



General Manager's Monthly Report



June 14, 2022
Activities for the Month of May 2022



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Message from the General Manager

I believe trust is a key factor to Metropolitan's success.

Achieving transformation at Met—building the “4th aqueduct,” as you have heard me say—will require broad support and diverse partners. We are asking the public to take unprecedented measures to reduce water use. We must make deep investments in our long-term resiliency. We need to forge agreement across a sometimes-competing array of water interests.

I spent time this month visiting the Bay Delta and discussing with board members and others the scientific advances and projects that can better support the ecosystem upon which so much of the state's water supply depends. Taking a holistic approach to the Delta and deploying science in restoration efforts—this can be common ground among the Delta's many interested parties. Science alone, however, will not assure future resilience. This will require investment and urgency and political will, any of which can be derailed by a lack of trust.

In my 33 years of public service, I have seen many well-intentioned efforts languish and crumble due to a lack of trust.

The Strategic Priorities recently approved by the board include to “partner with interested parties and the communities we serve.” Partnerships do not necessarily start with complete trust, but successful partnerships actively build trust.

There is no single recipe for building trust, but ingredients are transparency, listening, follow-through, and a willingness to acknowledge past mistakes. Building trust takes time, but it is essential in order to create a safer and more sustainable future for our children. We must put distrust aside and allow time to develop understanding, as we connect dots, drops, and hearts.

We are one,

Adel



“You must trust and believe in people, or life becomes impossible.”

- playwright Anton Chekhov



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.

Administrative Services

Facilities Management approached the Procurement Team for contract options to quickly reopen the headquarters cafeteria and offer high-quality meals at reasonable prices. With brainstorming sessions and “out-of-the-box” thinking, the Procurement Team offered recommendations for Facilities to consider. As a result, Facilities chose an option that is fair and equitable for all parties to sustain reasonable prices and savings for customers. The Procurement Team successfully negotiated the terms and amended the food services contract with the current supplier in record time.

Bay-Delta Initiatives

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) recently completed an After-Action Report for a Tabletop Exercise conducted in 2021, which analyzed the restoration of freshwater export operations from the Delta after multiple levee failures resulting from a major earthquake in the region. The exercise evaluated the effectiveness of the Delta Flood Emergency Management Plan (DFEMP) completed by DWR in 2018, which is designed to guide the restoration of freshwater conveyance and export operations following multiple levee failures resulting from a major earthquake in the region. DWR concluded through the exercise that the DFEMP is appropriate for restoring water project operations under these types of emergency conditions. Findings from the After-Action Report will be incorporated into a revised DFEMP to be published in 2023.

Chief Financial Officer

The CFO and Debt Management team worked with Fitch Ratings credit analysts on our bond rating surveillance process. Coordinated provision of requested financial information and answers to topical questions of interest. Reviewed results to Fitch’s FAST model. Conducted several conference calls with Metropolitan staff to provide further clarity to answers and respond to follow-up questions by the lead and supporting credit analysts.

As of April 30, 2022, Metropolitan’s investment portfolio balance was \$1.43 billion; in April 2022, Metropolitan’s portfolio managers executed 10 trades.

In April 2022, Treasury staff processed 921 disbursements by check, 19 disbursements by Automated Clearing House (ACH), and 108 disbursements by wire transfer. Treasury staff also processed 54 receipts by check, 32 receipts by ACH, and 45 receipts by incoming wires and bank transfers.

Colorado River

Following the urging of Metropolitan and several of its member agencies, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has agreed to begin a six-month test operation of the Paradox Brine Injection well at 2/3 of its capacity and monitor the region for seismic activity. If the test is successful, Reclamation will develop a plan to operate the well for a longer term while it investigates a longer-term option to control salts in the Paradox Valley.

Engineering Services

On May 20th Metropolitan held the third quarterly MetWorks meeting, a new initiative to communicate directly with contractors, suppliers, vendors, and consultants. Engineering Services and Business Outreach shared upcoming contracting and consulting opportunities, unveiled the new MetWorks portal, explained Metropolitan business processes, answered questions directly from attendees, and discussed the drought and upcoming drought projects with over 100 business-partner attendees. In May, Engineering Services was focused on supporting drought-related planning and operations efforts as well as advancing projects that will improve Metropolitan’s overall operational flexibility.

Environmental Planning

Environmental Planning staff completed the Climate Action Plan (CAP) and associated Final Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The CAP was adopted and the Program EIR certified by the Board of Directors at its May meeting. The CAP is a comprehensive programmatic document that identifies energy and greenhouse

gas (GHG) reduction actions from past, current, and future programs to reduce Metropolitan's carbon footprint in the face of climate change and to offset GHG emissions from future projects. The CAP provides Metropolitan with an opportunity to demonstrate its longstanding and continuing commitment to environmental stewardship in California, and to participate in the global effort to curtail climate change. The document will also streamline California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) GHG analysis, as well as serve as a launching pad for Metropolitan's new Sustainability, Resiliency, and Innovation Office.

External Affairs

Governor Newsom joined with EO/AGM Upadhyay, LA County Sanitation District GM Ferrante, LA County Supervisor Mitchell, Senator Bradford (D-Gardena), and Carson Mayor Davis-Holmes for a tour and press conference at the Regional Recycled Water Program's Advanced Demonstration Facility. The primary purpose of the event was to generate greater public awareness about drought conditions, call for more conservation and underscore the need for investments to increase local supplies. Press coverage included: KTLA-TV Channel 5, KABC-TV Channel 7, FOX 11, Spectrum 1, Politico, KNX-AM 1070, Reuters, Southern California News Group/Torrance Daily Breeze, and Univision. (May 16)

Human Resources

Two webinars sponsored by Human Resources Group occurred in May. One was focused on the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, which provides employees the opportunity to waive loan payments in certain circumstances. The second was a wellness webinar, "Taking Care of YourSELF," which focused on improving health and well-being for a more balanced lifestyle.

Information Technology

As part of the Headquarters' Data Center Relocation Project, the Information Technology Group continued work on modernizing Metropolitan's infrastructure and operations with the successful migration of Oracle EBS on May 21. This work is highly complex, presenting many technical and logistical challenges involving hardware, software, data, communication networks, and ancillary systems, but is essential in ensuring our reliability needs.

Real Property

Real Property representatives attended a Business Outreach event in Blythe, CA. This event was sponsored by Metropolitan and the Blythe Chamber of Commerce and focused on the maintenance of desert housing and recreational areas and to attract local businesses on "Doing business with Metropolitan."

Security Management

Metropolitan security works closely with a variety of third-party vendors to develop enhanced physical security housings for meters and control systems equipment in an ongoing effort to protect critical systems from water and power theft, vandalism, and other street crimes.

Water Resource Management

Water Resource Management staff worked this month to finalize the provisions of the Emergency Water Conservation Program and to accelerate conservation actions to reduce demands across the service area. As part of this effort, Metropolitan received notice from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation that it will be awarded a \$2 million grant to increase turf removal in publicly owned areas.

Water System Operations

Metropolitan's Apprenticeship Program celebrated its Class of 2021 graduates during a virtual ceremony on May 24. Six electricians and seven mechanics were recognized for their academic performance during the rigorous four-year program, which included over 100 written and practical exams. Now graduated, these journey-level employees help ensure reliable operation and maintenance of Metropolitan's treatment and distribution facilities. Over 50 percent of Metropolitan's current electrical and mechanical trades are represented by graduates of the Apprenticeship Program.

Upcoming Board Items

ANTICIPATED KEY ITEMS OF FOCUS – NOT AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST
SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Month	Key Board Items
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review Draft Updated Bay Delta Policies in Board Information Letter• Oral Report Briefing on Metropolitan Delta Island Activities• Authorize an increase to agreement with Roesling Nakamura Terada Architects for final design and architectural services in support of the District Housing and Property Improvement Program• Report on list of certified assessed valuations for FY 2022/23• Adopt resolution establishing the tax rate for FY 2022/23
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oral Report on the Surplus Plan• Approve Project Labor Agreement terms and conditions and authorize a professional services agreement for PLA administration• Consider Action on Updated Bay Delta Policies• Report on 500+ Plan Implementation
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update on Delta Conveyance Public Draft EIR and Comments



Low levels at Lake Mead

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

As long term drought conditions and climate change reduce flows on the Colorado River, and water levels of the system's two largest reservoirs – Lake Mead and Lake Powell – continue to drop, Metropolitan has developed forward-looking and respected partnerships with traditional and non-traditional stakeholders to help ensure greater reliability and stability of Colorado River supplies across the West.

IMPORTANCE TO METROPOLITAN

Rethinking Partnerships to Drive Innovation amid the New Normal - Historically, times of crisis have been periods of great innovation because water managers are compelled to respond and deliver water supplies to their communities. The response to this drought is no exception, as normal barriers to innovative thinking have accelerated to accommodate changing weather patterns, and collaborative partnerships have been reimaged.

Building on increased collaboration, Metropolitan, Southern Nevada Water Authority and Arizona agencies have forged a new partnership to advance development of one Metropolitan's Regional Recycled Water Program and the largest water recycling plants in the country – a project that could help restore balance to the over-stressed river.

Another example of recent collaboration is a new seasonal land fallowing agreement with the Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation. With the approval of this program, Metropolitan now has water conservation partnerships in place with every agricultural entity in California that uses Colorado River water, including Imperial Irrigation District, Palo Verde Irrigation District, Coachella Valley Water District and Bard Water District.

MEMORABLE MOMENT

Metropolitan's Colorado River Program is made of up of a dedicated, diverse and interdisciplinary team. - Developing and protecting our water supplies requires collaboration with staff in Water Resource Management, Water System Operations, External Affairs, and the Legal Department, all of which play a key role in advancing new ideas, innovation, and novel partnerships.

Working within the confines of the "Law of the River," staff has been able to find original ways to help stave off the decline of Lake Mead, even as the water projections grow alarmingly more dire. From programs such as Drought Contingency Plan, the 500+plan, and agricultural transfer programs, our staff has shown ingenuity and resourcefulness which will be important as we enter into development of new water management Guidelines for the Colorado River.



Above Photos - Metropolitan and Colorado River Indian Tribal Council Members

"As we enter into this new era of diminishing supplies on the Colorado River, I like to think of our innovative partnerships in the Basin as 'ecosystems'. The diverse stakeholders that Metropolitan has partnered with has enabled us to build interconnected allies throughout the Basin states, with the Country of Mexico and with the Tribes. These are long-term, complex and interdependent relationships that are coming together to adapt to this climate change challenge. I am proud to be a part of a compassionate and dedicated team that is at the center of developing a successful path forward."

*Meena Westford,
Senior Policy Advisor, Colorado River*

Water Resources and Engineering



Water Resource Management

GM Strategic Priority #2: Sustainability

Objective #4 Manage existing and develop new regional water management programs to maintain water supply reliability in the face of increasing water supply volatility.

On May 4 staff co-sponsored CalDesal's Spring Mixer, which was held in conjunction with the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Conference in Sacramento. Staff also participated in CalDesal's board meeting held the same day.

Objective #7 Participate in Federal, State and Local Water-Energy Nexus processes to support Metropolitan Energy Sustainability and Climate Action Plans

Staff supported The Climate Registry's (TCR) Water-Energy Nexus Registry Program (WEN Registry) with letters to four state legislators. The letters called for continued State funding for the WEN Registry to ensure that its resources remain accessible to water agencies. Water-Energy Nexus Registry protocols help participating water agencies track Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission reductions. This is a core element of climate action plans such as Metropolitan's. Water agencies also benefit through consistent and transparent reporting of GHG emissions data to the public. Metropolitan is a Founding Member of the WEN Registry Program and has reported verified GHG data to TCR's registry since 2010.

Objective #8 Implement Regional Conservation Program.

As dry conditions persist, Metropolitan staff continued actions to accelerate the regional conservation program. Conservation outreach activities this month include:

- Holding Water Efficient Landscape Dual Certification Program workshop series in partnership with California Landscape Contractors Association (CLCA) and Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) for 35 landscape professionals. This month's workshop highlights topics such as water use in Southern California, low water use plant maintenance, and efficient irrigation systems.
- Leading California Water Efficiency Partnership's program committee meeting with discussions focused on drought response and innovation.
- Attending West Basin Municipal Water District's quarterly Customer Agency Workgroup Meeting to provide update on program modifications and drought response.

Water Efficiency Team and External Affairs staff co-presented the current water supply conditions and Metropolitan's conservation incentives available to commercial entities to the Building Owners and Managers Association—Greater Los Angeles (BOMA/GLA) Sustainability Committee. The committee discussed Metropolitan's recently adopted Water Shortage Emergency, followed by a review of device rebates and custom pay-for-performance incentives suited for commercial building applications. BOMA/GLA represents 2,000 commercial real estate professionals in the Los Angeles area, including building owners, managers, developers, leasing professionals, corporate facility managers, and asset managers.

On May 11, Water Efficiency Team Staff was informed that Metropolitan's application to USBR's Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Program will be awarded in the amount of \$2 million dollars through funding made available under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), P.L. 117-58. A formal announcement from the Bureau of Reclamation will be made in the coming weeks. This funding will be used to enhance Metropolitan's Public Agency Turf Replacement Program by raising the incentive available to public agency applicants from \$3 per square foot to \$4 per square foot.

GM Strategic Priority #3: Innovation

Objective #2 Collaborate with member agencies, water agencies and associations, and provide leadership for policy development, advocacy, outreach and education.

Metropolitan staff worked with the member agencies to finalize and prepare for June 2022 implementation of the Emergency Water Conservation Program (EWCP) to address a shortage of water available to member agencies that need SWP water to meet their imported supply needs. At the Metropolitan Special Board Meeting on April 26, the Board adopted the framework of the EWCP and authorized the General Manager to finalize program terms within 30 days. Metropolitan finalized the volumetric limits of SWP water for the affected member agencies and held ongoing coordination meetings with them.

Metropolitan staff continued ongoing technical collaboration with member agencies on the 2022 Annual Local Production Survey, which was sent out to all member agencies on May 5 with a request for surveys to be returned by June 10. The local supply survey data are crucial for Metropolitan's regional planning efforts, including estimating per capita water usage and tracking trends in local supply development.

On May 12, Metropolitan staff hosted an online meeting with the member agencies to continue coordination on their Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessments, which, beginning in 2022, will be due to DWR by July 1 or within 14 days of receiving final State Water Project or Central Valley Project allocations, whichever is later. This was a follow-up to an initial coordination meeting on March 29. Because of the governor's March 28 Executive Order N-7-22, a preliminary draft of this year's assessment will be due to DWR on June 1. This is a new annual requirement that is part of the 2018 Conservation as a California Way of Life legislation and related to the Water Shortage Contingency Plans that were completed by each agency with their 2020 Urban Water Management Plans in 2021.

The Department of Water Resources continues to lead efforts in developing the California Water Plan Update 2023. As part of its statewide stakeholder collaboration, DWR hosted a virtual public workshop on May 4, 2022, presenting an overview of the Update 2023 process to provide orientation on the scope, intended outcomes, and themes of Update 2023. The intended outcome is regional water resilience across California's watersheds around three central themes: (1) climate change, (2) watershed resilience, and (3) water equity. The focus of this public workshop is on the first central theme beginning in 2022—climate change. The DWR recognizes their role and responsibility in improving the understanding and quantification of climate change effects associated with water resource management. The vulnerabilities of each water sector—flood risk, water supply, and ecosystem—to climate change are interconnected. The DWR presented their current work in promoting multi-sector, watershed-scale, risk-based approaches to climate vulnerability assessments and adaptation strategy development. The DWR will schedule a second workshop on climate change in July.

Water Resources and Engineering

(continued)

Objective #5 Position Metropolitan as a leader in Open Water Data.

Staff participated in several California Water Data Consortium (CWDC) meetings in May. This includes helping to organize a workshop on urban water data reporting. The workshop is a key element of the CWDC's Urban Water Data Pilot study, which aims to reduce redundancy and increase the efficiency of data reporting by urban water utilities. Staff also assisted the CWDC develop internal budgets and administrative policies in support of sustaining operations and continued growth.

Objective #7 Explore opportunities to leverage Metropolitan's SWP and Colorado River supplies and storage assets.

The 2022 Fallowing Seasons for the Bard Water District Seasonal Fallowing Program and the Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation Pilot Seasonal Fallowing Program officially began on April 1, 2022. One thousand four hundred twenty six acres are enrolled in the Bard Fallowing Program and 118 acres are enrolled in the Quechan Fallowing Program. Because of unseasonable cool temperatures, some parcels were not ready for fallowing on April 1, 2022. Metropolitan and farmers agreed to begin fallowing on said parcels on April 15 and will end fallowing on August 15. All other parcels began fallowing April 1 and will end fallowing on July 31. All of the lands were verified to be fallowed during this time.

Water Resources and Engineering

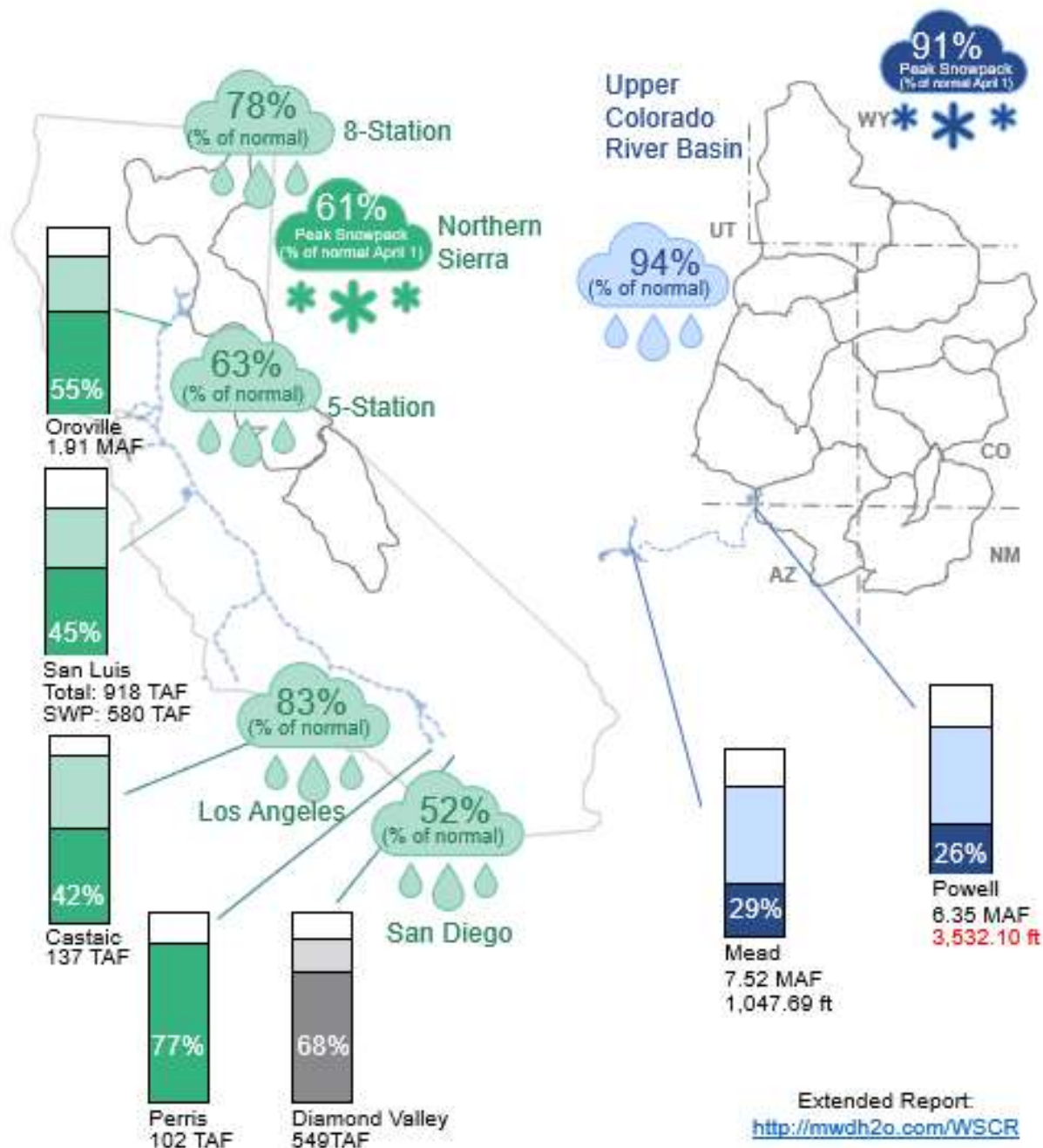
(continued)

State Water Project Resources

SWP Table A – 5% - 95,575 AF

Colorado River Resources

Projected CRA Diversions – 1,117,000 AF



As of May 31, 2022

Bay-Delta Initiatives

Resiliency

Delta Emergency Preparedness

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) completed an After-Action Report for a Tabletop Exercise conducted in 2021, which analyzed the restoration of freshwater export operations from the Delta after multiple levee failures resulting from a major earthquake in the region that would curtail export operations. The exercise evaluated the effectiveness of the Delta Flood Emergency Management Plan (DFEMP) completed by DWR in 2018, which is designed to guide the restoration of freshwater conveyance and export operations following such an event. The After-Action Report concludes that the DFEMP is the appropriate tool for restoring water project operations under these types of emergency conditions and that related DWR emergency operations procedures should continue to be modified to support the DFEMP. Findings from the After-Action Report will be incorporated into a revised DFEMP to be published in 2023.

Sustainability

Delta Conveyance

DWR is continuing to develop a public Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) under the California Environmental Quality Act for the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), as part of its permitting review under the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act, is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act. DWR and USACE are planning to release draft environmental documents for public review in summer 2022.

Joint Powers Authorities

The Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) Board of Directors met on May 19. The DCA-proposed draft budget for fiscal year (FY) 2022/23 was presented for discussion. The planned technical work for next FY focuses on support for DWR on permitting activities and engineering aspects of the DCP, continued implementation of the geotechnical program to better understand conditions across the Delta, and consideration of a range of engineering concepts and procurement and contracting strategies. The final budget for FY 2022/23 will be presented for board approval at the June meeting.

The Delta Conveyance Finance Authority Board of Directors also met on May 19 and considered a proposed budget for FY 2022/23.

Sites Reservoir

At their May meetings, the Sites Project Authority Board and the Sites Reservoir Committee amended the Sites Project Authority Real Estate and Land Management Policy creating additional flexibility in establishing the price and terms of purchase option agreements. They also approved issuing a sole-source contract with the University of California Santa Cruz to perform modeling services using the Winter-Run Chinook Salmon Lifecycle Model for evaluating the proposed project and operations.

Innovation

Science Activities

Staff continued participating in the Collaborative Science and Adaptive Management Program (CSAMP), including participation on the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team (CAMT). In May, CAMT received briefings on the status and findings of science studies, including the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Directed Outflow Program, which is a collaborative study to improve ecological understanding of Delta smelt, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Six Agency Monitoring Design Review report. CAMT also continued discussions on the CAMT monitoring assessment effort.

Staff continued collaboration with non-government environmental organizations and public water agencies on Phase 2 of the CSAMP Salmon Recovery Initiative, which is focused on soliciting actions planned to aid in salmon recovery. In May, the project team conducted planning for outreach workshops that will be held in June. The June workshops will invite interested parties to a series of "story telling" workshops in which participants will share their values related to salmon recovery and develop those values into objectives that will be included in the decision-making process of selecting actions to recover salmon.

Core Business Reliability

Regulatory Activities

Staff continued to participate in the collaborative groups called for in the 2019 Biological Opinions for the State Water Project (SWP) and Central Valley Project, and in the 2020 Incidental Take Permit for long-term operation of the SWP, to address science needs and inform management and operation of the water projects. In May, staff continued collaboration with state and federal agencies to develop a monitoring program for steelhead populations within the San Joaquin Basin. Efforts in May focused on developing a list of directed science studies that are needed to develop an estimate of juvenile steelhead production.

Colorado River

Reclamation to Restart Salinity Control Well in Paradox Valley

In April of 2019, following a magnitude 4.5 earthquake, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) ceased operation of the largest salinity control project in the Colorado River Basin. Constructed in the 1990s, the Paradox Valley Brine Injection Well has been capturing about 110,000 tons of salt annually from natural sources and injecting it into a deep aquifer that has no hydrologic connection with the Colorado River or its tributaries. Metropolitan and many of its member agencies sent letters to Reclamation urging them to see if they can operate the well at a safe capacity while exploring longer-term options to control salt from the Paradox Valley. At the May Colorado River Salinity Control Forum, Reclamation told the Forum that it plans to begin a test and operate the well at two-thirds of its capacity for six-months. Reclamation will monitor the seismicity of the region and be prepared to end the test if conditions warrant. Following the six-month test, Reclamation will review data collected during the test and determine whether a longer-term operation at a safe level can be conducted. During the meeting, the Forum visited a local mine where potash is extracted. The owners of the mine are interested in obtaining salt, as they would use the salt to replace the potash as it's mined to reduce the risk of land subsidence. Reclamation and the Forum agreed to explore this potential partnership to see whether there is a longer-term solution to salt control in the Paradox Valley that doesn't include deep well injections. While these actions were good news to the Forum, Reclamation also stated that because of the current drought and the Paradox well being turned off for more than three years, the salinity in the Colorado River near Lake Havasu is expected to rise over the next few years.

Engineering

GM Strategic Priority #1: Resiliency

Objective #1 Manage and execute board-authorized projects within the Capital Investment Plan (CIP) to ensure the reliable delivery of water to Metropolitan’s member agencies.

Distribution System Reliability Program

This program maintains reliable water deliveries through specific repair and rehabilitation projects on Metropolitan’s pipelines, reservoirs, and control structures. Recent activities include the following:

- **Lake Mathews Wastewater Replacement**—The 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. The contractor has begun installing sewer pipe. Construction is 15 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in March 2023.
- **Irvine Regulating Structure Drain**—This project re-routes the sump drainage at the Irvine regulating drain line. Construction was completed in May 2022.
- **Garvey Reservoir Hypochlorite Feed System Replacement**—This project replaces the existing chemical feed pumps, reconfigures the feed pipe system, upgrades the existing control systems and automatic process controls, and implements remote feed control from the SCADA system. Installation of the temporary feed system and grating for the permanent feed system is complete. The contractor is currently installing piping and control panels. Construction is 80 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in July 2022.
- **Garvey Reservoir Erosion Improvements Areas 6, 7, 8, 10, and 11**—This project will install a permanent drainage system and erosion control features including drainage piping, concrete ditches, stem walls, flow detention, and dissipation structures. The contractor completed drainage and erosion improvements in Areas 7, 8, 10, and 11, and is currently working on site grading, earthen berm compaction, and installation of the new fences and curbs in Area 6. Construction is 82 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in July 2022.
- **Casa Loma Siphon Upgrades**—This project will mitigate leaks associated with long-term ground subsidence and will improve seismic resilience of the siphon as it crosses the Casa Loma Fault. This project replaces approximately 1,200 feet of the Casa Loma Siphon Barrel No. 1 at a fault crossing using earthquake resistant ductile iron pipe (ERDIP) and welded steel pipe (WSP). The contractor is currently excavating and installing shoring. Construction is approximately 15 percent complete, with final tie-in scheduled for February 2023.

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**—This project rehabilitates the remaining 28 miles of PCCP segments within the Second Lower Feeder and will enhance delivery reliability to member agencies. Long-

term rehabilitation of this pipeline is being staged over a period of 15 to 20 years, with multiple construction and procurement contracts. In May 2022, the Board awarded a construction contract for Reach 3A, the westernmost portion of the feeder, spanning 1.1 miles through the City of Rolling Hills Estates. Final design of the adjacent Reach 3B, a 3.7-mile-long portion of Second Lower Feeder that traverses the cities of Lomita, Los Angeles, and Torrance is 96 percent complete and scheduled to be complete in August 2022. Study efforts continue for Reach 9, an approximately 0.8-mile-long portion of the feeder in western Long Beach that crosses the Los Angeles River.

- **Second Lower Feeder Isolation Valve Procurement**—This fabrication contract provides 13 conical plug valves for the Second Lower Feeder PCCP rehabilitation. These valves, which include three 48-inch and ten 54-inch diameter, provide primary isolation for maintenance activities, inspections, and repairs required to maintain reliable water deliveries within Metropolitan’s distribution system. Fabrication of these valves is approximately 60 percent complete. All three 48-inch conical plug valves have been delivered. Fabrication of seven 54-inch valves is in progress. Delivery of the first two 54-inch valves, expected in March 2022, has been rescheduled to August 2022, because of delays at the shipping port. The next five 54-inch valves will be delivered between September 2022 and July 2023. Fabrication of three remaining 54-inch valves is scheduled to start in 2022 and be completed in late-2023.

Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) Reliability Program

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

- **Gene Wash Reservoir Discharge Structure Rehabilitation**—This project replaced the discharge valve and refurbished the valve house and discharge structure at the base of the Gene Wash Reservoir dam. If the reservoir needed to be drained rapidly in the event of an emergency, the valve would be opened to safely release the water. Construction was completed in May 2022.
- **CRA Overhead Cranes**—This project replaces the overhead bridge crane and retrofits the support frame structures of the auxiliary cranes within the below grade pump bays at all five CRA pumping plants. The contractor is preparing to mobilize and receive the first bridge crane for installation in May 2022 at the Gene Pumping Plant. Construction is 6 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in September 2023.
- **Eagle Mountain Pumping Plant Utilities Replacement Project**—This project replaces existing potable, non-potable, and wastewater utilities at the Eagle Mountain pumping plant. Final design is 30 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in March 2023.

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:

Jensen Plant

Jensen Electrical Upgrades, Stage 2 —This three-stage project upgrades the electrical system with dual power feeds to key process equipment to comply with current codes and industry practice, improves plant reliability, and enhances worker safety. Stage 1 work is complete. Stage 2 improvements are currently underway and will upgrade Unit Power Centers 7 and 9 and their associated motor control centers (MCCs) to support critical process equipment. The contractor completed cutover of all existing loads to the new motor control centers and is

currently installing the irrigation system. Construction is 99 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in August 2022.

Weymouth Plant

- **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 effluent drop gates. Seismic upgrades include structural modifications and concrete reinforcement of the basin walls and basin inlet channel. This project, which encompasses hazardous material abatement, replaces 127 high-performance and rubber-lined butterfly valves and their actuators with Metropolitan-furnished equipment including piping, mechanical, electrical/control equipment, access hatches, handrails, and lights. Final design is complete, and the Board awarded a construction contract in May 2022. The Notice of Award was issued to the contractor on May 10, 2022. Construction is expected to continue until May 2025.

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 Building Improvements**—This project provides seismic upgrades and other needed improvements to the Metropolitan Headquarters Building. The contractor is currently procuring and installing additional cooling equipment for the electrical and audio visual/information technology rack rooms. Because of the long lead time required to procure this equipment, the anticipated contract completion date is September 2022.
- **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 improvements will provide security system upgrades inside the building with a focus on the main entry rotunda area, boardroom, executive dining lounge, and security control room. Construction of Stage 2 improvements is 97 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in August 2022. The contractor completed security equipment installation on all floors and testing and cutover to the new security system, and is continuing the rotunda equipment installation. Stage 3 improvements will provide security system upgrades around the perimeter of the building. Design of Stage 3 improvements is complete, and board award of a construction contract is planned for September 2022.
- **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. The contractor completed the fire alarm system cutover on the first floor, is about to complete the second floor, and is currently working on the third and fourth floors. Construction is 48 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in February 2023.



Headquarters Building Improvements—Replacement of fire alarm device



Water System Operations

GM Strategic Priority #1: Resiliency

Objective #1 Provide Reliable Water Deliveries.

Metropolitan member agency water deliveries were 138,004 acre-feet (AF) for May with an average of 4,452 AF per day, which was 223 AF per day higher than April. Treated water deliveries increased by 3,150 AF from April for a total of 72,550 AF, or 53 percent of total deliveries for the month. The Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) continued operating at an eight-pump flow with a total of 105,494 AF pumped for the month. State Water Project (SWP) imports averaged 1,423 AF per day, totaling about 44,105 AF for the month, which accounted for about 32 percent of Metropolitan's deliveries. The target SWP blend remained at zero percent for the Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner plants.

Objective #2 Ensure Water Quality Compliance, Worker Safety, and Environmental Protection.

Metropolitan complied with all water quality regulations and primary drinking water standards during April 2022.

This month, the National Safety Council performed an onsite Safety Management System Assessment at Gene pumping plant and the La Verne facility. The program assessment included reviewing facility activities and interviewing employees to assist Metropolitan in prioritizing safety program activities and identifying areas in need of improvement.



National Safety Council opening conference at La Verne (left); and NSC representative talking to staff (right) at Gene pumping plant

Staff attended the 2022 Advanced Clean Transportation Expo in Long Beach that showcased clean fuel, vehicle, and infrastructure technologies. Over 250 exhibitors were present with over 75 clean fuel vehicles. Staff test drove the newest electric and hydrogen vehicles and trucks. The information obtained is vital to Metropolitan's efforts to successfully transition to a zero-emission fleet as required by regulations and Metropolitan's Climate Action Plan goals to reach carbon neutrality by 2045.



Metropolitan staff at the 2022 Advanced Clean Transportation Expo

Objective #3 Actively Engage in Capital Project Planning and Execution.

The Mills plant scheduled five full plant shutdowns for the capital project that will upgrade the facility's aging electrical system. In order to maintain water deliveries during the electrical shutdowns, staff installed 480V portable generator connection points to allow all critical plant equipment to operate during the high-voltage equipment modifications. The generator connection points will benefit the plant during the construction phase of this project and provide alternate electrical supply to critical systems in the event of future electrical equipment failures.



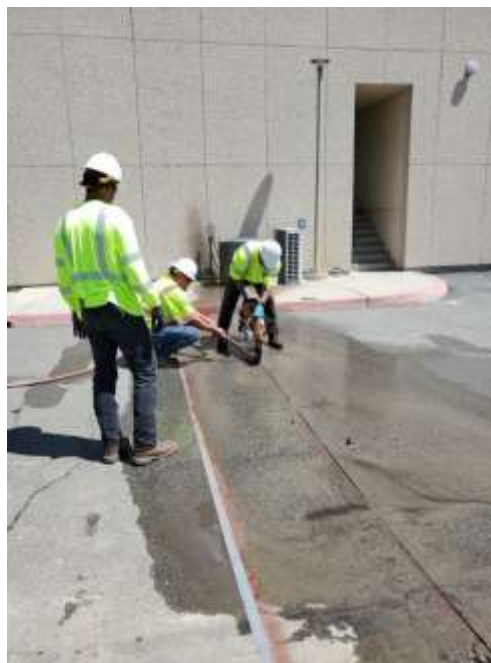
New generator connection point installed at the Mills plant

Staff supported preliminary design of the Caustic and Fluoride Tank Farm capital project at the Diemer plant. This project addresses key safety and operational improvements at these tank farms. Staff verified electrical conditions in the field with existing drawings to ensure the accuracy of engineering design efforts.



Staff working with engineering consultants to verify electrical conditions for the caustic and fluoride tank farms at the Diemer plant

Staff repaired sample lines that were damaged during asphalt improvements at the Skinner plant. The asphalt is being replaced in areas around the plant under a capital project. In the process of asphalt removal and soil compaction, some underground pipes were inadvertently damaged. Staff quickly made the necessary repairs to maintain the project schedule.



Staff cutting asphalt for sample line repair at the Skinner plant



Staff excavating a sample line for repairs at the Skinner plant

Objective #4 Optimize Maintenance.

In April, staff discovered a leak on the Upper Feeder pipeline in the city of Riverside where the pipeline spans the Santa Ana River along a truss bridge. The leak was the result of a small crack in a bellows expansion joint. Staff performed an innovative temporary repair last month to allow continued operation of the feeder and is monitoring the crack weekly. As the Upper Feeder is a major artery delivering Colorado River water to the region during this record drought, ensuring the reliability of the pipeline is of utmost priority. Operations and Engineering staff have been quickly and effectively collaborating on a long-term repair plan, which has included surveying and monitoring vibration at the site to gather data and inform the repair approach. After reviewing various options and assessing the condition of the existing bellows joint, a carbon steel slip joint was designed and is being fabricated in the La Verne Shops to replace the damaged joint. A shutdown is being planned for late summer to install the new joint. Responding to this emergency event demonstrates the dedication and creativity of Metropolitan staff to rapidly develop solutions under challenging conditions to ensure reliable deliveries to the region.



Leak on Upper Feeder bellows expansion joint (left) and temporary repair with custom bracket and plate (right)



Rolling of new carbon steel slip joint in the La Verne Shops for Upper Feeder repairs

Skilled technicians are critical to Metropolitan's maintenance program. This month, staff worked to troubleshoot a lubrication oil flow meter on a CRA main pump unit. The flow meter monitors lubrication to the associated bearings and will trip the unit offline if adequate oil supply is not maintained.



Staff troubleshooting an oil flow meter at a desert pumping plant

Continuous monitoring of critical systems is key to reliability. Desert staff are responsible for maintenance and calibration of the motor management relays for the CRA pumps. The motor management relays monitor electrical data and ensure that the motors are operating within parameters.



Staff testing replacement motor management relay at a Desert pumping plant

The CRA pumping units may use as much as 600 gallons of lubrication oil per unit. Lubrication oil can be processed to remove impurities, saving costs relative to replacing the oil. Staff operate pump equipment using a combination of heat, filtration, and centrifugal force to remove particulates and moisture from the oil.



Processing used oil for re-use at a Desert pumping plant

With the CRA flowing at maximum capacity during this record drought, Engineering Services Group designed orifice gates to relieve pressure on the head gates, which are used to modulate flow along the CRA. Desert staff facilitated installation and removal of the orifice gates after completing a 30-day test.



Staff removing the orifice gates at Hinds pumping plant

In December 2021, heavy rainfall exposed approximately 125 feet of the Foothill Feeder encasement in the city of Santa Clarita along Newhall Creek. The Foothill Feeder delivers untreated State Water Project supplies from Castaic Lake to the Jensen plant. In coordination with Engineering Services and Environmental Planning, staff moved approximately 3,500 cubic yards of material to restore coverage over the feeder.



Exposed concrete section of the Foothill Feeder (left) and processing and placing fill material over the feeder (right)



Cutting the slope for the fill placed over the Foothill Feeder

Staff replaced a corroded air vent stack, associated underground piping, and a concrete footing for a sectionalizing valve structure on the Palos Verdes Feeder in the city of Lomita. The air vent system provides air flow to prevent condensation build-up and corrosion of mechanical and electrical components inside the underground structure.



Corroded vent stack and damaged footing (left) and repaired vent stack and footing (right) on the Palos Verdes Feeder

This month staff completed routine and corrective maintenance at the Foothill Hydroelectric Plant (HEP), which has been offline because of low water levels in Castaic Lake. Maintenance included cleaning and testing high-voltage electrical equipment and adjusting the wicket gates, which control the flow and power output of the turbine.



Staff making final adjustments to the wicket gates at Foothill HEP

The La Verne Shops refurbished two hydraulic actuators for the Tier 5 butterfly valves at the Lake Skinner outlet tower. These valves are used to draw water from different depths of the lake, depending on water quality needs. To complete the work, staff designed, fabricated, and installed two large bulkheads used to isolate the valves from the lake side of the tower.



Bulkhead fabrication (left) and installation by divers (right) at the Lake Skinner outlet tower



Staff installing hydraulic actuator at Tier 5 of the Lake Skinner outlet tower

Staff rehabilitated a module's filter inlet goosenecks at the Skinner plant. The goosenecks provide an even and consistent path of clarified water flow from the filter inlet channel to the filters, allowing the filter media to effectively trap particulates. The steel gooseneck pipes have a mortar lining that protects them from corrosion. The mortar lining developed cracks, requiring staff to perform repairs.



Staff chipping mortar lining on filter inlet goosenecks at the Skinner plant

Staff continued the system-wide coatings program aimed at preventing corrosion and extending the life of pipelines and infrastructure. Staff recently completed post-shutdown coatings maintenance on the Second Lower Feeder to ensure infrastructure protection and reliability. Staff also completed various projects that include new coatings on manifolds at the Ramona Pressure Control Structure.



Vacuum air release station before (left) and after (right) coatings on the Second Lower Feeder



New batteries for high-voltage switchgear at the Jensen plant

Staff replaced the direct current (DC) batteries associated with switchgear at the Jensen plant. The batteries were very close to the end of their 20-year life cycle and were exhibiting signs of failure during recent load testing. The batteries provide power to the protection relays on the high-voltage switchgear that feed the ozone power supply units.

Staff replaced valve couplings used for the sensing lines of several venturi-style revenue meters during the Middle Feeder shutdown. To perform this work, staff isolated the meter, drained the line, removed old hardware, and replaced them with modified hardware for improved maintenance.



Old valve coupling before replacement along the Middle Feeder



Staff cutting corroded bolts to remove hardware (left) and installing new hardware (right) for revenue meters along the Middle Feeder

Objective #5 Manage the Power System.

With continuing drought conditions, the CRA is expected to maintain a planned eight-pump flow through September 2022. Under eight-pump flow conditions, a Resource Adequacy (RA) deficit of approximately 2 MW was anticipated in June 2022. However, Red Mountain HEP's return to service in April provided approximately 4 MW of RA and eliminated the need to procure additional market RA for June—a savings of up to \$15,000. Sufficient RA for maximum CRA pumping is forecast through September 2022.

Objective #6 Improve Emergency Preparedness and Response.

Metropolitan Facilities Management and Emergency Management staff met with representatives from Morlin Management and toured Union Station. Morlin Management oversees the Union Station properties and coordinates directly with various tenants, including LA Metro, Metrolink, and Amtrak. As Metropolitan's headquarters is part of the Union Station campus, it is important to maintain strong relationships to facilitate collaboration in the event of an emergency. Metropolitan staff also provided Morlin Management with a tour of Metropolitan's Headquarters-Incident Command Post (HQ-ICP). The HQ-ICP manages the response to a local building emergency. Both parties agreed to conduct joint training and exercises in the future.

Staff conducted a site familiarization tour of the Diemer plant for several stations of the Orange County Fire Authority. The tour focused on hazardous materials management, emergency response, site safety, and the treatment process. Routine site visits help ensure that first responders are familiar with the plant layout and aware of the potential dangers, in the event a response to the site is needed.



Orange County Fire Authority at the Diemer plant for a site familiarization tour



Staff reviewing ozone treatment and safety processes at the Diemer plant with the Orange County Fire Authority

Objective #7 Optimize Water Treatment and Distribution.

The State Water Project target blend entering the Weymouth and Diemer plants and Lake Skinner was zero percent in April 2022. Because of a scheduled Lake Skinner outlet tower outage, the Skinner plant was on the lake bypass and received 100 percent Colorado River water for 10 days beginning on April 19.

Flow-weighted running annual averages for total dissolved solids from March 2021 through February 2022 for Metropolitan's treatment plants capable of receiving a blend of supplies from the State Water Project and the Colorado River Aqueduct were 583, 576, and 579 mg/L for the Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner plants, respectively.

Staff installed and tested two new backflow devices on the La Verne backup water supply at the Weymouth plant. The new backflow devices are made of stainless steel and replace the aging steel devices, which are susceptible to corrosion. The La Verne backup water supply provides water to the chlorine ejectors and other chemical injection systems if there is an interruption of the plant's domestic water system. After installation, staff certified the devices for operation.



Staff testing and certifying newly installed backflow devices at the Weymouth plant

Objective #8 Manage Water Reserves.

Water reserves continued to be managed according to Water Surplus and Drought Management (WSDM) principles, operational objectives, and the current 5 percent State Water Project (SWP) allocation. Deliveries of SWP supplies were minimized to preserve SWP Carryover and Flexible Storage. Releases from DVL through PC-1 to connections on the Lakeview Pipeline, as well as the DVL to Mills plant operation, continued in May to conserve SWP use in that area. Returns from the Semitropic and Kern Delta SWP Banking Programs also continued in May. Staff continued Greg Avenue pump operations to minimize SWP usage by about 3,300 AF per month. In addition, staff continued coordination with member agencies, shifting their deliveries from SWP connections to Colorado River water connections, when possible. Staff continue to develop additional drought mitigation actions to help with the low SWP allocation in 2022.

Objective #10 Manage Vacancies.

WSO filled seven vacant positions in April.

Objective #11 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. This month, the Class of 2023 mechanical apprentices completed their final welding exams. The final exam used written and practical exercises to test apprentices' knowledge and skills. Semester instruction included welding principles, hot work safety and processes, proper welding techniques, metallurgy, and project layout. Welding is a critical skill mechanical operations and maintenance technicians use to maintain Metropolitan's equipment and facilities. The Class of 2023 electrical apprentices continued learning about programmable logic control (PLC) timers and application development. Apprentices demonstrated comprehension during midterm exams by troubleshooting and programming PLCs. PLCs are used to control processes throughout the water treatment and distribution systems.



Class of 2023 mechanical apprentices demonstrating vertical welding (left) and performing overhead weld (right)

On May 24, the Apprenticeship Program celebrated Class of 2021 graduates during a virtual completion ceremony. Six electricians and seven mechanics were recognized for successful academic performance during the four-year program. The program includes eight periods of classroom instruction and over 100 written and practical exams. Outstanding achievement awards were presented to the top-performing apprentice from each discipline. Ceremony attendees commended the class for demonstrating persistence and flexibility by overcoming pandemic challenges and completing one and half years of classroom training virtually. The ceremony was well-attended by apprentices, program sponsors, Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee members, and managers from all levels of Water System Operations. To date, Metropolitan's Apprenticeship Program has developed and graduated 147 journey-level employees. These journeys constitute just over 50 percent of the current electrical and mechanical trades responsible for maintaining Metropolitan's treatment and distribution facilities.

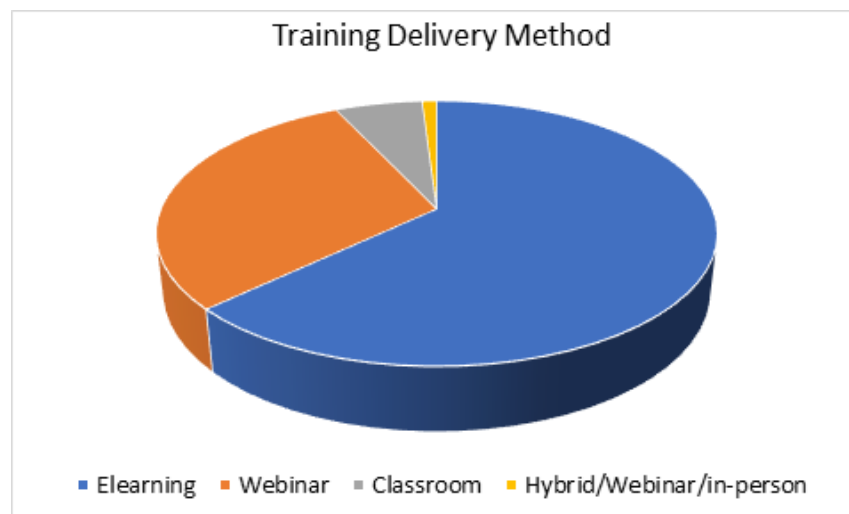


Class of 2021 Apprenticeship Program graduates



Class of 2021 Apprenticeship Program honorees for Outstanding Achievement in the electrical craft (Peter Le Blanc, left) and the mechanical craft (Austin Turner, right)

This month, staff trained 1,382 employees on 46 safety and technical topics. Although sessions are transitioning back to the classroom, webinars and eLearning instruction will continue to be used to the extent effective. Use of webinars and eLearning methods significantly increase the number of employees able to attend training, reduce the number of classes required, decrease employee travel time, and reduce employees' time away from the job.



Training delivery methods for April 2022

Objective #13 Ensure Accurate Billing Infrastructure.

Staff replaced a plug valve at the OC-44 service connection turnout structure on East Orange County Feeder No. 2. The plug valve had developed a leak around the shaft seal that could not be repaired without full disassembly. Replacing the valve minimized service impact to the member agency. Staff transported the old valve to the La Verne Shops for rehabilitation.



Leak on a plug valve at the OC-44 service connection turnout structure on East Orange County Feeder No. 2



Staff removing the plug valve in the OC-44 service connection turnout structure on East Orange County Feeder No. 2

GM Strategic Priority #2: Sustainability

Objective #1 Prepare for Future Legislation and Regulation.

On April 10, the Environmental Protection Agency proposed a new rule under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) to ban the production, importation, and distribution of asbestos and asbestos-containing materials used by the chlor-alkali industry, among others. This ban is important, as up to 45 percent of the manufacturing capacity for chlorine

and caustic soda in the United States used for water and wastewater treatment still uses asbestos as part of the manufacturing process (i.e., in the form of asbestos diaphragms). Staff are working with the American Water Works Association and The Chlorine Institute to oppose the regulation. The industry is seeking either an exemption from the ban or a sufficiently long period of time to implement alternative technologies.

On April 21, the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health adopted the third and final draft of the COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standards (ETS). The updated ETS will be in effect May 6 through December 31, 2022, after which a new permanent COVID-19 standard will go into effect. The latest update provides more flexibility and is consistent with California Department of Public Health (CDPH) requirements. Key updates include:

- Removal of “fully vaccinated” definition to allow all employees to receive the same level of protection, regardless of vaccination status
- Requiring face covers only upon CDPH mandates
- Removing cleaning and disinfection protocols
- Updated definitions for “close contact,” “infectious period,” and “COVID-19 testing”

Staff will continue to monitor for any new updates to the ETS.

On April 25, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) released the second draft of the proposed Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) Regulation. The ACF Regulation mandates that beginning in 2024, 50 percent of fleet purchases for new vehicles with a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating of 8,500 pounds or more will need to be zero-emission, and 100 percent by 2027. Near-zero emission vehicles may be purchased until January 1, 2035, provided that no comparable zero emission vehicles are available at time of purchase. The draft also allows for certain exemptions or extensions to purchasing requirement. Staff are continuing to review and assess impacts from the latest ACF draft.

On May 9, staff hosted representatives from the State Water Resources Control Board to discuss microplastics sampling and detection methods in preparation for required regulatory monitoring. The visit included an overview of Metropolitan’s treatment plants and a trip to Lake Mathews to review the logistics of large volume sample collection at field locations.

On May 10, CARB released its draft 2022 Climate Change Scoping Plan for public comment. The plan lays out the state’s path to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045 while also assessing progress towards reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. CARB anticipates finalizing the Draft 2022 Scoping Plan by year’s end. Approval of the plan catalyzes and/or revises several climate-related regulatory efforts, such as vehicle electrification, the Low Carbon Fuel Standard, Cap-and-Trade, and the Renewables Portfolio Standard, among others. Staff are evaluating the draft Scoping Plan for any potential impacts on Metropolitan.

Objective #3 Support the Regional Recycled Water Program.

Staff continued to support biological process stabilization at the Regional Recycled Water Advanced Purification Center demonstration facility in Carson in preparation for testing the secondary membrane bioreactor (MBR) process. The MBR system successfully achieved greater than the target 80 percent nitrogen removal through the aerobic and anoxic biological reactors, consistently performing better than model projections.

Staff completed improvements to microbial sampling skids, trained consultant staff on sampling methods and processing, serviced online instrumentation, prepared for start-up of chemical feed and reverse osmosis (RO) systems, and continued to troubleshoot a pump on the MBR system. Staff began analyzing pretesting phase microbial samples from the demonstration facility influent and MBR filtrate, as well as characterizing MBR filtrate quality for

various surrogates. Staff also installed a new chemical tank to improve sodium hypochlorite feed reliability for the ultraviolet/advanced oxidation process reactor.



Staff improving, testing, and maintaining equipment at the demonstration facility in Carson

Objective #5 Manage Power Resources and Energy Use in a Sustainable Manner.

Metropolitan's hydroelectric plants generated an average of about 9.8 megawatts, or slightly over 7,030 megawatt-hours, and \$403,065 in revenue for the month of February 2022. Metropolitan's solar facilities, totaling 5.4 megawatts of capacity, generated approximately 590 megawatt-hours in April 2022.

A cross-functional subgroup of the Water-Energy Climate Sustainability (WECS) team is working to identify technologies, projects, and strategies that will improve the operational flexibility and energy sustainability of the CRA transmission system and pumping load. The team has explored the use of microgrids, energy storage, small- and utility-scale renewable generation, and other strategies.

As part of Metropolitan's continued efforts to increase efficiency and reduce our carbon footprint, staff continues to replace old, energy-consuming light fixtures with new LED fixtures and bulbs. This month, staff replaced light fixtures in tunnels and galleries at the Weymouth plant. The new LED fixtures will use a fraction of the energy consumed by the previous lights and provide better and more reliable illumination and visibility inside the structures.



Staff assembling and installing new LED fixtures at the Weymouth plant

Objective #6 Protect Source Water Quality.

On April 28, staff toured the Topock Chromium-6 Groundwater Remediation Project site and reviewed project activities with Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) staff. PG&E began construction in October 2018 and has completed the first phase consisting of remediation well installation along the National Trails Highway and the carbon amendment feed system. PG&E reported positive results with the establishment of the bioremediation treatment zone. The second phase of construction is expected to be completed in 2025 and will include installing additional monitoring wells and upland wells to flush the plume towards the treatment zone. Metropolitan will continue to monitor construction progress on the groundwater remediation and long-term soil remedy development to ensure continued protection of Colorado River supplies.

On May 5, staff attended a Clean Colorado River Sustainability Coalition meeting in Needles, California. Metropolitan is a member of this coalition, which is composed of key stakeholders in the Lower Colorado River Basin focused on protecting water quality in the river. Along with touring PG&E's Topock Chromium-6 Groundwater Remediation Project site, the coalition discussed a Lake Havasu mapping project and water quality conditions in Lake Mead.



Inspecting an injection well at the Topock Chromium-6 Groundwater Remediation Project in Needles, California

GM Strategic Priority #3: Innovation

Objective #2 Support and Engage with Member Agencies on Technical Matters.

On May 12, Metropolitan hosted a virtual half-day workshop on nitrification and chloramine disinfection for Member Agency Water Quality Managers with more than 165 participants. Key presentations by Metropolitan 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.



Staff participating in a Member Agency Water Quality Managers workshop on chloramine disinfection and nitrification

Objective #3 Advance Education and Outreach Initiatives.

On April 12, Metropolitan placed second at the AWWA, CA-NV Section's Top Ops Challenge held in Anaheim. The Top Ops Challenge is a jeopardy-style competition, where teams of water treatment operators compete by answering water treatment, distribution, and regulatory questions. Metropolitan's team, "Pathogen Assassins", included Jonathan Brown, Victor Galvez, and Jason Wiltsey.



**Metropolitan Pathogen Assassins
Jason Wiltsey, Victor Galvez, and Jonathan Brown (left to right)**

Operations

(continued)

Monthly Update as of:

5/31/2022

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Current Storage</u>	<u>Percent of Capacity</u>
<i>Colorado River Basin</i>		
Lake Powell	6,372,000	26%
Lake Mead	7,500,000	29%
<i>DWR</i>		
Lake Oroville	1,908,957	54%
Shasta Lake	1,815,122	40%
San Luis Total	918,152	45%
San Luis CDWR	579,925	55%
Castaic Lake	137,491	42%
Silverwood Lake	68,122	91%
Lake Perris	101,688	77%
<i>MWD</i>		
DVL	549,285	68%
Lake Mathews	134,236	74%
Lake Skinner	39,795	90%



Hoover Dam

Information Technology

GM Strategic Priority #1: Resiliency

Objective #2 Manage Information Technology Projects within the Capital Investment Plan to ensure reliability of IT Systems and Infrastructure.

Initiated the design phase of the Desert Microwave Tower project to replace end-of-life equipment and expand capacity and reliability to Metropolitan's communications networks. In addition, site and path surveys were completed to address reliability issues within Metropolitan's microwave communication system. Staff participated in specialized technical training that consisted of designing and configuring the microwave radio equipment. The next phase consists of completing path design and selection of equipment, acquiring new frequencies, and modifying leasing agreements.



Objective #3 Modernize Operational Technology and Control System Upgrades as part of the Capital Investment Plan.

Continued efforts under the Automatic Meter Reader project to enhance reliability of the system to address obsolescence related to end-of-life equipment and diminishing vendor support. During this period, the team completed phase 1 of the AMR pilot, which consisted of testing four communication technologies:

- Satellite using BGAN and VSAT implementations
- Cellular 4G Category M1
- QAM/hybrid radios (GE Orbit using licensed 900 MHz and cellular)
- Two-way Motorola radio data connection for one endpoint

Phase 2 of this project will be to award the procurement package for the remaining portion of system equipment, radio modems, and master stations. Efforts are underway to update the Board and seek authorization in August 2022 timeframe.



GM Strategic Priority #3: Innovation

Objective #4 Provide leadership, planning, and solutions in support of Metropolitan’s Strategic Priorities.

As part of the IT Strategic Priorities to move to cloud computing, the team successfully migrated the WorkTech time entry and approval application from on-premises servers to the Oracle Cloud Infrastructure. Transitioning applications to the cloud will allow us the flexibility in maintaining and operating key applications, as well as to provide enhanced customer experience. Other benefits include reducing Metropolitan’s physical server footprint, risk profile, and potential vulnerabilities associated with legacy hardware and operating systems.

IT NOTIFICATION



DESCRIPTION

IT maintenance on Time Entry (WorkTech), MyHR (PeopleSoft) and FEA on OCI is complete

Real Property

GM Strategic Priority #1: Resiliency

Objective #1 Provide right-of-way planning, valuation, and real property acquisition support services for the protection and reliability of existing infrastructure.

A two-year license was obtained from the US Department of Veterans Affairs for ingress and egress and to install a temporary dewatering line in support of the Perris Valley Pipeline project in Riverside County. This license allows access to the adjacent construction areas on Riverside County Transportation Commission property. This project is to help ensure continuous reliability of water delivery for both Western and Eastern Municipal Water Districts.

A Joint Operation and Use Agreement was executed between Metropolitan and a private owner to clarify Metropolitan's rights and obligations under the property's existing permanent easements, which were granted to Metropolitan from a previous owner. This agreement is in support of the Orange County Feeder Relining project. The agreement will ensure the private owner's understanding of Metropolitan's perpetual rights to access, reconstruct, maintain, operate, and replace its adjacent underground pipeline at any time.

Objective #2 Foster staff training and development.

The International Right of Way Association course on Property Descriptions was completed. This course helps staff to understand plotting and interpreting property descriptions. It also increases their knowledge in the different methods of property descriptions when reviewing legal exhibits and plats for potential real property transactions for Metropolitan.

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

Objective #2 Provide valuation, land management, and real property disposition support services for the maximum return or use of Metropolitan-owned land and facilities.

A four-year license agreement has been executed with Iglesia Bautista La Hermosa Church for vehicle parking purposes to supplement existing parking for the church's visitors. Trespassing, dumping, and encampment issues should be mitigated by the church's use of the property and as stipulated in the license agreement.

An entry permit has been issued to Morlin Asset Management on behalf of Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority for access and construction purposes. The construction work entails repairing the existing concrete walkway, waterproofing, and drainage systems affecting both Metropolitan's headquarters and Union Station. Prior drainage issues that have affected Metropolitan's facility should be rectified upon completion of construction.

Objective #3 Efficiently maintain and operate assets not related to the treatment and distribution of water.

The Diamond Valley Lake Marina Concessionaire has conducted their final fish stocking of the season. Added to the lake were 3000 pounds of rainbow trout and 500 pounds of lighting trout. Anglers of all ages looking for a catch brought their gear for the opportunity to fish during the day of the event.



Objective #4 District Housing Maintenance and Management.

Tree trimming at the in-town Wicklow property was completed. Various fruit and palm trees were trimmed away from the house to create space between them. Maintaining tree trimming reduces potential damage to roofs and helps control any potential pest issue.



Before: Overgrown tree limbs hitting the fascia boards



After: Tree limbs were trimmed away from the house structure

Eastern Region Facility Management team is responsible for providing decent, safe, and sanitary housing for employee residents. This reporting period, 35 work orders were completed, including 15 work orders that were in response to resident work requests such as repairs to leaking irrigation valves and sprinklers, replacement of weatherstripping, and installation of pet doors.

Real Property representatives attended a Business Outreach Event in Blythe, CA. This event, sponsored by Metropolitan and the Blythe Chamber of Commerce, focused on the maintenance of desert housing and recreational areas and was designed to attract local businesses to doing business with Metropolitan.

Real Property representatives participated in a job fair at Blythe Community College. This presented the opportunity to expose college students to the different career opportunities available at Metropolitan.

Environmental Planning

GM Strategic Priority #1: Resiliency

Objective #1 Provide planning, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)/National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and regulatory permitting support for programs and projects that focus on infrastructure reliability and redundancy.

- Completed Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program and administrative record for Second Lower Feeder Reach 2 under the Pre-Stressed Concrete Cylinder Pipeline (PCCP) Rehabilitation program.

Objective #2 Emphasize employee development and recruitment, knowledge capture, cross-training, management/leadership training, and succession planning.

- Staff biologist participated in coastal California gnatcatcher protocol surveys as part of permitting requirements/training required under Section 10(a)1(A) of the federal Endangered Species Act.

GM Strategic Priority #2: Sustainability

Objective #2 Provide planning, CEQA/NEPA, and regulatory permitting support for projects and activities that address the challenges of sustainability, including aging infrastructure, contaminants of concern, and affordability of water supplies.

- Completed final design review and Addendum No. 3 to the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Etiwanda Pipeline Relining Stage 3.
- Initiated technical studies for Program EIR for the Regional Recycled Water Program.
- Developed the project description for the Notice of Preparation/Initial Study for the Weymouth Water Treatment Plant EIR.

Objective #3 Continue to actively manage Metropolitan's more than 30,000 acres of conservation lands through cooperative relationships with public agencies and non-governmental conservation organizations to promote sustainability of reserve resources.

Lake Mathews Multiple Species Reserve

- Conducted a prescribed burn for species habitat enhancement and fuel management in cooperation with CalFire on approximately 67 acres in areas of the reserve south of Cajalco Road.
- Conducted sheep grazing on 500 acres of reserve lands and weed abatement of invasive Stinknet.

Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve

- Conducted a prescribed burn for species habitat enhancement and fuel management in cooperation with CalFire on approximately 75 acres in the Lopez Canyon area of the reserve.
- Conducted rare plant surveys along the north shore of Lake Skinner and identified species including Parry's spineflower, Munz's onion, and Palmer's grappling hook.
- Conducted burrowing owl artificial burrow monitoring and weed abatement of invasive Stinknet.

Upper Salt Creek Preserve

- Conducted environmental review of post-Stowe wildfire remediation.

Objective #4 Develop a Climate Action Plan (CAP) and prepare CEQA documentation to be used to offset greenhouse (GHG) emissions from future construction projects. Identify new and continuing conservation efforts for the purpose of reducing future GHG reductions, as well as highlighting Metropolitan’s effort to achieve those reductions, and develop a tracking methodology to ensure that Metropolitan is meeting its goal.

Climate Action Plan

- The CAP was approved and Program EIR certified by the Board of Directors at the May board meeting.
- Filed Notices of Determination in nine counties and with the State Clearinghouse Office of Planning and Research.

GM Strategic Priority #3 Innovation

Objective #3 Partner and collaborate with regulatory and resources agencies, as well as other public agencies and external organizations, to build relationships and expedite/streamline environmental authorizations and clearances for Metropolitan projects.

- Participated in monthly meeting with DWR, Desert Water Agency, and Coachella Valley Water District on the Lake Perris Seepage Recovery project.
- Toured the Petersen Ranch Mitigation Bank near Elizabeth Lake, California (see photo). The bank provides mitigation credits for projects that require compensatory mitigation under the Clean Water Act, California Fish and Game Code, state and federal Endangered Species Acts, and California Environmental Quality Act.



Environmental Planning Section staff tour the Peterson Ranch Mitigation Bank

Core Business: Regulatory Compliance

Objective #1 Provide timely and professional environmental planning services and CEQA and regulatory permitting support to ESG, WSO, WRM, External Affairs, and Real Property groups.

Engineering Services

- Provided design phase support for the following projects:
 1. Foothill Hydroelectric Plant Seismic Upgrades
 2. Garvey Reservoir Rehabilitation Project
 3. Headquarters Sprinkler Level P1 Replacement
 4. Jensen Water Treatment Plant Wash Water Replacement Plant Flocculator Rehabilitation
 5. Live Oak Reservoir Cathodic Protection
 6. Mills Water Treatment Plant Maintenance Building Roof Replacement
 7. Perris Valley Pipeline Rehabilitation
 8. San Diego Pipeline Nos. 1 and 2 Rainbow Tunnel Concrete Repairs
 9. Red Mountain and San Dimas Power Plants New Canopy and Generator Installation
 10. San Diego Canal Liner Repairs
 11. Santa Monica Feeder Cathodic Protection
 12. Santa Monica Feeder Relocation
 13. Sepulveda Feeder Stray Current Drain Station
 14. West Orange County Feeder Blowoff Drain Line Rehabilitation
 15. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant Administration Building Seismic Upgrades
 16. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant Natural Gas Sys Improvements
 17. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant Water Quality Labs
- Provided construction phase support for:
 1. Garvey Reservoir Drainage Improvements
 2. Lake Mathews Wastewater System Rehabilitation
 3. PCCP Rehabilitation Valve Storage Building
 4. Orange County Feeder Relining Reaches 3, 4, 4A
 5. Western San Bernardino Right-of-Way Infrastructure Protection Program Stage 1

Water System Operations

- Provided CEQA analysis and environmental planning support for the following O&M activities:
 1. Allen McColloch Pipeline patrol road routine maintenance and grading
 2. Block Trespassing and Dumping at Lake Mathews Gate 14
 3. Dominguez Channel Electric Duct Bank
 4. Inland Feeder Stations 573+94 and 592+31
 5. Rialto Feeder routine maintenance activities
- Prepared emergency notifications to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) for Upper Santa Ana River Bridge repair.

- Obtained emergency authorization from RWQCB and USACE and provided emergency notification to California Department of Fish and Wildlife for repair of the exposed Foothill Feeder pipeline.

External Environmental Document Reviews

- Reviewed 15 CEQA notices for external projects and prepared comment letters for those that may affect Metropolitan facilities and/or operations

External Affairs

- Provided legislative analysis on Assembly Bill (AB) 1260 (Endangered Wildlife).

Real Property Support

- Provided CEQA analysis and determinations in support of three secondary use agreements and two annexation agreements.

Security

GM Strategic Priority #1: Resiliency

Objective #1 Develop and Refine Security's Strategic Plan

In an ongoing effort to protect its assets from water and power thefts, vandalism, and other street crimes, Metropolitan Security has worked closely with a variety of third-party vendors to develop enhanced physical security housings for various critical metering systems, including water meters and control systems equipment.

An unintended benefit of the enhanced housing recently became apparent when meters were protected against drunk drivers transiting on pedestrian sidewalks in Granada Hills, California. While the protective housing was sheared from its foundation bolts, the West Valley Feeder 1 vacuum valve, air release, and meter were undamaged. They continued to function at 100 percent capacity without interruption, ensuring the continued, reliable distribution of safe drinking water to the member agency.

Security staff is also evaluating electric meter box enclosures, a 30-foot double-gate locking system with five-lock capacity, utility cabinet locks, backflow locks, cage lock downs, and cage enclosures.



Enhanced physical protective shells prevent drunk drivers from interrupting distribution to member agencies

Objective #2 Improve Security and Emergency Response

Metropolitan Special Agents immediately responded to an employee's phone report of a possible intruder inside the Washington Pressure Control Structure near downtown Los Angeles. Although the structure was found to be unoccupied at the time, Agents discovered an intruder had made entry via a 48-inch discharge pipe from the Los Angeles River and had sheltered in the lowest level of the structure at some point. Personal items (clothing, graffiti, a garden hose, ladder, and tarp) were found and removed.

Agents also observed a power pole, which supplies the Metropolitan structure, had been illegally tapped with a 500-foot extension cord leading to a nearby encampment under a rail bridge. LADWP Security was immediately contacted and the system was inspected. Fortunately, no damage or harm were done to the structure.

Security grating was recommended by staff and will be immediately installed at two locations for the safety and security of both personnel and the structure.



Metropolitan Special Agents clear substructure of reported intruder

Objective #3 Improve Employee Readiness for All Hazards Emergencies

In response to recent catalytic converter theft attempts upon Valley Conveyance and Distribution utility vehicles, four new Genetec digital security cameras were installed at the Jensen Water Treatment Plant. The new cameras will provide additional redundancy in the detection of an intruder's intent to cause loss or damage to Metropolitan's critical infrastructure, key assets, and maintenance resources.

New digital cameras will improve situational awareness and process safety for plant control rooms and on-site staff.



New Axis security cameras combine the latest in electronic stabilization, optical zoom, and HD technology

Finance and Administration

Finance



CFO Strategic Priority: 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.

Objective #1 Establish rates and charges to maintain moderate overall rate increases, minimize variability, and recover costs consistent with Board policy.

In April the Board approved the Biennial Budget for fiscal years 2022/23 and 2023/24 with overall rate increases of 5 percent in CY 2023 and 5 percent in CY 2024, which includes the Capital Investment Plan and revenue requirements for fiscal years 2022/23 and 2023/24 and the ten-year forecast. In addition, the Board adopted a resolution finding that the ad valorem property tax rate limitation of Metropolitan Water District Act Section 124.5 is not applicable because it is essential to Metropolitan's fiscal integrity to collect ad valorem property taxes in excess of the limitation for fiscal years 2022/23 through 2025/26.

Objective #2 Manage risk to protect Metropolitan's assets against exposure to loss.

The Risk Management Unit completed 37 incident reports communicating instances of Metropolitan property damage, liability, workplace injuries, regulatory visits, and spills.

Risk Management completed 53 risk assessments on contracts, including professional service agreements, construction contracts, entry permits, special events, and film permits.

Core Priority: 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.

Objective #1 Manage the Business Continuity Management Program in accordance with Operating Policy A-06.

- In collaboration with Water System Operations, updated Operating Policy A-06 (Emergency Management and Business Continuity). The policy is currently going through the review process.
- Continued participating in Metropolitan's Employee Innovation Council (EIC) meetings.
- Participated in meetings for the Hazard Mitigation core planning team to develop a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan in accordance with FEMA's grant funding requirements.
- Continued facilitating tabletop exercises and Business Continuity plan updates, with a special focus on cyberattack planning.
- Collaborated with the Fusion Business Continuity Management software vendor on system and plan template enhancements.

Core Business: 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.

Objective #1 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 April 2022 totaled 133.5 thousand acre-feet (TAF), which was 1.7 TAF lower than the budget of 135.2 TAF and translates to \$126.4 million in revenues for April 2022, which were \$0.2 million lower than the budget of \$126.6 million.
- Year-to-date water transactions through April 2022 were 1,364.6 TAF, which was 50.0 TAF higher than the budget of 1,314.6 TAF. Year-to-date water revenues through April 2022 were \$1,244.5 million, which were \$39.2 million higher than the budget of \$1,205.3 million.
- In April 2022, Accounts Payable processed approximately 3,000 vendor invoices for payment and took advantage of about \$5,600 in discounts.

Objective #4 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.

CFO and Debt Management team worked with Fitch Ratings credit analysts on our bond rating surveillance process. Coordinated provision of requested financial information and answers to topical questions of interest. Reviewed results to Fitch's FAST model. Conducted several conference calls with Metropolitan staff to further clarify answers and respond to follow-up questions by the lead and supporting credit analysts.

Objective #5 Prudently manage the investment of Metropolitan's funds in accordance with policy guidelines and liquidity considerations.

As of April 30, 2022, Metropolitan's investment portfolio balance was \$1.43 billion; in April 2022, Metropolitan's portfolio managers executed 10 trades.

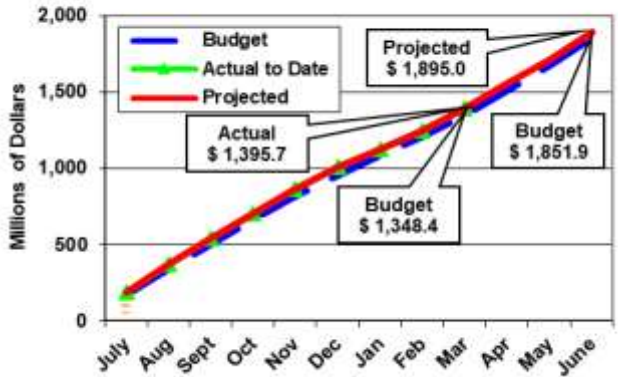
In April 2022, Treasury staff processed 921 disbursements by check, 19 disbursements by Automated Clearing House (ACH), and 108 disbursements by wire transfer. Treasury staff also processed 54 receipts by check, 32 receipts by ACH, and 45 receipts by incoming wires and bank transfers.

Finance and Administration

(continued)

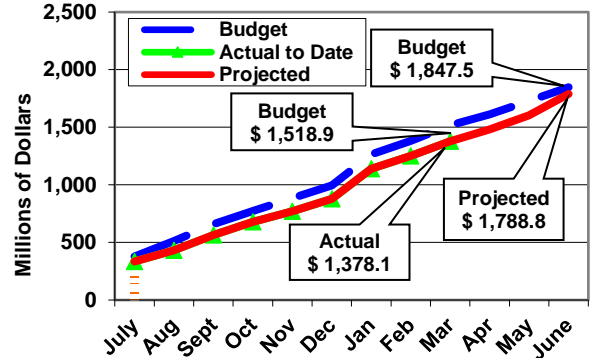
Financial Summary – Charts & Graphics

Revenues are expected to be \$43.1M above budget at year end, primarily due to higher than budgeted untreated water transactions.



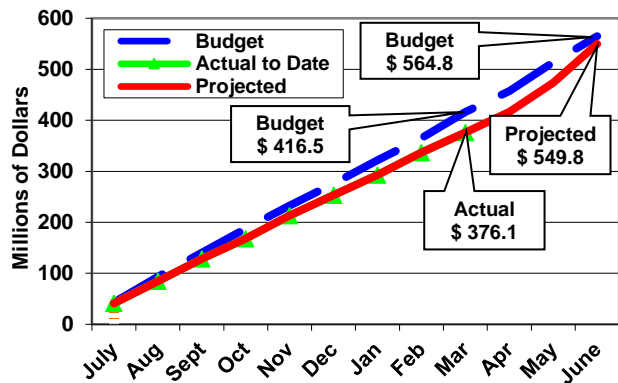
Excludes bond construction and other trust funds activity

Expenses are expected to be \$58.7M below budget at year end, primarily because of \$86.9M lower State Water Contract costs. In addition, debt service, O&M costs, and RRWP are expected to be lower than budget by \$19.8M, \$15.0M, and \$10.0M, respectively. These favorable variances were offset by \$52.0M and \$23.4M higher supply programs and CRA power costs, respectively.

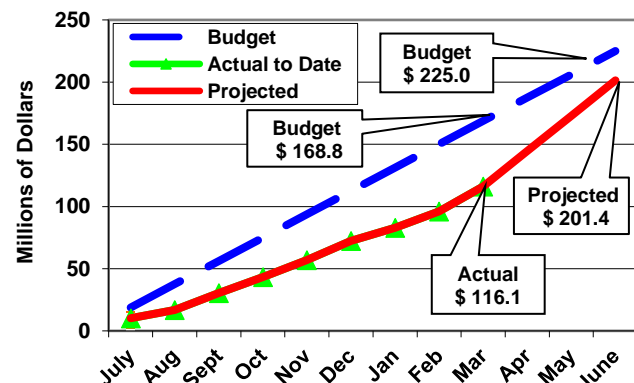


Excludes bond construction and other trust funds activity

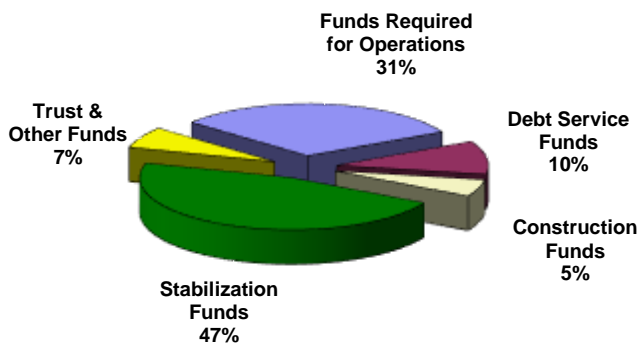
O&M expenses are expected to be \$15.0M below budget at year end, primarily due to lower than budgeted OPEB costs.



Capital Program expenses are expected to be \$23.6M below budget at year end.



Cash and Investments at Fair Value \$ 1,366.7 million



Summary Financial Statistics

	Target	Year-End Projected
Fixed Charge Coverage	≥ 1.20 x	1.90
Revenue Bond Coverage	> 2.00 x	1.90
Revenue Bond Debt / Equity Ratio	< 100.0%	55.5%

Senior Lien Revenue Bond Credit Ratings

	Target	Current
- Moody's Investors Service	Aa2	Aa1
- Fitch Ratings	AA	AA+
- Standard & Poor's	AA	AAA

Administrative Services

Accomplishments

Facilities Management approached the Procurement Team for contract options to quickly reopen the Union Station cafeteria and offer high-quality meals at reasonable prices. With brainstorming sessions and “out-of-the-box” thinking, the Procurement Team offered recommendations for Facilities to consider. As a result, Facilities chose an option that is fair and equitable for all parties to sustain reasonable prices and savings for customers. The Procurement Team successfully negotiated the terms and amended the food services contract with the current supplier in record time.

Professional Services Contracting Team staff completed Request for Qualifications (RFQ) No. 1301—Arc Flash Model Development. This acquisition was to pre-qualify and award agreements to develop Arc Flash Models using Electric Transient Analyzer Program (ETAP) power system analysis software. The project goal is to develop and deliver software-based Arc Flash prediction models and analyze Metropolitan’s major facilities, indicating their susceptibility to arc flash hazards or lack thereof. After approval by Metropolitan’s Board of Directors, staff will engage in contract negotiation and execution.

Also, for this reporting period, staff finished Request for Proposal (RFP-AM-1304)—Western Region Projects Construction Management and Inspection Services. This acquisition supports numerous construction projects expected to begin by June 2022. Based on the number of construction projects that are expected to be awarded covering Metropolitan’s western region, Metropolitan requires the assistance of a consultant to provide the construction management and inspection staff with the necessary expertise and experience to adequately cover the work, especially during facility shutdowns. The contracts awarded from this solicitation will also require approval by the Board, and upon its approval, staff will begin the negotiation and execution process with selected respondents.

In a relatively short time, and with a lot of collaboration between the interested parties, the Warehouse Team (Desert Region, specifically) successfully created and implemented a special sub-warehouse at the Gene Warehouse to fulfill the various needs of the Real Property Group’s (RPG) onsite repair and maintenance program. This team-specific mini-warehouse located inside of the Gene Warehouse will allow the onsite technicians immediate access to numerous high-demand parts and materials that were previously ordered as-needed, and often encountered delivery delays. By facilitating the proposal from RPG to stock these items on-hand, the downtime is reduced significantly, allowing for a more efficient workflow, as well as invaluable time and money saved versus piecemeal ordering.

The Warehouse Team (Thomas Wealand and Shan Nalawangsa) worked in unison with Dennis Mullen and his team to create a list of critical parts and materials required to support ongoing efforts for the Desert Region’s district housing rehabilitation initiative. The Warehouse Team created inventory item numbers for the desired merchandise (supported by Inventory Management’s Omar De Leon Medina), provided expert analysis in determining the monthly/annual rate of consumption, designated a special area for these items for safekeeping, and cultivated strong supplier relationships to support the inventory stocking and restocking process. The first successful purchase order was placed with a trusted supplier recently, and the team is eagerly awaiting the inaugural delivery of parts and materials for Real Property!

Finance and Administration

(continued)

The Imaging Services Team executed an urgent rush request from External Affairs to produce posters for the GM's press conference on the California drought. The use of in-house printing services allowed for not only a high-quality product but also provided flexibility to incorporate last-minute design changes. Raul Valdez, Oscar Real, and Juan Espinoza worked with External Affairs on this important, highly visible effort. The posters can be seen on the Metropolitan YouTube channel.

[Media briefing](#)



Human Resources

GM Strategic Priority #1: Resiliency

Objective #1: Partner with Metropolitan leadership to support learning, development, and adaptive workforce planning initiatives.

The Organizational Development and Training Unit (OD&T) facilitated in-person workshops on Building Self Awareness and Trust for Engineering's Technical Control Team and Maintenance Engineering Teams. OD&T also conducted a Communications Skills training for Lake Skinner's Water Treatment Section staff.

Thirty-five employees attended webinars on "Resiliency in the Workplace," which helped to develop change management skills and establish constructive stress tolerance strategies.

This month, 1,209 Metropolitan employees attended virtual facilitated classes, including Unintentional Bias; Personal Security Awareness; Psychological Safety at Work; Managing Hybrid Teams; and Team Resocialization and Collaboration.

LinkedIn Learning, Metropolitan's online, e-learning content platform, was used for classes, including topics on Well Being in the Workplace, Teamwork Foundations, Advanced Grammar, Emotional Intelligence, Business Ethics, and Construction Drawings.

Objective #2 Seek diverse, high-quality talent, and establish partnerships to discover additional outreach opportunities that aid in staffing positions.

Recruitment successfully filled ten positions for the month of May. Recruitment received six new staffing requisitions resulting in 197 positions currently in recruitment.

With the recently approved budget, two additional recruiters will be hired to assist with the priority of filling vacant positions.

The HR Group Manager worked with the Audit and Ethics Committee Chairwoman and Chairwoman of the Board to start the process for the General Auditor recruitment.

GM Strategic Priority #2: Sustainability

Objective #1 Implement employee retention and engagement programs to ensure Metropolitan's investment in employees is supported.

As part of the newly improved Met Rewards program, the "Cheers for Peers" peer-to-peer recognition program was announced, which encourages employees to recognize each other online for Teamwork, Collaboration, and Innovation.

Objective #2 Ensure Metropolitan managers have foundational knowledge, on-going support to effectively manage employees, and the tools to prepare for a changing workforce.

Human Resources staff continued to provide one-on-one coaching and mediation services for managers and employees in the developmental areas of career development and progression, communication skills, and stress management.

GM Strategic Priority #3: Innovation

Objective #1: Continue to upgrade HR's technological capabilities and continue to seek out improved technologies to better serve HR's customers.

HRIS staff worked with payroll department to prepare for the annual leave paydown scheduled for June 8, 2022.

HRIS staff partnered with IT staff to plan the next update of the MyHR system, which is scheduled to begin in July.

In preparation for the upcoming common evaluation process, staff determined procedures and deadlines to help process performance evaluation forms for most of the workforce.

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 Benefits Unit hosted a Student Loan Forgiveness Campaign in the month of May to remind employees that Metropolitan is a Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) employer and their employment with Metropolitan qualifies for certain student and parent plus loan payments to be waived. The campaign educated employees about the PSLF provisions and included developing a PSLF section on the IntraMet under the Benefits segment. A virtual webinar was hosted on May 25, 2022, with seasoned speakers from The Institute of Student Loan Advisors (TISLA), a non-profit organization that provides free student loan information and guidance.

The Business Support Team planned, organized, and coordinated a "Taking Care of YourSELF" wellness webinar. The live webcast, held on May 24, 2022, was hosted by Kaiser Permanente. The self-care webinar focused on four ways to improve your SELF care: Sleep, Exercise, Love, and Food. When practiced daily, these strategies will support your improved health and well-being to lead a more balanced lifestyle. There were 47 Metropolitan employees in attendance.

During the month of April, a tentative agreement was reached with AFSCME Local 1902 on a new three-year MOU extension, consistent with parameters approved by the Board's OP&T Committee. In May, that agreement was formally approved the Board.

Negotiations continue with the Supervisors Association on a successor MOU. Staff will continue to brief the OP&T Committee on the status of those talks.

HR Core Business: Comply with Employment Laws and Regulations

Objective #1: 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.

Human Resources started efforts to review hiring, promotion, and Employee Relations procedures to address concerns raised in the State Audit report and to ensure that any revisions meet the deadlines outlined in the State Audit Report.

Benefits Unit completed the initial draft of the 2021 Annual Financial Benefits Report that will be posted for the July 12, 2022, board meeting to ensure compliance with legal requirements of notification.

Finance and Administration

(continued)

In May, eight new Workers' Compensation claims were received. Eight employees remain off work because of an industrial injury or illness. This reflects Metropolitan's effort to accommodate injured workers, while enabling them to be productive and on the job.

In addition, staff is collaborating with other Metropolitan stakeholders to implement a new Incident Reporting and Case Management System designed by Ventiv Technology. Staff continues to work closely with our new Workers' Compensation Third Party Administrator, TRISTAR Risk Management, during the transition.

Activities of the Workers' Compensation/Medical Screening Unit are summarized as follows for May:

- Coordinated one medical medvan visit (DMV, respirator exams, and hearing tests) to Soto Street
- Arranged five medical evaluations (Pre-employment, DMV, medical surveillance)
- Coordinated three random drug tests
- Addressed thirty accommodation issues working directly with Shaw Consulting Group

HR Metrics	June 2021	May 2022	Prior Month April 2022
Headcount			
Regular Employees	1,806	1,760	1,753
Temporary Employees	30	39	38
Interns	3	2	2
Recurrents	20	18	18
Annuitants	16	18	16

	May 2022	April 2022
Number of Recruitments in Progress (Includes Temps and Intern positions)	197	201
Number of New Staffing Requisitions	6	11
	May 2022	April 2022
Number of Job Audit Requests in Progress	9	9
Number of Completed/Closed Job Audits	0	0
Number of New Job Audit Requests	0	0

Transactions Current Month and Fiscal YTD (includes current month)			
<u>External Hires</u>	<u>FY 20/21 Totals</u>	<u>May 2022</u>	<u>FISCAL YTD</u>
Regular Employees	74	11	75
Temporary Employees	30	4	33
Interns	3	0	4
Internal Promotions	60	4	66
Management Requested Promotions	149	24	142
Retirements/Separations (regular employees)	78	4	121
Employee-Requested Transfers	20	4	14

Finance and Administration

(continued)

Departures

Last	First Name	Classification	Eff Date	Reason	Group
Shute	Ronald	Admin Assistant II	4/1/2022	Retirement	CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
Clewley	Daniel	Pr Engineering Technician	3/28/2022	Retirement	REAL PROPERTY
Gonzales	David	O&M Tech IV	4/5/2022	Retirement	WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS GROUP
Haynes	Alfredo	IT Support Analyst III	4/15/2022	Retirement	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY GROUP

External Affairs



External Affairs

Highlights

Chairwoman Gray, Directors Ackerman, Erdman, De Jesus, Peterson, Quinn, Record, Tamaribuchi, GM Hagekhalil, and Metropolitan staff attended the Association of California Water Agencies Spring Conference in Sacramento, which included presentations on drought conditions, climate change, Voluntary Agreements, the need for infrastructure investments, climate change, and DEI issues in the water industry. (May 3-5)

Governor Newsom joined with EO/AGM Upadhyay, LA County Sanitation District GM Ferrante, LA County Supervisor Mitchell, Senator Bradford (D-Gardena), and Carson Mayor Davis-Holmes for a tour and press conference at the Regional Recycled Water Program's Advanced Demonstration Facility. The primary purpose of the event was to generate greater public awareness about drought conditions, call for more conservation and underscore the need for investments to increase local supplies. Press coverage included KTLA-TV Channel 5, KABC-TV Channel 7, FOX 11, Spectrum 1, Politico, KNX-AM 1070, Reuters, Southern California News Group/Torrance Daily Breeze, and Univision. (May 16)



Gov. Newsom RRWP Tour and Press Conference



Global Water Summit Award Ceremony

Chairwoman Gray and GM Hagekhalil attended the Global Water Summit in Spain and made presentations on Metropolitan's innovative approaches to safe drinking water, future planning, conservation, workforce development and DEI, and advances in the development of recycled water projects. At the event, Metropolitan was also named a "Leading Utilities of the World" member, a network of 56 of the world's most innovative and top performing utilities. (May 16-18)

GM Hagekhalil hosted a listening session for leaders from dozens of environmental, conservation and community-based organizations to share the latest information about drought conditions, the many actions that are being taken by Metropolitan and member agencies to promote conservation and water use efficiency, and to explore opportunities to partner with these organizations. (May 26).

Legislative Services

Local

In addition to regularly scheduled government affairs meetings, Metropolitan staff participated in 70 webinars and meetings with chambers of commerce, business organizations, and community events on water-specific topics. At many of these events, staff made presentations on current drought conditions and conservation programs.

State

The Governor's May Revision includes \$5.2 billion for water and drought resilience, including \$1.3 billion to support agriculture, urban and small water suppliers, water recycling projects, emergency response, and fish and wildlife needs in response to drought. In addition, there is the commitment of multi-year funding including another \$500 million in FY 2025-26 for Proposition 1 Water Supply Investment Program projects to benefit water supply resilience and the environment. Staff continues to work with the Administration to advocate for funding in the final FY 2022-23 state budget for Southern California's water infrastructure priorities.

Federal

Provided a briefing to Congresswoman Napolitano (D-El Monte) on the emergency water conservation program and water supply conditions. (May 23)

Metropolitan staff is closely tracking the House and Senate versions of the Water Resources and Development Act of 2022 (H.R. 7776 and S. 4136), which will authorize the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to carry out locally driven water resources development projects.

Media and Communications

Metropolitan earned the 2022 Best-in-Show Award from the National Association of Government Communicators for its entry in the video television programs/entertainment category. The two conservation videos, "How Zombies and Tough Guys Help Save Water" topped more than 290 entries from government agencies nationwide. This is Metropolitan's second "Best in Show" award in the past five years, a distinction that has not been achieved by any other state, local, or federal agency.

Media Activities and Interviews

Press coverage following Metropolitan's action to declare a Water Shortage Emergency and to implement the Emergency Water Conservation Program included stories by the LA Times, KCBS-TV Channel 2, Southern California News Group, Vision Latina, KFI-AM 640, KTLA-TV Channel 5, KABC-TV Channel 7, Fox 11, Univision KMEX-TV Channel 34, Spectrum 1, KNBC-TV Channel 4, KVEA-TV, KNX-AM 1070, Wall Street Journal, KPCC-FM 89.3, CalMatters, Forbes, Fox Weather, and the Associated Press.

GM Hagekhalil was interviewed by the Washington Post, CNN, Reuters TV, Al Jazeera, KNBC-TV Channel 4, Los Angeles Times, Conan Nolan, host of KNBC-TV Channel 4's Press Conference public affairs program, and the CivitasLA podcast on current water issues facing Southern California.

Other interviews included:

- WRM Group Manager Coffey and KPCC's Air Talk with Larry Mantle, Bloomberg, and KTLA-TV Channel 5
- Resource Planning Manager Polyzos and KABC-TV Channel 7 daily news, ABC7 Eyewitness Newsmakers with Anchor Marc Brown, and Canadian Broadcast Corporation (radio), and freelance reporter Nick Schou for the online environmental magazine *Red Canary* on water supplies, local resources, and conservation
- WRM Resource Specialist Guerrero and LA Times gardening reporter Jeanette Marantos and KFI-AM 640's Dean Sharp regarding ways to conserve
- EA PR Government Affairs Representative Cetina on CNN en espanol, Weather Channel en espanol, Univision 24/7, and KMEX-TV 34 Univision (at Diamond Valley Lake via Zoom)
- EO/AGM Upadhyay and KCBS-TV Channel 2 meteorologist Evelyn Taft on how Southern California gets its water and how each of those supplies is being affected by drought and climate change
- Colorado River Resources Manager Hasencamp and Arizona Daily Star reporter Tony Davis on the Colorado River 500 Plus plan, and *Landscape Architecture Magazine* editor Lisa Lowensvi on land fallowing and agricultural partnerships
- Bay-Delta Initiatives Manager Arakawa and *Estuary Magazine* reporter Cariad Thronson regarding the Voluntary Agreements
- Coordinated interviews between WRM Group Manager Coffey and Water Efficiency Team Manager McDonnell with *Southern California Builder* about drought conditions and conservation programs.

GM Hagekhalil participated in a panel discussion on Sites Reservoir for a podcast produced by the Southern California Water Coalition.

Press releases

- Issued press release on Metropolitan's Emergency Water Conservation Program
- Distributed press release on board approval of the Climate Action Plan
- Issued press release on naming of Liji Thomas as Metropolitan's first Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer
- Issued statements following Governor Newsom's meeting with the state's major water agencies calling for a greater commitment to water conservation and in response to the State Water Resource Control Board's conservation mandates.

Creative Design

- Launched the next round of the 2022 Spring/Summer conservation advertising campaign on radio, television sponsorships, transit shelters, LA Live jumbo screens, Asian-language publications, and social media
- Unveiled new "How We Save Water" campaign website that features easy-to-navigate information on water use, rebates, the latest drought news, and a toolkit with all in-house-produced assets in multiple languages, available to download. The site is also being translated into Spanish and Chinese.
- Prepared customized materials for SWP-dependent area member agencies
- Created MetWorks outreach materials to promote construction and procurement contracting opportunities

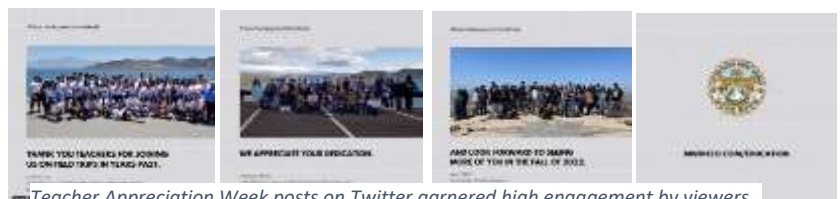


Website

- Received 130,000-page views to the mwdh2o.com website, with more than 7,000 views to the press release on outdoor watering restrictions. The 2022 drought webpage was the second most viewed page.
- The mwdh2o.com website was awarded as Honoree in Best Data Visualization in Websites and Mobile sites at the Webby Awards beating out entries from NASA, CNN, Google and IKEA.
- Generated 92,000-page views on bewaterwise.com, with the newly created How We Save Water page as the most-visited page.

Social Media

- Featured posts highlighting the Board's actions declaring a Water Shortage Emergency and the implementation of an Emergency Water Conservation Program, resulting in some of the highest organic engagement on Twitter, with more than 53,000 impressions and more than 3,000 engagements.
- Social media posts from Governor Newsom's visit to the Regional Recycled Water Advanced Purification Center garnered strong engagement on both Twitter and Instagram.
- Generated more than 18.6 million impressions from the How We Save Water advertising campaigns.
- Recognized Drinking Water Week, Teacher Appreciation Week, and Earth Day, while also highlighting Asian American Heritage Month.



Teacher Appreciation Week posts on Twitter garnered high engagement by viewers

Public Outreach and Member Services

Regional Recycled Water Program

Staff provided tours of the Advanced Demonstration Facility to Los Angeles County Supervisor Mitchell (May 4) and Los Angeles County Supervisor Solis (May 16).

Tours and briefings were also provided to Rebuild SoCal Partnership (May 2); Southern Nevada Water Authority (May 3); Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative (May 9); ACWA officials (May 11), Wilmington Rotary (May 16); Rose Hills (May 18); Jeannine Pearce, City of Long Beach (May 18); Soroptimist LA (May 18); Azusa Rotary (May 19); SCOPE LA. (May 20)

Meetings were held with Carson Coalition to discuss community engagement strategies (May 3); Council for Watershed Health for recycled water communications coordination (May 5); City of Carson for pipeline alignment discussions (May 10); and LA Sanitation staff to discuss Hyperion 2035 Advisory Groups. (May 18)

Conducted focus groups on potable reuse and program name in English and Spanish. (May 16, 18, and 19)

Construction/Maintenance Outreach

- Inspection trip for directors and member agency staff to see current and planned projects that will improve drought resiliency and water supply for SWP-dependent areas (May 18)
- Notified residents of maintenance work and flowmeter replacement in Rolling Hills Estates
- Distributed community notifications for the Upper Feeder shutdown in Riverside

Education and Community Relations

Metropolitan staff virtually interacted with more than 3,000 teachers, students, and parents through online virtual tours, scouting programs, customized ZOOM class presentations.

Metropolitan partnered with District Agricultural Association for an event at the LA County Fair to educate hundreds of students about their water supplies and conservation. (May 20)

Education staff participated in the Inspired Garden Artistry Spring Garden Tour and a meeting of the Ventura County Work-based Learning Consortium, which seeks to connect high school and community college students with careers, and Ignite22, a blue economy technology showcase and summit.



Schools Agriculture and Nutrition Exhibition, LA County Fair



Moulton Niguel NatureScape Garden Tour

External Affairs staff exhibited at Moulton Niguel Municipal Water District's annual NatureScape Garden Tour featuring native plant landscapes. (May 7)

New outreach materials have been designed to help residents maintain healthy lawns, trees, and gardens with watering restrictions. The materials are posted to bewaterwise.com and are available for co-branding with member agencies.

External Affairs staff joined WRM Group Manager Coffey in a presentation to the Orange County Water Advisory Committee. The joint presentation covered current water supply conditions, operational challenges, communications activities, marketing, and outreach. (May 13)

Community Partnering and Sponsorship Program

The Community Partnership Program (CPP), approved five sponsorships that supported water conservation, education events, and projects: the Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative Water Community Forum, Tuscany Hills Elementary School Water Education Community Garden, City of Hawthorne Earth Day, Trabuco Canyon Water District Water Awareness Day, and Oceanographic Teaching Stations, Inc. Earth Day Event.



Solar Cup 2022 Recognition and Awards Webinar

GM Hagekhalil offered congratulatory remarks at the Solar Cup 2022 recognition and awards webinar, which recognized participating students from 15 high school teams representing nine member agencies.

Business Outreach and Innovation

Metropolitan supported small businesses and entrepreneurs throughout the region with online participation and sponsorship of the following programs, online conferences, webinars, and events: Braid Theory's IGNITE; Octane's Tech Innovation Forum; ABA-LA Community Open House; United Contractors Association Public Works Summit; Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce Small Business Summit; National Association of Minority Contractors; My Green Building Conference and Expo; US Green Building Council; and the Society of American Military Engineers.



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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