



# The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California General Manager's Monthly Activity Report for May 2019

This report identifies the actions and activities taking place during the month that support the objectives of the General Manager's Fiscal Year 2018/19 Strategic Priorities and the Core Business of the GM's work groups.

MAY 31, 2019

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

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

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

### Solar Cup

Metropolitan Water District's 17th annual Solar Cup™ was held at Lake Skinner May 17-19. This year, 43 schools participated in the three-day event. Directors Dick and Galleano attended as did several directors and staff from member agencies, including IEUA Director and former Metropolitan Director Camacho. More than 130 Metropolitan staff volunteered, and 20 employees from Edison participated in the event. Cypress's Oxford Academy (Municipal Water District of Orange County) won first place in the veteran's division and Oaks Christian School (Las Virgenes Municipal Water District) took top prize in the rookie division. [\(see photos below and page x\)](#)



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## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES SECTION

### CORE BUSINESS: Business Processes

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

Objective: Innovate and promote sustainability efforts in business practices including, Our Legacy E-Newsletter, the Rideshare program, energy conservation, and recycling efforts.

With support from the Office of the General Manager, the 2019 Average Vehicle Ridership (AVR) Survey was completed and submitted to South Coast Air Quality Management District by the required deadline. Rideshare staff worked diligently to ensure a 95 percent participation rate from staff at the Weymouth plant and 97 percent from Headquarters. [\(see photo below\)](#)

### Miscellaneous

The Warehouse Team partnered with Diemer plant staff to host a warehouse showcase and tool show that included information booths from Records Management and Imaging Services Team and Rideshare program. The purpose of the event was to connect District end-users with Metropolitan’s warehouse tools and suppliers and also to create awareness of the variety of services provided by the Administrative Services Section. Suppliers provided demonstrations of industry tools and equipment with an emphasis on new safety features. [\(see photo below\)](#)

Diemer Facility Warehouse Tool Show



Rideshare Informational Booth



## BAY-DELTA INITIATIVES GROUP

### GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Ensure Imported Supply Reliability

Southern California's foundational water supply remains the Colorado River and the State Water Project and their ongoing reliability is critical for the region. Important decisions on both supplies need to be made over the next two years.

**Objective:** Collaborate with the state and other state and federal water agencies in pursuing the implementation and construction of California WaterFix.

In response to Governor Newsom's recent executive order directing state agencies to develop a comprehensive statewide strategy to build a climate-resilient water system that includes a smaller, single-tunnel conveyance project, this month the California Department of Water Resources took steps to formally terminate the California WaterFix Project (WaterFix). On May 2, DWR Director Karla Nemeth withdrew approval of WaterFix, decertified the Environmental Impact Report, and rescinded various permitting applications including those submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and state and federal Endangered Species Acts permits.

#### Joint Powers Authorities

The Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) and the Delta Conveyance Finance Authority (Finance Authority) met on May 16. At the meetings, the DCA adopted a purchasing and procurement policy and discussed creation of an environmental committee. Action to amend the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement with DWR to provide planning and environmental services for the single-tunnel conveyance project was deferred. The Finance Authority took action to approve the fiscal year 2019/2020 budget and authorized the Executive Director to execute an agreement for audit services.

**Objective:** Provide leadership on scientific studies that further opportunities to sustain and support native species and habitat.

Staff continued work to study factors affecting predation of juvenile salmon. In May, staff worked with University of California, Santa Cruz researchers to collect information on predation of juvenile salmon as part of a study to investigate if modification or elimination of predator contact points in the Delta can decrease predation mortality on juvenile salmon and increase their survival. Contact points are manmade structures associated with increased predation mortality of juvenile salmonids (e.g., diversions, scour holes, pilings). This is the first year of a five-year project. Year 1 of field work for the study is currently taking place through June and a report of findings will be available in December 2019. This report will be used to identify where predation is occurring on the landscape and what contact points are associated with predation. This information will be used to identify which contact points have the highest predation and should be modified in an effort to reduce predation related mortality. Modification of the contact points and post-monitoring will take place in Years 2-4 of the study, and analyses and reporting to determine if modification of contact points increased juvenile salmon survival will be conducted in Year 5.

## BAY-DELTA INITIATIVES GROUP

### CORE BUSINESS: Bay-Delta Solutions

Develop and pursue near- and long-term solutions that will ensure improved water quality and water supply reliability. Efforts include providing leadership for proposed Delta improvements, participating in on-going federal and state Bay-Delta regulatory processes, effectively managing studies and research activities that promote collaborative science, identifying opportunities for Delta Islands land management, and monitoring Delta levees performance to ensure long-term levees integrity.

**Objective: NEAR-TERM DELTA ACTIONS**—Develop and implement near-term measures, compatible with long-term Delta solutions to support regulatory processes that improve water quality and water supply reliability. Near-Term Actions include important efforts such as Regulatory, Planning, and Legislative Support; Science Development, and Emergency Preparedness Planning and Implementation.

#### Science Development

Staff continued participating in the Collaborative Science and Adaptive Management Program (CSAMP), including participation on the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team (CAMT). In May, the CSAMP Policy Group focused discussions on the CSAMP structured decision making (SDM) process for Delta smelt and possible strategies to integrate with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation SDM process focused on salmon. The overall objective of the SDM process for Delta smelt is to identify actions to benefit Delta smelt and evaluate and rank the actions in a scientifically structured process to support consideration of prioritized management actions. CAMT focused on implementation of the Delta Smelt Science Plan, the Department of Boating and Waterways aquatic weed program, and opportunities for management of Suisun Marsh to improve habitat conditions for Delta smelt.

Staff also participated in a CAMT workshop focused on identifying rearing habitat for juvenile Chinook salmon. Providing rearing habitat for juvenile Chinook salmon is a key conservation priority in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta; however, there is limited data available on rearing habitat in the Delta, and interpreting that data is challenging because the system has been highly altered. At the workshop, researchers at the San Francisco Estuary Institute shared initial findings from a report they developed that summarizes what is currently known or hypothesized about Chinook salmon rearing habitat in the Delta, and workshop participants provided feedback on the report's findings, discussed additional information that should be included in the report, and prioritized areas for habitat restoration based on expert opinion.

Staff attended the Salmonid Restoration Federation Annual Conference, which explored a range of issues including foodscapes, floodplains, and freshwater-estuarine habitats; monitoring, modeling, and strategies to address summertime flows; salmon-habitat relationships, planning and strategies for fire resilience, and Chinook salmon genetic and recovery issues.

Staff participated in the Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) Stakeholder meeting on May 8. The meeting focused on proposed directed science studies for the IEP 2020 Workplan and development of a five-year IEP Science Strategy. Metropolitan staff and the State Water Contractors are collaborating with IEP on two studies addressing juvenile Chinook salmon.

The Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee (DPIIC) initiated a process addressing science funding and governance for the Delta. Staff is participating in the DPIIC workgroups addressing: (1) mechanisms to critically assess science and monitoring efforts, (2) science-policy interchange to inform science priorities and management questions, (3) need for consistent funding across the Delta science enterprise, and (4) science needs to prepare for long-term changes such as climate change. The workgroups are charged with developing recommendations by fall of this year.

## BAY-DELTA INITIATIVES GROUP

### CORE BUSINESS: Bay-Delta Solutions continued...

#### Objective: NEAR-TERM DELTA ACTIONS—Emergency Preparedness Planning and Implementation

##### Delta Flood Emergency Management Plan

DWR recently completed emergency preparedness and response reports and indicated that the reports will be updated from time to time based on field exercises to refine and improve emergency procedures. The scope and tactical approaches of the DWR/Army Corp of Engineers Delta Emergency Operations Integration Plan and the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Northern California Catastrophic Emergency Management Plan were tested during emergency exercises or actual emergency events while in draft form to help refine and finalize the reports.

A principal DWR objective during recent emergency exercises at Bacon and Middle Roberts Islands was to practice rapid formulation of scopes and contract packages for barge or truck transport and placement of rock and flood fight materials. DWR also practiced the preparation of streamlined documentation to secure U.S. Army Corp of Engineers PL 84-99 emergency construction support should the scale of emergency operations exceed DWR capabilities.

The Emergency Response Tool modeling exercises were performed to simulate levee slumping that results in full levee breaches. The recent exercise identified locations of high salinity concentrations in the Delta. DWR has stated that state funding can be provided to local Reclamation Districts to subsidize most immediate emergency response needs during the time that DWR and Army Corp. of Engineers assistance is being deployed to an emergency operations site.

## CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER GROUP

### CFO STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Maintain Strong Financial Position

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

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

The Risk Management Unit completed 62 incident reports communicating instances of Metropolitan property damage, liability, workplace injuries, regulatory visits, and spills.

Risk Management completed 51 risk assessments on contracts, including professional service agreements, construction contracts, entry permits, special events, and film permits.



## CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER GROUP

### CORE PRIORITY: Business Continuity

Metropolitan will continue its longstanding practice of operating in a productive, cost-effective, transparent and efficient manner to ensure sound financial stability.

**Objective:** Manage the Business Continuity Management Program in accordance with Operating Policy A-06.

- Participated on Metropolitan's certification team in regards to the America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA). Administered by the Environmental Protection Agency, the AWIA requires community water systems serving more than 3,300 people to develop or update risk assessments and emergency response plans. The main focus for business continuity involves Business Impact Analyses, mitigation strategies, and resilience strategies for financial systems.
- Conducted the Member Agency Business Continuity Working Group kickoff meeting, which was attended by several agencies. The goal of this collaborative group is to share best practices about developing and maintaining effective business continuity plans.
- The annual Data Center Power Outage was conducted from May 16 through May 18, 2019. Aside from Information Technology, no other business users were involved in application testing.
- Met with Fleet Services to discuss Ward Fuel application disaster recovery requirements. Additional meetings will be conducted with IT to develop mitigation strategies and implementation at Lake Mathews Disaster Recovery facility.
- Participated in training for the upgraded Fusion business continuity planning software, and continued working with the vendor on implementation.

### CORE BUSINESS: Financial Management

Manage Metropolitan's finances in an ethical and transparent manner and provide consistent, clear, and timely financial reporting.

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

As of April 30, 2019, the balance in Metropolitan's investment portfolio was \$1.17 billion; for the month of April 2019, Metropolitan's portfolio managers executed 50 trades.

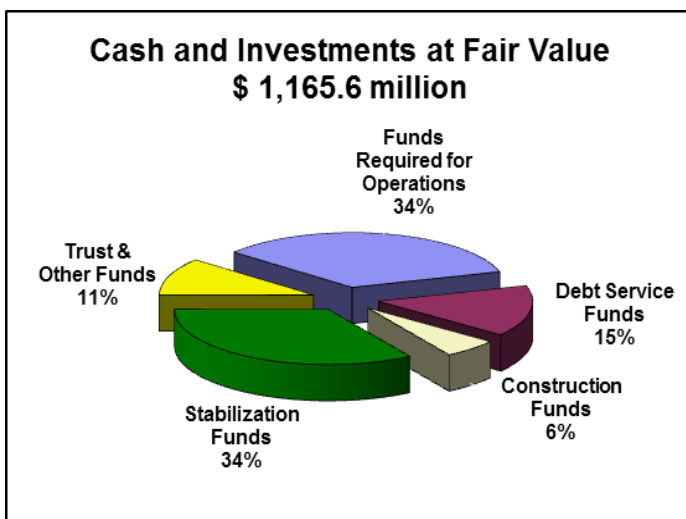
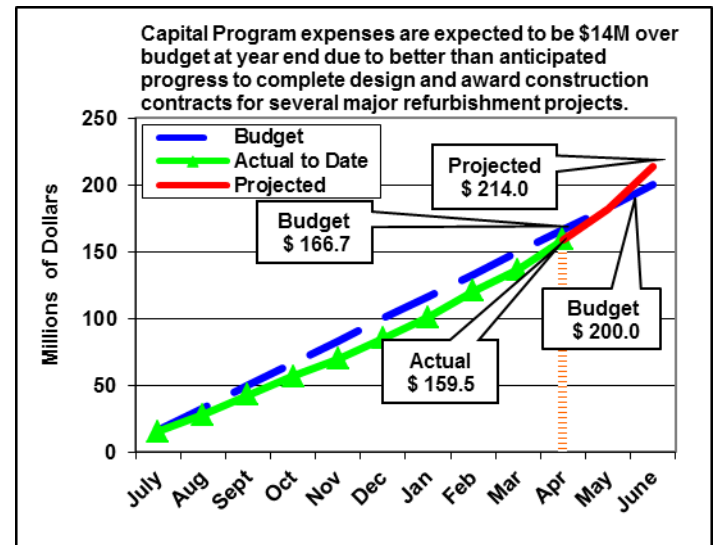
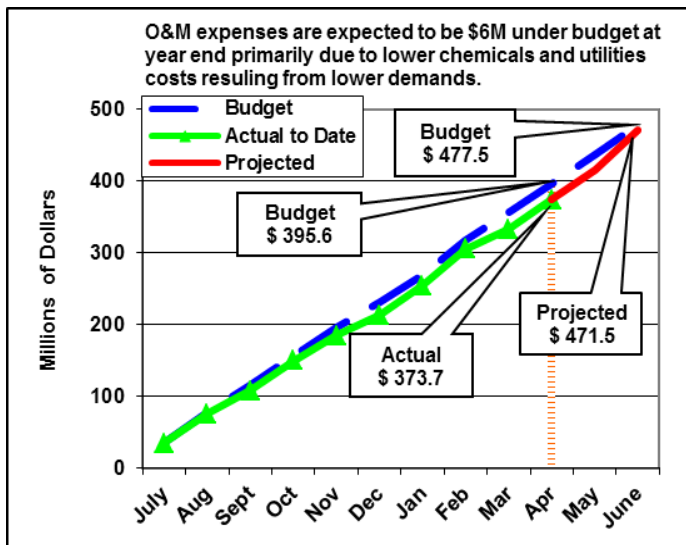
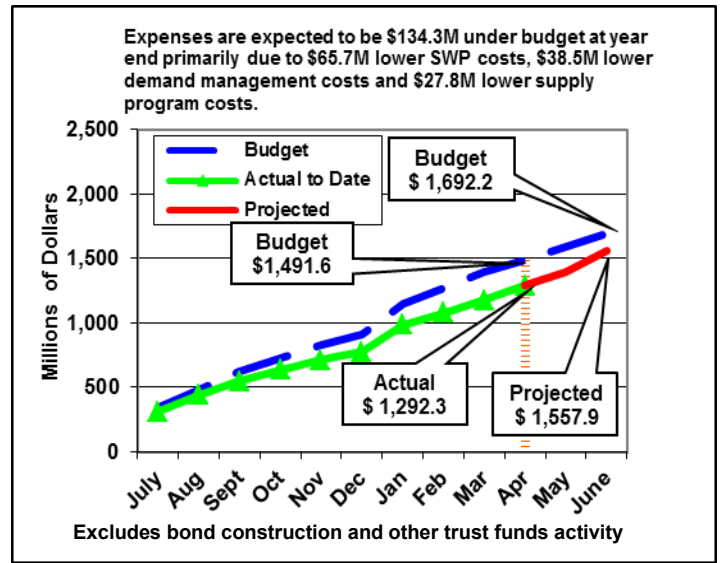
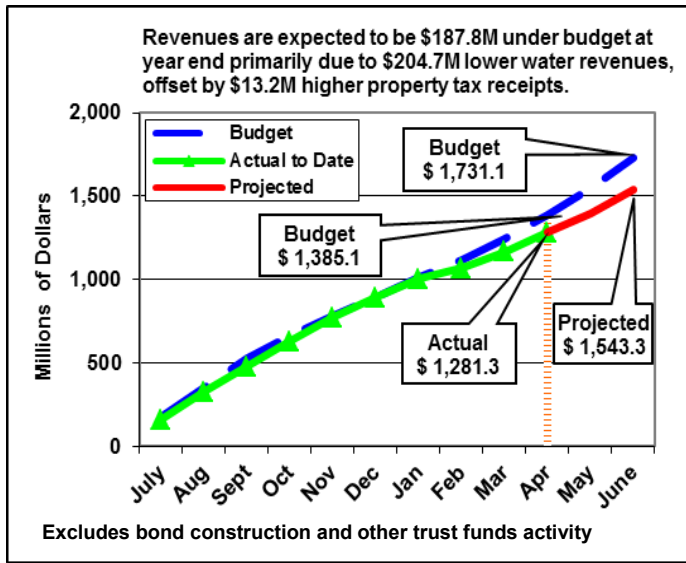
During the month of April 2019, Treasury staff processed 1,731 disbursements by check; 15 disbursements by Automated Clearing House (ACH); and 58 disbursements by wire transfer. Treasury staff also processed 76 receipts by check, 27 receipts by ACH, and 41 receipts by incoming wires and bank transfers.

**Objective:** Update capital financing plans and work with rating agencies and investors to communicate financial needs and capabilities, ensure cost-effective access to capital markets, and maintain long-term bond ratings of AA or better.

#### April 2019

Federal Funds Rate: 2.41%      Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA) Index: 2.30%

FINANCIAL SUMMARY AS OF APRIL 30, 2019



### Summary Financial Statistics

	Target	Year-End Projected
Fixed Charge Coverage	≥ 1.20 x	1.34 x
Revenue Bond Coverage	> 2.00 x	1.43 x
Revenue Bond Debt / Equity Ratio	< 100.0%	60.8% %

### Senior Lien Revenue Bond Credit Ratings

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

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

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

### Distribution System Reliability Program

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

- Jensen Finished Water Reservoir No. 2 Cover Replacement—This project replaces the floating cover and liner at the Jensen plant's Reservoir No. 2 and improves the existing inlet configuration for the reservoir. Preliminary design is 89 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by August 2019.
- Mills Finished Water Reservoir Rehabilitation—This project rehabilitates the Mills plant's two finished water reservoirs, including replacement of the floating covers and liners, refurbishment or replacement of existing shutoff gates, installation of a new drop gate, and installation of enhanced security features. Preliminary design is 89 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by August 2019.
- Valley View Hydroelectric Power Plant Rehabilitation—This project refurbishes deteriorated components of the generator at Valley View Hydroelectric Plant and rehabilitates auxiliary systems at the facility. Rehabilitation is proceeding in two stages: Stage 1 performs immediate repairs to the generator to enable the plant to return to operation, and Stage 2 will address long-term improvements needed for auxiliary systems at the plant. The Stage 1 work is 98 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by May 2019. Preliminary design of the Stage 2 improvements is 60 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by August 2019.
- Wadsworth Pumping Plant Control and Electrical Protection Upgrade—This project replaces the obsolete turbine/pumping unit controls and electrical protection systems for the Wadsworth Pumping Plant and Pressure control structure. Installation and check out of the new controls and control system is 72 percent complete. ([see photo next page](#))
- 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. Rehabilitation is proceeding along four reaches. Construction of Reach 1 is complete. Construction of Reach 2 is 37 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by September 2019. Final design for the remaining two reaches is 77 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by November 2019.
- Red Mountain Hydroelectric Plant—This project refurbishes and/or replaces the turbine's mechanical components. Final design was completed in May 2019.
- Yorba Linda Hydroelectric Power Plant Completion Project—This project fabricates and installs an enclosure for rain protection for the plant generator. Final design for this effort is 30 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by December 2019.
- Perris Valley Pipeline Interstate 215 Crossing—This project installs 3,000 feet of 96-inch diameter welded steel pipe and tunneling beneath the Interstate 215 freeway and Van Buren Boulevard to tie together two existing sections of the Perris Valley Pipeline. Final design is 90 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by September 2019.
- Whitewater Erosion Protection Structure Rehabilitation—This project stabilizes the erosion protection structure that was damaged from the heavy storms in February 2019. Final design was completed in May 2019.
- Greg Avenue Pump Station Rehabilitation—This project improves reliability of the Greg Avenue Pump Station by replacing the existing pumps, and by upgrading the electrical and control systems. Construction is five percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by December 2021. ([see photo next page](#))
- Electrical Upgrade at 15 Structures in Orange County Region—This project replaces deteriorated electrical components at 15 service connection structures on three feeders within the Orange County operating region. Construction is three percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by July 2020.



## ENGINEERING SERVICES GROUP

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Enhance Infrastructure Safety, Security and Resiliency



Wadsworth Pumping Plant Control and Electrical Protection Upgrade – New control systems installed



Greg Avenue Pump Station Rehabilitation – Shoring installation near existing control building

### 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 second construction contract for Reach 4 includes lining approximately 2 miles of existing PCCP segments with a steel liner. Construction for Reach 4 is 45 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by November 2019. Final design of Reach 2 was completed and a request to the Board for award of construction is planned for May 2019. Final design of Reach 3 is 90 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by September 2019.
- Second Lower Feeder Pipe Fabrication—Fabrication of steel liner pipe for Reaches 2 and 4

is underway and will provide approximately 21,100 feet of 75-inch-diameter welded steel liner pipe. Pipe fabrication is 62 percent complete and the initial delivery of pipe for Reach 2 is scheduled to be complete by October 2019.

- 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. The first 150 valves were received and inspected and are in protective storage. The remaining 66 valves will be delivered by September 2019.
- Second Lower Feeder Isolation Valve Procurement—This contract provides 13 conical plug isolation valves for the Second Lower Feeder rehabilitation. These valves range in diameter from 48 to 54 inches and provide primary isolation for maintenance activities, inspections, and repairs required to maintain reliable water deliveries with Metropolitan's distribution system. Fabrication of the first three 48-inch conical plug valves is 10 percent complete and the valves are scheduled to be delivered by June 2020.

## ENGINEERING SERVICES GROUP

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

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

- Sepulveda Feeder, Calabazas Feeder, Rialto Pipeline, and the Allen-McColloch Pipeline—These projects rehabilitate the four remaining priority PCCP lines. Preliminary design activities for the four priority lines are being conducted simultaneously and are 25 percent complete and scheduled to be complete by mid-2020.

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

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

- Employee Housing Rehabilitation—These projects perform comprehensive improvements to Metropolitan-provided employee housing at the CRA pumping plants. Project No. 1 constructs 10 new houses: two each at Hinds, Eagle Mountain, and Gene; and four houses at Iron Mountain. Construction was completed in June 2018. Project No. 2 refurbishes 89 houses that require minor or moderate levels of renovation. The initial construction is focusing on 11 houses under a pilot program. This pilot program work is 95 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by June 2019.
- Intake Power Line and Communication Replacement—This project relocates a power transmission line that serves Intake Pumping Plant and several remote CRA facilities. Construction is 24 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by September 2019. *(see photo below)*

Power pole installation



- CRA and Iron Mountain Reservoir Panel—This project replaces distressed and cracked concrete canal panels at Iron Mountain Reservoir and along several reaches of the canal between Mile Markers 22 and 122. Construction is 95 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by June 2019.
- CRA Radial Gate Replacement—This project replaces eight deteriorated radial gates along the aqueduct in two stages. Construction of Stage 1 to replace a radial gate at Eagle Mountain Pumping Plant is complete. Final design of Stage 2 to replace the remaining seven gates is complete and a Board action for award of construction contract is planned for August 2019.
- CRA Surge Chamber Slide Gates—This project installs slide gates at the surge chamber bypass lines at Metropolitan's five CRA pumping plants. Construction is 97 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by June 2019.
- CRA Conduit Erosion Control Repairs—This project repairs existing erosion control facilities along a nine-mile portion of the CRA, just west of the Hinds Pumping Plant. The 2018-19 winter storms caused significant damage to erosion control features along the CRA. Construction is 30 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by June 2019. *(see photo below)*



CRA Conduit Erosion Control Repairs – Grading erosion control berm adjacent to CRA

## ENGINEERING SERVICES GROUP

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

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

#### 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:

##### Diemer Plant

- West Basin and Filter Building Rehabilitation—This project performs rehabilitation of the west flocculation/ sedimentation basins and filter building at the Diemer plant, including replacement of treatment basin equipment and filter valves, abatement of hazardous materials, and seismic strengthening of the filter building. Construction is 20 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by December 2020.
- Diemer Water Sampling System Improvements—This project upgrades the Diemer water sampling system. The system is comprised of 13 sample locations. Construction is 20 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by January 2021.

##### Jensen Plant

- Jensen Water Quality Enclosure—This project constructs a new enclosure to house water quality instrumentation and equipment. Construction is 56 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by September 2019.
- Jensen Electrical Upgrades, Stage 2—This project upgrades the electrical system with dual power feed to key process equipment in three stages to achieve conformity with current codes and industry practices. Final design of Stage 2 is complete and a Board action for award of a construction contract is planned for August 2019.

##### Weymouth Plant

- Weymouth West Washwater Tank Seismic Upgrades—This project performs seismic strengthening and refurbishment of the west washwater tank at the Weymouth plant. Construction is 62 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by August 2019.
- Weymouth Domestic Water Upgrade – This project upgrades the aging domestic and firewater loop at the Weymouth plant. Construction is 25 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by February 2020.

### GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Maximize Local Resources

Staff will begin work with the Board and member agencies on a review of the institutional issues associated with the Regional Recycled Water Program and its relationship to Metropolitan's ongoing Local Resources Program

**Objective:** Develop and support opportunities to collaborate with other agencies to enhance local water supplies.

#### Regional Recycled Water Program

Regional Recycled Water Program – This program includes the design and construction of an Advanced Water Treatment Demonstration Plant, which represents the initial step in development of a potential regional recycled water system for recharge of groundwater basins within Southern California.

- Advanced Water Treatment Demonstration Plant—This project constructs a 0.5 mgd demonstration facility on the grounds of the Los Angeles County Sanitation District's Joint Water Pollution Control Plant in Carson. Construction is complete and the contract-required testing and commissioning of the facility is underway. It is anticipated that the contractor will complete all of their required activities and turn over the facility to Metropolitan in August 2019.

## ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING SECTION

**GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Enhance Infrastructure Safety, Security and Resiliency**  
Metropolitan's vast network of aqueducts, pipelines, pumps and treatment facilities are the backbone of Southern California's regional water system. However, this vital infrastructure is aging and heightened reinvestment in this system is essential to

**Objective: Provide planning, CEQA/NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act), and regulatory permitting support for enhancement**

### CEQA/NEPA

- Completed the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) documenting CEQA compliance for the Foothill Feeder Repair and Future Inspections Project.
- Completed MMRP documentation for the PCCP Sepulveda Feeder Del Amo Boulevard Urgent Repair Project.

### Regulatory Permitting Support and Compliance

- Met with California Department of Fish and Wildlife and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers staff to facilitate permitting for urgent repairs to the Whitewater CRA Siphons Erosion Protection Project site.
- Participated in meeting regarding permitting strategy for Casa Loma Siphon protection in the San Jacinto River.
- Met with CDFW and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service staff at CRA Urgent Repairs site to discuss endangered species compliance. *(see photo right of the meeting)*



### **GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Ensure Imported Supply Reliability**

Southern California's foundational water supply remains the Colorado River and the State Water Project and their ongoing reliability is critical for the region. Important decisions on both supplies need to be made over the next two years.

**Objective: Provide environmental planning, technical and regulatory services to protect water supplies.**

- Reviewed technical studies for DWR's EIR for the Lake Perris Seepage Recovery Project, and met with DWR, CalTrans, and the City of Perris for project scoping.
- Reviewed and prepared a comment letter on the draft EIR/EIS for the Sisk Dam Safety Modifications Project in coordination with Water Resource Management and Engineering Services Group.

### **GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Promote Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability**

Metropolitan will continue to lead with programs that promote actions that support sustainable practices, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect natural habitat and water quality.

**Objective: Continue to actively manage Metropolitan's conservation lands through cooperative relationships with public agencies and non-governmental conservation organizations.**

### Lake Mathews Multi-Species Reserve

- Participated in coordination of prescribed burn of non-native vegetation in the reserve on May 22 and 23.

### Upper Santa Ana River Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)

- Continue to attend meetings and provide expertise as a participating agency in the development of the HCP.



## GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Promote Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability continued...

**Objective:** Support External Affairs in development and implementation of interpretive, public outreach, and public access programs to promote appreciation for and understanding of the benefits of conservation lands to Metropolitan, the public, and the environment.

Biological and cultural resources surveys were completed in support of the DVL/Skinner Trails Project to determine final trail alignments, including a preferred alignment for the Lake Skinner Recreation Area.

**Objective:** Integrate principles and practices of resource and habitat protection into capital projects, operations and maintenance activities, and management and maintenance of Metropolitan's lands.

- Performed the 3rd Annual Tree Health Assessment at the Weymouth plant to ensure survival of trees planted after construction of the ORP Project, per City of La Verne's tree removal requirements.
- Coordinating with local agencies and reserves to establish a native seed collection and storage program in support of Right of Way and Infrastructure Protection Program mitigation requirements.

**Objective:** Identify current greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction measures and climate change planning and adaptation efforts underway throughout the organization for the purpose of developing a Metropolitan Climate Action Plan (CAP).

- Completed the Metropolitan Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory and Forecast.
- Scheduled Phase II kickoff meeting to begin identifying and documenting future conservation efforts which will be used to further reduce GHG emissions.

**Objective:** Develop reclamation plans for Metropolitan-operated borrow pits in Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

Developed programmatic reclamation approach with San Bernardino and Riverside counties staff, allowing all proposed borrow pits to remain open indefinitely, while reclaiming sites no longer in use.

**Objective:** Work with Water System Operations to develop landscaping practices to promote aesthetically pleasing sustainable landscapes at Metropolitan facilities to conserve water and support wildlife, as appropriate.

- Submitted an abstract to the California Stormwater Quality Association for presentation at their annual conference on the stormwater diversion and native landscape project at the Jensen Plant.
- Coordinating with Safety of Dams and Diemer Plant staff to determine appropriate landscaping on the slope below the finished water reservoir that addresses dam safety and maintenance.

## GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Foster Leadership and Strengthen Workforce Capabilities

**Objective:** Emphasize employee development, recruitment, knowledge capture, cross-training, management training and succession planning.

- EPS welcomed and began training for a new Assistant Environmental Specialist.
- Staff is enrolled in a certificate program in sustainability through UCLA Extension.
- Team Manager completed a certificate program in Leadership Essentials through Cornell University.
- Staff is participating in Metropolitan Management University.
- Staff attended Nossaman's 2019 California Land Use Seminar.
- Staff attended Los Angeles Regional Collaborative for Climate Action and Sustainability meeting.
- Staff attended Survey Techniques for Declining Herpetofauna training.



## ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING SECTION

### CORE BUSINESS: Business Processes

**Objective:** Provide timely and professional planning services and CEQA and regulatory support to Engineering Services, Water System Operations, Water Resource Management, External Affairs, and Real Property.

#### CEQA Clearances

Provided environmental planning clearances for 15 WSO projects, 5 Real Property action, and 10 board letters.

#### Engineering Services Support

- Coordinated with ESG and WSO for development of CEQA and permitting efforts on a potential project for San Gabriel Tower and related facilities seismic upgrades and Slope Strengthening at Diemer Plant.
- Visited desert locations to discuss historical documentation of district housing.
- Reviewed drawings and specifications and provided Project Clearance for the CRA Discharge Line Isolation Bulkheads and Couplings Installation Project.
- Reviewed drawings and specifications and provided Project Clearance for the Colorado River Aqueduct Installation of Seven Radial Gates Project.
- Reviewed draft technical reports for PCCP Calabasas Feeder.
- Finalized paleontological, biological, and cultural resources reports for Sepulveda Feeder.
- Reviewed and commented on Hydraulic Recovery Alternatives Technical Memo, Risk Mitigation Workshop Minutes, and System Isolation and Operational Flexibility Workshop Meeting Minutes for Sepulveda Feeder.
- Coordinated removal of poison oak to facilitate design team survey request for the West Valley Feeder # 1 Stage 3 Improvements Project.
- Completed CEQA survey for the Nitrogen Generator Project at Mills plant.
- Staff conducted environmental coordination with the Headquarters Improvements project.
- Coordinated environmental needs for the proposed Jensen flocculator project.

#### Water System Operations Support

- Conducted nesting bird surveys and monitored tree trimming along Inland Feeder.
- Staff completed pre-construction nesting bird surveys at Pleasant Peak and Detention Peak telecommunication towers, and nesting bird/environmental surveys prior to decomposed granite removal at Lake Mathews, storm damage repairs at Santiago Lateral, and San Diego Pipeline Nos. 1 and 2 dewatering.
- Performing biological surveys for a potential maintenance project on an access road to the Rialto Feeder.
- Performed nesting bird surveys for activities at the Diemer Plant and Santiago Lateral.
- Conducted biological surveys in support of various O&M activities, including vegetation maintenance and road grading at various facilities.

#### External Project Review

- Commented on 13 CEQA notices for various external projects that may impact Metropolitan facilities and/or operations.

#### Construction Monitoring

- Provided Desert Tortoise and Environmental Awareness Training to all project personnel and began desert tortoise monitoring for final phase of CRA Urgent Repairs.
- Continued construction mitigation monitoring for the Palos Verdes Reservoir Upgrades, Orange County Conveyance and Distribution Team Maintenance Building, Weymouth Plant West Wash Water Tank Seismic Upgrades, Weymouth Plant Domestic Water System Improvements, Weymouth Plant Chlorine System Upgrades, Orange County Feeder Relining Reach 2, PCCP Second Lower Feeder Reach 4, and the 2.3 kV Powerline Replacement Project located at Gene Camp.

#### Legislative Support

- Prepared draft comment letter on whether discharges of pollutants to groundwater that are closely connected to Waters of the U.S. should be regulated under the federal Clean Water Act.

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS GROUP

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

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

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

Chairwoman Gray, Directors Butkiewicz, Galleano, McKenney, Peterson, Record, Trevino, Metropolitan executive management, and staff attended the Association of California Water Agencies spring conference. Manager of Colorado River Resources Hasencamp and social media manager Medina were featured speakers in separate panels. Several top members of the Newsom Administration addressed the 800 ACWA attendees on the governor's portfolio approach to water management, Delta conveyance, climate change and safe drinking water proposal, and acknowledged the efforts of Metropolitan and other public water agencies to support and invest in projects to promote water quality and supply reliability. (May 7-10)

General Manager Kightlinger, General Counsel Scully, Chairwoman Gray, Director Peterson, and key Metropolitan staff joined representatives from six other western states, Mexico, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and 10 Indian tribes at Hoover Dam ceremony to sign the historic Drought Contingency Plan at Hoover Dam. General Manager Kightlinger issued a statement and handled several media calls following the event. (May 20) ([see photo below](#))



The signing of the Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan included seven states, two nations, and ten Indian tribes.

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS GROUP

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

**Objective:** 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

Staff is working with the Association of California Water Agencies and other organizations to monitor pending federal legislation regarding emerging contaminants (PFAs), including H.R. 1976, the PFAS Detection Act (Kildee, D-MO) and H.R. 2377 (Boyle, D-PA), the Protect Drinking Water from PFAS Act.

Another bill of interest to California water agencies is H.R. 1429 (Maxine Waters, D-CA), which would add \$7.5 billion to the EPA's Drinking Water SRF Program in the current fiscal year. The measure is currently pending before the House Budget and Appropriations committees.

### State

#### *Water Conservation*

AB 533 by Assembly Member Holden (D-Pasadena) to extend the state tax exemption for turf replacement rebates was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee as a two-year bill.

#### *State Water Project Oversight*

SB 204 by Senator Dodd (D-Napa) to provide additional oversight of the State Water Project has been amended, removing provisions requiring the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority to provide the Legislature with design and construction contract information.

#### *Metropolitan Board Representation*

AB 1220 by Assembly Member Garcia (D-Bell Gardens) and sponsored by Central Basin to address Metropolitan Board representation passed out of the Assembly and is awaiting action in the Senate.

#### *Safe Drinking Water*

Senate Pro Tem Toni Atkins (D-San Diego) is leading efforts to create a statewide safe drinking water fund and proposed funding of \$150 million a year from the General Fund.

#### *Newsom Administration Actions*

The Administration began work to implement the Governor's executive order directing state agencies to develop a comprehensive strategy to build a climate-resilient water system. DWR also took formal steps to withdraw proposed permits for the California WaterFix project and will initiate a renewed environmental review and planning process for a smaller, single tunnel in the Delta.

### Local

- Metropolitan sponsored and staff attended the Annual Conference and General Assembly of the Southern California Associated Governments, where Metropolitan provided materials on turf and other rebate programs. More than 700 local elected officials, as well as business, civic and community leaders, attended. (May 2-3)
- Staff attended the United Chambers of Commerce of the San Fernando Valley's Woman's Luncheon with 500 of the region's elected officials and community leaders, including representatives from the offices of Senator Stern (D-Canoga Park) and Los Angeles Mayor Garcetti. (May 8)
- Chief Engineer Bednarski presented at the Building Industry Association of Southern California – Los Angeles/Ventura Chapter's leadership conference entitled Utility Innovation: Pathway to Sustainability. (May 9)

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS GROUP

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

#### Objective: LEGISLATIVE SERVICES - continued...

- Staff participated in the Leadership Redondo's Water, Energy & Environmental Service day with West Basin Municipal Water District and California Water Service. (May 10)
- Metropolitan sponsored the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce annual ACCESS Sacramento advocacy event. Staff joined the Chamber's water team and met with state legislators to discuss water policy priorities. (May 15)
- Metropolitan sponsored the Bell Gardens Chamber of Commerce's State of the City Address featuring Mayor Cortez. Metropolitan staff provided closing remarks to 200 attendees on regional water conditions, conservation programs, and Delta conveyance. (May 15)
- Staff attended the California Contract Cities Association annual conference with more 600 local officials. Speakers included Los Angeles County Supervisors Hahn (Fourth District) and Barger (Fifth District), Senators Portantino (D-La Canada Flintridge) and Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park) and Assembly Members Garcia (D-Coachella) and Blanca Rubio (D-Baldwin Park). (May 15-19)
- Staff attended the California Chamber of Commerce's Capitol conference and participated in legislative briefings with the Valley Industry and Commerce Association and Chambers of Commerce Alliance of Ventura and Santa Barbara counties. The delegations met with the following offices: Secretary of State Padilla, Senators Chang (R-Diamond Bar), Jackson (D-Santa Barbara), Stern (D-Canoga Park), and Wilk (R-Santa Clarita), Assembly Majority Leader Calderon (D-Whittier), and Assembly Members Chen (R-Yorba Linda), Cunningham (R-San Luis Obispo County), Curry (D-Winters), Dahle (R-Bieber), Eggman (D-Stockton), Gipson (D-Carson), Friedman (D-Glendale), Irwin (D-Thousand Oaks), Kalra (D-San Jose), Limon (D-Santa Barbara), Nazarian (D-North Hollywood), Santiago (D-Los Angeles), Smith (D-Santa Clarita) and Wood (D-Santa Rosa). (May 22-23)
- Chairwoman Gray, Directors Abdo and Gold, and Metropolitan staff attended the Heal the Bay annual event. (May 23)
- Metropolitan staff attended the Orange County Water Summit. Manager of Colorado River Resources Hasencamp participated in a panel discussion on water storage and presented on the Colorado River and Drought Contingency Plan. (May 31)

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

#### Member Agency Support

Metropolitan met with the Member Agency managers to discuss water operations and supply conditions, deliveries of water in Metropolitan's system in an emergency, an update to Metropolitan's emergency storage objective, and an update on a stormwater pilot program for direct use. (May 17)

Metropolitan provided six inspection trips to the State Water Project, Hoover Dam, Colorado River Aqueduct, and Lake Mathews for directors and Coro Southern California Fellows. (multiple dates)

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS GROUP

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

**Objective: PUBLIC OUTREACH AND MEMBER SERVICES continued...**

### Public Outreach for Metropolitan Projects

- Met with residents and distributed notices to homes near Palos Verdes Reservoir regarding ongoing work at the reservoir. (May 2)
- Provided an overview of the Regional Recycled Water Program at the Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative Community Forum. (May 2)
- Met with Lomita Public Works staff to discuss the Second Lower Feeder PCCP Reach 3 Project worksites in Lomita. (May 8)
- Provided 3,200 outreach notices for the Orange County Feeder Relining Project to residents and businesses in Santa Ana. (May 10)
- Notified 250 residents and businesses about the Santa Monica Feeder Shutdown in the cities of Los Angeles, Beverly Hills, and West Hollywood. (May 20)
- Provided tours of the Weymouth Water Quality Lab for Citrus College Water Technology students and Inland Empire Utilities Agency. (May 10 and 14)
- Chief Engineer J. Bednarski presented on the Regional Recycled Water Program at a meeting of the Asian American Architects and Engineers Association. (May 16)
- Provided tours of the Regional Recycled Water Advanced Purification Center for the Government Finance Officers' Association International Delegation (May 17) and to Metropolitan staff in the Environmental Planning Section, WSO Water Quality Section, WSO Water Treatment Section, WRM Resources and Planning Section, WSO Business Management Team, and External Affairs staff. (multiple dates)

**Objective: 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.**

### **Communication Activities**

#### Press Releases/Statements:

- Metropolitan Statement on Newsom Administration Actions to Advance a Single-Tunnel Conveyance Solution in Delta
- Solar Cup™ Teams Head to the Starting Line
- San Fernando Vice Mayor Sylvia Ballin Returns to Metropolitan's Board
- Costa Mesa, La Puente, Cypress High Schools Lead Heading into 17th Annual Solar Cup™
- Teams from Cypress, Westlake Village Earn Top Spots at Metropolitan's 2019 Solar Cup™
- Metropolitan's Statement on the Signing of the Colorado Drought Contingency Plan

#### Social Media:

- Posted turf rebate assets on social media, with an emphasis on Facebook. During the reporting period, the turf replacement rebate assets received 8.5 million impressions, reaching nearly 3 million people and driving more than 80,000 users to the rebates page on bewaterwise.com.



## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS GROUP

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

**Objective:** MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS continued...

### Media Interviews

- Arranged interview between Chairwoman Gray and *Voice of San Diego* reporter Ry Rivard about Metropolitan's relationship with the San Diego County Water Authority and subagencies.
- Coordinated appearance by General Manager Kightlinger on Capital Weekly's new show Politics on Tap, featuring panel discussion on water issues with Capital Weekly editor John Howard and Jennifer Bowles of the Water Education Foundation.
- Arranged interviews between General Manager Kightlinger and Brentwood Press reporter Tony Kukulich, Bloomberg reporter Emily Dooley, KQED reporter Kevin Stark, and *Los Angeles Times* editorial writer Robert Greene regarding the future of Delta conveyance.
- Set up interview between General Manager Kightlinger and *Voice of San Diego* reporter Ry Rivard regarding land purchases in the Palo Verde Valley and the Delta.
- Arranged interview between Solar Cup™ coordinator Kalbacher and *Daily Pilot* reporter Lilly Nguyen in advance of the 2019 competition.
- Coordinated interview between Chairwoman Gray and Labor 411 writer Evan Henderson for a blog post.
- Set up interview between General Manager Kightlinger and VerdeXchange's David Abel regarding the Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan and other water issues.
- Arranged interview with *Sing Tao Daily*, a Chinese-language newspaper in Los Angeles, and Water Resource Manager McDonnell on water conservation rebates.

Metropolitan continued its campaign to promote water conservation and turf replacement rebates that includes radio, social media, and digital advertising. Working with Univision, Metropolitan produced Spanish-language segments on the importance of efficient irrigation and the benefits of California friendly and native plants and aired them on the popular morning shows "Despierta Los Angeles" and "Despierta San Diego." Display ads, including several in Spanish and Chinese language, ran this month in 11 community newspapers including the *Los Angeles Sentinel*, *Los Angeles Times en Español*, *San Diego Union en Español*, *Sing Tao Daily*, *La Prensa* (Inland Empire), and *Excelsior* (Orange County). (see photos below)



Mariana Montenegro and Nitzia Chama discussing Metropolitan's Turf Replacement Program and sustainable landscaping methods.

Display ad in Los Angeles Sentinel regarding turf rebates.



## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS GROUP

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

**Objective: EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS - Facilitate public engagement in and understanding of water resource issues through community relations activities and education projects.**

### General Education

Staff met with more than 4,000 students and teachers on field trips, activities, and outreach presentations this month, including John Thomas Dye School, LACSD Earth Day, Pasadena Outreach, and Compton Earth Day.

### Diamond Valley Lake Education Program

Metropolitan staff hosted 418 visitors at the Visitor Center and guided more than 350 visitors to the Clayton Record viewpoint.

### Community Partnering Program

Metropolitan sponsored the following events and staff participated to promote water education, conservation, and sustainability initiatives:

- Los Angeles Conservation Corps' Spring Luncheon (May 2)
- Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative's Community Forum (May 2)
- California Trout's Annual Dinner (May 3)
- City of Glendora Water Carnival (May 4)
- Water Replenishment District's Annual Groundwater Festival (May 4)
- Leadership California's Legacy of Leadership Awards (May 6)
- Central City Association Treasures of Los Angeles (May 9)
- Cucamonga Valley Water District conservation poster contest (May 13)
- CityAge's Build the Future event (May 16)
- California African American Museum in Los Angeles (May 11)
- LA Harbor College in Wilmington (May 18)
- Heal The Bay's 'Bring Back the Beach' (May 23)
- Coro Southern California Leadership's Annual Crystal Eagle Awards (May 23)
- Coalition for Clean Air California Air Quality Awards (May 31)
- Orange County Water District's OC Water Summit (May 31)

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

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

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

- Participated on a panel for the Platinum Supplier Program hosted by Women Business Enterprise Council-West. (May 3)
- Exhibited at the US Veterans Business Association Keeping the Promise Expo with approximately 150 businesses. (May 10)
- Directors Record, Ortega, and Lefevre attended Larta Institute's Global Ag Innovation Network (GAIN) event focused on California's agricultural sector. (May 23)
- Attended the Women Business Pioneers Symposium hosted by the Asian Business Association – LA chapter. (May 30)

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Foster Leadership and Strengthen Workforce Capabilities

More than half of Metropolitan's workforce has reached retirement age, including many members of Metropolitan's executive management team. This is a challenge to Metropolitan's capacity to adequately train and prepare its workforce but is also an opportunity to build a workforce geared for the challenges of the future.

**Objective: Partner with Metropolitan leadership to support learning, development and workforce planning initiatives.**

- The Organizational Development and Training Team surveyed the Engineering Services Design Team members to help identify opportunities to improve communication and engagement.
- The fifth session of the Water System Operations Management Academy for prospective managers was held at Eagle Rock, where the focus was on understanding the administrative responsibilities of management. Classes in MS Project and Excel were conducted at Lake Matthews.
- A total of 290 employees received training during the past month, covering topics including Organizational Skills, Managing Emotions in the Workplace, and Retirement Planning.

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

Recruitment filled 28 positions for the month of May and received 25 new staffing requisitions, resulting in 158 positions currently in recruitment.

Human Resources continued to work with the recruitment firm on the Ethics Officer and Chief Financial Officer recruitments.

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

Chairwoman Gray and General Manager Kightlinger spoke at the 2019 Spring Service Awards Luncheon on May 22 that recognized 29 employees for their service commitment to Metropolitan. Two employees celebrated their 40th year of service and two more celebrated 35 years of service. Nine employees were also recognized for completing the state-certified four-year MWD Apprenticeship Program.



## HUMAN RESOURCES

### HR PRIORITY: Ensure Effective People Management

Partner with management to ensure that employees are appropriately managed, evaluated, engaged, motivated, developed, and recognized. Provide opportunities for career development, skills training, and knowledge capture in order to prepare for the future.

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

- Staff assisted with the April 24 Water System Operations Managers' Meeting by using ThoughtExchange, a real-time, feedback collection tool to enable managers to submit topics for WSO senior leadership to address.
- The fifth session of Metropolitan Management University was conducted for 16 new and current team managers. The day focused on developing effective conflict resolution skills.

### HR PRIORITY: Provide Excellent Human Resources Services

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

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

- On May 16, HR Benefits held the second quarter Deferred Compensation Advisory Committee (DCAC) meeting with appointed representatives from each bargaining unit, staff from Metropolitan's Finance and Legal Groups, Empower Retirement, and HYAS Group to review the first quarter plan and investment performance, regulatory, administration, and legal updates, participant education, and plan enhancement opportunities.
- HR Benefits conducted presentations at New Employee Orientation for 16 new hires regarding CalPERS pension and optional benefits that begin the first month after hire.
- Processed 12 leave of absence requests.

### HR PRIORITY: Strengthen Partnerships with HR Customers

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

**Objective:** Establish partnerships focused on strategic solutions to various Human Resource management challenges.

Continued to partner with Real Property, WSO, and bargaining units as part of the Desert Housing Working Group. The responsibility of Desert Housing has successfully transitioned from WSO to Real Property, with Real Property focusing on policy development and long-term project planning.

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### CORE BUSINESS: Comply with Employment Laws and Regulations

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

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

Activities of the Workers' Compensation/Medical Screening Unit are summarized as follows:

- Submitted 13 new claims to Metropolitan's Workers' Compensation Claim Administrator
- Closed 22 Workers' Compensation Claim Files
- Currently six employees remain off work due to industrial injury or illness
- Arranged eight medical evaluations (DMV, medical surveillance.)
- Addressed four Accommodation issues
- Coordinated one Medvan visit for Soto Street (Respirator Exams, Hearing Tests, and Commercial and Vanpool Driver exams)

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

### CORE BUSINESS: 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, data analytics, mobile/wireless computing, telecommunications, network services, information security, and personal computing..

**Objective:** Strengthen Metropolitan's cybersecurity capabilities by deploying new and emerging technologies, and implementing enhanced security countermeasures.

On-going efforts include operational initiatives and capital projects to upgrade and protect Metropolitan against evolving cyber threats:

- IT Cybersecurity continued to collaborate with key stakeholders to enhance network security capabilities for Metropolitan's computing environments against evolving cyber threats. In addition, partnered with physical security to harden our network infrastructure at field locations.
- Continued to plan and execute the Cybersecurity II Project to enhance security posture by deploying new and emerging technologies and implementing enhanced cybersecurity countermeasures. Procured new storage media that will provide encryption capabilities in preparation for rollout.
- Continued development of the requirements for Metropolitan's Security Operation Center as part of the Cybersecurity II project.
- Monitored on-going federal, state, and local cybersecurity legislation applicable to Metropolitan and provided cybersecurity leadership by participating in regional security symposiums and acting in an advisory capacity. IT Security Manager Staar was a speaker at the May 2019 GovTech (Special Districts Summit/West) in Anaheim, California.



## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

### Objective: Provide IT services in support of the Headquarters Improvements Program.

Continued to collaborate with Engineering Services Group on IT services in support of the Headquarters Improvement Program.

- Headquarters Wi-Fi (Low-Rise) Project—This project scope is to design and install network equipment (i.e., switches) and Wi-Fi infrastructure within the five-floor wing portion of the Headquarters building to support staff relocation. Work is proceeding according to plan as staff continues to acquire, configure, and test wireless equipment needed to establish a robust wireless infrastructure for the low-rise portion of the Headquarters building.
  - During the period, staff continued activities related to design, planning, and scheduling of hardware installation (i.e., routers/switches), software install and configuration, and Ethernet cabling. Installation for new infrastructure is being closely coordinated with Engineering based on dependency with the construction schedule of the Headquarters Improvement Program.
  - Initiated planning for the install of IT equipment on the first and second floor of the headquarters building as part of upgrading wireless infrastructure. Installation is scheduled to commence in the first quarter of next fiscal year.

### Objective: Improve Metropolitan's IT Disaster Recovery and Response Capability.

IT Disaster Recovery Project—This project scope is to upgrade server, storage capacity, and backup devices at the IT Disaster Recovery (DR) Facility data center to provide sufficient capacity to run critical systems in a High Availability architecture mode in the event of a disaster.

- The project team continued to work with key stakeholders to test software applications to ensure they meet Metropolitan's DR criteria. During the Annual Datacenter Power Outage testing, efforts included the completion of Phase 2 (second-tier) applications migration and testing.

Supported Datacenter Power Outage Testing—Metropolitan's scheduled power outage in May resulted in the interruption of power to the Headquarters Building and the IT datacenter.

- These power interruptions significantly impact the datacenter, which houses critical IT infrastructure equipment that services Metropolitan's computing environment.

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

Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Network Fiber Optic Switch Replacement Project—This project is to replace end-of-life switches critical to Metropolitan's control system. During the period, staff conducted installation planning, prepared equipment and IT hardware for field installation, and began coordinating with stakeholders at field locations in preparation for the deployment phase of the project.

Wadsworth Pumping Plant (DVL) Control System Upgrade Project—This project is currently in the major installation phase as the team continued to upgrade control system and electrical system protection equipment. On-going activities for this period include control software and electrical protection system testing for pumping units 2, 3, and 4 in addition to continuing to upgrade controls and protection equipment on the remaining pumping units.

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

As part of the IT Roadmap, staff continued installation and testing activities at CoreSite (off-site datacenter) to improve network reliability, capability, and redundancy as part of preparing for the migration to cloud processing. Commissioning of the CoreSite network is currently underway as staff continues the process of redirecting network traffic.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

### CORE BUSINESS: Information Technology continued...

**Objective: Manage Information Technology Projects within the Capital Investment Plan to ensure reliability of IT Systems and Infrastructure.**

Desert Microwave Project—This project scope is to upgrade desert microwave tower sites by replacing end-of-life equipment and providing sufficient capacity and reliability to Metropolitan’s wide area network in the Desert Region. During the period, the project team began the Design Phase of the project by performing initial surveys of the microwave sites in the Desert Region to provide the documentation of the current environment to the consultants.

Board and Committee Room Upgrade—The Board previously authorized staff to proceed with the design phase to upgrade the audiovisual (A/V) systems at Metropolitan’s Headquarters Building. The project team recently completed the 30 percent design review phase.

Digital Asset Optimization—This project will remove redundant, obsolete, and trivial files from the network shared drives in preparation for the Enterprise Content Management implementation. During the period, IT staff worked in collaboration with key stakeholders on file share clean up by identifying and reducing duplicate and/or obsolete data. During the period, the project team held meetings with WSO to discuss preparations for file cleanup. An initial meeting was held with Engineering to begin discussions of the migration process and provide a line of communication to staff.

Enterprise Geographic Information System Project—This project upgrades Enterprise GIS infrastructure to accommodate increasing demand for big data services and improve system performance to support three-dimensional and time series data requirements. The Enterprise GIS system upgrade is proceeding on schedule. The ArcGIS Enterprise Portal has been installed and configured, and is being supported by an infrastructure comprised of multiple servers, all providing advanced GIS functionality behind the scenes. Next steps include upgrading to the current version 10.7, which was released since the initial install of the software.

Incident Reporting System Replacement—The scope of this project is to replace the end-of-life Incident Reporting tool used for compliance tracking by Risk Management, Workers’ Compensation, Safety and Regulatory Services, and WSO. The RFP will solicit bids from qualified vendors and identify the best qualified to assist Metropolitan with the project, based on the competitive RFP process.

**Objective: Enhance workforce productivity by simplifying access to business information and deploy technologies to support customers in business decisions.**

Water Ordering and Energy Scheduling System—The scope of this project is to implement a system that allows member agencies to submit flow change requests via a secure-web application. In addition, it will replace existing Energy Management software providing key functionalities for operational schedule management. Current activities include:

- Staff is currently working on the design phase of the project for Water Ordering and Energy Scheduling System. With the design phase reaching substantial completion, planning is underway to begin testing and to conduct a pilot with a member agency.

Mobile Device Management—Continued mobile pilot testing by expanding the rollout to executive management, group managers, and managers. In conjunction with the pilot, IT continued to partner with stakeholders on piloting of devices (e.g., iPad) to enhance workforce productivity and simplifying access to business information.

Audio/Visual Equipment—Installed SMART Interactive Whiteboards to conduct a proof of concept (POC) to evaluate current technology as the existing audio/visual equipment is reaching end-of-life. The purpose is to determine ease-of-use, functionalities of the interactive whiteboard, and test web-casting capabilities.

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

## CORE BUSINESS: Information Technology continued...

**Objective:** Deploy innovative solutions to improve operations, promote collaboration, and provide business value.

mwdh2o.com Upgrade—IT continued to work in collaboration with External Affairs on the main website (mwdh2o.com) upgrade project. The replacement of mwdh2o.com will provide for a user-friendly content management system, mobile-responsive user interface, and search engine optimization leveraging current technology.

Learning Management System (LMS) Replacement—This project scope is to replace the end-of-life PeopleSoft Enterprise Learning Management System (MyLearning). This system is used to manage Metropolitan’s training curriculum, course approvals, enrollment, and notifications.

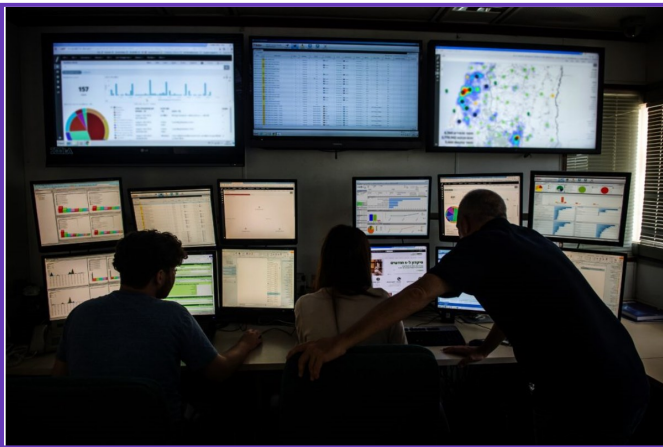
- Work is proceeding according to plan as the consultant completed configuration of the new system. User acceptance testing began in May. Upon successful completion of the test phase, staff will begin the rollout of the new cloud-based software in the July timeframe.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)—Leveraged innovative technologies to capture important information that goes towards supporting Metropolitan’s key business objectives, including infrastructure and property inspections, environmental land monitoring, and videos for educational/promotional events. Recent UAV aerial missions supported Metropolitan’s business units and events:

- Environmental Planning to document areas damaged by storm runoff and the post repair of the damaged area.
- 2019 Solar Cup, May 18-19; aerial footage was used in one of the video clips in the most recent Metropolitan WaterTalk.

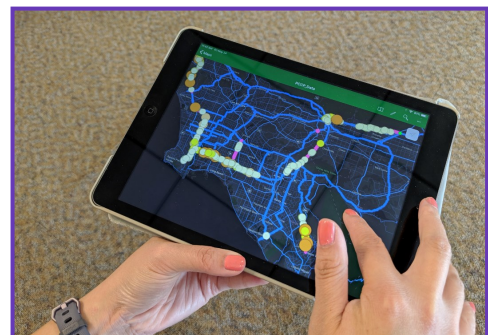
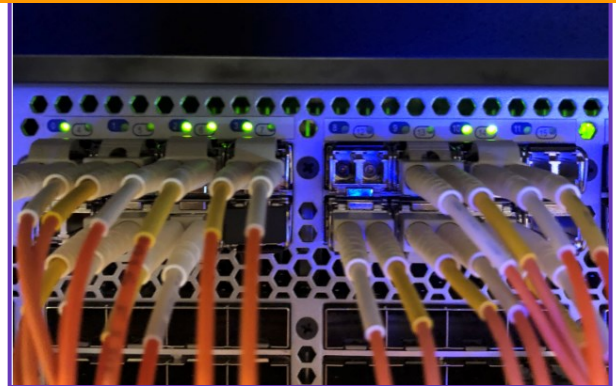
PC Replacement Project—This project will replace end-of-life computers for all staff and operations (instrumentation, testing, modeling, etc.). During this period:

- Completed the QA/QC testing/ evaluation and obtained the approval of Information Security to continue with the development of the base Windows image for the new personal computers.



Security Operation Center pg. 23

Fiber Optic Cabling Connected to a Switch pg.24



Mobile EGIS Mapping using an iPad pg.25

## REAL PROPERTY

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

Metropolitan's vast network of aqueducts, pipelines, pumps and treatment facilities are the backbone of Southern California's regional water system. However, this vital infrastructure is aging and heightened reinvestment in this system is essential to ensure Metropolitan can continue to deliver on its promise of reliability in the coming decades.

**Objective:** Provide right-of-way planning and real property acquisition services for infrastructure.

- Staff acquired a permanent easement for the Orange County Feeder for alternative access, operations and maintenance, and excavation purposes from BPAP West 135 and 145 LLC in exchange for allowing the property owner to expand their parking garage project.
- Staff executed a Consent to Common Use Agreement with the Orange County Transportation Authority hereby consenting to construction and maintenance by the Authority of a highway (State Route 22 in the city of Orange) over Metropolitan's easement. This easement was erroneously extinguished in a condemnation action by OCTA and was subsequently granted back to Metropolitan with its original rights.

### CORE BUSINESS: 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.

**Objective:** Pursue development and improvement of the Diamond Valley Lake area, including the DVL Visitor Center and marina facilities, in support of recreation, additional leasing and revenue opportunities.

Western Center Academy at DVL is ranked #77 in the U.S. News Best High Schools National Rankings, which includes data on more than 23,000 public high schools in 50 states and the District of Columbia.

A record number of visitors, approximately 31,000 people, visited Diamond Valley Lake to view the wildflower super bloom along the trails around the lake.

**Objective:** Efficiently maintains and operates Metropolitan's Headquarters Building, Diamond Valley Lake Visitor Center, and District Housing.

Staff along with the Hydroelectric team from Weymouth completed a systematic infrared thermography survey of the Headquarters building's electrical system. Infrared thermography finds areas of excess heat (caused by increased resistance and/or defects in connections and components) so that problems can be corrected before a component fails, causing damage to the component and creating safety hazards and productivity loss.

Staff organized and supported the inspections of nine in-town district houses. Thorough inspections were performed by a third-party home inspection agency and reports were submitted to Real Property for determination of the condition of each home. A schedule is currently being prepared for repairs and/or demolition.

**Objective:** Manage Metropolitan's real property assets to support water system operations and water supply needs, and seek maximum revenue and reduce costs where possible.

A five-year lease was granted to Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District for the installation of air monitoring equipment at the Gene Pumping Plant. The air monitoring equipment will provide a mutual benefit whereby Metropolitan can gather useful air quality information to be proactive in responding to potential outdoor air-quality issues.

## SECURITY MANAGEMENT

### Objective: Improve Security and Emergency Response

- Security is collaborating with Emergency Management, Business Continuity, Information Security, Legal, and other units district-wide to develop and execute a compliance program that will establish Metropolitan as an industry leader in American Water Improvement Act compliance. The Information Technology Group is supporting this effort through the deployment of a SharePoint platform to facilitate information sharing. Staff is in the process of acquiring bleeding control kits to supplement first aid cabinets at facilities. These kits, along with training, will prepare employees to address emergencies.
- Security supported the annual Solar Cup event at the Lake Skinner facility by providing a visible security presence throughout the entire event.

### Objective: Strengthen Internal and External Partnerships

- Met with Engineering Services Group and agreed on a new process that will allow security to provide input on new design projects. This will insure that security features are incorporated into projects at their inception.
- Met with Information Technology's cybersecurity staff in an effort to enhance Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (drone) security and infrastructure protection.
- Met with stakeholders at Bouldin Island to advise them on important security best practices and other security measures.

### GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Foster Leadership and Strengthen Workforce Capabilities

More than half of Metropolitan's workforce has reached retirement age, including many members of Metropolitan's executive management team. This is a challenge to Metropolitan's capacity to adequately train and prepare its workforce but is also an opportunity to build a workforce geared for the challenges of the future.

### Objective: Foster staff training and development.

Staff attended a 24-hour POST (Peace Officers Standards and Training) certified Internal Affairs seminar at California State University, Long Beach. The seminar provided a comprehensive and practical analysis of the issues, legal considerations, and departmental procedures as they relate to the administrative investigations.



## WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

### GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Prepare for More Extreme Hydrology

Staff will work closely with the Board to assess Metropolitan's storage capabilities, current strategies and review future needs to identify whether new strategies and/or new investments are needed.

**Objective:** Manage existing and develop new regional water management programs to maintain water supply reliability in the face of increasing water supply volatility.

Stormwater Recharge Pilot Program—Metropolitan entered into an agreement to support development of a Stormwater Recharge Pilot Program. Goals for the pilot program include determining how Metropolitan can cost-effectively participate in stormwater recharge projects and generate new local supplies for the region.

Kern Delta Groundwater Storage Program—Staff initiated and organized a site visit with the Kern Delta Water District (KDWD) in Bakersfield. The Kern Delta Groundwater Storage Program stores up to 50,000 AF during wet years for Metropolitan and returns water during dry periods. KDWD is expanding the number of spreading basins to increase infiltration. ([see photos below](#))



Pump station and new spreading basins at the Kern Delta Groundwater Storage Program

### Objective: Implement Conservation Program.

Rebates—On May 28, the Los Angeles Unified School District was presented a check by Metropolitan and SoCal Gas for more than \$500,000 in rebates. The rebates were for the purchase and installation of 200 energy and water efficient food steamers. These steamers are used in more than 90 school cafeterias kitchens throughout the school district.

Implementation of 2017 Conservation Legislation AB 1668 and SB 606—On May 20, staff participated in an Urban Conservation Overview workshop held by the California Department of Water Resources and State Water Resources Control Board. The state agencies highlighted the requirement of the Conservation Legislation and announced the formation of six new stakeholder workgroups. The purpose of these workgroups is to perform studies and determine methodologies to implement the Conservation Legislation, with the requirement for SWRCB adopting water use efficiency standards by June 30, 2022.

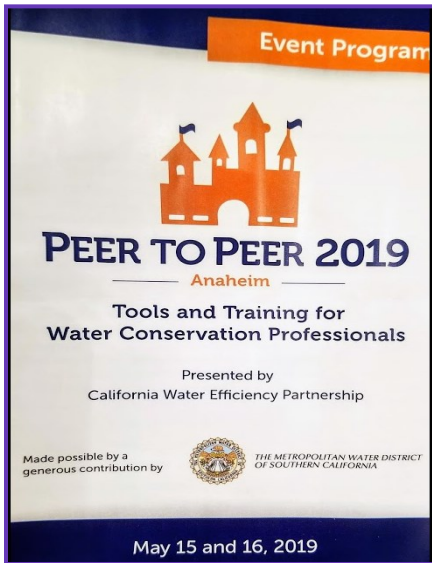
Peer-to-Peer 2019 Conference—Metropolitan sponsored the California Water Efficiency Partnership (CaWEP) Peer-to-Peer 2019 Conference in Anaheim. The two day conference was attended by over 200 water agencies from throughout California. Topics on water conservation, from the current state wide conservation legislation to landscaping programs to leak detection, were discussed. ([see photo of program next page](#))

# WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

## Objective: Implement Conservation Program. Continued...

**Metropolitan's Turf Replacement Program**—Metropolitan staff completed a study of the savings from Metropolitan's Turf Replacement Program. The statistical analysis developed savings factors for both single-family residential and non-single family residences. Individual estimates were included for 19 member agencies that helped provide supplemental data for the study. The study also included a brief discussion of the "multiplier effect" of the program. A panel of outside experts reviewed the methodologies used in the study and the results. Staff will present the findings of the study in an upcoming Board meeting.

**Turf Replacement Program**—On May 20, *Sing Tao Daily*, the best-selling Chinese language newspaper in North America interviewed Water Efficiency Manager McDonnell about the new Turf Replacement Program. The interview was also posted on all of Sing Tao's social media websites. (see photo below of the newspaper)



## GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Maximize Local Resources

Staff will begin work with the Board and member agencies on a review of the institutional issues associated with the Regional Recycled Water Program and its relationship to Metropolitan's ongoing Local Resources Program.

## Objective: Support development of Regional Recycled Water Program (RRWP).

**Title XVI funding** - Staff is working with USBR to get final approval of the Title XVI Feasibility Study for the Regional Recycled Water Program. Title XVI funding is the only source of federal funding specifically for recycled water projects. Upon approval, Metropolitan will be eligible to apply for up to \$20 million from future Title XVI funding.

# WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

## GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Maximize Local Resources continued...

**Objective:** Collaborate with member agencies, water agencies and associations, and provide leadership for policy development, advocacy, outreach and education. Continued...

National Water Reuse Action Plan—Metropolitan staff worked with the WaterReuse Association and other stakeholders to help EPA develop a National Water Reuse Action Plan. The plan helps EPA identify and prioritize actions to safely expand recycled water throughout the nation. EPA will release the plan this fall.

California WaterReuse Action Plan—Metropolitan staff worked with WaterReuse California to develop a California WaterReuse Action Plan to help the Governor prepare and implement the California Water Resilience portfolio identified in Executive Order N-10-19.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions—Metropolitan’s achievements in reporting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions were recognized during the launch event for California’s new state-wide voluntary GHG inventory for water agencies. Metropolitan began voluntarily reporting entity-wide GHG emissions to The Climate Registry in 2008.

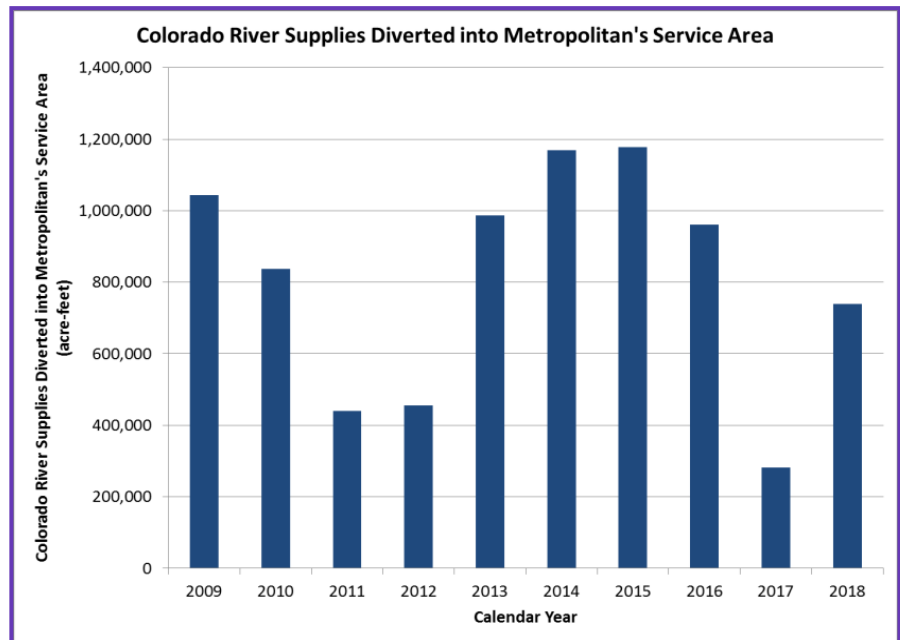
## GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Ensure Imported Supply Reliability

Southern California’s foundational water supply remains the Colorado River and the State Water Project and their ongoing reliability is critical for the region. Important decisions on both supplies need to be made over the next two years.

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

Colorado River Accounting— Metropolitan staff coordinated with U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) to finalize the 2018 Decree Accounting of diversions, return flows, and consumptive use for all users in the Lower Colorado Region. (see chart below)

10-year historic summary of Colorado River Diversions



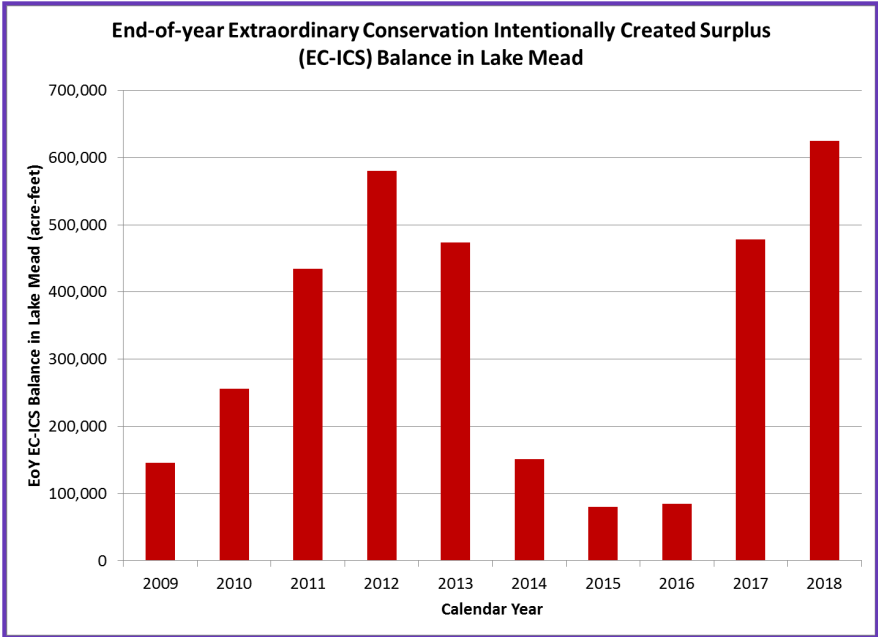
# WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Ensure Imported Supply Reliability continued...**

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

2017 Intentionally Created Surplus Certification Report—Metropolitan staff also finalized the 2017 Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) Certification Report. In this report, USBR approved an increase in the amount of water Imperial Irrigation District created and stored in Metropolitan’s ICS account by 35,278 acre feet, prior to assessed losses. (See chart below)

10-year historic summary of Intentionally Created Surplus Storage



## WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

**GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Enhance Infrastructure Safety, Security and Resiliency**  
Metropolitan's vast network of aqueducts, pipelines, pumps and treatment facilities are the backbone of Southern California's regional water system. However, this vital infrastructure is aging and heightened reinvestment in this system is essential to ensure Metropolitan can continue to deliver on its promise of reliability in the coming decades.

### Objective: Provide Reliable Water Deliveries.

Metropolitan delivered approximately 105,000 acre-feet of water to member agencies in May. May deliveries averaged approximately 3,400 AF per day, similar to April deliveries. Treated water deliveries for May totaled 57,000 AF, or 54 percent of total deliveries for the month. This was an increase of about 1,000 AF from April treated water deliveries. The Colorado River Aqueduct operated at a 3-pump flow, or 1,350 AF per day, for the first half of May; and at a 4-pump flow, or

1,800 AF per day, for the second half of the month. A total of 47,000 AF of Colorado River water was pumped in May. State Water Project imports averaged 4,500 AF per day, totaling 131,000 AF for the month. The target SWP blends for May were 100 percent at the Weymouth and Diemer plants, and up to 75 percent at the Skinner plant.

### Objective: 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 April 2019.

Staff developed a new Metropolitan Safety Talk entitled Personal Headphones/Earbuds in the Workplace. This Safety Talk describes why personal headphones or earbuds are not a substitute for approved personal protective equipment and should not be worn in certain work areas and during specific tasks, such as abrasive blasting, construction, or machining activities.

Metropolitan relies on a wide area network, or WAN, to provide critical communication and data links between several remote areas within the distribution system. This network is comprised of five telecommunication sites with standby generators. Staff is currently relocating standby generators to enhance safety and ensure consistency with current fire codes. Staff began construction on the first of five sites this month, with each site expected to take approximately six weeks to complete. During construction, temporary backup generators will be used to ensure continuous service.

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

Staff installed a temporary bulkhead at the Red Lion Pressure Relief Structure on the Orange County Feeder in the city of Costa Mesa. The bulkhead will isolate a portion of the feeder to allow a contractor to perform rehabilitation work as part of the Orange County Feeder relining capital project. The bulkhead will be removed after the rehabilitation work is complete, which is expected in late summer 2019. ([see photos below](#))



Staff welding steel band (left) and segmented bulkhead (middle), and completed bulkhead (right)



# WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

**GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Enhance Infrastructure Safety, Security and Resiliency**  
Continued....

**Objective: Actively Engage in Capital Project Planning and Execution** continued...

This month, staff completed the rehabilitation of the generator at the Valley View Hydroelectric Plant in the city of Yorba Linda. Work included refurbishing the generator rotor and turbine runner that spin to generate power, as well as refurbishing the needle valves that control the flow of water into the turbine. Staff will be conducting various startup activities prior to returning the plant to operation this summer. *(see photo right)*



Staff performing final reassembly on the generator at Valley View HEP



Reassembled generator at Valley View HEP

Staff continued to support the Wadsworth Control and Protection System Upgrade capital project. Staff installed the programmable logic controllers and tested several pump/generator units by recirculating water from the Diamond Valley Lake forebay through the 78-inch fixed cone valves and 42-inch sleeve valves. As small releases were being made from Diamond Valley Lake, staff operated one generator, which produces revenue for Metropolitan. The capital project is on schedule and expected to be complete by June 2020. *(see photo right)*

Water released into DVL forebay through fixed cone valves during pump/generator testing



**Objective: Optimize Maintenance**

Staff performed repairs to a sewer line and replaced several power poles in the Gene village area. The sewer piping and power poles are nearly 80 years old and have reached the end of their service lives.

# WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

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

### Objective: Optimize Maintenance continued...

- Staff continued the system-wide coatings program aimed at preventing corrosion and extending the life of pipelines and infrastructure. This month, staff prepared and recoated structures and equipment on the Lower Feeder and Santiago Lateral service connections (OC-13, 13A, OC-33) in the Orange County area. Staff also replaced expansion joint caulking material at the Diemer plant's finished water reservoir.
- Metropolitan hosted the Southern California Maximo Users Group (SCMUG) meeting this month. SCMUG promotes best practices and education for maintenance management using Maximo for users in Southern California. Maximo is Metropolitan's computerized maintenance management software used to plan, schedule, and track the condition of assets used throughout Metropolitan's system. *(see photo right)*

Staff facilitating discussions on maintenance-related metrics at the SCMUG meeting



Staff performed scheduled high-voltage maintenance at the Corona Hydroelectric Plant. Work included testing of high-voltage circuit breakers, switches, and capacitor banks in accordance with industry best practices. *(see photo right)*

Staff continues to address erosion damage on patrol roads along the Santiago Lateral and San Diego Pipeline Nos. 3, 4, and 5, as a result of recent heavy rainstorms. Staff backfilled exposed portions of the pipelines with cement slurry and soil, graded patrol roads, and placed roadway base material meeting design specifications. *(see photo below)*



Staff performing maintenance on electrical systems at Corona HEP



Staff placing aggregate material along Santiago Lateral patrol road



# WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

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

### Objective: Optimize Maintenance continued...

- Staff replaced service water pump flow switches at the Jensen plant. The previous flow switches were failing and causing intermittent shutdowns of the service water pumps. Service water is the non-potable water used throughout the plant for critical processes, such as water for the chlorine ejectors. The new flow switches improve the reliability of the service water pumps and overall treatment operations.
- Staff completed annual maintenance on several sedimentation basins at the Weymouth plant. To perform this work, staff removed basins from service, cleaned them, and inspected and repaired mechanical equipment as needed. Staff also cleaned the lower sumps of each basin to ensure the pumps continue to operate efficiently, and settled material from the water treatment process is reliably conveyed to the solids handling facilities for additional processing. *(see photo right)*



Staff performing maintenance on a sedimentation basin at the Weymouth plant



- Staff installed new lighting fixtures, power circuits, and electrical cables within tunnels at the Weymouth plant. These electrical systems have been in place since the plant's original construction. Staff installed 16 new LED lighting fixtures and new power receptacles within the tunnels to improve lighting efficiency and power system capacity.
- Staff installed plastic UV and slip resistant covers over chemical sumps at the Skinner plant. The sumps are associated with Skinner Plant 2, which is currently decommissioned. These new covers will prevent rainwater and debris from entering the sumps, reducing maintenance requirements. *(see photo left)*

Installed chemical sump cover at the Skinner plant

### Objective: Manage the Power System

On May 9, staff participated in the second of a series of meetings with the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) to discuss the Boulder Canyon Project Fiscal Year 2020 Base Charge (capacity and energy charges associated with power from Hoover Dam). The FY 2020 Base Charge was initially proposed at \$67.92 million, but is now expected to decrease by \$1.5 million to \$66.42 million. The decreased charges are due to a reduction in fiscal year maintenance requirements at Hoover Dam based on updated assessments by WAPA. The FY 2020 rate is expected

# WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

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

### Objective: Manage the Power System continued...

to increase to \$19.20/MWh, from the FY 2019 rate of \$18.92 per MWh, due to an anticipated reduction of hydroelectric energy available from Hoover Dam. Rates are expected to be finalized by September 2019.

On May 15, staff participated in the quarterly Boulder Canyon Project Engineering and Operating Committee meeting to discuss Hoover Dam power operations and maintenance issues. At the request of the Hoover contractors, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation removed a previously budgeted amount of \$125 million from the FY 2020 Ten-Year Plan for the replacement of butterfly valves at Hoover Dam. Additional engineering studies indicated that the existing valves were adequate and replacement is not needed at this time.

On May 3, the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC), a regional entity that monitors and enforces mandatory electric reliability standards, issued a Reliability Preparedness memorandum with recommendations to assist entities in ensuring a safe, reliable, and secure system related to wildfire risks. Staff reviewed WECC's recommendations to ensure Metropolitan's program compliance.

### Objective: Improve Security and Emergency Response

Metropolitan has numerous Incident Command Centers (ICCs) located at various locations throughout the District, as well as a central Emergency Operations Center (EOC), all of which can respond immediately to manage local or widespread emergencies. EOC and ICC staff conduct regular exercises to practice how to respond during an incident. In May, staff from Water Quality; Eastern and Western Conveyance and Distribution; Jensen, Diemer, and Weymouth plants; Information Technology-Disaster Recovery, Headquarters facilities and the EOC conducted emergency exercises.

Staff completed security improvements at several service connections in Orange County. The improvements included adding steel plates over locks, reinforcing hinge points on access doors, and adding fencing around structures. These modifications provide added security for pipeline and control system equipment located within the structures. [\(see photos below\)](#)



Staff making security improvements at a pipeline structure



Control system equipment before (left) and after (right) security improvements



# WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

**GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Enhance Infrastructure Safety, Security and Resiliency**  
Continued....

## Objective: Optimize Water Treatment and Distribution

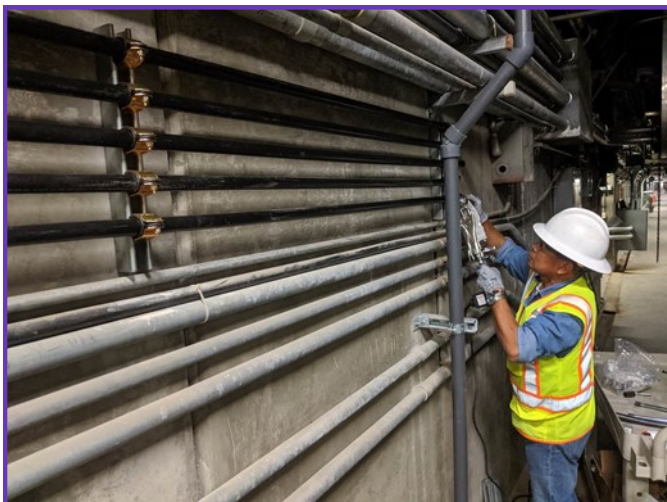
State Water Project target blends for the Weymouth and Diemer plants were 100 percent in May. The SWP blend entering Lake Skinner was decreased from 100 to 75 percent starting on May 10 to reduce disinfection byproduct formation in the Skinner area raw water pipelines.

Flow-weighted running annual averages for total dissolved solids from April 2018 through March 2019 were 547, 536, and 535 mg/L for Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner plants, respectively.

Staff continued work on the Diemer Water Sampling System Improvements capital project. The project will upgrade sample lines and pumps at the Diemer plant to increase operating pressures and reduce the transport time of water quality samples, thereby increasing the accuracy of samples collected for regulatory compliance and process monitoring. New water quality instruments will also be installed. This month, staff began installing water quality sample lines and constructed concrete pads for new instrumentation enclosures. The project is scheduled to be complete in October 2019. *(see photos below)*



Staff saw cutting asphalt and excavating trench to install water quality sample lines and electrical conduit at the Diemer plant



Staff installing new water quality sample lines at the Diemer plant

Staff installing electrical conduit for new water quality instruments at the Diemer plant





## WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

### Objective: Optimize Water Treatment and Distribution continued...

Staff installed electrical cable raceways (enclosures to conceal and protect wiring) in preparation for relocating water quality instrumentation inside the ozone laboratory at the Skinner plant. The instrumentation is currently located outside and is exposed to elements such as weather and wildlife. Relocating the instrumentation to a climate-controlled environment will improve its longevity and maintainability. Staff also installed an uninterruptible power supply subpanel in the ozone laboratory that will allow continuous power for the water quality instrumentation and protection from power surges.

Staff installed a new flow meter console at the Skinner plant. There are several acoustic flow meters at the plant that are scheduled for replacement due to frequent failures and unavailable parts. This new flow meter console is the first of six that will be replaced this year. The flow meters provide accurate measurement of water flow through the plant, ensuring effective treatment operations and chemical dosing.

### Objective: Prepare for Future Legislation and Regulation

On March 7, two federal bills (H.R. 1603 and S. 717) were introduced that would amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to ban asbestos and asbestos-containing mixtures used in commerce (e.g., commercial products and building materials). These bills are important to Metropolitan as up to 45 percent of the manufacturing capacity for chlorine and caustic soda in the United States uses asbestos as part of the manufacturing process (in the form of asbestos diaphragm technology). Banning asbestos for all commercial uses could disrupt chlorine and caustic soda production-- two key chemicals used for water and wastewater treatment. Staff is working with the American Water Works Association and The Chlorine Institute to oppose these bills and seek either an exemption or a sufficiently long period of time to implement alternative technologies.

On April 15, Cal/OSHA released a draft proposal to protect workers from exposure to smoke in the event of wildfire. The proposal requires employers to notify employees to limit their outdoor activities or use personal protective equipment (e.g., respirators) if a wildfire smoke advisory has been issued and the local Air Quality Index for particulate matter is exceeded. Cal/OSHA intends to adopt these emergency regulations by July 2019, followed by the development of permanent regulations.

### GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Prepare for More Extreme Hydrology

Staff will work closely with the Board to assess Metropolitan's storage capabilities, current strategies and review future needs to identify whether new strategies and/or new investments are needed.

### Objective: Manage Water Reserves

State Water Project imports into the service area in April accounted for about 82 percent of Metropolitan's deliveries. Storage at Diamond Valley Lake is at 785,000 acre-feet, or 97 percent full. Water reserves continued to be managed according to Water Surplus and Drought Management principles and the 2019 Annual Operating Plan, while considering the current 70 percent SWP allocation. Metropolitan began deliveries to Kern Delta Storage and continued deliveries to Semitropic Storage in May, and staff is working with Metropolitan's groundwater banking partners to increase scheduled storage at every opportunity. Deliveries of Colorado River water to groundwater storage in the Advanced Delivery Account with Desert Water Agency and Coachella Valley Water District (DWCV) continued in May. DWCV deliveries ramped up to 680 cubic feet per second this month, for a year-to-date delivery of about 65,000 AF. Deliveries to Cyclic Storage and Conjunctive Use programs began in May, totaling 14,000 AF to date. Staff continues to manage storage in 2019 to meet anticipated demands and end-of-year operational targets.

## WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

### GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Promote Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability

Metropolitan will continue to lead with programs that promote actions that support sustainable practices, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect natural habitat and water quality.

#### Objective: Protect Source Water Quality.

On May 1, staff participated in the quarterly stakeholder meeting regarding perchlorate cleanup at the former Tronox site in Henderson, Nevada. The Nevada Environmental Response Trust discussed current remedial operations and ongoing site investigations. Staff continues to monitor the overall development of the long-term remedial plan and distribution of the Trust's funds for site cleanup, which remains at \$1.1 billion.

On May 17, the California Department of Water Resources voluntarily restricted recreational activity at one of the swim beaches at Lake Perris due to the presence of cyanotoxins. Metropolitan was not using Lake Perris water at the time. Metropolitan continues to actively monitor its lakes in preparation for increased algae and cyanobacteria-related activity as the warmer summer season is approaching.

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

Metropolitan's hydroelectric plants generated an average of 26 megawatts, or 18,670 megawatt-hours, in April, with revenues of about \$905,200. Metropolitan's solar facilities, totaling 5.5 megawatts of capacity, generated 857 megawatt-hours in April.

Staff attended the 2019 Advanced Clean Transportation Exposition in Long Beach, where the latest alternative fuel technologies for fleet and heavy duty vehicles were demonstrated. Staff engaged with vendors and regulatory representatives who discussed mobile compressed natural gas (CNG) refueling capabilities, electrification of new and existing heavy duty vehicles, and approaches to achieve zero/near-zero emissions over the next two decades.

### GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Maximize Local Resources

Staff will begin work with the Board and member agencies on a review of the institutional issues associated with the Regional Recycled Water Program and its relationship to Metropolitan's ongoing Local Resources Program

#### Objective: Support the Regional Recycled Water Program.

Three coordination meetings were conducted in May to discuss and refine procedures and guidelines for sample collection and testing at the Regional Recycled Water Advanced Purification Center in Carson. These meetings involved staff from Metropolitan, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (LACSD), and consultants working on the project. On May 28, discussion was about detailed procedures for pathogen monitoring during the upcoming demonstration project.

# WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

## GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Ensure Imported Supply Reliability

Southern California’s foundational water supply remains the Colorado River and the State Water Project and their ongoing reliability is critical for the region. Important decisions on both supplies need to be made over the next two years.

### Objective: Support Imported Supply Reliability

The La Verne Shops manufactured two control wing gates for the Department of Water Resources’ John E. Skinner Delta Fish Protective Facility. This facility, which is located two miles upstream of Banks Pumping Plant, helps to divert fish away from the pumps that lift water into the California Aqueduct. Each gate is 10 feet wide by 30 feet tall and weighs 8,000 lbs. Staff visited the Skinner fish facility to meet with DWR’s plant operators and engineers to fully understand the operation of the gate to aid in the manufacturing process. After manufacturing, staff invited DWR to witness a mock installation of the gates in the same orientation as they would be installed at the Skinner fish facility. Staff shipped the gates on May 7 and DWR installed them the following week. [\(see photos below\)](#)



Staff making security improvements at a pipeline structure

DWR installing newly manufactured wing gates at the Skinner fish control facility



DWR wing gates after manufacturing and coating at the La Verne Shops

## WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

### GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Foster Leadership and Strengthen Workforce Capabilities

More than half of Metropolitan's workforce has reached retirement age, including many members of Metropolitan's executive management team. This is a challenge to Metropolitan's capacity to adequately train and prepare its workforce but is also an opportunity to build a workforce geared for the challenges of the future.

#### Objective: Manage Vacancies.

WSO filled 5 vacant positions in April 2019.

#### Objective: 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, mechanics and electricians from the Classes of 2020 and 2021 concluded their Spring semester with final exams. Instruction resumes in July and will include the first period for the new Class of 2023. The Apprenticeship Program's mechanical instructor provided a two-day journey skills development course to Construction Services Unit staff. Course content included reading blueprints and schematics and was designed to refresh skills for the Operations and Maintenance Technician positions.

Eagle Rock Operations Control Center hosted the fifth session of the WSO Management Academy. Topics focused on day-to-day operations at Metropolitan. Participants toured the Eagle Rock Control Room and Emergency Operations Center. WSO guest speakers provided overviews on the Power Operations and Planning Section and the WSO Unit Manager role. Additional Academy topics included budgeting, contracts, and procurement. The Academy consists of ten, one-day sessions scheduled through October 2019.

#### Objective: Support Education and Outreach Initiatives.

Staff assisted with two CRA inspection trips in May. These included one, three-day trip for Calleguas Municipal Water District and one, two-day trip for the Coro Fellowship leadership organization. Participants visited the Gene field headquarters, attended a boat trip on Copper Basin, and toured the Whitsett Intake pumping plant located on Lake Havasu.

Staff conducted tours of the Water Quality Laboratory and Weymouth plant for the Inland Empire Utilities Agency and Citrus College water technology students. These tours focused on a variety of water quality issues, including compliance monitoring, ozone disinfection, invasive mussels, and emerging contaminants.

On May 18, staff participated in the Yorba Linda Water District annual open house event. Staff gave a presentation on Diemer plant operations, and also manned a booth providing various outreach materials. Participation in these events helps to maintain strong relationships with facility neighbors and local agencies, while educating stakeholders on water-related topics.

### GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Maintain Sound Business Practices and Fiscal Integrity

#### Objective: Ensure Accurate Billing Infrastructure

Staff is completing the final design for service connection EM-25 for Eastern Municipal Water District near the city of San Jacinto. Staff also attended a pre-construction meeting with the city of Santa Ana for a modification to service connection SA-05 that will provide the agency with greater reliability. Additionally, staff continued the study phase for West Basin Municipal Water District's WB-23 service connection.

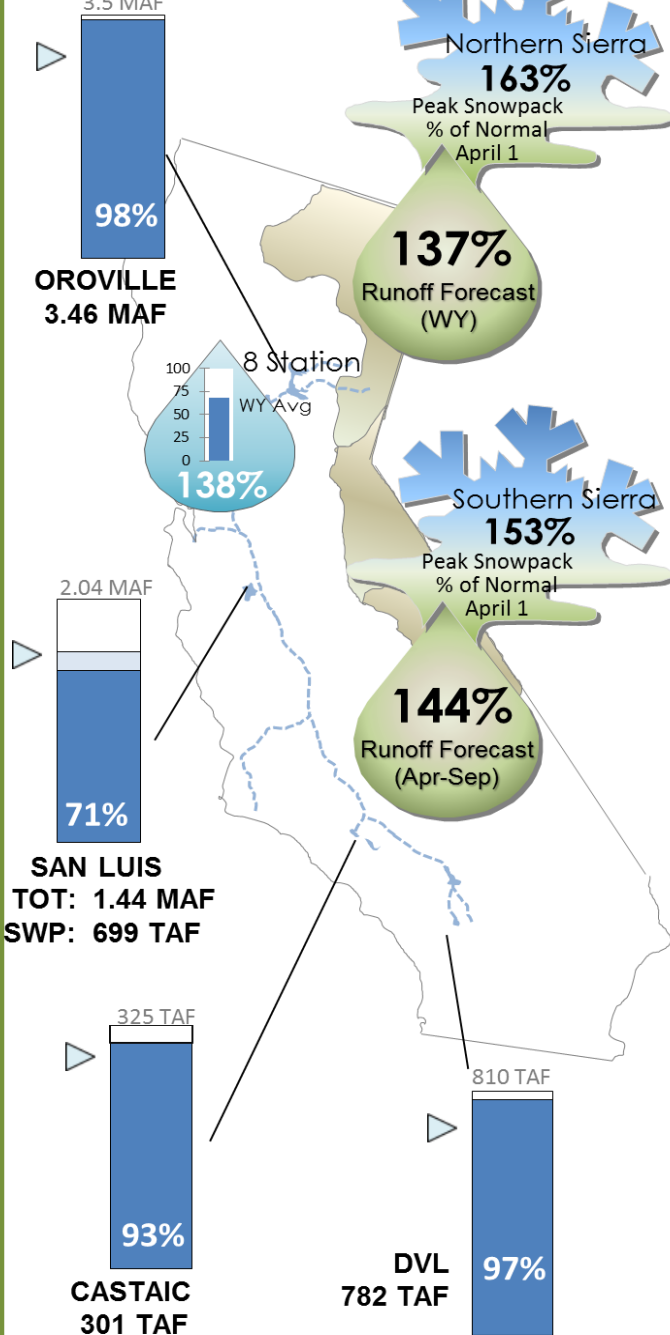
WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS AS OF MAY 31, 2019

**2019 SWP Allocation**

1,338,050 AF

70% of Table A

(Does not include CVWD & DWA Table A)

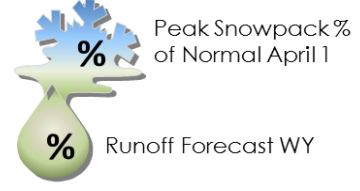
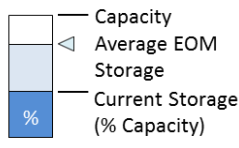
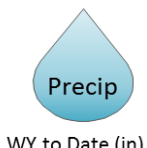
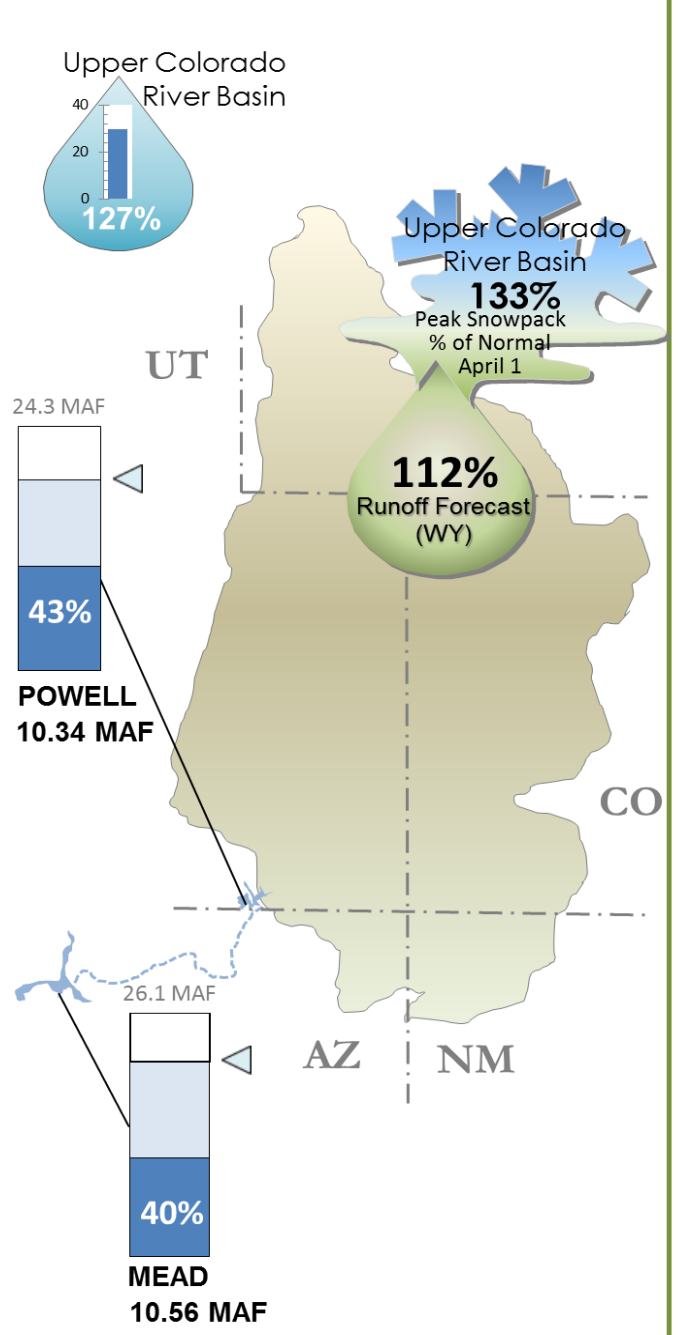


**2019 Colorado River**

972,931 AF

78% of full CRA

(Does not include storage withdrawals)





More photos from Solar Cup Event

Photos below for story on cover page.



Storage	As of 5/31/19	% of Capacity
DVL	781,944 AF	97
Lake Mathews	163,438 AF	90
Lake Skinner	40,400 AF	92

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

General Manager: Jeffrey Kightlinger  
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 Email: [OfficeoftheGeneralManager@mwdh2o.com](mailto:OfficeoftheGeneralManager@mwdh2o.com)

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

## Celebrating Diversity

Metropolitan celebrated Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, the month of May has been proclaimed "...To honor the accomplishments of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and to recognize their many contributions to our Nation." Metropolitan's Asian American Employees Organization hosted an Indian cuisine luncheon with special guest speakers, Water System Operations Group Manager Brent Yamasaki and WSO's Assistant Group Manager Mickey Chaudhuri.



General Manager Kightlinger, AAEO President Radhakrishnan, and General Counsel Scully



WSO Group Manager Yamasaki



WSO Assistant Group Manager Chaudhuri

