



General Manager's Monthly Report



Activities for the Month of September 2023



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Message from the General Manager

As we approach Water Professionals Week in October, I want to take a moment to recognize the exceptional dedication and hard work of our Metropolitan employees. Their tireless efforts, innovative spirit, and unwavering commitment to delivering clean and reliable water to millions of people throughout our region are truly deserving of continuous celebration.

This occasion also provides us with an opportunity to acknowledge the significant progress our board has made in fostering a more inclusive and positive work environment. Your steadfast support has allowed us to promote a workplace culture that values diversity and inclusion as essential elements for our organizational success. This not only fuels innovation and problem-solving, but also creates a welcoming atmosphere for all our staff.

Just last month, the Chair and I had the pleasure of having breakfast and sharing our gratitude with three dozen of our dedicated Operations and Engineering staff who contributed to the successful completion of the Etiwanda Pipeline repair project. Staff finished the project two months ahead of schedule, which helps us maximize our 100 percent State Water Project allocation for the year and supports long-term reliability for our region. From the engineers who meticulously oversaw the project's design and construction to the staff members who conducted inspections and ensured its seamless completion, each individual played an indispensable role.

Also in September, I had the privilege of meeting with more than 300 of Metropolitan's managers. During this all-day event, we engaged in discussions on key policy issues facing Metropolitan and hosted workshops aimed at providing practical support to managers working across our district.

Just as the new school year begins, our education and workforce development initiatives will go into full swing, with the aim of showcasing rewarding careers in the water industry.

Throughout Water Professionals Week, we will be shining a spotlight on many of our dedicated employees to educate Californians on the importance of water services and the crucial roles played by water professionals in our communities. They deserve our attention, and praise.

We are one,

Adel



***“No water, no life.
No blue, no green.”***

***- Sylvia Earle,
Marine Biologist and
Oceanographer***



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 EEO Office conducted the first of three trainings scheduled for this year on EEO's complaint and investigative process. The training, titled EEO Investigations 101, presented information to Metropolitan employees on the EEO intake assessment process, investigative guidelines for conducting prompt, fair, and thorough investigations, and the post-investigative process. The goal of this training series is to ensure that Metropolitan employees know how to file an EEO complaint, have a better understanding of the complaint process and their rights and responsibilities in the workplace, and are more aware of the support offered by the EEO Office.

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.

Recruitment procedures submitted to the State Auditor have been reviewed and deemed fully implemented.

Metropolitan Management University's September class covered team member accountability and how to identify and manage team engagement dynamics.

Sustain Metropolitan's mission with a strengthened business model

Develop revenue and business model options that support the needs of the member agencies as well as Metropolitan's financial sustainability and climate adaptation needs.

The Board and member agencies further discussed the Draft Long Range Financial Plan-Needs Assessment in meetings this month and the workshop on the role of CAMP4W in assessing financial costs and investing regionally.

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.

In support of an increased effectiveness to pursue and receive grants, the Centralized Grants Management Office held a training for staff on Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards.

Metropolitan also received confirmation from USBR of a \$5M grant award for Pure Water Southern California planning under the 2023 Water Recycling and Desalination Planning Funding program. This brings Metropolitan's current active grants total to \$204 million. A total of \$3.4 million in grant applications is pending decision.

Adapt to changing climate and water resources

Provide each member agency access to an equivalent level of water supply reliability through the development of a Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W) that integrates water resource, financial and climate adaptation planning.

In addition to September's board workshop, the Subcommittee on Long-Term Regional Planning Processes and Business Modeling (LRPPBM) focused on financing regional investments, and the CAMP4W process is beginning to shape draft evaluative criteria for member agencies and the Board to review in November. The team is also working on the transition from the LRPPBM subcommittee to a Task Force that will include Member Agency managers. The team also produced Working Memo 4 focused on the Long-Range Financial Plan. As previously noted, the Working Memos provide foundational information as reference points for the planning process and serve as the building blocks of our Year One CAMP4W Report anticipated in Q1 of 2024.

As part of the ongoing effort to address the State Water Project-dependent area, staff presented to the Pure Water and Regional Conveyance Subcommittee, providing information on the suite of conveyance options being explored to improve regional connectivity. Staff is also meeting with member agencies, including those outside the SWPDA to provide a detailed update on what has been discussed with the agencies in the dependent areas themselves. Agencies in the dependent areas continue to meet as the list of alternatives continues to develop, anticipating further board consideration in January and incorporating regional connectivity into CAMP4W.

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.

Working with member agencies and other water reuse partners, staff submitted detailed comments on California's proposed regulations for direct potable reuse. These regulations are important to the Pure Water Southern California project and form the basis for Metropolitan's process design criteria for treatment and for blending. Staff provided project and schedule updates to the PWSC subcommittee in September.

The state legislature passed AB 1572 to limit the watering of non-functional turf. In anticipation of the Governor's signature, staff is preparing plans to use grant funds to replace non-functional turf on commercial, industrial, and institutional properties.

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

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

Cal OES approved two additional dam Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) for a total of six Metropolitan EAPs now approved. Staff is on track for submitting ten EAPs for state approval by the end of 2023. Seismic upgrade work continued with preliminary design at the Water Quality Lab as well as design and permit acquisition for Copper Basin Reservoir. Staff is planning a November exercise for the Seismic Resilience Water Supply Task Force.

A consultant agreement was executed to provide 24/7 staff support for the Cybersecurity Operations Center, while the team also completed a vulnerability management program document to manage risks for all IT and OT systems.

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

In September, Metropolitan's Innovation program participated in the following:

- The WaterStart-facilitated peer-to-peer presentation and discussion with East Bay Municipal Utilities District on Metropolitan's Bay Delta Islands Innovation and Pilot programs
- The partnership with LADWP to showcase to golf industry leaders Metropolitan's Water Savings Incentive Program and LADWP's Technical Assistance Program

The SCADA upgrade pilot project at Mills has also progressed this month with the consultant performing equipment verification, developing control narratives, and preparing a training plan.

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.

Improvements to the Community Partnering Program are underway, and project candidates are being identified. Because the LRAC committee was postponed in September, the first project will be presented to the committee in November.

Meetings with member agency public information officers are shaping the outreach plans for CAMP4W outreach planning.

To help ensure a broader and deeper engagement of interested parties, new procedures are being developed that will improve how external input is provided for consideration in board policy decisions; these are in the final stages and soon will be available for review.

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

The Warehouse Team collaborated with the Western Region Conveyance and Distribution (C&D) Unit to assist with a system flushing operation. The C&D Unit unexpectedly encountered an immediate need for substantial amounts of sodium thiosulfate because of an unprecedented spike in nitrites and chlorine residuals. With assistance from the Soto Street and Jensen satellite warehouses, the La Verne central warehouse quickly responded to multiple calls for off-hours support to provide the needed chemicals to expedite dechlorination applications. In addition, the Warehouse Team located increased supplies of sodium thiosulfate from various approved sources to bolster Metropolitan's inventory levels for staging at strategic locations if another urgent response for dechlorination is needed.

Bay-Delta Initiatives

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) released a Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan Draft Staff Report and Substitute Environmental Document on September 28, 2023. This report will be open for public comment and evaluates the impacts of the different Bay-Delta Plan update alternatives, including the State Water Board's unimpaired flow based 2018 Framework staff proposal and the Agreements to Support Healthy Rivers and Landscapes (also known as Voluntary Agreements). Staff is reviewing this document and plans to present an update to Metropolitan's Board in November 2023.

Chief Financial Officer

In August 2023, the Board was presented, for their review, the draft 2023 Long-Range Finance Plan Needs Assessment (LRFP-NA) document. The LRFP-NA is the first phase of a two-phase process to provide the Board with a finance plan for funding new capital investments over the next decade.

Colorado River

Following the submittal of scoping comments in August for the Post-2026 National Environmental Policy Act process, the Basin States have been meeting to develop a consensus-based alternative to be considered in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the new Colorado River Guidelines. The goal of the alternative is to balance the long-term supply and demand gap on the Colorado River.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

On September 26–28, 2023, Metropolitan staff attended the CPUC Small and Diverse Business Expo in Escondido, CA. The expo provided small and diverse businesses opportunities to connect with representatives from utility companies, public agencies, community choice aggregators, prime contractors, resource centers, and other businesses. The event is designed with the intent to facilitate networking, education, and exchange of information meeting with procurement and supplier diversity representatives and listening to leaders of California's investor-owned utilities to discuss and learn of business opportunities and upcoming contracts.

Engineering Services

Business Outreach and Engineering staff conducted the quarterly MetWorks event on September 14, 2023, to provide contractors and consultants with information on upcoming business opportunities. Three member Agencies (Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Easter Municipal Water District, and Western Municipal Water District) and Metropolitan presented some of their upcoming projects. Approximately 270 contractors, subcontractors, and professional service providers attended this event in Moreno Valley.

External Affairs

GM Hagekhalil traveled to Washington D.C. to discuss Metropolitan's Pure Water Southern California project and Inflation Reduction Act conservation projects with Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Touton. He also met separately with Senator Padilla and Representative Napolitano to help advance Metropolitan's legislative priorities and secure Congressional support for funding Southern California infrastructure. (September 18–20)

Human Resources

The Organizational Development & Training Unit (OD&T) facilitated a team building for the Water Quality Section focusing on Communication and Collaboration tools for 12 managers. In September, 174 Metropolitan employees attended virtually facilitated classes, including Moving Quickly without Rushing, Organization Skills, Business Writing, and Effective Nonverbal Communication.

Information Technology

The initial version of the General Manager Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Dashboard site was launched. The IT Business Applications Team developed the site to allow data entry and data approval for six KPI categories and defined metrics for each category. Based on the entered data, a report is generated that has seven sections capturing the data and providing insight into Metropolitan operations.

Safety, Security and Protection

Enhancing the 5 Ds of security operations—deter, detect, delay, deny, and defend—is now more reliant than ever on advanced security measures and innovative technology. The Security and Emergency Management Unit has taken a substantial leap forward by enthusiastically adopting cutting-edge security solutions, such as ground sensors and radar systems. These strategic investments have not only bolstered our critical infrastructure security but have also positioned Metropolitan to proactively address a wide range of potential threats that may arise in the future.

Sustainability, Resiliency and Innovation

The Chief SRI Officer presented at the One Water and Stewardship and Finance, Audit, Insurance, Real Property Committees and Member Agency Managers Meeting and updated directors and staff on the progress with the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water and discussed Year-One Goals. The Board authorized use of Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) and 8.5 for planning purposes. The Chief SRI Officer and staff participated on panels at the 8th Annual California Water Data Summit and Los Angeles Business Council Sustainability Summit. SRI staff participated at the 2023 Net Zero Conference and 3rd cohort completed the Envision Pure Water Southern California training and planning.

Water Resource Management

This month, staff focused on planning for the next year. Staff submitted an initial order for State Water Project Supplies and the diversion request for Colorado River water. As part of the Colorado River request, staff also submitted a Part 417 questionnaire that details the diversion request and details Metropolitan's demand management and operational action for 2024.

Water System Operations

Staff has been diligently managing a significant nitrification event in the distribution system in Los Angeles and Orange counties, exacerbated by warmer temperatures and low water demands. To address this challenge, numerous actions have been taken, including system changes to increase flows in affected areas, chemical modifications and blend changes at the treatment plants, and increased monitoring throughout the system. Elevated nitrite levels have necessitated around-the-clock flushing of various feeders, while staff has maintained close coordination with affected member agencies. Recent nitrification monitoring results are showing promise, highlighting the dedication and collaboration of Metropolitan staff in ensuring the continued delivery of reliable, high-quality water supplies.



“This project highlighted what ESG and WSO can do together. I’m proud of the collaboration among our Construction Management, Corrosion, Design, Project Management, and WSO teams. Together, we delivered the pipeline two months early, an accomplishment that was critical in maximizing utilization of the 100% SWP water allocation.”

Damien Romo, Resident Inspector

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Metropolitan recently completed rehabilitation of the 5.4-mile northern segment of the Etiwanda Pipeline to enhance the pipeline’s long-term reliability. In 2014 and 2016, approximately three miles of the pipeline were relined. The final contract, which was recently closed out, completes the overall relining of the pipeline and brings the total cost for the rehabilitation program to \$60.3 million.



IMPORTANCE TO METROPOLITAN

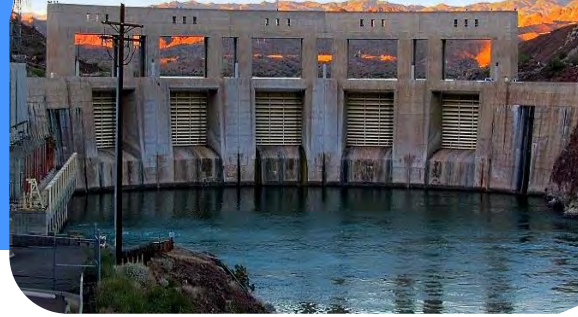
Originally constructed in 1993, the 6.4-mile-long Etiwanda Pipeline, which is located in Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga, provides flexibility in conveying untreated water from the East Branch of the State Water Project (SWP) to the F. E. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant. Metropolitan generates power from the welded steel pipeline’s high-pressure flows through the Etiwanda Power Plant, earning annual revenues as much as \$8.3 million. The pipeline’s interior mortar lining prevents corrosion of the steel host pipe. In 2008, Metropolitan discovered delaminated mortar lining, caused by climate-driven variations in SWP water supply availability and internal pressure fluctuations. This loss of mortar lining exposed the pipeline to accelerated rates of corrosion that could compromise its structural integrity and lead to leakage. This project removed corrosion, installed new steel liners, and replaced the mortar lining with polyurethane. The polyurethane lining’s performance ensured resiliency to expected pressure fluctuations, and thus enhanced the overall reliability of water supplies imported from Northern California.



MEMORABLE MOMENT

Metropolitan pre-purchased the steel liners to allow construction to occur when SWP supplies were limited in 2022. This year, as Metropolitan’s SWP allocation increased to 100%, work on the pipeline was accelerated to return it to service and ensure full utilization of the SWP allotment. Various teams within Metropolitan, alongside the contractor, collaborated and worked expeditiously to place this critical pipeline back into service two months ahead of schedule, thereby increasing Metropolitan’s capacity to deliver SWP water to Southland communities.

Water Resources, Engineering and Safety



Water Resource Management

Ensure Reliable State Water Project

Water Resources Management (WRM) staff submitted Metropolitan's 2024 initial State Water Project (SWP) water order to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to meet the October 1 SWP Contract deadline. The water order included a suite of schedules at various allocation scenarios, including 15 percent, 30 percent, 50 percent, 60 percent, and 100 percent Table A allocation scenarios. These schedules provide DWR input for their modeling studies that, in part, determine the SWP allocation. DWR will announce the initial allocation for 2024 by December 1, 2023.

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

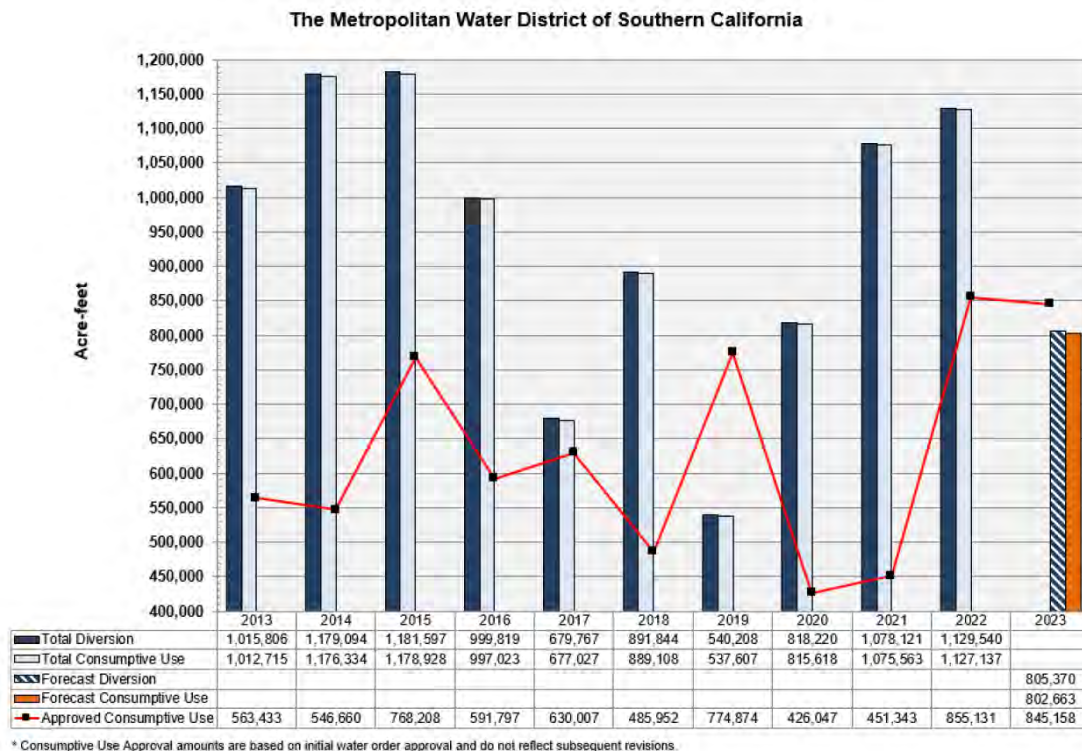
On September 18, 2023, staff from WRM, Water System Operations (WSO), External Affairs, and Executive Management participated in an internal Colorado River (CR) workshop at Diemer Treatment Plant in Yorba Linda. This was the first of several planned internal workshops to develop high-level principles to guide negotiations with the other Basin States in formulating a Consensus Proposal for operational guidelines governing Lakes Mead and Powell after 2026, once the 2007 Interim Guidelines expire. The Basin States plan to submit a Consensus Proposal to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) by spring of 2024. In the morning, staff gave presentations on System Flexibility Modeling, Beneficial Use, Aqueduct Augmentation, and Human Health & Safety Supplies. In the afternoon, staff discussed areas where further work is needed and strategized on next steps.

Staff participated in meetings and workshops with Lower Basin and California partners to continue developing a Lower Basin alternative for operating Lakes Mead and Powell after 2026, once the current operational guidelines (the 2007 Interim Guidelines) expire. Meetings included a gathering of technical modeling teams from Metropolitan, Southern Nevada Water Authority, and the Central Arizona Project in Las Vegas; a workshop in San Diego with the Colorado River Board of California (CRB) and representatives from California agencies holding rights to water from the Colorado River (the Quechan Tribe, Imperial Irrigation District, Palo Verde Irrigation District, Coachella Valley Water District, and Metropolitan), and a two-day meeting of Lower Basin States principals in San Diego. The post-2026 reservoir operation guidelines will significantly influence Metropolitan's future supply of Colorado River water.

Staff submitted Metropolitan's 2024 Colorado River Diversion Request, formally known as the 2024 Colorado River Diversion Estimate and Part 417 Consultation Questionnaire, to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). Participating in Reclamation's Part 417 consultation process helps ensure full access to the available Colorado River supplies in calendar year 2024. This request includes all transfer water and water that becomes available through the Colorado River priority system. For 2024, staff submitted an estimated total diversion amount of about 960 thousand acre-feet. The figure below provides a historical record of Metropolitan's diversions and consumptive use of Colorado River water for calendar years 2013–2022 and Metropolitan's forecasted consumptive use for 2023.

Water Resources, Engineering and Safety

(continued)



Implement Regional Conservation Program

Held a Model Water Efficient Landscape Workshop in partnership with the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) and City of Oceanside for twenty landscape contractors and city planning professionals. Presented on turf replacement and Non-Functional Turf (NFT) policies at the California Stormwater Quality Conference panel on climate-ready landscapes and stacked incentives. Held a best management practices workshop for the Garden School Foundation on ways to save water in their school gardens.

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

Department of Water Resources (DWR) continues to lead efforts in developing the California Water Plan (CWP) Update 2023. In September, staff attended two DWR-hosted virtual workshops. The workshops discussed DWR's update of three white papers on resource management strategies that will support the CWP Update 2023. The September 13 workshop discussed desalination, and the September 21 workshop covered conjunctive use and recharge. These strategies influence the contents of the CWP and the direction of water resources policy.

DWR released the Public Review Draft of the CWP Update 2023 on September 20, with a 30-day comment period. Staff will be working with ACWA to review, develop comments, and provide feedback on the draft plan. Comments submitted to DWR by October 19 will inform the final CWP Update 2023 scheduled for release at the end of the year. Staff participated in a Southern California Salinity Coalition (SCSC) board meeting on September 7th. During the meeting, the Board welcomed the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District as a new member of the coalition. The meeting also featured a presentation on a study co-funded by the SCSC piloting the use of Flow-Reversal Reverse

Water Resources, Engineering and Safety

(continued)

Osmosis (FRRO) for potable reuse. Metropolitan is a founding member of SCSC and recently held the Chair position on the SCSC's board.

On September 21, staff presented to Leadership California at Metropolitan's headquarters on how Metropolitan plans for drought and abundant conditions. Leadership California aims to advance the leadership role of women in California and includes Metropolitan's Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer, Liji Thomas.

Implement Future Supply Actions Funding Program

On September 26, staff participated in a webinar hosted by the Water Research Foundation (WRF) on "Addressing Impediments and Incentives for Agricultural Reuse. Metropolitan co-funded the study with the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FARR). The study is one of the seven FSA studies Metropolitan initiated in partnership with WRF. Staff provided an introduction to the study and summarized Metropolitan's goals of sustaining agriculture through mutually beneficial partnerships. A copy of the webinar brochure is shown below.



Position Metropolitan As A Leader In Open Water Data.

Water Resources Management (WRM) staff attended the 8th Annual California Water Data Summit, hosted by the California Data Collaborative (CaDC). Metropolitan is a member agency of the CaDC and was a platinum sponsor for this year's Summit. WRM staff organized and participated in a panel on Snowpack Monitoring and Water Supply Forecasting to discuss how Metropolitan uses crucial snow and water supply data for operations and planning decisions. Metropolitan's Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Manager and Metropolitan's General Manager also attended the summit and spoke on panels regarding water workforce opportunities and advancing infrastructure and community.

Water Resources, Engineering and Safety

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

Staff participated in a Peer-2-Peer (P2P) meeting on large-diameter pipeline inspection with experts from Mekorot, Israel's national water wholesale agency. The meeting featured presentations from both Mekorot and Metropolitan staff on approaches, technologies, and lessons learned. The meeting also covered predictive maintenance for pipeline infrastructure and non-destructive weld inspections. Staff initiated the meeting through Booky Oren GWT, one of Metropolitan's P2P innovation consultants. Based on the information exchanged, follow-up meetings with Mekorot on these topics will be planned.



Water Resources, Engineering and Safety

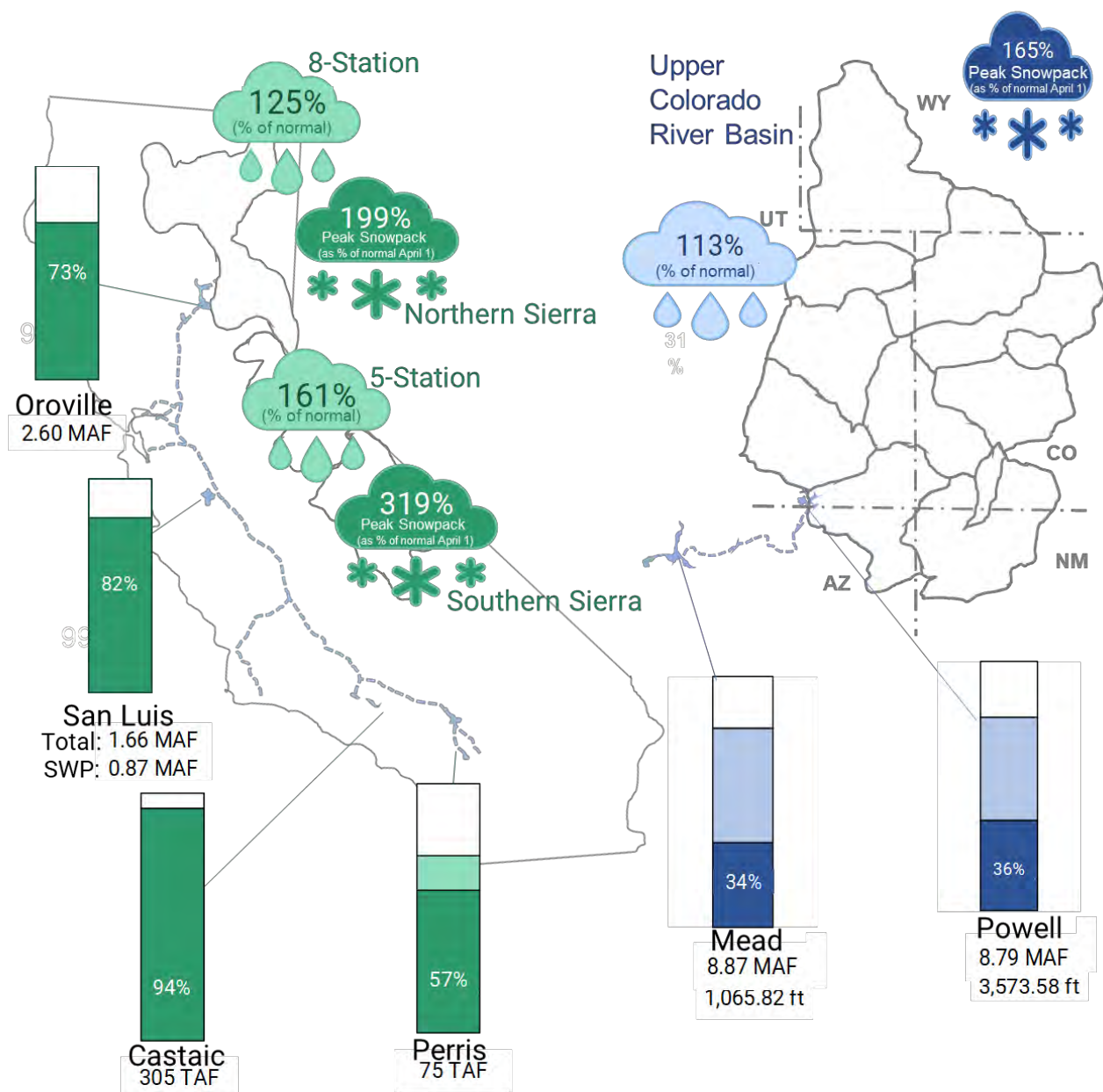
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State Water Project Resources

SWP Table A - 100% - 1,911,500 acre-feet

Colorado River Resources

Projected CRA Diversions - 657,000 acre-feet



Water Year 2022-2023

As of: 9/30/2023

Extended Report:

<https://www.mwdh2o.com/WSCR>

Bay-Delta Initiatives

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 (CEQA) for a public review that ended on December 16, 2022. DWR recently announced an expected late 2023 release date for the proposed project Final EIR. The Final EIR will describe potential environmental impacts, identify mitigation measures that would help avoid or minimize impacts, and provide responses to all substantive comments received on the Draft EIR. More information on the CEQA process for the proposed Delta Conveyance Project and other environmental compliance and permitting processes can be found on the project's [permit portal website](#).

This month, DWR also released new materials related to Delta Conveyance including fact sheets on [public outreach](#) and [project stats](#), as well as an [article](#) describing the importance of infrastructure updates in the face of climate-driven weather extremes.

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

A September 21 special meeting of the Delta Conveyance Finance Authority was held to hear updates and approve minutes.

Sites Reservoir

At the joint Sites Project Authority Board and Sites Reservoir Committee Meeting on September 22, the Reservoir Committee and Authority Board adopted Board Resolution #2023-01, which establishes guidelines for the Sites Project's use of the Lower Colusa Basin Drain (CBD) and Knights Landing Ridge Cut (collectively called the Lower CBD System). These guidelines provide a framework for Sites Authority staff in communicating with multiple partner agencies and individuals along the Lower CBD System and help guide the drafting of land use, operations and maintenance, and other agreements required for the integration of the Lower CBD System and the Sites Project. The guidelines address existing operations in the Lower CBD System, collaboration with local partners, water rights and water accounting, and maintenance and capital improvements.

Science Activities

Staff submitted a \$1.6 million Proposition 1 grant proposal to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to continue the successful work on the Delta Smelt and Native Species Preservation Project. The proposal is to develop two experimental tools, floating wetlands, and Delta smelt impoundment culture. The Floating Wetlands would be propagated into existing Bouldin Island ponds to evaluate the ability to affect carbon budgets in the foodweb to support fish and carbon sequestration. In addition, the Delta smelt impoundment culture information from the study would be used to inform the USBR and DWR joint facilities improvement efforts for the Delta Smelt culture facility.

Water Resources, Engineering and Safety

(continued)

At the Northern California Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) Annual Meeting, Metropolitan staff presented on the multi-institution effort to develop decision support tools that include contaminant modeling in ecosystem and water project management. Two efforts were showcased in which Metropolitan is an active participant: the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team (CAMT) Delta Smelt Structured Decision Making and the Delta Coordination Group Structured Decision Making. Both efforts led to improved understanding of how contaminants and their effects can affect decision making.

Staff continues to participate in the planning committees for the Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) Annual Workshop 2024 and the Bay-Delta Science Conference 2024. Both forums showcase developing and emerging science on the management of the water projects and listed species in the San Francisco Estuary and its watershed. The IEP Annual Workshop is scheduled for March of 2024 and the Bay-Delta Science Conference is scheduled for October 2024.

Staff presented findings from the CAMT Salmonid Technical Workgroup report to the Collaborative Science Adaptive Management Program (CSAMP) policy group, which answered five specific charge questions that were directed by CSAMP. The five questions focused on how exports influence San Joaquin salmonid survival through the Delta, the effect of exports relative to other factors, how exports affect juvenile fish in different water year types, and how new information can be built into the existing modeling tools. A final report developed by the Salmonid Scoping Team will be available by the end of the year.

Regulatory Activities

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) released a Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan Draft Staff Report and Substitute Environmental Document on September 28, 2023. This report will be open for public comment and evaluates the impacts of the different Bay-Delta Plan update alternatives, including the State Water Board's unimpaired flow-based 2018 Framework staff proposal and the Agreements to Support Healthy Rivers and Landscapes (also known as Voluntary Agreements). Staff is reviewing this document and plans to present an update to Metropolitan's Board in November 2023.

Delta Island Activities

Staff is prepared for an October board action item to be heard at the Engineering, Operations and Technology committee to amend the Capital Investment Plan for fiscal years 2022/23 and 2023/24 to include development of a multi-benefit landscape project on Webb Tract and to authorize two professional service agreements for design, preparation of environmental documentation, permit applications, and scientific monitoring. Amending the Capital Investment Plan and awarding these agreements will allow staff to begin work on the Webb Tract Landscape Mosaic Project.

Colorado River Resources

Work Continues on Post-2026 Colorado River Guidelines Process

On June 16, Reclamation initiated the process for developing the post-2026 Colorado River Guidelines. They laid out a schedule in which a Draft Environmental Impact Statement would be prepared by the end of 2024, followed by a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision in time for the 2027 operating year. In August, Metropolitan submitted scoping comments along with Southern Nevada Water Authority and Central Arizona Project. Those comments included protection of Human Health and Safety supplies and protection of water stored in Lake Mead by the urban agencies. In September, the Colorado River Board of California has been working with staff from its member agencies to develop an initial California position for the new Guidelines. Topics under discussion include under what conditions California might accept reduced deliveries and what tools would be needed in the future, including water storage options for Lake Mead, and participating in interstate augmentation opportunities, such as Pure Water Southern California. The California proposal continues to evolve and will be presented to other Basin States for further discussion and revision. The overall goal is to reach a seven-state consensus alternative that can be included in the Draft EIS for the new Colorado River Guidelines. Reclamation has stated that they need a consensus alternative developed by the end of March 2024, to be included in the Draft EIS. To date, the discussions have not included water reductions to any individual agency, but in general, they include the amount of reductions that would be needed by the Basin States to protect Lake Mead and Lake Powell from reaching critical elevations. In December 2023, staff will participate in a Colorado River Board workshop to update the Board on the discussions and get direction on the key priorities for Metropolitan as it moves through this multi-year long process.

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 have already been completed. Metropolitan's Board awarded a construction contract for the third and final stage in July 2022. Stage 3 relines the remaining 2.5 miles of pipeline and is now complete. Stage 3 pipeline rehabilitation work was completed, and the pipeline returned to service in July 2023 ahead of schedule. All remaining work, including site restoration, was completed in September 2023.
- **OC-88 Pump Station Chillers Replacement**—This project replaces deteriorated cooling equipment including three chillers and two chilled water pumps that provide cooling for the pump station's pump motors and air conditioning system. Construction is approximately 35 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in February 2024.
- **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 in August 2023. Construction is approximately 99 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by November 2023.
- **Hollywood Tunnel North Portal Upgrade**—This project will replace the existing isolation valves, sleeve type control valves, and hydraulic actuators with new ones. The upgrade will also replace the control system, which will allow the facility to be controlled remotely. A valve procurement specification is 90 percent complete, and award of the procurement contract is planned for January 2024. Final design is 30 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in September 2024.
- **Garvey Reservoir Rehabilitation**—This project will replace the aging reservoir floating cover and liner, structurally strengthen the inlet/outlet tower, upgrade the on-site water quality laboratory building, rehabilitate the junction structure, and replace the existing standby generator and a portion of the security perimeter fence. Metropolitan's Board authorized an amendment to a consultant agreement in April 2023 for final design. Final design is approximately 8 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in December 2024.

Water Resources, Engineering and Safety

(continued)



OC-88 Pump Station Chillers Replacement
Crane set-up for chiller installation



OC-88 Pump Station Chillers Replacement
Installation of chiller

Water Resources, Engineering and Safety

(continued)

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:

- **Sepulveda Feeder CFRP Urgent Relining**—This project rehabilitates three deteriorated Sepulveda Feeder PCCP segments in the Van Nuys, Sherman Oaks, and Brentwood neighborhoods of the city of Los Angeles using carbon fiber reinforced polymer lining. Metropolitan's Board awarded a construction contract in August 2023. Sitework is scheduled to begin in November 2023 and be completed in January 2024.
- **Sepulveda Feeder North**—This PCCP rehabilitation project was re-prioritized to support the West Area Water Supply Reliability Improvements. The North Reach project, in conjunction with the Sepulveda Feeder Pump Stations, will allow the reversal of normal flow in the Sepulveda Feeder to augment treated water deliveries to the west service area. Utility potholing and geotechnical boring is currently taking place. Permitting and public outreach processes have been initiated. The North Reach preliminary design is approximately 30 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in March 2024.

Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) Reliability Program

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

- **Overhead Cranes 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. Metropolitan's Board awarded a construction contract in September 2020. The contractor has completed the installation of the new crane at the Gene and Iron Mountain pumping plants and began mobilizing to begin work at Eagle Mountain Pumping Plant in September. Construction is 45 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in March 2024.
- **Conduit Structural Protection**—This project consists of installing new reinforced concrete slab protection crossings over portions of the cut-and-cover conduits on the Colorado River Aqueduct. Metropolitan's Board awarded a construction contract in April 2023. The contractor is currently performing grading and installation of form work for concrete pads at four sites. Construction is 7 percent complete and is scheduled to be completed in May 2024.
- **Mile 12 Flow Monitoring Station Upgrades**—This project replaces the CRA Mile 12 flow meter and upgrades the appurtenant facilities at the monitoring station. Metropolitan's Board awarded a construction contract in May 2021. Construction is complete and notice of completion was filed in August 2023.
- **Domestic Water Treatment System Upgrades**—This project upgrades the domestic water treatment systems at all five CRA pumping plants, including replacement of the water treatment units. The construction contract was awarded at the December 2021 board meeting. The contractor is excavating utilities at Gene and Iron as well as fabricating the temporary treatment skids. Construction is 20 percent complete and anticipated to be completed in March 2025.
- **Main Transformer Replacement**—This project replaces the thirty-five 230 kV and 69 kV step-down transformers that are used to run the main pumps at the five Colorado River Aqueduct pumping plants. Preliminary design is complete, and board authorization of an agreement amendment for final design is scheduled for November 2023. In addition, procurement contract documents are complete and board award

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(continued)

of a procurement contract for the 35 stepdown transformers is scheduled for November 2023. These transformers will be installed as part of a future board awarded installation contract.

- **Cabazon Radial Gate Replacement**—This project will replace an inline and waste way radial gate at the facility as well as install security, electrical, and safety upgrades. Final design is 20 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in July 2024.
- **Black Metal Mountain Electrical Upgrades**—This project scope includes the replacement of the existing single-phase 2400 V power line delivering power to Metropolitan's Black Metal Mountain communication sites with a more robust three-phase power line rated for 4.16 kV usage. The project will also enhance the main access road to the communications sites. Preliminary design is 80 percent complete and is scheduled to be completed in December 2023.

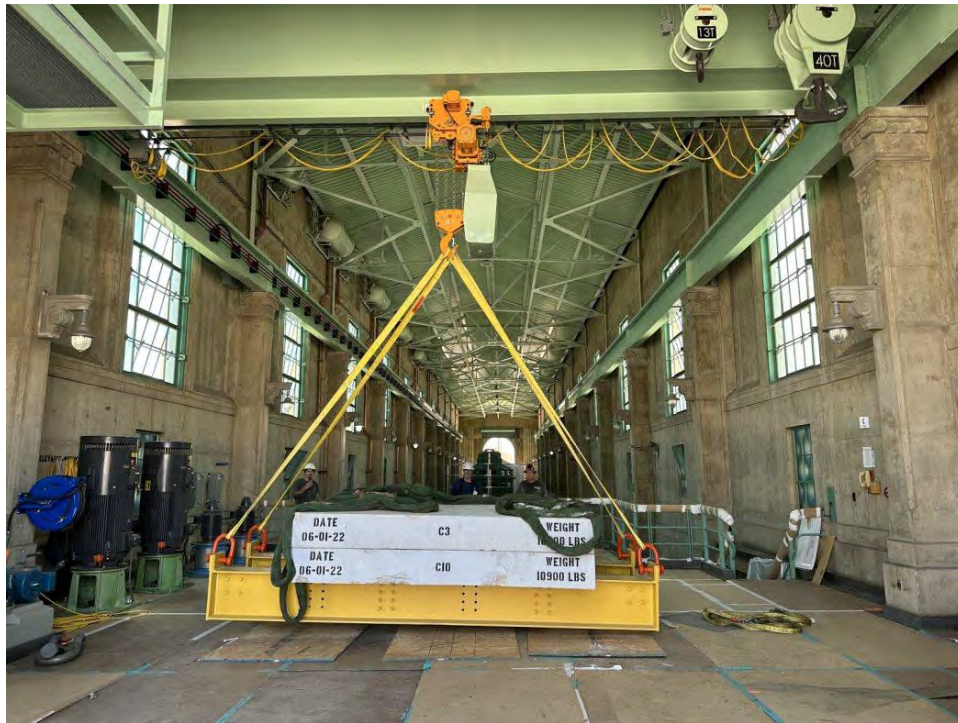


Overhead Cranes

Iron Mountain, East beam with new coating

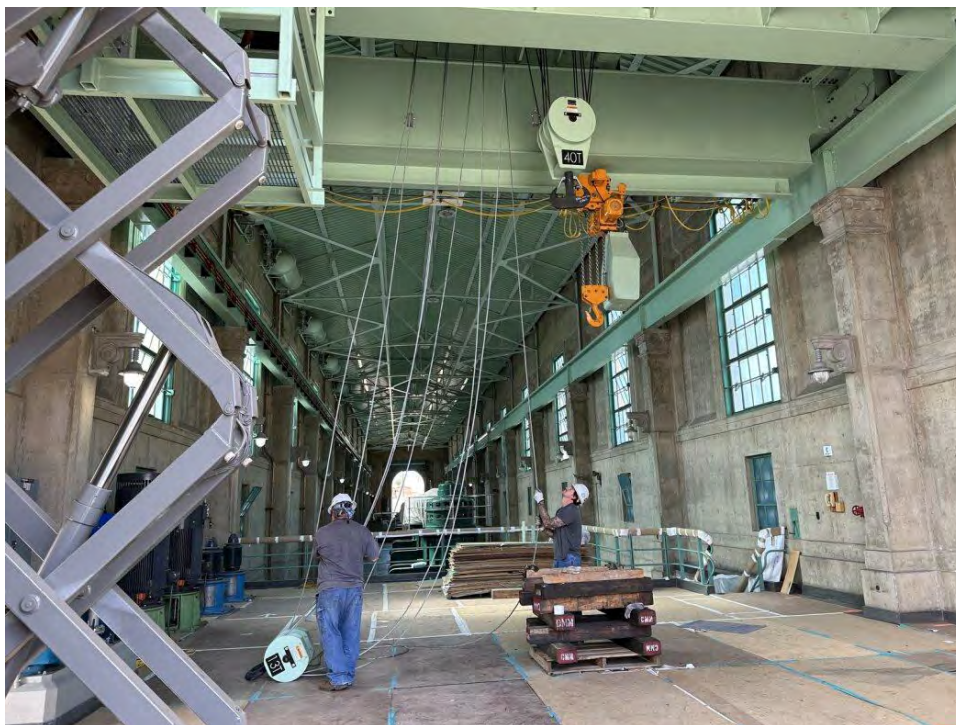
Water Resources, Engineering and Safety

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Overhead Cranes

Iron Mountain, 10-Ton Monorail Load Test



Overhead Cranes

Iron Mountain, Auxiliary hook being spooled onto drum

Water Resources, Engineering and Safety

(continued)

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.

- **Badlands Tunnel Surge Protection**—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 installs a new hydraulic surge tank at the south portal of the tunnel, which will protect the Inland Feeder from hydraulic transients when pumping water from DVL to the Rialto Pipeline through the Inland Feeder. Final design is complete and board award of a construction contract is scheduled for November 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 installs an interconnection pipeline and isolation valve structure between the Inland Feeder and Rialto Pipeline. The Board awarded a construction contract in September 2023. Construction is scheduled to be completed in March 2025.
- **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 installs 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 construction of the valve structure and relocation of utilities in area is underway. Construction is approximately 13 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in May 2024.
- **Sepulveda Feeder Pumping Stations**—This project installs 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 uses a progressive design-build (PDB) project delivery method. The Board awarded a Phase 1 design-build services agreement and in September 2023. Phase 1, which includes site investigation, design to the 70 percent level, environmental planning, and preparation of long-lead-item procurement documents is scheduled to be completed in September 2024.

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 planned work under the first quarter-plant outage, including installation of filter valves and piping in Filter Building No. 2; construction of new concrete walls and corbels and installation of new mechanical piping and electrical conduits in Basins 7 and 8. Construction is 45 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in May 2025.

Water Resources, Engineering and Safety

(continued)

- **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. The contractor completed the installation of the CMU block wall for the Riverside Public utility switchyard and the ORP Switchgear building walls and is currently constructing the building roof and HVAC system for the expanded ORP switchgear building. Construction is 35 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in August 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 has completed pipe fabrication and is currently procuring valve and pipe supports for the cooling water system modifications and coordinating study for start-up testing of the two newly installed PSUs. Construction is 47 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in February 2024.

System Reliability Program

The System Reliability Program consists of projects to improve or modify facilities located throughout Metropolitan's service area to use 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, board room, 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 third and final contract in December 2022. The contractor completed ground penetrating radar scanning for bollard installation and began installation of bollards and other security features including cameras, speakers. Construction is 35 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in March 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 completed third-party testing and commissioning of the smoke control system. The contractor began final testing/sign-off of the fire alarm and smoke control systems by Los Angeles Fire and Building Departments. Construction is 92 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in December 2023.

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(continued)

- **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 45 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in March 2024. The system upgrades at the Mills plant are scheduled to be complete in April 2026.
- **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 continued performing abatement activities on the building’s roof and demolition of existing exhaust fans. Construction is 20 percent complete and is scheduled to be completed in December 2024.

Value Engineering

CRA Conduit Erosion Control Improvements Project Value Engineering Workshop

In September, Engineering completed a Value Engineering workshop for the CRA Conduit Erosion Control Improvements project. Portions of the CRA are composed of unreinforced concrete conduit constructed using cut-and-cover techniques. In most locations, sufficient ground cover is in place to protect the buried conduit from damage. In certain areas where the CRA crosses major flow drainage channels, heavy storm events have eroded the soil cover, exposing the conduit to potential damage. To prevent damage, WSO staff respond and perform substantial maintenance activity to restore cover after storm events. This project will construct erosion control measures designed to maintain sufficient soil cover and minimize the need for significant maintenance at 19 specific locations along a 65-mile stretch of the CRA west of the Hinds Pumping Plant. The value engineering workshop focused on reviewing the proposed remediation alternatives at these locations and addressed the following topics: construction sequencing, environmental permitting issues, construction cost, and mitigation of construction risks and reducing long-term O&M impacts. The workshop team included Metropolitan and consultant staff and was highly productive, generating recommendations to improve safety, constructability, and minimize future maintenance costs.



Pinkham Wash (Site 15) CRA Station 7059+00 (MM 145.51)

Colorado River Conservation Workshop

Engineering assisted WRM with planning and facilitating a one-day workshop at Diemer to consider issues and policies regarding Metropolitan's use of Colorado River supplies. The workshop considered several background issues including the upcoming December 2025 expiration of the 2007 Interim Guidelines, the US Bureau of Reclamation's initiation of the development of Post-2026 Operational Guidelines, and future hydrologic assumptions. The workshop specifically brought forward information from Metropolitan's System Flexibility Modeling efforts, potential projects, and methods to augment supplies, as well as discussions related to beneficial and reasonable use definitions and water shortage guidelines pertaining to human health and safety considerations. Workshop attendees included staff representing Colorado River Resources, Water Resources, Engineering, General Counsel, Operations, Environmental Planning, and Executive Management.

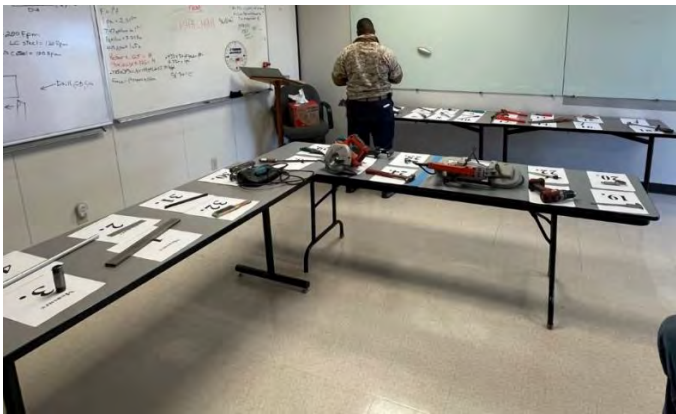
Safety, Security and Protection

Project Highlights

Safety, Regulatory and Training

The Safety, Regulatory, and Training (SRT) Section develops and trains Metropolitan staff. SRT includes Metropolitan's Apprenticeship Programs.

The Apprenticeship Programs prepare apprentices to become qualified mechanics and electricians responsible for maintaining Metropolitan's water treatment and distribution systems. This month, the Class of 2027 mechanics and electricians successfully completed midterm exams for their first period of instruction. Midterms consisted of a written test and a practical exam. The written test evaluated apprentices' knowledge of industrial safety and health and of hand and power tools. The practical exam assessed basic measurement skills and the ability to identify hand and power tools correctly. The Class of 2027 consists of internal candidates recruited from different areas across Metropolitan. These apprentices are progressing in their studies and are expected to complete the probationary period next month. Once apprentices successfully pass probation, they will be officially registered with the State of California Division of Apprenticeship Standards.



**Class of 2027 apprentice completing the practical midterm exam (left)
and apprentices learning about respiratory safety (right)**

SRT provides enterprise-wide environmental, health, safety, and technical training to ensure compliance with federal, state, and local regulatory agency requirements and Metropolitan policies and procedures. This month, staff conducted a total of 76 in-person classes, benefiting 494 students on 33 distinct topics. Another 827 students successfully completed online safety classes administered through MyLearning. Finally, staff recorded 351 medical evaluations and respirator fit tests.

SRT staff updated Metropolitan's Health, Safety, and Environmental (HSE) Manual with the COVID-19 Prevention Program. This program ensures compliance with Cal/OSHA's Non-Emergency Standard §3205, COVID-19 Prevention Standard, and establishes procedures to minimize exposure to COVID-19 while working at Metropolitan facilities and worksites. The program includes procedures for responding in the event a Metropolitan worksite experiences a

Water Resources, Engineering and Safety

(continued)

COVID-19 outbreak and preventing COVID-19 at Metropolitan guest lodging and transportation. The HSE Manual is available on the IntraMet.

SRT staff developed and posted a new Metropolitan Safety Talk titled “Workplace Violence.” This Safety Talk defines workplace violence, outlines the warning signs, covers measures to minimize or prevent workplace violence, and provides a list of available employee support services. SRT staff and the new Chief Safety, Security, and Protection Officer co-presented at the Continuing Challenge Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Workshop in Sacramento. The presentation focused on common chemical hazards emergency responders could expect to encounter at a water or wastewater treatment facility.



Workplace Violence Safety Talk posted on the IntraMet



Chemical Hazards at Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities Presentation

Water Resources, Engineering and Safety

(continued)

SRT staff attended the Joint Utility Vendor Audit Consortium (JUVAC) meeting to discuss various hazardous waste issues and plan for future meetings and audits. Metropolitan's representative was elected Vice-Chair for 2024. JUVAC is a consortium of utilities that conduct vendor environmental audits of treatment, storage, and disposal facilities (TSDFs) and share audit results with consortium members. Staff facilitated the Process Hazard Analysis (PHA) for the Chemical Unloading Facility CUF Recompressor Project. A PHA is a thorough, step-by-step review of chlorine operations and maintenance procedures used to identify potential deficiencies and evaluate their consequences. This process helps identify a range of risks, from equipment failures to human error, and ultimately improves the safety of plant personnel and the surrounding environment. SRT, Water System Operations, and Engineering staff collaborated on the PHA to review the new proposed recompressor for CUF transloading operations.

Security and Emergency Response

The Cyber and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) within the Department of Homeland Security conducted an active shooter exercise at the Jensen Water Treatment Plant on Wednesday, September 6, 2023. This comprehensive exercise encompassed crucial aspects of a unified response to acts of violence, including pre-incident indicators, employee and visitor screening, and communication protocols before, during, and after an emergency.

The exercise was a collaborative effort that included:

- Metropolitan key stakeholders from Security and Emergency Management, Water System Operations (WSO), External Affairs, Safety, and Recovery
- Representatives from local, state, and federal agencies such as the California Office of Emergency Management (OEM), Red Cross, LA County Fire, and others

Such exercises play a vital role in evaluating our operational procedures and overall preparedness for emergencies. The experiences gained from these exercises, along with the subsequent training and analysis of outcomes, serve as invaluable tools in our emergency management toolkit. They enable us to enhance our readiness and response capabilities, particularly during times of heightened stress and uncertainty.



Active shooter exercise at the Jensen Water Treatment Plant

Water Resources, Engineering and Safety

(continued)

Security and Emergency Response

The Security and Emergency Management Unit initiated a pilot project at Jensen Water Treatment Plant using innovative, ground-based radar systems from two competing vendors. Combined with high-definition security surveillance cameras and video analytics, these systems can track multiple threats in real time.

The systems were put through a series of realistic scenarios to evaluate their performance capabilities. Role players were designated as notional adversarial forces to gage the technical strengths and shortcomings of both vendors over a 30-day evaluation period.

The integration of ground-based radar with security video surveillance offers Metropolitan a robust and effective security solution that enhances detection accuracy, early warning capabilities, and overall situational awareness, while reducing false alarms and improving response times.



Jensen's pilot project includes innovative, ground-based radar systems

Operations

Water System Operations

Core Business Objectives

Manage Vacancies

WSO filled three vacancies in September.

Provide Reliable Water Deliveries

Metropolitan member agency water deliveries were 130,100 acre-feet (AF) for September, with an average of 4,300 AF per day, which was about 800 AF per day higher than in August. In addition, Metropolitan delivered 16,700 AF to Cyclic and Conjunctive Use Programs. Treated water deliveries were 8,700 AF lower than in August for a total of 60,900 AF, or 47 percent of total deliveries for the month. The Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) pumped a total of 42,600 AF in September. CRA deliveries continue to be lower this month as a result of the Hurricane Hillary storm event that damaged the Coachella Valley Water District recharge facilities. As a result of the lower CRA deliveries, Metropolitan is maintaining three-pump flow along the CRA. State Water Project (SWP) imports averaged 4,300 AF per day, totaling about 127,600 AF for the month. The target SWP blend is around 80 percent for the Weymouth Plant, 25 percent for the Diemer Plant, and 55 percent for the Skinner Plant.

Staff replaced the 50 kilovolt-amperes (kVA) uninterruptible power supply (UPS) unit that provides backup power for the pressure control structure (PCS) at Red Mountain Hydroelectric Power Plant (HEP). This UPS is critical to the operation of San Diego Pipeline No. 5, as it allows the hydroelectric generator's water flow to be transferred to the PCS if the HEP shuts down because of a total power loss at the facility. Without this equipment functioning correctly, the flow would substantially drop during a power failure event. This could negatively affect deliveries of water downstream of the HEP.



Skinner staff installing 50 kVA UPS unit at Red Mountain Hydroelectric Power Plant



Staff began the investigating a redundant fiber optic cable to the Diamond Valley Lake Pump House. The new fiber optic cable will provide additional communication redundancy, increase security of Metropolitan network, and raise the communication capabilities of the DVL facility.



Staff determining the path for a new fiber optic cable

Manage Water Reserves

The 100 percent 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 temporarily discontinued deliveries to Desert Water Agency and Coachella Valley Water District because of storm damage at the replenishment facilities. With the high 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 Programs.

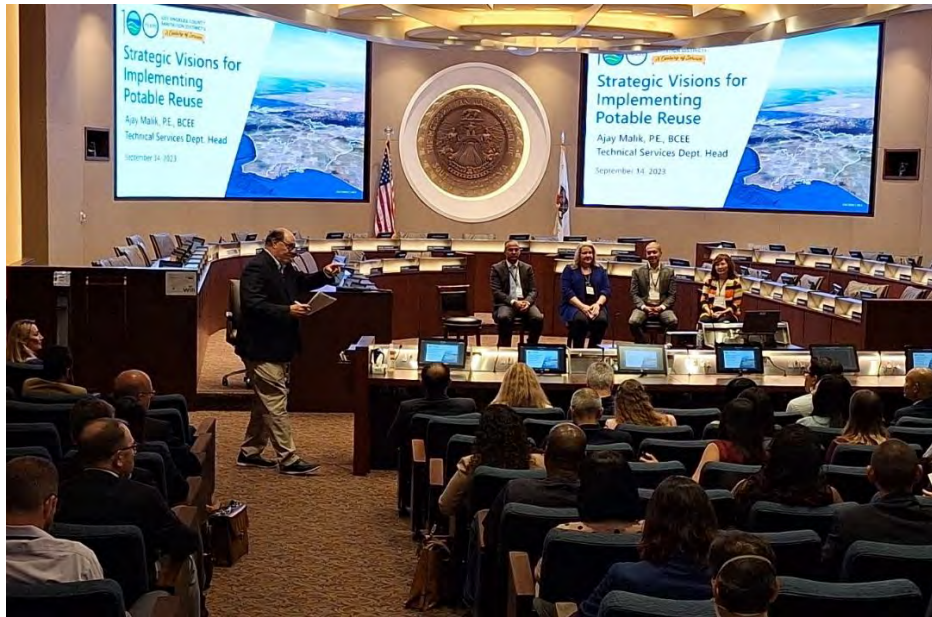
Support the Pure Water Southern California Program

Staff continued operating the Pure Water Southern California Demonstration Facility in a secondary membrane bioreactor (sMBR) mode ahead of a planned shutdown to prepare for the next phase of testing. Staff performed additional spiking studies with formaldehyde and acetone to better understand the removal of volatile organic compounds through the MBR. Staff continued to perform bench and pilot-scale post-treatment testing to understand full-scale operations, required processes, and other considerations.

Staff worked with the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts to coordinate shared resources for a planned shutdown in November, which will overhaul bioreactor piping and controls and prepare the plant to return to a tertiary MBR operational mode in December.

Staff participated in a State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) workshop on the proposed direct potable reuse regulations on September 7, provided a verbal statement, and submitted written comments on September 8. One of the primary comments recommended an “alternatives” section that would allow for innovation and flexibility in monitoring, treatment, and compliance while ensuring the primary goal of public health protection and water safety.

On September 14, the Water Research Foundation held a regional workshop on research into water reuse hosted by Metropolitan at the Headquarters at Union Station. Sessions included presentations on monitoring, chemical and pathogen control, and strategic visions for implementing potable reuse in California.



Utility representatives discuss their agencies' vision and plans for developing potable water reuse during Water Research Foundation workshop hosted by Metropolitan

Manage Power Resources and Energy Use in a Sustainable Manner

Energy markets in September remained stable, with prices reflecting the transition from hotter summer to cooler fall weather. Overall, the 2023 summer operating period was relatively mild, and energy price forecasts reflect this, with gas and electricity prices stable or trending slightly downward for the winter 2023/24 and summer 2024 periods.

The combination of reduced CRA pumping and stable energy markets are reflected in the forecast cost for CRA energy. The CRA energy cost budget for fiscal year 2023/24 is \$82.6 million; the current energy cost forecast for this fiscal year is significantly lower at \$55.3 million because of reduced pumping and lower forward cost curves.

Daily generation output from Metropolitan's small HEPs averaged around 20 megawatts (MW) during the month of September, for a total energy output of about 14,000 megawatt-hours (MW-hrs). Metropolitan's solar facilities, totaling 5.4 megawatts of capacity, generated approximately 900 MW-hrs in September.

Optimize Maintenance

Staff from across Metropolitan came together to manage and control nitrification, which developed in the distribution system in Orange and Los Angeles counties because of warmer temperatures and low water demands. Staff have taken numerous actions to manage this event, including system changes to increase flows in affected areas, chemical adjustments and blend changes at the treatment plants, and increased monitoring throughout the distribution system. The elevated nitrite levels required extensive around-the-clock flushing from various feeders. Staff coordinated closely throughout the organization and with the affected member agencies. This extensive effort demonstrates the dedication and collaboration of Metropolitan staff to ensure that we continue to deliver reliable, high-quality water to our member agencies.



Staff collecting water sample for testing on the West Coast Feeder



De-chlorination set up at flushing location on Allen McCulloch Pipeline (right) and flushing location on West Coast Feeder (left)

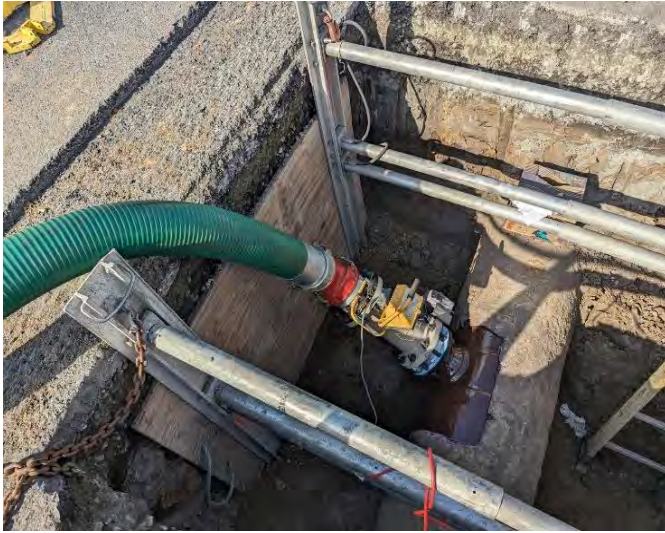
Staff responded to a leak on the 21-inch Compton Lateral. The repair involved isolating the Compton Lateral from the Palos Verdes Feeder by closing two 12-inch valves, removing a boilerplate flange, and dewatering the feeder. The City of Compton also isolated valves in their jurisdiction to prevent backflow into the repair area. Staff welded a 6-inch weldolet, repaired the interior mortar lining, and then epoxy-coated the exterior of the capped weldolet along with mortar lining to prevent corrosion. Staff expedited the coordination of permits and shutdown planning, completed the repair quickly, and promptly returned the pipeline to service.



Staff meeting onsite to assess damage and confirm repair options for the Compton Lateral

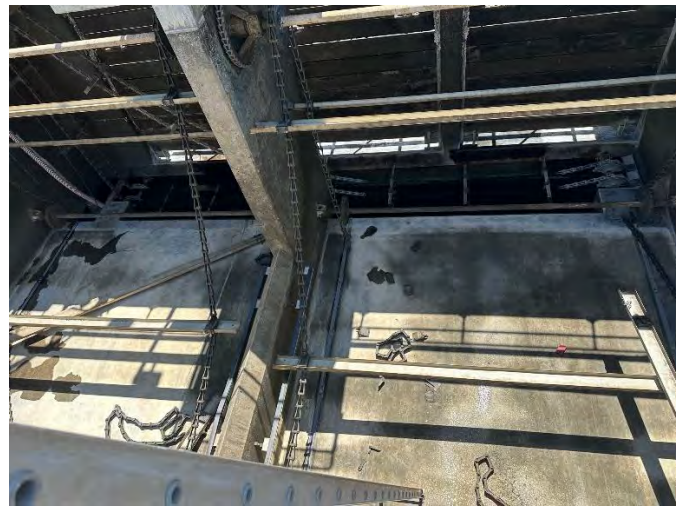
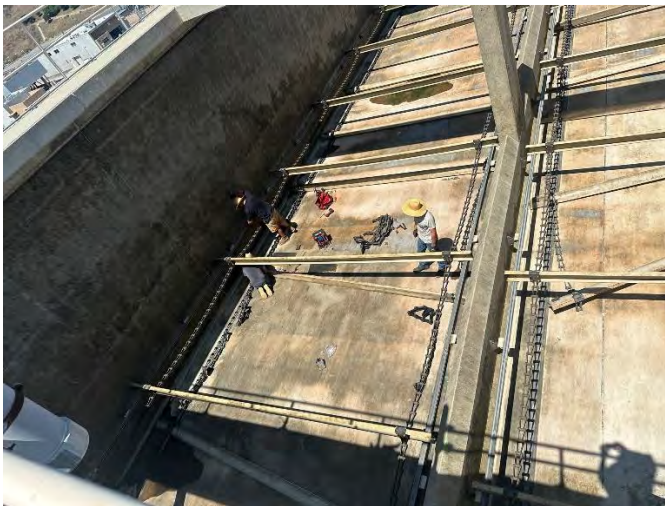


Staff measuring damage area (left) and welding (right) to repair the Compton Lateral



Flushing to disinfect pipeline (left) and mortar cap (right) post-repair on the Compton Lateral

Diemer plant staff drained half of the Washwater Reclamation Plant to remove solids build-up inside the basin. Staff also performed equipment inspection and replaced broken chains on the longitudinal scrapers. The Washwater Reclamation Plant receives used washwater from the filters and the sludge thickeners. The water is treated at the reclamation plant and returned to the ozone contactors.



Staff repairing and replacing equipment in the Washwater Reclamation Plant at Diemer

Staff performed maintenance on the heat exchanger system, which is critical to the reliable operations of the CRA. The 230 kilovolt (kV) CRA transformers are exposed to ambient temperatures in excess of 120 degrees during the summer. The transformers use a heat exchanger system in which the insulating oil is cooled by water. This allows the transformers to operate within specifications during extreme temperatures.



Staff installs a rebuilt forced oil pump on a 230kV transformer along the CRA

Staff performs regular maintenance of protection relays, such as testing and calibration to ensure proper operation. Protection relays are vital in ensuring electric motors are not adversely affected by overcurrent. Along with the aging CRA infrastructure, many systems have become obsolete because of equipment upgrades. Pump plant staff also removed an outdated underground pipe system that was used to provide oil for high-voltage circuit breakers.

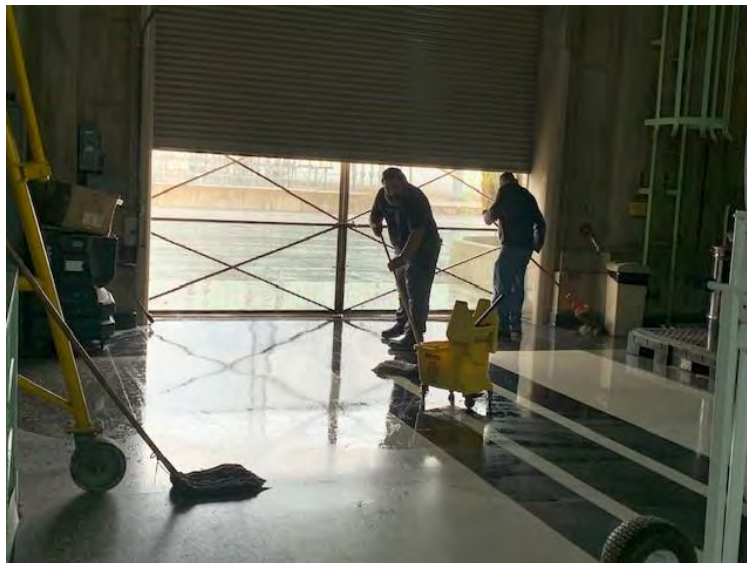


Staff testing and calibrating a protection relay for a 9,000 HP motor at a CRA pump plant



Staff demolishing an obsolete piping system at a CRA pump plant

Monsoon storms can occur in the desert region with little warning causing problems for operations because of heavy rain, high winds, and lightning. Staff quickly respond to protect facilities and equipment, including using a portable screening plant to ensure that materials are quickly available for emergency repairs. The screening and stockpiling of aggregate materials is essential for the rapid repair of patrol and access roads, helping to ensure reliable operation and maintenance of the CRA.

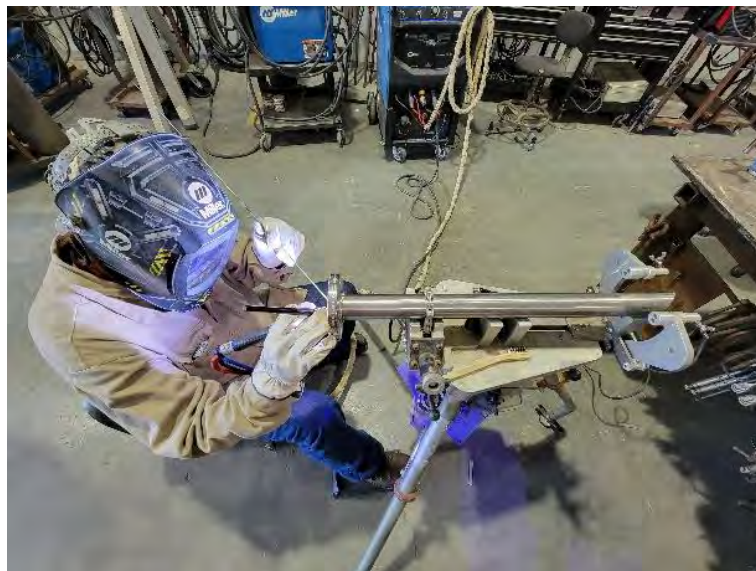


Staff cleaning a CRA pump plant after a monsoonal rain



Staff operating a portable screening plant for aggregate material to maintain CRA access roads

The sulfuric acid system at the Jensen plant was constructed as part of the ozone retrofit in 2002. After being offline for several years, it was recently restarted in January. Staff identified a leak at the injection feed lance in the farm, where 93 percent sulfuric acid is diluted with potable water to form a solution used to adjust pH in the water treatment process. Staff disassembled the piping, procured materials, manufactured and assembled the feed lance, and completed installation.



Staff welding the sulfuric acid feed lance assembly at the Jensen plant

Optimize Water Treatment and Distribution

The SWP target blend entering the Weymouth plant was 70 to 80 percent in September. The SWP blend entering the Diemer plant was lowered from approximately 50 to 25 percent as one of the many actions to manage nitrification in the distribution system. The Mills plant continued to receive a blend of Silverwood Lake and Lake Perris water 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, but the blend leaving the lake was relatively stable at 55 to 65 percent.

Flow-weighted running annual averages for total dissolved solids from July 2022 through June 2023 for Metropolitan's treatment plants capable of receiving a blend of supplies from the SWP and the Colorado River Aqueduct were 523, 535, and 608 milligrams per liter (mg/L) for the Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner plants, respectively.

Nitrification in parts of the distribution system continued to improve after extensive flushing and various operational changes throughout the month. Staff made several changes at the Diemer plant including reducing the SWP blend from 50 to 25 percent, switching from ozone to chlorine as the primary disinfectant to minimize biodegradable organic materials entering the distribution system, and raising the plant effluent pH target to 8.6. The plant effluent pH target at Weymouth and Jensen plants was also increased to 8.6. Staff will continue to make adjustments at the treatment plants as needed, along with distribution actions such as flushing, to manage nitrification within the system.

Staff replaced the chlorine residual analyzer at the Cabazon water quality monitoring structure with along the CRA. The previous chlorine analyzer was prone to clogging at this location measuring raw water, because of its small diameter sample tubing. The new analyzer uses a larger diameter tubing system that allows particles to pass through more easily without clogging between maintenance.



Staff installing chlorine residual analyzer with improved raw water compatibility along the CRA at Cabazon

Weymouth plant staff works with the La Verne C&D Team to maintain the Ramona Pressure Control Structure (PCS) equipment. Staff performed preventative maintenance and testing of the control components for the four regulating valves within this structure. Staff also repaired components as the controllers are no longer manufactured or available from suppliers. A capital project is planned to replace the existing equipment installed in the 1960s with the latest Metropolitan specifications and industry standards.



Weymouth plant staff performing maintenance and repairs at Ramona PCS

Improve Emergency Preparedness and Response

On September 13, staff participated in the quarterly board of directors meeting for the California Utilities Emergency Association (CUEA). The meeting was held at Southern California Edison's Irwindale facility and included members from public and private utilities throughout the state. Metropolitan continues its participation in the group, which connects different types of utilities and the CalOES.

Diemer plant staff operated ozone contactor emergency drain valves and finished water reservoir slide gates at the request of the California Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD). The valves and gates provide the control for emergency dewatering procedures. DSOD inspects each jurisdictional dam on an annual basis to ensure that it is safe and that it performs as intended and operates correctly.



California Division of Safety of Dams performing annual inspection at Diemer plant

Protect Source Water Quality

On September 21, staff met with representatives from the California Department of Water Resources and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power to review the status of invasive quagga mussels in the West Branch SWP.

Staff also worked with External Affairs to recognize Source Water Protection Week (September 24–30), sponsored by the American Water Works Association.

Manage the Power System

Metropolitan staff responded to a Request for Information (RFI) from the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) pertaining to North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) standard CIP-0003 R2. This reliability standard pertains to the physical security of Bulk Electric System (BES) cyber assets. Metropolitan staff submitted a report of a potential violation of this standard at the Iron Mountain pumping plant in 2021, including mitigation activities. This RFI from WECC compliance staff requested additional clarification on the mitigation activities.

Prepare for Future Legislation and Regulation

On August 17, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rescinded its 2019 memorandum “Interim Recommendations to Address Groundwater Contaminated with Perfluorooctanoic Acid [PFOA] and Perfluorooctanesulfonate [PFOS]” (“2019 Interim Guidance”). EPA stated that the 2019 Interim Guidance “no longer reflects the best, currently available science.” The Agency further asserted that, as a result of the rescission, “more contaminated groundwater will be investigated for PFOA and PFOS contamination and potentially cleaned up based on the latest science.” EPA recommended that PFOA and PFOS groundwater subject to federal cleanup programs [i.e., Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) or Resource Conservative and Recovery Act (RCRA)] be evaluated and addressed in accordance with the 1989 “Risk Assessment Guide for Superfund” and Regional Screening Levels. Staff will continue to monitor any future developments with respect to Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in the environment.

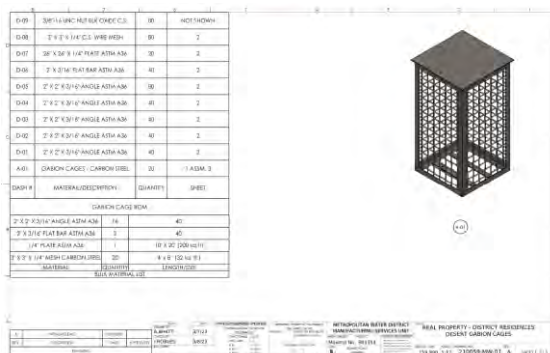
On August 17, the EPA released the first of 12 sets of PFAS data collected under the fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5). The monitoring data on 29 PFAS and lithium will help the EPA determine future regulatory actions [e.g., Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) setting or CERCLA designations]. The remaining data will be released in batches through 2026. Staff is evaluating these data for PFAS occurrence within Metropolitan's service area.

On September 8, Metropolitan submitted joint comments with the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts on the proposed Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) regulations. Staff comments included modifying the “Alternatives” clause to provide greater operational flexibility while maintaining public health protections, establishing a Science Advisory Panel for constituents of emerging concern, and streamlining the monitoring, operator certification, and consecutive system requirements. The DPR regulations are expected to be finalized by the end of the year. Staff will continue to track any future regulatory developments with respect to DPR.

On September 8, the EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers published the final rule revising the definition of Waters of the United States (WOTUS). The final rule incorporates the 2023 Supreme Court ruling in *Sackett v. EPA*, which concluded that WOTUS only encompasses “traditional” streams, oceans, rivers, and lakes. In addition to rejecting the “significant nexus” test found in *Rapanos v. United States*, the new rule no longer covers ephemeral streams—a common feature in the arid Southwest. Staff is reviewing the new WOTUS Rule to determine how it would affect source water protection and permitting activities.

Enhance Support Infrastructure at the Desert Facilities

The La Verne Shops received a request to manufacture 20 gabion fence pillars for the Desert Region. The cages were 24”x24”x48” tall, made of carbon steel, and will be installed in various locations within the desert village housing area.



ITEM	DESCRIPTION	QTY	UNIT
1	24" X 24" X 48" GABION CAGE	20	PCS
2	2" X 2" X 1/4" GALV. STEEL WIRE	80	FT
3	2" X 2" X 1/4" GALV. STEEL WIRE	80	FT
4	2" X 2" X 1/4" GALV. STEEL WIRE	80	FT
5	2" X 2" X 1/4" GALV. STEEL WIRE	80	FT
6	2" X 2" X 1/4" GALV. STEEL WIRE	80	FT
7	2" X 2" X 1/4" GALV. STEEL WIRE	80	FT
8	2" X 2" X 1/4" GALV. STEEL WIRE	80	FT
9	2" X 2" X 1/4" GALV. STEEL WIRE	80	FT
10	2" X 2" X 1/4" GALV. STEEL WIRE	80	FT
11	2" X 2" X 1/4" GALV. STEEL WIRE	80	FT
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96	2" X 2" X 1/4" GALV. STEEL WIRE	80	FT
97	2" X 2" X 1/4" GALV. STEEL WIRE	80	FT
98	2" X 2" X 1/4" GALV. STEEL WIRE	80	FT
99	2" X 2" X 1/4" GALV. STEEL WIRE	80	FT
100	2" X 2" X 1/4" GALV. STEEL WIRE	80	FT



Bill of Materials (left) of the cages and wire mesh sides cut to size (right)



Fabrication of the cage tops (left) and cage structures (right)

Advance Education and Outreach Initiatives

Staff provided a presentation on the potential impacts of climate change on water quality in Metropolitan's source waters for a Southern California Water Dialogue panel on September 27.

Support and Engage with Member Agencies on Technical Matters

On September 19, staff provided a briefing on nitrification for member agencies in the Orange County area. This briefing included background information on nitrification, chloramine chemistry, control strategies, and Metropolitan's actions to manage the ongoing nitrification event.

A Member Agency Water Quality Managers Meeting on September 28 provided a regulatory update, with presentations on state regulatory priorities, federal, and state updates, and PFAS litigation.



Member Agency representatives attending a regulatory update at the Water Quality Lab in La Verne

Staff assisted the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) with rebuilding the Whitewater canal. Tropical Storm Hilary dropped almost 14 inches of rain within 48 hours in this area, causing significant damage and rendering the channel non-functional. CVWD uses the Whitewater canal to convey Colorado River water into their recharge basins in the Palm Springs area. This is part of a storage and exchange agreement among Metropolitan, CVWA, and Desert Water Agency. Metropolitan staff assisted CVWD by providing four staff with two large excavators and two large dozers to re-establish approximately four miles of canal. It is expected that a portion of the recharge facilities will resume operations in early October.



Excavator (left) and dozer (right) working to restore canal berms leading to the Whitewater groundwater recharge facility

Operations

(continued)

Monthly Update as of:

9/30/2023

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Current Storage</u>	<u>Percent of Capacity</u>
<i>Colorado River Basin</i>		
Lake Powell	8,790,352	36%
Lake Mead	8,871,000	34%
<i>DWR</i>		
Lake Oroville	2,587,306	73%
Shasta Lake	3,324,820	73%
San Luis Total	1,657,654	82%
San Luis CDWR	871,788	82%
Castaic Lake	305,653	94%
Silverwood Lake	65,219	87%
Lake Perris	75,120	57%
<i>MWD</i>		
DVL	671,384	83%
Lake Mathews	164,576	90%
Lake Skinner	38,243	87%



Hoover Dam

Information Technology

Project Highlights

ServiceNow Enhancements

The Information Technology Group continuously works to streamline operational efficiencies for IT customers and IT support teams. Newly automated functions recently deployed in the MWD IT Service Portal will consolidate services and accelerate the onboarding process. *The first service is an HR Automated New Hire Request submitted via email. This email will trigger a ticket to be created and submitted to IT Cyber Security and IT Client Systems Support. Both teams will work simultaneously to set up network access, Outlook account, and laptop configuration.

HR Automated New Hire Request

Annotations:

- Email should be sent to the ServiceNow Mailbox
- Email Subject MUST start with 'New Hire Report'
- Email attachment MUST be in '.csv' (comma separated value) format
- Each row in the attachment will create two tickets (Tasks)

Here are the columns expected in the attached file:

Name	Reg/Temp
Preferred Name	Full/Part Time
Employee ID	Bargaining Unit
Location	Ext.
Group	Supervisor Name
Section	Supervisor Ext.
Unit	TK Group
Team	Schedule
Title	Effective Date
Classification	Action

Name	Preferred Employee Location	Group	Section	Unit	Team	Classificat	Title	Reg/Temp	Full/Part Time	Bargaining Ext.	Supervisor	Supervisor TK Group	Schedule	Effective I	Action
Trisha Beruit	US.05.341	MANAGER	MANAGER	CONTRAC	PROCURE	Pr Buyer		Regular	Part-Time	NBD	Thomas M	75625		*****	Hire
Dominic Tortuno	35325	LV.50.103	CA	INFRASTRUCTURE	SE	LOCAL TEAM		Regular		ASHBT		62962			Hire

MWD HR Automated New Hire Onboarding Request

The second service allows Hiring Managers/Project Managers to request additional IT services such as application access, network drive access, remote access, license software, etc., further reducing the need to create more tickets.

The screenshot displays the 'Onboarding Request for Hiring Manager / Project Managers' portal. The header includes the MWD logo and the title. A search bar at the top right contains the text 'Onboarding Request'. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar with 'Categories' and a main grid of 'Other Services'. The 'Other Services' category is highlighted in the sidebar. The 'Onboarding Request' item is visible in the grid, with a description: 'Request for New Hire, PCN change, or Consultant'. A red box highlights the 'Onboarding Request' item in the grid, and a red arrow points from a text box above it to the search bar. Another red arrow points from a text box below the grid to the 'Onboarding Request' item in the grid.

The first step is 'Describe Needs' named "Onboarding Request"

Home > Service Catalog > Other Services

Categories

- Applications (23)
- Cyber Security (3)
- Hardware/Infrastructure (9)
- Other Services (6)**
- Service Desk (20)
- Standard Changes (7)

Other Services

- [Business Management Request](#)
Requests for cellular devices,.....etc.
View Details
- [Client Systems Administration](#)
Requests for security patching, laptop/desktop image,.....etc.
View Details
- [iHub Services Request](#)
Requests for iHub Services,.....etc.
View Details
- [Onboarding Request](#)
Request for New Hire, PCN change, or Consultant
View Details
- [QA/QC Services Request](#)
Requests for Testing, IT-Research,.....etc.
View Details
- [UAV Flight Request](#)
Service Request for UAV Flight / Data Request
View Details

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The Catalog Item "Onboarding Request" can also be found in the Catalog, under the "Other Services"

MWD Onboarding Request

We are also excited to share the addition of two new dashboards, the Board of Directors request management system and EForms ticket management system, which provide support teams the ability to track and monitor requests in real-time.

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.

In August, staff provided an analysis to the Finance, Audit, Insurance, and Real Property Committee in response to a request to create three new reserve/rate stabilization funds.

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

The Risk Management Unit completed 35 incident reports communicating instances of Metropolitan property damage, liability, workplace injuries, regulatory visits, and spills.

Risk Management completed 49 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.

- Participated in a comprehensive cyber resiliency class to enhance Metropolitan's Business Continuity Program and plans. Successfully passed the qualifying exam to become a Certified Cyber Resilience Professional (CCRP).
- Business Continuity Plan updates and management approvals were completed for the Finance Group (Controller, Risk Management, Budget & Financial Planning, and Treasury & Debt Management).
- Led planning efforts for the district-wide annual ShakeOut earthquake drill, scheduled on October 19, 2023.
- Drafted a Disaster Financial Recovery plan to serve as a guide for Emergency Management to further develop and implement.
- Continued working with the Fusion software vendor to make updates to the guided workflows.
- In conjunction with the core planning team, continued working on the district-wide Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

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.



Finance and Administration

(continued)

- Water Transactions for August 2023 (for water delivered in June 2023) totaled 94.3 thousand acre-feet (TAF), which was 38.4 TAF lower than the budget of 132.7 TAF and translates to \$87.7 million in receipts for August 2023, which was \$59.1 million lower than the budget of \$146.8 million.
- Year-to-date water transactions through August 2023 (for water delivered in May 2023 through June 2023) were 187.6 TAF, which was 69.8 TAF lower than the budget of 257.4 TAF. Year-to-date water receipts through August 2023 were \$194.1 million, which was \$75.5 million lower than the budget of \$269.6 million. The July 2023 receipt was adjusted from \$95.4 million to \$106.4 million to recognize \$11.0 million of Coachella Valley Water District receipts.
- In August 2023, Accounts Payable processed approximately 4,000 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.

In August 2023, the Board was presented, for their review, the draft 2023 Long-Range Finance Plan Needs Assessment (LRFP-NA) document. The LRFP-NA is the first phase of a two-phase process to provide the Board with a finance plan for funding new capital investments over the next decade. The LRFP-NA will outline the capital investment requirements and water rate increases associated with four demand-and-supply scenarios. The second phase will result in the production of a final Long-Range Finance Plan (LRFP) document that will provide a tailored financial analysis based on board feedback on the LRFP-NA and the Board's approval of specific capital projects. The second phase of the LRFP is expected to be completed in fiscal year 2024/25.

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

As of August 31, 2023, Metropolitan's investment portfolio balance was \$1.2 billion; in August 2023, Metropolitan's portfolio managers executed 20 trades.

In August 2023, Treasury staff processed 1,277 disbursements by check, 21 disbursements by Automated Clearing House (ACH), and 130 disbursements by wire transfer. Treasury staff also processed 50 receipts by check, 29 receipts by ACH, and 55 receipts by incoming wires and bank transfers.

In addition, there were 8,347 P-One Card transactions, totaling \$1.3 million, recorded in the August bank statement.

Administrative Services

Accomplishments

Warehouse Team

The Warehouse Team collaborated with the Western Region Conveyance and Distribution (C&D) Unit to assist with a system flushing operation. The C&D Unit unexpectedly encountered an immediate need for substantial amounts of sodium thiosulfate because of an unprecedented spike in nitrites and chlorine residuals. With assistance from the Soto Street and Jensen satellite warehouses, the La Verne central warehouse quickly responded to multiple calls for off-hours support to provide the needed chemicals to expedite dechlorination applications. In addition, the Warehouse Team located increased supplies of sodium thiosulfate from various approved sources to bolster Metropolitan's inventory levels for staging at strategic locations if another urgent response for dechlorination is needed.

Technical Writing Team

The Technical Writing Team collaborated with the Office of the Board and DE&I to update the *Board Letter Style Guide* to reflect modern writing best practices and inclusivity.

Human Resources

HR Priorities

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

In September, 174 Metropolitan employees attended virtually facilitated classes, including Moving Quickly without Rushing, Organization Skills, Business Writing, and Effective Nonverbal Communication.

LinkedIn Learning, Metropolitan's online e-learning content platform, was accessed for such topics as Change Management Foundations, How to Learn Faster, Managing Up, Developing Resourcefulness, and Communicating with Executives.

The Organizational Development & Training Unit (OD&T) facilitated a team building for the Water Quality Section focusing on Communication and Collaboration tools for 12 managers.

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

Recruitment successfully filled 26 positions during August and have 35 in the offer stage. Recruitment received new staffing requisitions for 14 positions, resulting in 193 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 September, five new workers' compensation claims were received. Only four 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 Worker's Compensation Third-Party Administrator, Tristar Risk Management.

HR Metrics	June 2023	September 2023	Prior Month August 2023
Headcount			
Regular Employees	1,779	1785	1,785
Temporary Employees	25	38	33
Interns	0	1	1
Recurrents	18	18	18
Annuitants	24	25	25

	September 2023	August 2023
Number of Recruitments in Progress (Includes Temps and Intern positions)	193	205
Number of New Staffing Requisitions	14	5

Finance and Administration

(continued)

	September 2023	August 2023
Number of Job Audit Requests in Progress	13	13
Number of Completed/Closed Job Audits	0	1
Number of New Job Audit Requests	0	7

Transactions Current Month and Fiscal YTD (includes current month)			
External Hires	FY 22/23 Totals	September 2023	FISCAL YTD
Regular Employees	116	9	28
Temporary Employees	36	6	19
Interns	0	0	1
Internal Promotions	72	10	23
Management Requested Promotions	149	12	41
Retirements/Separations (regular employees)	98	9	21
Employee-Requested Transfers	19	3	5

Departures

Last	First Name	Classification	Eff Date	Reason	Group
Hynes	Jeffrey	Sr Land Surveyor	8/4/2023	Retirement - Service	ENGINEERING SERVICES GROUP
Landgaard	Mark	Team Mgr-Safety&RegSvcSiteSupport	8/5/2023	Retirement - Service	WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS GROUP
Philp	Thomas	Strategic Comm&Policy Advisor	8/1/2023	Retirement - Service	EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
Root	James	O & M Supervisor	8/5/2023	Retirement - Service	WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS GROUP
Theegala	Muralidhar	Team Mgr-Business Applications	8/5/2023	Retirement - Service	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY GROUP
Wallace	Brad	Diver-Inland Commercial	7/28/2023	Retirement - Service	WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS GROUP
Kirkland	Teresa	Admin Analyst	8/18/2023	Retirement - Service	FINANCE GROUP
Schumann	Trudy	Team Manager I	8/16/2023	Retirement - Service	WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS GROUP
DeMel	Joseph	Assoc Engineer	7/21/2023	Separation - Resignation	ENGINEERING SERVICES GROUP

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Tribal Outreach & Engagement

On September 11, DEI Staff met with the General Manager and staff of the Pechanga Nation Water Utility. The meeting centered around the skills development of the tribal staff and addressing technical issues of the nation's water systems. DEI staff shared Metropolitan's tribal workforce development program, particularly the knowledge-sharing component, as an avenue to assist tribal staff and members to earn knowledge and improve skills when it comes to general water systems operations. The tribal staff also expressed interest in Metropolitan's apprenticeship program and would like to learn more about the requirements. The next step is to invite Metropolitan staff to participate in a discussion of the nation's water systems and participate in a Metropolitan-hosted workshop focusing on "What it means to be a water systems operator" as requested by the tribal utility management.

On September 18, DEI staff and Engineering staff collaborated with the California Indian Manpower Consortium (CIMC) staff, focusing on outreach and recruitment for Metropolitan construction projects that are under the Project Labor Agreement (PLA). The CIMC is currently building an MC3 focus on Native American workforce development. The MC3 is a pre-apprenticeship curriculum with a comprehensive training program that prepares students for a career in the construction industry. CIMC and Metropolitan had also begun to plan for a Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) trip in coordination with External Affairs. The CRA trip will give native tribal leaders an insight into how water systems work and the occupations behind them. The trip is scheduled for March 2024.

On September 27–30, 2023, members of the DEI workforce development team attended the NatiVisions Film Festival at the Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT) Reservation in Parker, Arizona, Bluewater Cinemas. While there, we partnered with Gene Camp site management to provide a tour of the facility for film festival representatives and met with CRIT leaders and education department representatives.



Finance and Administration

(continued)

Business Outreach & Community Engagement

On September 1, 2023, Metropolitan staff attended the virtual graduation for the Women Business Enterprise Council-West Platinum Supplier Program.

On September 6, 2023, the Business Outreach team attended SoCalREN's Leadership luncheon, participating in the H2O Hero Award-Sustainable Solutions Award.

On September 6–8, Business Outreach staff attend the Women Business Enterprise Council-West Regional Conference. Over 200 businesses attended the Conference.

On September 7, 2023, DEI staff attended the San Diego International Airport "Meet the Primes" for a networking event in San Diego, CA.

On September 13, 2023, Business Outreach attended the SBDC & Emerald Cities E-Contractor Academy: Inland Empire. Staff participated in the E-Contractor Training Program (Seminar 1), which is designed to prepare small business contractors to compete and perform in Metropolitan CIP projects.



On September 13, 2023, Business Outreach staff attended the 15th Annual Construction Management Association of America (CMAA) Meet the Owners & Primes Event. Over 200 businesses attended the event.



Finance and Administration

(continued)

On September 14, 2023, the DEI team hosted MetWorks Inland Empire Industry Day: In-Person Event in Moreno Valley, CA. Over 280 attendees learned about Lake Matthews Pressure Control Structure and Bypass Project—\$150M Progressive Design Build Project, upcoming Metropolitan contracting and consulting opportunities, and successful contracting testimonials. Highlights for upcoming contracting opportunities for member agencies included Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Western Municipal Water District, and Eastern Municipal Water District.



On September 15, 2023, Business Outreach attended the Small Business Diversity Network (SBDN) & the OC Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (OCHCC) Joint Mixer Celebrating “Hispanic Heritage.” Business Outreach represented the DEI Office for DBE engagement.

On September 19, 2023, Metropolitan staff attended the SBDN State of Procurement Conference featuring “Meet the Buyers” and Certification panels in Fullerton, CA.

On September 20, 2023, Metropolitan staff attended the Construction Network—Inland Empire Water Districts CIP Updates and Contracting Opportunities in Pomona, CA. Mai Hattar, Assistant Chief Engineer, presented on the panel along with other member agencies.



On September 20, 2023, Business Outreach attended the SBDC & Emerald Cities E-Contractor Academy: Inland Empire. Staff participated in the E-Contractor Training Program (Seminar 2), which is designed to prepare small business contractors to use the PLA for SBE growth.

Finance and Administration

(continued)

On September 20, 2023, Metropolitan staff attended the ACEC Small Business Awards Gala in Los Angeles, CA to honor John Arena, Business Outreach Manager, who received the Champion of Small Business award from ACEC California—LA Chapter.



On September 21, 2023, Business Outreach staff along with General Manager Adel Hagekhalil and Directors Tana McCoy and Dennis Erdman attended the Orange County Black Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Dinner. Over 500 people attended the event.



On September 22, 2023, Business Outreach attended the LABC Sustainability Summit with External Affairs.



Finance and Administration

(continued)

On September 25, 2023, Metropolitan staff attended the 12th Annual Veteran and Small Business Trade Show in Moreno Valley, CA. Staff exhibited a table and participated in the panel Learning the Ropes: Selling to the Government Panel.



On September 26–28, 2023, Metropolitan staff attended the CPUC Small and Diverse Business Expo in Escondido, CA. The expo provided small and diverse businesses opportunities to connect with representatives from utility companies, public agencies, community choice aggregators, prime contractors, resource centers, and other businesses. The event is designed with the intent to facilitate networking, education, and exchange of information meeting with procurement and supplier diversity representatives and listening to leaders of California's investor-owned utilities to discuss and learn of business opportunities and upcoming contracts.

On September 27, 2023, Business Outreach attended the SBDC & Emerald Cities E-Contractor Academy: Inland Empire. Staff participated in the E-Contractor Training Program (Seminar 7), which is designed to prepare small business contractors to understand Metropolitan's Progressive Design Build (PDB) process.

On September 29, 2023, Metropolitan staff attended the Asian Business Association (ABA)—Los Angeles 47th Annual IMPACT Awards Banquet in Pasadena, CA. The ABA honors leaders in the Asian American business community at its Annual Awards Banquet and recognizes corporations that consistently provide opportunities and foster an environment for the Asian American entrepreneurs to flourish.

External Affairs



External Affairs

Highlights

GM Hagekhalil, Group Manager Coffey and Metropolitan staff participated in the California Water Data Summit and shared insights on the data revolution and how it can help advance infrastructure and technology. (September 7–8)

AGM Zinke, who serves on the Public Policy Institute of California Advisory Council, attended the organization's council meeting to discuss water and other current policy issues facing the state. (September 8)

GM Hagekhalil gave the keynote address at the San Gabriel Valley Public Affairs Network Leadership Luncheon and spoke to local officials and community leaders about climate change, improving resiliency, and the Pure Water Southern California project. Vice Chair Camacho and Director Fellow attended the event. (September 14)



San Gabriel Valley Public Affairs Network Leadership Lunch

The 2023/24 Directors Inspection Trip program kicked off with State Water Project and Colorado River tours.



Guests of Calleguas and Las Virgenes participated in the SWP Inspection Trip which included stops to learn about water issues facing California agriculture.

GM Hagekhalil, CFO Kasaine, DEI Officer Thomas, EEO Officer Wisdom, Chief Engineer Bednarski and staff participated in the MetWorks Inland Empire Industry Day to promote contracting opportunities for area businesses. (September 14)

GM Hagekhalil attended the Water and Wastewater CEO Forum in Washington D.C. (September 18)

Chair Ortega updated the Three Valleys Municipal Water District Board of Directors on regional initiatives, climate adaptation, fiscal and legislative matters. (September 20)



On left, Metropolitan executives and staff hosted MetWorks IE to promote business and contracting opportunities; On right, Chair Ortega speaks to the Three Valleys MWD Board



Heal the Bay executive director and MWD Director Quinn, GM Hagekhalil and other speakers at the Heal the Bay One Water event on Will Rogers Beach

Metropolitan sponsored and GM Hagekhalil and staff attended the Orange County Black Chamber of Commerce dinner. (September 21)

GM Hagekhalil attended and Metropolitan sponsored Heal the Bay's One Water Day event, which brought together state and local officials and NGOs to promote clean coastal waterways and watersheds. (September 22)

GM Hagekhalil and staff attended the Los Angeles County Business Federation (BizFed) Freshmen Policymakers Reception. (September 28)

Metropolitan helped sponsor the California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy (CFEE) Best of California tour by hosting visits to the Pure Water Southern California demonstration facility and DVL. (September 25–27)

Legislative Services

Federal

GM Hagekhalil traveled to Washington D.C. to discuss Metropolitan's Pure Water Southern California project and Inflation Reduction Act conservation projects with Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Touton. He also met separately with Senator Padilla and Representative Napolitano to help advance Metropolitan's legislative priorities and secure Congressional support for funding Southern California infrastructure. (September 18–20)



GM Hagekhalil with USBR Commissioner Touton and Rep. Napolitano in Washington DC.

State

AGM Upadhyay testified at the State Water Resources Control Board's workshop on direct potable reuse regulations, stressing the need for flexibility and adaptability in treatment, monitoring, and compliance for DPR projects. (September 7)

Chair Ortega and GM Hagekhalil met with California Natural Resources Agency Secretary Crowfoot to discuss Delta and State Water Project issues, project streamlining initiatives, and Colorado River updates. (September 11)



AGM Upadhyay speaking at the State Water Board workshop on Direct Potable Reuse

Several bills of interest passed the Legislature at the end of this year's session and are awaiting action by the governor. They include Metropolitan's co-sponsored bill, AB 1572 (Friedman) to ban the use of potable water to irrigate non-functional turf; AB 400 (B. Rubio) and SB 706 (Caballero) for alternative delivery methods and progressive design build for construction projects; and AB 399 (Boerner), which would add an additional vote requirement to allow a local water agency to secede from a county water authority.

Local

Directors McMillan and Peterson and AGM Zinke attended the Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County annual Member & Policymakers Reception, which Metropolitan sponsored. (September 14)

Staff presented to the Eastern Municipal Water District Board on the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water and shared information on conservation rebates and workforce development programs. (September 20)

Chief SRI Officer Crosson participated in a panel titled "Creating a Regional Water System" at the Los Angeles Business Council Sustainability Summit, which Metropolitan sponsored. (September 22)

Metropolitan staff presented, monitored, and/or participated in 61 webinars, virtual meetings, and events this month with community organizations, trade associations, and local officials on water-specific topics.

Media and Communications

- Arranged an interview between Municipal Water Leader magazine and board Chairman Ortega.
- Coordinated an interview between Official Magazine and Colorado River Resources Manager Hasencamp on the Lower Basin proposal and efforts aimed at preserving storage levels in Lakes Mead and Powell.
- Set up an interview with LA Times reporter Ian James and WRM Group Manager Coffey regarding Assembly Bill 1572, state legislation targeting non-functional turf.
- Responded to questions from CalMatters reporter Rachel Becker on AB 1572 and district turf rebates.
- Arranged an interview with Politico reporter Annie Snider and Colorado River Resources Manager Hasencamp regarding the federal funding agreements and the Lower Basin plan.



Creative Design

Entered the home stretch of the multi-lingual conservation advertising campaign including 9,000 bewaterwise.com-branded commercials on KTLA-TV and KMEX-TV, cable, and televised Dodgers and Angels broadcasts; English/Spanish radio; digital billboards, community newspapers; and a mobile game. Results include a five-fold increase in activity on bewaterwise.com, with nearly 120,000 visits to the site since the July launch and 62 million impressions through radio placements.

Social Media

- Reposted a new influencer video by Angel City player Jasmyne Spencer talking about her love for water and her commitment to doing all she can as a renter and an Angeleno to save water.
- Acknowledged Metropolitan employees as part of a Labor Day post.
- Celebrated Rosh Hashanah for the first time on district social platforms.
- Promoted a naming contest for the tunnel boring machine that will be used on the Perris Valley Pipeline.
- Posted photos of American Council of Engineering Companies of California event at which Metropolitan was honored as a Champion of Small Business.



September social media posts for Labor Day, Rosh Hashanah and Champion of Small Business award ceremony

Website

- Realized nearly 50,000 visits on mwdh2o.com including strong performance with new pages on the district's Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water. Posted updated Waterwise Garden guidebook on bewaterwise.com and a new banner for the conservation advertising campaign's Spanish-language site.

Press Releases

- Metropolitan Board's approval to advance two projects aimed at delivering Diamond Valley Lake and Colorado River water to the district's State Water Project-dependent areas.

Pure Water Southern California

Demonstration Plant tours with City of Oxnard; Port of Long Beach Commissioners; Cal State Fullerton; National Society of Professional Engineers; DC Water; and Filipino Chamber of Commerce.

Meetings to discuss conveyance system with Marathon Petroleum; workforce opportunities with Friends of the Los Angeles River; and information exchange with Caltrans Public Information Officers for District 7.

Presentations on Pure Water outreach at Flood Management Association Conference (September 6), conveyance system to Long Beach City Council (September 19), and Pure Water overview to Sierra Club. (September 28)

Community Partnering and Sponsorship Program

Provided sponsorships for Western Science Center "Science Under the Stars" event (September 9), Verdical Group's Net Zero 2023 conference (September 13–14), Council for Watershed Health's "State of the Watershed" event (September 19), Friends of the Compton Youth Activities League's Water Wise Kids (September 25), and DIY Girls 2023 Gala. (September 28)

Other Outreach Activities

- Notified affected communities in Los Angeles and Orange counties of flushing activities to control nitrification in system (September 1)
- Notified communities in Compton and LA County of urgent repair to Compton Lateral (September 11)
- Hosted Water Research Foundation Conference on Direct Potable Reuse (September 14)
- Coordinated the Metropolitan presentation to the Swiss Ambassador and Delegation in collaboration with LA Chamber, LADWP, and Moulton Niguel Water District (September 19)
- Provided a tour of Diamond Valley Lake for Association of State Dam Safety Officials (September 21)
- Sent thank you notices to surrounding communities following Etiwanda Pipeline Project (September 27)
- Weymouth tour for Cal Poly Pomona Chapter, American Society of Mechanical Engineers (September 28)

Education and Community Relations

Metropolitan staff interacted in September with more than 5,600 teachers, students, and adults through in-person and online meetings and events.

- H2Know, the water education e-newsletter, was emailed to 2,000 educators throughout the six-county service area
- The Student Art Show was displayed this month at the offices of Eastern MWD and Helix Water District.



Cover of H2Know, the water education e-newsletter, and Student Art exhibit

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation



Sustainability, Resilience, Innovation, Environmental Planning, and Land Management

SRI Core Activities

One Water and Stewardship Committee

The Chief Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation (SRI) Officer presented at the One Water Stewardship Committee. A detailed update was presented to the committee as follows:

- *Zero Emission Vehicles—partnerships with vehicle manufacturers*
- *Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water—utility panel*
- *Innovative pilots and programs including Hinds Pumping Plant pilot and Peer to Peer Water Innovation with WaterStart*
- *Update on carbon-free energy development*

Finance, Audit, Insurance, Real Property Committee

The Chief SRI Officer presented to the committee to authorize use of Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) 8.5 for planning purposes in the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water. The board action item was authorized with the Board.

Member Agency Managers Monthly CAMP4W Meeting

The Chief SRI Officer, Finance and Water Resources Management, presented to the member agencies the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W) and review the draft of Long-Range Finance Plan and adaptive management and addressing board questions. The following Year One Goals were discussed at the Member Agency Managers Meeting:

- *Establish decision-making framework*
- *Develop evaluative criteria*
- *Develop financial plan and potential business model update*
- *Identify “low regrets” project for early start*
- *Identify next steps for coming year*
- *Prepare first year progress report for the Board*

Long Term Regional Planning Process Business Modeling (LTRPPBM)—Board Workshop

The Chief SRI Officer presented with Kearns and West consultants to help lead and present at the CAMP4W Board Workshop. The following items were discussed with the Board and water member agencies:

- *CAMP4W: Assessing Financial Costs and Investing Regionally*
 - *Review Draft 2023 Long-Range Finance Plan Needs Assessment*
 - *Initiate follow-up from Finance, Audit, Insurance, and Real Property Committee*
- *General discussion on CAMP4W memos, materials, and schedule*

(continued)

The SRI Office coordinated with Water Resource Management, Bay Delta, and the GM's Office to present the role of data science in Metropolitan's CAMP4W and Workforce Opportunities. Staff presented the role of data and models in scenario planning associated with the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) on which CAMP4W is building, as well as the need to increase staff understanding and appreciation of data analytic tools in decision making.



Metropolitan and SRI Office participated at the 8th Annual California Water Data Summit

The Chief SRI Officer participated in Los Angeles Business Council's Sustainability Summit's panel on creating a regional water system. The Chief SRI Officer discussed Metropolitan's CAMP4W and navigating an uncertain future for our region's water supply because of climate change.



Los Angeles Business Council Sustainability Summit

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

(continued)

Net Zero Conference

The SRI Office participated in the 2023 Net Zero Conference held on September 14, 2023, at the Los Angeles Convention Center, which provided opportunities for Metropolitan to network with both government agencies and private companies and share ideas on efforts to address climate change. SRI also provided an educational booth to showcase Metropolitan's sustainability efforts. The Chief SRI Officer represented Metropolitan on a utility panel, "Net Zero from a Utility Perspective" with LADWP and Southern California to discuss challenges resulting from climate change.



The Chief SRI Officer speaking on the panel (left) and SRI staff participation at the 2023 Net Zero Conference

Sustainable Procurement

SRI continued its partnership with Administrative Services to develop a green procurement policy which will include expansion of Metropolitan's use of sustainable products and a revision to the Purchasing and Professional Services Contracting Procedures Manual.

Envision Pure Water Southern California Training and Planning

This month the SRI Office offered in-person Envision Sustainable Infrastructure training for the PURE Water project team to inform project design and program implementation including the EIR. Staff also began working with AECOM's Envision team on a sustainability strategy for Pure Water.



Metropolitan staff participating in the Envision Training at the Pure Water Facility

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

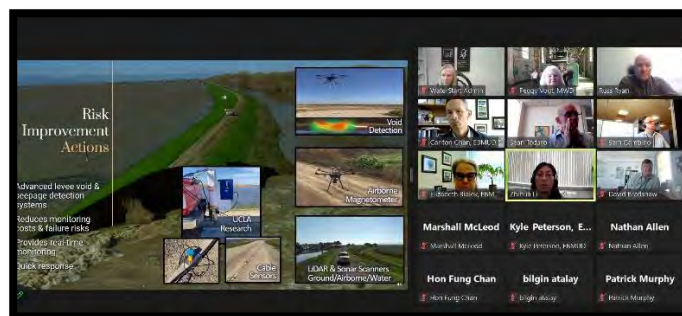
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Innovation

Innovation, Pilots, and Emerging Technologies Updates

Peer to Peer Engagement with WaterStart, Metropolitan and East Bay Municipal Utility District

As a member of WaterStart, Metropolitan's Member Benefits include Peer to Peer facilitated discussions and presentations between members and sharing new technologies or discoveries that can benefit all members and the water industry. East Bay Municipal Utilities District (EBay MUD) requested WaterStart facilitate a Peer-to-Peer presentation and discussion with fellow member Metropolitan Water District on Metropolitan's Bay Delta Islands Innovation and Pilots. WaterStart worked with SRI Innovation and EBay MUD to assemble a working group from both organizations for the Peer-to-Peer Workshop. Russ Ryan from Metropolitan's Bay Delta Team gave an overview of all the innovation projects going on in the Bay Delta, along with a history of Bay Delta innovation, highlighting levy leak detection pilots using satellites, drones, LiDAR, ground penetrating radar (GPR), sensors, and many other technologies. David Bradshaw from WRM contributed information on Bay Delta and PVID Agriculture and Healthy Soils Pilots. Following the presentation, an engaging discussion developed with both groups sharing technical information and expertise as well as solutions implemented and projects still needing a solution; both groups benefitted from the sharing of information, developing relationships, and partnering on future projects. WaterStart and the SRI Innovation Team created a private working group in our joint Channels for Innovation/H2O TECHCONNECT Community to develop a continuing partnership between Metropolitan and EBay MUD. Members have access to all WaterStart RFPs, pilot documentation, library of projects, social media, entrepreneurs, activities feed, and additional resources and tools. EBay MUD and Metropolitan have requested a follow up Peer-to-Peer Workshop where EBay MUD will present, which will include additional Metropolitan and EBay MUD participants.



Peer-to-Peer Engagement with WaterStart, Metropolitan, and East Bay Municipal Utility District

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

(continued)

Teeing Up Savings / Golf & Water Networking Event		
Agenda		
Time	Participant	Topic
9:00-9:05 am	Gary Tilkian (MWD)	Intro/Welcome
9:05-9:15	Deven Upadhyay (MWD)	Opening Remarks - MWD
9:15-9:23	Craig Kessler (SCGA)	Opening Remarks - SCGA
9:23-10:40	Krista Guerrero (MWD)	Turf Replacement and NFT Legislation
10:40-11:00	Jeff Jensen (GCSAA)	GCSAA Investments in Sustainability
11:00-11:10	Break	
11:10-11:20	Mike Sweeney (USGA)	USGA Commitment to Sustainability
11:20-11:30	Mark Gentili (LADWP)	Technical Assistance Program
11:30-11:40	Gary Tilkian (MWD)	WSIP Incentives
11:40-11:50	Parker Cohn	PRM @ BCC
11:50-12:00 pm	Mike Posey (BCC)	Incentives and ROI
12:00-12:05	Check(s) Presentation	MWD and LADWP checks to BCC
12:00+	Lunch	

On September 20, Metropolitan's Water Resource Management (WRM) and SRI Innovation teams partnered with Member Agency LADWP, and the golf industry, which includes the Southern California Golf Association (SCGA), Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), United States Golf Association (USGA), and Metropolitan's internal Golf Club to showcase WRM's Water Savings Incentive Program (WSIP) and Turf Replacement Program, and LADWP's Technical Assistance Program (TAP). Metropolitan's Deven Upadhyay welcomed the attendees. Metropolitan's Gary Tilkian, Master of Ceremonies, talked about the benefits of the WSIP Program, encouraging participation in the program, and presented a Water Savings incentive check to Mike Posey, Golf Manager at Brentwood Country Club and entrepreneur Parker Cohn, PRM. Over 60 participants in water and golf attended the workshop. This program is a continuation of a partnership formed in 2022.

Environmental Planning Section

Core Business: Environmental Planning and Regulatory Compliance Support

Bay Delta Initiatives

Delta Conveyance Project

- Continued 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.

Webb Tract Multi-Benefit Mosaic Landscape Project

- Continued biological surveys to assist in developing the strategy for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and permitting compliance and in support of preparation of the environmental documentation.
- Attended a kick-off field meeting with Bay-Delta Initiatives staff to discuss project goals and objectives.



Webb Tract Project Kick-off meeting at the Duck Hunting Lodge

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

(continued)

Engineering Services Group

Copper Basin Discharge Valve Replacement and Access Roads Improvements Project

- Submitted permit application packages to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Drought Relief Projects

- Provided design review for Inland Feeder-Rialto Pipeline Intertie and Badlands Tunnel Surge Tank projects.
- Provided CEQA and Endangered Species Act compliance analysis for the Inland Feeder-San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (SBVMWD) Foothill Pump Station Intertie Phase I Project.

Etiwanda Pipeline Relining Project

- Conducted bi-weekly monitoring for construction activities.

Perris Valley Pipeline Project

- Conducted bi-weekly monitoring for construction activities.

Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP) Rehabilitation Program

- Continued construction monitoring for Lake Mathews PCCP Valve Storage Project.
- Continued construction monitoring and mitigation compliance for PCCP Second Lower Feeder Reach 3B.

Pure Water Southern California

- Identified data needs and required modifications to technical studies for upsized pipe analysis.
- Revised EIR schedule to reflect incorporation of upsized pipe.
- Completed sensitive wildlife-focused surveys and submitted reports to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- Participated in sequencing plan development.
- Continued tribal cultural resources consultation.

Weymouth Water Treatment Plant and La Verne Site Improvements Program

- Released the Notice of Availability and draft Program EIR (PEIR) for a 45-day public review period on September 18.
- Prepared presentation for City of La Verne public meeting scheduled for October 4.

Design Review

- Continued design review for the Weymouth Hazardous Waste Storage, Weymouth Asphalt Rehabilitation, Perris Valley Pipeline Service Connection (SC WR-37), and Lake Perris Seepage projects.

Construction Monitoring

- Continued construction monitoring for the CRA Conduit Structural Protection Project.

External Affairs Group

- Staff participated in a Council for Watershed Health workshop held at Metropolitan's Board Room and organized by External Affairs Team, which discussed soil health, water quality issues, community participation efforts, and new technology.

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

(continued)

- Staff participated in California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance (CCEEB) Natural Resources Task Force (NRTF) monthly meeting.

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation Office

- Continued monitoring efforts related to the operations of the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project to comply with the Climate Action Plan (CAP) PEIR Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP).
- Continued to assist in Scope 3 Emissions data collection in support of the CAP implementation phase, including developing an electronic system to capture contractors' construction emissions, developing an employee commute survey, and developing a data management system to capture utilities data (waste, wastewater, and water use).
- Environmental Planning Section staff assigned to the Pure Water project team attended an Envision Sustainable Infrastructure training session.

Water System Operations Group

- Provided environmental analysis and clearance for Upper Feeder patrol road maintenance, Diemer plant mechanical area, and Lake Skinner fire management projects.
- Provided environmental compliance and permitting support for the 2023 Allen McColloch Pipeline shutdown and CRA urgent repair projects resulting from storm damage in late August.
- Conducted biological resource surveys for maintenance activities at Upper Feeder USG-03.

Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) Compliance

- Coordinated with the State Mining and Geology Board for the first annual inspection of Metropolitan's borrow sites subject to SMARA and approval of a Financial Assurances Cost Estimate.

Reserve Management

Lake Mathews Multiple Species Reserve

- Completed the installation of new fencing south of Cajalco Road to prevent trespassing.
- Mowed and applied herbicide to approximately 20 acres of Russian thistle along the reservoir's southern shoreline road and south of Cajalco Road to prevent future germination of the plant.
- Conducted annual Stephens' kangaroo rat (SKR) monitoring to collect data that can be used to direct future management activities for SKR and various other species that use grassland habitats within the reserve.

Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve

- Conducted mowing and weed whipping for fire and habitat management.
- Coordinated with researchers conducting studies on the reserve, including the Riverside County Regional Conservation Agency burrowing owl and Los Angeles pocket mouse surveys and San Diego Zoo/Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency joint SKR surveys.
- Maintained traps for brown-headed cowbird, a brood parasite that lays its eggs in the nests of other birds, including native and endangered bird species.
- The Alamos Schoolhouse interpretive center was open on Saturdays, and the Reserve Interpreter hosted a birding event on the reserve.

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

(continued)



Mountain Lion at 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.
- Reviewed and commented on a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposal to create a General Conservation Plan for the Desert Tortoise.

Real Property Reviews

- Provided CEQA analysis and determinations in support of two real property agreements.
- Completed Addendum No. 8 to the Final EIR for the Eastside Reservoir Project in support of the San Diego Canal Trail project.

Land Management

Provide right-of-way planning, valuation, and real property acquisition support services for the protection and reliability of existing infrastructure.

Staff processed two new agreements for Metropolitan's colocation at privately-owned telecom sites known as Crossman Peak and Super Nap. These agreements are critical to implementing Metropolitan's Desert Microwave upgrade project, which entails enhancing existing and installing new telecommunication systems.

Foster staff training and development.

Staff completed the Envision Sustainability Professional certification offered by the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure.

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.

Staff engaged a contractor to complete the cleanup of an encampment site on Metropolitan's land in Mead Valley.

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

(continued)



Staff cleanup of encampment site before (two left pictures) and after (two right pictures) on Metropolitan's property in Mead Valley

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

Request for Proposals for Carbon Free Energy projects on Metropolitan's Palo Verde Mesa land was promulgated on September 11, 2023, with proposals due on November 13.

A new 10-year license has been issued to AT&T/New Cingular Wireless for the replacement of an expired lease within the Lower Feeder and Santiago Lateral Pipeline right-of-way in Yorba Linda. The license allows the continued operation of a commercial cellular communication site that has existed at the subject location since 1987.



Lower Feeder and Santiago Lateral Pipeline right-of-way in Yorba Linda.



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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