

VALLEY CENTER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT MULTI-YEAR BUDGET 2006-07 & 2007-08

GLOSSARY

Accrual Basis of Accounting - The method of recording financial transactions in the period in which those transactions take place, rather than only after cash is received or paid.

Acre Foot - 325,829 gallons or 435.6 hundred cubic feet of water.

Actuarial Valuation - An estimate of the current cost of future obligations of the considering inflation and growth factors.

ACWA - Association of California Water Agencies.

Administrative Code - Document which compiles all ordinances adopted by the Board of Directors.

Appropriation - Authorization by the Board of Directors to make expenditures for specific purposes, usually limited in time and amount.

Budget - A financial plan showing authorized expenditures and their funding sources.

CAFR - See Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

CalPERS - See PERS.

Capital Outlay - Expenditures for the purchase of fixed assets.

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) - The official annual report, including financial statements, statistical information, and extensive narration.

CWA - San Diego County Water Authority.

Depreciation - A portion of the cost of a fixed asset which is charged as an expense during a year, representing an estimate of the value of the asset used up during that year.

Debt Service - The current year portion of interest costs and current year principal payments incurred on long-term debt.

Disbursements - Payments made on obligations.

Economic Study Group (ESG) - Water agencies which are jointly working to obtain rate-cost of service equity from its supplier.

Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) - State enacted legislation that shifts partial financial responsibility for funding education to local government (cities, counties and special districts).

Effluent - Liquid waste from sewage treatment or industrial processes, water mixed with waste matter.

Enterprise Fund - A fund which accounts for operations financed and operated similar to a private business where costs are recovered primarily through user charges.

ERAF - See Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund

Expenditure - An amount paid for an obligation, including operating expenses, debt service, and capital outlay.

Expense Credit - The portion of expenses which have been reimbursed by or allocated to another fund.

Fiscal Year - The 12 month period used for accounting and budgeting purposes, in this case from July 1 to June 30.

Fixed Asset - A tangible item which provides benefit over more than one year, such as property, plant, and equipment. The District further limits fixed assets to those items with an initial value of at least \$2,000.

Fund - A set of accounts used to account for a specific activity, such as a water system or sewer treatment plant.

Fund Balance - The difference between total fund assets and liabilities.

Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) - The uniform minimum standards for the presentation of financial reports. For local governments GAAP is set by the Government Accounting Standards Board.

General Fund - For the District, the fund used to account for water system operations. It also includes general expenses, a portion of which are then allocated to other funds.

Geographical Information System (GIS) - An information system integrating maps with electronic data.

IAWP - See Interim Agricultural Water Program.

Interim Agricultural Water Program (IAWP) - A program by MWD which reduces the cost of water to certified agricultural customers in exchange for reduced access to water supplies in the event of an emergency or drought.

JPIA - Joint Powers Insurance Authority of the Association of California Water Agencies.

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) - Imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California and sells it at wholesale to its 27 member agencies, which include the San Diego County Water Authority.

MWD - Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Performance Measurement Standard - A standard of service efforts and accomplishments used to determine operating effectiveness and efficiency.

PERS - Public Employees' Retirement System. Also known as CalPERS. Provides retirement benefits to the District's employees, along with the employees of many other state and local California agencies.

Reserve - A portion of fund balance that is held for a specific future use.

SanDAG - San Diego Association of Governments.

San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA or CWA) - Transports water from MWD pipelines to its 23 member agencies, including the District.

SCADA - Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition. Uses computer technology to monitor and control remote facilities such as pumps and reservoirs.

STEP - Septic Tank Effluent Pump. Includes a holding tank and pump at the customer's property to pump effluent into a pressurized wastewater collection system.

Strategic Plan - A document which states the major goals and performance measurement standards for the District.

Urban Water Management Plan Act - California law which requires that we prepare an Urban Water Conservation Program.

Tertiary - The purification of wastewater by removal of fine particles, nitrates, and phosphates.

Vulnerability Assessment - The examination of a system to identify critical infrastructure or related components that may be at risk of attack and the procedures that can be implemented to reduce that risk.

Xeriscape - Water-wise landscaping.