



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

7/8/2025 Board Meeting

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7-2

## Subject

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Award a \$1,718,000 construction contract to Myers and Sons Construction, LLC to refurbish a washwater reclamation plant basin at the Joseph Jensen Water Treatment Plant; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

## Executive Summary

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The Joseph Jensen Water Treatment Plant (Jensen plant) currently uses two washwater reclamation plant (WWRP) basins to treat used filter backwash water and supernatant from the gravity solids thickeners. This system is critical to the water treatment process. Despite receiving regular maintenance, the shafts and associated baffle wall boards in the flocculation basins have deteriorated from 30 years of continuous operation. One WWRP basin was refurbished in 2017. The design to refurbish the other operational WWRP basin is complete, and staff recommends moving forward with construction at this time to enhance the reliability of the Jensen plant.

This action awards a \$1.718 million construction contract to Myers and Sons Construction, LLC to refurbish a WWRP flocculation basin. 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

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### Staff Recommendation: Option #1

#### Option #1

Award a \$1,718,000 construction contract to Myers and Sons Construction, LLC to refurbish a washwater reclamation plant basin at the Joseph Jensen Water Treatment Plant.

**Fiscal Impact:** Expenditure of \$2.64 million in capital funds. All costs will be incurred in the current biennium and have been previously authorized.

**Business Analysis:** This option will enhance the reliability and operating efficiency of the Jensen plant.

#### Option #2

Do not proceed with this project at this time.

**Fiscal Impact:** None

**Business Analysis:** As the reclamation system is an integral part of the Jensen plant's water treatment process, this option would increase the risk of an unplanned outage at the Jensen plant.

## Alternatives Considered

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Staff considered procuring materials and utilizing Metropolitan forces for manufacturing, installing, and commissioning the required mechanical and structural components to refurbish the WWRP flocculation basin. After assessing the current in-house construction support commitments and upcoming maintenance needs of critical water delivery and conveyance facilities, staff recommends using a contractor to perform the construction work.

The selected alternative will maintain staff's ability to perform annual maintenance at other Metropolitan facilities and perform urgent repairs. This approach will minimize operational disruptions and ensure timely construction completion.

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**Applicable Policy**

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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

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

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By Minute Item 53598, dated April 9, 2024, the Board appropriated a total of \$630 million for projects identified in the Capital Investment Plan for Fiscal Years 2024/25 and 2025/26

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**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

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**CEQA determination for Option #1:**

The proposed action is exempt from CEQA because it involves the operation, repair, maintenance, and minor alteration of existing public structures involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use and no possibility of significantly impacting the physical environment. Furthermore, the proposed action 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. (State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15301 and 15302.)

**CEQA determination for Option #2:**

None required

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**Details and Background**

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**Background**

The Jensen plant was placed into service in 1972 and has a rated capacity of 750 million gallons per day (mgd). Located in Granada Hills, the Jensen plant treats water from the West Branch of the State Water Project. It delivers it to Metropolitan's Central Pool and exclusive service areas on the west side of Metropolitan's distribution system.

The washwater reclamation plant is integral to the Jensen plant's water treatment process and needed to meet water quality requirements. Spent water from filter backwash and supernatant from gravity solids thickeners are collected and processed in the WWRP, which includes basins partitioned for coagulation, flocculation, and settling of suspended solids. This reclaimed water is returned to the plant's inlet for additional treatment. The Jensen plant's reclamation facilities consist of four treatment basins split between two plants. WWRP No. 1, which was constructed in 1972 as part of the original plant construction, has a treatment capacity of 11 mgd, and has been placed in a "standby" status as its treatment capacity is not needed with reduced flows through the Jensen plant. WWRP No. 2, which was added during the plant expansion in 1995, has a treatment capacity of 22 mgd, and is the primary washwater reclamation plant at Jensen plant.

Due to the lower flows expected at the Jensen plant, staff has focused on keeping WWRP No. 2 functional to maintain plant reliability. The washwater reclamation basins are equipped with rotating flocculation equipment, including paddle shafts and, boards and baffle walls to regulate flow and promote mixing and settling. Despite receiving regular maintenance, this equipment has deteriorated from 30 years of continuous operation and no longer provides uniform flow distribution as initially designed. One flocculation basin in WWRP No. 2 was refurbished in 2017. Final design for the refurbishment of the other basin is complete, and staff recommends the award of a construction contract at this time.

### **Jensen Wastewater Reclamation Plant Flocculation Basin Refurbishment – Construction**

The scope of the construction contract includes replacement or refurbishment of mechanical components at one WWRP No. 2 flocculation basin, including drive shaft assemblies, flocculator paddle boards, baffle wall boards, flocculator stuffing box, flocculator paddle arm shaft assemblies, and shaft bearings. Metropolitan forces will provide support for shutdown, dewatering, wet testing, and alignment verification for the rotating equipment, and install cathodic protection.

A total of \$2.64 million is allocated for this work. In addition to the amount of the construction contract described above, allocated funds for Metropolitan staff include \$210,000 for submittal review, responses to requests for information, and preparation of record drawings; \$104,000 for Metropolitan force work described above; \$230,000 for construction management and inspection; \$190,000 for contract administration, environmental support, and project management; and \$188,000 for remaining budget. **Attachment 1** provides the allocation of the required funds.


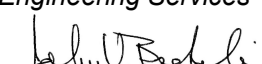
#### ***Award of Construction Contract (Myers and Sons Construction, LLC)***

Specification 2031 for refurbishing a WWRP No. 2 flocculation basin at the Jensen plant was advertised for bids on April 8, 2025. As shown in **Attachment 2**, five bids were received and opened on May 20, 2025. The low bid from Myers and Sons Construction, LLC, in the amount of \$1,718,000 complies with the requirements of the specifications. The other bids ranged from \$1,723,000 to \$2,877,700, while the engineer's estimate for this project was \$1,150,000. Staff investigated the difference between the engineer's estimate and the low bid and concluded that the low bid reflects anticipated increased costs for specialized labor to achieve the tight tolerances specified for alignment of the flocculator shafts and bearings. The close cost correlation of the three lower bids (within two percent) confirms the magnitude of labor required for this project. For this contract, Metropolitan established a Small Business Enterprise participation level of 25 percent. Myers and Sons Construction, LLC has agreed to meet this level of participation. The subcontractors for this contract are listed in **Attachment 3**.

This action awards a \$1.718 million contract to Myers and Sons Construction, LLC for refurbishment of a flocculation basin at the Jensen plant's WWRP No. 2. As mentioned above, Metropolitan staff will perform construction management and inspection. Engineering Services performance metric target range for construction management and inspection of projects with construction less than \$3 million is 9 to 15 percent. For this project, the performance metric goal for inspection is 12.6 percent of the total construction cost. The total construction cost for this project is \$1.822 million, including the contract cost (\$1.718 million) and Metropolitan force work (\$104,000).

#### ***Project Milestone***

June 2026 – Completion of construction

	6/17/2025
Mai M. Hattar Interim Chief Engineer Engineering Services	Date
	6/17/2025
John Bednarski Assistant General Manager	Date

#### **Attachment 1 – Allocation of Funds**

#### **Attachment 2 – Abstract of Bids**

#### **Attachment 3 – Subcontractors for Low Bidder**

#### **Attachment 4 – Location Map**

## Allocation of Funds for Jensen Wastewater Reclamation Plant No. 2 Flocculation Basin Refurbishment

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	<b>Current Board Action (Jul. 2025)</b>
Labor	
Studies & Investigations	\$ -
Final Design	-
Owner Costs (Program mgmt., envir. monitoring)	190,000
Submittals Review & Record Drwgs.	210,000
Construction Inspection & Support	230,000
Metropolitan Force Construction	86,000
Materials & Supplies	18,000
Incidental Expenses	-
Professional/Technical Services	-
Equipment Use	-
Contracts	
Myers and Sons Construction, LLC	1,718,000
Remaining Budget	188,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,640,000</b>

The total amount expended to date to refurbish the Jensen WWRP flocculation basin that is the subject of this action is approximately \$170,000. The total estimated cost to complete this project, including the amount appropriated to date and funds allocated for the work described in this action, is \$2.81 million.

## The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

### Abstract of Bids Received on May 20, 2025, at 2:00 P.M.

#### Specifications No. 2031

#### Jensen Wastewater Reclamation Plant No. 2 Flocculation Basin Refurbishment

The work includes furnishing and installing new basin bearing assemblies, stub shafts, drive shafts, tail shafts, supporting mechanical equipment, wall boards, and paddle blades; and refurbishing the paddle arm shaft, stuffing box assemblies, hubs and dry well, and basin bearing leveling plates.

**Engineer's estimate:** \$1,150,000

<b>Bidder and Location</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>SBE \$</b>	<b>SBE %</b>	<b>Met SBE<sup>1</sup></b>
Myers and Sons Construction, LLC Sacramento, CA	<b>\$1,718,000</b>	<b>\$618,607</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>Yes</b>
West Valley Investment Group Tarzana, CA	\$1,723,000	-	-	-
MMC Inc. La Palma, CA	\$1,754,000	-	-	-
Houalla Enterprises Ltd. Newport Beach, CA	\$2,155,783	-	-	-
Minako America Corporation Gardena, CA	\$2,877,700	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup> Small Business Enterprise (SBE) participation level established at 25% for this contract.

**The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California****Subcontractors for Low Bidder****Specifications No. 2031****Jensen Washwater Reclamation Plant No. 2 Flocculation Basin Refurbishment**

**Low bidder:** Myers and Sons Construction, LLC

<b>Subcontractor</b>	<b>Service Category; Specialty</b>
Champion Painting Irvine, CA	Coatings
Tharsos Inc. La Mesa, CA	Demolition

