



June 7, 2021

Honorable Chairwoman Gray  
Honorable Board of Directors  
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
700 N. Alameda Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
via Board Secretary (BoardExecutiveSecretary@mwdh2o.com)

Dear Chairwoman Gray and Board Members,

Please accept our congratulations to the Board of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) on the selection of Adel Hagekhalil for the position of General Manager. Collectively, we have decades of experience working with Mr. Hagekhalil as a senior leader in the City of Los Angeles and we are confident he will do an excellent job stewarding MWD and our region's critical water resources into its next chapter.

Mr. Hagekhalil is a proven water resources and organizational leader. He served as Assistant General Manager in our Bureau of Sanitation and Environment and for the past three years, served as the General Manager of the Bureau of Street Services (StreetsLA). Adel always worked collaboratively and effectively with the Los Angeles City Council, and delivered impactfully on our key policy and infrastructure investment priorities. We consider him a transformational leader that builds bridges and partnerships, strives for innovation, advances equity, and creates an inclusive work culture. These are the skills needed today given the difficult work of managing water resources in a challenging political and natural environment.

Mr. Hagekhalil is also the right person for the job to lead MWD and Southern California into the future as we face changing climate and shrinking water supplies. As we enter another drought, we know there will be uncertainties and challenges that require adaptive leadership, made more difficult by the climate crisis. He has been well-recognized in the water sector and across many of our communities across California and the nation and we believe is up to the task.



We are of course sad to see Mr. Hagekhalil leave the City family after 32 years of public service; however, we applaud his selection as General Manager. We look forward to working closely with Adel and the MWD to ensure its continued success.

Sincerely,

Paul Krekorian  
Councilmember, 2nd District

Bob Blumenfield  
Councilmember, 3rd District

Nithya Raman  
Councilmember, 4th District

John S. Lee  
Councilmember, 12th District

Mitch O'Farrell  
Councilmember, 13th District

Joe Buscaino  
Councilmember, 15th District