

# **Extend Commercial Paper Liquidity Agreements**

**Finance/Administration Committee** March 26, 2024

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# Water CP Liquidity Agreements

- Commercial Paper Notes (Water Series) program consists of two subseries – Subseries A-1 and A-2
- Covenants require liquidity facilities that can be drawn upon in an amount at least equal to the principal of CP notes outstanding
- Current liquidity providers are Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation ("SMBC") and Bank of America, N.A. ("BANA")

Subseries	<b>CP Outstanding</b>	Provider	Liquidity Facility	<b>Current Fee</b>	Term End
A-1	\$144 million	SMBC	Standby Letter of Credit	0.30%	May 6, 2024
A-2	\$137 million	BANA	<b>Revolving Credit Agreement</b>	0.29%	June 28, 2024

CP = Commercial Paper; Water CP = Commercial Paper Notes (Water Series)



# **Proposed Agreement Extensions**

Favorable terms and pricing in today's liquidity market have been negotiated to extend expiration dates of the existing agreements

Subserie	s Agreement	Amount	Term End	Fee	Annual Cost
A-1	SMBC LOC	\$144 million	• •	0.32% (AA+/Aa1 tier)	\$460,800
A-2	BANA RCA	\$137 million	June 28, 2028 (4-year term)		\$438,400

Ongoing planned pay-down of Water CP will reduce Annual Cost 



# **Extension vs. Substitution**

- Extending current agreements has been determined to be more cost-effective than the alternative of substituting a new liquidity facility
- SMBC and BANA's proposals are very competitive in comparison to recent liquidity agreements procured by other peer agencies
- Upfront transaction costs are estimated at \$55,000 for an extension and \$170,000 for a substitution reflective of the simplicity or complexity of required documentation
- A new bank is unlikely to propose a low enough annual fee (below 0.30%) to offset the higher upfront costs of a substitution



# **Next Steps**

 Board consideration to authorize the execution of a Second Amendment to the SMBC LOC, Third Amendment to the BANA RCA, and related Fee Agreements at its March 26, 2024 meeting



## **Questions?**



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### Applicant Project Process Improvement Update

Finance/Administration Committee March 26, 2024



## Agenda

- Background
- Applicant Project Process Improvement Updates
- Regulations Modifications
- Next Steps



## Background

- In May 2023, the District had an internal workshop and identified areas that could be simplified.
- Several improvements implemented significantly reduced application timelines.
- Additional improvements are being implemented to further improve process.



#### **Applicant Project Process Improvements Update**

Priority Areas	Goals	Impacts/Benefits	Estimated Completion
Regulations Governing Water Service	<ul> <li>Revise regulations to increase clarity and support new development trend.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Estimated time savings up to 16 weeks.</li> </ul>	April 2024
Water Conservation Review	<ul> <li>Eliminate review of water fixtures specifications sheets.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Estimated time savings of 4 hours.</li> </ul>	Completed
Private Fire Hydrant Modeling	<ul> <li>Eliminate modeling of customers' side of private fire hydrants.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Estimated time savings up to 8 weeks.</li> </ul>	Completed
Customer Service	<ul> <li>Add staff to improve processing time.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Reduced processing times by 10 weeks.</li> </ul>	Completed
Online water service application	<ul> <li>Improve customer interface, adding guidance when filling out an application.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Estimated time savings up to 4 hours.</li> </ul>	Completed



#### **Applicant Project Process Improvements Update**

Priority Areas	Goals	Impacts/Benefits	Estimated Completion
Websites	<ul> <li>Improve navigation for new applications within <u>www.ebmud.com</u>.</li> <li>Update New Business Office information pages to improve clarity.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Improve customer experience.</li> </ul>	September 2024
General Work Order System	<ul> <li>Replace General Work Order system.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Improve internal process.</li> </ul>	2027
Infrastructure Tracker Project	<ul> <li>Improve user interface, reduce data entry, update for better workflow management.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Free up staff resource to support other application reviews.</li> </ul>	TBD
Reduce Duplicate Data Entry	<ul> <li>Identify all systems utilized in processing an application and eliminate data duplication.</li> </ul>	Improve efficiency.	TBD



#### **Applicant Project Process Improvements Update**

Priority Areas	Goals	Impacts/Benefits	Estimated Completion
Encroachment permit process	<ul> <li>Explore benefits of consolidating all encroachment permits to one workgroup.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Estimated time savings up to 8 weeks.</li> </ul>	November 2024
Hydrant/Fire Service/ Dual Service Form	<ul> <li>Investigate ways to improve process with obtaining information from local Fire Marshals for fire flow requirements.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Estimated time savings up to 8 weeks.</li> </ul>	October 2024
System Capacity Charges (SCC)	• Identify ways to improve clarity in how SCC and SCC credit is calculated.	<ul> <li>Assist applicants in budgeting for projects.</li> </ul>	Next SCC Study
Main Extensions	<ul> <li>Pilot new administrative process to reduce internal handoffs.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Reduce processing time.</li> </ul>	July 2024



### **Section 1: Explanation of Terms**

Modifications	Explanation
<ul> <li>Adding new terms - Common Area, Hydrant or Public Fire Hydrant, Lateral, Main, Submeter, Branch Service, Conditional Service, Dual Service, Private Fire Service, Standard Service</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Provides clear guidance for applicants during application process.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Updating existing terms - Major Facilities, Water Efficiency Requirements, Dwelling Unit; revised Limited Service to include Limited/Low/High Pressure Service</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Explains the requirements for obtaining water service.</li> </ul>
Deleting existing term - Master Meter	<ul> <li>Definition is addressed in Section 3 of the Regulations.</li> </ul>
Section 2: Applying for Service	
Modifications	Explanation
<ul> <li>Adding new language - payment of costs associated with Encroachment permits</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Clarifies applicants' responsibility to pay outside agencies fees.</li> </ul>
General revision – the Applying for Service section	<ul> <li>Clarifies when applicants must apply for water service and aligns section with newly added terms.</li> </ul>



#### **Section 3: Standard Service**

Modifications	Explanation
<ul> <li>Revision to existing language - Temporary Construction Services &amp; Installation of Service Connection, Branch Meter, Master Meter, and Service Connection Not at the Principal Frontage</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Allows the use of an existing service for construction.</li> <li>Provides flexibility for installing branch services.</li> <li>Enables developers to plan their projects for the appropriate number of meters.</li> <li>Decreases the number of short main extensions within infill developments.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Adding new subsection- Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Aligns the District's Regulations with Government Code Sections 65852.2 and 65852.22</li> </ul>



### **Section 18: Location of Service**

Modification	Explanation
Revising existing language - location of where meters are allowed for installation	<ul> <li>Improves clarity for where District meters can be installed.</li> </ul>

#### **Section 23: District Equipment on Customer's Premises**

Modification	Explanation
<ul> <li>Revising existing language - vertical clearance above a District meter box</li> </ul>	Aligns Regulations with requirements for meter maintenance.

### **Section 31: Water Efficiency Requirements**

Modification	Explanation
<ul> <li>Adding new language - Water Efficiency Requirements for New Development or Expanded service</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Explains the type of submeters the District will allow if a submeter is approved for use.</li> </ul>



### **Next Steps**

• Modifications to the Regulations will be brought to the Board for consideration at its April 23, 2024 meeting

### **Questions?**

