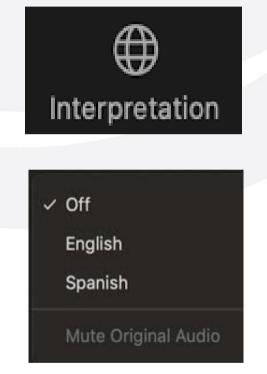
# Language Interpretation through Zoom

Click the Interpretation icon in your meeting controls

- Navigate to Language Channels
- Select Spanish
- Mute Original Audio



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# For technical assistance, email: SAFER@waterboards.ca.gov

# SAFER Drinking Water Advisory Group Meeting #2

May 24, 2023 10 am – 3 pm





# Ways to Participate

# Watch ONLY: Visit video.calepa.ca.gov

# Submit a comment:

Email <u>safer@waterboards.ca.gov</u> with subject "AGM Public Comment," and follow Instructions in return email to join the meeting.

# Technical or language interpretation assistance: safer@waterboards.ca.gov





# Water Boards' Mission

Preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resource allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations.

# **Meeting Guidelines**

- Mute yourself when not speaking
- Join by video (if possible)
- Take breaks as needed
- Speak slowly
- <u>safer@waterboards.ca.gov</u>



**Needs Assessment Results** 

Funding process for Operations and Maintenance

SAFER PROGRAM

Draft priorities for the Fund Expenditure Plan

SAFER Website Revamp

Advisory Group Member Announcements

**Public Comment** 

**Next Steps** 

# **Introductions and Warmer**

- Your name
- Your affiliation
- Your location
- What's your favorite morning drink?





# SAFER: 2023 Drinking Water Needs Assessment Results

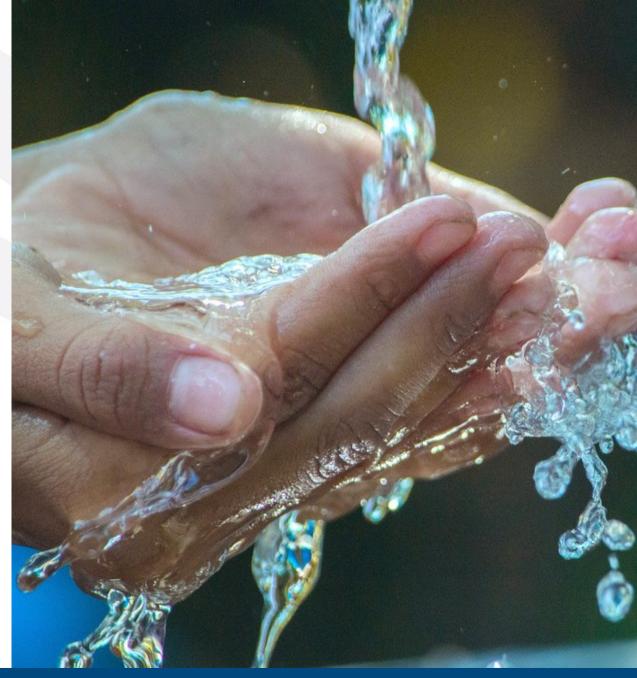
**Kristyn Abhold** Needs Analysis Unit Division of Drinking Water



# Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund

Up to \$130 million per year through 2030.

The annual **Fund Expenditure Plan (FEP)** prioritizes projects for funding, documents past and planned expenditures, and is "based on data and analysis drawn from the drinking water **Needs Assessment**" (Health and Safety Code §116769).



### SAFER PROGRAM

# **Needs Assessment and the SAFER Program**



### CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS

# **Needs Assessment Components**



https://bit.ly/SAFER-NA

### **CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS**

# **SAFER Program Priority Systems**

#### FAILING WATER SYSTEMS

Community water systems and K-12 public schools that meet the Failing criteria.

#### **AT-RISK WATER SYSTEMS & DOMESTIC WELLS**

Public water systems with up to 30,000 service connections and 100,000 population served, K-12 public schools, state small water systems and domestic wells that are at-risk of failing.

#### **POTENTIALLY AT-RISK WATER SYSTEMS & DOMESTIC WELLS**

Public water systems with up to 30,000 service connections and 100,000 population served, K-12 public schools, state small water systems and domestic wells that are potentially at-risk of failing.

#### **NOT AT-RISK WATER SYSTEMS & DOMESTIC WELLS**

Public water systems, K-12 public schools, state small water systems, and domestic wells that are not at-risk of failing.

ELLS all water iling.

# **Failing Water Systems**







# **Failing Water Systems**

State Water Board has been tracking failing water systems since 2017.

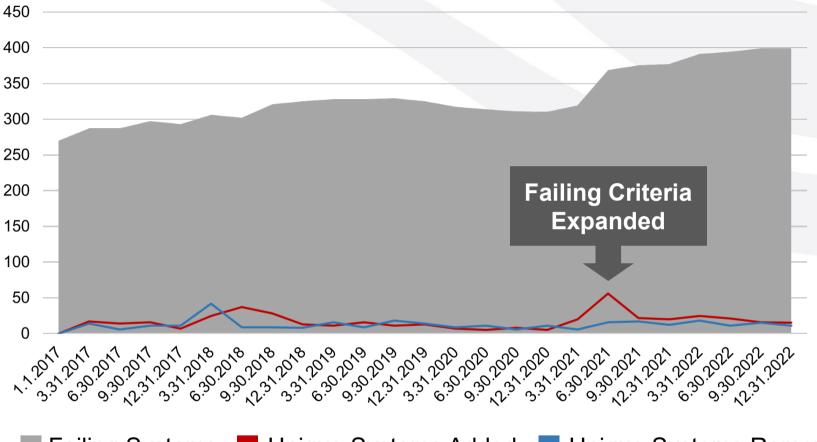
Failing criteria was expanded in Spring 2021 beyond water quality violations.

There are currently **387** Failing systems.

Learn more: <u>https://bit.ly/HR2W-</u> <u>FailingWaterSystems</u> Current list here: <u>https://bit.ly/SAFER-</u> <u>Dashboard</u>

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# **The Challenge**



Approximately **71** unique water systems come on the **Failing list** each year.

To be proactive, the State Water Board needed to develop an **early warning approach** to identify water systems that are **at-risk of failing**.

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Failing Systems Unique Systems Added Inique Systems Removed

# **Providing Assistance to Failing Systems**

Approximately **90%** of Failing water systems are progressing towards long-term solutions.

Failing Systems can request the State Water Board to provide:

- Financial Assistance: <a href="https://bit.ly/DFA-Funding">https://bit.ly/DFA-Funding</a>
- Technical Assistance: <a href="https://bit.ly/TA-FundingProgram">https://bit.ly/TA-FundingProgram</a>

# Risk Assessment Results: Public Water Systems





# **SAFER Program Priority Systems**

#### FAILING WATER SYSTEMS

Community water systems and K-12 public schools that meet the Failing criteria.

#### **AT-RISK WATER SYSTEMS & DOMESTIC WELLS**

Public water systems with up to 30,000 service connections and 100,000 population served, K-12 public schools, state small water systems and domestic wells that are at-risk of failing.

#### **POTENTIALLY AT-RISK WATER SYSTEMS & DOMESTIC WELLS**

Public water systems with up to 30,000 service connections and 100,000 population served, K-12 public schools, state small water systems and domestic wells that are potentially at-risk of failing.

#### **NOT AT-RISK WATER SYSTEMS & DOMESTIC WELLS**

Public water systems, K-12 public schools, state small water systems, and domestic wells that are not at-risk of failing.

# The Inventory:

Public Water Systems

## Included:

- Community water systems with up 30,000 service connections and 100,000 populations served.
- Non-transient, non-community water systems that are K-12 schools.

## **Excluded**:

- Wholesalers
- Community water systems with more than 30,000 connections or 100,000 population served.
- Military bases are excluded from the <u>financial</u> risk indicators.

### **CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS**

# **2023** Risk Indicator Changes

The State Water Board removed **2** and added **1** affordability risk indicator. 21 total indicators.

#### WATER QUALITY

E. Coli Presence

Increasing Presence of Water Quality Trends Towards MCL

Treatment Technique Violations

Past Presence on the Failing List

Percentage of Sources Exceeding an MCL

Constituents of Emerging Concern

#### ACCESSIBILITY

Number of Sources

Absence of Interties

DWR – Drought & Water Shortage Risk Assessment Results Critically Overdrafted

Groundwater Basin

Bottled or Hauled Water Reliance

Source Capacity Violations

#### AFFORDABILITY

% Median Household Income

Extreme Water Bill

NEW: Household Socioeconomic Burden

% of Residential

Arrearages

Residential Arrearage Burden

#### **TMF CAPACITY**

Operator Certification Violations

Monitoring and Reporting Violations

Significant Deficiencies

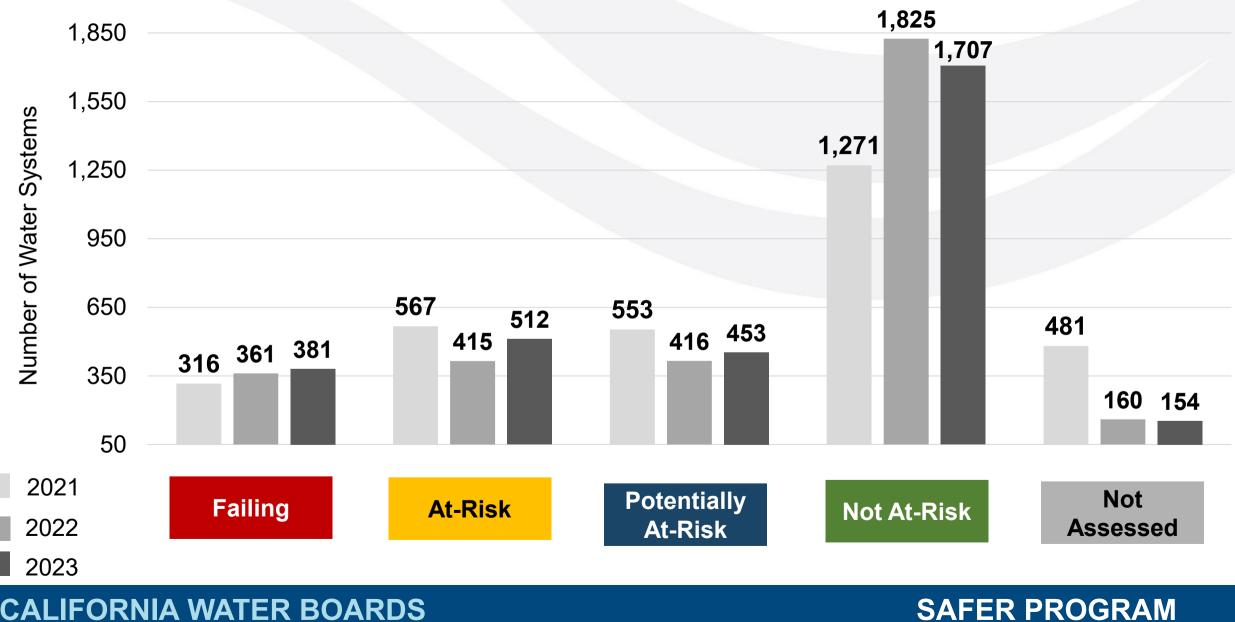
Income

**Operating Ratio** 

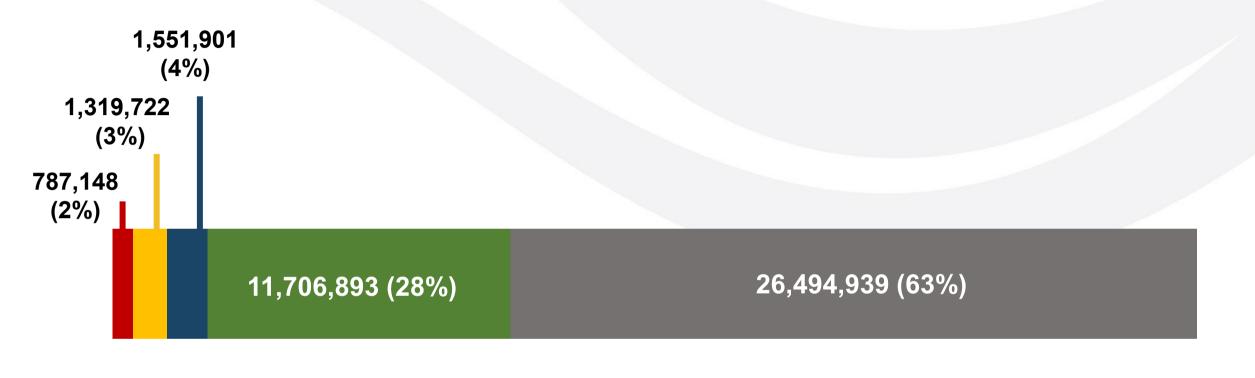
Days Cash on Hand

### **CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS**

# **Risk Assessment Results 2021-2023**



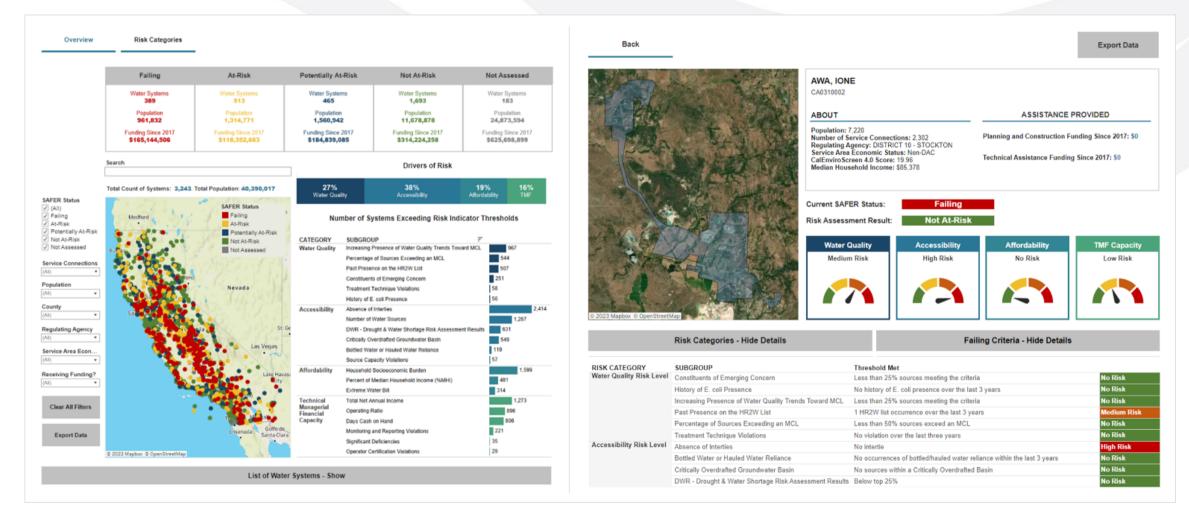
# **Population Served of Systems in the Risk Assessment\***



■ Failing ■ At-Risk ■ Potentially At-Risk ■ Not At-Risk ■ Not Assessed

\* The Risk Assessment excluded large water systems that serve the majority of Californians.

# Access the At-Risk List and Raw Data: SAFER Dashboard



#### https://bit.ly/SAFER-Dashboard-23

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### **CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS**

# Risk Assessment Results: State Small Water Systems & Domestic Wells





## **Risk Assessment for State Small Water Systems & Domestic Wells**

The State Water Board worked with Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) to develop the new **Socioeconomic Risk Layer** 



### **CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS**

25

# **NEW Socioeconomic Risk Category**

County Data			Census Data
County Water Quality Testing for Domestic Wells	County Level Services for Domestic Wells	Well Costs	Economic Characteristics
Testing Requirements	Administrative	Replacement Well Permit Cost	Household Socioeconomic Burden
Testing Type	Services		
Testing Impacts on Permitting Water Quality Monitoring	Website Quality	Average Number of Wells Drilled Per Unique Driller in the Past Two Years	
	Funding Resources Available to Domestic Well Owners		Linguistic Isolation
			Unemployment
			Transportation Limitations

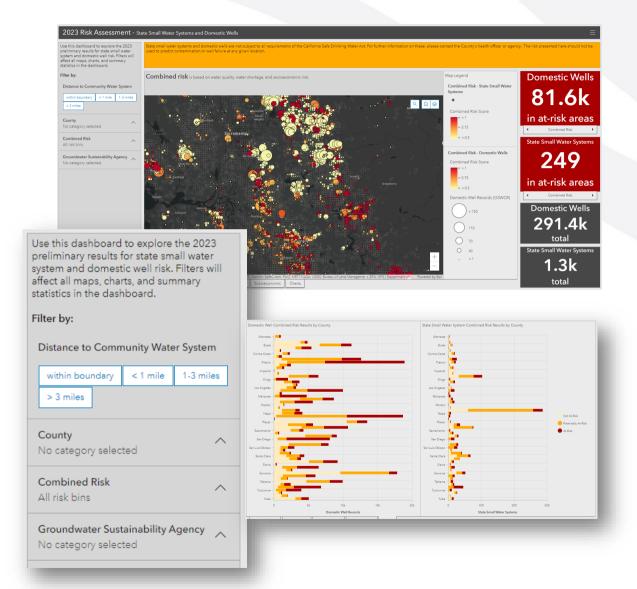
### **CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS**

# 2023 Risk Assessment Results for State Small Water Systems & Domestic Wells

Systems	At-Risk	Potentially At-Risk	Not At-Risk
State Small Water Systems	245 (19%)	620 (48%)	432 (33%)
Domestic Wells	81,588 (28%)	103,986 (36%)	105,827 (36%)



# **Explore the Data: NEW Dashboard**



### Explore the Dashboard: <u>https://bit.ly/RA-</u> Dashboard-23

### **New Dashboard Features:**

- Well density bubble to better identify well locations
- New filters:
  - Distance to nearby community water system
  - County
  - Risk level
  - Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- Dashboard updates summary of At-Risk systems when filters are applied.
- User tabs to explore different risk categories

### CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS

# **Distance to Nearest Community Water System**

**New Dashboard Feature**: Distance to existing community water systems is important for planning how to mitigate risk, because after a well has gone dry or experiencing water quality issues, it can take a considerable amount of time for a long-term solution to be implemented.

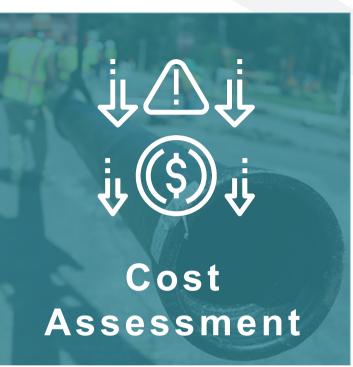
Distance to Nearest Community Water System	At-Risk State Small Water Systems	At-Risk Domestic Wells
Within boundary	81 (33%)	14,675 (18%)
< 1 mile	99 (40%)	26,579 (33%)
1 – 3 miles	39 (16%)	22,424 (27%)
> 3 miles	26 (11%)	17,910 (22%)

### **CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS**

# **Cost Assessment Update**







Failing & At-Risk Systems and Domestic Wells

# **Cost Assessment**

**2021:** Conducted a full **Cost Assessment** for Failing and At-Risk community water systems, SSWSs, and domestic wells working with contractors.

**2022:** Conducted a **Drought Infrastructure Cost Assessment** in response to stakeholder feedback and the need to support SB 552 planning.

**2023-24:** State Water Board is **re-building** the Cost Assessment Model to update cost assumptions, decision criteria & incorporate drought infrastructure needs.

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Re-build will take 2 years, updated Cost Assessment results expected for <u>2024</u> Needs Assessment Report.

# **2023 Cost Assessment Workshops**

The State Water Board will be hosting at least three public workshops in 2023 to solicit public and stakeholder feedback on the proposed enhancements to the Cost Assessment.

These three workshops will cover the following:

- 1. Physical consolidation GIS analysis and cost assumptions.
- 2. Modeled treatment methodologies and cost assumptions.
- 3. Complementary long-term solutions and emergency solutions cost assumptions.

# Affordability Assessment Results



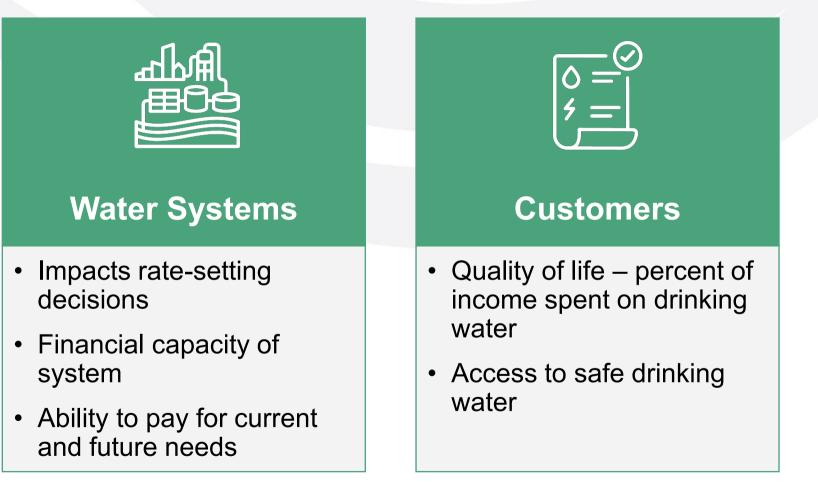


# **Why Measuring Affordability Matters**



## State & Federal Gov.

- Funding eligibilities: Grant vs. Loan
- Prioritization for & access to technical assistance
- Fee waivers

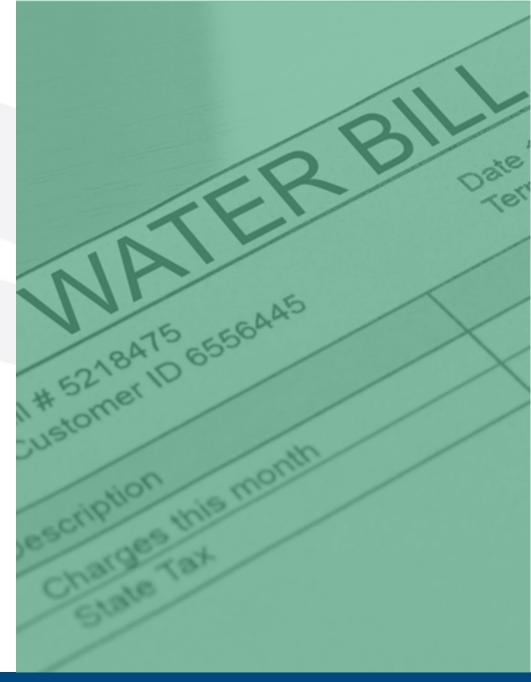


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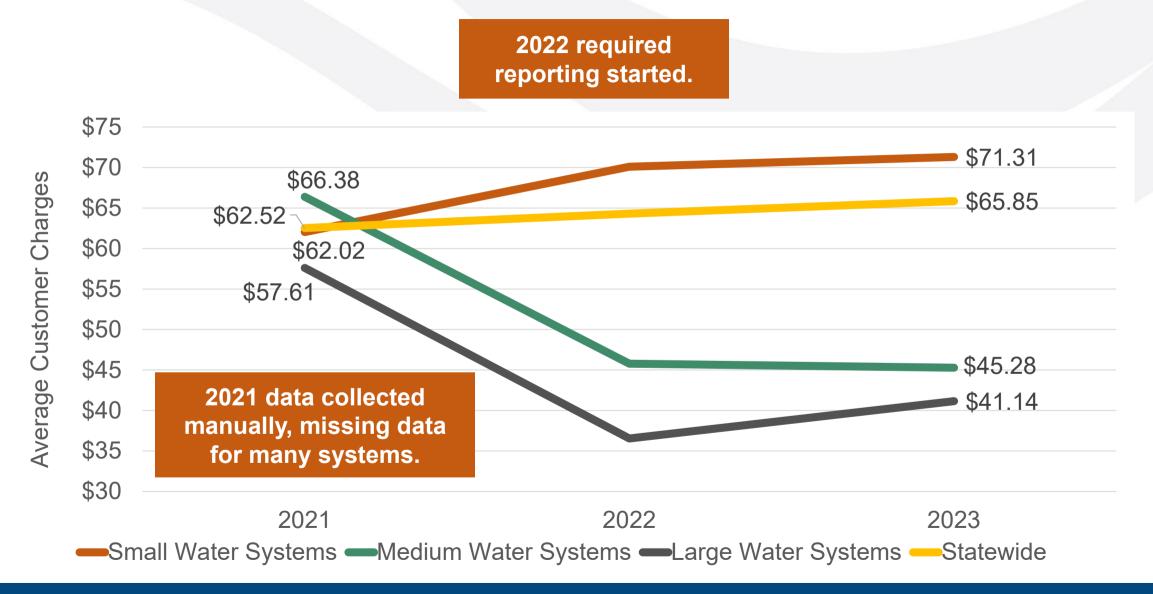
# **Affordability Assessment Purpose**

Identify disadvantaged community water systems, that have instituted customer charges that exceed the "Affordability Threshold."

Legislation does not define what the Affordability Threshold should be. The State Water Board is working with partners to develop an approach for defining what the Affordability Threshold should be.



# **Average Monthly Residential Customer Charges for 6 HCF**



**CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS** 

# Community Water Systems | Affordability Assessment Indicators

2020	2021	2022	2023		
% Median Household Income	% Median Household Income	% Median Household Income	% Median Household Income		
	Extreme Water Bill	Extreme Water Bill	Extreme Water Bill		
	% Shut-Offs	% Shut-Offs	% of Residential		
		% of Residential	Arrearages		
		Arrearages	<b>Residential Arrearage</b>		
		Residential Arrearage	Burden		
		Burden	Poverty & Housing Burden = " <mark>Household</mark> Socioeconomic		

#### **CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS**

#### SAFER PROGRAM

Burden"

# Affordability Assessment Results by DAC/SDAC SAFER Status

Community Status	Total Systems	High Affordability Burden	Medium Affordability Burden	Low Affordability Burden	None
DAC/SDAC	1,483	75 (5%)	246 (17%)	889 (60%)	272 (18%)
Non-DAC	1,347	19 (1%)	107 (8%)	394 (29%)	828 (61%)
Missing DAC Status	15	0 (0%)	1 (7%)	8 (53%)	6 (40%)
TOTAL:	2,845	94 (3%)	354 (12%)	1,291 (45%)	1,106 (39%)

High: 3 indicator thresholds metMedium: 2 indicator thresholds metLow: 1 indicator threshold met



# Next steps



# **Immediate Next Steps**

- Water system data change requests:
  - <u>https://bit.ly/SAFER-NA-DataChangeRequest-23</u>
- General feedback on the Needs Assessment results and methodologies:
  - 2023 Drinking Water Needs Assessment: <u>https://bit.ly/SAFER-NA-Report-23</u>

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- Submit feedback to: <u>SAFER@waterboards.ca.gov</u>
- Please submit feedback on the report by 06.02.2023

# **Tribal Drinking Water Needs**

- The State Water Board is working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to identify tribal water systems that are failing.
  - Information about these systems should be released by the Summer 2023.
- The State Water Board is also undertaking an effort to better understand the needs of tribal systems not regulated by the U.S.
   EPA. More information will be shared soon on this effort.



#### SAFER PROGRAM

# Tribal Drinking Water Funding Gaps and Opportunities

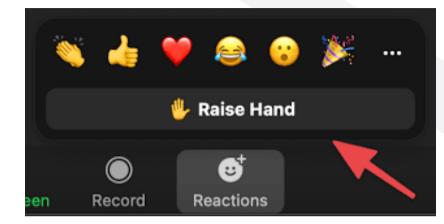
The State Water Board is collaborating with its partners to better understand the funding gaps and opportunities for tribal water systems.

More information about this effort will be released by Summer 2023.



#### **CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS**

# **Draft Needs Assessment Discussion**





#### **Computer Screen**

- To speak, please select 'Raise Hand'.
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## **Needs Assessment Discussion Questions**

#### Failing Systems

We're starting to see more systems staying on the Failing list for longer periods of time. How should these systems be prioritized for assistance and funding?

# Program Goals and<br/>OutcomesHow should the SAFER program utilize the Risk Assessment and<br/>demographic data in defining program goals and outcomes?





# Funding Process for Operations & Maintenance

# **Jeff Wetzel** Division of Financial Assistance



# **Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Program**

- The Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23 Fund Expenditure Plan (FEP):
  - Targeted \$5 million towards direct O&M
  - Included new priority to provide direct O&M support to assist Community Water Systems (CWS) facing the highest affordability burdens while promoting sustainability and technical, managerial, and financial (TMF) capacity building.
- O&M Program goal is to:
  - Support water affordability
  - Improve system sustainability
- The O&M Program will be implemented via the:
  - Development of a standardized administrative approach to distribute funds efficiently

- Distribution of O&M funding for voluntary consolidations
- Distribution of interim O&M funding for water systems that will be or have been appointed an administrator.

# **Proposed O&M Program Funding Approach** (Guidelines Pending) Tier 1 - Statewide Prioritization

- Streamlined solicitation process with template funding agreements, and program conditions/requirements
- Purpose of O&M support:
  - To lower water rates for systems with high rates down to 2.5% of the community's Median Household Income (MHI)
  - $_{\odot}$  Assist system in establishing an operating reserve account
  - System requirements to receive funding will be included in the O&M Program Guidelines and as conditions within each funding agreement

# **Prioritizing Tier 1 Projects**

- For first year of implementation (FY 2023-24), expected that existing SAFER Program staff can effectively manage approximately 30 new O&M funding agreements (each with a 3-year term).
- Prioritization scenarios for awarding the first phase of direct O&M Tier 1-Statewide Prioritization projects are being evaluated
- Primary eligibility criteria:
  - Small DAC/SDAC water systems with water rates above 2.5% of the community's MHI

• Have a high affordability burden per the 2023 Affordability Assessment

• May include further prioritization based on failing status, at-risk or potentially atrisk of failing according to the 2023 Needs Assessment

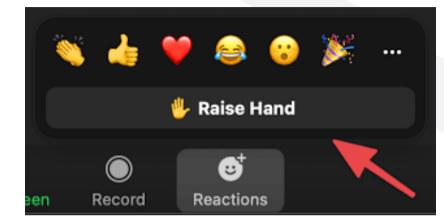
# **Proposed O&M Program Funding Approach** (Guidelines Pending) Tier 2 - Case-by-Case

- Individual requests can continue to be considered for O&M funding on a case-bycase basis
- Potential examples:
  - Small DAC/SDAC water systems with existing debt burdens
  - Small DAC/SDAC water systems where revenue collected is less than the operational costs and water service is likely to discontinue due to the revenue shortfall
  - Non-transient, non-community water systems owned by a K-12 public school district
  - Small DAC/SDAC water systems owned by California Native American Tribes that can demonstrate an O&M assistance need

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 Other small DAC/SDAC systems facing unique affordability challenges that are not part of the initial round of Tier 1 systems

# **Operation & Maintenance Q&A**





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# Draft Priorities for the Fund Expenditure Plan

# **Jeff Wetzel** Division of Financial Assistance

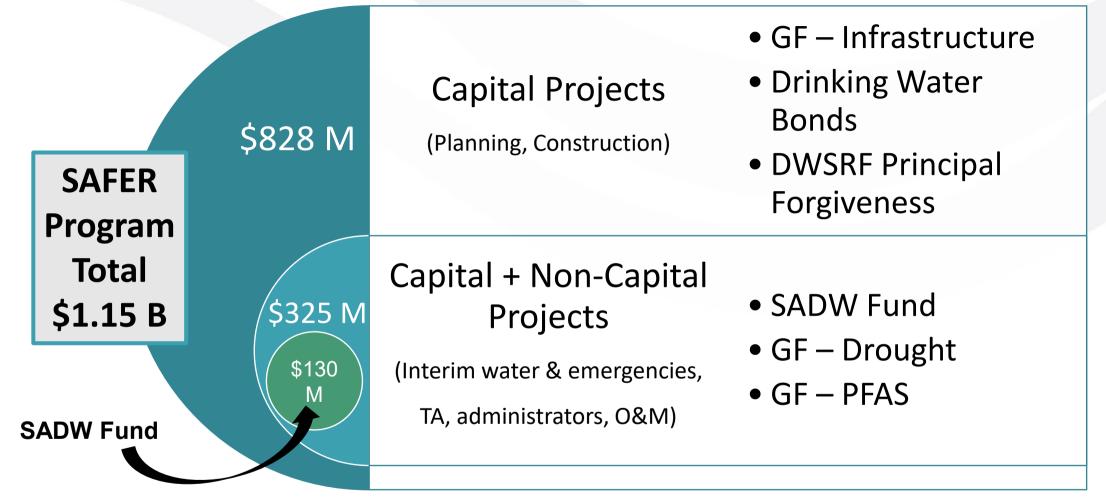


## 2022-23 Priorities (focus on small DACs and low-income households)

*	Emergency funding needs
<del>بـ</del>	Water systems that are consistently out of compliance with primary drinking water standards
3,11	Accelerate consolidations and regional-scale planning for consolidations
(?)	Expedite planning through use of technical assistance
	Interim solutions and planning for long-term solutions for state smalls and domestic wells
·	Provide direct operation and maintenance support to water systems with the highest affordability burdens
İİ	Ensure assistance is distributed consistent with the State Water Board's Racial Equity Resolution

#### **CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS**

# FY 2022-23 SAFER Program Anticipated Available Funding



**GF** – General Fund **TA** – Technical Assistance **DWSRF** – Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

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#### CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS

PFAS – Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances
SADW Fund – Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund
O&M – Operation and Maintenance

# <sup>54</sup> FY 2022-23 SAFER Program Performance (through March 31, 2023)

	Water Systems (Communities / Schools)	Households	No. of Connections Benefiting	No. of People Benefiting	Total Assistance Provided	FY 2022-23 Goal
Interim Assistance	104	1,573	1,453	42,793	\$4.4 M	50 communities
Technical Assistance (TA) Projects	67 (10 planning via TA)		29,327	89,143	\$3.3 M	100
Planning Projects	26		11,067	33,272	\$14.5 M	10
Construction Projects*	60 (56)		1.4 M (217,456)	3.7 M (240,989)	\$505.8 M (\$364.4 M)	30

\* Numbers in parentheses for construction projects reflect primarily grant funded projects in Office of Sustainable Water Solutions (OSWS) benefitting primarily small DACs or low-income households, the other construction projects are primarily loans for other system types. The work in other categories above is solely through OSWS and benefitting primarily small DACs or low-income households.

#### **CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS**

# SAFER Highlights FY 2022-23 1/2

- Expedited Drinking Water Grant Program (EDWG) Guidelines adopted, first EDWG agreements anticipated to be executed late summer 2023
- General Fund drought contingency grant funds (CA Emergency Relief Fund, \$50 M) committed to projects
- Project-specific Administrator funding provided in support of 4 systems designated for Administrator services (\$1.5 M)
- Added \$15 M to Master Administrator Agreement with Provost and Prichard to significantly increase Administrator services statewide
- Committed funding to 5 Master Technical Assistance (TA) agreements with new TA Providers (~\$56 M total)

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• Developing guidelines for Direct O&M Assistance

# SAFER Highlights FY 2022-23 2/2

- Working with 4 counties towards executed funding agreements (\$7.1 M) to assist those served by state smalls and domestic wells with drought and water quality needs
- Established a Funding Partner that will support local community groups and develop community and household level outreach and engagement tools that can be applied statewide
- Committed funding to 5 projects (\$1.8 M) to complete long-term solutions through the Urgent Drinking Water Needs process
- Additional program data and metrics being compiled for incorporation into the FY 2023-24 FEP and publication on the web

#### FY 2022-23 SADW Fund Commitments (in millions) (\$ committed/ (\$ target)

	Solution Type						
Water System Category	Interim Water Supplies and Emergencies	Technical Assistance (includes Planning)	Administrator	Planning	Direct O&M Support	Construction	
Systems Out of Compliance or At-Risk	\$2.4/ (\$5)		\$15.5/ <i>(\$5)</i>	<b>\$0/</b> (\$3)	\$1.4/ (\$5)	\$3.9/ (\$5)	
Other Systems	\$1.4	\$78/ (\$70)	\$0	\$0	\$0.2	\$0.8	
State Smalls/ Domestic Wells	\$13.6/ (\$13.3)	(\$1.5)	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0/</b> (\$5)	
Reserved for Needs Prior to FY 2023-24 FEP	\$46.2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
SUBTOTAL BY SOLUTION TYPE	\$17.4/ (\$18.3)	\$78/ (\$70)	\$15.5/ (\$5)	<b>\$0/</b> (\$3)	\$1.6/ (\$5)	\$4.7/ (\$10)	
					TOTAL	\$117.2 (\$111.3)	
Other Program Needs (Reserved)	Pilot Projects	Contracts	Staff Costs				
	\$0/(\$3.2)	\$0/(\$1.5)	\$14/ <i>(\$14)</i>				
				GRA	ND TOTAL	\$177.4	

#### CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS

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# Key Draft Concepts for SADW FEP FY 2023-24 (Under Consideration/Development)

- Continued promotion of opportunities for regional planning
- Continued emphasis on funding construction projects through the Urgent Drinking Water Needs process to provide long-term solutions where feasible, especially consolidations
- Significantly increase the number of systems receiving Administrator support (estimate at least 15 additional systems by end of FY 2023-24)
- Development of streamlined approach to provide direct O&M assistance to public water systems with high water rates, and begin executing the O&M grant agreements
- Continued funding for emergency and urgent drinking water needs for public water systems working on long-term solutions
- Promotion of county-wide and regional programs for communities served by state small water systems and domestic wells considered to be at risk of contamination and/or are impacted by drought

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• More robust metrics

## **DISCUSSION: FY 2023-24 SADW Fund Proposed Targets (in millions)**

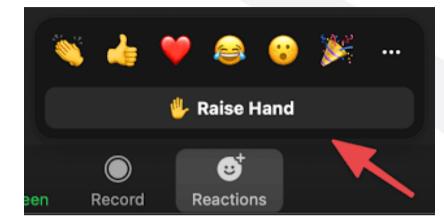
	Solution Type							
Water System Category	Interim Water Supplies and Emergencies	Technical Assistance (includes Planning)	Administrator	Planning	Direct O&M Support	Construction		
Systems Out of Compliance, At-Risk, or Consolidations	\$5	\$15	\$30	\$3	\$20	\$20		
State Smalls/ Domestic Wells	\$10.5		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10		
Uncommitted from Prior FYs	(\$46.2)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
SUBTOTAL BY SOLUTION TYPE	\$15.5 (\$61.7)	\$15	\$30	\$3	\$20	\$30		
				PROJECT TOTAL \$113.5 (\$159.7)				
Other Program Needs (Reserved)	Pilot Projects	Contracts	Staff Costs					
	\$0	\$1.5	\$15					
				GR/	AND TOTAL	. \$130 (\$176.2)		
CALIFORNIA WATER		SAFER PROGRAM						

# **Timeline for FY 2023-24 SADW FEP Adoption**

- June/July 2023: Internal reviews
- July/August 2023: Draft for public comment
  - $\circ$  Board Workshop
  - Discuss with Advisory Group
- September 2023: Response to comments
- October 2023: Board consideration



# **Fund Expenditure Plan Q&A**





#### **Computer Screen**

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# BREAK



# Breakout Session Draft Priorities for the Fund Expenditure Plan



# **Discussion Questions - Breakout Group**

#### **Priorities**

Based on what you've learned from the 2023 Needs Assessment, what priorities for funding need to be changed for this year?

#### Funding Targets

What water system categories or solution types should we increase or reduce funding?

#### O&M Funding

Regarding the earlier O&M funding proposal, should there be a difference in priority of Failing vs. At-Risk, or Potentially At-Risk status? If so, why? Are there other opportunities to strengthen the guidelines for O&M funding proposals?

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# Share Back Session: Draft Priorities for the Fund Expenditure Plan

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# **Main Room Share Back**

## **Draft Priorities for the Fund Expenditure Plan:**

- 1. Based on what you've learned from the 2023 Needs Assessment, what priorities for funding need to be changed for this year?
- 2. What water system categories or solution types should we increase or reduce funding?
- 3. Regarding the O&M funding proposal, should there be a difference in priority of Failing vs. At-Risk, or Potentially At-Risk status? If so, why? Are there other opportunities to strengthen the guidelines for O&M funding proposals?



# LUNCH



# **SAFER Website Revamp**

# Alisha O'Loughlin Office of Public Participation



# **SAFER Homepage Revamp: Top of page**

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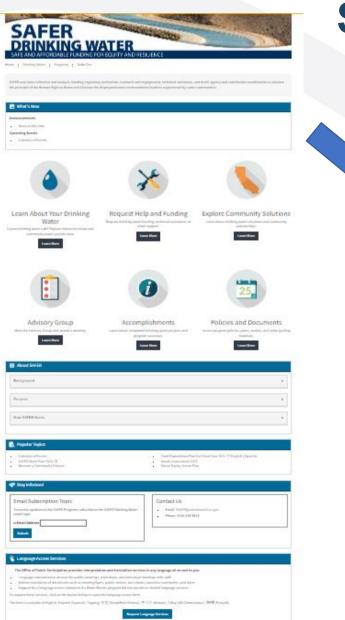
SAFER uses data collection and analysis, funding, regulatory authorities, outreach and engagement, technical assistance, and multi-agency and stakeholder coordination to advance the principle of the Human Right to Water and alleviate the disproportionate environmental burdens experienced by some communities.

#### **CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS**

#### SAFER PROGRAM

SAFER

DRINKING WATER

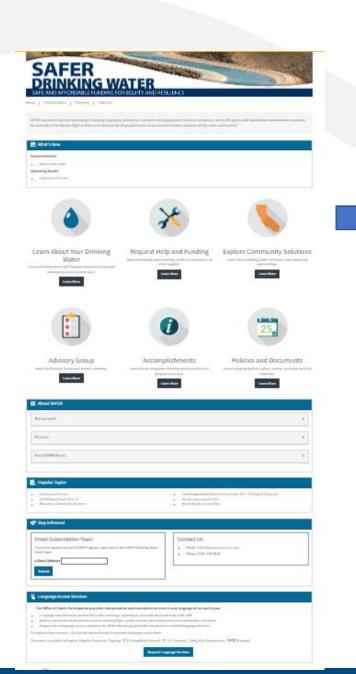


**CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS** 

# **SAFER Homepage Revamp: What's New**

What's New

- Announcements
- Upcoming Events



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# **SAFER Homepage Revamp: Buttons 1/2**

# **Category Buttons**

# 1. Learn About Your Drinking Water

Is your drinking water safe? Explore interactive maps and community water systems data.

## 2. Request Help and Funding

Request drinking water funding, technical assistance, or other support.

## 3. Explore Community Solutions

Learn about drinking water solutions and community partnerships.

#### CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS

# SAFER **RINKING WATER**

# **SAFER Homepage Revamp: Buttons 2/2**

## **Category Buttons (cont.)**

4. Advisory Group

Meet the Advisory Group and attend a meeting.

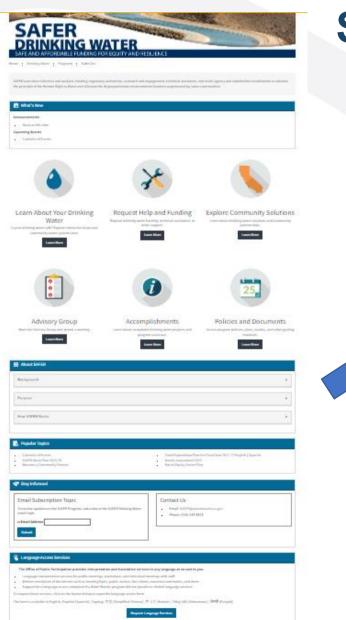
## **5. Accomplishments**

Learn about completed drinking water projects and program successes.

## 6. Policies and Documents

Access program policies, plans, studies, and other guiding materials.

#### **CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS**

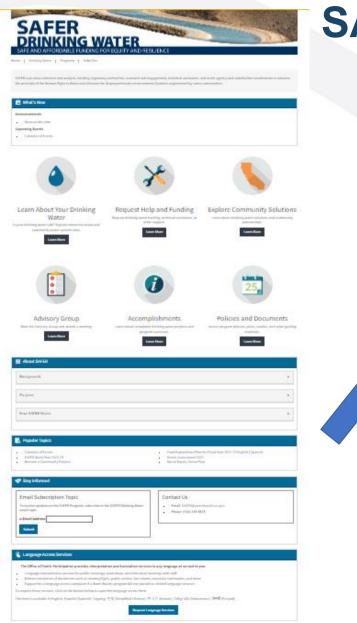


**CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS** 

# SAFER Homepage Revamp: About SAFER

**About SAFER:** 

- 1. Background.
- 2. Purpose
- 3. How SAFER Works

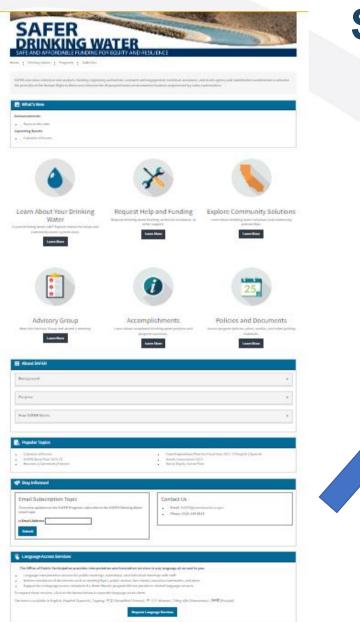


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# **SAFER Homepage Revamp: Popular Topic**

# **Popular Topics:**

- SAFER Work Plan 2023-25
- Become a Community
  - Partner
- Needs Assessment 2023
- Racial Equity Action Plan



# **SAFER Homepage Revamp: Stay Informed**

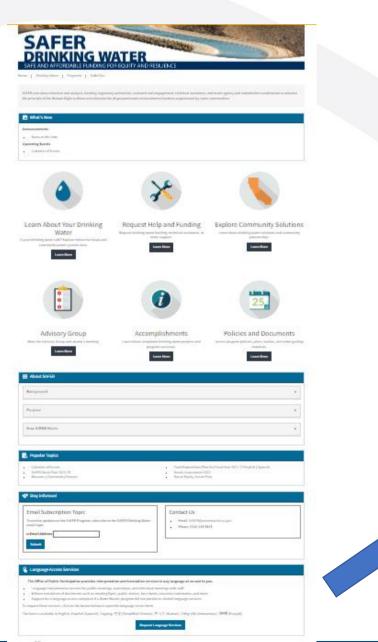
# **Stay Informed:**

Sign up for email updates to learn about SAFER activities and ways to participate.

 Attend Board meetings and workshops: link to calendar of events

SAFER PROGRAM

• Sign up on mailing list



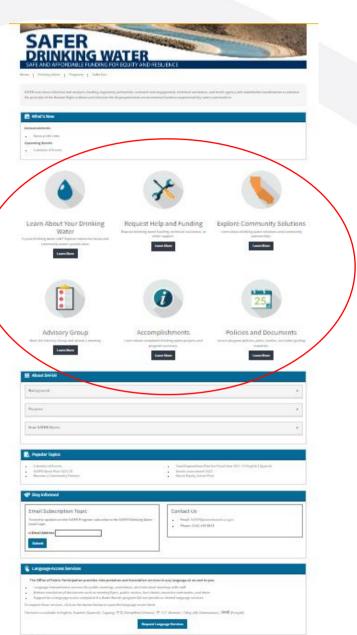
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# SAFER Homepage Revamp: Language Access Services

# Language Access Services:



Instructions for the public to request language access services.



# SAFER Website Revamp: Button Categories

#### 1. Learn About Your Drinking Water

Is your drinking water safe? Explore interactive maps and community water systems data.

#### 2. Request Help and Funding

Request drinking water funding, technical assistance, or other support.

#### **3. Explore Community Solutions**

Learn about drinking water solutions and community partnerships.

#### 4. Advisory Group

Meet the Advisory Group and attend a meeting.

#### 5. Accomplishments

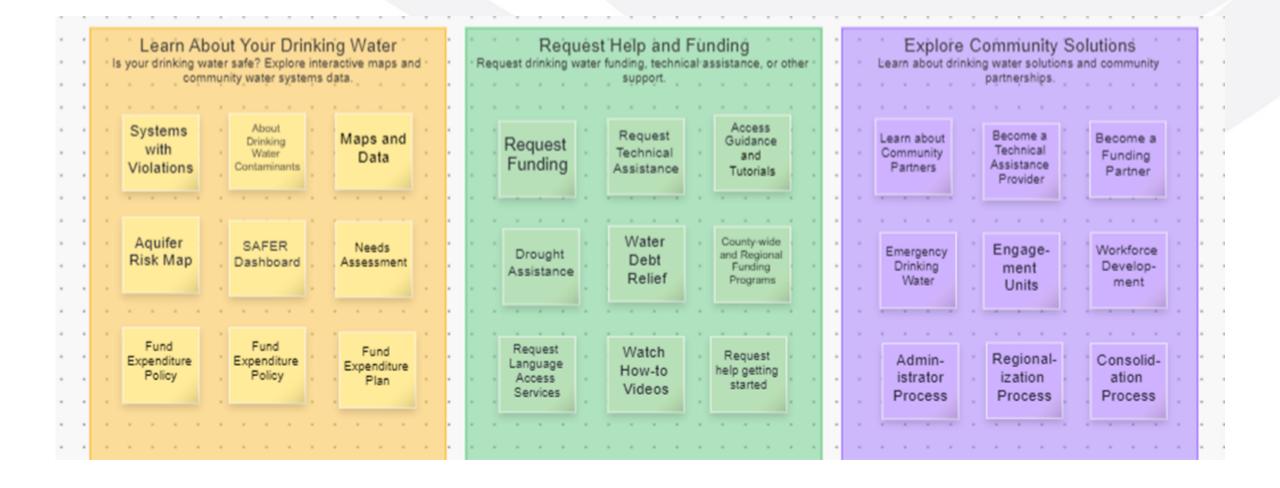
Learn about completed drinking water projects and program successes

#### 6. Policies and Documents

Access program policies, plans, studies, and other guiding materials.

## **CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS**

Zoom Whiteboard: SAFER Homepage Sorting Exercise



# **Popular Search Topics – SAFER Website Revamp**

# **Examples**:

- Maps
- Data
- Systems with Violations
- Needs Assessment
- Community Partners
- Request Technical Assistance
- Request Funding
- Become a Technical Assistance Provider

- Appointment of Administrator
- Advisory Group
- Accomplishments
- Current and Past Projects
- Reporting, Compliance, and Assistance
- Consolidation
- Regionalization

## **CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS**

# **Discussion Questions – SAFER Website Revamp**

Call-out Boxes

Do the buttons proposed make sense and accurately capture the six main categories of information that visitors will be looking for?

User-experience

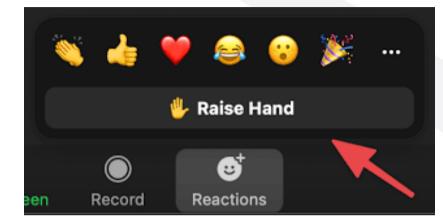
Are there overall features that would improve the website, such as better use of graphics or plain language?

**Priorities** 

Which SAFER related webpages or topics should be prioritized first for updating?

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# **SAFER Revamp Discussion**



# 

#### **Computer Screen**

- To speak, please select 'Raise Hand'.
- A hand will appear next to your initials used for the meeting. We call your name.

## **Phone Instructions**

- Select \*9 to raise hand.
- We will ask you to unmute
- Select \*6 to mute or unmute

Comment or technical assistance? Please email:

safer@waterboards.ca.gov

SAFER PROGRAM

# **SAFER Program Updates**



# **SAFER Program Updates**

# SAFER Program Accomplishments

# **SAFER** Timeline

Administrator Policy Handbook

# Legislation

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# **2023 Tentative SAFER Timeline**

Мау	July	September	November
June	August	October	December
<ul> <li>May 2: Release of Needs Assessment</li> <li>May 2: Needs Assessment Webinar</li> <li>May 24: Advisory Group Meeting #2</li> <li>June 14: SAFER Administrator Policy Handbook Workshop</li> <li>June 20: Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan Workshop</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>July TBD: O&amp;M Funding Workshop</li> <li>July 18: Board considers adoption of Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan</li> <li>July 31: Release of Draft FEP</li> <li>August 1: Advisory Group member application period opens</li> <li>August 16: FEP Workshop</li> <li>August 24: Advisory Group #3</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>September 30: Advisory Group Application window closes</li> <li>October 3: Board considers adoption of FY 2023/24FEP</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>December</li> <li>Specific Advisory Group Meeting #4</li> <li>Specific Advisory Group Meeting Advisory Group Meeting Advisory Advisory Advisory Advisory Meeting Advisory Advisory Advisory Meeting Advisory Advisory Meeting Advisory Meet</li></ul>
	<ul> <li>August 30: AG application Workshop</li> </ul>		
CALIFORNIA WATER	BOARDS		SAFER PROGRAM

# Advisory Group Member Announcements



# **Advisory Group Member Announcements**

- Project/Event title
- Timeline/Event date
- Purpose/Objective
- Next steps
- Please limit 3 minutes per announcement



# **Public Comments**



# **Public Comments**

- 1. Email Comment to safer@waterboards.ca.gov.
- 2. Follow instructions in the return email to join Zoom.
- 3. Wait to be called on. Speaking time is limited to 3 minutes
- 4. Technical or language assistance, email <u>safer@waterboards.ca.gov</u>.

# **Closing Remarks and Next Steps**



# Adjourn

**Thank you!** 

# safer@waterboards.ca.gov 916-445-5615

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