



The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

# NEWS RELEASE

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*Note to editors: A digital photograph of Gary Breaux is available upon request.*

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## BREAUX JOINS METROPOLITAN AS CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Gary Breaux, who has worked for more than 25 years in local government finance, has joined the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California as assistant general manager and chief financial officer.

Breaux's responsibilities will include financial planning, investments, debt management, the annual budget and accounting operations. He also will be responsible for implementing the district's water rates and charges. He succeeds Tom De Backer, Metropolitan's controller who served as interim CFO following the retirement of Brian G. Thomas.

"Gary possesses strong finance skills and will bring new and innovative approaches to our financial organization," said Metropolitan General Manager Jeffrey Kightlinger. "He also brings strong and proven communication and presentation skills that enhance our ability to discuss issues and proposals with our board members and the public."

Prior to joining Metropolitan, Breaux was director of finance for East Bay Municipal Utility District, a public water agency serving Alameda and parts of Contra Costa counties in Northern California. At EBMUD since 1994, he oversaw all financial areas, including treasury operations, debt management, rates, internal audit, accounting and reporting, risk management and customer and community services. Prior to joining EBMUD, he was finance director for the city of Oakland

"The results of his leadership at EBMUD were evident through the stabilization in rates, successful management of a complex bond portfolio and upgraded bond ratings," Kightlinger said.

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A Certified Public Accountant, Breaux is a member of the American Water Works Association and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

A native of Colorado, Breaux received a bachelor's degree in business from the University of Colorado and a master's degree in public administration from Virginia Commonwealth University.

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*The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a cooperative of 26 cities and water agencies serving nearly 19 million people in six counties. The district imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies, and helps its members to develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource-management programs.*