



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT  
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

# Board Report

## Information Technology Group

### • Information Technology Group Monthly Activities for March 2024

#### Summary

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This report provides a summary of activities related to the Information Technology Group for March 2024.

#### Purpose

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Informational

#### Detailed Report

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The Information Technology Group, IT Network Systems team, recently completed network upgrades at 13 plant facilities providing telecommunication (telco) diverse redundant fiber circuits to the plant's Wide Area Network (WAN). This will significantly improve network reliability by minimizing single points of failure in the network. This reliability will improve availability for applications including internet, Enterprise applications, VoIP, 2-way radio, Physical Security, and SCADA. Additionally, future network maintenance can be performed with minimal service disruption.

While performing these network upgrades, IT staff worked with plant personnel to simulate a telco circuit failure in order to verify automatic WAN redundancy. During the telco circuit failure simulation, the secondary telco circuit automatically forwarded all traffic immediately. This network self-healing feature was completely transparent to end users and applications continued to function. Furthermore, IT is already seeing the benefits because of recent telco circuit failures at various plants. The plants' communication systems were still operational, and plant staff was able to use all applications during these failures.

The successful execution is the result of teamwork and collaboration that involved building an enhanced network ensuring that all critical enterprise infrastructure systems operate reliably.