

WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS WITH MET DIRECTORS
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY
18700 Ward Street, Conference Room 101, Fountain Valley, California
November 6, 2024, 8:30 a.m.

Teleconference Sites:
25652 Paseo De La Paz, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
17420 Walnut Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

This meeting will be held in person at 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, California, 92708 (Conference Room 101). As a convenience for the public, the meeting may also be accessed by Zoom Webinar and will be available by either computer or telephone audio as indicated below. Because this is an in-person meeting and the Zoom component is not required, but rather is being offered as a convenience, if there are any technical issues during the meeting, this meeting will continue and will not be suspended.

Computer Audio: You can join the Zoom meeting by clicking on the following link:
<https://zoom.us/j/8828665300>

**Telephone Audio: (669) 900 9128 fees may apply
(877) 853 5247 Toll-free
Webinar ID: 882 866 5300#**

AGENDA

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/COMMENTS

At this time members of the public will be given an opportunity to address the Board concerning items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Members of the public may also address the Board about a particular Agenda item at the time it is considered by the Board and before action is taken.

The Board requests, but does not require, that members of the public who want to address the Board complete a voluntary "Request to be Heard" form available from the Board Secretary prior to the meeting.

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED

Determine need and take action to agendize item(s), which arose subsequent to the posting of the Agenda. (ROLL CALL VOTE: Adoption of this recommendation requires a two-thirds vote of the Board members present or, if less than two-thirds of the Board members are present a unanimous vote.)

ITEMS DISTRIBUTED TO THE BOARD LESS THAN 72 HOURS PRIOR TO MEETING

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt public records that relate to open session agenda items and are distributed to a majority of the Board less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection in the lobby of the District's business office located at 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, California 92708, during regular business hours. When practical, these public records will also be made available on the District's Internet Web site, accessible at <http://www.mwdoc.com>.

NEXT RESOLUTION NO. 2150

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. PRESENTATION ON THE STATE WATER PROJECT

Recommendation: Discuss and file the information presented.

2. ELECTION RESULTS SUMMARY (ORAL REPORT)

Recommendation: Receive and file report regarding the November 5, 2024 election results.

3. LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

- a. Federal Legislative Report (NRR)
- b. State Legislative Report (SDA)
- c. Legal and Regulatory Report (Ackerman)
- d. County Legislative Report (Whittingham)

Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.

4. QUESTIONS OR INPUT ON MET ISSUES FROM THE MEMBER AGENCIES/MET DIRECTOR REPORTS REGARDING MET COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

Recommendation: Receive input and discuss the information presented.

INFORMATION ITEMS

5. MET ITEMS CRITICAL TO ORANGE COUNTY (The following items are for informational purposes only – a write up on each item is included in the packet. Discussion is not necessary unless requested by a Director).

- a. MET’s Finance and Rate Issue
- b. MET’s Water Supply Condition Update
- c. MET’s Water Quality Update
- d. Colorado River Issues
- e. Delta Conveyance Activities and State Water Project Issues

Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.

6. METROPOLITAN (MET) BOARD AND COMMITTEE AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Summary regarding October MET Board Meeting
- b. Review items of significance for MET Board and Committee Agendas

Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.

ADJOURNMENT

Note: Accommodations for the Disabled. Any person may make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation needed for that person to be able to participate in the public meeting by telephoning Maribeth Goldsby, District Secretary, at (714) 963-3058, or writing to Municipal Water District of Orange County at P.O. Box 20895, Fountain Valley, CA 92728. Requests must specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested. A telephone number or other contact information should be included so that District staff may discuss appropriate arrangements. Persons requesting a disability-related accommodations should make the request with adequate time before the meeting for the District to provide the requested accommodations.



DISCUSSION ITEM

November 6, 2024

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Harvey De La Torre, General Manager

Staff Contact: Melissa Baum-Haley
Alex Heide

SUBJECT: PRESENTATION ON THE STATE WATER PROJECT

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Directors review and discuss this information.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

SUMMARY

The State Water Project (SWP) is a critical, cost-effective water source for the Metropolitan Water District (Metropolitan), providing up to 1.9 million acre-feet annually. Since 1972, Metropolitan has received 44.3 million acre-feet from SWP at an average cost of \$674 per acre-foot. However, climate and regulatory changes threaten SWP reliability, with a projected 23% reduction over the next 20 years. To address the degradation of reliability, the planning for the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) is underway, aiming to improve water quality, supply reliability, and seismic resilience.

Metropolitan has funded 47.2% of DCP planning through 2025 and will consider action in December 2024 for an additional \$142 million for the next phase of planning costs. Metropolitan staff have been invited to present an overview of the State Water Project to further inform the MWD OC Board ahead of the upcoming funding decision in December.

DETAILED REPORT

Overview of the State Water Project (SWP)

The State Water Project (SWP) serves as a foundational water supply for the Metropolitan Water District (Metropolitan) due to its cost-effectiveness, quantity of water supplied, and

Budgeted: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	Budgeted amount:	Core: <input type="checkbox"/>	Choice: <input type="checkbox"/>
Action item amount:	Movement between funds: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

long-term reliability. Through its SWP contract, Metropolitan has rights up to 1.9 million acre-feet of water annually, which enhances Metropolitan's ability to manage both drought and surplus conditions across its service area.

Since the SWP began operations in 1972, Metropolitan has received approximately 44.3 million acre-feet of water, averaging \$674 per acre-foot (in 2023 dollars). The SWP typically constitutes around 30% of Metropolitan's total water supply and constitutes one of Metropolitan's largest expenditures (approximately \$700 million annually).

Challenges to SWP Reliability

Over recent decades, regulatory changes and climate change have increasingly impacted the SWP's reliability. According to the Department of Water Resources (DWR), the most recent Delivery Capability Report projects a 23% reduction in SWP reliability over the next 20 years due to changing climate conditions.

To address these challenges, DWR has initiated the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP), a modernization initiative to enhance the climate resilience and water conveyance capabilities of the SWP through the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Benefits Of the Delta Conveyance Project

The DCP would provide additional operational flexibility that allows for additional water supply reliability. On average, this additional reliability would result in an additional 400 thousand acre-feet of SWP deliveries per year. Additionally, the relocation of the intake facilities from the southern delta to the northern Delta would significantly improve water quality and reduce salinity impairment. As part of the project, the new intakes and tunnels that would be constructed would significantly bolster the SWP's ability to withstand seismic events or levee failures.

Costs of the DCP and Cost/benefit Ratio

Earlier this year, the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority released an updated cost estimate for the DCP, which is \$20.1 billion in 2023 dollars. Utilizing the updated cost estimate, DWR prepared a benefit-cost analysis to evaluate the project's economic viability.

The analysis that DWR and the Berkeley Research Group conducted found that for every \$1 spent, approximately \$2.20 in benefits would be generated. To test the robustness of the benefit-cost ratio, the Berkeley Research Group produced several sensitivity analyses, all of which showed that the project's benefits significantly exceeded the costs, with benefit-cost ratios between 1.54 and 2.69. The findings of this study were presented to the MWDOC Board at the August 7, 2024, Joint meeting of the Board of Directors and Metropolitan Directors.

Metropolitan's Involvement In DCP

In 2020, the Metropolitan Board approved participation in the DCP's planning and design at a 47.2% cost share, representing an investment of \$160.8 million. These funds are expected to support planning and design through 2025. Additional funds will be required post-2025 to complete the full design and permitting stages of the DCP.

Updates on the SWP and DCP

Metropolitan has initiated a series of monthly updates to the Board on the SWP and DCP, leading up to a possible decision on further funding:

- **September 2024:** Overview of the State Water Project
- **October 2024:** Discussion on the Bay-Delta’s importance, SWP’s role, and potential benefits of the DCP, including the planned 45-mile conveyance facility.
- **November 2024:** Information Board Letter on continued funding needs for DCP planning, permitting, and design.
- **December 2024:** Action Board Letter on continued funding for DCP planning, permitting, and design.

Next Steps: Anticipated Funding Decision

In December 2024, the Metropolitan Board will consider funding the next phase of DWR’s DCP planning and design, with Metropolitan’s anticipated share to be approximately \$142 million. This decision pertains solely to the planning and design stages, not a final commitment to project construction.

Presentation

Metropolitan staff have been invited to provide a presentation on the State Water Project, its benefits to the region, and the upcoming next steps.

ALIGNMENT WITH BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clarifying MWDOC’s mission and role; defining functions and actions. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work with member agencies to develop water supply and demand objectives. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Balance support for Metropolitan’s regional mission and Orange County values and interests. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Solicit input and feedback from member agencies. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strengthen communications and coordination of messaging. | <input type="checkbox"/> Invest in workforce development and succession planning. |

List of Attachments/Links:
Attachment 1: <i>Continued Delta Conveyance Project Planning Funding Letter from Metropolitan to DWR</i>
Link 1: State Water Project Overview Presentation (OWS) September 9
Link 2: Bay Delta and Conveyance Presentation (OWS) October 7
Link 3: DCP Project Costs Estimate and Cost Benefit Analysis



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Office of the General Manager

October 24, 2024

EMAIL: Karla.Nemeth@water.ca.gov

Director Karla Nemeth
Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Dear Director Nemeth:

Continued Delta Conveyance Project Planning Funding

Over the last 50 years, the Department of Water Resources (DWR), through its State Water Project (SWP), has delivered over 44 million acre-feet of water to Metropolitan and has been vital in supporting the region's development and growth. Because of the critical role SWP supplies play in our District's supply portfolio, Metropolitan has always been a strong supporter of DWR and its efforts to protect and improve the reliability of the SWP.

Most recently at the end of 2020, Metropolitan's Board of Directors showed support for DWR and the SWP by voting to advance \$160.8 million dollars to fund the environmental review, planning and associated preconstruction design and engineering of the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP). This vote and Metropolitan's ongoing development of its Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water demonstrates Metropolitan's commitment to meeting the challenges of a changing climate.

Prior to supporting the current preconstruction activities of the DCP, Metropolitan committed funds to advance planning for the California WaterFix and the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan. Including Metropolitan's own internal costs to advance said projects, Metropolitan to date has invested over \$300 million dollars in planning related to Delta conveyance solutions.

At Metropolitan's October 7, 2024, One Water and Stewardship Committee, Metropolitan directors asked important questions related to the DCP. Many of those questions must be resolved for Metropolitan to better understand the DCP's path towards implementation and prior to the Metropolitan Board of Directors considering whether to commit additional funds for DWR's preconstruction activities planned for 2026-2027.

Director Karla Nemeth

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1. Secure Key Permits and Certifications

A number of key permitting milestones have been met for the DCP, including DWR certifying a Final Environmental Impact Report. However, important planning processes are outstanding, including the issuance of an incidental take permit under the State Endangered Species Act and biological opinions under the Federal Endangered Species Act, the issuance of an order by the State Water Board permitting new diversion points required for the DCP, and the determination by the Delta Stewardship Council that the DCP is consistent with the Delta Plan. Metropolitan is seeking a clearer understanding of how DWR plans to navigate the remaining permitting and certification processes, as they are foundational to determining the ultimate viability of the DCP.

2. Demonstrate Proportional and Complete Planning Funding

It is understood that some participating SWP contractors, specifically agricultural contractors, may not commit to fund preconstruction activities for the DCP up to their proportionate share. Consequently, a planning and preconstruction funding gap for 2026-2027 has been identified, and while it is estimated to be approximately twelve percent, it is uncertain what the final percentage will be. Metropolitan cannot be expected to make up this difference. It is critical that DWR ensures that Metropolitan does not pay more than 47.2% of the planning funding.

3. Provide a Plan to Fund and Finance Delta Conveyance Project Implementation

Although the above planning and preconstruction funding gap is in the millions, if it persists to construction, the gap will be billions of dollars due to the current estimated implementation costs of approximately \$20.1 billion. Also, at this stage of the project, Metropolitan cannot be expected to increase its participation amount beyond its proportionate share. It is incumbent on DWR to demonstrate how it will ensure construction of the DCP will be fully financed and funded. Metropolitan is also seeking further clarification on how the initial rulings in the validation action will allow for the ability to fund the project, which should include an explanation of how the pending validation action will be resolved in a timeframe that would allow for certainty for financing and funding.

4. Resolve Protest Items Related to Metropolitan's Statement of Charges

In October 2023, Metropolitan submitted a letter to DWR detailing unresolved protest items identified more than two decades ago. These outstanding claims have a significant financial impact on Metropolitan, its member agencies, and ultimately the ratepayers. Resolution of these items is complex. Some protest items can be resolved through a direct credit back to Metropolitan while others would require DWR to recover funds through rebilling of other State Water Contractors. Understanding these dynamics, and specifically to avoid at this time DWR making decisions that could require rebilling of others, Metropolitan requests that DWR resolve those issues raised in the protest that could result in funds being directly credited to Metropolitan. Based on audit results detailed in Metropolitan's October 2023 letter, these directly refundable protest items are tied primarily to overcollection of the Water System Revenue Bond Surcharge and total approximately \$180 million dollars. Metropolitan is seeking

Director Karla Nemeth

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resolution of this issue to offset the financial impact of DWR's request for additional preconstruction funds for the DCP, if the Metropolitan Board of Directors decides to commit to providing its share of those funds.

5. Improve Near-Term State Water Project Reliability

According to DWR's most recent Delivery Capability Report, a changing climate could reduce the reliability of the SWP by as much as 23 percent over the next two decades. Reasonable estimates do not have the DCP completed and operational until at least 20 years from now. In the near term, it is important for DWR to demonstrate what actions it proposes to take to mitigate for the changing climate and its impact on the SWP's reliability.

In closing, thank you for your understanding and consideration of these key questions raised by Metropolitan's Board of Directors. We hope that with additional clarity and resolution of some of these issues, that Metropolitan can advance its vote in 2024 in response to DWR's request for additional preconstruction funds for the DCP.

Sincerely,



Deven Upadhyay
Interim General Manager

cc: Jennifer Pierre, GM of the State Water Contractors



To: Board of Directors, *Municipal Water District of Orange County*
From: Natural Resource Results
RE: Monthly Board Report – November 2024

Water Legislation

We are still getting positive signals about the prospects of passing a year-end water package. While the exact bills for a package have not yet been determined, there seem to be good conversations occurring between the House and Senate. A package doesn't stand a chance without communication between the two chambers, so we view this as a good sign.

Special Districts

We continue to coordinate with the National Special Districts Coalition (NSDC) to support their efforts to move legislation to clarify that special districts are eligible for federal grant funding. As of today, Senator Paul (R-KY) is the only roadblock, thus advocacy efforts have been focused on him. Senator Sinema's (D-AZ), one of our Senate champions, seems cautiously optimistic that Senator's Paul's concerns can be address.

Election

How the election will play out is anyone's guess but there will be a new administration come January 20th no matter what happens. That means a new cast of characters at the agencies which could create challenges for positions requiring Senate confirmation, especially if Harris wins and Republicans flip the Senate, given the tight margins that are expected in the Senate next year. This could lead to delays in confirmations and create a leadership vacuum at some of the agencies.

We will provide MWDOC with a detailed memo on the results of the election and what it means from a policy standpoint as soon as the results are finalized.



To:	Municipal Water District of Orange County
From:	Syrus Devers
Date:	November 6th, 2024
Re:	State Legislative Report

This report will be brief given that the Legislature is in recess and there is an election around the corner which is consuming a lot of Sacramento’s attention. This is an unusual election; 12-year term limits took effect in 2012, which means the bill has come due for the first legislative class to be elected under the new rules. A record setting 30% of the seats are open, which means there is no incumbent running for reelection in that district. Fortunately for the residents of Orange County, with one exception there will be no significant changes until 2026.

Unlike the Legislature, the administration has been very active. For this reason, this report will flip its usual order and start with the administration, and then close with some observations about the impact of the election.

Administrative Report

Delta Conveyance—Perhaps the most critical issue related to the Delta Conveyance is the request (petition) by the Department of Water Resources to change and extend the water rights to accommodate the new intakes on the Sacramento River. Besides CEQA, this will be the most contentious and litigious aspect of the project.

Opponents of the Delta Conveyance argue that the rights are so old that they have expired, which would require a new water rights petition, which would be the subject of new CEQA litigation. Proponents argue that the rights can be extended for prolonged periods despite the fact that the water has not been put to beneficial use in the time originally allotted. Given that the state has been prevented from perfecting the water rights by political delays beyond their control, they have a strong argument. A pre conference hearing on October 17th kicked off the process in advance of a public hearing set for January 25th.

Bay-Delta Plan Update— The nearly final draft Water Quality Control Plan for the north Delta was released on October 25th. A bit of history for context, the last time the Bay-Delta Plan Update was comprehensively updated was almost 30 years ago. This fact was used by multiple opponents of the Delta Conveyance, including several legislators, to argue that progress on the tunnels must stop until the plan to address the myriad water quality issues in the Delta were addressed. Several legislative bills to this effect have been defeated over the years.

The plan for the south part of the Delta was adopted in 2018 after a long and contentious process. The two updates together would form the long-overdue update for the entire Delta. At issue was the push by

Syrus Devers Advocacy

environmentalists for “unimpaired flows,” which translates to an inflexible regulatory control program. Water users, specifically the State Water Contractors, and the administration support the Voluntary Agreements process, or “VA’s”, which provides a dynamic and flexible approach to balancing water quality, water supply, and water for fish and wildlife. The Board may recall that this issue was the flashpoint between Governor-Elect Newsom and then SWRCB Chair Felicia Marcus.

The revised draft sets up a marathon process by describing the VA’s as an alternative to be discussed in public workshops beginning in December. The sections on the VA’s will come up in January.

The Legislature

Following the election, the Legislature will meet on December 2nd to swear in new members and adopt the procedural rules. Many legislators will introduce their priority bills at this time in order to capture an issue, and to get a low bill number. The Legislature will then adjourn until it reconvenes for the regular session on January 6th. (What could possibly go wrong with that date?)

Here are some of the departing members who will leave a vacuum in the water policy arena:

Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia: as the former Chair of Water Parks, & Wildlife, and a champion for the interests of the Salton Sea, water-related interests are losing an experienced voice in the Legislature with his departure.

Senator Bill Dodd: love him or hate him, he authored some of the most consequential water policy legislation of the last decade, not the least of which was the prohibition on shut-offs for nonpayment. His exceptional legislative success rate made him a feared opponent and a desirable author.

Former Senate Pro-Tem Toni Atkins: she rarely used her leadership position to weigh in on water policy issues, which we liked, but when she did it was in support of her hometown of San Diego. The important part was that she was never hostile to Southern California water interests. Her successor, Senator Mike McGuire, is from about as far north as you can get in California, but so far he has not shown significant interest in water policy. If that were to change, the Pro-Tem of the Senate is easily the second most powerful politician in the state and he could do significant harm to Southern California water interests if he wished.

Senator Dave Min: Senator Min is leaving to run for the House of Representatives. This leaves a vacancy in the Chair of the Natural Resources and Water Committee. Having a policy committee chair from Southern California is like having a legislative safety net. Fingers crossed that we do not end up with both the Pro-Tem’s office and the water policy committee in the hands of northerners.

Senator Susan Eggman: she did not come into office interested in water policy, but she represented Stockton and other Delta communities and evolved into a dedicated opponent of the Delta Conveyance.

ACKERMAN CONSULTING

Legal and Regulatory

November 6, 2024

- 1. Yarn Produces Water:** Researchers are working every day to find ways to produce water in arid areas that are generally low in population and economic development. The key is to find processes that are reasonably economical and do not use a lot of energy. Scientists at Beijing Institute have been studying naturally occurring organisms to address this problem. They have discovered that desert beetles and spider silk have unusual water collecting attributes which make them good candidates for this particular process. As we have seen in other areas, studying how nature deals with these situations helps us in finding man-made solutions. They have produced a double stranded yarn using the attributes from beetles and spiders through advanced materials. The yarn made from hydrophilic polyacrylonitrile nanofibers and hydrophobic poly vinylidene fluoride-co-hexafluoropropylene has water collection and transport capabilities that surpass other similar combinations currently being studied. They believe this process is scalable and will show higher performance than other methods.
- 2. Mt Everest Growing:** Mt Everest grows at the rate of approximately 1/10th of an inch per year and over the last 90,000 years has added approximately 100 feet in height. Research has shown this is due to the isostatic rebound. 90,000 years ago, the Kosi River near the Himalayas acquired part of a smaller river, the Arun River, and in the process started something known as river piracy. When larger rivers acquire smaller rivers, this changes the erosion process downstream and in the valleys below Mt Everest. This rebound effect is caused by the weight of the rocks and erosion depressing the property around the mountain. This depression forces the surrounding mountains to rise. This effect has also been recorded in other mountainous areas of Canada and South America.
- 3. Swamp Rat:** The nutria, commonly referred to as a swamp rat, is showing more presence in the San Joaquin Delta area. This non-native critter, which resembles a beaver, was introduced in the 1890s from South America as part of our early fur trade. The nutria can be dangerous for people as it carries various diseases and parasites and can also contaminate drinking water and swimming areas. It is also a danger to our environment as it eats native vegetation and destroys banks, ditches, and lakes through its below ground activity. It is a ferocious eater and consumes up to 25% of its body weight per day from plant material that would otherwise go to other animals. The nutria is not out of control yet, but the State is making an exhaustive effort to eliminate them as fast as possible.
- 4. World Database:** McGill University in Canada is developing a Global Dam Watch (GDM). They are compiling a database of all the major dams and reservoirs in the world. They believe that having this material available to water managers around the world will help in monitoring and controlling water use in the future. They currently have information on 41,145 dams and 35,295 reservoirs on the Globe. This equates to over 250-billion-acre feet of water throughout the world. Their database will include other facts and figures relating to the watersheds. Their hope is to achieve a balance between regulating water resources and protecting the environment.

5. **Solar Powered Desal:** MIT has developed a solar powered desal system that does not require backup batteries. This system is designed for brackish groundwater treatment. They have concluded that the treatment of brackish water should be a priority for us in the future. The problem in the past with reverse osmosis desal is the requirement of a steady power source for the system to operate. This generally requires backup batteries to ensure the continuity of power. They have developed a smart solar powered system that adjusts to inconsistencies in the sun's activities such as cloudiness or other weather phenomena. The system can adjust the rate of flow of water based on the high or low degree of energy being provided by the sun. This prototype is in Alamogordo, New Mexico. They are hopeful to further refine the concept and are looking forward to increasing the scale of the project.
6. **AR Shift:** Atmospheric rivers, which are becoming more and more important to our weather and rain predictions, seem to be moving to the respective North and South Poles. Atmospheric rivers are responsible for up to 50% of California's yearly rainfall. Atmospheric rivers are generally dependent and result from changes in the atmospheric jet stream. The atmospheric rivers have been moving, both in the southern and northern hemisphere, closer to their respective poles. One of the main causes of this is changes in the temperature in the eastern tropical Pacific which over time has been cooling. These temperature changes in various parts of the Pacific and Atlantic Ocean impact atmospheric circulation on a worldwide basis. This could result in less rainfall and more droughts in California and areas in the same latitude. The report cautions that these are predictions only, which will remain uncertain due to the difficulty in predicting the various sea and air temperatures required to produce ARs.
7. **AI Analysis:** Artificial Intelligence (AI) is being used more and more and is beneficial in many areas of our life. This is particularly true in the water world and in weather prediction. The accuracy of weather forecast has vastly improved over time. However, that does not always equate to predicting what the damage outcome will be in various situations. This report stresses that communication between all sectors of government and society is necessary to improve this. The tradeoff for the AI analysis will be increased cost for energy to power the various systems. Microsoft and Google are already looking into the use of nuclear power to help them sustain their data centers. This report, which was done by groups in England, concludes that we must eliminate fossil fuel and replace that with renewable energy in order to continue.
8. **Valley Land Values Down:** The value of agricultural property in the Central Valley is taking a large hit. According to appraisers in the area, the value has declined from 25% to 50% for vineyards and tree nut orchards. One appraiser indicated that one property last year sold for ¼ of what it was worth the year before. The main cause of this decline is pumping restrictions arising from new laws passed by the State of California. Banks are reluctant to finance any new operations and are calling existing loans for farmers who have borrowed in the past. The cost of farming has increased substantially while the farmers' value in their property has greatly decreased. Agricultural bankruptcy filings are increasing in the area. A recent report has indicated that as much as 20% of the valley's farmland may be taken out of production.
9. **PFAS Bans:** Eleven states have enacted PFAS bans on certain products. Those states are Alaska, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island and

Vermont. Sixteen states have adopted PFAS related measures. Thirty states have approved PFAS policies. Maine is preparing to implement a first PFAS ban covering all consumer goods. This ban is scheduled to take effect in 2030 but will have certain exclusions for essential products.

10. **Tipping Points:** Oregon State University has recently completed a research study of Ice Age occurrences going back 120,000 years. They are taking ice cores from Greenland to examine various tipping events which have caused ice ages in the past. The last Ice Age ended more than 11,000 years ago. The tipping point events are called Dansgaard-Oeschger events. These events are large and sudden dramatic changes in climate which can result in catastrophic events. We have previously discussed that atmospheric rivers are primarily driven by activity in the Pacific Ocean. In this case, the Atlantic Ocean is weighing in. Known as the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation, this refers to the circulation of water in the Atlantic Ocean and in particular the Gulf Stream. This condition is fundamentally unstable. And when it significantly changes, bad things can happen very quickly. Climate models suggest that this condition will likely weaken in the future.
11. **Divers in Water World:** SCUBA divers throughout the state keep our water system flowing. Seldom seen and not often acknowledged, these divers do important work for our state. One of their tasks is to conduct regular inspections of our water facilities, including reservoirs, dams, and canals. They are also responsible for cleaning debris of all kinds from our canals, reservoirs, and pumping facilities. Some of the items they have removed from our waterways include washing machines, toilets, swords, automobiles, and lots of fishing gear.

November 6, 2024

TO: MWDOC Board of Directors

FROM: Peter Whittingham

SUBJECT: November 2024 Report

The month of October was marked by the run-up to the November 5 election and major news regarding a member of the Orange County Board of Supervisors. Following is a few of the more notable developments and issues of the month:

- First District Supervisor Andrew Do announced his resignation from the Board of Supervisors and agreed to plead guilty to a federal charge of conspiracy, related to the alleged theft of more than \$550,000 of Covid-related funds. The matter first came to light in 2023 when it was revealed that the County had allocated \$13.5 million in American Rescue Plan Act, or ARPA, dollars to Viet America Society, a Huntington Beach-based organization which employed the former Supervisor's daughter.
- The South Coast Water District (SCWD) Board of Directors announced its unanimous decision to award the Progressive Design-Build-Operate-Maintain (PDBOM) services contract for Phase 1 of the Doheny Ocean Desalination Project to the team of J.R. Filanc Construction, Acciona Agua Corporation, and Hazen. The nearly \$7 million contract marks the latest milestone in a decade-plus effort to enhance SCWD's water supply portfolio, along with the water supply needs of the region. When completed, the Doheny Project will produce five million gallons per day (MGD) of drinking water. SCWD is currently partnering on the Doheny Project with Laguna Beach County Water District and Eastern Municipal Water District and is in active discussions with other agencies.
- The Santa Ana City Council, as part of the City's plan to replace/retrofit all of its existing, manually-read water meters with Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI), selected a vendor to rehabilitate or replace the vaults, valves, and/or apparatus in 400 locations where large water meters are served. The City's 480-mile water system features 21 groundwater wells, ten reservoirs (with a capacity of 49 million gallons), and seven connection points to the Metropolitan Water District and has an average daily demand of 30 million gallons from its 45,150 metered connections.

- The City of San Clemente has finished a sand replenishment project at North Beach, a months-long effort to help widen a stretch of eroded coastline. The \$2 million project, which kicked off in late July, delivered 37,000 cubic yards of sand from the Santa Ana River, with truckloads hauling the material in and spreading it out on the north end of town. Because the work went faster than expected and was under budget, the amount of material to be hauled in was expanded to add 7,000 more cubic yards. The city also received Coastal Commission approval to increase its opportunistic beach sand replenishment program to allow for 300,000 cubic yards of sand to be placed annually along four locations, including areas around T Street beach.
- The Laguna Beach City Council voted unanimously to move forward with conceptual plans to restore the Aliso Creek Estuary, consolidating technical studies and initiating the scope of work for an EIR to determine the project's feasibility. The project includes restoring the estuary's functionality, such as removing invasive plant species and mitigating water flow, upgrading public spaces, adding an interpretive center and improving pedestrian access. The project would also replace parking lots and paved areas with mobility hubs to encourage alternative modes of transportation, updated restrooms, trails and seating areas, and a pedestrian bridge over the estuary. The project's future will also include coordination with a variety of property owners, including South Coast Water District and The Ranch at Laguna Beach.
- The Huntington Beach City Council authorized a feasibility analysis of a potential interagency water transfer partnership with Mesa Water®. Potential benefits of such an agreement include access to the groundwater basin via Mesa Water District's infrastructure and avoiding the need to spend millions on imported water in the event of one or more of the City's existing wells failing.
- The Huntington Beach City Council also approved an agreement to share consultant costs for completion of Joint Hazard Mitigation Plans and the America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 Update Projects with MWDOC.
- Santa Margarita Water District (SMWD) announced that Trampas Reservoir, California's largest recycled water reservoir, has surpassed 90% of its 1.6-billion-gallon capacity.

It is a pleasure to work with you and to represent the Municipal Water District of Orange County.

Sincerely,



Peter Whittingham



DISCUSSION ITEM
November 6, 2024

TO: Board of Directors

**FROM: Harvey De La Torre,
General Manager**

Staff Contact: Melissa Baum-Haley
Alex Heide
Kevin Hostert

**SUBJECT: METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT (MET) ITEMS CRITICAL TO ORANGE
COUNTY**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors to review and discuss this information.

DETAILED REPORT

This report provides a brief update on the current status of the following key MET issues that may affect Orange County:

- a. MET's Finance and Rate Issues
- b. Water Supply Condition Update
- c. Water Quality Update
- d. Colorado River Issues
- e. Delta Conveyance Activities and State Water Project Issues

ISSUE BRIEF #A**SUBJECT: MET Finance and Rate Issues****RECENT ACTIVITY**

Water Transactions for October 2024 (for water delivered in August 2024) totaled 118.7 thousand acre-feet (TAF), which was 17.7 TAF lower than the budget of 136.4 TAF and translates to \$136.2 million in receipts for October 2024, which were \$9.2 million lower than the budget of \$145.4 million.

Year-to-date water transactions through October 2024 (for water delivered in May 2024 through August 2024) were 427.8 TAF, which was 73.0 TAF lower than the budget of 500.8 TAF.

FY24-25 Cash Water Transactions and Revenues Budget vs Actual (Preliminary, subject to change)

Month		Acre-Feet (AF) ²		Variance		Revenue (\$) ¹		Variance	
Delivered/ Billed In	To be Collected in	Budget	Actual	AF	%	Budget	Actual	\$	%
May	July	111,381	93,988	(17,393)	-16%	115,411,844	111,844,425	(3,567,419)	-3%
June	August	119,830	101,259	(18,570)	-15%	142,766,424	100,440,378	(42,326,046)	-30%
July	September	133,150	113,842	(19,308)	-15%	141,775,001	121,855,439	(19,919,562)	-14%
August	October	136,454	118,724	(17,730)	-13%	145,410,622	136,227,231	(9,183,391)	-6%
YTD Total		500,814	427,813	(73,001)	-15%	545,363,891	470,367,473	(74,996,417)	-14%
September	November	127,137	-	-	0%	133,836,426	-	-	0%
October	December	123,989	-	-	0%	128,665,932	-	-	0%
November	January	124,881	-	-	0%	125,782,252	-	-	0%
December	February	104,337	-	-	0%	103,324,010	-	-	0%
January	March	88,988	-	-	0%	95,074,177	-	-	0%
February	April	77,291	-	-	0%	81,911,825	-	-	0%
March	May	82,757	-	-	0%	88,153,603	-	-	0%
April	June	107,565	-	-	0%	116,431,176	-	-	0%
FY Total		1,337,760	-	-	0%	1,418,543,293	-	-	0%

ISSUE BRIEF #B

SUBJECT: MET's Supply Condition Update

RECENT ACTIVITY

The 2024-25 Water Year (2024-25 WY) officially started on October 1, 2024. Thus far, Northern California accumulated precipitation (8-Station Index) reported **0.4 inches or 15% of normal** as of October 28th. The Northern Sierra Snow Water Equivalent is at **0.0 inches as of October 28th**, which is **0% of normal** for that day. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has not set the initial State Water Project (SWP) **"Table A" allocation for WY 2024-25**.

The Upper Colorado River Basin accumulated precipitation is reporting **1.6 inches or 81% of normal as of October 28th**. On the Colorado River system, snowpack is measured across four states in the Upper Colorado River Basin. The Upper Colorado River Basin Snow Water Equivalent was at **0.5 inches as of October 28th**, which is **45% of normal** for that day. Due to the below average inflows into Lake Powell over the past several years, the United States Bureau of Reclamation **declared a shortage at Lake Mead that has been ongoing since January 1st, 2022 (Below 1,075 feet storage level)**. As of October 2024, **there is a 100% chance of shortage continuing in CY 2025, a 93% chance in CY 2026 and a 57% chance in CY 2027. In addition, there is a 7% chance of a California (Below 1,045 feet storage level) shortage in 2027.**

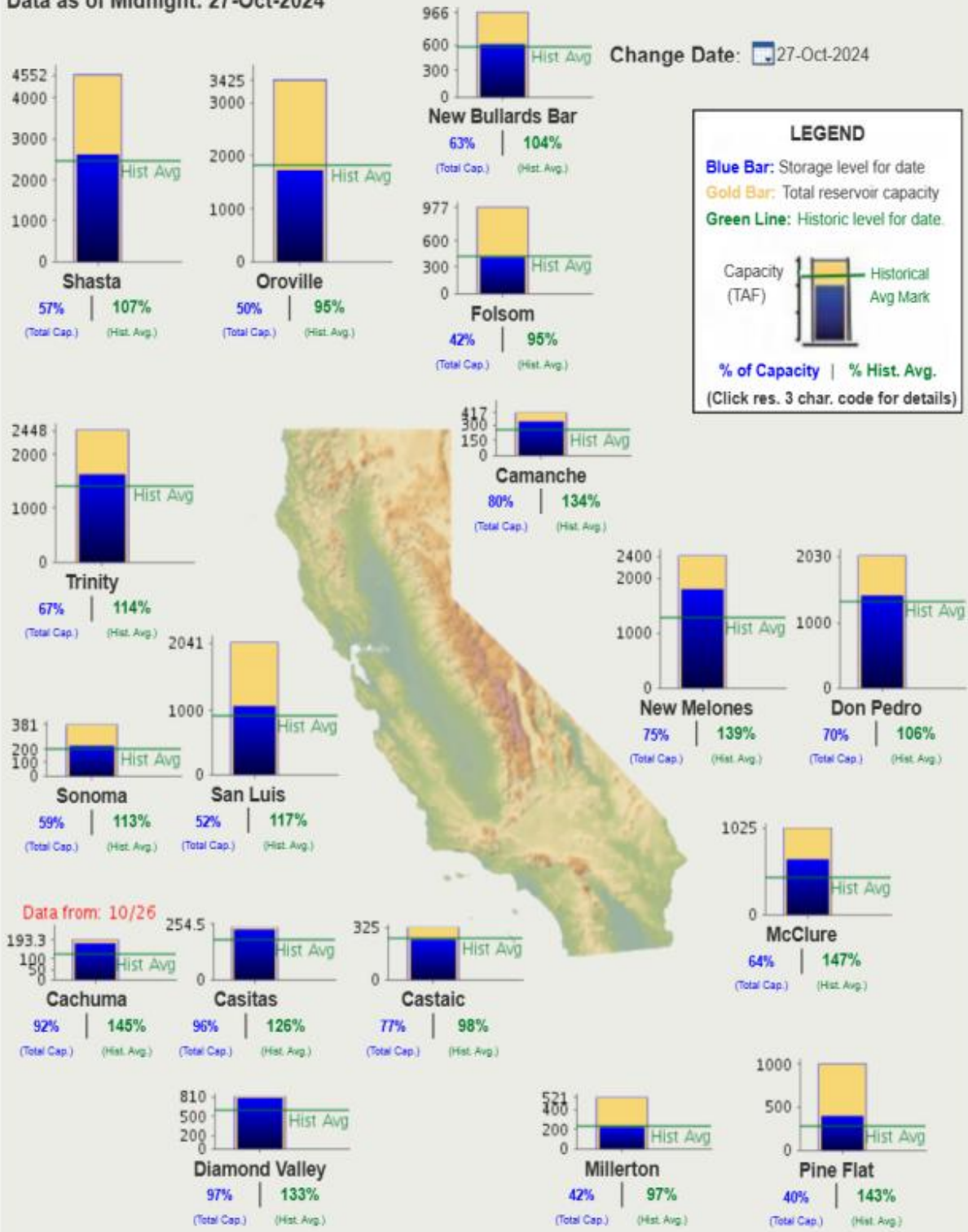
As of October 27th Lake Oroville storage is at **50% of total capacity and 95% of normal**. As of October 27th San Luis Reservoir has a current volume of **52% of the reservoir's total capacity and is 117% of normal**.

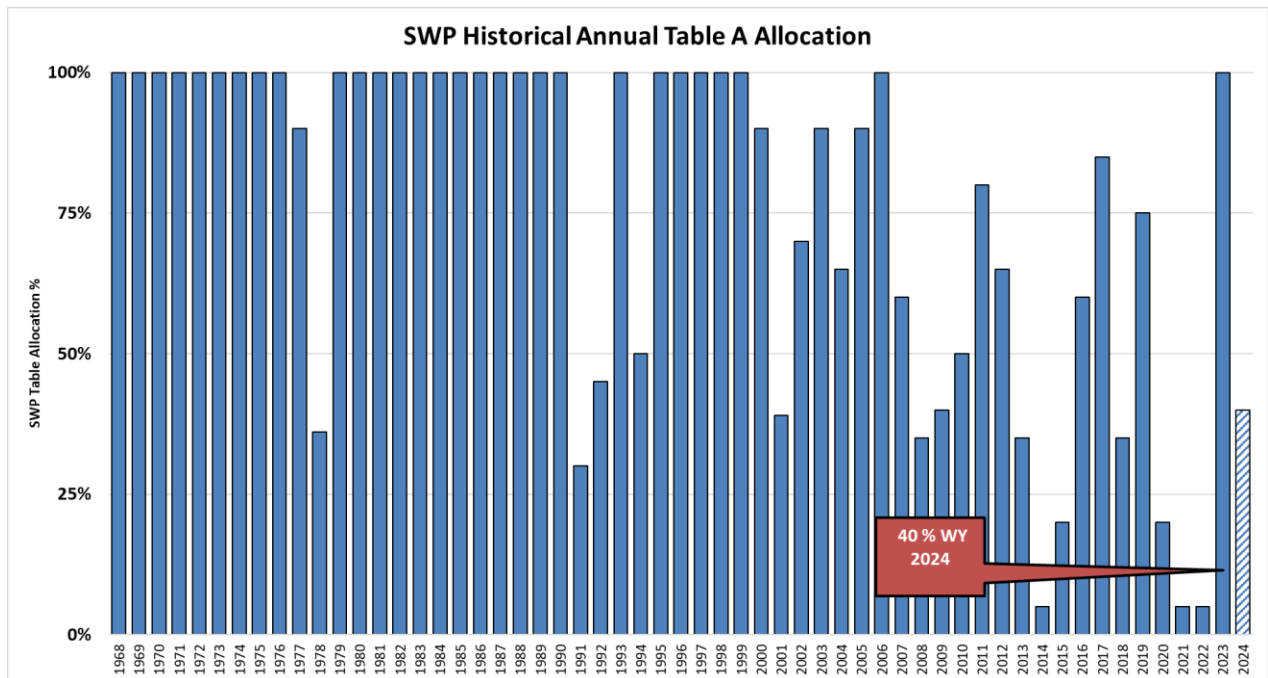
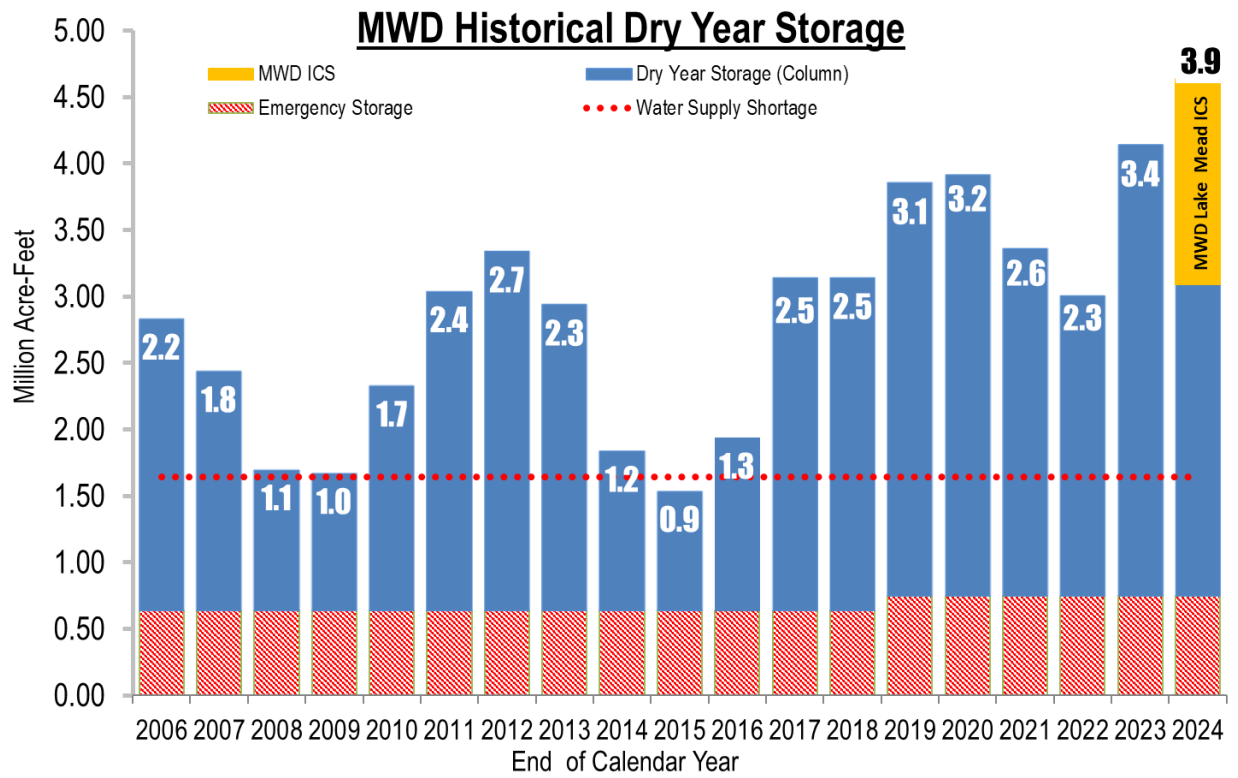
With CY 2024 estimated total demands and losses of 1.36 million acre-feet (MAF) and with a 40% SWP Table A Allocation, Metropolitan is projecting that supplies will exceed demands levels in Calendar Year (CY) 2024. Based on this, estimated total dry-year storage for Metropolitan at the end of **CY 2024 will increase to approximately 3.9 MAF**. A projected dry-year storage supply of **3.9 MAF would be approximately 2.9 MAF from a typical level where Metropolitan's goes into Water Supply Allocations**. A large factor in maintaining a high water storage level are lower than expected water demands. We are seeing regional water demands reaching a 40-year low. **However, with a majority of MWD's water supplies stored in Lake Mead and with still a 5-year shortage projection at Lake Mead, there remains a lot of uncertainty to where supply balances will be in the future. In addition, Colorado River Basin States have been meeting for months to negotiate new post 2026 operations at Glen Canyon Dam at Lake Powell and Hoover Dam at Lake Mead.**

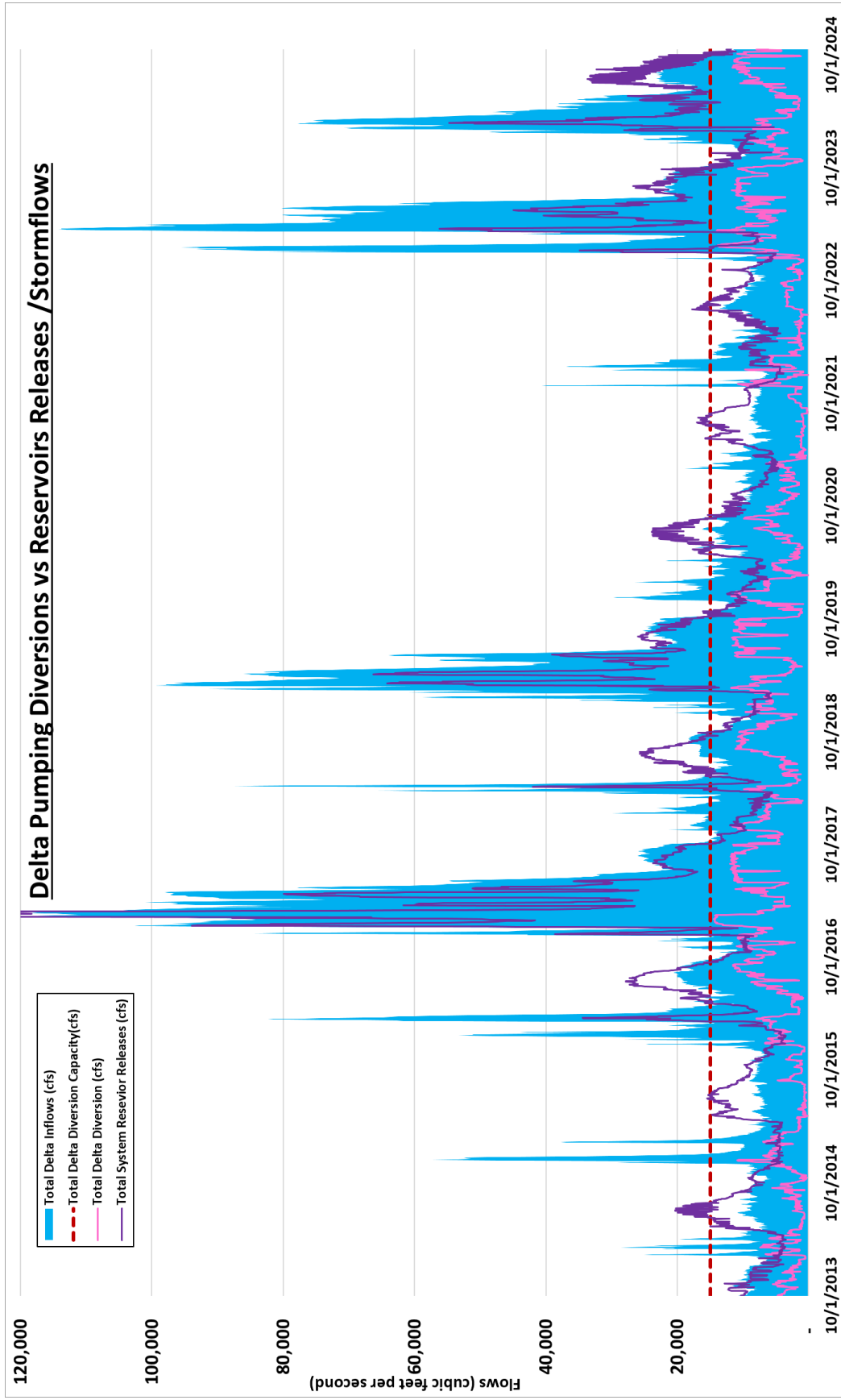
CURRENT CONDITIONS: MAJOR WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS:27-OCT-2024

Data as of Midnight: 27-Oct-2024

Change Date:







ISSUE BRIEF #C

SUBJECT: MET's Water Quality Update

RECENT ACTIVITY

Water System Operations

Metropolitan member agency water deliveries were 137,800 acre-feet (AF) for September with an average of 4,600 AF per day, which was about 100 AF per day lower than in August. Metropolitan continued delivering water to the Cyclic and Conjunctive Use Programs. Treated water deliveries were 7,000 AF lower than in August, for a total of 73,400 AF, or 53 percent of total deliveries for the month. The Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) pumped a total of 98,000 AF in September. State Water Project (SWP) imports averaged 3,000 AF per day, totaling about 89,400 AF for the month. The target SWP blend is 25% for Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner Plants.

Metropolitan expects to have sufficient SWP and Colorado River supplies to meet demands in 2024. Water continues to be managed according to Water Surplus and Drought Management (WSDM) principles and operational objectives with an emphasis on positioning SWP supplies to meet future demands in the SWP-dependent areas. Metropolitan has resumed deliveries to Desert Water Agency and Coachella Valley Water District with the improved supply conditions. Metropolitan is continuing to minimize the use of Table A supplies this year to improve SWP Carryover for next year.

Water Treatment and Distribution

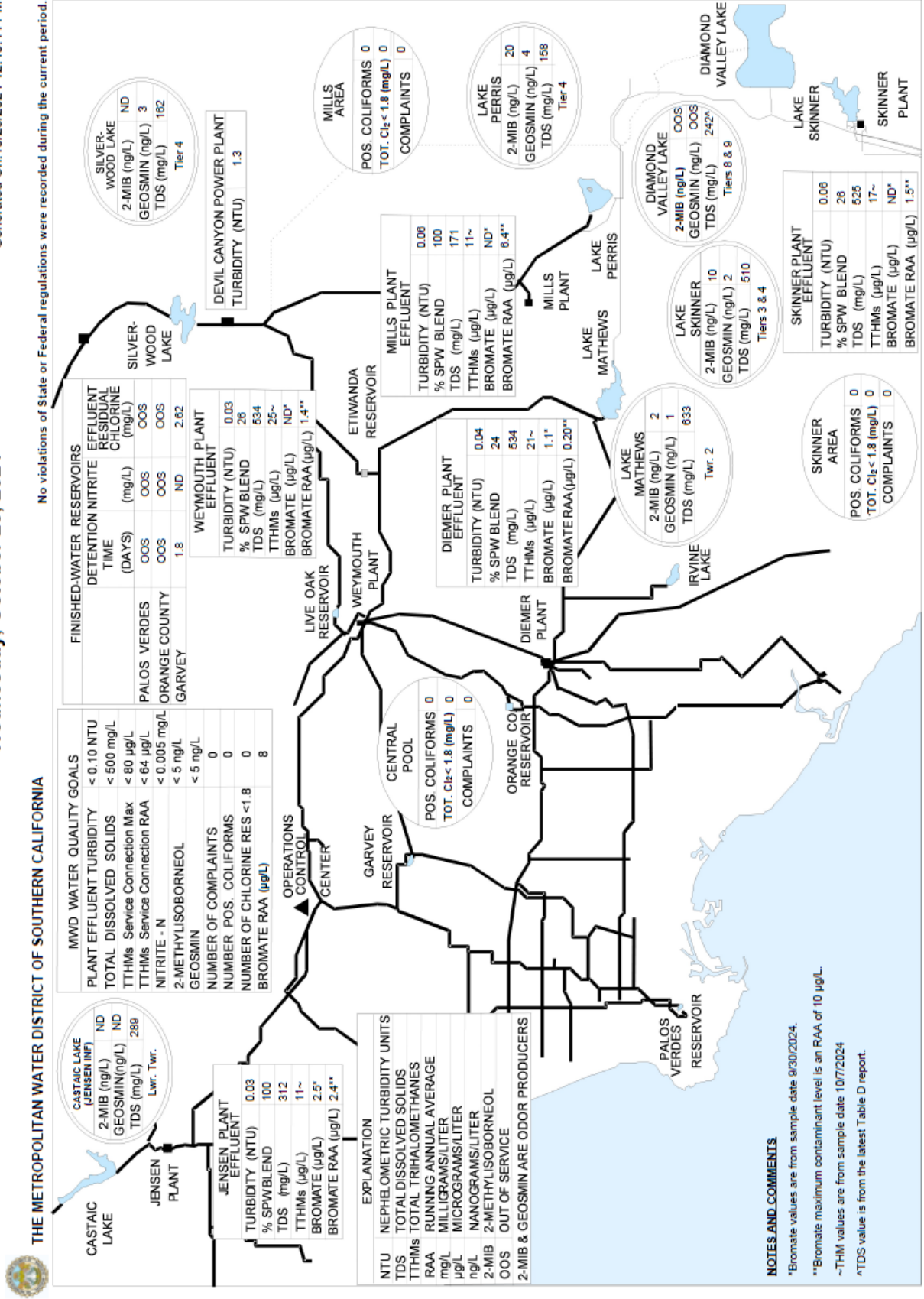
The SWP target blend entering the Weymouth and Diemer plants stayed at 25 percent in September. The SWP blend entering Lake Skinner remained at 25 percent. Flow-weighted running annual averages for total dissolved solids from July 2023 through June 2024 for Metropolitan's treatment plants capable of receiving a blend of supplies from the SWP and the CRA were 460, 535, and 475 mg/L for the Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner plants, respectively.

At the Diemer Metropolitan plant staff wired the control panel for a sodium hypochlorite feed pump as part of a chemical injection system that will be used at the OC-88 pump station to control nitrification. Nitrification is a process of biological conversion of ammonia to nitrite within chloraminated water systems, potentially causing a decrease in chloramine residual. Under more serious nitrification events, there can be a notable decrease in chloramine residual that allows bacterial growth. This chemical feed system was designed to inject sodium hypochlorite directly into the Allen- McColloch Pipeline at OC-88 to help maintain a target chloramine residual and minimize nitrification.

Weekly Water Quality System Status

Wednesday, October 23, 2024

Generated On: 10/23/2024 12:40:44 PM



The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Weekly Operations Plan for 10/24/2024 – 10/31/2024

For additional information, please contact James Bodnar at (213) 217-6099

1. **COLORADO RIVER AQUEDUCT:** The CRA is at a 7-pump flow.
2. **EAST BRANCH SPW:** Rialto Pipeline will average a flow of 1100 AF/day. Santa Ana Valley Pipeline will average a flow of 170 AF/day. Inland Feeder will average a flow of 440 AF/day.
3. **WEST BRANCH SPW:** The flow from Castaic Lake will be at 1530 AF/day. Flow to SCVWA (formerly CLWA) is currently at 90 AF/day.
4. **TERMINAL RESERVOIRS:**

Reservoir	Current Storage* (AF)	Percent of Capacity
Lake Mathews	103,000	57%
Lake Skinner	37,500	85%
DVL	786,400	97%

*as of 10/23/2024

5. **WATER QUALITY:**

Plant	Targeted Blend (% SPW)	TDS (mg/L)	TTHMs (µg/L)
	As of 10/23/2024	As of 10/23/2024	As of 10/7/2024
Weymouth	25	534	25
Diemer	25	534	21
Skinner	25	525	17
Jensen	100	312	11
Mills	100	171	11

6. **WATER DELIVERIES:** October deliveries are forecasted to be about 130 TAF. As of October 24, 2024, total system demands are about 5,540 AF/day, an increase of about 130 AF/day from last week.
7. **HYDROELECTRIC GENERATION:** As of October 23, 2024, the total daily average generation for the week was about 2.0 MW, with 1 of 15 hydroelectric plants in operation.

ISSUE BRIEF #D

SUBJECT: Colorado River Issues

RECENT ACTIVITY

Implementation of Metropolitan-San Diego County Water Authority-Imperial Irrigation District Agreement Update

Following board authorization on August 20, 2024, staff moved forward with entering into an implementing agreement with Imperial Irrigation District (IID) and San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) for joint participation in IID's System Conservation Implementation Agreement with the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). Under this implementing agreement, 50,000 acre-feet (AF) of conserved water that was otherwise intended for transfer to the SDCWA and exchanged with Metropolitan under the Exchange Agreement will be left in Lake Mead as system water. Additionally, under the implementing agreement, SDCWA will purchase an additional 50,000 AF of Metropolitan supplies by the end of this calendar year. This implementing agreement also provides for additional flexibility if all parties mutually agree that it would be beneficial to increase this amount based on future conditions and updated estimates of IID conservation yields, up to a total combined volume of 75,000 AF. Metropolitan staff will effect this change through its billing to SDCWA and will submit a revised water order to the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) that is inclusive of this change. This implementing agreement was signed on September 6, and is expected to take effect as of the August 2024 billing cycle.

Land Acquisition for Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program

The state of California took title to 1,971 acres of land in the Palo Verde Valley that will be used to establish crucial aquatic habitat for the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program (LCR MSCP). The lands were purchased from the Gabrych family with funding from the LCR MSCP and the State Wildlife Conservation Board. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife will hold title and the lands will be used by Reclamation to construct and manage marsh and backwater areas for native fish and bird species. The purchase culminates years of effort to acquire the lands by Metropolitan, the state, and environmental groups.

The newly acquired lands are located within the Palo Verde Irrigation District with frontage on the Colorado River. The location, size, and topography of the lands make them suitable to complete the remaining areas of aquatic habitat required by the federal and California incidental take permits issued to LCR MSCP participants. The importance of the lands is reflected in the commitment of \$25.5 million in LCR MSCP funds towards the purchase price. The state of California paid the balance of \$10 million. The LCR MSCP anticipates spending an additional \$80 million to excavate and plant the marsh and backwater areas.

ISSUE BRIEF #E**SUBJECT: Delta Conveyance Activities and State Water Project Issues****RECENT ACTIVITY**

Sites Reservoir

Metropolitan staff presented information to the State Water Resource Control Board related to Sites Reservoir's water rights hearing. Metropolitan staff presented the CalSim modeling framework used to evaluate the effects of the Sites Reservoir Project. Additionally, Metropolitan staff addressed questions about model results and the appropriate use of models during cross-examination.

On September 20, the Third District Court of Appeal released an opinion upholding the decision by the Superior Court of Yolo County in the Friends of the River v. Sites Project Authority case. The Yolo County Superior Court and now the Court of Appeal have found in the Sites Project Authority's favor in every claim asserted by the environmental organizations challenging the sufficiency of the Final Environmental Impact Report, concluding that the Authority fully complied with the California Environmental Quality Act in its review of the Sites Project.

Regulatory and Science Activities

Metropolitan staff presented twice at the 154th Annual American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting. Metropolitan staff produced the final report for the Collaborative Science and Adaptive Management Program Structured Decision Making. This report will be used to inform the management of Delta smelt. Summary findings support actions related to food and turbidity.

Delta Island Activities

Metropolitan staff updated the One Water and Stewardship Committee about progress on the Webb Tract Wetland Restoration and Rice Development Projects. Metropolitan staff provided an update to the OWS committee on an upcoming board action for rice farming on Webb Tract. The recruitment period for a limited-term, principal environmental specialist has closed.

Metropolitan staff began participation in an ACWA California Endangered Species Act (CESA) Streamlining Working Group to address regulatory inefficiency in the CESA permitting process. Staff received \$500,000 in funding from California Department of Water Resources for design of a levee improvement project on Bouldin Island.

**Summary Report for
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Board Meeting
October 8, 2024**

CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION

Nominated and elected Board Chair Ortega for two-year term effective January 1, 2025 (**Agenda Item 6C**)

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

Awarded a \$589,957 procurement contract to Vogt Valves to furnish one 42-inch diameter stainless steel sleeve valve for the Red Mountain Pressure Control Structure. (**Agenda Item 7-1**)

Awarded a \$1,833,650 contract to Power Engineering Construction Company to rehabilitate the San Diego Canal at one location. (**Agenda Item 7-2**)

Awarded a \$448,000 contract to Heed Engineering to provide construction materials and install reinforcing steel to support the construction of the helicopter hydrant facility at the Diemer plant. (**Agenda Item 7-3**)

Authorized resolutions to support two applications selected to receive United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Program funding for Fiscal Year 2024 totaling \$2 million; and authorized the General Manager to accept this funding and enter contracts with the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation. (**Agenda Item 7-5**)

Reviewed and considered the Lead Agency’s certified 2022 Final Environmental Impact Report for the Chino Basin Program and take related CEQA actions, and authorized the General Manager to enter into an exchange agreement with Inland Empire Utilities Agency to assist in the implementation of the program. (**Agenda Item 7-6**)

Authorized the General Manager to enter into agreements with Western Canal Water District and Richvale Irrigation District for water transfer options and first rights of refusal during 2025 through 2027. (**Agenda Item 7-7**)

Adopted resolution authorizing the reimbursement of capital expenditures from bond proceeds for fiscal years 2024/25 and 2025/26. **Agenda Item 7-9**)

OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION

Authorized on-call agreements with Black & Veatch Corporation, Burns & McDonnell Western Enterprises Inc., HDR Inc., and Stantec Consulting Services Inc., in amounts not to exceed \$3 million each, for a maximum of three years, to provide design and support services related to the ZEV infrastructure upgrades at Metropolitan facilities. (**Agenda Item 8-2**)

Authorized the General Manager to acquire a 0.33-acre property located in Los Angeles County in the city of La Verne from Charles J. Arballo and Margaret R. Arballo, as Trustees of The Arballo Family Trust, dated December 9, 1991, according to the price and terms direction given in closed session. **(Agenda Item 8-3)**

Approved the nomination and naming of the Joseph Jensen Water Treatment Plant Ozone Facility in honor of former Metropolitan Director Ina S. Roth. **(Agenda Item 8-4)**

Approved the nomination and naming of Metropolitan's Water Quality Laboratory in honor of former Metropolitan Water Quality Manager and Director of Water Quality, Dr. Michael J. McGuire. **(Agenda Item 8-5)**

THIS INFORMATION SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MEETING.

All current month materials, and materials after July 1, 2021 are available on the public website here: <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

This database contains archives from the year 1928 to June 30, 2021:
<https://bda.mwdh2o.com/Pages/Default.aspx>

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Agenda

The mission of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is to provide its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

Board of Directors - Hidden

November 19, 2024

1:30 PM

<p>Tuesday, November 19, 2024 Meeting Schedule</p>
<p>08:30 a.m. EOP 09:30 a.m. FAM 11:30 a.m. LEG 01:00 p.m. Break 01:30 p.m. BOD</p>

Agendas, live streaming, meeting schedules, and other board materials are available here: <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. Written public comments received by 5:00 p.m. the business days before the meeting is scheduled will be posted under the Submitted Items and Responses tab available here: <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Legislation.aspx>.

If you have technical difficulties with the live streaming page, a listen-only phone line is available at 1-877-853-5257; enter meeting ID: 891 1613 4145.

Members of the public may present their comments to the Board on matters within their jurisdiction as listed on the agenda via in-person or teleconference. To participate via teleconference 1-833-548-0276 and enter meeting ID: 815 2066 4276 or to join by computer [click here](#).

MWD Headquarters Building • 700 N. Alameda Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012

1. **Call to Order**
 - a. Invocation: Director Cynthia Kurtz, City of Pasadena
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance: TBD
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Determination of a Quorum**
4. **Opportunity for members of the public to address the Board on matters within the Board's jurisdiction. (As required by Gov. Code §54954.3(a))**
5. **OTHER MATTERS AND REPORTS**

- | | | |
|----|--|--------------------------------|
| A. | Report on Directors' Events Attended at Metropolitan's Expense | <u>21-3922</u> |
| B. | Chair's Monthly Activity Report | <u>21-3923</u> |
| C. | Interim General Manager's summary of activities | <u>21-3924</u> |
| D. | General Counsel's summary of activities | <u>21-3925</u> |
| E. | General Auditor's summary of activities | <u>21-3926</u> |
| F. | Ethics Officer's summary of activities | <u>21-3927</u> |
| G. | Report from Executive Committee on nominations for Board Secretary | 21-3998 |

**** CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS -- ACTION ****

6. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION

- | | | |
|----|---|----------------|
| A. | Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting for October 8, 2024 (Copies have been submitted to each Director, any additions, corrections, or omissions) | 21-3928 |
| B. | Approve Committee Assignments | 21-4005 |
| C. | Nomination and Election for Board Secretary for two-year term effective January 1, 2025 | 21-3929 |

7. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION

- | | | |
|-----|---|----------------|
| 7-1 | Amend an agreement with Roesling Nakamura Terada Architects to provide design and architectural services for Stage 1 improvements of the District Housing and Property Improvements Program; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (EOT) | 21-3954 |
| 7-2 | Certify the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Garvey Reservoir Rehabilitation Project and take related CEQA actions (EOT) | 21-3956 |
| 7-3 | Authorize the General Manager to enter into Reverse-Cyclic Program agreements with participating agencies to defer deliveries of purchases under various water supply conditions; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (OWS) | 21-3957 |

- 7-4** Authorize the General Manager to enter into agreements with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to implement phase two of Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program [Missing CEQA] (OWS) **21-3958**
- 7-5** Adopt resolution for 116th Fringe Area Annexation to Eastern Municipal Water District and Metropolitan; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (FAM) **21-3963**
- 7-6** Authorize the General Manager to seek legislation for Metropolitan to increase the local agency dollar threshold for public works construction contracts from \$25,000 to \$75,000; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (Leg) **21-3964**

**** END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS ****

8. OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION

- 8-1** Approve amending the list of Metropolitan officials required to take AB 1234 state ethics training to include all Form 700 filers; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (EOP) **21-3960**
- 8-2** Authorize the General Manager to amend the Project Labor Agreement to add four new projects and approve the amended Project Labor Agreement's use as a bid condition for the newly added projects; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (EOT) **21-3953**
- 8-3** Adopt a resolution in support of the application for funding under the WaterSMART Large-Scale Water Recycling Program for planning of the Pure Water Southern California Program; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (EOT) **21-3955**
- 8-4** Authorize a new lease with the Certified Federal Credit Union for up to 1,667 square feet of office space at Metropolitan Headquarters Building in the City of Los Angeles and F.E. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant in the City of La Verne and identified as Los Angeles County Assessor Parcels 5409-023-930 and 8381-006-906 respectively; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (FAM) **21-3962**

- 8-5** Update on labor negotiations and approve the reopener agreement between The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and The Supervisors Association of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA [Conference with Labor Negotiators; to be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code 54957.6. Metropolitan representatives: Katano Kasaine, Assistant General Manager, Chief Financial Officer, Mark Brower, Human Resources Group Manager, and Gifty J. Beets, Human Resources Section Manager of Labor Relations. Employee organization: The Supervisors Association of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.] (EOP) **21-3961**
- 8-6** PLACEHOLDER LEGAL COMMITTEE (LC) **21-4000**
- 8-7** PLACEHOLDER FNA COMMITTEE #1 (FNA) **21-4001**
- 8-8** PLACEHOLDER FNA COMMITTEE #2 (FNA) **21-4002**
- 9. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**
- 9-1** Report on Conservation Program **21-3967**
- 9-2** Update on the funding request from the Department of Water Resources for Metropolitan's share of the Delta Conveyance Project planning and pre-construction costs for 2026 and 2027 and proposed amendment to existing funding agreement (OWS) **21-3959**
- 9-3** Legislative Priorities and Principles for 2025 (Leg) **21-3965**
- 10. OTHER MATTERS**
- 10-1** AB 1234 Ethics Biennial Training **21-3999**
- 11. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**
- NONE
- 12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**
- 13. ADJOURNMENT**

NOTE: Each agenda item with a committee designation will be considered and a recommendation may be made by one or more committees prior to consideration and final action by the full Board of Directors. The committee designation appears in parenthesis at the end of the description of the agenda item, e.g. (EOT). Board agendas may be obtained on Metropolitan's Web site <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Writings relating to open session agenda items distributed to Directors less than 72 hours prior to a regular meeting are available for public inspection at Metropolitan's Headquarters Building and on Metropolitan's Web site <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>.

Requests for a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to attend or participate in a meeting should be made to the Board Executive Secretary in advance of the meeting to ensure availability of the requested service or accommodation.

DRAFT