



Regional Recycled Water Program Quarterly Update

Engineering and Operations Committee
Item 6b
September 13, 2021

Outline

- Agency coordination/funding
- Environmental planning phase activities
- Opportunities for program acceleration

Agency Coordination/Funding

Wastewater Partner



Groundwater Basin Managers



Metropolitan Member Agencies



Colorado River Partners



Other Key Partners



Agency Coordination/Funding LACSD/MWD On-going Work

- Amendment #1 approved in November 2020
 - Contributions to Environmental Phase work
- Ongoing LACSD coordination efforts
 - Continuing demonstration plant operation assistance
 - Monitoring for source control/waste residuals
 - Nitrogen pilot and bench scale optimization testing
 - Nitrogen management studies (complete October 2021)
 - Consultant selection process participation



Federal and State Funding Opportunities

Provide multiple benefits, including water supply reliability benefits for drought-stricken States and communities

- Federal - Significant recycled water funding included in the proposed Federal infrastructure bill
 - \$450M total grant fund to be spent over 5 years
 - Projects in the Southwest over \$500M
 - Regional in nature/multiple stakeholders
 - Up to 25% of project cost
- Federal - Title XVI Grants continue
- State – potential \$700M in drought funding

Environmental Planning Phase Activities

- Conveyance
 - Consultant agreement authorized in June 2020
 - Identify preferred alignment for CEQA by the end of 2021
- CEQA
 - Reviewing proposals received August 16, 2021
 - Consultant recommendation: October 2021 Board meeting
- Advanced Water Treatment
 - Reviewing proposals received August 18, 2021
 - Consultant recommendation: October 2021 Board meeting
 - DPR - Regulatory Framework and Scientific Panel Workshops

Environmental Planning Phase Activities

- Public Outreach
 - Developed Public Outreach Team Charter document
 - Updating Public Outreach Plan and stakeholder database
 - Stakeholder meetings held with 17 cities on pipeline alignment(s)
 - Significant participation in Water Reuse Conference 2021
- Technical Studies
 - Current Demo Plant tMBR testing complete in September 2021
 - Board authorized consultant agreement for technical support at Demo Plant to study sMBR in August 2021
 - Baseline testing to begin in January 2022

Economic Assessment of Program

- Los Angeles Economic Development Council job creation report
 - \$8.7B total economic output created
 - 47,000 development related jobs
 - 24,100 construction jobs in So. Calif.
 - \$400M+ State and Local taxes generated
- Ongoing economic activity in So. California
 - \$300M+ annual economic output
 - Over 1,000 total jobs supported



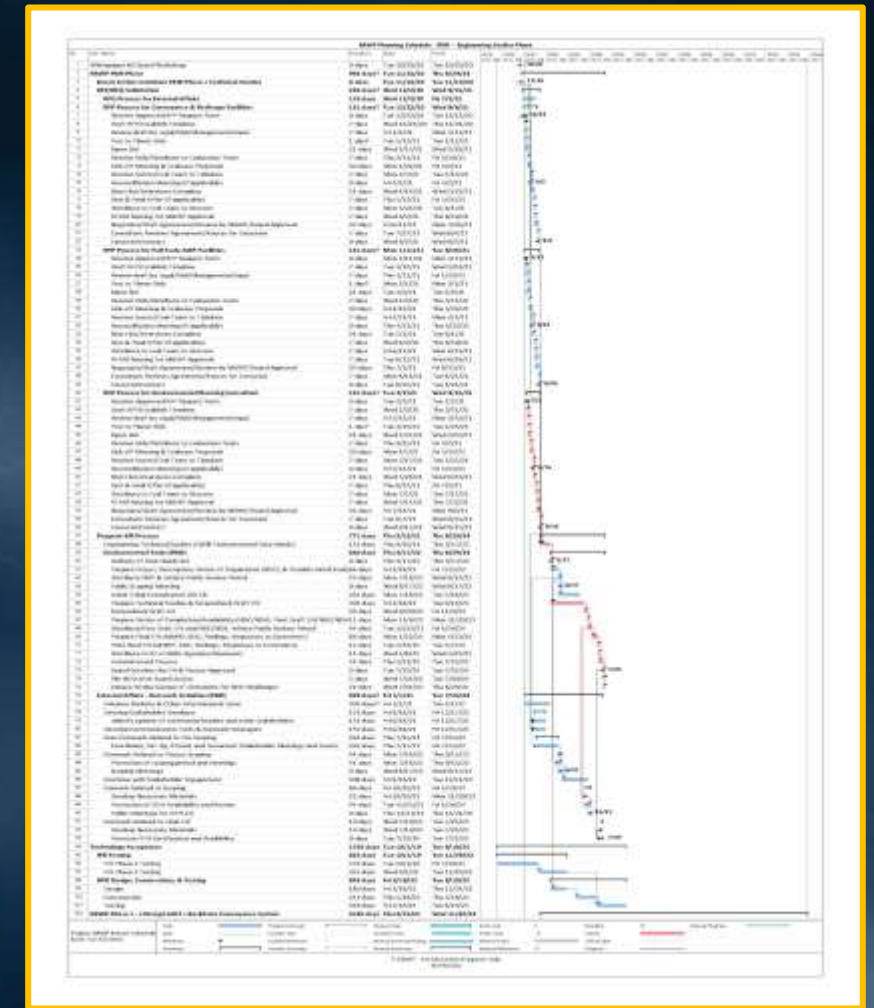
LAEDC Institute for Applied Economics

Potential Acceleration of Program

- Alternatives previously developed
 - 2019 Conceptual Planning Report
 - 2019 White Paper No. 1
- Advent of outside funding opportunities
 - Federal funding for large regional program
 - Potential for State funding
- Continuation of dry hydrologic conditions

Opportunities for Program Acceleration

- Current Implementation approach
 - Linear implementation
 - Design follows CEQA approval
 - Current critical path through:
 - CEQA preparation/certification
 - AWT design/construction
 - Utilizes design-bid-build approach
 - Online date Phase 1: 2032
 - ±100 MGD, indirect potable reuse



Opportunities for Program Acceleration

- Alternative implementation ideas
 - Begin design on selected program components
 - Concurrent with on-going CEQA process
 - Develop and employ alternative delivery approaches
 - Would allow for concurrent design and construction on key program components
- Benefits to schedule
 - Up to a 2-year advancement on current schedule

Early start of Design Activities

- Identify key program elements where design could begin
 - Avoid areas with current uncertainties
 - Focus on areas where:
 - CEQA is unlikely to change location, configuration, or impacts of project feature(s)
 - Initial criteria for selection of early-start components
 - Complex permitting
 - Complex ROW acquisition
 - Extensive investigations required
 - Long lead time for design efforts

Early Start of Design Activities

- Current work activities
 - CEQA and technical studies
 - Undertaken with budgeted O&M
- Begin early-start design work with CIP funding
 - Board action required
 - Authorize out-of-budget CIP funding for current biennium
 - Initial CIP funding for design-related activities only
 - No construction activities

Alternative Implementation Methodologies

- Conventional Design-Bid-Build (DBB) approach
 - Metropolitan's standard methodology
- Alternative delivery differs from DBB
 - Potential for schedule enhancement
 - Opportunities for owner/contractor collaboration
 - Opportunities for risk sharing/allocation
 - Price certainty prior to design completion
 - Alternative process for contractor selection
 - Typically includes qualifications and pricing

Pathway to Alternative Delivery

- Secure legislative approval
 - Potential availability: January 2023
 - Assumes process starts in 2022
- Scope of Legislative authority
 - Targeted approach
 - RRWP
 - Drought reliability projects
 - Apply to design and construction activities only
 - Subsequent operations and maintenance by Metropolitan staff
 - Coordinate approach with bargaining units

Alternative Delivery

- Common methods in industry
 - Design Build (DB)
 - Progressive Design Build (PDB)
 - Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC)
- Local agencies with authority
 - LACSD
 - West Basin MWD
 - LADWP (project specific authority)
 - Water Replenishment District (ARC facility)



West Basin MWD – Edward C. Little WTP

Summary: Alternative Delivery

Potential benefits

- ✓ Potential for schedule advancement
- ✓ Enhanced allocation of project risks
- ✓ Opportunities for Owner/Contractor collaboration
- ✓ Early pricing certainty

Potential downsides

- × Legislative action required to implement
- × Development of new MWD contract documents
- × Acquire and train staff

Recommended Actions

- Commence early-start to design process
 - Request Board funding for CIP work on Program
 - Identify suitable areas for early-start design work
 - Pursue outside funding for Program, as it becomes available, to support design activities
- Pursue alternative delivery approaches
 - Request C&L Committee to begin legislative development process
 - Identify potential alternative delivery approaches for consideration
 - Begin staff development process to support new methods

