



The GENERAL MANAGER Monthly Report

**Activities for the Month of
September 2021**

This report identifies the actions and activities taking place during the month that support the objectives of the General Manager's Fiscal Year 2020/21 Strategic Priorities and the Core Business of the GM's work groups.

OCTOBER 12, 2021



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ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

CORE BUSINESS: Business Processes Advance value-added business process improvements to increase effectiveness and efficiency while striving for innovation, flexibility, and integration with technology.

Accomplishments

Despite the pandemic, the Contracting Services Unit's Investment Recovery program ended FY 2020/21 with an outstanding year. All auctions for Metropolitan's end-of-life assets were listed online with all safety regulations in place to complete sales of over half a million dollars (\$579,221), a new record.

BAY-DELTA INITIATIVES

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: Resiliency

Objective # 1 Pursue the development of adaptive management decision processes, governance, and funding mechanisms that would provide effective and stable means of meeting State Water Project (SWP) regulatory requirements.

Staff continued to participate in the collaborative groups called for in the 2019 Biological Opinions (BiOp) for the State Water Project (SWP) and Central Valley Project, and in the 2020 Incidental Take Permit (ITP) for Long-term Operation of the SWP, to address science needs and inform management and operation of the water projects. In September, staff participated in the Delta Coordination Group's effort to conduct a structured decision-making process to evaluate the effectiveness of summer and fall habitat actions for Delta smelt. The group is currently developing performance metrics to evaluate the actions. Staff also continued collaboration with the state and federal agencies to develop a Juvenile Production Estimate for Spring-run Chinook salmon as a condition required by the ITP. Current efforts are focused on developing alternatives for a monitoring program (e.g., what would be monitored and where).

Staff continued collaboration with the state and federal agencies to develop a monitoring program for steelhead as a condition of the 2019 BiOp. The monitoring plan would encompass steelhead populations within the San Joaquin Basin and/or the San Joaquin River downstream of the confluence of the Stanislaus River and would include steelhead and rainbow trout. The group is drafting conceptual models for each life stage of steelhead to help identify monitoring needed for each life stage.

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #2: Sustainability

Objective # 1 Pursue completion of the planning and permitting process for the single tunnel Delta Conveyance Project (DCP).

Delta Conveyance

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is continuing to develop an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Field activities in the Delta for Soil Investigations are proceeding to support the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (including cone penetration tests, soil borings, and geophysical surveys). Field investigations will continue in mid-September following a short break from July–August 2021. Additionally, DWR and the Delta Conveyance Design Construction Authority (DCA) are continuing work to obtain temporary entry for additional soil surveys on private lands. DWR is also continuing to pursue permits for soil survey sites that fall under the jurisdiction of the Rivers and Harbors Act (Section 408). Investigations at any given site will not occur until property owners have been notified and required permits and approvals for that site have been obtained.

DWR completed the last of the four technical webinars designed to inform the public and interested stakeholders about the approaches and methodologies used in conducting impact analyses in the Draft EIR. The final webinar on Environmental Justice was presented on September 16. All webinars were recorded and made available on DWR's website (<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project/Delta-Conveyance/DCP-Informational-Webinars>). Information about impact findings and specific mitigation measures were not available for the webinars and will be included in future outreach efforts following publication of the public Draft EIR.

Joint Powers Authorities

The regularly scheduled Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) Board of Directors meeting was held on September 16 and included regular staff reports and updates. The DCA Stakeholder Engagement Committee

BAY-DELTA INITIATIVES *continued*

met on September 22, where air quality and greenhouse gas methodologies used in CEQA analyses were presented by DWR.

The Delta Conveyance Finance Authority (DCFA) regularly scheduled September meeting was canceled.

Objective # 3 Engage in planning and permitting activities for the Sites Reservoir.

In their joint September 22 meeting, the Sites Project Authority Board (Authority Board) and the Sites Reservoir Committee (Reservoir Committee) authorized the Executive Director to execute a three-party agreement between the Authority Board, DWR, and Sites Reservoir participants that are also SWP Contractors to include the planning costs for the Sites Reservoir Project in the SWP Annual Statement of Charges.

The Authority Board and Reservoir Committee also approved Amendment 3 of the Project Agreement and Work Plan with a period of performance from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2024 for the purpose of initiating participant home board review, deliberation, and execution of the agreement. The Executive Director was also authorized to execute a Federal Financial Assistance Agreement with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) for \$6.9 million in WIIN Act Funds and to submit the Final WSIP Feasibility Report to the California Water Commission to comply with Proposition 1.

Objective # 4 Develop and execute land use strategies for the Delta Islands that are consistent with board policies.

Staff continued efforts to develop studies to assist in preserving Delta smelt and evaluating existing ponds on Metropolitan's Delta Island properties to assess the suitability of the ponds for Delta smelt research. On September 15, staff hosted the Deputy Directors of DWR and their staff, and UC Davis researchers for a Bouldin Island tour to provide information and develop opportunities for collaboration on projects on the Delta Island properties. The main projects discussed included floating wetlands, Delta smelt mesocosms, and levee security.

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3: Innovation

Objective # 1 Provide leadership through advancing scientific knowledge that promotes opportunities for the improvement of SWP supply reliability through the improvement and protection of estuarine processes, native species, and Delta ecosystem health.

On September 2, staff participated in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Longfin smelt Workshop for the Species Status Assessment (SSA) and presented work on predictive mapping for larval/juvenile longfin smelt habitat. The workshop included presentations on the biology, ecology, distribution, and abundance of longfin smelt to inform USFWS SSA on longfin smelt.

Staff also continued participating in the Collaborative Science and Adaptive Management Program (CSAMP), including participation on the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team (CAMT). At the September 21 meeting, CAMT discussions focused on a proposal to evaluate information from past reviews of Delta monitoring programs and on potential science activities for the CAMT technical teams. Staff continued collaboration with the NGO participants on the CSAMP Salmon Recovery Initiative. The group is currently planning the second workshop to define salmon recovery in a broad sense through scientific technical discussions with salmonid experts.

BAY-DELTA INITIATIVES *continued*

CORE BUSINESS RELIABILITY

Objective # 1 Provide analysis of key regulations and legislation that may influence SWP supply reliability, Bay Delta water quality and environmental health.

In response to ongoing drought conditions and associated water supply shortages in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta watershed, on August 3, 2021, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) adopted a Delta watershed emergency regulation authorizing the curtailment of diversions when water is determined to be unavailable. On August 20, 2021, the State Board issued curtailments to approximately 4,500 water right holders in the Delta watershed to help protect drinking water supplies, prevent salinity intrusion, and minimize impacts to fisheries and the environment. The SWP has rights for the diversion of water to Lake Oroville, as well as rights in the south Delta for the diversion and re-diversion of stored water. These rights are post-1914-appropriative and consequently are affected by the State Board curtailment orders. DWR is working closely with State Board staff and the Reclamation to ensure that the water projects are working together to achieve compliance.

On August 31, 2021, State Board staff hosted two technical webinars to assist diverters in certifying compliance with curtailment orders issued on August 20, 2021. The morning session focused on Delta watershed claims and rights, and the afternoon session focused on additional reporting requirements for large diverters (greater than 5,000 acre-feet per year). State Board staff detailed how to complete and file the required forms, reviewed their deadlines, and described how to stay up to date with changing conditions through use of the State Board website (<https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drought/delta/>) and distribution list.

Currently, the State Board has determined that riparian water right permits will not be curtailed in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Basins, including the Bay-Delta. Metropolitan holds riparian water right permits on its Delta island properties and, although not mandated to curtail diversions, Metropolitan staff is meeting with its Delta island agricultural lessees to assist in voluntary cutbacks.

On September 22, the State Board adopted drought emergency regulations for Mill and Deer Creeks in the Sacramento River watershed. The emergency minimum flow requirements due to insufficient flow for listed Central Valley Spring Run Chinook salmon and Central Valley Steelhead are consistent with recommendations from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and largely consistent with those adopted in 2014 and 2015. The scientific basis for the drought emergency minimum flows was supported in part by a new scientific paper authored by Metropolitan, NMFS, and university scientists regarding salmon migration and survival patterns. The study found that during previous droughts, the majority of salmon that left Mill and Deer Creek early in the spring perished while migrating to the ocean, while those that over-summered in cooler higher elevation habitats and migrated in the fall were the only survivors. This data suggests that providing cold-water habitats during the summer coupled with adequate fall flows are likely required for the persistence of Spring-run Chinook salmon on these tributaries. Therefore, fall base flows like those adopted by the State Board may be significantly important to federally listed Spring-run Chinook salmon during droughts.

BOARD SUPPORT TEAM

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: Resiliency

OBJECTIVE #1 Infrastructure Reliability

Metropolitan has adjusted to the pandemic by conducting committee/board meetings via video conference. Those who have dialed into those meetings have heard the voice of Rickita C. Hudson, Sr. Board Specialist on the Board Support Team, during the public comment section. In the past, the opportunities for the public to address the Board as required by government code section 54954.3(a) were in-person only. However, when the committee/board meetings were replaced with virtual meetings, the requirement to complete and submit paper cards changed to dialing in via teleconference. Ms. Hudson monitors the time and participants on the call.

Ms. Hudson uses five electronic devices to ensure that the public comment line is working correctly. She monitors the callers using the meeting center software while ensuring that the public insight video conferencing page is streaming in real-time with the committee/board virtual meetings. Before the meeting begins, she addresses the public, explaining how the process works, such as stating the speakers' time limit and announcing when meetings are delayed. Finally, she monitors the allotted speaking time and uses a buzzer to signal the end of that time.

To ensure that the public can continue to attend the virtual meetings, Metropolitan will keep the public line open until further notice to ensure that anyone who wishes to speak to the Board regarding the current agenda can communicate with them via teleconference.



CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

CFO STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Maintain Strong Financial Position.

Provide timely and discerning financial analyses, planning, and management to ensure that forecasted revenues are sufficient to meet planned expenses and provide a prudent level of reserves consistent with Board policy.

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

The Treasury and Debt Management team, in coordination with the Controller, prepared the required property tax rate analysis for board adoption and implementation by Metropolitan's six counties, represented within its boundaries. This process enables Metropolitan to collect approximately \$158.1 million to cover outstanding GO debt and SWC obligations over FY 21-22.

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

The Risk Management Unit completed 54 incident reports communicating instances of Metropolitan property damage, liability, workplace injuries, regulatory visits, and spills.

Risk Management completed 42 risk assessments on contracts, including professional service agreements, construction contracts, entry permits, special events, and film permits.

CORE PRIORITY: Business Continuity

Facilitate district-wide planning and training to prepare employees and managers to effectively carry out critical roles and recover mission essential functions thus ensuring continuity of operations and resiliency in the event of a disaster.

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

- In partnership with Information Technology, conducted a successful Disaster Recovery Test of critical applications in the new El Segundo backup data center. Business users across the district tested the functionality of their critical applications to ensure continued operations at time of disaster.
- Participated in the COVID-19 task force bi-weekly meetings, planning for return to work.
- Continued planning and design for Business Continuity exercises, using a cyber-attack scenario.

CORE BUSINESS: Financial Management

Manage Metropolitan's finances in an ethical and transparent manner and provide consistent, clear, and timely financial reporting. Update Metropolitan's capital financing plans and work with rating agencies and investors to communicate Metropolitan's financial needs, strategies, and capabilities thus ensuring Metropolitan has cost effective access to capital markets and the ability to finance ongoing future needs. In addition, actively manage Metropolitan's short-term investment portfolio to meet ongoing liquidity needs and changing economic environments.

Objective #1 Record and report the financial activities of Metropolitan in a timely, accurate, and transparent manner to the Board, executive management, member agencies, and the financial community.

- Water transactions for August 2021 totaled 164.7 thousand acre-feet (TAF), which was 12.1 TAF higher than the budget of 152.6 TAF. This translates to \$152.1 million in revenues for August 2021, which were \$9.5 million higher than the budget of \$142.6 million.
- Year-to-date water transactions through August 2021 were 335.2 TAF, which was 29.7 TAF higher than the budget of 305.5 TAF. Year-to-date water revenues through August 2021 were \$307.8 million, which were \$22.0 million higher than the budget of \$285.8 million.
- In August 2021, Accounts Payable processed approximately 3,200 vendor invoices for payment and took advantage of about \$15,800 in discounts.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER *continued*

Objective #2 Ensure that internal controls are in place to provide assurance that assets are safeguarded, and financial information is fairly stated.

Treasury and Controller staff refined Metropolitan's monthly investment bank reconciliation for enhanced internal controls and accurate financial reporting.

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

- As of August 31, 2021, Metropolitan's investment portfolio balance was \$1,229.8 million; for the month of August 2021, Metropolitan's portfolio managers executed 41 trades.
- During the month of August 2021, Treasury staff processed 1,408 disbursements by check, 24 disbursements by Automated Clearing House (ACH), and 98 disbursements by wire transfer. Treasury staff also processed 74 receipts by check, 26 receipts by ACH, and 53 receipts by incoming wires and bank transfers.

ENGINEERING SERVICES

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: Enhance Infrastructure Safety, Security, and Resiliency

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

Distribution System Reliability Program

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

- **Lake Mathews Disaster Recovery Facility Upgrades** — This project makes structural upgrades to the building's roof and interior walls to resist seismic events. Upgrades fire suppression system. Constructs a retaining wall to ensure stability of the nearby slope. The contractor completed the excavation and concrete placement of the footing for the new structural concrete retaining wall located at the north side of the facility. Construction is approximately 45 percent complete; however, the contractor is currently experiencing Covid-19-related shortages of materials and vendor delays to the project, which will extend the contract by about six months.
- **Lake Mathews Facility Wastewater Replacement** — The project replaces the wastewater collection system at Lake Mathews and connects to a nearby municipal sewer system. Final design is complete and a board action for award of a construction contract is scheduled for October 2021.
- **Lake Mathews PCCP Valve Storage** — This project constructs a pre-engineered metal building for storage of Metropolitan-furnished equipment, such as valves and actuators, that will be used for upcoming prestressed concrete cylinder pipeline rehabilitation projects. Final design is 99 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by October 2021.
- **Etiwanda Pipeline Rehabilitation, Stage 3** — This project replaces delaminated mortar lining in 5.5 miles of pipeline with polyurethane lining. This project was conducted in three stages. Stages 1 and 2, which included polyurethane lining of 3 miles are complete. Stage 3 will include polyurethane lining reline 2.5 miles of pipeline and steel lining of 1,300 feet of new internal steel pipe in areas with more extensive corrosion. Final design of Stage 3 work is 95 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by January 2022. A November board action is planned to award a fabrication contract for steel liner pipe which will be furnished to future Stage 3 contractor. A board action is planned for late Spring 2022 to award a Stage 3 construction contract.
- **Casa Loma Siphon Upgrades** — This project will mitigate leaks associated with long-term ground subsidence and will improve seismic resilience of the siphon as it crosses the Casa Loma Fault. This project replaces approximately 1,200 feet of the Casa Loma Siphon Barrel No. 1 at a fault crossing using earthquake resistant ductile iron pipe (ERDIP) and welded steel pipe (WSP). The delivery of ERDIP and WSP is complete. Final design of the pipe installation construction package is complete and a board action for award of a construction contract is scheduled for December 2021.



Lake Mathews Disaster Recovery Facility Upgrades

Contractor installs shoring on the north side of the building in preparation for retaining wall construction

Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP) Reliability Program

This program was established to enhance the reliability of Metropolitan's water distribution system and to reduce the risk of costly emergency repairs of PCCP. The priority pipelines included in the program are the Second Lower Feeder, Sepulveda Feeder, Calabasas Feeder, Rialto Pipeline, and the Allen-McColloch Pipeline. A total of 100 miles of PCCP pipelines will eventually be relined with new steel pipe liners under this 20-year program. Recent activities include the following:

- **Second Lower Feeder PCCP Rehabilitation**—This project rehabilitates the remaining 28 miles of PCCP segments within the Second Lower Feeder and will enhance delivery reliability to member agencies. Long-term rehabilitation of this pipeline is being staged over a period of eight to ten years, with multiple construction and procurement contracts. Final design of Reach 3, the westernmost portion of Second Lower Feeder, spanning approximately 4.7 miles through the cities of Lomita, Torrance, Los Angeles, and Rolling Hills Estates, is 97 percent complete and is scheduled to be completed by December 2021. Study efforts continue for Reach 9, an approximately 0.8-mile-long portion of Second Lower Feeder in western Long Beach that crosses the Los Angeles River.

ENGINEERING SERVICES *continued*

- **Second Lower Feeder Isolation Valve Procurement**—This fabrication contract provides 13 conical plug valves for the Second Lower Feeder PCCP rehabilitation. These valves, which include three 48-inch and ten 54-inch diameter, provide primary isolation for maintenance activities, inspections, and repairs required to maintain reliable water deliveries within Metropolitan’s distribution system. Fabrication of these valves is approximately 49 percent complete. Two 48-inch conical plug valves were completed and delivered in July 2021. The third 48-inch valve was delivered on October 2021. Fabrication of seven 54-inch valves is in progress. Two of the 54-inch valves are scheduled to be delivered in January 2022 and five more in October 2022. Fabrication of three remaining 54-inch valves is scheduled to start in 2022 and to be completed in mid-2023.
- **Sepulveda Feeder PCCP Rehabilitation**—This project rehabilitates the remaining 35 miles of PCCP segments within the Sepulveda Feeder and will enhance delivery reliability to member agencies. Long-term rehabilitation of the Sepulveda Feeder will be staged over multiple years with multiple construction and procurement contracts. Final design of Reach 1 and Reach 2 are occurring simultaneously and are scheduled to be complete by February 2023. Preliminary design to rehabilitate the remaining reaches of the feeder continues.

Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) Reliability Program

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

- **CRA Storage Buildings at Hinds, Eagle Mountain, and Iron Mountain**—This project furnishes and installs two new storage buildings (six total) and constructs associated site improvements at the Hinds, Eagle Mountain, and Iron Mountain Pumping Plants. Final design is 80 percent complete and scheduled to be complete by January 2022.
- **CRA Cranes Rehabilitation**—This project replaces the pumphouse overhead bridge cranes, retrofits the support structure of the below grade pump bays, and upgrades the crane electrical system at the Colorado River Aqueduct’s Pumping Plants. Construction is 3 percent complete with the contractor preparing to begin on-site work activities by correcting misalignments in the existing pumphouse crane rails. Construction is scheduled to be complete by September 2023.
- **Gene Wash Reservoir Discharge Structure Rehabilitation**—This project replaces the existing deteriorated discharge valve and refurbishes the valve house and discharge structure at the base of the Gene Wash Reservoir dam. If the reservoir needed to be drained rapidly in the event of an emergency, the valve would be opened to safely release the water. The contractor is currently coating the valve house interior walls and relining the sluiceway pipe. Construction is 67 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by November 2021.

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:

Weymouth Plant

- **Weymouth Chlorination System Upgrades**—This project expands the existing chlorine building to house additional chlorination feed equipment and instrumentation at the Weymouth plant. The chlorination system at the Weymouth plant is a critical component of the plant’s disinfection process. The contractor is currently working on rewiring motor controls in existing electrical room, installing conduit and electrical panels in the existing maintenance shop and conduits in the existing evaporator rooms. Staff successfully completed the 21-day wet chlorine system testing for the new south chlorine system on August 31 and will start the wet testing of the existing chlorine system in September 2021. Construction is 98 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by November 2021.

ENGINEERING SERVICES *continued*

- **Weymouth Water Quality Instrumentation Improvements**—This project will improve monitoring and rapid response to changing water quality conditions at the Weymouth plant. The contractor is currently performing motor control center, uninterruptible power supply, and instrument panel testing and training. Construction is 99 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by October 2021.

Diemer Plant

- **Diemer Water Sampling System Improvements**—This project upgrades the existing Diemer water sampling system, comprising 13 sample locations, and will improve the accuracy and timeliness of collected data. At each location, the sample pump, piping, and field analyzers will be upgraded by Metropolitan staff. All materials and equipment have been procured for this project and Metropolitan staff continues installation and commissioning activities for water quality field analyzers. Construction is 97 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by December 2021.

Jensen Plant

- **Jensen Electrical Upgrades, Stage 2**—This three-stage project upgrades the electrical system with dual power feeds to key process equipment to comply with current codes and industry practice and improves plant reliability and enhances worker safety. Stage 1 work is complete. Stage 2 improvements will upgrade Unit Power Controllers 7 and 9 and their associated motor control centers (MCCs) to support critical process equipment. The contractor completed energizing two MCCs and continues to work on Building 12 and cutover of other MCCs. Construction is 88 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by August 2022.

System Reliability Program

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

- **Headquarters Building Improvements**—This project provides seismic upgrades and other needed improvements to the Metropolitan Headquarters Building. Construction related to the original contract scope is substantially complete, pending exterior façade cleaning. The contractor continues to work on approved change order scope items such as the electrical work for the power door assist devices and UVC air disinfection system. Staff is working with the contractor to complete change order work while the building remains lightly occupied. The anticipated contract completion is in the first quarter of 2022.
- **Board and Committee Room Upgrades**—This project upgrades and enhances the reliability of the audio/visual (A/V) systems in the boardroom, three committee rooms and the rotunda at the Metropolitan Headquarters Building. Engineering Services, IT, and Facilities Management are working collaboratively on this technology replacement project. Installation of the A/V equipment has been included as a board-approved change order to the original Headquarters Building Improvement contract, described in the previous paragraph. The contractor has completed A/V equipment installation, commissioning, and user acceptance activities in the committee rooms and the boardroom. Construction is substantially complete, and all systems are fully operational, pending redundant network installations scheduled to be complete by December 2021.
- **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 enhances security related to perimeter windows and doors. Stage 2 improvements will provide security system upgrades inside the building with a focus on the main entry rotunda area, board room, executive dining lounge, and security control room. Stage 3 improvements will provide security system upgrades around the perimeter of the building. Construction of Stage 1 improvements is complete. Construction of Stage 2 improvements is 60 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by

ENGINEERING SERVICES *continued*

January 2022. The contractor completed the installation of security equipment, card readers and cameras and is scheduled to begin cutover to the new security system. Stage 3 improvements are currently in the design phase and are scheduled to be complete by November 2021.

- **Headquarters Building Fire Alarm and Smoke Control System Upgrades**—This project upgrades the Metropolitan Headquarters Building fire life safety systems, which includes replacement of the fire detection and alarm system and HVAC system improvements for smoke control. The fire alarm and smoke control systems in the Metropolitan Headquarters Building provide detection, notification, and control of building functions so that occupants and visitors can safely exit in the event of a fire. The contractor completed the fire alarm riser and replacement of wallpaper with paint in the elevator lobbies. The contractor is continuing installation of the electrical closet and the Emergency Radio Responder System and is scheduled to begin cutover to the new fire alarm system in October. Construction is 25 percent complete and is planned to be complete by February 2023.



Headquarters Building Improvements
First floor rotunda preparation for new LED light installation

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: Resiliency

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

Foothill Feeder

- Finalized and scheduled restoration activities with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to ensure that Metropolitan's mitigation and permitting obligations are fulfilled at the Stickleback River Ranch conservation site.

Weymouth Water Treatment Plant Basins 5-8 Rehabilitation

- Continued review of the draft Addendum to the 2015 Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Weymouth Plant Improvements.

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

Webinars attended by staff:

- Power Operations and Planning Part 2: How the CAISO and Energy Markets Work and How Metropolitan participates in the CAISO.

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #2: Sustainability

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

Delta Conveyance Project

- Began review of the second Administrative Draft EIR.

Regional Recycled Water Program

- Attended community briefings in support of External Affairs public outreach efforts.
- Supported evaluation of proposals submitted in response to the Environmental Planning Services Request for Proposal.

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

Lake Mathews Multiple Species Reserve

- Completed draft Fire Response Plan Map, which will improve firefighting coordination efforts by Reserve management staff.
- Installed wildlife-monitoring motion-activated cameras throughout the Reserve to monitor for terrestrial species.
- Inspected and maintained artificial burrowing owl burrows, including clean-out and leveling of burrow entrances, thinning vegetation around burrow entrances, and repairing or replacing broken or missing perches.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING *continued*

Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve

- Updated the Reserve fire history and management unit maps, which will be used to advise the Reserve Management Committee and CalFire on management of reserve activities and resources.
- Completed weed abatement for Stephens' kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys stephensi*) habitat management.
- Coordinated with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) wardens in advance of dove hunting season to prevent potential poaching and trespassing on Reserve land.

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

- Prepared a board letter and presentation to request an increase in funds to complete updates to the draft CAP.
- Distributed a preliminary draft version of the CAP for peer review to staff from the counties in Metropolitan's service area, San Diego County Water Authority, and Santa Clara Valley Water District.
- Gave overview presentation of proposed CAP to Green LA Water Committee on September 23, 2021.
- Participated in preparation of and circulated for internal review the draft Scope of Work for the Zero Emissions/Near-Zero Emissions Transition Plan.
- Participated in the Water Energy Climate Sustainability (WECS) Core Team to monitor and discuss projects, regulatory and legislative changes, and emerging concerns that may affect Metropolitan's WECS efforts.

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3 Innovation

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

- Continued coordination with CDFW Regions 5 and 6 management to execute a new agreement for dedicated staff resources to expedite permitting of Metropolitan projects.
- Continued participation in a series of meetings to develop the Joint Powers Authority agreement for the Upper Santa Ana River Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP).

CORE BUSINESS: Regulatory Compliance

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

Engineering Services

- Provided design phase support for: Battery Energy Storage Systems at Weymouth Water Treatment Plant
- Provided environmental support for:
 - Black Metal Mountain 2.4 kV Electrical Line Rehabilitation
 - Copper Basin Access Road and Discharge Valve Repair
 - CRA 69kV and 230kV Transformers Replacement
 - CRA Cholla Wash Conduit Lining
 - CRA Delivery Line Rehabilitation
 - CRA Domestic Water Treatment System Replacement Project.
 - CRA Erosion Protection
 - CRA Mile 12 Flow Monitoring Station Upgrades

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING *continued*

- CRA Pump Plant 2.3 kV and 480V Rehabilitation
- CRA Overhead Cranes Projects
- CRA Storage Buildings
- Gene Wash Discharge Valve Rehabilitation
- Garvey Reservoir Rehabilitation Project
- Headquarters Tower WiFi Upgrades
- Headquarters Second Floor North Wing TI Project
- Jensen Ozone Power Supply Units Replacement
- Jensen San Fernando Entrance Repaving
- Jensen Vehicle Maintenance Building Roof Replacement
- Lake Mathews Electrical Upgrades and New Pressure Control Structure
- Lake Mathews Tank Farm Roof Replacement
- Lake Perris Seepage
- Live Oak Reservoir Asphalt Relining
- Mills Electrical Upgrades Stage 2
- Perris Valley Pipeline
- San Diego Canal Repair
- San Gabriel Tower Seismic Upgrades
- Western San Bernardino Right-of-Way and Infrastructure Protection Program
- Weymouth Administration Building Seismic Upgrades
- Weymouth Basin 5-8 Rehabilitation
- Provided construction phase support for:
 - Garvey Reservoir Permanent Drainage and Erosion Control Project
- Completed environmental monitoring and reporting for:
 - CRA 6.9kV Cable Replacement
 - CRA Discharge Line Isolation and Couplings Repair Projects.
 - CRA Overhead Cranes Replacement
 - Gene Wash Reservoir Discharge Valve Replacement
 - CRA Exposed Barrel Repairs Project

Water System Operations

- Provided CEQA analysis and environmental planning support for the following projects:
 - Diemer nest removal for fire alarm requirements
 - Jensen Basin 12 return to service
 - Lake Mathews Road Grading
 - Live Oak Reservoir Desilting Basin Erosion Control
 - Rialto Feeder Road Grading
 - San Jacinto Tree Removal
 - Santiago Lateral Road Grading
- Completed environmental monitoring and reporting for:
 - CRA shutdown
 - Desert region maintenance activities
- Obtained emergency permits from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board for patrol road repairs along the Box Springs Feeder through Sycamore Canyon Park, as requested by CalFire and City of Riverside.
- Submitted Notification of Streambed Alteration to CDFW in support of the planned January 2022 Lake Skinner Outlet Tower Shutdown.
- Presented an Environmental Planning coordination process overview at the annual shutdown planning meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING *continued*

Water Resource Management

- Commented on the draft Carbon Capture and Storage in the California Delta Report.

External Document Reviews

- Reviewed 22 CEQA Notices for external projects and prepared comment letters for those that may affect Metropolitan facilities and/or operations.
- Provided Federal Register review and coordinated responses for those that may affect Metropolitan facilities and/or operations, including a comment letter in response to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and USACE request for pre-proposal comments on the definition of Waters of the United States under the Clean Water Act.

Legislative Support

- Supported preparation of Sponsor and Coalition Letter signed by the General Manager and Chairwoman Gray to request Governor Newsom's support of AB 442 (Metropolitan's Surface Mining and Reclamation Act legislation) and a thank you letter to Assembly Member Chad Mayes for his support and sponsorship of AB 442.
- Continued monitoring status of and responding to requests regarding AB 442, which was signed by the Governor on September 16, and will go into effect January 1, 2022.
- Provided legislative analysis on SB 712.

Real Property Support

- Provided CEQA analysis and determination in support of one real property agreement.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS PRIORITY: Advance Initiatives to Educate and Inform the Public, Elected Officials and Stakeholders on Water Supply Conditions and Important Water Management Decisions.

External Affairs will develop and maintain relationships with the public, legislative leaders, government officials, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders, and implement effective and diverse communication and outreach strategies on the value of water, current water supply conditions, innovative strategies to address current and future challenges, and the importance of Metropolitan actions and leadership to promote stewardship, planning and investments to benefit the region.

Objective #1 Recognizing there is a new normal that is directly impacting California water conditions driven, in part, by more volatile supply conditions due to climate change, and informing key stakeholders, news media, businesses and the public on the need for sustained conservation actions, support for new water supply projects and continued investment in imported water systems to maintain water supply reliability and protect the environment.

Metropolitan's conservation campaign continued with the placement of new Spanish- and Chinese-language advertisements throughout the district's service area. Early results show 27 million impressions, driving 10,000 new visitors to bewaterwise.com since the start of the campaign in August. Traffic and weather radio ads are airing on 42 English- and Spanish-language stations, and 26 out-of-home billboards and transit shelter posters have been installed throughout the Southern California region. Grocery store print advertising placements are in Albertsons and Vons stores within disadvantaged community tracts, and Spanish-language print advertisements are featured in popular Latino grocery stores, including Superior and Cardenas.



Media interest in the drought and Metropolitan's operational and conservation activities remained high. Interviews included:

- KNX-AM 1070 reporter Margaret Carrero and Colorado River Resources Manager Hasencamp on Palo Verde system conservation agreement and land fallowing.
- LA Times reporter Ian James and Colorado River Resources Manager Hasencamp about land fallowing programs in California and the Colorado River Basin.
- Middle East Broadcasting Network reporter Steve Isaac and GM Hagekhalil regarding drought conditions in Southern California and Metropolitan's water supply alert.
- Univision reporter Jaime Garcia and External Affairs' Government Affairs Representative Cetina regarding water supply alert, drought, and tips for conservation.
- Telemundo reporter Gabriela Teissier and External Affairs' Government Affairs Representative Cetina on the station's morning show about water supply alert and need for conservation.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS *continued*

- Rick Montanez of KCAL2 and AGM Upadhyay on the state water board's announcement of July conservation numbers.
- KPCC's Larry Mantle and AGM Upadhyay on Southern California's water supply conditions and the July conservation numbers (also featured Joaquin Esquivel).
- Interviews with various media organizations, including KABC7, KTLA, NBC 4, and CalMatters, and Resource Planning manager Demetri Polyzos on the state water board's July conservation numbers.

GM Hagekhalil spoke, Chairwoman Gray and Director Dick attended, and Metropolitan sponsored the Urban Water Institute's Fall Conference. (September 8-10).

Chairwoman Gray participated in a panel discussion on "Drought in the Colorado River Basin" at the University of Arizona's Institutes for Resilience as part of the Water Solutions for a Warmer World series. Other panelists included Chairwoman Amelia Flores, Colorado River Indian Tribal Council; Terry Goddard, Central Arizona Project Board; Taylor Hawes, The Nature Conservancy; and Paul Bruchez, Colorado River Basin Roundtable and Interbasin Compact Committee. (September 22)

CORE BUSINESS: Legislative, Communications, Community Relations, Public and Business Outreach

Engage the public, labor, business community, agriculture, government leaders, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders in California's water issues, communicating Metropolitan's interests and Board-adopted policies through federal and state legislative strategies, multimedia and multi-cultural communications, and educational and other outreach programs. Inform the public about Metropolitan projects, facilities, operations and initiatives to gather input and support, foster competitive and diverse business opportunities, and facilitate innovation and technology sharing.

Objective #1 LEGISLATIVE SERVICES - Develop and implement local, state and federal legislative and regulatory strategies consistent with Board-adopted policies. Promote interaction between Metropolitan leadership and various stakeholders, including elected officials, to facilitate support for and garner greater understanding of water policy issues.

Federal

Metropolitan staff continued to advocate for funding for water programs in the budget reconciliation bill. The House proposal includes \$500 million for the new Department of Health and Human Services low income household water assistance program, \$1 billion for grants to help water systems mitigate the impacts of climate change, and tax parity for water conservation measures. The Senate continues to work on their version of this legislation.

State

Metropolitan sponsored legislation AB 442 (Mayes, I-Rancho Mirage): Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975: exemption: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California was signed into law by the Governor.

Other bills passed by the legislature were SB 626 (Dodd, D-Napa): Department of Water Resources: procurement methods, which will result in significant cost savings for future repairs and maintenance to the State Water Project and habitat restoration projects, and AB 361(R. Rivas, D-Hollister) will allow state and local agencies to continue to meet virtually if a state emergency is declared and if it is determined that meeting in person would pose a public health risk.

SB 480 (D-Stern): Metropolitan Water District of Southern California: rules: inappropriate conduct became a two-year bill to allow the State Auditor time to complete work before deciding whether amendments to the legislation are necessary. SB 559 (Hurtado, D-Fresno): Department of Water Resources: water conveyance systems: Water Conveyance Restoration Fund, which would create a fund to address subsidence impacts, was also put on the inactive file.

The Legislature authorized \$4.649 billion over the next three years for water and drought and \$3.69 billion for climate resilience. Efforts by a broad coalition of water agencies, business, labor, and environmental groups, and a member

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS *continued*

request spearheaded by Assembly Member Santiago (D-Los Angeles) resulted in additional funding for Metropolitan's regional priorities, and made water agencies eligible to apply for these funds despite not being part of the Governor's Emergency Drought Proclamation.

A CEQA waiver for habitat restoration was also authorized until January 2025 for projects that conserve, restore, protect, enhance, or recover California native fish and wildlife.

Local

GM Hagekhalil was a panelist for the California Contract Cities Association 2021 Fall Education Summit and provided an update on Metropolitan, drought conditions, drought responses, and local supply projects. (September 17)



GM Hagekhalil, West Basin Director Houston and WRD General Manager Tucker at Contract Cities Association conference.

Group Manager Coffey participated in a panel with SoCal Gas and Southern California Edison at the Building Industry Association of Southern California Building Industry Show. He provided a regional utility update to home builders and land-use developers and discussed Metropolitan's water supply outlook for Southern California. (September 29)

GM Hagekhalil was the keynote speaker for the Municipal Water District of Orange County's Water Policy Dinner and discussed his vision to pursue a unified agenda among regional water providers. (September 30)

Metropolitan staff participated in or attended webinars and events throughout the service area with chambers of commerce, business associations, councils of governments, and public affairs networks, including:

- Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce State of L.A. Business (September 1)
- Ventura County Special District Association Board (September 1)
- Oxnard Leadership Steering Committee (September 1)
- Glendale Chamber of Commerce Business Advocacy/Legislative Review Committee (September 2)
- Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee (September 2)
- LAX Coastal Chamber of Commerce Public Policy Committee (September 2)
- Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce Legislative Affairs Committee (September 7)
- South Orange County Economic Coalition Legislative Committee (September 8)
- Long Beach Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee (September 9)
- Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee (September 9)
- San Fernando City Chamber Board (September 9)
- Los Angeles County Business Federation Advocacy Committee (September 9)
- Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee (September 9)
- Water Associations of the County of Orange (September 10)
- Orange County Business Council Government Affairs Meeting (September 10)

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS *continued*

- Oxnard Business Advocacy Committee (September 13)
- Regional Chamber of Commerce - San Gabriel Valley Government Affairs Committee (September 13)
- Valley Industry and Commerce Association Transportation Committee (September 14)
- South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce Board and Government Affairs Committee (September 14)
- Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce Legislative Affairs Committee (September 14)
- Orange County Business Council Infrastructure Committee (September 14)
- San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments Water Committee (September 14)
- Upland Chamber of Commerce Legislative Advocacy Committee (September 15)
- San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee (September 15)
- Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation Board of Governors (September 15)
- Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (September 15)
- Valley Industry and Commerce Association Government Affairs Committee (September 15)
- Coalition of Labor, Agriculture and Water Committee on Water, Housing, Energy, Environment and Labor (September 15)
- West Ventura County Business Alliance Business Advocacy Committee (September 16)
- San Gabriel Valley Legislative Coalition of Chambers (September 16)
- San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments Board (September 16)
- Orange County Indicators Report Presentation (September 16)
- Anaheim Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee (September 17)
- United Chambers of Commerce Government Affairs Committee (September 20)
- Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County Water Symposium (September 21)
- Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce Legislative Affairs Committee (September 22)
- Valley Industry and Commerce Association Board (September 22)
- Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Meeting (September 22)
- San Gabriel Valley Public Affairs Network (September 22)
- Association of California Cities - Orange County Environment, Energy and Water Committee (September 23)
- Burbank Chamber of Commerce Board (September 23)
- West Ventura County Business Alliance Board (September 23)
- South Orange County Economic Coalition Meeting (September 24)
- California Women in Agriculture Ventura County Chapter Board (September 24)
- United Chambers of Commerce of the San Fernando Valley Board (September 27)
- El Segundo Chamber of Commerce Government and Military Affairs Committee (September 20)
- Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee (September 28)
- Chambers Alliance of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura Counties Board (September 28)
- Ventura County Economic and Development Committee Board (September 28)
- Gateway Chambers Alliance Governing Board (September 28)
- Los Angeles County Business Federation roundtable with Assembly Member Laura Friedman (D-Glendale) (September 29)
- San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership Legislative Committee (September 29)
- Los Angeles Business Council Energy & Environment Committee (September 29)
- Construction Industry Coalition on Water Quality Board of Directors (September 29)
- City of Torrance Water Commission (September 29)
- State of Ventura County Briefing (September 30)
- Oxnard Leadership Steering Committee (September 30)

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS *continued*

- Harbor Association of Industry and Commerce Government Affairs Committee (September 30)

Objective #2 MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS - Communicate Metropolitan's policy priorities, actions and initiatives through various means to raise public awareness, enhance Metropolitan's visibility and cultivate support for Metropolitan priorities. Update and develop new communications tools, materials and platforms to ensure Metropolitan information reaches diverse audiences throughout its service area in a cost-effective, timely, relevant manner that reflects current communications trends.

Media Activities and Interviews

- Arranged interview with California Municipal Utilities Association writer Pamela Martineau and EO/AGM Upadhyay regarding the Regional Recycled Water Program and the role of water recycling in the region.
- Set up interview with Southern California Builder Magazine and GM Hagekhalil for an upcoming profile.
- Arranged interview with Meteorologist Mario Picazo, of Canada's The Weather Network TV station, and Water Resource Management Group Managers Coffey regarding Southern California's water supplies, climate change, and the RRWP.
- Arranged interview with Municipal Water Leader magazine and GM Hagekhalil for a feature profile.
- Arranged interview with Liz Smilor of Southern California News Group papers and GM Hagekhalil for a profile in the California Water newspaper supplement.
- Arranged interview with Fox 11 News and EO/AGM Upadhyay on water use at Metropolitan facilities.
- Coordinated interview with Lynn Lipinski, editor of AWWA's Source Magazine, and GM Hagekhalil for a feature profile.

Press Releases

- Partnership among Metropolitan, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Central Arizona Project, and the Southern Nevada Water Authority to fund a short-term agricultural land fallowing program in California's Palo Verde Valley that will conserve water on a large scale.
- Launch of a new conservation advertising campaign that pays homage to the many different lifestyles that make Southern California unique while empowering residents throughout the region to explore ways to build on their water-saving habits as severe drought conditions continue.
- Approval by Metropolitan and IID Boards of Directors of agreement to settle litigation related to the Drought Contingency Plan.

Website

- To provide additional assistance to consumers, a listing of professional landscape contractors is now featured on the district's turf replacement rebate page for their turf replacement projects. Featured contractors completed Water Resource Management's Water Efficient Landscaper Dual Certification Program and are EPA WaterSense-certified Qualified Water Efficient Landscape Professionals and Certified Water Managers.



EXTERNAL AFFAIRS *continued*

- Generated nearly 87,000 visits, more than double the previous month's activity, to the newly redesigned mwdh2o.com website, with the homepage, careers and job listing pages among the most popular.
- Received nearly 37,000 views on bewaterwise.com, with the turf replacement and California Friendly and native plant profiles the most popular pages.

Social Media

- Generated high organic engagement on Twitter with nearly 10,000 impressions from a post about Metropolitan's Colorado River water conservation partnership among the Bureau of Reclamation, Central Arizona Project, Southern Nevada Water Authority, and Palo Verde Irrigation.
- Highlighted employees throughout the month, including a Labor Day slideshow that showcased several employees at work, which received several thousand views across all platforms. A photo featuring staff at the Jensen Water Treatment Plant received strong engagement on LinkedIn, with nearly 3,000 impressions.



- Introduced the last in a series of characters for the We're California Friendly Plants campaign—Penny, the Mojave Beardtongue—on Facebook and Instagram.
- Celebrated Hispanic Heritage month with six videos featuring Metropolitan employees.

Creative Design

- Produced an in-house video on the launch of the redesigned MyHR site, which features a new look and feel with easier navigation and self-service functionality for employees.
- Partnered with Human Resources on a video tutorial of the employee benefits changes for the open enrollment period, featuring easy-to-follow motion animation of the step-by-step process to make benefits changes.
- Developed a series of videos for the Engineering and Operations virtual inspection trip.

Objective #3 PUBLIC OUTREACH AND MEMBER SERVICES - Conduct public outreach to increase awareness and input on Metropolitan projects and initiatives and ensure impacted communities are aware of Metropolitan construction and maintenance activities. Enhance public awareness of Metropolitan's systems and facilities and the role they play in regional supply reliability while protecting environmental resources. Serve as liaison to Metropolitan's member agencies and facilitate their engagement with Metropolitan.

Member Agency Support

Met with the Member Agency managers to discuss water supply conditions and operations, status of federal and state infrastructure funding bills, Colorado River and Voluntary Agreement negotiations, potential new conservation programs, modifications to the Local Resources Program, and agency responses to COVID-19 impacts. (September 3)

Conservation Outreach

Principal Public Affairs Representative Gonzalez presented to the California Water Efficiency Partnership on communications and drought messaging. (September 9)

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS *continued*

Regional Recycled Water Program

- Participated in a National Water Research Institute panel for the city of Boise to provide expert input on public outreach for potable reuse projects. (September 9)
- Met with Southeast Water Coalition Administrative Entity members to provide an update on the Regional Recycled Water Program. (September 16)
- Provided a tour of Regional Recycled Water Advanced Purification Center to the WaterReuse Association Board of Directors. (September 17)
- Provided a virtual tour of the Advanced Purification Center and presented on multiple panels at the 2021 WaterReuse California Annual Conference. (September 19-22)
- Provided a Regional Recycled Water Program update to the LA County Dept of Public Works. (September 23)
- Participated in the Los Angeles Green Building Council's "Reusing and Rethinking Water" panel, providing a presentation on the Regional Recycled Water Program. (September 30)



Spanish social media post on RRWP tours

Construction Outreach

Completed outreach for the Greg Avenue Pressure Control Structure Upgrades with distribution of thank you notices to the local community. (September 1)

Objective #4 EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS - Facilitate public engagement in and understanding of water resource issues through community relations activities and education projects. Build awareness of and appreciation among Southern California for the value of clean, reliable water supplies and the importance of good water stewardship.

Director Record and GM Hagekhalil attended and Metropolitan sponsored the Science Under the Stars event to benefit the Western Science Center at DVL. (September 11)

Directors Repenning and Quinn attended, and Metropolitan sponsored the LA Waterkeeper Making Waves annual event. (September 18)

GM Hagekhalil was honored at the Andres y Maria Cardenas Family Foundation's LA Tequila Festival. Other community leaders at the event were Senator Padilla (D-California), Congressman Martinez (D-Los Angeles), State Senator Hertzberg (D-Van Nuys), Assembly member Rivas (D-Los Angeles), and LA City Council President Nury Martinez. Metropolitan provided a separate sponsorship to the foundation to support a water education event. (September 25)

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS *continued*

Promoted a Future Supply Actions Program webinar hosted by Water Resource Management. The webinar featured a recent feasibility study conducted by Padre Dam Municipal Water District and San Diego County Water Authority to optimize the East County Advanced Water Purification Project. (September 15)

Education

Metropolitan staff virtually interacted with 2,200 teachers, students, and parents through online virtual tours, scouting programs, customized Zoom class presentations, and digital outreach. Meetings with the Member Agency education coordinators provided the opportunity to hear presentations on the new curriculum from California Project WET and Moments of Focus on climate change solutions and environmental justice. More than 90 Metropolitan staff attended an Open House to hear about education programs and resources.



Objective #5 BUSINESS OUTREACH AND INNOVATION - Facilitate opportunities for small businesses to work with Metropolitan. Help position Metropolitan as a leader in water innovation.

Metropolitan supported small businesses and entrepreneurs throughout the region with online participation and, in some cases, sponsorship of the following programs, online conferences, webinars, and events:

- Women's Business Enterprise Council's 2021 Platinum Supplier Program event (September 3)
- US Green Building Council LA's Chapter Leaders, DEI committee (September 8)
- NetZERO's Climate Change Conference (September 14-16)
- LADWP and East Bay MUD meeting on Regional Smart Infrastructure Center (September 24)
- LADWP presentation on new technology for more efficient identification and collection of data on anomalies in dams. (September 29)

Convened a presentation from Isle Utilities on how water-stressed areas are managing evaporation loss and identifying innovative solutions. This effort was in response to a GM directive to explore new technologies to minimize the loss of water from reservoirs. (September 6)

Staff hosted a meeting with the Counsel General of the Netherlands, at which several Dutch companies presented to a group of water industry experts that included MWD and LADWP management. (September 22)

HUMAN RESOURCES

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: RESILIENCY

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

The Organizational Development and Training Unit kicked off its second virtual Metropolitan Leadership University, a ten-session, bi-monthly program for 25 newly promoted managers. The objective of this first module is to introduce best practices in leading teams and identify potential growth areas for program participants to focus on development throughout the program.

This month, 335 Metropolitan employees attended other online classes, including Managing Emotions in the Workplace, Customer Service Skills, SharePoint, Personal Security Awareness, and OneDrive.

LinkedIn Learning, Metropolitan's online, e-learning content platform, was used for 39 classes, including topics on Construction Risk Management, Impromptu Speaking, Persuading Others, Project Management Foundations, and Time Management Fundamentals.

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

Recruitment successfully filled six positions for the month of September. We received 31 new staffing requisitions resulting in 134 positions currently in recruitment. Recruitment uses a process that allows virtual interviewing using Zoom.

In September, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Council heard reports from the subcommittees of the Council and discussed how to proceed while awaiting the naming of the DE&I Officer. The Council reviewed a sample of a listening session that could be used to identify various topics of concern by employees Management would like to see the results of the sessions included in the future DEI strategic plan.

Staff participated in two outreach events, one for high school students interested in Metropolitan's apprenticeship program and the other for college students focused on STEM careers at Metropolitan.

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #2: SUSTAINABILITY

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

Human Resources continued to monitor state and federal guidance, particularly regarding possible mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations. Biweekly discussions with the bargaining units on COVID-19 issues also continue. The initial proposed October 1, 2021 conversation to a hybrid work environment has now been rescheduled to January 3, 2022, because of safety concerns arising from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic.

HUMAN RESOURCES *continued*

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

The Organizational Development and Training Unit facilitated the latest session of the WSO Management Specialization Training Program for 13 new Operations managers. This program has been designed to continue leadership development within Operations once new managers have completed the Metropolitan Management University. September's session focused on self-awareness, conflict management, and providing candid feedback to team members. It also involved a homework debrief of several coaching scenarios common for new managers.

Human Resources staff continued to provide one-on-one coaching and mediation services for managers and employees in the developmental areas of confident communication, managing hybrid teams, running inclusive meetings, and stress management.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Human Resources Group Manager has organized a bi-weekly check-in meeting with all Group Managers focused on sharing the latest information on employee illness or potential exposure, issues raised by the bargaining units, and strategies for working through the complexities of the "stay at home" and masking orders. Staff are also continuing work on "tool kits" for managers and employees to facilitate the eventual return of employees to their regular work locations.

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3: INNOVATION

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

HRIS successfully completed the Fluid User Interface project for MyHR. Brown Bag briefings and demonstrations were provided to employees before and after the project went live. In addition, online open enrollment was launched within the new system.

HR CORE BUSINESS: Provide Excellent Human Resources Services

Human Resources provides a wide range of services and support from pre-hire to post retirement care. HR policies, procedures, and practices will be reviewed and revised as appropriate. HR will continually improve service and better utilize technologies.

Objective #1 Administer all HR services with efficiency and a focus on customer service excellence, consistency, and flexibility.

In September, Employee Relations staff briefed the OP&T Committee on the status of MOU negotiations. Staff reported that Metropolitan had secured one-year MOU extensions with both MAPA and ACE. The contracts for both MAPA and ACE contain "favored nations" provisions, which means that MAPA and ACE employees will receive whatever salary and benefit adjustments that are negotiated by either AFSCME or the Supervisors Association. Staff also reported that discussions have taken place with both AFSCME and the supervisors, in hopes of achieving MOU extensions with those two bargaining units as well.

HR Staff, in collaboration with External Affairs, developed a communication campaign that includes an open enrollment video that will launch on September 21, 2021. On September 27, 2021 staff will conduct two virtual webinars to demonstrate the new open enrollment functionality within the MyHR system. Staff will host open enrollment from September 27 through October 18 and provide consultations and assistance to all employees making benefits election changes for calendar year 2022.

HUMAN RESOURCES *continued*

Staff developed a communication campaign to highlight National Retirement Security Month (NRSM) and will launch on September 29. The NRSM event will be hosted during the entire month of October and was passed by Congress to provide education and information to all employees on plan options, investment guidance, and retirement readiness.

On August 25, the Defined Contributions Advisory Committee approved two new environmental, social, and governance funds (ESG Funds) to the 401(k) and 457(b) plans core fund line-up, effective November 1, 2021. HR Benefits is coordinating the adoption of the two new funds, updates to the Investment Policy Statement, creating a communication campaign with Empower Retirement to communicate the availability of the two new funds, and share information about these new funds in an Investment Option webinar in October during National Retirement Security Month.

Staff is continuing to administer the emergency COVID-19 supplemental paid sick leave (SPSL), which is scheduled to expire on September 30, 2021.

HR Benefits is continuing to work with HRIS and Payroll to complete the CalPERS' mandatory audit review on reporting unused sick leave to ensure compliance with converting it to additional service credit upon retirement. HR Benefits is also working with our internal Audit Group and KPMG on the annual pension data audit to comply with GASB requirements.

HR CORE BUSINESS: Comply with Employment Laws and Regulations

Ensure all policies, programs, and practices comply with ever-changing laws and regulations. Compliance with applicable laws and policies requires monitoring and analyzing changing requirements, determining impact on Metropolitan management and staff, and implementing any changes necessary to maintain compliance. In addition, these changes must be clearly communicated to all customers as necessary, with any needed training provided, as appropriate.

Objective #1 Effectively administer all Human Resources policies, programs, and practices in compliance with applicable federal and state laws and Metropolitan's Administrative Code, Operating Policies, and Memorandum of Understanding.

In September, 12 new workers' compensation claims were received, and 11 were resolved. Five employees remain off work because of an industrial injury or illness. This reflects Metropolitan's effort to accommodate injured workers while enabling them to be productive and remain on the job.

Staff is collaborating with other Metropolitan stakeholders to implement a new Incident Reporting and Case Management System designed by Ventiv Technology.

Staff is in the initial stages of transitioning to a new worker's compensation Third Party Administrator.

Staff also accomplished the following:

- Coordinated medical surveillance exams at four facilities (Hinds, Eagle Mountain, Iron Mountain, and Gene Camp), which included respirator exams, Department of Motor Vehicle exams, and hearing tests.
- Coordinated two random drug tests.
- Arranged eight medical evaluations (DMV and medical surveillance).
- Addressed eight accommodation issues.

HUMAN RESOURCES *continued*

HR Metrics	June 2021	September 2021	Prior Month August 2021
Headcount			
Regular Employees	1,806	1,786	1,792
Temporary Employees	30	34	34
Interns	3	2	4
Recurrents	20	20	20
Annuitants	16	16	16

	September 2021	August 2021
Number of Recruitments in Progress (Includes Temps and Intern positions)	134	109
Number of New Staffing Requisitions	31	6
	September 2021	August 2021
Number of Job Audit Requests in Progress	10	12
Number of Completed/Closed Job Audits	2	0
Number of New Job Audit Requests	0	1

Transactions Current Month and Fiscal YTD (includes current month)			
<u>External Hires</u>	<u>FY 20/21 Totals</u>	<u>September 2021</u>	<u>FISCAL YTD</u>
Regular Employees	74	3	13
Temporary Employees	30	1	9
Interns	3	0	3
Internal Promotions	60	2	12
Management Requested Promotions	149	11	34
Retirements/Separations (regular employees)	78	6	30
Employee Requested Transfers	20	0	1

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: RESILIENCY

OBJECTIVE #1 Strengthen Metropolitan’s cybersecurity capabilities by deploying new and emerging technologies, and implementing enhanced security countermeasures

Continued to implement Cybersecurity projects and initiatives to improve Metropolitan’s security posture and to collaborate with stakeholders to further enhance network security capabilities for Metropolitan’s computing environments.

- Provided on-going enhancements to address evolving cybersecurity threats to provide a secure enterprise network security architecture to ensure Metropolitan’s operational reliability as well as operational flexibility to address changing conditions.
- Continued on-going analysis, assessments, and monitoring of IT network and systems to identify potential vulnerabilities and take action to remediate findings.
- Continued to implement cybersecurity tools in the areas of Application Security, Multi-Factor Authentication, and Identity and Access Management to protect Metropolitan against evolving cyber threats.
- Monitored IT network and remote connectivity to ensure secure and reliable service for employees’ teleworking.
- Promoted cybersecurity governance, risk, and compliance to enhance capabilities and mitigate increasing cybersecurity threats to Metropolitan’s business systems and networks.
- Successfully completed migration efforts as part of moving the mailboxes of all Metropolitan employees from our on-premises servers to Microsoft 365 (M365). This effort provides for greater security and integration between Outlook and our existing M365 productivity tools.

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

- Continued to execute IT capital projects in support of Metropolitan’s strategic priorities by replacing end-of-life infrastructure, upgrading applications, and delivering innovative solutions to ensure reliability and resilience of IT systems. Selected project activities include:
 - **Maximo Upgrade Project**—The project team successfully completed Metropolitan’s enterprise-wide maintenance management software application (Maximo) used for planning, scheduling, and reporting of required maintenance of equipment deployed throughout the treatment plants, and the conveyance and distribution system. IT started post-deployment support and will continue to provide WSO with on-going customer-requested enhancements.
 - **Budget System Replacement**—Upgrade Metropolitan’s budgeting system to support the capital and O&M budget processes and Board deliverables. IT continued to support the CFO Office as the system went live and budget coordinators began using the new system for biennial budget development.
 - **Desert Microwave project**—The scope of this project is to upgrade desert microwave tower sites by replacing end-of-life equipment and providing sufficient capacity and reliability to Metropolitan’s wide area network in the desert region. The team continues to work on the procurement phase of the project while conducting required frequency coordination involving FCC licensing.
 - **Enterprise Data Analytics**—The scope of this project is to develop a data and analytics strategy, create implementation best practices, and engage Metropolitan stakeholders on a technology blueprint to serve the data analytics needs of Metropolitan business groups. Staff initiated Phase One of the project to define data analytics objectives, complete gap analysis, develop the data and analytics strategy, create implementation best practices and engaged Metropolitan stakeholders and management to ensure that requirements are identified.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY *continued*

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

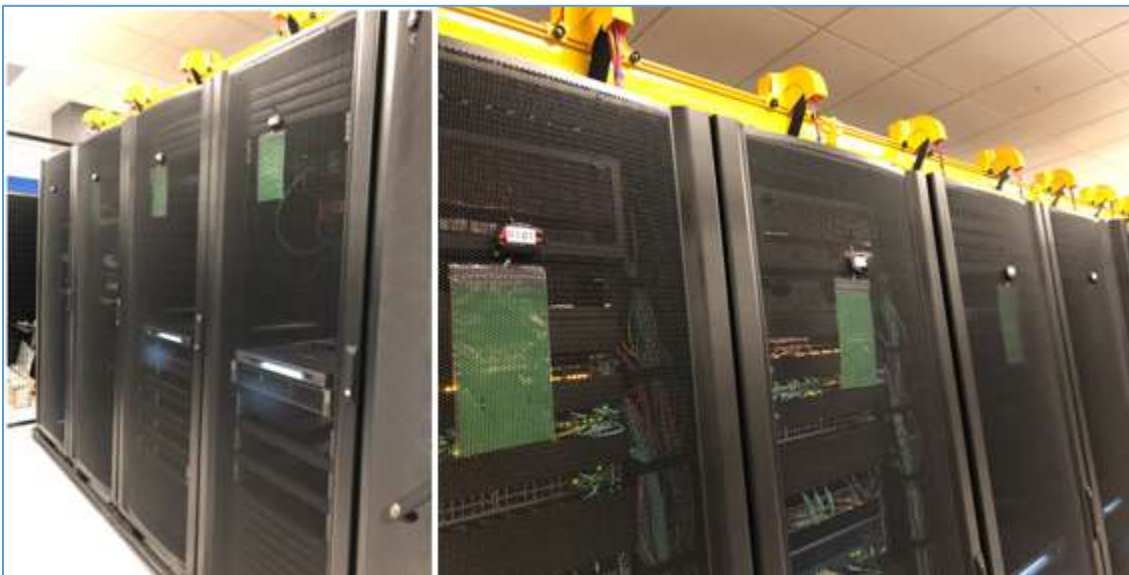
- Automated Meter Reading (AMR) Upgrade—The AMR project will address equipment obsolescence as the current communication equipment used in the system is approaching end-of-life. Staff continued with the definition phase of this project by evaluating design alternatives and technologies, including pilot testing of four radio frequency technologies for the AMR project.
 - Continued to partner with WSO on installation of field equipment and testing at selected Metropolitan sites as part of assessing effectiveness of design alternatives using different frequency technologies.

OBJECTIVE #4 Improve Metropolitan's IT Disaster Recovery and Response Capability.

- Conducted IT Disaster Recovery (ITDR) Business Continuity testing as part of preparedness planning and to simulate recovery of selected applications defined by the Business Continuity Program. Testing commenced on September 20 involving business owners as part of training and continuous improvements based on prior exercises and on-going enhancements. ITDR exercises help validate Metropolitan's recovery capabilities in the event of a disaster.

OBJECTIVE #5 Provide leadership, planning, and solutions in support of Metropolitan's Strategic Priorities.

- Metropolitan's data center modernization project provides enhanced operational uptime of data center processing to meet current and future capacity and reliability needs. The secondary data center site relocation was completed last fiscal year and is strategic to ensuring recovery capabilities are in place before moving the primary site.
- Primary Site—The project team continues to work on the procurement and development phase while refining a comprehensive plan that must address logistical challenges associated with migrating hardware, software, data, communication networks, and ancillary systems. The work is highly complex and must be done while current systems and resources continue to support Metropolitan's day-to-day business operations.
- Preparations are underway for staff to seek board approval for a contract amendment associated with upcoming work at the primary site and to provide an update on the overall data center modernization effort.



Datacenter at an undisclosed location

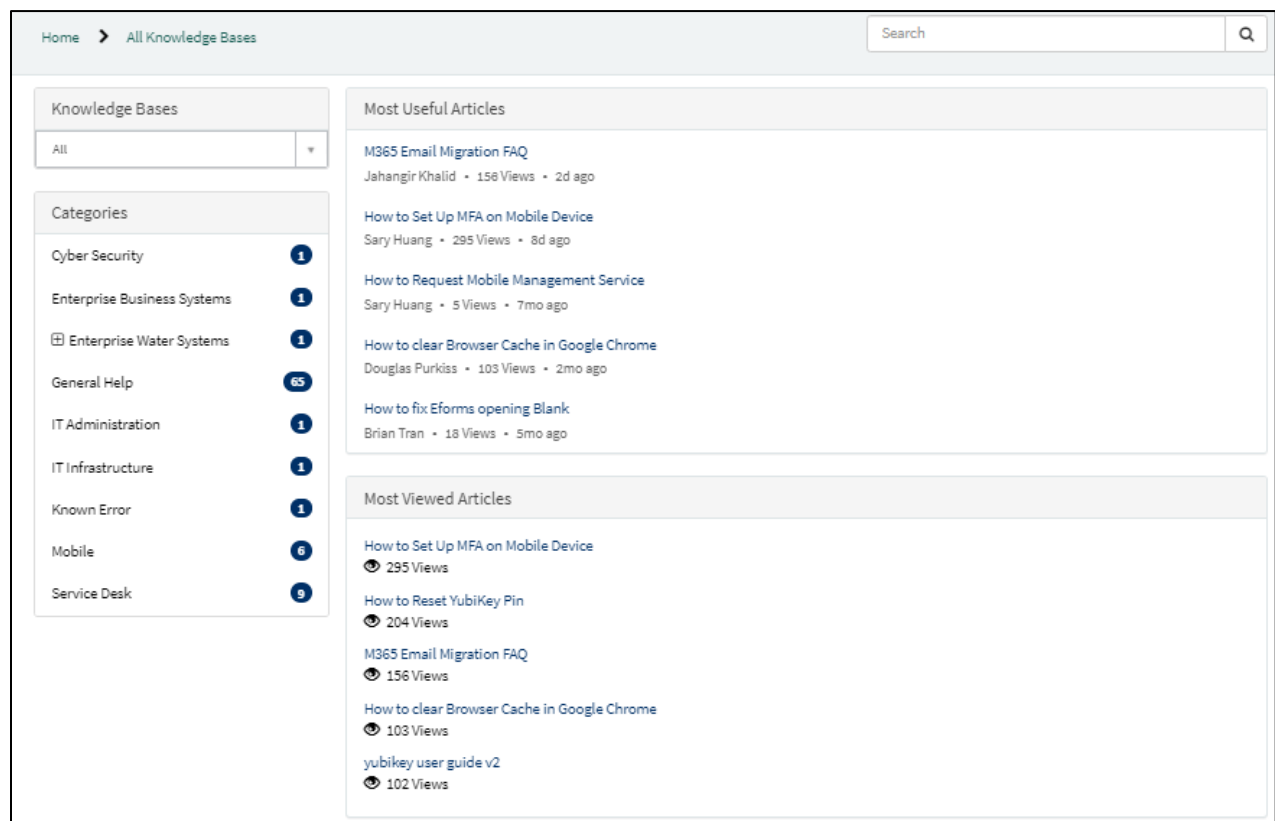
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY *continued*

OBJECTIVE #6 Deploy solutions to improve operations, promote collaboration, and provide business value.

- Collaborated with Administrative Services Section staff on the Enterprise Content Management (ECM) project that assists Metropolitan's regulatory compliance requirements to manage both paper and electronic records. ECM will provide the framework for collaborative, automated workflow of document-centric processes. Current efforts focus on optimizing existing digital data and cleanup of network storage drives in preparation for the migration phase of the project.

OBJECTIVE #7 Enhance workforce productivity by simplifying access to business information and deploy technologies to support our customers in making business decisions.

- As part of the IT Service Management (ITSM) project, IT successfully deployed new service desk software to centralize and modernize service management within the Information Technology Group. This service desk tool provides a self-service portal for work requests and improves operational reporting capabilities. Since the deployment of ITSM, continuous improvements have been made in the area of operational reporting as well as building out a knowledge base. The availability of the Knowledge Base provides self-service online library of information pertaining to general information as well as specific knowledge base references to assist users with general questions, useful articles, and "how-to." The knowledge base is searchable by various topics, by subject matter, or by various IT categories.



Knowledge Base

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY *continued*

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #2: SUSTAINABILITY

OBJECTIVE #1 Provide IT services in support of the Headquarters Improvements Program.

- IT resources continued to provide support and services for the Headquarters Improvements Program related to physical security enhancements as well as integrating security requirements with IT systems and infrastructure.

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

- Continued efforts to upgrade the Fuel Management System that enables management controls over fuel inventories, dispensing, and security to ensure operability, vendor support, and system reliability. With the recent project kickoff, the team is in the process of conducting site visits at 13 fleet facilities to gather information needed for project plan development and to identify site-specific requirements.

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3: INNOVATION

OBJECTIVE #1 Strengthen Metropolitan's cyber security capabilities by deploying new and emerging technologies and implementing enhanced security countermeasures.

- Elements of the Security Operations Center (SOC) project are underway to implement new countermeasures to protect Metropolitan's computing infrastructure. For example, a new security Information and Event Monitoring system for the SOC will allow Metropolitan to efficiently detect and respond to attacks using automated tools that collect and correlate events for incident detection and response.
- Project details and updates are made to the Board quarterly and in closed session. The next cyber security briefing is scheduled for October.

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

- Completed the upgrade for the board and committee rooms' audio/visual (A/V) equipment by replacing the end-of-life A/V equipment. In the prior period, the project team conducted final user acceptance testing and trained key personnel and support staff on the new system. The system has been turned over to the IT Infrastructure Services for on-going support and maintenance.
- IT continued to partner with key stakeholders on the implementation of an Asset Management System to leverage data already maintained by Metropolitan into a common framework, which will serve as a foundation for future infrastructure reliability projects and assessment across Metropolitan.



Development and Pilot Testing

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY *continued*

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

- Continued the capital improvement project to upgrade Metropolitan's Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system to ensure the continued reliability of the system-wide control system by addressing cybersecurity and technology obsolescence risks. During the period, staff continued to work with key stakeholders on the RFP phase of this project.

OBJECTIVE #4 Provide Leadership, planning, and solutions in support of Metropolitan's Strategic Priorities.

- Provided leadership and governance by holding meetings with the IT Executive Council and Operation Technology Governance Committee. In September, the IT Group held demonstrations showcasing innovative technologies being deployed to business users as well as providing updates on key IT initiatives that support Metropolitan's strategic priorities.
- Maintained Metropolitan's move to the cloud by partnering with business owners to migrate selected virtual servers and applications to Microsoft's Azure Cloud. In addition, similar efforts are on-going to migrate other applications to the Oracle cloud environment. A key benefit of these migrations (servers and databases to the cloud) has allowed for the decommissioning of legacy servers and those that have reached end-of-life (and will no longer need to be replaced). Other benefits include reducing Metropolitan's physical server footprint, risk profile, and potential vulnerabilities associated with legacy hardware and operating systems.



Migration to the Cloud

OBJECTIVE #5 Deploy innovative solutions to improve operations, promote collaboration, and provide business value.

- Staff continued to use unmanned aerial vehicles to support Metropolitan's key business objectives, including infrastructure and property inspection, environmental land monitoring, and videos for educational and promotional events. In addition to processing and analysis of the data collected from prior missions, staff partnered with business units on requirements and the development of flight plans for upcoming missions.

OBJECTIVE #6 Enhance workforce productivity by simplifying access to business information and deploy technologies to support our customers in business decisions.

- Enhancing workforce productivity and simplifying access to business information requires a close partnership between users and IT. During the period, IT resources continued to support business users on pilot testing and conducting proof of concept to demonstrate the value of automation and ways to leverage technology. An example of such partnership includes the development of a mobile application (Survey 123) for ESG, along with mobile applications being developed for other business units. Similar efforts are underway to explore innovative solutions while improving operations, promoting collaboration, and providing business value.

REAL PROPERTY

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: Resiliency

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

Acquired a 22-month Temporary Construction Easement from a private owner in Brea, CA. This easement is for construction and staging purposes in order to perform erosion protection on a blow-off structure on the Orange County Feeder pipeline for the Orange County Operating Region of the Right-of-Way and Infrastructure Protection Program.

DVL-12 surplus property totaling ± 223 acres was sold to a private entity. The property was originally acquired in the mid-to-late 90s as a construction laydown area for the Diamond Valley Lake Reservoir Project. Metropolitan reserved necessary permanent easement over a portion of the sold property for potential future use.

Objective #2 Foster staff training and development.

The Right of Way Professional (RWP) certification from the International Right of Way Association (IRWA) was received this month. This demonstrates the aptitude to understand, communicate, and perform within standards of the right of way profession. This certification and the education required in achieving it enables the Real Property Group the ability to participate and resolve complex Metropolitan real estate-related projects.

Attended the Managing the Marginal Employee webinar. This workshop is designed to train supervisors and managers on how to manage such employees.

CORE BUSINESS: Real Property Acquisition, Management and Revenue Enhancement

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

A license agreement was entered into with the buyer of the Gilman Springs surplus property for vehicular ingress and egress purposes. The five-year license will allow the buyer to traverse Metropolitan's private road and bridge.

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

In preparation for the move of the Security team into the second floor wing, Facility Management completed upgrades to paint and carpet.



Before and After

REAL PROPERTY *continued*

The Diamond Valley Lake Marina Concessionaire hosted the final night fishing tournament of the summer season. A total of over 300 boats and 600 anglers headed out to find a prime location and cast their fishing lines around the lake this summer. The night fishing tournament series rewards fishing teams with the highest total weight, and Diamond Valley Lake (DVL) has been known to deliver a good catch. One of the largest fish caught at DVL was a 47-pound catfish that was reeled in over the Labor Day holiday weekend.



SECURITY MANAGEMENT

GENERAL MANAGER'S STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: Resiliency

Objective #2 Improve Security and Emergency Response

The Security Management Unit conducted its first full-scale security exercise in preparation for the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Although our local or federal law enforcement partners indicated there were no specific, credible security threats to critical water infrastructure, Metropolitan security chose to proactively present a strong, visual display of protective deterrence along critical Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) areas to dissuade any potential threats.

Before the September 11 weekend, a short-notice operation order rapidly deployed extra guard staff, special agents, and additional security vehicle patrols to the five pump plants along the CRA for 72 continuous hours. Contract guard forces quickly mobilized from various locations all over Southern California to meet operational staffing requirements and rendezvous at various CRA locations. California Highway Patrol and local law enforcement provided additional liaison support. Additional special agents and contract guards conducted extended patrol operations at select water treatment plants and other facilities in Los Angeles, Orange, and Riverside Counties.

To maintain districtwide situational awareness, the Security Watch Center issued shift change situational reports and worked with Emergency Operations Control (EOC) duty officers to maintain an accurate, common operating picture on WebEOC.

The exercise also evaluated important administrative components, such as safety, logistics, communications equipment, contracting, supplies, PPE, COVID-19 protocols, EMS responses, berthing, and vehicle support services. This successful exercise proved invaluable in evaluating contract security capability to rapidly field extra guard capacity and successfully operate in desert conditions should an actual water-sector security threat occur.



Metropolitan Special Agents, along with security contractors and law enforcement, patrol CRA and pump plants over the 9/11 weekend.

SECURITY MANAGEMENT *continued*

Objective #2 Improve Security and Emergency Response

A recent assessment by the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) found that “more than 2 million people report some type of workplace violence each year, with approximately 25 percent of workplace violence going unreported.”

As part of a strong prevention support strategy, the Security Management Unit staff participated in specialized training geared to avert and mitigate potential workplace violence. The training, provided by a licensed clinical and forensic psychologist, prepares Human Resources, Legal, and Security staff to recognize, mitigate, contain, and manage potential threats of targeted violence and violent behaviors in the workplace.

For employees, CISA recommends using the OHNO approach (Observe, Initiate a Hello, Navigate the Risk, and Obtain Help) to assist in observing and evaluating suspicious behaviors. It empowers employees to mitigate potential risks or get help when needed. More information on the OHNO approach can be found at:

www.cisa.gov/employee-vigilance-power-hello



CISA's OHNO approach

Objective #3 Improve Employee Readiness for All Hazards Emergencies

September is National Preparedness Month, and September 25 has been designated as National “If You See Something, Say Something®” Awareness Day, also known as #SeeSayDay. The “If You See Something, Say Something®” campaign works with partners year-round to empower and educate the public on suspicious activity reporting.

An informed and alert public plays a critical role in keeping our nation and communities safe. By learning the indicators of terrorism-related crimes, paying attention to our surroundings, and reporting suspicious activity to local law enforcement, we can help keep our workplace safe, too. This campaign compliments the various security training programs (Personal Security Awareness, Vagrancy Awareness, and Stop The Bleed training) provided to Metropolitan’s employees.



“If You See Something, Say Something®” Awareness Day is September 25

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: Resiliency

Objective #5 Ensure reliable State Water Project (SWP).

Staff participated virtually in the DWR Operations, Maintenance, and Engineering Committee (OME) meeting. DWR staff provided SWP contractors with updates from the Southern Field Division and the California Aqueduct Subsidence Program. They also provided an update on the emergency repair on the California Aqueduct upstream of San Luis Reservoir (mile 54.95), where a 500 gallon per minute (gpm) leak was detected on August 10, 2021. Repair work is expected to be completed by early October. Because of the low SWP allocation, no water deliveries have been affected by the disruption to the aqueduct.

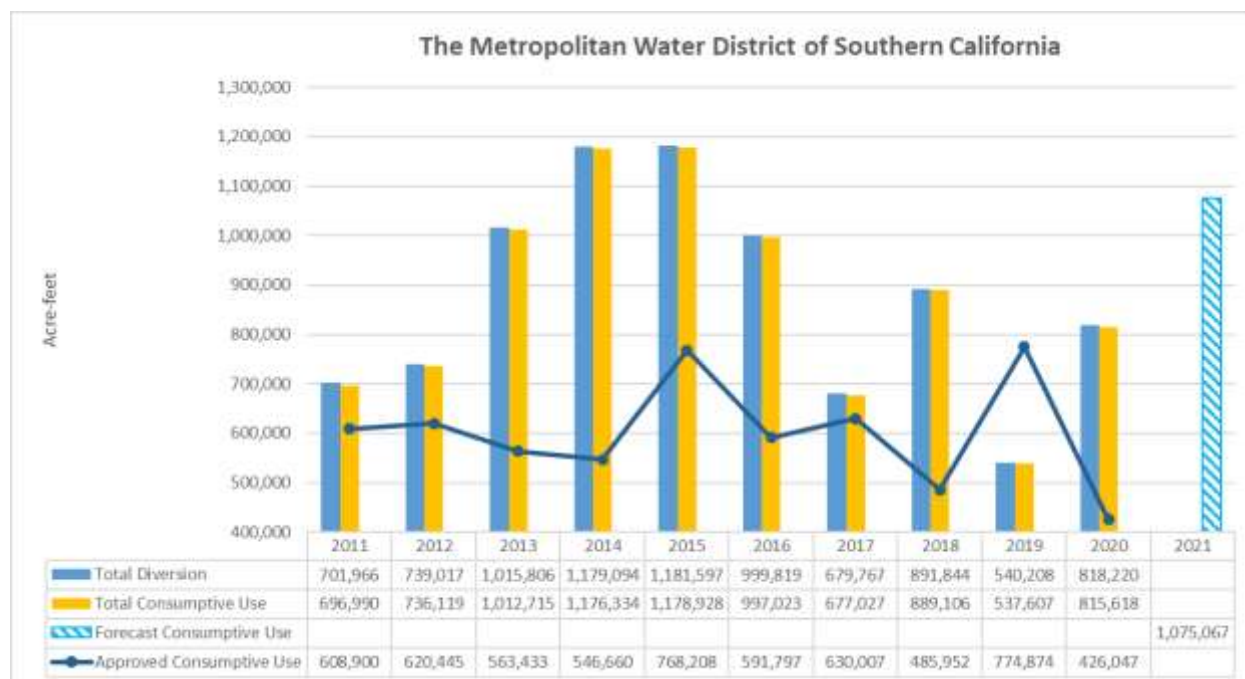


California Aqueduct Repair (mile 54.95)

Objective #6 Ensure access to sufficient water supplies to operate a full Colorado River Aqueduct in times of drought.

Staff submitted Metropolitan's 2022 Colorado River Diversion Request, formally known as the 2022 Colorado River Diversion Estimate and Part 417 Consultation Questionnaire, to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). Participating in Reclamation's Part 417 consultation process helps ensure full access to the available Colorado River supplies in the calendar year 2022. This request includes all transfer water and water that becomes available through the Colorado River priority system. For 2022, staff submitted an estimated total diversion amount of about 601 thousand acre-feet. The figure below provides a historical record of Metropolitan's diversions and consumptive use of Colorado River water for calendar years 2011–2020 and Metropolitan's forecasted consumptive use for 2021.

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT *continued*



**Historical record of Metropolitan's diversions & consumptive use, 2011–2020.
Forecasted 2021 consumptive use as of September 7, 2021.**

Staff reviewed three drafts of Reclamation's *Annual Operating Plan for Colorado River Reservoirs 2022* (AOP) that reports on past operations of the Colorado River reservoirs for the last calendar year, as well as projected operations for these reservoirs for the upcoming year. Staff also participated, along with other stakeholders of the Colorado River basins, in three webinar consultations for each of the draft AOP to provide comments and feedback to Reclamation. The AOP is important to Metropolitan's operations since it confirms the parameters that will govern the operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead in the subsequent year. Reclamation declared the first-ever shortage on the Colorado River for the calendar year 2022, and the latest draft AOP outlined that a Shortage Condition will govern the operation of Lake Mead, which influences management of Metropolitan's available supply and Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) on the Colorado River.

Staff attended a meeting of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum (Forum) Work Group, which supports the Forum with technical analysis. The Work Group heard program updates from federal partners, including the Bureau of Land Management, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the U.S. Geological Survey. The Work Group discussed the schedule and required work for the upcoming 2023 Review of Water Quality Standards for Salinity in the Colorado River. The Work Group also heard a report from Reclamation on the status of salinity control in the Paradox Valley, including a progress update on Reclamation's seismic risk and hazard analysis, and the prospects of returning to service the existing Paradox Valley Unit injection well, which has not operated consistently since the March 2019 earthquake in the valley.

Staff attended several Colorado River Basin States meetings, including meetings of the Lower Basin States, California-only meetings, and several technical working group meetings. The main purpose of the meetings was to begin planning a range of additional measures that can be implemented during the interim period (2022–2026) to slow or halt the decline of Lake Mead elevations during ongoing dry conditions in the basin. These discussions were prompted, in part, by the first-ever Level 1 shortage declaration on the river in August and the projection that, under minimum probable conditions, Lake Mead elevations could fall below elevation 1030' within the next 24 months. Working group meetings focused on developing the range of options and strategies for supporting Lake Mead and the environmental compliance measures required to implement a plan.

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT *continued*

Objective #8 Implement Local Resources Program

Metropolitan staff held a Local Supply Workgroup with member agencies to discuss recycled water end-user issues. Representatives from 19 member agencies attended the meeting. A second Local Supply Workgroup will be held in the future with a different focus. The feedback from the meetings will help guide program development of the Local Resources Program and the On-Site Retrofit Program.

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #2: Sustainability

Objective #3 Monitor development of climate science and incorporate updated information into Integrated Water Resources Planning approach.

Staff continued to engage with expert consultants in the field of climate change. The IRP climate expert panel held its seventh and eighth meetings on September 2 and September 27 to review how their input had been incorporated into the IRP's modeling assumptions and to discuss climate-related indicators appropriate for data tracking and continued analysis as part of Metropolitan's adaptive management planning.

Objective #8 Implement Regional Conservation Program.

In response to the Water Supply Alert declaration in August, Metropolitan staff continued to perform outreach activities to promote water conservation. Conservation outreach activities include the following:

- Participating as a panel member at the Association for Women in Water, Energy, and the Environment panel titled "Our Thirsty State." Discussion included conservation strategies for homeowners, innovations in conservation, and common myths and misconceptions.
- Holding a webinar on picking California Friendly plants in conjunction with SoCalGas,
- Presenting information on Metropolitan's rebates and programs to the So Cal Rental Housing Association. The presentation focused on incentives from multi-family housing programs because the audience in this meeting consisted mainly of property managers, building owners, and realtors.

Metropolitan staff held a quarterly Program Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting with conservation coordinators from the member and retail agencies. The PAC meets quarterly to discuss Conservation Program issues, provide feedback on existing programs and policies, and offer recommendations to staff on program modifications. Topics of discussion from the meeting included a proposal for Metropolitan to aid member and retail agencies with funding to measure areas served by dedicated irrigation meters in order to comply with the Water Conservation Framework legislation (SB 606 and AB 1668), and expressing support for enhanced incentives for certain outdoor irrigation devices and/or modifying quantity thresholds to increase consumer participation. Staff will evaluate PAC recommendations and provide recommendations to management for consideration.

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3: Innovation

Objective #1 Adaptively Prepare for a Range of Possible Futures through the Incorporation of Scenario Planning in the IRP.

Staff continued to engage with member agencies and the board on work for the 2020 IRP. The Board IRP Special Committee met on September 28. Meeting topics were focused on an update on improvements to the IRP scenario refined analyses presented in July, takeaways from the scenario gap analyses, preliminary recommendations based on these findings, and next steps for the IRP process.

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT *continued*

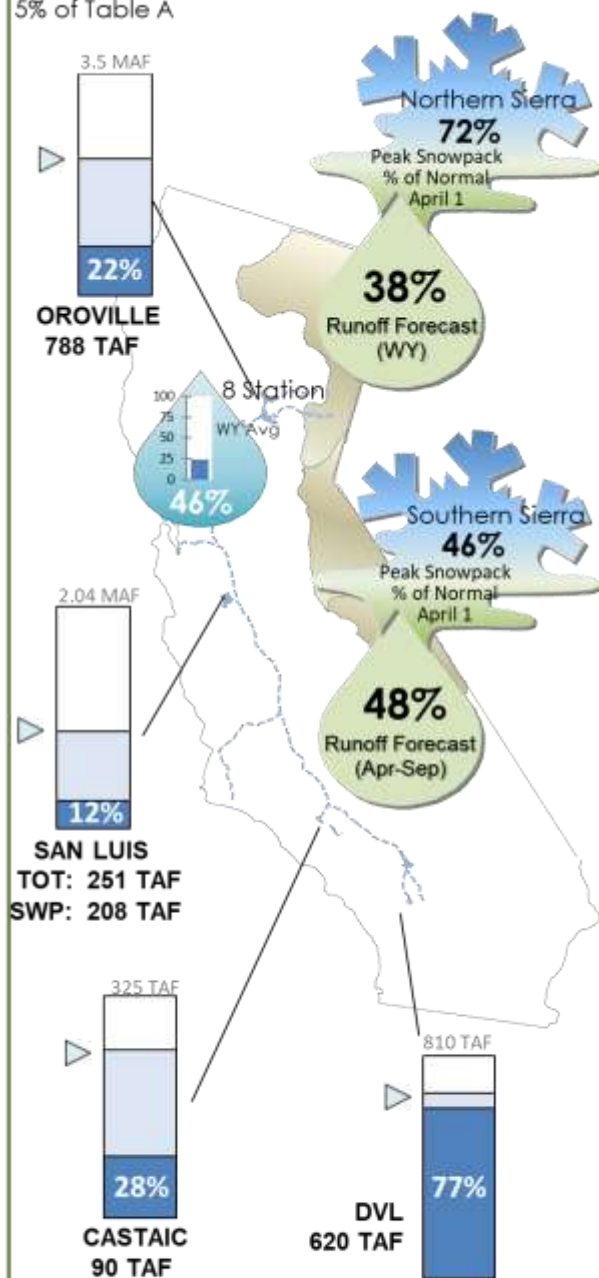
Objective #3 Implement Future Supply Actions Funding Program.

Metropolitan staff from WRM and External Affairs hosted a Future Supply Actions (FSA) Program webinar on September 15 on the findings of a study on an innovative approach for meeting reservoir augmentation regulations for potable reuse. The study examined using preformed chloramines (a disinfectant) to eliminate or minimize the formation of trihalomethanes (THMs) during advanced water treatment. This research project demonstrated that the preformed chloramines approach can be a simple, cost-effective solution to comply with regulatory limits for THMs for surface water augmentation with advanced treated recycled water. The findings of the study have led to the decision to incorporate the use of preformed chloramines in a full-scale advanced water treatment plant design. Metropolitan co-funded this study through its FSA Program. The San Diego County Water Authority and its study partner, Padre Dam Municipal Water District, led the study and presented the findings in the webinar.

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT *continued*

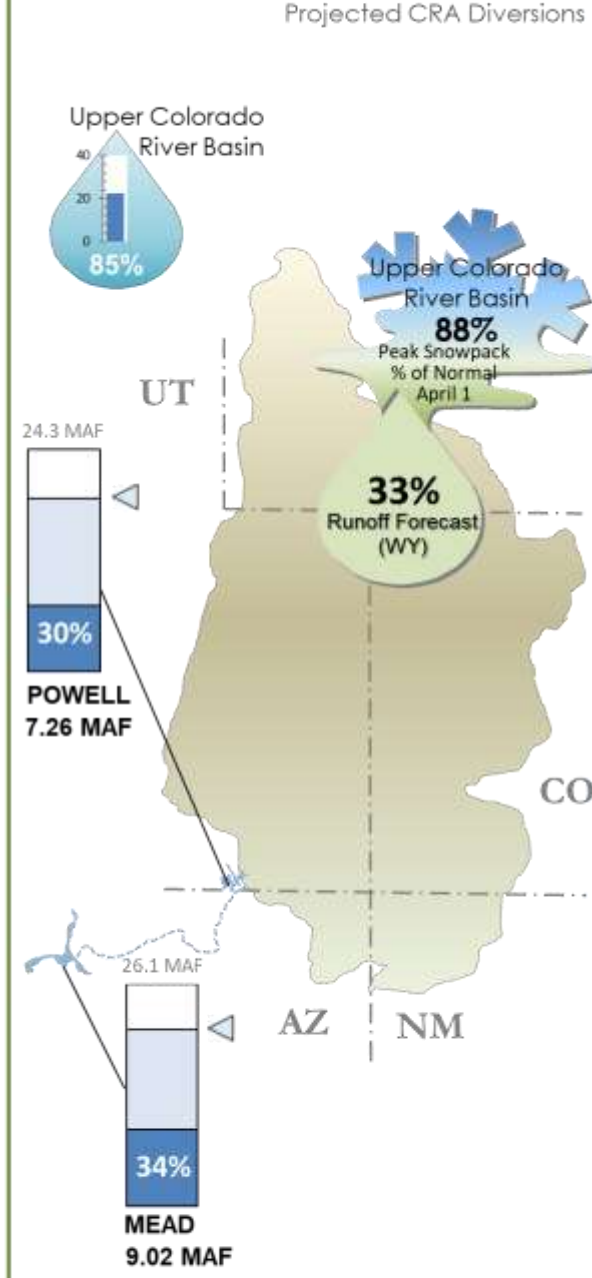
2021 SWP Allocation

95,575 AF
5% of Table A



2021 Colorado River

1,076,000 AF
Projected CRA Diversions



As of September 30, 2021

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: Resiliency

Objective #1 Provide Reliable Water Deliveries.

Metropolitan delivered approximately 150,971 acre-feet (AF) of water to member agencies in September. Deliveries averaged approximately 5,032 AF per day, which was 426 AF per day lower than in August. Treated water deliveries decreased by 10,071 AF from August with a total of 83,986 AF or 56 percent of total deliveries for the month. The Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) continued at seven-pump flow with a total of 96,230 AF pumped for the month. State Water Project (SWP) imports averaged 1,509 AF per day, totaling about 45,274 AF for the month, which accounted for about 30 percent of Metropolitan's deliveries. The target SWP blend remained at zero percent for the Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner plants.

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

Metropolitan complied with all water quality regulations and primary drinking water standards during August 2021.

Staff completed sensory training for the Flavor Profile Analysis (FPA) program. The FPA program ensures that Metropolitan's treated water is pleasant to taste and smell and is used to assess the impact of taste and odor events in source waters.

The Weymouth plant and the Palos Verdes Reservoir have wastewater discharges that are permitted by the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (LACSD). Both facilities received Certificates of Recognition from LACSD for complying with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the LACSD industrial wastewater discharge permit limits and requirements in 2020. The Certificates of Recognition acknowledge that all required sampling was performed, all effluent limits were met, all required compliance reports were submitted on time, and no violations were issued during the year.



Certificates of Recognition for the Weymouth plant and Palos Verdes Reservoir for meeting industrial wastewater discharge permit requirements

Staff successfully renewed the Mills plant Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit with the City of Riverside Department of Public Works—Wastewater Division. The City of Riverside conducted a site inspection of the Mills plant before issuing the final permit, which is valid for three years and expires on July 31, 2024.

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*

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

The Sepulveda Canyon hydroelectric plant (HEP) was originally put into service in 1980 and has a capacity of 8 megawatts of power. Since then, only minor touchups to the coatings were performed on the tailrace portion of the HEP. Through periodic inspections and evaluation, a complete recoating of the tailrace was determined necessary to protect the internal surfaces and restore efficiency. Staff removed approximately 8,000 square feet of 40-year old coatings and prepared the surfaces to the highest standard for new coatings application. This project included application of high-performance epoxy-based coatings to the tailrace chamber walls, needle valves and all carbon steel surfaces. This infrastructure improvement project will prolong the life of the Sepulveda Canyon HEP.



Tailrace before (left) and after (right) coating work at Sepulveda Canyon HEP

Staff prepared a laydown area at Lake Mathews to temporarily store several large valves that will be used for the PCCP pipe rehabilitation project. These valves were purchased in advance to ensure availability to meet project schedule and future shutdowns. Staff procured, processed, and installed 700 tons of base rock to provide a solid foundation for the large valves that weigh approximately 72,000 lbs. each.



Motorgrader prepping subgrade (left) and receiving aggregate base material (right) at Lake Mathews

Objective #4 Optimize Maintenance.

Staff is preparing a pump unit for coating repair at the Eagle Mountain pumping plant. The pump packing on the unit allows water to seep through to keep the packing cool but also results in corrosion over time as the coating deteriorates. Staff will prepare and re-coat this pump headcover to ensure reliable service.

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Pump headcover prepared for coating repairs at Eagle Mountain pumping plant

Desert staff maintains the access roads along the aqueduct as well as at other facilities. Road work is being done at Copper Basin as daily use and monsoonal storms have required significant repairs.



Road repair work at Copper Basin

Staff installed a new 130VDC station battery bank system at Eagle Mountain pumping plant. This project was scheduled to be completed during the 2021 CRA Shutdown, but materials were delayed because of COVID-19 supply chain issues. Staff installed a new transfer switch, wiring, chargers, and battery bank rack.

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



New station battery bank charger at Eagle Mountain pumping plant

As part of CRA pumping plant preventative maintenance, the pump bowl and impeller were inspected. Staff also replaced the packing while performing the pump bowl inspection.



Staff performing annual pump bowl inspection

Desert pumps require constant cooling and lubrication to function efficiently. A failure of the cooling or lubrication systems can cause shutdowns and potential damage. Desert staff are working with engineering on oil level monitoring systems for a unit at Intake pumping plant that recently showed indications of faulty operation. This collaboration uses strengths from multiple crafts to find the best possible solution for system reliability.

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Desert staff calibrating a pump unit's oil instrumentation at Intake pumping plant

During a routine inspection of a canal section along the CRA, staff identified a void adjacent to the concrete liner. Staff filled the void with a concrete slurry to properly support the canal liner and to ensure that it does not get larger. Canals make up more than 62 miles of the aqueduct and cross the desert floor at a constant slope designed for water to flow at 4.5 feet per second.



CRA staff filling voids with concrete slurry near the canal liner

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*

Staff replaced corroded piping on one of the station air compressors at Eagle Mountain pumping plant. The station air system is used for maintenance and equipment operation and is essential in cleaning carbon and dust from commutators, slip rings, and circuit breakers.



Staff replacing corroded air compressor piping at Eagle Mountain pumping plant

Staff installed a new stainless-steel bypass line at the De Soto Valve Structure on the West Valley Feeder No. 1. Bypass lines are used for filling operations after maintenance and reduces wear on the large and more expensive isolation valves.



Staff welding bypass pipe (left) and completed installation of bypass line (right) at the De Soto Valve Structure

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*

Staff repaired the road access to structures that monitor reservoir seepage along the north side of Lake Mathews. Staff also raised the elevation of the accessway structures to keep rainwater and debris from entering the structure and placed base material to provide all-weather access.



Staff installing accessway ring (left) and installed accessway and gravel (right) at Lake Mathews

Staff performed maintenance at Etiwanda hydroelectric plant (HEP). This work included cleaning the air coolers used to remove heat from the generator during operation and verifying and adjusting needle valves used to control flow into the turbine for power output. Staff also performed high-voltage maintenance and testing in the switchyard.



Staff removing air coolers with an overhead crane lift at Etiwanda HEP

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Etiwanda HEP needle valve inspection



Staff testing the main transformer of the 66kV switchyard at Etiwanda HEP

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*

This month, staff released Red Mountain HEP for regular operations marking the completion of rehabilitation and recommissioning efforts on the 35-year-old 5.9 MW turbine-generator. The rehabilitation work included reconditioning and refurbishing the turbine, generator, lubrication, and cooling water system. The work also included reconditioning of the upstream and downstream isolation valves and associated hydraulic operator system.



Red Mountain HEP reconditioned generator rotor and stator

Excess buildup of filter media in the Diemer washwater reclamation plant caused one row of flocculators to fail. The media buildup was caused by frequent filter backwashing caused by air entrainment in the source water. Staff was unable to remove the plant from service to perform the needed cleaning and repairs because of high treatment plant flow. Staff used a vendor to remove the filter media from the washwater reclamation plant while the plant remained in service. Safety plans and procedures were in place to ensure the safety of the contractor at all times. Metropolitan staff then made repairs to the flocculator to return the process to normal operation.

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Filter media buildup on washwater reclamation plant flocculator at the Diemer plant

Staff replaced aging instrumentation at Santiago Tower at the OC-11 service connection to include water level monitoring equipment, flow monitoring, turbidity, and dissolved oxygen instruments. These instruments are critical to the control of water flow on the Lower Feeder and provide information on source water quality. Work was carried out while maintaining safe proximities to a major cellular antenna array at OC-11.



Water level monitoring at Santiago Tower for operational control on the Lower Feeder

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Fifty-year-old water level monitoring equipment before replacement at the OC-11 service connection



Installed OC-11 monitoring equipment

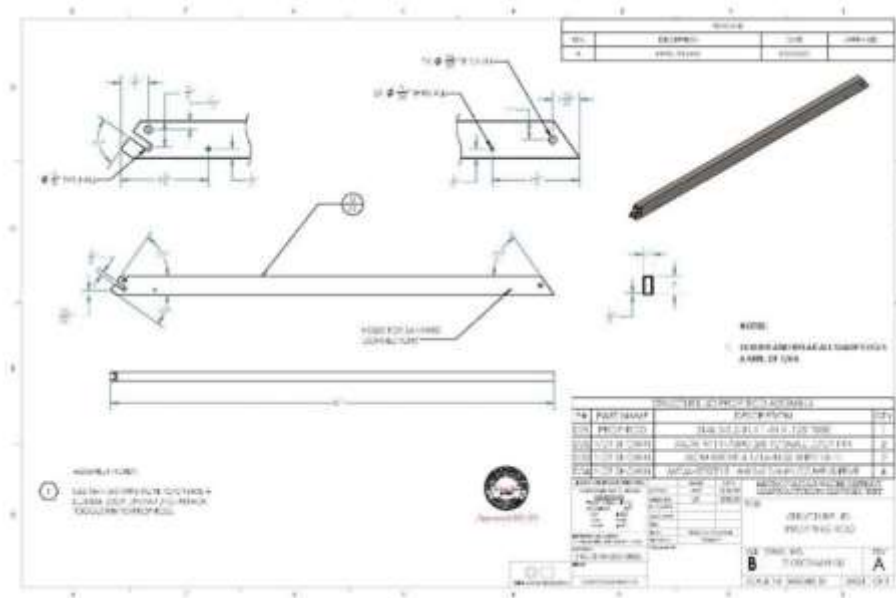
Staff performed troubleshooting and repaired a hydraulic power pack motor control circuit at the Mills plant. The electrician identified a damaged set of electrical contacts in a control relay which was causing a failure of the system. The hydraulic power pack is used to build hydraulic pressure to operate a large valve which allows water to flow into the Lake Mathews HEP located in the city of Riverside.

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Staff ensures terminals are properly torqued at the Lake Mathews HEP

To perform preventive maintenance on our infrastructure, which includes lubricating and exercising valves, staff frequently enter and exit valve structures. To safely keep the valve structure open, staff designed a new tool to be fabricated in-house. The development of this innovative tool was a result of a collaboration between operations and engineering staff, as well as the Labor Management Safety Committee. Drawings and fabrication plans are complete, and the new propping rod will soon be available in Metropolitan's warehouse inventory for use by staff to support maintenance work within Metropolitan's water system.



Staff designed an innovative tool to enhance safety during valve maintenance

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



New propping rod for use on valve structure lids in the distribution system

Staff replaced four aging underdrain pumps in two structures on the Perris Bypass Pipeline near Lake Perris. Groundwater levels in this area are relatively high and require monitoring and the use of an underdrain system to protect the pipeline by drawing water away from it. The water removed is not wasted and is pumped into the CRA via a seepage conveyance pipeline. Staff also completed coating of a valve structure on the Perris Bypass Pipeline following replacement of the valve.



Staff replacing a pump in the underdrain structure on the Perris Bypass Pipeline

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Staff installing a pump in underdrain structure on the Perris Bypass Pipeline



Perris Bypass Pipeline valve structure before coating

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Perris Bypass Pipeline valve structure after coating

Objective #5 Manage the Power System.

On September 13, staff participated in a virtual stakeholder meeting discussing the California Independent System Operator's (CAISO's) rationale for canceling the proposed modifications on PRR-1280. The meeting was hosted by CAISO stakeholder affairs, and CAISO staff indicated that future changes to CAISO's Resource Adequacy program should be expected. Staff will continue to engage with CAISO to ensure that Metropolitan's interests are protected.

Staff identified a forecasted resource adequacy shortfall of approximately 15 megawatts to support CRA pumping operations in November 2021. The forecasted shortfall is due to continued high CRA pumping operations caused by the low SWP allocation, and reduced capacity at Hoover and Parker Dams is due to low water levels and annual scheduled maintenance. A Request for Offer (RFO) was issued by Metropolitan's scheduling coordinator, AEPCO, for capacity to make up the forecasted shortfall. An RA purchase agreement with two suppliers was approved and executed on September 17, which helps to ensure continued reliable CRA operations.

Objective #6 Improve Emergency Preparedness and Response.

During the last month, staff from various groups collaborated to plan for future return-to-workplace activities related to the COVID-19 pandemic response. In an abundance of caution, staff are coordinating to prepare for possible events related to the planned return of additional staff to Metropolitan work sites. Staff have been meeting regularly to coordinate planning efforts, attending professional panels, and designing response training exercises. Staff also continue to reach out to external emergency management partners to ensure that Metropolitan's planning is in sync with local and state planning efforts.

On September 21, the Water Quality Incident Command Post conducted an exercise focused on cybersecurity. Many of Water Quality's instruments, electronic data storage, and regulatory compliance reporting functions depend on reliable and robust computer resources; therefore, it is critically important to protect these resources and develop a response to potential cyber threats.

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*

Objective #7 Optimize Water Treatment and Distribution.

The State Project water (SPW) target blend entering the Weymouth and Diemer plants, and Lake Skinner was zero percent in August 2021.

Flow-weighted running annual averages for total dissolved solids from August 2020 through July 2021 for Metropolitan's treatment plants capable of receiving a blend of SPW and CRA water were 570, 569, and 570 mg/L for the Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner plants, respectively.

Staff completed work on the new plant influent water quality building at the Jensen plant. To ensure that the influent water quality parameters are stable, staff monitor the pH, TOC, DO, and turbidity. The new building will house the Remote Terminal Unit (RTU) that was previously located in the LA-35 turnout structure, the Jensen plant Accusonic flow meter, and the LA-35 automatic meter reading (AMR) cabinet. Most of this equipment was previously exposed to the elements and required significant amount of maintenance to keep them operational. This past month, staff installed the new RTU and relocated all of the equipment. The new analyzers are more reliable, safer to access, and will have lower maintenance costs associated with their upkeep.



Staff relocating the RTU at the Jensen plant

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Staff configuring new analyzers inside the water quality building at the Jensen plant

Objective #8 Manage Water Reserves.

Water reserves continued to be managed according to Water Surplus and Drought Management (WSDM) principles, operational objectives, and the current 5-percent SWP allocation. Deliveries of SWP supply were minimized to preserve SWP Carryover and Flexible Storage. Releases from Diamond Valley Lake (DVL) through PC-1 to connections on the Lakeview Pipeline, as well as the DVL to Mills plant operation, continued in September to conserve SWP use in that area. Returns from the Semitropic and Kern Delta SWP Banking Programs also continued in September. Staff continued Greg Avenue pump operations to minimize SWP usage by about 3,300 AF per month. In addition, staff continued coordination with member agencies shifting their deliveries from SWP connections to Colorado River water connections, when possible. Along with these actions being taken to respond to drought conditions, Metropolitan's record high storage levels at the end of 2020 provide significant water supply reliability in 2021.

Objective #10 Manage Vacancies.

WSO filled four vacant positions in August 2020.

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*

Objective #11 Prepare Employees for New Opportunities.

The Water System Operations Apprenticeship Programs develop and train personnel to become qualified mechanics and electricians responsible for maintaining Metropolitan's water treatment and distribution systems. The Program's hands-on instruction focuses on real-world learning. This month, electrical apprentices studied the National Electrical Code, wiring methods, and grounding/bonding. An electrical apprentice from the Diemer plant demonstrated exothermic welding during lab. This welding technique uses a chemical reaction to connect copper cabling to similar metals by forming a permanent molecular bond that will not loosen or corrode. The process is performed using thermite powder and a graphite mold. Exothermic welding is used extensively when fabricating grounding grids for switchracks and industrial facilities. These types of connections are common throughout Metropolitan's system.



Electrical apprentice applying ignition powder to the graphite mold



Finished connection using exothermic welding

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*

Skinner plant staff proctored a journey-level mechanical practical exam as part of a recruitment process. Staff provided standardized, hands-on exercises for applicants to demonstrate their skills in fabrication, pipe fitting, welding, and precision measurement. The exercises were prepared using the necessary safety equipment, tools, and reference material for a skilled journey-level industrial mechanic to be able to complete the tasks. Mechanical staff observed and scored the applicants on their ability to complete each task as described in the exercise.



Skinner plant staff preparing journey level mechanical practical exercise material

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #2: Sustainability

Objective #3 Support the Regional Recycled Water Program

During September, staff finished the third phase of challenge testing at the Regional Recycled Water Advanced Purification Center (RRWAPC) demonstration facility to assess system performance with intentionally damaged fibers. Staff also supported the final sampling of reverse osmosis (RO) concentrate by the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (LACSD). Remaining LACSD monitoring will evaluate compliance with regulatory requirements under the proposed ocean discharge of RO concentrate and any other waste or diversion streams from a potential full-scale advanced water treatment facility.

Staff continued to plan for completion of current operations in a tertiary MBR mode, shutdown of the facility for cleaning and maintenance, and upgrades to pumps and piping before transitioning to the secondary MBR operations and testing phase later this year.

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Samples of reverse osmosis permeate being collected at the demonstration facility



Staff flushing a new sample tap (left) and completing disinfection and flushing of the membrane bioreactor sampling skid (right) at the demonstration facility

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Reverse osmosis permeate piping being modified to improve access to equipment at the demonstration facility

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

Metropolitan's hydroelectric plants generated an average of about 7.4 megawatts, or 5,520 megawatt-hours, and over \$315,980 in revenue, for August 2021. Metropolitan's solar facilities at the Jensen and Skinner plants, and the DVL Visitor Center, total 2.4 megawatts of capacity and generated approximately 430 megawatt-hours in August 2021. The 3.0 MW solar facility at the Weymouth plant also generated energy in August, but reporting is not available at this time because of metering issues.

Objective #6 Protect Source Water Quality.

At Lake Skinner, an area spanning over 500 acres was treated with seven tons of copper sulfate on September 1 to control a bloom of problematic cyanobacteria. The treatment involved application of copper sulfate using a helicopter with a specially built spreader. This operation involves a substantial ground crew wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) to load and reload the hopper as the helicopter hovers overhead. Caution signs were posted at the lake's recreation area on August 28 because cyanotoxins were detected above the State's voluntary guidance threshold for recreational water. The treatment was successful, and the caution signs were removed on September 16.



Staff loading copper sulfate into the hopper/spreader for application at Lake Skinner

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Staff loading copper sulfate in the spreader bucket at Lake Skinner



Treating Lake Skinner with copper sulfate to control a problematic cyanobacterial bloom

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) treated Silverwood Lake with copper sulfate on September 9 to control a cyanobacterial bloom that was producing taste and odor compounds.

On September 23, staff participated in the quarterly stakeholder meeting regarding perchlorate cleanup at the former Tronox site in Henderson, Nevada. Metropolitan and stakeholders provided the Nevada Environmental Response Trust with feedback on the remedial investigation reports for onsite operable units. Staff continues to monitor the overall

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*

development of the long-term remedial plan and distribution of the Trust's funds for site cleanup to ensure continued protection of Colorado River water quality.

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3: Innovation

Objective #1 Develop New Solutions to Enhance Operational and Business Processes

Staff continues to advance efforts to meet the environmental and regulatory challenge to transition Metropolitan to a sustainable zero emission fleet. To review the technology marketplace, staff attended the Advanced Clean Transportation (ACT) Expo, which is North America's largest clean fleet event providing hands-on access to the fuels, technologies, and vehicles driving the future of transportation. Staff was able to "walk the talk" and drive a hydrogen electric hybrid yard truck, an electric powered F-150 Raptor, a battery electric transit Ford cargo van, and a SOLO single-occupant electric vehicle.



Staff viewing electric fleet at the ACT Expo

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

In August, the California Department of Water Resources found a few quagga mussels in Castaic Lake. On September 10, staff met with counterparts from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power to discuss the discovery and potential implications for operations in the West Branch of the State Water Project; there are currently no restrictions on operations. Increased monitoring over the next few months will provide additional information on the true extent of the infestation.

Objective #3 Advance Education and Outreach Initiatives.

Staff organized a 90-minute panel titled "Partnerships for Success with the Regional Recycled Water Program" at the WaterReuse California Annual Conference (September 19-21) and delivered a variety of presentations that discussed the essential role of partnerships in the RRWP through institutional relationships, research and technology advancements, and public and regulatory engagement. Conference attendees were also provided with a virtual tour of the RRWAPC demonstration facility.

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*

Monthly Update as of:

9/30/2021

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Current Storage</u>	<u>Percent of Capacity</u>
<i>Colorado River Basin</i>		
Lake Powell	7,270,000	30%
Lake Mead	9,015,000	35%
<i>DWR</i>		
Lake Oroville	788,076	22%
Shasta Lake	1,076,881	24%
San Luis Total	254,620	13%
San Luis CDWR	210,003	20%
Castaic Lake	89,342	28%
Silverwood Lake	67,558	90%
Lake Perris	110,334	84%
<i>MWD</i>		
DVL	620,127	77%
Lake Mathews	130,811	72%
Lake Skinner	37,009	84%



Hoover Dam



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.

General Manager: Adel Hagekhail
Office of the GM No. (213) 217-6139
Email: OfficeoftheGeneralManager@mwdh2o.com

700 No. Alameda Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
General No. (213) 217-6000

www.mwdh2o.com

www.bewaterwise.com