



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Board Report

Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Group

- **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Activities for April 2026**

Summary

This report provides a summary of the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion group activities for April 2026

Purpose

Informational

Attachments

Attachment 1 – Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion group activities for April 2026

Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

In April 2026, DEI staff engaged in a broad range of outreach for workforce development, small and disabled-veteran-owned business engagement, and other activities to support Metropolitan's mission and increase awareness of career and business opportunities at Metropolitan and in the water industry.

GM Strategic Priority #1: EMPOWER the Workforce and Promote Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Staff engaged with community members at multiple local career fairs, including the Goodwill Spring Career Fair, the LA Construction Job Fair at East Los Angeles Community College, Simi Valley Mega Job Fair hosted by the City of Simi Valley and Simi Valley Chamber, Spring into a Job Hiring Spree hosted by the Los Angeles County Office of Education, and the MWD Career Awareness Event at Los Angeles Valley College. These engagements increased awareness of career pathways in water, particularly in the skilled trades, and promoted employment opportunities at Metropolitan facilities, including the Jensen Treatment Plant.

Staff also participated in internal initiatives, professional development opportunities, including the ERG Leaders Connect meeting, ACE Joint Classification Study Session, and the Educate2Lead in-person meeting, supporting employee engagement, leadership development, and organizational alignment.

GM Strategic Priority #3: ADAPT to Changing Climate and Water Resources

Staff participated in the Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) Desalination Complex Tour, hosted by the Association of Women in Water, Energy and the Environment and Women in Public Finance, gaining exposure to innovative water infrastructure and desalination practices that support long-term water supply reliability and climate resilience.

GM Strategic Priority #5: PARTNER with Interested Parties and the Communities We Serve

Staff participated in major regional conferences and supplier outreach events, including the B3 2026: Connections, Insights, Opportunity conference hosted by the Southern California Minority Supplier Development Council, the SAME-LA 2nd Annual Industry Day, the 5th Annual Supplier Outreach Event hosted by X Business Networks, and the Caltrans Procurement and Resource Fair. These efforts connected public agencies, private sector partners, and small businesses, supporting procurement opportunities and strengthening relationships with a wide variety of suppliers.

Partnerships with tribal and regional organizations were further strengthened through continued engagement with the Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT), including participation in CRIT Water Rights Day and the CRIT Education Network Meeting, both focused on community connection and workforce development collaboration.

AGM and CFO Katano Kasaine and staff attended the Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber of Commerce 32nd Annual Economic Awards Dinner, supporting relationship-building with community and business leaders.