



Engineering, Operations, & Technology Committee

# Guiding Principles for Pure Water Southern California Partnerships

Item 9-5

December 8, 2025

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**Item 9-5**  
Guiding  
Principles for  
PWSC  
Partnerships

**Subject**

Guiding Principles for Pure Water Southern California (PWSC) Partnerships

**Purpose**

Present proposed guiding principles for Pure Water Southern California partnerships, including member agencies, Colorado River, and San Gabriel Valley MWD partnerships

**Next Steps**

Action to adopt the proposed guiding principles for Pure Water Southern California partnerships

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## Agenda

- Overview of Proposed Process
- Proposed Guiding Principles for Partnerships
  - Member Agencies
  - Colorado River Agencies
    - Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA)
    - Arizona Parties (Arizona Department of Water Resources & Central Arizona Water Conservation District)
  - State Water Project Contractors
    - San Gabriel Valley MWD (SGVMWD)
- Next Steps

# Overview of Guiding Principles for PWSC Partnerships

## Member Agency/Program Partner Collaboration

- Agreement Development
  - Step 1: Letters of Intent (Complete)
  - Step 2a: Guiding Principles (2025)
  - Step 2b: Development of Term Sheet (2026)
  - Step 3: Interim Agreement (2026-2035+)
  - Step 4: Long-term Agreement (2035-2060+)
- Continued discussion with program partners

# Guiding Principles for Partnership

- Guiding Principles Improve Partnership Process
  - Provides better alignment with CAMP4Water process
  - Allows the Board to weigh in on policy issues before term sheets are finalized
- Guiding Principles for Partnership Next Steps
  - Action Item: January 2026

# Regional Benefits of Pure Water

Reduces Risk of  
Net Shortage &  
Water Supply  
Allocation

Reduces  
Reliance on SWP  
and Colorado  
River

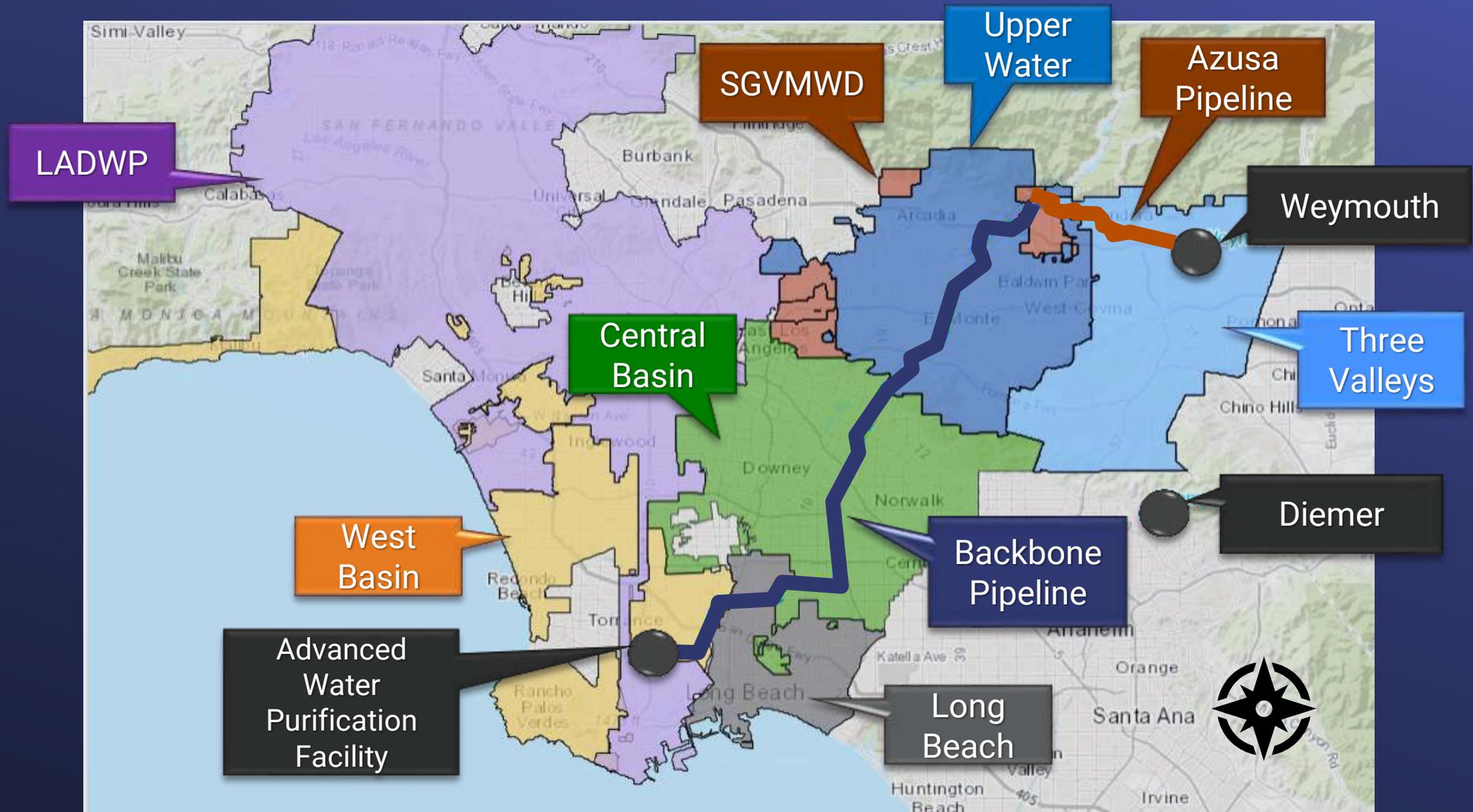
Improves  
Groundwater  
Sustainability

Improves Local  
Supply  
Development

Increases  
Available Supply  
During Seismic  
Emergency

Increases  
Operational  
Flexibility

# Map of Member Agency and SWP Partners



# Proposed Guiding Principles for Partnerships

## Member Agency Partnerships

- West Basin MWD
- LADWP
- Long Beach
- Central Basin MWD
- Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD
- Three Valleys MWD

## Colorado River Partnerships

- Southern Nevada Water Authority
- Arizona Parties

## State Water Project Partnerships

- SGVMWD
- Others?

# Summary of Guiding Principles for Member Agency Partnerships

## New Regional Supply

- Provide new regional supply for Metropolitan to augment existing sources

## Reliability

- Maximize opportunities when member agency's demand for PWSC aligns with water supplies produced by PWSC, thereby allowing Metropolitan to maximize production from PWSC
- Enhance regional benefits

## Flexibility

- Balance operational flexibility for Metropolitan & member agencies while maximizing PWSC
- Member agencies would agree to purchase certain amount of water on average

## Quality Water

- Provide high-quality water & reduce regulatory compliance costs through a shared risk framework

## New Local Facilities

- Develop equitable approach to allocation of responsibilities & costs
- Balance member agency responsibility for local facilities with flexibility to develop PWSC infrastructure in the most effective way for Metropolitan to deliver water

# Summary of Proposed Guiding Principles for Colorado River Partnerships

## Equity

- Ensure the quantity of water available to SNWA or Arizona Parties aligns with and is proportional to their investment

## Flexibility

- Provide flexibility for Metropolitan & partners
- Afford Metropolitan the ability to store water during surplus years
  - Partners to take water for direct delivery, storage and use in a subsequent year, or subsequent exchange
  - Metropolitan would have first right of refusal for any exchange with others

## Adaptability

- Reflect that execution of the partnerships is dependent upon the rules applicable to the Colorado River parties
- Partnership must be supported by the rules and may need to change as the rules change

# Summary of Proposed Guiding Principles for SGVMWD Partnership

## Exchange

- Develop opportunities to make PWSC water available to SGVMWD in exchange for SGVMWD making State Water Project water available to Metropolitan

## Shared Infrastructure

- Give Metropolitan the ability to use the facilities of SGVMWD to maximize regional benefits by conveying purified water for downstream potable reuse

## Equity

- Ensure that the quantity of purified water Metropolitan makes available to SGVMWD aligns with the benefits of potential exchanges and infrastructure sharing

## Flexibility

- Provide operational flexibility for Metropolitan and for SGVMWD

## Quality Water

- Provide SGVMWD with high-quality purified water for groundwater replenishment

# Proposed Next Steps to Prepare for Board Decisions

- Next Steps for Guiding Principles
  - Receive feedback from the Board on Guiding Principles
  - Guiding Principles for Partnership Board Action
- Upcoming Technical Studies for PWSC
  - Operational Scenarios Analysis
  - Assessment of DPR Implementation Strategy
  - Pump-in Policy Considerations for DPR
- Future Program Items
  - Approve EIR in early 2026
  - Future PWSC implementation & staging decision
  - Develop term sheets based upon guiding principles

