



# Inspection Trip Program Update

Communications and Legislation Committee

Item 6-c

April 11, 2016

# Authorization and Purpose

- Admin Code Sections 2610 – 2615
- Inform and educate on water issues and MWD's operations, programs, and objectives
  - Elected and appointed officials
  - Business and environmental communities
  - Media
  - Leading citizens and interested persons
- Visual inspection of District and related facilities



# Participants

- Directors select trips, invite guests
- No minor children



# Inspection Trip Options

## ● CRA

- 3 day
- Standard, Agricultural, Hoover\*

## ● SWP\*

- 2 or 3 day
- Standard, Agricultural (Sacramento or Los Banos)

## ● Southern California

- 1 day
- Diamond Valley Lake, So Calif SWP, Water Treatment and Storage Infrastructure, Water Resources, Environmental Stewardship



*\*CRA-Hoover and SWP require written request and Chairman's approval*

# Improving Educational Value

- Trip planning with director and member agency
- Web portals
  - Member agencies
  - Guests
- Post-trip evaluations
- MWD E-news, social media
- Alumni events



# Gift of Travel

- California Political Reform Act
  - Government Code Sections 81000 – 91014
- Fair Political Practices Commission
  - CA Code of Regulations, Division 6, Title 2, Sections 18110-18997
- FPPC Informal Assistance
  - Guests should consult with their legal advisors

# Travel Costs - Directors

- Travel expenses for directors and personal guests
  - Not reportable
  - Not subject to annual gift limit



# Reportable Travel Costs - Guests

- Local public officials
  - Reportable (exceptions on a case-by-case basis)
  - Must be considered when determining conflict of interest
  - Not subject to annual gift limits
- Companion of a local official
  - Considered gift **to public official**
  - Reportable
  - Must be considered when determining conflict of interest
  - Subject to annual gift limits

# Receiving Gift of Travel - Guests

- Timeline
  1. Invitation extended to public official
  2. Public official accepts invitation
  3. Public official begins travel
- Gift accepted when official accepts invitation (#2) and then considers a decision affecting MWD prior to travel
  - May be disqualified from acting if exceeds gift limit
- Otherwise, gift accepted when travel begins (#3)

# Receiving Gift of Travel - Guests

- 30 day period for disclosure or paying down value
- Gift in excess of gift limits creates conflict if promised or accepted by official within 12 months prior to time decision is made



# FY 2016/17 Inspection Trip Season



