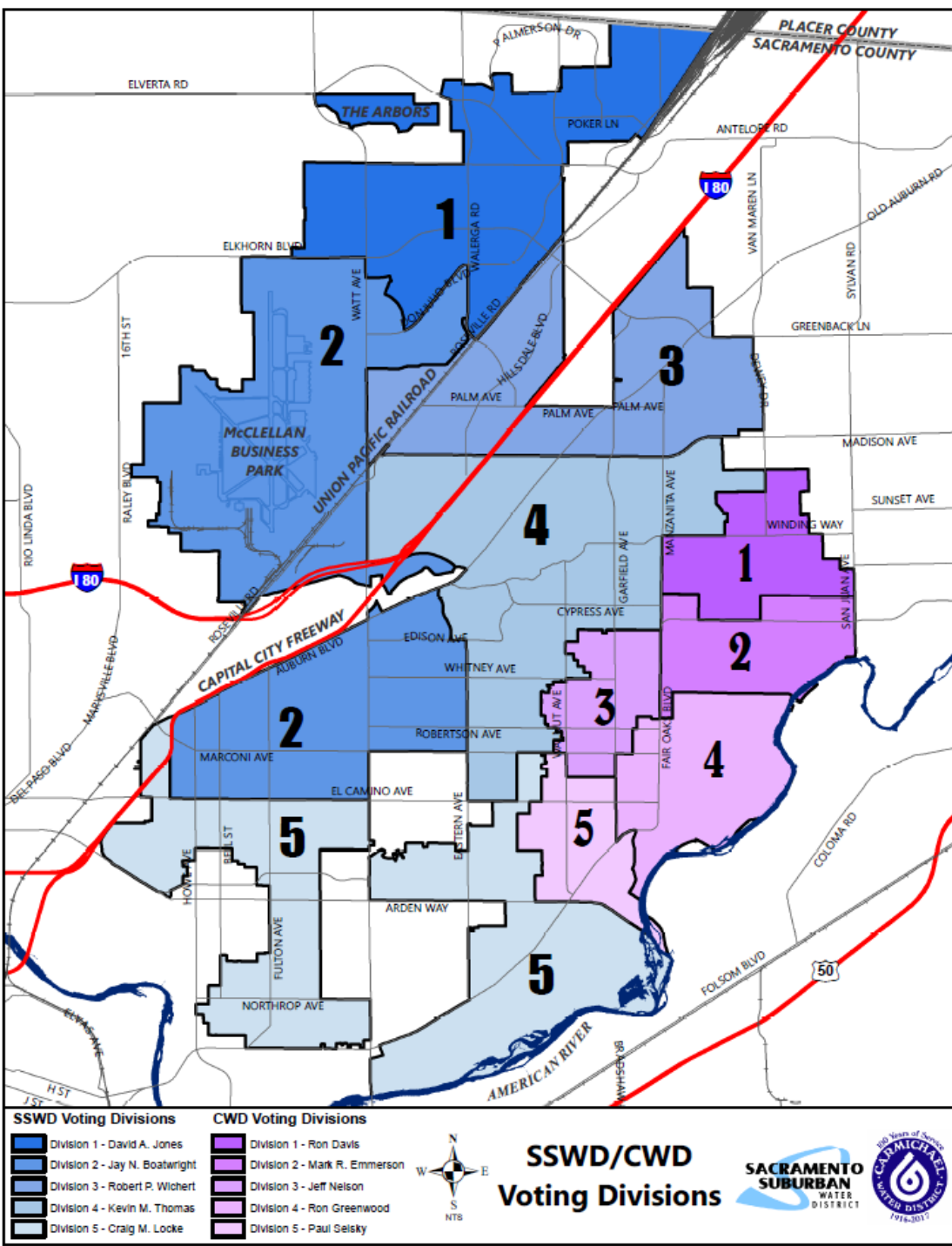


# Open House

Feel free to connect with your elected representative and staff

*We will regroup in about 15 minutes for final Director comments and to close the meeting*

*Zoom will remain open during this time*





# Thank You!

Find updates on the CWD and SSWD websites

[carmichaelwd.org](http://carmichaelwd.org) and [sswd.org](http://sswd.org)

