

Monthly Executive Director's Report October 2025 & November Tour

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the activities, progress, and outcomes related to the JPA's initiatives. It aims to ensure transparency, document key discussions and decisions, and keep all stakeholders informed of ongoing efforts and upcoming milestones.



Many of our Board members and Metro TAC staff had the opportunity to tour the North City Pure Water construction site and attend an excellent presentation on the project and its progress after the November Board Meeting. The team learned that construction is now over 80% complete, with the new operations and laboratory facilities expected to be ready for move-in early next year. An additional tour is tentatively scheduled for after the February 2026 Board Meeting.

Special thanks to the City of San Diego and Program Management staff for their outstanding coordination and for providing such an engaging and informative presentation and tour.

Key Tasks and Updates:

1. SARA and Administrative Agreement No. 1 (AA1) Update

October was a particularly active month in advancing implementation of the draft Second Amended and Restated Agreement (SARA) and Administrative Agreement No. 1 (AA1). Staff developed key implementation tools, including a one-page summary titled *“Understanding the Second Amended and Restated Agreement”* for use as a handout, and a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the key provisions of SARA and AA1 for agency and Council meetings.

For reference, the final versions of SARA, AA1, and the accompanying exhibits -- along with prior reference materials, the one-pager, and the PowerPoint presentation -- have been posted in the “News” section of the JPA website for your review and download.

<https://www.metrojpa.org/home/showdocument?id=5070>

In addition, a copy of the current Amended and Restated Agreement (ARA) can be found in the New Director’s Manual at:

<https://www.metrojpa.org/Home/ShowDocument?id=4720>

The final draft of the Second Amended and Restated Agreement (SARA) and Administrative Agreement No. 1 (AA1) was distributed to all members in the October JPA/Commission agenda packet.

At their October 2nd meeting, the Metro JPA/Commission Board of Directors held an advisory vote on the draft SARA, resulting in an 11–1 outcome approving the following motion:

“That the Metro Commission recommend that the Participating Agencies approve the draft SARA, subject to non-substantive revisions and

corrections, with such determinations to be made jointly by the Participating Agencies' Attorney and the City/General Manager."

Padre Dam Municipal Water District was the sole dissenting vote and submitted a letter outlining its concerns, which was included in the October agenda materials. Padre Dam's primary objection pertains to the proposed change from the unanimous vote requirement under the 1998 Regional Agreement and the ARA to a two-third vote on financial matters under the new SARA.

The next phase of implementation involves each Participating Agency presenting the Second Amended and Restated Agreement (SARA) and Administrative Agreement No. 1 (AA1) to its governing body for formal adoption. Four agencies—La Mesa, Coronado, Poway, and Lemon Grove—have scheduled these items for Council action prior to year's end, while more than half of the PAs anticipate completing their approval processes by the end of February 2026.

Executive Team staff remain available to assist Participating Agencies during their Council or Board presentations on SARA and AA1. Staff can provide formal presentations or attend simply to respond to questions as needed. Lisa Celaya of the City of San Diego and JPA Chair Jones are also available to participate. Agencies are encouraged to contact the Executive Director as soon as their meeting date is confirmed to allow adequate time for scheduling.

2. I&I Committee

All Participating Agencies that have not yet submitted their meter basin data are requested to do so as soon as possible to facilitate ADS's project kickoff. The next I&I Committee meeting will be scheduled once all necessary information has been received.

3. Treasury Activities

During October, JPA Treasury staff actively engaged with potential vendors for website design, content migration, training, and annual hosting services. Three vendors—EVOGOV, Ion Blade, and Streamline—are currently under consideration. Preliminary information was presented to the Succession Planning Ad Hoc Committee at its first meeting. Special thanks are extended to Directors Purvis and Robak for their valuable input and participation in the information-gathering process. Although this work falls outside typical Treasury responsibilities, staff have graciously taken on this additional assignment to support the JPA's limited staffing resources.

4. Succession Planning AdHoc

The Succession Planning AdHoc met for the first time on October 17. The Succession Planning Ad Hoc Committee is tasked with guiding how the Metro Wastewater JPA will be staffed and structured in the coming years to achieve its Strategic Goals and Objectives. With all Executive Team contracts expiring June 30, 2026, the Committee will evaluate future organizational needs, potential new skill sets required, and the best approach for contracting for key professional services. Its recommendations will help ensure a smooth transition, continuity of expertise and service, and an efficient framework to support the JPA's Mission and its member agencies.

At its first meeting, the Succession Planning Ad Hoc Committee reviewed preliminary information on the website project, examined the existing JPA organizational structure and supporting consultant positions, and discussed establishing an evaluation process for the Executive Director and other consultants.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Metro TAC:

Regular Meeting:

November 19, 2025
11-1 Via Zoom

Metro JPA/Commission:

Regular Meeting:

December 4, 2025
Noon-2 PM MOC Auditorium