



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

8/19/2025 Board Meeting

7-3

Subject

Award a \$1,454,000 construction contract to MMC Inc. to replace the San Jacinto Diversion Structure slide gates; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Executive Summary

The San Jacinto Diversion Structure uses three slide gates to control flows from the Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) into the Casa Loma Siphon First and Second Barrels and the San Jacinto Pipeline. The gates have deteriorated over 80 years of operation and need to be replaced. Replacement gates were procured under a separate contract and delivered to Metropolitan facilities in June 2025.

This action awards a \$1,454,000 contract to MMC Inc. to install three new Metropolitan-furnished stainless steel slide gates and assemblies at the San Jacinto Diversion Structure. See **Attachment 1** for the Allocation of Funds, **Attachment 2** for the Abstract of Bids, **Attachment 3** for the Subcontractors for Low Bidder, and **Attachment 4** for the Location Map.

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

Staff Recommendation: Option #1

Option #1

Award a \$1,454,000 construction contract to MMC Inc. to replace the San Jacinto Diversion Structure slide gates.

Fiscal Impact: Expenditure of \$2.5 million in capital funds during the current biennium.

Business Analysis: This option will improve the operational reliability of the CRA delivery system.

Option #2

Do not proceed with the project at this time.

Fiscal Impact: None

Business Analysis: This option will forego an opportunity to improve the operational reliability of the CRA, which may lead to costly, urgent repairs.

Alternatives Considered

Slide gates for this project were fabricated and delivered on time in June 2025, but delivery of their electric actuators has been delayed until November 2025. Staff considered deferring award of the installation contract to early 2026 and postponement of installation of the gates by one year until February 2027 to allow for all critical materials to be on hand prior to award of the installation contract. However, this alternative would expose operation of the San Jacinto Diversion Structure to an additional year of risk of a potential sudden failure of the remaining gates.

The selected alternative is to proceed with award of an installation contract and replacement of the slide gates during the February 2026 CRA shutdown, with or without the electric actuators. If the actuators are delivered in November 2025 as currently expected, they will be installed during the upcoming CRA shutdown. If there are further delays in their delivery, staff will delete their installation from the contract and operate the gates with their built-in manual actuators, in which case plans would be made for installation of the electric actuators at the next available shutdown. This alternative enhances the reliability of the CRA and reduces the risk for potential uncontrolled flows to the pipelines downstream of the San Jacinto Diversion Structure.

Applicable Policy

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

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 11104: Delegation of Responsibilities

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

By Minute Item 53014, dated November 8, 2022, the Board authorized the procurement to furnish three slide gates and appurtenances to rehabilitate the San Jacinto Diversion Structure.

By Minute Item 53598, dated April 9, 2024, the Board appropriated a total of \$636.48 million for projects identified in the Capital Investment Plan for Fiscal Years 2024/25 and 2025/26.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**CEQA determination for Option #1:**

On November 8, 2022, the Board approved the San Jacinto Diversion Structure project. The General Manager determined the project to be exempt from CEQA pursuant to Sections 15301 and 15302 of the State CEQA Guidelines. The current board action does not result in any substantial change to the project. Accordingly, no further CEQA determinations or documentation are necessary.

CEQA determination for Option #2:

None

Details and Background**Background**

The CRA is a 242-mile-long conveyance system that transports water from the Colorado River to Lake Mathews. It consists of five pumping plants, 124 miles of tunnels, siphons, and reservoirs, 63 miles of canals, and 44 miles of cut-and-cover conduits. The San Jacinto Diversion Structure serves as the point where water from the CRA is diverted, conveying water to San Bernardino, Riverside, Orange, and Los Angeles Counties.

The San Jacinto Diversion Structure, located at the west portal of the San Jacinto Tunnel, was constructed in 1939 as part of the CRA conveyance system. This structure controls flows into the Casa Loma Siphon First and Second Barrels and the San Jacinto Pipeline. Two slide gates (V-01 and V-02) control flows into the first barrel of the Casa Loma Siphon, which ultimately supplies CRA water to Lake Mathews. A third slide gate (V-03) controls flows into the San Jacinto Pipeline. Flows into the second barrel of the Casa Loma Siphon are controlled by a radial gate that is still in good condition. Each cast iron gate is approximately 6 feet wide by 8 feet high.

Although the existing slide gates are regularly inspected and maintained, they have been in continuous service for more than 80 years and have exceeded their service life. During the March 2019 CRA shutdown, the slide gate assembly for V-03 was removed from service because it failed and could not be reliably operated. A cast-iron drop gate was installed downstream to temporarily regulate flows into the San Jacinto Pipeline.

In November 2022, the Board authorized procurement of new slide gates and actuators for the San Jacinto Diversion Structure. The new gates have a more robust design, including upgraded materials, to allow for an improved ability to control flow. The new gates were fabricated, delivered, and are now stored on-site; the

actuators are expected to arrive in November 2025. Staff recommends proceeding with the installation of the gates at this time.

San Jacinto Diversion Structure Slide Gate Rehabilitation - Construction

The work consists of demolishing the existing slide gates and actuators, installing three Metropolitan-furnished stainless steel slide gates and actuators, replacement of appurtenant electrical systems, installation of structural supports for the actuators, testing and commissioning, and other appurtenant work.

A total of \$2.5 million is required to complete the work. In addition to the construction contract described below, allocated funds for Metropolitan staff include \$153,00 for Metropolitan force shutdown activities; \$402,000 for construction management and inspection; \$200,000 for submittals review, responding to requests for information, and preparation of record drawings; \$123,000 for contract administration, environmental monitoring support, and project management; and \$168,000 for remaining budget. **Attachment 1** provides the allocation of required funds.

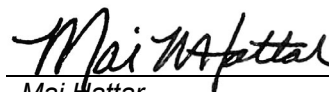
Award of Construction Contract (MMC Inc.)

Specifications No. 2144 to replace the San Jacinto slide gates was advertised for bids on May 12, 2025. As shown in **Attachment 2**, four bids were received and opened on July 1, 2025. The bid from MMC Inc., in the amount of \$1,454,000, complies with the requirements of the specifications. The other bids ranged from \$1,560,000 to \$1,975,000, while the engineer's estimate for this project was \$1,900,000. For this contract, Metropolitan established a Small Business Enterprise participation level of 15 percent of the bid amount. MMC Inc. has agreed to meet this level of participation. The subcontractors for this contract are listed in **Attachment 3**.

Metropolitan staff will perform construction management and inspection. Engineering Services' performance metric target range for construction management and inspection of projects with construction less than \$3 million is 12 to 15 percent. For this project, the performance metric goal for inspection is 14.9 percent of the total construction cost. The total cost of construction for this project is \$2,707,000 which includes the amount of the contract (\$1,454,000), the previously procured slide gates (\$1,100,000), and Metropolitan force shutdown activities (\$153,000).

Project Milestone

March 2026 – Complete installation of slide gates



Mai Hattar
Interim Chief Engineer
Engineering Services

8/6/2025

Date



John Bednarski
Interim General Manager

8/6/2025

Date

Attachment 1 – Allocation of Funds

Attachment 2 – Abstract of Bids

Attachment 3 – Subcontractors for Low Bidder

Attachment 4 – Location Map

Allocation of Funds for San Jacinto Diversion Structure Gate Rehabilitation

	Current Board Action (Aug. 2025)
Labor	
Studies & Investigations	\$ -
Final Design	-
Owner Costs (Program mgmt., envir. monitoring)	123,000
Submittals Review & Record Drwgs.	200,000
Construction Inspection & Support	402,000
Metropolitan Force Construction	153,000
Materials & Supplies	-
Incidental Expenses	-
Professional/Technical Services	-
Right-of-Way	-
Equipment Use	-
Contracts	-
MMC Inc.	1,454,000
Remaining Budget	168,000
Total	\$ 2,500,000

The total amount expended to date is approximately \$1.425 million. The total estimated cost to complete San Jacinto Diversion Structure Gate Rehabilitation project, including the amount appropriated to date, and funds allocated for the work described in this action, is \$3.925 million.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**Abstract of Bids Received on July 1, 2025, at 2:00 P.M.****Specifications No. 2144
San Jacinto Diversion Structure Gate Rehabilitation**

The work consists of demolishing the existing slide gates and actuators, installing Metropolitan-furnished stainless steel slide gates and actuators, various electrical improvements, structural supports, testing and commissioning.

Engineer's estimate: \$1,900,000

Bidder and Location	Total	SBE \$	SBE %	Met SBE¹
MMC Inc. La Palma, CA	\$1,454,000	\$300,000	21%	Yes
R2Build Laguna Hills, CA	\$1,560,000	-	-	-
Houla Enterprises Ltd. Newport Beach, CA	\$1,631,102	-	-	-
Mladen Buntich Construction Inc. Upland, CA	\$1,975,000	-	-	-

¹ Small Business Enterprise (SBE) participation level established at 15% for this contract.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**Subcontractors for Low Bidder****Specifications No. 2144****San Jacinto Diversion Structure Gate Rehabilitation****Low bidder: MMC Inc.**

Subcontractor	Service Category; Specialty
Big Bear Electric Inc. Big Bear City, CA	Electrical Work

