



● **Board of Directors**

1/10/2023 Board Meeting

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**8-1**

**Subject**

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Approve employment contract for the new General Auditor; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

**Executive Summary**

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Approval is requested to enter into an employment agreement with the selected General Auditor, Mr. Scott Suzuki.

**Details**

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Pursuant to the action taken at the Board of Directors Meeting of December 13, 2022, the former Chairwoman of the Board has negotiated terms and conditions of an employment contract with Mr. Scott Suzuki as the Board's selected General Auditor. The following compensation and benefits are recommended for the Board's authorization for Mr. Suzuki:

- Annual salary of \$280,000.
- Car allowance of \$700 per month as authorized by Metropolitan's policy.
- Accrual of four weeks of vacation per year as permitted by Metropolitan's Administrative Code Section 6226.
- For involuntary severance unrelated to misconduct, twelve months compensation, and benefits to be received, at Mr. Suzuki's option, as paid leave or lump sum payment.
- Executive outplacement services shall be made available to Mr. Suzuki for 180 days following an involuntary separation.

All other compensation and benefits as provided to other unrepresented Metropolitan employees.

**Policy**

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Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 6401: Method of Appointment and Removal

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code, Division VI, Chapter 5, Management and Confidential Employees – General, Article 2 – Benefits

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 11104: Delegation of Responsibilities

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

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**CEQA determination for Option #1:**

The proposed action is not defined as a project under CEQA because it involves continuing administrative activities, such as personnel-related actions and general policy and procedure making (Section 15378(b)(2) of the State CEQA Guidelines). In addition, the proposed action is not subject to CEQA because it involves other government fiscal activities, which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment (Section 15378(b)(4) of the State of CEQA Guidelines).

**CEQA determination for Option #2:**

None required

**Board Options**

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**Option #1**

Approve an employment contract with Mr. Scott Suzuki as General Auditor, containing the terms and conditions set forth above.

**Fiscal Impact:** \$288,400 per year not including the cost of other Unrepresented benefits and those expressly provided for above.


**Option #2**

Reject recommendation and direct the Chair of the Board to renegotiate an employment contract with Mr. Suzuki.


**Staff Recommendation**

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Option #1

  
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Diane Pitman  
Human Resources Group Manager

1/9/2023  
Date

  
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Adan Ortega  
Chair of the Board

1/9/2023  
Date