



Information Technology Group

• Information Technology Group Monthly Activities for March 2026

Summary

This report provides a summary of activities related to the Information Technology Group for March 2026.

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

► Strategic Priority #3: ADAPT to changing climate and water resources Objective 1: Implementation of Major Communication Systems Upgrades to Improve Operational Resiliency

The Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) Microwave Wide Area Network (WAN) Replacement Project is in its final phase, with implementation activities nearing completion. All major communication paths have been successfully transitioned, with the final cutover from Cactus to Hinds Pump Plant reaching completion. Construction efforts have been completed, with conduit installation at the Edom and Camino sites finalized. The remaining work is focused on resolving cutover punch list items and validating system performance as the project moves toward closeout and final acceptance.

The CRA is a critical component of Metropolitan's water delivery system, spanning 242 miles and supporting a network of pumping plants, tunnels, canals, and conduits across remote desert regions. Due to the isolated nature of these facilities, Metropolitan relies on a microwave radio WAN as the primary communications backbone to support real-time monitoring, control, and operational coordination. The legacy system, built in the late 1990s, has reached the end of its service life and is experiencing increasing reliability issues, including intermittent communication failures, limited capacity, and a lack of redundancy.

This project replaces aging infrastructure with a modernized network designed to improve reliability, increase data transmission capacity, and enhance resiliency through redundant communication paths. These upgrades reduce the risk of service disruptions and better support critical systems. The upgraded WAN will provide a more stable and dependable communications platform, strengthening operational continuity and supporting Metropolitan's long-term water delivery needs.