

A major advantage of a firm revenue source, such as a RTS charge, is that it contributes to revenue stability during times of drought or low water sales. It affords Metropolitan additional security, when borrowing funds, that a portion of the revenue stream will be unaffected by drought or by rainfall. This security will help maintain Metropolitan’s historically high credit rating, which results in lower interest expense to Metropolitan, and therefore, lower overall cost to the residents of its service area.

**SUMMARY**

The foregoing and the attached tables describe the current benefits provided by the projects listed as mainstays to the water supply system for Metropolitan’s service area. Benefits are provided to both water users and property owners. The projects represented by this report provide both local benefits as well as benefits throughout the entire service area. It is recommended, for fiscal year 2014/15, that the RTS charge be imposed with an option for local agencies to request that a standby charge be imposed on lands within Metropolitan’s service area as a credit against such member agency’s RTS, up to the standby charge per acre or parcel of less than one acre levied by Metropolitan within the applicable member agency for fiscal year 2014/15. The maximum standby charge would not exceed \$15 per acre of land or per parcel of less than one acre. The benefits described in this Engineer’s Report exceed the recommended charge. A listing of all parcels in the service area and the proposed 2014/15 standby charge for each is available in the office of the Chief Financial Officer.

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