



- **Board of Directors**
Engineering, Operations, and Technology Committee

7/14/2026 Board Meeting

7-1

Subject

Award a \$7,159,500 contract to Shimmick Construction Company Inc. to replace two radial gates along the San Diego Canal and authorize an increase of \$515,000 to an agreement with Lee & Ro Inc. for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$1,419,000 for technical support during construction; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Executive Summary

The San Diego Canal supplies raw water to Lake Skinner and the San Diego County Water Authority. Radial gates V-06 and V-08 are used to shut down, isolate, and divert flows along the aqueduct and canal. These gates have been in continuous operation for 30 years, exhibit severe corrosion and material loss, and require replacement.

This action awards a construction contract to remove and replace the two radial gates and authorizes an increase to an existing agreement with Lee & Ro Inc. for technical support during construction. See **Attachment 1** for the Allocation of Funds, **Attachment 2** for the Abstract of Bids, **Attachment 3** for the Subcontractors for Low Bidder, and **Attachment 4** for the Location Map.

Proposed Action(s)/Recommendation(s) and Options

Staff Recommendation: Option #1

Option #1

- Award a \$7,159,500 contract to Shimmick Construction Company Inc. to replace the two radial gates along the San Diego Canal; and
- Authorize an increase of \$515,000 to an agreement with Lee & Ro Inc. for a new not-to-exceed total of \$1,419,000 for technical support during construction.

Fiscal Impact: Expenditure of \$10.9 million in capital funds. Approximately \$10.7 million in capital funds will be incurred in the current biennium and have been previously authorized. The remaining capital expenditures will be funded from the next capital investment plan budget.

Business Analysis: This option will increase operational reliability of the San Diego Canal delivery system and reduce the risk of uncontrolled and unplanned release of water to the surrounding areas.

Option #2

Do not proceed with the project at this time

Fiscal Impact: None

Business Analysis: This option would forego an opportunity to enhance the reliability of the San Diego Canal delivery system. Further deterioration of any of the gates could lead to excessive leakage, more extensive repairs, and increased costs.

Alternatives Considered

Staff considered deferring this project and continuing to inspect the gates annually to closely monitor their level of deterioration. An inspection in 2021 determined that the gates were heavily corroded and needed timely replacement. Interim repairs were performed on radial Gate V-08, consisting of patch plates welded over cracks to reinforce the gate. These weld repairs were temporary fixes to prevent catastrophic failure and keep the gate functioning until a new gate is installed. Staff recommend replacing the gates, which have exceeded their service life, with new gates that provide greater reliability and less maintenance.

Applicable Policy

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 8121: General Authority of the General Manager to Enter Contracts

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 11104: Delegation of Responsibilities

Related Board Action(s)/Future Action(s)

By Minute Item 52731, dated March 8, 2022, the Board authorized the final design to rehabilitate the V-06 and V-08 radial gates.

By Minute Item 54446, dated April 14, 2026, the Board appropriated a total of \$1.025 billion for projects identified in the Capital Investment Plan for Fiscal Years 2026/2027 and 2027/2028.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

CEQA determination for Option #1:

The proposed action is exempt from CEQA because it involves the operation, repair, and maintenance of existing public structures, facilities and mechanical equipment involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use and no possibility of significantly impacting the physical environment. In addition, the proposed action is exempt from CEQA because it consists of the replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced. Finally, the proposed action is exempt from CEQA because it consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. (State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15301, 15302, and 15304.)

CEQA determination for Option #2:

None required

Details and Background

Background

The San Diego Canal is located in Riverside County and supplies raw water to Lake Skinner and the San Diego County Water Authority. Radial gates V-06 and V-08 are key parts of the San Diego Canal system and are used to shut down, isolate, and divert flows along the canal. Each radial gate is constructed of a steel framework that resembles a slice of pie, with a curved plate that rotates to block flow when the gate is in the closed position. An electric motor actuator pivots the gate upward from the closed to the open position. The electric motor, hoisting mechanism, and radial gate are mounted on a concrete structure.

Gate V-06 has a width of 30 feet and a height of 15 feet, while Gate V-08 has a width of 15 feet and a height of 15 feet. Gate V-06 controls flow from the San Diego Canal into Lake Skinner and has been in continuous service since its original installation more than 45 years ago. During that time, the gate has received routine maintenance. Gate V-08 is located at the turnout from the Casa Loma Canal to the San Diego Canal. This gate was originally installed 45 years ago and was replaced during the San Diego Canal Enlargement Project in the early 1990s.

Inspections have identified that the gates' structural members are severely corroded and require replacement. Protective coatings on various components of the gates have begun to fail. The gates have a fiberglass laminate applied to the curved plate's face in contact with water. This laminate is deteriorating and has pulled away from the curved plate in several instances. Significant metal loss has occurred on portions of the steelwork and mounting brackets. Interim repairs were needed on radial gate V-08, consisting of patch plates welded over cracks to reinforce the gate. These weld repairs were temporary fixes to prevent catastrophic failure and keep the gate functioning until a new gate is installed. The existing motor actuators used to open and close the gates have also deteriorated. The final design for replacement of the gates is now complete, and staff recommend awarding a construction contract at this time.

San Diego Canal Radial Gates Rehabilitation – Construction

The scope of construction includes fabricating and installing new stainless-steel radial gates, fabricating drop gates which will be used to facilitate radial gate installation, replacing the gate actuators, electrical upgrades, and paving and grading improvements. Metropolitan forces will perform shutdown work on the canal, including dewatering in preparation for the contractor's work. The work will be performed over two planned shutdowns scheduled for February 2027 and 2028. During the first shutdown, the contractor will take detailed measurements and install guide rails for the new gates. The contractor will demolish the existing gates and install the replacement gates in the second shutdown.

A total of \$10.9 million is allocated for this work including the amount of the contract and \$515,000 for construction support by Lee & Ro, Inc. Allocated funds for Metropolitan staff include: \$880,000 for Metropolitan force activities as described above; \$946,000 for construction management and inspection; \$486,000 for submittal review, technical support during construction, responding to requests for information, and archiving record drawings; \$453,000 for contract administration, environmental monitoring, and project management; and \$460,500 for remaining budget. **Attachment 1** provides the allocation of the required funds.

Award of Construction Contract (Shimmick Construction Company Inc.)

Specifications No. 2130 for the San Diego Canal Radial Gates Rehabilitation was advertised for bids on March 20, 2026. As shown in **Attachment 2**, five bids were received and opened on May 14, 2026. The low bid from Shimmick Construction Company Inc., in the amount of \$7,159,500, complies with the requirements of the specifications. The other bids ranged from \$7,737,000 to \$9,490,000, while the engineer's estimate for this project was \$8,800,000. For this contract, Metropolitan established a Small Business Enterprise (SBE) participation level of at least 25 percent of the bid amount. Shimmick Construction Company Inc. has agreed to meet this level of participation. The subcontractors for this contract are listed in **Attachment 3**.

This action awards a \$7,159,500 contract to Shimmick Construction Company Inc. to replace two radial gates along the San Diego Canal. As described above, Metropolitan staff will perform construction management and inspection. Engineering Services' performance metric target range for construction management and inspection of projects with construction costs greater than \$3 million is 9 to 12 percent. For this project, the anticipated inspection cost is approximately 11.8 percent of the total construction cost. The total cost of construction for this project is \$8,039,500, which includes the contract amount (\$7,159,500) and Metropolitan force activities (\$880,000).

Engineering Services (Lee & Ro Inc.) – Amendment of Existing Agreement


Lee & Ro Inc. was prequalified via Request for Qualifications No. 1215 and performed final design for the replacement of the radial gates along the San Diego Canal under an existing board-authorized professional services agreement. As the engineer of record, Lee & Ro Inc. is recommended to provide technical support during construction. Planned activities include responding to contractor information requests, reviewing submittals, advising staff on technical issues as they arise during construction, and preparing record drawings. The estimated cost for these services is \$515,000.

This action authorizes an increase of \$515,000 to the existing agreement with Lee & Ro Inc. for a new not-to-exceed total of \$1,419,000 to provide technical support during construction. For this agreement, Metropolitan has

established an SBE participation level of 100 percent. Lee & Ro Inc. is an SBE firm and thus achieves 100 percent SBE participation.

Project Milestone


April 2028 – Completion of construction



Mai M. Hattar
Chief Engineer
Engineering Services

6/17/2026

Date



Shivaji Deshmukh
General Manager

6/17/2026

Date

Attachment 1 – Allocation of Funds

Attachment 2 – Abstract of Bids

Attachment 3 – Subcontractors

Attachment 4 – Location Map

Ref# es12709335

Allocation of Funds for San Diego Canal Radial Gates Rehabilitation

	Current Board Action (July 2026)
Labor	
Studies & Investigations	\$ -
Final Design	-
Owner Costs (Program mgmt., envir. monitoring)	453,000
Submittals Review & Record Drwgs.	486,000
Construction Inspection & Support	946,000
Metropolitan Force Construction	880,000
Materials & Supplies	-
Incidental Expenses	-
Professional/Technical Services	
Lee & Ro Inc.	515,000
Right-of-Way	-
Equipment Use	-
Contracts	
Shimmick Construction Company Inc.	7,159,500
Remaining Budget	460,500
Total	\$ 10,900,000

The total amount expended to date is approximately \$2.65 million. The total estimated cost to complete the installation of the two radial gates, including the amount appropriated to date, and funds allocated for the work described in this action, is \$13.6 million.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Abstract of Bids Received on May 14, 2026, at 2:00 P.M.

**Specifications No. 2130
San Diego Canal Radial Gates Rehabilitation**

The work includes replacement of the existing radial gates with new stainless-steel radial gates, fabrication of drop gates to facilitate the radial gate installation, replacement of the actuators, electrical upgrades, and paving and grading improvements.

Engineer's estimate: \$8,800,000

Bidder and Location	Total	SBE \$	SBE %	Met SBE¹
Shimmick Construction Company Inc. Irvine, CA	\$7,159,500	\$1,759,500	25%	Yes
J.F Shea Construction Inc. Walnut, CA	\$7,737,000	-	-	-
Environmental Construction Inc. Woodland Hills, CA	\$8,535,244	-	-	-
MMC Inc. La Palma, CA	\$8,854,000	-	-	-
Caliagua Inc. Anaheim, CA	\$9,490,000	-	-	-

¹ Small Business Enterprise (SBE) participation level established at 25 percent for this contract.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Subcontractors for Low Bidder

**Specifications No. 2130
San Diego Canal Radial Gates Rehabilitation**

Low bidder: Shimmick Construction Company Inc.

Subcontractor	Service Category; Specialty
Hardy & Harper Inc. Lake Forest, CA	AC Paving
Southern Contracting Company San Marcos, CA	Electrical

Distribution System

