

- **Board of Directors**  
**Communications, Outreach and Legislation Committee**

December 14, 2004 Board Meeting

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**10-3**

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**Subject**

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Restructuring of the Community Partnering Program for fiscal year 2005/2006

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**Description**

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The Community Partnering Program was established in 1999 to provide criteria for sponsorships of water-related programs and events by a broad range of national, state, regional and local organizations. During the past five years, the CPP evaluated and recommended sponsorships to more than 500 nonprofit organizations. To provide a higher level of program flexibility and to increase opportunities for organizations to participate in this program, the CPP has eliminated the annual application deadline and has switched to an ongoing application process.

The restructured Community Partnering Program includes the following new elements:

- *Year-round application process:* Applications will be accepted throughout the year, through an online process for all new sponsorship requests.
- *Quarterly panel review and board approval:* Previously, the Board approved recommended sponsorships once a year; the revised process requires quarterly board reporting and approval of sponsorships over \$3,000.
- *Annual Board Report (detailing all sponsored programs and activities):* This is a new report, which consolidates information currently made available in monthly activity reports for the External Affairs Group; it will be presented at the end of each fiscal year.
- *Water Education Network:* This new grant program provides a higher level of sustained funding (over \$25,000), over a period of three to five years, specifically targeted to entities with educational missions including museums and outdoor education centers, which may adopt Metropolitan's programs and curriculum, increasing participation. Applicants will be presented to the Board for review and approval on a quarterly basis.
- *Increased level of recipient and staff feedback/tracking:* Feedback and tracking procedures have been modified to include written feedback from both CPP recipients and District staff.

Online applications for the revised program will be available as of May 1, 2005. Member agencies, educational institutions and community organizations will be informed of the restructured process from January–April 2005.

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**Policy**

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Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code § 11203: Participation in Projects or Programs Serving District Purposes

**Fiscal Impact**

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None

  
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Adán Ortega, Jr.  
Vice President, External Affairs

11/22/2004

Date

  
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Ronald R. Gastelum  
Chief Executive Officer

11/24/2004

Date

BLA #3345