



Engineering, Operations, & Technology Committee

Diemer Helicopter Hydrant Facility

Item 7-4

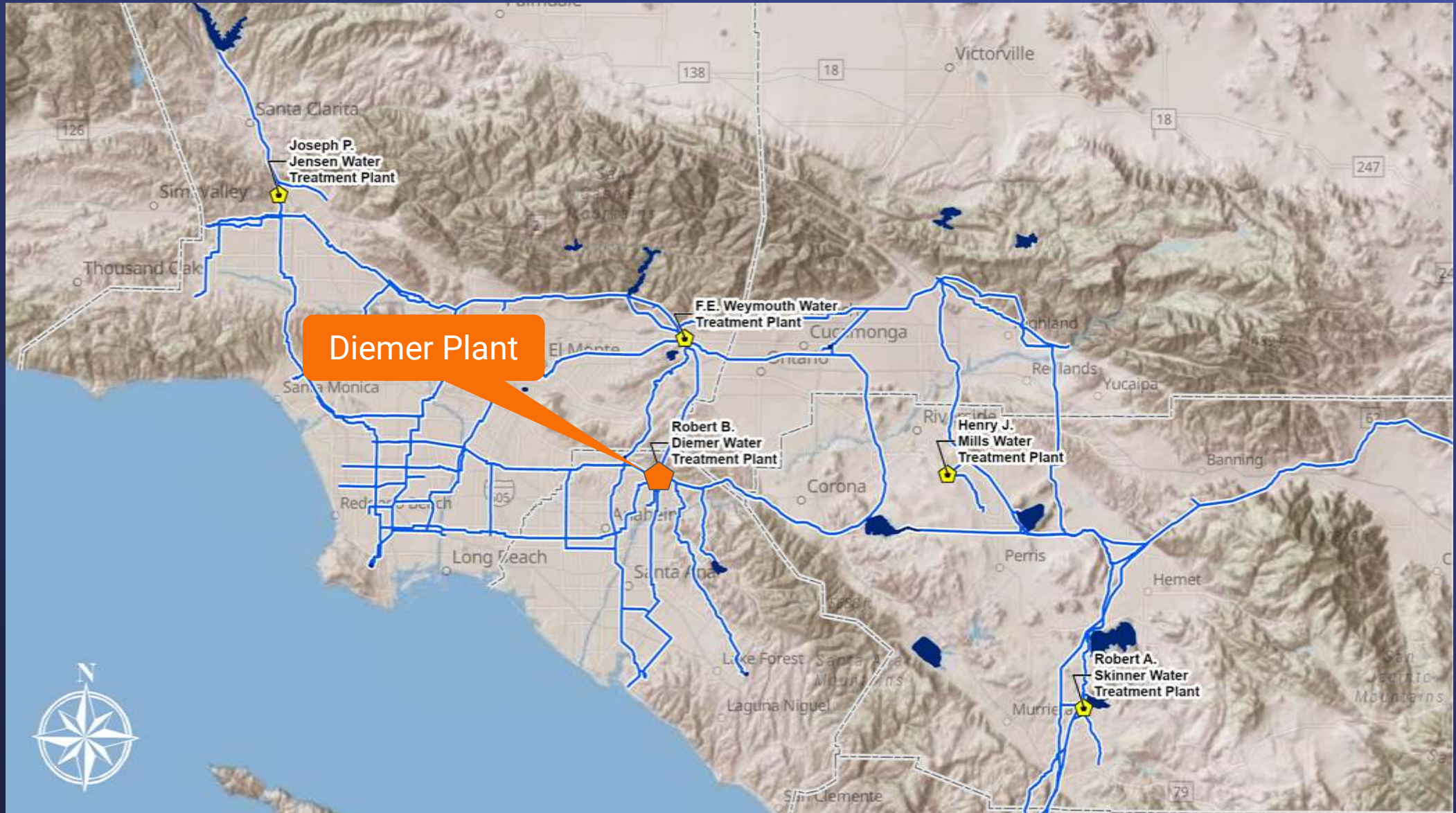
May 8, 2023

Diemer Helicopter Hydrant Facility

Current Action

- Amend the Capital Investment Plan for fiscal years 2022/2023 & 2023/2024 to include the Diemer Helicopter Hydrant Facility project

Distribution System



Background – Wildfire History

- 2008 Freeway Complex Fire burned east, north & west side slopes of the plant
- OCFA classified Diemer as high fire risk area
- Metropolitan Response - retrofitted control room with new smoke control filtration equipment



2008 Freeway Complex Fire

Background – Wildfire History

- 2020 Blue Ridge Fire within 1 mile of Diemer
- New smoke control filtration equipment allowed staff to continue operations
- Metropolitan Response - Approval of minor capital project to design & construct open-top water tank for firefighting helicopters



2020 Blue Ridge Fire

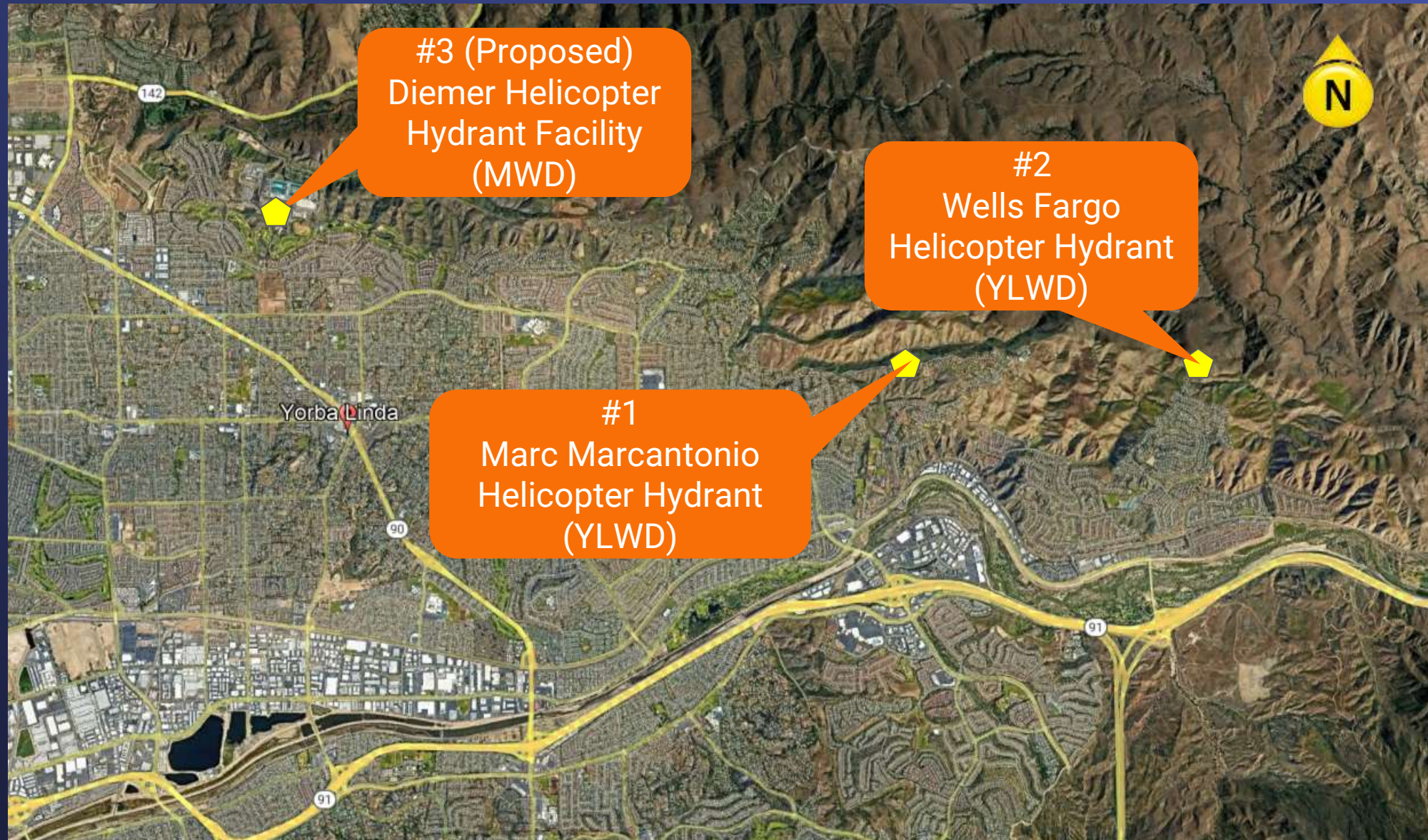
Background

- Metropolitan regularly coordinates with local first-responders and Orange County Emergency Management agencies
- Nov. 17, 2022 Diemer hosted a full-scale exercise for a hazardous materials response / security incident



2022 Diemer Full-Scale Exercise

Background



Diemer Helicopter Hydrant Facility

Background

- Yorba Linda Water District (YLWD)
 - September 2022 YLWD received United States Forest Service (USFS) \$500k grant for a new helicopter hydrant near Diemer
- YLWD & Metropolitan are proposing a partnership to build a third helicopter hydrant



YLWD Helicopter Hydrant in-use



YLWD Helicopter Hydrant Tank

Diemer Helicopter Hydrant Facility

Background

- YLWD & Metropolitan share a common goal for wildfire resilience in the area
- YLWD & Metropolitan agreed to collaborate resources for the construction of a helicopter hydrant facility at Diemer plant
 - Allows first responders access to a quick-fill water source
 - Innovative way to safeguard life, property & environment for benefit community & Diemer plant

Diemer Helicopter Hydrant Facility

Alternatives Considered

- Delay project & include in next CIP budget
 - Extends schedule beyond USFS grant timeline
- Selected Alternative – Install helicopter hydrant facility in current CIP budget
 - Takes advantage of USFS grant funding
 - Expedites commissioning of key facility for wildfire control

Diemer Helicopter Hydrant Facility

Scope of Work

- Metropolitan
 - Design, procure, & construct facility (open-top water tank & landing pad)
 - Own & operate facility
- YLWD
 - Provide \$500k in grant funding to Metropolitan
 - USFS, Cal Fire & OCFA coordination
 - Technical support in design & construction

Allocation of Funds

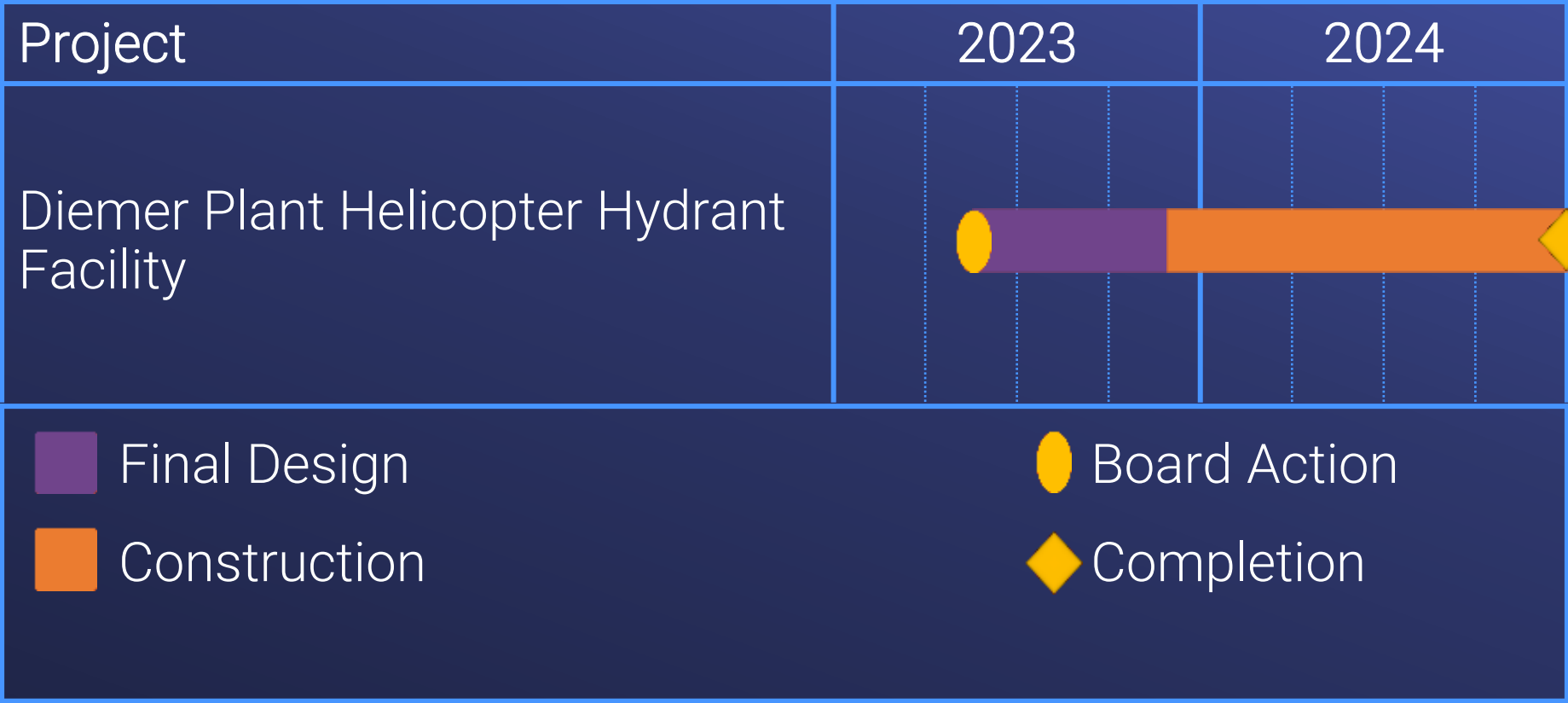
Diemer Plant Helicopter Hydrant Facility

Metropolitan Labor

Studies & Investigations	\$ 143,000
Final Design	90,000
Owner Costs (Proj. Mgmt., Contract Admin., Envir. Support)	70,000
Construction Inspection & Support	20,000
Force Construction	420,000
Materials (Tank)	190,000
Remaining Budget	47,000
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Total	\$ 980,000

*\$480,000 capital and \$500,000 Grant Funds

Project Schedule



Board Options

- Option #1
 - Amend the Capital Investment Plan for fiscal years 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 to include the Diemer Helicopter Hydrant Facility project.
- Option #2
 - Do not proceed with the project at this time.

Staff Recommendation

- Option #1

