

**THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION**

555 Main Street  
Hartford, Connecticut 06103  
Wednesday, November 1, 2023

**PRESENT:** Commissioners John Avedisian, John Bazzano, Richard Bush, Donald Currey, William A. DiBella, David Drake, Peter Gardow, Joan Gentile, Allen Hoffman, Gary Johnson, Diane Lewis, Maureen Magnan, Jacqueline Mandyck, Dominic Pane, Bhupen Patel, David Steuber, Alvin Taylor and Calixto Torres (18)

**REMOTE ATTENDANCE:** Commissioners Andrew Adil, Dimple Desai, Christian Hoheb, Jean Holloway, Byron Lester and Pasquale J. Salemi (6)

**ABSENT:** Commissioners Kyle Anderson, Clifford Avery Buell, John Gale, James Healy, Mary LaChance, Michael Maniscalco, Jon Petoskey, James Woulfe and New Britain Special Representative Michael Carrier (9)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Citizen Member Awet Tsegai  
Scott Jellison, Chief Executive Officer  
Christopher Stone, District Counsel  
John S. Mirtle, District Clerk  
Chris Levesque, Chief Operating Officer  
Kelly Shane, Chief Administrative Officer  
Robert Barron, Chief Financial Officer  
Susan Negrelli, Director of Engineering  
Dave Ruty, Director of Operations  
Robert Schwarm, Director of Information Services  
Tom Tyler, Director of Facilities  
Michael Curley, Manager of Technical Services (Remote Attendance)  
Nick Salemi, Communications Administrator  
Julie McLaughlin, Communications Administrator  
Rita Kelley, Durational Diversity Project Manager  
Jeff King, Construction Manager  
Angel Morales, Senior Clerk  
Karraine Moody, Outreach Services  
Janice Flemming-Butler, Outreach Services  
Carrie Blardo, Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer  
Julie Price, Executive Assistant  
Dylan Pecego, IT Consultant (Remote Attendance)  
Joseph Szerejko, Independent Consumer Advocate (Remote Attendance)

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman DiBella at 5:34 PM

### **ROLL CALL AND QUORUM**

The District Clerk called the roll and informed Chairman DiBella that a quorum of the Commission was present, and the meeting was declared a legal meeting of the District Board of The Metropolitan District of Hartford County, Connecticut.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*On motion made by Commissioner Taylor and duly seconded, the meeting minutes of October 2, 2023 were approved.*

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS**

No one from the public appeared to be heard.

### **REPORT FROM DISTRICT CHAIRMAN**

District Clerk John Mirtle announced that the public hearing for the 2024 budget, rates and ordinance changes is tomorrow, November 2, 2023, at 5:30 PM at District Headquarters, 555 Main Street, Hartford.

### **REPORT FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Chief Executive Officer Scott Jellison informed the Board that Director of Facilities Tom Tyler was awarded the Alfred E. Pelouquin award by NEWEA. He also discussed the emails he had sent to Commissioners regarding EPA, MS4 and the City of Hartford. He then spoke on the email he sent to Commissioners in response to inquiries about the potential for a stormwater utility, updates on North Hartford projects, and the articles emailed out regarding PFAs that were in the Hartford Courant.

### **REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNSEL**

District Counsel Chris Stone discussed the Congressional bill to deauthorize Colebrook Dam project will be submitted as part of the next WIRDA bill, which is done biannually, and will therefore be part of the next version in the fall of 2024. He updated the Board on the conservation easement with Save the Sound and the Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy and that we will be submitting the

application to DPH to proceed with the conservation easement. He also updated the Board on the Landfill claim, and discussed the recent decision denying the state's motion to dismiss on sovereign immunity. Lastly, he reported on the lawsuit from Star Hardware against the MDC, City of Hartford, and the Hartford Housing Authority.

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR NORTH HARTFORD INTEGRATED PLAN PROJECTS**

MDC Communications staff and consultants presented regarding the Community Outreach in the North Hartford area pertaining to Integrated Plan projects. Communications Administrator Nick Salemi discussed the past week's trunk-or-treat events that MDC participated in by providing an ice cream truck as well as handing out leaf bags and information about projects and programs customers should be aware of in their neighborhoods. Communications Administrator Julie McLaughlin gave an overview of the outreach team and introduced the Outreach Consultants Karraine Moody and Janice Flemming-Butler. Karraine Moody and Janice Flemming-Butler discussed the progress that has been made with their outreach in North Hartford. Janice Flemming-Butler also introduced Victoria Fennel and Kelvin Lovejoy of the Blue Hills Civic Association who spoke about the combined efforts of their organization and MDC representatives and the success they have had working together to get the correct information to homeowners.

**Without objection, Chairman DiBella consolidated *agenda items #10A "Approval for State of Connecticut Financing Clean Water Fund 692-C2" and #10B "Approval for State of Connecticut Financing Clean Water Fund 698-C and considered both items together.***

### **BOARD OF FINANCE AUTHORIZATION FOR AMENDMENT AGREEMENT TO THE INTERIM FUNDING OBLIGATION AND/OR PROJECT LOAN OBLIGATION TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT FOR CWF 692-C2**

To: District Board

November 2, 2023

From: Board of Finance

Staff seeks approval from your Board to execute and deliver the Amendment Agreement to the Interim Funding Obligation and/or Project Loan Obligation to the State of Connecticut for CWF 692-C2 dated June 21, 2016 (the "Original Agreement"). The original agreement included a project grant amount of \$140,925,166.05, a project loan in the amount of \$172,230,202.95, and a scheduled completion date of February 28, 2022. The Amendment will amend the project grant amount to \$145,398,122.85, the project loan to \$177,697,150.15, and the Scheduled Completion Date to November

30, 2024. This would be an increase of \$4,472,956.80 in the amount of the project grant portion and an increase of \$5,466,947.07 in the project loan portion over the amounts authorized in the Original Agreement.

The low interest loan and grant will fund the construction of the South Hartford conveyance and storage tunnel and the shaft (the "Project").

The State of Connecticut, through the Clean Water Fund Program, will now provide \$323,095,273 in state funding, which is comprised of \$145,398,122.85 in grants and \$177,697,150.15 in loans to fund the expenses associated with the Project.

Bond Counsel prepared the following resolution for your approval.

At a meeting of the Board of Finance held on October 25, 2023, it was:

**VOTED:** That the Board of Finance recommends to the District Board adoption of the following resolution from Bond Counsel.

**RESOLVED:**

Section 1. This resolution amends and restates a resolution of the District Board, passed at a meeting of the District Board held on March 2, 2020.

Section 2. The Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice Chairman, and the District Treasurer, or in his absence, the Deputy Treasurer are authorized to execute and deliver the Project Loan and Project Grant Agreement CWF No. 692-C, the Amendment Agreement CWF No. 692-C1 and the Second Amendment Agreement CWF 692-C2 to be entered into with the State of Connecticut (collectively, the "Agreement") and any and all Interim Funding Obligations and Project Loan Obligations for CWF No. 692-C, CWF No. 692-C1 and CWF No. 692-C2 in the aggregate amount not to exceed \$177,697,150.15 to fund the construction of the South Hartford Conveyance and Storage Tunnel and shaft. Such Interim Funding Obligations shall be dated as of their date of issue, shall mature within six months of the Scheduled Completion Date, shall bear interest at the rate of two percent (2.00%) per annum, shall be payable as to principal and interest as provided in the Agreement and, to the extent not paid prior to maturity from The Metropolitan District funds, may be renewed by the issuance of Interim Funding Obligations or Project Loan Obligations, all as provided in the Agreement. The prior actions of the Chairman and the District Treasurer in furtherance of this resolution are hereby confirmed and ratified in all respects. Capitalized terms used herein and not defined shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Agreement.

Section 3. The Project Loan Obligations shall be dated as of their date of issue, shall mature no later than twenty years from the Scheduled Completion Date, shall bear interest at the rate of two percent (2.00%) per annum and shall be payable as to principal and interest as provided in the Agreement.

Respectfully Submitted,



John S. Mirtle, Esq.  
District Clerk

**BOARD OF FINANCE  
AUTHORIZATION FOR INTERIM FUNDING OBLIGATION AND/OR PROJECT  
LOAN OBLIGATION TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT FOR CWF 698-C**

To: District Board

November 2, 2023

From: Board of Finance

Staff seeks approval from your Board to execute and deliver the Interim Funding Obligation and/or Project Loan Obligation to the State of Connecticut for CWF 698-C having a principal amount not to exceed \$13,894,892.83 and having an interest rate of 2.00%.

The low interest loan and accompanying grant of \$3,473,723.20 will fund the East Hartford Water Pollution Control Facility upgrades to Aeration/Dissolved Oxygen (DO) Controls/SCADA System via Ph3a (#2018b-19) and Ph3b (2022b-04).

Bond Counsel prepared the following resolution for your approval.

At a meeting of the Board of Finance held on October 25, 2023, it was:

**VOTED:** That the Board of Finance recommends to the District Board adoption of the following resolution from Bond Counsel.

**RESOLVED:**

Section 1. The Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice Chairman, and the District Treasurer, or in his absence, the Deputy Treasurer are authorized to execute and deliver the Project Loan and Project Grant Agreement CWF No. 698-C to be entered into with the State of Connecticut (the "Agreement") and any and all Interim Funding Obligations and Project Loan Obligations for CWF No. 698-C in the aggregate amount not to exceed \$13,894,892.83 to fund the EHWPCF upgrades to Aeration/Dissolved Oxygen (DO) Controls/SCADA System via Ph3a (#2018b-19) and Ph3b (2022b-04). Such Interim Funding Obligations shall be dated as of their date of issue, shall mature within six months of the Scheduled Completion Date, shall bear interest at the rate of two percent (2.00%) per annum, shall be payable as to principal and interest as provided in the Agreement and, to the extent not paid prior to maturity from The Metropolitan District funds, may be renewed by the issuance of Interim

Funding Obligations or Project Loan Obligations, all as provided in the Agreement. The prior actions of the Chairman and the District Treasurer in furtherance of this resolution are hereby confirmed and ratified in all respects. Capitalized terms used herein and not defined shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Agreement.

Section 2. The Project Loan Obligations shall be dated as of their date of issue, shall mature no later than twenty years from the Scheduled Completion Date, shall bear interest at the rate of two percent (2.00%) per annum and shall be payable as to principal and interest as provided in the Agreement.

Respectfully Submitted,



John S. Mirtle, Esq.  
District Clerk

***On motion made by Commissioner Pane and duly seconded, the reports for agenda item #10A "Approval for State of Connecticut Financing Clean Water Fund 692-C2" and #10B "Approval for State of Connecticut Financing Clean Water Fund 698-C" were received and resolutions adopted by unanimous vote of those present.***

#### **OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No one from the public appeared to be heard.

#### **COMMISSIONER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Commissioner Gardow referenced a Hartford Courant article regarding that Hartford airport from November 1, 2023 and wanted to know about the referenced land swap with the MDC. District Counsel Christopher Stone explained what the land swap occurred several years ago with CAA and that the MDC gave CAA four acres of land that was previously an ash lagoon in exchange for a strip of land that the MDC needed for construction of the tunnel.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 PM

ATTEST:

John S. Mirtle, Esq.  
District Clerk

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Date of Approval