



● **Board of Directors**  
***Ad Hoc Committee on Facilities Naming***

8/15/2023 Board Meeting

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**7-6**

**Subject**

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Approve the nomination and renaming of Metropolitan's Pure Water Southern California Demonstration Plant as the Grace F. Napolitano Pure Water Southern California Innovation Center; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

**Executive Summary**

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Metropolitan's Facilities Naming Policy Principle establishes approved standard criteria and procedures to submit a naming request for consideration by Metropolitan's Board. The Board has received a nomination to rename the Pure Water Southern California Demonstration Plant in honor of Representative Grace F. Napolitano. The facility would be renamed the Grace F. Napolitano Pure Water Southern California Innovation Center.

**Timing and Urgency**

As soon as practical.

**Details**

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**Background**

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) is responsible for its facilities, including the construction of new facilities and operations and maintenance of existing facilities. A Metropolitan facility may be named or renamed after an individual, group of individuals, or an organization. The criteria shall include but are not limited to: (1) Substantial, important, and positive impact upon Metropolitan as a member of its board or personnel; (2) Personal achievements of the highest distinction in a public service role, while maintaining close ties with and providing significant support to MWD; and (3) Names that have historical or regional significance to the facility or location.

**Grace F. Napolitano Nomination**

U.S. House of Representative, Grace F. Napolitano, a staunch advocate for securing clean, reliable, and sustainable water supplies in Southern California, has proven to be an invaluable ally to Metropolitan. With unwavering dedication, she has championed causes such as increased water recycling, enhanced water conservation, innovation, and the safeguarding of our precious sources of drinking water. Her personal and professional achievements in a public service role are many, and the nomination is consistent with the established criteria for naming or renaming a Metropolitan facility.

Having been elected to the California Assembly in 1992, Napolitano swiftly established herself as a diligent worker and a staunch defender of environmental preservation, economic growth, and social equality. Since joining the U.S. House of Representatives in 1999, Napolitano has committed herself to improving the communities under her purview, with a particular focus on water-related matters, innovation, environmental protection, labor and economic development initiatives, and social equity issues. Notably, she has served as the lead Democrat on the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment for the past eight years, overseeing the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Water Act programs, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' water initiatives, and the development of the biannual Water Resources and Development Act (WRDA).

Ms. Napolitano's influence has been instrumental in securing the passage of the bipartisan WRDA bill, which empowers local agencies to spearhead U.S. Army Corps of Engineering projects. Moreover, as a member of the House Committee on Natural Resources, Representative Napolitano actively advocates for conservation, water recycling, desalination, and effective groundwater management as viable solutions to address Southern California's water requirements. Her relentless efforts extend to advancing water recycling initiatives and consistently advocating for annual funding allocations to support these projects.

The protection of the Colorado River's water quality has been a focal point of Napolitano's endeavors, and she tirelessly ensures that the U.S. Department of Energy receives essential funding to remediate uranium mill tailings near the Colorado River. She also played a pivotal role in establishing the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's large-scale water recycling program, which facilitates the progress of projects like the transformative Pure Water Southern California initiative and other statewide endeavors focused on recycled water implementation.

Ms. Napolitano's contributions to securing hydroelectric power allocations for Metropolitan and other historic power contractors, including granting Native American tribes access to new power resources, were pivotal in the passage of the Hoover Dam Power Allocation Act (P.L. 112-72). In addition, she co-sponsored key legislation aimed at bolstering the reliability of Metropolitan's imported water supply, such as the Water Supply, Reliability, and Environmental Improvement Act (P.L. 108-361), which established the CALFED program, and the Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan Authorization Act (P.L. 116-14).

Throughout her career, Representative Napolitano has been honored by many professional organizations and has raised public awareness, promoted innovative activities, and brought increased attention to water quality and supply issues (**Attachment 1.**) Representative Napolitano is a determined advocate who ardently serves her constituents, working diligently and transparently to address the pressing challenges faced by Metropolitan and other water agencies, both in the present and in preparation for the future.

**Attachment 2** is the nomination submittal for Grace F. Napolitano, submitted by Metropolitan's Chair of the Board of Directors. **Attachment 3** is a resolution signed by Metropolitan's Chair of the Board of Directors, two Vice Chairs, and the Secretary of the Board, as well as Metropolitan's General Manager, in support of this nomination. **Attachment 4** is a letter of support for this facility's renaming request in honor of Grace F. Napolitano from Central Basin Municipal Water District.

## Policy

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Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 11104: Delegation of Responsibilities

By Minute Item 51324, dated September 11, 2018, the Board adopted the proposed Metropolitan Facilities Naming Policy Principle as a Board-Adopted Policy Principle.

## 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 (Public Resources Code Section 21065, State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378) because it would not cause either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, and it involves organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. (Section 15378(b)(5) of the State CEQA Guidelines).

### CEQA determination for Option #2:

None required

**Board Options**

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**Option #1**

Approve the nomination and renaming of Metropolitan's Pure Water Southern California Demonstration Plant as the Grace F. Napolitano Pure Water Southern California Innovation Center.

**Fiscal Impact:** Minimal costs consisting of the estimated cost to provide signage for the facility. Staff work would be required to update the name of the project/facility on documents and information materials.

**Business Analysis:** Approval of nomination and renaming as the Grace F. Napolitano Pure Water Southern California Innovation Center will demonstrate her civic achievements of the highest distinction in a public service role, while maintaining close ties with and providing significant support to Metropolitan.

**Option #2**

Do not approve the nomination and renaming of Metropolitan's Pure Water Southern California Demonstration Plant.

**Fiscal Impact:** None

**Business Analysis:** If the nomination and renaming are not approved, Metropolitan would forgo the opportunity to acknowledge the civic achievements of Grace F. Napolitano and her support to Metropolitan.

**Staff Recommendation**

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**Option #1**

  
Sue Sims  
Group Manager – External Affairs  
8/10/2023  
Date

  
Adel Hagekhalil  
General Manager  
8/10/2023  
Date

**Attachment 1 – Napolitano Awards Hearings**

**Attachment 2 – MWD Facilities Naming Nomination**

**Attachment 3 – Representative Grace F. Napolitano Resolution**

**Attachment 4 – Napolitano CBMWD**

Ref# ea12694540

**Facilities Naming Ad Hoc Committee – Grace F. Napolitano****Background Information on Honors, Congressional Hearings and Public Forums**

Throughout her career, U.S. House Representative Napolitano has been actively involved in efforts to fund and secure clean and reliable water supplies for communities within her congressional district and throughout California. A few of the many examples of her leadership are detailed below and include:

- West Basin MWD Legislator of the Year Award for advancing legislation that addresses water supply reliability (March 2023)
- Gold de Fluery Medal by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (December 2020)
- Congressional Champion Award from Vinyl Institute in recognition of longstanding support of investing in the nation's water infrastructure (July 2020)
- Harriett Wieder Leadership Award by the Southern California Water Committee (November 2011)
- Award of Merit by the American Water Works Association (March 2009)

Ms. Napolitano has also convened several Congressional hearings and public forums in Southern California on policy issues and to discuss opportunities to ensure a sustainable water future. These have provided local residents with an opportunity to learn about programs and resources on water supplies, conservation and water efficiency, federal funding and water quality.

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March 21, 2023

**WEST BASIN BOARD ANNOUNCES LEGISLATORS OF THE YEAR***State and Federal Awardees Recognized for their Advocacy on California Water Issues*

**CARSON, Calif.** – The West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) Board of Directors announced its Legislator of the Year awardees. This award recognizes legislators who have been influential in advocating for and advancing legislation that addresses water supply resiliency.

West Basin Board President, and Division IV Director, Scott Houston thanked this year's recipients for their prudent and supportive efforts, stating "Our congressional and state delegations are vital in assisting West Basin to carry out our mission of delivering reliable, high-quality water to the communities we serve. These awards recognize the critical work of our legislators for their advocacy and commitment to water resiliency and long-term sustainability for California."

At the state level, West Basin honors three legislators for their ongoing support of water industry initiatives:


- > Laura Friedman, Assemblymember, 44<sup>th</sup> District
- > Jesse Gabriel, Assemblymember, 46<sup>th</sup> District
- > Reginald Jones-Sawyer, Assemblymember, 57<sup>th</sup> District

On the federal level, West Basin recognizes the leadership of the following members of Congress:

- > Dianne Feinstein, U.S. Senator for Calif.
- > Alex Padilla, U.S. Senator for Calif.
- > Grace Napolitano, U.S. Representative, 31<sup>st</sup> District of Calif.
- > Ted Lieu, U.S. Representative, 36<sup>th</sup> District of Calif.
- > Sydney Kamlager-Dove, U.S. Representative, 37<sup>th</sup> District of Calif.
- > Maxine Waters, U.S. Representative, 43<sup>rd</sup> District of Calif.

The West Basin Board of Directors and legislative team will present the awards to this year's recipients during the District's spring legislative trips to Sacramento, Calif. and Washington, D.C.

PDF:

- >  3-21-23-Press-Release-Legislator-of-the-Year-Awards-FINAL.pdf



## Napolitano Awarded Gold de Fleury Medal by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

December 18, 2020 [Press Release](#)

(WASHINGTON, DC) Today, Rep. Grace F. Napolitano (D-CA-32) announced she had been **selected by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to receive the Gold Order of the de Fleury Medal** for her significant contributions to Army Engineering.

"I am incredibly humbled and honored to receive this medal from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on behalf of all my hardworking personal and Transportation Subcommittee staff," **Napolitano said**. "The Corps of Engineers embodies the best of our nation—soldiers and civilians working every day domestically to protect us from flooding and to maintain our harbors, lakes, and rivers for the economic, recreational and environmental benefit of our country. The Corps designs and constructs our military bases, Veterans hospitals, and other key federal infrastructure, from the California delta to the Florida Everglades. And when abroad, the Corps provides the engineering and implementation support in the most difficult and dangerous places around the globe to keep our military safe, secure, and ready."

"The greatness of the Corps is found in the soldiers and civilians I have had a pleasure to work with during my 22 years in Congress and the past 6 years leading the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee. It is seen in their willingness to work with our communities to better service the needs of the people in all our areas," **Napolitano continued**. "These incredible public servants in the Los Angeles District, the South Pacific Division, and throughout the nation devote their lives to protecting the American people and improving our natural resources. They are an unseen, dedicated, and critical part of our government."

"It is truly a highlight of my career to be recognized by these invaluable public servants, and I commit to continue advocating in Congress for their best interests, which are the best interests of the nation, and to support their mission," **Napolitano concluded**.

Lt. Gen. Scott Spellmon, 55<sup>th</sup> Chief of Engineers and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, notified Napolitano of her selection to receive the award on December 7.

"Rep. Napolitano has been a staunch supporter of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects," said **Lt. Gen. Spellmon**. "Most recently she made securing funding for the Whittier Narrows Dam one of her top priorities. She understands the importance of dam safety work and water supply operations. She has spent years working with the Corps and advocating for this project and other infrastructure of national significance."

The 54th Chief of Engineers, retired Lt. Gen. Todd Semonite, selected Napolitano to receive the award. The award was scheduled to be presented in July 2020, however due to COVID-19, the award presentation is now scheduled for July 2021.

The Order of the de Fleury was established in 1779 in honor of Francois Louis Tesseidre de Fleury, a French engineer, who volunteered to serve during the American Revolution. There are four different levels of the award, which are steel, bronze, silver and gold, with gold being the most prestigious.

The chief of engineers selects one gold award recipient from inside the Engineer Regiment, and one recipient from outside the regiment, each year.

# # #

## Vinyl Institute Presents Congressional Champion Award to Congresswoman Napolitano



Grace Flores Napolitano is being honored for her tireless efforts advancing legislation that addresses the critical needs of water infrastructure.

Clare Goldsberry | Jul 08, 2020

The Vinyl Institute (VI) announced the presentation of its Congressional Champion Award to Chairwoman Grace Flores Napolitano in recognition of her longstanding support of investing in the nation's water infrastructure.



Grace Flores Napolitano is US Representative for California's 32nd congressional district. Image courtesy Vinyl Institute.

"We are honoring Chairwoman Napolitano for her tireless efforts in advancing legislation that addresses the critical needs of our nation's water infrastructure," said Ned Monroe, VI President and CEO. "As an original co-sponsor of both the Water Quality and Job Creation Act and the SMART Infrastructure Act, Chairwoman Napolitano is adept at finding common ground on both sides of the aisle to effect legislation that has a positive impact on communities, jobs, and the economy."



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Chairwoman Napolitano represents California's 32<sup>nd</sup> district, which employs nearly 1,900 people at 12 facilities with an economic impact of more than \$289 million. Her Los Angeles County-based district covers several cities and communities in the San Gabriel Valley. She currently serves as chairwoman on the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, which oversees the US

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## Rep. Napolitano Recognized with Southern California Water Committee Award

November 17, 2011 [Press Release](#)

Today, Rep. Grace F. Napolitano was honored with the 2011 Harriett Wiedner Water Leadership Award by the Southern California Water Committee.

"I am honored and humbled to receive this award," Napolitano said. "Many challenges to our water supply remain for us to overcome, including climate change, a growing population, and the rising price of water. With continued cooperation at the local, state, and federal level, we can develop the reliable and inexpensive water supply we need to grow our economy. I thank the Southern California Water Committee and look forward to working together on these issues."

Napolitano was selected for her leadership on the Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2011, which reauthorizes the Hoover Dam to continue providing power to communities across California, Nevada, and Arizona through 2067. The bill also sets aside 5% of the dam's power to allow Native American tribes and other groups to access it for the first time. The House and Senate passed the bill last month after a multi-year effort.

Napolitano is the top Democrat on the House Water and Power Subcommittee.

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[Water](#)

## Rep. Napolitano Honored by American Water Works Association

March 24, 2009 [Press Release](#)

(Washington, DC) On March 24<sup>th</sup>, Rep. Napolitano was given an Award of Merit by the American Water Works Association (AWWA).

The award is given to "recognize achievement of those outside the water profession who have demonstrated outstanding service in support of the principles of AWWA in providing better water for people."

Rep. Napolitano is chair of the House Water and Power Subcommittee and Co-Chair of the House Water Caucus.

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[Water](#)



## Napolitano Holds Forum on SoCal's Water Future

August 31, 2017 **Press Release**

**(BALDWIN PARK, CA)** Today, Rep. Grace F. Napolitano (D-El Monte) held a public forum with local residents and leaders of industry, government, research, and academia at the Performing Arts Center of Baldwin Park to discuss how to achieve a sustainable water future for Southern California.

"Today's forum is truly a team effort with the central goal of securing a reliable, sustainable water supply for the San Gabriel Valley and all of Southern California," **Napolitano said**. "Universities, water agencies, cities, businesses, farmers, and residents must all work together, and science must continue to be at the root of our water policy discussions. We are grateful to have many of the brightest minds in their respective fields with us today, whose innovative approaches may help us address our toughest water supply challenges and infrastructure needs right here in the San Gabriel Valley. We thank all of our panelists for sharing their time and expertise and all who have come to learn, dialogue, and advance solutions for our region."

Approximately 125 people attended the forum and heard from more than a dozen speakers and panelists. Presentations highlighted ongoing challenges facing the region with unpredictable drought cycles and climate change, while offering insights into how to continue expanding Southern California's water portfolio with the emphasis on sustainability.

"This is a continuation of the Congresswoman's commitment to annually hold a water forum that brings together local water districts, government officials, and academic institutions to discuss the opportunities and issues of water importance to the 32<sup>nd</sup> District," **said Dave Wegner of the Water Science Technology Board, National Academy of Sciences**. "It allows for discussions between the users and regulators, and fosters an environment to look at innovative opportunities and approaches to water issues before they become problematic, while helping to educate young people on interacting with the government on water issues."

"As we work collaboratively to address our water supply needs, success will come through the sharing of information and resources," **said Anthony Zampello, the Executive Officer of the Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster**. "Events such as this increase partnership opportunities and help area water leaders to preserve and improve the water quality and quantity for our communities."

"It is critical that we work together to address our water problems," **said Thomas Wong, President of the Board of Directors for the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District**. "Today's forum was an excellent opportunity to learn about and engage with what's happening at the federal, state, and local levels as we prepare for our region's water future."

"Today was great to hear about all of the innovative and exciting water projects that will be important solutions to help with our water supply challenges," **said Sam Pedroza, Claremont City Councilman**. "I was happy to be here representing Claremont to explore ways to secure funding for local governments, from state and federal sources, to maintain affordable water prices for the San Gabriel Valley."

Napolitano is a long-time promoter of conservation, water recycling, desalination, and groundwater management as solutions to Southern California's water needs. She is the top Democrat on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, and a current member and former Ranking Member of the House Natural Resources Water, Power, and Oceans Subcommittee.

All presentations by panelists will be uploaded following the event and available here: <https://napolitano.house.gov/2017-socal-water-forum-presentations-panelists>.

# # #

**Community Event Environment Water**

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## Napolitano Holds SoCal Stormwater Forum



November 21, 2016 [Press Release](#)

**(San Dimas, CA)** On Friday, November 18, 2016, Rep. Grace F. Napolitano (D-El Monte) held a public forum with local residents and leaders of industry, government, research, and academia in the City of San Dimas to discuss how to achieve a sustainable water future for Southern California while meeting stormwater regulations.

"Southern California residents, cities and water agencies have made extraordinary efforts to tackle our current drought by conserving water and implementing alternative water supply projects, such as water recycling, stormwater capture, and groundwater management," **Napolitano said**. "We are so grateful to our speakers whose time and expertise are invaluable contributions to the discussion. As a product of forums like this one, I have introduced multiple bills in Congress to support our constituents by investing in these cost-effective, long-term solutions to address the drought and stormwater crisis. Congress must act to provide a sustainable water supply for our future and create good paying jobs in water construction and operations."

The forum was the combination of a series of workshops Napolitano has held on the Los Angeles County Municipal Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) permit and forums on developing a sustainable water future for Southern California. Eleven speakers and panelists offered proposals as to how to expand Southern California's water portfolio in a sustainable manner, stressing the importance of collaboration.

"It was great to come together with the Congresswoman today to hear about all of the exciting stormwater projects that are going to be important solutions to help with our drought conditions," **said Dr. Adam L. Smith, Assistant Professor at the University of Southern California School of Engineering**. "I was happy to be here representing USC to share the different campus initiatives we have to collect and reuse stormwater."

"As we work collaboratively to address our stormwater needs, the power comes through sharing resources and maximizing the inclusiveness of compliance," **said Dr. Alex Rojas, Superintendent of Bassett Unified School District**. "Whether between cities, counties, school districts, or universities, increasing the amount of compliance opportunities would be beneficial to all."

"It is wonderful to be brought together in a forum like this where we can share ideas," **said Alexandra Paxton, Program Manager at the Water Foundation**. "The solution to our stormwater quality issues and our water supply issues is only going to be achieved through collaboration and shared out of the box thinking."

"I was happy to participate in the SoCal Stormwater Forum having been invited to share the vast and professional experience of our 30,000 hardworking, well-trained men and women, as it relates to the stormwater issue in California," **said Robert Lizarraga, Marketing Representative at LECET (Laborers Employers Cooperation and Educators Trust) Southwest**. "We look forward to being a vital and important partner in utilizing our resources in bringing viable and realistic solutions to this issue."

Approximately 100 people attended the forum with the goal of continuing a water conversation and setting a different tone in addressing Southern California's water future. Panelist presentations and discussions among participants also highlighted ongoing challenges the region faces in working toward a sustainable water future.

## Rep. Napolitano Holds Forum on SoCal's Water Future

August 27, 2015 [Press Release](#)

**(Pomona, CA)** Today, Rep. Grace F. Napolitano (D-El Monte) held a public forum with local residents and leaders of industry, government, research, and academia at Cal Poly Pomona University to discuss how to achieve a sustainable water future for Southern California.

"We must collaborate to address our state's ongoing drought crisis and prepare for the future," **Napolitano said**. "Today we continue the important dialogue from two years ago, and we are pleased to bring together so many entities invested in water. Our drought challenges are more severe now, and a stronger, more comprehensive approach is needed."

Today's forum grew out of the water workshop held two years ago at Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Headquarters and coincided with the [State Water Resources Control Board's announcement of conservation numbers for July 2015](#), indicating a 28.3% reduction in water use in the South Coast hydrologic region, which encompasses Napolitano's San Gabriel Valley-based district. More than a dozen speakers and panelists offered insights into how to expand Southern California's water portfolio in a sustainable manner.

"It was great to see how we are working together to talk about these problems, how what we are doing at the state level is informed by NOAA, NASA and others," **said Janelle Beland**, California Natural Resources Agency Undersecretary. "Today's forum was a really good opportunity to showcase the coordination taking place as we consider our water future."

Approximately 150 people attended the forum with the goal of continuing a water conversation and setting a different tone in addressing Southern California's water future. Panelist presentations and discussions among participants also highlighted ongoing challenges the region faces in working toward a sustainable water future.

"The largest obstacle we face is cost," **said Caitrin Phillips Chappelle**, Associate Director of the Public Policy Institute of California. "Everything Southern California and other parts of the state want to do to diversify water supplies is expensive. Raising funds locally, getting state and federal support, and trying to maintain affordable water prices are our greatest challenges."

"It is critical that we fund and share new technologies, research, and innovation; science must be a part of our policy discussions," **Napolitano added**. "We must continue to educate each other and the public because without water, we have nothing."

Napolitano is the top Democrat on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment and a current member and former Ranking Member of the House Natural Resources Water and Power Subcommittee.

All presentations by panelists will be uploaded following the event and can be accessed [here](#).

**Community Event** [Water](#)

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## Rep. Napolitano's Congressional Hearing in L.A. Highlights Need for Increased Water Efficiency

January 26, 2010 [Press Release](#)

(Washington D.C.)- Yesterday, the Subcommittee on Water and Power, headed by Congresswoman Grace Napolitano, held an oversight field hearing on California's water problems in the Metropolitan Water District boardroom in Los Angeles. Three panels of expert witnesses testified to the complexity of California's water system and the effect its failures have had on water users ranging from farmers to fishermen to urban communities. It was clear from their testimony that California's water system is not up to the task of providing cheap, reliable water in times of drought. Looking to the future, witnesses identified long term trends of population growth and climate change that require new measures in conservation, water recycling, and reuse to make California's water supply more stable and reliable during future drought cycles.

"We need to change the way we think about water. The public has to be informed and educated so that they know the facts, and realize that we have to look to new solutions for our future," Napolitano said. "Growing population and climate change mean that we need to continue to install water conservation, recycling, and reuse measures as a safety net for times when water is tight."

"By 2050, scientists project a loss of at least 25 percent of the Sierra snowpack," said Director of California's Department of Water Resources Lester Snow, speaking about a critical source of water for the state that fills streams and underground aquifers. "Our new reality is that we must manage a resource characterized by uncertainty and vulnerability due to climate change."

"Drought in California is a fact of life," said Lucy Dunn, President of the Orange County Business Council. "Drought will return, and without investment the effect will be to hurt the quality of life and economic competitiveness of the state."

"We have to do the most effective, most cost effective things first," said Dr. Peter Gleick, President of the Pacific Institute and an expert on water issues. "Improving the efficiency of our water use is the cheapest, easiest, fastest, and least destructive way to meet California's current and future water supply needs."

The hearing was held in Southern California due to the success local water agencies there have had in dealing with drought. Los Angeles cut its water usage 18.4% this summer, its lowest water usage in 18 years at a time when its population has increased by 500,000 people. San Diego and Riverside Counties reduced their water usage by 13%, and the city of Long Beach reduced its usage 21% from its ten-year average.

"Here in Southern California, local governments and agencies have responded by partnering with state and Federal agencies to achieve tremendous reductions in per capita water use," said Mike Connor, Commissioner in the Bureau of Reclamation in the US Department of the Interior. "We know that an emphasis on water conservation is key to the sustainability of the state of California."

"Despite the welcome recent rains and the good effort on local conservation, the underlying crisis remains and will be readily apparent in the months and years ahead," said Jeffrey Kightlinger, General Manager of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

"It is clear that there is a critical role in California for assistance from Congress," Napolitano said. "We have listened to experts, government officials, and people whose livelihoods rely on the cheap flow of water and will continue to do so. With this knowledge we can work on behalf of California to support an efficient water system that provides cheap, reliable water even in times of drought."

(###)

**Water**

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THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT  
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

## Metropolitan Facilities Naming Request Form

It is the policy of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California ("Metropolitan") acting through its Board of Directors to name and rename facilities. The naming and renaming criteria and procedures are available in the **Metropolitan Facilities Naming Policy Principle**. This form shall be used by an individual, groups of individuals or organization proposing names for new Metropolitan facilities or the renaming of existing Metropolitan facilities.

1. **Name for consideration:** Grace F. Napolitano
  - ☐ Board to select appropriate Metropolitan facility
  - ☒ Facility proposed for naming or renaming: Grace F. Napolitano Pure Water Southern California Innovation Center (currently the PWSC Demonstration Facility)
2. **The criteria which the proposed name meets or satisfies:** (check all that apply)
  - ☐ Substantial, important and positive impact upon Metropolitan as a member of its Board or staff
  - ☒ Personal achievements of highest distinction in a public service role, while maintaining close ties with and providing significant support to Metropolitan
  - ☐ Names that have historical or regional significance to the facility or location, ordinarily not for living persons
  - ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
3. **Provide supporting documentation, as available:**
  - a. A memorandum giving the particulars of the naming request that includes the rationale for the naming, referring to relevant criteria;
  - b. Background and information about the individual, group of individuals, or organization for which the facility is to be named or renamed;
  - c. Letters of support for this request;
  - d. Other information that may be relevant to the potential implementation of the request such as historical photographs and articles;
  - e. A list of other facilities named, or being proposed to be named or renamed after the same individual, group of individuals or organizations, including location and date.

*You may be contacted by Metropolitan staff for additional information, if needed.*

**Name of Requestor:** Adan Ortega

**Mailing Address:** 1370 N Brea Blvd #235, Fullerton, CA 92835

**Telephone:** 714-600-4683 **Email:** AOrtegaJr@mw dh2o.com

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this application and supporting documents to: Metropolitan Board of Directors, P.O. 54153, Los Angeles, CA 90054-053 or **ssims@mw dh2o.com**

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Facilities Naming Request Form

*The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California*  
**REPRESENTATIVE GRACE NAPOLITANO**

*Whereas*, Grace Flores Napolitano was first elected to Congress in 1998 and has served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 24 years representing San Gabriel Valley and parts of Los Angeles County.

*Whereas*, Representative Napolitano is the highest-ranking California member the U.S. House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. For the last eight years, she has been the lead Democrats on the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.

*Whereas*, in this role Representative Napolitano oversees EPA’s Clean Water Act programs and US Army Corps of Engineers water programs and develops the biannual Water Resources and Development Act (WRDA).

*Whereas*, Representative Napolitano plays an instrumental role in passage of the bipartisan WRDA bill, authorizing locally driven Army Corps of Engineering projects, every two years since 2014.

*Whereas*, Representative Napolitano also serves on the House Committee on Natural Resources and is a long-time advocate for conservation, water recycling, desalination, and groundwater management as solutions to Southern California’s water needs.

*Whereas*, she helps advance water recycling projects throughout California and champions yearly appropriations for water recycling projects.

*Whereas*, Representative Napolitano works to protect the quality of Colorado River water and ensures the Department of Energy receives critical funding to clean up uranium mill tailings near the Colorado River.

*Whereas*, she helped create the Bureau of Reclamations new large-scale water recycling program to help advance our Pure Water Southern California project and other large-scale recycled water projects throughout California.


*Whereas*, Representative Napolitano played a pivotal role in passage of the Hoover Dam Power Allocation Act (P.L. 112-72) providing power to Metropolitan and other historical power contractors and allowing new access to power for Native American tribes.

*Whereas*, she also co-sponsored legislation to improve the reliability of Metropolitan’s imported water supply including the Water Supply, Reliability, and Environmental Improvement Act (P.L. 108-361) that created the CALFED program, and the Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan Authorization Act (P.L. 116-14).

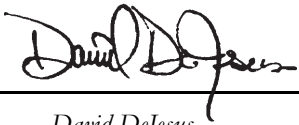
*Whereas*, Representative Napolitano works diligently and forthrightly on behalf of her constituents and helps water agencies address their current challenges and prepare for the future.

*Now, therefore, be it resolved*, The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California commends Representative Grace Napolitano for her leadership and guidance on California water issues.



  
Adán Ortega  
Chairman

  
Adel Hagekhalil  
General Manager

  
David DeJesus  
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Vice Chair

  
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Secretary

July 24, 2023

Director Michael Camacho  
Chair, Adhoc on Facilities Naming  
Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors  
700 N. Alameda Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re:** Support for Facilities Naming Request in Honor of Grace Napolitano

Dear Chairman Camacho:

On behalf of the Central Basin Municipal Water District, we are pleased to submit a letter to name a Metropolitan Water District (Metropolitan) facility in honor of Grace F. Napolitano, a devoted advocate for securing clean, reliable, and sustainable water supplies in Southern California. Congresswoman Napolitano's unwavering dedication, contributions, and leadership have championed many causes that have impacted our service territory and the entire State of California.

Congresswoman Napolitano quickly gained a reputation as a dedicated advocate for the environment, economic growth, and social equality after being elected to the State Assembly in 1992. She personally worked with local water suppliers to expand the use of recycled water in state and commercial facilities. After joining the U.S. House of Representatives in 1999, she focused on helping not only her constituents but the entire Western United States with safe and secure water supplies. She was among the first to recognize the need to supplement the aging workforce in the water supply arena and to drive funding towards training opportunities aimed at youth, veterans, women, and other potential talent pools.

Congresswoman Napolitano actively advocates for conservation, water recycling, desalination, and effective groundwater management as viable solutions to address Southern California's water requirements. Her relentless efforts extend to advancing water recycling initiatives and consistently advocating for billions in annual funding allocations to support these projects.

Our agency and our customers have greatly benefitted from Congresswoman Napolitano's outstanding leadership. For these efforts and many others, we respectfully request your consideration in naming a Metropolitan facility in honor of Grace F. Napolitano.

Sincerely,



Art Chacon  
Board President