



Approve Sponsorship of the California Water Data Consortium

Water Planning and Stewardship Committee

Item 7-5

December 9, 2019

Requested Action:

- Authorize \$200,000 to allow Metropolitan to become a founding member of the California Open Water Data Consortium

Data is Transforming Water Management

- Technology and Innovation are accelerating throughout the water industry
 - New technologies are generating more data and new problem-solving opportunities
- Access to water data can be challenging:
 - Where to look?
 - Different conventions
 - Poor documentation



The “Open Data” Frontier

- Open Data is data that anyone can access, use or share
- The Internet and World Wide Web are common vehicles for sharing and exploring these data
- Data is organized to be useful and usable



AB 1755: Open and Transparent Water Data Act of 2016

- Calls for the development of protocols for data sharing and access to government information
- Seeks to foster a stakeholder-driven process
- Creates the Water Data Administration Fund to pay for the cost of collecting, managing and improving water and ecological data
- Sets implementation goals

Developments Since AB 1755 Passed

DWR, Water Quality Monitoring Council,
Water Resources Control Board, and Fish and Wildlife



Redstone Strategy Group
Water Foundation



Advisory Council



Recommendation for
California Water Data Consortium



Consortium Organization



Benefits to Metropolitan

- Improved access to government data
- Opportunities for reducing the burden of submitting and extracting data
- Build consensus on the use of water data
- Early engagement with State agencies
- Input on open data structures and content
- Enhance Metropolitan's role as a leading innovator

Current Funding Status

● Current Non-State Funding Partners

Water Agencies	Other Stakeholders
Moulton Niguel WD	S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation
Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD	Water Foundation
Kern River GW Authority	Kern River Watershed Coalition

● Funding goal:

- \$1.5 million for startup and initial operations
- \$1.2 million identified (excluding MWD)

● Consortium will continue developing long-term funding sources

Next Steps

- Contribute funding to help establish the California Open Water Data Consortium
- Continue participating on the Consortium Board
- Participate on Consortium workgroups
- Incorporate open data protocols into Metropolitan's operations when feasible



Board Options

Option #1:

- Express support for establishing the California Water Data Consortium and approve funding of \$200,000 to make Metropolitan a founding member

Option #2:

- Take no action

Staff Recommendation

- Option #1

