



NAVIGATING TRANSFORMATIONS in 2023

The Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California Year in Review



Snowpack in the Sierra Nevada in February 2023
(photo courtesy of the Department of Water Resources)

NAVIGATING TRANSFORMATIONS

in 2023

- 4 Introduction
- 6 Driving a Commitment to Diversity
- 8 Adapting to a Changing Climate
- 10 New Leaders at the Helm
- 12 Continuing Conservation Momentum
- 14 Creating a New Water Source
- 16 Building Greater Reliability, Equity for Southern California
- 18 Safeguarding the State of our Northern California Supplies
- 20 Bringing Sustainability to the Colorado River
- 22 Creating Record Storage
- 24 Connecting with Residents and Businesses
- 26 Building up our Communities, Fostering Affordability
- 28 Metropolitan Service Area
- 30 Board of Directors
- 31 Executive Management

As we reflect on Metropolitan's many initiatives, accomplishments and leadership highlights of 2023, a prevailing theme emerges, one of transformation, resilience and adaptability. This 2023 Year in Review serves as a testament to the extraordinary efforts undertaken in the face of unprecedented challenges, posed by the dynamic and evolving landscape of water management.

The achievements highlighted in this report were driven by policies set by Metropolitan's Board of Directors, align with General Manager Adel Hagekhalil's five guiding Strategic Priorities, and were executed by Metropolitan's nearly 1,900 employees.

The year began with concerns that severe drought conditions would continue for a fourth year, after three consecutive dry years severely stressed all of **Southern California's water sources – the State Water Project**, the Colorado River, and **local supplies**. The start of 2023 mirrored the preceding years, with an initial State Water Project allocation of 5 percent, signaling another year of strained supplies. However, the narrative took a dramatic turn as nature intervened mid-winter with the arrival of multiple atmospheric rivers, resulting in what was dubbed 'weather whiplash.'

Hydrologic conditions improved dramatically, culminating in a **100 percent SWP allocation**—a milestone not achieved since 2006. As a result, Metropolitan was able to **rescind its emergency conservation restrictions** imposed in 2022, and reservoirs and groundwater basins saw a remarkable **rebound**.

Challenges, however, persisted in the Colorado River Basin, after system reservoirs reached record low levels in 2022. Despite a healthy snowpack in the Rocky Mountains and successful efforts in 2023 to lower demands in agricultural and urban communities, the enduring effects of more than two decades of drought continued to cast a shadow. The call for more sustainable management of the river in both the short- and long-term remained, emphasizing collective responsibility of 40 million people and 6 million acres of farmland dependent on the Colorado River.



THE GENERAL MANAGER'S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES SUPPORTING 2023 ACHIEVEMENTS

1 // **EMPOWER**
the workforce and
promote diversity,
equity and inclusion

2 // **SUSTAIN**
Metropolitan's mission
with a strengthened
business model



DWR Director Karla Nemeth presents grant funding check to Metropolitan General Manager Adel Hagekhalil

3 // ADAPT
to changing climate
and water resources

Amidst these swings, Metropolitan continued to play a pivotal role in shaping water reliability. The year saw a strategic focus on sound resource management policies, investing in and maintaining critical infrastructure, supporting local resource development, fostering innovation, and securing funding and partnerships. Notably, Metropolitan received **\$130 million in state funding** for new water supply projects and drought mitigation programs, underscoring Metropolitan’s commitment to proactive solutions.

4 // PROTECT
public health, the
regional economy, and
Metropolitan’s assets

In this era of weather whiplash, our board and executive leadership guided Metropolitan through the latest hydrologic swings, while also envisioning a future where innovation, sustainability and community resilience thrive.

5 // PARTNER
with interested parties
and the communities
we serve

Metropolitan’s 2023 Year in Review tells a story of resilience, adaptability, and a commitment to transforming challenges into opportunities. It’s a narrative that extends beyond numbers and statistics, with a focus on innovation, planning, cultural shifts, and strategic infrastructure investments. Our story reflects a culture ready and able to adapt to an ever-changing environment, ensuring a resilient and sustainable future for Southern California.



Pride @ Metropolitan members during the Employee Resource Group Fair

DRIVING A COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY

Building on Metropolitan’s commitment to a culture of inclusion, this year we focused on strengthening partnerships with state and federal leaders; engaging in collaborative dialogue with community members and business leaders through listening sessions and meetings; inviting all voices to be heard during virtual workshops on our climate change adaptation planning process; visiting with environmental and tribal advocates in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta; and continuing to engage with all users in the Colorado River Basin, including tribes, agricultural interests and urban water providers.

This pledge toward inclusivity extended to our workforce, with Metropolitan continuing to support a culture where all employees feel valued, respected and supported. Metropolitan took a number of actions in 2023 to embody these principles, including hosting a series of safety fairs at all of its facilities while making the connection between physical and psychological safety; taking steps

to roll out a new civil and inclusive workplace training; improving outreach and recruitment practices to better reach underrepresented communities; and continuing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council and management meetings to leverage ideas and input for a more inclusive workplace. In July 2023, Metropolitan’s first-ever DEI strategic plan was presented to our Board of Directors.

Metropolitan also carried out all the **recommendations from a state audit** to improve Metropolitan’s workplace, including updating EEO policies; creating new investigative procedures that better track the status of complaints; implementing annual policy reviews; and increasing complaint reporting options. Metropolitan’s Equal Employment Opportunity Office also conducted four trainings on EEO investigations in 2023 and conducted site visits and held office hours for employees at remote desert facilities.



Black Employees Association’s Juneteenth celebration



Representatives of Metropolitan’s Employee Resource Group Fair

ADAPTING TO A CHANGING CLIMATE

While California has always experienced variable weather, climate change is taking extreme swings in weather to a new level, from history-making dry periods to record-setting wet seasons. These conditions put extraordinary strain on all of our water resources and require Metropolitan to quickly shift our operations from stretching severely limited water supplies to storing as much as possible in preparation for the next inevitable dry period.

Climate change is completely changing how we manage our water supplies.

In response to this reality, Metropolitan in 2023 began a new planning process to create a Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water. Building on our decades of experience in water resource planning, Metropolitan is working with our **26 member agencies** to incorporate the realities of climate change and develop a portfolio of water investments

that increases supply reliability, builds a more resilient and regionally interconnected water delivery system, and maintains affordable water rates.

A newly formed CAMP4W joint task force, composed of Metropolitan board directors and general managers from Metropolitan's member agencies, began meeting in November to develop and propose this regional plan that will allow Southern California's communities, environment and economy to thrive despite the impacts of a changing climate.

To ensure our success, we're bringing all stakeholders into the fold to forge a new path toward a resilient water future.



CAMP4W
**Climate Adaptation
Master Plan for Water**



**Stewardship &
Sustainability**



**Regional
Cooperation**



**Sound
Investments**



**Supply
Reliability**

REDUCING OUR CARBON EMISSIONS

In 2023, Metropolitan released an [inaugural report](#) outlining progress on targets in our [Climate Action Plan](#). Adopted in 2022, the plan establishes a pathway for Metropolitan to achieve the state's target to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 40 percent from 1990 levels by 2030 and reach carbon neutrality by 2045.

Among other achievements, we added the first-ever zero-emission vehicles to our fleet; initiated design of the infrastructure necessary for the full transition to ZEVs; and launched an online, [interactive dashboard](#) for the public to track the district's progress on its CAP goals. We also hosted a Sustainability Expo highlighting the district's leadership on environmental initiatives and sharing ecological practices such as drought-tolerant gardening; were awarded a [\\$20.9 million grant](#) from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy to implement a large-scale pilot carbon sequestration project; and significantly outperformed the turf removal and water savings targets outlined in the CAP.

“

This year, we reached milestones in greening our fleet, pursuing new renewable energy sources, and introducing innovative strategies to restore ecosystems and sequester carbon.”

- Liz Crosson, Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation officer



2023 Sustainability Expo

NEW LEADERS AT THE HELM

New leaders joined Metropolitan in 2023, bringing a bold vision and unique expertise to the agency during this transformational period.

In January, **Adán Ortega, Jr.** was sworn in as the 20th chair of **Metropolitan's Board of Directors**, quickly organizing the board to meet the challenge of adapting to climate change, including appointing a vice chair for climate action, which oversees a portfolio of committees that address climate change. He spearheaded the launch of the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water process, which included member agency officials at multiple levels of planning. Ortega also reaffirmed Metropolitan's commitment by reinvigorating interactions with regional agencies, farmers, tribal leaders, and environmental advocates in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and with water users across the Colorado River Basin, through highly engaged board ad-hoc committees. He is the first Latino to lead our board in the district's 95-year history and the first to appoint a large majority of women to the Board's Executive Committee.



Metropolitan board Chair Adán Ortega, Jr.
during his January 2023 inauguration



Inauguration of Metropolitan board Chair Adán Ortega, Jr.

Scott Suzuki joined Metropolitan as general auditor in 2023. During the year, his office launched a new dashboard report to provide streamlined updates on audit activities; deployed a new web-based project management system to improve efficiency; began advisory services to assist groups throughout Metropolitan with system implementations; and rolled out improved procedures to enhance work products.

Mark Brower became group manager of Human Resources, where he continued the department's focus on enhancing efficiency, improving transparency, increasing trust, and building a strong workplace culture. In 2023, the department also completed employee contract negotiations with AFSCME Local 1902; graduated a new class from Metropolitan's Management University program; held several employee recognition events; and continued to improve the recruitment process and access to employee training opportunities.

Adam Benson was named group manager of finance to help direct the district's financial activities. In 2023, his group maintained Metropolitan's strong credit rating, allowing low-cost access to the capital markets through continued use of sound principles in financial management and data analytics. The group also executed a variety of analyses to support and advance Metropolitan's strategic objectives toward climate resiliency and adaptability.

“

Together with my colleagues, I'm ready to redouble our efforts to meet the water supply needs of future generations in the face of climate change, while supporting the safety, well-being and dignity of our workforce who helps ensure there is always water coming out of our taps.”

- Board Chair Adán Ortega, Jr. during inauguration



A Monarch butterfly in a California Friendly® garden

CONTINUING CONSERVATION MOMENTUM

Over the years, Southern Californians have demonstrated their deepening commitment to **conserving water resources**. With conservation a critical component of the region's blueprint for water supply reliability, Metropolitan in 2023 continued to advance water-use efficiency through incentives programs and innovative research.

Since 1990, Metropolitan has **invested** \$910 million in conservation rebates and programs, including \$46 million spent in fiscal year 2022-23. We also were awarded \$50 million in state and federal grants to support our turf replacement rebates and direct-install programs for water-efficient fixtures in income qualifying homes.

While Metropolitan has for years incentivized conservation through rebates that encourage the transition of thirsty laws to more water-efficient landscaping, in 2023 new steps were taken to mandate that switch. Metropolitan co-sponsored **AB 1572**, legislation signed into law by Gov. Gavin Newsom that prohibits the use of drinking water to irrigate grass that is not used for any functional or recreational purpose in institutional and commercial settings.



Water-saving technology employed by the Ventura County Fire Department with support from Metropolitan's Water Savings Incentive Program

2022-23 BY THE NUMBERS

\$46 million spent on conservation rebates, classes, research and outreach



2,500 water-saving fixtures installed in partnership with SoCal Gas Co.

3,600 acre-feet* water saved through residential and commercial rebates

10.5 million square-foot grass replaced



\$50 million state funding support for conservation

*an acre-foot is nearly 326,000 gallons, enough water to serve three typical Southern California households a year.

We continued to pursue innovation, seeking out new technologies and devices that save water. In 2023, Metropolitan awarded six projects \$50,000 each through its **Innovative Conservation Program**. Projects include municipal and commercial leak detection, cooling tower efficiency, commercial turf replacement savings analysis, and showerheads that provide water and energy savings by eliminating waste during the shower water warming process. All projects will be completed in late 2024.

Metropolitan for the first time held an **awards ceremony** to highlight the many ways businesses are employing innovative techniques to save water. Held in May, the inaugural One Water Awards honored six projects that used funding from **Metropolitan's Water Savings Incentive Program** to make major improvements to water management operations and equipment, such as installing smart irrigation technology, water recirculation systems for public agencies and fire departments, and soil moisture sensors. These improvements are projected to save more than 1 billion gallons of water over the next decade.

CREATING A NEW WATER SOURCE

Metropolitan's commitment to future water supply reliability is marked by our efforts to reduce reliance on imported water supplies and build more sustainable, local water sources. To that end, Metropolitan, in partnership with Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, is advancing [Pure Water Southern California](#), a large-scale, regional water recycling program that will create a new source of water to benefit millions of Southern Californians. Testing continued in 2023 on an innovative purification process at the program's demonstration plant in Carson to ensure the treated water meets the highest standards. If fully realized, the project would be among the first in California to utilize new [Direct Potable Reuse regulations](#) released in 2023 by the State Water Board. A portion of the water produced at Pure Water would be for DPR, while a portion would be for groundwater replenishment, providing valuable flexibility in the program's operations.

As California finds ways to boost the state's resiliency to climate change, Metropolitan was awarded an [\\$80 million state grant](#) to help accelerate the design and planning work needed for the Board to make a decision about construction of the full-scale project.

In November, Metropolitan renamed the Pure Water demonstration facility as the [Grace F. Napolitano Pure Water Southern California Innovation Center](#) in honor of the distinguished congresswoman who has supported and secured funding for recycled water projects and fought to ensure that every Southern Californian has access to safe, reliable drinking water.



From left, Metropolitan board Vice Chair and Inland Empire Utilities Agency representative Michael Camacho, board Chair Adán Ortega, Jr., Congresswoman Grace Napolitano and General Manager Adel Hagekhalil at a ceremony to name Pure Water's demonstration facility for Napolitano



Dedicating the plant at Pure Water Southern California as the Grace F. Napolitano Pure Water Southern California Innovation Center is a demonstration of the gratitude for her contributions to her constituents – and to the nation. This is a meaningful and well-deserved tribute in recognition of Congresswoman Napolitano's staunch advocacy for securing a clean, sustainable water supply.”

- Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton,
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation



Grace F. Napolitano Pure Water
Southern California Innovation Center



California Aqueduct (photo courtesy of DWR)

BUILDING GREATER RELIABILITY, EQUITY FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



Diamond Valley Lake

“

The severity of our recent drought revealed vulnerabilities and inequities in our water supply and delivery system. We are investing in new, valuable infrastructure that will help us avoid future shortages for everyone.”

- Metropolitan board Chair Adán Ortega, Jr.

As climate change challenges the reliability of our water supplies, we are investing in infrastructure improvements that will increase the flexibility of our system – allowing us to deliver stored water to all our communities during times of drought.

In 2023, Metropolitan advanced several projects that will reengineer our water delivery system to bring water from Diamond Valley Lake – Southern California’s largest reservoir – and the Colorado River to parts of the region that faced mandatory restrictions during the last drought due to limited access to these water sources.

The first suite of four projects, three of which began construction this year, will connect our stored water supplies in Diamond Valley Lake, and potentially the Colorado River, to the Rialto Pipeline. Up until now, the Rialto Pipeline has been limited to conveying water supplies from Northern California only. That pipeline delivers water to the San Gabriel Valley

and Inland Empire via the Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Three Valleys Municipal Water District and Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District – three of the six agencies that faced mandatory conservation in 2022.

Metropolitan’s board also approved the **Sepulveda Feeder Pump Station Project**, which will add two new pump stations along a major Metropolitan pipeline to allow treated water from the Diemer and Weymouth Water Treatment Plants to be delivered to the remaining three member agencies that faced mandatory conservation in 2022 – Calleguas Municipal Water District, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

These new projects continue the forward-thinking legacy of Metropolitan to provide operational flexibility and resiliency that offers more equitable supply access for all our member agencies.



Lake Oroville spillway
(Photo courtesy of DWR)

SAFEGUARDING THE STATE OF OUR NORTHERN CALIFORNIA SUPPLIES



“

This project will significantly improve the sustainability of Webb Tract in multiple ways and help develop methods and strategies that can potentially be applied throughout the Delta.”

- Metropolitan General Manager Adel Hagekhalil on Webb Tract grant

Webb Tract

While we develop new, local water supplies and increase conservation, we also must protect the reliability of our imported water supplies. Metropolitan is engaged in a variety of programs and initiatives to **promote the health and sustainability** of water supplies from Northern California, delivered via the State Water Project, representing about 30 percent of the region’s water.

After melting from the Northern Sierra and released from Lake Oroville into the Feather River, these water supplies flow through the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the West Coast’s largest estuary. The water is then delivered to cities and farmland across California. Metropolitan, together with other water users, state and federal agencies and environmental groups, has a vested interest in protecting the Delta environment.

In 2023, the state’s Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy awarded Metropolitan a **\$21 million grant** to transform the 5,500-acre Webb Tract – one of four islands Metropolitan owns in the Delta. Through this collaboration with local interests and the Delta Conservancy, the district is addressing land subsidence, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting

sustainable agriculture, and creating habitat to support the local ecosystem.

Several state-led initiatives also advanced throughout the year, including the proposed Agreements to Support Healthy Rivers and Landscapes as part of the State Water Resource Control Board’s update of its Bay-Delta Plan. Also known as the **Voluntary Agreements**, these proposed agreements would transform the way water is managed in California, taking a new approach to improving habitats for fish and wildlife, additional water flows for species, dedicated funding sources, clear metrics and monitoring to analyze progress toward our goals and change course if necessary.

Metropolitan’s Wetland Mosaic Landscape will design and construct up to 3,500 acres of managed, flooded wetlands and up to 1,500 acres of rice fields on Webb Tract.

In December 2023, the **state certified its final Environmental Impact Report** for the proposed Delta Conveyance Project to improve State Water Project infrastructure. Metropolitan’s board will use information in the EIR, along with additional information such as a cost-benefit analysis, to determine the district’s future investment in the project.

BRINGING SUSTAINABILITY TO THE COLORADO RIVER



Hoover Dam
at Lake Mead

After decades of drought and dwindling runoff exacerbated by climate change, the Colorado River Basin faces major challenges. Metropolitan has been working with our partners across the Basin to **reduce water use** and find ways to restore sustainability to this critical water source that supports nearly 40 million people and 6 million acres of farmland.

Metropolitan supported the **Lower Basin Plan**, a proposal submitted in May by California, Arizona and Nevada to conserve 3 million acre-feet of water by 2026 to stabilize system reservoirs. In support of this plan, in December, we joined San Diego County Water Authority, Imperial Irrigation District, Fort Yuma Quechan Indian Tribe, Palo Verde Irrigation District, Coachella Valley Water District, and the United States Bureau of Reclamation to sign agreements that together save 1.6 million acre-feet of water in Lake Mead.

Responding to the strains on the river, and after a wet winter, California conserved a record amount of Colorado River water in 2023. Deliveries to the state were the lowest since 1949 – 700,000 acre-feet lower than the state’s 4.4 million acre-foot apportionment.

Metropolitan also stored a record amount of Intentionally Created Surplus in Lake Mead – 1.6 million acre-feet – equivalent to more than 20 feet of elevation in the reservoir and added 450,000 acre-feet to Lake Mead in 2023 alone.

As we look to longer-term solutions beyond 2026, Metropolitan is committed to working with our agricultural, urban and tribal partners as well as our colleagues in Mexico to preserve our precious Colorado River resources.



U.S. Secretary of the Interior Camille Calimlim Touton (in white) joins representatives of California water agencies signing agreements in December 2023 to conserve 3 million acre-feet in Lake Mead

“

Each one of these agreements is evidence of what we can achieve when we work together. This collaborative effort, and particularly the federal support, will help stabilize Lake Mead while we negotiate longer-term solutions to sustain this water source that is so critical to the communities we serve. There is much work ahead – building lasting solutions will take even greater partnership and sacrifice from us all.”

– General Manager Adel Hagekhalil on signing of historic agreements to protect Colorado River



Diamond Valley Lake

CREATING RECORD STORAGE



High Desert Water Bank dedication

Following years of extreme drought that required significant restrictions on outdoor water use for nearly 7 million people in Metropolitan’s service area, a remarkably wet winter in 2023 allowed us to **begin refilling our storage** accounts for the first time in three years.

Metropolitan quickly adjusted from drought operations to finding every available opportunity to store as much water as possible by filling **Diamond Valley Lake** and using groundwater banking partnerships to store a record 3.4 million acre-feet of water for use when dry times return.

Recognizing that the region will need to expand available stored reserves in response to the changing climate, Metropolitan completed construction of the first phase of the **High Desert Water Bank**. Developed in partnership with the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency, the project allows Metropolitan to annually store and withdraw up to 70,000 acre-feet a year, enough water to serve the annual needs of about 210,000 Southern California homes. In October, Metropolitan celebrated the milestone with a grand opening ceremony at the project’s location in the Antelope Valley.



The newly built infrastructure allows water managers to take water directly from the East Branch of the SWP’s California Aqueduct and deliver it into recharge basins to percolate into the underlying aquifer. When needed, water can be pumped back out and delivered to Southern California communities through the California Aqueduct.



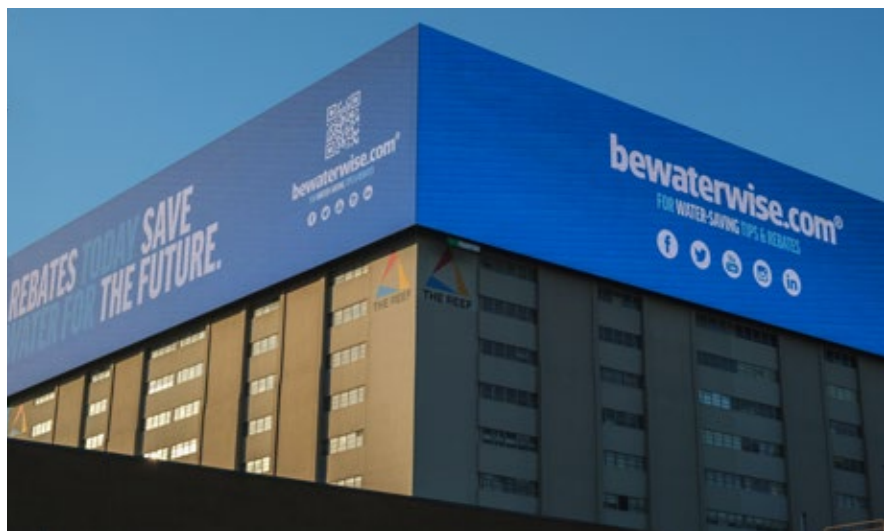
Reaching new audiences at an Angel City Football Club match

CONNECTING WITH RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES

In 2023, Metropolitan engaged communities across Southern California through a variety of events and programs, working collaboratively to build a resilient and informed public that is invested in the responsible stewardship of our precious water resources.

We continued informing our communities about conservation, partnering for the first time with the new [Angel City Football Club](#) and the state's [Save Our Water Campaign](#) to reach thousands of fans and others throughout the community about using water more efficiently.

Metropolitan continued its successful [social media](#) influencer campaign to reach a broader and younger demographic, partnering with Josie Maran, a beauty entrepreneur; actor and producer Fred Armisen of television shows Saturday Night Live and Portlandia; and Justina Blakeney, an author, home designs and textiles entrepreneur. The district also shared its conservation message by [advertising on the Reef](#), the world's largest digital billboard located in downtown Los Angeles, and on outdoor ads across Southern California with in-language



Advertising on the world's largest digital billboard in downtown Los Angeles

advertising featuring our own employees. We created our own mobile video game and ran videos in many languages at EV charging and gas stations.

Metropolitan also [collaborated](#) with schools, universities, and non-profits to provide water-focused STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) education and workforce development programs.



Promoting bewaterwise.com at Angel City Football Club Fan Fest



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

PRESENTS

METWORKS

Industry Day: In-Person Event
Metropolitan Contracting Information Straight from the Source

Learn About:

- Pure Water SoCal consulting & construction opportunities
- Our recently adopted Project Labor Agreement (PLA)
- Drought Sustainability Projects
- Metropolitan's initial plan to utilize Alternative Project Delivery techniques

Meet:

- Metropolitan's Construction Management and Project Management Staff

METROPOLITAN INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE
In-Person Event

Feb. 2, 2023
8:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.



Carson Event Center
801 Carson Street
Carson, CA 90745

MetWorks@mwd2o.com



Metropolitan's MetWorks networking event in Carson in February 2023

BUILDING UP OUR COMMUNITIES, FOSTERING AFFORDABILITY



Metropolitan officials and partners celebrating an \$80 million state grant to support Pure Water Southern California

The many investments needed to adapt Southern California's water systems to the changing climate will be expensive. To help maintain affordability for the region, Metropolitan is pursuing state and federal funding to support projects that address climate and drought impacts. The district aggressively pursued grant opportunities, securing \$150 million in 2023, and established a new grants office to obtain future funding. Metropolitan also negotiated a federal Sisk Dam cost share agreement that will save about \$235 million over a multi-year period.

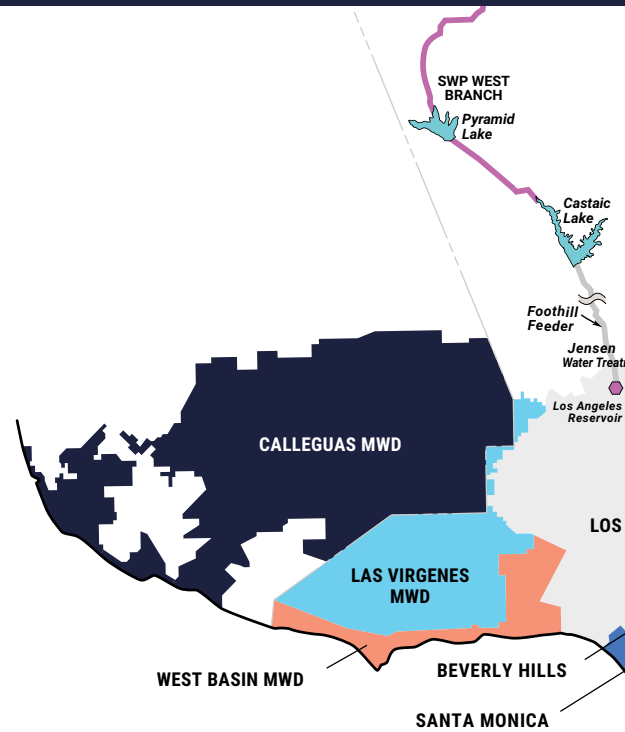
While Metropolitan acted to promote affordability, we also continued our work to **attract a diverse pipeline** of talent for current and future jobs, reaching throughout our service area, particularly to those in underserved communities. Metropolitan leveraged partnerships with colleges and community groups to expand opportunities for career development; sponsored events and worked with organizations such as Homeboy Industries and the NAACP to attract talent from historically underrepresented groups.

Metropolitan also continued work to advance the **Equity in Infrastructure Pledge**, which seeks to increase procurement opportunities for historically underutilized businesses to successfully compete for public contracts. In 2023, Metropolitan hosted

listening sessions with small businesses owned by individuals who are socially and economically disadvantaged, as defined by the federal Disadvantage Business Enterprise Program. Metropolitan increased its **outreach** to DBE firms, awarding a total of \$11 million in contracts to DBE firms in 2023.

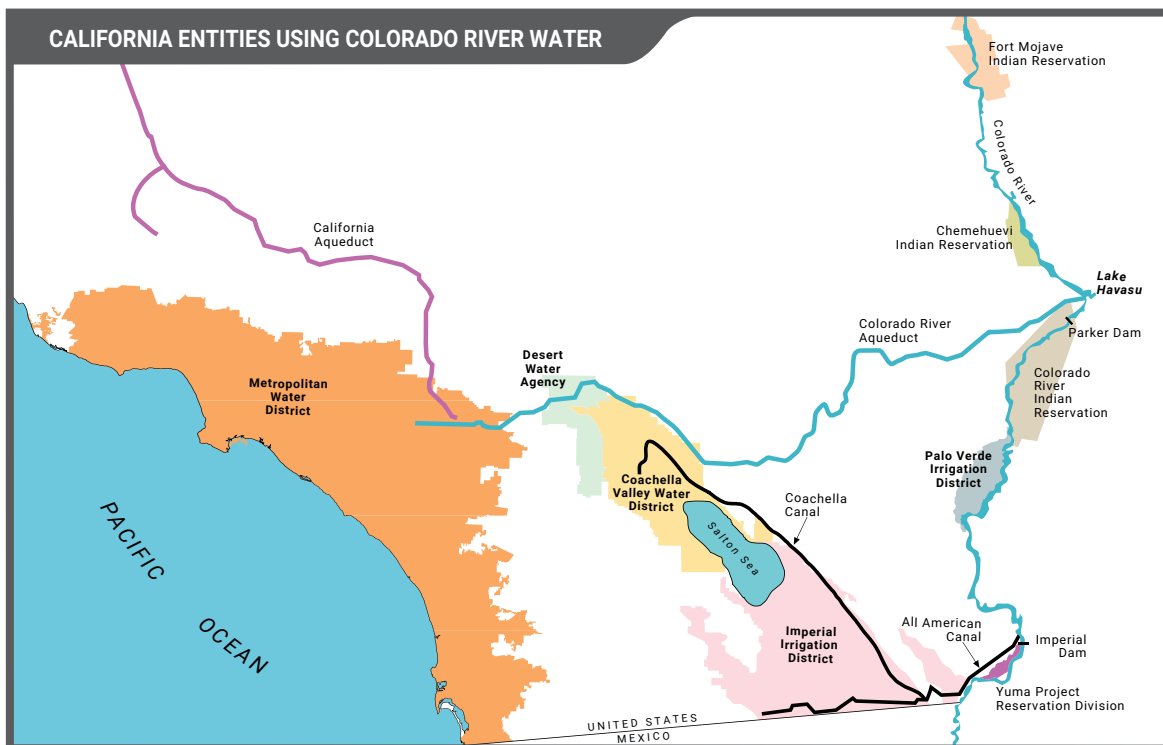
In addition, Metropolitan also launched its **Project Labor Agreement**, encompassing 34 identified projects – including those related to the Pure Water Southern California recycled water program – representing approximately 90 percent of Metropolitan's planned Capital Improvement Plan expenditures. The PLA features a 60 percent target for employing local workers and a 15 percent goal for transitional workers facing challenges. In 2023, about 95 percent of work on PLA projects was done by local workers, exceeding the 60 percent goal, and about 16 percent of work was performed by transitional workers, exceeding the 15 percent goal.

Metropolitan continued its partnerships to bring residential direct installation programming to income-qualifying residents and residents in disadvantaged communities, using grant funding to replace older, less efficient devices with more efficient models, including 4,000 toilets, 800 weather based irrigation controllers, and thousands of shower heads and aerators in 2023.

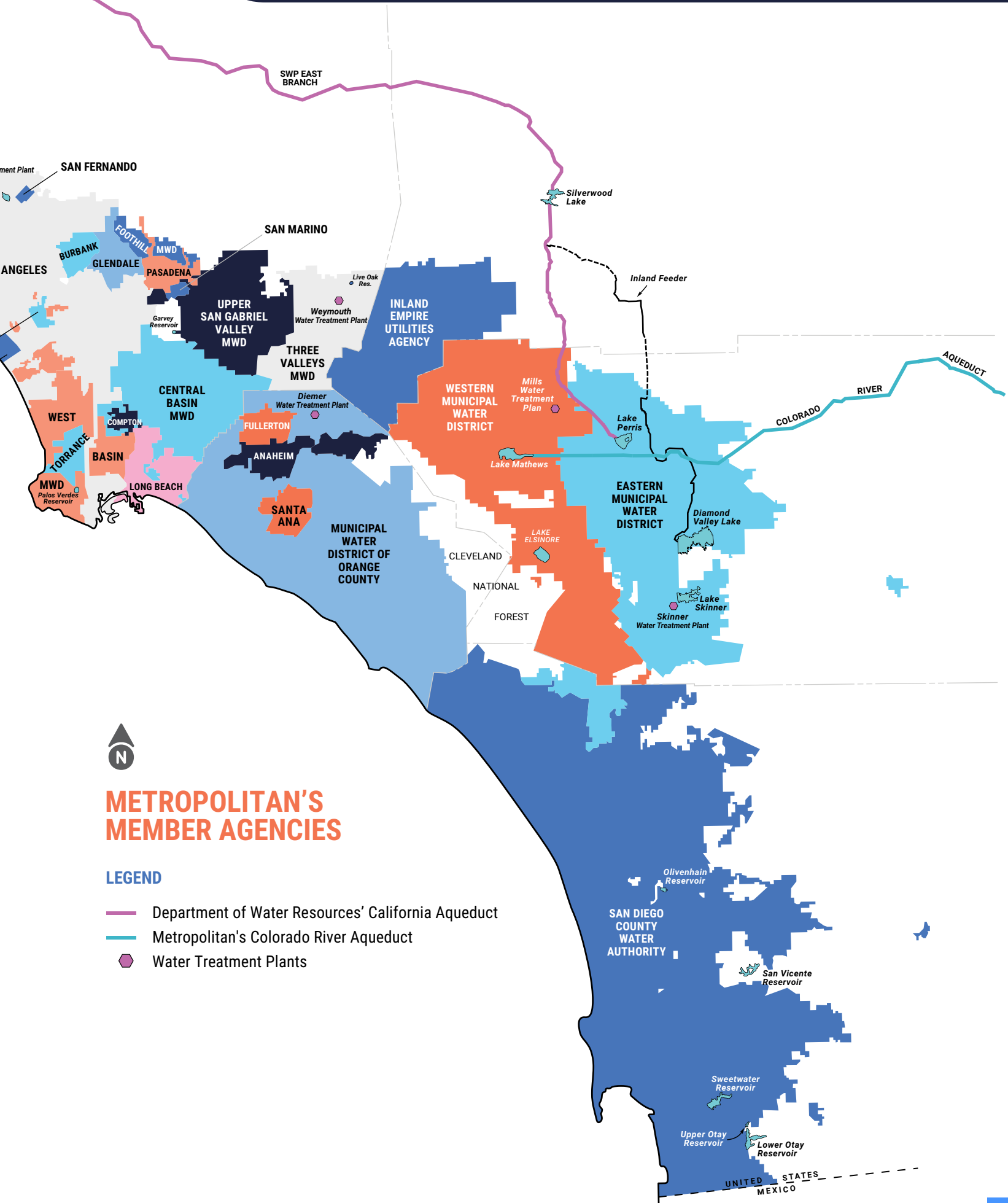


ABOUT METROPOLITAN

Metropolitan is a state-established cooperative that, along with its 26 member agencies and retail suppliers, provides water for 19 million people in parts of six counties. Its mission 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. 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.



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



METROPOLITAN'S MEMBER AGENCIES

LEGEND

- Department of Water Resources' California Aqueduct
- Metropolitan's Colorado River Aqueduct
- ⬡ Water Treatment Plants

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Anaheim



Stephen J. Faessel

Beverly Hills



Barry D. Pressman

Burbank



Marsha Ramos

Compton



Tana McCoy

Fullerton



Fred Jung

Calleguas Municipal Water District



Jacque McMillan

Central Basin Municipal Water District



Michael Gualtieri

Central Basin Municipal Water District



Juan Garza

Eastern Municipal Water District



Jeff Armstrong

Foothill Municipal Water District



Garry E. Bryant

Glendale



Ardy Kassakhian

Long Beach



Gloria Cordero

Los Angeles



Carl E. Douglas

Los Angeles



Tracy Quinn P.E.

Los Angeles



Nancy Sutley
Vice Chair

Inland Empire Utilities Agency



Michael Camacho
Vice Chair

Los Virgenes Municipal Water District



Glen D. Peterson

Municipal Water District of Orange County



Linda Ackerman

Municipal Water District of Orange County



Karl Seckel

Municipal Water District of Orange County



Larry D. Dick

Los Angeles



Miguel Luna

Los Angeles



Matt Petersen

Pasadena



Cynthia Kurtz

San Fernando



Adán Ortega, Jr.
Chair

San Marino



John T. Morris

Municipal Water District of Orange County



Dennis Erdman

San Diego County Water Authority



C. Martin "Marty" Miller

San Diego County Water Authority



Lois Fong-Sakai
Secretary

San Diego County Water Authority



Tim Smith

San Diego County Water Authority



Gail Goldberg
Vice Chair

Santa Ana



Thai Phan

Santa Monica



Judy Abdo
Vice Chair

Torrance



Russell Lefevre

Three Valleys Municipal Water District



David D. De Jesus

Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District



Anthony Fellow

West Basin Municipal Water District



Desi Alvarez

West Basin Municipal Water District



Gloria D. Gray

Western Municipal Water District of Riverside Co.



Brenda Dennstedt

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT



Adel Hagekhalil
General Manager



Marcia Scully
General Counsel



Scott Suzuki
General Auditor



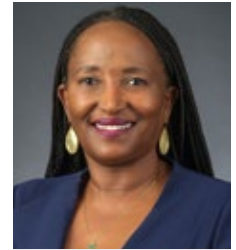
Abel Salinas
Ethics Officer



Deven Upadhyay
Assistant GM/
Executive Officer



Shane Chapman
Assistant GM/Chief
Administrative Officer



Katano Kasaine
Assistant GM/Chief
Financial Officer



Dee Zinke
Assistant GM/Chief
External Affairs Officer



Heather C. Beatty
Assistant General Counsel



Henry Torres, Jr.
Assistant General Counsel



Nina Hawk
Chief of Bay-Delta
Resources/Group Manager,
Bay-Delta Initiatives



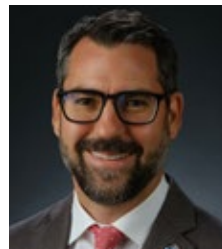
Bill Hasencamp
Manager, Colorado
River Resources



John Bednarski
Chief Engineer/Group
Manager, Engineering
Services Group



Sue Sims
Group Manager,
External Affairs



Mark Brower
Group Manager,
Human Resources



Adam Benson
Group Manager,
Finance



Brad Coffey
Group Manager, Water
Resource Management



Mickey Chaudhuri
Chief of Operations/
Group Manager (Interim),
Water System Operations



Charles Eckstrom
Group Manager,
Information Technology



Jonaura Wisdom
Equal Employment
Opportunity Officer



Liz Crosson
Sustainability, Resiliency
and Innovation Officer



Liji Thomas
Diversity, Equity and
Inclusion Officer

NAVIGATING TRANSFORMATIONS in 2023

The Metropolitan Water District of
Southern California Year in Review



@mwdh2o mwdh2o.com

bewaterwise.com

