

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

June 8, 2004 Board Meeting

**8-15**

**Subject**

Authorize co-payments of dues to the California Urban Water Conservation Council on behalf of water agencies within Metropolitan's service area

**Description**

This board letter requests authorization for the Chief Executive Officer to make payments to the California Urban Water Conservation Council for 50 percent of the dues of Council members within Metropolitan's service area, subject to a \$250,000 annual cap, beginning fiscal year 2003/04. This board letter does not change existing Administrative Code policy governing Metropolitan's direct dues payments to the Council.

In March 1999, the Board authorized Metropolitan to pay:

- Its dues to the California Urban Water Conservation Council; and
- Half the dues for Council members within Metropolitan's service area.

The Board approved annual payment of \$125,000 based on this principle. As agencies have joined the Council over the years, the total amount to be paid has increased beyond the original amount authorized. Metropolitan has not been paying a full 50 percent of agencies' dues for several years. The amounts paid have been disclosed to the Board in an annual report on organizational memberships.

The Council is an organization of principally urban water agencies and public interest groups that guide water conservation expectations and practices. It was formalized in a Memorandum of Understanding of Best Management Practices (BMP) signed in 1991 by three signatory groups: urban water suppliers, public interest groups and other interested parties. The organizational dues pay for support staff and consultants who carry out the Council's functions. The dues were voluntary, until this year, when they become mandatory. Metropolitan is working with the Council Steering Committee to evaluate the dues structure.

Because the Council is vital to implementing cost-effective water conservation in Metropolitan's service area, and Metropolitan typically pays up to 50 percent of the cost of regional conservation programs, Metropolitan's member agencies requested that Metropolitan pay 50 percent of their council dues, and their subagencies' dues.

Metropolitan's direct dues are subject to Administrative Code § 11202, which allows for increases of \$3,000 or 10 percent per year, whichever is less. There is no proposed change in this policy. Metropolitan's payments of direct dues have followed the Administrative Code provision.

The 50 percent cost share for other agencies would increase as new agencies join the Council. The proposed authorization for payment of 50 percent of dues for Council member agencies within Metropolitan's service area would be subject to a cap of \$250,000 annually.

The following table shows payments over the past three years:

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Metropolitan's Dues</b>	<b>50 Percent Share of Agencies' Dues</b>	<b>Total Payment</b>
2001/02	\$13,981	\$116,019	\$130,000
2002/03	\$15,379	\$151,547	\$166,926
2003/04	\$15,379	\$169,685	\$185,064

**Attachment 1** is a list of the agencies and the payment amounts for fiscal year 2003/04.

The benefits of Council dues include assisting water agencies in the implementation of conservation programs by:

- Providing a forum for developing balanced provisions in the statewide Best Management Practices for urban water conservation;
- Establishing a mechanism to avoid duplication and improve competitive bidding on evaluation studies;
- Hosting educational workshops for water agencies on conservation issues; and
- Managing and implementing statewide programs to achieve economies of scale.

The Council has provided assistance in state grant applications, including writing a statewide application for Proposition 13 funding for weather-based sprinkler controllers, for which Metropolitan was selected. Strategic relationships through the Council have assisted in the receipt of state grant funds for high-efficiency clothes washers. The Council also twice obtained funding to implement a Pre-Rinse Spray Head Program to retrofit restaurant dishwashing spray valves throughout California. The total of these three grants exceeds \$5 million to Metropolitan.

Through the co-payment of these dues, Metropolitan can fulfill part of its responsibility to provide financial and technical support to its member and retail agencies.

## **Policy**

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By Minute Item 37448, dated December 1988, the Board created Administrative Code § 11202, Payment of Dues and authorized department heads to approve payments.

By Minute Item 42559, dated August 1997, the Board increased the amount to \$3,000 that department heads could approve dues payments.

By Minute Item 43496, dated March 1999, the Board approved annual voluntary dues of \$125,000 to the California Urban Water Conservation Council, which included one-half of dues for Council's members within Metropolitan's service area.

## **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

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CEQA determination for Options #1 and #2:

The proposed actions on the funding components associated with the membership dues are not subject to CEQA because they involve government fiscal activities, which do not involve any commitment to any specific project that may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment (Section 15378(b)(4) of the State CEQA Guidelines). The proposed actions are also categorically exempt under the provisions of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines. The proposed actions involve the funding of memberships that may result in the minor modifications to existing public facilities or operating practices, along with the implementation of educational and training programs, with negligible or no expansion of use and no possibility of significantly impacting the physical environment. In addition, the proposed actions consist of basic data collection and resource evaluation activities, which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. This may be strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action, which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. Accordingly, the proposed actions qualify under Classes 1, 6, and 22 Categorical Exemptions (Sections 15301, 15306, and 15322 of the State CEQA Guidelines).

The CEQA determination is: Determine that the proposed actions are exempt from CEQA pursuant to Sections 15301, 15306, 15322, and 15378(b)(4) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

CEQA determination for Option #3:

None required

**Board Options/Fiscal Impacts**

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**Option #1**

Adopt the CEQA determination and authorize 50 percent of the dues for Council members within Metropolitan’s service area, subject to a \$250,000 annual cap.

**Fiscal Impact:** \$70,000 in 2004, not to exceed \$250,000 annually in future years without further board action.

**Option #2**

Adopt the CEQA determination and authorize 50 percent of dues for Metropolitan member agencies only, subject to a \$250,000 annual cap.

**Fiscal Impact:** \$70,000 in 2004, not to exceed \$250,000 annually in future years without further board action.

**Option #3**

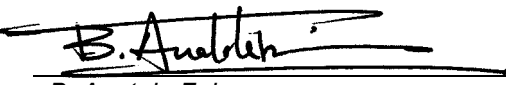
Do not authorize payment of Council dues.

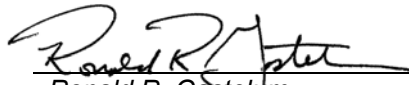
**Fiscal Impact:** None

**Staff Recommendation**

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Option #1

	5/20/2004
B. Anatole Falagan	<i>Date</i>
for Stephen N. Arakawa	
Manager, Water Resource Management	

	5/20/2004
Ronald R. Gastelum	<i>Date</i>
Chief Executive Officer	

**Attachment 1 – 2004 Contributions, Agencies in Metropolitan’s Service Area**

BLA #2982

### 2004 Contributions, Agencies in Metropolitan's Service Area

Organization Name	2004 Request	50% of Requests
Anaheim City Public Utilities Department	\$5,558.30	\$2,779.15
Burbank, City of, PSD	\$3,326.40	\$1,663.20
California Water Service Company	\$19,582.20	\$9,791.10
California-American Water Company (San Marino)	\$6,150.10	\$3,075.05
Camarillo, City of	\$2,550.90	\$1,275.45
Camrosa Water District	\$2,572.90	\$1,286.45
Compton, City of, Water Department	\$2,753.30	\$1,376.65
Corona ,City of, Water Utilities Department	\$3,909.40	\$1,954.70
Covina, City of	\$2,492.60	\$1,246.30
Cucamonga County Water District	\$4,170.10	\$2,085.05
East Orange County Water District	\$875.60	\$437.80
Eastern Municipal Water District	\$6,612.10	\$3,306.05
El Toro Water District	\$2,656.50	\$1,328.25
Escondido, City of	\$3,209.80	\$1,604.90
Fallbrook Public Utility District	\$2,553.10	\$1,276.55
Fountain Valley, City of	\$2,792.90	\$1,396.45
Fullerton, City of	\$3,646.50	\$1,823.25
Garden Grove, City of	\$3,763.10	\$1,881.55
Glendale, City of	\$4,005.10	\$2,002.55
Helix Water District	\$4,609.00	\$2,304.50
Huntington Beach, City of	\$4,341.70	\$2,170.85
Irvine Ranch Water District	\$5,525.30	\$2,762.65
Jurupa Community Services District	\$2,706.00	\$1,353.00
La Verne, City of	\$2,491.50	\$1,245.75
Las Flores Water Company	\$887.70	\$443.85
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District	\$3,021.70	\$1,510.85
Lincoln Avenue Water Company	\$2,257.20	\$1,128.60
Long Beach, City of	\$6,569.20	\$3,284.60
Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts	\$4,761.90	\$2,380.95
LADWP	\$39,102.80	\$19,551.40
Mesa Consolidated Water District	\$3,254.90	\$1,627.45
Monte Vista Water District	\$2,711.50	\$1,355.75
Moulton Niguel Water District	\$4,409.90	\$2,204.95
Oceanside, City of, Water Department	\$4,016.10	\$2,008.05
Olivenhain Municipal Water District	\$2,765.40	\$1,382.70
Otay Water District	\$3,449.60	\$1,724.80

### 2004 Contributions, Agencies in Metropolitan's Service Area

Organization Name	2004 Request	50% of Requests
Padre Dam Municipal Water District	\$3,005.20	\$1,502.60
Pasadena, City of	\$3,558.50	\$1,779.25
Pomona, City of	\$3,679.50	\$1,839.75
Poway, City of	\$2,770.90	\$1,385.45
Ramona Municipal Water District	\$2,477.20	\$1,238.60
Rincon Del Diablo MWD	\$2,453.00	\$1,226.50
Riverside, City of, Public Utilities	\$5,209.60	\$2,604.80
Rowland Water District	\$2,769.80	\$1,384.90
Rubidoux Community Services District	\$2,392.50	\$1,196.25
San Diego, City of	\$15,174.50	\$7,587.25
San Dieguito Water District	\$3,909.40	\$1,954.70
San Fernando, City of	\$2,284.70	\$1,142.35
San Juan Capistrano, City of	\$2,530.00	\$1,265.00
Santa Ana, City of	\$4,911.50	\$2,455.75
Santa Fe Irrigation District	\$2,499.20	\$1,249.60
Santa Monica, City of	\$2,968.90	\$1,484.45
Seal Beach, City of	\$2,083.40	\$1,041.70
South Coast Water District	\$2,592.70	\$1,296.35
Southern California Water Company	\$14,656.40	\$7,328.20
Sweetwater Authority	\$3,737.80	\$1,868.90
Thousand Oaks, City of	\$2,712.60	\$1,356.30
Torrance, City of, Water Division	\$3,379.20	\$1,689.60
Trabuco Canyon Water District	\$2,256.10	\$1,128.05
Upland, City of	\$3,025.00	\$1,512.50
Vallecitos Water District	\$2,762.10	\$1,381.05
Valley Center Municipal Water District	\$2,827.00	\$1,413.50
Ventura County Waterworks District #1	\$2,544.30	\$1,272.15
Vista Irrigation District	\$3,319.80	\$1,659.90
Walnut Valley Water District	\$3,317.60	\$1,658.80
Western MWD of Riverside	\$2,822.60	\$1,411.30
Calleguas Municipal Water District	\$3,821.40	\$1,910.70
Central Basin Municipal Water District	\$2,995.30	\$1,497.65
Elsinore Valley Water District	\$2,083.4	\$1,041.70
Foothill Municipal Water District	\$2,230.80	\$1,115.40
Inland Empire Utilities Agency	\$3,050.30	\$1,525.15
Municipal Water District of Orange County	\$6,459.20	\$3,229.60

### 2004 Contributions, Agencies in Metropolitan's Service Area

Organization Name	2004 Request	50% of Requests
Ontario, City of	\$3,829.85	\$1,914.93
San Diego County Water Authority	\$10,032.00	\$5,016.00
Three Valleys Municipal Water District	\$3,071.20	\$1,535.60
Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD	\$2,831.40	\$1,415.70
West Basin Municipal Water District	\$4,272.40	\$2,136.20
		<i>Total</i>
Total for MWDSC Agencies Dues 2004	\$339,370.55	\$169,685.28
MWDC	\$15,379.10	\$15,379.10
		<i>Grand Total</i>
Total for All	\$354,749.65	\$185,064.38