



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Board Report

Information Technology Group

• Information Technology Group Monthly Activities for September 2025

Summary

This report provides a summary of activities related to the Information Technology Group for September 2025.

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

► Strategic Priority #3: ADAPT to changing climate and water resources

Objective 2: Implementation of Major Communication Systems Upgrades to Improve Operational Resiliency

Metropolitan's Desert region microwave network consists of 24 sites with 62 microwave radios. The Desert region requires high-capacity communication links that are carrier-grade to provide reliable data, voice, and video transmission. The existing microwave radios are over 12 years old and approaching their end of useful service life. In addition, the existing microwave radios do not provide carrier-grade transmission and have reliability issues, causing intermittent network communication failures. The design of the new microwave system included an assessment to determine replacement radios, antennas, and waveguides, and the licensing of new Federal Communications Commission frequencies to provide a carrier-grade transmission.

The Desert Microwave Upgrade Project is currently underway and provides oversight of full deployment, vendor installation, final acceptance tests, and cutover transition plans. These activities are considered phase 1, with phase 2 reaching facilities in the western portion of Metropolitan's service area.

Recently, the Desert Microwave Upgrade Project cut over the Black Metal to the Gene Camp path. This activity involved the installation, testing, and commissioning of radio frequency stations at both the Black Metal Mountain site and the Gene Camp site. The antennas and waveguides on both towers at both sites were replaced. The results were documented and were acceptable, and all communication circuits were reestablished within specification.

While construction is still underway for phase 1, the project team is initiating the design phase for the Western Region.