



May 20, 2020

The Honorable Richard Bloom
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 2003
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Bob Wieckowski
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 4085
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: May Revision 2020-21 Budget - Governor’s Proposed Budget Cap and Trade Expenditure Plan

Dear Assembly Member Bloom and Senator Wieckowski:

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California wishes to thank you for your efforts and leadership during this difficult time to help our state navigate the unprecedented economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are writing to state our support for the Governor’s \$965 million Cap and Trade Expenditure Plan, and the May Revision’s “pay-as-you-go” budget mechanism that would authorize expenditures based on the actual proceeds from auction sales. We support prioritizing initial auction proceeds for safe and affordable drinking water.

Metropolitan supported SB 200 to establish the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund and continuously appropriate \$130 million on an ongoing basis until 2030 to assist small, disadvantaged communities and individual domestic well owners who lack access to safe drinking water. Safe drinking water is essential to public health, and now more than ever during a public health crisis when households need water to practice good hygiene, the state must intervene to help disadvantaged communities struggling with impaired water supplies. Senate Bill 200 (Monning) was a long-sought, multi-stakeholder effort that guaranteed funding for new treatment and support for technical assistance to facilitate sustainable solutions.

We respectfully request the Legislature and the Administration continue to provide adequate funding from the auction sales to support this statewide priority. Metropolitan stands ready to assist the state with its economic recovery and to help the state achieve the important goal of making sure every resident has access to safe and reliable drinking water.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Viatella at (916) 650-2614 or at kviatella@mwdh2o.com.

Sincerely,

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**Metropolitan Water
District of Southern
California**

Paul D. Jones II
General Manager
**Eastern Municipal
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**Upper San Gabriel
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David W. Pedersen, P.E.
General Manager
**Las Virgenes
Municipal Water
District**

Robert J. Hunter
General Manager
**Municipal
Water District of
Orange County**

cc: Members of the Assembly Budget Subcommittee 3 on Resources and Transportation
Members of the Senate Budget Subcommittee 2 on Resources, Environmental Protection,
Energy and Transportation
Members of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Delegation
Susan Chan, Consultant, Assembly Budget Subcommittee 3
Kristin Kolpitzke, Republican Consultant, Assembly Budget Subcommittee 3
Joanne Roy, Consultant, Senate Budget Subcommittee 2
Emilye Reeb, Republican Consultant, Senate Subcommittee 2
Anthony Williams, Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Office of the Governor
Rachel Wagoner, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor
Joaquin Esquivel, Chair, State Water Resources Control Board