

APPROVED
By the Board of Directors of
the Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California
at its meeting held



MWD

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

OCT 10 1995

Baron E. Doff
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

September 26, 1995

To: Board of Directors (Water Planning and Resources Committee—Action)
(Executive Committee—Action)
From: General Manager
Subject: Transmittal and Adoption of Metropolitan's Regional Urban Water
Management Plan

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that your Board adopt Metropolitan's Regional Urban Water Management Plan (RUWMP) and that the General Manager be authorized to transmit the RUWMP to the Department of Water Resources.

John R. Wodraska
General Manager

Submitted by:

Debra C Man

Debra C. Man, Chief
Planning and Resources

Concur:

John R. Wodraska
John R. Wodraska
General Manager

GC:arb

Attachment

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Urban Water Management Planning Act (Act) requires that Metropolitan submit a regional plan by December 31, 1995. The Act requires urban water suppliers to prepare and adopt water management plans that describe and evaluate reasonable and practical efficient water uses, reclamation, and conservation activities. Metropolitan staff and consultants have developed the Regional Urban Water Management Plan (RUWMP) that is consistent with the Act and with our Integrated Resources Planning process.

A draft of the RUWMP was transmitted to your Board and member agencies for review in April 1995. The final draft RUWMP, incorporating comments from member agencies, was submitted to your Board and member agencies on July 26, 1995 for review and comment. On August 21, 1995, Metropolitan held a public hearing to receive public comments on the RUWMP. The comments received and responses thereto are included in Appendix C of the RUWMP. The attached final RUWMP will be submitted to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) following adoption by your Board.

DETAILED REPORT:

The Urban Water Management Planning Act (Act), Assembly Bill No. 797 - Water Code Sections 10610 through 10656, requires that each urban water supplier, that serves more than 3,000 customers or supplies more than 3,000 acre-feet/year, submit an urban water management plan to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) at least once every five years. The urban water management plan describes and evaluates reasonable and practical efficient water uses, reclamation, and conservation activities. Metropolitan prepared plans in 1985 and 1990. An update of the plan is required to be submitted by December 31, 1995.

Metropolitan's Regional Urban Water Management Plan (RUWMP) is designed to meet the requirements of the Act, as well as to maintain consistency with the Integrated Resources Planning (IRP) process. The RUWMP describes the on-going IRP process, Metropolitan's adopted reliability goal for wholesale water service and the preferred resource mix. In addition, the RUWMP documents Metropolitan's existing water management and conservation programs and adopted principles for future revisions of these programs. Member Agencies and local water agencies will rely, to varying degrees depending on local conditions, on Metropolitan's RUWMP as a source of information for their plans.

In April 1995, Metropolitan staff transmitted a draft RUWMP to your Board and member agencies for review and comment. In May 1995, Metropolitan hosted a series of workshops to assist its member agencies and sub-agencies in the development of their urban water management plans. The first workshop was held at the Municipal Water District of Orange County, the second at the San Diego County Water Authority, and the third at Metropolitan's headquarters. These workshops were attended by about 130 people representing various water agencies and public entities in the Metropolitan service area. The workshop participants received a summary of Metropolitan's RUWMP; a sample outline of an Urban Water Management Plan for use by local water agencies; and a technical guide for preparing demand forecasts and projecting conservation savings. During the workshops,

Metropolitan staff received additional comments and suggestions on the development of the RUWMP. The final draft, incorporating comments from member agencies, was transmitted in July to your Board and member agencies for further review and comments.

On August 21, 1995, the Water Planning and Resources Committee of your Board held a public hearing at Metropolitan's headquarters to receive public comments on the RUWMP. This meeting was advertised in the Los Angeles Times, the San Diego Union-Tribune and the Thousand Oaks Star. During the meeting, a representative of the Southern California Chapter of American Society of Landscape Architects suggested strengthening of the description in the RUWMP regarding the potential implementation of xeriscape and low water use landscaping ordinances to achieve additional outdoor water savings. These comments were also submitted in writing. Additional comments were received from member agencies ranging from corrections of errors, clarifications to certain sections, to inclusion of additional information that would be helpful to local agencies. All comments were taken into consideration in the preparation of the final report. Written comments and Metropolitan's responses are incorporated in Appendix C of the RUWMP.

Similar to past Metropolitan RUWMPs, the adopted 1995 RUWMP will become a reference document on the past, present, and projected water use and supply conditions for Metropolitan's service region. In addition, the RUWMP summarizes Metropolitan's current activities and planning related to water conservation, water reclamation and drought management. The 1995 RUWMP will be used as a source document and updated as required by states or federal laws or regulations to provide information on Metropolitan's water management or conservation plans.

Subsequent to your Board's adoption of the RUWMP, the final document will be printed. The General Manager will then transmit the final RUWMP to the DWR, your Board, Metropolitan's member agencies and other interested agencies and individuals.

CEQA Compliance/Environmental Documentation:

The Act (under Water Code Section 1065) states that the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) does not apply to the preparation and adoption of urban water management plans. However, analysis of potential environmental impacts related to the implementation of specific elements of the RUWMP will be covered in any environmental documentation therewith.