



A Note from WSSC Water's Intergovernmental Relations Office (IRO):

The Maryland General Assembly began its 444th Legislative Session January 12, 2022. Delegate Adrienne Jones and Senator Bill Ferguson were re-elected to serve as the presiding officers of their respective chambers. While the State House, and House and Senate Office Buildings are open to the public, the majority of the legislature's work, except floor sessions, will be conducted virtually due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. On February 14th, the Senate is tentatively scheduled to begin in-person committee hearings with public participation for the first time in over 2 years. Heading into the upcoming election year, the major topics for the Session will include: legislative redistricting; assistance for residents and businesses impacted by the pandemic; cannabis reform; and climate change.

WSSC Water's **Intergovernmental Relations Office (IRO)** is on the front-line advocating for legislation that impacts our work. **IRO** covers a variety of subject matters and focuses on legislation that helps WSSC Water fulfill our mission to provide safe and reliable water, life's most precious resource, and return clean water to our environment, all in an ethical, sustainable, and financially responsible manner.

The Annapolis Observer is **IRO's** weekly update on happenings in Annapolis and highlights the progress of key bills of interest to WSSC Water, as well as provide timely updates and calendar of important dates.

Legislative Updates

On January 14th, the Montgomery County House Delegation voted unanimously to pass PG/MC 105-22 *Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission – Minority Business Enterprise Utilization Program – Termination Extension* and PG/MC 106-22 *Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission - Hiring and Promotion Preferences - Veterans and Their Spouses*, Favorable.

These bills now move to the Prince George's County House Delegation for consideration.

Find the status and position on WSSC Water-related bills in our [Legislative Update](#).

Around WSSC Water

WSSC Water January Commission Meeting

The monthly Commission meeting will be Wednesday, January 19, 2022 starting at 10 a.m. Access the link and agenda [here](#).

The meeting will be [virtual](#); however, interested stakeholders can provide input during the public comment portion of the meeting by calling in: (240) 800-7929. **Conference ID:** 516 434 9#. The public comment period will start shortly after 10 a.m.

WSSC Water FY 2023 Preliminary Proposed Budget Public Hearings

WSSC Water will hold public hearings on February 2nd and 3rd at 7 p.m. to receive comments on our \$1.59 billion preliminary proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 operating and

capital budget. This budget details the projects and initiatives we plan to undertake that will enable us to deliver safe, seamless and satisfying water services to our neighbors in Montgomery and Prince George's counties.

For instructions on how to view or participate virtually in the hearings, visit wsscwater.com/fin. Please contact WSSC Water as soon as possible at 301-206-8100 if your attendance at any of these hearings will require an accommodation under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The formal budget document can be found at wsscwater.com/budget.

Written comments can be submitted to BudgetGroup@wsscwater.com, or mailed to Budget Division Manager, WSSC Water, 14501 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel, MD 20707 by February 15, 2022. The proposed budget must be submitted to both the Prince George's and Montgomery County Councils by March 1, 2022.

Calendar

- **January 20, 2022** – Prince George's County Bi-County Committee at 9 am
- **January 21, 2022** – Prince George's County House Delegation at 9 am and Montgomery House Delegation at 9:30 am
- **March 21, 2022** – Crossover
- **April 11, 2022** – Sine Die

Related Links

[Maryland General Assembly](#)

- [Session Calendar \(PDF\)](#)
- [Track Legislation](#)

[Montgomery County Delegation](#)

[Prince George's County Delegation](#)

[Maryland Association of Counties](#)

[Maryland Municipal League](#)

Customer Assistance

WSSC Water has enhanced our financial assistance programs to help even more customers. Learn more at [WSSC Water's Customer Assistance Programs](#).

CUSTOMER ADVOCATES:

Our Customer Advocates are in your communities every day, carrying out their mission to serve as liaisons between you and WSSC Water, and ensuring that we are providing a high level of customer service.

Northern Prince George's County (areas north of Central Avenue, MD 214)

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Find your Customer Advocate [here](#).

About IRO

WSSC Water's **Intergovernmental Relations Office (IRO)** team works to promote the *value of water* and the *value of WSSC Water*, engage *federal, state, county and local government* and elected stakeholders and advocate for WSSC Water's strategic interests and priorities; and foster *relationships* with organizations and promote collaborative interests.

In Annapolis, the **IRO** team works with members to support administratively and fiscally responsible legislation, in addition to championing policy that benefits all water utilities throughout Maryland. WSSC Water is committed to increased statewide investment in water and wastewater infrastructure and sound regulatory initiatives.

Meet the IRO Team

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Please click [here](#) for a printable sheet of our key contacts.



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For over 100 years, WSSC Water has proudly served the citizens of Prince George's and Montgomery counties – providing drinking water that has always met strict Safe Drinking Water Act standards and

