

● **Board of Directors**
Executive Committee
Subcommittee on Rules

May 17, 2000 Board Meeting

6G

Subject

MWD Board Governance Principles

Description

At its March 2000 Board meeting the Board adopted the MWD Board Governance Guidelines. It is proposed that those Guidelines be formalized and placed in the Administrative Code by adding Chapter 3, Sections 1300 and 1301, as shown on [Attachment 1](#).

Additionally, the Board in August of 1999 adopted some detailed Carver Model Policy Statements. Subsequent discussions at the various standing committees of not only the adopted Statements but proposed Statements led to the conclusion that the Statements were too detailed and staff was requested to edit both adopted and proposed Statements into guidelines for the Board's consideration. Those draft guidelines will be presented to the Board at the June Board meeting.

Policy

Guidelines for Board Governance.

Board Options/Fiscal Impacts

Option #1

Authorize amendment of the Administrative Code by adding Chapter 3, Sections 1300 and 1301.

Fiscal Impact: None.

Recommendation

Option #1.


Henry Barbosa

4/19/2000
Date

[Attachment 1](#)

Division I

GENERAL

Chapter	Sec.
1 Definitions	1100
2 Seal, Logotype and Principal Place of Business	1200
3 <u>Board Governance Principles</u>	<u>1300</u>

Chapter 3

BOARD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES

Sec.

1300. Board Governance Principles

1301. Board Product

§ 1300. Board Governance Principles.

The Board will govern with an emphasis on outward vision, encouragement of diversity in viewpoints, strategic leadership more than administrative detail, and clear distinction of Board and chief executive roles.

§ 1301. Board Product.

Specific products of the Board are those that ensure appropriate organizational performance in serving the mission of Metropolitan.

- (a) The Board will be the initiator of policy, not merely a reactor to staff initiatives. The Board may use the expertise of individual members to enhance the ability of the Board as a body, rather than to substitute the individual judgments for the Board's values.
- (b) The Board will direct, control and inspire the organization through the careful establishment of broad written policies and the continuous development of ends policies. The Board's major policy focus will be on intended long-term impacts of the organization, not on the administrative or programmatic means of attaining those effects.
- (c) The Board will produce written governing policies addressing:
 - Protection of the existing water and power supplies
 - Development of new water supplies

- Protection and enhancement of water quality
 - Commitment to water management programs, including increased emphasis on conservation, recycling and groundwater storage and other storage programs
 - Establishment of fair and equitable water and tax rates
 - Financial policies – including adoption of long-range financial policies, reserve policy, and the annual operating budget
 - Development and/or maintenance of infrastructure
 - Development of compensation, benefits and other terms and conditions of employment
 - Guidelines relative to Board governance
 - Development of guidelines relative to communicating with the publics, legislature and stakeholders
- (d) The Board will assure the performance of the General Manager and General Counsel and General Auditor as measured against organizational expectations and executive limitations.