

- **Board of Directors**
Water Planning and Resources Committee

October 17, 2000 Board Meeting

8-4

Subject

Set Public Hearing on Draft Regional Urban Water Management Plan for Metropolitan Water District

Description

The California Urban Water Management Planning Act (Act) of the California Water Code requires all retail and wholesale water purveyors with either 3,000 connections or 3,000 AF of annual deliveries to submit an urban water management plan every five years. As required by the Act, staff is preparing a Regional Urban Water Management Plan (RUWMP). Metropolitan must submit its RUWMP to the State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) by December 31, 2000. Metropolitan has previously submitted RUWMP reports to DWR in 1985, 1990, and 1995.

Prior to the adoption of the RUWMP, Metropolitan is required to make the RUWMP available for public review, and to hold a public hearing. The intent of this Board letter is to mark the availability of the draft RUWMP for Board of Directors' review and public inspection, and to set a date for a public hearing. In addition to this letter, the public hearing will be advertised in several local newspapers around Metropolitan's service area, as well as on Metropolitan's web site.

Metropolitan intends to hold a public hearing on the draft RUWMP at its regularly scheduled Water Planning and Resources Committee Meeting on Monday, November 13, 2000, at Metropolitan's Headquarters Building, 700 North Alameda Street, Los Angeles, California 90012. The time of the public hearing is to be determined. Copies of the draft RUWMP are available for Directors from the Executive Secretary's office. Public comments may also be made and submitted at the public hearing. All public comments must be received by the conclusion of the November 13, 2000, public hearing.

The RUWMP catalogs and reports on the progress Metropolitan has made in implementing its resource programs since the 1996 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), and documents the challenges still to be faced. The RUWMP shows the increased supply reliability that has been achieved as a result of Metropolitan's planning processes, and the implementation of the resource programs identified within those processes. The RUWMP will also assist as a starting point for the IRP Update process.

As required by the Act for agency coordination, Metropolitan held six workshops with geographic groupings of member agencies throughout Metropolitan's service area to receive input on the development of the RUWMP. Workshops were held at Western Municipal Water District, Foothill Municipal Water District, Central Basin Municipal Water District/West Basin Municipal Water District, City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Municipal Water District of Orange County, and San Diego County Water Authority. Each of Metropolitan's member agencies were informed of the workshops near their areas and invited to attend. In addition, some member agencies invited their subagencies to attend. Finally, member agencies were provided copies of the draft RUWMP for their review and comment. Metropolitan has incorporated the member agency comments received to date.

Upon receipt of all comments, Metropolitan staff will evaluate and, as appropriate, incorporate them into the RUWMP. In December, there will be a Board letter recommending adoption of the RUWMP for submission to DWR by the due date of December 31, 2000. Following the Board's adoption, the RUWMP will be printed and distributed to the member agencies and other interested parties and individuals.

The actions recommended in this Board letter are exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because they involve the preparation of an urban water management plan pursuant to the provisions of Section 10652 of the California Water Code and are listed in Section 15282(w) of the CEQA Guidelines as relating to other statutory exemptions.

Policy

Metropolitan is obligated under law to meet the requirements of the California Urban Water Management Planning Act, California Water Code Division 6, Part 2.6, Urban Water Management Planning.

Board Options/Fiscal Impacts

Option #1

Schedule public hearing on the draft RUWMP as part of the Water Planning and Resources Committee Meeting on November 13, 2000, in order to comply with the Act and to remain on track to meet the submittal deadline of December 31, 2000.

Fiscal Impact: none

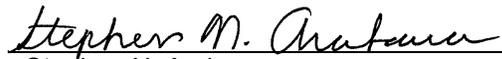
Option #2

Schedule a separate public hearing on the draft RUWMP.

Fiscal Impact: none

Staff Recommendation

Option #1.


Stephen N. Arakawa
Manager, Water Resource Management

9/21/2000
Date


General Manager

9/27/2000
Date