Jim Madaffer
Chair, Board of Directors

Water Authority Board Chair Jim Madaffer joined the Water Authority Board in November 2012 representing the City of San Diego. He previously served as vice chair and secretary.

He currently sits on the Imported Water Committee, the Legislation and Public Outreach Committee, the Colorado River Work Group and the MWD Settlement Negotiations Team. He is the Water Authority’s representative to the Colorado River Board.

Madaffer is president of Madaffer Enterprises, Inc., a public policy and government relations consulting firm specializing in statewide government and corporate relations.

A native San Diegan, Madaffer’s civic service spans over three decades. He served two terms as chief of staff to a city councilmember and was elected to the San Diego City Council in 2000 and re-elected in 2004.

During his tenure on the city council from 2000-2008 (leaving due to term limits), Madaffer held a number of leadership positions including council president pro-tem, mayor pro-tem, chair of the Rules Committee, chair of the Land Use & Housing Committee, chair of the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee, and chair of the Natural Resources and Culture Committee.

Madaffer also is past president of the League of California Cities. During his nine-year tenure with the League of Cities, he led the passage of several statewide ballot measures that protect cities.

In 2014, Jim was appointed by Governor Jerry Brown to the California Transportation Commission and he chairs the CTC’s Road Charge Task Force, which is tasked to create a program that will eventually replace the gasoline tax. He is also a board member of the San Diego-Imperial Council of the Boy Scouts of America. The recipient of numerous awards and honors over his career, Madaffer is a member of San Diego Rotary Club 33, and Lambda Alpha International.

Jim has two sons in college. He and his wife, Robin, live in San Diego with their two English bulldogs, Ruby and Red.