



General Manager's Monthly Report



Activities for the Month of July 2023



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Message from the General Manager

Safeguarding clean drinking water for our 26 member agencies and the 19 million Southern Californians who depend on us is paramount at Metropolitan.

In July, we released our [2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report](#), and as we observe National Water Quality Month in August, I am proud of the work we are doing to protect public health by providing the highest quality drinking water.

We will be recognizing this leadership in many ways, including a graphic series on our social media to:

- Showcase our rigorous monitoring program—more than 400 constituents, through more than 200,000 tests on samples drawn from our extensive water system—which ensures our treated water consistently surpasses regulatory requirements;
- Spotlight and thank our scientists and engineers who are pioneering innovative methods to protect our water supply; and
- Share how we apply the latest research to understand and solve the many emerging challenges to water quality.

Our staff continues to set the standard for excellence and is looked to as leaders in the field. Our involvement in state and national technical forums keeps us on the cutting edge. And through collaboration with our member agencies, we can both protect and promote the value and integrity of our shared water supplies.

It is my hope that through these efforts, we can bolster the public's trust in their tap water and confidence in Metropolitan's ability to deliver the highest quality water to Southern California.

We are one,

Adel



“The noblest search of today is the search for excellence. In every endeavor, there simply cannot be allowed any lessening in this search.”

**- Lyndon B. Johnson
35th U.S. President**



Strategic Priorities Update

The General Manager's Strategic Priorities guide actions in key areas of focus, investment, and transformation for Metropolitan.

Empower the workforce and promote diversity, equity, and inclusion

Build a safe, inclusive, and accountable workplace where all employees feel valued, respected, and able to meaningfully contribute to decisions about their work.

This month the National Safety Council was onsite to begin the implementation of the safety program recommendations. They met with the General Manager, management, bargaining units and employee focus groups. Metropolitan Management University held its second session for the 13th cohort of 21 new managers. The topic was Emotional Intelligence and Self Awareness. Participants completed an EQ assessment, and the training team will debrief them individually regarding the assessment.

Prepare and support the workforce by expanding training and skill development and updating strategies to recruit and retain diverse talent at a time when Metropolitan's needs are evolving and employee expectations about the workplace are changing.

As part of the independent organizational assessment being conducted by the General Manager, a specific assessment of workforce development programs and opportunities has begun. The assessment will look at what's already happening within the workforce development function at Metropolitan and will consider opportunities to amplify and leverage efforts among member agencies toward a regional benefit. This assessment will serve to inform the expansion of a focused workforce development program, including the eventual recruitment of a program manager.

Sustain Metropolitan's mission with a strengthened business model

Manage rate pressure on member agencies through attention to programmatic costs, organizational efficiencies and efforts to secure external funding for projects with broad and multi-purpose benefits.

The General Manager announced a set of organizational changes and presented the changes at a virtual meeting open to all employees and attended by more than 900. Based on the organizational assessment, the changes are intended to better align staffing and resources and to better support several important functions, including grant funding, internal communications, water system operations, and safety. Implementation of the announced changes begins in August.

The application deadline was delayed from July to August for Inflation Reduction Act "Bucket 2" funding for long-term reduction of Colorado River water. Metropolitan is developing a proposal for significant funding, at the scale of \$300–400 M.

Adapt to changing climate and water resources

Provide each member agency access to an equivalent level of water supply reliability through necessary adaptive implementation of the IRP findings.

The State Legislature broke for summer recess only after the legislation co-sponsored by Metropolitan to restrict watering of non-functional turf (AB 1572) passed out of the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee. It is now pending in the Appropriations committee.

Significant milestones are being reached on projects identified during the drought emergency, which will help to close water supply gaps: Design is complete for the Inland Feeder/Rialto Pipeline Intertie, and bids open on August 9. Design has also been completed for the Inland Feeder Badlands Tunnel Surge Protection. And for improvements to the Sepulveda and Venice pump stations, staff has selected a preferred contractor and has begun negotiating an agreement for preconstruction design services under a progressive design-build contract. Board consideration of the Phase 1 agreement is scheduled for September.

Strategic Priorities Update

(continued)

Advance the long-term reliability and resilience of the region's water sources through a One Water approach that recognizes the interconnected nature of imported and local supplies, meets both community and ecosystem needs, and adapts to a changing climate.

The CAMP4W Planning team is finalizing three technical memos for the Board that (1) lay out the CAMP4W process, (2) provide a working overview of the CAMP4W Themes, and (3) outline background information and assumptions of the IRP Needs Assessment. Monthly CAMP4W-focused member agency meetings continue, and staff has prepared two panel discussions for August board discussions including one on affordability at the EIA committee and one providing perspectives from other utilities on climate adaptation planning at the LRPPBM subcommittee.

More than 1.1 million AF of stormwater has been captured within Metropolitan's service area this water year to date, the most captured in 35 years! Two of the projects funded by Metropolitan in the stormwater recharge pilot, which were sponsored by IEUA and Western, completed their first full year of monitoring. As we set proactive targets for stormwater capture, this monitoring is critical to better understanding the water supply yield of stormwater in the service area.

Work on the Pure Water Southern California Draft EIR continues, but completion has been delayed by efforts to enable the potential integration with LADWP's Operation NEXT facilities, which involves analysis of possible upsizing of pipe.

The Reservoir Committee and Authority Board authorized submission for the Sites Reservoir Project to receive the Governor's certification as a Senate Bill 149-eligible infrastructure project. If certified, any CEQA litigation would be expedited, with the goal of completing trial court and appellate proceedings within 270 days of filing of the certified administrative record.

Among the other activities in support of our Bay Delta policies, science staff participated in the final presentations of multiple analyses covering topics including Delta smelt entrainment, management of longfin smelt, and habitat actions related to the 2020 ITP and 2019 BiOps. These presentations are part of our long-standing involvement in collaborations to share information among state and federal agencies and other interested parties. Metropolitan's Board approved the purchase of the remaining Delta Island flow meters in compliance with Senate Bill 88 and which continues to position Metropolitan as leaders in flow monitoring activity and technology. Staff are also developing recommendations for the Bouldin Island draft/final "Outcomes" report and preparing a board action to amend the CIP to add the Webb Tract Mosaic Landscape Project.

Protect public health, the regional economy, and Metropolitan's assets

Proactively identify, assess, and reduce potential vulnerabilities to Metropolitan's system, operations, and infrastructure.

All outstanding dam emergency action plans are on track for official submittal by the end of 2023. Staff is advancing seismic resilience projects identified in the CIP and identifying seismic vulnerabilities within the system. We executed agreement for professional services with HDR to conduct two dam risk assessments for Lake Mathews and Lake Skinner, which are expected to begin in August. Seismic upgrade work also continued with preliminary design for the Weymouth Water Quality Lab and design for Copper Basin Reservoir.

Physical security efforts this month focused on emerging possible security threats from drones by learning more about mitigation technologies, developing response options, and partnering with other organizations to exchange knowledge and best practices.

Apply innovation, technology, and sustainable practices across project lifecycles (design, construction, operations, maintenance, and replacement).

The organization, led by Contracting Services and SRI, this month finalized the revision to the operating policy that will help prioritize sustainability in our procurement activities. Contracting Services will revise the procedures manual to address sustainable procurement processes.

Partner with interested parties and the communities we serve

Grow and deepen collaboration and relationships among member agencies, interested parties, and leaders on the issues most important to them and toward mutual and/or regional benefits.

To advance local hiring and other goals of the Project Labor Agreement (PLA), Metropolitan has begun outreach efforts to City of Carson. Staff is on schedule to deliver the first annual PLA report in November.

Executive Summary

This executive summary is added to this report to provide a high-level snapshot of a key accomplishment from each area of the organization. Detailed information is reported in the pages following this summary.

Administrative Services

In an effort to network, visit, and understand Metropolitan's many work environments and promote the Rideshare program, Rideshare Services staff participated in two field site Safety Events! First, at Diemer, on June 28, and then at Jensen on July 10. The Rideshare Team was present to answer program questions, encourage participation in one of our district-wide programs, and meet current Rideshare participants. In addition to the entire Rideshare team, our Vanpool partner, Commute with Enterprise, also attended to promote their program and meet current vanpool participants.

Bay-Delta Resources

At the July 21 joint Sites Project Authority (Authority) Board and Reservoir Committee Meeting, the Reservoir Committee and Authority Board authorized the Executive Director to submit a request for the Sites Reservoir Project to receive the Governor's certification as a Senate Bill 149-eligible infrastructure project. This request includes agreeing to pay the costs of trial court and court of appeal and to prepare the record of proceedings. Making the request to the governor now is necessary because the Senate Bill 149 certification must occur before the approval of the Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement by the Authority, which is currently scheduled for certification in September 2023. If certified, any California Environmental Quality Act litigation would be expedited, with the goal of completing trial court and appellate proceedings within 270 days of filing of the certified administrative record.

Chief Financial Officer

On June 21, 2023, Metropolitan issued \$258,410,000 in Water Revenue and Refunding Bonds, 2023 Series A. Bond proceeds funded a portion of Metropolitan's Capital Investment Plan, repaid a \$35.6 million draw on a Wells Fargo Bank Revolving Credit Facility that was used to refund a like amount of subordinate lien bonds, and funded costs of issuance.

Colorado River Resources

Following the June 16, 2023, initiation of the Post-2026 National Environmental Policy Act process by publishing a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement in the Federal Register, the Basin States have been meeting to develop a consensus scooping letter. Concurrently, the Lower Basin executes additional contracts as part of its short-term plan to protect Lake Powell and Lake Mead through 2026.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

On July 20, the Business Outreach team attended the Paths to Leadership: AAPI Perspectives in the Water/Wastewater Sector in Los Angeles, California. Leaders within the Water/Wastewater sector join together to share their perspectives from an AAPI lens and discuss their pathway to becoming a leader in the industry. Panel speakers included Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager of Inland Empire Utilities Agency; Eros Young, Engineering Manager of Orange County Sanitation District; Deven Upadhyay, Executive Officer and Assistant General Manager of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; Phuong Watson, Senior Engineer of Water Replenishment District; and Sunny Wang, Water Resources Manager of the— City of Santa Monica.

Engineering Services

Two major pipeline rehabilitation projects were completed during the month. Construction of the third and final stage of the Orange County Feeder Extension Lining Replacement project was completed and the pipeline was returned to service in early July 2023. The completion of this contract finishes a three-stage rehabilitation effort that started in 2014 to reline approximately 11 miles of this critical pipeline. The Etiwanda Pipeline Relining project also made significant progress. This project replaces the deteriorated cement mortar lining with polyurethane lining. Construction is essentially complete, and the pipeline was returned to service in late July 2023, two months ahead of schedule, allowing Metropolitan to take advantage of available State Water supplies. The completion of this contract finishes a three-stage rehabilitation effort that started in 2008 to reline approximately 5.4 miles of the feeder.

External Affairs

On July 19, Metropolitan celebrated the presentation of \$80 million from state officials to advance work on the Pure Water Southern California project. The event, which was livestreamed and covered by Spectrum News and Univision, was attended by: GM Hagekhalil; Assemblymember Calderon (D-Whittier); Assemblymember Gipson (D-Gardena); Directors Erdman, Chacon, Dennstedt, Dick, Douglas, Lefevre and McCoy; State Water Resources Control Board Chair Esquivel; Carson Mayor Pro Tem Hilton; community leaders and member agencies.

Human Resources

The Organizational Development & Training Unit (OD&T) hosted a new training program to help employees and managers develop assertive but respectful communication skills (Communicating Authentically and Effectively). These classes were attended by 18 employees and 14 managers.

Information Technology

The Design phase of the Payroll and Timekeeping project kicked off this month with the vendor onsite to work with the project team and stakeholders.

Real Property

Staff attended the IRWA 69th Annual Education Conference in Denver, Colorado. At the conference, staff attended numerous education sessions and networking opportunities. Staff's attendance bolstered their knowledge in the right-of-way industry and allowed valuable connections to be made with colleagues at other agencies and organizations around the country.

Security Management

New reinforced meter cabinets protect vulnerable electronic components well into future decades.

Sustainability, Resiliency and Innovation

SRI, in partnership with other groups, led CAMP4W discussions at the Member Agency Meeting and initiated monthly Climate Science meeting with board leadership. SRI also continues to lead the EV Executive Task Force and will have a draft Roadmap for the EV Transition next month. SRI also completed its Sustainability Expo Roadshow in partnership with Safety Fairs reaching over 800 employees throughout the district. This month, the Innovation team and BDI launched a pilot using Water SAT technology with geospatial AI to remotely monitor levees on Bouldin Island. EPS continues to collaborate and ideate with ESG, LACSD, and others on completing a draft EIR for Pure Water Southern California.

Water Resource Management

In response to surplus water supply conditions, Metropolitan staff is leading a Member Agency and Groundwater Manager process to identify ways to capture more of the available water supply. The goal of this workgroup is to develop new programs for the Board's consideration to provide the General Manager with more water capture opportunities for the upcoming water year.

Water System Operations

On July 12, the Apprenticeship Program celebrated the Class of 2023 by holding a completion ceremony at the new Apprenticeship Training Center. Five electricians and ten mechanics were recognized for successfully completing the Program's academic portion. The four-year program includes eight periods of classroom instruction and over 100 written and practical exams. Outstanding achievement awards were presented to the top-performing apprentice from each discipline. The class was commended for demonstrating persistence and flexibility by overcoming many challenges, including the pandemic. This year marked the 20th anniversary of the Apprenticeship Program. Since its inception in 2003, the Program has developed and graduated 154 journey-level technicians who compose over 50 percent of the current electrical and mechanical trades workforce responsible for maintaining Metropolitan's treatment and distribution facilities.



EEO COMPLAINT DATA COMPILED FROM CASE IQ (APRIL-JUNE)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

As part of its ongoing commitment to improve essential services to better serve our workforce, Metropolitan has implemented an electronic recordkeeping system to accurately and completely track EEO complaints in one location.

The Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Office, in partnership with Case IQ, developed a customized case database system to track and manage EEO complaints and investigations. The electronic database system is only accessible to EEO investigative staff and has the capacity to confidentially and securely store documents, videos and audio recordings. It allows the EEO Office to track complaints, investigative findings, and disciplinary and settlement outcomes.

The system helps the EEO Office better monitor discrimination trends occurring in Metropolitan's workforce and gives the office the ability to submit quarterly reports to the Board on statistical EEO data to ensure the transparency, efficiency and accountability of its EEO program.

IMPORTANCE TO METROPOLITAN

In 2021, the California State Auditor (CSA) issued its report on Metropolitan's mishandling of EEO complaints from 2004 to 2021. Among the CSA's many recommendations, the CSA charged Metropolitan with implementing an electronic recordkeeping system. Prior to Case IQ, Metropolitan maintained physical case files in boxes and tracked EEO complaints across multiple Excel spreadsheets.

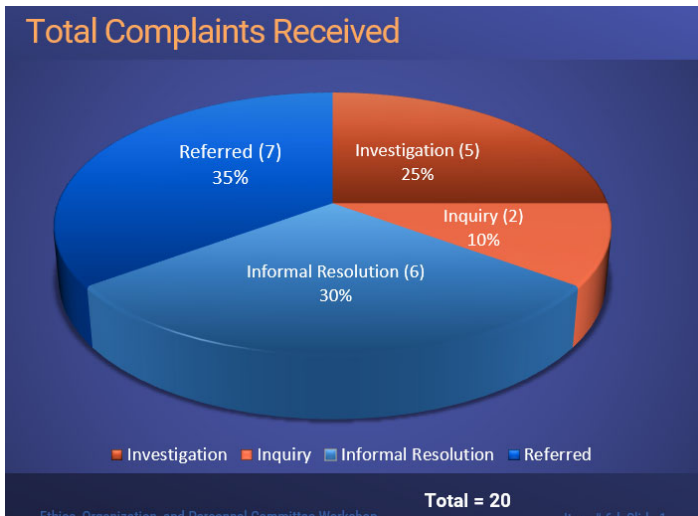
The development of the case database system complies with the CSA's recordkeeping recommendation and allows the EEO Office to keep the Board informed about EEO settlements and other relevant data. Other departments, including Employee Relations and General Counsel, have since implemented or are looking into Case IQ to meet their own needs, and the EEO Office has played a role in helping these departments streamline their set-up process.

MEMORABLE MOMENT

This year, the EEO Office submitted its first quarterly report to the Board of Directors utilizing statistical complaint data obtained from Case IQ.

The EEO Office looks forward to continuing to collect, analyze and report data for the benefit of Metropolitan's workforce and stakeholders.

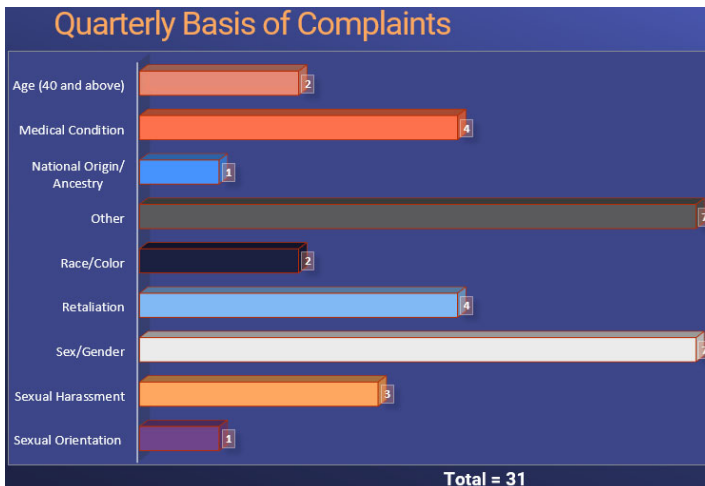
Total Complaints Received



Above: Total Complaints Received

Below: Basis of Complaints

Quarterly Basis of Complaints



"EEO's new case management system allows my team to work more efficiently and effectively to better meet the needs of our workforce, and to be proactive rather than reactive."

-Marisol Arzate, Deputy Chief EEO Officer

Water Resources and Engineering



Water Resource Management

Ensure Access to Sufficient Water Supplies to Operate a Full Colorado River Aqueduct in Times of Drought

Staff participated in a three-day workshop in Manhattan Beach hosted by the Colorado River Board of California (CRB) to discuss California's interests and strategy ahead of interstate negotiations to determine guidelines that will govern the major reservoirs on the Colorado River once the current Interim Guidelines expire in 2026. Workshop participants included representatives from the six California agencies with rights to water or power from Colorado River facilities that sit on the CRB: Imperial Irrigation District, Palo Verde Irrigation District, Coachella Valley Water District, San Diego County Water Authority, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, and Metropolitan. The operational guidelines governing Colorado River reservoirs significantly influence Metropolitan's supply of Colorado River water. Thus, the nature of the future guidelines is critical to Metropolitan's supply of imported water.

Implement Regional Conservation Program

Metropolitan held a workshop in the City of San Fernando to explain the Turf Replacement Program policies and procedures to city residents.

Manage Existing and Develop New Regional Water Management Programs to Maintain Water Supply Reliability in the Face of Increasing Water Supply Volatility.

Staff participated in a meeting hosted by Las Virgenes MWD on an alternative approach to seawater desalination using submerged, offshore buoys. Locating seawater desalination facilities offshore is a new approach with potential environmental and permitting benefits. This includes the ability to develop utility-scale desalination projects with a minimal on-shore footprint. Staff provided updates on Metropolitan's activities including the potential desalination studies. Las Virgenes is developing an MOU with an offshore technology vendor to perform a pilot test in Southern California. Several other water agencies within Metropolitan's service area also attended the meeting.

In response to surplus water supply conditions, Metropolitan staff is leading a Member Agency and Groundwater Manager process to identify ways to capture more of the available water supply. The goal of this workgroup is to develop new programs for the Board's consideration to provide the General Manager with more water capture opportunities for the upcoming water year.

Collaborate with Member Agencies, Water Agencies and Associations, and Provide Leadership for Policy Development, Advocacy, Outreach and Education

On July 6, staff participated in a speaker panel for the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)'s Energy and Environment Policy Committee. Staff gave a presentation on Metropolitan's Water Shortage Contingency Plan and other planning efforts to ensure water resilience and reliability for the region.

On July 6, staff presented at the Central/West/Gateway Caucus on how the 2020 IRP Needs Assessment is the analytical foundation for the Climate Action Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W).

Water Resources and Engineering

(continued)

Staff collaborated with CalDesal and member agency staff to review and respond to proposed state siting criteria for seawater desalination projects. As part of the 2022 Water Supply Strategy, the Governor tasked state agencies in the Seawater Desalination Interagency Group to develop siting criteria for seawater desalination projects. The state agencies released draft criteria on July 12th and held an informational webinar on July 21. The draft criteria would provide concurrent, expedited permit reviews if proposed seawater desalination projects use subsurface intakes, dispose of brine in wastewater outfalls, and meet other requirements related to mitigation, environmental justice, tribal consultation, and other provisions. Staff participated in the drafting of CalDesal's comment letter and also prepared a Metropolitan comment letter on the provisions. Comments were due to the SWRCB on July 28.

Implement Future Supply Actions Funding Program

Staff from WRM and Water Quality briefed representatives from Santa Margarita Water District on methodologies for estimating evaporation on large reservoirs. During the meeting, staff shared information on novel approaches for estimating evaporation discovered through innovation efforts and technology scans.

Promote Metropolitan's Technical Capabilities and Innovation Efforts to Advance the Understanding of Water Resources Management.

WRM staff initiated a soft rollout of an innovative video-sharing platform developed by Booky Oren GWT (BOGWT). The k2i platform allows Metropolitan staff to view over 100 peer-to-peer meetings between global water agencies participating in BOGWT's peer network. The videos cover a wide range of topics including water quality, asset management, resource planning, cyber security, and workforce development to name a few. The platform is currently available to all Metropolitan staff. Plans for a full roll-out are under development in partnership with the Sustainability, Resiliency, and Innovation Office.

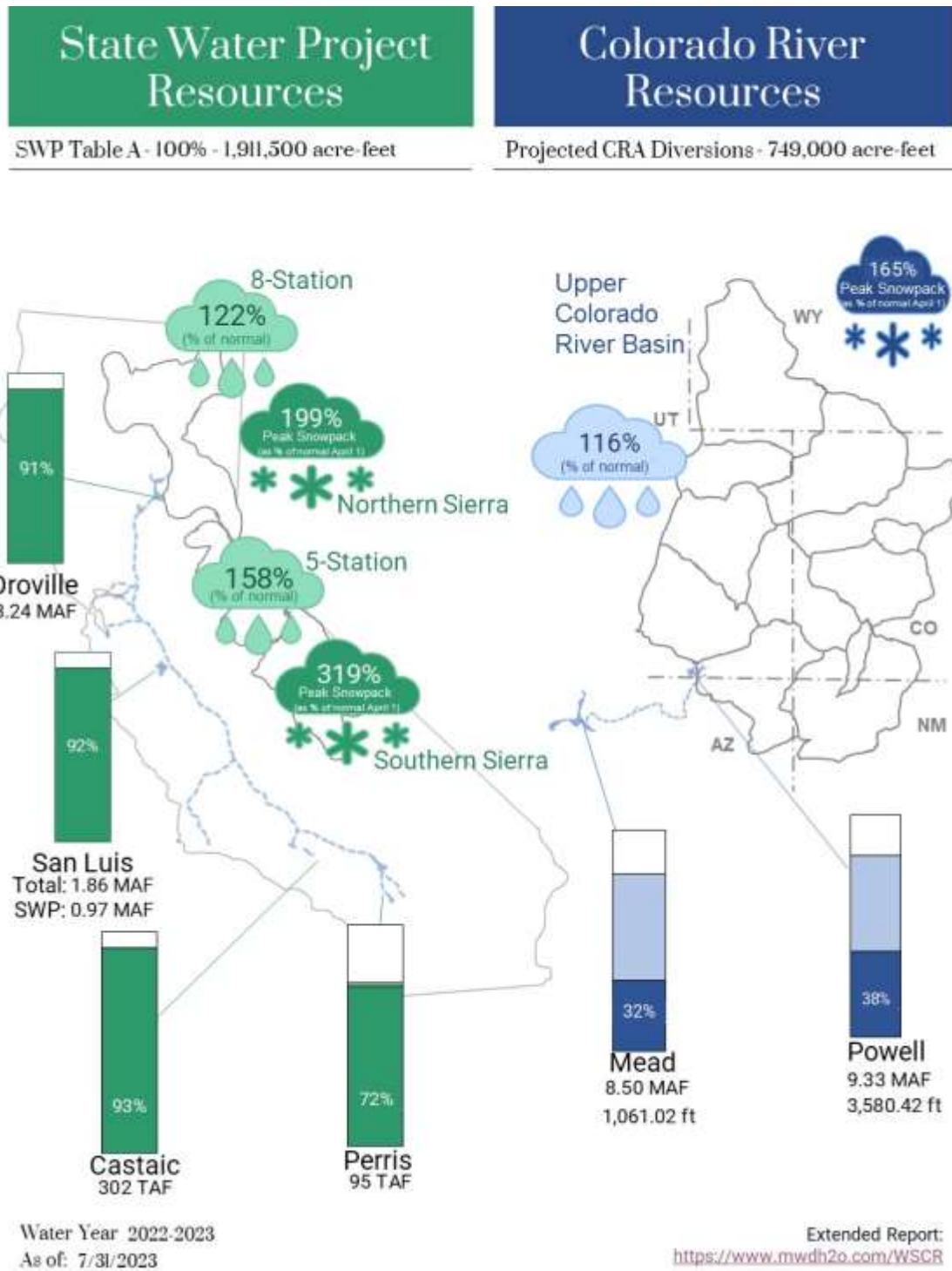
K2i Platform

- Access to previous presentations and materials
- Request a follow-up discussion with peer agencies
- Available to all MWD staff

The screenshot displays the K2i Platform interface. On the left, there is a sidebar with a search bar and a list of presentations. The main area shows a video player with a thumbnail of a water treatment facility. Below the video player, there is a section titled "BIM Modeling" and another titled "Autodesk Construction Cloud of BIM".

Water Resources and Engineering

(continued)



As of July 31, 2023

Bay-Delta Resources

Core Functions

Delta Conveyance

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) released a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act for a public review that ended on December 16, 2022. DWR received more than 700 unique comment letters with over 6,000 individual comments. DWR is in the process of developing responses to the comments received. The Final EIR is expected at the end of 2023. It will include responses to all substantive comments on the Draft EIR and edits to the Draft EIR, as appropriate, to respond to the comments.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), as part of its permitting review under the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act, released a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act for a public review that ended on March 16, 2023. USACE is in the process of developing responses to the comments received.

Delta Conveyance related Joint Powers Authorities

The July 20 regularly scheduled Delta Conveyance Finance Authority meeting was cancelled.

Sites Reservoir

At the joint Sites Project Authority (Authority) Board and Reservoir Committee Meeting on July 21, the Reservoir Committee and Authority Board authorized the Executive Director to submit a request for the Sites Reservoir Project to receive the Governor's certification as a Senate Bill 149-eligible infrastructure project. This request includes agreeing to pay costs of trial court, court of appeal, and preparing the record of proceedings. Making the request to the Governor now is necessary because the Senate Bill 149 certification must occur before the approval of the Final EIR/EIS by the Authority, which is currently scheduled for certification in September 2023. If certified, any California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) litigation would be expedited, with the goal of completing trial court and appellate proceedings within 270 days of filing of the certified administrative record.

The Authority is required under the Joint Powers Agreement to have an annual audit performed. Fechter and Company, Certified Public Accountants continues to be the Authority's auditor and has concluded an examination of the Authority's financial information, including fiscal year 2022. The 2022 financial audit, which included a single audit, found no significant or reportable findings. There were no recommended improvements for strengthening internal controls and operation efficiency identified in the 2022 report.

Science Activities

Throughout the month of July, science staff participated in the final presentations of multiple analyses covering topics including Delta smelt entrainment, management of longfin smelt, and habitat actions related to the 2020 Incidental Take Permit (ITP) and 2019 Biological Opinions (BiOp).

At the Delta Smelt Scoping Team on July 11, staff presented the final analysis of the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team (CAMT) Entrainment Studies. The analysis centered on the evaluation of estimates of proportional entrainment of adult Delta smelt in a lifecycle model. Although proportional entrainment could have been influential to the population in the past, the analysis ultimately concluded that recent low entrainment was not

likely to be significant to the population. The results suggest that the current entrainment management may be effective.

On July 20 at the Estuarine Ecology Team meeting staff participated in the presentation of efforts by state and federal agencies to manage longfin smelt in the San Francisco Estuary. The presentations included updates on Priority Science Efforts as mandated by the 2020 ITP to operate the State Water Project. Efforts to improve entrainment risk predictions, lifecycle modeling, and culturing efforts were highlights of the presentation.

Metropolitan science staff is continuing to participate with state and federal agencies in developing the final analysis and presentations on the Summer Fall Habitat Actions from the 2019 BiOp/2020 ITP for independent review as part of the four-year review requirement from the permits. The analysis will include an evaluation of the North Delta Foodweb Subsidy, the Suisun Marsh Salinity Control Gate, and Fall X2. The analysis will be limited because of the limited times that each of these actions were implemented and may just be an update for the future panel to provide comment for future evaluations.

Delta Island Activities

On July 11, Metropolitan's Board approved the purchase of the remaining flow meters in compliance with Senate Bill 88 (2016). Once this phase of meters is installed by the end of 2024, Metropolitan will have fulfilled its obligation under the approved "Plan for Phased Measurement Implementation" for each of its Delta Islands. Continuous data collection for water diversions will be important for annual water use reporting to the Water Resources Control Board.

Staff is conducting final technical advisory meetings for the Delta Island Adaptations Project and developing concept-level adaptations recommendations for the draft/final "Outcomes" report for Bouldin Island. This phase of the project is looking at landscape opportunities with the objectives to stop land subsidence, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, provide for sustainable agriculture, promote habitat restoration, and build collaboration for community science, agriculture, and ecoculture education through land use opportunities. The project team will begin drafting the "Outcomes" report, with a final report completed by end of 2023. Future reports will inform the Board on input received and final adaptation opportunities (pilot/research projects) for Bouldin Island.

Following the Board's action to accept the \$20.9 million dollar grant from the Delta Conservancy for the Webb Tract Mosaic Landscape Project (Project), staff is preparing a board action to be heard at the September 2023 Engineering, Operations, and Technology Committee meeting to amend the current biennial Capital Investment Plan to add the Project and award consultant agreements for design, environmental planning, and scientific analyses. Award of these agreements and signing of the finalized grant agreement with the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy will kick off Phase 1 of the Project. Staff will return to the Board for approval of environmental documentation before proceeding with Phase 2.

Colorado River Resources

Work Continues on Post-2026 Guidelines Process and Lower Basin Plan as Part of Revised Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Short-Term Operations

On June 16, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) initiated the process for developing the post-2026 Colorado River Guidelines. They laid out a schedule in which a Draft EIS would be prepared by the end of 2024, followed by a Final EIS and Record of Decision in time for the 2027 operating year. The initial step is to solicit scoping comments for the National Environmental Policy Act process. Reclamation has requested input on the scope, strategies, and other issues that should be considered in the development of the EIS. In July, the Colorado River Basin States (Basin States) have been meeting to develop a seven-state scoping comment letter. The letter does not include negotiating positions but does include what actions should be analyzed in the EIS. Metropolitan staff participates on an interstate workgroup that is drafting the letter, which, if approved, would be signed by the Chair of the Colorado River Board of California, along with the principal representatives from each of the other Basin States. Metropolitan is planning on sending a separate set of scoping comments that will focus on our agency's particular interest in the upcoming Guidelines. Comments are due August 15, and staff will share a copy of the comments with the Board when they are complete.

Work also continues on the development of the Lower Basin Plan to conserve an additional 3 million acre-feet of water above the existing shortage requirements. In July, Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) executed a contract to conserve 105,000 acre-feet of water over the next 3 years, leaving the water in Lake Mead as system water. CVWD will receive funds under the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) for water left in Lake Mead. Also in July, Imperial Irrigation District and the Fort Mojave Quechan Indian Tribe received draft water conservation contracts to conserve additional supplies. Palo Verde Irrigation District and Bard Water District are still waiting for their contracts. In July, Reclamation extended the deadline to submit longer-term conservation proposals for IRA funding, known as "Bucket 2 Projects," to August 18. Metropolitan staff is developing a proposal to submit to Reclamation and will incorporate feedback from the Board and member agencies in its final proposal. Staff will share a copy of the submittal with the Board when they are complete.

Engineering

Core Business Function – Execute Capital Investment Plan Projects

Engineering Services manages and executes projects within the Capital Investment Plan (CIP) to maintain infrastructure resiliency, ensure regulatory compliance, enhance sustainability, and provide flexibility in system operations to address uncertain water supply conditions.

Distribution System Reliability Program

This program maintains reliable water deliveries through specific rehabilitation and upgrade projects on Metropolitan's pipelines, reservoirs, and control structures. Recent activities include the following:

- **Etiwanda Pipeline Relining**—This project removes damaged mortar lining in 5.5 miles of pipeline and replaces it with polyurethane lining. Stages 1 and 2, which relined 3 miles of the pipeline, have already been completed. Stage 3 relines the remaining 2.5 miles of pipeline and is currently under construction. The contractor has removed all mortar lining and is currently applying the polyurethane lining. Stage 3 construction is 91 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in August 2023, two months ahead of schedule.
- **Orange County Feeder Lining Repairs**—This project replaces the deteriorated internal lining along an 11-mile portion of the Orange County Feeder within the cities of Santa Ana, Costa Mesa, and Newport Beach. Rehabilitation is proceeding in three stages. Construction of Stages 1 and 2 are complete. Metropolitan's Board awarded a construction contract for the third and final stage in April 2022. The contractor completed applying mortar lining, and the pipeline was returned to service. Construction is approximately 87 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by September 2023.
- **Rialto Pipeline Rehabilitation**—This project replaces a 35 foot long, 121.5-inch diameter section of welded steel pipe on the Rialto Pipeline in the city of Upland, where the mortar lining has completely failed. This project also replaces the failed pipe spool and isolation valve at the CB-11 service connection. Final design is 90 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in December 2024.
- **Upgrades at Three Sepulveda Feeder Structures**—This project replaces deteriorated electrical components, makes other upgrades at three Sepulveda Feeder underground structures, and installs two blind flanges after removing a spool on the West Valley Feeder No. 1. The contractor continued installing electrical conduits in the vaults and blind flanges in the West Valley No. 1 interconnection vault. Construction is 54 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in December 2023.



Etiwanda Pipeline Relining—Clean up

Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP) Reliability Program

This program was established to enhance the reliability of Metropolitan’s water distribution system and to reduce the risk of costly emergency repairs of PCCP. The priority pipelines included in the program are the Second Lower Feeder, Sepulveda Feeder, Calabasas Feeder, Rialto Pipeline, and the Allen-McColloch Pipeline. A total of 100 miles of PCCP pipelines will be refurbished under this 20-year program. Recent activities include the following:

- **Lake Mathews PCCP Valve Warehouse**—This project constructs a warehouse for storage of large-diameter valves in support of the PCCP Rehabilitation Program. Metropolitan’s Board awarded a construction contract in February 2022. The contractor is currently performing asphalt paving and installing the building’s fire sprinkler system. Construction is 86 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in September 2023.
- **Second Lower Feeder PCCP Rehabilitation Reach 3B**—This project installs steel lining along a 3.7-mile-long portion of the Second Lower Feeder that traverses the cities of Lomita, Los Angeles, and Torrance. A contract was awarded by Metropolitan’s Board in January 2023. The contractor is currently forwarding contract submittals for review and obtaining permits. The contractor performed utility potholing work in May and June 2023. Major construction activities will commence in August 2023 with site work related to constructing the temporary bypass line around the Palos Verdes Reservoir. This bypass line will ensure that member agency service connections on this portion of the feeder remain in-service during the construction contract. Construction is 21 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in September 2025.
- **Calabasas Feeder PCCP Rehabilitation**—This project rehabilitates the Calabasas Feeder, which is approximately 9 miles long, and delivers treated water from the Joseph Jensen Water Treatment Plant to the cities of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, and Westlake Village, and to areas of unincorporated western Los Angeles County. Preliminary design is 61 percent complete and scheduled to be complete in May 2024.
- **Sepulveda Feeder Urgent Carbon Fiber Lining**—This project will rehabilitate deteriorated PCCP segments using carbon fiber lining. In February 2023, a pipeline inspection discovered the three deteriorated segments which are located approximately three miles apart, in the Van Nuys, Sherman Oaks, and Brentwood neighborhoods of the City of Los Angeles. Design is complete and board award of a construction contract is scheduled for August 2023.

- **Sepulveda Feeder PCCP Rehabilitation Reach 1**—This project rehabilitates PCCP segments of the Sepulveda Feeder. Reach 1 of the Sepulveda Feeder spans 4.7 miles through several cities including the cities of Hawthorne, Inglewood, and Los Angeles. Final design is approximately 73 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in August 2024.

Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) Reliability Program

This program maintains the reliability of Metropolitan’s CRA conveyance system. Recent activities include the following:

- **CRA Pumping Plants Overhead Crane Replacement**—This project consists of replacing five overhead bridge cranes and retrofitting the support structures within the pump bays located at all five of Metropolitan’s Colorado River Aqueduct pumping plants. The contractor has completed the installation of the new crane at the Gene Pumping Plant and began work at Iron Mountain Pumping Plant. Construction is 37 percent complete and scheduled to be complete in December 2023.
- **Hinds Village Paving**—This project consists of replacing the asphalt paving within the village at the Hinds Pumping Plant. A contract was awarded under the General Manager’s authority to award contracts under \$250,000 in April 2023. The contract work is currently underway, and construction will be completed in September 2023.
- **Mile 12 Flow Monitoring Station**—This project will replace the CRA Mile 12 flow meter and upgrades the appurtenant facilities at the monitoring station. The contractor is completing the final terminations and testing of the electrical equipment. Construction is 99 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in August 2023.
- **Freda Siphon Seals**—This project consists of installing internal seals at over 80 locations along the Freda Siphon to address existing cracks and leaks. While the cracks in the liners do not compromise the structural integrity of the conduits, over time the cracks may propagate through the siphon walls and leaks, which could cause damage to the siphons. Design is complete and board award of a construction contract is scheduled for September 2023.
- **CRA Erosion Control**—This project will install erosion control features at 19 conduit locations along the CRA that are vulnerable to erosion during storm events. Preliminary design is 70 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in December 2023.

System Flexibility/Supply Reliability

Projects under this program will enhance the flexibility and/or increase the capacity of Metropolitan’s water supply and delivery infrastructure to meet current and projected service demands. Projects under this program address climate change affecting water supply, regional drought, and alternative water sources for areas dependent on State Project Water.

- **Wadsworth Pumping Plant Bypass**—In conjunction with three other projects, this project enhances water supply reliability in the Rialto Pipeline service area by enabling water to be pumped from the Wadsworth Pumping Plant forebay to Rialto Pipeline by way of the Inland Feeder. This project will install a bypass pipeline and an isolation valve to interconnect the Wadsworth Pumping Plant with the Eastside Pipeline. Metropolitan’s Board awarded a construction contract in January 2023. The contractor has mobilized onsite and started excavation for the valve structure. Construction is 8 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in May 2024.

Water Resources and Engineering

(continued)

- **Badlands Tunnel Surge Tank**—In conjunction with three other projects, this project enhances water supply reliability in the Rialto Pipeline service area by enabling water to be pumped from the Wadsworth Pumping Plant forebay to Rialto Pipeline by way of the Inland Feeder. This project, which will install a new hydraulic surge tank at the south portal of the tunnel, will protect the Inland Feeder from excessive negative pressures that could develop from an unexpected shutting down of the pumps at Wadsworth Pumping Plant. Final design is complete and board award of a construction contract is scheduled for October 2023.
- **Inland Feeder-Rialto Pipeline Intertie**—In conjunction with three other projects, this project enhances water supply reliability in the Rialto Pipeline service area by enabling water to be pumped from the Wadsworth Pumping Plant forebay to Rialto Pipeline by way of the Inland Feeder. This project will install an interconnection pipeline and isolation valve structure between the Inland Feeder and Rialto Pipeline. Final design for this project is complete and board award of a construction contract is scheduled for September 2023.
- **Sepulveda Feeder Pumping Stations**—This project will install new pump stations at the existing Venice and Sepulveda Canyon Pressure Control Facilities providing the ability to reverse flow in the Sepulveda Feeder and deliver water from the Central Pool to portions of the Jensen plant-exclusive area. This project will use progressive design-build (PDB) for delivery. Staff has evaluated the SOQs for selection of the design-builder, interviewed the three respondents, and has selected a contractor based on qualifications-only process. Staff has initiated negotiating a final agreement for Phase 1 preconstruction design services under a PDB contract with the recommended design-builder. Board award of the Phase 1 agreement is scheduled for September 2023.



Badlands Tunnel Surge Tank Project—Valve inspection by Metropolitan staff and contractor personnel



Badlands Tunnel Surge Tank Project—Visual inspection by Metropolitan staff

Treatment Plant Reliability Program

This program was initiated to maintain reliability and improve the operating efficiency of Metropolitan's water treatment plants through specific improvement projects. *Recent activities include the following:

- **Weymouth Basins 5–8 and Filter Building No. 2 Rehabilitation**—This project rehabilitates major mechanical and structural components including the flocculation/sedimentation equipment, sludge pumps, baffle boards and walls, launders, inlet gates, and outlet drop gates at the Weymouth plant. Rehabilitation work also includes seismic upgrades of basin walls and inlet channel, hazardous material abatement, and replacement of filter valves and actuators in Filter Building No. 2. Metropolitan's Board awarded a construction contract in May 2022. The contractor continued installation of filter valves and piping in Filter Building No. 2 and other work under the first quarter-plant outage, including new concrete wall structural reinforcement and installation of new mechanical piping and electrical conduits. Construction is 35 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in May 2025.
- **Mills Ozonation System PLC Upgrade**—This project replaces the outdated ozone generator control system at the Mills plant with new programmable logic controller equipment along with upgraded software. Installation of the new software and commissioning is complete, although continued system testing remains. The ozone system was returned to service, with ozone as the plant's primary disinfectant, in August 2023.
- **Mills Electrical Upgrades**—This project upgrades the electrical system with dual-power feeds to key process equipment to comply with current codes and industry practice, improve plant reliability, and enhance worker safety. Stage 1 construction is complete, and a construction contract for Stage 2 improvements was awarded in November 2021. Stage 2 improvements will add a second incoming 12 kV service from Riverside Public Utilities, reconfigure the existing 4160-volt switchgear, and replace the standby generator switchgear and the emergency generator programmable logic controller. Metropolitan's Board awarded a construction contract in November 2021. The contractor is installing the ORP switchgear building footing and is pulling

cables to the new Riverside Public Utility switchyard transformer pads. Construction is 27 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in February 2025.

- **Jensen Ozone PSUs Replacement**—This project rehabilitates the ozone generation system at the Jensen plant by replacing four existing ozone power supply units (PSUs) and four sets of generator dielectrics. The project also makes required modifications to the associated electrical, control, and cooling water systems. Metropolitan's Board awarded a construction contract in June 2022. All PSUs and dielectrics have been manufactured and delivered. Installation of two PSUs is complete and dielectrics for two ozone generators have been replaced. The contractor continued working on the coordination study for start-up testing of the two newly installed PSUs and pipe fabrication and valve procurement to implement modifications to the cooling water system. Construction is 40 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in December 2023.

System Reliability Program

The System Reliability Program consists of projects to improve or modify facilities located throughout Metropolitan's service area to utilize new processes and/or technologies and improve facility safety and overall reliability. Recent activities include the following:

- **Headquarters Physical Security Upgrades**—This project implements comprehensive security upgrades for the Metropolitan Headquarters Building. These upgrades are consistent with federally recommended best practices for government buildings. This work has been prioritized and staged to minimize rework and impacts on day-to-day operations within the building. Stage 1 work is complete and provides enhanced security related to perimeter windows and doors. Stage 2 work is complete and provides security system upgrades inside the building with a focus on the main entry rotunda area, boardroom, executive dining lounge, and security control room. Stage 3 improvements will provide security system upgrades around the perimeter of the building. Metropolitan's Board awarded the Stage 3 construction contract in December 2022. The contractor continued demolition of the sidewalk around the building and removal of waterproofing at bollard locations and began installation of bollard baseplates. Construction is 25 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in January 2024.
- **Headquarters Building Fire Alarm and Smoke Control System Upgrades**—This project upgrades the Metropolitan Headquarters Building fire life safety systems, which includes replacement of the fire detection and alarm system and HVAC system improvements for smoke control. The fire alarm and smoke control systems in Metropolitan's Headquarters Building provide detection, notification, and control of building functions so that occupants and visitors can safely exit in the event of a fire. Metropolitan's Board awarded a construction contract in August 2020. The contractor began installation of the variable speed drives for the parking garage exhaust fans, air balance of duct system, and testing/commissioning of the smoke control system. Construction is 92 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in September 2023.
- **SCADA System Upgrades**—This project will upgrade Metropolitan's entire control system in incremental stages, spanning the Colorado River Aqueduct, the five water treatment plants, and the conveyance and distribution system. The first stage of this project replaces the control system at the Mills plant, starting with a pilot effort on one of the plant's remote terminal units. The pilot effort will demonstrate the proposed technology and the consultant's approach for the plant and the overall project. The consultant continued providing submittals, performing equipment verification, and developing control narratives and a training plan. The pilot phase is approximately 40 percent complete and currently scheduled to be complete in December 2023. The system upgrades at the Mills plant are scheduled to be complete by April 2026.

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(continued)

- **Foothill Hydroelectric Plant and Control Building Seismic Upgrade**—This project strengthens the Foothill Hydroelectric Plant and Control Building to withstand a significant earthquake, by removing and replacing the roofing system, adding encasements to enlarge and strengthen concrete columns, and reinforcing shallow foundations. A construction contract was awarded in April 2023. The contractor's initial submittals have been reviewed, and mobilization is complete. The contractor is currently performing abatement activities on the building's roof and demolishing existing exhaust fans. Construction is 15 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in December 2024.



Headquarters Building Fire Alarm and Smoke Control System Upgrades—Level P1 conduit installation

Protecting the Public and Metropolitan's Assets

Engineering Services continued to develop state-mandated Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) for Metropolitan's state-regulated dams to help ensure long-term public safety. The Lake Mathews EAP and the Lake Skinner and Skinner Finished Water Reservoir EAP were formally submitted to the Cal OES and are currently under review. The EAPs for Garvey Reservoir and Palos Verdes Reservoir are substantially complete and outreach to the local emergency management agencies and first responders is expected to begin this month.



Water System Operations

Core Business Objectives

Prepare Employees for New Opportunities

The Water System Operations Apprentice and Technical Training Programs develop and train personnel to become qualified mechanics and electricians responsible for maintaining Metropolitan's water treatment and distribution systems. On July 12, the Apprenticeship Program celebrated the Class of 2023 by holding a completion ceremony at the new Apprenticeship Training Center. Five electricians and ten mechanics, including one Eastern Municipal Water District apprentice, were recognized for successfully completing the Program's academic portion. The four-year program includes eight periods of classroom instruction and over 100 written and practical exams. Outstanding achievement awards were presented to the top-performing apprentice from each discipline. The class was commended for demonstrating persistence and flexibility by overcoming many challenges, including the pandemic. The ceremony was attended by Directors Camacho and Armstrong, program sponsors, Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee members, various Water System Operations managers, and apprentices' families. This year marked the 20th anniversary of the Apprenticeship Program. Since its inception in 2003, the Program has developed and graduated 154 journey-level employees. These journeys composes over 50 percent of the current electrical and mechanical trades workforce responsible for maintaining Metropolitan's treatment and distribution facilities.



Class of 2023 Apprentices with Directors and WSO Management



Apprenticeship Program graduates, Ruben Lopez (left) and Kevin Loomis (right) receiving Outstanding Achievement Awards from the Electrical and Mechanical Instructors

Manage Vacancies

WSO filled six vacancies in June 2023.

Provide Reliable Water Deliveries

Metropolitan member agency water deliveries were 112,400 acre-feet (AF) for July with an average of 3,600 AF per day, which was about 700 AF per day higher than in June. In addition, Metropolitan delivered 24,600 AF to Cyclic and Conjunctive Use Programs. Treated water deliveries increased by around 10,000 AF from June for a total of 69,600 AF, or 51 percent of total deliveries for the month. The Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) pumped a total of 70,000 AF in June. State Water Project (SWP) imports averaged 4,200 AF per day, totaling about 130,000 AF for the month. The target SWP blend is around 50 percent for Weymouth and Diemer plants and 55 percent for the Skinner plant.

Monitoring the CRA's water level is critical for accurately measuring the water delivered to the Lake Mathews Reservoir and providing system reliability. The communication equipment at one of the CRA-level monitoring stations located at the West Portal of the San Jacinto Tunnel will be upgraded to have two power sources and to use a new fiber communication line.



Partially upgraded communications equipment at the San Jacinto Tunnel

Manage Water Reserves

The 100 percent State Water Project (SWP) allocation when combined with Colorado River supplies provides the region with more water than normal demands. Water continues to be managed according to Water Surplus and Drought Management (WSDM) principles and operational objectives with an emphasis to position SWP supplies to meet future demands in the SWP-dependent area. Metropolitan continued filling Diamond Valley Lake, and the reservoir will be full or nearly full by the end of the year. Metropolitan also continued deliveries to Desert Water Agency and Coachella Valley Water District to meet Metropolitan's exchange obligation. With the higher SWP allocation and low regional demands, Metropolitan is working to maximize its use of Table A supplies this year. Staff is working with member agencies to manage supplies through the Cyclic and Cyclic Cost Offset Program.

Support Imported Supply Reliability

The La Verne Shops received a request to refurbish 10 sets of stems, couplings, and clamps for the Department of Water Resources' (DWR's) San Luis Dam Head Gate. Each stem is about 12 feet long and weighs nearly 4,000 lbs. This work included disassembly, abrasive blasting, machining of the clamp bores, manufacturing new bushings, and finished industrial coating.



As-received stems (left), couplings (center), and clamps (right) for DWR's San Luis Dam Head Gate



Post abrasive blast condition of clamps (left), couplings (center), and stems (right) for DWR's San Luis Dam Head Gate



Fixturing of coupling assembly (left) and line boring of coupling hinge (center and right) for DWR's San Luis Dam Head Gate



Finished coating of couplings (left) and palletized refurbished couplings (right) for DWR's San Luis Dam Head Gate



Applying finished coating to the stems (left) and delivery of completed stems (right) for DWR's San Luis Dam Head Gate

Support the Pure Water Southern California Program

During July, Metropolitan completed volatile organic compound (VOC) spiking studies at the Pure Water Southern California demonstration plant. These innovative studies tested the ability of the membrane bioreactor to remove VOCs to support future direct potable reuse design studies, as well as ensure the performance of an indirect potable reuse facility at full scale when subject to atypical influent quality.

On July 19, Metropolitan hosted an event at the Pure Water Southern California facility in Carson to celebrate receipt of an \$80 million grant from the state of California to support ongoing testing and future design of the full-scale treatment plant.

Staff also onboarded two new water quality technicians to support ongoing testing and ensure a smooth transition from consultant-led to Metropolitan-led operations at the demonstration plant and support full Metropolitan staffing at the facility.

Manage Power Resources and Energy Use in a Sustainable Manner

Energy markets in July 2023 trended upward, reflecting hotter summer weather, increased natural gas prices, and increased California Independent System Operator demand. Natural gas prices in Southern California spiked in the second half of July because of a forced outage of a major Southern California Gas Company pipeline supplying gas from the San Joaquin Valley into the Los Angeles Basin. Gas prices roughly doubled from the \$7–10/MMBtu range to the \$15–20/MMBtu range.

The total energy costs to operate the CRA for fiscal year 2022-23 was \$138.2 million. The CRA energy cost budget for fiscal year 2023-24 is \$82.6 million; the current cost forecast for the current fiscal year is somewhat lower at \$74.6 million, because of reduced pumping and lower forward cost curves.

Because of system operating conditions focused on refilling water storage and low demands, daily generation output from Metropolitan's small hydroelectric plants (HEPs) averaged around 15 MW during the month of July, for a total energy output of about 11,000 megawatt-hours (MWh). HEP output is forecast to trend upwards later in 2023 as demands increase and Metropolitan receives deliveries from the 100 percent SWP allocation. Metropolitan's solar facilities, totaling 5.4 megawatts of capacity, generated approximately 1200 MWh in June 2023.

Ensure Water Quality Compliance, Worker Safety, and Environmental Protection

Metropolitan complied with all water quality regulations and primary drinking water standards during June 2023. On July 13, staff attended a meeting with a Division of Drinking Water (DDW) representative as part of a sanitary survey of the domestic water systems at the plants. The second part of the sanitary survey will be a field inspection, and DDW will provide a report including any recommendations for improvement after the field inspection.

Staff completed the rollout of new gas detectors district-wide. The detectors are used to confirm a safe atmosphere for employees working in confined spaces, such as pipelines and utility vaults.



New gas detector rolled out district-wide

Staff posted a revised MWD Safety Talk on Voluntary Use of Respirators. This safety talk provides information on when employees may want to wear a voluntary respirator, how to obtain one, and the limitations on use.



Revised Voluntary Use of Respirators Safety Talk posted on the IntraMet

Staff conducted a field test of a heavy-duty electric stake bed truck to transport valves during the Etiwanda Pipeline shutdown. This is the first of on-going field trials which will allow hands-on-testing of the emerging technologies to identify the operational criteria and proper fit of zero-emission vehicles specific to Metropolitan operations. This effort supports Metropolitan's climate goals and compliance with the state's Advanced Clean Fleet regulation.



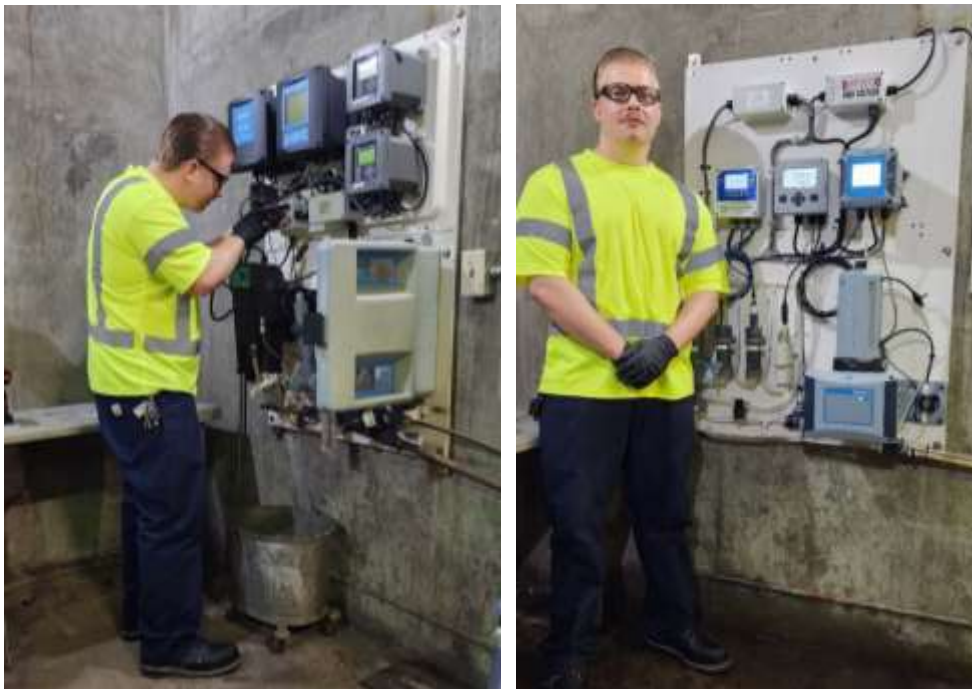
Electric stake bed truck used during Etiwanda Pipeline shutdown

A three-year internal Process Hazard Analysis (PHA) was conducted at the Mills plant and Chemical Unloading Facility. A PHA is a thorough, step-by-step review of chlorine operations and maintenance procedures used to identify any potential deficiencies and evaluate their consequences. This process helps identify a range of risks from equipment failures to human error, ultimately improving safety of plant personnel along with the surrounding environment. The PHA allowed for new and existing staff to increase their vast knowledge of plant-

specific piping and instrumentation diagrams together with the physical location of plant equipment. Although a laborious task, this process demonstrates Metropolitan's commitment to the health and safety of all employees and the public at large.

Optimize Maintenance

Jensen plant staff installed a new water quality panel at the Venice Pressure Control Structure (PCS) on the Sepulveda Feeder. The new water quality panel uses a reagentless analyzer to measure water quality. The old water quality panel was obsolete and labor intensive to keep online, and it also required monthly reagent replenishments. The new self-cleaning turbidity analyzer and reagentless equipment require less maintenance. This replacement should generate an overall cost savings because of the reduced labor, fewer failed parts, and no reagents.



Staff removing the old water quality panel (left) and staff with the new water quality panel (right) at Venice PCS

Staff replaced faulty microchips on the control boards of eight chemical flow meters at the Skinner plant. Replacement flow meters have a significant lead time for delivery, and these flow meters are an integral part of ensuring accurate chemical dosing for water treatment. As an alternative solution, individual components known to be the cause of failure were removed, and new chips were soldered in place. Repairing at the component level resulted in a significant cost-savings compared with replacing the eight meters.



Staff replacing faulty microchips on a flow meter used to dose water treatment chemicals at the Skinner plant

Weymouth plant staff replaced a failed Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) that services the main plant switchgear building. This building is a critical component of the electrical infrastructure for the Weymouth plant and La Verne facilities. This UPS had been in service for over 12 years and was beyond repair. The work involved installing a temporary electrical circuit to maintain service while the installation was completed. Staff removed the existing 50 kVA UPS and replaced it with a more modern and efficient 15 kVA unit. This reduced overall installation costs, as well as ongoing and future operational and maintenance costs. This will also provide the critical UPS equipment with another 12 to 15 years of expected service life.



Journey staff explaining transformer connections to an apprentice as part of UPS equipment replacement at the Weymouth plant



UPS and electrical equipment ready for start-up at the Weymouth plant

Staff recently installed two stainless steel, multi-orifice plates in the flow control system at Covina Pressure Control Structure (PCS). The Covina PCS on the Middle Feeder North controls flows up to 250 cfs using 10 valve trains ranging in size from 8 to 30 inches. Despite having two fully functioning 30-inch lines, use was limited because of concerns of potential damage to the conical valves and the pipe mortar liner from high velocities. Engineering Services designed two multi-orifice plates that were fabricated by the La Verne Shops. These orifice plates will accommodate a set flow of 35 or 50 cfs in the lines, to minimize the demand on the rest of the control system. This is especially helpful during the rehabilitation currently underway for smaller regulating valves on four other flow control lines.



Two multi-orifice plates being installed at Covina PCS



The multi-orifice plate installed into the 30-inch line at Covina PCS

The swimming pool at Iron Mountain is being refurbished and requires rapid refilling after new plaster is applied because of the high ambient desert temperatures. Staff coordinated delivery of temporary water tanks to facilitate domestic water production in advance to allow for the rapid filling requirements.



Staff unloading a water tank trailer for refilling the swimming pool at Iron Mountain pumping plant

The equipment in the Desert is mostly original with many parts that are no longer available for replacement, requiring them to be custom manufactured. Staff removed the lift nut from a discharge valve to take the exact measurements required for a replacement to be manufactured.



Staff measuring discharge valve components at a Desert facility

Aging infrastructure requires consistent maintenance and repair. Underground utility lines are at or near end of life at Desert facilities. This month, staff excavated and replaced a sewer line at the Iron Mountain pumping plant.



Staff excavating to replace an aging sewer line at the Iron Mountain pumping plant

Staff continued routine maintenance of the inland distribution system patrol roads. This month, staff completed vegetation moving on the Orange County Feeder and routine grading of the Etiwanda and Rialto Feeder patrol roads. Routine maintenance on the San Diego and CRA patrol roads is ongoing. Routine

maintenance includes vegetation removal, erosion repair, and grading of the patrol roads. Because of a significant spring rainfall, vegetation is very heavy this year.



Motor grader and water truck performing routine maintenance along the CRA (left) and San Diego Canal (right) patrol roads

Optimize Water Treatment and Distribution

The State Water Project (SWP) target blend entering the Weymouth and Diemer plants was approximately 50 percent in July. The Mills plant continued to receive a blend of water from Silverwood Lake and Lake Perris in July because of low alkalinity in the East Branch SWP. The SWP target entering Lake Skinner fluctuated to accommodate multiple operational needs and to maximize water delivery from the SWP. The SWP blend leaving Lake Skinner was in the range of 40 to 70 percent.

Flow-weighted running annual averages for total dissolved solids from June 2022 through May 2023 for Metropolitan's treatment plants capable of receiving a blend of supplies from the SWP and the Colorado River Aqueduct were 545, 558, and 620 mg/L for the Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner plants, respectively.

Staff cleaned the sedimentation basin as part of the annual preventative maintenance work at the Diemer plant. The sedimentation basins are an essential part of the treatment process where the majority of suspended solids are removed. Preventative maintenance is critical to ensure the reliability and longevity of the equipment.



Staff washing down the sedimentation basin at the Diemer plant

Staff fabricated a new diffuser for the caustic soda injection system at the Skinner plant. The new diffuser uses a separate water line, which improves chemical mixing when injected. Historically, the Skinner plant finished water influent channel has accumulated calcium carbonated buildup in the form of very heavy scale, because of inadequate chemical mixing. The new diffuser is expected to help decrease the deposits of calcium carbonate in the channel.



Staff constructing a new caustic soda diffuser at the Skinner plant

Weymouth plant staff replaced a failed chlorine leak detector located in the Ozone Demonstration Plant. During a monthly inspection check, the unit was found in a false alarm state. Staff verified that the unit was unable to be repaired and replaced it with a newer unit. The new unit was tested and verified locally and remotely through the SCADA system.



Failed chlorine leak detector (left); staff installing new chlorine leak detector (center); and newly installed chlorine leak detector (right) at the Weymouth plant

Staff, with the assistance of outside contractors, are working to align and reinforce the flocculator shafts and pillow block mounts at the Jensen plant. This effort will prepare for and enable the plant to treat the increased flows from the State Water Project as temperatures rise throughout the summer.



Staff disassembling wet side pillow block (left), and crane operators hoisting flocculation shafts (right) at the Jensen plant



The contractor core drilling pillow block pedestals (left) and performing alignment procedure (right) at the Jensen plant

Improve Emergency Preparedness and Response

On June 26, staff attended a special training on emergency management response strategies for mass shootings. It was hosted by the city of Temecula and featured the emergency manager from the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department who reviewed the events and the response to the *Route 19 Mass Shooting* incident that occurred in 2017. The training provided valuable insight into what to expect during and after a mass shooting incident, and what steps can be taken now to prepare for similar incidents in the future.

On July 13, staff participated in the meeting of California's Standardized Emergency Management System Training, Exercise and Credentialing Committee. This regular meeting was chaired by the California Office of Emergency Services and reviewed current emergency management training offered by the state, including a review of the criteria for the state's Emergency Operations Center Credentialing program. This type of standardized training is critical for all agencies that respond to emergencies.

Protect Source Water Quality

A rapidly developing cyanobacterial bloom in Diamond Valley Lake led to the posting of an advisory notice at the lake and on the DVL marina website on July 5 because of the detection of cyanotoxins throughout the lake. Problematic cyanobacterial blooms are relatively common in lakes nationwide during the summer months, and Metropolitan follows the state's voluntary guidance for cyanotoxin monitoring and posting advisory notices. There are no regulatory requirements for cyanotoxins in California. The bloom was a recreational water issue only. Drinking water was not affected because water was not being withdrawn from DVL in this high supply year. The advisory notices remained in place throughout the month.

The increase in SWP deliveries and sunny weather caused Lake Skinner to have an algae bloom early this month. An algae bloom in source water will cause taste and odor issues through the downstream system. Since Lake Skinner is the source for the Skinner plant as well as other treatment plants in the San Diego area, staff treated the lake with an 8-ton copper sulfate application to stop the growth. While the lake was being treated, the Skinner plant and downstream demand was being supplied by the San Diego Canal. Unfortunately, an algal bloom was also occurring on the canal where the growth can become thick enough to clog screens and starve downstream pipelines. Staff worked extended hours and through the night to clean the debris racks to ensure that there was no interruption of flows.



Staff refilling the helicopter's hopper with granular copper sulfate for application at Lake Skinner



Helicopter returning to the Lake Skinner to spread copper sulfate as directed by Water Quality staff



Staff removing algae from debris racks at the San Diego Canal

Manage the Power System

Metropolitan staff responsible for maintaining Bulk Electric System (BES) cybersecurity assets completed the annual NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection (NERC-CIP) cybersecurity awareness training in July. Over 200 Metropolitan employees took the web-based training on the importance of maintaining the security of these critical pieces of equipment, how to prevent unauthorized access, and how to ensure that Metropolitan meets stringent NERC cybersecurity standards. This training is required on an annual basis.

Prepare for Future Legislation and Regulation

On June 16, the Division of Drinking Water announced a proposed maximum contaminant level (MCL) for hexavalent chromium of 10 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$) and a detection limit for purposes of reporting (DLR) of $0.1 \mu\text{g/L}$. Compliance timelines vary from 2 to 4 years, depending on system size. Staff will submit comments in support of the MCL by the August 4, 2023, comment deadline.

On July 5, staff submitted written comments to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee on a draft bill to address PFAS in the environment. The letter asked Congress to provide a more expansive definition of PFAS to protect against future PFAS contaminants; follow the tenants of the Safe Drinking Water Act rather than mandating various PFAS (namely PFNA, PFHxS, PFBS, and HFPO-DA) be regulated; provide grants or loans to help water systems install PFAS remediation systems; and most important, add a new section that exempts water and wastewater treatment facilities from liability under CERCLA. Staff will continue to engage both Congress and EPA with respects to regulating PFAS.

On July 21, the State Water Resources Control Board released proposed Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) regulations. The regulations provide the regulatory framework by which highly treated recycled water can be introduced either immediately upstream of a water treatment plant or directly into a public water system. Staff is coordinating with the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts and the member agencies on comments to be submitted by the September 8, 2023, comment deadline.

Advance Education and Outreach Initiatives

Weymouth plant staff provided a tour of the La Verne facility for 19 student interns that were recently hired. As part of the tour, the students visited the treatment plant, watched a filter backwash, and observed the construction work for Basins 7 and 8. While visiting the MSU shops, ozone facility, and the valves at the Junction Structure, various crafts provided the students with demonstrations of their work. After lunch, the students also toured the Water Quality Lab. This tour was designed to increase the students' understanding of Metropolitan's diverse and talented work force, while making them aware of possible career opportunities after graduation.



Student interns during tour of the Weymouth plant

Monthly Update as of:

7/31/2023

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Current Storage</u>	<u>Percent of Capacity</u>
<i>Colorado River Basin</i>		
Lake Powell	9,327,824	38%
Lake Mead	8,501,000	33%
<i>DWR</i>		
Lake Oroville	3,236,641	91%
Shasta Lake	3,889,833	85%
San Luis Total	1,861,181	92%
San Luis CDWR	969,211	91%
Castaic Lake	301,649	93%
Silverwood Lake	72,092	96%
Lake Perris	94,649	72%
<i>MWD</i>		
DVL	622,815	77%
Lake Mathews	152,549	84%
Lake Skinner	39,709	90%



Hoover Dam

Information Technology

Project Highlights

LIMS TNI Implementation Project

The Laboratory Information Management Systems (LIMS) TNI Implementation project was initiated in September 2021 to modify the Water Quality LIMS database, workflows, and other components to adhere to new compliance requirements from The National Environment Laboratories Accreditation Conference Institute (TNI). More specifically, LIMS needed to be enhanced/revise to meet regulations in various areas including data integrity, traceability, audit logging, and process documentation. The agile project management approach was used to split this large complex project into smaller more manageable sprints, clarify/prioritize project objectives, accelerate the delivery of business value, and avoid the risks associated with the traditional waterfall or "big bang" project approach.

Because of the fulfillment of project sprints and other laboratory efforts, the Water Quality Laboratory was recognized by the Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) as a TNI Early Adopter in April 2023. A GovTech innovation award was also received for using innovative agile project management techniques to comply with new regulatory requirements in the Water Quality Laboratory. In July 2023, the last project sprint was completed, and the project closure tasks were initiated. The successful completion of this project is largely credited to the collaboration among the IT LIMS technical lead and project management staff, Water Quality laboratory stakeholders, and supporting IT management for their diligent efforts and support throughout this challenging project.

Fuel Management System

As part of our Fuel Management System Upgrade Project, which enables management controls over fuel inventories, dispensing, and security to ensure operability, vendor support, and system reliability, the Information Technology Group recently completed the interface between the cloud-based fuel system, FM LIVE, and the MAXIMO system. This was needed to update the odometer and engine run time hours, which are used for setting preventative maintenance work orders. It is also used to determine condition index, which is an evaluation of all vehicles in terms of cost, age, and usage.



Real Property

Resiliency

Foster staff training and development.

Staff completed the International Right of Way Association (IRWA) Principles of Real Estate Appraisal course. This course enables participants to demonstrate a basic knowledge of the valuation process and its components.

Staff attended the IRWA 69th Annual Education Conference in Denver, Colorado. At the conference, staff attended numerous education sessions and networking opportunities. Attending the conference bolstered staff knowledge in the right-of-way industry and allowed valuable connections to be made with colleagues at other agencies and organizations around the country.

Core Business: Real Property Acquisition, Management, and Revenue Enhancement

In conjunction with our partners in WSO and Security, manage and protect Metropolitan's real property land holdings and permanent easements while ensuring that Metropolitan's core operations are protected.

Thirty-four quitclaim deeds were obtained from the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and recorded. These quitclaim deeds together cover approximately 36,000 acres of 1932 Act Lands in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

The 1932 Act authorized the Federal Government to grant Metropolitan lands to build and operate the Colorado River Aqueduct but included a reversionary interest clause. The clause reverts properties to the Federal Government if they are not used for the original intended purpose. The 2019 John D. Dingell Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act and the Board-authorized Contributed Funds Agreement allow BLM to release the Federal Government's reversionary interest in these lands by quitclaim deeds. Recorded deeds bolster Metropolitan's records of clear legal title to lands granted to it by Congressional action and help prevent unlawful use of these lands by third parties.

Provide valuation, land management, and real property disposition support services for the maximum return or use of Metropolitan-owned land and facilities.

The County of Riverside has been granted a permanent easement comprising 0.56 acres for public road purposes and the dedication of Fields Drive in unincorporated territory near Murrieta and French Valley. The public dedication and improvement of Fields Drive is an entitlement condition imposed by the county on a developer in connection with a residential subdivision project.

Issued a five-year license to JMS Sales, Inc. for the temporary storing of manufactured homes within the Upper Feeder right-of-way in Riverside. The license area of 1.3 acres was improved by a previous Metropolitan tenant for parking purposes, and the license does not entail additional improvements.

Efficiently maintain and operate assets not related to the treatment and distribution of water.

The Diamond Valley Lake Marina experienced an algae bloom that led staff from various Metropolitan groups to coordinate the installation of advisory notices around the marina facility. This voluntary response enabled

Metropolitan to alert the recreating public to the presence of cyanobacteria in the water. The bloom did not affect drinking water and was limited to recreation. The Marina remained open for recreation and anglers were able to safely enjoy boating and fishing on the lake.



District Housing Maintenance and Management.

Preoccupancy repairs on two district houses were completed this reporting period. Repairs to these houses consisted of new flooring, new appliances, and minor repairs and cleaning. Desert housing maintenance staff also completed tenant-requested work orders consisting of air conditioning unit repairs, irrigation repairs, and installation of garbage disposals and dishwashers.

Desert Housing and Recreation Interim Action Plan (DHRIAP) has been implemented, and work continues on several projects.

With the completion of all carport installations at Gene, carport installation efforts have transitioned to Iron Mountain. All concrete work is complete at Iron Mountain, and carport assembly has begun. All carports are expected to be assembled at Iron Mountain by July 31.

New pool table felt was installed and maintenance was performed on all pool tables at all four pump plant locations in efforts to maintain the game tables and provide for an optimal playing surface.



It was determined that the Iron Mountain pool plaster and pool drain line had failed. In expedited efforts to get the pool back into service, the existing plaster is being removed and replaced so that the pool so it can be re-opened for the summer months. The pool drain line was also replaced by site crews and is now complete.



The renovation of house 04-G has also begun; asbestos abatement has been completed and interior demo work has started. Exterior painting has also been completed.

The renovation of house 71-G has also begun, with asbestos and lead abatement occurring in July. Once the abatement work is complete, interior refurbishment will begin. The exterior of the house has been freshly painted.

Staff completed work at district housing located at Live Oak Reservoir. Work included the installation of new energy-efficient windows, which will help to control both heating and cooling of the residence. In addition, trimming of trees and bushes leading up to the property was done, with a total of 16 trees and 7 bushes being trimmed. Tree and bush trimming helps reduce fire danger and potential damage from fallen trees.





Security

Project Highlights

Security and Emergency Response

Metropolitan security staff attended a special virtual training presented by the Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Office for Bombing Prevention, hosted by the American Water Works Association (AWWA).

The training focused on:

- Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)
- The latest threats
- Explosive effects
- Mitigation measures
- Suspicious activity recognition
- Available training resources

While the number of bomb threats increased 54 percent nationally in 2022, the number of actual device-related incidents decreased by 9 percent.

Metropolitan's Security Unit has worked diligently with internal stakeholders and consultants to implement explosive mitigation measures into new facility designs and security upgrade projects. A major prevention component is ensuring that all employees are trained to immediately report any suspicious activities to security and law enforcement personnel.

Recognizing Suspicious Activity

Use the Acronym BOMBER as a guide to recognize Suspicious Activity

B: Establish a Baseline
O: Operational Indicators
M: Materials
B: Bomb-building Activity
E: Elicitation
R: Respond

The infographic is titled "Identify Suspicious Activity" and features the BOMBER acronym. It includes a warning: "Terrorists and criminals often conduct specific activities as they plan a bombing attack. If you recognize these signs, you may help prevent an attack." Below the acronym, it says "If you see something, say something" and "REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY. Contact local law enforcement or 9-1-1 in case of emergency." The infographic also includes logos for the Department of Homeland Security and the American Water Works Association.

Employees should immediately report any suspicious activities to security and law enforcement

Security and Emergency Response

Meter cabinets placed along Metropolitan's feeders and remote substructures often attract vandals who break into them to steal the expensive items inside, including batteries, copper wire, monitoring equipment, and recyclable metal components. Real-time monitoring is inoperable, and without a significant protective encasement, replacement parts are stolen again.

To significantly mitigate damages to older meter cabinets, Security Specialists worked closely with Western Conveyance and Distribution (C&D) staff, designers, engineers, and a third-party metal fabrication vendor to design new reinforced, high-quality stainless-steel meter cabinets. These new meter cabinets have no exposed attachment hardware and lock shrouds and have been designed with other features to make battery-operated tool attacks extremely difficult.

Security investments such as these provide enhanced system resiliency, eliminate unintentional monitoring outages, and protect vulnerable electronic components into future decades.



Newly reinforced meter cabinets protect vulnerable electronic components well into the future

Finance and Administration



Finance

Maintain Strong Financial Position

Provide timely and discerning financial analyses, planning, and management to ensure that forecasted revenues are sufficient to meet planned expenses and provide a prudent level of reserves consistent with board policy.

Manage risk to protect Metropolitan's assets against exposure to loss.

The Risk Management Unit completed 55 incident reports communicating instances of Metropolitan property damage, liability, workplace injuries, regulatory visits, and spills.

Risk Management completed 46 risk assessments on contracts, including professional service agreements, construction contracts, entry permits, special events, and film permits.

Business Continuity

Facilitate district-wide planning and training to prepare employees and managers to effectively carry out critical roles and recover mission essential functions thus ensuring continuity of operations and resiliency in the event of a disaster.

Manage the Business Continuity Management Program in accordance with Operating Policy A-06.

- Continued collaborative efforts to review and update process for Operating Policy A06, Business Continuity and Emergency Management.
- Continued collaboration with IT and Cybersecurity to develop cyber resiliency plans for the district to continue working in the event of a cyber-attack rendering systems and computers unavailable.
- Continued working with the Fusion software vendor to make updates to the guided workflows used by planning coordinators to update their business continuity plans.
- Received training on the Cash BVC report to proactively monitor budget expenditures.
- Continued development of the district-wide Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Worked with Cybersecurity to implement Multi-Factor Authentication for accessing the Fusion business continuity software.

Financial Management

Manage Metropolitan's finances in an ethical and transparent manner and provide consistent, clear, and timely financial reporting. Update Metropolitan's capital financing plans and work with rating agencies and investors to communicate Metropolitan's financial needs, strategies, and capabilities, thus ensuring that Metropolitan has cost effective access to capital markets and the ability to finance ongoing future needs. In addition, actively manage Metropolitan's short-term investment portfolio to meet ongoing liquidity needs and changing economic environments.

Record and report the financial activities of Metropolitan in a timely, accurate, and transparent manner to the Board, executive management, member agencies, and the financial community.

- Water Transactions for June 2023 (for water delivered in April 2023) totaled 75.4 thousand acre-feet (TAF), which was 44.2 TAF lower than the budget of 119.6 TAF and translates to \$75.2 million in receipts for June 2023, which was \$40.6 million lower than budget of \$115.8 million.

Finance and Administration

(continued)

- Year-to-date water transactions through June 2023 (for water delivered in May 2022 through April 2023) were 1,385.8 TAF, which was 204.4 TAF lower than the budget of 1,590.2 TAF. Year-to-date water receipts through June 2023 were \$1,322.7 million, which was \$180.5 million lower than the budget of \$1,503.2 million.
- In June 2023, Accounts Payable processed approximately 4,400 vendor invoices for payment.

Update capital financing plans and work with rating agencies and investors to communicate financial needs and capabilities, ensure cost-effective access to capital markets, and maintain long-term bond ratings of AA or better.

On June 21, 2023, Metropolitan issued \$258,410,000 in Water Revenue and Refunding Bonds, 2023 Series A. Bond proceeds funded a portion of Metropolitan's Capital Investment Plan, repaid a \$35.6 million draw on a Wells Fargo Bank Revolving Credit Facility that was used to refund a like amount of subordinate lien bonds, and funded costs of issuance. The 2023A bonds priced on June 6, 2023, and received a strong response from investors. Total bond orders were 3.3x oversubscribed, including \$874 million in institutional orders from 49 different investors. The All-In True Interest Cost of the bonds was 3.88 percent. The underwriting team was Siebert Williams Shank & Co., LLC, senior manager; Ramirez & Co., Inc., co-senior manager; and Barclays and Cabrera Capital Markets, LLC, as co-managers.

Prudently manage the investment of Metropolitan's funds in accordance with policy guidelines and liquidity considerations.

As of June 30, 2023, Metropolitan's investment portfolio balance was \$1.6 billion; in June 2023, Metropolitan's portfolio managers executed 29 trades.

In June 2023, Treasury staff processed 1,315 disbursements by check, 21 disbursements by Automated Clearing House (ACH), and 130 disbursements by wire transfer. Treasury staff also processed 59 receipts by check, 42 receipts by ACH, and 58 receipts by incoming wires and bank transfers.

In addition, there were 9,319 P-One Card transactions, totaling \$1.4 million, recorded in the April bank statement.

Administrative Services

Accomplishments

In an effort to network, visit, and understand Metropolitan's many work environments and to promote the Rideshare program, Rideshare Services staff participated in two field site safety events, first at Diemer on June 28 and then at Jensen on July 10. The Rideshare Team was present to answer program questions, encourage participation in one of our district-wide programs, and meet current Rideshare participants. In addition to the entire Rideshare team, our Vanpool partner, Commute with Enterprise, also attended to promote their program and meet current vanpool participants.



Human Resources

HR Priorities

Partner with Metropolitan leadership to support learning, development, and adaptive workforce planning initiatives.

In July, 314 Metropolitan employees attended virtually facilitated classes, including Recruitment Procedure Training, Mechanics of Writing, High Rise Safety, Interviewing Skills, and Communicating Effectively in a Face-Paced World.

LinkedIn Learning, Metropolitan's online e-learning content platform, was accessed for such topics as Interpersonal Communication, Strategic Thinking Tips, Handling an Unruly Audience, Developing an Entrepreneurial Mindset, and Facilitation Skills.

The Organizational Development & Training Unit (OD&T) hosted a new training program to help employees and managers develop assertive but respectful communication skills (Communicating Authentically and Effectively). These classes were attended by 18 employees and 14 managers.

Seek diverse, high-quality talent, and establish partnerships to discover additional outreach opportunities that aid in staffing positions.

Recruitment received new staffing requisitions for 40 positions, resulting in 217 positions currently in recruitment.

HR Core Business: Comply with Employment Laws and Regulations

Effectively administer all Human Resources policies, programs, and practices in compliance with applicable federal and state laws and Metropolitan's Administrative Code, Operating Policies, and Memorandum of Understanding.

In July, 17 new workers' compensation claims were received. Only five employees are currently off work because of an industrial injury or illness. This reflects Metropolitan's effort to accommodate injured workers, while enabling them to be productive and on the job. Staff continues to address accommodations, coordinate treatment, and work closely with our workers' compensation third party administrator, Tristar Risk Management.

Finance and Administration

(continued)

HR Metrics	June 2022	July 2023	Prior Month June 2023
Headcount			
Regular Employees	1,762	1783	1,779
Temporary Employees	37	29	25
Interns	2	1	0
Recurrents	18	18	18
Annuitants	19	24	24

	July 2023	June 2023
Number of Recruitments in Progress (Includes Temps and Intern positions)	217	207
Number of New Staffing Requisitions	40	23
	July 2023	June 2023
Number of Job Audit Requests in Progress	7	6
Number of Completed/Closed Job Audits	1	1
Number of New Job Audit Requests	2	0

Transactions Current Month and Fiscal YTD (includes current month)			
<u>External Hires</u>	<u>FY 22/23 Totals</u>	<u>July 2023</u>	<u>FISCAL YTD</u>
Regular Employees	116	9	9
Temporary Employees	36	7	7
Interns	0	1	1
Internal Promotions	72	9	9
Management Requested Promotions	149	15	15
Retirements/Separations (regular employees)	98	5	5
Employee-Requested Transfers	19	0	0

Departures

Last	First Name	Classification	Eff Date	Reason	Group
Goodman	Geoffery	IT Enterprise App Analyst III	6/3/2023	Retirement - Service	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY GROUP
Meyer	Trisha	Pr Emp Relations Specialist	5/20/2023	Resign	HUMAN RESOURCES GROUP
Nguyen	Jenny	Pr Admin Analyst (C)	5/18/2023	Resign	HUMAN RESOURCES GROUP
Kellough	Dyanne	Team Mgr-Power Ops& Scheduling	5/27/2023	Deceased	WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS GROUP
Strong	Nicholas	O&M Tech IV	6/15/2023	Resign	WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS GROUP

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Tribal Outreach & Engagement

On July 12, the DEI Tribal Engagement staff met with the California Indian Manpower Council (CIMC) officials and Metropolitan Project Labor Agreement (PLA) administrators to discuss plans and steps to engage tribal communities and sovereign individuals for training and eventual employment into Metropolitan workforce roles and construction-related positions in Metropolitan PLA-covered construction projects. An initial plan to engage Metropolitan contractors as well as trade unions was developed to support the program objective of placing American Indian workers in Metropolitan jobs.

On July 16, the DEI Tribal Engagement staff participated in the 20th annual expo of the American Indian Chamber of Commerce. Staff participated in coaching sessions with native-owned businesses and joined speaker panels to discuss procurement and contracting with public agencies.

On July 25, the DEI Tribal Engagement Staff met with representatives of the Pechanga tribal council to discuss workforce development issues as covered in Metropolitan's Indigenous Pathways program. The discussion centered on the job tours as well as training in water treatment operations. Parties agreed to meet with the Pechanga Water Quality staff to fully understand the tribe's requirements. Parties also agree to plan for Pechanga tribal youth members to join the job tours at Diamond Valley Lake as soon as the schoolyear opens

Business Outreach & Community Engagement

Ken Ashford, Pr. Public Affairs Representative, attended the National Association of Women Business Owners—Inland Empire Board Installation in Riverside, California.

On July 20, the Business Outreach team attended the Paths to Leadership: AAPI Perspectives in the Water/Wastewater Sector in Los Angeles, California. Leaders within the Water/Wastewater sector join together to share their perspectives from an AAPI lens and discuss their pathway to becoming a leader in the industry. Panel speakers included Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager of Inland Empire Utilities Agency; Eros Young, Engineering Manager of Orange County Sanitation District; Deven Upadhyay, Executive Officer and Assistant General Manager of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; Phuong Watson, Senior Engineer of Water Replenishment District, and Sunny Wang, Water Resources Manager of the City of Santa Monica.



Finance and Administration

(continued)

Wendy Barba, Sr. Administrative Analyst, and Ken Ashford, Pr. Public Affairs Representative, attended the National Association of Women Business Owners—Ventura County (NAWBO-VC) Board Installation in Camarillo, California. The NAWBO-VC came together to support new board and committee members and reconnect with community business partners.



On July 26, Ken Ashford, Pr. Public Affairs Representative, attended the WBEC-West 2023 Unconventional Women's Conference in Newport Beach, California. The conference included a discussion on various strategies to improve supplier diversity appeal, followed by a productive business networking activity focusing on building opportunities for future collaborations.

On July 27, staff presented at a panel session at the 2023 San Bernardino Small Business Conference in San Bernardino. The program featured a presentation on "How to do Business with Metropolitan." About 375 people participated in the conference focusing on capital, marketing, procurement, and resource access.



External Affairs

Highlights



Launched Metropolitan's summer conservation advertising campaign in seven languages promoting rebates and California Friendly landscapes. Advertising includes digital, out-of-home, radio, social media, and a new video gaming application called Lawn Be Gone. All of the creative assets were produced in-house.

GM Hagekhalil and Chief Engineer Bednarski joined with U.S. EPA Regional Administrator Guzman, officials from the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, and Carson mayor Lula Davis-Holmes to accept a \$2 million Brownfields cleanup grant from the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill. The funds will help clean up a section of contaminated property on the site of the Pure Water Southern California project.



GM Hagekhalil joined with federal and LA County Sanitation Districts officials and local leaders to receive a US EPA Brownfields grant.

Colorado River Resources Manager Hasencamp was a featured presenter at the ACWA Region 8 meeting. (July 13)

Metropolitan celebrated the presentation of \$80 million from state officials to advance work on the Pure Water Southern California project. GM Hagekhalil, Assemblymember Calderon (D-Whittier), Assemblymember Gipson (D-Gardena), Directors Erdman, Chacon, Dennstedt, Dick, Douglas, Lefevre, and McCoy, State Water Resources Control Board Chair Esquivel, Carson Mayor Pro Tem Hilton, community leaders, member agencies, and Metropolitan staff attended. The event was livestreamed and received press coverage from Spectrum News and Univision. (July 19)

A Metropolitan delegation with Chair Ortega, GM Hagekhalil, Directors Quinn, Ackerman, and McMillan, and staff visited Northern California farming operations to discuss sustainable ag. practices and they toured the proposed Sites Reservoir site and Delta communities. (July 27-28)



State and local leaders joined MWD officials for the Pure Water Southern California Check Presentation Event.

Metropolitan sponsored the Southern California Water Coalition quarterly meeting which presented Insights into Colorado River Water Management. Colorado River Resources Manager Hasencamp was a panelist, and Directors De Jesus, Dennstedt, Dick, Erdman, Fong-Sakai, Miller, and Smith, and AGM Zinke and other Metropolitan staff attended. (July 28)

Legislative Services

Federal

Comments were provided on a draft Senate bill to addresses per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the environment, requesting language be added to hold manufacturers and distributors of PFAS responsible for cleanup and costs.

Metropolitan worked with its Lower Colorado River Basin partners to secure \$50 million in funding in the House and Senate FY24 Appropriations bill for the Bureau of Reclamation to carry out water conservation projects in the lower Colorado River. The funding will be finalized when the bill is enacted into law.

Staff briefed Representative Napolitano on current water supply conditions and Colorado River issues. (July 31)

State

Metropolitan negotiated changes consistent with board direction and became a co-sponsor of AB 1572 by Assemblymember Friedman (D-Glendale). Staff is working with the author's office on clarifying amendments.

Work continues with other agencies to advance Metropolitan's board-approved priorities (recycled water, regional conveyance, dam safety, and water use efficiency) for a proposed bond measure. LADWP also requested \$100 million in the bond to support conveyance projects to serve the SWP-dependent areas.

Metropolitan staff is soliciting support for a \$50 million budget request for projects to increase reliability in the SWP-dependent areas.

Local

AGM Zinke and Metropolitan staff participated in a Pure Water Southern California tour with Assemblymember Rubio (D-Baldwin Park) and Assemblymember Pacheco (D-Downey) and their district office staff. (July 7)

Metropolitan staff presented, monitored, and/or participated in 40 webinars, virtual meetings, and events this month with community organizations, trade associations, and local officials on water-specific topics.

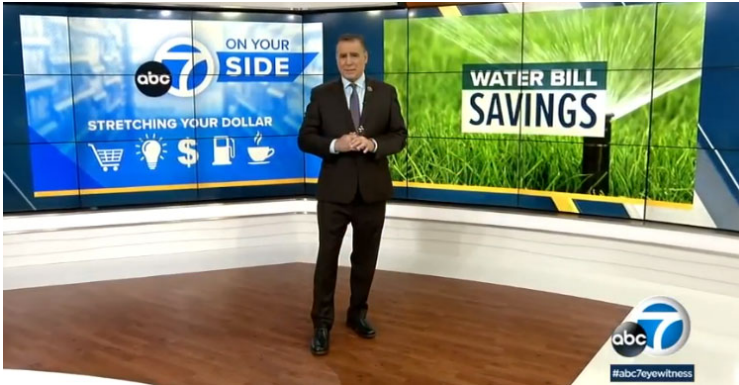
Media and Communications

Coordinated Chair Ortega's participation on the Rebuild SoCal podcast.

Arranged a day-long interview/observation with Los Angeles Times reporter Ian James and GM Hagekhalil.



Set up an interview between writer Liz Smilor and GM Hagekhalil for publication in California Water, a supplemental section which runs in Southern California News Group publications.



Coordinated an interview with Capital & Main reporter Dan Ross and External Affairs' Team Manager Soni on Pure Water Southern California.

Set up an interview between KABC-TV Channel 7 News and WRM's Guerrero focused on what the public can do to conserve water and save on their water bills.

Arranged an interview between KNX-AM 1070 news radio and GM Hagekhalil on Pure Water Southern California.

Coordinated separate interviews with WSO's Assistant Group Manager Collins and CalMatters and One Water News regarding direct potable reuse at Pure Water Southern California and the proposed state regulations.

Highlighted on social media Metropolitan's new electric stake bed truck, part of the district's transition to a zero-emission fleet.

Press Releases

- Co-sponsoring AB1572 to restrict use of drinking water to irrigate non-functional turf
- Announcement of credit ratings from top three rating agencies
- New board directors Carl E. Douglas and Garry Bryant
- \$80 million check presentation by state for Pure Water Southern California

Website and Social Media



Social media posts featured Angel City Football Club Captain Ali Riley, Metropolitan's summer interns, and summer recreation activities

Posted conservation-focused videos featuring social media influencer and designer/entrepreneur Justina Blakeney and Angel City Football Club team captain Ali Riley.

Highlighted Engineering Services' Co-Op interns on National Intern Day.

Shared information on the recreation activities at Diamond Valley Lake and Lake Skinner for National Parks and Recreation Month.

Public Outreach and Member Services

Pure Water Southern California

Conducted tours for City of Pasadena (July 27) and virtual tours for Witt O'Brien (July 14) and SoCal Gas employees. (July 24)

Provided a briefing for Assemblymember Gipson (July 7) and City of Long Beach Prosecutor Haubert. (July 7)

Met with Las Virgenes MWD and LADWP to discuss outreach to LA and Ventura County Medical Associations (July 24); made presentation to Nature for All Ambassador Program (July 26); met with Caltrans to discuss proposed conveyance pipeline. (July 28)

Metropolitan hosted community outreach booths to provide information and talk with community members about Pure Water Southern California at the Bellflower Street Fest (July 20) and the Love Long Beach Festival. (July 22)

Other Outreach Activities

- Presented City of San Fernando Turf Replacement workshop (July 18)
- Provided tour of Jensen for American Society of Civil Engineers – LA Area chapter (July 28)
- Met with the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils regarding Sepulveda Feeder urgent repair project
- Notified homes and businesses about upcoming work for Second Lower Feeder Reach 3B and completion of Feeder Reach 3A

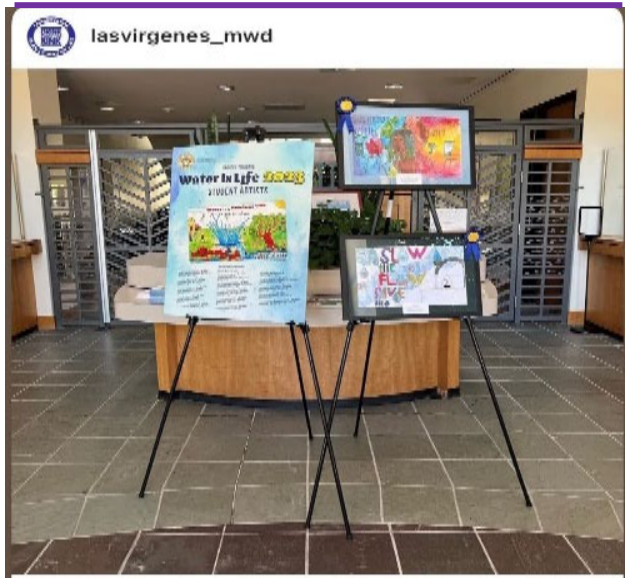


Metropolitan was at several community events getting input from residents on the Pure Water Southern California Project: Metropolitan sponsored and staff supported a turf replacement workshop in San Fernando.

Education and Community Relations

In partnership with the Department of Water Resources, West Basin Municipal Water District, and the Water Energy Education Alliance, Metropolitan co-hosted a Water Education Committee meeting for water educators from agencies throughout California. During the two-day event, educators heard from Chair Ortega, and toured Pure Water Southern California and West Basin's Edward C. Little Recycling Facility and Visitors Center. The group also discussed the following:

- Metropolitan's Climate Adaptation Master Plan
- Water education priorities
- Augmented reality
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion in education
- Tribal water issues
- Career technical education and water industry workforce development. (July 31)



Traveling student art show at Las Virgenes MWD

The California Environmental Education Foundation hosted and Metropolitan staff participated in a focus group of middle and high school teachers to discuss STEM programs including Water Engineering 4 Good. (July 20)

The Water Is Life traveling student art show was displayed at Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and Western Municipal Water District offices. Member and retail agencies submitted 230 entries for the 35th Annual Student Art 2024 Poster Contest.

Metropolitan sponsored three events through the Community Partnering Program: Olivenhain MWD Water Treatment Educational Tour, Friends of the Los Angeles River RiverFest 2023, and Southern California Chinese American Environmental Protection Association Youth Summer Camp.

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation



Sustainability, Resilience, Innovation and Environmental Planning

SRI Core Activities

Member Agency Managers Monthly CAMP4W Meeting

The Chief of Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation (SRI) Officer presented the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water Themes to establish a planning framework that will express Metropolitan's board aspirations. The themes were developed based on discussions among the Board and Member Agencies regarding what concepts should be considered as the CAMP4W planning process progresses across reliability, resilience, financial sustainability, and affordability.

Metropolitan Board Climate Leadership Discussion Monthly Meeting

SRI and WRM presented to the board members on utilization of IRP Needs Assessment Scenarios (C and D) in climate adaptation planning. These monthly meetings will guide SRI's accelerated timeline and ensure that SRI continues to be aligned on critical issues. In addition, the purpose of these meetings is to have in-depth conversations on the climate issues.

Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Transition

SRI continued to lead the ZEV Executive Task Force's cross-organizational work teams that are responsible for the transition of Metropolitan's fleet to zero emission vehicles.

- On July 5, 2023, Metropolitan's ZEV consultant, Gladstein, Neandross, and Associates (GNA), presented the ZEV Executive Task Force with an overview of the progress on development of the ZEV transition implementation roadmap. GNA is using information that was gathered in key stakeholder interviews conducted in June to compile a draft report that will be completed in late-July or early August.
- SRI worked with WSO, Finance, and Procurement to evaluate options for financing and procurement of Metropolitan's first ZEVs, two Ford F150 Lightning trucks.
- SRI continued to work with the ZEV Task Force Work Groups to evaluate and procure chargers that will be used for the new Ford F150 Lightning trucks. SRI, WSO, and ESG began working with Information Technology employees to develop a Request for Information (RFI) that will be used to evaluate charger software options.

Green Procurement

SRI and Administrative Services Section restarted efforts to incorporate sustainability into procurement practices in support of the Climate Action Plan.

Sustainability Expo and Roadshow

SRI concluded the first Metropolitan Sustainability Expo and Roadshow this month. Chief SRI Officer and Team presented SRI initiatives and CAMP4W, discussed innovation and resilience measures, collected and ensured that over 100 lbs. of electronic waste were properly recycled, and raised awareness of personal sustainable practices to over 800 staff across facilities, treatment, and pumping plants. It was a unifying effort across the district.

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

(continued)



Sustainability Expo Roadshow at Jensen Treatment Plant

Envision Two-day Training

SRI and Human Resources offered the second staff training on Envision Sustainable Infrastructure Framework. Staff from cross-disciplines took the training, and those who passed the exam would earn an Envision Sustainability Professional (ENV-SP), a globally recognized credential that equipped the ENV-SPs with the knowledge to apply sustainable concepts to their daily work and Metropolitan infrastructure projects.



Envision Sustainable Infrastructure Two-day Training at Metropolitan Headquarters

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

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Centralized Grants Management Office

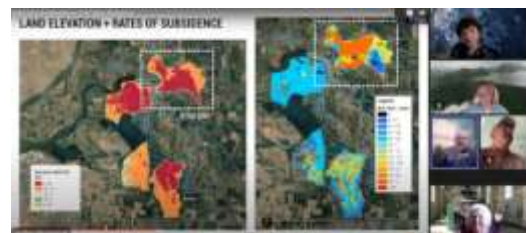
The Grants Unit successfully updated internal operating policy C-21, and grants are now centralized under the Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Office. The Centralized Grants Management Office (CGMO) will provide services and support to Metropolitan groups throughout the agency. The CGMO will serve as a repository of resources, expertise, and tools to ensure that Metropolitan's teams are well equipped to successfully acquire financial and technical assistance support for their projects and programs. The office will increase Metropolitan's opportunities to acquire outside funding while reducing risks associated with grant management and compliance.

The development of trainings and an updated Grants Procedures manual are underway. Meanwhile, the CGMO is already working with various groups to prepare grant applications and assist with the preparation of status reports, invoicing, and tracking of existing grants.

Innovation

Pilot Projects

On July 12, Bay Delta, SRI, WRM, and WaterStart had the kick-off pilot meeting with Rezatec. Rezatec is using Water SAT technology with geospatial AI to remotely monitor the levees on Bouldin Island. The team now has access to both historical and live data on a platform created for the pilot. Satellite data sourcing for the ground motion trend analysis has been completed, and processing of the timeseries data is underway. Satellite data for the vegetation aspects and compliance data remain ongoing. Rezatec is working in conjunction with the Sensoil Pilot, using sensors to analyze levee integrity. East Bay MUD is also a member of WaterStart and is interested in partnering on the pilot.



On July 13, SRI's Innovation Team met with our partner Braid Theory and the Cleveland Water Alliance (CWA) to discuss partnerships on pilots, grant opportunities, and to learn more about CWA's 2023 Open Innovation Challenge and Innovation Programs. Braid Theory has been helping one of our Pilot Entrepreneurs PRM participate in CWA's grant and pilot programs. CWA's current Open Innovation Challenge is focused on Detecting Lead Service Lines without Breaking Ground. SRI's Innovation Team also introduced our new H2O TECHCONNECT Community to CWA. The group discovered many ways we could partner with and help each other. CWA centrally connects 200-plus water industry partners, 30-plus utility partners, and 23 research institutions. CWA has also invested 500K in early-stage innovation and has 40-plus pilots ongoing.



Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

(continued)

Partnership with Braid Theory, AltaSea, and Achievement Rewards for College Scientists (ARCS-LA)

On July 29, SRI's Innovation Team was invited to participate in AltaSea's open house at the Port of Los Angeles. The event's theme was What is Happening Right Off Our Coast with presentations from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and USC's Sea Life Program. Braid Theory also had a special event for Metropolitan's H2O TECHCONNECT-Channels for Innovation Community and ARCS-LA Scholarship Award Winners. Over 600 attendees participated in the event.



ALTASEA.ORG



<https://channelsforinnovation-h2otechconnect.com/register/>

Environmental Planning Section

Core Business: Environmental Planning and Regulatory Compliance Support

Bay Delta Initiatives

Delta Conveyance Project

- Continued supporting preparation of the responses to comments for the draft environmental impact report (EIR) for cultural resources and tribal cultural resources impact categories on behalf of Public Water Agencies.
- Continued coordination with California Department of Water Resources (DWR) on permitting efforts.

Webb Tract Multi-Benefit Mosaic Landscape Project

- Conducted kick-off meeting and site visit with Bay Delta Initiatives staff and consulting biologists to initiate spring season surveys on Webb Tract in support of preparation of the environmental documentation.
- Visited Holland Tract with Bay Delta Initiatives staff to evaluate future potential tule nursery sites.



Biologists Unloading at Webb Tract



CaptiScour Pond at Webb Tract



Potential future tule nursery site on Webb Tract

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

(continued)

Engineering Services Group

Etiwanda Pipeline Relining Project

- Continued oversight of project construction monitoring and mitigation compliance.

Perris Valley Pipeline

- Continued oversight of project construction monitoring and mitigation compliance.

Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP) Rehabilitation Program

- Continued construction monitoring and mitigation compliance for the PCCP Lake Mathews Valve Storage Project and Second Lower Feeder Reaches 3A and 3B.
- Provided construction support to PCCP Sepulveda Feeder Urgent Carbon Fiber Rehabilitation Project.

Pure Water Southern California

- Prepared draft Noise Technical Report and continued revising draft technical reports.
- Continued tribal cultural resources consultation.
- Continued preparation of draft EIR project description.
- Continued biological surveys to capture alignment modifications.

Weymouth Water Treatment Plant and La Verne Site Improvements

- Continued preparation of the Administrative Draft Program EIR.

Design Support

- Provided design review and support for the Weymouth Hazardous Waste Storage Facility, Weymouth Machine Shop Upgrades, and the Lake Perris Seepage Recovery projects and provided support for Progressive Design Build for the Sepulveda Feeder Pump Stations project.

Construction Monitoring

- Continued environmental construction monitoring for the Weymouth Battery Energy Storage System and Foothill Hydroelectric Plant Seismic Upgrades projects.

Master Specifications

- Provided support for deployment of Master Specification 01065 (Environment Compliance Requirement) by ESG Technical Control Team (TCT).
- Provided edits to the following Master Specifications in TCT Master Spec Workflow: 01530 (Temporary Fences); 02950 (Landscaping); and 02951 (Hydroseeding).

External Affairs Group

- Reviewed and provided input on proposed state budget trailer bills and Governor's infrastructure package.
- Participated in California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance (CCEEB) Natural Resources Task Force (NRTF) monthly meeting.

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

(continued)

Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Office

Climate Action Plan (CAP) Monitoring and Reporting

- Continued assisting in Scope 3 emissions data collection efforts in support of the CAP implementation phase, which includes development of an electronic database system to quantify contractor's construction emissions, an employee commute survey, and policies for net zero waste at Union Station.

Water System Operations Group

- Conducted biweekly bird surveys at Jensen Plant filtration basins to ensure compliance with the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Fish and Game Code in support of operational activities.
- Developed procedures for compliance with nesting bird regulations for Jensen Plant filtration basins.
- Provided environmental analysis and clearance for road grading activities along the Etiwanda Pipeline and Rialto Feeder patrol roads and throughout the Orange County conveyance and distribution area.

Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) Compliance

- Submitted a New Mine Operation Report and associated fees to the California Division of Mine Reclamation as part of continued SMARA compliance.

Reserve Management

Lake Mathews Multiple Species Reserve

- The Reserve Management Committee approved the fiscal year 2023/2024 Annual Work Plan and Annual Operating Budget for reserve land management activities.
- Executed a new reserve management contract with the Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency.
- Created a GIS database to map the Reserve's boundary fencing and assist with prioritizing locations for future fence installations.
- Conducted a prescribed burn on land south of El Sobrante Road and west of Palm Drive.



Prescribed burn at the Lake Mathews Reserve

Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve

- Maintained brown-headed cowbird traps.
- Conducted invasive plant species removal, including stinknet.
- Conducted a prescribed burn on land south of Lake Skinner.

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

(continued)



Prescribed burn at the Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve

External Document Reviews

- Reviewed 16 CEQA notices for external projects and prepared comment letters for those that may affect Metropolitan facilities and/or operations.

Real Property Support

- Provided CEQA analysis and determinations in support of 13 real property agreements.

Water Resources Management Support

- Provided CEQA analysis in support of Eastern Municipal Water District local resource project (French Valley Recycled Water District Project).



Metropolitan's Mission is to provide its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

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