



# Update on Desert Housing

Organization, Personnel and Technology Committee

Item 6a

April 11, 2017

# Location Map



# Background

- Housing provided due to remoteness and for quick response time
- 100 houses in CRA system
  - 75 occupied full-time
  - 10 occupied intermittently
  - About 15 vacant/not needed
- Most houses built in the 1950s, 60s, and 70s
- Ongoing maintenance and repair program
- Recently initiated refurbishment program



# Chronology

- September 2015: Report on Desert Remote Facilities with recommendation to refurbish houses
- December 2015: Board authorized design-related activities for eight new houses and condition assessments
  - Minor work
  - Moderate renovation
  - Major renovation



# Chronology (continued)

- October 2016: Single bid received for construction of houses
  - Bid rejected
  - Staff modified project approach
- April 2017: Multiple bids received for construction of houses
  - Utilize two construction contracts and District forces

# Capital Project Schedule

- May 2017: Request funding for:
  - Construction of eight new houses
  - Design-related activities for two new houses
  - Refurbishment of houses that require a moderate level of renovations
- June 2017: Initiate construction and refurbishment work

# Near-Term Actions

- Fact-finding initiated to review documents provided by AFSCME
- Convened working group with representatives from the Desert, AFSCME, Water System Operations, Engineering Services, and Human Resources
- Conducted employee meetings in the Desert to provide updates and receive feedback

# Near-Term Actions (continued)

- Making repairs to 5 houses recently identified:
  - Obtained permits
  - Completed abatement
  - Secured temporary labor
  - Completed plumbing repairs to 4 of 5 houses
  - Carpentry and electrical work in progress and scheduled to be completed in a few weeks



# Near-Term Actions (continued)

- Staff is reviewing and will update the maintenance and repair procedures for Desert housing
- Staff is developing a plan and schedule for houses classified in the minor work category
- Staff is developing a plan and schedule for high priority work to be completed over the next three months
- Staff will provide regular updates to the appropriate Committees

