

**WHEREAS**, Martin L. Adams, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's (LADWP) General Manager and Chief Engineer, is retiring after 40 years of distinguished service to LADWP, the largest municipal utility in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Adams dedicated his career to serving the residents of Los Angeles, beginning as an entry level drafting aide in the summer of 1981, as a student engineer in 1982 and 1983, and full time as a civil engineering assistant in 1984. He progressed in responsibility within the Water System, rising through the ranks as Civil Engineering Associate, Waterworks Engineer, Managing Water Utility Engineer, and Director of Water Operations; and eventually Senior Assistant General Manager of the Water System in March 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Adams oversaw both the Water and Power Systems as Chief Operating Officer from 2016 until he took the helm as Interim General Manager in July 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Adams was appointed General Manager and Chief Engineer of LADWP in September 2019 by Mayor Eric Garcetti; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Adams leads and directs more than 11,500 employees responsible for providing water and power to more than four million Los Angeles City residents; and

**WHEREAS**, for nearly four decades Mr. Adams has played a key role in championing policies to ensure water sustainability, and while others have merely talked about water conservation, it can now be officially revealed that he donned the red cape, blue tights, and golden wig of the superhero Captain Hydro battling for Los Angeles water resources; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Adams was instrumental in the planning and implementation of the two decade-long, nearly \$2 billion Water Quality Improvement Program, to achieve compliance with stringent water quality regulations that required removing open reservoirs from service, known as the Surface Water Treatment Rules and the Disinfection By-Products Rule; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Adams spearheaded LADWP's creative and innovative methods and projects to comply with these rules, including submerging a major pipeline to bypass Lower Stone Canyon Reservoir; developing the Headworks Reservoir Complex to replace Silver Lake and Ivanhoe Reservoirs; completing two Ultraviolet Disinfection Plants; and deploying 96 million shade balls on the surface of the Los Angeles Reservoir; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Adams oversaw the restoration of the water system following the 1994 Northridge Earthquake that caused ruptures in very major trunkline serving the City from the Van Norman Complex, more than 1500 water main breaks, and cracked the face of the Los Angeles Reservoir; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Adams secured a historic 2013 Settlement Agreement that fortified the City of Los Angeles' historic water rights in the Mono Basin and compelled the State of California, along with others, to recognize Los Angeles' tremendous environmental restoration achievements that restored ecological vibrancy to Mono Lake and its tributaries; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Adams led significant development efforts to transform Owens Lake from one of the most emissive sources of fine particulate pollution in the United States into an internationally recognized migratory bird sanctuary, which also honors and recognizes the deep tribal connections to the lands in and around Owens Lake, while virtually eliminating air pollution in Owens Lake planning area; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Adams guided LADWP, with his unique mix of wit and intellect, in its relationship with Inyo County, ensuring both the steadfast protection of Los Angeles' water and land rights, while also insisting on the highest level of environmental stewardship and cooperation with our neighbors to the north; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Adams spearheaded the LADWP's leadership in establishing green hydrogen as a key resource for creating a 100 percent clean and reliable power grid for the future; became one of the original founding partners to launch the Green Hydrogen Coalition in 2021; and recognized the importance of creating dispatchable clean generation that can provide power during emergencies, or when the sun isn't shining, and the wind isn't blowing; and

**WHEREAS**, under Mr. Adams' leadership, LADWP launched the development of Intermountain Power Project (IPP) Renewed, which is transitioning LADWP's last remaining coal-fired power plant to operate with 30 percent renewably fueled hydrogen on its first day of operation; and the Scattergood Green Hydrogen-Ready Modernization Project, which will be the first in-basin generating station to incorporate green hydrogen technology; and

**WHEREAS**, under Mr. Adams' tenure, LADWP completed the historic Los Angeles 100 Percent Renewable Energy Study, which identified the path to achieving 100 percent clean energy for Los Angeles as early as 2035, as well as the LA100 Equity Study to ensure clean and equitable energy for all Angelenos; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Adams led LADWP's response to the COVID-19 worldwide pandemic and guided our organization through unprecedented circumstances to keep our workforce safe, and secure in their job status, while maintaining critical and essential life services to the citizens of Los Angeles; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Adams has played a prominent role in the advancement of sustainability and reliability policies of the City of Los Angeles, including, sitting on the Boards of Council for Watershed Health, Infrastructure LA, and the Water Research Foundation, to name a few, where his commitment will have a long-lasting impact on the community and region; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Adams' accomplishments reflect his ability to build and maintain relationships with policymakers, regulatory agencies, public agencies, and other City departments; and

**WHEREAS**, as a dynamic leader, Mr. Adams has the unique ability to remember names and faces, and connect with LADWP employees at all levels, and community members from all reaches of the LADWP services territory; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Adams has helped to promote and support, through the Joint Labor Management process, numerous safety efforts and programs to benefit employees and helped ensure they returned home safely at the end of each workday; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Adams' time at LADWP has been marked by his creativity, encyclopedic memory, innovation, can-do attitude, friendliness, fun-loving nature, and infectious laughter; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Adams will have the honor and privilege to share his decades of experience and expertise in water and electric utilities with the entire United States as part of the National Infrastructure Advisory Council, a group of experts handpicked by President Joe Biden to provide advice and recommendations on the security and resilience of the nation's critical infrastructure sectors; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Adams will, in retirement, enjoy more time in the great outdoors as a seasoned camper and angler, and may someday build that lake in his backyard; and

**WHEREAS**, with less time spent in Downtown Los Angeles, Mr. Adams will make a significant impact to the bottom line of his favorite Chinatown restaurant, Hop Li, where many bright ideas were conceived over yummy lunch specials; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Water and Power Commissioners (Board) on behalf of the management of LADWP, its employees, and the residents of the City of Los Angeles thank Mr. Adams for his dedicated public service.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary be instructed to place this resolution in the minutes of this Board as a permanent record and that an engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Adams in recognition of his unwavering dedication to public service in this City.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Water and Power Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles at its meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY  
HYDEE FELDSTEIN SOTO, CITY ATTORNEY

BY \_\_\_\_\_  
*Julie C. Riley*  
JULIE C. RILEY  
GENERAL COUNSEL