



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Office of the Board of Directors

September 14, 2020

NINA
Nina Jazmadarian, General Manager
Foothill Municipal Water District

ROBS
Robert J. Hunter, General Manager
Municipal Water District of Orange County

PAUL
Paul D. Jones II, P.E., General Manager
Eastern Municipal Water District

CRAIG
Craig Miller, P.E., General Manager
Western Municipal Water District

MATTHEW
Matthew H. Litchfield, P.E.,
General Manager and Chief Engineer
Three Valleys Municipal Water District

PM
Patrick Shields, General Manager
West Basin Municipal Water District

ANTHONY
Anthony W. Goff, General Manager
Calleguas Municipal Water District

DAVID
David W. Pedersen, P.E., General Manager
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

TOM
Tom Love, General Manager
Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

CESAR
Cesar E. Barrera, P.E., Principal Civil Engineer
City of Santa Ana

Dear Sirs and Madam:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's budget and water rates.

Metropolitan fully recognizes the changing economic conditions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic to Southern California and we appreciate all the efforts made by the retail agencies working with Metropolitan to maintain water supply reliability during this pandemic.

Working closely with our member agencies and taking steps to contain our own expenditures Metropolitan reduced its planned rate increase to 3%, a change that will not go into effect until 2021. Because the water Metropolitan delivers to you comes from up to 500 miles away, we must continue to maintain our critical water transportation infrastructure and paying for the power to move that water. Metropolitan has taken actions to cut spending in many areas by curtailing hiring, deferring projects, eliminating non-essential travel and using cash reserves. This month, staff is recommending to the Board a series of additional budget cuts for consideration and action, and we will continue to monitor our expenditures and revenue going forward.

Providing safe and reliable water to 19 million Southern Californians is Metropolitan's mission and is essential to the welfare of our people, businesses, hospitals and communities. We cannot fulfil this mission without the work and support of your agency. I appreciate your agencies working together

Multi-Agency Letter re: Board Letter 8-1

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with Metropolitan to control costs and maintain water service during this challenging period. Thanks again for your support and engagement on this issue.

Sincerely,


Jeffrey Kightlinger
General Manager

cc: Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors