

# 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 - Final - Revised 3**

Meeting with Board of Directors \*

**November 13, 2023**

**12:00 p.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: 862 4397 5848. 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: 815 2066 4276 or click <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81520664276pwd=a1RTQWh6V3h3ckFhNmduUWpKR1c2Zz09>

## **Monday, November 13, 2023 Meeting Schedule**

09:00 a.m. EOT  
11:00 a.m. EOP  
12:00 p.m. EIA  
02:00 p.m. Break  
02:30 p.m. OWS

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

**Teleconference Locations:**

**525 Via La Selva • Redondo Beach, CA 90277**

**Cedars Sinai Medical Center • 8700 Beverly Blvd • Los Angeles, CA 90048**

**3008 W. 82nd Place • Inglewood, CA 90305**

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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 for October 24, 2023 (Copies have been submitted to each Director, Any additions, corrections, or omissions). [21-2503](#)

**Attachments:** [11142023 EIA 2A \(10242023\) 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. Panel on Regulatory Requirements Impacting Affordability [21-2817](#)  
[SUBJECT REVISED 11/9/2023]

Panelist:

Danielle Blacet, Deputy Executive Director, California Municipal Utilities Association

Wendy Broley, P.E., Executive Director, California Urban Water Agencies

Laurel Firestone, Board Member, State Water Resources Control Board

Erik D. Olson, Senior Strategic Director, Health and Food, People & Communities Program, Natural Resources Defense Council

J. Alan Roberson, P.E., Executive Director, Association of State Drinking Water Administrators

Alex Rojas, General Manager, Central Basin Municipal Water District

**Attachments:** [11132023 EIA 6a Presentation - REVISED](#)

- b. Business Outreach Annual report [21-2820](#)

**Attachments:** [11132023 EIA 6b Presentation](#)

### 7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- a. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion activities [21-2504](#)

## **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**

**October 24, 2023**

Chair McCoy called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

Members present: Directors Cordero, De Jesus (teleconference location posted), Dennstedt (entered after roll), Fellow, Fong-Sakai, Garza (entered after roll), Gray (teleconference location posted), McCoy, and Sutley.

Members absent: Directors Dick and Luna.

Other Members present: Ackerman, Armstrong, Camacho, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre (teleconference location posted), McMillan, Miller (teleconference location posted), Morris, Ortega, Peterson, Quinn, Seckel, and Smith.

Committee Staff present: Crosson, Elias, Hagekhalil, Kasaine, Upadhyay, and Redin.

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

None

**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS — ACTION**

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

- a.                   Subject:           Approval of the Minutes of the Equity, Inclusion, and Affordability Committee for August 14, 2023 (Copies have been submitted to each Director, Any additions, corrections, or omissions)

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION**

None

Director Fong-Sakai made a motion, seconded by Director Cordero, to approve the consent calendar consisting of item 2a.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Cordero, De Jesus, Fellow, Fong-Sakai, Gray, McCoy, and Sutley.

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Directors Dennstedt, Dick, Garza, and Luna

The motion for items 2a passed by a vote of 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstain, and 4 absent.

**END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS**

**4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION**

None

**5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

None

## 6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Panel on Affordability

Panelist:

Joe Mouawad, General Manager, Eastern Municipal Water District  
Jennifer Capitolo, Executive Director, California Water Association  
Jennifer Clary, California Director, Clean Water Action/Clean Water Fund  
George Rofail, Chief Customer Officer, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

Presented by: Liz Crosson, Chief Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Officer  
Shradha Upadhayay, Senior Environmental Specialist  
Adrian Hightower, Special Projects Manager

Ms. Crosson introduced the item and introduced Ms. Upadhayay who presented the committee with an overview of current policies and water affordability programs. Next, Mr. Hightower introduced the panelists: Joe Mouawad, General Manager, Eastern Municipal Water District; Jennifer Capitolo, Executive Director, California Water Association; Jennifer Clary, California Director, Clean Water Action/Clean Water Fund; and George Rofail, Chief Customer Officer, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

Mr. Hightower asked the panel the following questions: 1. What factors or policies would you change to meaningfully improve household water affordability? 2. What should Metropolitan's role be in advancing household water affordability in our service area? How could household water affordability programs address California's Human Right to Water policy and promote environmental justice?

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Sutley
2. Fellow
3. Smith
4. Fong-Sakai
5. Ortega
6. Quinn
7. Armstrong
8. Dennstedt

Staff responded to the Directors' comments and questions.

**7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS**

- a. Subject: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion activities

No report was given.

**8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

None

**9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Tana McCoy  
Chair



Equity, Inclusion, and Affordability Committee

# Panel on Regulatory Requirements Impacting Affordability

Item 6a

November 13, 2023



# EIA Panel on Affordability

## Subject

- Follow-up to the Board's request for discussions on affordability to inform the Board's Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W) process
- Expand on initial CAMP4W thematic statements on affordability that will serve as guideposts in the development of evaluative criteria

## Purpose

- Increase understanding on regulatory requirements impacting water affordability
- Discuss water affordability criteria to inform a decision-making framework

# EIA Panels on Affordability



## August 2023

Panel 1: Discussion of member agency programs

## October 2023

Panel 2: Metropolitan's role in household water affordability

## November 2023

Panel 3: Regulatory requirements impacting costs

## January 2024

Panel 4: Metropolitan's efforts to contain/offset costs

This series of panels will inform the CAMP4W **first year progress report** for the board, specifically regarding **the next steps for the coming year**

Regulatory  
Processes  
with  
Potential  
Impacts to  
Affordability

Anticipated  
New and/or  
Stricter  
Regulations

## Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

The Environmental Protection Agency Proposed PFAS National Primary Drinking Water Regulation

## Hexavalent Chromium

The State Water Resources Control Board is proposing to reduce the standard from 50 (as total chromium) to 10 ppb as hexavalent chromium

## Fleets

California Air Resource Board's Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) Regulation

## Renewable Energy

SB 100 (2018) set the goal of 60% renewables by 2030 and 100% of California's retail sales and state loads

## Meet the Panelists

**Danielle Blacet**

Deputy Executive Director, California Municipal Utilities Association

**Wendy Broley, P.E.**

Executive Director, California Urban Water Agencies

**Laurel Firestone**

Board Member at State Water Resources Control Board

**Erik D. Olson**

Senior Strategic Director, Natural Resources Defense Council

**J. Alan Roberson, P.E.**

Exec. Director, Association of State Drinking Water Administrators

**Alex Rojas**

General Manager, Central Basin Municipal Water District







Equity, Inclusion, and Affordability Committee

# Business Outreach Annual Report 2022-2023

Item 6b

November 14, 2023

Item # 6b  
Business  
Outreach  
Annual report

Subject

Business Outreach Annual report  
2022-2023

Purpose

Overview of Business Outreach  
Program activities for fiscal year July  
2022-June 2023

# Core Objectives





# Community Engagement

## Metworks

- Collaboration between Engineering and Business Outreach
- Inaugural in-person Conference in Carson - March 2023
- Semi-Annual In Person Networking event
- Host Partners
  - LA San
  - POLB
  - West Basin
  - DWR



# Community Engagement

## Metworks

- Hosted in-person Conference in Moreno Valley- September 2023
- Member Agency Participation – CIP Overview
  - Inland Empire Utilities Agency
  - Western MWD
  - Eastern MWD
  - West Basin MWD
- PLA Support Team
- MC3 apprenticeship readiness programs

# Community Engagement

## Metworks



## Strategic Initiative

### Equity in Infrastructure Pledge

- Increase access and reduce barriers for Historically Underutilized Businesses
- Improve workforce opportunities for underserved communities

### Updates

- Hosted listening session with Diversity business leaders
- Increased outreach to DBE firms
  - \$11m awarded to DBE firms
- Launched the CA EIP Working Group



## Strategic Initiative

### Project Labor Agreement

- Unique core employee flexibility for non-union SBEs/DVBES with 25 or less employees
- Additional resources through the PLA administration team to support SBEs and DVBES with PLA training and education

### Updates

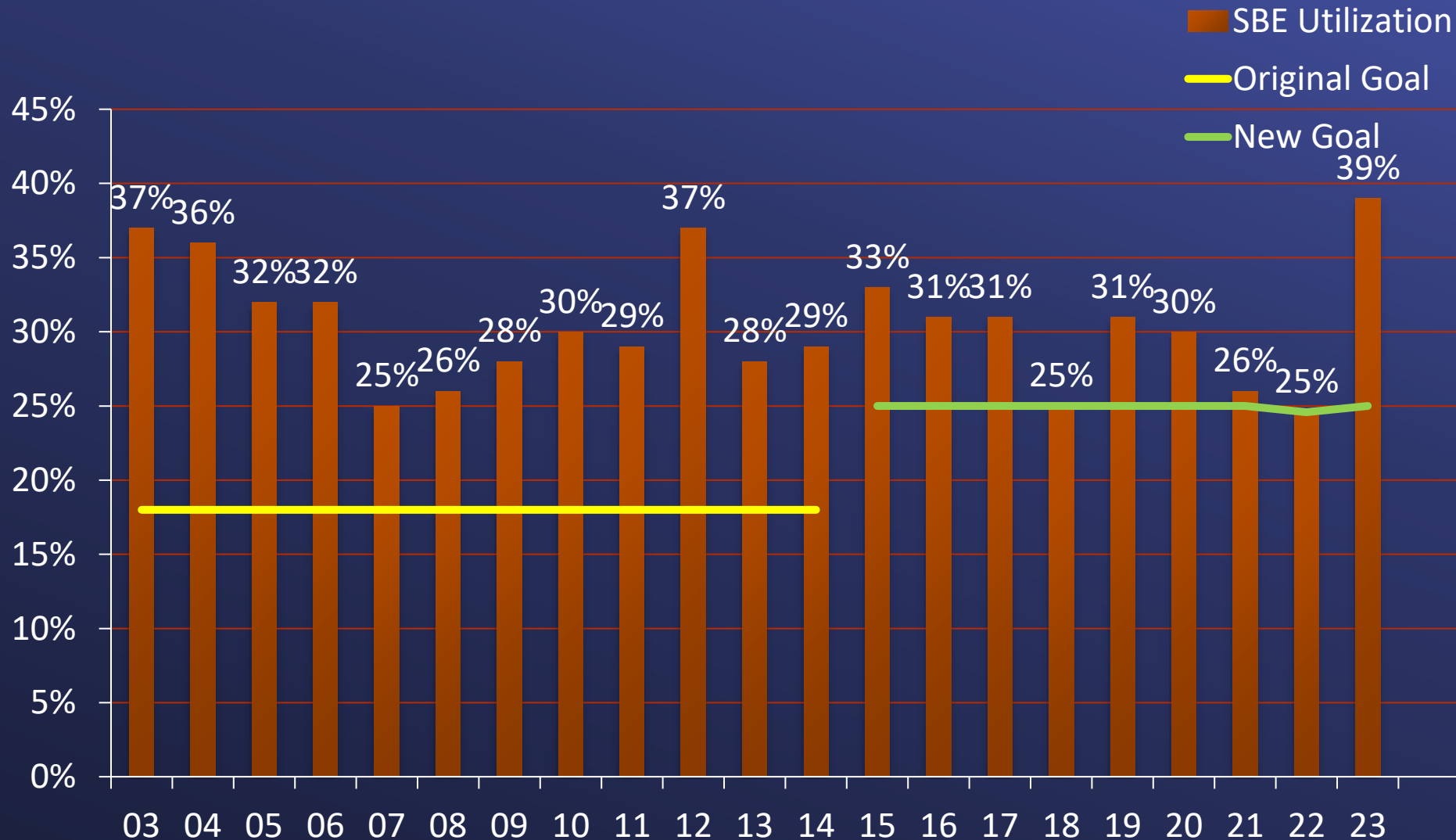
- Labor Councils provided Metropolitan with lists of union SBEs/DVBES for outreach with the objective of increasing the participation of union-signatory SBEs and DVBES
- Launched Contractor Academy – four week series

## Contract Awards

### Small & Disabled Veteran-Owned Businesses

- 2022-23 total contract dollars awarded to small business
  - Achieved 39 percent or \$80m
- \$840k award to DVBEs

# Total SBE Utilization



# Next Steps

- Hosting Networks Conference in Orange County
- Targeted Outreach event supporting The Pure Water Program
  - Community Outreach & Workforce Development
  - Coordinated Networking session for Primes and Subcontractors
- Official Launch of CA EIP Working Group



