THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Board Report

Water Resource Management Group

- **The Water Resource Management Group, June 2026 Activities as of July 21, 2026**

Summary

The Water Resource Management Group, July 2026 Activities as of July 21, 2026

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Execute CAMP4W Implementation Strategy to Integrate Climate Adaptation District-Wide

Metropolitan staff met with the Municipal Water District of Orange County and South Coast Water District staff to discuss the status of the Doheny Ocean Desalination Project located in Dana Point. Phase I of the 5 million gallons per day (MGD) project is in the design phase, with the 60 percent design milestone expected by the end of the year and a potential online date in late 2029.

Staff participated in a monthly WaterFarm #1 meeting hosted by the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP), Calleguas Municipal Water District, Burbank, District 29, West Basin Municipal Water District, Upper San Gabriel Valley, and Santa Clarita Water District, which are partnering agencies in the WaterFarm #1 project. The agencies discussed the status of the project and the formation of the Southern California Regional Water Authority (SCRWA). The SCRWA is a Joint Powers Authority that the partnering agencies have formed to co-develop WaterFarm #1 and other reliability projects.

Staff met with Daniel Leuenberger from the Colorado River Desalination Offset Initiative (CRODI). CRODI provided a presentation on their unsolicited proposal for a renewably-powered 50 MGD desalination plant located in Southern California. CRODI's goal is to develop desalination resources to increase supplies in the Colorado River Basin.

Staff participated in CalDesal's July Executive and Regulatory committee meetings. Both committees discussed strategies for commenting on the EPA's review of California's implementation of the Federal Government's Coastal Management Zone Act. The EPA's review includes an assessment of regulations related to seawater desalination.

Metropolitan hosted three free, public California Friendly landscaping classes, facilitated by Green Media Creations. Virtual classes included California Friendly Native Plant Training, Turf Removal, and Garden Design.

Metropolitan staff hosted a quarterly Conservation Credits Program Advisory Committee meeting to evaluate and receive feedback on new water-saving devices and provide comments on suitability for the regional rebate program.

Date of Report: 8/17/2026

Metropolitan staff monitored a performance test of a bioswale performed by researchers from Lawrence Berkeley National Labs for the LA County Department of Public Works (DPW). The performance test will provide data for an ongoing DWP study of the stormwater recharge potential of Low Impact Development installations in Southern California. Metropolitan is providing ongoing technical support to DPW's study.

Staff met with Orange County Water District (OCWD) groundwater experts to discuss a study of the water quality benefits of OCWD's Groundwater Replenishment System. Metropolitan is providing technical support and assisting in the implementation of USBR's Salinity Economic Impact Model for the study. Results from the study will help inform a similar analysis of the proposed PureWater SoCal project in the future. Staff also provided a support letter to OCWD for a United States Bureau of Reclamation WaterSmart research grant. OCWD proposes to study optimizing groundwater recharge using a decision support system based on data analytics.

Execute CAMP4W Implementation Strategy to Integrate Climate Adaptation District-Wide (Other)

Staff met with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and the Inland Empire Utilities Agency on July 23 and 24, respectively, to gather input and discuss the CAMP4W decision-making process.

Provide Organizational Stability and Deliver Operational Excellence

On July 16, staff chaired the California Urban Water Agencies Reliability & Resilience Committee Meeting.