THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Committee Item
INFORMATION

Board of Directors

10/13/2026 Board Meeting

5H

Subject

One Water Awards Recognition Program – 2026 Awardees

Executive Summary

In its fourth consecutive year, Metropolitan's annual One Water Awards will recognize water-saving projects that showcase the value of collaboration in increasing water efficiency among diverse Southern California communities. This year, three awardees will be recognized for exemplary projects highlighting collaboration, leadership, and environmental impact. The awardees will have the opportunity to provide brief remarks, accompanied by a video or slideshow for each project.

Fiscal Impact

None

Applicable Policy

Evaluate and refine conservation/efficiency programs

Related Board Action(s)/Future Action(s)

None

Details and Background

Since 2022, Metropolitan has honored seventeen (17) recipients—including this year's awardees—with its One Water Award to recognize extraordinary projects undertaken by commercial, industrial, and institutional (CII) entities to use water more efficiently on their premises. There is significant potential to increase water use efficiency in CII sectors, and this recognition will encourage more entities to consider and implement similar water-saving projects.

Most awardees have participated in Metropolitan's Water Savings Incentive Program (WSIP) or Turf Replacement Program (TRP). Metropolitan has provided incentives for more than 260 projects through the WSIP, saving an estimated 1.4 billion gallons of water per year. The program provides funding to businesses and institutions that make water efficiency upgrades to their facilities beyond Metropolitan's standard commercial rebate programs. The TRP has transformed more than 235 million square feet of thirsty lawns into sustainable landscapes—saving enough water to serve 78,200 homes annually. Through the TRP, Metropolitan provides rebates to homes and businesses that replace their grass with water-efficient landscaping.

This year signals expansion of the recognition program to Metropolitan's member and retail agencies; many of these water agencies are implementing creative and effective tools and programs to further water use efficiency, and also deserve recognition.

The member agency service areas for this year's awardees are:

- Municipal Water District of Orange County
- Western Municipal Water District

The three awardees will be recognized during the board meeting for exemplary projects highlighting collaboration, leadership, and environmental impact, and will be allowed to share brief remarks, accompanied by videos/slideshows for each project.

9/30/2026

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9/30/2026

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