

## WWTP Ad Hoc Committee Meeting Summary Report

Meeting Date: May 21, 2026

Committee Members Present: Director Carter Ohlmann, Director Rock Rockenbach

Staff Present: General Manager Weigold, Stephen (Administration) and Bryce (Engineering; Bryce attended remotely).

Duration: Approximately 2.0 hours

### Overview

The WWTP Ad Hoc Committee (hereafter “Ad Hoc”) met to discuss the Southland/MKN plant design study. Specifically, Southland/MKN has completed TM-1, is starting on TM-2. Per the MSD/Southland/MKN contract TM-2 is a Constraints Analysis associated with Connection to the City of Santa Barbara’s El Estero Water Resource Center. Per the contract, TM-2 includes the following services:

- Project Management, QC, and Meetings
- Data review and City of Santa Barbara coordination
- Treatment capacity evaluation
- Design criteria for pump station and force main
- Institutional and regulatory constraints
- Summary of major work efforts and schedule
- Draft and final technical memorandum

### The discussion focused on:

- The suitability of TM-2 services as proposed given the Board’s recent conversations about sending influent to El Estero. Economics is expected to play a significant role in the Board’s decision to send influent to El Estero, but the services do not provide any economic analyses. The committee felt addressing design issues was premature if connecting to El Estero turns out to be unviable for any number of reasons.
- Presentation of the Southland/MKN work to the full Board per the contract. The committee felt the Tech Memos themselves serve as thorough reports to the Board. Further, staff can likely answer any questions Board members may have about the work being performed as part of the Southland/MKN contract.

- Discussion of potential additional landscaping work by Southland as part of the overall project (i.e. Monte Cristo Lane, beautification and property/land adjustments). There was brief discussion of how MC Lane rehabilitation might fit within the Southland/MKN study, and the extent to which a change in plant design that alters the location of the plant entrance could possibly allow for the abandonment of MC Lane.

**Action Items taken:**

- Staff to work with Southland/MKN on a revised set of services for TM-2 that will better help the Board decide if connecting to El Estero WWTP is the best step forward for MSD. Any revision to the contract will need to be approved by the full Board.

**Recommendations to Board:**

None at this time.