

General Manager's Monthly Report



Activities for the Month of April 2023



Table of Contents

Message from the GM	3
Strategic Priorities Update	4-5
Executive Summary	6-7
Reflections	8
Water Resources and Engineering	
Water Resource Management	9-11
Bay-Delta	12-13
Colorado River	14
Engineering	15-21
Operations	
Water System Operations	22-44
Information Technology	45-46
Real Property	47-51
Security	52-53
Finance and Administration	
Finance	54-55
Administrative Services	56
Human Resources	57-58
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion	59-60
External Affairs	61-66
Sustainability, Resiliency and Innovation	67-74

Message from the General Manager

Every day, I witness the commitment, expertise and ingenuity of our Metropolitan team. Whether in the shop manufacturing unique fittings from scratch, in a conference room building consensus among diverse interests, in the lab ensuring our water stays safe to drink, or in the field repairing a levee during a rainstorm, it is staff's constant, skillful, heroic work that ensures reliable and affordable supplies of high-quality water reach 19 million Southern Californians.

It has taken tremendous agility, creativity and coordination to react to the dramatic swings in weather over the past few months—the climate whiplash from extreme drought to epic rain and snowfall that is expected to become the “new abnormal.” Last year at this time, we were grappling with extended scarcity on the State Water Project. This year, a 100% allocation was announced for the first time since 2006. That's three times as much water as we received in the last three years combined. Meanwhile, due to the cool and rainy winter in Southern California, water use is lower than last year, too. Demand in April was the lowest since 1983 and was just half of what it was last April.

As a result, we've had to completely re-operate our system, shifting over the course of a few short weeks from draining our reservoirs to filling them. Metropolitan staff has responded to floodwaters, emergency repairs, and water quality fluctuations. I am incredibly proud of how our team has kept the Metropolitan system running smoothly amid such changes.

Meanwhile, we are busy preparing for what's ahead: continuing strain on imported supplies, threats from emerging contaminants, and the inevitable next dry cycle. Working closely with our member agencies, staff are finding opportunities for groundwater replenishment, planning the expansion and modernization of infrastructure, embracing innovation, and identifying new ways to adapt to climate change. I am so grateful for the daily, tireless work of Metropolitan staff. Working together, we will meet today's challenges and simultaneously prepare for tomorrow's opportunities.

We are one,

Adel



“A dream does not become reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination, and hard work.”

**- Colin Powell,
Former United States
Secretary of State**



Strategic Priorities Update

The General Manager's Strategic Priorities guide actions in key areas of focus, investment, and transformation for Metropolitan.

Empower the workforce and promote diversity, equity, and inclusion

Build a safe, inclusive, and accountable workplace where all employees feel valued, respected, and able to meaningfully contribute to decisions about their work.

The General Manager, in both email and his all-staff meeting, reminded work teams to begin their meetings with a "Safety Moment." Safety Moments are brief discussions, anywhere from one to five minutes, on a safety-related topic. A library of sample Safety Moments are readily available on the Intranet for staff to draw from.

The chief EEO officer presented the EEO Statistical Report to the Ethics, Organization, and Personnel Committee, and the EEO Office has closed 85 percent of the cases it inherited one year ago.

On schedule, we have fully implemented all 19 recommendations from the State Auditor. We have submitted information about this implementation status for the Auditor's assessment.

Prepare and support the workforce by expanding training and skill development and updating strategies to recruit and retain diverse talent at a time when Metropolitan's needs are evolving and employee expectations about the workplace are changing.

Organizational Development & Training Unit (OD&T) and Recruitment has deepened its collaboration with DE&I to broaden recruitment efforts and attract and retain a highly qualified and diverse candidate pool.

Sustain Metropolitan's mission with a strengthened business model

Manage rate pressure on member agencies through attention to programmatic costs, organizational efficiencies and efforts to secure external funding for projects with broad and multi-purpose benefits.

Metropolitan received \$80 million that the state directed to support design work for the Pure Water Southern California project. We received and have begun reviewing multiple responses to the Request for Statements of Interest for ideas for developing renewable energy and storage projects on Metropolitan properties. Staff reported to the Engineering, Operations and Technology Committee on the Jensen Operating Capacity Analysis. The analysis highlights CIP savings, under the phased approach, to Jensen capacity and annual savings of more than \$400,000 by reducing O&M for out-of-service facilities.

Adapt to changing climate and water resources

Provide each member agency access to an equivalent level of water supply reliability through necessary adaptive implementation of the IRP findings.

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) this month released a draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for near-term Colorado River operations. Alternatives considered in the analysis focus on water levels at Lake Powell at the apparent expense of Lake Mead and include significant supply cuts that would hurt Metropolitan and our partners across the Basin. Metropolitan is in conversation with the Basin States, the federal government, and our partners to pursue protections for the lakes and river while minimizing negative impacts. Comment deadline on the draft SEIS is May 30.

Efforts to replace turf and reduce non-functional turf advanced this month. USBR awarded Metropolitan an additional \$5 million to further increase activity in the turf replacement program. The grant will increase the residential and commercial, industrial, and institutional rebates from \$2 to \$3 per square foot. Also, staff presented to the One Water & Stewardship Committee updates about the information being developed and already available through the interactive turf dashboard.

Advance the long-term reliability and resilience of the region's water sources through a One Water approach that recognizes the interconnected nature of imported and local supplies, meets both community and ecosystem needs, and adapts to a changing climate.

Metropolitan released the first annual Climate Action Plan report, which details GHG reductions through green power purchases, energy efficiency measures, and turf replacement. We are on track to meet the Plan's carbon neutrality goal.

Engineering conducted a workshop on the PCCP Rialto Feeder Reach 1 project to consider piloting the Envision sustainability framework on this project.

Meetings with Southern California Edison (SCE) regarding the power needs for Pure Water Southern California have identified the construction and implementation of the AWT substation as a critical facility to meet the early delivery milestone. A Method of Service (MOS) with SCE will be prepared to further define the available power, redundancy, and needed facilities. The Draft EIR remains on schedule for a first quarter 2024 publishing.

Staff received an update on the Sites Reservoir project planning schedule for the Final EIR/EIS, and information regarding principles for the storage, delivery, and sale of Sites Reservoir Project water. State and federal agencies are coordinating to determine next steps for permitting, which is critical to advance project planning.

Staff provided updates on multiple projects at the April Subcommittee on Bay-Delta: the Pilot Propagation Study for Delta Smelt and Native Species Preservation; the Delta Island Collaborative Landscape Planning Effort; and a Proposed grant opportunity for Webb Tract. The \$20 million proposal submitted for Webb Tract to the Delta Conservancy has a strong chance to be awarded grant funding, and it would be accepted only if the Board approves, based on further board discussion scheduled in May.

Protect public health, the regional economy, and Metropolitan's assets

Proactively identify, assess, and reduce potential vulnerabilities to Metropolitan's system, operations, and infrastructure.

Seismic preparedness was a special focus at the April meeting of the Engineering, Operations, and Technology Committee. Staff presented an annual seismic readiness report, including information about our coordination with DWR and LADWP regarding seismic assessment and preparation related to aqueducts. The Board took action to initiate a detailed seismic analysis of the Lake Skinner outlet tower and seismic upgrades to the Foothill Hydroelectric Plant and Control Building.

Two dam Emergency Action Plans were approved and another two were submitted to the California Office of Emergency Services for approval.

The Business Continuity Dashboard is on schedule to be completed by the end of the fiscal year.

Staff met with a vendor to discuss the use of fiber-optic monitoring as part of a pipeline leak detection system.

The RFP for servicing the newly completed Cybersecurity Operations Center is being re-released because of issues with the first submittal. In the interim, a sole source agreement will be sought for these services.

A board update on the Climate Vulnerability and Risk Assessment is set for May. The first phase is complete, and we will incorporate identified vulnerabilities and potential impacts into the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water.

Apply innovation, technology, and sustainable practices across project lifecycles (design, construction, operations, maintenance, and replacement).

On SCADA, the consultant performed equipment verification and is developing control narratives and a training plan.

A green procurement policy is in draft form and is being further refined regarding roles and responsibilities. The Technical Writing Team is facilitating the workflow for the policy.

On innovation, SRI launched IdeaScale, an online platform for employees to submit ideas through focused campaigns. The first campaign was launched at the Sustainability Expo and is soliciting input on Metropolitan's sustainability strategy.

Partner with interested parties and the communities we serve

Reach underserved communities and non-traditional interested parties to better understand their needs and ensure their inclusion in decision making.

Staff organized and led a Job Tour at Intake and Gene Camp in support of tribal workforce development. About 15 Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT) students participated, mostly from grade 10 through 12, accompanied by CRIT office staff. They toured facilities, and Metropolitan staff discussed the variety of work they do.

A Business Outreach Update was provided to the Equity, Inclusion, and Affordability Committee, including information on outreach for the Project Labor Agreement (PLA) and Equity in Infrastructure Pledge. It also highlighted the contract dollars awarded to small business totaling more than 24 percent or \$32M for FY 2021/22.

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

The Technical Writing Team successfully managed updates to Operating Policy A-02: Delegation of Command, Authority and Responsibility. Operating policies are high-level instructions established by management for conducting Metropolitan's day-to-day business activities. Staff works with Legal and Executive Management to create or revise policies to ensure clarity for Metropolitan's business practices. Currently, 23 of the 71 policies are in revision and an additional new policy is in development.

Bay-Delta Initiatives

Bay-Delta Initiatives staff received an update on the Sites Reservoir Project planning, including an update on the schedule for the Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement and information of Principles for the Storage, Delivery and Sale of Sites Reservoir Project Water.

Chief Financial Officer

In April 2023, the Board approved resolutions fixing and adopting a Readiness-to-Serve Charge and a Capacity Charge for calendar year 2024.

Colorado River

On April 14, Reclamation announced the release of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for amending the 2007 Interim Colorado River Guidelines. The Draft SEIS includes two action alternatives along with a no action alternative with additional water delivery cutbacks to protect critical infrastructure on Lake Powell and Lake Mead. Comments on the Draft SEIS are due May 20, 2023. Metropolitan is working with the Basin States to develop a unified comment letter.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Members of the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Team continued to advance outreach and engagement efforts across key areas of our service territory, from attendance at the fourth Tribal Water Summit in Sacramento to attendance at the 2023 State Contracting Summit in Irvine, California, which drew over 200 small business owners and provided an opportunity for Metropolitan staff to present on our small business program.

Engineering Services

Upon the enactment of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act, Public Law 116-9 in March 2019, Engineering Services Group (ESG) collaborated with the United States (U.S.) Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Metropolitan's Real Property Group, and Metropolitan's Legal Counsel to develop the documentation necessary to terminate the U.S. reversionary interest in approximately 73,000 acres of Metropolitan fee properties. ESG researched, organized, and analyzed Metropolitan's historic 1932 Act land records. ESG prepared the applications, title documents, and quitclaims submitted to BLM. ESG also developed an interactive web map to track the status of project and share documents with BLM. Metropolitan has submitted 50 applications to BLM, as of April 2023. Eight quitclaims have been received from BLM and recorded in the Official County Records. Metropolitan expects to receive executed quitclaims for 42 more applications by July 2023. There will be 100 applications and quitclaims total to complete the project. The project is on schedule to be completed by the end of 2025.

External Affairs

GM Hagekhalil appeared on NBC 4 Conan Nolan's "News Conference" public affairs show to talk about improved State Water Project conditions, the Colorado River, and initiatives to address climate change. (April 23)

Human Resources

The Organizational Development & Training Unit (OD&T) facilitated a training session at Diamond Valley Lake for the Apprenticeship Program. Topics included Learning Styles, Test Taking Strategies, Communications Skills, and Stress Management. A team training was also provided for Engineering's Design Section focusing on Building Trust, Communication Skills, and Employee Engagement.

Information Technology

As part of annual testing of the Fire Life Safety System at the Metropolitan headquarters building, IT successfully completed the Union Station Data Center power shutdown exercise between Friday, April 21, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. through Sunday, April 23, 2023, at 6:00 a.m. This exercise confirmed that Metropolitan has created true resiliency, seeing all the business-critical applications running normally from our remote data centers during the shutdown.

Real Property

The Diamond Valley Lake Marina drew a record number of visitors to the Wildflower Trail this month. Over 40,000 people have visited the trail thus far to enjoy the wildflowers in bloom. Several thousand more visitors are expected through the remaining weeks of spring.

Security Management

Metropolitan Security Specialists collaborated with multiple public safety agencies over the Easter weekend to conduct a surprise enforcement sweep of Metropolitan's Eagle Valley fee property situated west of Lake Mathews. Warnings and citations were issued for a variety of charges.

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

SRI released its inaugural Climate Action Plan report, detailing its progress over the past year on a suite of measures designed to help the district achieve carbon neutrality by 2045, and it hosted its first Sustainability Expo for Metropolitan staff at Headquarters. It was a day for learning, sharing, and connecting and showcased Metropolitan and its sustainability and innovation champions. SRI also coordinated a Planning Team for the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W) from WRM, ESG, WSO, CFO, DEI, BDI, and SRI and presented at the Member Agency Monthly Meeting (MAMM) and Long-term Regional Planning Processes and Business Modeling (LRPPBM) meeting on this topic.

Water Resource Management

In April, DWR increased the Table A allocation to their contractors to 100 percent. With this final allocation increase, Metropolitan can now receive more than 2 million AF through the SWP system. Since December, WRM staff needed to pivot from a drought emergency to a large surplus condition. Staff are now focused on storing as much of this bountiful water as possible.

Water System Operations

This month, WSO's Apprenticeship Program welcomed a new class of apprentices with six electricians and five mechanics. This recruitment was open only to internal applicants to provide existing employees a career development opportunity. Apprentices began their work and training by attending a first day orientation and a study skills class. The first day was designed to prepare apprentices for success throughout their academic and on-the-job training on the path to becoming journey-level technicians. The new class is scheduled to graduate in 2027.



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Semitropic Groundwater Banking Program improves water supply reliability for Metropolitan by increasing dry-year storage capacity and operational flexibility.

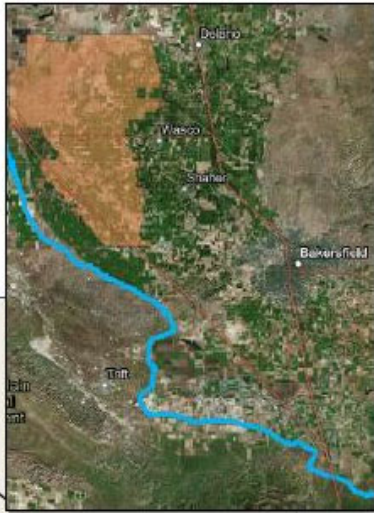
Approved in 1994, the agreement with Semitropic Water Storage District allows Metropolitan to manage its State Water Project supplies using Semitropic's water bank in Kern County. In wet years, Metropolitan can store SWP supplies underground in the Program. When supplies are needed, Metropolitan can recover this stored water through delivery to the California Aqueduct. Metropolitan's initial investment of \$49M helped construct the bank, and additional investments have paid for treatment upgrades and 6,700 acre-feet per year (AFY) of additional yield. In total, Metropolitan can store up to 31,675 AFY and recover 44,700 AFY to 61,450 AFY, depending on the SWP allocation.

IMPORTANCE TO METROPOLITAN

The Program is beneficial both in times of drought and surplus. In 2022, Metropolitan recovered 59,335 AF of banked water to boost supplies during the drought emergency. This year, the 100-percent SWP allocation and additional surplus supplies present Metropolitan with storage challenges. Fortunately, Semitropic has operational capacity to move some of Metropolitan's SWP supplies to the bank. So far in 2023, 361 AF have been delivered for storage in the Program. This not only provides resiliency for shortages in the future, but it allows Metropolitan to capture some of the surplus supplies currently available.

MEMORABLE MOMENT

As DWR increased the State Water Project allocation in 2023, WSO and WRM staff had to quickly coordinate the change from a recovery to a storage mode. Staff identified banking programs that could accept Metropolitan supplies, even though the banking partners might be facing supply challenges themselves. Fortunately, early coordination with Semitropic resulted in an ability for Metropolitan to store supplies in the Program this year. Moving forward, staff hopes to continue banking as much water as possible into all of the district's storage and banking programs.



“Being able to work together to quickly pivot from delivery to storage was a testament on how well the teams worked together as one.”

***Nadia Hardjadinata, Resource Specialist
Supply Acquisition Team***

Water Resources and Engineering



Water Resource Management

Ensure Reliable State Water Project (SWP)

Staff continues to submit weekly requests for Article 21 supply to the Department of Water Resources (DWR). Article 21 is interruptible supply in addition to State Project Water Table A allocation, and its availability is tied to storage levels in San Luis Reservoir. In March and April combined, Metropolitan received a total of approximately 148 thousand acre-feet of Article 21 supply. Metropolitan used the Article 21 supply to replenish the depleted SWP surface storage, including Metropolitan's Diamond Valley Lake, to help ensure future reliability.

Ensure Access to Sufficient Water Supplies to Operate a Full Colorado River Aqueduct in Times of Drought

Staff attended a meeting of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum (Forum) Technical Work Group in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. Topics discussed included (1) proposed language for the 2023 federal Farm Bill to reduce the state cost-share requirement from 30 percent to roughly 15 percent for salinity control funding from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), which would reduce the existing Salinity Control Program (Program) funding deficit; (2) a report that ongoing operation of the Paradox Valley Unit at 2/3-capacity has yielded no unusual seismic or well pressure results; (3) progress toward the 2023 "Triennial Review," in which the Forum communicates to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency an assessment of the sufficiency of existing water quality criteria for salinity on the Lower Colorado River; and (4) updates from key federal agencies involved in the Program, including USBR, NRCS, the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Geological Survey.

Manage Existing and Develop New Regional Water Management Programs to Maintain Water Supply Reliability in the Face of Increasing Water Supply Volatility

Pursuant to the Board's April 2019 authorization, Metropolitan's General Manager implemented the Cyclic Cost-Offset Program, effective April 15, 2023, to help member agencies offset the additional costs incurred from capturing increased volumes of water into their cyclic accounts. Maximizing the amount of water stored along with continued water-use efficiency from the region will help prepare the region against future dry years and the uncertainties on our imported water supply.

Implement Regional Conservation Program

Metropolitan's conservation outreach activities effort this month included hosting a Water Efficient Landscaper Dual Certification Program class in Mission Viejo for 45 landscape professionals. The class series was co-hosted by Moulton Niguel Water District. In addition, staff also coordinated a Program Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting with member and retail agency staff. The discussion focused on a potential new Tree Requirement for the existing Turf Replacement Program that may be available later in the year. Finally, staff attended The Southern California Facilities Expo held at the Anaheim Convention Center. The Expo attracts a diverse audience of facilities managers, maintenance managers, and energy managers from a wide variety of industries with a focus on sustainability. Staff

Water Resources and Engineering

(continued)

gave a presentation on the current water supply conditions and potential regulations around outdoor water use in California. Staff also presented Metropolitan's incentive programs available to Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional (CII) customers and facilities.

Collaborate with Member Agencies, Water Agencies and Associations, and Provide Leadership for Policy Development, Advocacy, Outreach and Education

Department of Water Resources continues to develop the California Water Plan Update 2023. On March 29, 2023, DWR held a virtual public workshop to provide an in-depth overview of the content of the draft plan update. The draft content centers on three central themes: climate change, watershed resilience, and water equity. Staff submitted comments to encourage state leadership in developing recommendations and implementable actions that will improve inter-watershed infrastructure, promote appropriate implementation of water use efficiency and demand reduction, expand collaboration with local entities, and develop appropriate metrics for measuring achievements in advancing the three themes. An Administrative Draft is scheduled to be completed in July 2023, and the Public Review Draft is anticipated to be released in October 2023.

Staff participated as a member of the Western Drought Task Force at its quarterly meeting on April 13, 2023. Staff presented on Southern California's regional water supply conditions and outlook, which had improved dramatically since the emergency conditions presented at the Task Force's last meeting in December 2022.

Implement Future Supply Actions Funding Program

Staff participated in a Water Resource Foundation (WRF) webinar on April 20th. The webinar covered two reuse studies Metropolitan co-funded with WRF in collaboration with the SWRCB. Over 350 water resource stakeholders from across the country joined the webinar. The Future Supply Action Program final reports and webinar recordings can be accessed here: <https://www.mwdh2o.com/funding-opportunities#future-supply>.

Promote Metropolitan's technical capabilities and innovation efforts to advance the understanding of water resources management

Staff hosted a meeting with Las Virgenes MWD (Las Virgenes) and Natural Ocean Wells (NOW). Las Virgenes is partnering with NOW to explore an alternative approach to seawater desalination with potential sustainability benefits. The innovative approach locates the desalination equipment, including the intakes and outfalls, offshore in submerged buoys. Through CalDesal, staff also met with several companies with similar technologies including Waterise, FSubsea, Sea Wells, Oneka, and others. Staff is researching the potential for offshore desalination as a potential solution to some of the barriers to traditional seawater desalination projects.

Staff met with LADWP and peer utilities from Australia to discuss preparation for the Olympics and other large events. WaterStart, one of Metropolitan's P2P innovation consultants, coordinated the meeting. The peer agencies shared their experience with water quality testing of both water supplies and water bodies where Olympic events are located. Future meetings will include water utilities from France and cover cyber security, sustainability, and additional water quality topics.

Water Resources and Engineering

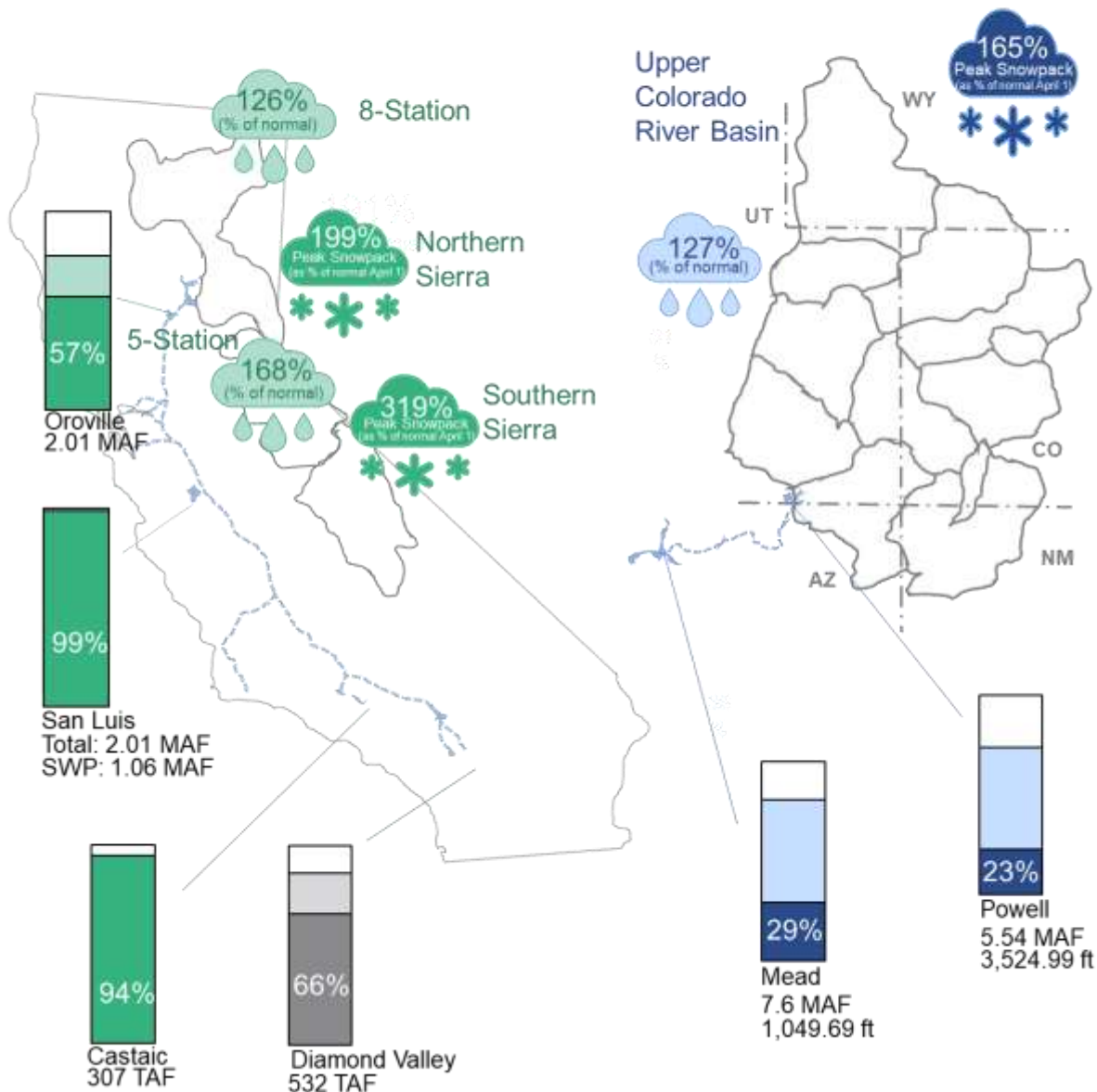
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State Water Project Resources

SWP Table A – 100% - 1,911,500 AF

Colorado River Resources

Projected CRA Diversions – 991,000 AF



Extended Report:
<https://www.mwdh2o.com/WSCR>

As of April 30, 2023

Bay-Delta Initiatives

Project Highlights

Delta Conveyance Project Planning Activities

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is continuing efforts to organize and develop responses to the comments received on the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR), as required under the California Environmental Quality Act CEQA. DWR received more than 700 unique comment letters with over 6,000 individual comments. The Final EIR is expected at the end of 2023, which will include responses to all substantive comments on the Draft EIR and, where appropriate, edits to the Draft EIR responsive to comments received.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) comment period closed on March 16, 2023. The DCP draft EIS is required under National Environmental Protection Act. The USACE is also starting the initial organization of the comments received on the DCP draft EIS.

DWR's field activities under the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for Soil Investigations in the Delta are planned to resume in early May 2023. These activities include data collection, soil samples, and surveys to better understand the region's geology to support the evaluation of potential activities, including the proposed DCP. DWR will update its public information website to provide information on the soil investigations to interested members of the public (<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project/Delta-Conveyance/Environmental-Planning>).

Delta Conveyance related Joint Powers Authorities

The Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) Board of Directors took no public action at its April 20 regularly scheduled board meeting. It did, however, request a moment of silence in memoriam for Piraborooban "Praba" Shanmugam, DWR's Delta Conveyance Office principal engineer who served with distinction until his recent passing. The DCA Board also received the Monthly Board Report information item and the Treasurer's Monthly Report for February and March 2023. The April 20 regularly scheduled Delta Conveyance Finance Authority meeting was cancelled.

Sites Reservoir

At the Sites Reservoir Authority Joint Authority Board and Reservoir Committee meeting on April 21, an update on the Final EIR/EIS schedule was presented. It is anticipated that certification of the Final EIR will be an action item for consideration at the July or August Authority Board Meeting. At that time, the Authority Board will also need to adopt CEQA findings and a Statement of Overriding Considerations and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program. Following these actions, the Authority Board will consider approval or denial of the Sites Reservoir Project.

Sites Reservoir Authority staff also presented information on the Principles for the Storage, Delivery and Sale of Sites Reservoir Project Water (Storage Principles). The Storage Principles describe a framework for procedures related to Sites Reservoir Project water that includes system losses, available storage, and allocation. The available storage in Sites Reservoir is calculated to be 1.41 million acre-feet, which includes recent refinements and a 60 thousand acre-feet dead pool that is unavailable stored water.

Regulatory Activities

In April, staff presented an update on the Voluntary Agreements to Metropolitan's One Water and Stewardship Committee. The presentation included information on the schedule and the Draft Scientific Basis Report Supplement in Support of Proposed Voluntary Agreements for the Sacramento River, Delta, and Tributaries Update to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan). The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) will continue its public and peer review process for the Draft Scientific Basis Report Supplement through early 2024, and SWRCB consideration for adoption of a Bay-Delta Plan update and implementation plan is tentatively scheduled for the end of 2024.

Science Activities

Staff continued participating in collaborative science activities addressing native fish species in the Delta, their habitats, and the effects of stressors. In April, staff worked with university researchers to conduct field sampling work for an assessment of contaminant occurrence in the Sacramento Deep Water Ship Channel. Delta smelt use the ship channel as habitat, and the study will inform contaminant risk in the ship channel.

Staff is also continuing to work on Phase 3 of the Reorienting to Salmonid Recovery project. In this phase, participants will develop an agreed-upon suite of priority actions for salmonid recovery. In late March, staff facilitated the first structured decision-making workshop for the Reorienting to Salmonid Recovery project. The workshop participants included state and federal resource agencies, public water agencies, non-governmental organizations, commercial and recreational fishing interests, and tribes. At the workshop the participants discussed potential management options and recovery scenarios to benefit salmon and provided input on bookend scenarios to evaluate.

Delta Island Activities

Staff prepared and submitted a \$19.7 million grant application to the Delta Conservancy's Nature Based Solutions: Wetland Restoration Grant Program. If awarded, the grant will fund development of a multi-benefit mosaic of wetlands, rice, and other habitat projects on Webb tract that are designed to stop and/or reverse subsidence, generate carbon credits from carbon sequestration opportunities, and create habitat. Staff provided an oral presentation on the proposed project to the April 25 Metropolitan Subcommittee on Bay-Delta. Staff is also developing outreach materials and met with Contra Costa County representatives and CDFW representatives to discuss the project. Contra Costa County's Board of Supervisors will consider a resolution of support for the project at its May meeting.

Ecosystem Restoration

Staff attended the Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee Restoration Subcommittee meeting where the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) gave a presentation on the Cutting the Green Tape Initiative designed to increase the pace and scale of environmental restoration projects and discussed the potential implications for Delta projects. Staff also attended a Southern Yolo Bypass tour with representatives from Yolo County that included a visit to the Lookout Slough Project, which is a multi-benefit project to restore 3,400 acres of tidal wetland.

Colorado River

Reclamation Releases Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for amending the 2007 Interim Colorado River Guidelines

In late 2022, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) began a process to modify the 2007 Interim Colorado River Guidelines (2007 Guidelines) by developing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS). Reclamation stated that it needed to be able to implement additional actions to protect critical infrastructure at Hoover Dam and Glen Canyon Dam if critically dry conditions continued. The SEIS was to consider additional Lower Basin shortages and modified Lake Powell operations and allowed a seven-state consensus alternative to be included in the analysis. The seven states worked to meet the deadline but were unable to reach a seven-state consensus and instead submitted two proposals for the SEIS.

On April 14, the Draft SEIS was released for public comment. The document did not include either of the proposals submitted by the Basin States, but instead included a no action alternative and two action alternatives, which include significantly higher cutbacks to Lower Basin water users than the existing 2007 Guidelines contained. The two action alternatives had the same level of additional water delivery cuts but applied them differently. The first alternative followed the strict priority system, while the second alternative ignored the priority system altogether and instead applied even cuts to each water contractor. In general, Metropolitan fared better in Alternative 1, since California has a higher priority than other states and experienced cuts after other states were cut back. But given the level of cuts, Metropolitan would be at risk under either of the two scenarios.

Comments on the Draft SEIS are due May 20, 2023. Metropolitan is working with the other Colorado River Basin States to see whether a consensus approach can be developed with our Basin State partners. Metropolitan staff are meeting regularly with our partners on the Colorado River to attempt to craft a solution that works across state lines. The significantly improved hydrology reduces the likelihood of additional curtailments in the near-term, which may help in reaching a consensus response to the Draft SEIS. Staff will provide an overview of the Draft SEIS at the May Metropolitan One Water Committee.

Engineering

Core Business Function – Execute Capital Investment Plan projects

Engineering Services manages and executes projects within the Capital Investment Plan (CIP) to maintain infrastructure resiliency, ensure regulatory compliance, enhance sustainability, and provide flexibility in system operations to address uncertain water supply conditions.

Distribution System Reliability Program

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

- **Orange County Feeder Lining Repairs**—This project replaces the deteriorated internal lining along an 11-mile portion of the Orange County Feeder within the cities of Santa Ana, Costa Mesa, and Newport Beach. Rehabilitation is proceeding in three stages. Construction of Stages 1 and 2 are complete. Metropolitan's Board awarded a construction contract for the final stage in April 2022. For the third stage, the contractor is continuing to remove existing coal tar lining and apply mortar lining; mortar lining has been applied to more than half the reach. Construction is approximately 40 percent complete and is anticipated to be complete by September 2023.
- **Lake Mathews Wastewater Replacement**—This 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. Metropolitan's Board awarded a construction contract for the final stage in October 2021. The contractor continues to install the sewer line and manholes. Construction is approximately 88 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in June 2023.
- **La Verne Shops Building Completion—Stage 4**—This project will complete the La Verne Shops building improvements and install Metropolitan-furnished shop equipment. Metropolitan's Board awarded a construction contract in May 2022. Construction is approximately 20 percent complete and is expected to be completed in August 2024.
- **Live Oak Reservoir Pipelines Cathodic Protection**—This project installs a cathodic protection system to prevent corrosion of the pipelines at Live Oak Reservoir. All work was recently completed.



Orange County Feeder—Outlet Structure Formwork

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 Reach 3A**—This project enhances distribution system reliability by rehabilitating 6,500 feet PCCP portions of the Second Lower Feeder within the city of Rolling Hills Estates. Metropolitan’s Board awarded a construction contract for the final stage in May 2022. The contractor has completed all the steel liner pipe installation, grouting, cement mortar lining, and continues with valve relocation and installation of the closure pieces. Construction is 82 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in June 2023.
- **Second Lower Feeder PCCP Rehabilitation Reach 3B**—This project enhances distribution system reliability by installing steel lining along a 3.7-mile-long portion of the Second Lower Feeder that traverses the cities of Lomita, Los Angeles, and Torrance. A contract was awarded by Metropolitan’s Board on January 10, 2023. The contractor is currently preparing contract submittals for review and obtaining permits. This will be followed by utility potholing work in May or June 2023. Major

construction activities will commence in July 2023 with site preparation for the Palos Verdes Reservoir temporary bypass line, followed by site preparation for pipe relining access shafts in November 2023. Construction is 5 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in December 2025.

- **Second Lower Feeder Valve Procurement**—This procurement contract provides 13 conical plug valves for the Second Lower Feeder PCCP rehabilitation. Metropolitan’s Board awarded a procurement contract for the valves in December 2018. Seven valves have been delivered as of March 23, 2023. Three more valves are scheduled to be delivered in summer 2023. Fabrication of the last three valves will be completed in early 2024.
- **Sepulveda Feeder PCCP Rehabilitation Reach 1**—This project enhances distribution system reliability by rehabilitating PCCP segments of the Sepulveda Feeder. Reach 1 spans 4.7 miles through several cities including the cities of Hawthorne, Inglewood, and Los Angeles. Final design is approximately 73 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in August 2023.
- **Rialto Pipeline Reach 1**—This project will rehabilitate approximately 4.5 miles of Rialto Pipeline PCCP from Indian Hills Sectionalizing Valve to San Dimas Hydroelectric Plant. The project is currently in preliminary design, and all pipe access sites for relining of this reach have been identified. Preliminary design is approximately 55 percent complete and is scheduled to be completed by mid-2024.



Second Lower Feeder PCCP Rehabilitation Reach 3A

Installing trench shoring during excavation for air release and vacuum valve relocation

Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) Reliability Program

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

- **CRA Main Transformer Replacement**—This project replaces the 35 230 kV and 69 kV step-down transformers that are used to run the main pumps at all five of Metropolitan’s Colorado River Aqueduct pumping plants. Preliminary design is 90 percent complete and is scheduled to be completed by May 2023. The new transformers will be procured by Metropolitan. A procurement contract is scheduled to be awarded in August 2023.
- **CRA Storage Buildings at Hinds, Eagle Mountain, and Iron Mountain**—This project furnishes and installs storage buildings at the three sites and constructs associated site improvements at the Hinds, Eagle Mountain, and Iron Mountain Pumping Plants. A workshop was held to optimize the design and reduce contract costs. The project is currently being advertised, and board award of a construction contract is scheduled for June 2023.
- **Conduit Structural Protection**—This project consists of installing new reinforced concrete slab protection crossings over portions of the cut-and-cover conduits on the Colorado River Aqueduct. Metropolitan’s Board awarded a construction contract in April 2023.

System Flexibility/Supply Reliability

Projects under this program will enhance the flexibility and/or increase the capacity of Metropolitan’s water supply and delivery infrastructure to meet current and projected service demands. Projects under this program address climate change affecting water supply, regional drought, and alternative water sources for areas dependent on State Project Water.

The following projects are part of a series of projects that are being undertaken to improve supply reliability for State Water Project dependent member agencies.

- **Inland Feeder—Foothill Pump Station Intertie**—This project will connect San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District’s (SBVMWD) Foothill Pump Station with the Inland Feeder to provide the needed hydraulic lift to deliver water from DVL to Rialto service area. A procurement contract for isolation valves will be awarded in May 2023. A separate procurement contract for a sectionalizing valve is scheduled to advertise in summer 2023. Final design is 98 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in May 2023. Environmental permitting and right of way acquisition is also ongoing. A Joint Use Agreement for the pump station is being drafted between Metropolitan and SBVMWD.
- **Badlands Surge Protection Facilities**—This project will protect the Inland Feeder from excessive negative pressures that could develop from an unexpected shut down of the pumps at Wadsworth Pumping Plant. Final design is 98 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in May 2023.
- **Sepulveda Feeder Pumping Stations**—This project will install new pump stations at the existing Venice and Sepulveda Canyon Pressure Control Facilities, providing the ability to reverse flow in the Sepulveda Feeder and deliver water from the Central Pool to portions of the Jensen plant exclusive area. This project will use progressive design-build (PDB) for delivery. Preparation of the Request for Qualifications (RFQ), including a Conceptual Design Report, is complete and the solicitation was issued in March 2023. Statements of Qualification are due in May 2023. Board award of the Phase 1 agreement for preconstruction services under the PDB contract is scheduled for August 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:

Water Resources and Engineering

(continued)

- **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 outlet drop gates at the Weymouth plant. Other improvements included in this contract are seismic upgrades of basin walls and inlet channel, hazardous material abatement, and replacement of filter valves and actuators in Filter Building No. 2. Metropolitan’s Board awarded a construction contract for the final stage in May 2022. The contractor began demolition of filter valves and piping in Filter Building No. 2 and continued other work under the first quarter-plant outage, including removal of mechanical equipment from the flocculation and sedimentation basins, and hazardous waste abatement. Construction is 25 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by May 2025.
- **Mills Ozonation System PLC Upgrade**—This project replaces the outdated generator control system at the Mills plant with new programmable logic controller equipment along with upgraded software. Installation of the new software was completed in March 2023 and testing is underway. The ozone system is scheduled to be fully returned to service in May 2023.
- **Mills Electrical Upgrades, Stage 2**—This project upgrades the electrical system with dual-power feeds to key process equipment to comply with current codes and industry practices; improve plant reliability; and enhance worker safety. Stage 1 construction is complete. Stage 2 improvements will add a second incoming 12 kV service from Riverside Public Utilities, reconfigure the existing 4160-volt switchgear, and replace the standby generator switchgear and the emergency generator programmable logic controller. Metropolitan’s Board awarded a construction contract for the final stage in November 2021. The contractor continued the Riverside Public Utility switchyard installation work and is preparing for demolition of the west wall at the ORP switchgear building. Construction is 23 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by December 2024.
- **Jensen Ozone PSUs Replacement**—This project rehabilitates the ozone generation system at the Jensen plant by replacing four existing ozone power supply units (PSUs) and four sets of generator dielectrics. The project also makes required modifications to the associated electrical, control, and cooling water systems. Metropolitan’s Board awarded a construction contract in June 2022. All PSUs and dielectrics have been manufactured and delivered. Installation of two PSUs is complete, and dielectrics for two ozone generators have been replaced. The contractor is preparing for start-up testing of the two newly installed PSUs and is proceeding with modifications to the cooling water system. Construction is 40 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by December 2023.



Weymouth Basins 5–8 and Filter Building No. 2 Rehabilitation
Removal of original clarifier equipment from Basin 7



Weymouth Basins 5–8 and Filter Building No. 2 Rehabilitation
Removal of original gates from Basin 7

System Reliability Program

The System Reliability Program consists of projects to improve or modify facilities located throughout Metropolitan's service area using new processes and/or technologies and improve facility safety and overall reliability. Recent activities include the following:

- **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 work is complete and provides security system upgrades inside the building with a focus on the main entry rotunda area, boardroom, executive dining lounge, and security control room. Stage 3 improvements will provide security system upgrades around the perimeter of the building. Metropolitan's Board awarded a construction contract in December 2022. The contractor began demolition of the sidewalk around the building and is preparing for installation of the safety bollards. Construction is 10 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by January 2024.
- **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. Metropolitan's Board awarded a construction contract in August 2020. The contractor is continuing work on the smoke control upgrades. Construction is 85 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by September 2023.
- **SCADA System Upgrades**—This project will upgrade Metropolitan's entire control system in incremental stages, spanning the Colorado River Aqueduct, the five water treatment plants, and the conveyance and distribution system. The first stage of this project replaces the control system at the Mills plant, starting with a pilot effort on one of the plant's remote terminal units. The pilot effort will demonstrate the proposed technology and the consultant's approach for the plant and the overall project. The consultant continued providing submittals, performing equipment verification, and developing control narratives and a training

plan. The Pilot phase is 21 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by September 2023. The system upgrades at the Mills plant are scheduled to be complete by April 2026.



Headquarters Building Fire Alarm and Smoke Control System Upgrades
Commissioning smoke and fire detectors

Protecting the Public and Metropolitan's Assets

Engineering Services continued to develop Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) for Metropolitan's state-regulated dams to help ensure long-term public safety. In April, EAPs for the Copper Basin and Gene Wash Dams were completed and are currently under review by the local emergency management agencies.

Operations

Water System Operations

Core Business Objectives

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 Program welcomed a new class of apprentices with six electricians and five mechanics. This recruitment was open to internal applicants only and provided existing employees with a career development opportunity. Apprentices began work by attending first day orientation and a study skills class. Orientation included staff introductions, an overview of the Apprenticeship Program, and review of roles, responsibilities, policies, and procedures. The study skills class provided apprentices with insight into learning styles, time management techniques, and strategies for coping with stress and test anxiety. The first day was designed to prepare apprentices for success throughout their academic and on-the-job training on the path to becoming journey-level technicians. The new class is scheduled to graduate in 2027.



Class of 2027 Apprentices





Class of 2027 Apprentices participating Study Skills training

Manage Vacancies

WSO filled six vacant positions in March 2023.

Provide Reliable Water Deliveries

Metropolitan member agency water deliveries were 68,000 acre-feet (AF) for April with an average of 2,300 AF per day, which was 300 AF per day higher than March. Treated water deliveries increased by 5,600 AF from March for a total of 42,600 AF, or 63 percent of total deliveries for the month. The Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) pumped a total of 47,000 AF in April. State Water Project (SWP) imports averaged 3,100 AF per day, totaling about 93,400 AF for the month. The target SWP blend is 100 percent for Weymouth and Diemer plants and as high as possible for the Skinner plant. System limitations and storage priorities allowed the blend leaving Lake Skinner to increase to about 10 percent by the end of the month.

Manage Water Reserves

The State Water Project (SWP) allocation increased to 100 percent and when combined with Colorado River supplies provides the region with a water surplus. Water continues to be managed according to Water Surplus and Drought Management (WSDM) principles and operational objectives with an emphasis to position State Water Project supplies to meet a future demand in the State Water Project-dependent area. Metropolitan has installed two gates along the Colorado River Aqueduct that allow for higher flows to Desert Water Agency and Coachella Valley Water District to meet Metropolitan's exchange obligation. Metropolitan has been managing Table A and Article 21 supplies with deliveries to meet demands, Diamond Valley Lake storage, flex storage, and payback of the 2022 Human Health and Safety supplies. Staff facilitated a workshop with member agencies to discuss groundwater and reservoir storage. The General Manager initiated the Cyclic Cost Offset Program that provides a credit to member agencies to offset costs to store supplies. This program is implemented under high State Water Project allocations, when Metropolitan may not be able to manage all of its Table A supplies.

Support Imported Supply Reliability

Metropolitan discharges water to Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) at Whitewater River. CVWD then percolates the water into the groundwater aquifer to supply the Coachella Valley area. On April 10, a blocker gate was installed in the outlet transition of the Whitewater Siphon. This gate stops water flow completely on the first barrel, forcing all water flow into the second barrel, where the turnouts to the river are located. The larger weir gate was installed during the week of April 17, to back up water in the transition structure, further increasing flow capability to the river to 710 cubic feet per second. This work allows maximum storage in the Desert Water and Coachella Valley Advanced Delivery storage account in 2023 to support imported supply reliability in a future drought year.



Blocker gate installed stopping water flow in first barrel of Whitewater Siphon



Transition weir gate being placed into position at Whitewater Siphon



Transition weir gate installed to back up water at Whitewater Siphon and increase storage deliveries



CRA water being discharged to Whitewater River

Support the Pure Water Southern California Program

Following feedback from the Independent Science Advisory Panel and regulators during Workshop No. 6 in March, staff continued secondary membrane bioreactor (sMBR) operations and testing at the Pure Water Southern California demonstration plant with intentionally compromised membranes. Microbial samples and reverse osmosis concentrate samples were collected for analysis during April. Staff also prepared for spiking studies on the ultraviolet light/advanced oxidation process (UV/AOP) using free chlorine or hydrogen peroxide as an oxidant. Staff also

continued developing in-house analytical methods for key constituents, including nitrosamines, 1,4-dioxane, and formaldehyde.

On April 25–26, staff completed source testing pursuant to the demonstration plant air permit under the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). Staff also worked with the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts to evaluate nitrous oxide and volatile organic compound emissions from the MBR process with the bioreactors enclosed. These results will inform future design of the full-scale facility process air handling systems to comply with anticipated permit requirements.



Staff removing a membrane cassette (left) and cutting membrane fibers (right) for compromised membrane testing at the demonstration plant



Staff collecting samples to develop in-house analytical methods for UV/AOP treatment studies at the demonstration plant



Installation of an enclosure over bioreactors to support SCAQMD air permit source testing at the demonstration plant

Manage Power Resources and Energy Use in a Sustainable Manner

Energy markets in April 2023 continued to exhibit reduced price volatility, and electricity prices in the California ISO market were generally within seasonal norms. CRA energy costs for April 2023 were about \$2.5 million; the total energy cost to operate the CRA for fiscal year 2022-23 is forecast to be around \$138 million.

Because of system operating conditions focused on low demands and refilling water storage, generation output from Metropolitan's hydroelectric plants was negligible. Hydroelectric plant output is forecast to trend upwards later in 2023 as demands increase and Metropolitan begins to receive deliveries from the 100 percent SWP allocation. Metropolitan's solar facilities, totaling 5.4 megawatts of capacity, generated approximately 600 megawatt-hours in April 2023.

Ensure Water Quality Compliance, Worker Safety, and Environmental Protection

Metropolitan complied with all water quality regulations and primary drinking water standards during March 2023.

On April 19, the Water Quality Section hosted a workshop on Metropolitan's cross-connection control program. Participants included staff who are responsible for testing backflow prevention devices at the water treatment plants. Topics covered included certification and gauge calibration requirements, cross-connection control regulatory updates, reporting of backflow test results, backflow prevention assembly replacements, and temporary connections. Regular workshops and coordination promote collaboration between testers at different locations to ensure a consistent and effective cross-connection prevention program.



Participants in Cross-Connection Control Program workshop

Staff across multiple crafts collaborated to renovate the maintenance break room at the Skinner plant. The work included installation of a sink, new flooring, upgraded electrical, microwaves, IT connectivity, and cubicle desks. Before this renovation, staff desks and the lunch area occupied the same space as the machine shop. The lunch area is now separate from the workspace, including separate HVAC/ventilation systems.



Newly renovated maintenance break area at the Skinner plant

This month staff resumed the shoe mobile facility site visits at Metropolitan facilities. These site visits support Metropolitan's Foot Protection Program to efficiently provide employees with the appropriate steel-toe safety shoes. Employees have the option to obtain safety shoes from the shoe mobile, on-line, or going to a store location.



Shoe Mobile at the Weymouth plant



Wide selection of brands and styles of safety shoes available

Optimize Maintenance

To facilitate repair of a discharge valve at Iron Mountain pumping plant, staff worked to disassemble and remove the pump. Once the pump is removed, the discharge valve can be accessed and repaired. This task will include a full disassembly, assessment, and repair of the large conical plug valve. As part of the work, staff installed an isolator to allow for continued pumping of adjacent discharge lines. This isolator allows crews to work safely on an isolated portion of the system while the rest of the delivery line remains in service.



Staff removing the pump (left) and pump shaft (right) of a discharge valve at Iron Mountain pumping plant



Staff installing a discharge line isolator at Iron Mountain pumping plant

Colorado River Aqueduct components require frequent maintenance because of consistent use and harsh conditions. Pumping raw water takes its toll on equipment. Debris such as sand, silt, and vegetation increase wear on pump components. Staff rebuilt a circulating water pump at the Eagle Mountain pumping plant to ensure an adequate supply of cooling water in the upcoming summer months.



Staff measuring the circulating water pump case at Eagle Mountain pumping plant

Many projects are underway in the Desert, including the Iron Mountain Station Light and Power Switchrack Rehabilitation Project. Staff is working to excavate a new area to accommodate the construction work. This project will modernize the medium-voltage systems at Iron Mountain pumping plant.



Excavation work to facilitate an electrical system rehabilitation project at Iron Mountain pumping plant



Excavation work to facilitate an electrical system rehabilitation project at Iron Mountain pumping plant

Staff performed 6-year maintenance at Lake Mathews Hydroelectric Plant (HEP). Staff inspected the mechanical components and performed a variety of electrical testing in both the switchyard and control room. While exercising the capacitor bank disconnect switch for routine maintenance, the operating chain snapped. Staff locally purchased an immediate replacement for this critical component to complete the work.



Staff performing battery and switchyard maintenance at Lake Mathews HEP



Scroll case prepared for inspection at Lake Mathews HEP



Disconnect switch with new operating chain installed at Lake Mathews HEP

During routine maintenance on structures along the Palos Verdes Feeder, the electrical utility supply circuitry at a relief structure was found to have deteriorated. The Palos Verdes Feeder relief structure allows water to be discharged into the Dominguez Channel. A section of the underground conduit at the deteriorated section was

replaced, restoring reliable power. Consistent with Metropolitan's sustainability priorities, staff used a zero-emission mini-excavator for the repair.



Staff using an electric mini excavator for a new duct bank along the Palos Verdes Feeder

Staff repaired a deteriorated storm drainpipe at the Diemer plant. Heavy rains this winter caused a storm drain lateral on the south side of the plant to fail, creating a large depression. Staff completed excavation, shoring, and repair of the pipe that extends from a catch basin into the storm drainpipe.



Staff excavating between structures (left) and installing a shoring box (right) at the Diemer plant

Optimize Water Treatment and Distribution

The State Water Project (SWP) target blend entering the Weymouth plant stayed at 100 percent in April. The SWP blend at the Diemer plant was approximately 97 percent, because of an operational need to maintain a small Colorado River water flow on the Lower Feeder. The SWP target entering Lake Skinner increased from zero to around 50 percent to maximize the delivery of Article 21 supplies.

Flow-weighted running annual averages for total dissolved solids from March 2022 through February 2023 for Metropolitan's treatment plants capable of receiving a blend of supplies from the SWP and the Colorado River Aqueduct were 605, 609, and 608 mg/L for the Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner plants, respectively.

Changes in system water demand on the Skinner plant cause flow changes that are often frequent and significant. Instruments measuring residuals of chemicals such as chlorine and ammonia are critical for keeping water quality variables within compliance, as changing demand can make chemical dosing decisions difficult to predict. This month, staff repaired the ammonia analyzer of the plant's Finished Water Reservoir Inlet. Getting these instruments back online is of the highest priority to plant operations when a failure occurs.



Staff repairing the Finished Water Reservoir Inlet's ammonia analyzer at the Skinner plant

Staff performed vibration testing on one of the used washwater return pumps at the Diemer plant. Vibration monitoring is one of many strategies that Metropolitan uses as part of its overall Preventive Maintenance (PM) Program. Machine vibration analysis is a predictive maintenance and a proactive approach in determining the overall condition of rotating machinery. Vibration monitoring allows early failure detection before major equipment damage that can require extensive repairs and a lengthy outage.



Staff performing vibration testing on a used washwater return pump at the Diemer plant

The Mills plant is completing its semiannual Washwater Equalization Basin cleanout. This laborious task typically requires several days using multiple crafts. Mills plant staff collaborated with the Construction Services Unit to provide a front loader and operator. These additional resources allowed the Equalization Basin to be put back in-service ahead of schedule, freeing up valuable staff time. This maintenance is performed during warmer temperatures and before the high flows of the summer months.



Staff hosing down debris and using a front loader to push solids towards the pump for removal at the Mills plant

Staff is currently working to convert the lighting in the four oldest tank farms to new energy-efficient LED fixtures at the Weymouth plant. These tank farms include the ammonia/caustic, alum/ferric, fluoride, and polymer chemicals. The ammonia/caustic and fluoride tank farms have been completed, and work on the polymer tank farm has just begun. The existing light fixtures date back to 1996 and have been requiring more frequent maintenance. This work will reduce the overall electricity consumption by approximately 45 percent, as well as deferring future maintenance

for about 10 years. The lighting also provides greater overall illumination and color/visual rendering, as well as adding an instant illumination benefit when compared with the previous lighting system.



Staff removing existing light fixture (left) and the tank farm with new LED lighting (right) at the Weymouth plant



Staff installing new valve position element at Live Oak Reservoir

Improve Emergency Preparedness and Response

Emergency response training for Metropolitan staff continued this month. On March 24 and April 21, staff completed training from the Governor's Office of Emergency Services. Additionally, staff from three Metropolitan Incident

Command Posts completed refresher training emergency response procedures and participated in tabletop exercises.

Staff reached out to other utilities through participation in a review of Southern California Edison's emergency response plan and participating in the California Utilities Emergency Association's quarterly Board of Directors meeting.

Actively Engage in Capital Project Planning and Execution

On April 17, the design team for the Water Quality building improvement project presented the preliminary design layout. Three potential approaches to redesigning and expanding the Water Quality Laboratory were discussed along with the rationale and constraints for various design options. In addition to seismic resilience and improved building functionality for current and future testing requirements, the final facility design will also consider sustainability, opportunities for community education and outreach, and building longevity. A preliminary design update will be presented to the Board in July.

Staff installed an isolation drop gate in the Filter Building #2 Effluent Channel at the Weymouth plant. The Effluent Channel contains filtered water that requires coordination with Water Quality staff to ensure that proper disinfection of the gate is completed before its installation. Water Quality testing of the Effluent Channel is also required before and after gate installation. The gate is being installed as an isolation point for the upcoming filter valve replacement, which is part of the Basin 5–8 Rehabilitation Project.



Staff using a crane to lower the isolation gate (left) and guiding the isolation gate (right) into the Effluent Channel at the Weymouth plant

Protect Source Water Quality

On April 4, staff participated in the Clearinghouse Task Force meeting for the Topock Chromium-6 Groundwater Remediation Project held in Lake Havasu City, AZ. The California Department of Toxic Substances Control and Pacific Gas and Electric provided an update on project activities. Construction of the groundwater treatment system is underway and expected to be completed in 2026, followed by long-term operation and maintenance of the system. The long-term soil cleanup remedy is in development, and the feasibility study is expected to be completed in 2026.

On April 27, staff participated in the Clean Colorado River Sustainability Coalition board meeting in Lake Havasu City. Metropolitan is a member of this coalition, which comprises key stakeholders in the Lower Colorado River Basin focused on protecting the river's water quality. The coalition discussed activities involving Lake Havasu, including an ongoing mapping project and current water quality conditions.

Prepare for Future Legislation and Regulation

On March 24, the Department of Toxic Substances Control released its revised Generator Improvements Rule for public comment. The Generator Improvements Rule applies to hazardous waste generators such as Metropolitan. Staff is reviewing the revised rule before the May 8 comment deadline.

On March 29, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published draft maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for PFOA and PFAS at 4 parts per trillion (ppt) for each compound—the detection limit of EPA's test method. The proposed rule also set maximum contaminant level goals (MCLGs) for both PFOA and PFOS to 0 ppt. Last, the EPA proposed regulating PFNA, PFHxS, PFBS, and GenX as a mixture. The EPA hopes to finalize the regulation by early 2024 with a three-year compliance timeline from the rule's effective date. Staff will submit comments before the May 30 comment deadline.

On March 30, Cal/OSHA released a 45-day comment period package for the Proposed Indoor Heat Illness Prevention Standard. Cal/OSHA can adopt the standard as early as summer 2023. The proposed standard applies to all indoor work areas where the temperature exceeds or equals to 82° F with additional requirements when temperature equals or exceeds 87° F. Key requirements include providing access to water at worksites and within cooling areas; establishing cool-down areas at all times, and encouragement of breaks; and using control measures to minimize the risk of heat illness (i.e., PPE, engineering controls). Employees must also be trained on indoor heat illness prevention. Staff is currently reviewing the requirements and assessing impacts. Public comments are due on May 18.

On April 5, the EPA published proposed revisions to the Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs) under the Safe Drinking Water Act. When finalized, the EPA's proposal would, among other things, require public water systems serving over 10,000 people to deliver CCRs twice a year, encourage modern electronic delivery options, clarify information regarding lead levels and efforts to reduce lead in drinking water, and provide translation for customers with limited English proficiency. The EPA held two informational webinars about the proposed CCR Rule on April 12 and April 20, 2023. Staff is reviewing the proposed CCR Rule for potential changes to Metropolitan's Annual Water Quality Report that informs the member agency CCRs.

On April 7, Metropolitan submitted a comment letter on the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) 15-day Proposed Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) Regulation. Set for adoption on April 28, the ACF includes a 50 percent zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) purchase mandate for medium to heavy-duty vehicles weighing more than 8,500 pounds beginning in 2024 with 100 percent completion by 2027. The ACF will affect more than 500 Metropolitan vehicles. Metropolitan's

comment letter requested that CARB delay the 100 percent ZEV purchase requirement compliance date from 2027 to 2030 to allow both the ZEV marketplace and state's charging infrastructure to mature. Staff will continue to monitor the development of the ACF Regulation.

On April 13, the EPA requested public "input and data" regarding whether to designate the precursors to PFOA and PFOS, as well as seven additional PFAS as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA or Superfund). The seven additional PFAS are PFBS, PFHxS, PFNA, Gen X, PFBA, PFHxA, and PFDA. This proposal follows the EPA's September 6, 2022, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to designate PFOA and PFOS as hazardous substances under the CERCLA--which is not yet final. The April 1 Federal Register notice also requests input on regulating groups or categories of PFAS as hazardous substances. Staff is preparing comments by the June 12 comment deadline.

Enhance Support Infrastructure at the Desert Facilities

Staff continued construction efforts to improve the Desert facility infrastructure for the residents by constructing carport canopies to protect the residents' vehicles from the intense desert sunlight and heat. Staff has completed work at Gene Camp and has mobilized to the Iron facility. The work includes concrete footing placement for the canopies needed to anchor the structures and protect them from damage by the frequent wind events experienced at the Desert facilities.



Vacuum excavation revealing rock (left) and staff locating buried utility conflicts (right) at a Desert facility

Ensure Accurate Billing Infrastructure

Staff repaired the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's (LADWP) Automatic Meter Reader billing meter at Magazine Canyon. This flow meter is installed in a pumpwell located on the LADWP/Metropolitan interconnection that joins the Los Angeles Aqueduct to the Balboa Inlet Tunnel at Magazine Canyon. This service connection is used to receive water deliveries from the Los Angeles Aqueduct for treatment at the Jensen plant. After removal of the pumpwell flange, staff replaced the faulty flow meter sensor and programmed it for use. Verification testing will occur when the service connection is used—historically when LADWP has a surplus of water from the Owens Valley.



Staff repairing the LADWP service connection flow meter at Magazine Canyon



Staff repairing the LADWP service connection flow meter at Magazine Canyon

Advance Education and Outreach Initiatives

This month, Safety and Technical Training Staff participated as a speaker at the California-Nevada Section AWWA Spring Conference 2023 in San Diego. As part of the conference Environmental Health & Safety Series, a presentation on Wildfire Smoke Prevention: Regulation, Compliance, and Control was delivered to conference attendees. Metropolitan general field workers complete this training to help protect them from unhealthy air quality from a nearby wildfire while performing outdoor work. This training was modified for the AWWA presentation to help member agencies to develop a plan for protecting their workforce when a potential for exposure to wildfire smoke is present.



Staff presenting Wildfire Smoke Prevention at CA-NV AWWA Spring Conference in San Diego

Spring brought an increase in the frequency of in-person facility tours. Staff provided tours of the Water Quality Laboratory for congressional support staff on April 13, to Metropolitan Directors and guests on April 21, and to various internal Metropolitan groups throughout the month.



Directors Morris and Dennstedt and their guests enjoy lunch before a tour of the Water Quality Laboratory

Support and Engage with Member Agencies on Technical Matters

Staff conducted a tour of the Diemer plant for Director Thai Phan and staff from the city of Santa Ana. The tour included a general overview of the source water supplies and water treatment process. It also included a walking tour of the sedimentation basins, filters, pipe gallery, control room, and water quality lab.



Staff with representatives from the city of Santa Ana during a tour of the Diemer plant

On April 12, staff hosted a microplastics workshop for member agencies. A webinar in the morning was open to all member and retail agencies and provided background information on microplastics, legislative requirements, sample collection, and analysis methods. The webinar was attended by over 120 online and approximately 20 in-person participants, representing most member agencies. The primary focus of the workshop was reviewing monitoring requirements and potential sampling locations with the State Water Board's representative on microplastics. The workshop increased awareness on monitoring requirements for potentially affected agencies and provided the State Water Board with information on some of the constraints and challenges of collecting and analyzing samples. The goal of this and future outreach with the State Water Board is to ensure a robust monitoring program and reliable data.

Monthly Update as of:

4/30/2023

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Current Storage</u>	<u>Percent of Capacity</u>
<i>Colorado River Basin</i>		
Lake Powell	5,516,000	23%
Lake Mead	7,661,000	30%
<i>DWR</i>		
Lake Oroville	3,229,977	91%
Shasta Lake	4,430,129	97%
San Luis Total	2,013,748	99%
San Luis CDWR	1,056,169	99%
Castaic Lake	307,060	95%
Silverwood Lake	69,136	92%
Lake Perris	120,058	91%
<i>MWD</i>		
DVL	530,639	66%
Lake Mathews	170,274	94%
Lake Skinner	35,816	81%



Hoover Dam

Information Technology

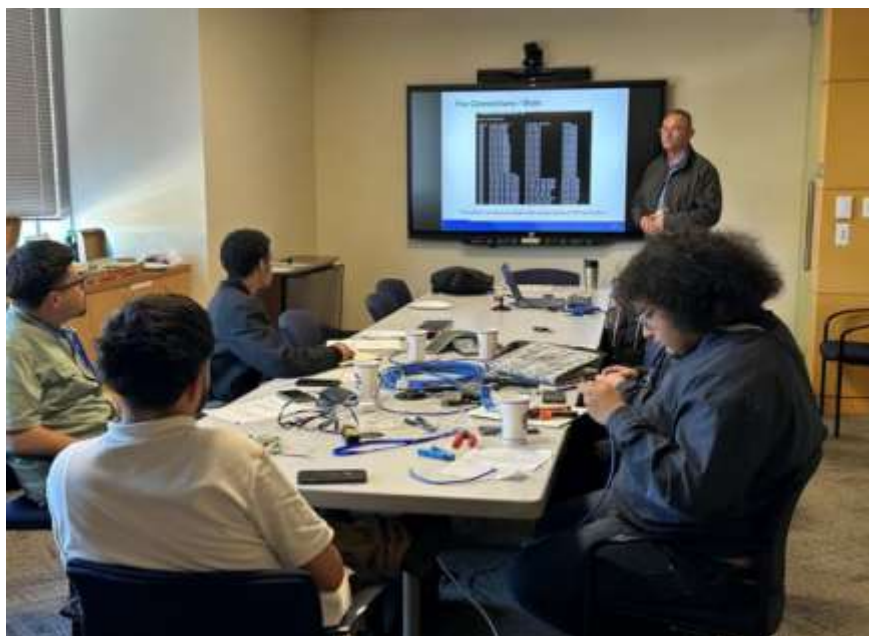
Project Highlights

Cybersecurity Internship

From April 3 to April 6, 2023, Metropolitan IT staff participated in the Metropolitan Internship program with a group of student interns from Narbonne and Carson High schools. The Cybersecurity Internship, was coordinated through Information Technology, Sustainability, Resiliency and Innovation Office, External Affairs/Conservation, and Community Services/Education teams, and hosted through Metropolitan partner “Tomorrow’s Talent.”

To evaluate career paths and assist in next-step planning, students immersed themselves in a weeklong IT-related, bootcamp-style, classroom training event to learn about the knowledge, skills, and abilities desired in a successful Cybersecurity professional within the critical infrastructure areas of responsibility. These classes included various hands-on activities in a live Cybersecurity Operations Center environment such as conducting Open Source Intelligence (OCINT) Research and daily ops briefings, networked systems session identification/troubleshooting and incident response, incident response trouble ticket creation, system component repair, and identification and review of basic network components and architecture.

Emphasis was placed on the critical infrastructure aspect of why we do what we do, when the students took a field trip to the Metropolitan Cybersecurity Operations Center in La Verne, California. While at the Cybersecurity Operations Center, students reviewed and conducted daily tasks routinely conducted by Cybersecurity Operations Center personnel and monitored systems for security events. While at the Cybersecurity Operations Center facility, students also took a WSO-hosted tour of the Control Room, Pump House, and Water Lab, in addition to walking the grounds of the entire facility to better understand the magnitude of the duties, responsibilities, and gratification that come with a career within the Water Industry.



Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Recent Missions

Recent drone missions were conducted to document the repair of one of the forebay gates at Lake Mathews. The team captured imagery before, during, and after the removal of the old forebay gate and the installation of the new forebay gate.

Additionally, the team captured aerial video footage of the water flow out of the I/O tower at Diamond Valley Lake. Footage covering the Article 21 press event was made available to the press. While covering the water flow, the team also took aerial video footage of the incredible wildflower bloom occurring at the northeast area of Diamond Valley Lake.

All material from the recent missions can be viewed here: [MWD UAV Stream Channel](#)



Real Property

Highlights

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

Obtained a permanent easement from Calleguas Metropolitan Water District to construct a new access route to the West Valley Feeder located in the city of Chatsworth. The new road will provide Metropolitan access to the pipeline to perform maintenance.

Obtained a temporary right of entry permit from Morlin Asset Management, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (LACMTA) property management company, to facilitate the installation of new fencing, gates, and bollards as part of the Metropolitan Headquarters Building Exterior Physical Security Improvements Project. This permit will allow the space necessary for construction activity, which will occur from April 2023 through January 2024. This permit supplements permanent easement rights acquired from LACMTA in August of 2021 for the permanent fixtures described.

Foster staff training and development.

Attended the following training:

Attended the Eighth Annual Southern California Chapter of the Appraisal Institute and IRWA Chapter 57 Luncheon and Program in which the topic "Public Agency Valuation Considerations for Properties That Have No Market" was presented. This training enables staff appraisers to properly value land and to understand alternative methods of deriving land value, which may be used during the negotiation process for land acquisition by public agencies.

Attended the American Planning Association's National Planning Conference online and achieved several needed credits toward the maintenance of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) designation.

Provide right-of-way planning, valuation, and real property acquisition support services for the sustainability and reliability of both imported and regional water supplies, and protection of water rights.

Acquired a one-year temporary access permit from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District for visual environmental surveys in support of Pure Water Southern California. The surveys will be conducted along the San Gabriel River alignment and will observe current biological, cultural resource, noise, and hazmat conditions.

Obtained a five-year license from the United States Army Corps of Engineers to enter Santa Fe Dam, Morris Reservoir, and Whittier Narrows Dam areas. The license was obtained for the purpose of conducting non-invasive site walks and observational studies to gather information for environmental surveys in connection with preparing the Pure Water Southern California Program's Environmental Impact Report.

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

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

Issued a five-year license to West Air Gases and Equipment for parking purposes within the Second Lower Feeder right-of-way in Anaheim. The premises will be paved for supplemental parking to accommodate the licensee's staff.

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

The Diamond Valley Lake Marina drew a record number of visitors to the Wildflower Trail this month. Over 40,000 people have visited the trail thus far to enjoy the wildflowers in bloom. Several thousand more visitors are expected through the remaining weeks of spring.



Sidewalk repair work was completed in the east DVL recreational area. Work consisted of concrete grinding to remove potential tripping hazards throughout the area.



District Housing Maintenance and Management.

Replacement of flooring at District Housing located at Live Oak Reservoir was completed. Old vinyl tile and carpet were scrapped out and new vinyl flooring and carpet were installed.



Pre-occupancy repairs on two houses were completed this reporting period. Repairs to these two houses consisted of extensive renovations to include interior/exterior painting, flooring, complete kitchen renovation, bathroom renovation, plumbing re-piping, extensive yard cleanup, etc.

Desert Housing and Recreation Interim Action Plan (DHRIAP) has been implemented and work continues several key projects continue. The carport installations at Gene Camp are now complete. The installation efforts have now transitioned to Iron Mountain where excavations for concrete footings have already begun. The Iron Mountain Wellness Center is progressing. All drywall finish work and interior texturing and painting has been completed in the wellness center. The flooring for the wellness center will be installed by 4/19. The plumbing work is now complete in the renovation of house 25-I at Iron Mountain. The next phase of the project includes the installation of drywall. The fencing privacy slats have been installed for four houses at Iron Mountain.



Carport Installations Complete at Gene Camp



Plumbing Re-piping and Drywall Installation at Iron Mountain House 25-I



Fencing Privacy Slat Installations at Iron Mountain

Security

Project Highlights

Develop and Refine Security's Strategic Plan

Metropolitan Security Specialists collaborated with multiple public safety agencies over the Easter weekend to conduct a surprise enforcement sweep of Metropolitan's Eagle Valley fee property situated west of Lake Mathews. Two Metropolitan Special Agents facilitated access and provided vital route mapping information and detailed guidance on "hot spots" on the district's property.

The Corona Police Department, California Highway Patrol, Riverside County Sheriff, and other public safety agencies used drones to scout the area and identify potential violators; they issued 81 warnings and 16 written citations for various offenses including:

- Illegal off-roading
- Illegal discharge of a firearm
- Vehicle code violations
- Possession of an unserialized "ghost" firearm
- An unoccupied stolen vehicle

Metropolitan Agents and Riverside County Sheriff pledged to continue working with Metropolitan in keeping its fee property in Eagle Valley secure and the surrounding communities safe.



Security Specialists assist law enforcement in safeguarding Metropolitan's Eagle Valley

Security and Emergency Response

Protective Security Advisors (PSAs) from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) met with Metropolitan Security Management staff at the Julian Hinds Pumping Plant for an internal security briefing, area familiarization, and facility tour of critical infrastructure.

The PSAs belong to CISA Region 9, which includes Arizona, California, Hawaii, and Nevada. They play a critical role in areas such as chemical security, emergency communications, and cybersecurity.

PSAs frequently collaborate with Metropolitan Security Specialists to provide essential risk and risk mitigation advice, vulnerability assessments and inspections, trainings, and tabletop exercise support.



DHS PSAs from CISA Region 9 met with Security Management staff

Finance and Administration



Finance

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.

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

The Risk Management Unit completed 36 incident reports communicating instances of Metropolitan property damage, liability, workplace injuries, regulatory visits, and spills.

Risk Management completed 56 risk assessments on contracts, including professional service agreements, construction contracts, entry permits, special events, and film permits.

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.

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

- Facilitated meetings between Payroll and Information Technology to better understand impacts during an extended system outage and develop strategies to continue paying employees.
- Collaborated with IT and Cybersecurity to develop plans for the district to continue working in the event of a cyber-attack rendering systems unavailable.
- Worked with the Fusion vendor to make updates to the guided workflows used by planning coordinators to update their business continuity plans.
- Assisted Risk Management with the review and rating of candidates for third party administrators for liability/property claims.
- Participated in planning meetings with Engineering, Legal, WSO, and consultants to develop a Hazard Mitigation Plan to enable the district to seek grant funding for projects.
- Participated in planning efforts for the 4/23 power shutdown at Headquarters to ensure no business impacts.

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.

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.

- In April 2023, the Board approved resolutions fixing and adopting a Readiness-to-Serve Charge and a Capacity Charge for calendar year 2024.

- Water Transactions for March 2023 (for water delivered in January 2023) totaled 61.9 thousand acre-feet (TAF), which was 39.3 TAF lower than the budget of 101.2 TAF and translates to \$61.0 million in receipts for March 2023, which was \$35.3 million lower than budget of \$96.3 million.
- Year-to-date water transactions through March 2023 (for water delivered in May 2022 through January 2023) were 1,189.4 TAF, which was 91.4 TAF lower than the budget of 1,280.8 TAF. Year-to-date water receipts through March 2023 were \$1,128.3 million, which was \$80.0 million lower than the budget of \$1,208.3 million.
- In March 2023, Accounts Payable processed approximately 3,400 vendor invoices for payment and took advantage of about \$2,800 in discounts.

Manage investor relations to ensure clear communications, accuracy of information, and integrity.

Treasury and Debt Management staff provided updates to our investor relations portal, including Metropolitan's most-recent finance-related documents, such as Monthly Treasurer's Report, Quarterly CIP Update, and Quarterly Financial Report. Treasury Section Manager, Sam Smalls, participated in a panel hosted by the California Debt and Investment Advisory Commission (CDIAC) on "Approaches to Bond Disclosure," highlighting Metropolitan's best-in-class methods for developing accurate, primary, and continuing bond disclosures.

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.

Metropolitan staff and the finance team are working on finalizing documentation for an estimated \$280 million revenue bond sale in May 2023, including Appendix A, Metropolitan's primary disclosure document. Finance staff also has been working on developing a rating agency strategy and two presentations to Moody's and S&P for the upcoming bond sale.

The Treasury and Debt staff has made progress in developing key components of the Long-Range Finance Plan document and coordinating the development of key finance approaches to scenario analysis with the Budget, Rates, and Planning Section and WRM Group.

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

As of March 31, 2023, Metropolitan's investment portfolio balance was \$1.2 billion; in March 2023, Metropolitan's portfolio managers executed 33 trades.

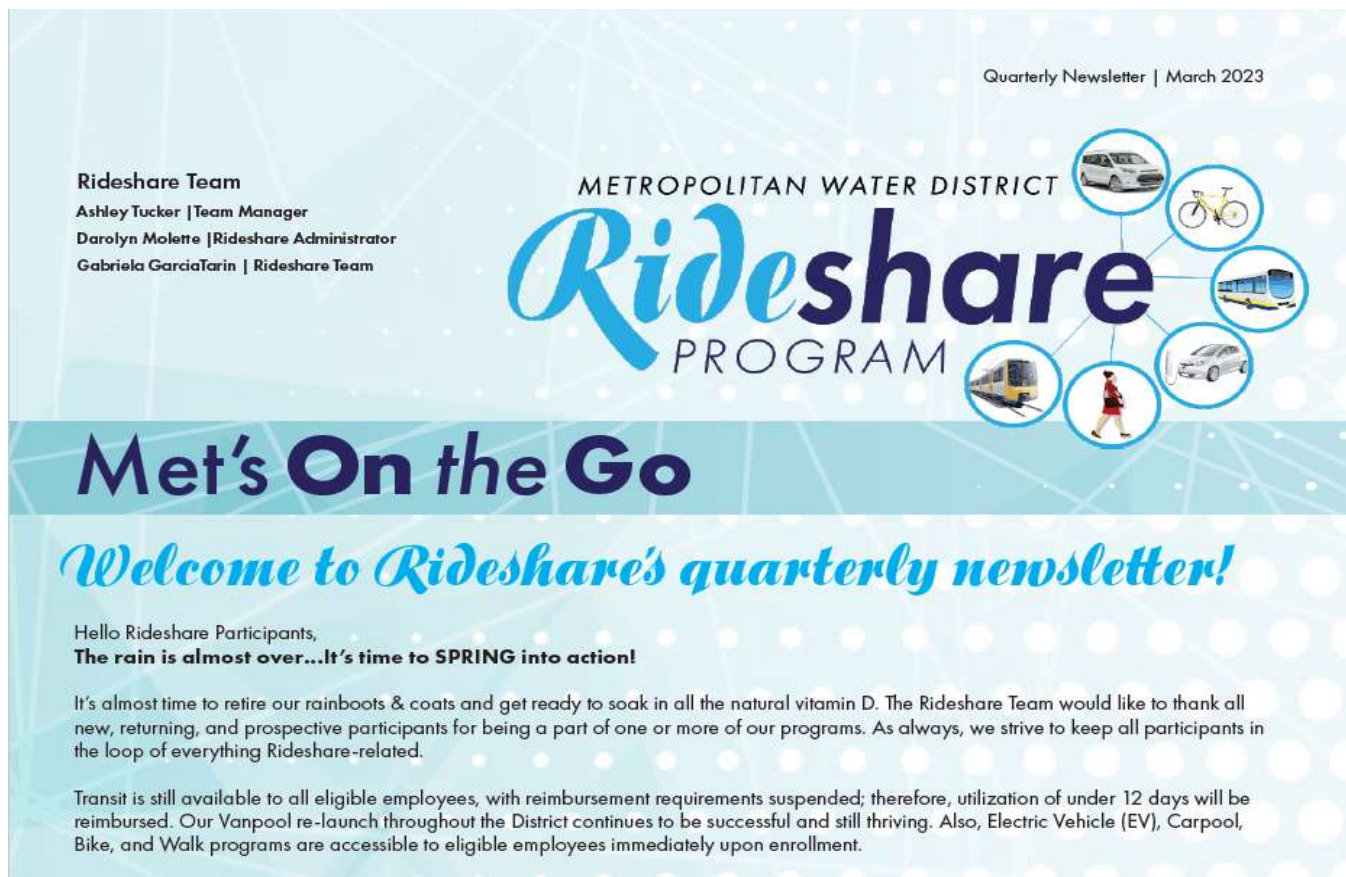
In March 2023, Treasury staff processed 1,140 disbursements by check, 28 disbursements by Automated Clearing House (ACH), and 123 disbursements by wire transfer. Treasury staff also processed 82 receipts by check, 43 receipts by ACH, and 50 receipts by incoming wires and bank transfers.

In addition, there were 8,417 P-One Card transactions, totaling \$1.2 million, recorded in the March bank statement.

Administrative Services

Accomplishments

Rideshare Quarterly Newsletter Distribution



The quarterly Rideshare newsletter was distributed to its participants this month! This quarter staff welcomes participants into spring and provides updates on many events and transportation throughout Southern California. This newsletter is an opportunity for Rideshare staff to share fun local transportation-related events, provide updates to commuting services that Metropolitan employees use daily, and provide Metropolitan Rideshare program updates. Please contact Rideshare at Ridshare@mwdh2o.com for a copy of the full newsletter.

Operating Policy Revisions Underway

The Technical Writing Team successfully managed updates to *Operating Policy A-02: Delegation of Command, Authority and Responsibility*. Operating policies are high-level instructions established by management for conducting Metropolitan's day-to-day business activities. Staff works with Legal and Executive Management to create or revise policies to ensure clarity for Metropolitan's business practices. Currently, 23 of the 71 policies are in revision and an additional new policy is in development.

Human Resources

HR Priorities

Partner with Metropolitan leadership to support learning, development, and adaptive workforce planning initiatives.

In April, 669 Metropolitan employees attended virtually facilitated classes, including Resume Writing, MS Project, Personal Security Awareness, Conflict Resolution, Avoid Burnout in the Workplace, and Communication Strategies.

LinkedIn Learning, Metropolitan's online e-learning content platform, was accessed for such topics as Program Management Fundamentals, Improving Your Memory, Leading with Emotional Intelligences, Ergonomics 101, and Communication Within Teams.

The Organizational Development & Training Unit (OD&T) facilitated a training session at Diamond Valley Lake for the Apprenticeship Program. Topics included Learning Styles, Test Taking Strategies, Communications Skills, and Stress Management. A team training was also provided for Engineering's Design Section focusing on Building Trust, Communication Skills, and Employee Engagement.

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

Recruitment successfully filled 17 positions for April. Recruitment received 17 new staffing requisitions, resulting in 207 positions currently in recruitment.

HR Core Business: Comply with Employment Laws and Regulations

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.

HR Benefits worked with HRIS and IT to issue the 1095-C statements to all employees and filed the 1094-C Employer report with the IRS by March 1, 2023, as mandated by law under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

In April, three new workers' compensation claims were received. Five employees are currently off work because of an industrial injury or illness, and four employees have returned to work. This reflects Metropolitan's effort to accommodate injured workers, while enabling them to be productive and on the job. Staff is currently addressing four accommodations both in house and with Shaw HR Consulting.

In addition, staff added three industrial medicine providers to the roster to increase the number of options for Metropolitan employees. Staff continues to work closely with our Workers' Compensation Third-Party Administrator, TRISTAR Risk Management.

Activities of the Medical Screening Unit are summarized as follows for April:

- Coordinated four medical Medvan visits (DMV, respirator exams, and hearing tests) at desert facilities (Hinds, Eagle, Iron, Gene).
- Facilitated return-to-work from leave for four employees.
- Addressed 45 accommodation issues, including referrals and follow ups with Shaw HR Consulting.

Finance and Administration

(continued)

HR Metrics	June 2022	April 2023	Prior Month March 2023
Headcount			
Regular Employees	1,762	1766	1,764
Temporary Employees	37	14	19
Interns	2	0	0
Recurrents	18	18	18
Annuitants	19	24	25

	April 2023	March 2023
Number of Recruitments in Progress (Includes Temps and Intern positions)	207	218
Number of New Staffing Requisitions	17	24
	April 2023	March 2023
Number of Job Audit Requests in Progress	9	10
Number of Completed/Closed Job Audits	2	4
Number of New Job Audit Requests	1	2

Transactions Current Month and Fiscal YTD (includes current month)			
<u>External Hires</u>	<u>FY 21/22 Totals</u>	<u>April 2023</u>	<u>FISCAL YTD</u>
Regular Employees	82	7	93
Temporary Employees	36	3	17
Interns	4	0	0
Internal Promotions	70	2	50
Management Requested Promotions	152	12	117
Retirements/Separations (regular employees)	127	5	88
Employee-Requested Transfers	15	0	13

Departures

Last	First Name	Classification	Eff Date	Reason	Group
Martinez	Conrad	O&M Tech IV	2/28/2023	Retirement—Service	Water System Operations
Perez	Gilbert	O&M Tech IV	3/16/2023	Retirement—Service	Water System Operations
Shorter	Joyce	Storekeeper III	3/16/2023	Retirement—Service	Administration
Stubblefield	Joshua	O&M Tech IV	2/24/2023	Resign—Accepted Other Employment	Water System Operations
Venson	Cora	Admin Analyst	3/3/2023	Resign—Accepted Other Employment	Administration

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Tribal Outreach & Engagement

The DEI Team attended the fourth Tribal Water Summit in Sacramento, April 11 to April 13, 2023. The summit convenes every five years. The goal is to provide a high-level dialogue between tribal governments and state/federal government officials to discuss the most important water supply policy and water management issues tribal governments face today. The topics covered include tribal water rights, water resource management, cultural inclusion in government planning, and tribal research assessments for California's climate plan. A discussion in emerging water markets included case studies by the Colorado River Indian Tribe's leasing program and Quechan Tribe's seasonal fallowing program with Metropolitan. The summit was attended by over 400 tribal leaders from both federally recognized and unrecognized tribes.

Business Outreach & Community Engagement

On April 28, 2023, staff attended the 2023 State Contracting Summit in Irvine, CA. Over 200–250 small business owners from the region participated in the conference focusing on State and Local Contracting and Access to Capital. Staff exhibited a table, and John Arena, Business Outreach Section Manager, presented during a breakout session during the conference to discuss Metropolitan's small business program and how businesses can prepare for contractual opportunities. During the last segment, "Meet the Speakers," speakers had the opportunity to interact directly with attendees.



Business Outreach attended The Associated General Contractors (AGC) Tri-District Board of Directors Meeting, On Wednesday, April 5. Metropolitan updated the board on the potential construction contracting opportunities. Together, we actively create opportunities to build and strengthen our water district. AGC believes construction is vital to the success of California. Partnerships with AGC improve industry relationships and develop our workforce.

Finance and Administration

(continued)



Business Outreach attended the IFMA-LA event on Monday, April 10. IFMA-LA is the premier facilities management organization in Los Angeles, fostering excellence in both the workplace environment and its workforce. (200 in attendance)

Business Outreach attended The Water Infrastructure Networking Summit (WINS) on Friday, April 14, in Costa Mesa. The Keynote Speaker was The Honorable Antonio Villaraigosa, Infrastructure Advisor of California. Metropolitan Chair Ortega was among the speakers at the event. Over 300 guests attended from water districts, cities, community organizations, consulting firms, and non-profit agencies including elected officials.

Business Outreach attended the Spheres for Sustainability Summit on Thursday, April 27. Adan Ortega Jr, Chairman, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, was the keynote speaker. The goal of the conference is to champion and empower coalitions among Hispanic and diverse small businesses, government, and local communities in the Greater Inland Empire region and beyond by providing resources and opportunities to ensure their success.

External Affairs



External Affairs

Highlights

GM Hagekhalil joined Felicia Marcus on the AirTalk with Larry Mantle radio show to discuss the release of the federal government’s Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for near-term Colorado River operations, and the impacts to Southern California residents, businesses, agriculture, and the environment. (April 12)

Metropolitan co-hosted the California Colorado River Board meeting and provided a tour of the Pure Water Southern California demonstration facility for board members and staff. (April 12–13)

GM Hagekhalil spoke to the Orange County Business Council where he discussed PFAS, One Water, State Water Project, and Colorado River issues. (April 13)



Chair Ortega spoke to the group and Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Dick, Erdman, Jung, Quinn, and Seckel, and

GM Hagekhalil and staff attended, and Metropolitan sponsored the Water Infrastructure Networking Summit (WINS) an event to bring awareness of the needs and funding opportunities for regional water and wastewater infrastructure. (April 14)

California Colorado River Board members including newly appointed member and MWD Director Cordero (left) and Pure Water Southern California facility tour (right)



GM Hagekhalil, former LA Mayor Villaraigosa, BizFed's Hernandez, and MWD Chair Ortega at the Water Infrastructure Networking Summit

GM Hagekhalil was a featured guest on Fox 11’s “In-Depth” public affairs show to discuss drought, recent storms, and actions to secure future water supplies.

Director McCoy attended and Metropolitan sponsored the California Greenworks CELA Awards, at which Director Sutley was honored. (April 20)

Metropolitan hosted and Chair Ortega provided welcoming remarks to a coalition of elected officials and community, labor, business, and environmental leaders at the Groundswell Water Justice legislative hearing. (April 21)

GM Hagekhalil appeared on NBC4 Conan Nolan's "News Conference" public affairs show to talk about improved State Water Project conditions, the Colorado River, and initiatives to address climate change. (April 23)

Chair Ortega participated in the Hispanic Coalition of Small Businesses (HCSB) Spheres of Sustainability Summit (April 27)

Legislative Services

Federal

Fourteen staff from Congressional offices representing Metropolitan's service area toured the Colorado River to learn about Metropolitan's water systems, current year supply conditions, and future initiatives. (April 11–14).

Metropolitan staff continues to advocate for increased federal investments in water infrastructure funding as lawmakers continue to work on the fiscal year 2024 appropriations process.

State

Several bills of interest to Metropolitan and its member agencies have been introduced in the legislature, including those related to non-functional turf, native plants, water rights, Delta issues, and proposed bond measures. Staff is analyzing, monitoring, and working with the administration and legislators to provide input based on policy principles and board direction.

Metropolitan and six SWP-dependent member agencies sent a letter to Governor Newsom and the legislature requesting \$50 million in state funding to accelerate work on critical regional conveyance water infrastructure.

Local

Director Morris and Metropolitan staff attended a community roundtable on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for local projects, including water infrastructure projects, hosted by Rep. Ruiz (D-Indio) and Sr. Advisor to the President and Infrastructure Implementation Coordinator Landrieu. (April 5)

Sponsored the Valley Industry & Commerce Association's Congressional Luncheon, which featured Reps. Porter (D-Irvine), Sherman (D-Sherman Oaks) and Garcia (R-Santa Clarita). (April 13)

Attended the Greater West Covina Business Association Legislative Breakfast with Representative Napolitano (D-Norwalk), attended by over 100 local community and business leaders. (April 21)

Metropolitan sponsored and Director McMillan and staff attended the Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County Annual Water Symposium. (April 20)

Southern California Water Coalition (SCWC) held its Quarterly Luncheon in Temecula. (April 28)

Metropolitan staff presented, monitored, and/or participated in 68 webinars, virtual meetings, and events this month with community organizations, trade associations, and local officials on water-specific topics.



GM Hagekhalil on KNBC4 News Conference public affairs

Media and Communications

Hosted a media tour of Hoover Dam, Colorado River Aqueduct, and the Yuma Project with reporters and photographers from the Los Angeles Times, CNN, Spectrum News, and Associated Press.

Coordinated the following interviews:

- PPIC and EO/AGM Upadhyay on long-term water challenges and strategies for reliability
- LA Times reporter Ryan Fonseca and WRM's Polyzos on water supply conditions
- Colorado River Resources Manager Hasencamp and KNX-AM 1070, Los Angeles Times, and KCBS-TV 2/KCAL 9 regarding Colorado River supplemental environmental assessment
- KNBC4 reporter Tony Shin and WRM's Polyzos regarding runoff and water supply
- ProPublica reporter Mark Olalde and Colorado Resources Manager Hasencamp regarding Metropolitan's agricultural partnerships
- KPCC-FM 89.3's Jacob Margolis and WRM's Polyzos regarding 100 percent SWP allocation



Participants of the Colorado River media tour at Intake

Press Releases

- Governor's drought action, increased State Water Project allocation
- Metropolitan replenishing storage at DVL
- Launch of conservation advertising campaign on world's largest digital billboard, The Reef
- Release of draft SEIS for Colorado River operations
- SWP allocation increasing to 100 percent

Creative Design

Launched new digital notification program in 800 hardware, garden, and mom-and-pop nurseries that sends messages about rebates and smart irrigation controllers to customer mobile phones as they enter the stores.



Metropolitan's BeWaterWise message on The Reef

Entered the next phase of social media influencer campaign with actor/director Fred Armisen and author/designer Justina Blakeney. Spots have helped Metropolitan reach a broader and younger demographic and have increased visitors to Instagram.

Finalized video of the Delta smelt propagation study, photographed two service awards luncheons, and created a video for BizFed event that features Liz Crosson, Metropolitan's SRI chief, discussing district sustainability initiatives and goals.



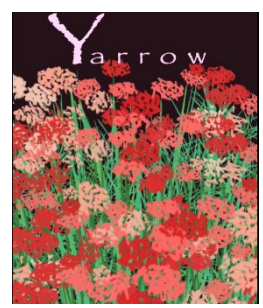
DVL wildflowers and wildlife are showcased on new mwdh2o.com web pages

Website

- Added new pages and features highlighting Diamond Valley Lake wildflower bloom and the Project Labor Agreement.
- Generated nearly 98,000 views on mwdh2o.com, with DVL's wildflower bloom, careers, and job listings being the top visited pages.
- Five-fold increase in traffic to bewaterwise.com, with nearly 120,000 views.

Social Media

- Earned more than 23 million impressions, with more than 139,000 clicks to bewaterwise.com from social media.
- Generated significant interest on social media for posted video on Diamond Valley Lake press conference, surpassing benchmarks on Instagram.
- Posted drone aerial videos of DVL's wildflower trail and The Reef conservation messaging on social media platforms.
- Highlighted employees for Armenian History Month by posting photos from the Armenian American Employees Group event and posted a quote from Chair Ortega on Cesar Chavez's contributions



Social media postings included new turf rebate assets, Armenian History Month, lifestyle influencer Josie Maran, and native plant artwork

Public Outreach and Member Services

Pure Water Southern California

- Tours for Long Beach Utilities (April 6); Council for Watershed Health Recycled Water Communications Workgroup (April 10); Cal Poly Pomona students (April 11); California Colorado River Board (April 12); LA County Public Health (April 24); San Gabriel Watermaster (April 26); UCLA (April 27)

- Presentations and briefings to the Lakewood Rotary Club (April 13); Long Beach School Board Member Dr. Felton Williams (April 18); Downtown Long Beach Lions Club (April 21)
- Community engagement at the Carson Earth Day Celebration (April 15); Bike Tour with Active San Gabriel Valley (April 15); Los Angeles Counties Sanitation Districts' Earth Day Festival (April 22)
- Notified residents and businesses in Covina, West Covina, and Baldwin Park about Middle Feeder Shutdown



Conducted five director inspection trips to the State Water Project, Diamond Valley Lake, Weymouth and the Water Quality Lab, and conveyance infrastructure



Provided a Water Supply Update at Rancho Water District's Annual Farm Managers meeting (April 5)

Participated in the city of Blythe Community Outlook conference (April 10)

Organized UCLA student tour of Jensen Plant (April 19) and Korean delegation tour of Weymouth (April 21)

Conservation materials were provided for Walnut Valley Water District's Community Water Summit, focused on outreach to Asian American and Pacific Islander communities (April 22)

Education and Community Relations

Interacted with more than 4,000 teachers, students and parents through in-person and online field trips, career days, community events, meetings, and customized class presentations.

- Provided water education materials to LA County Office of Education Girls in STEM program
- Career events in Pomona, San Fernando Valley, Monterey Park, and Rialto
- Hosted water education booths at Splash into Spring in Riverside, the annual LACSD Earth Day event, the Orange County Children's Drinking Water Festival, Future Green Leaders Conference, Annual Youth Summit in partnership with Tree People, and Generation Earth at the Natural History Museum



One of many water education classroom presentations for schools throughout Southern California



Metropolitan's cybersecurity interns toured several Metropolitan facilities

The 37 winners of the 2023 Water is Life Poster Contest had their art displayed this month at Three Valleys Municipal Water District and Pomona City Hall.

In partnership with Tomorrow's Talent, Metropolitan staff supported a pilot Workforce Development Initiative with seven cybersecurity interns from Narbonne High School, Harbor City, and Carson High.

The Water Engineering 4 Good, an online STEM pilot program concluded this month with final presentations and an awards ceremony for 12 teams of middle and high school students.

Community Partnering and Sponsorship Program

- Theodore Payne Native Garden Plant Tour (April 14–15)
- Monte Vista Water District Waterwise Expo
- The Samburu Project—Kids Helping Kids
- Weaving Earth, Inc. LA Walks of Resilience and Accountability
- Sustainable Claremont—Earth Day Celebration
- Topanga Enrichment Programs, Inc.—Science Day and Conservation Garden Box Project
- Oceanographic Teaching Stations, Inc.—Keep it Green, Keep it Clean Earth Day Festival
- City of Oxnard—Water Wise Student Art Contest

Sustainability, Resiliency and Innovation



Sustainability, Resiliency, Innovation and Environmental Planning

SRI Core Activities

Committee and Subcommittees Presentations

The Chief of SRI presented at the One Water and Stewardship (OW & S) and Finance, Audit, Insurance, and Real Property (FAIRP) committees and Long-Term Regional Planning Processes and Business Modeling (LTRPPBM) subcommittee. At the OW & S the Chief of SRI gave an update on our sustainability strategy, which includes guiding principles, section-specific goals, and key performance indicators. At the FAIRP committee, the Chief of SRI gave a presentation on *Next Steps on the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W)*. The potential upcoming board policy decisions and potential adaptation master planning process were discussed. Additionally, at the LTRPPBM subcommittee, the Chief of SRI gave an update on CAMP4W discussion for the upcoming May 23 Board Workshop (terminology and interests).

Climate Panel at Infraday California

The Chief of SRI participated on the *Collaborating to Address Climate Risk* panel in Los Angeles. The panel brought together experts and practitioners in the field of climate adaption and resilience at the municipal, regional, and state level. The Chief of SRI discussed the challenges that their communities face in dealing with climate change impacts, such as droughts, wildfires, sea level rise, and extreme weather events, and explored strategies to build resilience.



Panel of Speakers at the Infraday—Collaborating to Address Climate Risk



Inaugural Climate Action Plan Annual Report

SRI released its inaugural Climate Action Plan report, detailing its progress over the past year on a suite of measures designed to help the district achieve carbon neutrality by 2045. Highlights include transitioning retail accounts to green power, the establishment of the ZEV Executive Task Force, launching a public-facing GHG dashboard, and exceeding turf replacement goals, which also reduces Metropolitan's carbon footprint.

Sustainability, Resiliency and Innovation

(continued)

CAMP4W (Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water) Planning Team

The Chief of SRI convened and conducted initial meetings with CAMP4W Planning Team leaders across Metropolitan. The CAMP4W team began work to engage Metropolitan's board and member agencies in the CAMP4W process. Initial Board Workshops and Member Agency Manager Meetings will focus on coming to mutual understanding of how Metropolitan defines *Resilience*, *Reliability*, *Affordability*, and *Financial Sustainability*.

Sustainability Expo 2023

Metropolitan hosted its first Sustainability Expo/Earth Day on April 25, 2023, at our headquarters building, courtyard, and on Zoom. Expo showcased Metropolitan and its sustainability and innovation champions. Over 400 Metropolitan employees attended the Expo and learned from colleagues about sustainability practices, including zero-emission vehicles, water conservation tips, drought-tolerant gardening, and composting. The engaging exhibits showed how Metropolitan and the work we do inspire a better future. It was a day for sharing and connecting.



Sustainability Expo 2023 at Metropolitan's Headquarters



Metropolitan Employee Panel discussing "Sustainable Transformation at Home Using Solar Panels and Drought Resistant Gardening"

Sustainability, Resiliency and Innovation

(continued)



**Metropolitan Employee Panel discussing
“Driving Sustainability with Zero Emission Vehicles”**



Panel Speakers Discussing “Circular Economy”

Envision 2-day Training

This month SRI and Human Resources began offering staff training in support of Metropolitan’s adoption of Envision Sustainable Infrastructure Standards. The training provided participants with an introduction to the Envision framework and fostered conversations on synergistic opportunities with Metropolitan’s current Environmental Planning and Engineering workflows.



SRI and Human Resources first staff training on Envision Sustainable Infrastructure Framework

SRI Lunch and Learn

This month the SRI Office partnered with Engineering and Water Resource Management to host Professor Graeme Stephens, Director of NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory’s Center for Climate Sciences, Distinguished University Professor (Colorado State University, Emeritus). This talk reviewed the progress made in understanding the global hydrological cycle, how it varies over time, and over a range of spatial scales. This hybrid presentation was the fourth SRI sponsored Lunch and Learn of the year.

Sustainability, Resiliency and Innovation

(continued)

SRI Council Meeting

This month's SRI Council Meeting focused on introducing the tool *IdeaScale*, which promotes promising staff-generated novel SRI initiatives. IdeaScale is a software hub to store, process, and organize Metropolitan staff's best SRI ideas. The SRI Council also discussed outreach strategies to inform staff of upcoming SRI training and learning opportunities (see **Envision 2-day Training** and **Sustainability Expo 2023**).

Zero Emissions Fleet (ZEV) Transition

The SRI Office continued to liaison between WSO, ESG, Finance, and Procurement to develop and implement Metropolitan's transition to zero emission vehicles and equipment.

Green Procurement

The SRI Office continued to work with the Administrative Services Section to modify the existing G-05 Operating Policy, Procurement of Goods and Services, to incorporate sustainable purchasing practices. Team members are also developing a new Operating Policy, G-06, Sustainable Procurement, which outlines Metropolitan's commitment to the procurement of sustainable products and services.

Innovation

Membership in WaterStart

On April 19, Metropolitan's SRI Innovation, Engineering, Operations, WRM, Cyber, and IT Teams participated in peer-to-peer discussions with global water agencies and Olympic groups from Paris, Los Angeles, Australia, Brazil, and Japan on water quality at the Olympic Games.



SRI's Innovation Team is a member of WaterStart and participates in co-funded pilots with WaterStart and WaterStart members. WaterStart's next RFP is now open for novel technologies to solve critical water challenges for water agencies and major consumers. The RFP is a call for innovative technologies that transform the way we track, safeguard, and transport our most essential resource—water.

Sustainability, Resiliency and Innovation

(continued)

This is an opportunity for tech providers that can address this round's challenges related to #drinkingwater, #agriculture, #environmental, #cooling. #RFP23 closes on Monday 12 May 2023. Find out more and submit your RFP through the WaterStart online portal <https://waterstart.com/rfps/rfp23/>.

- WaterStart is a non-profit collective of water agencies and large water consumers who are adapting to change by scaling up new solutions to water challenges.
- To solve our member's critical priorities, we recruit, evaluate, and co-fund pilot projects with our members to test and validate novel solutions from across the globe.
- Successful applicants are awarded contracts ranging from \$25,000 to 100,000 to deploy their technology with our members.
- Results captured from pilot projects are promoted among our wide network to help drive learning and collaboration opportunities across the global water industry.

Centralized Grants Management Office

The General Manager approved staff's plan to create Metropolitan's first Centralized Grants Management Office (CGMO). The main goals of a CGMO are to provide organizational leadership and oversight over grant policy, evaluation, administration, and training as well as to provide expertise on grant management systems and to streamline processes. The Coordinated Grants Management Office will provide services and support to Metropolitan groups throughout the agency. The office will increase Metropolitan's opportunities to acquire outside funding while reducing risks associated with grant management and compliance.

Full development of the CGMO with staffing support is expected to be completed by September 2023. Until then, staff has secured a contract with a consultant to assist with any urgent grant needs. The CGMO has already started coordination with Legal, Finance, Engineering, WRM, and WSO and is gathering feedback on the needs of each organization.

Environmental Planning Section

Core Business: Environmental Planning and Regulatory Compliance Support

Bay Delta Initiatives

Delta Smelt Preservation and Enhancement Project

- Prepared responses to public comments on the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) in preparation for the Board's consideration of MND adoption.

Delta Conveyance Project

- Continued supporting preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) responses to comments for cultural resources and tribal cultural resources impact categories on behalf of Public Water Agencies.
- Continued coordination and support of meetings with regulatory agencies for permitting efforts.

Engineering Services Group

Copper Basin Discharge Valve Replacement and Access Road Improvements Project

- Supported execution of professional services agreement for pre-construction surveys and environmental construction monitoring and initiated preparations for environmental work during construction phase.

Etiwanda Pipeline Relining Project

- Continued oversight of project environmental construction monitoring.

Sustainability, Resiliency and Innovation

(continued)

Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP) Rehabilitation Program

- Initiated construction monitoring for PCCP Second Lower Feeder Reach 3B.
- Continued construction monitoring for PCCP Second Lower Feeder Reach 3A and Lake Mathews Valve Storage Facility Project (see photos).



Noise Barrier Mitigation Measure at PCCP Second Lower Feeder Reach 3A Pipe Access Site



Lake Mathews PCCP Storage Facility under Construction

Perris Valley Pipeline

- Conducted a Workers Environmental Awareness Program training for the contractor and Metropolitan staff in support of environmental construction monitoring activities.
- Finalized the environmental construction monitoring checklist for project construction activities and initiated mitigation monitoring.

Pure Water Southern California Program

- Continued preparation of draft hydrology and water quality, paleontological resources, biological resources, traffic/transportation, and jurisdictional delineation technical reports for the Program EIR.
- Continued tribal cultural resources consultation.

Sustainability, Resiliency and Innovation

(continued)

Weymouth Water Treatment Plant and La Verne Site Improvements PEIR

- Finalized technical studies for air quality/greenhouse gas and traffic/transportation resource categories.
- Continued preparation of the Administrative Draft Program EIR and the health risk analysis, noise, traffic, and site access technical reports.

Design Support

- Provided design review and support for the Weymouth Hazardous Waste and Storage Facility, Diemer North Slope Upgrades, and San Gabriel Tower Seismic Upgrades projects.

Construction Monitoring

- Continued environmental construction monitoring for Orange County Feeder Relining Reach 3, Weymouth Basins 5–8 Rehabilitation (see photos), La Verne Shops Upgrades, Weymouth Battery Energy Storage System, and Live Oak Reservoir Cathodic System Replacement projects.



Contractor Removing Internal Components at Basins 7 and 8 for the Weymouth Basins 5–8 Rehabilitation Project

External Affairs Group

- Conducted a tour of the Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve for Secretary Wade Crowfoot, California Natural Resources Agency; Ted Craddock, Deputy Director, State Water Project; and Lisa Lien-Mager, Senior Advisor for Strategic Communications, California Natural Resources Agency.
- Provided legislative analysis for HR 520 (Amend Endangered Species Act of 1973) and AB 830 (Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreements).

Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation Office

Climate Action Plan (CAP) Monitoring and Reporting

- Continued preparation of the first annual CAP Progress Report.
- Finalized the natural gas equipment inventory usage survey and continued coordination of data gathering related to employee commute survey, net zero waste policies, and LED lighting inventory measures.

Reserve Management

Lake Mathews Multiple Species Reserve

- Conducted an Earth Day event on April 15 with local community volunteers, California Conservation Corps, and Waste Management, Inc. employees to clean up illegally dumped trash within reserve boundaries (see photo).
- Managed approximately 450 acres of grassland by mowing and grazing.
- Continued stinknet removal and treated 50 acres; approximately 175 acres have been treated this year.
- Continued coordination efforts with the Riverside County Sheriff's Office to prevent trespassing.

Sustainability, Resiliency and Innovation

(continued)



Lake Mathews Earth Day Clean-Up

Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve

- Conducted bird surveys; noted observations included rufous-crowned sparrow, coastal California gnatcatcher, Bell sparrow, least Bell's vireo, and Lawrence's goldfinch.
- Coordinated with researchers on the reserve surveying for white-tailed kite, Quino checkerspot butterfly, rare plants, Stephens' kangaroo rat, and riparian bird surveys.
- Reserve interpreter conducted outreach on the Wildflower Trail.
- Conducted weed abatement and invasive plant species removal.

External Document Reviews

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



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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