



Express Support for the 2021 California Resilience Challenge and Approve a Financial Sponsorship of \$200,000

Water Planning and Stewardship Committee

Item 7-4

September 13, 2021

Climate Extremes Threaten Our Communities



Drought

Lake Oroville
2021



Flooding

King Tide
Orange County
2020



Fire

Dixie Fire
2021



Heat

Los Angeles County
2020

California Resilience Challenge

Established in
2019

- Initiated by the Bay Area Council Foundation
- Sponsors include peer organizations

Addresses
funding gaps

- Showcase innovative approaches
- Invests in local communities

Metropolitan's
role

- Founding sponsorship of \$200,000
- Steering Committee representation
- Funded initial round of projects

2020 Climate Resiliency Projects



- 80 applicants
- 12 funded; \$2 million invested
- General Manager participated in selection process
- Four projects in service area

Southern California Projects

**Urban Tree
Canopy**
Gateway
Cities COG



**Energy
Resiliency**
Western
Riv. COG



**Energy
Resiliency**
Santa Ana
RTC



**Wildfire
Incentive
Program**
San Diego



2021 Request for Proposals

Funding

- \$2.0 million
- Awards up to \$200,000
- MWD sponsorship would fund an addition project

Eligibility

- Public entities and NGOs
- Address one or more risk
- Benefit underrepresented communities

● Timeline

Launch
Jul

Close
Sep

Review
Oct-Nov

Award
Dec

Requested Sponsorship

- Contribute \$200,000
- Opportunities
 - Participate in the 2021 RFP
 - Seat on the Steering Committee
 - Visibility on outreach materials
 - Event speaking opportunities
- 2021 sponsors



Regional Benefits

Projects help Southern California communities

- Increases resiliency of water and power grids

The Climate Resilience Challenge is leading the way

- Sponsorship enhances Metropolitan's leadership role

Opportunities to collaborate with peer organizations

- Builds on efforts with Water Utility Climate Alliance and IRP

Board Options

- Option #1
 - Authorize the General Manager to sponsor the California Resilience Challenge with a \$200,000 contribution and renew Metropolitan's seat on the Steering Committee
- Option #2
 - Take no action

Staff Recommendation

- Option #1

