

- **General Manager's June 2008 Activity Report**

Summary

The attached report details the activities of the Office of the General Manager for the month of June 2008. Metropolitan has delivered sufficient water supplies and has achieved full compliance with drinking water quality standards.

This report summarizes the status of Metropolitan's core business in terms of:

- Water Management
- System Operations
- Capital Investment Plan
- Business Outreach
- Finance
- Real Estate Management
- Business Processes / Operations
- External Affairs
- Workforce

Attachments

General Manager's Monthly Activity Report

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Conservation Outreach

The Spring 2008 “Cut Your Water Use” advertising campaign ran through the month of June with 10-second television commercials, 60-second radio spots and print and online advertising. The ads focus on reducing outdoor water use by taking a day off from watering landscapes, and aired on five television stations and 28 radio stations throughout Southern California until June 29. Newspaper print ads ran in five languages.

Water Management

Colorado River

Colorado River Diversion - A revised Colorado River diversion schedule for calendar year 2008 was submitted to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for the diversion of nearly 879,000 acre-feet. The diversion includes 15,000 acre-feet of unused Nevada apportionment for storage in Metropolitan’s system, 25,000 acre-feet of recovered “Long-term Storage Credits” from the central Arizona groundwater storage recovery program, and over 80,000 acre-feet of Intentional Created Surplus (ICS) available pursuant to December 13, 2007 Interim Guidelines for the Operation of Lake Powell and Lake Mead. The ICS delivery consists of 34,000 acre-feet of System Efficiency ICS available as a result of Metropolitan’s participation in the Drop 2 Reservoir Project and over 46,000 acre-feet of Extraordinary Conservation ICS created and banked in Lake Mead during a 2006 demonstration program.

Yuma Desalting Plant – The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation is considering a pilot run of the Yuma Desalting Plant to evaluate a new pretreatment process and reverse osmosis membranes. The Plant may be operated in stages up to 30 percent of capacity recovering 27,600 acre-feet over one year’s time. The test results would be used in planning higher capacity Plant operation. Contractors, including Metropolitan, have been invited to provide funding for the pilot run, with the water recovered water potentially being available as Intentionally Created Surplus.



Yuma Desalting Plant



www.mwdh2o.com
www.bewaterwise.com

Water Management

State Water Project

Delta Vision — The Staff Draft Delta Vision Strategic Plan was released on June 20. The staff draft includes recommendations for a new governance structure over Delta ecosystem health and water supply reliability, improved water management and conveyance in the Delta, strong actions to restore the Delta's physical habitat, and actions to ensure water supply reliability through regional self-sufficiency and system enhancements. The staff draft will be considered again at subsequent monthly meetings until the final recommendations are adopted in October. Metropolitan staff are working with other water interests to prepare comments on the staff draft.

SWRCB Strategic Workplan for the Bay-Delta

The State Water Resources Control Board released the Draft Strategic Workplan for activities in the Bay-Delta Estuary on June 13. The Draft Workplan identifies proposed activities and priorities that the SWRCB and San Francisco and Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Boards will pursue over the next five years to address the water supply and environmental problems in the Delta and to protect beneficial uses. The workplan activities include water quality and contaminant control, monitoring programs, flow-related actions, water rights issues, and water use efficiency. The SWRCB will consider adopting the strategic workplan at its July 16 meeting. Metropolitan staff is working with other water interests including the State Water Contractors, to prepare comments on the draft strategic workplan.

State Water Project

Edmonston Pumping Plant — On May 28, 2008, the Department of Water Resources celebrated the replacement of the first of four new pumps at the Edmonston Pumping Plant. The new pump is part of the continuing energy efficiency program of the State Water Project. The installation of the new higher efficiency pump will lower pumping costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The celebration included tours of the Edmonston Pumping Plant and presentations by DWR Director Lester Snow, Deputy Director Ralph Torres, and State Water Contractor General Manager Terry Erlewine. Metropolitan Directors John Morris, David De Jesus, and Glenn Brown attended the event and were recognized by DWR.

Pump at Edmonston Plant

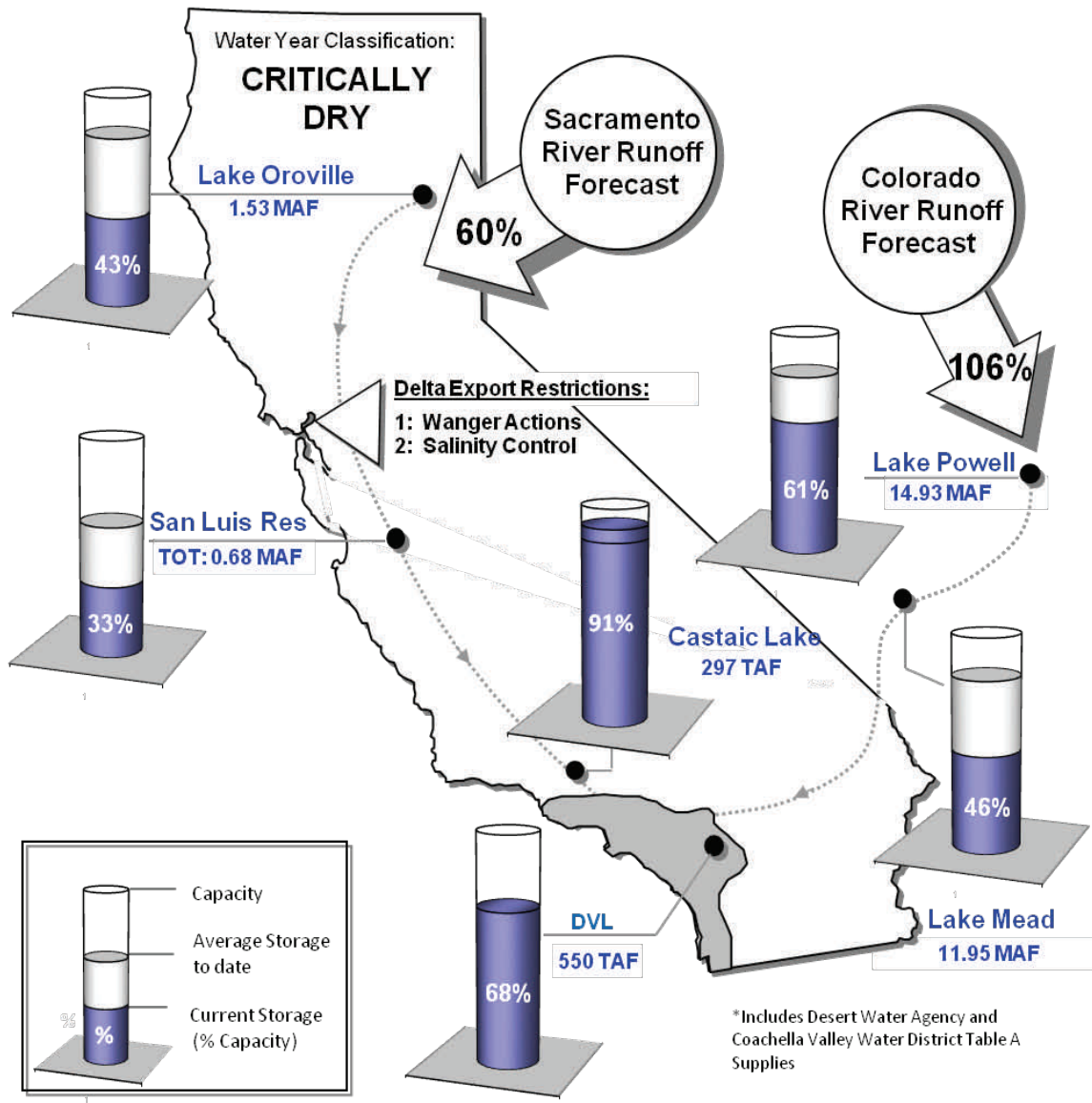


Conservation

Water and Energy Saving Devices - Metropolitan is collaborating with regional energy utilities Southern California Edison and The Gas Company to co-market water and energy saving devices in Metropolitan's service area. Initial efforts focused on High-Efficiency Clothes Washers and food service devices (pre-rinse spray heads and connectionless food steamers). Staff will be expanding the collaboration to include additional devices and improvements to industrial processes that would receive incentives through Metropolitan's Commercial, Industrial and Institutional Program.

Water Supply Conditions June 2008

SWP Allocation (2008): 729,000 AF 35% of Table A Supplies*
 Colorado River Supply Forecast (2008): 879,000 AF 70% of full Colorado River Aqueduct



System Operations

Water Demands

Water Sales Cash Year 2008-09 (May—April)

2,144,903 AF	Current Sales Projection
2,150,700 AF	Budget Sales Projection
-5,797 AF	Difference

Sale Projections

As of June 18, Sales Forecast for Calendar Year 2008 is 2,145,144 AF*

*Includes Interim Agricultural Water Programs and Replenishment Cuts

Sales/Deliveries

June Sales Estimate	233,000 AF
June Delivery Estimate	203,000 AF **

** excludes Desert Water / Coachella Valley deliveries

Distribution and Storage (As of 6/17/08)

	<u>Current Storage</u>	<u>End of Month Forecast</u>
Lake Mathews	161,600 AF	167,300 AF
Lake Skinner	41,800 AF	42,000 AF
Lake Perris	70,200 AF	70,000 AF

Taste-and-Odor

There is a planktonic geosmin producing algal bloom in Lake Castaic. Geosmin levels range from 7 to 28 ppt* in the upper eight feet of the lake. Water from Castaic delivered to Jensen plant is being withdrawn from deeper zones that are free of geosmin. Taste and odor was acceptable in the other source and finished waters.

Quagga Mussels

Staff provided a congressional briefing on June 24 about invasive mussels in the West and highlighted the need for federal assistance for research and actions to address the more rapid growth cycle of these mussels in warmer water.

Chromium 6

On June 2, staff attended the Notice of Preparation scoping meeting for the Environmental Impact Report process for the Topock Chromium 6 Remediation Project. The EIR for California Environmental Quality Act compliance is expected to be completed in 2010. On June 10, the Topock Decision-making Task Group met to address improvements in the decision-making process. The task group recommended forming a Leadership Advisory Board to provide a more effective and expeditious process for the stakeholders (including Metropolitan and the Indian Tribes) to influence the decisions made by the regulators.

On June 10-11, General Manager Jeffrey Kightlinger and staff hosted a tour of Metropolitan's desert facilities for four Indian Tribes involved in the Topock Chromium 6 Remediation project. This allowed for discussions to seek collaborative agreement on the final remedy for groundwater remediation.

On June 17, Water Quality staff attended the Topock Remediation Project Clearinghouse Task Group meeting. The task group has developed some processes and tools to improve communication of the project to stakeholders.

Uranium

On June 4, James Caswell, Director for Bureau of Land Management, responded to Metropolitan's concerns regarding proposed uranium exploration and mining in northern Arizona (Grand Canyon area) and indicated the BLM would monitor and manage the situation and ensure that any proposed mining met all requirements as specified in the National Environmental Policy Act. The Department of Energy held a public hearing on June 5 in Moab to discuss transportation options for moving the uranium mill tailings.

Treatment Plants

During June, the Weymouth and Diemer water treatment plants prepared for high flows to support the Central Pool during the Sepulveda Feeder Shutdown which began on June 21. Preparations included adjusting maintenance activities to ensure all basins and equipment would be available.

*ppt: One part per trillion (1 ppt) is a proportion equivalent to one-twentieth of a drop of water diluted into a two-meter-deep Olympic-size swimming pool.

System Operations

System Operations

Water deliveries were 203,000 acre-feet in the month of June with the Colorado River Aqueduct at seven-pump flow throughout the month. Lake Mathews storage was increased to 173,000 AF to prepare for summer deliveries. System Operations staff developed the shutdown operations plan and tested distribution system configuration changes to prepare in advance for the Sepulveda Feeder shutdown. Staff also met with the affected member agencies to coordinate and prepare for the shutdown and discuss operating plans.

The Municipal Water District of Orange County, Western MWD and Long Beach groundwater conjunctive use programs were called in June to produce a total of approximately 26,000 AF over the next 12 months. With the addition of these programs to those previously called since late 2007, all Metropolitan/Member Agency conjunctive use programs that are operational and have water previously stored have been called to supplement water supply.

System Maintenance/Shut Downs

The unscheduled 12-day shutdown of the Sepulveda Feeder began on June 21, 2008 and was concluded ahead of schedule on June 30. Subsequent to the prestressed pipe inspections performed in March 2008 on the feeder, the results showed between 20-80 prestressed wire breaks in three different locations, in Westwood, Culver City and Ladera Heights. Two sites were repaired with a steel liner and the third site was repaired with carbon fiber.

Conveyance and Operations

Staff completed construction work on the Copper Basin Interim Chlorination Feed Facility. The Feed System was started up on June 9. The startup went well and the trailers were released back to the supplier per the contract. Unmanned operation began the first week of service, and no problems were encountered.

Construction work continues on the Lake Mathews Interim Chlorination Feed Facility. Placement of the concrete slab and walls for the containment are underway. Operation of this feed system is planned for the end of October 2008.

Power Operations and Planning

On June 13, Metropolitan executed a Supplemental Facilities Agreement with Southern California Edison for the expansion of SCE's Hinds electrical substation. The substation, located on Metropolitan property at the Hinds pumping plant, is the point where the Colorado River Aqueduct electrical transmission system terminates and interconnects to SCE's power facilities. The expansion was required to allow the connection of a new transmission line from Blythe, California. The agreement details SCE's responsibilities to assure Metropolitan's facilities and operations are not adversely impacted.

On June 20, Metropolitan submitted comments to the House Subcommittee on Water and Power regarding the role and treatment of hydropower in addressing climate change and reducing green house gas emissions. Metropolitan stated its support of efforts to classify all hydropower as renewable. California will not certify hydropower facilities that are greater than 30 megawatts as renewable.

Metropolitan staff met with developers of a proposed pump-storage power facility to be located near the Colorado River Aqueduct Eagle Mountain Pumping Plant. Metropolitan has expressed concerns regarding possible impacts of this development to the operations of the CRA and local ground water.

Capital Investment Plan

Ongoing Contracts—19 construction contracts and 4 related procurement contracts were ongoing through May. The total bid amount of these contracts is \$845 million.

May Construction Payments—Over \$17 million in contract payments were made for construction performed in the month of May. \$4 million were related to work at the Skinner plant, including the ongoing construction of ozonation facilities, and Washwater Reclamation Plant 3. Nearly, \$6 million were expended on the Arrowhead Tunnels construction. Nearly, \$3 million were expended on the north reach of the Perris Valley Pipeline.

Major Contracts—On May 2, five months ahead of the revised schedule, the contractor completed mining on the 22,458-foot Arrowhead East Tunnel; as a result, late May and June progress was spent on dismantling and removing the Tunnel Boring Machine, trailing gear, and utilities from the tunnel. At the Arrowhead West Tunnel, the TBM continued mining the final curve portion of the tunnel. Mining effort has advanced a total of 18,860 feet, which is 94 percent of the tunnel length. In addition, the contractor continued construction of the Devil Canyon portal site. Staff anticipates that mining will be completed by late-summer 2008.

Other Contracts—Skinner Treatment Plant Oxidation Retrofit Program and Washwater Reclamation Plant No. 3 is approximately 85 percent complete. At the Diemer plant, the construction of the ORP site preparation work is 99 percent complete; construction of the Vehicle Maintenance Center and Solids Handling Facility is complete and pending final payment; and final design of the Diemer ozone facilities is 99 percent complete. At the Jensen treatment plant, a project for chlorine containment, unloading and handling is approximately 90 percent complete. Three contracts for the removal and replacement of new Metropolitan-furnished vacuum and air release valves throughout portions of the Distribution System are approximately 99 percent complete with a small punch list of items remaining. The Perris Valley Pipeline, North Reach is 61 percent complete. Two additional Ozone contracts at the Mills treatment plant are 41 percent complete.

Business Outreach

The Business Outreach Team supported the business community and represented Metropolitan at the following business and economic development conferences: Navy and Community Business Expo; Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce – Small Business Awards; American Indian Chamber of Commerce Business Recognition Awards; and hosted the California Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Alliance Community Advisory Board.

Sustainability Summit at the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA)—The Business Outreach Team reinforced Metropolitan's sustainability partnership with MTA by participating in MTA's Sustainability Summit. General Manager Jeff Kightlinger participated in a panel discussion on future sustainability challenges that government agencies face, such as drought conditions and water and energy conservation. The panel also discussed innovations in technology that can be implemented to solve future challenges.

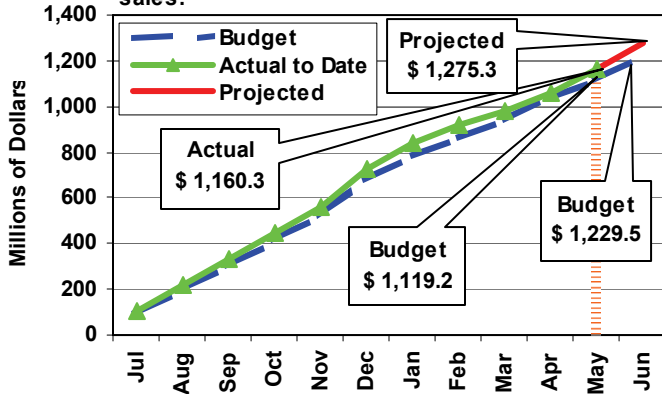
Energy Summit: Strategies for Municipalities, School Districts and Government Agencies—The Business Outreach Team continued to support Metropolitan's sustainability initiatives by participating in California State University, San Bernardino's Energy Summit. The summit reviewed existing energy management programs for government buildings and facilities.

Finance

Staff closed the \$133 million 2008 Series B Revenue Refunding bonds, saving about \$620,000 per year over the next 20 years.

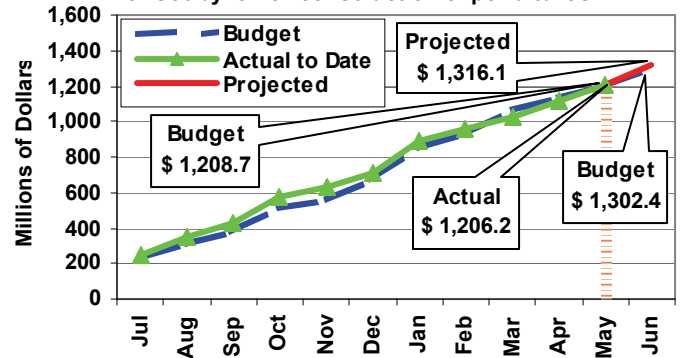
Finance as of May 31, 2008

Receipts are expected to be \$46 million over budget by year end, mainly due to higher water sales.



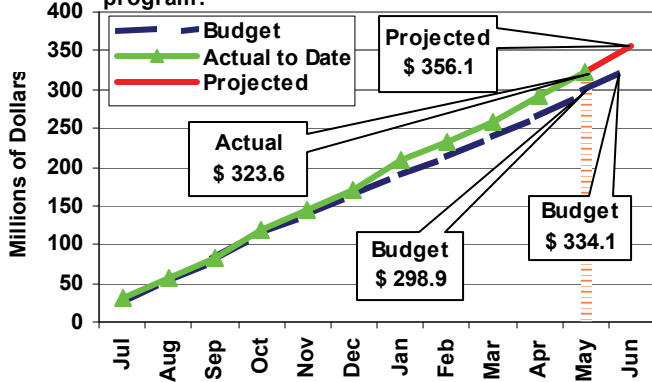
Excludes Bond Construction and Other Trust Funds Activity

Expenditures are trending at \$14 million over budget by year end, mainly due to higher Water Supply Program, O&M, and SWP costs, partially offset by lower construction expenditures.

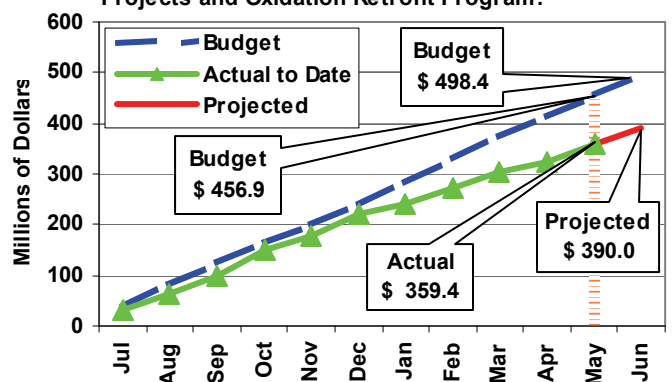


Excludes Bond Construction and Other Trust Funds Activity

O&M expenditures are forecast to be \$22 million over budget by year end due to the Cargill settlement and the quagga mussel containment program.

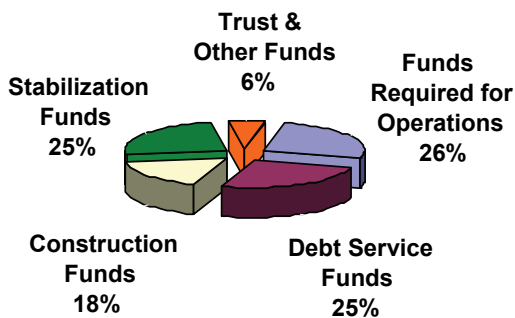


Construction costs are expected to be \$108 million below budget at year end, primarily due to delays on the Treatment Plant Improvement Projects and Oxidation Retrofit Program.



Cash and Investments

\$ 1,071.8 million



Summary Financial Statistics

	Target	Actual
Fixed Charge Coverage	≥ 1.20 x	1.32 x
Revenue Debt Service Coverage	> 2.00 x	1.73 x
Revenue Bond Debt / Equity Ratio	< 100.0%	74.5%

Credit Ratings

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

Real Estate Management

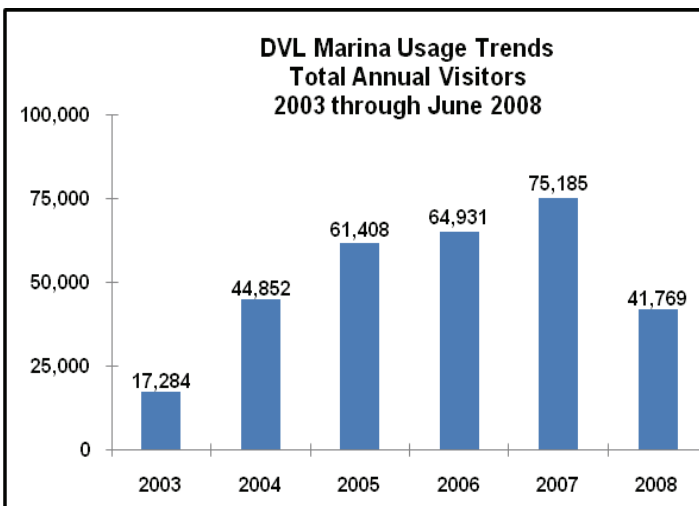
Diamond Valley Lake Recreation Program

Appropriation Budget	
Approved distributed funds	\$68.9 M
Undistributed funds	\$23.9 M
Total Appropriation	\$92.8 M
Surplus Property Sales *	\$ 4.7 M
Actual expenditure as of 5/31/08	\$63.1 M

* Appropriated for use related to the Center for Water Education debt per February 2007 Board Action.

Leases, Licenses and Entry Permits

- A license was issued to City of Upland for secondary parking, access and landscaping in conjunction with a proposed fire station located on property adjacent to Metropolitan's Rialto Pipeline right-of-way.
- An entry permit was issued to Orange County Water District to allow grading on a reach of the Santiago Creek. This work helps to improve groundwater recharge within the creek.
- A license was issued to City of Santa Clarita. The permit provides for city access and maintenance of pepper trees bordering a section of Metropolitan's Foothill Feeder right-of-way.
- An entry permit was granted to San Diego Zoological Society for access to Metropolitan's Robert A. Skinner Water Treatment Plant and the Lake Skinner areas. The permit allows for observation and collection of a sampling of Stephens' kangaroo rats (*Dipodomys stephensi*).



DVL Recreation Infrastructure

At the May 27, 2008, Board Workshop on the DVL Property and DVL Visitor Center, the Board asked staff to prepare plans for the entitlement of the Metropolitan-owned properties in Hemet known as the North Property (731 acres) and the East Recreation Area (1,010 acres), as well as for evaluating potential partnership(s) and use(s) for the DVL Visitor Center. These plans will be presented at the July 2008 Board meeting for Board approval.

Lake Skinner Recreation Operations

The 25th Annual Temecula Valley Balloon and Wine Festival was held at Riverside County Parks Lake Skinner Recreation Area June 6-8. The event included live entertainment, wine tasting, a kid's faire, arts & crafts and commercial exhibits, and hot air balloon flights. Approximately 38,000 visitors attended.

Business Processes/Operations

Information Technology

Completed the Fuel Pilot as part of the Fuel Management System Project

To more effectively and efficiently manage fuel inventory, Metropolitan is implementing an automated fuel management system to track the delivery and usage of fuel. The Fuel Management System will automate capture of this information, and reduce cost associated with manual entry of fuel tickets, tracking of fuel usage, and inventory records, resulting in an estimated savings of approximately \$180,000 annually.

During the period, staff successfully completed the fuel pilot at the La Verne facility, which is one of 12 installation sites. The next step is to begin full deployment which is scheduled for completion in the second quarter of fiscal year 2008/09. Once fully deployed, the new system will control dispensing of fuel to authorized vehicles and simultaneously record the employee, type and amount of fuel dispensed, mileage, time and location.

Conducted User Acceptance Testing on the new Integrated Budget Management System

The Integrated Budget Management System project is developing a single integrated system to replace five separate, existing budgeting systems. Once fully implemented, the IBMS will help ensure complete and consistent budget development, analysis, and reporting.

In June, staff conducted user acceptance testing as part of the test phase to ensure the new system meets Metropolitan's requirements for Operations and Maintenance, capital and operating equipment budgeting. The IBMS is scheduled for deployment in the fall of 2008, for use in the upcoming fiscal year 2009/10 budgeting process.

Security

Security staff participated in the final meeting of the Los Angeles Terrorism Early Warning Group, culminating a 12-year participation as the first water utility to be represented in a regional security and intelligence network. The Group's activities now transfer to the Joint Regional Intelligence Center. The TEW became a national model after favorable notice by RAND and the Gilmore Commission.

Security program management participated in a video, security, and integration summit to explore potential for future enhancement of Metropolitan's security monitoring through video analytics.

Security program management and special agents refined protocols and task lists for video camera and access control troubleshooting that will go into effect with the security systems maintenance contract that starts in FY2009.



Emergency Management

On June 24 and June 25, two tabletop exercises were conducted for Emergency Operations Center staff.

Staff conducted Incident Command Center emergency exercises at Jensen, Weymouth and Skinner. These exercises continue to strengthen employee skill levels and understanding of procedures and protocols used in responding to a major emergency or disaster.

Staff continued planning for an emergency exercise scheduled for November 2008 as part of the state-wide Golden Guardian 2008 exercise, based on a 7.8 magnitude earthquake on the Southern San Andreas Fault.

Staff participated in a tour of California Department of Water Resources facilities in preparation for the Golden Guardian exercise. Staff also provided DWR a tour of Metropolitan's Emergency Operation Center, Operations Control Center, and Security Watch Center.

External Affairs

Federal Legislative Update

June 4-5: Director Dan Griset met with U.S. Representatives Gary Miller, John Campbell and Ed Royce from the Orange County delegation to discuss the need for federal action on Quagga mussel containment efforts. In addition, he met with Rep. Loretta Sanchez to discuss Metropolitan's commitment to on-site chlorine gas containment security and public safety.

June 11: Brad Coffey, Water Quality Manager, represented Metropolitan and the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies as an expert witness in a hearing before the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials. This was a Legislative Hearing to discuss the facts about H.R. 5577 (Thompson) and H.R. 5533 (Wynn). H.R. 5533 extends the Chemical Facilities Security Act in a manner that would exempt drinking water and wastewater treatment operations from U.S. Department of Homeland Security regulatory protocols, whereas H.R. 5577 would remove that exemption and potentially place Metropolitan's chemical storage operations under the jurisdiction of DHS.

June 24: Dr. Ric de Leon, Microbiology Manager, testified on behalf of Metropolitan as an expert witness at a hearing before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power. The oversight hearing was on "The Silent Invasion: Finding Solutions to Minimize the Impacts of Invasive Quagga Mussels on Water Rates, Water Infrastructure and the Environment." Rep. Grace Napolitano, Vice Chair of the Committee, invited Metropolitan to present testimony.

State Legislative Update

Metropolitan-Sponsored Legislation *[updates will be provided at the July Board meeting]*

AB 2913 (Salas): This measure expands the list of considerations necessary for the development of the Delta Strategic Plan. The bill is scheduled for a June 24 hearing in Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee.

AB 2938 (De Leon): This bill applies similar baseline water diversion information typically required and used in other areas of the state. In-Delta diverters would be required to measure and report rate, quantity and timing of diversions to State Water Resources Control Board. The measure also authorizes Department of Fish and Game to establish fish entrainment monitoring program to evaluate potential effects of unscreened diversions, determined by a representative sampling of diversion points. The bill was scheduled for a June 25 hearing in Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee.

State Legislative Update continued....

SB 1391 (Padilla): This bill seeks to improve the current regulatory process related to recycled water use in California. The bill was scheduled for a June 25 hearing in Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee.

Key Legislative Issues

AB 2175 (Laird/Feuer): The bill sets targets for reducing per-capita municipal water use in California by 20 percent by the year 2020. The measure recognizes how conservation gains to date have not been uniformly achieved throughout the state. It takes into consideration differences in local climate and past investments in conservation. Metropolitan supports the measure. The bill was scheduled for a hearing on June 24 in the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee.

SB 27 (Simitian): This bill was completely rewritten to direct the Delta Planning Commission to implement emergency management recommendations for near-term actions as outlined in the November 2007 Delta Vision Report. It also directs DWR to establish stockpiles of emergency response materials. These actions are consistent with Metropolitan's Emergency Preparedness Plan. The bill was set for hearing on June 24 in the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee.

[Updates on both bills coming at the July board meeting.]

Local Government Update

June 4: Staff briefed the California Association of Realtors during their Legislative Conference in Sacramento on water issues.

June 10-12: Staff joined the Orange County Business Council's board members, executive leadership and other Orange County business leaders on an advocacy trip to Sacramento. Executive Legislative Representative Kathy Cole provided an update to the group on various water related issues. Meetings were held with Senators Correa, Margett, Harman, Cox and Senate Republican Leader Dave Cogdill. Meetings were also held with Assembly members Van Tran, Spitzer, Mendoza, Solorio, DeVore and Niello. A briefing was held with Governor Schwarzenegger's senior staff, Mike Chrisman, Secretary of Resources, Mike Genest, Director of Finance, Chris Kahn, Deputy Chief of Staff and Legislative Secretary, Herb Schultz, Special Advisor for Health Care and Lester Snow, Director, Department of Water Resources. Discussions included infrastructure, Metropolitan-sponsored legislation, water bonds, conservation, the state budget and other general business issues.

External Affairs

Local Government Update

June 11: Staff spoke to the Southern California Contractors Association members at their annual general membership dinner meeting in Fontana regarding water legislation and the 2008 California Construction Expo. Staff presented a summary of Metropolitan's 2008 legislative bills and expressed the importance of working together on conservation initiatives. Staff also promoted Metropolitan's regional small business programs and encouraged SCCA members to register for the 2008 California Construction Expo scheduled for August 21 at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

June 12: Water Resource Management Manager Steve Arakawa and Mary Ann Lutz, Vice-Chair of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, provided a water briefing to more than 60 local elected officials representing numerous cities throughout Los Angeles County.

June 16-17: Chairman Brick, Assistant General Manager Gilbert Ivey and other staff traveled to Sacramento with a delegation of 100 business leaders from the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce to educate and lobby on key business issues. The Water and Energy Team met with members and staff from the offices of Senators Ackerman, Cogdill, Margett, Padilla, and Steinberg; Assemblymembers Bass, Ducheny, Maze, Salas, and Wolk; and Lester Snow from the Department of Water Resources. Topics included SB 1391 (Padilla); AB 2398 (DeLeon) and a comprehensive solution to the Delta."

June 18: Staff joined with the Associated General Contractors of California (AGC) during their 2008 Legislative Day in Sacramento. This year, AGC members advocated on behalf of Metropolitan's sponsored legislation – AB 2938 and SB 1391. AGC focused on talking with Senators and Assembly Members from Southern California who will be hearing bills in Committee in the next few weeks, while the bills make their way to the Governor's office.

June 18: Staff provided a water briefing to more than 100 local elected officials at the California Contracting Cities Association's monthly board meeting.

June 20: Staff briefed Senator Lou Correa and several mayors from his District on current water issues. Staff also discussed Metropolitan's various residential, commercial, industrial and public sector rebate and conservation programs.

Community Outreach and Other Events

Staff coordinated and conducted outreach to officials and more than 600 residents in Brentwood, Culver City and Los Angeles regarding traffic and other impacts related to the Sepulveda Feeder Shutdown. Activities included visits to the worksites and follow-up contact with residents during staging and construction.

Staff conducted a briefing on the Perris Valley Pipeline construction project for management of the Business Grove Business Complex in Riverside.

Education

Staff met and worked with more than 50 students from Hollywood High School, including participation in a hands-on water quality wet lab. Additionally, several students presented their thesis speeches on water conservation.

Staff conducted six final field trips at the Diamond Valley Lake Classroom and Visitor Center for the 2007-2008 school year. Nearly 200 elementary school students from San Jacinto, Lake Elsinore, Temecula Valley and Claremont Unified School Districts attended.

Media

After Governor Schwarzenegger's statewide drought declaration, General Manager Jeffrey Kightlinger and Vice Chair Anthony Fellow, held a conference call with reporters and editors from throughout California to brief them on the Water Supply Alert urging cities, counties, local public water agencies and retailers to achieve extraordinary conservation by adopting and enforcing drought ordinances, accelerating public outreach and messaging and developing additional local supplies. A press release was issued following the Board's adoption of the Water Supply Alert on June 10.

Staff met with leaders of several electronic media outlets including KFI-AM, KCBS/KCAL0 and LA 36 at the Pirates Media gathering (Print, Interactive, Radio and Television Educational Society) to promote awareness about, and the need for, ongoing news coverage of water issues.

The Press Office issued a press release on the urgent need for heightened conservation during the shutdown and repair of the Sepulveda Feeder in Brentwood, Culver City and Ladera Heights beginning June 21 through July 2. Staff coordinated radio and television interviews with KFI and KNX news radio, KPCC and KFWB radio and KCBS/KCAL 9. Staff also responded to inquiries from Channel 4 and the Santa Monica Daily Press.

Workforce

Employee Relations

Completed 51 focus group meetings for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Class/Comp Study.

Recruitment

Three new employees joined Metropolitan during June.

Risk Management

During June, the Board issued approval to renew expiring excess liability and specialty coverage, and to purchase Employment Practices Liability Insurance for the first time at Metropolitan. Staff completed 45 risk assessments which include professional service agreements, construction contracts, and entry permits for facility usage, film projects and easements.

StrategicHR

Implementation is in-progress and StrategicHR has been incorporated into GM's Business Plan for FY 2008/09.

Environmental Health & Safety

On June 4, the State Water Resources Control Board held a public hearing on the proposed, draft Construction General Plan and accepted written comments through June 11. Environmental Health and Safety Engineering staff is working with the California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance to ensure that Metropolitan comments are addressed. The new permit requirements are much more complex than those in the prior permit, and include, such elements as risk assessment of projects, extensive monitoring and electronic reporting, rain event action plans, preparation of storm water Pollution Prevention Plans, and numeric action levels and effluent limits. SWRCB staff is targeting to have the Construction General Plan in place before the start of the rainy season, but based on the number of workshop attendees, clarification comments and questions, and comment letters, it is likely the timeframe for completion will be extended.

Worker's Compensation

Activities for June:

- Conducted initial investigations for 12 injury-related incidents, resulting in 8 new workers' compensation claims being filed.
- Monitored medical status of 8 total disability claims and 14 modified duty claims; coordinating return-to-work in 4 cases.
- Obtained authority to refer one case to outside counsel for recommendations regarding pursuit of a bad faith claim handling lawsuit (our excess insurance carrier is refusing current reimbursement requests after accepting liability in 2004).
- Obtained settlement authority in 3 cases and finalized settlements on 2 claims.
- Closed 11 claim files and conducted claim review at claim administrator's offices, including meeting with current Utilization Review provider.
- Provided back-up to EHS/Medical regarding disability, return-to-work, ergonomic and accommodation issues.

Apprenticeship

The Class of 2009 successfully completed their sixth period of related instruction.

The Class of 2012 successfully completed their first period of related instruction.



Class of 2009 Mechanic, Eagle Mountain

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.

