

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Agenda

The mission of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is to provide its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

SP JT OWA and Subcommittee on Imported Water - Final - Revised 1

December 8, 2025

2:30 PM

Monday, December 8, 2025 Meeting Schedule
08:30 a.m. EOT 10:45 a.m. LEG 12:00 p.m. Break 12:30 p.m. AUDIT 02:30 p.m. JT OWA & IW

Written public comments received by 3:00 p.m. the business day before the meeting is scheduled will be posted under the Submitted Items and Responses tab available here: <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Legislation.aspx>.

The listen-only phone line is available at 1-877-853-5257; enter meeting ID: 873 4767 0235.

Members of the public may present their comments to the Board on matters within their jurisdiction as listed on the agenda teleconference and in-person. To provide public comment by teleconference dial 1-833-548-0276 and enter meeting ID: 876 9484 9772 or to join by computer [click here](#).

Disclaimer: Written and oral public comments are received in compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act. Please note that Metropolitan does not endorse or ensure the accuracy or reliability of the information provided as public comment or by third parties.

MWD Headquarters Building • 700 N. Alameda Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012\
Teleconference Locations:

Atlanta Marriott Marquis, Business Center • 265 Peachtree Center Avenue • Atlanta, GA 30303
3008 W. 82nd Place • Inglewood, CA 90305

* The Metropolitan Water District's meeting of this Committee is noticed as a joint committee meeting with the Board of Directors for the purpose of compliance with the Brown Act. Members of the Board who are not assigned to this Committee may participate as members of the Board, whether or not a quorum of the Board is present. In order to preserve the function of the committee as advisory to the Board, members of the Board who are not assigned to this Committee will not vote on matters before this Committee.

- 1. Opportunity for members of the public to address the committee on matters within the committee's jurisdiction (As required by Gov. Code Section 54954.3(a))**

**** CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS -- ACTION ****

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting Joint One Water & Adaptation Committee and Subcommittee on Imported Water for November 17, 2025 [21-5235](#)

3. COMMITTEE ITEMS (FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

- 7-5 Review and consider the Yuba County Water Agency certified Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report; Authorize an amendment to the Dry Year Water Purchase Program Agreement with the California Department of Water Resources to purchase water supply under the Yuba Accord Long-Term Water Transfer Program (OWA) [21-5264](#)
- 7-6 Adopt CEQA determination that the proposed action was previously addressed in the 2019 Mitigated Negative Declaration, and authorize an amendment extending the term to December 31, 2029 for the Rancho Los Cerritos – Looking Back to Advance Forward Project Agreement under the Stormwater for Direct Use Program (OWA) [21-5265](#)

**** END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS****

4. COMMITTEE ITEMS (ACTION FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

NONE

5. COMMITTEE ITEMS (INFORMATIONAL FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

NONE

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS (INFORMATIONAL)

- a. Report on Water Surplus and Drought Management [21-5266](#)
- b. Update on Local Resources Program and Local Resource Development Workshop [21-5267](#)
- c. Delta Conveyance Project Update [21-5268](#)

7. SUBCOMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. A pilot program for early retirement of alfalfa in the Palo Verde Valley [21-5270](#)
- b. Update on Colorado River negotiations and protection of Metropolitan's Colorado River water rights [Conference with legal counsel – anticipated litigation – deciding whether to initiate litigation; unknown number of potential cases; to be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)]. [DEFERRED on 11/25/2025] [21-5269](#)

8. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- a. Bay-Delta Resources activities [21-5236](#)
Colorado River Resources activities
Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation activities
Water Resources Management activities

Attachments: [12082025 JT OWA & IW 8a Bay-Delta Resources Activities](#)
[12082025 JT OWA IW 8a Colorado River Resources Activities](#)

9. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

NONE

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

11. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: This committee reviews items and makes a recommendation for final action to the full Board of Directors. Final action will be taken by the Board of Directors. Committee agendas may be obtained on Metropolitan's Web site <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. This committee will not take any final action that is binding on the Board, even when a quorum of the Board is present.

Writings relating to open session agenda items distributed to Directors less than 72 hours prior to a regular meeting are available for public inspection at Metropolitan's Headquarters Building and on Metropolitan's Web site <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>.

Requests for a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to attend or participate in a meeting should be made to the Board Executive Secretary in advance of the meeting to ensure availability of the requested service or accommodation.



Bay-Delta Resources

• Bay-Delta Management Report

Summary

This report provides a summary of activities related to the Bay-Delta for October 15 – November 15, 2025.

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Decide on Sites Reservoir and Protect our Bay-Delta Interests

Bring Sites Reservoir Analyses and Options to the Board for Consideration

At their October 17, 2025, meeting, the Sites Reservoir Committee and Authority Board approved actions tied to the 2026 Amendment 3 Work Plan, including: budget approval, strategic imperatives, and revisions to governance authorities.

The proposed fiscal year (FY) 2026 expense budget totals \$30 million. Revenue for FY 2026 includes \$12.5 million in carryover funds and \$17.5 million in new revenue, supported by \$10.9 million in state funding, \$5.7 million in federal funding, and \$415,000 in Authority Board dues, fully aligning with planned expenditures.

The Reservoir Committee and Authority Board authorized the Executive Director to issue a Request for Qualifications for a terrestrial biological compensatory mitigation contractor. This initiative is crucial for implementing mitigation measures outlined in the Project's Final Environmental Impact Report and permits, particularly as the largest construction costs will stem from compensatory mitigation for terrestrial biological resources. Coordination with construction timelines is essential to avoid delays.

Advance Science and Multi-Benefit Solutions That Improve the Sustainability of the Delta and Inform Regulation

Staff, in coordination with UC Davis, conducted field trials on the Pond Harvest Study. The full study will be conducted later this fall and will be used to optimize harvest protocols for pond culture of Delta smelt.

Staff met with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, US Bureau of Reclamation, Department of Water Resources (DWR), and UC Davis to conduct site visits on Bouldin Island regarding building an interim culture facility for the listed Delta smelt. The future facility will include a lease agreement with the federal agencies to expand their needs to quadruple their production of the listed species.

Delta Conveyance Project

At the October 16, 2025, regularly scheduled board meeting, the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) Board adopted a resolution recognizing and expressing appreciation to Director Miguel Luna for his dedicated service to the DCA. Director Luna was commended for his contributions as the DCA Board's Legislative Liaison, where he led multiple legislative education initiatives and participated in numerous speaking engagements in support of the Delta Conveyance Project. In mid-November, DWR provided Metropolitan with a \$75 million check consistent with the commitments DWR made in 2024 ahead of Metropolitan's vote to continue planning funding for the project.



Colorado River Resources

• Colorado River Management Report

Summary

This report provides a summary of activities related to management of Metropolitan’s Colorado River resources for October 21 – November 14, 2025.

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Develop Post-2026 Guidelines and Negotiate Implementation Agreements: Provide input that shapes U.S. Bureau of Reclamation’s (Reclamation) selected alternative

Colorado River Basin States (Basin States) Meetings

The Basin States continued to meet up to November 11, 2025, the deadline the Interior Department had given the Basin States to reach consensus on operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead in the post-2026 period. On that day, the Basin States and the federal team issued a joint statement:

The seven Colorado River Basin States together with the Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Reclamation recognize the serious and ongoing challenges facing the Colorado River. Prolonged drought and low reservoir conditions have placed extraordinary pressure on this critical water resource that supports 40 million people, tribal nations, agriculture, and industry.

While more work needs to be done, collective progress has been made that warrants continued efforts to define and approve details for a finalized agreement. Through continued cooperation and coordinated action, there is a shared commitment to ensuring the long-term sustainability and resilience of the Colorado River system.

On the same day Arizona leaders including the Governor and bipartisan leadership from state house and senate submitted a letter to Interior Secretary Burgum asking that he ensure that the Post-2026 Guidelines maintain compliance with the Colorado River Compact and stating that they “find it alarming that the Upper Basin States have repeatedly refused to implement any volume of binding, verifiable water supply reductions” and that this “extreme negotiating posture—four of the seven Basin States refusing to participate in any sharing of water shortages—has led to fundamental impasse that is preventing the successful development of a Seven-State consensus plan for management of the Colorado River.”

The Basin States have not yet reached agreement on the key operational elements of the Post-2026 Guidelines including criteria for releases from Lake Powell, Lower Basin reduction triggers, storage in Lake Mead, and whether and under what conditions the Upper Basin will reduce water uses, but will continue to meet to discuss these issues. Metropolitan staff participates in these meetings as advisors to California’s principal representative in the Basin States negotiations, JB Hamby, in his role as Chair of the Colorado River Board of California.

Board Report Colorado River Management Report

Colorado River Salinity Control Forum Meeting

Metropolitan hosted the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum meeting at Union Station on October 29. The Forum is made up of representatives from the seven Colorado River Basin States which provide guidance to numerous federal agencies on implementing the Colorado River Salinity Control Program. Due to the federal shutdown, federal staff was limited during the meeting. During the meeting, the Forum received a report from the Bureau of Reclamation that the paradox well has been operating at 2/3 capacity with no increase in seismic activity in the region. The well was shut down for a few years following an earthquake in Paradox Valley when the well was operating at full capacity, but it appears that the well can operate at reduced capacity without inducing additional earthquakes. The salinity near Metropolitan's intake at Lake Havasu is estimated to be 125 milligrams per liter lower due to the overall implementation of the Salinity Control Program.