



## ***One Water and Adaptation Committee***

3/9/2026 Committee Meeting

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### **Subject**

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Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water Quarterly Update

### **Executive Summary**

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The Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W) team made progress this quarter on testing and refining the Decision-Making Framework and underlying assumptions and on several other climate adaptation initiatives including the Fire Risk Management Plan and Community Engagement Standards. Progress is detailed below.

#### **CAMP4W Assessments**

As an initial step in implementing CAMP4W, staff conducted individual project assessments using the CAMP4W Decision-Making Framework as a first comprehensive test of the evaluation process across all criteria. These assessments involved collaboration across multiple departments to evaluate projects through the lenses of water supply reliability, system flexibility, equity, environmental co-benefits, financial considerations, and implementation feasibility. This cross-functional effort provided valuable insight into both the strengths of individual projects and the practical application of the framework itself.

In parallel, WRM updated the 2020 IRP underlying assumptions to ensure reliability analyses reflect current information and system conditions. The resulting revised Needs Assessment baselines focus on Scenarios C and D, which reflect the higher climate change impacts associated with RCP 8.5 and are consistent with prior Board direction to evaluate more severe hydrologic futures. These updated baselines incorporate revised demand projections, local supply and imported supply outlooks, storage levels, and system flexibility and demand management measures.

Using the revised Scenario C and D baselines, WRM evaluated two representative project portfolios under both expected project start dates and a “fully built” condition to assess near-term risks and long-term reliability value. The modeling demonstrated that, while portfolios reduce the severity and frequency of shortages by shifting impacts into more manageable ranges, shortages persist, underscoring the continued need for additional core supplies, storage investments, and demand management actions. At the same time, the analysis identifies increasing volumes of unmanaged surplus water under some conditions, reinforcing the importance of aligning future storage and operational strategies with supply investments. Together, this work advances both the individual and portfolio-level analyses under CAMP4W and provides a clearer understanding of trade-offs, risk exposure, and policy considerations for the Board’s ongoing deliberations.

#### **CAMP4W Project and Portfolio Assessments**

Since the approval of the CAMP4W Five-Year Implementation Strategy, staff has focused on the use and refinement of the CAMP4W Decision-Making Framework and Assessment Form. Specifically, the CAMP4W team has conducted the following CAMP4W Assessments:

Date of Report: March 9, 2026

### **Individual Project Assessments**

- 1) Pure Water Southern California (45 MGD stage, 75 MGD stage, 150 MGD project)
- 2) Sites Reservoir
- 3) Delta Conveyance Project

### **Portfolio Assessments**

- 4) Major Projects Portfolio (modeled for reliability benefits and potential rate impacts)
  - a. Pure Water Southern California (150 MGD project), Sites Reservoir, Delta Conveyance Project, AVEK Expansion, South of Delta Storage
- 5) Sequence 1
  - a. Enhanced Conservation Program, Sepulveda Pump Stage 2, Groundwater Augmentation, Pure Water Southern California (45 MGD), Regional Conveyance
- 6) Sequence 2
  - a. In Delta Investments, AVEK Expansion, South of Delta Storage Reservoir, Sites Reservoir, Delta Conveyance Project

To complete analyses for Sequences 1 and 2, staff also compiled significant information for all the projects listed to inform the portfolio analysis. The assessment and management teams overseeing the CAMP4W process have evaluated these efforts, and some of the most significant lessons learned and takeaways are listed below.

### **CAMP4W Individual Project Assessments: Lessons Learned**

- The Decision-Making Framework and evaluative criteria work well for individual projects. Assessments demonstrate the strong points of each project as well as areas for improvement. The comprehensiveness of the form is useful in communicating a project's values in each of the six criteria categories.
- Delineation between the project lead and the assessment team in conducting the assessment is important. To ensure an objective and standardized approach, it is important to have the assessment team of subject matter experts conduct each assessment.
- Assessment forms could be simplified to improve readability and standardization. The team is working on refinements that help with the digestibility of the information without compromising the quality of the assessment or oversimplifying the complexity of the opportunities or challenges.
- It is difficult to compare different project types and projects in different stages of development. For example, core water supply projects and system flexibility projects yield distinct benefits and can pose significantly different challenges. It is important to evaluate investments in the context of the specific risk it mitigates and time-bound target/s it advances.

### **CAMP4W Portfolio Assessments: Lessons Learned**

- The Decision-Making Framework is difficult to apply to a portfolio of projects under some criteria. Some aspects of a group of projects can be aggregated (costs, supply benefits, greenhouse gas emissions), but others are challenging to assess together.
- A portfolio of projects can be modeled and assessed for reliability benefits and cost impacts over time to demonstrate its effectiveness in reducing shortages in various scenarios. This type of analysis can help identify where further project and/or program development is needed to meet long-term water supply reliability goals and implications for rate impacts over time.
- The evaluative criteria and assessment approach could be refined to improve the applicability to groupings of projects.

**Progress on Additional CAMP4W Initiatives**

List of CAMP4W Initiatives included in **Attachment 1**

**Fire Management Planning**

Fire management planning and implementation efforts are ongoing and coordinated across multiple Metropolitan departments, including Landscape Maintenance Teams, Environmental Planning, Safety, Regulatory, and Training (SRT), and Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation (SRI). Facility walks are continuing to assess landscape fire management needs at treatment plants.

Landscape maintenance, in compliance with AB 3074, has been implemented at Eagle Rock, which is located in a high fire severity zone. Structural hardening and additional landscape improvement recommendations for the Eagle Rock facility are currently under review by Engineering and Operations in preparation for implementation. Landscape maintenance has also been completed within the 0–5-foot ember-resistant zone at Live Oak Reservoir and Etiwanda Reservoir.

In addition, SRI is collaborating with SRT Emergency Management to organize and streamline access to all emergency and fire-related plans, supporting the development of a comprehensive fire management plan. This coordinated, cross-departmental effort ensures clear roles and responsibilities and strengthens overall fire preparedness and planning effectiveness.

**Public Workshop on Developing Community Engagement Standards**

As part of the CAMP4W Implementation Plan, External Affairs staff hosted a public workshop titled Developing Community Engagement Standards for our Water Future on February 5.

Participants received an update on CAMP4W, reviewed Metropolitan’s current outreach practices, and discussed the need for clear community engagement standards. Approximately 75 people participated in person and online. Attendees shared best practices for engaging communities on drinking water issues and identified ways to expand participation in the water sector.

The workshop included representatives from nonprofit organizations, colleges and universities, public agencies, water industry professionals and members of the public. Their input will help inform the development of draft community engagement standards as CAMP4W advances.

**Fiscal Impact**

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None

**Applicable Policy**

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By Minute Item 53436, dated April 8, 2025, the Board approved the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water Five-Year Implementation Strategy.



Elizabeth Crosson  
Chief Sustainability, Resilience and  
Innovation Officer

2/26/2026

Date



Shivaji Deshmukh  
General Manager

2/26/2026

Date

**Attachment 1 – Adaptation Strategies: Studies, Programs, Policies and Initiatives**

Ref# 12714231

**Adaptation Strategies: Studies, Programs, Policies and Initiatives**

Timelines are subject to change based on new and evolving information

**Key**

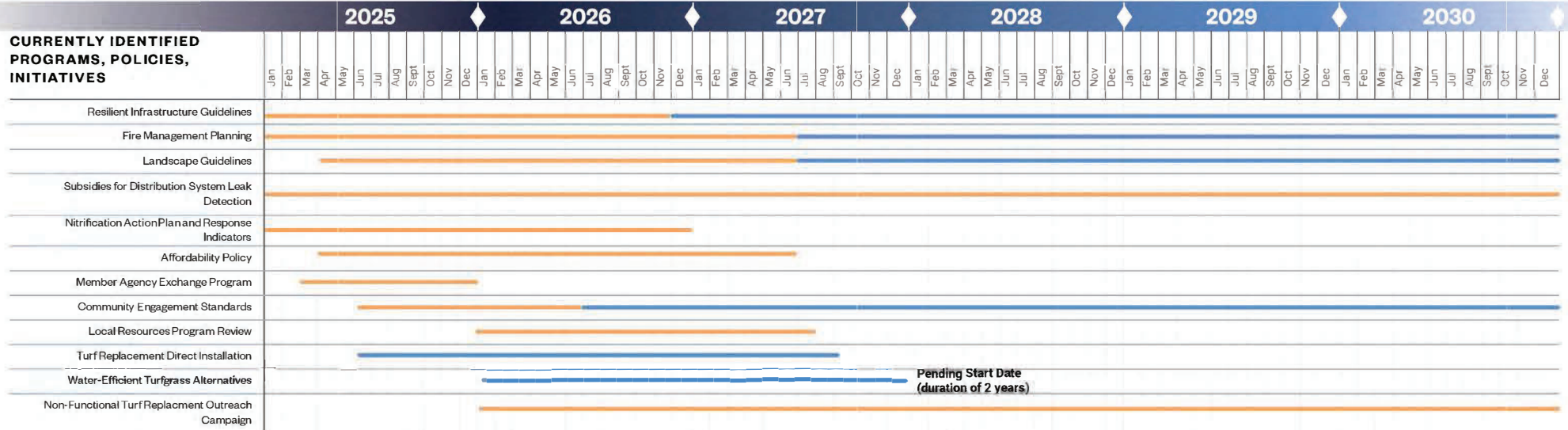
- ◆ Annual Report
- Budget Approval Process (CIP/other elements)
- Needs Assessment Update
- ★ Board Decision Point
- CAMP4W Assessment

**Board Authorized Phase**

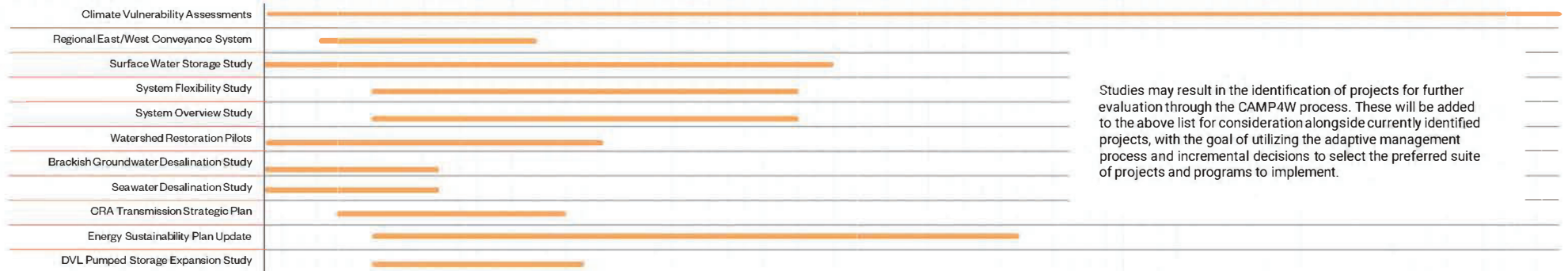
- Planning
- Implementation
- Design

**Phase Pending Board Decision**

- Planning
- Implementation
- Design



**CURRENTLY IDENTIFIED WATER AND ENERGY SUPPLY PROJECT STUDIES TIMELINE**



Studies may result in the identification of projects for further evaluation through the CAMP4W process. These will be added to the above list for consideration alongside currently identified projects, with the goal of utilizing the adaptive management process and incremental decisions to select the preferred suite of projects and programs to implement.

