

# The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

# Agenda

The mission of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is to provide its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

## **EI&A Committee**

T. McCoy, Chair  
G. Cordero, Vice Chair  
D. De Jesus  
B. Dennstedt  
L. Dick  
A. Fellow  
L. Fong-Sakai  
J. Garza  
G. Gray  
M. Luna  
N. Sutley

## **Equity, Inclusion, and Affordability Committee**

Meeting with Board of Directors \*

**August 14, 2023**

**9:30 a.m.**

Agendas, live streaming, meeting schedules, and other board materials are available here: <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. A listen-only phone line is available at 1-877-853-5257; enter meeting ID: 873 4767 0235. Members of the public may present their comments to the Board on matters within their jurisdiction as listed on the agenda via in-person or teleconference. To participate via teleconference 1-833-548-0276 and enter meeting ID: 876 9484 9772 or click <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87694849772?pwd=V3dGZGRYUjJ3allqdUxXTIJRM044Zz09>

**Monday, August 14, 2023  
Meeting Schedule**

**09:30 a.m. EOT  
09:30 a.m. EIA  
11:30 a.m. LRAC  
01:30 p.m. Break  
02:00 p.m. OWS**

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MWD Headquarters Building • 700 N. Alameda Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012

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\* The Metropolitan Water District's meeting of this Committee is noticed as a joint committee meeting with the Board of Directors for the purpose of compliance with the Brown Act. Members of the Board who are not assigned to this Committee may participate as members of the Board, whether or not a quorum of the Board is present. In order to preserve the function of the committee as advisory to the Board, members of the Board who are not assigned to this Committee will not vote on matters before this Committee.

## **1. Opportunity for members of the public to address the committee on matters within the committee's jurisdiction (As required by Gov. Code Section 54954.3(a))**

**\*\* CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS -- ACTION \*\***

## **2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION**

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the Equity, Inclusion, and Affordability Committee Meeting for July 25, 2023 (Copies have been submitted to each Director, Any additions, corrections, or omissions) [21-2372](#)

**Attachments:** [08142023 EIA 2A \(07252023\) Minutes](#)

## **3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION**

NONE

**\*\* END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS \*\***

**4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION**

NONE

**5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

NONE

**6. COMMITTEE ITEMS**

- a. A Survey of Member Agency Programs offered to Disadvantaged Communities as defined in Water Code 79505.5 [21-2562](#)

**Attachments:** [08142023 EIA 6a Presentation](#)

- b. Panel discussion on affordability: [21-2561](#)
- Ismahan Abdullahi, National Executive Director at Muslim American Society: Public Affairs and Civic Engagement; San Diego County Water Authority Board Member
  - Maura Allaire, Assistant Professor, University California Irvine School of Social Ecology
  - Jennifer Capitolo, California Water Association
  - Dan Denham, General Manager at San Diego County Water Authority
  - Mauricio Guardado, General Manager United Water Conservation District

**7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

- a. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Manager's Report [21-2373](#)

**8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

NONE

**9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**NOTE:** This committee reviews items and makes a recommendation for final action to the full Board of Directors. Final action will be taken by the Board of Directors. Committee agendas may be obtained on Metropolitan's Web site <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. This committee will not take any final action that is binding on the Board, even when a quorum of the Board is present.

Writings relating to open session agenda items distributed to Directors less than 72 hours prior to a regular meeting are available for public inspection at Metropolitan's Headquarters Building and on Metropolitan's Web site <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>.

Requests for a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to attend or participate in a meeting should be made to the Board Executive Secretary in advance of the meeting to ensure availability of the requested service or accommodation.

**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**MINUTES**

**EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE**

**July 25, 2023**

Chair McCoy called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

Members present: Directors Cordero, De Jesus (teleconference posted location), Dennstedt, Dick, Fellow, Fong-Sakai, Gray (teleconference posted location), and McCoy.

Members absent: Directors Garza, Luna, and Sutley.

Other Members present: Abdo, Alvarez, Bryant, Camacho, Erdman, Faessel, Goldberg, Jung, Kassakhian, Kurtz, McMillian, Miller, Morris, Ortega, Peterson, Pressman, Seckel, and Smith.

Committee Staff present: Beatty, Hagekhalil, Kasaine, Rohen, Ros, and Thomas.

**1. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION**

Caty Wagner, Sierra Club California commented on item 6a.

Ellen Mackey, as a member of the public commented on item 6a.

**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS — ACTION**

**2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION**

- a. Subject: Approval of the Minutes of the Equity, Inclusion, and Affordability Committee for April 10, 2023 (Copies have been submitted to each Director, Any additions, corrections, or omissions)

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION**

None

Director Fellow made a motion, seconded by Director De Jesus, to approve the consent calendar consisting of item 2a.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Cordero, De Jesus, Dennstedt, Dick, Fellow, Fong-Sakai, Gray, and McCoy.  
Noes: None  
Abstentions: None  
Absent: Directors Garza, Luna, and Sutley.

The motion for items 2a passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstain, and 3 absent.

### **END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS**

#### **4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION**

None

#### **5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

None

#### **6. COMMITTEE ITEMS**

a. Subject: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategic Plan

Presented by: Liji Thomas, Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer  
Ms. Katano introduced the item.

Mr. Hagekhalil and Chair Ortega provided introductory remarks.

Ms. Thomas presented the committee with Metropolitan strategic DEI framework, Metropolitan's current state, the roadmap for implementation of the Bucherati group recommendations, progress made, and the next steps.

Ms. Gill, Interim Human Resources Group Manager provided an overview of the partnership of Human Resources and DEI on recruitment processes, hiring, and succession planning.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Erdman
2. Gray
3. Ortega
4. Fong-Sakai
5. Dennstedt
6. Smith
7. Abdo
8. Seckel
9. Cordero

Staff responded to Directors' comments and questions.

**7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

- a. Subject: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Manager's Report  
No report given.

**8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

None

**9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 12:18 p.m.

Tana McCoy  
Chair



## Equity, Inclusion, and Affordability Committee

# A Survey of Member Agency Programs Offered to Disadvantaged Communities as Defined in Water Code 79505.5

Item 6a

August 14, 2023

# Metropolitan's Customers

- Metropolitan may “[p]rovide, sell, and deliver water at wholesale for municipal and domestic uses and purposes.” MWD Act, Sec. 130(c).
  - Metropolitan has 26 wholesale customers: its member agencies.
  - Retail customers are not Metropolitan's customers.



# Metropolitan's Services

- Metropolitan may set rates for services that “shall be uniform for like classes of service throughout the district.” MWD Act, Sec. 134
  - Metropolitan has Full-Service Water (treated and untreated)
  - Has provided short-term wheeling service to MAs (at pre-set wheeling rate)
  - Other transactions at negotiated prices.

# “Affordability” @ Metropolitan

- Context for “Affordability” @ Metropolitan:
  - Its 26 member agencies
  - Its costs as a whole for its services
  - A different service rate → different service

# Community Programs

Member Agency Survey

## Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water

### Community Programs

8. Disadvantaged Community (DAC), defined in Water Code 79505.5 (as a community with an annual median household income that is less than 80% of the statewide median household income), are typically more vulnerable to the effects of climate extremes. What percentage of DAC make up your service area?

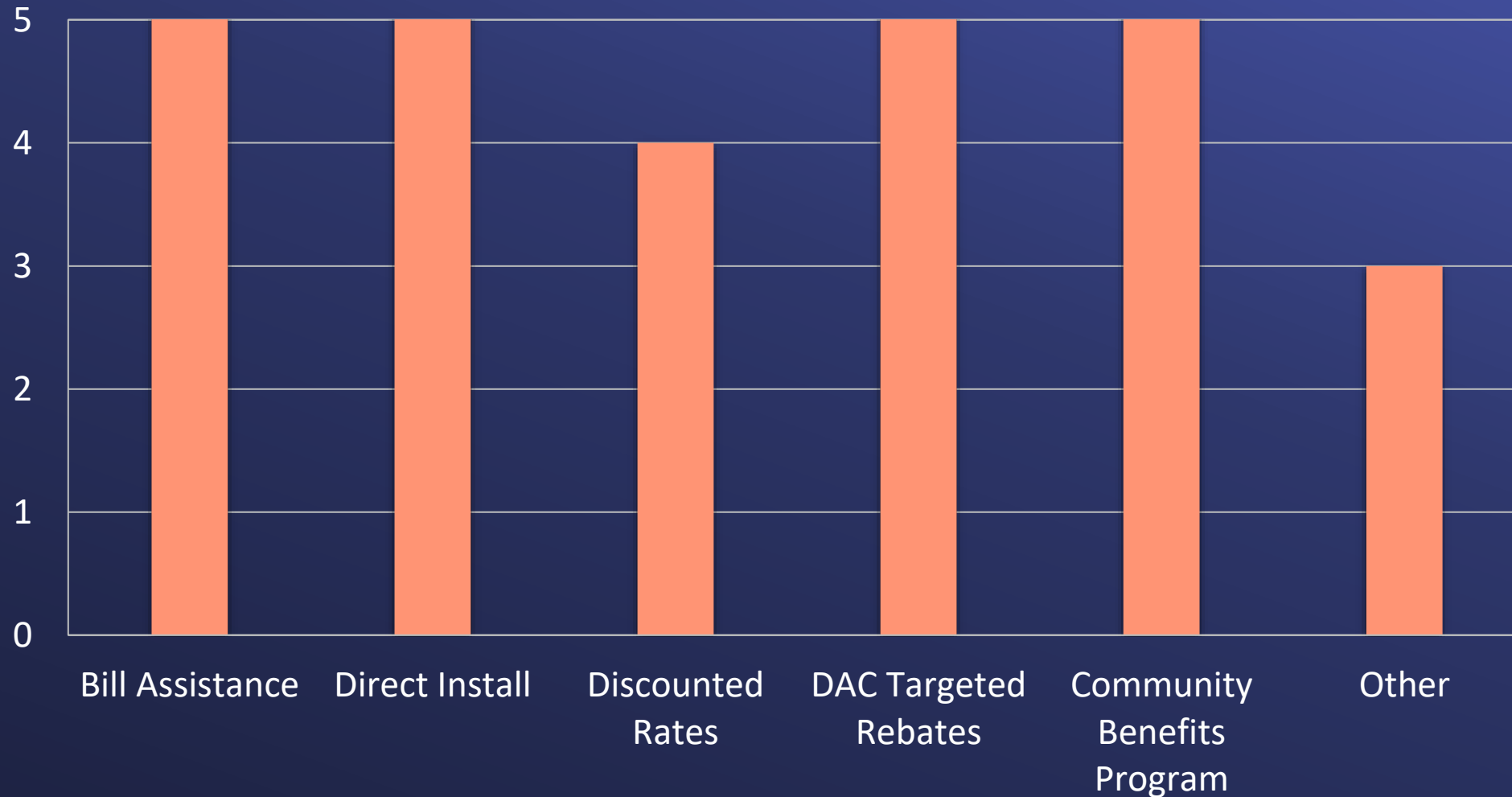
- 0 of customers
- 1-24% of customers
- 25-49% of customers
- 50-74% of customers
- 75-100% of customers

9a. Check all programs your agency offers to DAC communities.

- Bill assistance
- Direct install
- Discounted rates
- DAC targeted rebates
- Community benefits programs
- Other

9b. (optional) Please describe "other" programs for low-income qualified customers.

# Agency Programs Offered to DACs



*Note: 12 out of 17 respondents responded to this question*

# Community Programs

Questionnaire Responses:  
Disadvantaged  
Communities

What Percentage  
of Member  
Agencies Have  
DAC Populations  
in Each Range?

Percent of Agencies with DACs Within Each Range  
(based on 12 agencies responding)

