

**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT  
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**RESOLUTION NO. 9313**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT  
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
CALLING FOR A WATER SUPPLY ALERT**

WHEREAS, Metropolitan's two main sources of imported water, the Colorado River and Northern California, face continuing drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado River is experiencing a prolonged 21-year warming and dry trend and California is in a second consecutive dry year; and

WHEREAS, precipitation and snowpack in the Upper Colorado River Basin and in California are below normal to date; and

WHEREAS, warm temperatures and extremely dry soils have depleted the expected runoff water from the Upper Colorado River Basin snowpack and Northern Sierra snowpack into reservoirs; and

WHEREAS, storage in Lake Powell, Lake Mead, and Lake Oroville are each at record low levels and that many reservoirs throughout the state are well below average conditions at this date; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Water Resources State Water Project Table A Allocation is at only five percent of contract amounts; and

WHEREAS, a zero percent initial State Water Project Allocation is anticipated for 2022 due to severe drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, the United States Bureau of Reclamation studies indicate a first shortage declaration for 2022 for the Colorado River System; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan has invested \$1.5 billion in conservation, local water recycling, and local groundwater recovery since 1990 resulting in the cumulative savings of nearly 7.3 million acre-feet; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan member agencies have invested billions of dollars in these and other investments to increase the utilization of local supplies; and

WHEREAS, these programs increase water supply reliability and reduce the region's need to import water supplies; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan has made recent investments in its delivery system to add flexibility, allowing Metropolitan to deliver water from either of its imported water sources to most of the service area; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan has been actively adjusting system operations and partnering with its member agencies to minimize Metropolitan's use of SWP supplies; and

WHEREAS, the California Natural Resources Agency submitted a report to the Legislature in March 2021 outlining lessons from the drought of 2012-2016 which recognized that "storage projects put in place by MWD and the San Diego County Water Authority greatly improve regional capacity to endure drought" and "large urban water agencies have more capacity to prepare for and respond to drought than smaller systems, and most have historically experienced drought primarily in the form of financial impacts that are ultimately passed on to ratepayers;" and

WHEREAS, on April 21, May 10, and July 8, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom issued proclamations that a state of emergency exists in a total of 50 of 58 counties due to severe drought conditions, including a call for Californian's to voluntarily reduce their water use; and

WHEREAS, the state of emergency does not exist in Metropolitan's service area; and

WHEREAS, action by Californians now to conserve water and to extend local groundwater and surface water supplies will provide greater resilience if the drought continues in future years; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan supports actions by the state to address droughts in California with programs to promote water use efficiency; and

WHEREAS, water conserved throughout the service area, among other things, helps preserve storage levels in Metropolitan's diverse storage portfolio for next year should dry conditions persist; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan supports state actions which recognize and value prior investments in water supply reliability and drought preparedness

WHEREAS, variations among communities, regions, and counties means that a "one-size fits all" drought response may unintentionally disincentivize future investment in water supply reliability; and

WHEREAS, local water suppliers and communities have made strategic and forward-looking investments in water recycling, stormwater capture and reuse, groundwater storage and other strategies to improve drought resilience; and

WHEREAS, further investment is needed to improve water supply reliability for all Californians; and

WHEREAS, Governor Gavin Newsom announced a \$5.1 billion plan for water infrastructure, drought response and improved climate resilience and Metropolitan strongly advocates for its use of state funds to accelerate conservation and supply programs; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan's Water Surplus and Drought Management Plan guides Metropolitan's water supply management actions and includes provisions for implementing water conservation; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan intends to help the region support the Governor's call for voluntary conservation; and

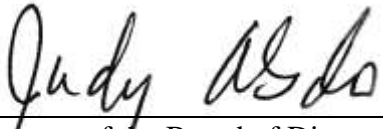
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, under its Water Surplus and Drought Management Plan, declares that Southern California in Metropolitan's service area is in a Water Supply Alert condition; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Metropolitan encourages all cities, counties, member agencies (consisting of wholesale and retail water agencies), and all retail water agencies to review their past drought response measures and their newly-adopted state Water Shortage Contingency Plans and implement voluntary conservation measures that support retail customer in reducing their water use and continue to preserve regional storage reserves; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Metropolitan will coordinate with the member agencies to develop a unified regional message in the media and outreach campaigns in order to communicate the need for continued conservation to the general public, businesses, stakeholders, industries and public officials; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Metropolitan will work to obtain state funding and other resources to accelerate conservation and supply programs.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California at its meeting held August 17, 2021.

  
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Secretary of the Board of Directors  
of The Metropolitan Water District  
of Southern California