

# **Board Report**

## **Water System Operations**

### Quarterly Desert Housing Report – Q2 (Oct-Dec) FY 2023 - 2024

### **Summary**

This quarterly report provides an update on the effort to improve conditions at the four residential villages (Hinds Pumping Plant, Eagle Mountain Pumping Plant, Iron Mountain Pumping Plant, and Gene Pumping Plant) where employees live along the Colorado River Aqueduct.

The effort to improve conditions at the villages is comprised of three phases. The first phase includes the Desert Housing & Recreation Interim Action Plan (DHRIAP), which started in September 2022 and is intended to address immediate issues and respond to resident requests for focused improvements. The second phase consists of community planning and design. The community planning work is nearing completion, and a report will be provided to the Board in the second quarter of 2024. The third and final phase will include the construction of kitchens, recreational amenities, and lodging. Additional information regarding each phase is provided in the detailed report section.

In addition, there is a high-level work order summary that highlights the status of scheduled and responding to maintenance activities for this reporting period that demonstrates the organization's commitment to maintaining the residential villages.

#### **Purpose**

Informational

#### **Attachments**

None

### **Detailed Report**

### **Desert Housing Improvement Program**

The District Housing Improvement Program consists of three (3) phases:

**Phase I:** DHRIAP – In September 2022, a Housing and Recreation Committee (HRC) was established consisting of representatives from the Office of the General Manager, Facilities Management, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and Water Systems Operations. After meeting with residents and gathering feedback on immediate housing and recreational needs, the committee created a Desert Housing and Recreation Interim Action Plan (DHRIAP). The DHRIAP focuses resources on making near-term improvements in the four villages. To date, the DHRIAP consists of 33 projects. Eight of 22 projects focused on improving housing are complete. Crews are working on installing backyard shade structures and air conditioning units in garages and continuing work to renovate and refurbish 16 houses needed for new incoming employees. As of Q2, 23/24, 51 of the 96 houses needed for employee housing are new (11), renovated (17), or refurbished (23). The employee input in helping to create the Plan led to the creation of 11 projects to improve existing recreation facilities, of which six are now complete.

Through December 2023, a total of \$5.5 million has been expended to address immediate needs and resident requests. It is anticipated that completion of the 33 housing and recreation projects will require an expenditure of

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approximately \$10 million. There has been a considerable increase in the scope of work for this first phase, including the renovation and refurbishment of an additional six houses for new employees, additional carports, the addition of a Gene Camp community center, the replacement of over 30 electrical load centers and the complete replastering of the Iron Mountain Pool.

### Phase II: Community Planning and Design

**A.** Community Planning – Metropolitan is in the process of creating a future vision for employees. Metropolitan has acquired the services of a community planner (consultant) to assist with the development of a future vision of how best to provide employees that require housing in the remote Desert locations with a sense of community, recreational amenities, improved kitchens and lodges, and appropriate housing options. The community planning work is nearing completion, and a report will be provided to the Board in the second quarter of 2024.

**B.** Design – Following the creation of an updated vision, design packages will be prepared.

**Phase III:** Implementation/Construction – Following completion of phase II, Metropolitan will proceed with the implementation/construction phase.

**DHRIAP Project Highlights** 

### Housing Renovations



Target Completion: June 2024 Seven houses were selected to be removed from the demolition list and will be completely renovated for tenant occupancy. 16 houses are currently under various stages of construction.



Renovation work - Before



Renovation work - After

### **Backyard Privacy Slats**



Target Completion: TBD Where existing fencing is in good shape, the installation of privacy slats at 10 houses has been completed. An award for a contract for the installation of fencing at the remaining houses (with privacy slats) is being prepared for bid.





Before After

## **Emergency Contact Infomation**



Completed: February 2024

Refrigerator magnets with emergency contact information and procedures have been delivered to each residence. The goal is to ensure that residents and guests have the pertinent information available in the event of an emergency.





Refrigerator magnets displaying emergency contact information

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### **Work Order Summary**

The total count of work orders generated within this reporting period was 90. The team completed 88 workorders (98%), including (40) Corrective Maintenance, (17) general maintenance, (7) preventative maintenance, and (26) housing improvement work orders. The backlog for this period is 2 weeks of work orders (2%), including (1) resident request(s), and (1) housing improvement work orders. There are no outstanding work orders related to health and safety concerns

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