



**A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
UPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
248 E. FOOTHILL BLVD. ROOM #103, MONROVIA, CA 91016
4:00 P.M. – April 24, 2024**

AGENDA

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. ROLL CALL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA [1]

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Anyone wishing to discuss items should do so now. The Board of Directors may allow additional input during the meeting. A three-minute time limit on remarks is requested.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS [2] – None.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR [1]

(a) Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Directors held on April 10, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

(b) Negotiated Tax Exchange Resolution - Annexation of Tract 83183 to County Lighting Maintenance District 1687

7. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS [1]

(a) Approval of a New Full-time Employee Position and Salary Range (*Staff memorandum enclosed.*)

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board approve a new full-time Facilities Technician position with an annual salary range set at \$58,140 to \$76,243.

(b) Update on Proposed Biennial Budget for FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26

Recommendation

This item is for information only. No action is anticipated.

(c) WaterFest 2024 Update (*Patty Cortez, Assistant General Manager, External Affairs, will provide an update.*)

Recommendation

This item is for information only. No action is anticipated.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS [2]

(a) Press Releases and News Articles.

9. ATTORNEY’S REPORT [2]
10. ENGINEER’S REPORT [2]
11. GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT [2]
12. DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS [2]
13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS [1]
14. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION – None.
15. ADJOURNMENT - To a public hearing and regular meeting of the Board of Directors to be held on May 22, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. at 248 E. Foothill Blvd. Room #103, Monrovia, CA 91016.

LEGEND: [1] INDICATES ACTION ANTICIPATED BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON THIS ITEM
[2] INDICATES INFORMATION ITEM - NO BOARD ACTION NECESSARY

PRESIDENT JENNIFER SANTANA, PRESIDING



American Disabilities Act Compliance (*Government Code Section 54954.2(a)*)

To request special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Upper District office at (626) 443-2297 or venessa@usgvmwd.org at least 24 hours prior to meeting.



**A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE UPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
248 E. FOOTJILL BLVD, SUITE 200, MONROVIA, CALIFORNIA 91016
4:00 P.M. – April 10, 2024**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held in the office of the District, 248 E. Foothill Blvd, Rm. 103, City of Monrovia, County of Los Angeles, State of California, within said Water District, on April 10, 2024 at the hour of 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Treviño, Chavez, Garcia, Fellow and Santana

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Love, General Manager; Steve O'Neill, District Counsel; Patty Cortez, Assistant General Manager, External Affairs; Evelyn Rodriguez, Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer; Venessa Navarrette, Executive Assistant; and Jessica Hernandez, Administrative Assistant.

OTHERS PRESENT

David Muse, Lenet Pacheco, Lynda Noriega, Carlos Solis, Melissa Barbosa, Wendy Saavedra, Russ Bryden, Adan Ortega, Deven Upadhyay and Adel Hagekhalil.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

On motion by Treasurer Garcia, seconded by Vice President Fellow, the agenda was adopted as presented by the following vote:

AYES: TREVIÑO, CHAVEZ, GARCIA, FELLOW AND SANTANA
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Next scheduled committee meeting dates are as follows:

Government Affairs and Community Outreach – May 6, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.
Administration and Finance – May 7, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.
Water Resources and Facility Management – May 1, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion by Director Treviño, seconded by Secretary Chavez, the consent calendar was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: TREVIÑO, CHAVEZ, GARCIA, FELLOW AND SANTANA
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

- (a) Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Directors held on March 13, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.
- (b) List of Demands
- (c) Financial Reports – February 2024
- (d) Financial Statements
- (e) Director's Public Outreach

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT UPDATE

Adan Ortega, MWD Board Chair, provided an update on the Colorado River and the Bay Delta as MWD accelerates planning on a new program, Camp for Water. He stated the goal for Camp for Water is to unite and fortify Southern California in this changed environment by strategically integrating with its member agencies like never before.

Adel Hagekhalil, MWD General Manager, reported on the importance of unifying and working together as member agencies to provide safe reliable water for everyone.

Deven Upadhyay, Executive Officer/Assistant General Manager, presented the August 2022 Board Resolution – Call to Action and provided a timeline of the history of continuous “portfolio” development. He reported that MWD is committed to reliability and presented new facilities and programs already online. He stated that reoperating the system can yield big benefits and how MWD continue to develop future options.

Vice President Fellow and Mr. Ortega discussed the feedback from the public and the media regarding the newly approved budget.

Director Treviño acknowledged the focus on the business of the people and the efforts of MWD to be a part of and work for the community.

Treasurer Garcia and Mr. Ortega discussed the initiative on workforce development.

Tom Love, General Manager, and Mr. Hagekhalil discussed the MWD Board’s commitment to the adoption of the higher tax rates.

Dave Michalko and Mr. Ortega discussed the possibility of litigation delaying the adoption of the new rates.

Melissa Barbosa and Deven Upadhyay discussed updates on the Pure Water Project.

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-24-660
INITIATING PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF A WATER
AVAILABILITY OR STANDBY CHARGE
FOR FY 2024/25 AND ESTABLISHING
MAY 22, 2024 AS THE PUBLIC HEARING
DATE.**

Evelyn Rodriguez, Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer (CFO/CAO), presented staff’s recommendation for the Board to adopt Resolution 04-24-660, schedule a public hearing on May 22, 2024, and instruct staff to publish notice of the hearing as required by statute.

On motion by Vice President Fellow, seconded by President Santana, the Board of Directors unanimously adopted Resolution No. 04-24-660, Initiating Proceedings for Establishment of a Water Availability or Standby Charge for FY 2024/25 and Establishing May 22, 2024 as the Public Hearing Date, by the following vote:

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| AYES: | TREVIÑO, CHAVEZ, GARCIA, FELLOW AND SANTANA |
| NOES: | NONE |
| ABSTAIN: | NONE |
| ABSENT: | NONE |

**AMENDMENT TO FINANCIAL AUDIT
SERVICES AGREEMENT**

The Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer presented the Administration and Finance Committee’s recommendation to approve an amendment to the existing professional services agreement with Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, LLP.

On motion by Director Treviño, seconded by Treasurer Garcia, the Board of Directors unanimously approved an amendment to the existing professional services agreement with Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, LLP (RAMS) to provide financial audit services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 and 2025, increasing the maximum amount payable by \$63,710 for a total not-to-exceed maximum of \$211,750 by the following vote:

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| AYES: | TREVIÑO, CHAVEZ, GARCIA, FELLOW AND SANTANA |
| NOES: | NONE |
| ABSTAIN: | NONE |
| ABSENT: | NONE |

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY LOCAL
AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
(LAFCO) BALLOT FOR SPECIAL
DISTRICT LAFCO REPRESENTATIVE**

Patty Cortez, Assistant General Manager, External Affairs, presented the Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) ballot for a special district representative on LAFCO. She stated LAFCO currently has seven candidates vying for the seat of special district representative, serving a term set to expire in May 2028.

Vice President Fellow nominated Mr. Donald L. Dear. No other nominations were received.

On motion by Vice President Fellow, seconded by Secretary Chavez, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to cast the ballot for Mr. Donald L. Dear as special district representative to the Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission by the following vote:

AYES: TREVIÑO, CHAVEZ, GARCIA, FELLOW AND SANTANA
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

**FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY
AND BILL POSITIONS**

Patty Cortez, Assistant General Manager, External Affairs, presented staff's recommendation to approve federal and state legislative bill positions which are consistent with Upper District's 2023-24 Legislative Policy Principles adopted by the Board in January 2023.

On motion by Director Treviño, seconded by Secretary Chavez, the Board of Directors unanimously approved staff's recommended federal and state legislative bill positions on H.R. 7525, SB 903, SB 1110, SB 1330, SB 1169, AB 1827, and AB 2257 by the following vote:

AYES: TREVIÑO, CHAVEZ, GARCIA, FELLOW AND SANTANA
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

INFORMATION ITEMS

The following items listed on the agenda for the information of the Board were read and ordered received and filed:

- (a) Press Releases and News Articles

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

District Counsel provided an update on the current PFAS litigations. He stated the at the end of February 2024, the courts recorded and approved the DuPont settlement terms and at the end of March 2024 the courts recorded and approved the 3M settlement terms.

He then provided an update on the litigation involving MWD and the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) related to MWD's rate structure. He stated that as of April 3, 2024, the trial court hearing part of the case has finally entered judgement after ten years. He also provided a brief background of the case and its various elements. He stated that the next step would be determination of who the prevailing party is.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

The District Engineer reported that Key Well elevation was at 227.9 ft., rising at a rate of less than 2 ft. per week. He stated it is promising to see how the Key well is reacting the way it is and how it is expected to rise to at least the same levels as last year, if not higher.

He also presented a brief report on rainfall, rainfall averages, canyon storage as well as reservoir inflows and outflows. He then reported 65 wells were sampled in February and eight wells in March under the Title 22 Program and that there were no notices of wells shutdown due to water quality issues.

The District Engineer reported that the preliminary operating safe yield (OSY) recommendation for the following year is 160,000 acre feet after 10 years of the OSY being set at 150,000 acre feet.

Secretary Chavez, the District Engineer, and the General Manager discussed the rainfall comparisons between last year and this year.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

The General Manager briefly reported on upcoming events including WaterFest on May 11, 2024 and the State Water Project tour on May 17th. He stated an intern will be starting the following week. He then announced that he will be presenting a recommendation to the Board to approve a change from 9.5 full-time equivalent positions to 10 full-time positions, making the one part-time a full-time position.

A written report was also provided in the agenda packet.

METROPOLITAN REPORT

Vice President Fellow reported on a recent board action adopting MWD's biennial budget which includes an overall rate increase of 8.5% in 2025 and 2026 and an increase in the property tax rate.

A Metropolitan summary report was provided in the agenda packet.

WATER QUALITY AUTHORITY REPORT

Secretary Chavez reported that the WQA was awarded \$5.50 million for PFAS cleanup. He then shared a recent news flash on the finalization of the first national standard to limit "forever chemicals" in drinking water. He mentioned a video on PFAS he wants to share at the next meeting.

A Water Quality Authority summary report was provided in the agenda packet.

WATERMASTER REPORT

Vice President Fellow acknowledged Russ Bryden and congratulated him for being the General Manager for Watermaster.

A Watermaster summary report was provided in the agenda packet.

AB 1234 COMPLIANCE REPORT

A summary report was provided in the agenda packet.

DIRECTORS COMMENTS

Vice President Fellow commended Patty Cortez and Jennifer Aguilar on the past Women in Water events and announced that the Region 8 conference to be held on September 21, 2024, will be dedicated to Women in Water.

President Santana shared a quote from an interview of an elected official, "Everyone thinks it's an elected official's job to have the answers but it's actually an elected official's job to gather the answers."

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

President Santana asked if there was any other business to come before the Board. There being none, the meeting was adjourned to a regular meeting of the Board of Directors to be held on April 24, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. via teleconference or the most rapid means of communication available at the time.

PRESIDENT

ATTEST

SECRETARY

SEAL

DRAFT

Attachment 1
Consent Item 6 (b)
April 10, 2024

Demands numbered 22360 through 22399 on the General Fund Account of the Upper District at Citizens Business Bank, in the amount of \$431,058.03 and demands numbered 1220 through 1226 on the Water Fund Account at the same bank in the amount of \$221,407.03.

| | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------------|---|-------------|
| 22360 | 789, Inc. | Inv. USGV-428130, Marketing and Creative Services, April 2024 <i>(Board approved 7/12/23)</i> | \$ 5,575.00 |
| 22361 | Aaron Read & Associates, LLC | Inv. 213286, State Legislative Advocacy Services, February 2024 <i>(Board approved 10/12/22)</i> | 10,000.00 |
| 22362 | ACWA | Inv. 04/10/24UD, 2024 Legislative Symposium Sponsorship | 1,000.00 |
| 22363 | ACWA/JPIA | Inv. 0702113, Health Insurance Premium - April 2024 | 29,496.09 |
| 22364 | Aleshire & Wynder, LLP | Professional Services, February 2024 Inv. 844957, Transactional Fees 2,392.50 Inv. 84958, Transactional Fees 40.60 Inv. 84959, Retainer 4,404.00 <i>(Board approved 04/13/22)</i> | 6,837.10 |
| 22365 | Civiltec Engineering, Inc | Inv. 49781, MWD Connection Study through Dec. 31, 2023 927.50 Inv. 50107, MWD Connection Study through Jan. 31, 2024 712.50 Inv. 50286, MWD Connection Study through Mar. 31, 2024 1,712.50 | 3,352.50 |
| 22366 | Civic Publications, Inc. | Inv. 1831, Sustainable California Ad, March 2024 | 4,987.00 |
| 22367 | Department of Water & Power | Inv. GA434800, Recycled Water Program Permit Fees, April 2024 | 83.33 |
| 22368 | Dewey Pest Control, Inc. | Inv. 16536694, Pest Control Services, March 2024 | 112.00 |
| 22369 | Diamond Environmental Services LP | Inv. 05/11/24UD, 2024 WaterFest Event Restrooms | 4,323.10 |
| 22370 | Discovery Science Center | Inv. 1895, Sustainable Watershed Education Program, Dec. - Jan. 2024 <i>(Board approved 07/08/20)</i> | 5,820.00 |
| 22371 | EcoTech Services, Inc. | Inv. 2976, Home Leak Repair Kits, March 2024 <i>(Board approved 06/08/22)</i> | 1,350.00 |
| 22372 | G3, Green Gardens Group, LLC | Inv. 1012, Design Seminar, March 2024 1,750.00 Inv. 1013, Leak Detection, March 2024 1,500.00 <i>(Board approved 03/08/23)</i> | 3,250.00 |
| 22373 | Howard's Appliances | Inv. 21225705, WaterFest 2024 | 826.85 |
| 22374 | Image Property Services, LLC | Inv. MCS-11978, Janitorial Consumables, February 2024 | 242.75 |
| 22375 | Industry Hills Charity Pro Rodeo | Inv. 24-065, 2024 Annual Industry Hills Charity Rodeo Sponsorship | 500.00 |
| 22376 | Joey C. Soto | Inv. 2024-UD-GA-JAN-113, Grant Writing Services, February 2024 <i>(Board approved 06/08/22)</i> | 507.50 |
| 22377 | La Opinion | Inv. 129490224, Spring Events Ads, February 2024 | 1,850.00 |
| 22378 | Mad Science of Los Angeles | Inv. MSCLA-1630709, WaterFest 2024 Booths | 1,286.00 |
| 22379 | Orbit Event Rentals | Inv. Q40133, WaterFest 2024 - Rental Deposit <i>(Previously paid 04/04/24)</i> | 12,721.00 |
| 22380 | Promo Direct | Inv. N171940, District Logo Items 4,337.24 Inv. N171985, District Logo Items 5,148.18 | 9,485.42 |
| 22381 | Rene Burguan | Inv. 05/11/24UD-2, WaterFest Band Performer, Final | 2,500.00 |
| 22382 | Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, | Inv. 74472, Progress Payment for FY 22/23 State Controllers Report <i>(Board approved 2/09/22)</i> | 685.00 |
| 22383 | Set Medics, LLC | Inv. 5712, WaterFest 2024, Event Medic | 390.00 |
| 22384 | San Gabriel Valley Newspaper | Inv. 0000583314, Spring Events Ads | 4,082.00 |

| | | | | |
|-------|------------------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------|
| 22385 | Stetson Engineers, Inc. | Inv. 2533-214, General Engineering Support Services, January 2024 Inv. 2728-024, Integrated Resource Plan Update, January 2024 | 10,681.60 <u>668.50</u> | 11,350.10 |
| 22386 | State Water Resource Control Board | Inv. 050724_140, Package 4 Annual State Revolving Fund Loan Repayment | | 75,541.85 |
| 22387 | Three Valleys MWD | Inv. LB699, Leadership Breakfast, February 2024 | | 120.00 |
| 22388 | Upper District Payroll Fund | Inv. FEB 24, Reimbursement of Payroll and Payroll Taxes for Employees Inv. FEB 24D, Reimbursement of Payroll Taxes for Directors | 162,844.75 <u>10,770.19</u> | 173,614.94 |
| 22389 | Upper District Revolving Fund | Inv. MAR 24, Revolving Fund Account Replenishment - March 2024 Office Supplies Computer Systems/Equipment/Maintenance/Insurance/Outside Service Directors's Outreach Telephone/Utilities/Building Maintenance Meeting/Travel/Conferences/Dues/Assessments/Membership Water Conservation Program Expenses WRP Operation & Maintenance/Permits/Water Purchases/PM/Public Info Medical/ODA Reimbursement/Processing Fee/Others | 638.15 631.06 200.00 5,693.11 5.99 1,251.18 17,830.76 <u>5,508.04</u> | 31,758.29 |
| 22390 | U.S. Bank Corporate Payment System | CalCard Changes through 03/22/24 Meetings, Travel, Conferences Computer Systems/Office Equipment/Supplies/Maintenance & Service/Utilities Conservation Program Expenses, Education and Outreach | 5,656.53 3,915.41 <u>5,210.70</u> | 14,782.64 |
| 22391 | VC3, Inc. | Inv. 161075, IT Management Support, February 2024 Inv. INV6591VC3, IT Equipment Inv. W160918, Boardroom IT Equipment Installation <i>(Board approved 10/11/23)</i> | 2,886.46 735.83 <u>500.00</u> | 4,122.29 |
| 22392 | Vibiana L Morales | Inv. INV0001, WaterFest 2024 Event Facepainter | | 390.00 |
| 22393 | World Journal LA, LLC. | Inv. 3801112, Spring Events Ad | | 1,360.00 |
| 22394 | Katarina Garcia | Director's Compensation, January 2024 5 Days District Business Meeting/Travel Expenses/Allowance Less Deferred Comp. Less Taxes Withheld | 1,275.00 516.87 (500.00) <u>(175.33)</u> | 1,116.54 |
| 22395 | Katarina Garcia | Director's Compensation, February 2024 8 Days District Business Meeting/Travel Expenses/Allowance Less Deferred Comp. Less Taxes Withheld | 2,040.00 516.87 (500.00) <u>(329.57)</u> | 1,727.30 |
| 22396 | Ed Chavez | Director's Compensation, March 2024 10 Days District Business Meeting/Travel Expenses/Allowance Less Deferred Comp. Less Taxes Withheld | 2,550.00 516.87 (2,040.00) <u>(1,025.56)</u> | 1.31 |
| 22397 | Charles Treviño | Director's Compensation, March 2024 10 Days District Business Meeting/Travel Expenses/Allowance Less Deferred Comp. Less Taxes Withheld | 2,550.00 516.87 (500.00) <u>(1,515.91)</u> | 1,050.96 |
| 22398 | Jennifer Santana | Director's Compensation, March 2024 6 Days District Business Meeting/Travel Expenses/Allowance Less Deferred Comp. Less Taxes Withheld | 1,530.00 516.87 (500.00) <u>(210.61)</u> | 1,336.26 |
| 22399 | Katarina Garcia | Director's Compensation, March 2024 7 Days District Business Meeting/Travel Expenses/Allowance Less Deferred Comp. Less Taxes Withheld | 1,785.00 516.87 (500.00) <u>(278.96)</u> | 1,522.91 |
| | | | TOTAL | <u>\$ 431,058.03</u> |

| | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--|----------------------|
| 1220 | Central Basin MWD | Invoice No. USGV-FEB24, Purchase of 0.7 AF of Recycled Water in January 2024 <i>(Previously paid 04/02/24)</i> | \$ 535.93 |
| 1221 | City of Industry City Hall | Invoice No. FEB24O&M, O&M Cost Reconciliation for Jul - Dec 2023 | 42,143.55 |
| 1222 | City of Industry City Hall | Invoice No. R02292024-D, Purchase of 1.7 AF of Recycled Water in February 2024 | 633.00 |
| 1223 | City of Industry City Hall | Invoice No. R02292024-E, CIP Charge for February 2024 @ \$98 per AF | 166.60 |
| 1224 | Metropolitan Water District | Invoice No. 11427, Purchase of 135.2 AF of Treated Water in February 2024 | 165,881.20 |
| 1225 | San Gabriel Valley MWD | Invoice No. 562, 46.41 AF of Water Delivered through the Alhambra/MWD Exchange Agreement in February 2024 @ \$220 per AF | 10,210.20 |
| 1226 | Suburban Water System | Invoice No. 6754, Phase IIB Normal Operating Charge, March 2024 | 1,836.55 |
| TOTA | | | \$ 221,407.03 |

DRAFT



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

April 24, 2024

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: T-5

Mr. Thomas Love, General Manager
Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
602 East Huntington Drive, Suite B
Monrovia, CA 91016

Attention Ms. Venessa Navarrette

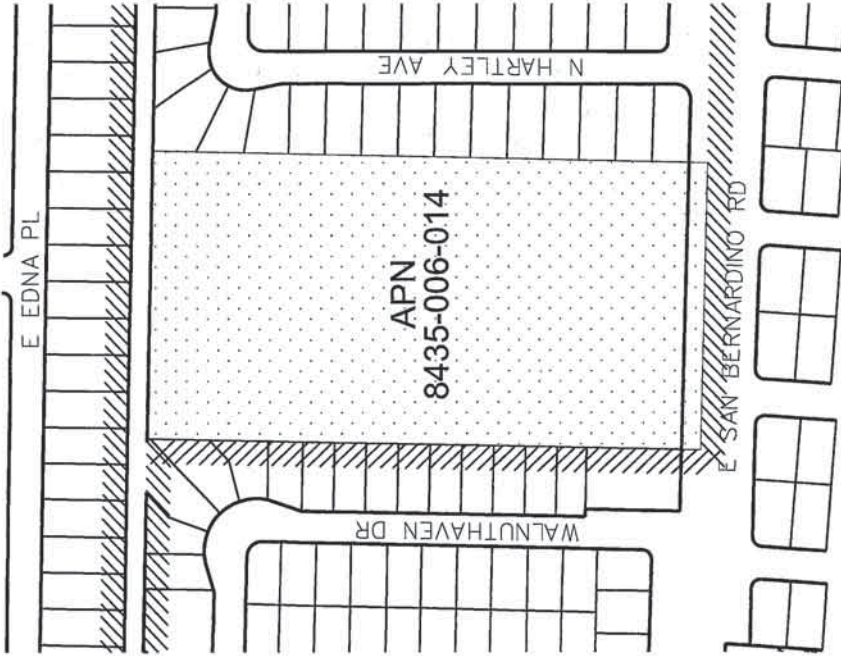
Dear Mr. Love:

**NEGOTIATED TAX EXCHANGE RESOLUTION
ANNEXATION OF TRACT 83183
TO COUNTY LIGHTING MAINTENANCE DISTRICT 1687**

We request that the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Municipal Water District) participate in the exchange of ad valorem property tax in conjunction with the annexation of the territory known as Tract 83183 to County Lighting Maintenance District (CLMD) 1687. This proposed exchange would provide revenue to CLMD 1687 to partially fund the operation and maintenance of new street lighting services to be provided within the annexed territory. This territory, whose boundary is shown on the enclosed proposed annexation map, is being processed for the Board of Supervisors' concurrent approval of the annexation and transfer of ad valorem property tax between the affected taxing agencies and CLMD 1687.

For new annexations to a CLMD, our procedures require us to process the exchange of property tax revenues with all nonexempt taxing agencies. Under Section 99.01 of the California Revenue and Taxation Code, special districts providing new services to an area as a result of a jurisdictional change are entitled to a share of the annual tax increment generated in the area being annexed. CLMD 1687 meets the definition of a special district under Section 95(m) of the California Revenue and Taxation Code. CLMD 1687's share of the annual tax increment is to be taken from all of the other local taxing agencies providing services within the annexed area with the exception of school entities, which are exempted by law. If a taxing agency involved in the negotiation does not adopt a resolution providing for the exchange of property tax revenues, the Board can determine the exchange of property tax revenues for that taxing agency.

TRACT 83183



LEGEND



PROPOSED ANNEXATION AREA



EXISTING LIGHTING MAINTENANCE DISTRICT 1687

PROPOSED ANNEXATION TO COUNTY LIGHTING
 MAINTENANCE DISTRICT 1687 AND COUNTY
 LIGHTING DISTRICT LLA-1 (UNINCORPORATED ZONE)



TRA
 03097

LOS ANGELES COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS
 TRAFFIC SAFETY AND MOBILITY DIVISION
 STREET LIGHTING SECTION

CLMD 1687
 COVINA AREA

| | | | | | |
|----------------|----|-------|----------|------------|---|
| Prepared By | VT | Sheet | 1 of 1 | Sup. Dist. | 1 |
| Recommended By | | Date | 3/5/2024 | | |
| Approved By | | Date | 3/5/2024 | | |

TR 83183

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The negotiated exchange of property tax revenues between CLMD 1687, Los Angeles County General Fund, Los Angeles County Public Library, Los Angeles County Road District 1, the Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County, Los Angeles County Flood Control Drainage Improvement Maintenance District, Los Angeles County Flood Control District, , the County Sanitation District No. 22 of Los Angeles County, and the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District resulting from the annexation of Tract 83183 to CLMD 1687 is approved and accepted.

2. For fiscal years commencing on or after July 1, 2025, or the July 1 after the effective date of this jurisdictional change, whichever is later, the property tax revenue increment generated from the area within Tract 83183, Tax Rate Area 03097, shall be allocated to the affected agencies as indicated on the Property Tax Transfer Resolution Worksheet.

3. No transfer of property tax revenues other than those specified in Paragraph 2 shall be made as a result of the annexation of Tract 83183.

4. If at any time after the effective date of this resolution, the calculations used herein to determine initial property tax transfers or the data used to perform those calculations are found to be incorrect, thus, producing an improper or inaccurate property tax transfer, the property tax transfer shall be recalculated and the corrected transfer shall be implemented for the next fiscal year.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____ 2024, by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

UPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

By _____
President, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Secretary

Date

ANNEXATION NUMBER: TR 83182 PROJECT NAME: SUB DIVISION PROJ TR 83183 TRA: 03097

| ACCOUNT # | TAXING AGENCY | CURRENT TAX SHARE | PERCENT | PROPOSED DIST SHARE | ALLOCATED SHARE | ADJUSTMENTS | NET SHARE | | | | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| 847.20 | COVINA-VALLEY CHILDREN,S CTR.FD. | 0.0000876681 | 0.0876 % | 0.021609007 | 0.000018944 | EXEMPT | 0.000876681 | | | | |
| ***019.40 | CO LIGHTING MAINT DIST NO 1687 | 0.0000000000 | 0.0000 % | 0.021609007 | 0.0000000000 | 0.0000000000 | 0.012408806 | | | | |
| TOTAL: | | | | | | | 1.0000000000 | 100.0000 % | 0.021609007 | -0.012408806 | 1.0000000000 |

PROPERTY TAX TRANSFER EXCEPTION REPORT
FOR CUMULATIVE FILE
FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

| ACCOUNT# | TRA# | ANNEX# | ERROR MESSAGE |
|----------|------|--------|---------------|
| ----- | ---- | ----- | ----- |

TOTAL EXCEPTION COUNT: 0



MEMORANDUM



ITEM 7. (a) ACTION

DATE: April 19, 2024
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: General Manager
SUBJECT: Approval of a Full-time Facilities Technician Position with Salary Range Set as \$58,140 to \$76,243

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors approve a full-time Facilities Technician position with an annual salary range set at \$58,140 to \$76,243.

Background

In February 2009, Upper District hired a part-time employee mainly to handle landscaping and occasional minor repairs at Upper District’s old office building. When the District transitioned to a leased office space in 2011, the part-time position’s duties slowly evolved to include setting up for meetings and assisting in Upper District’s outreach events and projects. This position served as an important additional staff resource as Upper District expanded its community outreach efforts significantly over the years.

Since our move to our new building in 2022, the maintenance demands have grown substantially in terms of both indoor and outdoor maintenance tasks. Converting the part-time position to full-time will improve our responsiveness to maintenance requests and needs, ensuring that our building is well-maintained to provide a safe and comfortable environment for our staff, our directors and our guests. With this new full-time position, we can also take on some tasks currently handled by outside vendors while still providing additional staff support to our robust outreach program.

A recent survey of similar positions in our comparator agencies indicates that an annual salary range of \$58,140 to \$76,243 is appropriate and reflects the market standards.

CAL MATTERS: California sets nation's first water standard for cancer-causing contaminant

mavensnotebook.com/2024/04/18/cal-matters-california-sets-nations-first-water-standard-for-cancer-causing-contaminant/

Cal Matters News April 18, 2024 0 85

April 18, 2024

Water suppliers say the costs will be massive, with rates increasing for many consumers. Known as the “Erin Brockovich” chemical, hexavalent chromium is found statewide.

By Rachel Becker, Cal Matters

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In an effort to protect more than 5 million Californians from a cancer-causing contaminant, state regulators today set a new standard that is expected to increase the cost of water for many people throughout the state.

The State Water Resources Control Board unanimously approved the nation's first drinking water standard for hexavalent chromium, which is found naturally in some California groundwater as well as water contaminated by industries.

Now water suppliers will be forced to install costly treatment to limit the chemical in water to no more than 10 parts per billion — equivalent to about 10 drops in an Olympic-sized swimming pool.

California water systems are expected to spend \$180 million a year to comply, including testing and treatment. The water board said the average cost for most people would be less than \$20 per month, with 87% paying about \$8 per month. The cost rises an average of \$135 per month for people served by water agencies with fewer than 100 connections.

Water suppliers warned officials that the costs of complying would hit low-income customers especially hard.

Coachella City Councilman Frank Figueroa said it would cost his city \$90 million to install treatment on its wells, which would increase average monthly bills by almost 500% — “an insufferable figure” for the community, where incomes average \$24,000 a year per person.

Cities and water agencies said they desperately need financial help from the state.

“This year's fiscal crunch does not bode well, and even in a good year, they (state officials) can't get aid to everyone that needs it,” Tim Worley, managing director of the Community Water Systems Alliance, told CalMatters.

Hexavalent chromium was made infamous by the movie “Erin Brockovich,” which dramatized Pacific Gas & Electric's contamination of the water supply of a small California desert town. PG&E paid a \$333 million settlement to about 600 Hinkley residents in 1996 who claimed they suffered high rates of cancer and other diseases.

Levels above the new state limit have been reported in about 330 sources of water supplies in California. Some of the areas affected are the counties of Sacramento, Solano, Santa Cruz, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Monterey and Merced. The highest levels found were in Riverside, Yolo, Los Angeles and Ventura counties, although water suppliers may blend or treat the water to reduce the contaminants there.

Central Coast resident Ana Maria Perez told the board that her community suffers from elevated levels of hexavalent chromium, nitrates and other contaminants.

"I'm here because the State Water Board has again failed us," she said through an interpreter. "It's not fair that many people have to get sick and even die because the State Water Board has not done their job well."

The largest water suppliers will have two years to comply; smaller ones with fewer than 1,000 connections will have four years. Many water suppliers said permitting, financing and construction timelines would make it difficult to meet these deadlines, and urged the state for more flexibility.

"It's untenable for some of those communities," said Andrea Abergel, manager of water policy for the California Municipal Utilities Association.

The new standard is one of the least protective of all the water contaminants regulated by California, according to a state analysis.

Public health advocates had urged a more stringent standard because the one set is 500 times higher than the level that state scientists deemed a negligible, one-in-a-million cancer risk. Under the new standard, for every 2,000 people who drink the water for a lifetime, one person would be at risk of cancer.

"Personally, I think we should go lower," said water board member Laurel Firestone. She voted for it anyway but wants to revisit it when the standard is reviewed in five years.

Max Costa, professor and chair of environmental medicine at NYU School of Medicine, was an expert witness for residents in the Brockovich case. When California regulators first unveiled the proposed limit, he said "it's not terrible, but it's not acceptable...The most acceptable level is none."

Some hexavalent chromium occurs naturally in California's rocks and soils; some seeps into the environment from industries that work with chrome, such as metal-plating, stainless steel production and wood preservation.

California's new standard is "expected to protect an estimated 5.5 million people... from potential illness due to hexavalent chromium," according to a water board report.

California until now limited hexavalent chromium under a combined standard of 50 parts per billion for all types of chromium, including a more benign type called trivalent chromium.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency doesn't have a hexavalent chromium standard for drinking water. Instead, more than 30 years ago, it set a national standard for total chromium at 100 parts per billion, or 10 times higher than the California one for hexavalent chromium. In response to studies linking it to cancer, the EPA is now conducting a human health risk assessment for the contaminant.

A decade ago, California regulators tried to enact the same limit for hexavalent chromium but the regulation was overturned in court because it "failed to properly consider the economic feasibility of complying."

California regulators said their analysis now supports the feasibility because of the low per-person costs for most people and "because there are sufficient resources available." They added, though, that they can't guarantee state funding to assist water suppliers.

"Those same dollars are spoken for time and time again," water board member Sean Maguire said at the hearing today. "Which is why we have so many folks who still are struggling meeting even the current standards that we have today."

Hexavalent chromium has long been known to cause cancer when it's inhaled, but until recently it was controversial whether drinking it also was linked to cancer. In 2008, a study showed that rats and mice drinking high doses grew cancers in their mouths and intestines, which scientists say "clearly demonstrates" a cancer risk

from consuming it.

Roberta Walker, a former resident of Hinkley, blames the contaminant for health problems that have plagued her family and community.

The levels of contamination in Hinkley were far higher than the limits the state adopted today. But even California's new limits, Walker said, are too high.

"I don't care if it's a pinch, or a lot. A poison is poison," Walker said. "No matter how you look at it, it's not good."



News for Immediate Release__

Two top rating agencies reaffirm Metropolitan's strong credit ratings

April 18, 2024

Prudent financial policies, comprehensive resource planning in district's new biennial budget cited as foundation of ratings from S&P, Moody's

A week after its governing board adopted a financially responsible two-year budget, the [Metropolitan Water District of Southern California](#) has once again earned excellent credit ratings from two of the nation's top rating agencies.

In advance of Metropolitan's pricing of approximately \$360 million of senior lien revenue bonds next week, S&P Global Ratings on Wednesday (April 17) reaffirmed Metropolitan's AAA rating and Moody's recently reaffirmed the agency's Aa1 rating.

Metropolitan board Chair Adán Ortega, Jr. attributed the ratings to the continued financial strength and investor confidence in Metropolitan's long-term ability to deliver safe and reliable water to Southern California, through strategic planning and resource management.

"Maintaining Metropolitan's fiscal integrity is of utmost importance to our board as we help the region adapt to climate change through investments in reliable water supplies," Ortega said. "High credit ratings are critical as we look to finance these strategic investments."

With its AAA rating, S&P cited Metropolitan's comprehensive resource planning, well-defined risk-management practices and financial policies. Moody's recognized the agency's recently approved [two-year budget](#), including rate increases and a planned property tax increase, in reaffirming its Aa1 rating. The third top rating agency, Fitch, is expected to provide a rating for Metropolitan's subordinate lien bonds late next month.

"Our board took bold action last week, adopting a budget that raises needed revenues and balances cost containment measures with the need to meet head-on the challenges brought by climate change and rising costs due to inflation," said Metropolitan Director Tim Smith, chair of the board's Finance and Asset Management Committee. "These ratings validate that we are headed in the right direction"


Metropolitan General Manager Adel Hagekhalil agreed.

"As Metropolitan leads the way in climate adaptation, having strong and reliable financial resources to invest in resiliency and adaptation, while ensuring equity and affordability, is essential to the future of the communities we serve, as we provide safe reliable water for all with no one left behind," Hagekhalil said.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a state-established cooperative that, along with its 26 cities and retail suppliers, provides water for 19 million people in six counties. The district imports water from the Colorado River and



PRESS RELEASE: Delta coalition files lawsuit demanding State Water Board action on DWR's outdated water rights before considering Delta Conveyance Project approval

 mavensnotebook.com/2024/04/17/press-release-coalition-demands-state-water-board-action-on-languishing-water-rights-halting-threat-to-bay-delta-estuary-from-controversial-delta-tunnel-project/

Press Release/Notice Press Release/Other April 17, 2024 0 348

April 17, 2024

After Decades of Delay, Complaint Alleges State Water Board Must Decide Whether DWR Has Diligently Pursued its Water Rights Before Considering Newly-filed Tunnel Petition

Press release from Central Delta Water Agency, California Water Impact Network (C-WIN), California Sportfishing Protection Alliance, and AquAlliance:

After waiting 14 years, water rights protestants to a 2009 proceeding filed a complaint against the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) alleging it has given preferential treatment to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) regarding antiquated water rights claims, and failed to implement state laws requiring the reasonable and equitable development of water diversions and the protection of water resources in the State. DWR is still relying on water rights permits for the development of the controversial Delta Conveyance Project that were issued in 1955 and 1972, despite dramatic changes in the population size of California and in the hydrological cycle due to climate change. The complaint alleges that DWR has failed to comply with state water rights law requiring water rights be timely put to full beneficial use; the purpose of this requirement is to safeguard the public interest.

Key issues included in the Complaint are:

1. DWR's Petition for Extension of Time has unreasonably delayed following development timelines dating back to 1955 and 1972 that required construction by 1980 and use by 1990; then construction by 2000, and use by 2009.
2. DWR is trying to resurrect these "expired" rights to serve the Delta Tunnel without having perfected them according to the State Water Board's ordered development schedule.
3. The Water Board is giving preferential treatment to another State agency by ignoring these protests and allowing DWR to flout its permit requirements while holding other applicants responsible for meeting the water development timelines in their permits.
4. Since the millions of acre-feet of water DWR claims it has rights to divert into the Delta Tunnel have never been applied to full beneficial use and cannot be reliably delivered, it is courts have sometimes termed "paper water" which exists as an accounting tool but is "worth little more than a wish and a prayer.

Four environmental groups and a Delta water agency are asking the court in Fresno County Superior Court to compel the State Board to address these claims. The complaint alleges that the Water Board normally cancels the rights of other water rights applicants that don't use water or 'put water to beneficial use' within the development period in their permit. Failure to follow this 'diligence' requirement would result in massive social and environmental impacts on the Sacramento River and the Delta, and existing legal uses and users of water.

The lawsuit explains that the State Water Board is charged with the orderly development of water supplies in the state, which are increasingly scarce with the demands from 39 million people. Notably, when DWR's water rights were filed in 1955 and 1972, the state's population was 13 million and 20.5 million, respectively. In the decades since, DWR has made no progress towards completing the application of water to beneficial use. The State has changed dramatically in that period, requiring a fresh look at the availability of water for projects like the Delta

Tunnel that would remove significant amounts of water from the Sacramento River and Delta. Alarming, the water DWR proposes to divert water from the Sacramento River into the Tunnel under its antiquated permits that may no longer be available due to climate change and other events over the last 50 plus years.

The complaint alleges that instead of returning DWR's petitions for lack of diligence and referring the permits to the licensing section to license amounts actually put to beneficial use during the permits' valid development period, the SWRCB continues to issue notices of changes to DWR's expired permits, most recently on February 29, 2024 when it commenced the Delta Conveyance proceedings.

Attorney Osha Meserve, representing the Central Delta Water Agency, explained:

"With the recreational and commercial salmon season canceled for the second year in a row, the State Board needs to implement due diligence requirements evenhandedly. Here, the State Board has given DWR preferential treatment and is letting DWR cut in line ahead of thousands of other water rights holders as well as water uses necessary to keep the California Delta, its communities and its fisheries healthy."

Roger Moore, attorney for the California Water Impact Network, noted that "during the 14 years these protests have been unlawfully allowed to languish, authoritative reports, including the State Water Board's own, have confirmed the Delta watershed is heavily oversubscribed. Enabling DWR's addiction to 'paper water' is a bet against our future that will shortchange California's fisheries, economy, and environment."

Barbara Vlamis, Executive Director of AquAlliance said she was "proud to be part of a strong coalition that is determined to protect the source waters in the Sacramento River watershed by enforcing bedrock water rights principles."

The Executive Director of the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance, Chris Shutes concluded: "The State Water Board has let DWR slide for over a decade. We hope the court will agree that it is past time for the State Water Board to make DWR play by the same rules as everyone else."

AquAlliance is a California public benefit corporation whose mission is to defend northern California waters and the ecosystems these waters support and to challenge threats to the hydrologic health of the Sacramento River watershed. <https://aqualliance.net/>

California Sportfishing Protection Alliance (CSPA) is a California non-profit public benefit organization whose purpose is the protection, preservation, and enhancement of fisheries and associated aquatic and riparian ecosystems of California's waterways, including Central Valley rivers leading into the Bay-Delta. <https://calsport.org/news/>

California Water Impact Network (CWIN) is a California non-profit public benefit organization whose purpose is the protection and restoration of fish and wildlife resources, scenery, water quality, recreational opportunities, agricultural uses, and other natural environmental resources and uses of the rivers and streams of California, including the Bay-Delta, its watershed and its underlying groundwater resources. <https://www.c-win.org/>

Central Delta Water Agency (CDWA) is a political subdivision of the State of California created by the California Legislature. CDWA's boundaries encompass approximately 120,000 acres, which are located entirely within both the western portion of San Joaquin County and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. <https://www.centraldeltawateragency.org/>

Metropolitan Water commits up to \$250 million for previously untapped water sources

Recycling, rainwater recovery and ocean desalination are technologies that could generate 'new' water for 100,000 Southern California households

By [ANDRE MOUCHARD](#) | amouchard@scng.com | Orange County Register
PUBLISHED: April 16, 2024 at 9:03 a.m. | UPDATED: April 16, 2024 at 9:03 a.m.

The Metropolitan Water District plans to spend up to \$250 million on four non-traditional water projects that, combined, could supply up to 100,000 Southern California households over the next few years.

Wastewater recycling, rainwater reclamation and transforming ocean water into drinking water are some of the technologies that could get money in the coming wave of funding from MWD.

The Los Angeles-based wholesaler, which helps transfer water from Northern California and the Colorado River to 26 retail water districts in the Los Angeles region, has spent about \$700 million on smaller, non-traditional water projects since launching its Local Resources Program in 1990. The amounts announced Monday, April 15, represent some of MWD's biggest investments in water innovation to date.

Though the projects won't be financed directly by MWD (retail water districts and others initially will use MWD's promises to secure their own financing and, later, to pay down their debts) agency officials said the broader goal is to keep supplying affordable water to local residents and businesses even as climate change reduces or eliminates the region's traditional supplies.

"It's been good fortune that we aren't still in a drought. But we need to plan for that reality," said Rebecca Kimitch, a spokeswoman for the district.

While the past two rainy seasons have been unusually wet in Southern California, climate scientists and water planners believe the heavy rains and snowstorms have been part of a boom-bust weather pattern associated with climate change in which rainy years punctuate longer stretches of drought or near-drought conditions. Over the long term, as snow packs shrink and the Colorado River becomes shallower, Southern California is expected to get less water from outside sources.

All four of the projects financed by Metropolitan Water could help produce, or reclaim, more local water. They are:

- A waste and groundwater purification project that, starting in 2028, could replenish existing aquifers and generate enough new water for nearly 60,000 households in the San Fernando Valley. Metropolitan Water said it will spend up to \$139 million on what is known as the [Los Angeles](#)

[Groundwater Replenishment Project](#). The lead agency is the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

- A wastewater purification system that, starting in 2028, could supply 15,000 households that get water from the Las Virgenes Reservoir. The so-called [Pure Water Project](#) is being co-developed by the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and Las Virgenes-Triunfo, and will include 18 miles of new pipes in parts of Los Angeles and Ventura counties. Metropolitan Water is committed to spending \$42.5 million over the next 29 years.
- Systems that as soon as next year could create enough water for nearly 10,400 Riverside County households by treating contaminated groundwater, protecting existing groundwater resources and preventing future contamination in the San Jacinto Groundwater Basin. The project, known as the [Perris North Basin Groundwater Contamination Prevention and Remediation Program](#), could get up to \$26.4 million from MWD over the next 25 years.
- The [Doheny Ocean Desalination Project](#) in Dana Point, which could turn salt water into tap water for nearly 17,000 households in south Orange County starting in 2028. The [project is spearheaded](#) by South Coast Water District, and Metropolitan Water has committed nearly \$40 million over the next 15 years.

The money isn't unconditional for any of the projects. Metropolitan Water, which last week set its upcoming yearly budget at about \$2.4 billion, said it will issue money only when any project comes online and delivers water as projected. If projects fall apart or become less productive, Metropolitan Water can spend less, or nothing.

"We want to incentivize worthy projects," Kimitch said. "We believe all of these projects will work out."

Metropolitan Water's innovation investment program has focused previously on groundwater recycling and recovery. To date, MWD has helped finance 116 programs that, collectively, have generated enough water for about 1.5 million households.



News for Immediate Release__

Metropolitan helps advance local water supply projects

Projects will increase Southern California's groundwater, recycled water, desalinated water supplies in face of changing climate

April 15, 2024

Four new local water supply projects that will together produce enough water for 100,000 Southern California homes every year received a \$250 million commitment from the Metropolitan Water District as part of the agency's latest investments aimed at increasing the region's supply reliability.

Metropolitan's Board of Directors last Tuesday (April 9) voted to approve separate agreements with the city of Los Angeles; Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and Las Virgenes-Triunfo Joint Powers Authority; Eastern Municipal Water District; and Municipal Water District of Orange County and South Coast Water District as part of Metropolitan's [Local Resources Program](#), which provides economic incentives for water developed and produced from groundwater clean-up, water recycling, and seawater desalination throughout the agency's six-county service area.

"For decades, investments in local projects have helped strengthen Southern California's resiliency by reducing demands for imported water supplies and decreasing the burden on our system," said Metropolitan board's Vice Chair of Climate Action Nancy Sutley. "Together, with investments in storage and conservation, these projects have become critical as we face the dramatic impacts of climate change that are threatening water sources across Southern California and the western United States."

Metropolitan General Manager Adel Hagekhalil noted that the Los Angeles and Las Virgenes Municipal Water District-Las Virgenes-Triunfo projects will add a level of water resiliency to areas that faced mandatory conservation in the midst of the last drought in 2022 because of severely limited supplies imported from Northern California.

"These are all incredibly worthy projects that show the true commitment of our member agencies to increasing the reliability of our water supplies in Southern California. We are stronger by working together and all of our region benefits from these investments," Hagekhalil said."

"These projects exemplify the type of investments envisioned through the development of Metropolitan's [Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water](#), which will address the impacts of the changing climate through our long-term planning and financial investments," Sutley said.

"They represent the types of go-forward investments that offer no-regrets insurance against future supply challenges," she added.



Up to \$139 million over 25 years will be provided for the Los Angeles Groundwater Replenishment Project, under Metropolitan's [agreement](#) with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. The project involves developing new facilities that will purify recycled water to recharge the San Fernando Valley Groundwater Basin aquifer. The project is expected to produce 19,500 acre-feet of water per year, starting in 2028. (An acre-foot is about 326,000 gallons of water, roughly the amount used by three Southland families in a year.)

The [PURE Water Project](#) being developed by Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and Las Virgenes-Triunfo will purify wastewater at the proposed Advanced Water Purification Facility and deliver water to Las Virgenes Reservoir before eventual potable use and deliver it through 18 miles of new pipelines to portions of Los Angeles and Ventura counties. Anticipated to begin operations in 2028, the project is expected to produce up to 5,000 acre-feet per year, with Metropolitan funding up to \$42.5 million for water produced by the project through 2053.

Metropolitan's [agreement](#) with the Eastern Municipal Water District in western Riverside County will provide up to \$26.4 million over 25 years for water produced by the Perris North Basin Groundwater Contamination Prevention and Remediation Program. Expected to produce 3,466 acre-feet per year beginning in 2025, the project will treat contaminated groundwater, protect groundwater resources and prevent future contamination in the San Jacinto Groundwater Basin.

Under an [agreement](#) with the Municipal Water District of Orange County and South Coast Water District, Metropolitan will provide up to \$39.9 million over 15 years for water produced by the proposed Doheny Ocean Desalination Project in Dana Point. The project will treat and convey desalinated water and is expected to produce up to 5,600 acre-feet of water per year within MWDOC's service area, beginning in 2028.

Since 1990, Metropolitan has contributed over \$700 million to 116 local water [recycling and groundwater recovery projects](#) throughout Southern California, helping to produce nearly 500,000 acre-feet of water per year, enough to serve roughly 1.5 million Southern California households.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a state-established cooperative that, along with its 26 cities and retail suppliers, provides water for 19 million people in six counties. The district imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies, and helps its members to develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource-management programs.

Catalogued under:

[Water Supply, Local Resources](#)

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Media Contacts

Rebecca Kimitch



The Delta Conveyance Project: key for California's water security?

In the Golden State most precipitation falls in the northern and eastern parts, whereas most of the water demand is in the central, west and south parts. Moreover, California faces extreme variability in precipitation, which is expected to worsen with climate change.

California's [Water Resilience Portfolio](#) is the state's roadmap to prepare the state's water systems for a warmer, more variable climate, including actions to maintain and diversify water supplies, protect natural ecosystems, and improve infrastructure to store, move and share water. A key part of the portfolio, an essential for climate adaptation according to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), is the [Delta Conveyance Project](#), which the DWR started planning in 2020, and after extensive environmental review, received [approval](#) last December. The project has thus moved forward to a phase of further engineering, design and permitting.

The project intends to **modernise the state's water infrastructure** to, among other things, capture and move more water during wet seasons to better endure dry seasons, minimize losses from climate-driven weather extremes, and protect against earthquakes disrupting water supplies. Specifically, the proposed Delta Conveyance Project, known as the Bethany reservoir Alternative, involves **constructing new conveyance facilities in the Delta that would add to the existing infrastructure of the State Water Project (SWP)**: two new intake facilities, a tunnel and a pumping station.

The [State Water Project](#), built in the 1960s, delivers water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to other regions in the state, down to southern California. Owned and operated by the DWR, it is a water storage and delivery system that includes canals, pipelines and reservoirs to deliver water for more than 27 million people, as well as agricultural land and business.

Plans for the Delta Conveyance project, in its present form or earlier versions, have been the subject of controversy for decades, as **project opposers fear it will destroy the delta's fragile ecosystem**, informs the [Los Angeles Times](#). They argue it would significantly change the delta's hydrology, diverting more water, increasing the estuary's salinity and worsening water quality.

The current concept would have a cost of \$16 billion and a 45 mile tunnel with an internal diameter of about 36 feet (about 11 metres), and would be buried about 140-170 feet (43-52 metres), which would make it **one of the longest water tunnels in the world if completed**.

The DWR claims that, had it been operational at the end of 2021, **when California received record-breaking amounts of precipitation, the [Delta Conveyance Project would have](#)**

captured additional water - enough water to meet the needs of over 2.5 million people for a full year. Similarly, this year it could have captured water for 5 million people for a year during the rain events in January and February, and such opportunities are expected to be more common as the state receives more rain instead of snow as a result of warmer temperatures.

Moreover, the proposed tunnel should be able to withstand an earthquake better than the existing levees in the delta: DWR's Director Karla Nemeth said that the potential impact of a powerful storm or earthquake to breach one of the levees "keeps me up at night", as it could endanger the water supplies for 27 million people.

Still, opponents say the money would be better spend on supporting levees and restoring the floodplain to reduce flood risk, in addition to changing water management to protect the delta. **Threats to water quality, fish and wildlife in the delta are a significant issue for communities around the delta**, once a thriving wetland that provided livelihoods to Indigenous groups.

State officials hope to address some of those concerns through a Community Benefits Program for local communities, which includes a fund for projects geared to recreation, air quality, habitat conservation and other local priorities.

At the root of the dispute about the project's merits is, as usual with these types of projects, who receives the benefits (water users elsewhere in California) and who endures the costs (communities around the delta), but also **whether such a high-cost investment will be able to provide the water availability that officials expect from it**, and whether other alternatives to increase water resilience make more sense. Water from the SWP is a portion of the state's water portfolio, which includes as well groundwater and the Colorado River. To increase water resilience, the state and water agencies are pursuing numerous local projects that include recycling, groundwater recharge and desalination, in order to reduce reliance on water from the SWP in the future, as well as efforts to increase water conservation and efficiency.



News for Immediate Release__

Metropolitan board adopts two-year budget, funding work to reliably provide water to Southern California

April 9, 2024

Budget includes 8.5% annual rate increases over next two years, anticipates small property tax increase

Metropolitan Water District's Board of Directors voted today to adopt a [two-year budget](#) that will allow the agency to continue delivering safe, reliable water supplies to Southern California, while managing challenges brought by climate change and rising costs due to inflation.

To ensure the continued sustainability of Metropolitan's water system, the \$2.4 billion annual budget includes rate increases of 8.5% on Jan. 1, 2025 and Jan. 1, 2026, charged to its 26 member agencies. For treated water, the rate increase will be 11% in 2025 and 10% in 2026. It also anticipates a small increase to the voter-approved property tax Metropolitan levies, amounting to an average increase of \$2-3 a month for the median value home.

To avoid raising rates further, the budget also includes significant cost containment measures, including reducing departmental expenditures across various categories. In addition, Metropolitan is pursuing additional revenues through state and federal grants.

"We understand the impact rate increases can have on businesses and residents, so we have taken great steps to limit our increase as much as possible. But it is critical that we continue to fund investments and programs that bring safe water to our communities, with no one left behind," Metropolitan General Manager Adel Hagekhalil said. "The difficult reality is, our costs have risen while revenues have dropped, so we need to take the fiscally responsible step of adjusting our rates."

Hagekhalil explained that additional revenues are necessary because of low water sales, due to extreme drought and record-breaking precipitation. In addition, Metropolitan's expenses have increased as inflation has driven up commodity prices, labor and energy costs. Further, Metropolitan is facing the need to fully recover costs and maintain minimum reserves for unanticipated expenses, after limiting rate increases in recent years.

The biennial budget includes capital investment spending of about \$636 million over the next two years to ensure the continued reliability of Metropolitan's distribution system and to increase the system's resiliency to better respond to climate change. It also includes nearly \$100 million in funding for conservation programs over the next two years.

While the budget continues to fund ongoing environmental planning work for Metropolitan's [Pure Water Southern California](#) regional recycled water program and the state's [Delta Conveyance Project](#), it does not commit long-term funding to the construction of either project. Metropolitan will consider the future of those projects, and other large-scale investments in new local supplies, storage, conservation and conveyance, through its [Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water](#) process.



"Metropolitan is in a transformational period, facing critical decisions on which long-term projects to invest in to help our region adapt to climate change. CAMP4Water will provide a framework to help guide these strategic decisions," Metropolitan board Chair Adán Ortega, Jr. said. "At the same time, we need to rethink our business model, so we can fund these major investments."

"As we embark on these major changes, this budget provides us the fiscal stability we need for the next two years," Ortega added. "The budget dovetails with the new business model process to ensure the means for resilient infrastructure investment for climate adaptation and to address inequities such as the treatment surcharge."

The budget and rates approved today evolved through months of transparent deliberations, including input from member agencies, interested parties and the public. Metropolitan's board began discussing the budget in February and has held four public workshops since then to consider Metropolitan's expenditures and revenues.

Through those discussions, the board determined Metropolitan needs to take a step toward a more stable revenue stream, rather than relying as heavily on water sales, which can vary dramatically year to year based on hydrology. In response, the board decided to consider increasing Metropolitan's ad valorem property tax.

Property taxes have been collected for decades to fund Metropolitan's State Water Project costs, as approved by voters. The last time Metropolitan raised its ad valorem property tax rate was 1990. Since then, it has steadily decreased to 0.0035%, where it has been for the past decade. The adopted budget assumes the board will increase the rate to 0.007% in August.

In addition to providing a more stable revenue stream, increasing property tax revenues allows the board to lower the rate increase from what was initially proposed.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a state-established cooperative that, along with its 26 cities and retail suppliers, provides water for 19 million people in six counties. The district imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies, and helps its members to develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource-management programs.

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Media Contacts

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