



- Board of Directors  
*Communications and Legislation Committee*

6/11/2019 Board Meeting

**8-4**

**Subject**

Express support and seek amendments to SB 45 (Allen, D-Santa Monica): Wildfire, Drought, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

**Executive Summary**

SB 45 (Allen, D-Santa Monica) (**Attachment 1**) would place the Wildfire, Drought, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020 on the ballot for voter approval. If approved, it would authorize \$4.3 billion in general obligation bonds to finance projects to restore fire damaged areas; reduce wildfire risk; create healthy forests and watersheds; reduce climate impact on urban areas and vulnerable populations; protect water supply and water quality; protect rivers, lakes and streams; reduce flood risk; protect fish and wildlife from climate impacts; improve climate resilience of agricultural lands; and protect coastal lands and resources. Subsequent voter approval would enact SB 45 as Division 46 of the Public Resources Code. The impetus for this bond is the severe wildfires, drought, flooding, and mudslides experienced by California in the past several years.

**Details**

**Background**

As currently amended, SB 45 would authorize the issuance of \$4.3 billion in general obligation bonds with funding, contingent upon approval by California voters, to be allocated as follows:

<b>SB 45 (Allen), As Amended April 4, 2019</b>		
<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Chapter Title</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2	Restoring Areas Impacted by Fire, Flood, Drought, and Other Climate Impacts	\$200,000,000
3	Reducing Wildfire Risk in Wildland Urban Interface	\$1,000,000,000
4	Reducing Fire Risk Through the Creation of Healthy Forests and Watersheds	\$600,000,000
5	Reducing Climate Risks in Urban Areas and on Vulnerable Populations	\$300,000,000
6	Protecting Water Supply and Water Quality	\$600,000,000
7	Protecting Rivers, Lakes, and Streams	\$300,000,000
8	Flood Management Projects	\$300,000,000
9	Protecting Fish and Wildlife from Climate Impacts	\$300,000,000
10	Improving Climate Resilience of Agricultural Lands	\$200,000,000
11	Protecting Coastal Lands, Resources, Water, and Wildlife	\$300,000,000
12	Planning for Fire, Flood, Drought, and Other Climate Impacts	\$150,000,000
13	Climate Resilience Workforce Development	\$50,000,000
	Total	\$4,300,000,000

**Attachment 2** provides a summary and analysis of each these funding chapters of SB 45 as currently amended.

### Impacts to Metropolitan

SB 45 would provide the necessary funding to help California become more resilient to climate change. If passed by the voters, SB 45 investments would reduce the impacts and severity of natural disasters resulting from climate change, including catastrophic wildfire, floods, mudslides, and drought. The measure would do this by investing in projects to reduce fire risk and restore already damaged areas; restore and protect impacted wetlands, watersheds, waterways, coastal resources, and fish and wildlife populations; reduce climate change impacts in local communities and on vulnerable populations; and improve the resiliency of the state's water supplies and agricultural lands.

Metropolitan and its member agencies would benefit from provisions in SB 45 including:

- Protection and restoration of watersheds, wet meadows, floodplains, and wetlands, including efforts to prevent increased sedimentation in streams which could assist with the restoration of projects in the Delta and Sacramento watersheds;
- Multi-benefit flood protection projects that restore habitat for fish and provide downstream flood control, vegetation management, and recreation enhancements;
- Source water conservation and restoration activities in watersheds integral to California's water infrastructure;
- Funding for projects pursuant to the Salton Sea Management Program to address environmental and local needs;
- Development of local water supplies through stormwater capture and water use efficiency to reduce reliance on imported water supplies;
- Funding to extend service, consolidation and new treatment for chronically non-compliant water systems serving disadvantaged communities; and
- Funding to improve water quality that could assist in controlling quagga mussels and studying the environmental significance of constituents of emerging concern.

These are all worthy provisions that Metropolitan should support. In light of the Governor's priorities to ensure safe and affordable drinking water for all Californians, ecosystem restoration in the Delta and its tributaries, and greater regional water supplies through projects like recycling, adequate funding in the bond should be set aside for these priorities.

### **Recommended Amendments**

Staff recommends that funding priorities within Chapter 6 should be further refined. Of the \$600 million of funds in Chapter 6, adequate funds should be designated for safe drinking water projects benefiting disadvantaged communities to bridge the historic funding gap such communities face to solve ongoing safe drinking water problems.

Additionally, staff recommends adding funds to Chapter 6 for competitive funding for recycled water projects. This recommendation would be in line with one of Metropolitan's state priorities in its 2019 State Legislative Priorities and Principles, which states: "Support actions to initiate, expedite and secure funding of the proposed Regional Recycled Water Program and related projects."

For implementing voluntary agreements, staff recommends that some of the funding in Chapter 9 be designated to support habitat projects. These projects will contribute to species recovery and viability due to changes from climate change and sea level rise.

### **Policy**

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Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 11104: Delegation of Responsibilities.

By Minute Item 51418, dated December 11, 2018, the Board adopted the State Legislative Priorities and Principles for 2019, as amended.

By Minute Item 50611, dated October 11, 2016, the Board adopted the Legislative Policy Principle on Watershed Management.

By Minute Item 49165, dated August 21, 2012, the Board adopted the amended Source Water Quality Protection Policy Principle.

By Minute Item 46191, dated April 12, 2005, the Board adopted Drinking Water Quality Policy Principles.

By Minute Item 46637, dated April 11, 2006, the Board adopted policy principles regarding long-term actions for the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta as described in the Revised Board Letter 8-3, as described in the revised letter signed by the General Manager on April 4, 2006.

## California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

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### CEQA determination for Option #1:

The proposed action is not defined as a project under CEQA because it involves legislative proposals that do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment (Public Resources Code Section 21065 and Section 15378(b)(1) of the State CEQA Guidelines).

### CEQA determination for Option #2:

None required.

## Board Options

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### Option #1

Authorize the General Manager to express support and seek amendments to SB 45.

**Fiscal Impact:** If approved by the voters, the wide variety of projects to be funded by the state have the potential to increase the reliability of local and imported water supplies to Metropolitan's service area, thereby potentially reducing future Metropolitan expenditures to achieve similar levels of reliability.

**Business Analysis:** If approved by the voters, state funding would be available for various water projects and projects to protect and restore habitat, ecosystem functions, and flood protection facilities supporting Metropolitan's imported water supplies.

### Option #2

Take no position on SB 45.

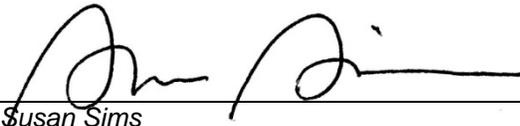
**Fiscal Impact:** If not approved by the voters, Metropolitan may need to expend additional fiscal resources in the future to maintain its needed level of water supply reliability.

**Business Analysis:** If not approved by the voters, there would be less funding for water supply, water quality, flood management, habitat restoration and protection, drought resiliency, and climate resiliency.

**Staff Recommendation**

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Option #1

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Sims  
External Affairs, Manager

6/6/2019  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey Nightlinger  
General Manager

6/6/2019  
Date

**Attachment 1 – Senate Bill 45 as amended on April 4, 2019**

**Attachment 2 – Summary and Analysis of Senate Bill 45**

Ref# ea12663043

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 4, 2019

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 5, 2019

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**SENATE BILL****No. 45**

**Introduced by Senator Allen**  
**(Coauthor: Senator Stern)**

December 3, 2018

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An act to add Division 46 (commencing with Section 80200) to the Public Resources Code, relating to public resources, by providing the funds necessary therefor through an election for the issuance and sale of bonds of the State of California and for the handling and disposition of those funds, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 45, as amended, Allen. Wildfire, Drought, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020.

The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018, approved by the voters as Proposition 68 at the June 5, 2018, statewide primary direct election, authorizes the issuance of bonds in ~~an amount of \$4,000,000,000~~ *the amount of \$4,100,000,000* pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a drought, water, parks, climate, coastal protection, and outdoor access for all program.

This bill would enact the Wildfire, Drought, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in ~~an~~ *the* amount of \$4,300,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects to restore fire damaged areas, reduce wildfire risk, create healthy forest and watersheds, reduce climate impacts on urban areas and vulnerable

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populations, protect water supply and water quality, protect rivers, lakes, and streams, reduce flood risk, protect fish and wildlife from climate impacts, improve climate resilience of agricultural lands, and protect coastal lands and resources.

This bill would provide for the submission of these provisions to the voters at the \_\_\_\_\_, 2020, \_\_\_\_\_ election.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Division 46 (commencing with Section 80200)  
2 is added to the Public Resources Code, to read:

3

4 DIVISION 46. WILDFIRE, DROUGHT, AND FLOOD  
5 PROTECTION BOND ACT OF 2020

6

7 CHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

8

9 80200. This division shall be known, and may be cited, as the  
10 Wildfire, Drought, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020.

11 80201. The people of California find and declare all of the  
12 following:

13 (a) California's changing climate creates increased risk of  
14 catastrophic wildfire, drought, floods, severe heat events, intense  
15 rain events, sea level rise, as well as impacts to agriculture, water  
16 supply and water quality, and the health of the forests, watersheds,  
17 and wildlife.

18 (b) These risks and impacts vary by region and can overwhelm  
19 the resources of local governments that must cope with severe  
20 climate change-related events.

21 (c) Reducing vulnerability to fire, flood, drought, and other  
22 climate-change related events require a statewide investment to  
23 increase climate resilience of communities and natural systems.

24 80202. For purposes of this division, the following definitions  
25 apply:

26 (a) "Committee" means the Wildfire, Drought, and Flood  
27 Protection Finance Committee created pursuant to Section 80402.

1 (b) “Conservation actions on private lands” means actions  
2 undertaken on private land with the consent of the landowner that  
3 involve the ~~adaptive~~ *adaptive* flexible management ~~of and~~  
4 protection of natural resources in response to changing conditions  
5 and threats to habitat and wildlife and that result in habitat  
6 conditions on private lands that, when managed dynamically over  
7 time, contribute to the long-term health and resiliency of vital  
8 ecosystems and enhanced wildlife populations. The actions  
9 undertaken may include the acquisition of conservation interest  
10 or fee interests in the private land.

11 (c) “Disadvantaged community” means a community with a  
12 median household income less than 80 percent of the statewide  
13 average.

14 (d) “Fund” means the Wildfire, Drought, and Flood Protection  
15 Fund created pursuant to Section 80210.

16 (e) “Natural infrastructure project” means a project for the  
17 preservation or restoration of ecological systems, or utilization of  
18 engineered systems that use ecological processes, to increase  
19 resiliency to climate change, contribute to the long-term health  
20 and resiliency of ~~vital~~ ecosystems, and enhance wildlife  
21 populations.

22 (f) (1) “Protection” means any of the following:

23 (A) Actions necessary to prevent harm or damage to persons,  
24 property, or natural, cultural, or historic resources.

25 (B) Actions to improve access to public open-space areas.

26 (C) Actions to allow for the continued use and enjoyment of  
27 property or natural, cultural, or historic resources.

28 (2) For purposes of ~~the~~ *this* subdivision, “actions” include, but  
29 are not limited to, site monitoring, development, restoration,  
30 preservation, interpretation, and acquisition, including both ~~fee-title~~  
31 *fee title* and easements.

32 (g) (1) “Restoration” means the improvement of physical  
33 structures or facilities, and, in the case of natural systems and  
34 landscape features, includes, but is not limited to, any of the  
35 following:

36 (A) The control of erosion.

37 (B) Stormwater capture and storage, or to otherwise reduce  
38 stormwater pollution.

39 (C) The control and elimination of invasive species.

40 (D) The planting of native species.

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- 1 (E) The removal of waste and debris.  
2 (F) Prescribed burning.  
3 (G) Fuel hazard reduction.  
4 (H) Fencing out threats to existing or restored natural resources.  
5 (I) Road elimination.  
6 (J) Improving instream, riparian, or managed wetland habitat  
7 conditions.  
8 (K) Other plant and wildlife habitat improvement to increase  
9 the natural system value of the property, or coastal or ocean  
10 resources.
- 11 (2) "Restoration" includes activities described in subdivision  
12 (b) of Section 79737 of the Water Code.
- 13 (3) "Restoration" also includes activities, such as the planning,  
14 monitoring, and reporting that are necessary to ensure successful  
15 implementation of the restoration objectives.
- 16 (h) "Socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher" has the same  
17 meaning as set forth in Section 512 of the Food and Agricultural  
18 Code.
- 19 (i) "State board" means the State Air Resources Board.
- 20 (j) "Tribe" means a federally recognized Native American tribe  
21 or a nonfederally recognized Native American tribe listed on the  
22 California Tribal Consultation List maintained by the Native  
23 American Heritage Commission.
- 24 (k) "Vulnerable population" means a subgroup of population  
25 within a region or community that faces a significantly greater  
26 likelihood of injury from extreme climate events or natural  
27 disasters, including, but not limited to, wildfire, extreme heat, and  
28 flood, than the general population of that region or community.
- 29 (l) "Water board" means the State Water Resources Control  
30 Board.
- 31 80203. An amount that equals not more than 5 percent of the  
32 funds allocated for a grant program pursuant to this division may  
33 be used to pay the administrative costs of that program.
- 34 80204. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), up to 10  
35 percent of funds allocated for each program funded by this division  
36 may be expended, including, but not limited to, by grants, for  
37 planning and monitoring necessary for the successful design,  
38 selection, and implementation of the projects authorized under that  
39 program. This section shall not otherwise restrict funds ordinarily  
40 used by an agency for "preliminary plans," "working drawings,"

1 and “construction” as defined in the annual Budget Act for a capital  
2 outlay project or grant project. Planning may include feasibility  
3 studies for environmental site cleanup that would further the  
4 purpose of a project that is eligible for funding under this division.  
5 Monitoring may include measuring greenhouse gas emissions  
6 reductions and carbon sequestration associated with program  
7 expenditures under this division.

8 (b) Funds used for planning projects that benefit disadvantaged  
9 communities or socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers may  
10 exceed 10 percent of the funds allocated if the state agency  
11 administering the moneys determines that there is a need for the  
12 additional funding.

13 80205. (a) Moneys allocated pursuant to this division shall  
14 not be used to fulfill any environmental mitigation requirements  
15 imposed by law.

16 (b) Subdivision (a) does not preclude the use of moneys awarded  
17 pursuant to this division for purposes of providing safe drinking  
18 water or improving water quality.

19 80206. Funds provided pursuant to this division, and any  
20 appropriation or transfer of those funds, shall not be deemed to be  
21 a transfer of funds for the purposes of Chapter 9 (commencing  
22 with Section 2780) of Division 3 of the Fish and Game Code.

23 80207. For grants awarded for projects that serve a  
24 disadvantaged community or socially disadvantaged farmers or  
25 ranchers, the administering entity may provide advanced payments  
26 in the amount of 25 percent of the grant award to the recipient to  
27 initiate the project in a timely manner. The administering entity  
28 shall adopt additional requirements for the recipient of the grant  
29 regarding the use of the advanced payments to ensure that the  
30 moneys are used properly.

31 80208. (a) The proceeds of bonds issued and sold pursuant to  
32 this division, exclusive of refunding bonds issued and sold pursuant  
33 to Section 80412, shall be deposited in the Wildfire, Drought, and  
34 Flood Protection Fund, which is hereby created in the State  
35 Treasury.

36 (b) Proceeds of bonds issued and sold pursuant to this division  
37 shall be allocated according to the following schedule:

38 (1) Two hundred million dollars (\$200,000,000) for restoring  
39 areas impacted by wildfire, flood, drought, or other natural ~~disasters~~  
40 ~~resulting from climate change.~~ *disasters.*

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1 (2) One billion dollars (\$1,000,000,000) for reducing wildfire  
2 risk.

3 (3) Six hundred million dollars (\$600,000,000) for creating  
4 healthy forests and watersheds.

5 (4) Three hundred million dollars (\$300,000,000) for reducing  
6 climate impacts on urban areas and vulnerable populations.

7 (5) Six hundred million dollars (\$600,000,000) for protecting  
8 water supply and water quality.

9 (6) Three hundred million dollars (\$300,000,000) for protecting  
10 rivers, lakes, and streams.

11 (7) Three hundred million dollars (\$300,000,000) for  
12 multibenefit flood management projects.

13 (8) Three hundred million dollars (\$300,000,000) for protecting  
14 fish and wildlife and natural resources from climate impacts.

15 (9) Two hundred million dollars (\$200,000,000) for improving  
16 climate resilience of agricultural lands.

17 (10) Three hundred million dollars (\$300,000,000) for protecting  
18 coastal lands, waters, natural resources, and wildlife.

19 (11) One hundred fifty million dollars (\$150,000,000) for  
20 improving regional climate resilience.

21 (12) Fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000) for enhancing workforce  
22 development.

23 80209. The Legislature may enact legislation necessary to  
24 implement programs funded by this division.

25

26 CHAPTER 2. RESTORING AREAS IMPACTED BY FIRE, FLOOD,  
27 DROUGHT, AND OTHER CLIMATE IMPACTS

28

29 80220. The sum of two hundred million dollars (\$200,000,000)  
30 shall be available for appropriation by the Legislature to the Office  
31 of Emergency Services for the restoration of areas impacted by  
32 wildfire, flood, drought, or other natural ~~disasters resulting from~~  
33 ~~climate change~~ *disasters*. Eligible projects include, but are not  
34 limited to, grants to public agencies for revegetation and other  
35 projects to reduce erosion, flood, and mudslide risk, ~~clean up~~  
36 *cleanup* of damaged or hazardous sites, upgrades to damaged or  
37 destroyed infrastructure to *enhance public safety and* make the  
38 infrastructure more resilient to future fire, flood, and other natural  
39 disasters, and habitation restoration on both public and private  
40 lands. Funds authorized by this chapter may be used to meet

1 matching grant requirements for the Federal Emergency  
2 Management Agency or other federal mitigation and resiliency  
3 grant programs.

4

5 CHAPTER 3. REDUCING WILDFIRE RISK IN WILDLAND URBAN  
6 INTERFACE

7

8 80230. The sum of one billion dollars (\$1,000,000,000) shall  
9 be available for appropriation by the Legislature for the reduction  
10 in the risk of wildfire threat to lives, properties, and natural habitats.

11 80231. Of the funds made available by Section 80230, the sum  
12 of \_\_\_\_ dollars (\$\_\_\_\_) shall be available to the Office of  
13 Emergency Services for a prehazard mitigation grant program.  
14 The grant program shall be allocated to assist local and state  
15 agencies to leverage additional funds, including matching grants  
16 from federal agencies. Eligible projects include, but are not limited  
17 to, the following:

18 (a) Grants to local and state agencies for projects that reduce  
19 wildfire risks to people and property consistent with approved  
20 local hazard mitigation plans.

21 (b) Grants to local and state agencies for improvements to  
22 warning and evacuation systems and improvements in fire and  
23 disaster response communication and infrastructure.

24 (c) Grants to fire safe councils for development and  
25 implementation of community wildfire protection plans that  
26 promote and incentivize structural and community retrofit projects,  
27 defensible space, fuel breaks, and other projects to improve fire  
28 resilience.

29 80232. (a) Of the funds made available by Section 80230, the  
30 sum of \_\_\_\_ dollars (\$\_\_\_\_) shall be available to the Natural  
31 Resources Agency and to its departments, boards, and  
32 conservancies for projects to reduce the risk of wildfire spreading  
33 into populated areas from wildlands and to support the development  
34 and implementation of ~~regional priority plans~~ *the Regional Fire  
35 and Forest Capacity Program* to improve forest health and fire  
36 resiliency. The Natural Resources Agency shall identify the highest  
37 risk areas *that are near communities* and recommend to the  
38 Legislature allocations by region based on wildfire risk and affected  
39 population. Eligible projects include, but are not limited to, ~~either~~  
40 of the following:

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1 (a)

2 (1) Restoration of natural ecosystem functions in high fire hazard  
3 areas with preference given to those projects that provide multiple  
4 benefits, including, but not limited to, protection of agricultural  
5 lands, habitat protection, watershed improvement, and  
6 science-based vegetation treatment programs that provide long-term  
7 reduction of wildfire risk and protect lives and properties.

8 (b)

9 (2) Other projects that reduce wildfire risk to populated areas,  
10 protect habitat, ~~wildfire~~, *wildlife*, or watershed resources, and  
11 increase wildfire resilience through enhancing the long-term  
12 ecological health of natural systems.

13 (3) *Grants to fire safe councils and resource conservation*  
14 *districts for development and implementation of community wildfire*  
15 *protection plans that promote and create incentives for structural*  
16 *and community retrofit projects, defensible space, and other*  
17 *projects to improve fire resilience.*

18 (b) *Grants made for the purposes of fire risk reduction shall be*  
19 *secured with management plans, conservation easements, or other*  
20 *agreements that ensure the benefits of the proposed project persist*  
21 *longer than the debt incurred pursuant to this division. Granting*  
22 *agencies shall incorporate a preference for projects that maintain*  
23 *permanent benefits.*

24

25 CHAPTER 4. REDUCING FIRE RISK THROUGH THE CREATION  
26 OF HEALTHY FORESTS AND WATERSHEDS

27

28 80240. (a) The sum of six hundred million dollars  
29 (\$600,000,000) shall be available for appropriation by the  
30 Legislature to the Natural Resources Agency and its departments,  
31 boards, and conservancies for the protection, restoration, and  
32 improvement of forests, including redwoods, conifers, oak  
33 woodlands, chaparral, deserts, coastal forests, and other habitat  
34 types to ensure the long-term ecological health of these natural  
35 systems, to reduce risk of extreme wildfires, floods, and other  
36 climate impacts, and to improve water supply and water quality,  
37 carbon sequestration, community access, and other public benefits.  
38 ~~Projects shall be consistent with the California Forest Carbon Plan,~~  
39 based on the best available science regarding forest and ecosystem  
40 restoration, and shall be undertaken to protect and restore

1 ecological values and to promote conditions that are more resilient  
2 to wildfire, climate change, and other disturbances. Eligible  
3 projects include, but are not limited to, grants to assist with the  
4 following:

5 (a)

6 (1) Protection and restoration of large, intact forests and other  
7 natural landscape, prevention of forest fragmentation through  
8 subdivision, and restoration of natural fire regimes and climate  
9 resilient conditions.

10 (b)

11 (2) Protection and restoration of watersheds, wet meadows,  
12 ~~floodplains~~, *flood plains*, and wetlands, including efforts to prevent  
13 increased sedimentation in streams, and loss of groundwater  
14 retention capacity. *Funds expended pursuant to this paragraph on  
15 the central valley flood plain restoration shall be dedicated to the  
16 implementation of multibenefit flood management projects that  
17 reduce risks to public safety and provide improvements to wildlife  
18 habitat.*

19 (c)

20 (3) Improvement of forest and ecosystem resilience, and  
21 reduction of ~~tree-pest~~ *tree mortality from pests* and impacts from  
22 invasive species.

23 (d)

24 (4) Infrastructure investments consistent with the  
25 recommendations developed pursuant to Section 717.

26 (e)

27 (5) Establishment of regional forest and ecosystem restoration  
28 projects that include plant nurseries, reforestation, and revegetation  
29 projects, to promote climate resilient ecosystems in climate stressed  
30 areas.

31 (f)

32 (6) Development and implementation of plans developed as  
33 part of the Natural Resources Agency's Regional Forest and Fire  
34 Capacity Program.

35 (b) *Grants made for the purposes of fire risk reduction shall be  
36 secured with management plans, conservation easements, or other  
37 agreements that ensure the benefits of the proposed project persist  
38 longer than the debt incurred pursuant to this division. Granting  
39 agencies shall incorporate a preference for projects that maintain  
40 permanent benefits.*

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1 CHAPTER 5. REDUCING CLIMATE RISKS IN URBAN AREAS AND  
2 ON VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

3  
4 80250. The sum of three hundred million dollars  
5 (\$300,000,000) shall be available for appropriation by the  
6 Legislature for the reduction of climate impacts on urban areas  
7 and vulnerable populations. Eligible projects include, but are not  
8 limited to, the following:

9 (a) Multibenefit green infrastructure projects that reduce heat  
10 island effects.

11 (b) Establishment of cooling centers, *clean air centers*, hydration  
12 stations, and facilities to safeguard vulnerable populations from  
13 extreme heat ~~events~~. *events and other disasters*.

14 (c) Improvements to public infrastructure that provide climate  
15 resilience benefits, including, but not limited to, sustainable  
16 stormwater capture technologies, permeable pavement projects,  
17 rain gardens, cool roofs, and stormwater detention basins.

18 (d) Improvements to city, county, and regional park  
19 infrastructure to promote resilience and adaptation or the promotion  
20 and enhancement of natural resources and water conservation and  
21 efficiencies on local and regional public park lands.

22

23 CHAPTER 6. PROTECTING WATER SUPPLY AND WATER QUALITY

24

25 80260. The sum of six hundred million dollars (\$600,000,000)  
26 shall be available for appropriation by the Legislature for the  
27 protection of California's water supply and water quality. Eligible  
28 projects include, but are not limited to, the following:

29 (a) (1) Safe drinking water projects that include either of the  
30 following:

31 (A) Grants and loans for public water system infrastructure  
32 improvements and related actions to meet safe drinking water  
33 standards and ensure affordable drinking water.

34 (B) Upgrade projects for at-risk rural and small community  
35 water systems.

36 (2) Preference shall be given to projects that provide treatment  
37 for contamination or access to ~~an~~ *a viable, long-term* alternative  
38 drinking water source or sources for small community water  
39 systems or state small water systems ~~in disadvantaged communities~~  
40 whose drinking water source is impaired by chemical, including

1 nitrate contaminants, and other health hazards identified by the  
2 water board. Eligible recipients are public water systems or public  
3 agencies that serve disadvantaged communities.

4 (b) Projects that improve water quality, promote water  
5 conservation, improve water use efficiency, or capture, treat, and  
6 use stormwater flows.

7 (c) Sustainable groundwater management projects that use  
8 captured stormwater and floodwaters for recharge purposes.

9 (d) Source watershed conservation and restoration activities  
10 consistent with Section 108.5 of the Water Code.

11 (e) Projects that improve water data management through  
12 enhanced quality and availability of water data.

13

14 CHAPTER 7. PROTECTING RIVERS, LAKES, AND STREAMS

15

16 80270. The sum of three hundred million dollars  
17 (\$300,000,000) shall be available for appropriation by the  
18 Legislature for the protection and restoration of rivers, lakes, and  
19 streams to improve climate resiliency. To the extent feasible,  
20 preference shall be given to natural infrastructure projects. Eligible  
21 projects include, but are not limited to, the following:

22 (a) Multibenefit river and urban stream parkway projects that  
23 improve climate resilience, watershed protection, and urban access.

24 (b) Climate resilience projects identified in the Lake Tahoe  
25 Environmental Improvement Program.

26 (c) Projects pursuant to the Salton Sea Management Program  
27 that provide climate resilience benefits.

28 (d) Multibenefit watershed protection or restoration projects  
29 that improve climate resilience within the Los Angeles River  
30 Watershed and are implemented pursuant to Section 79508 of the  
31 Water Code.

32 (e) Watershed protection and restoration project pursuant to *the*  
33 *Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Program* established  
34 pursuant to Section 33345.1.

35 (f) Projects that restore anadromous fish access to historic  
36 spawning grounds by implementing passage improvements ~~at to~~  
37 ~~resolve migration barriers through mechanisms approved by state~~  
38 ~~and federal wildlife agencies:~~ *related to the central valley rim*  
39 *dams consistent with the Natural Resources Agency's California*

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1 *Water Action Plan and the 2014 Central Valley Salmon and*  
2 *Steelhead Recovery Plan.*

3

4 CHAPTER 8. FLOOD MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

5

6 80280. The sum of three hundred million dollars  
7 (\$300,000,000) shall be available for appropriation by the  
8 Legislature to the Department of Water Resources for multibenefit  
9 flood management projects that reduce risks to public safety and  
10 provide improvement to wildlife habitat. Eligible project types  
11 include, but are not limited to, levee setbacks, connecting rivers  
12 with flood plains, enhancement of ~~floodplains~~ *flood plains* and  
13 bypasses, offstream groundwater recharge, and land acquisitions  
14 and easements necessary for these project types. To the extent  
15 feasible, project selection shall be guided by approved local hazard  
16 mitigation plans. Eligible projects include the following:

17 (a) Multibenefit flood management projects that reduce the  
18 impacts of climate change on *inland or* coastal infrastructure,  
19 communities, or ecosystems, and provide ecosystem, wildlife, or  
20 groundwater recharge benefits.

21 (b) Natural infrastructure projects to reduce flood intensity and  
22 slow watershed runoff.

23 (c) Projects that capture, clean, or otherwise productively use  
24 stormwater.

25 (d) Projects that provide matching grants for, or otherwise  
26 leverage funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency  
27 or other federal mitigation and resiliency funding.

28 (e) Projects that provide benefits to anadromous and other native  
29 fish species along migratory corridors.

30 (f) Projects that improve the ability of lands to buffer extreme  
31 precipitation events.

32 (g) Projects that restore streams to a more natural state by  
33 removing culverts and paved channels to enable more stormwater  
34 to be absorbed and gradually released by soil and plants.

35 (h) *Projects to assist in implementation of approved sustainable*  
36 *groundwater management plans.*

1 CHAPTER 9. PROTECTING FISH AND WILDLIFE FROM CLIMATE  
2 IMPACTS

3

4 80290. The sum of three hundred million dollars  
5 (\$300,000,000) shall be available for appropriation by the  
6 Legislature to the Wildlife Conservation Board for the protection  
7 of California's fish and wildlife resources in response to changing  
8 climate conditions and the highly variable habitat needs of fish  
9 and wildlife. Eligible projects include, but are not limited to, the  
10 following:

11 (a) Salmon and other fishery preservation and habitat restoration  
12 projects, including implementation of recovery actions identified  
13 by the Department of Fish and Wildlife or the National Marine  
14 Fisheries Service, and aligned with planning guidance under the  
15 federal Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management  
16 Act (16 U.S.C. Sec. 1801 et seq.; *seq.*), *including projects to*  
17 *benefit fall-run Chinook salmon.*

18 (b) Projects to protect and restore wetlands and wildlife habitat,  
19 including, but not limited to, refuges for migratory birds.

20 (c) Projects for the protection and restoration of wildlife  
21 corridors and habitat linkages, including land acquisition and the  
22 ~~construction, repair, or~~ *construction or repair of corridors, or the*  
23 *removal of barriers.*

24 (d) Land acquisition projects that protect land from development.

25 (e) Restoration and stewardship projects that restore or manage  
26 the land to improve its resilience to climate impacts and natural  
27 disasters.

28 (f) Projects for conservation actions on private lands, including,  
29 but not limited to, incentives and technical assistance for private  
30 landowners to implement conservation actions.

31 (g) Projects for the protection of threatened and endangered  
32 species, including projects within natural community conservation  
33 plans or habitat conservation plans. Projects may include land  
34 acquisition through either easement or fee title.

35 (h) Projects that include acquisition of water from willing sellers,  
36 acquisition of land that includes water rights or right to water, and  
37 other projects that provide water for fish and wildlife or improve  
38 aquatic or riparian habitat conditions.

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1 (i) Project for the development and implementation of regional  
2 conservation investment strategies that include climate resilience  
3 elements.

4 (j) ~~Multibenefit water diversion projects that improve~~  
5 ~~agricultural diversion efficiency and eliminate entrainment of~~  
6 ~~migratory fish species consistent with the Bay-Delta Water Quality~~  
7 ~~Control Plan requirements and the Recovery Plan For The~~  
8 ~~Evolutionarily Significant Units of Sacramento River Winter-run~~  
9 ~~Chinook Salmon and Central Valley Spring-Run Chinook Salmon~~  
10 ~~and The Distinct Population Segment of California Central Valley~~  
11 ~~Steelhead, issued by and the federal National Marine Fisheries~~  
12 ~~Service in July 2014. Service's 2014 Central Valley Salmon and~~  
13 ~~Steelhead Recovery Plan.~~

14  
15 CHAPTER 10. IMPROVING CLIMATE RESILIENCE OF  
16 AGRICULTURAL LANDS  
17

18 80300. The sum of one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000)  
19 shall be available for appropriation by the Legislature to the  
20 Department of Food and Agriculture for the improvement in  
21 climate resilience of agricultural lands. Eligible projects include,  
22 but are not limited to, the following:

23 (a) Grants to promote practices on farms and ranches that  
24 improve agricultural and soil health, carbon sequestration, ~~and~~  
25 erosion control, ~~water quality~~ *quality*, and water retention.

26 (b) Grants to promote on-farm water use efficiency with a focus  
27 on multibenefit projects that improve groundwater management,  
28 surface water use efficiency, or that improve drought and flood  
29 tolerance.

30 (c) Invasive species projects and restoration activities  
31 recommended by the Invasive Species Council of California.

32 80301. (a) The sum of one hundred million dollars  
33 (\$100,000,000) shall be available for appropriation by the  
34 Legislature to the Department of Conservation for the protection  
35 and restoration of farmland and rangelands, including the  
36 acquisition of fee title or easements, that improve climate resilience  
37 and provide multiple benefits. Eligible projects include, but are  
38 not limited to, the following:

1 (1) Grants for the protection and restoration of agricultural lands,  
2 including supporting the implementation of approved sustainable  
3 groundwater management plans. *lands.*

4 (2) Restoration activities to control or eradicate invasive species.

5 (b) In awarding funds for farmland *and rangeland* projects  
6 pursuant to this section, the Department of Conservation shall give  
7 preference to projects for small- and medium-sized farms.

8  
9 CHAPTER 11. PROTECTING COASTAL LANDS, RESOURCES,  
10 WATERS, AND WILDLIFE

11  
12 80310. The sum of three hundred million dollars  
13 (\$300,000,000) shall be available for appropriation by the  
14 Legislature for the protection of coastal lands, beaches, bluffs,  
15 grassland, chaparral, shrubland, forests, and the waters, natural  
16 resources, trails and public access facilities, and wildlife in coastal  
17 areas from climate impacts. Eligible projects include, but are not  
18 limited to, projects to restore wetlands and forests, to ameliorate  
19 sea level rise and temperature increase, to reduce risks of coastal  
20 flooding or inundation, or to sustain native species populations  
21 impacted by various effects of climate change, including, but not  
22 limited to, ocean acidification and warming seas.

23 80311. (a) Of the funds provided in this chapter, the sum of  
24 \_\_\_\_ dollars (\$\_\_\_\_) shall be available for projects identified by  
25 the San Francisco Bay Area Restoration Authority to address sea  
26 level rise, flood management, and wetlands restoration.

27 (b) Of the funds provided in this chapter, the sum of \_\_\_\_ dollars  
28 (\$\_\_\_\_) shall be available for projects identified by the California  
29 Coastal Conservancy.

30 (c) Projects funded pursuant to this chapter shall be consistent  
31 with the sea level rise guidelines established by the California  
32 Coastal Commission and the State Coastal Conservancy, if  
33 applicable.

34  
35 CHAPTER 12. PLANNING FOR FIRE, FLOOD, DROUGHT, AND  
36 OTHER CLIMATE IMPACTS

37  
38 80320. The sum of one hundred fifty million dollars  
39 (\$150,000,000) shall be available to the Strategic Growth Council  
40 to fund the development and implementation of regional climate

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1 strategies to improve the resiliency of local communities and  
2 natural resources to the impacts of climate change and to help local  
3 communities and natural resources adapt to a changing climate.

4 80321. (a) The Strategic Growth Council shall collaborate  
5 with state conservancies, regional climate collaboratives, and public  
6 agencies from each region of the state to determine appropriate  
7 geographic boundaries for regional and subregional strategies. The  
8 formation of the regions may be based on, or adapted from, the  
9 nine regions identified in California's Fourth Climate Change  
10 Assessment and shall cover the entire geographic area of California.

11 (b) Each regional strategy shall include an assessment of climate  
12 vulnerabilities and risks and identification of environmental,  
13 economic, and social climate vulnerabilities, including impacts to  
14 vulnerable populations. Relevant regional or local plans may be  
15 used to develop the assessment.

16 (c) Of the funds made available pursuant to this chapter, not  
17 less than one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) shall be  
18 available for competitive grants for the implementation of regional  
19 climate strategies.

20

21 CHAPTER 13. CLIMATE RESILIENCE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

22

23 80330. (a) The sum of fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000) shall  
24 be available for appropriation by the Legislature for resiliency and  
25 natural disaster prevention and restoration projects and programs  
26 that promote workforce development and career pathway  
27 opportunities for careers in fire prevention and management,  
28 watershed restoration, forestry, forest and vegetation management,  
29 park and open-space operations and management, fisheries  
30 management, and nature-based recreation and tourism, and  
31 sustainable forest products industries.

32 (b) (1) Of the moneys made available pursuant to this chapter,  
33 up to thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000) shall be available for  
34 appropriation by the Legislature to the California Conservation  
35 Corps for purposes specified in subdivision (a).

36 (2) The California Conservation Corps may expend up to 50  
37 percent of the funds made available pursuant to paragraph (1) as  
38 grants to certified local conservation corps for purposes specified  
39 in subdivision (a).

## CHAPTER 14. FISCAL PROVISIONS

1  
2  
3 80400. (a) Bonds in the total amount of four billion three  
4 hundred million dollars (\$4,300,000,000) and any additional bonds  
5 authorized, issued, and appropriated in accordance with this  
6 division pursuant to other provisions of law, not including the  
7 amount of any refunding bonds issued in accordance with Section  
8 80412, may be issued and sold to provide a fund to be used for  
9 carrying out the purposes expressed in this division and to  
10 reimburse the General Obligation Bond Expense Revolving Fund  
11 pursuant to Section 16724.5 of the Government Code. The bonds,  
12 when sold, issued, and delivered, shall be and constitute a valid  
13 and binding obligation of the State of California, and the full faith  
14 and credit of the State of California is hereby pledged for the  
15 punctual payment of both the principal of, and interest on, the  
16 bonds as the principal and interest become due and payable.

17 (b) The Treasurer shall sell the bonds authorized by the  
18 committee pursuant to this section. The bonds shall be sold upon  
19 the terms and conditions specified in a resolution to be adopted  
20 by the committee pursuant to Section 16731 of the Government  
21 Code.

22 80401. The bonds authorized by this division shall be prepared,  
23 executed, issued, sold, paid, and redeemed as provided in the State  
24 General Obligation Bond Law (Chapter 4 (commencing with  
25 Section 16720) of Part 3 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government  
26 Code), as amended from time to time, and all of the provisions of  
27 that law, except subdivisions (a) and (b) of Section 16727 of the  
28 Government Code, apply to the bonds and to this division.

29 80402. (a) Solely for the purpose of authorizing the issuance  
30 and sale, pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law  
31 (Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 16720) of Part 3 of Division  
32 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code), of the bonds authorized by  
33 this division, the Wildfire, Drought, and Flood Protection Finance  
34 Committee is hereby created. For purposes of this division, the  
35 Wildfire, Drought, and Flood Protection Finance Committee is the  
36 “committee” as that term is used in the State General Obligation  
37 Bond Law.

38 (b) The committee consists of the Director of Finance, the  
39 Treasurer, the Controller, the Secretary of the Natural Resources  
40 Agency, and the executive director of the Strategic Growth

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1 Council. Notwithstanding any other law, any member may  
2 designate a representative to act as that member in that member's  
3 place for all purposes, as though the member were personally  
4 present.

5 (c) The Treasurer shall serve as the chairperson of the  
6 committee.

7 (d) A majority of the committee may act for the committee.

8 80403. The committee shall determine whether or not it is  
9 necessary or desirable to issue bonds authorized by this division  
10 in order to carry out the actions specified in this division and, if  
11 so, the amount of bonds to be issued and sold. Successive issues  
12 of bonds may be authorized and sold to carry out those actions  
13 progressively, and it is not necessary that all of the bonds  
14 authorized to be issued be sold at any one time.

15 80404. For purposes of the State General Obligation Bond  
16 Law, "board," as defined in Section 16722 of the Government  
17 Code, means the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency.

18 80405. There shall be collected each year and in the same  
19 manner and at the same time as other state revenue is collected,  
20 in addition to the ordinary revenues of the state, a sum in an amount  
21 required to pay the principal of, and interest on, the bonds each  
22 year. It is the duty of all officers charged by law with any duty in  
23 regard to the collection of the revenue to do and perform each and  
24 every act that is necessary to collect that additional sum.

25 80406. Notwithstanding Section 13340 of the Government  
26 Code, there is hereby appropriated from the General Fund in the  
27 State Treasury, for the purposes of this division, an amount that  
28 will equal the total of the following:

29 (a) The sum annually necessary to pay the principal of, and  
30 interest on, bonds issued and sold pursuant to this division, as the  
31 principal and interest become due and payable.

32 (b) The sum that is necessary to carry out the provisions of  
33 Section 80409, appropriated without regard to fiscal years.

34 80407. The board may request the Pooled Money Investment  
35 Board to make a loan from the Pooled Money Investment Account,  
36 including other authorized forms of interim financing that include,  
37 but are not limited to, commercial paper, in accordance with  
38 Section 16312 of the Government Code for the purpose of carrying  
39 out this division. The amount of the request shall not exceed the  
40 amount of the unsold bonds that the committee has, by resolution,

1 authorized to be sold for the purpose of carrying out this division,  
2 excluding refunding bonds authorized pursuant to Section 80412,  
3 less any amount loaned and not yet repaid pursuant to this section  
4 and withdrawn from the General Fund pursuant to Section 80409  
5 and not yet returned to the General Fund. The board shall execute  
6 those documents required by the Pooled Money Investment Board  
7 to obtain and repay the loan. Any amounts loaned shall be  
8 deposited in the fund to be allocated in accordance with this  
9 division.

10 80408. Notwithstanding any other provision of this division,  
11 or of the State General Obligation Bond Law, if the Treasurer sells  
12 bonds that include a bond counsel opinion to the effect that the  
13 interest on the bonds is excluded from gross income for federal  
14 tax purposes under designated conditions or is otherwise entitled  
15 to any federal tax advantage, the Treasurer may maintain separate  
16 accounts for the bond proceeds invested and for the investment  
17 earnings on those proceeds, and may use or direct the use of those  
18 proceeds or earnings to pay any rebate, penalty, or other payment  
19 required under federal law or take any other action with respect  
20 to the investment and use of those bond proceeds, as may be  
21 required or desirable under federal law in order to maintain the  
22 tax-exempt status of those bonds and to obtain any other advantage  
23 under federal law on behalf of the funds of this state.

24 80409. For the purposes of carrying out this division, the  
25 Director of Finance may authorize the withdrawal from the General  
26 Fund of an amount or amounts not to exceed the amount of the  
27 unsold bonds that have been authorized by the committee to be  
28 sold for the purpose of carrying out this division, excluding  
29 refunding bonds authorized pursuant to Section 80412, less any  
30 amount loaned pursuant to Section 80407 and not yet repaid and  
31 any amount withdrawn from the General Fund pursuant to this  
32 section and not yet returned to the General Fund. Any amounts  
33 withdrawn shall be deposited in the fund to be allocated in  
34 accordance with this division. Any moneys made available under  
35 this section shall be returned to the General Fund, with interest at  
36 the rate earned by the moneys in the Pooled Money Investment  
37 Account, from proceeds received from the sale of bonds for the  
38 purpose of carrying out this division.

39 80410. All moneys deposited in the fund that are derived from  
40 premium and accrued interest on bonds sold pursuant to this

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1 division shall be reserved in the fund and shall be available for  
2 transfer to the General Fund as a credit to expenditures for bond  
3 interest, except that amounts derived from premiums may be  
4 reserved and used to pay the cost of bond issuance before any  
5 transfer to the General Fund.

6 80411. Pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section  
7 16720) of Part 3 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code,  
8 the cost of bond issuance shall be paid or reimbursed out of the  
9 bond proceeds, including premiums, if any. To the extent the cost  
10 of bond issuance is not paid from premiums received from the sale  
11 of bonds, these costs shall be allocated proportionally to each  
12 program funded through this division by the applicable bond sale.

13 80412. The bonds issued and sold pursuant to this division  
14 may be refunded in accordance with Article 6 (commencing with  
15 Section 16780) of Chapter 4 of Part 3 of Division 4 of Title 2 of  
16 the Government Code, which is a part of the State General  
17 Obligation Bond Law. Approval by the voters of the state for the  
18 issuance of the bonds under this division shall include approval  
19 of the issuance of any bonds issued to refund any bonds originally  
20 issued under this division or any previously issued refunding bonds.  
21 Any bond refunded with the proceeds of a refunding bond as  
22 authorized by this section may be legally defeased to the extent  
23 permitted by law in the manner and to the extent set forth in the  
24 resolution, as amended from time to time, authorizing that refunded  
25 bond.

26 80413. The proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by this  
27 division are not “proceeds of taxes” as that term is used in Article  
28 XIII B of the California Constitution, and the disbursement of these  
29 proceeds is not subject to the limitations imposed by that article.

30 SEC. 2. Section 1 of this act shall take effect upon the approval  
31 by the voters of the Wildfire, Drought, and Flood Protection Bond  
32 Act of 2020.

33 SEC. 3. Section 1 of this act shall be submitted to the voters  
34 at the \_\_\_\_, 2020, statewide \_\_\_\_ election in accordance with  
35 provisions of the Government Code and the Elections Code  
36 governing the submission of a statewide measure to the voters.

37 SEC. 4. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the  
38 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within  
39 the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into  
40 immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

- 1 In order to fund wildfire, drought, and flood protection programs
- 2 at the earliest possible date, it is necessary that this act take effect
- 3 immediately.

O

## **Attachment 2**

### **Summary and Analysis of SB 45**

As summarized below, Metropolitan and its member agencies could benefit from many of the provisions within SB 45. Note that Chapter 1 of SB 45 presents the general provisions of the bill and does not include any funding.

#### *Chapter 2 – Restoring Areas Impacted by Fire, Flood, and Drought, and Other Climate Impacts – \$200 million*

Chapter 2 funds the restoration of areas impacted by wildfire, flood, drought, or other natural disasters and may be of interest to agencies that have responsibilities for fire protection, flood management, and/or debris flow management, for projects such as: revegetation; reduction of erosion, flood, and mudslide risk; upgrades to damaged or destroyed infrastructure; and habitation restoration.

#### *Chapter 3 – Reducing Wildfire Risk in Wildland Urban Interface – \$1 billion*

Chapter 3 provides funds for reducing wildfire risk that threatens lives, property, and natural habitats and may be of interest to agencies that have fire protection responsibilities, with eligible projects including, but not limited to: reducing wildfire risks to people and property consistent with approved local hazard mitigation plans; improvements to local warning and evacuation systems; improvements to fire and disaster response communication and infrastructure; and funding fire safe councils for the development and implementation of community wildfire protection plans.

#### *Chapter 4 – Reducing Fire Risk through the Creation of Healthy Forests and Watersheds – \$600 million*

Chapter 4 funds the protection and restoration of watersheds, wet meadows, floodplains, and wetlands, including efforts to prevent increased sedimentation in streams, and loss of groundwater retention capacity could assist restoration projects in the Delta watershed and/or the Sacramento watershed, rendering State Water Project supplies more reliable.

The funding is consistent with Metropolitan's support and participation in:

- *Voluntary Agreements to Improve Habitat and Flow in the Delta and its Watersheds* – a state Natural Resources Agency-led effort to negotiate voluntary agreements that support the environmental objectives identified in the ongoing Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan update process through a broad set of flow and non-flow actions, while protecting water supply reliability.
- *Sacramento Valley Salmon Resiliency Strategy* – a state science-based effort to address specific near- and long-term needs of Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon (winter-run), Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon (spring-run), and California Central Valley steelhead (steelhead.)
- *Delta Smelt Resiliency Strategy* – a state science-based effort to voluntarily address both immediate and near-term needs of Delta Smelt, to promote their resiliency to drought conditions and future variations in habitat conditions.
- *California EcoRestore* – an initiative to help coordinate and advance at least 30,000 acres of critical habitat restoration in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) by 2020.

In addition, this Chapter identifies climate resiliency, water quality, and water supply as desired outcomes from forest/watershed restoration projects consistent with Metropolitan's Legislative Policy Principle on Watershed Management.

Funding for this chapter may also interest member agencies and subagencies that have fire protection responsibilities and manage watersheds that may be affected by fires and by floods.

*Chapter 5 – Reducing Climate Risks in Urban Areas and on Vulnerable Populations – \$300 million*

Chapter 5 funds the reduction of climate impacts on urban areas and vulnerable populations with eligible projects including sustainable stormwater capture technologies, permeable pavement projects, rain gardens, stormwater detention basins, and park infrastructure improvements for natural resources and water conservation and efficiencies. Metropolitan, member agencies, and subagencies could look for opportunities to obtain funding for the identified water conservation and water use efficiency and stormwater projects.

Agencies with municipal responsibilities may also be interested in other funded projects in this chapter, including: green infrastructure projects reducing heat island effects, cooling centers, hydration stations, facilities to safeguard vulnerable populations from extreme heat events, and cool roofs, as well as the previously identified park infrastructure improvements for natural resources and water conservation and efficiencies.

*Chapter 6 – Protecting Water Supply and Water Quality – \$600 million*

Chapter 6 provides funding for protecting California's water supply and water quality, with projects including:

- Safe drinking water projects by public water systems or public agencies that serve disadvantaged communities;
- Projects that improve water quality, promote water conservation, improve water use efficiency, or capture, treat, and use stormwater flows;
- Sustainable groundwater management projects that use captured stormwater and floodwaters for recharge purposes;
- Source water conservation and restoration activities in watersheds integral to California's water infrastructure; and
- Projects that improve water data management through enhanced quality and availability of water data.

Notably, there is no identified funding for recycled water projects.

The proposed provisions of this bill can bridge the funding gap to solve drinking water issues facing disadvantaged communities, consistent with efforts of Metropolitan, the Association of California Water Agencies, and the California Municipal Utilities Association.

This chapter also provides funding for projects to improve water quality that could assist Metropolitan's quagga mussel program. In addition, the potential impacts of constituents of emerging concern (CECs) on California's ecosystem are a critical water and environmental management issue. Research is needed to identify which CECs to monitor, what analytical methods to use, and the cost of implementing the program.

The proposed funding could also help Metropolitan promote water conservation and improve water use efficiency, helping to reduce water demand.

Funding to improve water data management through enhanced quality and availability of water data could fund Metropolitan's legal requirement to install accurate flow meters on water diversions in the Delta.

*Chapter 7 – Protecting Rivers, Lakes, and Streams – \$300 million*

Chapter 7 provides funding for protection and restoration of rivers, lakes, and streams to improve climate resiliency, with preference given to natural infrastructure projects. Metropolitan could benefit from the following eligible projects:

- Projects that restore anadromous fish access to historic spawning grounds by implementing passage improvements to resolve migration barriers related to the central valley rim dams

consistent with the Natural Resources Agency's California Water Action Plan and the 2014 Central Valley Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan; and

- Projects under the Salton Sea Management Program that provide climate resilience benefits.

Communities in Metropolitan's service area within the Los Angeles River Watershed could benefit from the proposed funding for multi-benefit watershed protection or restoration projects improving climate resilience within that watershed.

Also, agencies may have an interest in the funding provided for multi-benefit river and urban stream parkway projects that improve climate resilience, watershed protection, and urban access.

#### *Chapter 8 – Flood Management Projects – \$300 million*

Chapter 8 provides funding for multi-benefit flood management projects that reduce risks to public safety and provide improvement to wildlife habitat, including levee setbacks, connecting rivers with flood plains, enhancement of flood plains and bypasses, offstream groundwater recharge, and land acquisitions and easements necessary for such efforts. Metropolitan could benefit from the funding of multi-benefit flood management projects if that included setback levees in the Delta or Delta watershed that not only protect public safety but also benefit sensitive salmon species by providing floodplain habitat for cover from predators. Also, as a Delta landowner, Metropolitan could benefit if funds for flood management were used on setback levees that improve flood protection and provide fish habitat.

Other eligible projects include:

- Natural infrastructure project to reduce flood intensity and slow watershed runoff;
- Capturing, cleaning, or otherwise productively using stormwater;
- Providing matching grants for, or otherwise leverage funding from, the Federal Emergency Management Agency or other federal mitigation and resiliency funding;
- Providing benefits to anadromous and other native fish species along migratory corridors;
- Improving the ability of lands to buffer extreme precipitation events;
- Restoring streams to a more natural state by removing culverts and paved channels to enable more stormwater to be absorbed and gradually released by soil and plants; and
- Helping implement approved sustainable groundwater management plans

#### *Chapter 9 – Protecting Fish and Wildlife from Climate Impacts – \$300 million*

Chapter 9 provides funds to protect fish and wildlife resources in response to climate change and to their highly variable habitat needs. Metropolitan could benefit from proposed funding to improve connectivity between floodplain habitat and rivers, to acquire conservation easements or fee title to lands that help benefit listed fish species, and to acquire water from willing sellers that enhance in-stream beneficial uses. Also, as a Delta landowner, Metropolitan could benefit from funding projects that improve agricultural diversion efficiency and eliminate entrainment of migratory fish species.

The eligible projects under this chapter include, but are not limited to:

- Salmon and other fishery preservation and habitat restoration projects;
- Protection and restoration of wetlands and wildlife habitat, including, but not limited to, refuges for migratory birds;
- Protection and restoration of wildlife corridors and habitat linkages including land acquisition and the construction or repair of corridors, or the removal of barriers;
- Land acquisition that protect land from development;
- Restoration and stewardship that restore or manage land to improve its resilience to climate impacts and natural disasters;
- Conservation action on private lands;

- Protection of threatened and endangered species, including projects within natural community conservation plans or habitat conservation plans, including land acquisition;
- Acquisition of water from willing sellers, acquisition of land that includes water rights or right to water, and providing water for fish and wildlife or improve aquatic or riparian habitat conditions;
- Development and implementation of regional conservation investment strategies that include climate resilience elements; and
- Initiation of multi-benefit projects that improve agricultural diversion efficiency and eliminate entrainment of migratory fish species.

*Chapter 10 – Improving Climate Resilience of Agricultural Lands – \$200 million*

Chapter 10 funds improving the climate resilience of agricultural lands and protecting and restoring farmland and rangeland, including:

- Practices on farms and ranches that improve agricultural and soil health, carbon sequestration, and erosion control, water quality and water retention;
- On-farm water use efficiency with a focus on multi-benefit projects that improve groundwater management, surface water use efficiency, or that improve drought and flood tolerance;
- Invasive species projects and restoration activities;
- Protection and restoration of agricultural lands (small- and mid-sized farms); and
- Restoration activities to control or eradicate invasive species (small- and mid-sized farms.)

Metropolitan could benefit from funding for control and eradication of invasive species, including nutria, which can threaten levee integrity.

*Chapter 11 – Protecting Coastal Lands, Resources, Waters, and Wildlife – \$300 million*

Coastal agencies and their communities may have an interest in this chapter for protection of coastal lands, resources, waters, and wildlife, with eligible projects to restore wetlands and forests; ameliorate sea level rise and temperature increase; reduce the risks of coastal flooding or inundation; or sustain native species populations affected by various effects of climate change, including, but not limited to, ocean acidification and warming seas.

Projects shall be consistent with the sea level rise guidelines established by the California Coastal Commission and the State Coastal Conservancy, if applicable.

*Chapter 12 – Planning for Fire, Flood, Drought, and Other Climate Impacts – \$150 million*

Chapter 12 funds the development and implementation of regional climate strategies to improve the resiliency of local communities and natural resources to the impacts of climate change and to help local communities and natural resources adapt to a changing climate. Public agencies, as well as state conservancies and regional climate collaboratives, could participate in regional and subregional strategies with the Strategic Growth Council. Each regional strategy would include an assessment of climate vulnerabilities and risks and identification of environmental, economic, and social climate vulnerabilities, including impacts to vulnerable populations. It is unclear if there is a role for public agencies such as Metropolitan and its agencies for participation in such regional and subregional strategies, and if funding could be made directly to Metropolitan and its agencies, or if such grants would go to the more traditional regional urban planning entities. Regardless, Metropolitan and its agencies should monitor the Strategic Growth Council's efforts to develop and implement regional climate strategies should this bond measure become law.

*Chapter 13 – Climate Resilience Workforce Development – \$50 million*

Chapter 13 funds resiliency and natural disaster prevention and restoration projects and programs that promote workforce development and career pathway opportunities for careers in: fire prevention and management; watershed restoration; forestry; forest and vegetation management; park and open-space

operations and management; fisheries management; nature-based recreation and tourism; and sustainable forest products industries. A portion of the funding would be available to the California Conservation Corps which may fund grants to certified local conservation corps. Metropolitan and its agencies may have opportunities to work with the California Conservation Corps and grant-funded certified local conservation corps on projects of joint benefit for climate resiliency.