

Metropolitan Water District Partners with WaterStart to Continue Innovation

Las Vegas Nevada – May , 2020 – [WaterStart](#) is excited to welcome the [Metropolitan Water District of Southern California](#) as its newest member. Delivering water to a six-county service area with nearly 19 million people, Metropolitan is now WaterStart’s largest member and its first in California.

Building on decades of commitment to innovation, Metropolitan will expand the reach and impact of WaterStart in finding, testing and implementing new technologies to address challenges facing the water industry.

“Our new partnership with Metropolitan Water District will accelerate our work on behalf of our members as we identify and solve pressing problems. With their record of innovation, Metropolitan is a great addition to the team. As part of our partnership, we are happy to announce that Metropolitan’s Michael Thomas will join WaterStart’s Board of Directors,” said Nathan Allen, WaterStart’s Executive Director.

With over 30 years in the water, nuclear, petroleum and aircraft industries, Thomas is Metropolitan’s capital programs manager. A licensed mechanical and civil engineer, Thomas has served at Metropolitan for the past 18 years and currently oversees investment plan management, construction contracts, project controls and engineering administration support.

“Our WaterStart membership is aligned with our ongoing efforts to find and utilize the best technologies to ensure reliable supplies of high-quality water for Southern California, now and into the future,” Thomas said. “And we’re already seeing value in our membership – we’ve joined with other WaterStart members to share information and best practices to most effectively respond to the COVID-19 crisis.”

WaterStart’s expansion into California was made possible by a generous grant from the Wells Fargo Foundation. The grant was provided to WaterStart to expand their membership benefits to water agencies throughout the United States.

“WaterStart is bringing new technologies to bear in response to immediate and existing needs for water agencies,” said Ramsay Huntley, sustainable finance strategy leader for Wells Fargo. “Their efforts are benefiting millions of water consumers while providing tech companies the opportunity to accelerate the adoption of their vital products and services. We are excited to see Metropolitan Water District expand the impact of WaterStart.”

Dave Johnson, deputy general manager of Engineering and Operations with [Southern Nevada Water Authority](#) and Chairman of Waterstart’s Board of Directors said: “SNWA is excited to welcome Metropolitan to the WaterStart team. Today, as we face new challenges from a global pandemic, a combined effort to find the best solutions to our industry’s most pressing challenges, collaboration will be essential to maximizing our valuable resources.

“In direct response to the COVID-19 outbreak, SNWA is in the process of conducting a thorough study to explore the interactions of the novel coronavirus in sewage water to provide key data that can be used to help monitor outbreaks.”

WaterStart reduces both the risks and costs for water agencies and large consumers in accessing new and emerging technologies to help solve some of their most pressing water-related challenges. . Its non-profit, independent model, guided by some of the most well-known water industry experts with decades of experience, not only makes small budgets work harder and faster – it also guarantees that a solution is both legitimate and proven to work. As WaterStart brings members together during the pandemic, we identify challenges specific to COVID-19, share best practices, and find solutions while continuing to pursue solutions to other immediate and essential technological priorities. For more information regarding the benefits of membership, visit waterstart.com.

About WaterStart

WaterStart is a non-profit collective of globally recognized leaders who are adapting to change by scaling up new solutions to water challenges. Driven by the needs of water agencies and large consumers, we provide a channel for pooling resources to accelerate the development and adoption of innovative water technologies. Established in 2013 in Las Vegas, Nevada, WaterStart’s globally recognized members, sponsors and portfolio companies come from across the United States, expanding into Queensland, Australia in 2018 and into the United Kingdom in 2020. For more information, visit www.waterstart.com.

About Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a regional wholesaler that provides water to 26 member public agencies to deliver – either directly or through their sub-agencies – to 19 million people living in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego and Ventura counties. The district imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies, and helps its members develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource-management programs.

About the Southern Nevada Water Authority

The SNWA is a not-for-profit water agency that manages water conservation, water quality and water resource issues for Southern Nevada. Collectively serving more than 2.2 million residents, its members agencies include: The Big Bend Water District (Laughlin); the cities of Boulder City, Henderson, Las Vegas and North Las Vegas; the Clark County Water Reclamation District; and the Las Vegas Valley Water District.