



- Board of Directors

11/23/2021 Special Board Meeting

7-3

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## Subject

Approve recommendation for changes in committee structure and direct staff to return to the December Board Meeting with Administrative Code language consistent with the changes as recommended; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

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## Executive Summary

In light of the priorities established by the Board at the recent Board retreat, I have reviewed the current committee structure and recommend the following changes to conform to the Board's priorities and to respond to the major challenges currently facing Metropolitan.

The recommended changes to the Board committee structure are:

1. Establish a new Underserved Communities standing committee.
2. Establish a new Imported Water standing committee.
3. Delete the Bay-Delta Committee.
4. Establish the Conservation and Local Resources Committee as a standing committee and re-name as the Conservation and Local Resources One Water Committee; and
5. Establish a new Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee as a standing committee.

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## Details

### Background

At the recent Board retreat, the Board discussed and provided information to the Chairwoman regarding the Board's current priorities. Metropolitan is also facing challenges from the consequences of the extended drought/climate change impacts on imported water supplies. In order to have appropriate forums for discussion and action on both the Board's priorities and current water supply challenges, I am proposing the following changes to the Board committee structure.

The recommended changes are:

1. Establish a new Underserved Communities standing committee. This committee will address the ways that Metropolitan can better serve disadvantaged and underserved communities by developing appropriate programs that Metropolitan can offer to provide assistance.
2. Establish a new Imported Water standing committee. This committee will address issues relating to the State Water Project, including Bay-Delta issues, the Colorado River, and any future matters relating to imported water from any source or supply. As the work of the current Bay-Delta will be handled in this committee, the Bay-Delta Committee will be deleted.
3. Establish the Conservation and Local Resources Committee as a standing committee and re-name it as the Conservation and Local Resources One Water Committee. In addition to the current conservation and local resources handled by this committee, it will be the home committee for our Regional Recycled Water Program and other new and innovative investments in, and sources of, local supply.

4. Establish a new Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee as a standing committee. This committee will make recommendations to the full Board to address Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I) issues and will be the home committee for reports of the DE&I Officer.

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**Policy**

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Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 2400: Identification of Standing Committees

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 11104: Delegation of Responsibilities

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**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 because it involves organizational or administrative activities that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. (Section 15378(b)(5) of the State CEQA Guidelines.) In addition, where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed action in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the proposed action is not subject to CEQA. (Section 15061(b)(3) of the State of CEQA Guidelines.)

**CEQA determination for Option #2:**

None required

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**Board Options**

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**Option #1**

Adopt the recommendations for changes in the Board committee structure as set forth in this letter.

**Fiscal Impact:** No fiscal impact

**Business Analysis:** Modifications of the committee structure will facilitate the work of the Board consistent with the Board's priorities and the current challenges facing Metropolitan.

**Option #2**

Do not adopt the recommendations for changes in the Board committee structure

**Fiscal Impact:** No fiscal impact

**Business Analysis:** The committee structure will remain the same and will not reflect the Board priorities

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**Staff Recommendation**

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Option # 1

  
Gloria D. Gray  
Chairwoman of the Board

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11/19/2021

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Date