



- Board of Directors  
*Facilities Naming Ad Hoc Committee*

10/12/2021 Board Meeting

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**7-1**

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## **Subject**

Approve the nomination and naming of the overlook at Lake Mathews in honor of former Metropolitan Director Donald “Don” Galleano; the General Manager has determined that this action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

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## **Executive Summary**

Metropolitan’s Facilities Naming Policy Principle establishes approved standard criteria and procedures to submit a naming request for consideration by Metropolitan’s Board. Director Randy Record, who represents Eastern Municipal Water District, submitted a nomination to name the overlook at Lake Mathews for former Metropolitan Board member Don Galleano, Western Municipal Water District’s representative on the Metropolitan Board who passed away on June 2, 2021. This board action is to approve this nomination and the naming of the specified facility.

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## **Details**

### **Background**

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is responsible for its facilities, including construction of new facilities, and operations and maintenance of existing facilities. A Metropolitan facility may be named or renamed after an individual, group of individuals or an organization. The primary criteria for naming or renaming a Metropolitan facility is to honor an individual, group of individuals, or organization that has or have had a substantial, important and positive impact upon Metropolitan as a member of its Board or as an employee, and/or demonstrated civic achievements of the highest distinction while maintaining close ties with and providing significant support to Metropolitan, and/or the water industry.

The overlook at Lake Mathews is located off La Sierra Avenue at the entrance to the Lake Mathews Administration Building.

### ***Donald “Don” Galleano Nomination***

Don Galleano served on the Metropolitan Board of Directors from May 2015 until his passing in June 2021. He had served on the Western Municipal Water District (Western MWD) Board of Directors since 2004, representing the cities of Eastvale, Jurupa Valley, and Norco and the communities of Mira Loma, Rubidoux and Glen Avon. As an advocate for regional water solutions, he worked to secure reliable water supplies for the area, which aided in the formation of Eastvale and Jurupa Valley.

A respected vintner, Don Galleano owned Cantu-Galleano Ranch in Mira Loma, home to the Galleano Winery, a dry farming and completely organic operation. The ranch was founded by his family in 1927 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Western MWD attested to Don Galleano’s deep appreciation for the beauty, enormity, and historical significance of Lake Mathews as the original terminal reservoir for the Colorado River Aqueduct. He reportedly made monthly visits to the reservoir to monitor lake levels, providing updates to Metropolitan staff.

During his Metropolitan tenure, Don Galleano served on the Agriculture and Industry Relations Committee, Communications and Legislation Committee, Engineering and Operations Committee, Integrated Resources Plan Special Committee, and the Organization, Personnel and Technology Committee.

Prior to joining Western MWD's board, he served for nearly 25 years on the board of Jurupa Community Services District. Don Galleano also served on the boards of directors of the Chino Basin Watermaster, the Los Angeles County Fair Association, the Western Riverside County Businessman's Association, the Jurupa Chamber of Commerce, and the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority.

### ***Previous Metropolitan Actions***

Following the approval of a Facilities Naming Policy Principle in 2018, the Board voted in January 2019 to name the East Dam of Diamond Valley Lake after former Metropolitan General Manager and General Counsel Carl Boronkay. In July 2019, the Board voted to name the Lake Mathews Multiple Species Reserve in honor of former Metropolitan Board Chair Lois B. Krieger, who represented Western MWD on the Board. Prior to the formulation of the Facilities Naming Policy Principle, Metropolitan had dedicated the courtyard at Metropolitan Headquarters at Union Station in honor of former Board Chair John V. "Jack" Foley in November 2014, while 10 years earlier, the West Dam at Diamond Valley Lake (DVL) was dedicated in memory of Langdon "Don" Owen, former Metropolitan director representing the Municipal Water District of Orange County. In June 2001, the Board approved a resolution to rename the DVL Overlook in honor of former Metropolitan Board vice chairman Clayton A. Record, Jr.

**Attachment 1** provides the Donald "Don" Galleano nomination packet. **Attachment 2** provides an aerial photo of the outlook at Lake Mathews in relation to the Lake Mathews Administration Building.

## **Policy**

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Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 11104: Delegation of Responsibilities

By Minute Item 51324, dated September 11, 2018, the Board-adopted Metropolitan's facilities naming policies and procedures: Metropolitan Facilities Naming Policy Principle.

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

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

The proposed action is not defined as a project under CEQA because it involves organizational and administrative activities that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment (Section 15378(b)(5) of the State CEQA Guidelines). In addition, the proposed action is not subject to CEQA because it can be seen with certainty that it will not cause a significant effect on the physical environment (Section 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines).

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

None required

## **Board Options**

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### **Option #1**

Approve the nomination and naming of the overlook at Lake Mathews in honor of Donald "Don" Galleano.

**Fiscal Impact:** Minimal costs. Staff work would be needed to design and install signage at the facility and to add the name to maps, planning and operations documents, websites, and informational material as necessary.

**Business Analysis:** Naming the overlook at Lake Mathews in honor of Mr. Galleano will demonstrate the substantial importance and positive impact, and civic achievements of the highest distinction of this individual to Metropolitan and the Riverside County region.

**Option #2**

Do not approve the nomination.

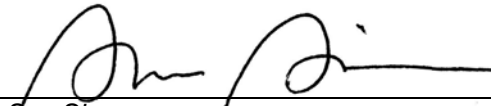
**Fiscal Impact:** None

**Business Analysis:** Metropolitan would forgo the opportunity to acknowledge the importance and impact, and civic achievements of Mr. Galleano to Metropolitan and the Riverside County region.


**Staff Recommendation**

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Option #1

  
Sue Sims  
External Affairs Manager

8/27/2021  
Date

  
Adel Hagekhalil  
General Manager

9/1/2021  
Date

**Attachment 1 – Donald “Don” Galleano nomination packet**

**Attachment 2 – Aerial photo of the overlook at Lake Mathews**

Ref# ea12681319



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT  
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

## Metropolitan Facilities Naming Request Form

It is the policy of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California ("Metropolitan") acting through its Board of Directors to name and rename facilities. The naming and renaming criteria and procedures are available in the **Metropolitan Facilities Naming Policy Principle**. This form shall be used by an individual, groups of individuals or organization proposing names for new Metropolitan facilities or the renaming of existing Metropolitan facilities.

**1. Name for consideration:** \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Board to select appropriate Metropolitan facility
- ☐ Facility proposed for naming or renaming: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. The criteria which the proposed name meets or satisfies:** (check all that apply)

- ☐ Substantial, important and positive impact upon Metropolitan as a member of its Board or staff
- ☐ Personal achievements of highest distinction in a public service role, while maintaining close ties with and providing significant support to Metropolitan
- ☐ Names that have historical or regional significance to the facility or location, ordinarily not for living persons
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Provide supporting documentation, as available:**

- A memorandum giving the particulars of the naming request that includes the rationale for the naming, referring to relevant criteria;
- Background and information about the individual, group of individuals, or organization for which the facility is to be named or renamed;
- Letters of support for this request;
- Other information that may be relevant to the potential implementation of the request such as historical photographs and articles;
- A list of other facilities named, or being proposed to be named or renamed after the same individual, group of individuals or organizations, including location and date.

*You may be contacted by Metropolitan staff for additional information, if needed.*

**Name of Requestor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this application and supporting documents to: Metropolitan Board of Directors, P.O. 54153, Los Angeles, CA 90054-053 or **ssims@mwdh2o.com**

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Facilities Naming Request Form

August 10, 2021

The Honorable Gloria Gray  
Chair, Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors  
700 Alameda St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: Western Municipal Water District support for renaming of Lake Mathews Overlook after Don Galleano**

Dear Chairwoman Gray,

On behalf of Western Municipal Water District (Western), my fellow board members, Western staff, and the nearly 1 million customers we serve in western Riverside County, I would like to express our strong support for the renaming of the Overlook at Lake Mathews after our recently departed board member, colleague, and friend, Don Galleano.

Director Galleano was elected to Western's Board of Directors in 2004, where he represented Western's Division 4 that included the communities of Eastvale, Jurupa Valley, and Norco. He also acted on behalf of Western at the Chino Basin Watermaster and Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority. Prior to Director Galleano's election to Western, he served on the Jurupa Community Services District Board of Directors from 1982 to 2004. This makes his total time in elected public office almost 40 years, which he served with pride, distinction and integrity. One particular skill Director Galleano was known for was his ability to have people with differing opinions come to the decision-making table and resolve extremely complex and challenging issues.

As you know, Director Galleano was appointed to the Metropolitan Water District (Metropolitan) Board of Directors to represent Western beginning in 2015. Director Galleano was a visionary who never forgot about his role in providing his voice for the future generations of people who would benefit from the difficult choices Metropolitan has made over the years. He advocated for smart water policy and believed in the importance of investing in a diverse water portfolio that makes our region more resilient. Even now, as we make our way through this current drought, the policy decisions made by Director Galleano and his fellow Metropolitan board members are being felt in a positive way for all Southern Californians.

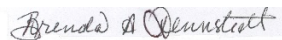
Director Galleano was a third-generation winegrower at the Historic Cantú-Galleano Ranch, home to Galleano Winery. This highly acclaimed dry farming operation remains a testament to his commitment to water sustainability. He also served the community in several ways. He was a past president of the Western Riverside County Businessman's Association and the Jurupa Chamber of Commerce and served on the National Orange Show Foundation Board, the Los Angeles County Fair Association Board, and Pacific Rim Wine Competition. His interest in and service to these many diverse fields made Director Galleano uniquely qualified to represent all the varied perspectives of those he represented – people, farmers, businesses and the environment. He was an important figure in the development of regional water solutions, and his work securing water for the area helped lay the groundwork for the formation of the cities of Eastvale and Jurupa Valley.

In contemplating a way to honor Director Galleano, the renaming of the Overlook at Lake Mathews is fitting. Director Galleano was always an advocate for policymakers to think of the bigger picture when making decisions, as he knew today's decisions would affect generations to come. As the terminus of the Colorado Aqueduct, Lake Mathews represents this ideal well when Metropolitan decided to bring water from the Colorado River to Southern California. Additionally, on all of the Metropolitan Inspection Trips he hosted, Director Galleano could be found deeply taking in the sights of those investments his Metropolitan board member colleagues have made, both past and present. Director Galleano was passionate about Lake Mathews, both for its beauty and enormity as well as its significance in the water supply of Southern California. He visited his beloved Lake Mathews every month to monitor lake levels and take pictures of signage, and then promptly send them to Metropolitan staff to be sure they were "in the loop." I have no doubt his spirit frequently visits places such as the Overlook

at Lake Mathews and know that, while a modest person, he would appreciate such a gesture from an agency he so highly regarded.

I thank Director Randy Record from Eastern Municipal Water District for initiating the renaming of the Overlook at Lake Mathews after Director Galleano and fully support this way of honoring Director Galleano's life and legacy to the region.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Brenda A. Dennstedt", is displayed on a light gray rectangular background.

BRENDA DENNSTEDT  
President, Board of Directors

Cc: Honorable Board Members, Metropolitan Water District  
Adel Hagekhalil, General Manager, Metropolitan Water District



## Attachment 2 - Aerial photo of the overlook at Lake Mathews

10/12/2021 Board Meeting

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Attachment 2, Page 1 of 1

