THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Committee Item
INFORMATION

Community and Workplace Culture Committee

8/17/2026 Committee Meeting

6b

Subject

Quarterly Business Outreach Update

Executive Summary

This quarterly update provides information on Business Outreach and Community Engagement initiatives and projects. The next quarterly update is scheduled for November 2026.

Details and Background

Staff will provide an overview of the support they provide to Metropolitan Water District's Engineering Services Group (ESG), including internal construction support and outreach to the industry through strategic partnerships.

- Business Outreach and Community Engagement staff work collaboratively with internal staff to ensure the appropriate small business participation levels are set for construction projects, consistent with Board policy and direction. They also attend mandatory pre-bid conferences to assist contractors in better understanding certification requirements.
- Staff support the goals of the Project Labor Agreement and ongoing outreach efforts on alternative delivery methods and the unique partnership with the Design Build Entity.
- Staff organize and host an annual roundtable discussion with prime contractors and subcontractors.
- Staff attend outreach events hosted by our construction industry partners.
- Staff plan, organize and host the METworks conference in partnership with the ESG to educate the business community about upcoming opportunities in the water sector, including with the Metropolitan member agencies.

8/3/2026
Liji M. Thomas *Date*
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer

8/3/2026
John V. Bednarski *Date*
Assistant General Manager