



*For Immediate Release*

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## **MWDOC APPOINTS DIRECTOR TAMARIBUCHI TO METROPOLITAN BOARD**

**Fountain Valley, CA** (August 10, 2020) – The Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) Board of Directors today announced the appointment of Board President, Satoru (Sat) Tamaribuchi, to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) Board of Directors. Director Tamaribuchi will take the seat formerly held by Brett R. Barbre, who retired from the board this spring.

“Sat has been immersed in water and related issues most of his career,” said MWDOC’s Senior Metropolitan Director, Larry Dick. “His experience and significant engineering and environmental background will be a welcome addition to the MWDOC-Metropolitan delegation, and will provide immediate value to the Metropolitan Board, as well as to the public we serve.”

“It is my honor to be appointed to serve and represent the interests of all of Orange County at Metropolitan,” stated President Tamaribuchi. “These are critical times in our industry, especially at Metropolitan. I look forward to working with my colleagues to develop programs and projects such as Delta Conveyance, to ensure reliable water supplies for future generations.”

Director Tamaribuchi’s extensive career in water began in college when he worked as a student engineer for the California Department of Water Resources. He then served three years on active duty as a Navy Civil Engineer Corps Officer, then 27 years in the Navy Reserves, eventually retiring as a Captain. Following discharge, he returned to California to work as an engineer on water quality projects in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the San Francisco Bay.

In 1973, he moved to Orange County and began working to control sedimentation in Upper Newport Bay – an issue identified at the time as the top water quality problem in Southern California. In this role, he led the planning and construction of over \$100 million in facilities that reduced sediment load and restored the Upper Bay. He also worked with the Irvine Ranch Water District in preparing and implementing water resources master plans outlining an extensive wastewater recycling system and identified groundwater development as a priority to augment the district’s local water supplies.

Director Tamaribuchi was elected to the MWDOC Board in November 2014. He represents Division 5, which includes the cities of Newport Beach, Laguna Woods, portions of Irvine, Lake Forest, Laguna Hills, Aliso Viejo, and parts of Mission Viejo.

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***The Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) is a wholesale water provider and resource planning agency whose efforts focus on sound planning and appropriate investments in water supply development, water use efficiency, public information, legislative advocacy, water education, and emergency preparedness.***

*MWDOC's service area includes all of Orange County with the exception of Anaheim, Santa Ana, and Fullerton. MWDOC serves Orange County through 28 retail water agencies.*