



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**CASH Web-Shop**

Developer Impact Fee  
Justification: Master Plans  
& Documenting Capital  
Needs  
*December 14, 2023*

**CASH Maintenance &  
Operations Leadership  
Academy**

Applications Due  
*December 15, 2023*

**45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference  
on School Facilities**

*February 28 – March 1,  
2024  
Sacramento SAFE Credit  
Union Convention Center*

Visit the CASH website  
([www.cashnet.org](http://www.cashnet.org)) for  
more information and to  
register for these events!

**UPDATE**

**New Assembly Committee Chairs and Leadership**

Last week, Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas (D-Salinas) announced changes to his leadership team and new chairs for nearly all policy and fiscal committees. Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi (D-Torrance), lead author of AB 247, remains as chair of the Committee on Education. Assemblymember David Alvarez (D-San Diego) was appointed chair of Budget Subcommittee #3 on Education Finance. Muratsuchi is a former school board member, and Alvarez began his long career in public service working in an after-school program.

Similar changes in assignments are likely to come in the Senate, but first, there needs to be a transition from President Pro-Tempore Toni Atkins (D-San Diego) to President Pro-Tempore Elect Mike McGuire (D-Santa Rosa). No date has been announced for the transition. The Legislature resumes the second year of its two-year session on January 3, 2024.

**Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten, and Full-Day Kindergarten Facilities Grant Program – Round 4 Apportionments Complete**

On December 4, the State Allocation Board approved the final apportionments for Round 4 of the Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten, and Full-Day Kindergarten Facilities Grant Program (Program). This action included seven projects worth \$28.3 million, bringing the total apportionments for this round to 91 projects worth \$375.4 million. Round 4 was significantly oversubscribed; the Office of Public School Construction received 446 applications worth \$1.5 billion during the application submission period of February 1 – March 2, 2023.

As CASH turns toward FY 2024-25 budget advocacy, we will be asking policymakers to uphold their commitment to provide \$550 million for this vital program in the next budget. These funds were delayed by one year in the FY 2023-24 budget. While the revenue picture for the current year is murky due to Federal tax deadline extensions, we are prepared for a possible deficit in the coming year. This would make advocacy to maintain this critical Program funding even more important.

**Design-Build Sunset**

The authorization for K-12 schools to use the traditional Design-Build project delivery method sunsets on January 1, 2025. CASH is exploring options for legislation in 2024 to extend or eliminate the Design-Build sunset date. This would allow districts to continue utilizing traditional Design-Build in addition to the newly authorized alternative Design-Build method (also known as Progressive Design-Build) that was authorized in 2022. Stay tuned for more information in 2024. If your district or client uses and appreciates the Design-Build method, please reach out to share your experience with CASH Legislative Advocate Rebekah Kalleen ([rkalleen@m-w-h.com](mailto:rkalleen@m-w-h.com)).

**Preliminary Draft MS4 Storm Water Permit to be Released in December – Includes K-14 Schools**

On December 12, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) will release a



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preliminary draft MS4 stormwater permit, which includes K-14 schools. Under the preliminary draft permit, K-14 schools would be required to comply with many new requirements on their school sites, ranging from project design to program implementation to maintenance.

CASH and other education stakeholders that have reviewed this version of the draft to be released are concerned that, as currently drafted, the MS4 permit would have a significant cost impact for schools that are not recognized, as well as a significant impact on planning school construction, modernization, and maintenance projects. The CASH advocates have been meeting with SWRCB staff to raise these and other concerns about the proposed permit for K-14 schools. The CASH Environmental Committee met on November 28 to review the permit to determine specific cost and planning impacts to schools and will continue to meet to discuss the permit, as well as meet with SWRCB staff to continue to highlight the impact of the permit on K-14 schools.

As far as the next steps and anticipated timelines for implementation, after the SWRCB releases the draft preliminary MS4 language on December 12, they will take input from stakeholders, including schools, and then a public information hearing will be scheduled in the summer of 2024 which will allow official public comment. Look for more information at the CASH Statewide School Facilities Meetings, as well as at the CASH 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on School Facilities, February 28 – March 1, 2024.

**CASH Requests Flexibility Implementing All-Electric HVAC Heat Pump Requirement**

The California Energy Commission (CEC) is in the process of implementing the state requirement for all electric HVAC units as part of the State's climate change goals, which is a significant change as the majority of existing school HVAC units run on natural gas.

While CASH supports the move to all electric-powered HVAC units as a part of the greater effort, we believe that hybrid electric/gas HVAC units should be an option for schools where going all electric requires significant system upgrades and creates a greater electricity load.

Specifically, CASH and the CASH Maintenance Network (CMN) have submitted a letter to the CEC requesting that "Like hybrid car technology in the rapid transition from gas-powered to electric powered cars and school buses, we believe an electric/gas hybrid HVAC provides the same type of bridging option as we move to full electric, particularly for small and rural schools with old buildings and less resources."

You can read the full CASH and CMN letter to the CEC at

[https://cdn.ymaws.com/cashnet.org/resource/resmgr/resourcedocuments/2023\\_11\\_17\\_cash\\_cm\\_n\\_cec\\_lett.pdf](https://cdn.ymaws.com/cashnet.org/resource/resmgr/resourcedocuments/2023_11_17_cash_cm_n_cec_lett.pdf).

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