



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Press Release

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MWRD Board of Commissioners visits IL General Assembly, thanks members for continued support



MWRD Commissioners pause with the Abraham Lincoln statue before entering the Illinois State Capitol. (L-R): Commissioner Josina Morita, Vice President Barbara McGowan, Martin Durkan, President Mariyana Spyropoulos, Kari K. Steele, Debra Shore and Chairman of Finance Frank Avila. (Not pictured: Commissioner David Walsh).

The MWRD Board of Commissioners visited with leaders and legislators in Springfield, IL recently to bring their thanks to the General Assembly for their many years of support.

President Mariyana Spyropoulos, Vice President Barbara McGowan, Chairman of Finance Frank Avila and Commissioners Martin Durkan, Josina Morita, Debra Shore, Kari K. Steele, and David Walsh expressed their gratitude to the lead-



MWRD Commissioners meet with Speaker Michael Madigan (center) and thanked him for his leadership and support over the past decade.



MWRD Commissioners gather with Senate Minority Leader Bill Brady (5th from right).

ers and members of the Illinois Senate and House of Representatives for allowing the MWRD to pursue initiatives that make the organization a leading water treatment agency that is admired and respected around the world.

“Over the past several years we have asked the General Assembly for modifications to our enabling legislation, and they have unanimously supported us,” said MWRD *(continued)*

MWRD Board of Commissioners visits IL General Assembly *(continued)*



MWRD Commissioners met with House Minority Leader Jim Durkin to thank the members for their support.



MWRD Commissioners with Senate President John Cullerton (4th from right).

President Mariyana Spyropoulos. “These changes help us serve the 5 million residents of Cook County.

For the past seven years, the MWRD’s legislative initiatives have garnered full support from both sides of the aisle. From pension reform to providing authority to work on local stormwater projects and engage in voluntary buyouts for flood-prone properties, to resource recovery authorization and recognition of exceptional quality biosolids as a soil amendment alternative, the support from the General Assembly has been immeasurable.

“As we look back over the past few years on the work we have been able to accomplish together, we felt it was im-



A view inside the rotunda at the Illinois State Capitol.

portant to thank the members of the General Assembly and to let them know how much we appreciate them,” said Vice President Barbara McGowan. “We feel truly thankful to have a policy-making body that understands our mission and provides us with the legislative tools we need to help the residents in our area.”

“Our legislators are an integral partner as we work to reduce flooding and transform water,” said Chairman of Finance Frank Avila. “We feel it is very important to visit our elected officials on an annual basis in Springfield to thank them and to update them on our work since it is through the General Assembly’s authority that we are able to engage in our activities.”

Recovering Resources, Transforming Water

Established in 1889, the MWRD (www.mwrd.org) is an award winning, special purpose government agency responsible for used water treatment and stormwater management in Cook County, Illinois.