THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Board Report

Water Resource Management Group

- **Water Resource Management August Activities Report**

Summary

The Water Resource Management Group, August 2026 activities as of August 19, 2026

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Execute CAMP4W Implementation Strategy to Integrate Climate Adaptation District-Wide

Staff attended the Alliance for Water Efficiency Symposium and engaged in several sessions and presented on topics including Metropolitan's Water Use Efficiency programs and Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional Turf Replacement Program efforts.

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.

Staff attendance at the 11th Annual Water Data Summit, hosted by the California Data Collaborative.

Provide Organizational Stability and Deliver Operational Excellence

After a critical infrastructure failure, Mexico requested emergency deliveries of a portion of their Treaty Waters through a combination of Metropolitan, SDCWA, and Otay Water District facilities pursuant to an existing agreement. Staff collaborated across multiple groups to verify Metropolitan's ability to make those emergency deliveries, enabling Mexico to receive approximately 331 acre-feet (AF) in July, with an additional 921 AF to be delivered in August and September.

Following Board authorization, staff moved forward with executing a System Conservation Implementation Agreement with the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR). This agreement allows Metropolitan to leave up to 200,000 AF in Lake Mead in 2026 for the creation of system water. Metropolitan will receive $325/AF for water left in Lake Mead in 2026 for a maximum total of up to $65 million, and would result in an increase of Lake Mead's elevation by approximately 3 feet.

Metropolitan staff also moved forward with executing an amendment to an existing System Conservation Implementation Agreement with the USBR and the Quechan Tribe. Under the amendment, and to the extent Metropolitan does not need the 13,000 AF supply from the Quechan Settlement Agreement in 2027 and 2028, the federal government will pay the Quechan tribe for water left in the Colorado River system.

Execute CAMP4W Implementation Strategy to Integrate Climate Adaptation District-Wide

Staff continues to meet with member agencies to gather feedback on the CAMP4W decision-making process and inform refinements moving forward. By the end of August, staff will have met with approximately half of Metropolitan's member agencies.

Seawater Desalination Study

Staff presented the results of Metropolitan's seawater desalination study (Study) to the Board during the August 17th Engineering, Operations, and Technology Committee. The study included a literature review, a scan of new technologies such as offshore desalination, and a high-level siting evaluation. The study identified eight potential sites and conducted further analysis of the three highest-ranked sites. Those sites include a 10 MGD expansion of the Doheny Ocean Desalination Project, a 10 MGD site in El Segundo, and a 20 MGD site in Port Hueneme. All three sites would feature subsurface intakes and brine discharge comingled in existing wastewater outfalls. These features would qualify the sites for streamlined permitting under California's Seawater Desalination Siting and Streamlining Report, but also limit project size. Capital costs for the three sites range from $448M to $1,660B, with unit costs ranging from $4,300 to $6,600 per acre-foot. During the presentation, staff also highlighted South Coast Water District's Doheny Ocean Desalination Project Phase I, and Las Virgenes MWD's WaterFarm 1 Project off the Coast of Malibu. Calleguas MWD, LADWP, the City of Burbank, and several other water agencies are also participating in the WaterFarm 1 project. Results from the study may help inform future CAMP4W portfolio assessments.