



WHAT IS THE METRO COMMISSION?

WHAT IS THE METRO WASTEWATER JPA?

The Metropolitan Wastewater Commission (“Metro Commission”) was formed in 1998 pursuant to the terms of the 1998 Regional Wastewater Disposal Agreement (“Regional Disposal Agreement”) between the Participating Agencies (“PAs”) and the City of San Diego. This Agreement was amended in September 2021 via the Amended Restated Disposal Agreement (ARA). It is anticipated that during 2023 the ARA will be further amended. Both Agreements are included in Section 9 to this manual.

The Metro Commission is an advisory body to the City of San Diego, advising the City on matters affecting the Metro System, owned by the City of San Diego. The Metro Commission consists of one primary representative and one secondary (alternate) appointed by each PA.

In 2001 the Metro Wastewater Joint Powers Authority (“Metro JPA”) was formed to provide the PAs with a stronger voice in the operations of the Metro System, for which they collectively pay approximately 35% of the operation and capital costs. When the Metro JPA was created, all but three of the PAs joined the JPA. As of October 2007, with the addition of the City of Chula Vista, all PAs are members of the Metro JPA

As a legal entity, the Metro JPA can hire consultants to carry out technical services such as engineering and financial projects in support of the Metro TAC and Metro JPA/Commission’s Mission and their relationship with the City of San Diego Public Utilities Department (PUD).

Since formation, the Metro JPA/Commission have steadily increased their partnering role with the City of San Diego and the PUD in planning and budget development and capital projects coordination and implementation including the Pure Water Program (PWP). The Metro JPA/Commission meet jointly, usually on the first Thursday of each month. Meeting locations may vary and are announced in each month’s agenda.

All Metro JPA Directors, both Primary and Secondary (Alternates), may attend monthly Board meetings as they are open to the general public. However, the JPA follows the “one Director, one vote” direction provided by the JPA’s legal counsel, meaning only one Director per agency may vote and participate in deliberations during Board meetings. If both a Primary and an



Alternate Directors are present during a meeting, the Alternate Director may ask questions during open session in their capacity as a member of the public during public comment periods. In addition, a meeting per diem can only be claimed by the Primary Director, unless the Alternate is attending in their place and the Board Secretary has been notified of this substitution.

From time to time the JPA will hold “closed” meeting sessions to discuss matters of potential litigation. Alternates are not allowed into closed session if the Primary Director is present and plans to attend the closed session. Alternates can only attend closed sessions if the Primary Director does not plan to attend the closed session and the Board Secretary is notified of the substitution.

The Metro JPA/Commission share a technical oversight panel known as the Metro Technical Advisory Committee (MetroTAC). The MetroTAC members include the PAs public works and engineering specialists. MetroTAC, through the Metro JPA consultants, monitors the implementation of the PUD’s annual budget, the PUD’s operational, engineering and financial practices and capital improvement plans, and the Pure Water Program. MetroTAC generally meets on the third Wednesday of each month via Zoom. Additional information and details of MetroTAC activities can be found in Section 7 of the Manual.

THE JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY PROACTIVELY ADDRESSING REGIONAL WASTEWATER ISSUES

Chula Vista • Coronado • Del Mar • El Cajon • Imperial Beach • La Mesa • Lemon Grove Sanitation District
National City • Otay Water District • Poway • Padre Dam Municipal Water District
and the San Diego County Sanitation District