California’s Strategic Growth Council is meeting today for a public workshop on a variety of issues, including coordination of federal funds and programs and sustainable community planning. The council will also meet for a workshop on Tuesday, Sept. 8. Last year, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger created the cabinet-level council to coordinate the activities of state agencies on such topics as improving air and water quality, protecting natural resources and agriculture lands, assisting state and local entities plan sustainable communities, and helping those entities meet the goals of AB 32 (California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006). You can find more information on the council workshops here.

The public can comment on the first strategy to guide California’s efforts in adapting to climate change. There is a public comment period for 45 days from the Aug. 3 release of The 2009 California Climate Adaptation Strategy Discussion Draft. The draft summarizes the science on climate change threats in seven sectors (public health; biodiversity and habitat; ocean and coastal resources; water management; agriculture; forestry; and transportation and energy infrastructure) and recommends how to manage against those threats. Read more.

The Water Plan’s annual Plenary meeting will be held Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 14 and 15. For the Plenary meeting, a pre-final version of Update 2009 will be posted online, and the public is asked to comment. Meeting information and materials will be posted here.

The public has until Oct. 12 to comment on proposed changes to the State building standards related to dual plumbing design that will allow for potable and recycled water systems for buildings. You can find relevant links here. DWR is in the process of adopting the new standards in response to the governor’s drought declaration.