

**MWD**

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

7-12

November 22, 1994

To: Board of Directors (Executive Committee--Action)
From: General Manager
Subject: Membership in the Inland Empire Economic Partnership

Report

The Inland Empire Economic Partnership (IEEP) is a private, nonprofit, 501-C6 economic development organization that includes about 120 businesses and community organizations in the Inland Empire. Representing both Riverside and San Bernardino counties, the IEPP strives to advance a proactive economic development agenda for the Inland Empire. Organization programs and activities focus on business recruitment, retention, and expansion.

Expansion activities include comprehensive technical assistance in the areas of general and financial management; business environmental issues; governmental procurement and consulting by large manufacturers for existing and aspiring business owners in retail, wholesale, manufacturing, service, and construction-type businesses. Activities are coordinated through a vast network of educational institutions, economic development organizations, chambers of commerce and other agencies throughout Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

Over the past four years, the IEPP has taken a strong interest in water matters and has assisted Metropolitan on a variety of issues, including the Bay-Delta hearings, the standby charge and other financing issues. A membership in this organization will help Metropolitan expand its relationships with the

Inland Empire business community and maintain the high level of support we have received for our projects and programs from this area.

The Partnership maintains offices in Ontario and Riverside, as well as Victorville and Palm Springs. Its Board of Directors includes representatives from Southern California Edison, First Interstate Bank, the City of Corona, Bank of America, Ernst & Young, Southern California Gas, Press Enterprise newspaper, Community Bank, KPMG Peat Marwick, GTE, Chino Valley Bank and others. A board roster is included as an attachment to this letter.

General membership dues in the Inland Empire Economic Partnership (IEEP) are \$2,500 annually, which would give MWD eligibility to serve on the organization's board of directors and provide a full member vote. Metropolitan's active representative in the IEEP would be Senior Government Relations Representative Tim Skrove. Director Wyatt Troxel also has expressed an interest in participating in this organization.

Sufficient funds are included in the District's 1994-95 fiscal year operation and maintenance budget to cover these costs. The approval of the budget was coupled with the finding of necessity pertaining to dissemination of information required by Section 126 of the Metropolitan Water District Act and approved by two-thirds vote of the Board. The recommendation made in this letter may be approved by a majority vote of the Board.

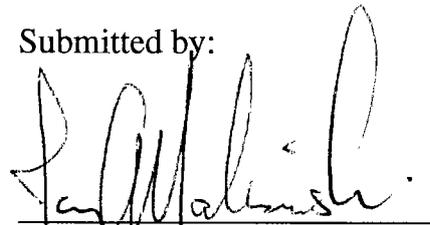
This project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act because it will not have a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse effect on the environment.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board authorize the General Manager to sponsor Metropolitan's general membership in the Inland Empire Economic Partnership in the amount of \$2,500.

John R. Wodraska
General Manager

Submitted by:



Jay Malinowski
Director of Public Affairs

Concur:



John R. Wodraska
General Manager

Attachment

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(Updated November 8, 1994)

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(Updated November 8, 1994)

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