



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

1/10/2023 Board Meeting

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7-1

**Subject**

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Award a \$14,820,500 contract to Steve P. Rados, Inc. to construct a bypass pipeline at the Wadsworth Pumping Plant as part of the water supply reliability improvements in the Rialto Pipeline service area; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (This action is part of a series of projects that are being undertaken to improve the supply reliability for State Water Project dependent member agencies)

**Executive Summary**

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The current state-wide drought and resulting low allocation of State Water Project (SWP) supplies by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) have directly impacted Metropolitan's ability to deliver water to the Rialto Pipeline service area. Construction of infrastructure improvements to enable the delivery of water from Diamond Valley Lake (DVL), and possibly the Colorado River Aqueduct, would benefit this area and preserve limited SWP supplies for the West Branch SWP member agencies. This action awards a construction contract to construct a pipeline interconnecting the Wadsworth pump discharge pipeline to the Inland Feeder at the Wadsworth Pumping Plant. This project is one of four associated projects which are currently underway to enable the direct delivery of water from DVL to the Rialto Pipeline through the Inland Feeder. This contract will be conducted under the terms of Metropolitan's project labor agreement (PLA).

**Details**

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**Background**

The Rialto Pipeline, constructed in 1972, is approximately 30 miles long with a diameter ranging from 96 inches to 144 inches. It conveys untreated water from DWR's Lake Silverwood to Metropolitan's Live Oak Reservoir and ultimately into the F.E. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant in La Verne. Member agencies with service connections on the Rialto Pipeline include the Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Three Valleys Municipal Water District, and the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District. These agencies use the untreated water for groundwater replenishment or as the source water to their water treatment plants.

Metropolitan's DVL provides emergency storage in the event of a major earthquake, carryover storage as a reserve for drought conditions, and seasonal storage to meet annual member agency demands. DVL is Metropolitan's largest reservoir, with a maximum storage capacity of 810,000 acre-feet. At this time, the Rialto Pipeline is unable to access the water stored in DVL due to infrastructure and operational constraints and hydraulic limitations.

In December 2021, the Board authorized amending the Capital Investment Plan (CIP) to include water supply reliability improvements in the Rialto Pipeline service area. The improvements are being implemented in stages. Stage 1 includes the Wadsworth Pumping Plant Bypass Pipeline, the Inland Feeder/Rialto Pipeline Intertie, and the Inland Feeder Badlands Tunnel Surge Protection Facility. These infrastructure modifications will allow for the delivery of up to 60 cubic feet per second (cfs) from DVL to the Rialto Pipeline service area. Stage 2 of the improvements program includes making connections between the Inland Feeder and San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District's (SBVMWD) Foothill Pump Station near the city of Highland. When both stages of the Rialto Pipeline Water Supply Reliability Improvements are completed, up to 120 cfs of DVL water can be delivered to the Rialto Pipeline. These incremental infrastructure improvements, coupled with existing facilities,

would significantly increase operational flexibility and enhance the water supply availability to member agencies with service connections on the Rialto Pipeline. This alternative supply delivery approach will directly benefit West Branch SWP member agencies by allowing limited SWP supplies to be reallocated to the West Branch of the SWP.

Construction of the bypass pipeline will improve Metropolitan's ability to deliver flows north of the Wadsworth Pumping Plant. Currently, water is conveyed from DVL by gravity to the Henry J. Mills Water Treatment Plant through the Inland Feeder. The Wadsworth Pumping Plant could also be used to pump water from the DVL forebay into the Inland Feeder toward the Rialto Feeder area, which is at a much higher elevation than the Mills plant. Currently, once the forebay is emptied, pumping to Inland Feeder must stop so that the forebay can be refilled with DVL water. The recommended bypass pipeline will allow the forebay to be filled continuously from DVL without disrupting the pumping operation.

Design activities for the Wadsworth Pumping Plant Bypass Pipeline are complete, and staff recommends proceeding with construction at this time. Design activities are underway for the two remaining Stage 1 projects and are scheduled to be completed by early 2023. Design of Stage 2 work (SBVMWD Foothill Pump Station Intertie) is anticipated to be completed by mid-2023.

In accordance with the April 2022 action on the biennial budget for fiscal years 2022/23 and 2023/24, the General Manager will authorize staff to proceed with construction of the Wadsworth Pumping Plant Bypass Pipeline, pending board award of the construction contract described below. Based on the current CIP expenditure forecast, funds for the work to be performed pursuant to the subject contracts during the current biennium are available within the CIP Appropriation for fiscal years 2022/23 and 2023/24 (Appropriation No. 15525). This project has been reviewed in accordance with Metropolitan's CIP prioritization criteria and was approved by Metropolitan's CIP evaluation team to be included in the Supply Reliability Program.

#### **Wadsworth Pumping Plant Bypass Pipeline – Construction**

The scope of the construction contract consists of constructing an approximately 600-foot-long, 96-inch-diameter steel pipeline interconnecting the Wadsworth Pumping Plant discharge pipeline and the Inland Feeder at the Wadsworth Pumping Plant, including concrete encasement of the pipeline, construction of a partially buried isolation valve structure, relocation of utilities, and asphalt removal and replacement. Metropolitan forces will dewater the pipelines, establish clearances, and return the system to service. The interconnection work will be conducted during a single upcoming twenty-day shutdown scheduled for April 2024.

A total of \$19.6 million is allocated for this work. In addition to the contract amount, allocated funds for work by Metropolitan staff include: \$1,928,000 for construction management and inspection; \$430,000 for Metropolitan force shutdown activities; \$429,000 for submittals review, responding to requests for information, and preparation of record drawings; \$482,000 for contract administration, environmental monitoring support, PLA administration, and project management; and \$1,510,500 for remaining budget. **Attachment 1** provides the allocation of the required funds. The total estimated cost to complete construction of the Wadsworth Pumping Plant Bypass Pipeline, including the amount appropriated to date and funds allocated for the work described in this action, is \$22.8 million.

#### ***Award of Construction Contract (Steve P. Rados, Inc.)***

Specifications No. 2020 for the construction of the Wadsworth Pumping Plant Bypass Pipeline were advertised on September 30, 2022. As shown in **Attachment 2**, three bids were received and opened on December 13, 2022. The low bid from Steve P. Rados, Inc. in the amount of \$14,820,500 complies with the requirements of the specifications. The engineer's estimate for this project was \$18.2 million. For this contract, Metropolitan established a Small Business Enterprise (SBE) participation level of at least 20 percent of the bid amount. Steve P. Rados, Inc. has committed to meeting this participation level. The subcontractors for this contract are listed in **Attachment 3**. This contract will be conducted under the terms of Metropolitan's PLA.

As described above, Metropolitan staff will perform construction management and inspection. The total cost of construction for this project is \$17,238,500, which includes the amount of the contract (\$14,820,500), a Metropolitan-furnished 84-inch diameter butterfly valve and other previously procured materials (\$1,988,000), and Metropolitan force activities (\$430,000). Engineering Services' performance metric goal for inspection of

projects with construction greater than \$3 million is 9 to 12 percent. For this project, the performance metric for inspection is 11.2 percent of the total construction cost.

### **Alternatives Considered**

Staff considered several alternatives for the alignment and construction of the Wadsworth Pumping Plant Bypass Pipeline. Initially, staff considered a conventional buried pipeline; however, the site's underlying soil consists of extremely hard rock which makes excavation difficult and expensive without the use of blasting techniques. In addition, several large pipelines and numerous conduits are located in the immediate vicinity, and blasting of the rock could risk damaging these existing facilities. Additionally, deep excavations or relocations of the existing pipelines would have been required to avoid these existing pipelines. With the selected alignment configuration, the pipeline is partially buried and encased in concrete; this approach minimizes hard rock excavation and avoids relocating other major pipelines.

### **Summary**

This action awards a \$14,820,500 contract to Steve P. Rados, Inc. to construct the Wadsworth Pumping Plant Bypass Pipeline. See **Attachment 1** for the Allocation of Funds, **Attachment 2** for the Abstract of Bids, **Attachment 3** for the Listing of Subcontractors for the Low Bidder, and **Attachment 4** for the Location Map.

### ***Project Milestone***

May 2024 – Completion of construction

### **Policy**

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

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 11104: Delegation of Responsibilities

By Minute Item 52778, dated April 12, 2022, the Board appropriated a total of \$600 million for projects identified in the Capital Investment Plan for Fiscal Years 2022/2023 and 2023/2024.

By Minute Item 52626, dated December 14, 2021, the Board amended the current CIP to include projects to improve water supply reliability in the Rialto Pipeline service area.

### **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

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#### **CEQA determination for Option #1:**

The proposed action is exempt under the provisions of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines. The proposed action consists of the installation of a new pipeline or the maintenance, repair, replacement, removal, or demolition of an existing pipeline of less than one mile in length within a public right-of-way. Accordingly, the proposed actions qualify under a statutory exemption (Section 21080.21 of the California Public Resources Code and Section 15282(k) of the State CEQA Guidelines). Additionally, the proposed actions are categorically exempt under the provisions of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines. In particular, the proposed action consists of the funding, design, minor alterations, and reconstruction or replacement of existing public facilities with negligible or no expansion of use and no possibility of significantly impacting the physical environment. Further, the proposed action consists of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities, which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. Accordingly, the proposed action qualifies under Class 1, Class 2, and Class 6 Categorical Exemptions (Sections 15301, 15302, and 15306 of the State CEQA Guidelines).

#### **CEQA determination for Option #2:**

None required

**Board Options**

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**Option #1**

Award a \$14,820,500 contract to Steve P. Rados, Inc. to construct a bypass pipeline at the Wadsworth Pumping Plant as part of water supply reliability improvements in the Rialto Pipeline service area.

**Fiscal Impact:** Expenditure of \$19.6 million in capital funds. All costs will be incurred in the current biennium and have been previously authorized.

**Business Analysis:** This option will improve the operational reliability of water deliveries to member agencies with connections to the Rialto Pipeline.

**Option #2**

Do not proceed with the project at this time.

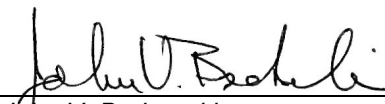
**Fiscal Impact:** None

**Business Analysis:** This option would forego improving the reliability of service to those member agencies with connections to the Rialto Pipeline.

**Staff Recommendation**

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Option #1

	12/21/2022
_____ John V. Bednarski Chief Engineer/Manager Engineering Services	<i>Date</i>

	12/22/2022
for _____ Adel Hagekhalil General Manager	<i>Date</i>

**Attachment 1 – Allocation of Funds**

**Attachment 2 – Abstract of Bids**

**Attachment 3 – Subcontractors for Low Bidder**

**Attachment 4 – Location Map**

Ref# es12686085

## Allocation of Funds for Wadsworth Pumping Plant Bypass Pipeline

	<b>Current Board Action (Jan. 2023)</b>
Labor	
Studies & Investigations	\$ -
Final Design	-
Owner Costs (Program mgmt., envir. monitoring)	482,000
Submittals Review & Record Drwgs.	429,000
Construction Inspection & Support	1,928,000
Metropolitan Force Construction	336,000
Materials & Supplies	94,000
Incidental Expenses	-
Professional/Technical Services	-
Right-of-Way	-
Equipment Use	-
Contracts	-
Steve P. Rados. Inc.	14,820,500
Remaining Budget	1,510,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 19,600,000</b>

The total amount expended to date for the Wadsworth Pumping Plant Bypass Pipeline is \$3.2 million. The total estimated cost to complete construction, including the amount appropriated to date, and funds allocated for the work described in this action, is \$22.8 million.

**The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**

**Abstract of Bids Received on December 13, 2022, at 2:00 P.M.**

**Specifications No. 2020**

**Wadsworth Pump Plant Bypass Pipeline**

The work includes installation of approximately 600 linear feet of a 96-inch-diameter pipeline, construction of a valve structure, and relocation of a transformer and switchgear.

Engineer's estimate: \$18,200,000

<b>Bidder and Location</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>SBE \$</b>	<b>SBE %</b>	<b>Met SBE<sup>1</sup></b>
Steve P. Rados, Inc. Santa Ana, CA	<b>\$14,820,500</b>	<b>\$5,776,588</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>Yes</b>
CCL Contracting, Inc. Escondido, CA	\$16,225,000	-	-	-
Shimmick Construction Co., Inc. Irvine, CA	\$18,299,000	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup> Small Business Enterprise (SBE) participation level established at 20% for this contract.

**The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**

**Subcontractors for Low Bidder**

**Specifications No. 2020  
Wadsworth Pumping Plant Bypass Pipeline**

Low bidder: Steve P. Rados, Inc.

<b>Subcontractor and Location</b>
Amber Steel Company Rialto, CA
Dean's Certified Welding, Inc. Temecula, CA
Farwest Corrosion Control Company Downey, CA
Leed Electric, Inc. Santa Fe Springs, CA
Techno Coatings, Inc. Anaheim, CA
Dirty Deedz Dumping Los Angeles, CA
Landmark Surveying Highland, CA
Nickolas Steel Ontario, CA
ZILA Los Angeles, CA
USC Supply Auburn, CA

# Distribution System

