

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.

OWA Committee

T. Quinn, Chair
K. Seckel, Vice Chair
L. Ackerman
D. Alvarez
J. Armstrong
G. Cordero
D. Erdman
M. Gold
M. Katz
C. Kurtz
J. Lewitt
J. McMillan
C. Miller
B. Pressman
G. Shepherd Romey

One Water and Adaptation Committee

Meeting with Board of Directors *

October 13, 2025

2:30 p.m.

Monday, October 13, 2025 Meeting Schedule

08:30 a.m. EOT
10:45 a.m. LEG
12:30 p.m. Break
01:00 p.m. CWC
02:30 p.m. OWA

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:

Cedars-Sinai Imaging Medical Group • 8700 Beverly Boulevard, Suite M 313 • Los Angeles, CA 90048

Conference Room • 1545 Victory Boulevard, 2nd Floor • Glendale, CA 91201

1005 South Cardiff Street • Anaheim, CA 92806

3008 W. 82nd Place • Inglewood, CA 90305

Peters Ridge • 2136 Spyglass Trail West • Oxnard, CA 93036

Scripps Institution of Oceanography, MESOM 208 • 8885 Biological Grade • La Jolla, CA 92037

* 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 ****

2. COMMITTEE ACTION (ONLY)

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting One Water and Adaptation Committee for August 18, 2025 **21-4998**

Attachments: [10132025 OWA 2A \(08182025\) Minutes](#)

3. COMMITTEE ITEMS (FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

- 7-7 Authorize on-call agreements with Helix Environmental Planning, Inc. and Rincon Consultants, Inc. in amounts not to exceed \$2 million each and ECORP Consulting, Inc., Dudek, and Environmental Science Associates in amounts not to exceed \$1 million each, for a maximum of five years for environmental planning services; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA **21-5076**

Attachments: [10142025 OWA 7-7 B-L](#)
[10132025 OWA 7-7 Presentation](#)

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

4. COMMITTEE ITEMS (ACTION FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

NONE

5. COMMITTEE ITEMS (INFORMATIONAL FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

NONE

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS (INFORMATIONAL)

- a. Quarterly Update on CAMP4W [21-5112](#)

Attachments: [10132025 OWA 6a Presentation](#)

- b. Update on Water Surplus and Drought Management [21-5113](#)

- c. Quarterly Update on Conservation Program [21-5114](#)

- d. Update on Basin States Discussions Regarding Post-2026 Operational Guidelines [21-5115](#)

Attachments: [10132025 OWA 6d Presentation](#)

7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- a. Bay-Delta Resources activities [21-5089](#)
Colorado River Resources activities
Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation activities
Water Resources Management activities

Attachments: [10142025 OWA 7a Bay-Delta Resources Activities](#)
[10142025 OWA 7a Colorado River Resources Activities](#)
[10142025 OWA 7a Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation Activities](#)
[10142025 OWA 7a Water Resources Management Activities](#)

8. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- a. Report from Subcommittee on Imported Water [21-5090](#)
- b. Discuss and provide direction to Subcommittee on Imported Water [21-5091](#)

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.

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

ONE WATER AND ADAPTATION COMMITTEE

August 18, 2025

Vice Chair Katz called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

Members present: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Erdman, Gold (teleconference posted location), Katz, Kurtz, Lewitt, McMillan, Miller, Pressman (teleconference posted location), and Shepherd Romey.

Members absent: Directors Armstrong, Cordero, and Quinn.

Other Board Members present: Directors De Jeus, Faessel, Fellow, Fong-Sakai, Jay, McCoy, Ortega, Ramos, Seckel, and Sutley.

Committee Staff present: Crosson, Goshi, Hasencamp, Munguia, Neudeck, Rubin, Schlotterbeck, and Upadhyay.

1. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION

Public Speakers included:

1. Maura Monigan, L. A WaterKeeper, spoke in support of item 8-3.
2. Neil Desai, National Parks Conservation Association, spoke in support of item 8-3
3. Garry Brown, O.C Coast Keeper, spoke in support of item 8-3.
4. Charming Evelyn, Sierra Club, spoke in support of item 8-3.
5. Caty Wagner, Sierra Club, spoke in support of item 8-3.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS -- ACTION

2. COMMITTEE ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting One Water and Stewardship Committee for July 7, 2025

Director Erdman made a motion, seconded by Director Miller, to approve the Consent Calendar consisting of item 2A.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Erdman, Gold, Katz, Kurtz, Lewitt, McMillan, Miller, Pressman, and Shepherd Romey.

Noes: None.

Abstentions: None.

Absent: Directors Armstrong, Cordero, and Quinn.

The motion for item 2A passed by a vote of 11 ayes, no noes, no abstentions, and 3 absent.

3. COMMITTEE ITEMS (FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

None.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

4. COMMITTEE ITEMS (ACTION FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

8-3 Subject: Authorize the Local Supply Exchange Framework; delegate authority to the General Manager to enter into agreements to facilitate the exchange; and amend the Metropolitan Administrative Code to facilitate exchanges; the General Manager has determined that the proposed actions are exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA. [REVISED SUBJECT on 8/4/2025]

Presented by: Tracy Abundez, Sr. Resource Specialist, Water Acquisition Team

Amended Motion: Authorize the Local Supply Exchange Framework; delegate authority to the General Manager to enter into agreements to facilitate the exchange; and amend the Metropolitan Administrative Code to facilitate exchanges. The General Manager shall provide a written assessment of exchange agreements involving supplies receiving Local Resources Program funding and provide a written status report following the first 100,000 acre-feet of exchange activity facilitated by Metropolitan in addition to periodic updates.

Mr. Brandon J. Goshi, Manager, Water Resource Manager, provided background history information and explained that today's proposed action went through the business model processes water resources subworking group and was recommended by the Subcommittee on Long Term Resource Planning and Business Modeling as part of the CAMP4W and business model process.

Ms. Abundez gave a detailed presentation that described the proposed framework to facilitate the exchange of locally produced supplies between Metropolitan's member agencies.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions.

1. Lewitt
2. Kurtz,
3. Ortega
4. Miller
5. Sutley

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

After completion of the presentation, Director Kurtz made a motion, seconded by Director Miller, to approve the amended motion of option #1

The vote was:

Ayes: Ackerman, Alvarez, Erdman, Gold, Katz, Kurtz, Lewitt, McMillan, Miller, Pressman, and Shepherd Romey.

Noes: None.

Abstentions: None.

Absent: Directors Armstrong, Cordero, and Quinn.

The motion passed by a vote of 11 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 3 absent.

8-4 Subject: Authorize the General Manager to enter into a new three-year sole source agreement with WaterWise Consulting, Inc. for inspection and verification services for Metropolitan's Conservation Programs, for a total agreement not to exceed \$4,500,000; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: Karina Sandique, Resource Specialist, Water Efficiency Team

Motion: Authorize the General Manager to enter into a new three-year sole source agreement with WaterWise Consulting Inc. for inspection and verification services for Metropolitan's Conservation Programs, for a total agreement not to exceed \$4,500,000; by the end of the third year, the General Manager is directed to conduct a competitive process for the services provided by this agreement.

Ms. Sandique gave a presentation on the proposed three-year sole source agreement with WaterWise Consulting Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$4,500,000 that would continue the Inspections Program for Metropolitan's Conservation Program. She described the scope of work, selection process, and change to inspection activity.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions.

1. Miller
2. Gold
3. Ortega
4. Sutley
5. Alvarez

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

After completion of the presentation, Director Alvarez made an amended motion to Authorize the General Manager to enter into a new three-year sole source agreement with WaterWise Consulting Inc. for inspection and verification services for Metropolitan's Conservation Programs, for a total agreement not to exceed \$4,500,000; by the end of the third year, the General Manager is directed to conduct a competitive process for the services provided by this agreement, seconded by Director Kurtz.

The vote was:

Ayes:	Ackerman, Alvarez, Erdman, Gold, Katz, Kurtz, Lewitt, Miller, Pressman, and Shepherd Romey.
Noes:	None.
Abstentions:	None.
Absent:	Directors Armstrong, Cordero, McMillan, and Quinn.

The motion passed by a vote of 10 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 4 absent.

5. COMMITTEE ITEMS (INFORMATIONAL FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

None.

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS (INFORMATIONAL)

- a. Subject: Bay-Delta Science Summary Update
Presented by: Shawn Acuna, Principle Resource Specialist, Bay Delta Initiatives

Maureen Martin, Interim Manager, Bay Delta Initiatives, provided brief background and introductory remarks.

Mr. Acuna gave a presentation summarizing Metropolitan's first-ever annual science report. He highlighted key milestones and described ongoing projects.

The following directors provided comments or asked questions.

1. Seckel
2. Ortega
3. Sutley
3. Gold
4. Erdman
5. Miller
6. Katz

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

- b. Subject: Estimating the Efficacy of the Regional Conservation Program
- Presented by: Gary V. Tilkian, Sr. Resource Specialist

Mr. Tilkian gave a presentation on the methods and strategies used by staff to manage conservation programs, describing how Metropolitan measures the efficacy of its conservation programs.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions.

1. Gold

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments

7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT AND HIGHLIGHTS

- a. Subject: Bay-Delta Resources activities
 Colorado River Resources activities
 Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation activities
 Water Resource Management activities

The various department heads noted there was nothing more to report outside of their written reports.

8. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- a. Subject: Report from Subcommittee on Imported Water

Director Gold announced the upcoming meeting on August 26, 2025, and reported on continued discussions related to Colorado River, Bay-Delta, Delta Conveyance Project, and Colorado River issues.

- b. Subject: Discuss and provide direction to Subcommittee on Imported Water.

Chair Ortega announced that there would be a request to The Board for creating an Ad Hoc Committee on Colorado River negotiations.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be held on September 23, 2025

The meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Mel Katz
Vice Chair



- **Board of Directors**
One Water and Adaptation Committee

10/14/2025 Board Meeting

7-7

Subject

Authorize on-call agreements with Helix Environmental Planning, Inc. and Rincon Consultants, Inc. in amounts not to exceed \$2 million each and ECORP Consulting, Inc., Dudek, and Environmental Science Associates in amounts not to exceed \$1 million each, for a maximum of five years for environmental planning services; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Executive Summary

Staff's strategy for managing environmental planning work for compliance with state and federal environmental laws and regulations is to rely on in-house environmental planning staff to accomplish the base load of projects, while professional services agreements are selectively utilized to handle projects above this base load or where specialized services are required. This action authorizes five new professional services agreements to provide environmental planning support for Metropolitan projects. The five agreements will be on-call agreements, which are typically used for shorter-term assignments, urgent projects, and projects requiring specialized technical needs or accreditations. The recommended maximum amounts of these agreements are \$2 million each for Helix Environmental Planning Inc. and Rincon Consultants Inc., and \$1 million each for ECORP Consulting Inc., Dudek, and Environmental Science Associates. The maximum duration of these environmental planning services agreements will be five years. See **Attachment 1** for the List of Subconsultants.

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

Staff Recommendation: Option #1

Option #1

Authorize on-call agreements with Helix Environmental Planning Inc. and Rincon Consultants Inc. in amounts not to exceed \$2 million each and ECORP Consulting Inc., Dudek, and Environmental Science Associates in amounts not to exceed \$1 million each, for a maximum of five years for environmental planning services.

Fiscal Impact: Funding for the work to be assigned to the consultants under on-call agreements and performed this biennium has been previously authorized. Future costs will be accounted for and appropriated under subsequent biennial budgets. In addition, no work is guaranteed to the consultants under these agreements.

Business Analysis: Contracting with multiple firms provides flexibility and an efficient means for Metropolitan to obtain needed technical services to complete both capital and operations and maintenance projects in accordance with board-adopted schedules.

Option #2

Do not authorize the consulting agreements at this time.

Fiscal Impact: None

Business Analysis: Under this option, Metropolitan staff would request board authorization for agreements on a project-specific basis. This option would forego an opportunity to reduce administrative costs or address urgent projects promptly.

Alternatives Considered

Staff considered using project-specific agreements instead of on-call agreements. Project-specific agreements are negotiated for an amount needed to cover a specific project, with agreements over \$250,000 requiring approval by the Board. The current approach of utilizing multiple on-call agreements is recommended to ensure that staff can efficiently execute both planned and unplanned work. On-call agreements allow staff to streamline administrative procedures, reduce costs, and enable projects to move forward without delays associated with executing new agreements.

Applicable Policy

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

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 11104: Delegation of Responsibilities

Related Board Action / Future Action

Not applicable

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

CEQA determination for Option #1:

The proposed action is not defined as a project under CEQA because it involves organizational, maintenance, or administrative activities; personnel-related actions; and/or general policy and procedure making that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. (Public Resources Code Section 21065; State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(2) and (5)).

CEQA determination for Option #2:

None required

Details and Background

Background

Metropolitan's environmental planning staff provide environmental analysis, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) environmental document support, and regulatory permitting support for both planned expenditures for capital programs and Operations and Maintenance (O&M) projects. Environmental planning staff's approach for environmental analysis, CEQA support, regulatory permitting, and general environmental planning activities is to use available in-house staff first, with professional consultant services used only where appropriate. This approach maintains a stable, responsive, and experienced in-house workforce and is consistent with Metropolitan's succession planning efforts. However, when resource needs exceed available in-house staffing or require specialized technical expertise, Metropolitan's environmental planning staff uses a combination of project-specific and on-call professional services agreements.

In order to be considered for a consulting agreement, firms are competitively evaluated, resulting in a list of prequalified firms from which both project-specific and on-call agreements are executed as capital and O&M project needs are identified. Project-specific agreements over \$250,000 are approved individually by the Board. By contrast, on-call agreements are multi-year with not-to-exceed amounts and provide a high degree of flexibility to respond to schedule or scope adjustments, allow quicker delivery times, and lower administrative costs for both Metropolitan and the consultants. For these types of agreements, consultants are assigned work only after specific tasks are identified by staff, up to the not-to-exceed amounts of the agreements. The current set of environmental planning on-call agreements will expire in February 2026, and new agreements are needed to ensure uninterrupted environmental planning technical support.

Agreements for Environmental Planning Services – Helix Environmental Planning Inc., Rincon Consultants Inc., ECORP Consulting Inc., Dudek, and Environmental Science Associates

Request for Qualifications (RFQ) No. 1402 was issued in April 2025 to establish a pool of qualified consulting firms to provide environmental planning and technical support. The RFQ covered services in four categories: biological resources management, cultural resources management, regulatory permitting and guidance, and general environmental planning services. The consultants submitted Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) for any or all of these four categories. Twenty-seven firms submitted SOQs, which were then evaluated based on qualifications and staff experience, past and ongoing project performance, work methodology, and business outreach. All 27 firms were prequalified to provide environmental planning services. Prequalified firms will be eligible to submit proposals on project-specific agreements within the categories of work for which they were prequalified.

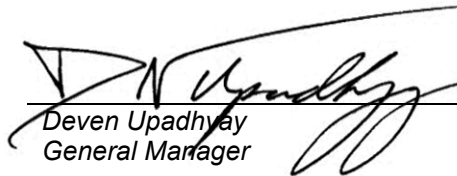
New on-call agreements for environmental planning services are recommended to be awarded at this time to five of the 27 prequalified firms. These firms were selected based on staff's assessment of technical resources needed for both capital and O&M project support over the next several fiscal years. New agreements are recommended with Helix Environmental Planning Inc., Rincon Consultants Inc., ECORP Consulting Inc., Dudek, and Environmental Science Associates. These firms received the highest evaluation scores in specific categories based on the criteria described above. This action authorizes on-call agreements with Helix Environmental Planning, Inc., and Rincon Consultants Inc., in amounts not to exceed \$2 million per agreement and with ECORP Consulting Inc., Dudek, and Environmental Science Associates Inc. in amounts not to exceed \$1 million per agreement. The maximum duration of each agreement will be five years. Staff will return to the Board in the future to authorize additional agreements as needs are identified. Funding for the work to be assigned to the consultants under on-call agreements is available within Metropolitan's capital expenditure plan or O&M budget. No work is guaranteed to the consultants under these agreements. For each of the agreements, Metropolitan has established an SBE participation level of 25 percent of the amount of the agreement. All prequalified firms have committed to meet this level of participation.



10/6/2025

Elizabeth Crosson
Chief Sustainability, Resilience &
Innovation Officer

Date



10/6/2025

Deven Upadhyay
General Manager

Date

Attachment 1 – List of Subconsultants

Ref# sri12706267

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Subconsultants for Agreement with Dudek

Subconsultant and Location	Service Category; Specialty
Bargas Environmental Consulting, LLC Sacramento, CA	Cultural Resources Management
Dipodomys Ecological Consulting, LLC Yorba Linda, CA	Biological Resources Management
Endemic Environmental Services Inc. Fullerton, CA	Biological Resources Management
Origin Biological Redlands, CA	Biological Resources Management
Petra Resource Management Tujunga, CA	Cultural Resources Management
Red Tail Environmental Santa Ysabel, CA	Cultural Resources Management
South Environmental LLC Pasadena, CA	Biological Resources Management, Cultural Resources Management, General Environmental Planning Services
Statistical Research Inc. Redlands, CA	Cultural Resources Management

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Subconsultants for Agreement with ECORP Consulting, Inc.

Subconsultant and Location	Service Category; Specialty
KOA/Lochner Orange, CA	Traffic/Transportation
Group Delta Consultants Inc. Riverside, CA	Geology, Hydrology, and Hazards
BurnBot South San Francisco, CA	Wildfire Management

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Subconsultants for Agreement with Environmental Science Associates

Subconsultant and Location	Service Category; Specialty
Artemis Environmental Services Inc. Carlsbad, CA	Field Surveys, Construction Monitoring, Environmental Regulation Guidance and Reporting, Habitat and Restoration Landscape Planning, Mitigation Strategies
Blackhawk Environmental Inc. San Diego, CA	Field Surveys, Construction Monitoring, Environmental Regulation Guidance and Reporting, HCP/NCCP Review Compliance, Reserve and Natural Lands Management
DUKE Cultural Resources Management LLC (DUKE CRM) Irvine, CA	Archaeology, Paleontology, Field Surveys, Construction Monitoring
Kidd Biological Inc. Laguna Hills, CA	Field Surveys, Construction Monitoring
Linscott, Law & Greenspan, Engineers Irvine, CA	Traffic and Transportation
Material Culture Consulting Inc. Pomona, CA	Archaeology
Pax Environmental Inc. Ojai, CA	Archaeology, Paleontology, Field Surveys, Construction Monitoring, Environmental Regulation Guidance, Reporting
Polytechnique Environmental Inc. Bellflower, CA	Sustainable Design
Red Tail Environmental Santa Ysabel, CA	Ethnography and Tribal Resources
Wildscape Restoration Ventura, CA	Habitat and Landscape Restoration Planning, Mitigation Strategies

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Subconsultants for Agreement with Helix Environmental Planning, Inc.

Subconsultant and Location	Service Category; Specialty
Bancroft Construction Services LLC La Jolla, CA	General Biotic and Protocol Surveys, Endangered Species Act Compliance
EcoKai Environmental Inc. Manhattan Beach, CA	Engineering Support, Habitat Restoration Plans, General Biotic Surveys
ENVIRA (Philippe Vergne) Ramona, CA	General Biotic and Protocol Surveys
FIREWISE 2000 LLC Lower Lake, CA	Fire Management, Fuel Modification Plans
Iteris Inc. Los Angeles, CA Santa Ana, CA	Traffic and Transportation
Material Culture Consulting Inc. Pomona, CA	Cultural Resources Surveys, Evaluations, Data Recovery Excavations, Analyses, and Monitoring, Paleontological Resources
Ninyo & Moore Los Angeles, CA	Geology and Soils, Hazardous Materials
Glenn A. Rick Engineering Development Company dba RICK Engineering San Diego, CA	Hydrology and Water Quality, Guidance and Support on Sustainable Design

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Subconsultants for Agreement with Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Subconsultant and Location	Service Category; Specialty
Blackhawk Environmental Inc. San Diego, CA	Aquatic Ecology, Biological Resources
Catalyst Environmental Solutions Corporation Santa Monica, CA	Environmental Planning Support
Craftwater Engineering Inc. San Diego, CA	Hydrology and Water Quality, Stormwater, Water Resources Planning
Dipodomys Ecological Consulting LLC Yorba Linda, CA	Desert Wildlife Biology Support
Duke Cultural Resources Management LLC (DUKE CRM) Irvine, CA	Archaeology, Paleontology
Ironwood Consulting Inc. Redlands, CA	Desert Biological Resources, Environmental Compliance
Pax Environmental Inc. Ojai, CA	Archaeology, Paleontology
Sentinel Science Inc. Ojai, CA	Biological Resources, Avian Ecology, Environmental Compliance
South Environmental LLC Pasadena, CA	Archaeology, Built Environment, Paleontology
Surf 2 Snow Environmental Resource Management Inc. San Ramon, CA	Biological Resources, Permitting, Compliance
Terry A. Hayes Associates Inc. Culver City, CA	Air Quality, Greenhouse Gas, Noise
Tom Dodson and Associates San Bernardino, CA	Environmental Planning Support
Translutions Inc. Tustin, CA	Transportation
VisionScape Imagery Inc. Mission Viejo, CA	Visual Simulations
Westervelt Environmental Solutions Tuscaloosa, AL	Habitat Restoration, Mitigation Banking



One Water and Adaptation Committee

Environmental Planning On-call Agreements

Item 7-7

October 13, 2025

Item 7-7 Environmental Planning On-call Agreements

Subject

Authorize on-call agreements with Helix Environmental Planning, Inc. and Rincon Consultants, Inc. in amounts not to exceed \$2 million each and ECORP Consulting, Inc., Dudek, and Environmental Science Associates in amounts not to exceed \$1 million each, for a maximum of five years for environmental planning services

Purpose

Contracting with multiple firms provides flexibility and an efficient means for Metropolitan to obtain needed environmental planning support for both Capital Investment Plan (CIP) projects and Operations and Maintenance (O&M) activities

Recommendation and Fiscal Impact

Authorize agreements for environmental planning support of CIP and O&M activities

Fiscal Impact - None

Budgeted

Funding from approved budget

Environmental Planning On-call Agreements

Professional Services Agreements

- Environmental Planning Services On-call Agreements
 - Used when workload exceeds staff capabilities
 - Used for short-term assignments, urgent projects, or specialized technical expertise
 - Used for CIP projects and O&M activities
 - Allows for flexibility and expedited analysis
 - Work is not guaranteed to consultants

Environmental Planning On-call Agreements

Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 1402

- Issued April 2025 to establish pool of qualified firms
 - 4 technical categories in scope of work
 - SBE participation level – 25 percent
 - 27 firms responded
 - All firms determined to be qualified
 - 5 firms recommended for agreements

Environmental Planning On-call Agreements

Scope of Work

- Biological Resource Management
 - Endangered species surveys
 - Habitat assessments
- Cultural Resources Management
 - Archaeological surveys & recordation
 - Historic architecture documentation
- Regulatory Permitting Support & Guidance
 - Permit applications for CDFW, USFWS, USACE, & RWQCB
- General Environmental Planning Services
 - CEQA documents and technical studies
 - Environmental monitoring

Environmental Planning On-call Agreements

Alternatives Considered

- Use Project-Specific Agreements
 - Executing new agreements creates delays
 - Does not consider unplanned, urgent, or routine maintenance work
- Selected Alternative – Utilize On-call Agreements
 - Allows for highly specialized technical expertise
 - Timely completion of work
 - Reduced costs

Board Options

- Option #1

Authorize on-call agreements with Helix Environmental Planning, Inc. and Rincon Consultants, Inc. in amounts not to exceed \$2 million each and ECORP Consulting, Inc., Dudek, and Environmental Science Associates in amounts not to exceed \$1 million each, for a maximum of five years for environmental planning services.

- Option #2

Do not authorize the consulting agreements at this time.

Staff Recommendation

- Option #1





One Water and Adaptation Committee

Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water Quarterly Update

Item 6a

October 13, 2025

Item 6a

Climate
Adaptation
Master Plan for
Water
Quarterly
Update

Subject

Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water Quarterly Update

Purpose

Provide Committee an update of CAMP4W progress and activities.

Next Steps

The CAMP4W Implementation Strategy tools and policy guidance will be implemented with regular updates, reviews, and decision-making by the Board.

CAMP4W Provides an Iterative and Adaptive Process





Programs, Policies, Initiatives

Integrating climate adaptation and adaptive management into planning, operations, and policies

Studies & Risk Assessments

Identifying new strategies for addressing emerging vulnerabilities and risks

Portfolio Assessments

Assessing projects and portfolios in the Climate Decision-Making Framework

CAMP4W Quarterly Update October 2025

IRP Needs
Assessment 2025
Update

Project → Portfolio
Development &
Assessments

Fire Risk
Management
Planning

Admin Code
Updates

IRP 2025 Update

Where we made changes

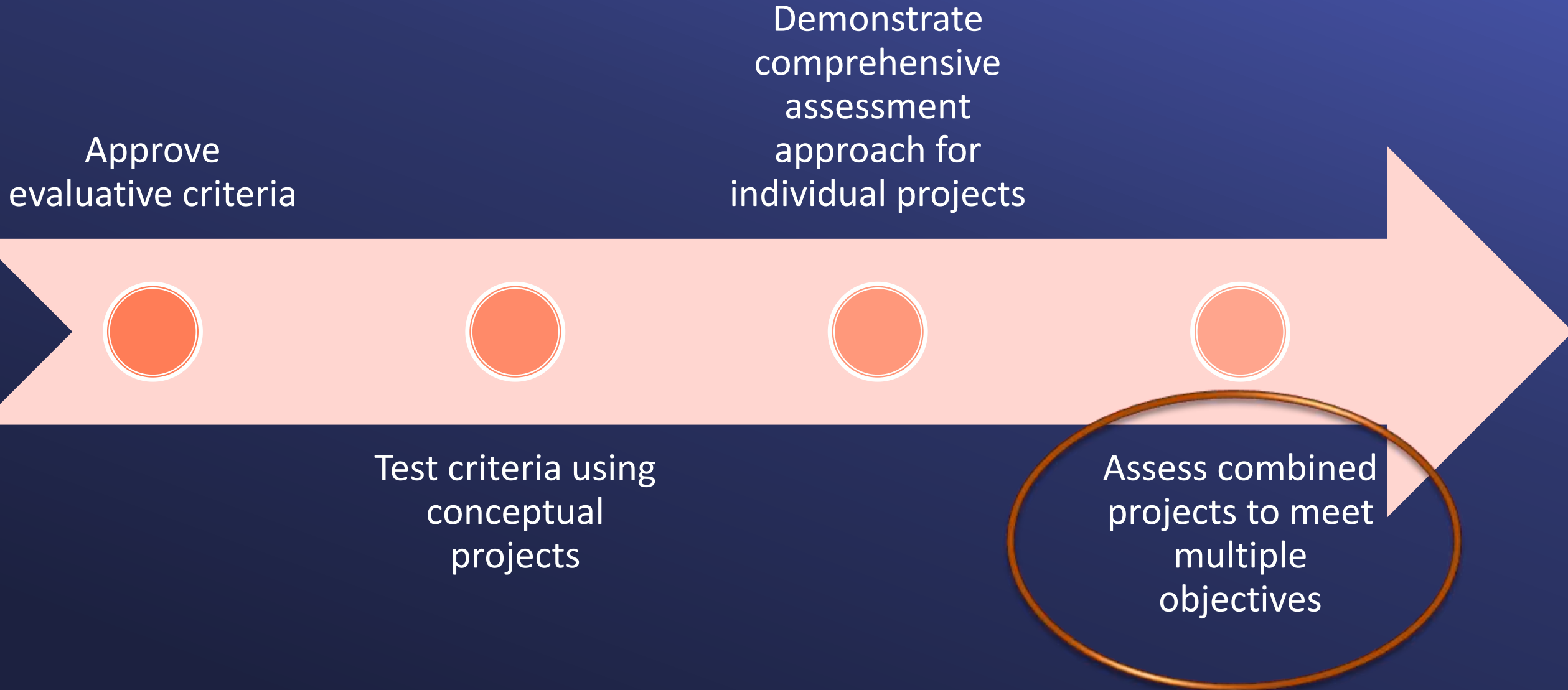
- Demand on Metropolitan
 - Applies observed demographic data to starting conditions
 - Incorporates updated local supply information
 - Includes \$35 Million and 5 TAF of new conservation per year
- State Water Project
 - Captures updated 2023 Delivery Capability Report modeling with adjustments
- Colorado River Supply
 - Reflects potential reduction commitments anticipated from ongoing operating guideline negotiations
- Metropolitan Storage
 - Sets starting storage to 2025 levels
- Metropolitan Distribution System Flexibility
 - Reflects drought projects under construction

IRP 2025 Update

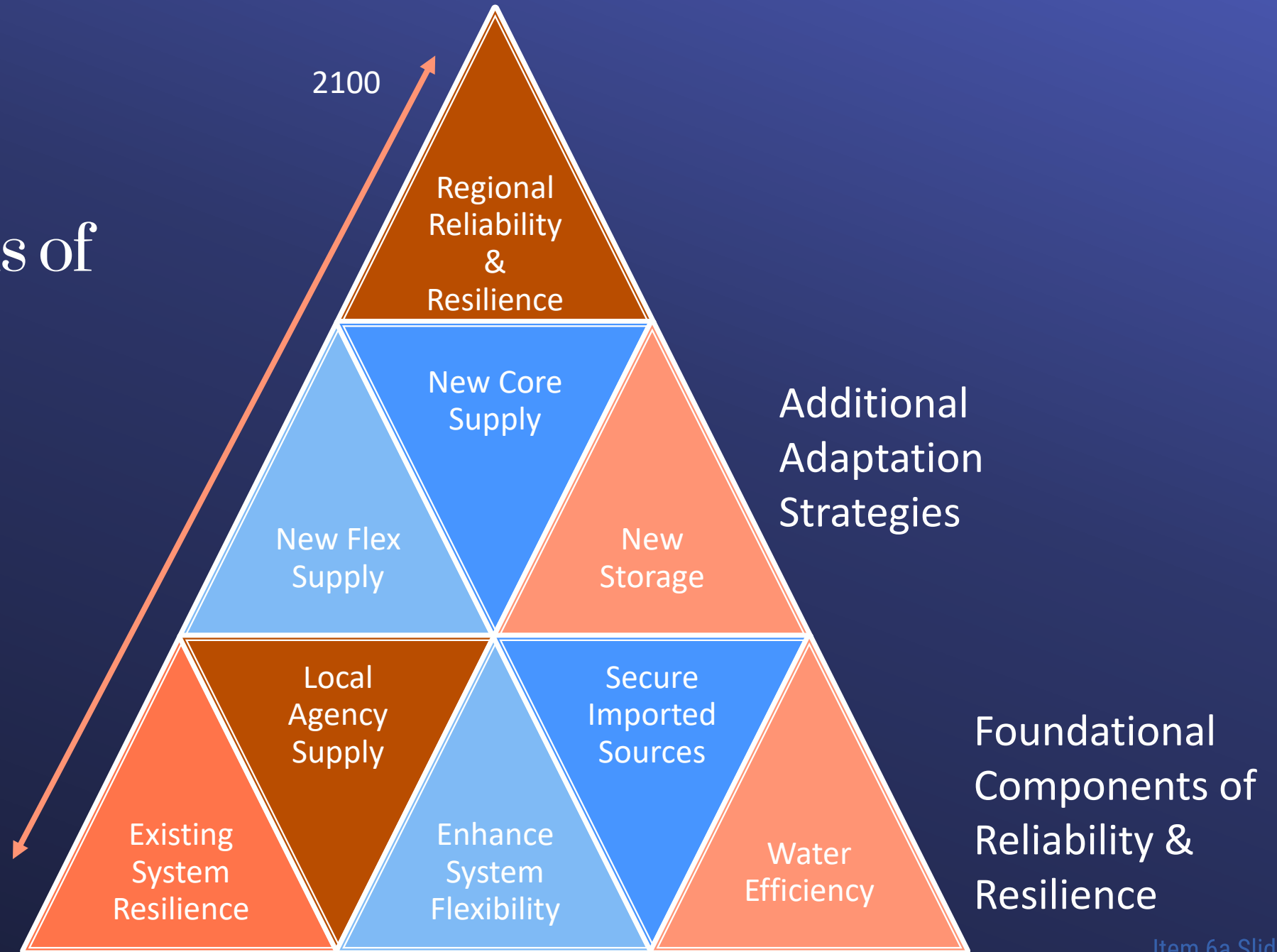
Summary and Next Steps

- The updated Scenario C baseline shows that the reliability issues are supply-driven rather than growth-driven.
- The updated Scenario D baseline shows shortages persist and are more intense, albeit less frequent
 - Working to quantify and incorporate the benefits of the region achieving the “*Conservation as a California Way of Life*” objectives
 - Working on including potential regional benefits resulting from Member Agency or Metropolitan purchases from SDCWA
- The updated Scenario baseline positions us to conduct the portfolio analysis and identify a path forward to closing the reliability gap

CAMP4W Decision-Making Framework Progress



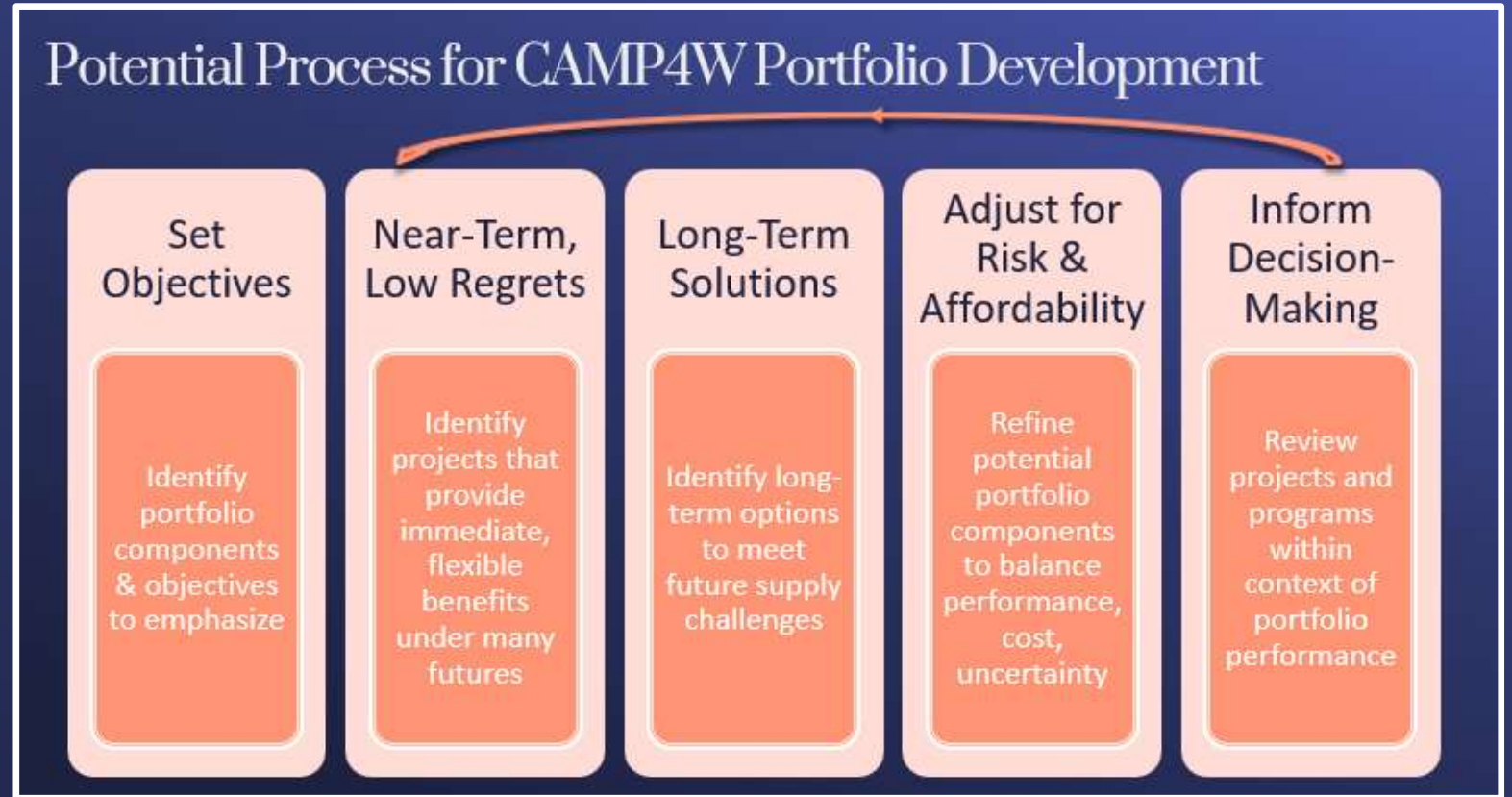
CAMP4W Approach Considers Combinations of Adaptation Elements



Soliciting Feedback on Process for Portfolio Development

Member Agency Meeting
Oct. 20

- MA input on portfolio development process
- Share initial major projects test portfolio analysis
- Identify gaps and objectives
- Discuss reliability and affordability expectations
- Develop an initial set of test portfolios for analysis
- Use test portfolios to identify components of an adaptive CAMP4W portfolio approach that meets near-term needs with options for meeting future needs



Initial Proposal from Sept 30 CAMP4W Task Force

Fire Risk Management Plan Update



- 116 Metropolitan facilities identified:
 - Ranked by wildfire vulnerability (high and very high fire zones) + operational criticality = risk ranking
 - > 20 high risk facilities (in progress)
 - ✓ On-site facility assessment of structure and landscaping
 - ✓ Biological assessment of surrounding habitat & wildlife protections and needs

Fire Risk Management Components



CAMP4W Administrative Code Updates

- 1) Update duties and oversight of One Water and Adaptation (OWA) Committee to include climate action and climate adaptation
- 2) Add Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water to list of documents and items for OWA Committee review and consideration
- 3) Add policy statement on Climate Adaptation to emphasize the importance of using best available climate science, real-world conditions, and adaptive management

Immediate Next Steps

1. Compile test portfolios with Member Agencies for CAMP4W assessment (Oct – Dec 2025)
2. Complete on-site fire risk assessments of high-risk facilities (mid-2026)
3. Include Admin Code provisions on climate adaptation in annual admin code update (Nov – Dec 2025)





One Water and Adaptation Committee

Update on Basin States Discussions Regarding Post-2026 Operational Guidelines

Item 6d

October 13, 2025

Item 6d Update on Basin States Discussions Regarding Post-2026 Operational Guidelines

Subject

Development of the Post-2026 Operational Guidelines for Lake Powell and Lake Mead

Purpose

Update on the Bureau of Reclamation's Post-2026 Operational Guidelines environmental impact statement and related Basin States discussions

Next Steps

Give regular updates to Board and receive Board direction on Post-2026 Basin States discussions

Context for Post-2026 Operating Guidelines



Expiring in 2026:

2007 Interim Guidelines
2019 Drought Contingency Plan
Treaty Minute 323



Bureau of Reclamation conducting
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)



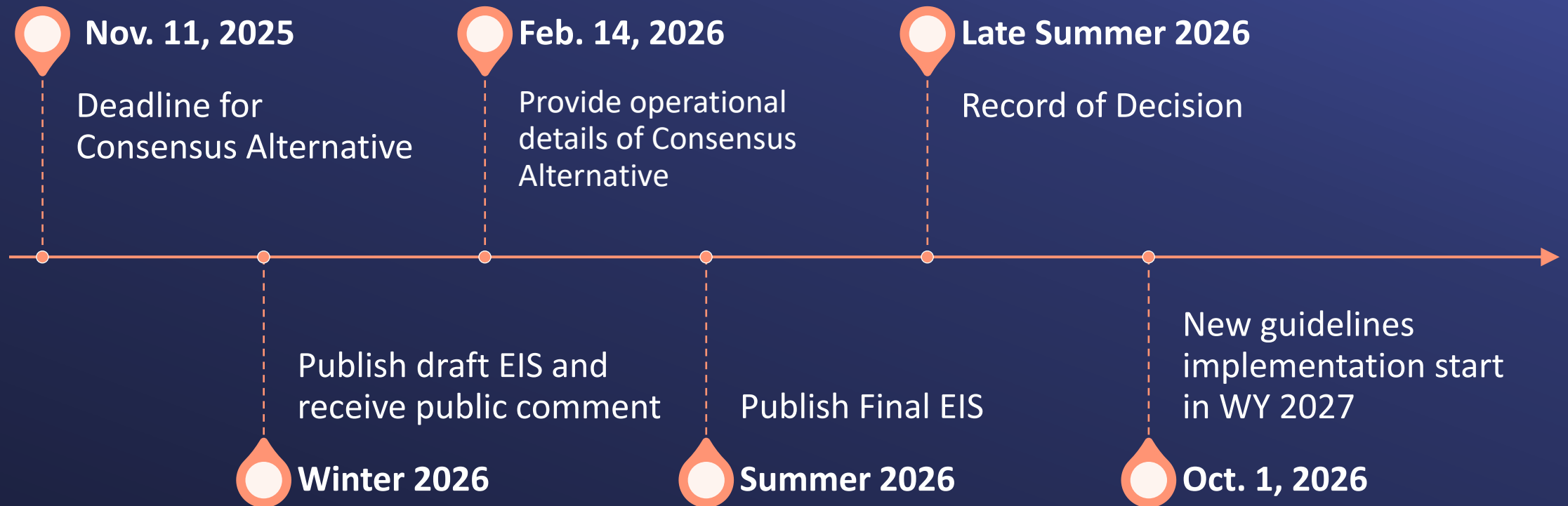
Colorado River Basin States working to
develop consensus on operational
elements of post-2026 guidelines



Why This Matters for Metropolitan

- Ensuring sufficient releases from Lake Powell
- Protecting Lake Mead – deliveries, hydropower generation, and Hoover Dam infrastructure
- Determining California's share of Lower Basin reductions

Bureau of Reclamation's Timeline



Alternatives to be Analyzed in Draft EIS

Federal Authorities

Federal Contingencies

Cooperative Conservation

Basin Hybrid

No Action

Key Operational Elements Being Addressed



Lake Powell releases



Shortages in Lower Basin



Storage in Lake Mead and
possibly Lake Powell



Mexico parity in sharing
surpluses and shortages

“What we’re hearing from our counterparts is they may be unwilling to reduce their uses in some dry years. It appears they believe that this gap should somehow be filled by the Upper Basin water, using any means necessary.” **Becky Mitchell, Colorado’s Rep**

"This is a moment that demands urgency, collaboration, and transparency. We remain committed to working with Basin states, tribes, Mexico, and stakeholders to ensure a sustainable and resilient future for the Colorado River system" **Interior Department Statement**

“Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, and New Mexico have not agreed, nor have they proposed, any mandatory, certain and verifiable reductions in their water use. Not. One. Single. Gallon. Instead, they propose that water-use reductions needed to save the Colorado River come solely from Arizona, California and Nevada.” **Tom Buschatzke, Arizona’s Representative**

Current Consensus Efforts: Public Remarks

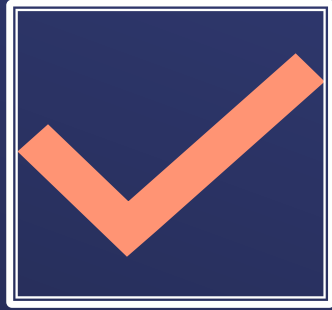
*The 1922 Colorado
River Compact is
Now the Obvious
Elephant in the
Negotiating Room*

By Eric Kuhn, Anne
Castle, John Fleck,
Kathryn Sorensen,
Jack Schmidt, and
Katherine Tara

From Recent White Paper

- “Reclamation could reduce releases from Powell to protect the 3500-ft reservoir elevation...**likely trigger[ing] the dreaded 1922 Colorado River Compact tripwire**”
- “The Lower Division states are likely to litigate if the 10-yr average wire is tripped”
- “[T]here is a very real chance that the 10-yr running average will be 82.78 MAF, just a hair above the tripwire, one year from now”
- “If Reclamation exercises its authority to reduce Lake Powell deliveries to as low as 6 MAF, the tripwire is triggered even earlier.”

Diverging Pathways



7-States Consensus

Predictable Lake Powell releases

Certainty regarding Lower Basin
shortages

Storage in Lake Mead

Improved position for securing new
treaty minute with Mexico



Without Consensus

Risk of federal unilateral action

Reclamation may default to 1970 Long
Range Operating Criteria for Powell
operations

Significantly increased litigation risk

California Interests



Protect California's priority re: 1968 Colorado River Basin Project Act

Ensure Compact/Colorado River Storage Project Act-compliant Powell releases or some reasonable alternative that provides certainty

Address structural deficit and Lower Basin reductions fairly

Strengthen intra-California coordination

Next Steps

Update and receive board direction throughout the process

Continue Basin
States negotiations

Provide input to
Reclamation on
alternatives

Prepare for both
consensus and
unilateral federal
actions





Bay-Delta Resources

- **Bay-Delta Management Report**

Summary

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

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Decide on Sites Reservoir and Protect our Bay-Delta Interests

Maintain and Advocate for Metropolitan's Interests in Delta Conveyance Project Planning and Associated Funding

The Delta Conveyance Project recently received support from a range of legislative, labor, business, social justice, and water agency stakeholders for a bill aimed at streamlining permitting for the project. While the Governor proposed measures to simplify administrative review and potentially reduce project costs, the bill did not advance during the final week of the 2025 legislative session due to the volume of high-profile legislative activity. At its August 21, 2025, regularly scheduled board meeting, the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) Board approved several resolutions to secure executive support service agreements aimed at providing strategic, facilitation, and human resources support for the DCA's ongoing operations and strategic initiatives. The DCA Board also adopted a resolution approving an advocacy policy and delegated authority to the DCA executive director to take positions on legislative or regulatory proposals impacting the DCA and/or the Delta Conveyance Project. Under the policy, any written positions will be signed by the DCA Board President.

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

A request for bids was released for Delta Properties Infrastructure Phase 5B Improvements. Upon completion, this project will result in all siphons on Metropolitan's Delta Islands being metered, including real-time telemetry equipment. This project is related to compliance with SB 88.

Staff presented an update on the Webb Tract Wetland Restoration Project to the Delta Stewardship Council (DSC). The DSC concurred that no certification of consistency with the Delta Plan is required for the project. Staff prepared permit applications for the Webb Tract Wetland Restoration Project for submittal to regulatory agencies.



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 August 19 – September 23, 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 are meeting frequently in an effort to reach consensus on an alternative for Post-2026 operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead. Recent discussions have focused on how Lake Powell releases will be determined in the Post-2026 Guidelines. Lake Powell releases supply both the Lower Basin and Mexico Treaty deliveries. The Interior Department and Reclamation support the Basin States' effort to reach a consensus alternative that may be incorporated into the Post-2026 Guidelines. 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.

Develop Post-2026 Guidelines and Negotiate Implementation Agreements: Negotiate implementation agreements that protect and benefit Metropolitan's interests

Lower Basin Meetings

California, Arizona, and Nevada are working together to reach a Lower Basin consensus regarding operational elements of Lake Mead for the Post-2026 Guidelines including Lower Basin water use reductions; storage of conserved water (like Intentionally Created Surplus), including augmentation water that may be exchanged with interstate partners; and how any surpluses would be allocated. Metropolitan staff participates in these meetings along with representatives of other Lower Basin contractors and states.

California 440 Meetings

California, Arizona, and Nevada have tentatively agreed to reduce Lower Basin water use by 1.5 million acre-feet (maf) under most system conditions to address evaporation and other system losses—often referred to as the structural deficit. The 1.5 maf of reductions includes 250,000 acre-feet (af) that is contingent on Mexico's participation at past levels. California's share of the 1.5 maf would be 440,000 af (440). The California contractors have started meeting to develop commitments to meet California's 440. Metropolitan is working with the other contractors to develop principles for sharing California's Colorado River reductions in the Post-2026 Guidelines. The agencies have agreed to develop a proposal for sharing reduction by this November. Staff will provide updates and receive board direction on the process as it moves forward.

Board Report Colorado River Management Report

Bureau of Reclamation Consultation Regarding Lake Powell's Declining Elevation

Reclamation has begun consultations under the 2019 Upper Basin Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) after its September 24-Month Study showed the risk of Lake Powell dropping to elevation 3,500 feet within the next year. In 2025, Lake Powell fell by more than 2 maf (31 feet) and Lake Mead declined by over a half maf (7.6 feet). (September 24-Month Study—[2-Year Probabilistic Projections](#)). Under the DCP, a forecast of Lake Powell below 3,500 feet triggers monthly consultations with the Upper Basin States and consideration of actions to protect Glen Canyon Dam. In the Draft 2026 Annual Operating Plan, Reclamation committed to using all available tools to prevent Lake Powell from dropping below this critical threshold for dam operations and hydropower. (The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Draft 2026 Annual Operating Plan for Lake Powell and Lake Mead—[Draft 2026 Operations Plan for Colorado River Reservoirs](#)). The most probable forecast shows Lake Powell falling below 3,525 feet in 2026, and management options could include releasing more water from upstream reservoirs and reducing releases from Powell, as was done in 2022.



Sustainability, Resilience, Innovation Group

• Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Group Monthly Activities

Summary

SRI Activities for the month of September 2025

Purpose

Informational

Activities in Support of the GM Business Plan

GOAL: Execute CAMP4W Implementation Strategy to Integrate Climate Adaptation Districtwide

The cross-functional CAMP4W team continues to implement planning updates and initiatives to advance resilience. At this month's CAMP4W Task Force Meeting, the team presented updates to the IRP Needs Assessment assumptions based on new information, discussed the proposed approach to assessing portfolios and shared initial assessments of the Pure Water and Sites Reservoir projects.

The team also continues to assess critical facilities for fire risk and is preparing to address the most vulnerable in the coming months.

GOAL: Decide on Sites Reservoir and Protect Bay-Delta Interests

1) Implement risk reduction strategies to protect Delta assets and minimize supply disruption

For the Webb Tract Wetland Restoration Project, Environmental Planning staff continued preparation of regulatory permit applications, including submittal of the draft application package for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) Restoration Management Permit for preliminary review by the agency.

GOAL: Complete Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and Planning, for Board to consider Pure Water Southern California

1) Complete EIR analyses and public process

Environmental Planning staff continued drafting responses to public comments on the Draft EIR and preparing the Final EIR for the Pure Water Southern California Program, as well as supporting the CAMP4W assessment of the program and Senate Bill (SB) 149 certification coordination. Staff anticipates bringing the EIR to the Board for certification in January 2026.

GOAL: Improve the Workplace and Promote START Values

SRI continues to gather monthly in person to share ideas and connect. The Group also provides regular opportunities for engagement through workshops and lunch and learn events with staff districtwide.

Board Report Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Group Monthly Activities

Additional SRI Activities

Sustainability and Resilience

Climate Action Plan

This month MWD's Climate Action planning was showcased in the US Water Alliance's new Net Zero Fundamentals Series highlighting Metropolitan's approach to performance management for climate action, combining science, accountability, and innovation as seen through the Bay-Delta Initiative projects on Webb Tract and Bacon Island.

MWD also joined the panel on decarbonizing water at the Southern California Water Dialogue's September luncheon meeting. Staff presented on Met's Climate Action Plan and climate mitigation progress.

Sustainability and Resilience (SR) staff also attended external meetings of the Water Utility Climate Alliance, as well as webinars on accelerating climate action in the built environment.

ZEV

SR staff continued to coordinate with the Fleet Services Unit, IOPSS, and Metropolitan regulatory staff, along with the California Municipal Utilities Association and the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), to provide comments to CARB on proposed modifications to the Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) regulation. SR also collaborated with Metropolitan staff to develop its own comment letter to CARB regarding modifications needed to the ACF regulation that would allow continued compliance with the regulation, while also ensuring that Metropolitan has the appropriate vehicles in its fleet to support the delivery of reliable water supplies which will be submitted by September 15, 2025.

Sustainable Procurement

On September 3, 2025, SR, the Contracting Services Unit, and the Reliable Purchasing Network presented a sustainable procurement workshop to over 80 employees with procurement responsibilities. The presentation included an overview of sustainable procurement and its role in meeting the Climate Action Plan's goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Attendees were also introduced to the Metropolitan's new "Sustainable Procurement Guidebook," which provides employees with options to choose more environmentally friendly products and services that meet operational requirements.

Centralized Grants Management Office

CGMO staff met with Metropolitan staff from Water Quality, Power Operations, Environmental Planning, Workforce Development, and Pure Water Southern California to consider active federal solicitations from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Department of Fish & Wildlife, Environmental Protection Agency, National Science Foundation, and Economic Development Administration; state funding opportunities available through the California Energy Commission and the California Wildlife Conservation board; and additional funding opportunities available through the Water Research Foundation and The Funders Network.

Additionally, a collaborative grant proposal that CGMO staff helped co-author, entitled "Canals to Careers: Industry-Led CTE Pathways into Water, Agriculture, & Transportation," was awarded to Palo Verde College through the California Community College Chancellor's Office. The proposal, which features the ACWA Foundation, and Metropolitan's DEI Office and WSO Group as collaborative project partners, helps advance Metropolitan's workforce development objectives in the desert region. With a total budget of \$1.05 million, including \$500,000 in grant funding, Metropolitan and Palo Verde College will co-create a career technical education (CTE) curriculum that will provide Metropolitan's desert facilities with high-performing graduates to address chronic staffing shortages in the desert region.

CGMO staff also attended external meetings of the CA Wildfire & Forest Resilience Task Force and the Cal Water Efficiency Partnership Task Force, as well as webinars focused on federal funding and DEI programs, ZEV

Board Report Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Group Monthly Activities

charging infrastructure, and collaborative funding opportunities for energy, environment, and climate in Los Angeles.

Innovation, Pilots and Emerging Technologies

This month, Metropolitan's innovation efforts were showcased prominently at leading statewide convenings. At the 10th Annual California Water Data Summit, a video message from General Manager Deven Upadhyay emphasized the vital role of open data in strengthening resilience, underscoring that transparency and collaboration are key to addressing California's most pressing water challenges.

The summit featured major state leaders, including Natural Resources Secretary Wade Crowfoot and State Water Board Chair Joaquin Esquivel, and spotlighted the contributions of our own Water Resources Specialist and California Data Collaborative Co-Chair, Lindsay McPhail. Her leadership alongside state officials reinforced the importance of Metropolitan staff in driving sector-wide innovation.

In addition, the team represented Metropolitan at Sustain SoCal, sharing the district's work at the intersection of climate adaptation, data innovation, and local resource development. SRI Manager Adrian Hightower and Innovation Program Manager Patrick Atwater presented at the event.

Building on this momentum, the innovation program has advanced a pilot partnership with staff across the organization to streamline how Metropolitan tests and deploys new technologies, processes, and collaborative approaches. This effort will make it easier to evaluate promising tools in real-world settings, shorten deployment timelines, and provide a clearer pathway from pilot to practice.

Metropolitan is also advancing the Process Matters continuous improvement initiative, which focuses on mapping and simplifying critical workflows to reduce barriers, improve efficiency, and enhance service delivery. As part of this effort, the team is launching the **IdeaScale platform** to capture and track staff-generated improvement ideas, enabling a more transparent, collaborative, and iterative approach to process reform.

Environmental Planning Services

Environmental Planning staff continued the preparation of two addenda to the Weymouth Improvements Program EIR for the Weymouth Wheeler Gate Security Improvements and Weymouth Water Quality Lab Building Improvements projects. Staff continued the preparation of an addendum to the PCCP Rehabilitation Program EIR for the Sepulveda Feeder Reach 2 South Project and preparation of other supplemental California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation for the PCCP Sepulveda Feeder Reach 9 Project, as well as continued to support the progressive design building process for the Sepulveda Feeder Pump Stations Project and the Lake Mathews New Pressure Control Structure and Electrical Upgrades Project. For the Inland Feeder/Foothill Pump Station Intertie Project, staff continued coordinating with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and CDFW on the Incidental Take Permit application under the Endangered Species Act. Environmental monitoring of construction activities continued for the PCCP Second Lower Feeder Reach 3B, Weymouth Basins 5 to 8 Rehabilitation, and La Verne Shops Upgrades projects.

Critical operations and maintenance activities were supported by the Environmental Planning Section. Staff provided CEQA and regulatory clearances and conducted biological resource surveys and environmental monitoring for activities throughout the service area, including routine patrol road grading in Orange County. Staff conducted an environmental awareness training for Construction Services Unit managers and supervisory staff at Lake Mathews on September 15. In addition, staff reviewed and analyzed CEQA notices for 14 external projects to determine the potential impacts on Metropolitan and protect Metropolitan's right-of-way and facilities; comment letters were prepared and submitted for projects that had potential for impacts. Staff was present for the release of a juvenile great horned owl by the San Dimas Raptor Rescue. The great horned owl, who had fallen out of its nest at the Weymouth Plant, was found by Environmental Planning staff during a site visit in March. Staff coordinated with the raptor rescue to rescue and care for the owl until its successful release back into the wild.

Board Report Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Group Monthly Activities



Great Horned Owl released at Marshall Canyon, La Verne.

The Environmental Planning Section continued oversight of reserve management activities to protect valuable natural resources and meet Metropolitan's mitigation obligations. Security patrols were conducted throughout the Lake Mathews Multiple Species Reserve and the Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve (MSR) to prevent trespassing, vandalism, poaching, and theft and to protect the reserves' natural and cultural resources, facilities, and equipment. Specific activities at the Lake Mathews Reserve included applying herbicide treatment to invasive species, continuing installation and maintenance of artificial burrows for burrowing owls, monitoring Stephens' kangaroo rat (SKR) to track population dynamics, and conducting patrols and fence repairs. Activities at the MSR included coordinating with researchers to conduct rare plant, herpetology, and small mammal surveys, coordinating with University of California Riverside scientists to conduct Crotch's bumble bee surveys, coordinating with Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency staff to conduct SKR monitoring, maintaining greenhouse container plants and collecting native species cuttings to propagate for future restoration sites, and conducting vegetation maintenance for fire and habitat management. The Alamos Schoolhouse interpretive center was open to visitors on Saturdays.

Land Management

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (LVMWD) was granted a permanent easement for pipeline purposes as part of its Twin Lakes Pump Station Project. The easement is needed for LVMWD's new pipeline, which will ensure increased demands are met during an outage of Metropolitan's West Valley Feeder #2.

Harbor Associates, an adjacent property owner, was issued an entry permit to install pavement on Metropolitan's parcel in connection with the construction of new site improvements within Harbor's abutting industrial parcel. The paving of Metropolitan's parcel will smooth the transition in grading between the two parcels and mitigate stormwater runoff impacts.



Water Resource Management Group

• Water Resource Management September Activities

Summary

The Water Resource Management Group, September 2025 Activities

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Execute CAMP4W Implementation Strategy to Integrate Climate Adaptation District-Wide

In September 2025, for the purpose of supporting CAMP4W Assessments and implementation, staff applied focused updates to the 2020 Integrated Water Resource Plan Needs Assessment scenario reliability analyses. The updates reflect newer data and observations to establish an updated baseline for Scenario C (low demand) and Scenario D (high demand). The revised baselines provide the basis for evaluating the reliability benefits of projects assessed in CAMP4W. Staff continued to work with project proponents to develop reliability analyses for three stages of Pure Water and for Sites Reservoir, quantifying and describing the reliability contributions relative to the revised scenario baselines.

“Business Plan: C.4.a.– Evaluate Projects and Programs Using the CAMP4W Assessment Criteria – Evaluate Possible Investments Using CAMP4W Assessments (incl. Pure Water, Sites, DCP, SWPDA Strategies, Conservation) and Develop “Portfolio Views” Where Feasible, to Support Board Decision Making (WRM as Convenor of Org-Wide Assessment Committee)”

Metropolitan staff spoke at the California Association of Community Managers Fall Forum on AB 1572 implementation to approximately 30 property managers and hosted a virtual professional landscaping workshop on Designing for Ecosystems in partnership with SoCalGas for 150 landscape professionals.

“Business Plan: C.5.c.– Integrate Climate Conditions and Implement Adaptation Strategies – Evaluate and Refine Conservation/Efficiency Programs (WRM)”

Provide Organizational Stability and Deliver Operational Excellence

Technical collaboration with member agencies in support of the 2025 Urban Water Management Plan through the 2025 Annual Local Production Survey resulted in updated information on the region’s local supplies and water usage. Regional per capita water use in calendar year 2024 was 118 gallons per capita per day (GPCD), the second-lowest GPCD on record. This was up slightly from the previous year’s all-time low of 114 GPCD. An increase in per capita water use in 2024 was expected after the end of emergency water use restrictions in early 2023. *“Business Plan: I.1.a.– Maintain excellence in daily operations and reliability – Other”*

Board Report Water Resource Management September Activities

Metropolitan and our partners in Arizona and Nevada submitted a joint letter to the United States Bureau of Reclamation conveying our intent to continue our history of collaboration by sharing Extraordinary Conservation Intentionally Created Surplus creation capacity in 2026 among the Lower Division States. The states have agreed to share creation capabilities to support the total EC ICS creation of up to 625,000 acre-feet. This supports Metropolitan's Plan for EC ICS creation for 2026, which requested approval to create up to 450,000 AF of EC ICS, including 50,000 AF of EC ICS creation capabilities borrowed from other states.

Metropolitan staff submitted the Calendar Year 2026 Colorado River Diversion Request in the amount of 965,511 acre-feet to the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) on September 30, 2025. Metropolitan's consultation meeting will be scheduled in October 2025. Approval of Metropolitan's diversion request is now pending a written notice of determination from USBR's Regional Director. Metropolitan anticipates that the written approval will be received by the end of calendar year 2025, for an amount that may vary based on the requested diversions of higher priority users.

Metropolitan staff remotely chaired a three-day meeting of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum (Forum) Work Group. Topics discussed included (1) a report that ongoing operation of the Paradox Valley Unit at 2/3-capacity has yielded no unusual seismic or well pressure results; (2) preparations for the 2026 "Triennial Review," in which the Forum communicates to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency an assessment of the sufficiency of existing water quality criteria for salinity on the Lower Colorado River; (3) planning for a Notice of Funding Opportunity in 2026 to provide funding from the USBR for salinity control projects in the Colorado River Basin; and (4) updates from key federal agencies involved in the Program, including the USBR, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Geological Survey. *"Business Plan: I.4.b. – Support a smooth and efficient transition to the next GM – Provide materials and information to support incoming GM (all, led by OGM)"*