

# THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

## General Manager's Monthly Activity Report for September 2015

September 30, 2015

This report identifies the actions and activities taking place during the month that support the objectives of the General Manager's Fiscal Year 2015/16 Business Plan.

### Metropolitan's Integrated Water Resources Plan

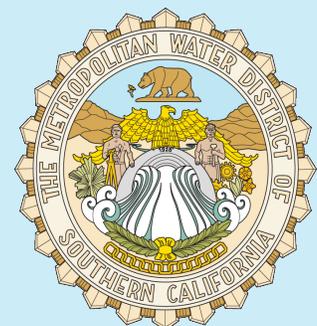
A new web page has been created for the Plan. The web page provides access to meeting information and notices, presentations, technical analysis, and policy documents. It includes a comment portal through which the public can also participate in the development of this important regional plan.

[www.mwdwatertomorrow.com](http://www.mwdwatertomorrow.com)



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## STRATEGIC PRIORITY

### **COMPLETE PLANNING PROCESS FOR THE CALIFORNIA WATERFIX AND CALIFORNIA ECORESTORE**

Continue to take on a lead role in securing water supplies for the State Water Project (SWP) and working towards the completion of the State of California's Proposed Delta Improvements, Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report (RDEIR)/ Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) for the California WaterFix and California EcoRestore.

Pursue decision on the State's Proposed Delta Improvements including the California WaterFix and California EcoRestore.

On August 26, 2015, the California Department of Water Resources and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation submitted a joint petition for change in water right permit and license conditions for the State Water Project and federal Central Valley Project to add points of diversion of water on the Sacramento River associated with the California WaterFix project. DWR and USBR filed an errata and addendum to the joint petition on September 18. The State Water Resources Control Board anticipates that it will issue a formal public notice of both the petition and an evidentiary hearing on the petition in the near future. The notice will inform interested parties how they may participate in the decision-making process.

On August 26, DWR also submitted a permit application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (CORPS) for California WaterFix. The CORPS process will consider whether to issue a permit to construct the California WaterFix project for portions, which would occur in waters of the United States, and involve activities triggering the CORPS' regulatory authority under Section 404 of

the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. In coordination with this application, DWR also will be requesting approval from the CORP under Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act for elements of the project that may affect federal levees or other federal projects. The CORPS process presents additional opportunities for public participation in the regulatory process for California WaterFix, including public comment.

Staff is continuing its review of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan/California WaterFix Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report/Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement for consistency with adopted Metropolitan Board Policies, and is working jointly with other SWP/CVP public water agencies to prepare comments. The public comment period concludes on October 30, 2015.

## BAY-DELTA SOLUTIONS

- Develop near- and long-term solutions that enhance the Delta ecosystem, improve water supply reliability, and protect water quality.
- Participate in the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) process considering petition for an additional point of diversion for new conveyance facility.
- Continue to work on efforts related to improving water supply reliability and protecting water quality.

Develop near-term measures, compatible with long-term Delta solutions, to improve water supply reliability and water quality, and facilitate protection and enhancement of Delta ecosystems and associated species.

As reported previously, the SWRCB issued curtailment notices directing water diverters in the Delta watershed to cease diversions, and multiple cases challenging the curtailment notices were filed by senior water right holders raising issues that include due process, SWRCB jurisdiction, and water availability. The litigation is still in the coordination process. A coordination judge has

been appointed in Santa Clara County. The SWRCB has scheduled an administrative civil liability hearing for Byron Bethany Irrigation District regarding alleged illegal diversion for 13 days in June 2015. The State Water Contractors filed a notice to participate.

Pursue the best scientific research to protect and restore fish, wildlife, and the Delta's ecosystem while ensuring water supply reliability.

On August 5, 2015, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife released a proposal solicitation notice for Proposition 1 Watershed Restoration, Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Programs. The Proposition 1 Grant Program proposal solicitation is calling for scientific studies that will evaluate listed species and habitat restoration, and contain cost sharing opportunities. Staff worked with collaborating scientists at ICF environmental consulting firm and also University of California, Davis to develop three research proposals in response to the solicitation. ICF and U. C. Davis investigators will be providing the majority of the expertise, labor, and technical skills to the proposed studies. Metropolitan is proposing to provide cost sharing for certain studies and is requesting funds from the Proposition 1 Grant Program. The first proposal would expand existing studies of longfin smelt recruitment and distribution. This three-year study would test the hypothesis that most longfin smelt hatch in San Pablo Bay during wet years and that factors affecting distribution of juveniles and adults explain declines of abundance. The second study would focus on the technical development of acoustic tags small enough to be inserted into Delta smelt. Such tags would have enormous significance in the study of Delta smelt movement and survival. The third proposal would study the health of Delta smelt captured in various surveys. The goal would be to understand the relationship between Delta smelt habitat and Delta smelt health.

**BUSINESS PROCESSES AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

Advance continuous business process improvements to improve effectiveness and efficiency while striving for innovation, flexibility, and integration with technology.

Implement innovative solutions for our customers that will positively impact their business operations through improved quality, speed, simplicity, and cost improvements.

Records Management Program Assessment—Staff is currently reviewing a draft strategic plan document for the Records Management Program Assessment. The final plan will contain architectural and technology recommendations, records management program design, and business and legal requirements.

E-Forms Management Program—Staff has completed the installation of Adobe Experience Manager HTML Workspace to allow mobile devices to access LiveCycle e-forms. Training on the new process is currently being developed and will be available to employees by the end of the second quarter.

**Emerging Technology Initiatives**

- To improve quality of service, staff began the design for an image services print requisition, which will be part of a web application available to Metropolitan employees.
- Staff continued to provide support for existing SharePoint online collaboration sites within and outside Metropolitan.

Upgrade and refurbish IT applications and infrastructure to ensure system reliability and performance levels that meet customer needs.

PeopleSoft HR System Upgrade—Staff implemented PeopleSoft HR system in August. Project closure will begin next month.

Communications Infrastructure—Replacement of end-of-life communications components including core network switches and routers at headquarters and field sites, continued, with 217 of 386 devices in September.

Emergency Radio Systems—Staff continued to install antennas at water treatment plants and will begin the coverage testing shortly.

Seek fair and equitable contract agreements with Member Agencies, federal, and state governments to maintain a long-term sustainable wholesale water resource to Southern California.

This month, the annexation staff:

- Initiated the annual reporting of Metropolitan's 2015 Statement of the Change of Boundary to the State Board of Equalization, calculation of the annexation charge for the 2016 Per-Acre Board Report, and Annexation Water Use Efficiency Report.
- Responded to a notice of public hearing from the Local Agency Formation Commission of Riverside County regarding annexation of Metropolitan-owned and private land north of Diamond Valley Lake in the city of Hemet.

**BUSINESS PROCESSES AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY continued...**

Foster a culture of innovation.

### Innovation at Metropolitan

- Opened the Innovation Hub (iHub) located on the first floor of Metropolitan's headquarters building. The iHub will provide a broad range of technical services and regular training sessions on topics that will help productivity with electronic devices. The iHub is available to all employees and board members.
- Several electronic information monitors were installed in the rotunda and cafeteria to serve the board and employees. In particular, the board information monitor allows employees and members of the public to become familiar with board members and the member agencies they represent by using the touch screen to interactively receive information through links and QR (Quick Response) codes.

### Business Outreach Innovation and Technology Program

- Attended the 22nd annual Water Conference hosted by Southern California Edison on September 9. General Manager Kightlinger was the keynote speaker. During the event, staff met with SCE's technology team and discussed potential partnerships for vetting emerging technologies.
- Attended the Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator board meeting at the Kretz Innovation Campus in downtown Los Angeles. The meeting featured guest speakers from the U.S. Small Business Administration and from the Los Angeles Department of Transportation.
- Metropolitan co-hosted CalState 5's Mash-up event. Mash-up is an academic event hosted by five California state universities to discuss research in water conducted by faculty and researchers. The research was presented during the event held at Metropolitan's headquarters building on September 17.
- Staff conducted a workshop on The Water Industry Needs and Opportunities at the annual Water Innovation Summit hosted by the Cleantech Group in Oakland on September 22. One hundred of the top private business leaders in the water, gas and oil industries attend this annual conference.

Continue innovative sustainability efforts in business practices, including Spring Green, Our Legacy Newsletter, the rideshare program, energy conservation and recycling efforts.

Energy Efficiency Projects—Staff completed the retrofit of the roadway lights at Metropolitan's headquarters building with LED (light-emitting diode) lamps.

**BUSINESS PROCESSES AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY continued...**

Maintain an effective Business Outreach Program for regional, small businesses and veterans to ensure broad participation and competitive costs.

- Metropolitan supported the launch of the West Basin Municipal Water District's Doing Business with West Basin outreach program. The President of West Basin's board and Vice Chair of Metropolitan's Board of Directors, Gloria Gray, welcomed the business owners to the event.
- Metropolitan participated in the 12th Annual Women's Business Enterprise Council Procurement Conference. WBEC is the largest women's business resource and certification council in the United States. Metropolitan was nominated for two awards; Corporation of the Year and Advocate of the Year.

Metropolitan staff participated in five conferences/expos, spoke on seven panel discussions, and connected with 4,000 businesses to promote contracting opportunities at Metropolitan. Featured events and participants included:

- The Latino Business Association annual Latina Business Expo - Los Angeles
- The 10th Annual National Service Disabled Veteran Conference - Long Beach
- California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce at the 36th Annual Statewide Convention
- California Black Chamber of Commerce State-Wide Conference at the Youth Entrepreneur Summit
- Western Municipal Water District's "Doing Business" seminar – Riverside County
- Black Chamber of Commerce of Orange County Award Dinner – Orange County
- Orange County Filipino Chamber of Commerce Business Green Conference – Orange County
- Ventura County Economic Development Association board meeting and networking event

Efficiently maintain and operate Metropolitan's Headquarters building, the Diamond Valley Lake Visitor Center, and the Diamond Valley Lake Education Center.

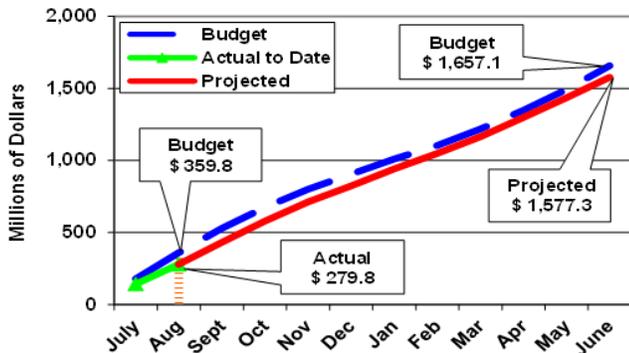
Current projects underway at Metropolitan's facilities:

- Staff is currently piloting the mobile application developed for reporting repair requests using mobile devices from within Metropolitan's facilities. The pilot is scheduled to run through September 2015.
- Completed the Infrared Thermography survey of the DVL Visitor Center's electrical boxes to identify potential electrical issues (hot spots). The final report is pending.

# CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

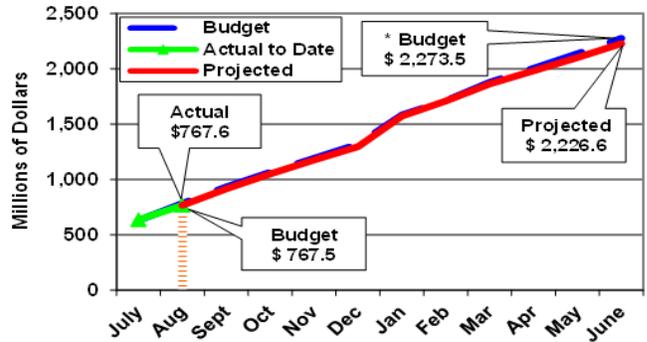
## FINANCIAL SUMMARY AS OF AUGUST 31, 2015

Total revenues are expected to be \$80 million under budget at year end, mainly due to lower water sales.



Excludes bond construction and other trust funds activity

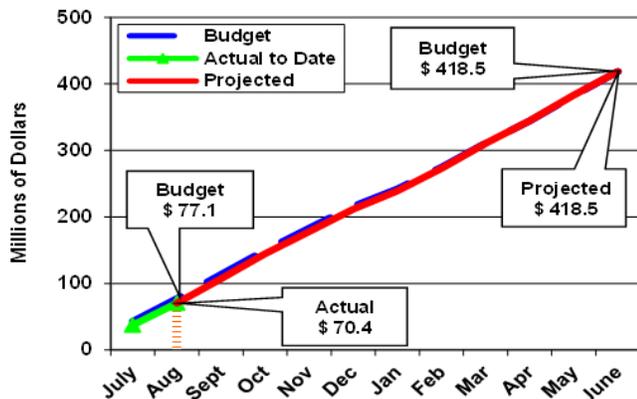
Total expenses are expected to be \$47 million under budget by year end, mainly due to lower Capital Program expenses.



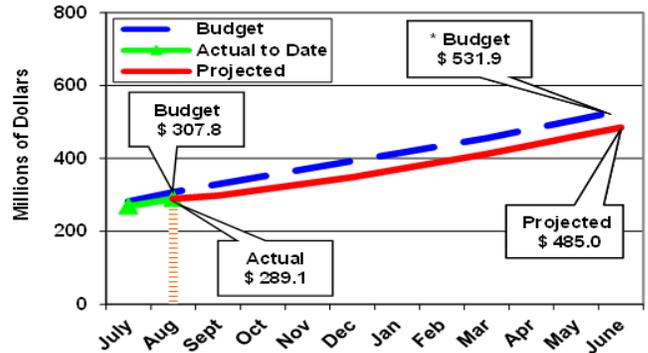
Excludes bond construction and other trust funds activity

\* Includes \$310M, \$264M and \$8.8M Board-approved increases for Conservation, Riverside and Imperial County land purchase, and Water Supply Programs, respectively.

Metropolitan O&M expenses are expected to be on budget at year end.

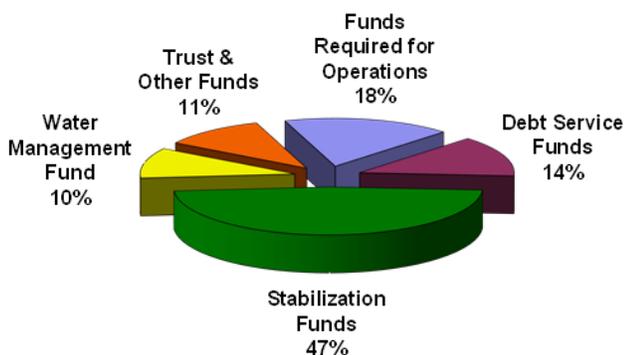


Capital Program expenses are expected to be \$47 million lower than budget by year end, mainly due to work prioritization and project rescheduling.



\* Includes \$264M Board-approved increase for Riverside and Imperial County land purchase.

### Cash and Investments at Fair Value \$ 1,022.6 million



### Summary Financial Statistics

	Target	Year-End Projected
Fixed Charge Coverage	≥ 1.20 x	1.42 x
Revenue Debt Service Coverage	> 2.00 x	1.74 x
Revenue Bond Debt / Equity Ratio	< 100.0%	60.7%

#### Credit Ratings

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

## CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

### CORE

#### 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.

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.

Financial activities were recorded in a timely and transparent manner.

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

Staff continues to provide the necessary liquidity for operational and capital expenditures with no loss of principal and no policy violations, while generating a portfolio return that exceeded the benchmark.

### CORE

#### BUSINESS CONTINUITY

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

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

Completed design of the Business Continuity Program Management System using Fusion Framework and initiated data validation efforts to ensure system is ready to launch. Initiated system administrator training of key staff.

## ENGINEERING SERVICES

### CORE

#### INFRASTRUCTURE RELIABILITY

Manage Board-authorized projects in the Capital Investment Plan and collaborate with the Water System Operations Group to identify and address system vulnerabilities to ensure reliability of the region's water treatment and delivery infrastructure. In addition, coordinate closely with Water System Operations to integrate project planning and facility assessment efforts with near-term actions and planned shutdowns.

Manage and complete Board-authorized projects within the CIP to ensure the reliable delivery of water to Metropolitan's member agencies.

#### Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP) Rehabilitation Program

This program enhances the reliability of Metropolitan's water distribution system and reduces the risk of costly emergency repairs of PCCP lines. Recent activities include the following:

- Second Lower Feeder PCCP Rehabilitation—This project rehabilitates the remaining 28 miles of existing PCCP segments within the Second Lower Feeder. Design activities for the valve and pipe procurement are approximately 30 percent complete and are scheduled to be complete by June 2016.

**INFRASTRUCTURE RELIABILITY continued...**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:

- Greg Avenue Pump Station Rehabilitation—This drought-response project improves the operational reliability of the Greg Avenue Pump Station by replacing the existing pump and pump/turbine, and by upgrading the electrical and control systems. Final design is 76 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by March 2016.
- DVL Boat Ramp Extension—This project extends the boat ramp at the East Marina of Diamond Valley Lake to its ultimate build-out elevation. Design was completed in August 2015 and Metropolitan force construction is 20 percent complete and scheduled to be complete in November 2015.
- Upper Feeder Protection—This project extends the existing encasement of the Upper Feeder within Union Pacific Railroad property in the city of Fontana to protect the feeder from additional loads imposed by a new railroad line. Construction was completed in September 2015.
- Sepulveda Canyon Control Facility Improvements (Bypass Line)—This project improves the operational reliability of the Sepulveda Feeder by adding a bypass to the Sepulveda Canyon Control Facility, which will maintain deliveries from the Jensen plant into the Central Pool when the control facility is out of service. Preliminary design is five percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by July 2016.
- Santa Ana River Bridge Seismic Retrofit—This project strengthens the Santa Ana River Bridge, which supports an above-ground portion of the Upper Feeder as it crosses the streambed. Construction is ten percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by April 2016.

Right-of-Way and Infrastructure Protection Program

This program performs needed site improvements within the distribution system, including erosion protection for pipelines and access roads. It also addresses right-of-way issues such as access easements and third-party encroachments, and obtains long-term programmatic environmental permits to enable system-wide improvements. Recent activities include the following:

- Orange County and Western San Bernardino County Operating Regions—Design of improvements is 60 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by December 2015. The draft programmatic environmental impact report for the Orange County operating region was released for public review and comment. The public review comment period will close by the end of October 2015.
- Los Angeles County Operating Region—Preliminary design of improvements is 35 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by February 2016.
- Riverside/San Diego County Operating Region—Preliminary design of improvements is 25 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by February 2016.
- Colorado River Aqueduct Operating Region—Due to the unique needs and right-of-way considerations for the Colorado River Aqueduct, improvements within this region will be executed under a future stand-alone capital program.

**INFRASTRUCTURE RELIABILITY continued...**

Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) Reliability Program

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

- Canal Improvements—This project replaces deteriorated concrete panels and installs parapet walls along portions of the open canal to increase freeboard during periods of high flow. The Board awarded a construction contract in September 2015.
- Iron Mountain Vehicle Maintenance Center Rehabilitation—This project rehabilitates the existing vehicle service center located at Iron Mountain Pumping Plant. Construction is 75 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by November 2015. *(see photo right)*
- Radial Gates Replacement—This project replaces eight corroded radial gates located along the CRA. The gates are used to dewater and isolate reaches of the canal. Design is 60 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by April 2016.
- Sand Trap Rehabilitation—This project replaces deteriorated sand trap equipment located upstream of the Iron Mountain, Eagle Mountain, and Hinds Pumping Plants. Final design is complete and a request to the Board for award of a construction contract is planned for October 2015.



Iron Mountain Vehicle Maintenance Center Rehabilitation – New service pit

Water Quality/Oxidation Retrofit Program (ORP)

This program adds ozonation facilities which reduce disinfection by-products and improve water quality at Metropolitan’s five water treatment plants. Recent activities include the following:

**Diemer ORP**

- Diemer ORP—On July 1, 2015, the plant began using ozone as the primary disinfectant for compliance with drinking water regulations. Construction to re-vegetate Diemer plant’s south-facing slope is 48 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by January 2016.

**Weymouth ORP**

- Main ORP Facilities—The plant is the final facility to receive the ozonation process. Construction of the ozonation system is 81 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in late 2016. The ozonation system will commence operation in 2017. *(see photo right)*



Weymouth ORP—Washwater return pumps

**INFRASTRUCTURE RELIABILITY continued...**Treatment Plant Reliability Program

This program was initiated to maintain reliability and improve the operating efficiency of Metropolitan's five water treatment plants through specific improvement projects. Recent activities include the following:

**Weymouth Plant**

- East Washwater Tank Seismic Upgrades—This project upgrades the plant's east washwater tank to improve its ability to withstand a major seismic event. Construction is 90 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by November 2015.
- Filter Rehabilitation—This project replaces the internal components of the plant's 48 filters, including the underdrains, media, launder troughs, and surface wash systems. Construction is 15 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by May 2017.

**Skinner Plant**

- Administration Building HVAC System Replacement—This project replaces the Skinner Administration Building's heating, ventilating, and air conditioning system. Construction is 5 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by March 2016.

**Jensen Plant**

- Washwater Tank Seismic Upgrades—This project upgrades the Jensen plant's two washwater tanks to improve their ability to withstand a major earthquake. Construction is 96 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by November 2015.
- Module No. 1 Filter Valve Replacement—This project replaces 78 deteriorated filter valves within Module No. 1 with new AWWA-standard valves. Construction is 23 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by November 2016. (*see photo page 12*)
- Electrical Upgrades, Stage 1—This project replaces electrical equipment, provides backup in the event of individual component failures, and upgrades the electrical system to be consistent with current codes and industry practices. The Stage 1 work will be completed in two phases. Design of the initial phase is complete and a request to the Board for award of a construction contract is planned for December 2015.
- Solids Transfer System—This project enables Metropolitan to use four solids lagoons on the grounds of the Los Angeles Aqueduct Filtration Plant. The project installs 7,600 feet of solids transfer piping and a utility crossing structure across Bull Creek Channel. Construction is 94 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by October 2015.
- LADWP Lagoon Refurbishment—This project rehabilitates four LADWP lagoons which will be used by Metropolitan. Construction is 27 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by April 2016.

**Mills Plant**

- Chemical Unloading Facility Chlorine Containment—Construction of containment facilities is 48 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by February 2017.
- Industrial Wastewater Handling Improvement—This project adds three 20,000-gallon wastewater storage tanks and a force main connection to the sanitary sewer system for safer and more efficient handling of the wastewater and to reduce the risk of an accidental release. Construction is 18 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by April 2016. (*see photo page 12*)

**INFRASTRUCTURE RELIABILITY** continued...

Treatment Plant Reliability Program continued...

Diemer Plant

- Electrical Upgrades, Stage 2—This project replaces electrical equipment, improves backup capability, and upgrades the Diemer plant’s electrical system to be consistent with current codes and industry practices. Construction is 76 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by June 2016.
- East Filter Upgrades—This project upgrades the Diemer plant’s east filters, including replacement of 127 deteriorated valves with AWWA-standard valves, and seismic strengthening of the filter buildings. A construction contract was awarded in February 2015. Construction is 13 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by November 2016.
- Yorba Linda Power Plant Turbine Replacement—This project at the Diemer plant replaces the existing Pelton Wheel turbine with a Francis turbine capable of operating under post-ORP hydraulic conditions. Manufacture of the turbine generator is complete and the equipment has been delivered to the site. Construction work includes plant modifications and turbine installation, commissioning and testing. Construction is 97 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by November 2015.
- East Basin Rehabilitation—This project rehabilitates the aging mechanical equipment and its electrical and structural components inside the four east flocculation/sedimentation basins. Construction is 3 percent complete and scheduled to be complete by July 2017. *(see photo below)*

Diemer East Basin Rehabilitation-Existing clarifiers



Mills Plant Industrial Wastewater Handling System - Reinforcing steel for the tank farm



Jensen Module 1 Filter Valve Replacement—  
New 42” butterfly valve in backwash piping

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

### STRATEGIC PRIORITY

#### **EDUCATE THE PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDERS ON CRITICAL WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS AND CRITICAL WATER MANAGEMENT DECISIONS**

External Affairs efforts will focus on educating the public, legislative leaders, government officials, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders on critical water supply conditions and critical water management decisions.

Expand and enhance Metropolitan's outreach to key stakeholder groups in Southern California, statewide, nationally and internationally in support of strategic priorities.

Hosted the U.S. Geological Survey and a delegation of congressional and federal agency staff for a tour of the Jensen water treatment plant and gave a presentation on seismic risk and vulnerability of the imported water system. (September 3)

Chairman Record, General Manager Kightlinger and staff hosted State Water Board chair Felicia Marcus and board member Steve Moore on a tour of Diamond Valley Lake, the Inland Feeder and Eastern Municipal Water District facilities to learn how Metropolitan and member agencies are managing for current and future water demands. (September 8) *(see photos below)*

General Manager Kightlinger discussed water resource issues in a major keynote speech at Southern California Edison's Annual Water Conference (September 9)



Chairman Record, State Board Member Moore, State Board Chair Marcus, GM Kightlinger and Deputy GM Zinke at Diamond Valley Lake overlook.



At Eastern Municipal Water District's desalter project.

Communicate and cultivate support for Metropolitan's key initiatives related to Colorado River supplies.

- Directors Peterson and Gray, General Manager Kightlinger, and staff attended the Metropolitan-sponsored Water Education Foundation Colorado River Symposium in New Mexico. (September 17)
- Metropolitan staff participated on a panel with representatives from Colorado River Resources and the Yale Center for the Environmental Communication's Climate Connections radio program to discuss conditions affecting water supplies in the Colorado Basin.

**EDUCATE THE PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDERS ON CRITICAL WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS AND CRITICAL WATER MANAGEMENT DECISIONS** *continued...*

Inform Southern Californians about the drought/water supply conditions and how they can help improve water supply reliability through conservation actions and support for water supply projects.

- Arranged interviews with General Manager Kightlinger by Associated Press, Las Vegas Review and Fox 5 TV Las Vegas for stories about a drought-driven water supply banking deal between Metropolitan and the Southern Nevada Water Authority.
- Arranged interview with General Manager Kightlinger and New York Times reporter for a story about the region's drought conditions and Metropolitan's turf removal rebate program.
- Arranged interview with Assistant General Manager Man and Los Angeles Times to discuss how increased conservation may affect the need for new water infrastructure development in the Southern California region.
- Coordinated separate interviews with the Los Angeles Times, Arizona Republic, San Gabriel Valley Tribune, San Diego Union-Tribune and the L.A. Weekly for stories on current drought conditions, conservation efforts, and plans to ensure reliable water supplies if the drought continues.
- Arranged interview with San Diego Union-Tribune on the critical role the Colorado River and the State Water Project have on Southern California water supplies, current drought conditions and Metropolitan's diverse and developing water supply portfolio.
- Metropolitan staff served on a Spanish-speaking town hall panel discussion organized by Telemundo channel 52 entitled *La Sequia Y Tu Bolsillo* (The Drought and Your Wallet). Other panelists included representatives from the city of Los Angeles; University of California, Los Angeles; Los Angeles Department of Water and Power; and California Water Alliance. (September 26)

Online Activities

Participated and issued joint press release with Southern California conservation organizations and member agencies for an 11-day Twitter campaign #wateryoudoing to promote water conservation, awareness and activities.

Advertising and Outreach Campaign

- Completed seven weeks of television commercials in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese on water conservation for 2015 advertising and outreach campaign, *Let's All Take A Turn*, delivering 81 million impressions. Radio, outdoor and digital advertising continues into the fall. Digital impressions have grown four-fold since July and the click through rates are four times the industry average for utilities. Paid online searches for Google Search and the Google Content Network continue this month.
- Community outreach events associated with the advertising campaign included sponsorship and participation at the LA Works' annual day of services in southeast Los Angeles and the Orange County Coastkeepers Annual Coastal Cleanup Day in Seal Beach. (September 12 and 19)  
*(See photos page 15)*
- Handled media interviews with LA Times, KFI radio and KNX radio on Metropolitan's Pandora and Uforia streaming playlists featuring water songs timed for short showers.
- Bewaterwise.com had a 50 percent increase in visitors in August, and the Spanish site had a 260 percent increase in site visits, with over 144,000 users accessing the two sites for conservation tips and drought information. Facebook followers rose to more than 13,000 and over 3,000 people follow @bewaterwise on Twitter.

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

### STRATEGIC PRIORITY

#### **EDUCATE THE PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDERS ON CRITICAL WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS AND CRITICAL WATER MANAGEMENT DECISIONS** continued...

Secure support for Delta conveyance improvements and habitat restoration projects to maintain State Water Project supplies, including any regulatory and/or legislative policies and funding needed to facilitate its implementation.

Metropolitan staff briefed the Building Industry Association of Southern California's Government Affairs Committee on California WaterFix. (September 23)



LA Works' Day of Service



Paramount High School students take a turn at Coastal Cleanup

### CORE

#### **LEGISLATIVE, COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

- Develop near- and long-term solutions that enhance the Delta ecosystem, improve water supply reliability, and protect water quality.
- Participate in the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) process considering petition for an additional point of diversion for new conveyance facility.
- Continue to work on efforts related to improving water supply reliability and protecting water quality.

Develop and implement local, state, and federal water policy and legislative strategies consistent with Board-adopted policies.

#### FEDERAL

Metropolitan continues to monitor California specific drought-related legislation, including H.R. 2898, the Water and Food Security Act of 2015 (Valadao, R-CA), and S. 1894 (Feinstein D-CA), a bill that would provide short-term water supplies and other actions to help address drought conditions in California.

Staff is working with the Association of California Water Agencies, American Water Works Association, and Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies on legislative efforts to avoid possible impacts to the drinking water treatment operations that could occur if railroad operations are unable to implement provisions of the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (including positive train control technologies) by the January 1, 2016 deadline.

**LEGISLATIVE, COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS continued...**

Federal, state and local water policy and legislative strategies continued...

## STATE

Legislation Highlights

The California Legislature wrapped up the first year of the 2015-16 legislative sessions on September 12. Over 650 bills were sent to the Governor with an October 11 bill-signing deadline.

Assembly Member Rendon (D-Lakewood) will be the next Assembly Speaker. Assembly Member Mayes (R-Yucca Valley) will be the Assembly Republican leader and Senator Fuller (R-Bakersfield) took over as Republican leader in the Senate.

## LOCAL

- Deputy General Manager Zinke made a presentation on Southern California water conditions, the drought and conservation at a public forum hosted by Representative Loretta Sanchez in Santa Ana. (September 3)
- Directors Blois, Peterson, management and staff from member agencies met with Assembly Member Jacqui Irwin to update her on the drought, water supply challenges and what actions our agencies are taking to conserve supplies while meeting demand. (September 24)
- Directors Blois, Peterson, and staff from Metropolitan and member agencies met with State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson to update her on the drought, water supply challenges and actions to conserve supplies while meeting demand. (September 28)

Support Board member and executive management communications and working relationships with elected officials, other government leaders, business, agriculture, non-governmental organizations, community leaders and other stakeholders to improve awareness and understanding of water policy issues.

- Metropolitan sponsored the Western Science Center Science *Under the Stars 2015 – The Science of Space*. Chairman Record was in attendance at the event. (September 12)
- Water Resource Management James Bodnar provided an update on the drought and water supply conditions at the Drought Tolerant Landscaping/Rain Barrel event at Descanso Gardens. (September 13)
- Sponsored the Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County's annual Officeholders Reception at the Reagan Library. Dr. Jerry Meral was the featured speaker and addressed over 300 attendees on the drought and importance of California WaterFix and California EcoRestore efforts. Director Blois was in attendance. (September 17)
- Directors Dick, McKenney and Faessel, and staff attended the Orange County Coastkeepers annual event, which Metropolitan sponsored. (September 17)
- Participated in the 6th Annual Inland Empire Economic Forecast Conference at which economic industry experts addressed future San Bernardino/Riverside County growth issues. (September 24)
- Directors Wunderlich and Koretz joined staff for *An Evening Under the Harvest Moon*, TreePeople's annual dinner. (September 26)
- Presentation to Women of Orange County on water management issues, local supply conditions and conservation programs. (September 30)

Community Partnering Program—Staff supported five events with water conservation exhibits in September: the Burbank Retired Public Employees Association, Long Beach Landscape Expo, Los Angeles County Fair Fairplex Premiere event; Southern California Edison water conference; and the Central City Association's LA Infrastructure Looking Ahead to 2025.

### **LEGISLATIVE, COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS continued...**

Provide public outreach to increase awareness of water issues and communicate Metropolitan's interests and Board-adopted policies.

- Arranged interview with General Manager Kightlinger and Bloomberg Markets magazine reporter for a story about water transfer agreements involving Metropolitan.
- Provided an update on Water Tomorrow for the Southern California Water Dialogue Committee meeting. (September 23)
- Updated landscape industry representatives on the drought, water supply issues, and conservation rebates at the regional Landscape Expo in Long Beach. (September 3)
- Set up interview with Orange County Register for a regional perspective on the role ocean desalination could play in Southern California's water future.
- Arranged video filming tour of Lake Mathews and Diamond Valley Lake for a freelance production company doing stories on Southern California water supply conditions.
- Coordinated interview with KNX radio reporter for story about innovative ideas, such as storm water capture, that would play a role in future water supplies.
- Provided information about how Metropolitan reports bromate levels in its water to a freelance writer doing stories about the quality of drinking water.
- Arranged interviews and provided information to KPCC radio producer for a program on ocean desalination.
- Provided information to the Oroville Mercury Register/Chico Enterprise-Record about water transfer with the South Feather River Water District.
- Launched Metropolitan's Instagram page featuring photographs and information on water conditions, facilities, events and activities.

Support Metropolitan's planning and operational objectives through communication and outreach to various stakeholders, including local government agencies and utilities and the Metropolitan workforce.

- Provided outreach to 480 homes and businesses in Jurupa Valley and Riverside for the Santa Ana River Bridge Retrofit Project
- Contacted 140 homes in Corona to provide information related to work activities related to the Corona Power Plant Reroofing project.

Coordinate with member agencies to advance Metropolitan's interests and Board-adopted policies.

- Met with member agency Public Information Officers regarding fall outreach and advertising campaigns, update on rebate and conservation programs, water conditions, and opportunities for coordination.
- Met with member agency managers to discuss water supplies, proposed shutdown schedule, drought management, conservation program and the Integrated Resources Plan.

## LEGISLATIVE, COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS continued...

Provide a suite of educational products and programs that promote conservation behaviors and critical thinking of the water issues facing Southern California.

### General Education

Staff supported various events/activities throughout the month that included: (1) presentation to Marshall Fundamental Secondary school with Pasadena Water and Power and State Water Resource Control Board member Francis Spivy-Weber; (2) meeting with representatives from Los Angeles County Office of Education; (3) presentation to the Water Resources and Drought Seminar at Fullerton College; (4) collaboration with Metropolitan's Business Outreach group at the California State Polytechnic University, Pomona's Water Mash-up event. Throughout the month the Education Unit directly interacted with over 2,400 students and teachers.

### Diamond Valley Lake Education Program

Education staff conducted three teacher workshops for approximately 70 teachers in partnership with the Eastern and Western Municipal Water Districts. The Program has hosted roughly 300 visitors this month.

### Education Website

Launched a new education resources website with mobile features that highlights Metropolitan's water-based Science-Technology-Engineering-Arts-Math (STEAM) programs for pre-kindergarten through college students and hosts downloadable curriculum. *(see photo below)*



**STRATEGIC  
PRIORITY**

**EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT**

This strategic priority focuses on ensuring employees have the tools necessary to meet current job and future responsibilities to support Metropolitan’s goals.

Foster learning and development to expand internal talent pool.

- Classes delivered this month includes: *Project Management Essentials*; *Presentation Skills for Senior Staff*; and *Writing Successful Justifications, Requests and Proposals*.
- The online portal for learning through Skillsoft was upgraded to enable a mobile app-based system for 24/7 curriculum delivery and access to books and training videos.
- Delivered a *Success Signals Communication Styles* module for 12 recently hired employees.
- Delivered a Microsoft VISIO class and a two-hour software training module on specific tasks/functions within WORD and EXCEL.

Acquire talent.

Researched background check providers to determine options for new contract.

Foster workforce diversity.

Attended a Diversity and Inclusion seminar sponsored by CalPERS.

Foster management excellence.

- The first *Leading Technical People* class was delivered by certified internal staff during the month to seniors and principal engineers.
- Provide coaching, change-management and team building support through internal staff and external consultants to six managers and their teams.
- Delivered a pilot module of a *Motivating and Engaging Employees* class for 14 managers, who provided feedback and suggestions for refining the curriculum for future sessions.

**CORE**

**HUMAN RESOURCES EXCELLENCE**

Foster Human Resources Excellence with innovative and efficient processes that attract, hire and develop staff. Also, ensure Metropolitan is a high-performance workplace with excellent leadership and management practices.

Update the StrategicHR Plan.

Attended Human Capital Leadership Conference to stay abreast of HR practices being used by other organizations.

Foster a high-performance culture.

Facilitated data-gathering and debriefing sessions to foster role clarification, responsibilities and team-building efforts in the Western Conveyance and Distribution Unit of Water System Operations.

**HUMAN RESOURCES EXCELLENCE continued...**

Provide proactive, swift, and consistent employee and labor relations.

- During the month of September, the Employee Relations Section continued to take the lead in Memorandum of Understanding salary negotiations with bargaining units.
- ER staff partnered with Water System Operations management in developing proposals to address recruitment and retention issues at the desert remote locations. ER staff also participated in an initial round of discussions with the bargaining units on this initiative.
- Equal Employment Opportunities Investigations responded to two outside agency complaints of discrimination, which were filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. EEO staff is working with the Commission to respond to these complaints. EEO staff also resolved two informal complaints of discrimination that were filed internally.

Manage total compensation benefits.

- Prepared for this year's open benefits enrollment by updating systems, preparing communications and scheduling site visits.
- Rolled out a new Patient Care Advocacy program to assist employees with referrals, pre-authorizations and claim issues in the medical, dental and vision programs.

Manage Human Resources Information Systems.

- Completed the upgrade to the My HR system.
- Made My HR system configuration changes to prepare for benefits open enrollment election period.

Manage risk.

- The Risk Management Unit completed 48 incident reports communicating instances of Metropolitan property damage, liability, workplace injuries, regulatory visits and spills.
- Risk Management completed 74 risk assessments on contracts, including professional service agreements, construction contracts, entry permits, special events and film permits.

Control leave and disability costs.

- Conducted initial investigations on 9 injury incidents.
- Submitted 8 new claims to Metropolitan's workers' compensation claim administrator.
- Settlements were negotiated in 1 claim, and 2 claim files were closed.
- Public Self Insurer's Annual Report for 2014/2015 was submitted to the California Office of Self Insurance Plans.
- Conducted MedVan evaluations at Weymouth facility.
- Arranged 20 medical evaluations (DMV, medical surveillance, hearing conservation, etc.).
- Coordinated random drug/alcohol tests at 4 facilities.
- Addressed 1 accommodation issue.

# HUMAN RESOURCES

## Metropolitan retirees for the period – June–August 2015

Last	First Name	Classification	Eff Date	Group
Hagstrom	Warren	Engineer	6/19/2015	WRM
Teare	Samuel	Team Manager IV	6/25/2015	WSO
Jacketti	Steven	Conveyance & Distribution Specialist	6/26/2015	WSO
Ivey	Gilbert	Asst General Manager/CAO	6/27/2015	GM
Pecsi	William	Unit Manager V	6/30/2015	WSO
Price Jr.	Jeff	O&M Tech IV	6/30/2015	WSO
McKenzie	Raveneau	O&M Tech II	7/3/2015	WSO
Mioc	Alexandru	Treatment Plant Specialist	7/3/2015	WSO
Osborne	Barbara	Principal Admin Analyst	7/3/2015	BUS TECH
Taylor	Roberta	Technical Writer III	7/3/2015	BUS TECH
Ng	Deborah	Unit Manager IV	7/4/2015	BUS TECH
Winn Jr.	Earl	O&M Tech IV	7/30/2015	WSO
Sanderson	Travis Kent	Aircraft Pilot	7/31/2015	WSO
Bettis	Daniel	Sr Engineering Technician	8/4/2015	ENG
Simon	Mark	Engineer	8/5/2015	WSO
Ingold	Dan	Sr Engineering Technician	8/14/2015	WSO
Briggs	William	Treatment Plant Specialist	8/14/2015	WSO

## REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION, MANAGEMENT AND REVENUE ENHANCEMENT

Manage Metropolitan's real property assets with a focus on revenue enhancement while ensuring that Metropolitan's core operations are protected. Acquire real property for future operational business needs.

Seek revenue-generating opportunities continued.

- An entry permit was issued to San Dimas Rodeo, Inc., to allow parking of vehicles and trailers. The use included a site for a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department satellite command center. The permit helps to support the annual Western Days Rodeo event located near the F. E. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant.
- The City of Los Angeles was issued an entry permit to allow for construction of a retaining wall and public road at the intersection of San Fernando Road and Balboa Boulevard near the Joseph Jensen Water Treatment Plant.
- The City of Los Angeles was granted two easements in conjunction with its street-widening project at the intersection of San Fernando Road and Balboa Boulevard near the Jensen plant. The first easement is for a public road; the second is for slope maintenance purposes.

Pursue development of the Diamond Valley Lake area, including the DVL Visitor Center and marina facilities, to support recreation, develop additional leasing and revenue opportunities for Metropolitan, and benefits the surrounding community.

Total visitors to the DVL Marina continued to decline as a result of low elevations and the private boat launch suspension effective May 2015. The lake elevation is approximately 40 percent of capacity. In the first three months of the 2015/16 FY, Diamond Valley Lake had 3,600 visitors, a drop of 49 percent from the same period in the previous year, and 77 percent from years when the lake capacity ranged from 70-100 percent. Rental boats are still available and the DVL trail system remains open to the public.

Construction continues on the DVL Marina ramp extension. The contractor completed the relocation of anchor blocks used to secure the boarding docks and Metropolitan forces began excavation to prepare the area for the approximate 50-foot extension.

Implement strategies for right-of-way planning and acquisition support of infrastructure reliability, protection programs, and Bay-Delta Initiatives.

- A residential property adjacent to the F .E. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant, in the city of La Verne, was acquired for increased efficiency of operations.
- Staff provided property research, valuation, and planning support to the Regional Recycled Water Supply Program Alignment Study.
- An entry permit was acquired from the city of Fontana for construction staging and laydown area as part of the Etiwanda North Liner Repair project.
- Staff provided property research, valuation, and planning support to Bay Delta Initiatives related to potential near- and long-term projects in the Delta.
- Staff continues to work with Legal and Engineering Services to assure that Metropolitan has appropriate access for repair projects and appropriate rights for existing and proposed facilities within the Right of Way and Infrastructure Protection Program.

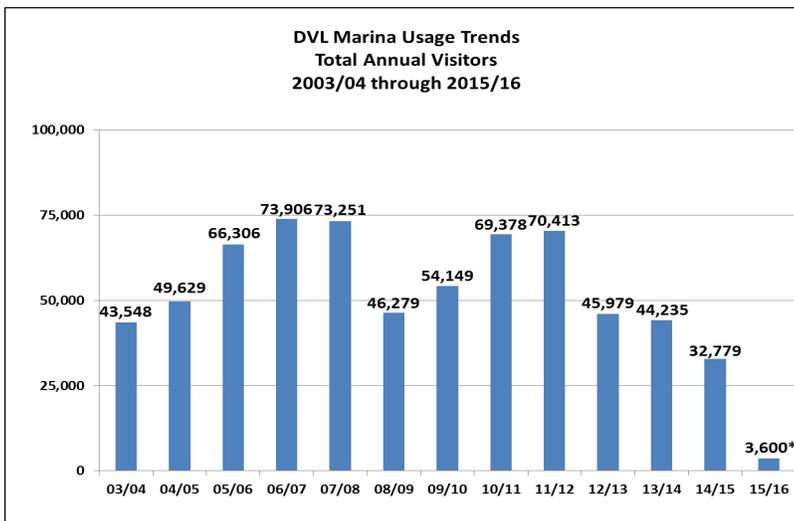
# REAL PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

CORE

## REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION, MANAGEMENT AND REVENUE ENHANCEMENT *continued...*

Foster staff training and development.

- Staff attended a webinar, *Improve Your Negotiations*, sponsored by The Business Training Center.
- Staff attended a webinar, *Contamination and the Valuation Process*, sponsored by Appraisal Institute.
- Staff attended training, *Condemnation Appraising: Principles and Application*, sponsored by Appraisal Institute.
- Staff attended Metropolitan-sponsored training course: *Going for YES: Writing Successful Justifications, Requests, and Proposals*.



\*Actual thru September 2015  
(FY2015/16 projection is 31,000)

# WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

STRATEGIC  
PRIORITY

## LOCAL PROJECTS AND INTEGRATED RESOURCES PLAN UPDATES

In late 2014, Metropolitan adopted a new Local Resources Program (LRP) to encourage the development of additional supplies within the region. Staff intends to monitor progress under this new LRP through fiscal year 2015/16 to see if additional recommendations are necessary to meet the regions long-term supply needs. Metropolitan's Integrated Resources Plan was adopted in 2010 and will be updated in 2015 with new resource targets.

**Project Assistance**—Staff continues to meet with member agencies and sub-agencies to discuss the LRP and help them with the application process for their proposed projects. This month, staff met with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power to assist them with LRP applications for a couple of proposed water recycling projects. Staff also met with Western MWD and City of Corona to discuss a proposed groundwater recovery project in the city of Corona.

**On-site Retrofit Pilot Program**—Under the On-site Retrofit Pilot Program, Metropolitan has committed to provide about \$5.5 million for converting 5,696 acre-feet of potable water to recycled water at 150 sites including schools, parks, golf courses, cooling towers, and one ice rink.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY

### LOCAL PROJECTS AND INTEGRATED RESOURCES PLAN UPDATES continued...

Integrated Water Resource Plan Update—Water Resource Management Manager Upadhyay provided an update to the San Diego County Water Authority on September 24. At the September 29 IRP Committee meeting, staff provided the Committee with draft results from the member agency technical process. Staff presented the results of a number of modeling scenarios. These scenarios showed the impact on Metropolitan’s reliability under different future uncertainties and how storage reserves could be used to mitigate these risks. Staff also presented and received input from the Committee on proposed 2015 IRP Update Targets.

## CORE

### WATER SUPPLY

Develop and execute water resource strategies that achieve the long-term reliability envisioned in the Integrated Resources Plan (IRP). Efforts include the negotiation and management of supply, storage, and water use efficiency programs, administration of imported supply contracts, development of new water resource policy recommendations in support of the IRP, collaborative planning with member agencies, and forecasting resource and facility needs.

Ensure cost-effective and reliable imported water supplies.

Colorado River Diversions—Staff submitted Metropolitan’s calendar year 2016 Colorado River Diversion Request and Part 417 Questionnaire for the Bureau of Reclamation. The package includes Metropolitan’s estimates of monthly diversion requirements, potentially available unused water and Intentionally Created Surplus, and a description of water use and conservation activities.

Participate and lead, where appropriate, in statewide and regional planning efforts.

Water Management Facilities Tour—On September 17, staff participated in a tour of Sacramento area water management facilities. Participants included representatives of city and county water management agencies from the Sacramento area and American River environmental interests. The tour was the latest of a series of meetings with these participants to share water management experiences and to explore potential opportunities to develop mutually beneficial partnerships.

Implement the Conservation Program effectively

California Friendly Landscape Training presented at the following: Southern California Association of Non-Profit Housing, Chinese American Professional Society, Industry Advisory Council, and the Southern California Gas Company workshop on Maintaining and Creating a Southern California Friendly Landscape. Issued Request for Proposal for new California Friendly Landscape Training classes.

Turf Removal—In partnership with Municipal Water District of Orange County, presented the City of Newport Beach a check for \$312,602 for turf removal at Bonita Creek Park.

Streamline approvals for future Sacramento Valley water transfers.

Future Water Transfers—Staff participated in an Association of California Water Agencies Water Market Technical Advisory Committee Meeting. The Committee, which is comprised of water transfer buyers and sellers throughout the state, is exploring and developing recommendations designed to streamline future water transfers.

## WATER SUPPLY continued...

Collaborate with member agencies to coordinate planning efforts, develop policy recommendations, and promote consistent public communications in water resource management issues.

**Drought-Tolerant Landscape and Rain Barrels Event**—Staff attended the Foothill Municipal Water District sponsored event promoting Drought-Tolerant Landscape and Rain Barrels on September 13 at Descanso Gardens. Staff provided a presentation on the current drought conditions and what actions Metropolitan and the local agencies are taking to respond to the drought.

**International Desalination Association's 2015 World Congress**—Metropolitan sponsored an event for the International Desalination Association's 2015 World Congress held on August 31 to September 4, in the City of San Diego. The Congress featured over 1,400 water leaders and delegates from around the world discussing the latest advances in desalination and wastewater recycling. Metropolitan also sponsored a dinner event at the Scripps Aquarium that was attended by over 1,000 delegates.

**The Climate Registry's (TCR) Reporting Protocols**—On September 9, Metropolitan staff provided input to TCR's process for developing greenhouse gas (GHG) reporting protocols for water utilities. Currently, Metropolitan and many other water agencies in Southern California voluntarily report emissions to TCR using a general reporting system. TCR is developing new water-specific protocols to provide their commercial, industrial and institutional members with information for use in GHG reduction calculations. The proposed protocol includes three optional levels of reporting, ranging from a simple GHG per acre-foot total, to a complex disaggregated report. Metropolitan staff has been participating in TCR's development process since 2014 and has collaborated with other water utility stakeholders and the member agencies. The process is partly funded by Southern California Edison, and would initially apply to participating water agencies in Southern California.

Ensure reliable and cost-effective water management programs.

**State Water Project Delivery Schedule**—Staff submitted Metropolitan's initial water delivery schedules for 2016 to the California Department of Water Resources. The submitted schedules cover potential hydrologic outcomes ranging from continued drought to very wet conditions. DWR will issue the initial 2016 SWP allocation on or before December 1.

**Member Agency Water Supply Purchases Tracking**—The Water Supply Allocation Plan (WSAP), which places an annual limit on each member agency's water supply purchases, was implemented by the Board at a Level 3 effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. Staff provides a detailed tracking report to each of the member agencies on a monthly basis. Through the end of August, total water purchases have been approximately 107,000 acre-feet lower than the total WSAP Level 3 supply allocation. This is an approximate reduction of 26 percent from the total WSAP Level 3 supply allocation. All 26 member agencies have water purchases that are below their estimated WSAP allocation at this time.

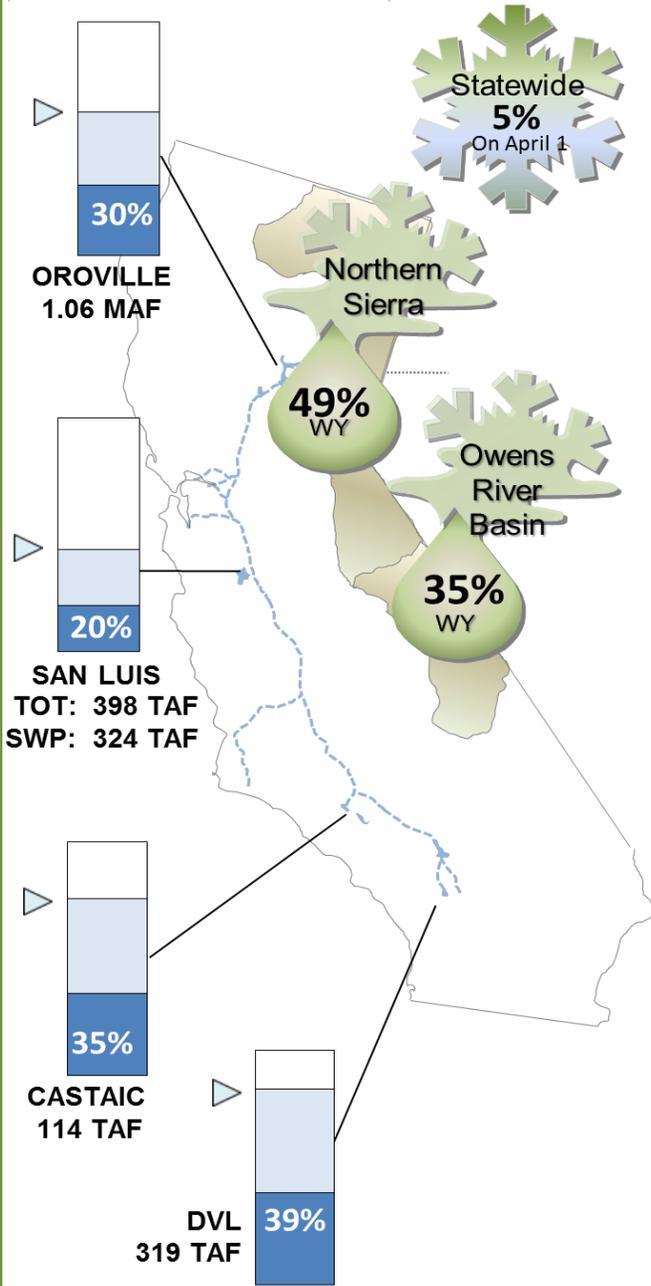
# WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS as of September 30, 2015

## 2015 SWP Allocation

382,300 AF

20% of Table A

(Does not include CVWD & DWA Table A)

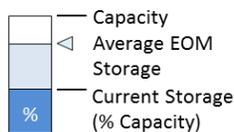
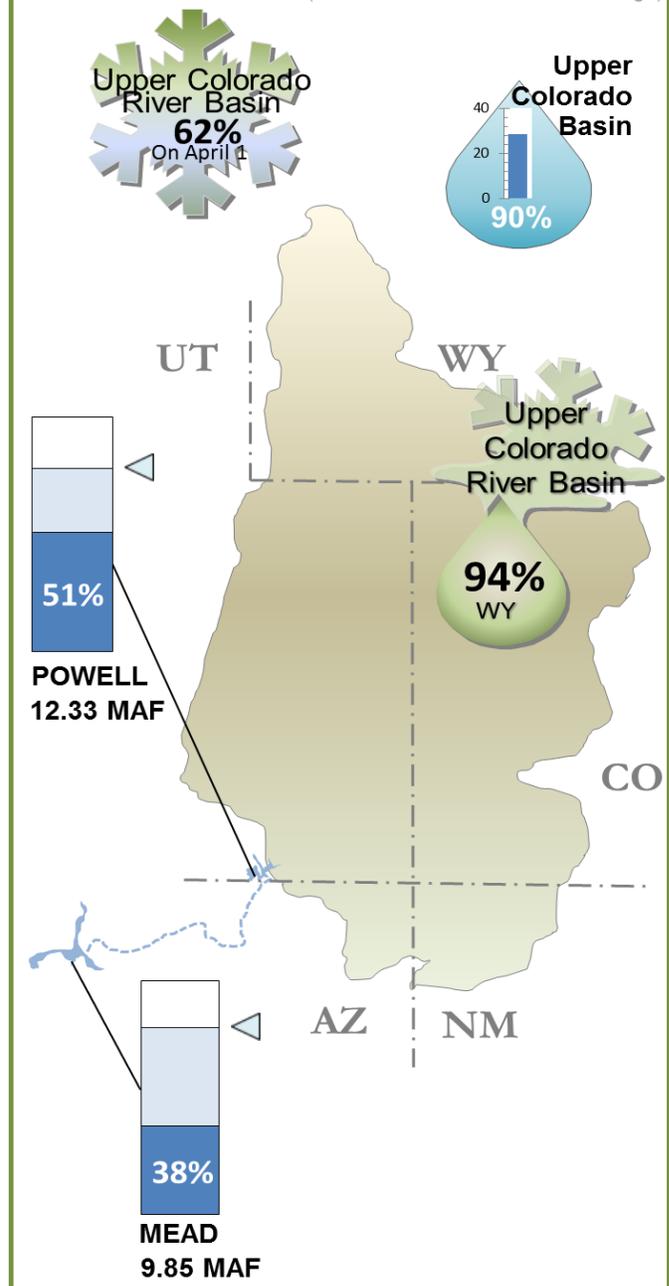


## 2015 Colorado River

925,000 AF

74% of full CRA

(Does not include Lake Mead Storage)



Runoff Forecast  
Water Year (WY) to  
Date unless otherwise

# WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

## CORE

### PROVIDE RELIABLE WATER SUPPLIES

System Operations delivered approximately 135,000 acre-feet of water to meet member agency demands in September, which averaged approximately 4,500 AF per day. Treated water deliveries for September totaled 70,000 AF, or 52 percent of total deliveries for the month. In September, 102,000 AF of Colorado River water was pumped as the CRA remained on an eight-pump flow for the entire month. Year-to-date CRA diversions are 881,000 AF. State Water Project imports averaged 1,360 AF per day, or 40,800 AF for the month. This was a decrease of 6,000 AF from August. System Operations continued the strategy of minimizing the use of SWP water wherever possible. For the month of September, the use of SWP water accounted for 29 percent of Metropolitan's deliveries. This was a one percentage point decrease from August deliveries.

Storage at Diamond Valley Lake remained the same at 320,000 AF, or 39 percent full. No deliveries were made into or out of the reservoir in September. SWP blends to the Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner plants remained at zero percent. The Greg Avenue pump station remained on-line for the month of September. By the end of the month, the pumps at Greg Avenue had delivered 31,800 AF of CRA water to the western side of Metropolitan's distribution system since the beginning of the year.

System Operations continued to maximize power generation throughout the month. In September, Metropolitan's hydroelectric plants generated an average of 11 megawatts per hour for 8,000 megawatt-hours.

## CORE

### OPTIMIZE MAINTENANCE

Staff rehabilitated a 12-foot-wide patrol road over the Upper Feeder pipeline. The roadway had deteriorated over time and was not providing sufficient cover to adequately protect the pipeline. The roadway was graded to sustain normal runoff, then compacted and capped with approximately 1,900 tons of treated aggregate base. This rehabilitation work improves the protection of the Upper Feeder and provides safe access during routine inspections of the pipeline. *(see photo below)*



The Upper Feeder patrol road before (above) and (right) after the improvement work.

# WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

## CORE

## OPTIMIZE MAINTENANCE continued...

Staff took delivery of a new loader, which will be used as the chassis for an additional tunnel cleaning machine. The machine will be modified in early 2016 to provide critical support for tunnel cleaning maintenance of the Colorado River Aqueduct. The second tunnel cleaning machine will maximize the amount of tunnels cleaned within a short shutdown.

Staff manufactured a new cylinder for Hinds Pumping Plant Unit No. 2's discharge valve to replace the existing cylinder, which was cracked and leaking. The cylinder is part of the hydraulic system that operates the valve. After manufacturing, the interior diameter of the cylinder was honed to a smooth finish and the outside of the cylinder was coated with zinc.

Staff began working with Engineering Services and the installation contractors to perform start-up testing and commissioning of the new Yorba Linda hydroelectric power plant. Due to changes in the system hydraulics from the addition of ozone at the Diemer plant, it was necessary to replace the existing turbine. Metropolitan forces supported the installation by preparing and installing fiber optic cabling to the hydroelectric plant. The fiber optic network allows communication and revenue tracking for hydroelectric power generation.



Staff pulling fiber cable through vault to project site for Yorba Linda HEP.

Staff removed four needle valves at the Etiwanda hydroelectric plant as part of the second phase of the Etiwanda Needle Valve Refurbishment Project. The needle valves were removed and transported to the La Verne Shops to begin the refurbishment process. *(see photos below)*



Etiwanda needle valve being delivered to La Verne shops.



Etiwanda HEP turbine and needle valves in place

# WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

## CORE

### OPTIMIZE MAINTENANCE continued...

Staff installed eight new radio antennas on four communication towers in the desert region to support the two-way radio upgrade project and communication with CRA facilities and crews. The new antennas and cabling were placed by Metropolitan's line crews at specified points on the towers that range in height from 100 to 120 feet tall. *(see photo right)*

Radio tower at Christmas Tree Pass



Air release structure on San Diego Pipeline No. 6, after coating.

Staff continued the system-wide coatings program aimed at preventing corrosion and extending the life of pipelines and infrastructure. Projects completed this month included blow-off and structures on the San Diego Pipelines in southwest Riverside County, the East Orange County Feeder No. 2, and the Sepulveda Feeder in the Los Angeles area. *(see photo left)*

## CORE

### MANAGE THE POWER SYSTEM

Metropolitan has received several responses to its Request for Offers for the energy output from five of Metropolitan's 16 conduit hydroelectric power plants. Staff is reviewing the responses and expects to begin discussions with potential buyers by the end of September. This energy can be used to meet California's requirements for retail electric utilities to utilize renewable energy in serving their electric customers. Metropolitan is offering the energy for either a two- or five-year term. The current contract for the sale of energy from these five power plants expires on December 31, 2015.

## CORE

### DEVELOP WORKFORCE

The Water System Operations Apprentice and Technical Training Programs help develop and train personnel to become qualified electricians and mechanics responsible for maintaining Metropolitan's water treatment and distribution systems. Apprenticeship course curriculum includes blueprint reading and understanding schematics and symbols. After studying facility drawings, mechanical apprentices toured the inlet/outlet tower at Diamond Valley Lake. This activity provided practical field experience for correlating blueprints, schematics, and symbols to an existing structure.

# WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

## CORE

### IMPROVE SECURITY AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Staff continued to participate in a multi-agency working group that is developing a comprehensive emergency response plan for Union Station. Representatives from various groups including the Metropolitan Transit Authority, Morlin Property Management, Los Angeles County Sheriff, Los Angeles Fire Department, First Five, Mosaic Apartments, and others met on August 20 and September 2 to contribute to the development of an emergency response plan. This plan, and future training and exercises, will ensure all agencies at Union Station have a coordinated emergency response strategy.

In an effort to continually build Metropolitan's emergency response capabilities, members of staff were certified by the State Office of Emergency Services as instructors. These staff will now teach official emergency management courses to staff working in Metropolitan's Incident Command and Emergency Operations Centers. Staff from Mills, Skinner, and the Eastern Region participated in the first class on September 15 in preparation for an upcoming emergency response exercise scheduled in November. This training will help standardize Metropolitan's emergency response training in the future and follow future state training requirements.

## CORE

### PROTECT SOURCE WATER QUALITY

Staff submitted comments to the California Department of Toxic Substances Control and U.S. Department of the Interior on Pacific Gas and Electric's final design of the Topock Chromium-6 Groundwater Remediation Project. Staff emphasized the need for appropriate water quality monitoring measures and construction sequencing to ensure protection of the Colorado River. PG&E is scheduled to complete final design by November 2015. Following completion of a subsequent environmental review, construction of the final groundwater remedy will begin in early 2017.

## CORE

### PREPARE FOR FUTURE LEGISLATION AND REGULATION

Coatings are applied to new and refurbished equipment and structures to provide protection and durability. Air quality regulations currently require specific equipment to minimize volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions. On September 9, staff invited members of the Southern California Air Quality Management District to observe new low VOC coating application technologies. These technologies reduce coating time while achieving regulatory compliance. This collaborative effort with the regulators allows for valuable input into the rule making process in order to provide flexibility in our coatings operations.

## CORE

### ENSURE WATER QUALITY COMPLIANCE, WORKER SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Metropolitan complied with all water quality regulations and primary drinking water standards during the month of September 2015.

## CORE

## OPTIMIZE WATER TREATMENT AND DISTRIBUTION

State Water Project target blends at the Weymouth, Diemer and Skinner water treatment plants remained at zero percent for September. Flow-weighted running annual averages for total dissolved solids from August 2014 through July 2015 were 632, 634, and 567 mg/L for Weymouth, Diemer and Skinner plants, respectively.

Work continues on the \$46.7M capital improvement project to upgrade the Diemer plant's east filters, including replacement of 127 deteriorated valves and seismic strengthening of the filter buildings. In September, Diemer staff isolated portions of the east filters to allow the construction contractor safe access. Upgrading the filter building structure to meet current seismic codes involved reinforcing the concrete frames, relocating equipment, and roof and subsurface improvements to the filter sump. The contractor work had minimal impact on plant operations and treated water deliveries. Construction is scheduled to be complete by November 2016. *(see photo right)*

New underdrains are being installed at the Weymouth plant as part of the \$41 million filter rehabilitation capital project to replace the internal components of the plant's 48 filters. The main modification is to increase filter media depth to improve filtration and backwashing performance. The contractor work has minimal impact on plant operations and treated water deliveries, given the small number of the filters removed from service at any one time. *(see photo below)*



Contractor installing steel rebar at Diemer East Filter Building for seismic strengthening.



Filter underdrain installation by contractor at the Weymouth plant.

# WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

## CORE

## SUPPORT EDUCATION AND OUTREACH INITIATIVES

Staff supported four tours of the Colorado River Aqueduct with a total of 164 guests from the State Water Contractors, and member agencies including San Fernando, Fullerton, and Burbank. Guests were given guided tours of the Intake pumping plant and Copper Basin Reservoir, and were provided an opportunity to visit the Alan Preston Museum to view historical artifacts related to construction and early operations of the CRA facilities.

Staff provided a tour of the Jensen plant for the United States Geological Survey Congressional staff's visit to California that focused on water and how USGS science can be used to help in times of drought, natural hazards, and an uncertain climate future. Staff provided updates on present system status and operational strategies employed during the drought. Representatives from USGS were joined by staff from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, the Water Replenishment District, and the National Weather Service.

Staff also conducted plant tours during the month of September at the Diemer, Jensen, Skinner, and Weymouth plants. Tour participants included Board members, member agencies, local government officials, and non-profit organization members who learned about water treatment processes, source water protection, and drought response initiatives. Notably, staff welcomed visitors from Denmark's Aarhus Water Utility for a tour of the Weymouth plant to foster technology transfer for network optimization, energy conservation, and water quality monitoring and treatment.



A representative from the National Weather Service addressing the group during the tour of the Jensen plant.

**Metropolitan's Mission** is to provide its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

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