



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

To: Honorable Members of the California Legislature
Fr: Adel Hagekhalil, General Manager
Da: May 14, 2024
Re: Summary of Metropolitan Climate Bond Priorities

On behalf of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, we appreciate the opportunity to share our climate bond priorities with you as we endeavor to carve out a path for an urgently needed climate resilience bond. Below is an outline of Metropolitan's Board approved priorities:

- **Recycled Water – \$1.8 Billion.** Across Southern California there are 70 recycled water projects that are in various stages of development that can produce approximately 650,000 acre-feet of water per year. These projects alone total over \$50 Billion in necessary investment. Additional bond funding would advance the ability to develop these essential drought-resilient supplies and be of benefit to the entire state.
- **Regional Conveyance – \$500 Million.** Metropolitan is developing regional conveyance projects to support the movement of recycled water, as well as move additional water supplies to the areas of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Ventura counties that are wholly or largely dependent on the State Water Project. This will help ensure the region is more drought resilient.
- **Urban Conservation and Water Use Efficiency – \$250 Million.** Conservation serves as a pivotal tool for the Metropolitan Water District and other water agencies, and we have consistently implemented successful water efficiency programs that are both cost-effective and accessible to residents, businesses and public agencies. However, to meet the heightened expectations and achieve greater water savings, additional resources are required.
- **Dam Safety – \$850 Million.** Metropolitan and its member agencies rely on stored surface water as part of effective water management that is responsive to regional demand. But some reservoirs that are part of our region's local water systems are struggling to meet state standards. To improve the safety of this vital infrastructure, expand storage availability and build resiliency, additional funding is needed for repairs and improvements.
- **Delta Levees - \$250 Million.** Metropolitan and the Delta Counties Coalition are jointly requesting funding for the Delta Levee Maintenance Subventions Program. This program plays a pivotal role in reimbursing local maintenance agencies and reclamation districts for upkeep and repair of the extensive levee network throughout the Delta. This program not only protects vital water supplies, infrastructure, transportation routes, and energy corridors but also preserves the delicate balance of ecosystems within the region.

Should you have any questions, please contact Metropolitan's Executive Legislative Representative, Jay Jefferson, II, at (916) 538 – 4663 or via email at jjeffersonii@mwdh2o.com