



*The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California*

# NEWS RELEASE

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*Note to editors: A digital photograph of John V. Foley is available upon request.*

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**JOHN V. FOLEY RETURNS AS CHAIRMAN OF  
METROPOLITAN WATER BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Orange County representative selected to lead  
board of Southland's principal water import agency**

John V. Foley, chairman of the board of directors of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California during the 1990s, today was again elected to the top post.

He will head a governing board which oversees the major water importer and wholesaler for nearly 19 million people in six counties.

Foley, who has represented the Municipal Water District of Orange County on Metropolitan's board since August 1989, was unanimously elected to a two-year term as chairman, taking office in January 2011. Foley previously presided as Metropolitan board chairman from December 1993 through 1998.

He succeeds Timothy F. Brick, the city of Pasadena's representative, who has served as Metropolitan board chairman since November 2005.

"I am honored and energized to regain the mantle of leadership of Metropolitan's board," Foley said. "It is a pivotal time in Metropolitan's history.

"Every business faces its challenges, especially now in the midst of severe economic times. Metropolitan has the responsibility to its member public agency customers to weather these challenges. At the same time, we need to be responsible in making the investments in the operations and maintenance of its water delivery and treatment system," Foley said.

"All decisions have to be made in the spirit of equity, fiscal and environmental responsibility. That is not always an easy balance to strike, but I look forward to building on the collaborative and smart foundation of leadership here at Metropolitan and hope to continue to make decisions that are very well thought-out," he added.

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With his election, Foley becomes the 17<sup>th</sup> chairman in the district's 82-year history. As the head of Metropolitan's 37-member board, Foley will represent district policies and programs at national, state and local levels. He also will preside over monthly public meetings of the board and its Executive Committee. In addition, he will appoint all members of the board's seven standing committees, as well as the leaders of any special committee or task forces.

A cooperative of 26 member public agencies, Metropolitan provides about half the water used by 19 million people in six Southland counties. The district's 5,200-square-mile service area covers most of urbanized Southern California.

Metropolitan imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies and provides financial incentives to help local agencies develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other water management programs. Metropolitan has an annual operating/capital budget of \$1.64 billion, about 1,850 employees and more than 30 facilities throughout Southern California.

Foley currently is a member of the Metropolitan board's Executive Committee, Organization and Personnel Committee, Legal and Claims Committee and the Special Committee on the Bay-Delta. He chairs the board's Hoover Contract Issues Committee and the Special Committee on Desalination and Recycling.

He retired as general manager of the Moulton Niguel Water District, serving all or part of five cities in south Orange County, in 2008. He previously served as general manager of the Aliso Water Management Agency, from 1976 to 1979.

A key figure in water and sanitation matters on local, regional and state levels, in 1986 he was appointed a member of the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board by then Gov. George Deukmejian and chaired the board for two years.

In July 1993, the Water Advisory Committee of Orange County appointed Foley as a trustee on the Southern California Water Committee. In February 1994, he was appointed by then Gov. Pete Wilson to serve on the Bay/Delta Oversight Council.

The past president of the Orange County Water Association, Foley is a member of the American Water Works Association, Colorado River Water Users Association, Association of California Water Agencies, the California Association of Sanitation Agencies and the Colorado River Board of Directors.

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A retired colonel in the U.S. Army, his last military assignment was district engineer in five southwestern states, from 1973 until his retirement in 1976. Earlier, he commanded a company during the Korean War and a battalion in Thailand during the Vietnam conflict. He also served in the office of the chief of staff and as chief of public affairs for the Army chief of engineers in Washington, D.C.

Foley has earned a bachelor's degree in engineering from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, a master's in civil engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and a second master's in mathematics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He also served as an assistant professor of mathematics at West Point. He is a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Naval War College.

He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and is past president of the Los Angeles Chapter of the Society of American Military Engineers. He is a past president of the Monarch Bank Advisory Board and a member of the Laguna Niguel and South Orange County chambers of commerce and the former Mission Hospital Regional Medical Center Advisory Board.

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