



General Manager's Monthly Report



Activities for the Month of June 2023



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Message from the General Manager

Earlier this year, the Board met and discussed the serious nature of climate change, its impact on water supplies, and the risks it poses to Metropolitan's operations. Since then we have begun to develop a Board-led Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W) that will better integrate Metropolitan's planning for water resources, climate resilience, and finances, and thereby strengthen our ability to withstand and recover from disruptions.

The weather extremes of 2023 have further demonstrated that the climate emergency is already upon us. "Weather whiplash" isn't just complicating the public messages around water conservation. It is also placing new demands on staff and stressing our systems as we have to rapidly switch from extreme drought to high flows, adjust treatment methods to maintain water quality, and do it all under heightened risks of flood, fire and record breaking heat.

Climate adaptation demands our immediate attention, and we have deployed our planning tools and the best minds on our team to support the Board's CAMP4W process. I am confident it will result in a decision-making framework to shape and evaluate policies, programs, pathways and projects that increase the climate resilience of Metropolitan's infrastructure, aiding our employees and Member Agencies, bolstering our reliability, and furthering the goals of affordability and financial sustainability. We can start with "low-regrets" projects that provide benefits at relatively low risk, and we will go beyond that with careful analysis and the best available information.

I am grateful to all those who are engaged in and rallying around this urgent process, to the Board and Member Agency managers who are wrestling with the regional and local implications of this work, and, as always, to our frontline staff who are facing down the daily demands of a worsening climate.

We are approaching this charge with resolve and the utmost speed, because in the face of climate change, time is not on our side. Together, as first envisioned at the Board Retreat a few months ago, we will identify and invest in strategies that build the climate resilience of Metropolitan and its Member Agencies.

We are one,

Adel



“You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today.”

***- Abraham Lincoln,
16th U.S. President***



Strategic Priorities Update

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

Empower the workforce and promote diversity, equity, and inclusion

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

This month staff celebrated National Safety Month with the theme "Safety is for Everyone." Employees and facilities participated in over 20 events focused on worker safety and accident prevention. Activities included safety training, staff recognition and awards, safety-based games with prizes, and equipment vendor displays to update employees on the latest safety industry developments. Staff also held three webinars including Empowered Ergonomics: Simple Solutions to Align Your Home Workstation; Personal Protective Equipment: Prepare to Protect Yourself When Visiting Worksites; and Safety is for Everyone: Information on USHQ HVAC System, COVID-19 Updates and Personal Security.

This month the 14th cohort of Metropolitan Management University (MMU) was launched for 21 newly appointed managers and the first trainings focused on leadership techniques. The cohort of MMU will be expanded by one session to work in additional content on Conflict Styles and Managing Teams.

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.

To reduce the time it takes to fill vacant positions, we are supplementing the recruitment staff with external recruitment support. Additional temporary staff has been brought on and contracts with recruiting firms are being finalized.

Sustain Metropolitan's mission with a strengthened business model

Conduct a careful, deliberative and inclusive review of the rate structure to ensure the business model can adapt to changing needs of the member agencies and support sustainable local and imported supplies.

The Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W) progressed with Member Agency meetings and a Board Workshop to discuss how we incorporate Metropolitan and Member Agency resource plans and how our Needs Assessment will be used to identify resource gaps and help evaluate potential investments in water supply and distribution. Member Agency Managers will meet monthly through November to focus on CAMP4W.

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

The Governor and DWR announced a \$38 M to Metropolitan under the Urban Community Drought Relief Grant program. The grant will support turf replacement (\$30M), equipment to save water during firefighter training (\$3M), and the direct install program run in collaboration with Gas Company (\$5M). This award is a testament to our success in conservation and leadership in turf removal. In FY23, Metropolitan was awarded \$200M in new, external funding in the current fiscal year.

In June, Fitch Ratings affirmed Metropolitan Water District's revenue bonds at AA+/stable. This follows recent rating actions by S&P (AAA/stable) and Moody's (Aa1/stable) and reflects continued strength in Metropolitan's underlying financials and reflect investor confidence in our comprehensive long-term strategy for sound operational and financial management. Our high credit ratings not only position us favorably for future business activities and investments, but also support the credit ratings of our member agencies.

Investor confidence in Metropolitan was also affirmed by our successful pricing of 2023A bonds for \$257 million to support our CIP and \$36.3 million to refund outstanding debt. In conjunction with two other refunding transactions in FY23, Metropolitan has generated over \$84.3 million in projected gross debt service savings (\$68.2 million present value savings).

Adapt to changing climate and water resources

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

Water Resource Management and Engineering Services staff continued to meet with the State Water Project dependent area agencies to advance solutions to provide an equivalent level of water supply reliability. Staff also continued to explore how the IRP scenarios affect overall reliability and how they can be resolved through infrastructure fixes.

Design of the Inland Feeder Rialto Pipeline Intertie is complete. Bids will be opened in July and a board action to award a construction contract is planned for Aug 23. The on-line date is the second quarter of 2025.

Metropolitan is now an official co-sponsor of AB 1572 (Friedman), statewide legislation which would prohibit businesses and institutions (CII) from using potable water to irrigate non-functional turf. If enacted into law, requirements would go into effect in phases, beginning in 2027. The proposed legislation is set to be heard in Senate Committees starting in July.

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.

Projects identified as part of Seismic Resilience planning are moving forward on schedule.

Staff initiated work to obtain ENVISION certification for the Casa Loma Siphon project.

Staff presented to the One Water and Stewardship Committee about short- and long-term strategies to improve stormwater capture. Staff met with Caltrans to discuss collaborative stormwater capture opportunities and next steps; a follow-up meeting is scheduled for mid-August. Staff met with the ARLA team to discuss their analysis of co-benefits, which we expect to be provided in a report to Metropolitan in the coming weeks. Staff evaluated the development potential for stormwater and proposed target alternatives. A technical memorandum will be prepared to summarize these assessments later this summer. This information will help inform the CAMP4Water discussion as well as other resource planning.

Metropolitan joined a press event at the Pure Water Southern California site, announcing an EPA grant (\$1.8M) to our project partner LA County Sanitation Districts to help clean up the site—the location of our future advanced water purification facility. Remediation needs to be completed for our project to move forward. EPA Region 9 Administrator Martha Guzman and other officials were provided with a tour of the Pure Water Demonstration Plant.

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

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

This month, development of dam emergency action plans continued. Two additional plans were submitted to Cal OES for review, and four plans are being reviewed by stakeholders before submittal. Four of 13 plans have been approved. Work also continued developing various staffing and support services options for the new Cyber Security Operations Center and assessing of service connections and meters for the condition assessment tool.

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

This month, Metropolitan hosted Isle Utilities' Technology Approval Group, which included the review of multiple emerging technologies focused on water quality, leak detection, and other needs. Over a dozen western utilities had representatives in the room.

For the Enterprise Content System, the Request for Proposals (RFP) process has been completed and the evaluation committee has identified a recommended vendor to provide the requested software and services. A contract award will be considered for approval by the Board in August as the next step.

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.

Changes to the Community Partnering Program were presented to the Legislation, Regulatory Affairs, and Communications Committee in June 2023 and are effective in July 2023, increasing the amount of grants available and targeting two grants toward sustainability priorities. Website management capabilities will be finalized when IT approves content management system and security software. Meetings with management will consider recommendations for integrating public input into board letters and board decision-making process.

Reach underserved communities and non-traditional interested parties to better understand their needs and ensure their inclusion in decision making.

Work to build on foundational efforts in FY23 to reach underserved and tribal communities will proceed in the coming fiscal year through enhanced advertising, outreach, partnerships, sponsored events, and other initiatives.

This fiscal year, our earned media coverage reached 2.4 billion audience views, the equivalent of paid media worth \$46 million.

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.

Bay-Delta Initiatives

At the June 16 Joint Sites Reservoir Committee and Authority Board meeting, the Reservoir Committee and Authority Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into a new Memorandum of Agreement with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation that includes preconstruction activities addressing continued planning and engineering, including geotechnical investigations, design, environmental permitting, and the water rights process.

Chief Financial Officer

On June 21, 2023, Metropolitan issued the \$258,410,000, Water Revenue and Refunding Bonds, 2023 Series A. The bond pricing, held on June 6, 2023, was a tremendous success. Bond orders from 49 institutional investors totaled \$874 million, or 3.3 times the amount of bonds sold. Bond proceeds will be used to fund a portion of Metropolitan's Capital Investment Plan and to refund a short-term note that was issued to prepay approximately \$35 million of subordinate lien revenue bonds. Siebert Williams Shank & Co., LLC, was the senior manager on the transaction, with Ramirez & Co., Inc., as co-senior manager, and Barclays and Cabrera Capital Markets LLC, as co-managers.

S&P and Moody's affirmed ratings of AAA/stable and Aa1/stable, respectively for Metropolitan's recent bond transaction. These ratings reflect the continued strength of Metropolitan's underlying financials and reflect investor confidence in our comprehensive long-term strategy for sound operational and financial management. These high credit ratings position Metropolitan favorably for future business activities and investments and support the credit ratings of our member agencies.

Colorado River

On June 16, Reclamation initiated the Post-2026 National Environmental Planning Act process by publishing a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement in the Federal Register. The first step is a 60-day public scoping period, which closes on August 15, 2023. The Colorado River Basin States are working together to develop a scoping letter supported by all states.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

From June 11-13, DEI staff attended the American Water Works Association (AWWA) annual ACE 23 Conference. Staff was invited to participate in an inaugural panel discussion "Indigenous voices and First Nations Water Rights." The panel included a traditional First Nations Anishinaabe water ceremony and ancient Lakota water teachings. Staff conversed with world-renowned 18-year-old Autumn Peltier, dubbed the "Water Walker," who spoke in front of the United Nations Council on behalf of Indigenous peoples' water rights. Dr. Dawn Martin Hill of McMaster University was also a panel participant. The panel conversation included preservation of water rights, water quality improvement, and water workforce development for indigenous people. The session was attended by 200 event participants.

Engineering Services

Following Metropolitan's 2016 acquisition of the Verbena land in the Palo Verde Valley, Engineering Services undertook a project to complete Records of Survey for these properties. Engineering Services surveyed over 12,800 acres, mapped the 65 parcels, and measured and set over 1700 monuments. Record of survey maps, as well as encumbrance maps to document easements, were prepared. As of June 2023, all surveying is complete, the Record of Survey Maps have been registered with Riverside and Imperial Counties, and all work is now complete.

External Affairs

Metropolitan and GM Hagekhalil were honored by the LA Conservation Corps with the Climate Resiliency Public Partner Award for long-term support of workforce development and sustainability projects. Vice Chair Repenning and Directors Luna and McMillan attended. (June 1)

Human Resources

The Organizational Development & Training Unit (OD&T) hosted an in-person training for the Engineering Services Design Section on Communication Skills.

Information Technology

The Information Technology Group completed the Oracle data access upgrade for select reporting tools. This project will continue to upgrade legacy databases.

Real Property

Two staff members were each awarded “Young Professional of the Year” by the International Right of Way Association (IRWA) at the chapter and regional level, respectively. This award recognizes IRWA members for their dedication and contributions to the right of way industry, professional development pursuits, and workplace accomplishments.

Security Management

Metropolitan partners with San Bernardino County first responders for Safety Field Day at Iron Mountain Pumping Plant.

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

SRI worked with the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W) Planning team to organize and execute the Board Workshop focused on Member Agency Alignment and the Water Resources Needs Assessment. The team also participated in Safety Fairs at several Metropolitan facilities to introduce the SRI team and mission. Staff also hosted the GM’s Environmental Listening Session on the CAMP4W process and solicited input on the process and community engagement strategy.

Water Resource Management

Water Resource Management staff is actively exploring opportunities to capture more of this year’s water supply. Staff is working with member agencies and groundwater basin managers to either modify or create new programs to encourage storage.

Water System Operations

This month, Metropolitan celebrated National Safety Month with employees participating in events focused on worker safety and accident prevention. Activities included safety training, safety webinars, staff recognition and awards, safety-based games with prizes, and equipment vendor displays to update employees on the latest safety industry developments. Celebrating National Safety Month has been a long-standing tradition at Metropolitan that receives enthusiastic participation from employees at all levels. This year was no different, with over 20 well attended events held at all of Metropolitan’s main facilities.



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Water Engineering 4 Good is Metropolitan’s newest STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) program for middle and high school students. Launched as the recent historic drought, built a conservation device out of recycled/upcycled materials, animated their device with a CAD program, and created a social media campaign to promote their device.

In April, the student teams concluded their work by presenting the projects to a panel of Metropolitan engineers, who asked questions and provided feedback. The winner in the Middle School Division was Hollencrest Middle School in West Covina and in the winning high school was Oxford Academy in Cypress.

IMPORTANCE TO METROPOLITAN

Programs such as WE4G are important to Metropolitan because they teach students to consider ways to use science, technology and creative thinking to address issues such as climate change, mega droughts and conservation. They can also serve as a pipeline to create a better educated citizenry and inspire young people to consider careers in the water industry.

MEMORABLE MOMENT

When the teams presented their conservation device to a panel of Metropolitan engineers at the end of this year’s program, the enthusiasm and pride was truly contagious. Additionally, the feedback from participating teachers let us know students had a very positive experience and look forward to WE4G 2024.



“Working as a water educator for nearly 30 years and having taught close to 48,000 students about water recycling and conservation, I am extremely proud to have been part of the team that developed Water Engineering 4 Good to provide middle and high school students with a S.T.E.A.M learning experience and possibly inspire them to pursue a career in the water industry.”

*Mark R. Moss, Principal Public Affairs
Representative, Education Team*

Water Resources and Engineering



Water Resource Management

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

Staff attended a meeting of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum (Forum) in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Topics discussed included (1) proposed language for the 2023 federal Farm Bill to reduce the state cost-share requirement from 30 percent to roughly 15 percent for salinity control funding from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), which would reduce the existing Salinity Control Program (Program) funding deficit; (2) an update on the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's (USBR's) Request for Information (RFI) from private industry representatives to solicit new alternatives for the long-term replacement of the Paradox Valley Unit (PVU); (3) the draft 2023 "Triennial Review," in which the Forum communicates to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) an assessment of the sufficiency of existing water quality criteria for salinity on the Lower Colorado River; and (4) updates from key federal agencies involved in the Program, including USBR, NRCS, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the U.S. Geological Survey.

Support Capital Investment Program Planning

The Capital Investment Program (CIP) Office has started a new cycle of proposal reviews. Together with staff from Water System Operations (WSO), Real Property, and Finance and facilitated by the CIP Office, Water Resources Management (WRM) staff participate in twice weekly, day-long reviews of the proposals that will be in the CIP book for the next budget cycle. Staff reviews the proposals and the risk matrix and scores each proposal based on standardized parameters such as obsolescence and operational flexibility improvements.

Participate in Federal, State and Local Water-Energy Nexus processes to support Metropolitan Energy Sustainability and Climate Action Plans

Staff coordinated with the State Water Contractors on their comments to the California Water Commission hearing on SB1020 and the State's energy roadmap. Comments highlighted support for the State Water Project to use 100 percent renewable energy by 2035 while maintaining water affordability and that the roadmap serves as an example for contractors' clean energy policies. The need for additional funding for potential projects and operational changes at both the state and federal levels was also emphasized.

Implement Regional Conservation Program

Staff presented Metropolitan's conservation program at the American Water Works Association ACE23 conference in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. The first topic, "From Local to Regional Programs—You Need all the Tools in the Toolbelt to Support Customers," covered both the regional incentive programs as well as how Metropolitan provides funding for local conservation programming. The second topic was "How a Regional Wholesaler Can Use Flume Data for Targeting Purposes". Staff shared data from Metropolitan's Household Water Use Study. Both panels were moderated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) WaterSense Branch Chief and were attended by over 50 attendees.

Adaptively Prepare for a Range of Possible Futures through the Incorporation of Scenario Planning in the IRP.

Metropolitan staff provided presentations and participated in board and member agency discussions in review of the scenario analyses from the 2020 IRP Needs Assessment as part of the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W) at special workshops for the member agency managers on June 15 and the Board of Directors on June 27.

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

Metropolitan staff continued ongoing technical collaboration with member agencies with the 2023 Annual Local Production Survey, which was sent out to all member agencies on March 21. Survey results were received from member agencies in June and are currently under review for updates to member agencies' inventories of existing and planned local supplies. Metropolitan uses the survey information to estimate total regional demand, potable consumptive per capita water use, and for use in water resource analyses and modeling.

Metropolitan submitted its Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment to DWR to meet the legislatively required deadline of July 1, or within 14 days of receiving final State Water Project or Central Valley Project allocations (whichever is later). The Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment is an annual State requirement for urban water suppliers that is part of the 2018 Conservation as a California Way of Life legislation and related to State Water Shortage Contingency Plans.

Staff provided input to CalDesal's comments on DWR's California Water Plan's Resource Management Strategy for desalination. Over the next year, CalDesal will be addressing funding for desalination projects in the proposed bond measures, recommendations from State Agency's proposed siting criteria, and potential changes to California's Ocean Plan amendments. CalDesal will hold its annual conference in Sacramento on February 8–9, 2024.

Implement Future Supply Actions Funding Program

Staff hosted a Future Supply Actions Funding Program (FSA) webinar on watershed monitoring and stormwater capture on Thursday, June 15th. The webinar covered the Moulton Niguel Metropolitan's pilot test of the coupling of an advanced watershed sensor network to existing metering infrastructure. The pilot demonstrated the system's ability to capture real-time flow and salinity data for San Juan Creek. The study also demonstrated the value of using data analytics and dashboards for evaluating stormwater capture potential from real-time data. MWDOC was the lead member agency for the study. Staff from External Affairs and Information Technology assisted with the webinar which included over 50 participants. FSA study presentations, webinar recordings, and final reports are available on Metropolitan's website: <https://www.mwdh2o.com/funding-opportunities#future-supply>

Position Metropolitan as a leader in Open Water Data.

Staff hosted several meetings for the California Water Data Consortium (CWDC) at Union Station on June 21–22. This included board meetings, strategic planning sessions, and related workshops. CWDC staff led discussions and updates on key CWDC projects including:

- Urban Water Data Reporting Project
- Groundwater Accounting and Data Reporting Platform
- Telemetered Data Reporting Project

Participants discussed opportunities for future projects and aligning the CWDC's budget to its long-term goals. The consortium has been awarded grants from DWR, the SWRCB, and USBR to support ongoing work for these projects. The CWDC will also be holding a series of workshops this fall on responding to new SWRCB reporting requirements. Additional information on CWDC's initiatives is available here: <https://cawaterdata.org>.

Promote Metropolitan's technical capabilities and innovation efforts to advance the understanding of water resources management.

Staff participated in Peer-2-Peer (P2P) meetings with several domestic and international utilities in June. The topics included Olympics and large event preparation, delta island/levee management, asset condition assessment, achieving net-zero GHG emissions, and workforce developments. The meetings were organized through Metropolitan's P2P innovation agreements with Arcadis, WaterStart, Booky Oren GWT, and ISLE Utilities, Inc.

Water Resources and Engineering

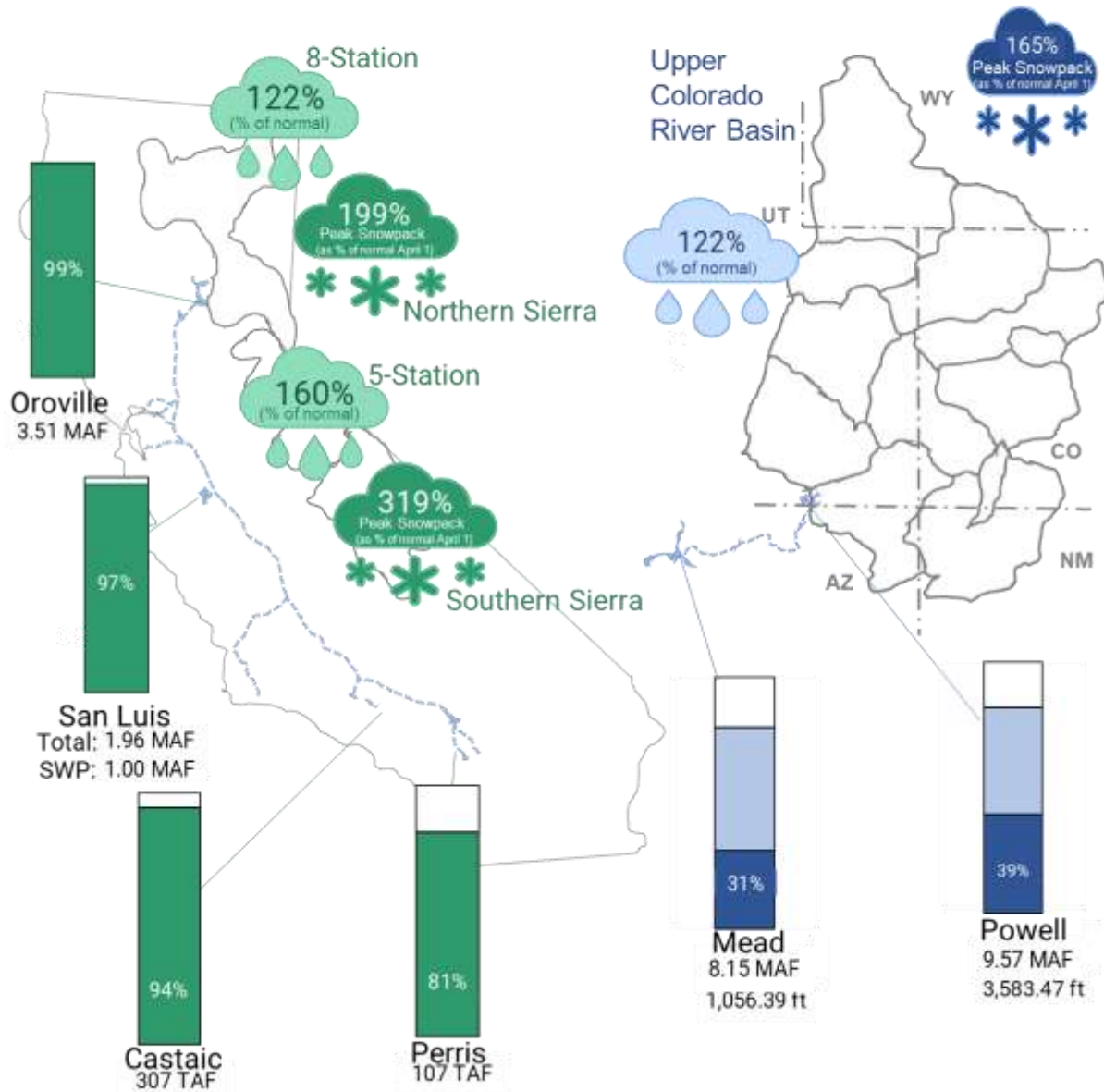
(continued)

State Water Project Resources

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

Colorado River Resources

Projected CRA Diversions - 748,000 acre-feet



Water Year 2022-2023
As of: 6/30/2023

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

As of June 30, 2023

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 for a public review that ended on December 16, 2022. DWR received more than 700 unique comment letters with over 6,000 individual comments. DWR is currently working to organize the comments and develop responses. The Final EIR is expected at the end of 2023. It will include responses to all substantive comments on the Draft EIR and edits to the Draft EIR, as appropriate, to respond to the comments.

DWR recently published a fact sheet addressing how modernizing infrastructure can help to capture more storm flow. The fact sheet can be found [here](#).

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 working to organize the comments received.

Delta Conveyance related Joint Powers Authorities

On June 15, the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) Board of Directors held a Special Board Meeting, and the DCA Board authorized letters of high-level support for Executive Order N-8-23 and the Governor's Proposal to Build California's Clean Future Faster.

At the regularly scheduled June 15 DCA Board Meeting, the board approved the \$39.9 million budget for fiscal year 2023/24. This budget includes providing support to the DWR preparation of permit documents and applications and preparing responses to public comment on engineering aspects of project alternatives. The budget also includes continued execution of the geotechnical program to better understand conditions across the Delta, consideration of a range of engineering concepts and procurement, and continued development of DCA policies and procedures to support potential future program phases.

The DCA Board approved the Sustainability Policy establishing high-level sustainability goals and identifying supporting processes and procedures required to drive the successful implementation of sustainability practices throughout the Program. The DCA Board also approved the Statement of Investment Policy for fiscal year 2023/24, including delegating authority to the Treasurer to invest DCA funds for fiscal year 2023/24. Anticipating increased outreach and communications in the next fiscal year, the DCA Board amended the contract with VMA Communications, Inc. to include additional budget.

The June 15 regularly scheduled Delta Conveyance Finance Authority (DCFA) meeting was cancelled.

Sites Reservoir

At the June 16 Joint Sites Reservoir Committee and Authority board meeting, the Reservoir Committee and Authority Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into a new Memorandum of Agreement with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation that includes activities necessary to move the Sites Reservoir Project forward into construction. These

preconstruction activities include continued planning and engineering, including geotechnical investigations, design, environmental permitting, and the water rights process.

Funding the Sites Reservoir Project beyond the planning phase and into detailed design, construction, and operation will require developing a Sites Reservoir Benefits and Obligations Contract (Contract). The Contract will also serve as the long-term commitment of the Sites Authority to provide the Participant with its capacity interest in the Sites Reservoir water storage system. Executing this Contract will be expected following the receipt of a water rights decision and securing critical permits. The Reservoir Committee and Authority Board authorized Sites Reservoir staff to proceed with negotiation of the Contract (Draft 1) with the participants.

The Reservoir Committee and Authority Board also approved two contracts for geotechnical monitoring as-needed services with the Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun along with geotechnical monitoring as-needed services and an ethnographic study with the Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians.

Science Activities

Staff continued participating in the Collaborative Science and Adaptive Management Program (CSAMP) with state and federal agencies, water agencies, and the NGO environmental community. Key progress this month focused on the Delta Smelt Structured Decision Making (SDM) Project. Staff is participating in a multi-stakeholder technical work group to develop and evaluate management action portfolios that may improve the population trajectory of Delta smelt in the next 5–10 years. In June, the results of the first round of Delta smelt SDM evaluations were presented to the CSAMP Policy Group. The results suggest that actions that include reducing predation and increasing prey availability would have the greatest chance of meeting the objectives. These actions include turbidity management, habitat restoration, aquatic weed control, and flow. The next phase of the SDM project will include additional refinement and evaluation of management action portfolios.

In June, staff attended a *Decision Analysis: Elicitation and Facilitation* training at the U.S. Department of Interior's National Conservation Training Center in West Virginia. The training is designed for structured decision-making practitioners to develop skills as decision analysts, particularly in the facilitation of the decision-making process and elicitation techniques. The course provided staff with the opportunity to gain access to specialized training in decision analysis and network with experts in this field and will provide benefits as staff participates in collaborative science processes.

Colorado River

Reclamation Begins Post-2026 NEPA Process

In December 2007, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) adopted a Record of Decision implementing the Colorado River Interim Guidelines, which included surplus and shortage criteria, Lake Powell, and Lake Mead operations, and established the Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) program. The Guidelines expire on December 31, 2025. Because the operating conditions for 2026 will have already been approved by that date, the 2007 Interim Guidelines essentially are in effect through 2026. These Guidelines were derived from a consensus-based agreement among the Basin States, which followed a statement by then Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton in 2005 to develop such a plan or risk having the federal government develop its own plan. The consensus-based guidelines were followed by other consensus-based agreements, including new minutes to the Mexican-American water treaty and the 2019 Drought Contingency Plan.

On June 16, Reclamation initiated the process for developing the next set of Guidelines. They laid out a schedule in which a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would be prepared by the end of 2024, followed by a Final EIS and Record of Decision in time for the 2027 operating year. The initial step is to solicit scoping comments for the National Environmental Planning Act (NEPA) process. Reclamation has requested input on the scope, strategies, and other issues that should be considered in the development of the EIS. The Colorado River Basin States have committed to work together to develop a seven-state scoping comment letter. Metropolitan will also be submitting scoping comments and will be working with our partners to encourage them to also submit scoping comments. Comments are due August 15, 2023.

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:

- **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 the removal of the existing coal tar lining and is continuing to apply mortar lining. Construction is approximately 75 percent complete and is anticipated to be complete by September 2023.
- **Lake Mathews Wastewater Replacement**—This project consists of replacing the existing septic tank system with a wastewater collection system at Lake Mathews. The new wastewater system connects to a nearby off-site Western Municipal Water District main wastewater line. Metropolitan’s Board awarded a construction contract for the final stage in October 2021. The contractor continues to install the sewer line. The connection to the municipal wastewater line was completed in June 2023. Construction is approximately 92 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in August 2023.
- **La Verne Shops Building Completion—Stage 4**—This project will complete the La Verne Shops building improvements and install Metropolitan-furnished shop equipment. Metropolitan’s Board awarded a construction contract in May 2022. The contractor completed installation of the press brake, hydraulic shear, and band saw. Work continues on the vertical machine center foundation, electrical upgrades, and exterior wall resurfacing. Construction is approximately 40 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in August 2024.
- **OC-88 Pump Station Chillers Replacement**—This project replaces three existing chillers and two water pumps at the OC-88 Pump Station. The contractor is performing trenching work near the existing chillers and pumps to install underground conduit, and the scaffolding has been built for the electricians to access the conduits running in the ceiling. Construction is 24 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in January 2024.



Lake Mathews Wastewater Replacement
Installation of containment lining inside manhole



La Verne Shops Building Completion, Stage 4,
Equipment pad excavation



Figure 10C-88 Pump Station Chillers Replacement
Electrical Conduit Installation

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 eventually be relined with new steel pipe liners under this 20-year program. Recent activities include the following:

- **Second Lower Feeder PCCP Rehabilitation Reach 3A**—This project rehabilitates 6,000 feet of PCCP portions of the Second Lower Feeder within the city of Rolling Hills Estates. Metropolitan’s Board awarded a construction contract in May 2022. The contractor has completed all relining and shutdown work and returned the pipeline to service on May 11, 2023. The contractor is finalizing restoration activities for the laydown and storage areas at Los Angeles Harbor College and for streets in the City of Rolling Hills Estates. Construction is 98 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in July 2023.
- **Second Lower Feeder Valve Procurement**—This procurement contract provides 13 conical plug valves for the Second Lower Feeder PCCP rehabilitation. Metropolitan’s Board awarded a procurement contract for the valves in December 2018. Seven valves have been delivered as of March 23, 2023. Three more valves are scheduled for delivery in 2023, two in November and one in December. Fabrication of the last three valves will be completed in early 2024 and delivery is projected for mid-2024.
- **Sepulveda Feeder Urgent Carbon Fiber Lining**—During a February 2023 pipeline inspection, staff identified new wire breaks at three locations along the Sepulveda Feeder. This project will rehabilitate the deteriorated PCCP at these three locations using carbon fiber lining. The use of the carbon fiber lining will allow the affected pipe sections to be strengthened in a timely manner to ensure that interruptions to deliveries of State Water Project supplies are minimized. Staff prequalified carbon fiber lining manufacturers/installers and completed final design. Design is complete, and award of a construction contract is scheduled for August 2023.
- **Sepulveda Feeder North Reach**—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. The North Reach preliminary design is approximately 15 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in December 2023.



**Second Lower Feeder Valve Procurement
Conical Plug Valve Body Inspection**



Second Lower Feeder Valve Procurement
Conical Plug Valve Shop Performance Testing

Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) Reliability Program

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

- **CRA Main Transformer Replacement**—This project replaces the 35 230 kV and 69 kV step-down transformers that are used to run the main pumps at all five of Metropolitan’s Colorado River Aqueduct pumping plants. Preliminary design is complete. The new transformers will be procured by Metropolitan and are currently advertised for bid. A transformer procurement contract, as well as award of a contract for final engineering design, is scheduled for September 2023.
- **Cabazon Radial Gate Replacement**—This project replaces two radial gates and makes security, access, and safety improvements to the Cabazon Radial Gate Structure. Final design is 10 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by April 2024.
- **Domestic Water System**—This project replaces the membrane filtration system and associated water treatment equipment at the five Colorado River Aqueduct pumping plants. Metropolitan’s Board awarded a construction contract in December 2021. The contractor is currently installing electrical duct banks at Gene Pumping Plant. Construction is 25 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by March 2025.
- **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. A pre-construction biological survey is underway, and the contractor is preparing submittals for review. Construction is scheduled to be completed by May 2024.

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.

- **Sepulveda Feeder Pumping Stations**—This project will install new pump stations at the existing Venice and Sepulveda Canyon Pressure Control Facilities, providing the ability to reverse flow in the Sepulveda Feeder and deliver water from the Central Pool to portions of the Jensen plant exclusive area. This project will use progressive design-build (PDB) for delivery. Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) from potential design-build entities were received in May. Staff has evaluated the SOQs for selection of the design-builder. The three respondents have been invited to separate interviews, from which a recommended design-build entity will be identified. Staff will then begin negotiating a final agreement for Phase 1 preconstruction design services under a PDB contract with the recommended design-builder. Board award of the Phase 1 agreement is planned for September 2023.
- **Wadsworth Pumping Plant Bypass**—In conjunction with three other projects, this project enhances water supply reliability in the Rialto Pipeline service area by enabling water to be pumped from the Wadsworth Pumping Plant forebay to Rialto Pipeline by way of the Inland Feeder. This project will install a bypass pipeline and an isolation valve to interconnect the Wadsworth Pumping Plant with the Eastside Pipeline. Metropolitan's Board awarded a construction contract in January 2023. The contractor is currently preparing submittals for review and approval. Construction is 5 percent complete and is anticipated to be complete by February 2024.
- **Badlands Surge Protection Facilities**—In conjunction with three other projects, this project enhances water supply reliability in the Rialto Pipeline service area by enabling water to be pumped from the Wadsworth Pumping Plant forebay to Rialto Pipeline by way of the Inland Feeder. This project will protect the Inland Feeder from excessive negative pressures that could develop from an unexpected shutting down of the pumps at Wadsworth Pumping Plant. Final design is 98 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in July 2023, and a contract award anticipated in October 2023.
- **Inland Feeder-Rialto Pipeline Intertie**—In conjunction with three other projects, this project enhances water supply reliability in the Rialto Pipeline service area by enabling water to be pumped from the Wadsworth Pumping Plant forebay to Rialto Pipeline by way of the Inland Feeder. This project will install an interconnection pipeline and isolation valve structure between the Inland Feeder and Rialto Pipeline. Final design for this project is complete, and it is currently being advertised. Contract award is anticipated in August 2023.
- **Inland Feeder—Foothill Pump Station Intertie**—In conjunction with three other projects, this project enhances water supply reliability in the Rialto Pipeline service area by enabling water to be pumped from the Wadsworth Pumping Plant forebay to Rialto Pipeline by way of the Inland Feeder. This project will connect San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District's (SBVMWD) Foothill Pump Station with the Inland Feeder to provide the needed hydraulic lift to deliver water from DVL to Rialto service area. Final design is complete. The project will be advertised for construction bids once right-of-way issues are resolved. Environmental permitting and right of way acquisition is ongoing. A Joint Use Agreement for the pump station is being drafted between Metropolitan and SBVMWD.

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 began installation of filter valves and piping in Filter Building No. 2 and continued other work under the first quarter-plant outage, including new concrete construction and installation of new electrical conduits. Construction is 30 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by May 2025.
- **Mills Ozonation System PLC Upgrade**—This project replaces the outdated ozone generator control system at the Mills plant with new programmable logic controller equipment along with upgraded software. Installation of the new software and commissioning is complete. The ozone system will be returned to service, with ozone as the plant's primary disinfectant, in July 2023.
- **Mills Electrical Upgrades**—This project upgrades the electrical system with dual-power feeds to key process equipment to comply with current codes and industry practice, improve plant reliability, and enhance worker safety. Stage 1 construction is complete, and a construction contract for Stage 2 improvements was awarded in November 2021. Stage 2 improvements will add a second incoming 12 kV service from Riverside Public Utilities, reconfigure the existing 4160-volt switchgear, and replace the standby generator switchgear and the emergency generator programmable logic controller. Metropolitan's Board awarded a construction contract in November 2021. The contractor is preparing the subgrade for expansion of the ORP switchgear building and is installing concrete equipment pads for the Riverside Public Utility switchyard. Construction is 25 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by February 2025.
- **Jensen Ozone PSUs Replacement**—This project rehabilitates the ozone generation system at the Jensen plant by replacing four existing ozone power supply units (PSUs) and four sets of generator dielectrics. The project also makes required modifications to the associated electrical, control, and cooling water systems. Metropolitan's Board awarded a construction contract in June 2022. All PSUs and dielectrics have been manufactured and delivered. Installation of two PSUs is complete and dielectrics for two ozone generators have been replaced. The contractor continued working on the coordination study for start-up testing of the two newly installed PSUs, and pipe fabrication and valve procurement to implement modifications to the cooling water system. Construction is 40 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by December 2023.



Weymouth Basins 5–8 and Filter Building No. 2 Rehabilitation
Backwash Valve Installation



Weymouth Basins 5–8 and Filter Building No. 2 Rehabilitation
Installation of Concrete Placement Panels

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, boardroom, executive dining lounge, and security control room. Stage 3 improvements will provide security system upgrades around the perimeter of the building. Metropolitan's Board awarded the Stage 3 construction contract in December 2022. The contractor continued demolition of the sidewalk around the building and began removal of waterproofing at bollard locations and installation of bollard baseplates. Construction is 20 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by January 2024.
- **Headquarters Building Fire Alarm and Smoke Control System Upgrades**—This project upgrades the Metropolitan Headquarters Building fire life safety systems, which includes replacement of the fire detection and alarm system and HVAC system improvements for smoke control. The fire alarm and smoke control systems in the Metropolitan 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 the migration of the new carbon monoxide monitoring system to the new smoke control system and commissioning of the new smoke fire dampers. Construction is 90 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by September 2023.
- **SCADA System Upgrades**—This project will upgrade Metropolitan's entire control system in incremental stages, spanning the Colorado River Aqueduct, the five water treatment plants, and the conveyance and distribution system. The first stage of this project replaces the control system at the Mills plant, starting with a pilot effort on one of the plant's remote terminal units. The pilot effort will demonstrate the proposed technology and the consultant's approach for the plant and the overall project. The consultant continued providing submittals, performing equipment verification, and developing control narratives and a training plan. The pilot phase is approximately 30 percent complete and currently scheduled to be complete by November 2023. The system upgrades at the Mills plant are scheduled to be complete by 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 has provided initial project submittals for review and will complete mobilization in July 2023. Construction is scheduled to be completed by December 2024.

Protecting the Public and Metropolitan's Assets

Engineering Services continued to develop state-mandated Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) for Metropolitan's state-regulated dams to help ensure long-term public safety. The Mills Treatment Plant EAP was formally approved by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) this month. Outreach to the local emergency management organizations and first responders for the Lake Mathews EAP and Lake Skinner and Skinner Finished Water Reservoir EAP was completed, and the plans will be submitted to the Cal OES for review and approval.

Operations



Water System Operations

Core Business Objectives

Prepare Employees for New Opportunities

The Water System Operations Apprentice and Technical Training Programs develop and train personnel to become qualified mechanics and electricians responsible for maintaining Metropolitan’s water treatment and distribution systems. The Class of 2023 electricians and mechanics completed their Demonstrated Proficiency Assessment (DPA). The DPA is a series of hands-on exams that test an apprentice’s competency. The assessment examines troubleshooting skills, fabrication skills, and time management skills: all skills needed as a journey electrician or mechanic. In addition to completing the DPA, apprentices will also need to complete 7,280 hours of on-the-job training to become certified journey electricians or mechanics with the State of California.



Class of 2023 electrical and mechanical apprentices completing their Demonstrated Proficiency Assessment

Manage Vacancies

WSO filled four vacancies in May 2023.

Provide Reliable Water Deliveries

Metropolitan member agency water deliveries were 86,000 acre-feet (AF) for June with an average of 2,900 AF per day, which was about equal to daily deliveries in May. Treated water deliveries increased by 1,000 AF from May for a total of 49,700 AF, or 58 percent of total deliveries for the month. The Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) pumped a

total of 69,000 AF in June. State Water Project (SWP) imports averaged 3,900 AF per day, totaling about 116,400 AF for the month. The target SWP blend decreased from 80 to 60 percent for Weymouth and Diemer plants and increased from 20 to 40 percent for the Skinner plant by the end of the month.

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. Castaic and Perris Flexible Storage has been filled, SWP Carryover will be maximized by the end of the year, as well as deliveries to groundwater storage programs that support the SWP dependent area. Metropolitan also continued deliveries to Desert Water Agency and Coachella Valley Water District to meet Metropolitan's exchange obligation. Staff is working with member agencies to manage supplies through the Cyclic and Cyclic Cost Offset Program. In June, Metropolitan started cyclic deliveries to Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District that averaged around 200 cubic feet per second. In this surplus year, Metropolitan expects to deliver over 1 million acre-feet into storage in 2023.

Support Imported Supply Reliability

The La Verne Shops received a request to refurbish two flow control wing gates for the Department of Water Resources' (DWR's) John E. Skinner Delta Fish Protective Facility. Each gate is 10 feet wide by 30 feet tall and weighs 8,000 pounds. This work included removing corroded sections of the gates and welding new ones, manufacturing various rotating internal components and two large shafts, and then finally coating both gates with corrosion-resistant coating. DWR plans on sending another pair of gates for refurbishment after installation of the recently completed gates.



As received condition of wing gates (left) and removal of corroded gate components (right) for DWR



Completed manufacturing of center post (left) and machining of the gate's lower bearing (right) for DWR



Finished coating of pillow blocks and drive shafts (left) and stenciling of finished crank arms (right) for DWR



Test fit of internal components (left) and completed gate with finished coating (right) for DWR

Support the Pure Water Southern California Program

Staff completed collecting microbial samples and reverse osmosis concentrate samples from the secondary membrane bioreactor (MBR) treatment process at the Pure Water Southern California demonstration plant. Staff continued spiking studies on the ultraviolet light/advanced oxidation process using free chlorine or hydrogen peroxide as the oxidant and also started additional spiking studies to evaluate chemical removal through the process. The Independent Science Advisory Panel delivered its final report on the sixth project workshop held in March 2023, and staff assessed approaches to incorporate the feedback into future testing plans. The Panel also delivered its review of the draft final report that presented the results and conclusions of the tertiary MBR testing phase of the program.



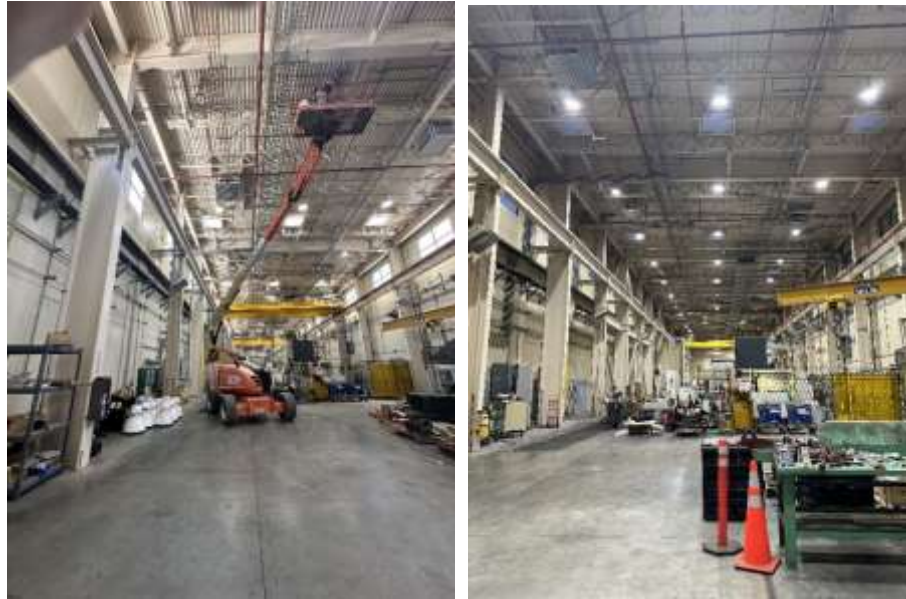
Staff collecting microbial samples following secondary membrane bioreactor treatment at the PWSC demonstration plant

Manage Power Resources and Energy Use in a Sustainable Manner

Energy markets in June 2023 continued to exhibit reduced price volatility, and electricity prices in the California ISO market were generally within seasonal norms. Natural gas prices recovered somewhat from their seasonal lows in May, when they dropped to the \$2/MMBtu range, and rose into a more typical \$3–4/MMBtu range. CRA energy costs for May 2023 were about \$3 million; the total energy costs to operate the CRA for fiscal year 2022–23 is forecast to be around \$138 million.

Because of system operating conditions focused on refilling water storage and low demands, daily generation output from Metropolitan’s small hydroelectric plants averaged around 10 MW during the month of May, for a total energy output of about 7,200 megawatt-hours (MWh). However, hydroelectric plant output is forecast to trend upwards later in 2023 as demands increase and Metropolitan receives deliveries from the 100 percent SWP allocation. Metropolitan’s solar facilities totaling 5.4 megawatts of capacity generated approximately 1,200 MWh in June 2023.

Staff is in the final stages of upgrading all of the lighting to more modern and energy-efficient equipment at the Weymouth plant. A minor capital project was initiated to upgrade the failing and inefficient lighting system in the south area of the MSU shops. Staff has completed approximately 90 percent of the work and is waiting on contractor-related activities to complete installation of the remaining 12 fixtures. Once completed, the energy used by the system will be reduced by approximately 55 percent while providing an additional 20 percent more illumination for staff. Additionally, the need for maintenance will be reduced over the next 10–15 years.



Staff installing new LED fixtures (left) and the shop facilities with new LED fixtures (right) at the La Verne site

Ensure Water Quality Compliance, Worker Safety, and Environmental Protection

Metropolitan complied with all water quality regulations and primary drinking water standards during May 2023.

This month, Metropolitan celebrated National Safety Month with employees and facilities participating in over 20 events focused on worker safety and accident prevention. Activities included staff recognition and awards, safety-based games with prizes, and equipment vendor displays to update employees on the latest safety industry developments. Celebrating National Safety Month has been a long-standing tradition at Metropolitan that receives enthusiastic participation from employees at all levels.



2022 Safety Award Winners



General Manager Hagekhalil speaking to employees at the Gene Safety Day event

To celebrate National Safety Month and continue to improve employee safety at Headquarters, staff held the following three webinars: Empowered Ergonomics: Simple Solutions to Align Your Home Workstation; Personal Protective Equipment: Prepare to Protect Yourself When Visiting Worksites; and Safety is for Everyone: Information on USHQ HVAC System, COVID-19 Updates and Personal Security.



Flyers on National Safety Month Webinars

On June 8, staff held a Safety Day event at the Jensen plant. The day began with an evacuation drill, followed by presentations from Jensen Safety Committee members and the DEI Team. An outside vendor also conducted training for the new multi-gas meters and IT staff presented an amazing drone demonstration. To cap off the event, the Safety and Regulatory Services Section Manager presented Jensen with an award for Best in Safety Communication.



Jensen plant staff and guests at the safety event



IT's Dave Malloy preparing for the drone demonstration during the safety event at the Jensen plant



An outside vendor providing a training session on the new multi-gas meters during the safety event at the Jensen plant



SRS Field Specialist, Adam Aranda, served as emcee during the safety event at the Jensen plant

Diamond Valley Lake and the Soto Street facility hosted Safety Day events on June 8 and June 15 for National Safety Awareness month. Events included evacuation drills, safety presentation, safety games, giveaways, and lunch for all in attendance.



Safety event at Diamond Valley Lake



Safety event at Soto Street facility



Safety event at the Soto Street facility

On June 22, Water Quality staff received stop-the-bleed and use of automated external defibrillators emergency response training as part of National Safety Month activities. On June 27, staff at the PWSC demonstration plant received training on a personal gas monitoring device, which provides real-time monitoring and notification of potential gas hazards.



Staff learning the correct application of tourniquets during stop-the-bleed training at the Water Quality Lab



Staff receiving training on personal gas monitors at the PWSC demonstration plant

This month, staff published and posted a new Safety Talk on the IntraMet to inform and promote employee safety and regulatory compliance during on-the-job activities. The topic, Desert Emergency Medical Procedures and Services, provides information on how to be prepared for medical emergencies.



Safety Talk on Desert Emergency Medical Procedures

Staff attended the Zero Emission Vehicle Western Truck Exchange (WTE) and met with WTE representatives to explore “Try-Before-You-Buy” opportunities to bring fully electric trucks for short-term operation at prospective Metropolitan locations. The Class 6–7 battery electric truck is being scheduled for trial use at upcoming shutdowns.



Staff meeting with WTE Representatives

Optimize Maintenance

Staff replaced two corrugated metal pipe culverts that cross over San Diego Pipelines 4 and 5 in the city of Fallbrook. These culverts convey nuisance water across each pipeline and have surpassed their useful lifespan. The existing metal culverts were replaced with HDPE corrugated material, which will have a longer life span and not deteriorate.



Staff using an excavator to complete the trench for the culvert along San Diego Pipelines 4 and 5

Desert staff process base material from existing stockpiles. This process separates material into different sized aggregate for a variety of functions. This material is used for road repair, base material for concrete work, fill material, and many other uses.



Staff processing base material through a screening machine for separation into various size aggregate at a Desert facility

Heavy equipment in the Desert Region is subject to extreme elements and conditions. Staff work in shops and in the field to keep equipment operating at peak efficiency. Welding, cutting, tightening, adjusting, and filling are just some of the regular maintenance performed to keep this expensive and capable equipment operational.



Staff welding a dozer arm to repair wear from recent project usage at a Desert facility

Each of the five Desert pumping plants has a battery backup bank, called the station battery, that supports critical equipment during an electrical grid outage. The Desert acquired a mobile battery backup trailer to support the pump plants in the event of a failed station battery. This trailer also has the added benefit of simplifying regular testing and maintenance. Minor modifications had to be made to each facility to accept power from the trailer. Quick disconnects were selected to optimize hookup and disconnect speeds in case of an emergency and to optimize efficiency during normal maintenance.



Staff wiring a direct current quick disconnect to plug in the battery backup trailer at a Desert facility

Staff replaced several critical components on one of the sludge pumps at the Diemer Solids Handling Facility. The new components included bridge breakers, bearings, the variable frequency drive (VFD), and motor. The new VFD is installed at a different location, away from moisture, to improve the longevity of the equipment and ease of maintenance. The sludge pump receives dry solids from the belt press and pumps it to the unloading hopper. The dry solids are then hauled offsite for disposal by a contractor.



New bridge breakers (left) and bearings (right) on the sludge pump at the Diemer plant



New VFD (left) and motor (right) on the sludge pump at the Diemer plant

Staff replaced the nitrogen compressor for the ozone system at the Mills plant. The replacement work was scheduled concurrent with the Ozone PLC Upgrade Project to avoid any additional disruption to the treatment process. This work will result in less energy consumption and lower annual maintenance costs. Over the last five years, the old compressor required an average of 51 hours per year of corrective maintenance.



New apprentice observing electrician removing wiring (de-energized equipment) for compressor replacement at the Mills plant

Staff relocated the Diamond Valley Lake SCADA server to create a physical separation of redundant components, which were formerly located in proximity to one another. This separation increases the reliability of the SCADA system in the event of physical equipment damage that may be caused by fire, water intrusion, etc. to one of the servers. Staff from multiple disciplines worked together to provide uninterruptible back-up electrical power and software testing to ensure that SCADA applications were running correctly.



Staff transporting the SCADA server for installation at DVL

Skinner plant staff are in the process of installing infrared scanning windows to allow the use of thermography equipment as part of its predictive maintenance program. Thermography equipment is used to scan electrical connections. Finding anomalies in temperature, also called hotspots, provides technicians the data needed to address issues ahead of equipment failures.



Staff installing infrared scanning windows onto high-voltage equipment at the Skinner plant

Optimize Water Treatment and Distribution

The target blend entering the Weymouth and Diemer plants was lowered from 80 percent to 60 and 65 percent, respectively, in mid-June to accommodate deliveries to USG-3 from the East Branch State Water Project (SWP). The Mills plant continued to receive a blend of water from Silverwood Lake and Lake Perris in June because of low alkalinity in the East Branch SWP. The SWP target entering Lake Skinner fluctuated to accommodate multiple operational needs and to maximize the delivery of water from the SWP. The SWP blend leaving the lake continued to increase and is expected to reach up to 75 percent over the next few weeks. Chemical dosages were adjusted at Weymouth, Diemer, Mills, and Skinner plants to ensure that water quality objectives continue to be achieved following the blend changes.

Flow-weighted running annual averages for total dissolved solids from May 2022 through April 2023 for Metropolitan's treatment plants capable of receiving a blend of supplies from the SWP and the Colorado River Aqueduct were 568, 580, and 620 mg/L for the Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner plants, respectively.

Staff replaced the flow meters at the ammonia tank farm that are used to ensure the proper feed rate of aqueous ammonia with a chlorine solution that forms chloramines at the Weymouth plant. When injected before ozone, chloramines inhibit the formation of bromate, which is a regulated disinfection byproduct. After installation of the meters, staff properly programmed, calibrated, and verified the flow both locally and remotely via the SCADA system.



Staff installing and verifying ammonia flow meters at the Weymouth plant

Improve Emergency Preparedness and Response

Staff continued emergency response training at multiple levels of Metropolitan. On June 5, Metropolitan's executive management team participated in an Executive Level Incident Command System (ICS) course at the Metropolitan Headquarters Building. This State of California course focused on how local, state, and federal governments work together to respond to emergencies, and the role of senior officials during a response.

On May 31, staff from the Headquarters Incident Command Post (ICP) ran a drill to practice setting up a remote ICP to manage a local emergency response at the Metropolitan Headquarters Building.

On June 12, staff from the Lake Mathews ICP participated in training to review how they would respond to emergency at the Lake Mathews facility. These regular exercises help Metropolitan maintain a state of readiness for future emergencies.

Actively Engage in Capital Project Planning and Execution

On June 15–16, staff participated in workshops with the project design team on the Water Quality building improvement project to review and discuss the initial preliminary design layouts for each section of the building. This project will upgrade the seismic resiliency of this essential facility, improve workflow and space efficiency, and ensure that Metropolitan can comply with future monitoring regulations and fully address new and emerging water quality issues.



Staff during Water Quality Laboratory building improvement workshop

Protect Source Water Quality

On June 9, the California Department of Water Resources treated Lake Perris with copper sulfate to control a bloom of geosmin-producing cyanobacteria. Geosmin is not a regulated constituent but can impart an unpleasant taste and odor leading to potential customer complaints and a reduction in consumer confidence in drinking water. Geosmin quickly dissipated following the treatment.

Prepare for Future Legislation and Regulation

On May 30, Metropolitan submitted a comment letter to the Environmental Protection Agency on its proposed National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) for six PFAS. The rule proposes to set individual maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) at 4.0 parts per trillion (or ng/L) and regulates the remaining four compounds (perfluorononanoic acid [PFNA], hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid [HFPO-DA, commonly known as GenX Chemicals], perfluorohexane sulfonic acid [PFHxS], and perfluorobutane sulfonic acid [PFBS]) as a mixture. While staff supports regulating PFOA and PFOS in drinking water, staff commented that regulating the remaining PFAS is premature as these compounds did not follow the full regulatory process and may have unintended economic impacts. Staff will continue to monitor and engage in EPA's efforts to control PFAS in the environment.

On June 6, staff provided oral testimony to the State Water Resources Control Board regarding the Division of Drinking Water's (DDW's) Drought and Conservation Reporting Order. Staff reiterated that providing volumetric flow and lake elevation data for our main water system, as well as three of our five housing villages, does not provide meaningful information about Metropolitan's drought readiness. Staff will participate in DDW's workshop on July 13 to discuss ways to simplify the reporting requirements and potentially exclude our small systems from the need to report.

Enhance Support Infrastructure at the Desert Facilities

Staff continued construction efforts to improve the Desert facility infrastructure for the residents by constructing carport canopies to protect the residents' vehicles from the intense desert sunlight and heat. Staff completed the work at Gene Camp and continues to progress at the Iron Mountain facility. The work includes concrete footing placement for the canopies needed to anchor the structures and protect them from damage by the frequent wind events experienced at the Desert facilities.

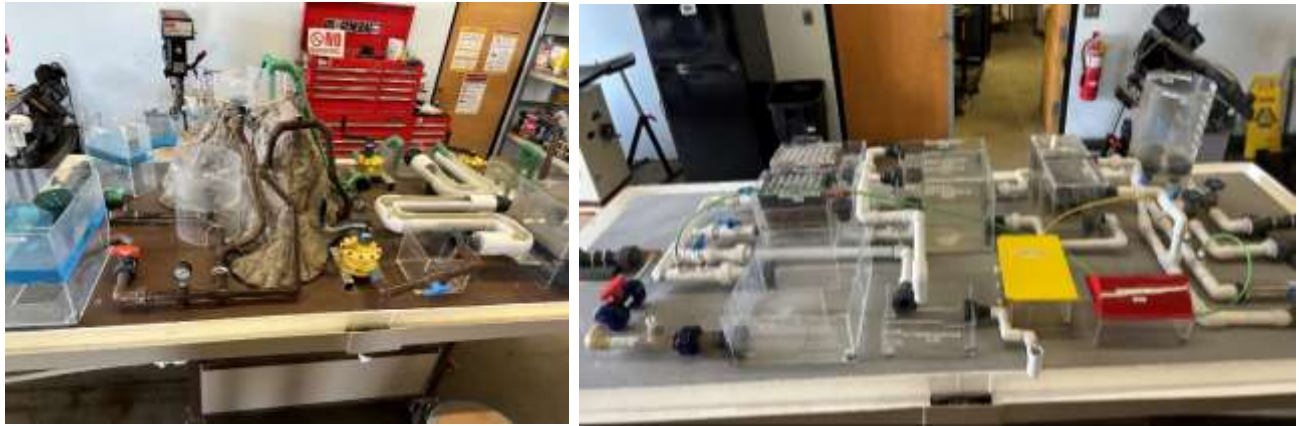


Footing formed to protect utility (left) and staff potholing buried utilities (right) at a Desert housing unit

Advance Education and Outreach Initiatives

The La Verne facility hosted two new employee orientation tours for all employees that report to the facility and had been hired in the last three years. Approximately 50 employees participated and visited the various sites that are located at the plant. The tour was designed to provide new employees with an understanding of how each department is interdependent with the others to provide safe and reliable drinking water to our member agencies.

Staff partnered with the Education Team to exhibit Metropolitan's water model. This model replicates the water system, starting with intake, water treatment process, and finally distribution to the household tap. The model was set up and displayed for Eastern Municipal Water District's Public Relations Department and Hemet Unified School District.



Metropolitan's educational water system model

Support and Engage with Member Agencies on Technical Matters

On June 22, Metropolitan hosted a virtual half-day workshop on nitrification and chloramine disinfection for Member Agency Water Quality Managers with over 130 participants. Key presentations by staff and an external expert included discussions on chloramine chemistry; the microbiology of nitrification; prevention, monitoring, and control of nitrification; and Metropolitan's historical development of chloramine operations.

Monthly Update as of:

6/30/2023

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Current Storage</u>	<u>Percent of Capacity</u>
<i>Colorado River Basin</i>		
Lake Powell	9,574,258	39%
Lake Mead	8,147,980	31%
<i>DWR</i>		
Lake Oroville	3,553,405	100%
Shasta Lake	4,274,570	94%
San Luis Total	2,027,835	100%
San Luis CDWR	1,062,180	100%
Castaic Lake	306,713	95%
Silverwood Lake	69,248	92%
Lake Perris	107,043	81%
<i>MWD</i>		
DVL	602,431	74%
Lake Mathews	167,020	92%
Lake Skinner	37,685	86%



Hoover Dam

Information Technology

Project Highlights

Maintenance Management Updates

Maintenance Management Updates (MMU) Dashboard

Maintenance Management (MM) is the process of managing maintenance resources and practices to ensure that an organization experiences minimal downtime because of equipment failure. Simply put, the goal of an MM program is to achieve more cost-effective reliability through the implementation of better operations and maintenance practices.

There are many approaches to maintenance management, but all strive toward implementing best practices for operations and maintenance activities. Performance measures or benchmarks are also used to assess current maintenance practices and procedures, which helps to identify areas for improvement and to track progress toward achieving goals. Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS) software is often used to assist with MM. Metropolitan uses the Maximo system.

The goal of Metropolitan's Maintenance Management Updates (MMU) Dashboard is to ensure that Metropolitan decision makers and staff at different levels can view and track maintenance activities in a centralized dashboard. The MMU Dashboard can display useful data at multiple levels of management, starting at the Group level with the ability to drill down all the way to the individual team level and vice-versa. This built-in level of flexibility enables a Group, Section, Unit, and Team to review their relevant maintenance metrics and gain a better perspective on how their team is performing.

Benefits of MMU Dashboard:

Collecting data in Excel worksheets from Maximo, developing Excel reports and consolidating these reports to create a Weekly Operations Report had its own challenges in terms of strategic data governance guidelines. These were a few of the shortfalls of such previous practices:

- Excel reports could be changed without audit trails. No data protection to avoid unwanted and/or inadvertent data manipulation.
- The reporting system's reliability was tied directly to MS Office. This software's version changes could adversely affect the system functions and performance.
- The Excel reports were saved on Metropolitan's network in shared folders without a standard process of version control and appropriate file sharing capabilities, thereby contributing to data privacy issues, an imperative shortfall of an effective data governance strategy.

Consistent with Metropolitan Business Intelligence Team's design strategy, CMS employs an appropriate data governance strategy for a compliance lifecycle to ensure that the raw data from the Maintenance Management system that are processed, integrated, and distributed to compliance engineers for inspection are governed properly in a controlled and automated manner. This has its own benefits, such as eliminating reliance on cumbersome Excel processes, thereby establishing enhanced data privacy and protection. The Dashboard is a read-only reporting tool,

and it prevents users from making changes directly to the reports, unlike Excel reports. This helps to ensure that the data changes are made at the data source where audit trails can be captured.

The Dashboard was well received by the Maintenance Management team at Metropolitan. The drill-down, drill-up, and drill-through features provide users whichever view of maintenance operations metrics that they want to see in one centralized dashboard by a well-documented maneuvering runbook.

KPIs used in the MMU Dashboard:

- Compliant and Non-Compliant PM Workorders by different organizations and time intervals.
- PM Compliance percentage by regulatory or regular and by different organizations and time intervals.
- Tabular details via the drill-through feature for all Work Order details and tracking its status
- Backlog of work orders by different organizations and time intervals.
- Wrench Time percentage by different organizations and time intervals.
- Service Connection Meters billing compliance/non-compliance by different organizations and time intervals.
- Trend charts for all the components with drill-down, drill-up features by different organizations and time intervals.

Telecom Network Cost Savings

The Information Technology Network Systems Team in conjunction with our consultants at Procure America recently evaluated our wired and wireless telecom inventories. This study was brought forth by IT Management as a potential cost savings measure. Through an on-going physical assessment of all of Metropolitan's wireline circuits, along with the examination of Metropolitan's 10 separate telecommunications provider billing invoices, the first month has seen a savings of nearly \$125,000. This is a significant portion of the nearly \$3.2 million in annual operating costs. This was accomplished through the disconnection of no longer operating circuits, the restructuring of contracts with non-CalNet 3 providers to match CalNet 3 pricing, the review of misapplied city and county tax ordinances, and price improvement for existing services. The wireless portion of the assessment will produce another potential yearly savings of \$70,000 by restructuring our current billing plans. This pro-active approach pursued by IT staff will prove very beneficial for our ever-expanding network and required network reliability.

Real Property

Highlights

Foster staff training and development.

Completed the following International Right of Way Association courses:

- Specialized Nonresidential Payments. Demonstrates the benefits of certain nonresidential relocation payments and how to facilitate a successful business relocation.
- Introduction to the Income Capitalization Approach. Introduces the income capitalization approach, a method of valuing a property by estimating future cash flows and taking into consideration the time value of money.

Two staff members were each awarded “Young Professional of the Year” by the International Right of Way Association (IRWA) at the chapter and regional level, respectively. This award recognizes IRWA members for their dedication and contributions to the right of way industry, professional development pursuits, and workplace accomplishments.

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

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

An entry permit was issued to Eagle Mountain Elementary School for the use of the swimming pool at the Hinds Pumping Plant Village. The school hosted an end-of-year event for its students at the pool.

The City of Hemet has been granted a permanent easement for flood control purposes. The easement area is a key portion of the City’s proposed Cactus Valley Flood Control Channel.

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

The increasing elevation of Diamond Valley Lake is attracting a greater number of anglers to enjoy a fishing day on the lake. A greater number of largemouth bass have also been observed since the lake level started rising. The higher lake elevation improves access to shoreline fishing and makes accessing the floating boat docks easier.



Lake Skinner hosted the 40th annual Temecula Valley Balloon & Wine Festival at Lake Skinner Regional Park that is operated through Metropolitan's agreement with the Riverside County Regional Park and Open Space District. Over 40,000 people attended the three-day festival that was headlined by top performing artist Brad Paisley and included beer and wine tasting, food vendors, and hot air balloon rides.



District Housing Maintenance and Management.

Storm damage repairs were completed at District Housing located at the Palo Verde Reservoir. A winter storm caused the damage in March of 2023 when several trees were knocked over. One of the trees caused structural damage to the shed which required rebuilding a portion of the floor and roof. It also took out several panels of the vinyl fence which encloses the backyard.





Pre-occupancy repairs were completed on two district houses during this reporting period. Repairs to these houses included paint touchups, minor repairs, and cleaning. Desert housing maintenance staff also completed tenant-requested work orders consisting of air conditioning unit repairs, roof patching, fencing repairs, and repairs to irrigation systems.

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

With the completion of all carport installations at Gene, carport installation efforts have now transitioned to Iron Mountain and Hinds in which excavations for concrete footings have been completed. All concrete for the footings and curbing has been completed at Iron Mountain. Carport assembly at Iron Mountain will begin once the concrete work is completed at Hinds.

The renovation of house 25-I at Iron Mountain is progressing; all insulation installation is completed, and the drywall and cabinetry are currently being installed.



The renovation of house 122-I has begun, as well, in which the new air conditioning/heater has been installed and the exterior of the house has been painted. Waste pipe plumbing is currently being replaced as well as interior plumbing. The patio cover was also replaced and painted.



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

Security

Project Highlights

Security and Emergency Response

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Regional Resiliency Assessment Program (RRAP) addresses potential significant impacts and cascading effects a 7.8-magnitude earthquake would have on the delivery of essential goods and services (e.g., fuel, water infrastructure, electric power infrastructure, communications services, etc.) required to stabilize lifeline services.

Metropolitan staff from Engineering, Business Continuity, Security, and Emergency Management met with and provided CISA with their consolidated input and guidance in shaping CISA's FY2022 Inland Empire Stabilization RRAP. Staff will be assisting CISA in the development of actionable plans, planning factors, and viable alternatives that will assist in stabilizing lifeline services following a major earthquake in our service area, specifically in the Inland Empire region of Southern California.

The project will inform regional stakeholders, including Metropolitan, about the lifeline infrastructure challenges associated with a major earthquake and help us understand the location, acquisition, transportation, and delivery of the equipment and supplies needed to stabilize selected lifeline services specific to drinking water treatment and delivery.



Metropolitan staff partner to develop the CISA Inland Empire Stabilization RRAP

Employee Readiness for All Hazards and Emergencies

Iron Mountain facility management and security staff hosted a Safety Field Day for first responders from San Bernardino County Sheriff and Fire Departments.

Opportunities like this provide invaluable information to first responders including familiarity with:

- Metropolitan's facilities, pumping plant operations, and employee daily life
- Critical infrastructure vulnerabilities
- Security features and key access points
 - Ingress and egress routes for emergency equipment
 - Hazardous material locations
 - Operational key nodes and fire hydrants
 - Other essential safety information

Metropolitan Security, Water System Operations (WSO), External Affairs, Emergency Response, Business Continuity, and Iron Mountain Plant staff will continue to pursue joint emergency exercise partnerships with regional first responders for future mutual learning opportunities.



Metropolitan partners with San Bernardino County's first responders for Safety Field Day at Iron Mountain Pumping Plant

Finance and Administration



Finance

Maintain Strong Financial Position

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

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

The Risk Management Unit completed 45 incident reports communicating instances of Metropolitan property damage, liability, workplace injuries, regulatory visits, and spills.

Risk Management completed 51 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 kickoff meeting for the Inland Empire Stabilization Regional Resiliency Assessment Program (RRAP) project, which will enhance planning and resiliency following a major regional earthquake.
- Met with Water System Operations (WSO) and the MetAlert (emergency notification system) vendor to discuss implementing features that would allow check-in/check-out functionality for employees and other visitors at field locations. This would allow for an accurate accounting of people during an emergency when away from their primary work locations and targeted messaging.
- Moved forward with the review and update process for Operating Policy A06, Business Continuity and Emergency Management.
- Continued collaboration with IT and Cybersecurity to develop cyber resiliency plans for Metropolitan to continue working in the event of a cyber-attack rendering systems and computers unavailable.
- Continued working with the Fusion software vendor to make updates to the guided workflows used by planning coordinators to update their business continuity plans.

Financial Management

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

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

- Water Transactions for May 2023 (for water delivered in March 2023) totaled 61.5 thousand acre-feet (TAF), which was 37.2 TAF lower than the budget of 98.7 TAF and translate to \$59.5 million in receipts for May 2023, which was \$33.8 million lower than the budget of \$93.3 million.
- Year-to-date water transactions through May 2023 (for water delivered in May 2022 through March 2023) totaled 1,310.4 TAF, which was 160.2 TAF lower than the budget of 1,470.6 TAF. Year-to-date water receipts through May 2023 were \$1,247.5 million, which was \$139.9 million lower than the budget of \$1,387.4 million.
- In May 2023, Accounts Payable processed approximately 3,700 vendor invoices for payment.
- In May the Board approved a resolution to continue Metropolitan's Water Standby Charge for fiscal year 2023/24.

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

On June 21, 2023, Metropolitan issued the \$258,410,000, Water Revenue and Refunding Bonds, 2023 Series A. The bond pricing, held on June 6, 2023, was a tremendous success. Bond orders from 49 institutional investors totaled \$874 million, or 3.3 times the amount of bonds sold. Bond proceeds will be used to fund a portion of Metropolitan's Capital Investment Plan and to refund a short-term note that was issued to prepay approximately \$35 million of subordinate lien revenue bonds. Siebert Williams Shank & Co., LLC was the senior manager on the transaction, with Ramirez & Co., Inc., as co-senior manager, and Barclays and Cabrera Capital Markets LLC, as co-managers.

S&P and Moody's affirmed ratings of AAA/stable and Aa1/stable, respectively for Metropolitan's recent bond transaction. These ratings reflect the continued strength of Metropolitan's underlying financials and reflect investor confidence in our comprehensive long-term strategy for sound operational and financial management. These high credit ratings position Metropolitan favorably for future business activities and investments and support the credit ratings of our member agencies.

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

As of May 31, 2023, Metropolitan's investment portfolio balance was \$1.3 billion; in May 2023, Metropolitan's portfolio managers executed 19 trades.

In May 2023, Treasury staff processed 1,033 disbursements by check, 21 disbursements by Automated Clearing House (ACH), and 113 disbursements by wire transfer. Treasury staff also processed 71 receipts by check, 51 receipts by ACH, and 51 receipts by incoming wires and bank transfers.

In addition, there were 9,851 P-One Card transactions, totaling \$1.6 million, recorded in the May bank statement.

Human Resources

HR Priorities

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

In June, 297 Metropolitan employees attended virtually facilitated classes, including MS Project, Contract Administration, Interviewing Skills, Project Management, Franklin Covey 7 Habits, Time Management, and Effective Communication Skills.

LinkedIn Learning, Metropolitan's online e-learning content platform, was accessed for such topics as Cybersecurity at Work, Construction Management, Compassionate Directness, Communicating with Empathy, Ethics in the Age of Generative A.I., Leading with Innovation, and Technical Writing.

The Organizational Development & Training Unit (OD&T) hosted an in-person training for the Engineering Services Design Section on Communication Skills.

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

Recruitment successfully filled 37 positions for June. Recruitment received new staffing requisitions for 23 positions, resulting in 207 positions currently in recruitment.

HR Core Business: Provide Excellent Human Resources Services

Objective #1: Administer all HR services with efficiency and a focus on customer service excellence, consistency, and flexibility.

The Business Support Team planned, organized, and coordinated a "Mind & Body Emotional Well-Being" wellness webinar. The live webcast was held on June 28, 2023, and hosted by Kaiser Permanente. The webinar invited employees to learn strategies to help with emotions and identified self-care practices for managing mood and stress in a positive way. Employees were also invited to create a realistic plan and use personal strengths to improve their emotional well-being.

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 June, seven new workers' compensation claims were received. Four employees are currently off work because of an industrial injury or illness, and two employees have returned to work. This reflects Metropolitan's effort to accommodate injured workers, while enabling them to be productive and on the job. Staff continues to address four accommodations both in house and with Shaw HR Consulting.

Staff continues to work closely with our Workers' Compensation Third-Party Administrator, TRISTAR Risk Management.

Finance and Administration

(continued)

HR Metrics	June 2022	June 2023	Prior Month May 2023
Headcount			
Regular Employees	1,762	1779	1,770
Temporary Employees	37	25	17
Interns	2	0	0
Recurrents	18	18	18
Annuitants	19	24	24

	June 2023	May 2023
Number of Recruitments in Progress (Includes Temps and Intern positions)	207	221
Number of New Staffing Requisitions	23	47
	June 2023	May 2023
Number of Job Audit Requests in Progress	6	7
Number of Completed/Closed Job Audits	1	2
Number of New Job Audit Requests	0	0

Transactions Current Month and Fiscal YTD (includes current month)			
<u>External Hires</u>	<u>FY 21/22 Totals</u>	<u>June 2023</u>	<u>FISCAL YTD</u>
Regular Employees	82	14	116
Temporary Employees	36	14	36
Interns	4	0	0
Internal Promotions	70	5	72
Management Requested Promotions	152	7	149
Retirements/Separations (regular employees)	127	5	98
Employee-Requested Transfers	15	4	19

Departures

Last	First Name	Classification	Eff Date	Reason	Group
Ajoc	Raymundo	Wtr Treatment Plant Specialist	4/28/2023	Retirement—Service	WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS GROUP
Lin	Tzyhmin	Sr Engineering Technician	4/28/2023	Retirement—Service	ENGINEERING SERVICES GROUP
Cardona	Rebecca	Training Administrator	5/2/2023	Retirement—Service	HUMAN RESOURCES GROUP
Marquez	Alex	Accounts Payable Administrator	5/13/2023	Retirement—Service	FINANCE GROUP
Mantel	Russell	Wtr Trtment Plant Operator III	5/2/2023	Retirement—Service	WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS GROUP

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Tribal Outreach & Engagement

From June 11 to 13, DEI staff attended the American Water Works Association (AWWA) annual ACE 23 Conference. Staff was invited to participate in an inaugural panel discussion “Indigenous voices and First Nations Water Rights.” The panel included a traditional First Nations Anishinaabe water ceremony and ancient Lakota water teachings. Staff conversed with world-renowned 18-year-old Autumn Peltier, dubbed the “Water Walker,” who spoke in front of the United Nations Council on behalf of Indigenous peoples’ water rights. Dr. Dawn Martin Hill of McMaster University was also a panel participant. The panel conversation included preservation of water rights, water quality improvement, and water workforce development for indigenous people. The session was attended by 200 event participants.



Business Outreach & Community Engagement

On June 2, in partnership with Legislative Affairs, Business Outreach Staff attended the San Fernando Valley United Chamber of Commerce’s Small Awards Business Breakfast. About 200 businesses attended the event.

On June 6, Metropolitan hosted the Asian American Architects and Engineers (AAa/e) Annual Scholarship event held in the courtyard patio. The AAa/e is committed to empowering AEC (architecture, engineering, and construction) students and professionals in personal development, networking, and scholarship opportunities. Featured speakers included John Bednarski, Metropolitan Chief Engineer; Tim Lindholm, L.A. Metro Deputy Chief Program Management Officer; Bea Hsu, Brookfield Properties Executive Vice President Development; Nazanin Zarkesh, Universal Creative at NBCUniversal Director of Facility Design; and Peter Otoshi, Biola University 2022 AAa/e Undergraduate Scholarship Recipient.



On June 20, Business Outreach Staff attended the Conversation with LGBTQ Business Community—Breaking Bias sponsored by the Women Business Enterprise Council—West. About 100 businesses attended the event.

On June 21, Business Outreach Staff participated in a panel presentation at the Construction, Conversation & Cocktails. The event was sponsored by The Veterans In Business (VIB) Network. Over 100 businesses attended the event.

Finance and Administration

(continued)



On June 21, Business Outreach Staff participated as an exhibitor at the Filipino American Chamber of Commerce of Orange County Go Green Health & Expo at the Irvine Valley College in Irvine California. The annual Go Green Health & Expo is the largest and most heavily attended of FACCO's signature events. Businesses hailing from the "green" space—eco-friendly, conservation-focused, sustainability-conscious businesses—take center stage at this event. Additional participating businesses are those support businesses that provide operational support services, or even big businesses that want to exhibit the eco-friendly efforts their companies have enacted.



Finance and Administration

(continued)

On June 22, Business Outreach Staff participated in a panel presentation at the National Association of Minority Contractors—SoCal Business Mixer. Over 20 businesses attended the event.



On June 28, Business Outreach staff participated in the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce 2023 Small Business Summit. The Chamber Foundation advocates for the region’s small business resiliency, which fuels L.A. and helps shape every sector of our economy. Small Business Summit is just one way we empower and support our region’s innovators and job creators. Small Business Summit featured informative sessions and an Exhibit Pavilion offered by the Chamber and our community partners across the L.A. region designed to provide the resources, tools, and inspiration to help entrepreneurs grow and thrive.





External Affairs

Highlights

Metropolitan and GM Hagekhalil were honored by the LA Conservation Corps with the Climate Resiliency Public Partner Award for long-term support of workforce development and sustainability projects. Vice Chair Reppenning and Directors Luna and McMillan attended. (June 1)

GM Hagekhalil was the keynote speaker for the Greater Riverside Chamber of Commerce “Good Morning Riverside” event and provided an update on water supply conditions and the Colorado River. (June 8)



MWD receives LA Conservation Corps Public Partner Award



GM Hagekhalil at Greater Riverside Chamber of Commerce event

Metropolitan hosted a Colorado River inspection trip for Water Education for Latino Leaders (WELL) and local elected officials. Chair Ortega, GM Hagekhalil, and Metropolitan staff met with the group and provided presentations on key issues. (June 3-4)

Chair Ortega spoke at the Sonoran Institute’s Growing Water Smart California workshop. (June 12)

GM Hagekhalil was the keynote speaker for the Next Generation Water Summit on water reuse and conservation. (June 15)

Directors Luna, Sutley, Cordero, and Ramos attended the 10th anniversary celebration of WELL. (June 17)

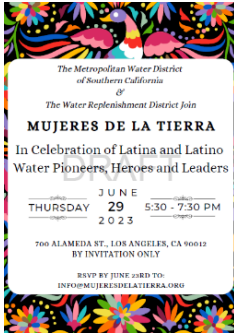
GM Hagekhalil spoke as part of the HDR One Water Roundtable webinar on the top One Water Drivers facing water agencies. (June 21)

Metropolitan sponsored, Chair Ortega was a featured speaker at, and Directors Goldberg, Luna, and Garza, and GM Hagekhalil attended the Groundwater Resources Association Law and Legislation Forum. (June 21)



Metropolitan hosted a Colorado River inspection trip for WELL leaders (left) Current and former directors attended WELL’s 10th anniversary event.

Metropolitan sponsored and Directors Ackerman, Dennstedt, Dick, Erdman, Jung, Lefevre, Seckel, and staff attended the Municipal Water District of Orange County's Water Policy Forum & Dinner with featured guest Ed Ring of the California Policy Center. (June 22)



GM Hagekhalil provided the keynote address at the Three Valleys Municipal Water District Leadership Breakfast and spoke to local government representatives, chambers, and regional water agencies about Pure Water Southern California and long-term water challenges for the region. (June 29)

Metropolitan hosted a reception for Mujeres De la Tierra honoring many Latino water leaders including Rep. Napolitano, former GM Gastelum, Chair Ortega, Directors Chacon, Garza and Luna, State Water Board Chair Esquivel, and US EPA Regional Administrator Guzman. (June 29)

Legislative Services

Federal

Metropolitan staff advocated for increased federal investments in water infrastructure funding as part of the FY 2024 appropriations bills and to ensure funding for water programs as part of the federal budget.

Provided GM Hagekhalil quote for Senator Feinstein's press release on the re-introduction of the Canal Conveyance Capacity Restoration Act.

State

Metropolitan staff is monitoring legislation to promote water conservation and turf removal, extend opportunities to use progressive design build on water infrastructure projects, and modernize water rights. Governor Newsom introduced a package of budget trailer bills focused on streamlining water, transportation, and energy infrastructure projects.

Working with the author's office and co-sponsors, Metropolitan secured amendments to remove multifamily properties from the requirements of AB 1572 (Friedman) which prohibits using drinking/potable water to irrigate non-functional turf on commercial and industrial properties. With these amendments, Metropolitan became a co-sponsor of the bill. Metropolitan is also supporting AB 1573 (Friedman) to prohibit installation of turf in commercial and industrial properties and require use of native plants for landscaping.

Metropolitan's board voted to support, if amended, two proposed bond measures—Assembly Bill 1567 (Garcia) and Senate Bill 867 (Allen)—to fund projects to make California more climate resilient in addressing wildfire, drought, flood, extreme heat, coastal resilience, clean energy, and workforce development.

Metropolitan is advocating for a budget funding and securing additional support for \$50 million dollars for projects to move more water resources to State Water Project-dependent areas in Metropolitan's service area.

Other priority legislative measures include:

- AB 460 (Bauer-Kahan), AB 1337 (Wicks), and SB 389 (Allen) to make changes to the water rights system
- SB 366 (Caballero) to set new 2050 water supply targets

- SB 659 (Ashby) to create the California Water Supply Solutions Act to achieve an increase of 10 million acre-feet of annual groundwater recharge by the end of 2035.

Local

Metropolitan staff made a presentation to the Montclair city council on SWP and Colorado River supply conditions and efforts to further enhance service area resiliency. (June 5)

Chair Ortega participated in a virtual meet-and-greet with members of the Los Angeles County Business Federation (BizFed) to discuss current water issues. (June 20)

Metropolitan sponsored the Western Riverside Council of Governments' annual General Assembly attended by 700 Riverside County business, community, and elected leaders. (June 29)

Metropolitan staff presented, monitored, and/or participated in 69 webinars, virtual meetings, and events this month with community organizations, trade associations, and local officials on water-specific topics.

Media and Communications

- Arranged for day-in-the-life profile of GM Hagekhalil by LA Times reporter Ian James.
- Coordinated an interview between CBN News reporter Caitlin Burke and GM Hagekhalil regarding announcement of Lower Basin Plan for Colorado River.
- Set-up an interview for LA Times reporter Hayley Smith and GM Hagekhalil regarding the future of water in Los Angeles as part of the paper's LA2050 project.
- Coordinated an interview between Chair Ortega and Voice of San Diego reporter Mackenzie Elmer regarding LAFCO action on Rainbow and Fallbrook water agencies.
- Arranged an interview with the San Fernando Sun and Chairman Ortega for story published on the first day of summer.
- Coordinated with DWR on public messaging for planned drawdown of Lake Perris water levels to address drinking water quality issues.



Press Releases

- Received \$38 million in state funding for Southern California water efficiency programs.
- Public attitude survey showing water quality, availability, and cost among top concerns for Southern Californians.
- Co-sponsored state legislation to prohibit businesses and institutions from using drinking water to irrigate decorative or non-functional lawns.
- Maintained high ratings from three bond rating agencies.

Website

Upgraded content management system to comply with district's high information security standards.

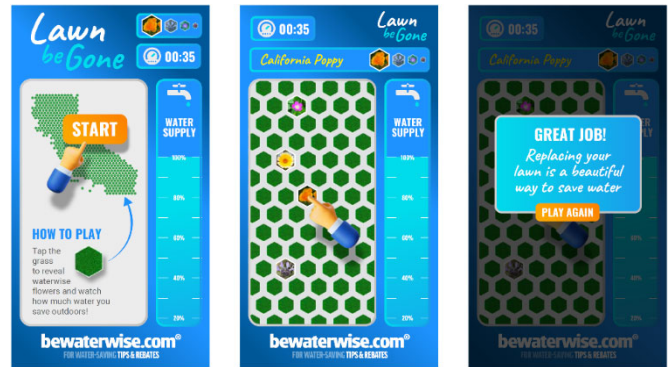
Received nearly 67,000 views on mwdh2o.com, with careers, job listings and Board of Directors pages among the most visited. Logged more than 100,000 page views on bewaterwise.com.

Creative Design

Completed Water Efficient Landscape Dual Certification Program video for landscape professionals. Spanish version is in production.

Produced more than 2,000 creative assets for the water conservation summer advertising and outreach campaign in six languages for placement on digital billboards, transit shelters, in-language community newspapers, and social media.

Designed a new video game called "Lawn Be Gone," promoting water conservation and turf replacement.



New water conservation-themed video game designed by Metropolitan

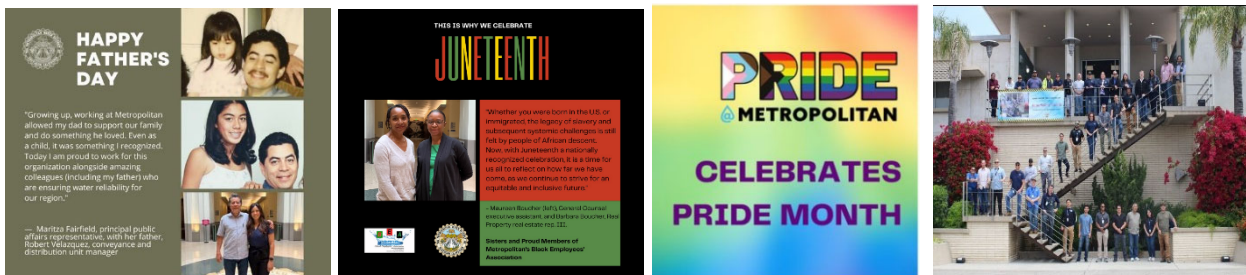
Social Media

Reached nearly 14 million people with more than 30 million impressions and 220,000 click-throughs in response to the conservation advertising campaign.

Received the year's highest engagement on Facebook for social media influencer campaign spots in Spanish featuring actor Fred Armisen.

Featured World Environment Day (June 5) for the first time by highlighting some of the threatened and endangered species protected by Metropolitan's reserves and habitats.

Posts this month featured sisters Maureen and Barbara Boucher (Legal and Real Property) on the importance of Juneteenth; Maritza Fairfield talked about her father Robert Velazquez (EA and WSO) for Father's Day; the employee resource group, Pride @ Metropolitan; and photos from district-wide Safety Day/Sustainability Fairs to recognize National Safety Month.



Highest performing social media posts featured Metropolitan employees on Father's Day, Juneteenth, Pride Month and Safety Fairs.

Public Outreach and Member Services

Pure Water Southern California

Demonstration Plant tours with Walnut Valley Water District (June 1), general public (June 3), LA County Public Health (June 13), Job Corps (June 14), Carson Chamber of Commerce (June 15), Technology Approval Group (June 27), Assemblymember Gipson's staff (June 29), and part of LACSD's press event with US EPA officials (June 30)

Meetings with Cal Pacific Land Services/Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority (June 2), Port of Long Beach (June 7), and City of Downey (June 12)

Hosted information booths at Whittier Farmer’s Market (June 16), Carson’s Juneteenth event (June 17), and Lakewood Concert in the Park (June 29)

Director Fellow, Upper San Gabriel Valley GM Love, and Metropolitan staff participated in the Pure Water Bike Ride with Active SGV which followed part of the project’s alignment and provided participants with information about the project and local water supply issues. (June 10)



The second Pure Water Bike Ride, sponsored by Active San Gabriel, attracted more than 70 riders including Director Fellow and Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD GM Love.

Other Outreach Activities

- Notified residents of potential impacts of construction for Second Lower Feeder Reach 3B. (June 1)
- Met with member agency managers to discuss water management, development of the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water, and current legislation. (June 2 and June 30)
- Met with Getty Center officials regarding potential impacts from the future Sepulveda Feeder PCCP Relining project. (June 12)
- Met with Brentwood Community Council on the upcoming Sepulveda Feeder Urgent Repair. (June 14)
- Met with residents to discuss activities for the future Sepulveda Feeder Relining project. (June 20)
- Notified residents on progress of Etiwanda Feeder and accelerated schedule. (June 2 and June 22)
- Provided five director inspection trips to Hoover Dam and the Colorado River, State Water Project, and regional water infrastructure. Also provided an inspection trip to Skinner Water Treatment Plant and Diamond Valley Lake for the University of La Verne’s REACH program for first generation college students.
- Hosted a delegation from South Korea with GM Hagekhalil and Director Jung. (June 28)

Education and Community Relations



Water is Life Student Art Display

During the 2022–23 school year, Metropolitan staff interacted with more than 20,000 teachers, students, and adults through in-person and online field trips, community events, meetings, and customized ZOOM class presentations.

The 2023 Water is Life Poster Contest art pieces were displayed at Cucamonga Valley Water District and MWDOC offices.

Community Partnering and Sponsorship Program

Sponsored the following Community Outreach events:

- Andres Y Maria Cardenas Family Foundation event (June 3)
- National Assoc of Women in Construction Camp (June 19-23)
- Coalition for Clean Air Awards (June 30)

The Community Partnering Program supported four educational projects to promote water conservation with Hands 4 Hope summer camp program, Friends of the Bernard Biological Station, Environmental Nature Center, and San Diego Children’s Discovery Museum.

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation



Sustainability, Resilience, Innovation and Environmental Planning

SRI Core Activities

General Manager's Environmental Listening Session

This month the General Manager and the Chief of SRI Officer introduced Metropolitan's Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W) to the region's environmental leaders. CAMP4W integrates Metropolitan's planning efforts on reliability, resilience, financial sustainability and affordability to ensure the continued delivery of reliable, high-quality water for generations to come. Staff reported on feedback and progress made from the previous February Environmental Listening Session as well as solicited input on the ongoing CAMP4W process. Metropolitan is committed to robust community and public engagement as our board, staff, and member agencies consider the pathways to a more equitable and resilient water future.

Member Agency Managers Monthly Meeting and Workshop

The Chief of Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation (SRI) Officer discussed the results of the first Member Agency Questionnaire associated with Metropolitan's CAMP4W at the Member Agency Manager Monthly meeting. The questionnaire surveyed agencies' definitions of reliability, resilience, financial sustainability, and affordability to come to a mutual understanding of the parameters that will guide the CAMP4W process. It was clear from the monthly meeting that member agencies desired more engagement on the CAMP4W, which leads to the scheduling of monthly Member Agency CAMP4W workshops. The June workshop previewed issues to be discussed at the CAMP4W Board Workshop including the IRP Needs Assessment and public engagement.

Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W): Member Agency Alignment and Gap Analysis Board Workshop

The Chief of SRI Officer helped lead and presented at the second CAMP4W Board Workshop: Member Agency Alignment and Gap Analysis. This meeting discussed the Draft CAMP4W Timeline and Framework integrating the Board's planning, policy and technical input, member agency manager involvement, and public engagement. WRM staff presented the IRP Needs Assessment to define the range of water supply needs for potential climate change scenarios and as a tool for evaluating water supply and storage solutions. The workshop's goal was to increase alignment of member agencies through the understanding of the Needs Assessment finding and through discussions draft CAMP4W Guiding Themes.

Sustainability Expo Roadshow

The Office of Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation was invited to bring the Sustainability Expo Roadshow in Metropolitan's District Safety Fairs during June and July that were hosted at Lake Mathews (6/1), Intake/Gene (6/7), Iron Mountain (6/14), Eagle Mountain (6/21), Diemer (6/28) and Jensen (7/10). Chief SRI Officer and staff presented SRI initiatives and Climate Adaptation Master Plan at the facilities. SRI staff listened and asked how SRI could add value to their facilities. Every site is different and unique.

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

(continued)



Sustainability Expo Roadshow at Lake Mathews



Sustainability Expo Roadshow at Iron Mountain

ZEV Consultant and Roadmap

SRI and the ZEV Project Team, composed of cross-organizational work groups and stakeholders, completed interviews with Gladstein, Neondross, and Associates (GNA), the consultant hired to assist Metropolitan’s transition to zero emission vehicles. GNA will use the information gathered in the 11 interviews to develop a ZEV transition roadmap and implementation plan; the roadmap’s scheduled completion date is August.

ZEV Executive Task Force SharePoint Site

SRI created a new SharePoint site ([Zero Emission Vehicle Executive Task Force \(sharepoint.com\)](https://sharepoint.com)) to share information on the progress of the ZEV Work Groups and ZEV Project Team as they navigate Metropolitan’s transition to electric vehicles and equipment.

Electric Vehicle Demos

SRI worked with WSO and a transportation company for demos and ride-and-drives of a battery-electric cargo van and large truck at Lake Mathews on June 1. WSO employees were able to drive each vehicle and ask the vendor questions about vehicle capabilities and uses.



WSO Construction Services Unit staff preparing to drive a battery-electric truck and cargo van at Lake Mathews

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(continued)

Green Procurement

SRI Office resumed work on sustainable procurement policies; it had been on hold because Procurement was conducting end of fiscal year activities.

Innovation

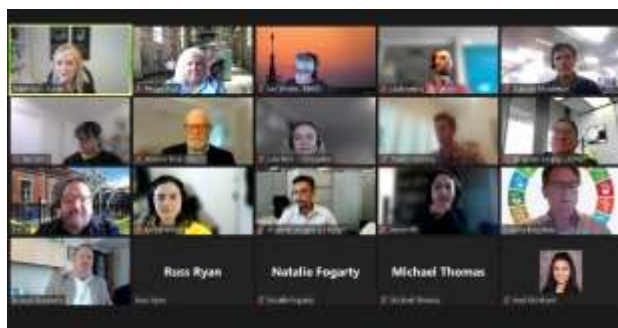
Innovation, Pilots, and Emerging Technologies

Olympics Peer 2 Peer Partnership with WaterStart, Metropolitan Water District, Paris Olympics, Los Angeles Olympics, Australian Olympics with Lessons Learned from Brazil and Japan Olympics

Metropolitan’s SRI Innovation, Water Quality, Water Resources Management, Safety, Engineering, Operations, IT, and Bay Delta Teams continued our Olympics Peer 2 Peer Workshops with WaterStart and peer groups from Australia, Paris, LADWP, Los Angeles, Japan, and Brazil on June 15. Our second meeting included a presentation by Duncan Middleton from SEQ Water in Australia on *Water Quality Monitoring and Tools Used for The Commonwealth Games*. Duncan’s in-depth presentation generated much discussion about preparations needed for the Olympics and events like the Super Bowl and the Commonwealth Games. Many areas were covered, and all groups shared new technologies being used, critical needs such as rapid bacterial testing, pilots being tested, and ideas for securing our water for future events.



Workshop #2-
Water Quality Monitoring,
cont.



Hybrid Water TAG 34 + NorCal TAG 31 Technology Approval Group (TAG) and Pure Water Tour

On June 27–28, Metropolitan’s SRI team held our Hybrid Water TAG 34 + NorCal TAG 31 Technology Approval Group (TAG) and Pure Water Tour at Metropolitan with over 60 attendees. The Chief SRI Officer welcomed the group. Technology Approval Group (TAG) is an innovation forum of the world’s leading end-users. Attendees included Metropolitan staff, Isle Technologies, technology presenters, Northern California Water Agencies, Metropolitan Member Agencies and Sub Agencies, Denver Water, LADWP, Albuquerque Water, Tucson Water, City of Santa Barbara, and Southern Nevada Water Authority, etc. The TAG model was first launched in the UK in 2005 and is led by Isle US. TAG accelerates the market uptake of “step-change” technologies by engaging the industry during the pre-commercial stages of development and by leveraging external investment from venture capital investors. Isle US

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

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currently operates in eight regions across the country. The group shared technology implementation successes and failures and evaluated technology presentations on smart pigging, an inline inspection tool for force mains and pressurized water and wastewater pipelines; filter-less, low-tech, continuous microplastic removal process; distributed acoustics for leak and intrusion monitoring: monitoring water pipelines with fiber optic cables that can be installed without disrupting operations; COSMIC RAY TECHNOLOGY: pre-localization of water leaks through detection of neutrons; and a highly accurate and stable augmented reality solution for fieldwork and asset management.

A practical example of how data collection works

Here you can see a practical example of how the tool works.



The research method is based on an appropriate detector that counts cosmic rays in a certain energy band. The tool records all the data received, crossed with GPS position and the collected data are constantly sent to the server for the real time elaboration.

Achievement Rewards for College Scientists (ARCS) Foundation Scholars Event

SRI Innovation, Engineering, Operations, and LADWP WIT Teams participated in a University Research and Scholar event with Achievement Rewards for College Scientists (ARCS) Foundation. ARCS is a national nonprofit volunteer women's organization that promotes US competitiveness by providing financial awards to academically outstanding scholars studying to complete degrees in science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), and health disciplines at 49 of the nation's leading research universities. Over 80 people attended the event in Los Angeles.

Environmental Planning Section

Core Business: Environmental Planning and Regulatory Compliance Support

Bay Delta Initiatives

Delta Conveyance Project

- Continued supporting preparation of the responses to comments for the draft environmental impact report (EIR) for cultural resources and tribal cultural resources impact categories on behalf of Public Water Agencies.

Delta Smelt Preservation and Native Species Preservation Project

- Completed responses to comments and the mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP) and finalized the mitigated negative declaration (MND) for the project; the MND was adopted by the Board of Directors on June 13, 2023.

Webb Tract Multi-Benefit Mosaic Landscape Project

- Conducted kick-off meeting at Webb Tract with Bay Delta Initiatives staff and consulting biologists to initiate early spring surveys in support of environmental document preparation upon project funding.

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

(continued)



Ferry for access to Webb Tract



Site conditions at Webb Tract



Pumping facility at Webb Tract

Engineering Services Group

Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP) Rehabilitation Program

- Continued construction monitoring and mitigation compliance for the PCCP Lake Mathews Valve Storage Project and Second Lower Feeder Reaches 3A and 3B.
- Completed signoff of final specifications and drawings for the PCCP Sepulveda Feeder Urgent Carbon Fiber Rehabilitation Project.

Perris Valley Pipeline Project

- Continued oversight of project construction monitoring and mitigation compliance.



Construction contractor placing a liner for soil storage for Perris Valley Pipeline Project



Granular activated carbon (GAC) treatment plant to filter groundwater for Perris Valley Pipeline Project

Pure Water Southern California

- Participated in a second tribal consultation meeting with the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation.
- Initiated preparation of the project description for the draft EIR.
- Continued revising draft technical reports and biological surveys to capture alignment modifications in support of the draft EIR.

Weymouth Water Treatment Plant and La Verne Site Improvements Program

- Continued preparation of the administrative draft program EIR.
- Finalized the cultural resources, noise, traffic, and site access technical reports.

Construction Monitoring

- Continued construction monitoring for Etiwanda Pipeline Relining, Orange County Feeder Relining Reach 3, Weymouth Basins 5–8 Rehabilitation, La Verne Shops Upgrades, Foothill Hydroelectric Seismic Upgrades, and Weymouth Battery Energy Storage System projects.

External Affairs Group

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

Sustainability, Resiliency, and Innovation Office

- Continued assisting in Scope 3 emissions data collection efforts in support of the Climate Action Plan (CAP) monitoring and reporting, which includes development and implementation of the contractor’s construction emission log, development of the employee commute survey and net zero waste policies, and implementation of LED lighting inventory measures.

Water System Operations Group

- Provided environmental analysis and clearance for maintenance activities along 30 miles of the Rialto Feeder patrol road.
- Provided biweekly bird surveys at Jensen Plant filtration basins to ensure compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Fish and Game Code in support of operational activities.

Reserve Management

Lake Mathews Multiple Species Reserve

- Coordinated with CALFIRE for prescribed burns within the reserve north of Lake Mathews in late June.
- Completed installation of fencing along Harley John Road to prevent trespassing on the reserve.
- Mowed grassland habitat for fire and habitat management within the reserve south of Cajalco Road.
- Continued California gnatcatcher surveys on the reserve south of Cajalco Road.

Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve

- The Reserve Management Committee approved the Annual Work Plan and Annual Operating Budget for FY 23/24 reserve management activities.
- Coordinated with CALFIRE for a prescribed burn south of Lake Skinner in late June.
- Conducted mowing and weed whipping for fire and habitat management along Reserve internal roads and the Lake Skinner entrance road and conducted invasive plant species removal for habitat management.
- Researchers continued white-tailed kite, cactus wren, Stephens’ kangaroo rat, and riparian bird surveys.
- The Alamos Schoolhouse interpretive center hosted approximately 200 visitors over the last month.
- Hosted a public outreach event, with state and federal wildlife agency staff providing education booths.
- Maintained brown-headed cowbird traps, bringing a total number of birds that have been captured to date for the year to 38. The brown-headed cowbird is a brood parasite that lays its eggs in the nests of other birds such as native and endangered bird species.

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

(continued)



State and Federal Wildlife Agency Staff Booths at the Nature Fest Public Outreach Event at the Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve

External Document Reviews

- Reviewed 21 CEQA notices for external projects and prepared comment letters for those that may affect Metropolitan facilities and/or operations.

Real Property Support

- Provided CEQA analysis in support of two real property agreements and in support of a Calleguas Municipal Water District annexation project.



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

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