

# THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



## General Manager's Monthly Activity Report for August 2017

August 31, 2017

This report identifies the actions and activities taking place during the month that support the objectives of the General Manager's Fiscal Year 2017/18 Strategic Priorities and the Core Business of the GM's work groups.

### BAY DELTA INITIATIVES

#### GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: COMPLETE THE BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN/ CALIFORNIA WATERFIX ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/STATEMENT

Pursue efforts in a lead capacity to complete environmental documentation, financing agreements, and associated permits necessary to implement California WaterFix and EcoRestore.

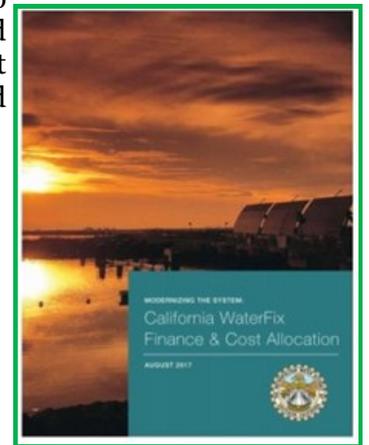
Pursue Decision on the State's Proposed Delta Improvements including the California WaterFix and EcoRestore.

California WaterFix is a proposed project to improve the state's water delivery system in the Delta. Metropolitan is considering the proposed project to improve long-term State Water Project water supply reliability, along with aiding in the restoration of the Delta's fragile ecosystem. This proposed project is the product of more than a decade of review, planning, and rigorous scientific and environmental analysis by water experts, engineers and conservationists, as well as extensive public comment.

On July 28, 2017, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife issued an incidental take permit for the construction and operation of California WaterFix in compliance with Section 2081(b) of the California Endangered Species Act. Issuance of this permit represents another significant milestone in the WaterFix planning process.



In July and August, staff presented three white papers to the Board outlining key aspects of California WaterFix (infrastructure, operations, and cost allocation). A Special Board Meeting is currently scheduled for September 26 to further discuss this matter to help support a Board decision on the project and associated agreements.



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#### Useful information:

**AF** = acre-foot, the volume of water to cover an acre of land, one-foot deep.  
Approximately 326,000 gallons of water, serves annual needs of two typical California families.  
**TAF**=thousand acre-feet.  
**MAF**=million acre-feet.

## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

### CORE: BUSINESS PROCESSES

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

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

Nine new electric vehicle charging stations were installed at the Headquarters building. This ensures that Metropolitan's Rideshare Program continues to be effective for employees. *(see photo right of charging station)*



## ANNEXATIONS

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.

Member agency annexation requests:

Metropolitan's treasury department received \$24,107.59 for fiscal year 2016/17 as payment for a portion of the annexation fee of Eastern Municipal Water District's 65th Fringe Area and Western Municipal Water District's 41st Fringe Area annexations per the December 14, 1999 Agreements and as part of the terms and conditions of the two annexations. The Murrieta annexation payment is collected over time and calculated using current rates (MWD Admin Code 3300), as part of the County Water District disillusionment in 1999. The three parcels totaling 3.41 acres are now eligible for water service.

## BAY DELTA INITIATIVES

### CORE: BAY DELTA SOLUTIONS

- Develop near- and long-term solutions that enhance the Delta ecosystem, improve water supply reliability, protect water quality, and mitigate environmental impacts.
- Participate in the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) process considering petition for an additional point of diversion as part of the CA WaterFix project.
- Continue to work on efforts related to meeting the co-equal goals of contributing to a restored Delta ecosystem and ensuring a reliable water supply for California.

Near Term—Implement innovative solutions that will benefit customers using technology and best business practices that will positively increase collaboration, productivity, and operational efficiency.

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#### State Water Resources Control Board

The California WaterFix Petition proceedings before the State Water Resources Control Board are ongoing. Part 1 of the hearings addresses the effects of the proposed project on legal users of water. Staff participated in the rebuttal phase of Part 1 in collaboration with the State Water Contractors. Staff anticipates that the Control Board will soon issue notices to initiate Part 2 of the hearings, which will address the effects of the proposed project on fish and wildlife, including consideration of appropriate Delta flow criteria.

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

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#### Science/Regulatory

Metropolitan staff continues to take part in the Collaborative Science and Adaptive Management Program (CSAMP). Staff participated in the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team Delta Smelt Scoping Team Outflow Group and the Flow Alteration Project Work Team. This included helping to prepare the scope of work for the Fall X2 sampling that will be completed in 2017 and participating in the development of a Decision Support Tool based on the Delta Smelt Resiliency Strategy.

Metropolitan staff is working with consultants ESSA Technologies on a project to evaluate the reliability of correlations between environmental factors and fish populations in the Delta. The project will consist of a literature search of environmental correlations that have been used in the Delta, a re-analysis of the correlations to determine if they hold up in the face of updated data, and recommendations for best practices when using environmental correlations as policy tools. During July and August, ESSA Technologies compiled various equations supplied by Metropolitan staff and developed rules for prioritizing equations that would be studied.

Emergency Response—Ensure that Delta emergency response measures are implemented, including actions to develop a freshwater pathway after a major emergency event in the Delta.

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#### Delta Flood Emergency Management Plan

Metropolitan staff is reviewing updated drafts of the DWR Delta Flood Emergency Management Plan (DFEMP) and the DWR/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Delta Emergency Operations Integration Plan. The Integration Plan incorporates federal permit authorities for emergency work in the Delta region when an imminent threat to life or property is demonstrated. These are the primary reports controlling emergency operations in the Delta. The schedule for publication of the DFEMP may be delayed to the end of the year because of management priorities of the current flood season.

The DWR Division of Engineering has stated that they will be acquiring additional sheet pile as a levee break closure method in the Delta through procurement mechanisms that will include broader statewide acquisitions. Additional 2014 Proposition 1 funding sources are being made available to Delta Flood Emergency Management activities. Funding amounts are being identified and will be reported.

## CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

### CFO PRIORITY: BUSINESS CONTINUITY

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

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

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- Facilitated Business Continuity tabletop exercises designed to walk through existing plans and set the foundation for plan updates. The following group exercises were conducted this month:
  - ✓ Water System Operations Group (Headquarters, Gene Camp, Weymouth plant, and online via Skype).
  - ✓ Water Resource Management
- Conducted meetings with the 35 Business Continuity planning coordinators to share updates about the program and upcoming testing and maintenance requirements.
- Business Continuity Plan update workshops were conducted for the following areas
  - ✓ CFO Treasury and Debt Management
  - ✓ CFO Controller
  - ✓ CFO Budget and Financial Planning
- Presented an overview of the Business Continuity Program to the General Counsel Department.
- Drafted a Disaster Leave guidelines policy document for review and input by Employee Relations and Human Resources. This outlines options for employee pay following a disaster to guide and facilitate decision making.
- Provided updates to the Emergency Operations Center organization chart and contributed exercise injects (issues) in preparation for the October EOC drill.
- Continued making enhancements to the Business Continuity plan template and screens in Fusion software.
- Continued facilitating weekly planning meetings to expand usage of the MIR3 emergency notification system to all employees and facilities.

## CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

### CFO PRIORITY: MAINTAIN STRONG FINANCIAL POSITION

Provide innovative and proactive financial analyses, planning, and management services to ensure that forecasted revenues are sufficient to cover planned expenditures and provide a prudent level of reserves consistent with Board policy.

#### Manage rates and charges to help maintain low rates, minimize their variability, and recover costs consistent with Board policy.

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In August, the Board adopted a resolution maintaining Metropolitan's ad valorem tax rate at 0.0035 percent of assessed property values, which is anticipated to generate \$115.8 million in revenues. The certified assessed property valuations for Metropolitan's six-county service area total \$2.7 trillion for fiscal year 2017/18.

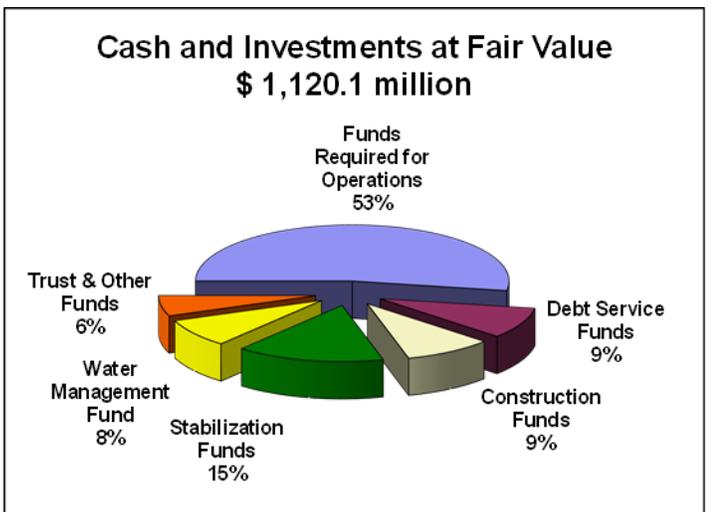
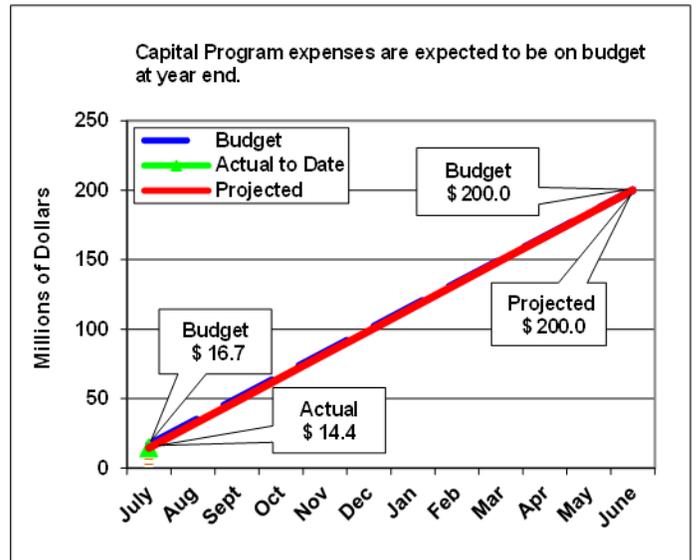
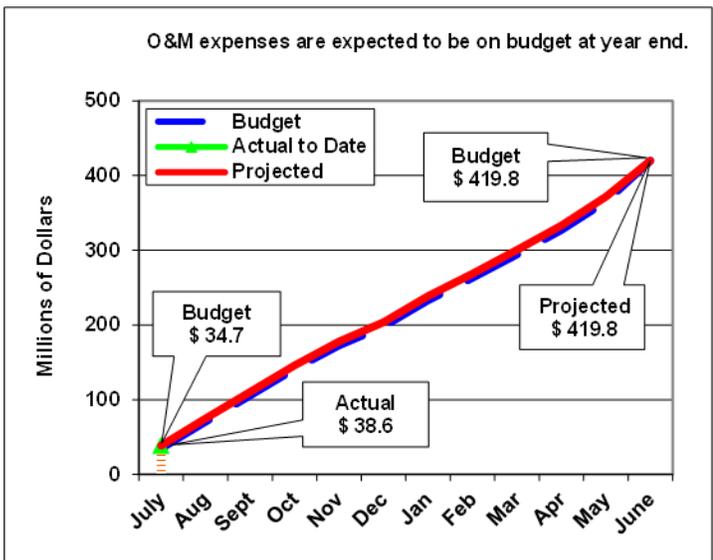
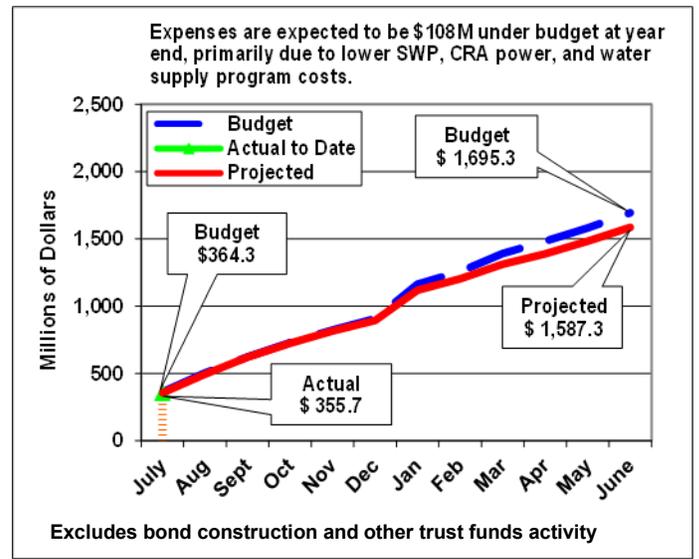
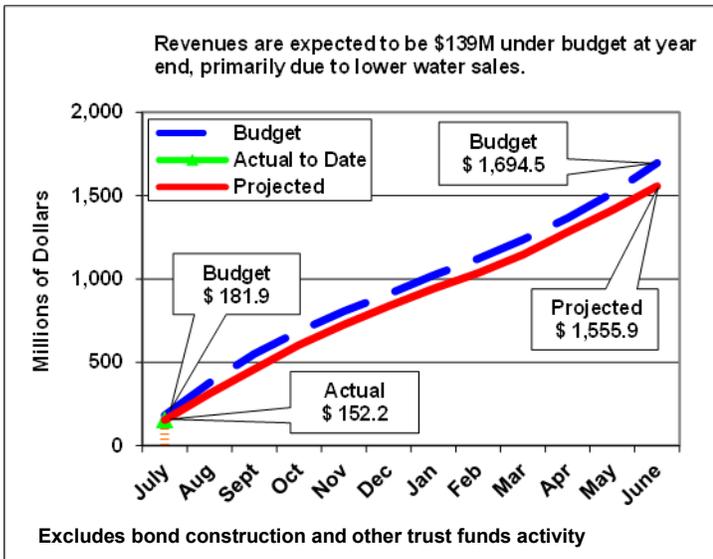
#### Manage risk to protect Metropolitan's assets against exposure to loss.

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The Risk Management Unit completed 53 incident reports communicating instances of Metropolitan property damage, liability, workplace injuries, regulatory visits and spills.

Risk Management completed 69 risk assessments on contracts, including professional service agreements, construction contracts, entry permits, special events and film permits.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY AS OF JULY 31, 2017



Summary Financial Statistics

	Target	Year-End Projected
Fixed Charge Coverage	≥ 1.20 x	1.23 x
Revenue Bond Coverage	> 2.00 x	1.36 x
Revenue Bond Debt / Equity Ratio	< 100.0%	62.0%

Credit Ratings

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

## 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 WSO 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.

#### 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:

- Etiwanda Pipeline Lining Repairs—his project replaces the Etiwanda Pipeline's damaged interior mortar lining with a polyurethane coating. The pipeline will be relined in three stages. The first two stages have been completed, while design of the Stage 3 repairs is scheduled to be complete by December 2017.
- DVL East Dam Electrical Upgrades—This project provides permanent electrical service to the seepage monitoring structures at the DVL East Dam and to the East Marina area. This project will connect these facilities to the new incoming electrical service from Southern California Edison. Construction is 97 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by September 2017. Power switchover at the East Dam is complete, and the switchover for the East Marina took place in August 2017.
- Orange County Feeder Lining Repairs—This project replaces the deteriorated internal lining along an 11-mile portion of the Orange County Feeder within the cities of Santa Ana, Costa Mesa, and Newport Beach. Construction of the initial two-mile reach is complete. Final design for the remaining three reaches is 70 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by April 2018.
- Palos Verdes Reservoir Rehabilitation—This project replaces the reservoir's existing floating cover and liner, and modifies the existing spillway, control tower, and outlet structures. Construction is 40 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by August 2018. *(see photos below)*
- Relocation of Piping for Service Connection OC-76—This project relocates the turnout for the service connection to a different location on the Allen-McColloch Pipeline, eliminating over one mile of pipeline. Design is complete and a request to the Board for award of a construction contract is planned for October 2017.



Palos Verdes—Placement of concrete for encasement of the 42-inch diameter primary inlet pipe



Palos Verdes Reservoir Rehabilitation – Grading of the reservoir floor

## ENGINEERING SERVICES

### CORE: INFRASTRUCTURE RELIABILITY continued...

#### Right-of-Way and Infrastructure Protection Program

This program performs needed site improvements throughout 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.

- Orange County Operating Region—Final design of improvements is divided into two specification packages. The first package is 99 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by October 2017, while the second package is 97 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by May 2018.
- Western San Bernardino County Operating Region—Final design of improvements is 80 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by October 2018. The draft programmatic environmental impact report for this region is planned to be released for public review by September 2018.
- Los Angeles County Operating Region—Preliminary design of improvements is 99 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by March 2018.
- Riverside/San Diego County Operating Region—Preliminary design of improvements is 99 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by October 2017.

#### Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) Reliability Program

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

- Sand Trap Rehabilitation—This project replaces deteriorated sand trap equipment located upstream of Iron Mountain, Eagle Mountain, and Hinds Pumping Plants. Construction is 95 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by September 2017.
- Expansion Joint Repairs—This project repairs 16 expansion joints located on the pump delivery lines at the five CRA pumping plants. Construction is 27 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by December 2017.
- Copper Basin & Gene Wash Reservoirs Discharge Valve Rehabilitation—This project rehabilitates the discharge structures at Copper Basin and Gene Wash Reservoirs. Fabrication of the fixed cone valves is 25 percent complete, and valve delivery is scheduled for February 2018. Preliminary design to improve access is underway and will be complete by summer 2017. Final design of the valve installation is 50 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by January 2018.
- CRA UPS Replacement—This project replaces the uninterruptible power supply (UPS) systems at the five CRA pumping plants. Each plant has a UPS system to prevent fluctuations in power quality and to serve as a backup in case of loss of power. Design is 98 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by September 2017.
- Overhead Crane Replacement—This project replaces the overhead crane systems within each pump house and the portable pump-bay crane systems, including bridges, trolleys, hoists, drive trains and system controls. Preliminary design is 95 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by October 2017.
- CRA Potable Water Replacement—This project replaces the domestic water lines at all five CRA pumping plants. Preliminary design is complete and a request to the Board for authorization of final design is planned for December 2017.
- CRA Motor Cable Replacement—This project replaces the electrical cables that provide power to the main pump motors. Design is 80 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by December 2017.
- Sump System Rehabilitation—This project rehabilitates the main and auxiliary sump systems at Metropolitan's five CRA pumping plants. The sump systems include parallel pumps and piping that circulate cooling water and collect drainage water from several sources. Design is 92 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by December 2017.
- 6.9 kV Switch House Building Seismic Upgrades—This project performs structural upgrades to the 6.9 kV switch houses at each CRA pumping plant. Construction is 42 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by July 2018.

## ENGINEERING SERVICES

### CORE: INFRASTRUCTURE RELIABILITY continued...

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

This program was established to enhance the reliability of Metropolitan's water distribution system and to reduce the risk of costly emergency repairs of PCCP pipelines. The priority pipelines included in the program are the Second Lower Feeder, Sepulveda Feeder, Calabasas Feeder, Rialto Pipeline, and the Allen-McColloch Pipeline. Recent activities include the following:

- Second Lower Feeder PCCP Rehabilitation—This project rehabilitates the remaining 28 miles of PCCP segments within the Second Lower Feeder. Long-term rehabilitation of the Second Lower Feeder will be staged over a period of eight to ten years, with multiple construction and procurement contracts. The scope of the initial construction contract for Reach 1 includes lining approximately 4.4 miles of existing PCCP segments with a steel liner. Notice to Proceed is planned to be issued in September 2017, and a shutdown of the feeder is scheduled to begin in November 2017. Final design of the second and third reaches is ten percent complete and is planned to be complete by July 2018.
- Second Lower Feeder Pipe Fabrication—This contract fabricates approximately 18,000 feet of 75-inch-diameter welded steel liner pipe. Fabrication is 15 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by June 2018.
- Second Lower Feeder Shutoff Valve Procurement—This contract provides 216 shutoff valves that will replace deteriorated valves along the length of the Second Lower Feeder. These valves range in diameter from 4 inches to 16 inches, and are used to control and isolate flow at air release/vacuum valve locations, dewatering vaults, and blowoff structures. Notice to Proceed is planned to be issued in September 2017. Planned delivery of the valves is scheduled for late 2019.



Second Lower Feeder PCCP Rehabilitation, Reach 1  
– Coiled steel liner pipe



Second Lower Feeder PCCP Rehab, Reach 1 –  
Coiled steel liner pipe

## ENGINEERING SERVICES

### CORE: INFRASTRUCTURE RELIABILITY continued...

#### Water Quality/Oxidation Retrofit Program (ORP)

This program adds ozonation facilities that perform primary disinfection at Metropolitan's five water treatment plants while reducing disinfection by-products. Recent activities include the following:

##### Weymouth ORP

- Main Ozonation Facilities—The main ORP construction contract was completed in May 2017. Remaining activities include control system integration, start-up and testing, permitting with the State Division of Drinking Water, and preparation of Operation and Maintenance manuals. These remaining activities are 80 percent complete and are scheduled to be complete by December 2017.
- ORP Bromate Control Upgrades—Chemical system upgrades are needed for integration of the new ozone system into the Weymouth plant's treatment process. Construction is 87 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by June 2018.

#### Treatment Plant Reliability Program

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

##### Weymouth Plant

- Filter Rehabilitation—This project replaces the internal components of the Weymouth plant's 48 filters, including the underdrains, media, launder troughs, and surface wash systems. Construction is 94 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by December 2017.

##### Diemer Plant

- East Basin Rehabilitation—This project rehabilitates aging equipment and structural components within the east flocculation/sedimentation basins. Construction is 96 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by October 2017.
- Administration Building Seismic Upgrades—This project provides seismic and fire safety upgrades to the Administration Building at the Diemer plant. Construction is 25 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by April 2018.

##### Jensen Plant

- Electrical Upgrades, Stage 1—This project replaces electrical equipment, provides backup in the event of individual component failures, and upgrades the Jensen electrical system to be consistent with current codes and industry practices. The work will be completed in three stages. Construction of Stage 1 is 80 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by February 2019.

##### Mills Plant

- Electrical Upgrades, Stage 1—This project replaces electrical equipment, provides backup in the event of individual component failures, and upgrades the Mills electrical system to be consistent with current codes and industry practices. The work will be completed in three stages. Notice to Proceed is planned to be issued in September 2017.

## ENGINEERING SERVICES

### CORE: INFRASTRUCTURE RELIABILITY continued...

#### Cost Efficiency and Productivity Program

This program provides economic savings through enhanced business and operating processes, and through reduced energy costs. Recent activities include the following:

- Jensen Solar Power Plant—This project constructs a 1-megawatt solar generating facility on the grounds of the Jensen plant in Granada Hills. Construction is 93 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by October 2017. *(see photo right)*



Jensen Solar Power Plant – Installation of transformer and switchgear

## ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING SECTION

### GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: DEVELOP WATER SUPPLIES AND MANAGE WATER RESERVES

Implement storage withdrawals and coordination of deliveries with member agencies. Closely monitor drought conditions and possibly allocate actions as part of the Water Surplus and Drought Management plan. Also, target outreach on conservation efforts.

Provide planning, California Environmental Quality Act/National Environmental Policy Act, and regulatory support for supplemental water supplies and water conservation measures.

- Staff assisted the State Water Contractors on the Yuba Salmon Forum to build support for the Final Habitat Expansion Plan project on the lower Yuba River.
- Staff supported the SWC at the Department of Water Resources public meetings in Oroville, Chico, Yuba City and Marysville soliciting community input on the Oroville Spillway failure and subsequent evacuation of 188,000 people in those communities.

## ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING SECTION

### GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: EMBARK ON STRATEGIC REVIEW OF METROPOLITAN'S MISSION AND PROGRAMS

Periodically, the Board reviews its policies and mission to ensure responsiveness to evolving laws, plans, and resources in an effort to accommodate the needs of member agencies.

Continue cultural resources planning and education to protect and preserve the historic legacy of Metropolitan.

- Staff completed the mapping of known cultural resources in the vicinity of Lake Mathews and the Lake Mathews Reserve.
- Staff responded to Native American tribes requesting consultation under AB52 and mapped tribal territories in relation to Metropolitan's distribution system.

## ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING SECTION

### CORE BUSINESS: REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

Responsible for providing planning, CEQA, and regulatory support for all discretionary actions undertaken by Metropolitan. The Environmental Planning Section is also responsible for reviewing and commenting on federal rulemaking and state and federal legislation; implementing multi-agency habitat management agreements; reviewing and commenting on all external projects that may impact Metropolitan; and providing technical support for public outreach and education activities.

Provide timely and professional planning services and CEQA and regulatory support in an environmentally responsible manner for Engineering Services, Water System Operations, Water Resource Management, External Affairs, and Real Property.

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#### CEQA Environmental Clearances

- Staff provided timely and professional environmental planning clearances for five Water System Operations projects; three easements processed by Real Property; and 15 Board letters.
- Staff completed Addendum No. 1 to the Pre-Stressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe Program Environmental Impact Report for package one of the repairs to the Second Lower Feeder.

#### Regulatory Permitting and Compliance

- Staff obtained all required state and federal regulatory permits for the Santa Ana River Bridge Expansion Joint Replacement Project.
- Staff completed the first annual Weymouth Tree Health Assessment 2017. The tree health assessment is a special requirement condition described in the City of La Verne's tree ordinance.
- Staff participated in site visits, meetings, and ongoing consultation with federal and state regulatory agencies in support of regulatory permitting efforts under the Clean Water Act, California Fish and Game Code, and Coastal Act for the Orange County Right of Way and Infrastructure Protection Program, Orange County Feeder Blowoff Structure Rehabilitation Project, Whitewater CRA Siphons Erosion Protection Project, Foothill Feeder Inspections Project, and Lake Skinner routine maintenance projects.

#### Construction Monitoring

Staff completed all of the environmental construction monitoring for the Orange County Feeder Relining Project, Reach 1.

#### Legislative Support

Staff researched, drafted, and presented two legislative proposals to the Legislative Team for the 2018 legislative cycle and reviewed six bills and two proposed rules.

#### External Project Review

Staff reviewed and commented on 20 California Environmental Quality Act notices for various external projects that may impact Metropolitan facilities.

## ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING SECTION

### CORE BUSINESS: RESERVE MANAGEMENT

Manages more than 30,000 acres of ecological reserves and partners with other organizations to preserve and support native species and their habitat while ensuring the proper operation and maintenance of Metropolitan's facilities.

Continue to actively manage reserve lands to ensure compliance with state and federal permits and multi-agency cooperative management agreements including the Memorandum of Intent (MOI) between Metropolitan, Riverside County Parks, and other members of the Diamond Valley Lake Ad Hoc Committee.

#### Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve

Staff provided guidance and direction to the Reserve Manager in developing task orders to implement the Fiscal Year 2017/18 Annual Work Plan. Task orders and the Annual Work Plan will ensure implementation of specific goals and objectives set forth in the Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP, 1992) and Reserve Management Plan (2009). Staff will work closely with Reserve staff to track and account for work and report on significant accomplishments during FY 2017/18.

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

### GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: EDUCATE THE PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDERS ON CRITICAL WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS AND CRITICAL WATER MANAGEMENT DECISIONS

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

Recognizing there is a new normal that is directly impacting California water conditions, inform key stakeholders, media, businesses and the public on the need for sustained conservation actions, support for new water supply projects and continued investment in imported water systems to maintain water supply reliability and protect the environment.

- Metropolitan sponsored two high-profile community outreach events to promote conservation. Director Abdo and City of Santa Monica representatives joined Metropolitan staff at the Santa Monica Pier to provide conservation and rebate information to hundreds of Southern Californians and see the H2Love light show on the Pacific Park Ferris Wheel. (August 12) *(see photo below)*
- Metropolitan dedicated its new Native Garden display at Debs Regional Park in Los Angeles, collaboration with the LA Conservation Corps and Audubon Center. Directors Ballin and Dake joined more than 120 people at the event, which featured LA Galaxy goalie Brian Rowe. (August 18) *(see photo below)*



## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

### GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Educate the Public and Stakeholders on Critical Water Supply Conditions and Critical Water Management Decisions continued...

- Chairman Record and General Manager Kightlinger spoke at the Building Industry Association of Riverside County's Legislative Affairs Committee luncheon. The audience of 80 elected officials, builders and engineers heard an overview of key water policy issues, including California WaterFix and the regional benefit of Metropolitan's investments. (August 2)
- At the request of the city of Hawaiian Gardens, staff provided the city council with a bilingual English-Spanish presentation on the importance of the need to modernize the state's water system with California WaterFix. Assistant General Manager Zinke attended the meeting and responded to questions. (August 8)
- General Manager Kightlinger, Water Resource Manager Upadhyay, and Metropolitan staff were featured speakers at the Urban Water Institute annual conference, which Metropolitan sponsored. Former Chief Operating Officer Man was honored at the event, which included sessions on Oroville Dam, the state's water infrastructure crisis and updates on California WaterFix. (August 22-23)
- Metropolitan sponsored and Assistant General Manager Patterson was the keynote speaker at the Municipal Water District of Orange County Public Policy Dinner to discuss California WaterFix. Directors Ackerman, Barbre, Dick, Martinez, McKinney and Morris were in attendance. (August 30)
- In response to high media interest in California WaterFix and Metropolitan's decision-making process on the proposed project, provided information and arranged interviews for General Manager Kightlinger, Assistant General Manager Patterson and other staff with reporters from the *Sacramento Bee*, *Stockton Record*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Voice of San Diego*, *Telemundo* and *Univision*.
- Arranged interview with General Manager Kightlinger and Capital Public Radio to discuss the proposed Sites Reservoir, the project's benefits to water supply reliability and the ecosystem, and Metropolitan's investment in the project.

#### California WaterFix Presentations

Metropolitan management and staff made additional presentations and attended events to provide information about California WaterFix to the following business groups, public agencies, community organizations and conferences:

- South Bay Area Chambers of Commerce (August 1)
- MWDOC Board Workshop (August 2)
- Orange County Business Council (August 8)
- Cleantech San Diego Breakfast Series (August 8)
- Rincon del Diablo Water District (August 8)
- City of El Cajon (August 8)
- LA's Economic Development Council (August 8)
- Las Virgenes MWD Board of Directors (August 8)
- Central Basin Water Education Tour (August 9)
- Los Angeles Service Academy (August 9)
- Three Valleys MWD (August 10)
- CA Council for Economic and Environmental Balance (August 11)
- Fullerton City Council (August 15)
- Central Basin MWD Workshop for Cities and Retail Agencies (August 16)
- Urban Water Institute Conference (August 16)
- Central Basin Board Workshop (August 21)
- Burbank City Council (August 22)
- Sweetwater Authority (August 23)
- Los Angeles Grand Jury (August 24)
- San Diego County Water Authority Board of Directors (August 24)
- Los Angeles Operational Area Lecture Series (August 24)

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Educate the Public and Stakeholders on Critical Water Supply Conditions and Critical Water Management Decisions continued...**

- ACWA Region 8 (August 24)
- San Diego County Water Authority Board (August 24)
- Representative Napolitano Water Forum (August 31)

A new white paper, fact sheets and other resources on the proposed cost allocation and financial for California WaterFix were produced for the Board and widely distributed to the public, news media, organization, community leaders and elected officials.

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**CORE: LEGISLATIVE, COMMUNICATIONS, COMMUNITY RELATIONS, PUBLIC AND BUSINESS OUTREACH**

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

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

### Federal

Director Ackerman and Metropolitan staff participated in the National Water Resources Association Federal Water Policy conference in New Mexico. Metropolitan's support for water conservation tax parity and the Sites Reservoir project were among the issues discussed. (August 7-10)

Metropolitan and the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County submitted joint testimony to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power about the proposed regional water recycling project. This correspondence will be part of the Senate's official record to examine increasing water security and drought preparedness through infrastructure, management and innovation. (August 14)

### State

Chairman Record, General Manager Kightlinger and executive staff provided a California WaterFix legislative briefing to legislators and staff representing Metropolitan's service area. The briefing provided an overview of the benefits of California WaterFix to Southern California, cost and financing issues, and outlined the schedule of the decision-making process for the Board of Directors. Metropolitan also scheduled individual meetings with leadership of the Senate Natural Resources and Water and Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife committees. (August 23)

### Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund

SB 623 (Monning, D-Carmel) would establish the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund and fund water infrastructure and supply improvements for low-income households. The bill also includes a fee on retail service connection as a significant funding source for the Fund. The bill does not address the governance of failing water systems. The amendments to include a public water system fee were released on August 21.

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CORE: LEGISLATIVE, COMMUNICATIONS, COMMUNITY RELATIONS, PUBLIC AND BUSINESS OUTREACH continued...

### Making Conservation a Way of Life

Metropolitan is continuing to work with representatives from public water agencies, environmental organizations and the Brown administration to provide feedback on current legislative proposals and develop a framework for long-term conservation actions, programs and requirements.

### 2018 Water/Parks Bond

SB 5 by Senator DeLeon (D-Los Angeles) proposes the issuance of \$3.8 billion in general obligation bonds to support local, regional and state parks, and unmet water supply and reliability needs. Metropolitan will monitor the bill and provide input as appropriate. The bond proposal would be on the November 2018 ballot.

### **Local**

Staff participated in several Los Angeles County Business Federation Leadership Roundtable discussions where California and local water policy topics were discussed. The events were held with California Assembly Speaker Rendon (August 1), Los Angeles County Supervisor Solis (August 11), and Los Angeles County Supervisor Kuehl. (August 30)

Metropolitan sponsored and staff participated in the North Orange County Chamber of Commerce legislative reception. In attendance were Senator Newman (D-Fullerton) and Assemblymember Quirk-Silva (D-Fullerton), and staff from the office of Congressman Royce (R-California). Approximately 150 community, business leaders and local officials from North Orange County attended. (August 3)

Director Gedney and staff participated in the Cerritos Regional Chamber of Commerce's annual State of the Nation event. Staff introduced Representative Sanchez (D-California) and discussed the importance of California WaterFix and a reliable imported water supply for the community. The Congresswoman discussed job creation, tax reform, transportation, and water infrastructure improvements. (August 10)

General Manager Kightlinger presented welcoming remarks and Metropolitan sponsored the Los Angeles County Business Federation annual Freshman Policymakers event recognizing newly elected state and local lawmakers. Director Dake, Assistant General Manager Zinke and staff attended the event, which drew more than 100 elected officials. (August 10) *(see photo right, GM Kightlinger)*



Metropolitan sponsored and exhibited at the San Bernardino Water Conference, where more than 500 government officials, water experts, business leaders and community stakeholders discussed solutions to California's water challenges. Water Use Efficiency Manager McDonnell moderated a panel on the Water Energy Nexus. (August 11)

Director Beard and staff gave testimony on a resolution of support for the California WaterFix and EcoRestore programs before the Fullerton City Council. The resolution was drafted as a policy recommendation by the Fullerton Department of Public Works. (August 15)

Staff attended Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce Pancakes and Politics briefing with Congressman Schiff. The event also featured a welcome reception for Congressman Gomez. (August 23)

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CORE: LEGISLATIVE, COMMUNICATIONS, COMMUNITY RELATIONS, PUBLIC AND BUSINESS OUTREACH continued...

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

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### Media Interviews

- Set up an interview podcast with Board Chairman Record and *Voice of San Diego* following up on the opinion editorial in *San Diego Union Tribune* concerning legal and public relations disputes with the San Diego County Water Authority.
- Arranged interview with General Manager Kightlinger and *San Diego Union Tribune* editorial board member about ongoing dispute with the San Diego County Water Authority.
- Arranged interview with Assistant General Manager Breaux and *Voice of San Diego* reporter for a story about Metropolitan's financing issues, including use of bond swaps and their termination history.
- Set up interview with Water Resource Management staff and SoCal News Group gardening columnist to discuss Metropolitan's turf removal classes.
- Arranged interview with Water Resource Manager Upadhyay and *Sacramento Bee* reporter to discuss potential impact of Lake Oroville being drawn down for repairs on the 2018 state water allocation.

### Communication Activities

- Arranged placement of opinion editorial by Chairman Record in the *San Diego Union Tribune* on the subject of San Diego Water Authority's ongoing legal and public relations disputes with Metropolitan.
- Posted and distributed two General Manager H2outlook blogs, one on California WaterFix operations and the other on California WaterFix financing and costs.
- Arranged filming and distribution of General Manager's H2oTalk video blog focused on California WaterFix and Metropolitan's Board of Directors decision-making process and schedule.
- Translated California WaterFix materials into Spanish and Chinese, WaterFix whiteboard video into Spanish, WaterFix motion graphic video into Chinese and Spanish, and Top Five Reasons for California WaterFix fact sheet into Chinese.
- Issued the *Your Water* e-newsletter to more than 12,000 subscribers.
- Issued bi-weekly *California WaterFix* e-newsletters to more than 7,000 subscribers with information and updates on key decision points for the project.
- Launched weekly e-newsletter for Metropolitan employees, *Water Talk: Three Things You Need to Know about Met this Week*, which features short stories on news items, programs, priorities and employee profiles.

### Press Releases

- Statement from General Manager Kightlinger about the state of California's release of the Notice of Determination on the California WaterFix
- Launch of "Summer of H2Love" water conservation advertising and outreach campaign
- Metropolitan's water-saving H2Love message on the iconic Pacific Park Ferris wheel at the Santa Monica Pier for four consecutive Saturday nights starting August 12
- Dedication of Native Garden at Audubon Center at Debs Park

### Social Media

Water conservation campaign posts, including new videos and animated graphics, are increasing views and engagement across all of Metropolitan's social media platforms. One GIF featuring a water-saving landscape tip has more than one million views.

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CORE: LEGISLATIVE, COMMUNICATIONS, COMMUNITY RELATIONS, PUBLIC AND BUSINESS OUTREACH

Media and Communications continued...

Social Media continued...

Education Unit tweets received more than 12,500 impressions on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

Three new short videos, focusing on the 'why, what and where of California WaterFix,' garnered almost 400,000 views on Facebook.



Website

The redesigned bewaterwise.com websites have been completed. The new sites feature more in-language content and are mobile friendly. A new feature, Garden of the Month videos, provide information on California Friendly plants for the Southern California region. The most recent video has been viewed nearly 200,000 times. More than 22,000 people visited the English, Spanish, and Chinese versions of bewaterwise.com for tips and ideas on how to conserve water.

**Public Outreach and Member Services - Conduct public outreach to increase awareness and input on Metropolitan projects and initiatives and ensure impacted communities are aware of Metropolitan construction and maintenance activities. Enhance public awareness of Metropolitan's systems and facilities and the role they play in regional supply reliability while protecting environmental resources. Serve as liaison to Metropolitan's member agencies and facilitate their engagement with Metropolitan.**

Public Outreach for Metropolitan Projects

Met with the city of Santa Ana Public Works Department staff to discuss outreach for the next phase of the Orange County Feeder relining project, which is planned for 2018.

Member Services

Staff made a presentation on California WaterFix and the importance of reliable water supplies to the Central Basin Municipal Water District and sub-agency representatives. The meeting also provided an opportunity to share details about upcoming Metropolitan board discussions and schedule. (August 16)

Metropolitan met with the Member Agency General Managers to discuss California WaterFix operations and finance/cost allocation. (August 18)

Community Partnering Program

Metropolitan sponsored and provided conservation information at the following events:

- Urban Soil Summit at UCLA (August 8)
- International Water Association Conference on Diffuse Pollution & Eutrophication (August 13-17)
- Urban Water Institute (August 16-17)
- Audubon Society (August 18)
- From Lot To Spot (August 26)

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

### CORE: LEGISLATIVE, COMMUNICATIONS, COMMUNITY RELATIONS, PUBLIC AND BUSINESS OUTREACH

Education and Community Relations - Facilitate public engagement in and understanding of water resource issues through community relations activities and education projects. Build awareness of and appreciation among Southern California youth for the value of clean, reliable water supplies and the importance of good water stewardship.

#### Diamond Valley Lake Education Program

The Visitor Center hosted more than 600 visitors and guided 464 visitors to the Viewpoint.

#### Student Art Program

The 2017 Student Art exhibit was showcased on Metropolitan's bewaterwise.com website.

#### General Education

- Staff supported field trips, activities and classroom presentations, including Small Hands Camp, a teacher workshop with the California Education and the Environment Initiative, a Water Education Tour and interacted with more than 300 students and teachers.
- The education unit piloted an H2O Summer Science Camp. General Manager Kightlinger stopped in to meet the young students and participate in an activity. *(see photos right)*



Business Outreach and Innovation - Facilitate opportunities for small businesses to work with Metropolitan. Help position Metropolitan as a leader in water innovation.

Metropolitan supported small business throughout the region through its participation and sponsorship of the following programs, conferences and events:

- Sponsored and participated in Southern California Procurement, Trade and Manufacturing Summit which was attended by over 700 participants. (August 1)
- Exhibited and attended the San Bernardino County Water Conference. The event featured discussion on current water conditions, infrastructure and financing with more than 400 attendees. (August 11)
- Participated at the Asian Business Association Inland Empire, Small Business Development Day, and presented a workshop on *How to do Business with MWD* to 200 attendees. (August 16)
- Sponsored the California Black Chamber Conference, Ron Brown Business & Economic Summit, participated on a panel, *Water and Power Utility Procurement* and provided business opportunity matchmaking activities. (August 17-19)
- Exhibited and served as a panelist for the educational forum and networking opportunities event with 200 attendees at the Small Business Administration- Los Angeles District Faith-Based Small Business Summit. (August 18)
- Participated in the Sub-Contracting Guided Plan educational and training workshop, hosted by Pacific Coast Regional Small Business Development Center. (August 21)
- Exhibited at the Navy Gold Coast Small Business Procurement Expo and Conference in San Diego. Approximately 1,000 were in attendance. (August 22-23)

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CORE: LEGISLATIVE, COMMUNICATIONS, COMMUNITY RELATIONS, PUBLIC AND BUSINESS OUTREACH

### Business Outreach and Innovation continued....

- Hosted an exhibit booth at the Filipino American Chamber of Commerce of Orange County Go Green Expo promoting a clean environment and healthy lifestyle. The event featured workshops and networking opportunities, and was attended by 450 visitors. (August 24)
- Staff exhibited at the California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce annual convention with more than 3,000 entrepreneurs, community leaders and public officials. (August 24)
- Hosted a half-day Industry Cluster Roundtable Series, Driving MBE Growth in California Industry Clusters. The event brought together 150 stakeholders and business leaders in the utility industry to develop solutions to improve contracting outcomes and capital access for underutilized business segments. (August 29)

Innovation and Technology staff participated in the Orange County Water Summit, hosted by Sustain OC at the University of California Irvine, Innovation Center. Engineering Services Manager Bednarski was the keynote speaker at the event, which was attended by more than 250 participants. (August 29)

## HUMAN RESOURCES

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT

The proposed budget calls for Metropolitan to cease its managed attrition that has shrunk Metropolitan from 2,400 full-time employee positions to a current workforce of approximately 1,750. Recruitment activity will be expanded to fully replace all retirements and add some positions to bring the work force to approximately 1,800 positions over the next two years. Increased cross-training and employee development efforts will be needed to meet the challenge of increased retirements brought about by an aging workforce.

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

Staff partnered with Western Region Conveyance and Distribution management staff to design and deliver a customized one-day on-site Pre-Apprentice Orientation Workshop. In addition, staff provided Train-the-Trainer workshops to Operations and Maintenance Technicians who will then provide On-the-Job-Training to Pre-Apprentices at Jensen water treatment plant and Soto Street Facility.

A two-day Everyday Business Writing workshop was facilitated by a writing instructor.

Additional training modules were delivered at Headquarters and Weymouth water treatment plant on the following topics:

- Managing Emotions in the Workplace
- Effective Presentation Skills
- Customer Services Skills
- Excel - What If Analysis
- PowerPoint –Tips and Tricks, Inserting Graphics and Multimedia
- Access Basic Queries Workshop
- Advanced Excel – Performing Calculations
- Outlook – Increasing Productivity
- Advanced Word Workshop
- One Note Workshop

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT continued...

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

During the past month Staffing has filled 24 positions and received 19 new requisitions. Staffing is currently recruiting for 139 positions.

The 16 pre-apprentices for the next class have started. Staffing is recruiting for the Assistant Group Manager/Chief Operating Officer.

Implement employee engagement programs to ensure Metropolitan is a competitive organization.

- Human Resources purchased solar eclipse viewing glasses for employees to share and safely view the rare solar event on August 21. (*see photos on page 39*)
- Staff delivered a first-of-its-kind Stress Management and Team Building workshop (complete with yoga, guided meditation, and personal vision boards) for the Professional Services Contracting Team.
- Staff implemented a Lunch and Learn facilitated by the University of San Diego, Rady School of Management on *How to Leverage Crystallized vs. Fluid Intelligence and Work Across Generations*. There was 34 attendees.

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### HR PRIORITY: ENSURE EFFECTIVE PEOPLE MANAGEMENT

Provide consultation, guidance, standards, policies, procedures and learning opportunities to ensure that employee experience is enhanced as they are appropriately managed, evaluated, engaged, motivated, developed, recognized and valued.

Ensure Metropolitan managers have the foundational knowledge and on-going support to effectively manage employees.

- Staff launched Korn Ferry's Voices 360° Feedback surveys for a cohort of 15 Unit Managers participating in the Metropolitan Management University Graduate Development Program. Participants will receive one-on-one executive coaching sessions and an individual customized development action plan.
- Nine managers attended a one-day external seminar at the Institute for Management Studies on *Proven Approaches for Building Trust, Resolving Conflicts and Inspiring Others*. The College of Executive Coaching facilitated the *Art of Influence and Motivation* seminar on August 30.
- Training staff joined team meetings within Water Resource Management Group to facilitate roundtable discussions on developing persuasion and influence skills.



Training class — Preparing for Job Interviews Story on page 21.

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### HR PRIORITY: PARTNER WITH CUSTOMERS ON HR SOLUTIONS

Collaborate and partner with customers at all levels to support strategic decisions on workforce planning, hiring strategies, advancement and learning opportunities, disciplinary issues and other challenges as they arise.

Establish partnerships focused on strategic solutions to various human resource management challenges.

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Staff partnered with the Ethics Department to design instructional content for an online e-course on procedures for Filing Form 700: Statement of Economic Interests. This e-course launched this month.

Continued to partner with Water System Operations management and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees representatives on the Desert Housing project, including a series of meetings in the desert to explain the project details, timing and plan.

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### HR PRIORITY: PREPARE FOR FUTURE WORKFORCE AND CHANGING ROLES

Partner with groups to develop programs for skill development, knowledge capture, change management, and employee engagement to ensure Metropolitan's capability as an agile organization preparing for future changes and challenges.

Implement strategies to prepare management and employees for change, unknown challenges, and future retirements.

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Staff opened the application process for the third cohort of Water System Operations Management Academy. A total of 74 applications have been received. The WSO Management Academy will run consecutively with the MWD Management Academy that is currently in progress.

Staff delivered *Preparing for Job Interviews* training at Weymouth with a record-breaking attendance of 24 participants. *(see photo prior page, 20)*

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### CORE BUSINESS: PROVIDE EXCELLENT HR SERVICES

Human Resources provides a wide range of services and support from pre-hire to post-retirement care. To ensure our services add value and meet the needs of all employees, we will review and revise HR policies, procedures and practices as appropriate to continually improve service and better utilize technologies.

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

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Finalized testing and completed preparations for the September Benefits Open Enrollment process.

Staff conducted the *Stepping Into Retirement* workshop at LaVerne this month. This all-day seminar provides a comprehensive review of CalPERS retirement benefits and payout options; Social Security, Medicare and coordination between CalPERS and Medicare; managing and drawing down your 401(k) and 457 Plan assets; and health benefits during retirement, as well as annual leave and sick leave payoff options.

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### CORE: COMPLY WITH EMPLOYMENT LAWS AND REGULATIONS

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

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#### Workers' Compensation/Medical Screening:

- Submitted 5 new claims to Metropolitan's workers' compensation claim administrator
- Negotiated settlements in 3 claims, while closing an additional 11 claim files
- Completed and submitted the Public Self-Insurers' Annual Report for 2016-2017 to the State of California, Department of Self-Insurance Plans
- Conducted MedVan evaluations at Mills, Lake Skinner, Lake Mathews, and Weymouth facilities
- Arranged 9 medical evaluations (DMV, medical surveillance, hearing conservation, etc.)
- Coordinated 1 drug/alcohol test
- Addressed 2 accommodation issues

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

### CORE: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Collaboratively work with customers to deliver information technology options, services, and solutions in the areas of enterprise and business applications, Engineering Services and Water System Operations applications, mobile/wireless computing, telecommunications, network services, information security, and personal computing.

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

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- Staff reviewed a senate bill called "Drone Federalism Act of 2017" to provide technical input to Metropolitan's Legislative Team. In addition, staff upgraded existing drones to improve Global Positioning System coverage and camera resolution. Next steps include staff planning missions for Diamond Valley Lake communication site inspections; Palo Verde Irrigation District site (775 acres); and Lake Mathews environmental study.
- The project team is completing the contract negotiations and installing Active Navigation software for the Enterprise Content Management platform.
- The project team is completing the contract negotiations for the Enterprise Content Management.
- As part of developing mobile applications, staff is updating an app that tracks iHub equipment checkouts.
- To assist managers with business decisions, staff is developing reports and dashboards from Water Planning consolidated database.

Deploy security technologies to properly balance and enhance Metropolitan's cyber security position.

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- Staff drafted a mobile device policy and submitted to Legal for review.
- Staff reviewed the cyber security components of a legislative bill, which intends to modernize the energy and natural resources policies of the United States.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

### CORE: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY continued...

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

- The fourth and final phase (construction) of the control and electrical protection system at the Hiram Wadsworth Pumping Plant is ramping up. Staff continues to discuss the detailed tasks and budgets.
- The RTU Replacement project is underway, with initial hardware and software submittals provided by the vendor. An initial unit was received in August for testing.
- The Control System Upgrade Phase 2 project has started, with the initial task order being negotiated and signed in July. The initial meetings with stakeholders occurred in early August. Additional activities included initial review of the current control system by the consultant.
- The project team deployed new phones for Headquarters floors 1-8, including Human Resources and the Credit Union, and the Sunset Garage. The next step is for the project team to begin phone deployment for Weymouth site.
- Oracle E-Business upgrade is being reviewed by the project team for first round of testing.
- Staff prepared several options to upgrade the Lake Mathews Disaster Recovery Facility (DRF) based on Active-Passive and Active-Active designs. In addition, staff provided input to the Engineering Preliminary Design Report on DRF.

Simplify access to business information.

- Staff continued to work on integrating new Spanish and Chinese language translations of Bewaterwise.com and prepared to host site internally.
- Staff began planning for an evaluation of OneDrive for Business.

## REAL PROPERTY

### CORE: REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION, MANAGEMENT AND REVENUE ENHANCEMENT

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

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

- An entry permit was acquired from the Irvine Community Development Company for ingress and egress to the Allen-McColloch Pipeline located at Portola Springs, in an underground electric service line and above ground service cabinet.
- Eight Release and Settlement Agreements were processed for loss of access by residents due to driveway closures necessitated by repair work on the Orange County Feeder Relining Project in Santa Ana.
- A permanent easement was acquired from the Irvine Ranch Water District for additional access to Metropolitan's pressure reducing structure on the Allen-McColloch Pipeline within the IRWD's Baker Water Treatment plant in Lake Forest. This easement was necessary because of Irvine Ranch's construction of a new facility.
- A three-year sublease was acquired from Hooman Enterprises, Inc. for storage of steel liner pipes and contractor workspace as a part of the Second Lower Feeder PCCP Relining Project.

## REAL PROPERTY

CORE: REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION, MANAGEMENT AND REVENUE ENHANCEMENT continued...

Seek incremental revenue-generating opportunities for real estate assets in traditional and alternative market segments such as telecommunications, solar/wind generation, agriculture, and sustainable technology and research.

An agriculture lease amendment was executed to allow continued farming by D & L Farms on 5,084 acres of Bacon Island. Due to the recent drought resulting in crop damage and loss of farm revenue, the lease has been amended to address rents and adjusted due dates. (RL4092)

### Foster staff training and development.

- Staff completed the following International Right of Way Association-sponsored courses: *Principles of Land Acquisition, Conflict Management, Legal Aspects of Easements, and Principles of Real Estate Law.*
- Staff attended the Metropolitan-sponsored courses: *Effective Presentations, Dealing with Difficult People, Conflict to Collaboration for Employees, Outlook Tips and Tricks, Management Academy, and Budget Workshop.*
- Management completed the *EEO Program for Managers: Preventing Unlawful Workplace Harassment for Managers, Sexual Harassment, and Abusive Conduct Prevention for Managers.*
- Management attended the Institution for Management Studies course, *The Manager's Toolkit.*

Pursue development and improvement 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 benefit the surrounding community.

As reported in April 2017, a non-binding Memorandum of Intent (MOI) serving as a tool for planning and coordination purposes for the DVL east recreation area was signed by Metropolitan, Valley Wide Park and Recreation District, Eastern Municipal Water District, City of Hemet, and Riverside County Regional Park and Open Space District. As established in the MOI, an Implementation Committee was formed and the first meeting was held on August 9. At the meeting, the committee approved committee composition, term of service for committee appointments, committee scope and responsibilities, committee decision protocol and voting, and meeting frequency.

There has been an increase in visitors at the marina as the water level rises. Ten night fishing tournaments have been scheduled during the months of July, August and September. Each tournament attracts between 60-124 participants and approximately 30-62 boats launch. So far, the largest bass caught in a tournament weighed 9.02 pounds.

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

- Staff completed installation of lighting motion sensors for the low-rise restrooms and conference rooms at the Headquarters building, which results in energy savings.
- Pressure washing was performed on buildings 1, 3, and 4 at Diamond Valley Lake Visitor Center as part of the quarterly maintenance.
- Staff upgraded the theater and accent lighting with LED lighting at Diamond Valley Lake Visitor Center in and around building 1. The upgrade results in increased lighting performance and lower maintenance cost.

## WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

### 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.

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Colorado River System Conservation—To save an estimated 6,300 acre-feet in the Upper Colorado River Basin, seven project specific system conservation funding agreements have been executed this past month by Metropolitan, the Central Arizona Water Conservation District, Denver Water, Southern Nevada Water Authority, the Upper Colorado River Commission, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The projects are located in Colorado, New Mexico, and Wyoming and water will be conserved through fallowing or suspension of irrigation for a specified number of months.

2018 Draft Annual Operating Plan for Colorado River Reservoirs—The Colorado River Management Workgroup met to review the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's draft Annual Operating Plan for Colorado River Reservoirs, 2018. The draft Plan proposes that the Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) Surplus Condition govern the operation of Lake Mead for calendar year 2018. Under the draft Plan, ICS may be created and delivered in 2018 and Colorado River water may be stored off-stream by a contractor for another contractor pursuant to applicable agreements.

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

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Surface Water Augmentation Regulations—Staff participated in two statewide workgroups to evaluate proposed State Water Resources Control Board Surface Water Augmentation (SWA) regulations. The proposed SWA regulations would establish minimum uniform water recycling criteria to protect public health from the placement of recycled water into a surface water reservoir used as a public water supply. The SWRCB will hold a public hearing on September 9 in Sacramento to hear public comments on the proposed regulations.

Department of Water Resources Desalination Grant—Metropolitan hosted a public workshop for the Department of Water Resources on proposal guidelines for their \$93 million desalination grant program. DWR staff reviewed the grant program's application requirements and answered question from attendees. Participants included member and local agency staff, along with consultants and other stakeholders. The grant program specifically targets brackish groundwater desalination and seawater desalination projects that increase municipal water supplies. Project types include: (1) construction, (2) feasibility studies, (3) environmental documentation, (4) design pilots and (5) research pilots. Construction projects are eligible for up to \$10 million in grant funding. Applicants must include a minimum 50 percent funding match, with lower match requirements for disadvantaged communities. Proposals were due September 5, DWR expects to announce the draft funding decision in November and the final awards in December.

## WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

CORE: WATER SUPPLY continued...

### Ensure reliable and cost-effective water management programs.

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Palo Verde Irrigation District/MWD Fallowing Program—Metropolitan issued \$13.5 million to landowners participating in the PVID/MWD Fallowing Program. The annual payment is for their obligation to fallow land at the program's 90 percent fallowing level. A projected 112,000 acre-feet of water is conserved at the 90 percent fallowing level.

### Implement the Local Resources Program

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On-site Retrofit Program—The On-site Retrofit Program has provided over \$7.5 million in incentives to 283 sites to convert potable water systems to recycled water. An additional 29 sites are under construction. Water savings are estimated at 8,950 acre-feet per year. The majority of the projects completed are for landscape irrigation with a few industrial projects. Additional projects are being solicited from member agencies.

### Implement the Conservation Program effectively.

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Program Advisory Committee (PAC)—On August 10, the Water Efficiency Team moderated the first PAC meeting this year. The PAC is made up of more than 20 member and retail water agencies who will have input on new water efficiency program designs.

UCLA Turf Report—The final report on Ecological Effects of Turf Replacement was provided to Metropolitan. Staff has been working with UCLA for the past year and a half on this report, which looks at Metropolitan's Turf Replacement Program in Los Angeles County.

San Bernardino County Water Conference—Staff moderated a panel on The Water and Energy Nexus. Also on the panel were experts from Southern California Edison, Southern California Gas Company and Inland Empire Utilities Agency.

California DATA Collaborative—Staff attended and spoke at the Second Annual Water Data Summit at Stanford University. The Summit addressed new data analytical tools for conservation programs.

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

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Urban Water Institute Conference—Staff attended the Urban Water Institute's 24th Annual Conference. Topics covered at the conference included Delta issues, Oroville Dam, Colorado River supplies, water infrastructure, and water rights. Staff participated in panels on *Oroville Dam: Engineering Issues* and *Updating the Bay-Delta WQCP: Unimpaired vs. Functional Flows and Implications for Southern California's Water Reliability*.

## WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

### GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: DEVELOP WATER SUPPLIES AND MANAGE WATER RESERVES

Staff will work closely with the Board to manage Metropolitan's water supply reserves in the face of the unprecedented drought conditions in California and throughout the Southwest. Should El Niño conditions create more supply, staff is prepared to maximize storage opportunities. The actions will include implementation of storage withdrawals, coordination of deliveries with the member agencies, close monitoring of drought conditions and possible allocation actions as part of the Water Surplus and Drought Management plan, and targeted outreach on conversation efforts.

#### Manage Water Reserves

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State Water Project imports into the service area were maximized in August. This was due in part to efforts to divert Colorado River Aqueduct deliveries into storage and increase SWP deliveries under the 85 percent SWP allocation. For the month of August, the use of SWP accounted for 83 percent of Metropolitan's deliveries. Storage at Diamond Valley Lake decreased slightly to 700,000 acre-feet or 86 percent full to help meet summer demands. Water reserves continue to be managed according to the Annual Operating Plan and Water Surplus and Drought Management principles. Deliveries to Semitropic and Kern Delta banking programs continue and staff is working with the banking partners to increase scheduled storage at every opportunity. Deliveries of Colorado River water to groundwater storage in the Advance Delivery Account with Desert Water Agency and Coachella Valley Water District were 40,500 AF in August, for a year-to-date delivery amount of about 219,000 AF. Lake Mead's Intentionally Created Surplus storage is continuing to fill by keeping CRA deliveries at a low four-pump flow. Deliveries to the Cyclic Storage Accounts with Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District and Burbank began in August and will augment deliveries to groundwater storage for Eastern Municipal Water District, Municipal Water District of Orange County, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, and Three Valleys Municipal Water District that began earlier this year. This will improve local groundwater storage reserves after several years of drought.

## WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

### CORE: PROVIDE RELIABLE WATER SUPPLIES

Metropolitan delivered approximately 188,000 acre-feet of water to meet member agency demands in August, which averaged approximately 6,100 AF per day. This was an increase of 900 AF per day from July deliveries. Treated water deliveries for August totaled 98,000 AF, or 52 percent of total deliveries for the month; this was an increase of 8,000 AF from July deliveries. The Colorado River Aqueduct operated at a four-pump flow, and 56,000 AF of Colorado River water was pumped in August. This was an average 1,800 AF per day. Year-to-date CRA diversions are 362,000 AF. SWP imports averaged 4,700 AF per day for 144,000 AF for the month of August. This was an increase of 10,400 AF from July SWP imports. This increase was due to the maximized deliveries on the East Branch of the SWP at all times and further expansion of the Jensen plant deliveries to supply more SWP water into the Central Pool. The targeted blends for the Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner plants were 75 percent for the first part of the month of August. In mid-August, the Weymouth and Diemer plant SWP blend was decreased to 65 percent to allow for additional deliveries of SWP water to groundwater storage.

Staff continued to maximize power generation throughout the month. Metropolitan's hydroelectric plants generated an average of 52 megawatts per hour for 39,000 megawatt-hours for the month.

## WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

### GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT

The proposed budget calls for Metropolitan to cease its managed attrition that has shrunk Metropolitan from 2,400 full-time employee positions to a current workforce of approximately 1,750. Recruitment activity will be expanded to fully replace all retirements and actually add some positions to bring the work force to approximately 1,800 positions over the next two years. Increase employee cross-training and employee development efforts will be needed to meet the challenge of increased retirements brought about by an aging workforce.

#### Manage vacancies.

WSO filled ten vacant positions in June 2017.

#### Prepare employees for New Opportunities

The Water System Operations Apprentice and Technical Training Programs develop and train personnel to become qualified mechanics and electricians responsible for maintaining Metropolitan's water treatment and distribution systems. This month the Class of 2021 Mechanics and Electricians began employment as pre-apprentices. The 17 students (11 mechanical and 6 electrical) will be officially indentured into the Apprenticeship Program after successful completion of a six-month probationary period. During their first week, the pre-apprentices attended the Apprenticeship Program Orientation and a series of safety classes to prepare them for work in the field. *(see photo below)*

This month, staff began delivery of the first session of the Electrical Cross-Training Directed Study Program for desert region journey level mechanics. This program will provide training to help the desert region mechanics gain experience and prepare for future job opportunities. The program includes academic and on-the-job training over a period of 18 months.

Class of 2021 Mechanical and  
Electrical Pre-Apprentices



## WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

### CORE: OPTIMIZE MAINTENANCE

Staff completed the Beverly Hills Pressure Control Structure Upgrade Project. This project allows Eagle Rock Operations Control Center to remotely control two valves that will maintain the correct pressure on the system. Staff upgraded hardware and installed instrumentation, which allows for communication and automatic adjustments to control valve position. The project was completed without disruption to the member agencies.

## WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

CORE: OPTIMIZE MAINTENANCE continued...

Each summer, Water System Operations hires summer interns to assist with important tasks throughout the desert region. The students are recruited through Metropolitan's recruitment website, and typically work 60 to 90 days. Once they arrive, the interns attend new employee orientation, and receive all required safety training and personal protective equipment needed to perform their tasks. Tasks performed include installation of speed bumps, brush removal, trash and debris removal, delivery of small equipment and parts, and minor painting. The work performed allows desert staff to focus on higher priority core work. *(see photos below)*

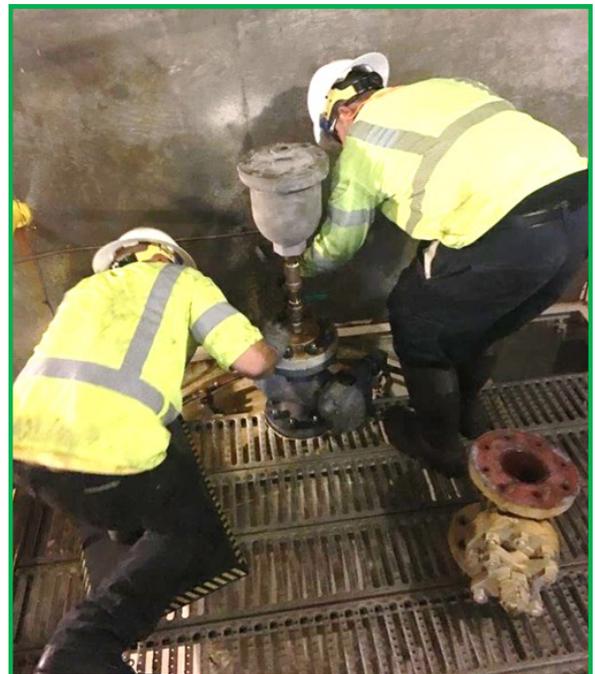


Interns installing speed bump at Gene pumping plant and cleaning fences at Eagle Pump Plant Reservoir

A leak was discovered on the air release valve on the West Coast Feeder that runs through the city of Compton and the city of Torrance. As a result, a portion of the West Coast Feeder was shutdown and partially dewatered and depressurized to allow the replacement of both the isolation and air release valves. The feeder was successfully returned to service in less than 12 hours.

*(see photo right)*

Staff removing the isolation and air release valves on the West Coast Feeder



## WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

### CORE: OPTIMIZE MAINTENANCE *continued...*

Staff has established a cleaning rotation during the warm weather months to control algae growth in the sedimentation basins at the treatment plants. Algae can negatively impact water quality and can cause taste-and-odor issues. At Diemer, each basin was cleaned with high pressure hoses, taking one day per basin. Eight basins were cleaned over a two-month period. The cleaning cycle will be repeated after a one to two week break. *(see photos below)*



Algae in the sedimentation basins at the Diemer plant before cleaning

Sedimentation basins at the Diemer plant after cleaning



Staff is testing the new Weymouth ozone contactors prior to system startup. Staff found that sample lines within the ozone contactors are becoming clogged with algae. Sample lines are needed for measuring ozone residual to ensure proper disinfection. Staff entered the ozone contactors in order to clean and modify the sample lines orientation in order to prevent the algae from clogging. Staff dewatered and isolated the ozone contactors to provide safe entry for the work crews during the cleaning process. Staff donned proper personal protective equipment (e.g., self-contained breathing apparatus) to perform the work. The cleaning and modifications of the sample lines have worked to prevent the clogging and ensure accurate ozone disinfection. *(see photo right)*

Staff installing blocking flange on ozone line to contactor as part of safety clearance to enter ozone contactor



## WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

CORE: OPTIMIZE MAINTENANCE continued...

Staff relocated from the Diemer Administration Building as part of the Diemer Administration Building Upgrades Capital Improvement Project. Offices, shop areas, and the operations control room are being housed in temporary facilities throughout the duration of this project. The operations control room, operators, and all functionality have been relocated to the ozone building control room without interrupting plant operations. *(see photos below)*



Old operations control room at the Diemer



Temporary control room at the Diemer

Staff repaired an alum unloading line at the Jensen plant. The line was removed from service when the lid to the basket strainer failed. The basket strainer is used to remove large particles of dirt and debris. The repairs included a bypass line and additional isolation valves for reliability and operational flexibility. *(see photos right)*



Alum unloading line at the Jensen plant before (left) and after (right) repairs

## **WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS**

### **CORE: MANAGE THE POWER SYSTEM**

On August 8, staff met with personnel from the Arizona Electric Power Cooperative (AEPCO) at their offices in Benson, Arizona to discuss procedures for the scheduling of power for the CRA. On September 30, 2017, the current Scheduling and Interchange Agreement with Southern California Edison will terminate and the AEPCO will act as Metropolitan's energy scheduler. Metropolitan also provided training on the operation of the Colorado River Aqueduct, as required by the new agreements between the AEPCO and Metropolitan.

On August 16 and 30, personnel from the AEPCO met with staff at the Gene pumping plant to draft new instructions to manage high-voltage switching and operations of Metropolitan's CRA transmission facilities. These instructions must be modified to account for the new contractual arrangements between the AEPCO and Metropolitan that will begin October 1.

On August 21, Metropolitan began installing new electric meter equipment at the CRA pumping plants. This new equipment is necessary to account for the energy used at each plant and conform to the metering requirements of the California Independent System Operator. It will also assist the AEPCO in scheduling energy for the CRA. The Arizona Electric Power Cooperative will begin scheduling power for the CRA on October 1 and the new metering equipment must be certified and operational by that time.

## **WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS**

### **CORE: IMPROVE SECURITY AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

Staff continues to plan for multiple emergency exercises with numerous Metropolitan facilities and external agencies slated to participate. The largest of these exercises will be a multi-agency full-scale exercise with Southern California Edison on October 19, in conjunction with the Great California ShakeOut. Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Long Beach Water Department, Torrance Water Department, and West Basin Municipal Water District will be participating in this exercise, along with Southern California Gas, San Diego Gas and Electric, and numerous Southern California county emergency management agencies. Staff participated on bi-weekly planning calls and regular meetings, including a joint planning meeting on August 3 to prepare for this exercise.

On August 2, staff met with representatives from the Riverside County Department of Environment Health and Cal Fire Hazardous Materials Unit to start planning for a series of joint hazardous materials drills at the Chemical Unloading Facility in September. These drills will give responders from various agencies the opportunity to practice how they would work together during an actual incident.

## **WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS**

### **CORE: PROTECT SOURCE WATER QUALITY**

On August 9, staff participated in stakeholder meetings in Henderson, Nevada regarding the perchlorate cleanup at the former Tronox site. The Nevada Environmental Response Trust and Nevada Division of Environmental Protection discussed current remedial operations, ongoing site investigations, long-term remedy plan development, and budgetary issues. The Trust also discussed three proposed groundwater treatability studies to continue investigating feasible treatment options for the final remedy.

Lake Skinner was treated with copper sulfate to control growth of a taste-and-odor problem associated with geosmin caused by cyanobacterium. Treatment reduced geosmin concentrations by 95 percent close to the outlet tower.

## WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

### CORE: OPTIMIZE WATER TREATMENT AND DISTRIBUTION

State Water Project target blends at the Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner plants were 75 percent for the first part of the month of August 2017. In mid-August, the Weymouth and Diemer plant SWP blend was decreased to 65 percent to allow for additional deliveries of SWP water to groundwater storage. Flow-weighted running annual averages for total dissolved solids from July 2016 through June 2017 were 475, 515, and 524 mg/L for Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner plants, respectively.

After several months of dialogue with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, staff placed service connection USG-03 into service. The USG-03 connection serves replenishment water to Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District. The connection discharges into the San Gabriel River in San Gabriel Canyon north of the city of Azusa. *(see photos below)*



Water discharging into the San Gabriel River through service connection USG-03

Staff installed refurbished air coolers at the Rio Hondo Hydroelectric Plant in South Gate. Air coolers are an important component of the power plant because they prevent it from overheating, which would result in unscheduled outages. During previous routine maintenance testing, staff found early indication that these coolers were starting to fail, which could lead to water leaks and damage to the high voltage generator. Staff removed the coolers from service and sent them to an outside shop that specializes in refurbishing this type of equipment. *(see photo right)*



Staff installing the generator air housing at Rio Hondo Hydroelectric Plant

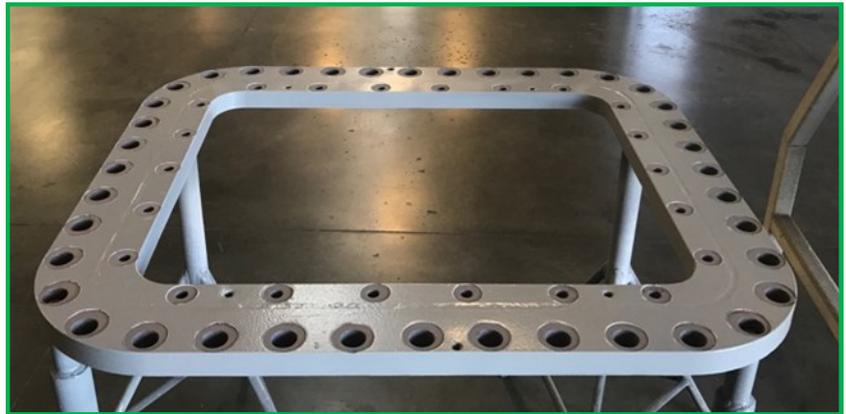
## WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

### CORE: OPTIMIZE WATER TREATMENT AND DISTRIBUTION *continued...*

Staff refurbished a 35-inch by 40-inch scroll case door and frame for California Department of Water Resources' Gianelli Pump Plant Unit 4. The Gianelli Plant pump is located on the outlet of San Luis Reservoir on the SWP system and this door provides access to critical internal pump components. This door was leaking due to severe corrosion on the frame and the hinges that prevented the door from sealing tightly. Staff manufactured and coated a new frame, refurbished and coated the existing door, and manufactured and installed new bronze bushing and hinge pins. *(see photos below)*



As-received scroll case door (left) and frame (right) for DWR's Gianelli Pump Plant Unit 4



Refurbished scroll case door (left) and frame (right) for DWR's Gianelli Pump Plant Unit 4

## WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

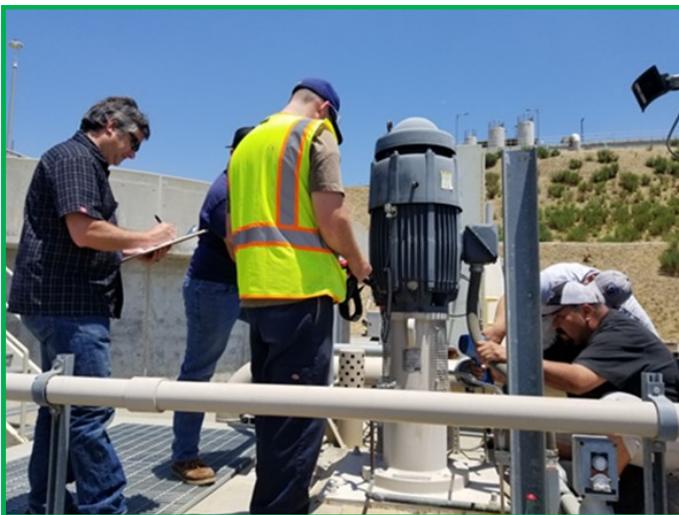
CORE: OPTIMIZE WATER TREATMENT AND DISTRIBUTION continued...

Staff performed regular high-voltage maintenance and testing at the Mills plant. Routine maintenance of this equipment ensures that these systems operate correctly. The work at Mills plant included testing of high-voltage transformers and unit power centers. *(see photo right)*

Staff installing grounds on high-voltage switch gear prior to beginning maintenance work at the Mills plant



Staff is continuing the implementation of condition-based maintenance (CBM) across all Metropolitan facilities. CBM is a maintenance approach that focuses on tracking the condition of equipment using advanced diagnostic techniques such as vibration and oil analysis to anticipate when equipment will need servicing. Staff has undertaken a multiyear effort to transition to this type of maintenance, from the current frequency-based maintenance, for key equipment such as pumps and motors. This month, staff conducted vibration training at the Diemer plant and performed vibration testing of the emergency generators at Lake Skinner.



Staff conducting vibration data collection training at Diemer plant



Staff conducting vibration testing of emergency generators at the Skinner plant

## WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

### CORE: PREPARE FOR FUTURE LEGISLATION AND REGULATION

Staff developed comments for submission to the State Water Resources Control Board on California's proposed Surface Water Augmentation regulations. The regulations aim to protect public health with respect to placing recycled water into a surface water reservoir that is used as a drinking water supply. Overall, Metropolitan supports the proposed regulations, but staff is seeking clarification on some specific aspects.

Staff also developed comments for submission to the SWRCB on California's proposed Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program regulation amendments. The proposed amendments are focused on improving laboratory practices related to compliance reports for drinking water data. Staff supports the proposed new regulations but seeks clarification on specific sections that may impose additional administrative duties not directly applicable to water utility laboratories.

On August 1, the SWRCB removed chromium-6 from the California Code of Regulations as a result of a ruling by the Superior Court of California that found that the state failed to properly consider economic feasibility when developing the chromium-6 drinking water standard. The state will start a new regulatory process for chromium-6 that is expected to take up to two years to complete. Metropolitan remains in compliance with the existing total chromium standard.

## WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

### CORE: PROVIDE TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO MEMBER AGENCIES

Staff continued to handle member agencies' data requests in support of State Senate Bill 555, which requires retail agencies to submit water loss audit reports to the state. As part of this effort, Metropolitan supplies calibration records and provides information regarding billing meter maintenance and operation. For this month, staff processed meter data requests from four member agencies on 30 service connections.

## WATER SYSTEM 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 July 2017.

In August, Metropolitan received permit coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board Statewide General Permit for Drinking Water System Discharges. This permit was adopted by SWRCB on November 18, 2014 to address National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System discharges specifically from drinking water systems. Staff submitted the permit application in August 2015 prior to the deadline (September 2015). Although it took two years for SWRCB to review and accept Metropolitan's application, staff continued to comply with the existing MS4 permit during this interim period. The permit is needed for shutdown dewatering activities that are greater than 50,000 gallons.

Staff began construction of a new sanitation facility at the Diamond Valley Lake East Marina. This facility will replace the existing portable toilets with an underground wastewater holding tank and a pre-cast concrete restroom facility. This will improve recreation conditions for visitors and provide greater source water protection for DVL. The scope of work includes site grading, excavation for the foundation footings, trench excavation, installation of the waste holding tank, and installation of the booster pump. (*see photo page 37*)



Staff excavating for foundation of the pre-cast concrete sanitation facility at DVL East Marina

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## WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

**CORE BUSINESS: Administer Group Operations and Provide Management Controls**

Fiscal year 2016/17 closed and WSO was on budget.

## WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

**CORE BUSINESS: SUPPORT EDUCATION AND OUTREACH INITIATIVES**

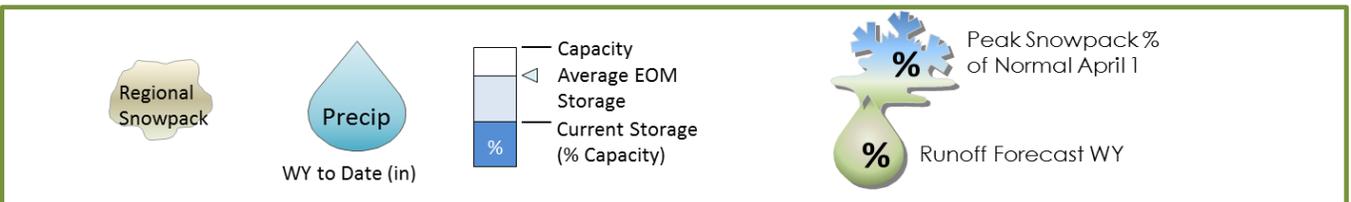
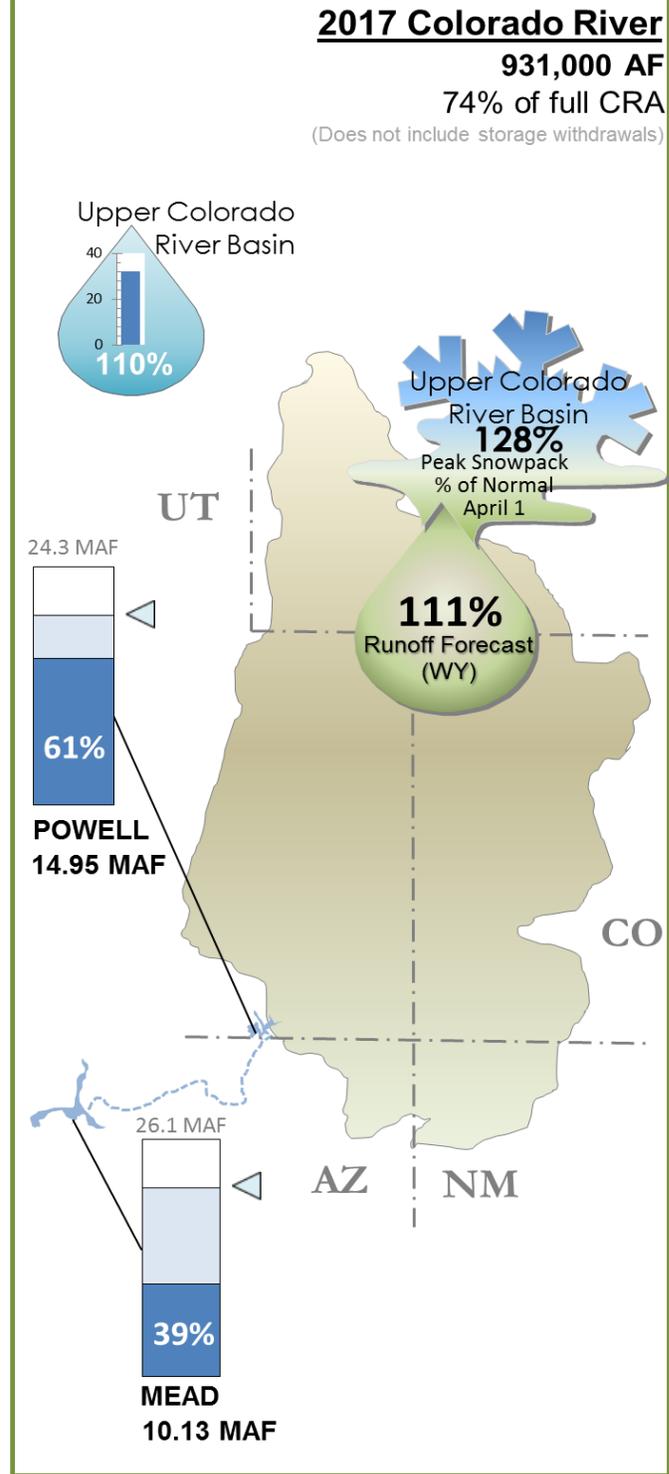
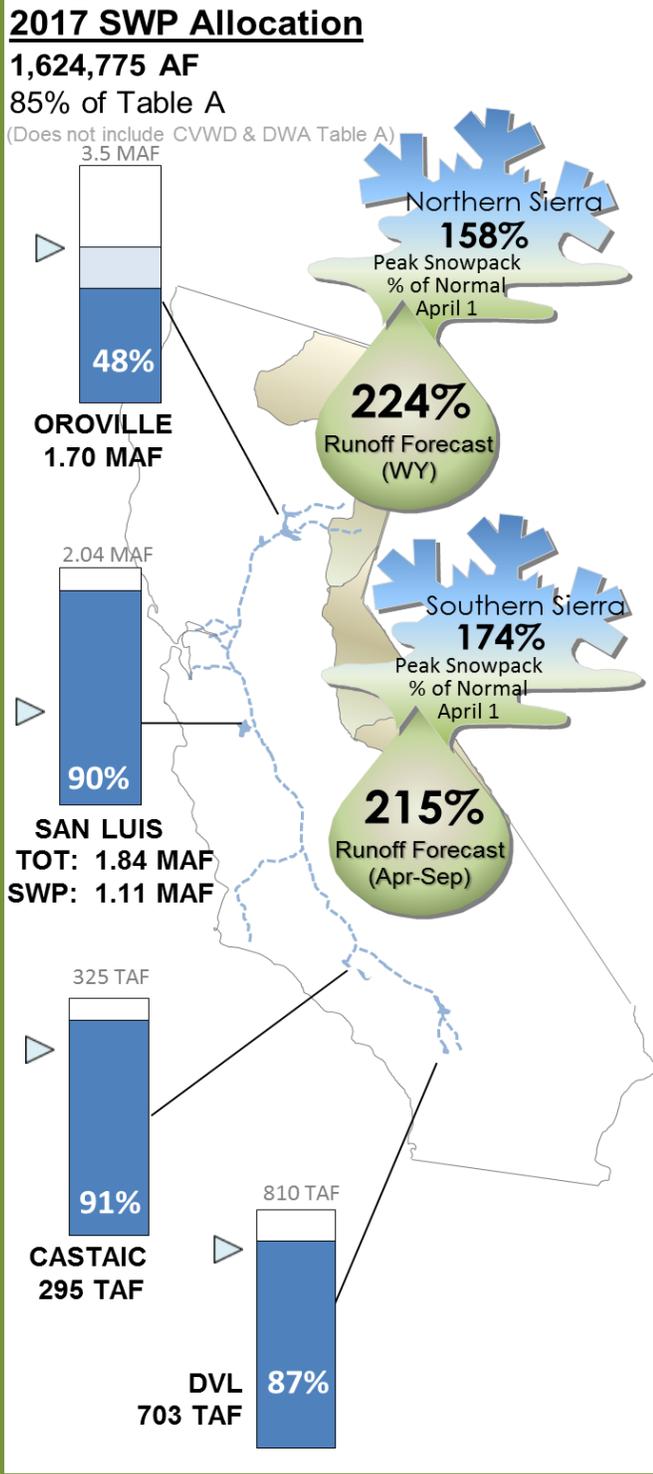
Staff provided a tour of the Water Quality Laboratory and Weymouth plant to the Los Angeles Service Academy. The Academy provides an intensive introduction to the infrastructure and institutions of greater Los Angeles for high school juniors who have expressed an interest in public, civic, and civil service. Participants are students within Metropolitan's service area.



Los Angeles Service Academy students at Weymouth plant

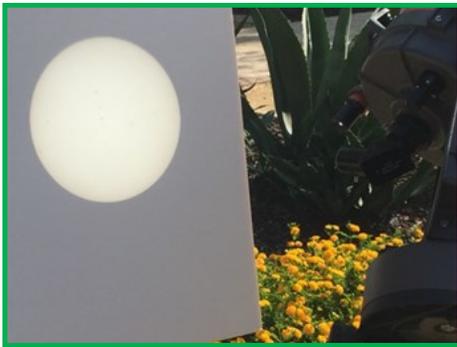
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**WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS as of August 31, 2017**





Staff engagement—sharing the experience of viewing the solar eclipse in the Headquarters courtyard. (August 21)



Progression of Solar Eclipse as seen through a Metropolitan Staff's Telescopic Image Projection

Storage	As of 8/31/17	% of Capacity
DVL	703,292 AF	87
Lake Mathews	126,052 AF	69
Lake Skinner	34,651 AF	79

**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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