

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

July 10, 2001 Board Meeting

8-7

Subject

Adopt resolutions to accept \$1.309 million in state grants for three water conservation projects and a groundwater feasibility study

Description

CALFED (SB 23) Funding for Urban Water Conservation

Metropolitan participated in various competitive grant solicitations to secure state funding. In February, Metropolitan submitted proposals to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to compete for a portion of \$6 million in funding for urban conservation projects, which was made available as part of CALFED and funded under Senate Bill 23 (SB 23). DWR notified Metropolitan that three of its projects were selected to receive a total of \$1.059 million in grant funding. As part of its administrative process, DWR has requested each recipient's governing body to formally adopt a resolution to accept the funding, to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to sign the contract, and to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to designate a project director.

Metropolitan was awarded:

- \$925,000 for rebates to residential consumers who buy water-efficient clothes washers,
- \$100,000 for new courses offering bilingual education on landscape water-use efficiency, and
- \$34,000 for the Regional Commercial Rebate Project.

The grant of \$925,000 would be directed to fund \$750,000 in clothes washer rebates (10,000 rebates at \$75 each) and \$175,000 would be directed toward project administration costs. Metropolitan would match this commitment with \$350,000 (10,000 rebates at \$35 each) in budgeted Conservation Credits for washer rebates as well as Metropolitan staff involvement for project administration and outreach.

The grant of \$100,000 would fund the development of three new bilingual education classes for landscape water-use efficiency and the videotaping of two existing courses. The new courses are Water Management for Property Managers, Basic Water Management, and Basic Hydraulics and Design Principles. CALFED funds would be matched by Metropolitan staff involvement to administer and manage the project.

The grant of \$34,000 would be used to augment the current Regional Commercial Rebate Project. The CALFED funds would be used to complement Conservation Credit funds, which are already budgeted for commercial rebates, and a grant from the Bureau of Reclamation.

AB 303 Funding for Groundwater Feasibility Study

On June 1, 2001, Metropolitan was awarded a \$250,000 grant by DWR for a feasibility study of the Upper Chuckwalla Groundwater Storage Project. The grant was made available under Assembly Bill 303, Local Groundwater Assistance Act of 2000 (AB 303), and funds were appropriated under SB 23. As part of its administrative process, DWR has requested each recipient's governing body to formally adopt a resolution to accept the funding, to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to sign the contract, and designate a project director.

The grant of \$250,000 would be directed to tasks related to the feasibility of the Upper Chuckwalla Storage Project as previously authorized by the Board. Grant funds would be directed toward groundwater quality monitoring, water level monitoring and risk assessment.

Policy

By Minute Item 43747, dated October 12, 1999, the Board authorized partnerships with state and federal agencies under Metropolitan's Conservation Credits Program.

By Minute Item 43397, dated February 9, 1999, the Board authorized the General Manager to enter into agreements to provide \$35 per water-efficient clothes washers.

By Minute Item 43225, October 13, 1998, the Board approved continuation of Large Landscape and Landscape Education Program.

By Minute Item 43928, dated March 14, 2000, the Board authorized a three-year agreement to provide enhanced commercial services under the Conservation Credits Program.

By Minute Item 44382, dated March 13, 2001, the Board authorized the General Manager to enter into an agreement in an amount not to exceed \$1.85 million for a feasibility investigation of a groundwater storage program in the Upper Chuckwalla Valley.

By Minute Item 43619, dated July 23, 1999, the Board adopted the Statement of Needs for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program directing staff to seek state and federal funding for Southern California projects in water quality, water recycling, water conservation, groundwater banking and watershed management programs.

CEQA

The acceptance of CALFED (SB 23) and AB 303 funding for conservation projects and a groundwater feasibility study, respectively, is not defined as a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), because it involves continuing administrative activities (Section 15378(b)(2) of the State CEQA Guidelines). In addition, the proposed action is not subject to CEQA because it involves government fiscal activities, which do not involve any commitment to any specific project, which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment (Section 15378(b)(4) of the State CEQA Guidelines).

The CEQA determination is that the acceptance of CALFED (SB 23) and AB 303 funding is not subject to CEQA per sections 15378(b)(2) and 15378(b)(4) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

Board Options/Fiscal Impacts

Option #1

Adopt CEQA determination. Adopt resolutions pertaining to acceptance of \$1.059 million in CALFED funding for three conservation projects and accept \$250,000 in AB 303 funding for a feasibility study of the Upper Chuckwalla Groundwater Storage project. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to enter into funding contracts and to designate the project directors.

Fiscal Impact: Provides \$1.309 million in state funding to Metropolitan.

Option #2

Do not adopt one or more of the resolutions to accept the grant funding. Adopt CEQA determination for any resolution approved to accept grant funding.

Fiscal Impact: Metropolitan would forfeit all or part of \$1.309 million in state funding.

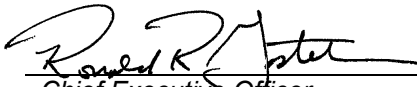
Staff Recommendation

Option #1



Stephen N. Arakawa
Manager, Water Resource Management

6/22/2001
Date



Ronald R. Foster
Chief Executive Officer

6/29/2001
Date

Attachment 1 - Resolution to accept funding for High-Efficiency Clothes-Washer Rebate Project

Attachment 2 - Resolution to accept funding for Bilingual Landscape Education Project

Attachment 3 - Resolution to accept funding for Regional Commercial Rebate Project

Attachment 4 - Resolution to accept funding for Upper Chuckwalla Groundwater Basin Feasibility Study

BLA #1122

RESOLUTION _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ACCEPTING FUNDING PURSUANT
TO CALFED FUNDS: BAY-DELTA PROGRAM (SB 23)**

FOR

HIGH-EFFICIENCY CLOTHES-WASHER REBATE PROJECT

RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California that pursuant and subject to all of the terms and provisions of legislative action, CALFED Funds: Bay-Delta Program (SB 23), to accept \$925,000 in grant funds from the California Department of Water Resources for the High-Efficiency Clothes-Washer Rebate Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Executive Officer of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is hereby authorized to sign contracts and designate a Project Director for the administration of the project and liaison to the California Department of Water Resources.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Secretary is hereby directed to file forthwith certified copies of this resolution with the Department of Water Resources.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California at its meeting held July 10, 2001.

Executive Secretary
The Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California

RESOLUTION _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ACCEPTING FUNDING PURSUANT
TO CALFED FUNDS: BAY-DELTA PROGRAM (SB 23)**

FOR

THE BILINGUAL LANDSCAPE EDUCATION PROJECT

RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California that pursuant and subject to all of the terms and provisions of legislative action, CALFED Funds: Bay-Delta Program (SB 23), to accept \$100,000 in grant funds from the California Department of Water Resources for the Bilingual Landscape Education Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Executive Officer of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is hereby authorized to sign contracts and designate a Project Director for the administration of the project and liaison to the California Department of Water Resources.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Secretary is hereby directed to file forthwith certified copies of this resolution with the Department of Water Resources.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California at its meeting held July 10, 2001.

Executive Secretary
The Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California

RESOLUTION _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ACCEPTING FUNDING PURSUANT
TO CALFED FUNDS: BAY-DELTA PROGRAM (SB 23)**

FOR

THE REGIONAL COMMERCIAL REBATE PROJECT

RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California that pursuant and subject to all of the terms and provisions of legislative action, CALFED Funds: Bay-Delta Program (SB 23), to accept \$34,000 in grant funds from the California Department of Water Resources for the Regional Commercial Rebate Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Executive Officer of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is hereby authorized to sign contracts and designate a Project Director for the administration of the project and liaison to the California Department of Water Resources.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Secretary is hereby directed to file forthwith certified copies of this resolution with the Department of Water Resources.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California at its meeting held July 10, 2001.

Executive Secretary
The Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California

RESOLUTION _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ACCEPTING FUNDING PURSUANT
TO LOCAL GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2000 (AB 303)**

FOR

UPPER CHUCKWALLA GROUNDWATER BASIN FEASIBILITY STUDY

RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California that pursuant and subject to all of the terms and provisions of the Local Groundwater Management Assistance Act of 2000 to accept \$250,000 in grant funds from the California Department of Water Resources for the Upper Chuckwalla Groundwater Basin Feasibility Study.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Executive Officer of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is hereby authorized to sign contracts and designate a Project Director for the administration of the project and liaison to the California Department of Water Resources.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Secretary is hereby directed to file forthwith certified copies of this resolution with the Department of Water Resources.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California at its meeting held July 10, 2001.

Executive Secretary
The Metropolitan Water District
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