



- Board of Directors
Engineering and Operations Committee

4/10/2012 Board Meeting

7-2

Subject

Appropriate \$120,000; and authorize (1) preliminary design to relocate a portion of the Orange County Feeder; and (2) an agreement with the city of Fullerton (Approp. 15441)

Description

This action authorizes preliminary design to relocate 1,100 feet of the Orange County Feeder within the city of Fullerton, and an agreement with Fullerton to perform the relocation.

Timing and Urgency

The city of Fullerton is planning a major street improvement project which will lower Raymond Avenue beneath the existing Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad tracks to improve safety, reduce traffic delays, and minimize disruption to rail operations. Metropolitan's Orange County Feeder lies within the public right-of-way along Raymond Avenue, and relocation of approximately 1,100 feet of pipeline is necessary to accommodate the improvement project. Since prior rights are held by the city of Fullerton, Metropolitan is required to relocate any portion of pipeline that would be impacted as a result of the street improvements. To minimize potential conflicts with the new construction and with other utilities, and to minimize delays in the project schedule, staff recommends that Metropolitan design the pipeline relocation and enter into an agreement with Fullerton for installation of the new line.

This project has been evaluated with Metropolitan's updated Capital Investment Plan (CIP) prioritization criteria, and is categorized as an Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Replacement project. Funds for this action are available within Metropolitan's capital expenditure plan for fiscal year 2011/12.

Background

The Orange County Feeder is a 41-mile-long pipeline which has reaches of welded steel pipe, precast concrete pipe, and prestressed concrete cylinder pipe. Its diameter varies from 33 to 42 inches. The Orange County Feeder delivers treated water from Metropolitan's Weymouth plant through primarily urban areas to its terminus at service connection CM -1 in the city of Newport Beach. The Orange County Feeder delivers water to the cities of Fullerton, Anaheim, and Santa Ana; the Three Valleys Municipal Water District; and the Municipal Water District of Orange County.

The city of Fullerton is proceeding with the Raymond Avenue Grade Separation project which will lower Raymond Avenue between Santa Fe and Ash Avenues as an underpass beneath the existing BNSF railroad tracks. The project will improve safety, reduce traffic delays, and minimize disruption to rail operations as a result of increased rail traffic from the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. The city of Fullerton is currently acquiring right-of-way for utility relocations. Other utilities that will require relocation due to the project include telephone, electrical, gas, cable, water, sanitary sewer, and storm drain lines. Construction is scheduled to commence in October 2013.

Approximately 1,100 feet of the Orange County Feeder lie within the public right-of-way along Raymond Avenue where the underpass is planned to be constructed. The Orange County Feeder was placed in the already existing

road pursuant to Section 142 of Metropolitan's Act. State law holds Metropolitan responsible for the cost of protecting or relocating the pipeline to make way for reasonable street improvements by the city of Fullerton. Since the street was first in time, the cost of the feeder relocation must be borne by Metropolitan. In order to complete the work in a timely manner, preliminary design should commence at this time.

Orange County Feeder Relocation – Preliminary Design Phase (\$120,000)

The planned project will relocate approximately 1,100 feet of the Orange County Feeder including air release valves, vacuum valves, and manholes. Staff recommends that Metropolitan enter into an agreement with Fullerton for the city's construction contractor to install the new pipeline. Under the agreement, Fullerton will provide Metropolitan with environmental documentation, permits, and new easements for the relocated pipeline at the city's cost. Metropolitan's obligation will include reimbursement of the direct costs for relocation of the Orange County Feeder, and a component of Fullerton's construction management costs.

Planned preliminary design phase activities include detailed analyses of the relocation alignment including proposed location of other utilities; verification of existing pipeline coordinates at connection locations; hydraulic analyses; review of the environmental documentation, easements, and permits provided by Fullerton; development of final design criteria; and preparation of a preliminary construction cost estimate. All preliminary design activities will be performed by Metropolitan staff.

This action appropriates \$120,000 and authorizes preliminary design and an agreement with the city of Fullerton for relocation of a portion of the Orange County Feeder. Requested funds include \$81,000 for preliminary design; and \$39,000 for review of environmental documentation, right-of way, and project management. Staff will return to the Board at a later date for authorization of final design and to appropriate funds for the construction.

This work will be performed under the Conveyance and Distribution System Rehabilitation Program - Phase 2 (Appropriation No. 15441), which was initiated in fiscal year 2001/02. Other projects authorized under Appropriation No. 15441 include the Box Springs Feeder Repairs and the West Valley Feeder Valve Structure Modifications. The total appropriated amount for this program will increase from \$38,419,000 to \$38,539,000.

This work has been evaluated and recommended by Metropolitan's CIP Evaluation Team, and funds are available within the fiscal year 2011/12 capital expenditure plan. See [Attachment 1](#) for the Financial Statement and [Attachment 2](#) for the Location Map.

Project Milestone

August 2012 – Completion of preliminary design of the Orange County Feeder relocation

Policy

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 5108: Appropriations

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

CEQA determination for Option #1:

The proposed action consists of funding, preliminary design, and contractual arrangements for the Orange County Feeder Relocation project, and is therefore categorically exempt under the provisions of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines. The proposed action consists 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. According, the proposed action qualifies as a Class 6 Categorical Exemption (Section 15306 of the State CEQA Guidelines). In addition, part of the proposed action, funding and contractual matters, is not subject to CEQA because it involves other 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: Determine that pursuant to CEQA, the proposed action qualifies under a Categorical Exemption (Class 6, Section 15306 of the State CEQA Guidelines) and Section 15378(b)(4) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

CEQA determination for Option #2:

None required

Board Options

Option #1

Adopt the CEQA determination and

- a. Appropriate \$120,000;
- b. Authorize preliminary design to relocate a portion of the Orange County Feeder; and
- c. Authorize an agreement with the city of Fullerton to perform the relocation.

Fiscal Impact: \$120,000 in capital funds under Approp. 15441

Business Analysis: This option will protect Metropolitan’s assets and allow Fullerton to perform the pipeline relocation as part of its street improvement project, thus minimizing potential conflicts with the new construction and with other utilities.

Option #2

Do not proceed with preliminary design at this time and continue discussions with Fullerton regarding terms of the relocation.

Fiscal Impact: None

Business Analysis: Under this option, Metropolitan would not enter into an agreement with Fullerton to install the new pipeline. Staff would perform a detailed assessment of other alternatives for completing the relocation, including an option for Metropolitan to manage a separate construction contract. This option would increase the risk of delays to the City of Fullerton’s project, which could increase Metropolitan’s exposure to cost penalties. In addition, there would be an increased risk of utility interferences and construction delays, which would also lead to increased costs.

Staff Recommendation

Option #1

	3/26/2012
Gordon Johnson Manager/Chief Engineer Engineering Services	Date
	3/28/2012
Jeffrey Kightlinger General Manager	Date

Attachment 1 – Financial Statement

Attachment 2 – Location Map

Financial Statement for Conveyance and Distribution System Rehabilitation Program – Phase 2

A breakdown of Board Action No. 42 for Appropriation No. 15441 to relocate the Orange County Feeder¹ is as follows:

	Previous Total Appropriated Amount (Apr. 2012)	Current Board Action No. 42 (Apr. 2012)	New Total Appropriated Amount
Labor			
Studies & Investigations	\$ 2,535,000	\$ 81,000	\$ 2,616,000
Final Design	3,023,293	-	3,023,293
Owner Costs (Program mgmt., right-of-way)	4,588,200	37,000	4,625,200
Submittals Review & Record Drwgs	193,250	-	193,250
Construction Inspection & Support	1,860,550	-	1,860,550
Metropolitan Force Construction	8,224,510	-	8,224,510
Materials & Supplies	1,746,400		1,746,400
Incidental Expenses	837,900	2,000	839,900
Professional/Technical Services	2,002,000	-	2,002,000
Equipment Use	237,200	-	237,200
Contracts	11,169,562	-	11,169,562
Remaining Budget	2,001,135		2,001,135
Total	\$ 38,419,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 38,539,000

Funding Request

Program Name:	Conveyance and Distribution System Rehabilitation Program – Phase 2		
Source of Funds:	Revenue Bonds, Replacement and Refurbishment or General Funds		
Appropriation No.:	15441	Board Action No.:	42
Requested Amount:	\$ 120,000	Capital Program No.:	15441-I
Total Appropriated Amount:	\$ 38,539,000	Capital Program Page No.:	281
Total Program Estimate:	\$ 106,335,000	Program Goal:	I-Infrastructure Reliability

¹ This is the initial appropriation for the Orange County Feeder Relocation project.

Orange County Feeder

