



# Benefits of Co-Funding Alliance for Water Efficiency Dues for Metropolitan Agencies

Water Planning and Stewardship

Item 8-3

October 7, 2019

# Alliance for Water Efficiency & the California Water Efficiency Partnership



# Background on the Organizations

- The Alliance for Water Efficiency (AWE)
  - National water efficiency organization
  - Activities include advocacy, research and training
- California Water Efficiency Partnership (CalWEP)
  - The California Chapter of AWE

Together advancing urban water management through member-driven programming



# Membership Benefits

- Research partnerships
- Modeling and tracking tools
- One-on-one technical assistance
- Comprehensive resource library
- Webinars, trainings & publications



# Co-Funding Membership Dues

## Background

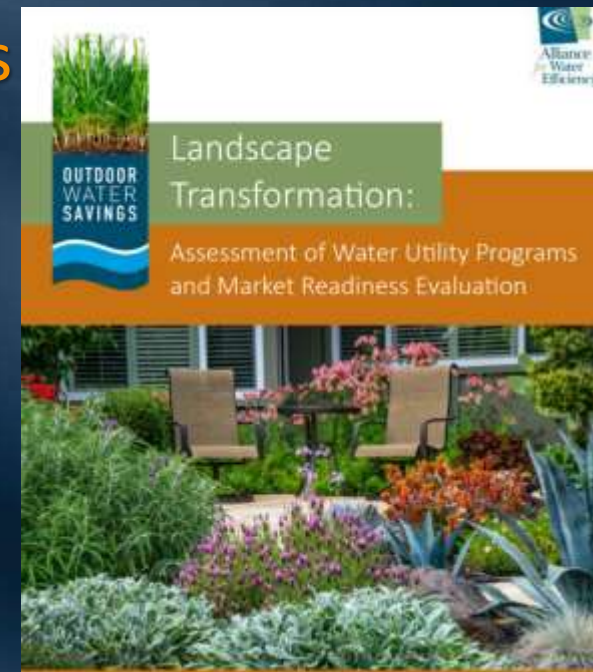
- Board approved co-funding dues for the California Urban Water Conservation Council (CUWCC)
- Metropolitan stopped co-funding agency dues and joined new national organization (AWE) and state organization (CalWEP)
- Did not re-established co-funding agency dues
  - **Other wholesalers continued co-funding dues**
    - San Diego County Water Authority
    - Inland Empire Utilities Agency
- Requesting re-authorization to co-fund agency dues for the new organizations

# Benefits of Co-funding Agency Dues

- Increased membership in Metropolitan service area will amplify the region's voice
  - CalWEP/AWE working to advance statewide conservation compliance framework
    - Senate Bill 606 and Assembly Bill 1668
  - Allows more local agencies to be involved in state conservation planning
- Stronger partnerships
  - Help advance regional conservation initiatives

# Metropolitan Board Involvement with AWE and CalWEP

- Metropolitan serves on Boards and committees of both organizations
  - Leadership positions with both AWE/CalWEP
    - Boards of Directors
    - Research and Program Committees
- AWE and CalWEP boards/committees provide general to the organizations



# Dues Structures for AWE and CalWEP

- Retail agency based on number of connections
- Wholesale agency based on water deliveries
- Dues for both retail and wholesale agencies capped



# Proposed Dues Payment Protocol

- Agencies within Metropolitan's service area would pay the first 50% of dues
  - Dues paid directly to CalWEP for both organizations on calendar year basis
  - Members of CalWEP must also join AWE
- Metropolitan would pay the balance of agency dues up to \$325,000 annually
  - Almost 70 current members within Metropolitan
  - Anticipate more agencies will join as a result
- Members must be in Metropolitan service area

# Board Options

- Option #1

- Authorize 50 percent of the dues for AWE and CalWEP members within Metropolitan's service area, subject to a \$325,000 annual cap

- Option #2

- Do not authorize payment of 50 percent of the dues for AWE and CalWEP members' within Metropolitan's service area

# Staff Recommendations

- Option #1

