



The **GENERAL MANAGER** Monthly Report

**Activities for the Month of
April 2021**

This report identifies the actions and activities taking place during the month that support the objectives of the General Manager's Fiscal Year 2020/21 Strategic Priorities and the Core Business of the GM's work groups.

May 11, 2021



Union Station Courtyard

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ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES SECTION/CAO

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 #2 SUSTAINABILITY - Develop, promote and support sustainable business practices.

The third quarterly Rideshare employee newsletter was distributed to all Rideshare participants. The e-newsletter raises awareness of Metropolitan's Rideshare Program and events with relevant new information from other transit agencies and a variety of fun facts. The issue featured:

- An update on the various programs within Rideshare
- Rideshare alerts and announcements on transit
- Quotes by our participants
- A fun recipe featuring a Hershey's campaign by the Arreola-Chavez family

Met's On the Go
 Welcome to Rideshare's quarterly newsletter!

Rideshare Alerts
Crews/Key LAX Transit Project
 People began construction in 2014 and anticipated completion in 2021. It will connect light rail transit services from existing Station 8 Line (Orange) to the "C" and "D" lines in Los Angeles, and merge with Union C Line (Orange) on the Orange/LAX Station on the Orange Line and the Orange/LAX Station on the Orange Line.

Announcements
No Mask, No Ride: CDC rules mandate masks on all public transportation
 New federal regulations from the CDC require masks on board all public transportation and increasing your mask use is the best way to protect yourself.

Make the Tasty, Even Borealis
 How when you ride Borealis, you can even get a reward for how often, or how many times you ride, on our new app.

Make Purple (D Line) Extension Transit Project
People like
 For an extension of information on the Make Purple (D Line) Extension project, visit the website: www.metro.net/projects/make-purple/

Regional Connector Transit Project
Child like
 For an update on the Child like, visit the website: www.metro.net/projects/child-like/

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Fun recipe
 Courtesy from the Arreola-Chavez family, by the Arreola-Chavez family featured in a Hershey's campaign. Click on the YouTube link for the full recipe video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1015555555> Enjoy!

Chicken Noodle

Ingredients:

- 2 1/2 lbs ground chicken (all 4 meat are excellent to use)
- 2 lbs frozen chicken (chicken thighs) 2 cups chicken bone broth
- 1 1/2 cups whole grain or 4 ounces
- 2 cups orange juice
- 1 1/2 cups yellow onions, sliced
- 1/2 cup sliced almonds
- 4 large garlic cloves, sliced
- 4 tsp onion seeds
- 4 tsp sesame seeds
- 4 tsp dried parsley (dried, stemmed), minced, from 1 to 2 cups, fresh
- 1 tsp dried parsley (dried, stemmed), minced, from 1 to 2 cups, fresh
- 1/4 tsp onion 1 large orange juice, not too strong (orange juice only)
- 1 1/2 tsp sliced almonds
- 2 1/2 tsp Hershey's Good Sweet Chocolate Chips
- 1 (1/2 cup) Hershey's Good Sweet Chocolate Chips, ground in finely chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste

Instructions:

1. Heat a large, deep pot over medium-high heat with 1 1/2 lbs of oil. Once the oil is hot, add the ground chicken.
2. Season chicken with salt and pepper. Working in batches, cook chicken until lightly browned (adding more oil if necessary) on each side, about 7 minutes per side.
3. Transfer browned chicken and any juices to the soup pot. Add broth and orange juice to bring pot to level. Reduce heat to medium-low, cover and simmer until chicken is cooked and pot is almost dry, about 20 minutes.
4. Meanwhile, heat another 2 1/2 lbs of oil in a pan over medium-high heat. Cook onions and garlic for about 10 minutes. Reduce heat to medium and add almonds, garlic, onion, and parsley. Cook and mix until garlic is golden in color, about 2 minutes. Add onion and all of the ingredients completely and begin to cook, about 2 minutes.
5. Using a large, shallow dish, transfer the chicken to a large bowl or pan.
6. Pour onion mixture into chicken cooking liquid. Add onion, orange juice, and sesame. Cook and simmer until onion is very soft, about 20 minutes.
7. Remove from heat and add chicken. Use a wooden spoon to stir and mix until onion mixture is slightly thick, about 10 minutes. Continue to cook until onion mixture is almost dry.
8. Transfer onion mixture to chicken and pour over any sauce. Remove from heat. Continue to cook until onion mixture is almost dry, about 10 minutes.
9. Remove from heat and add almonds, ground almonds, and onion seeds. Continue to cook until onion mixture is almost dry, about 10 minutes.
10. Add 1/4 tsp of onion and sesame to onion. Stir to mix.
11. Transfer chicken to a plate or bowl. Sprinkle with onion, almond mixture, and sesame and garnish with almonds.
12. Sprinkle with onion and sesame. Sprinkle with almond mixture and sesame.

Contact Rideshare for more information: (310) 397-7955 or Rideshare@metro.net

Rideshare participants, share the love!
 Forward this newsletter to your colleagues and encourage them to join Metropolitan's Rideshare Programs Today!

*This issue (May 2021) is the recipient, visit our [website](http://www.metro.net/projects/child-like/) for the latest news on Rideshare!

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES SECTION/CAO *continued*

Objective #3 INNOVATION - Use technology and best practices to implement innovative solutions in business processes to improve the customer and end user's experience.

The Warehouse Team's project to replace its electronic commerce ordering platform continues to make progress with the receipt of five proposals in response to the solicitation. The evaluation team is currently evaluating the proposals. It is anticipated that a contract will be awarded by the end of this fiscal year.

Accomplishments

1. **Administrative Services Cross-Training Pilot Program**

The Administrative Services Section developed a Cross-Training pilot program designed to facilitate opportunities for staff's professional development, career advancement, and personal growth. The program is available to all Administrative Services employees, subject matter experts, learners, or both. It will offer hands-on experience, increase exposure, and promote increased skills and knowledge valuable to Metropolitan. The focus is on training, leadership development, and other efforts that support succession planning. It strengthens diversity, reliability, and redundancy in the workforce. Based on a survey, the top three key areas of the most interest were the Business Management Team, Investment Recovery program, and Procurement. An overview of these areas was presented at the program's open house on April 29, 2021.



The poster features a blue background with a white grid pattern. At the top left is a red circular logo with 'OPEN HOUSE' in white. To the right, the title 'ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CROSS-TRAINING PILOT PROGRAM' is displayed in white. Below the title, a paragraph of text describes the program's purpose. A bulleted list follows, listing 'Business Management Team (Budget/Rideshare)', 'Procurement', and 'Inventory Recovery Program'. Another paragraph invites staff to join for more information. A QR code is shown with a blue arrow pointing to it and the text 'SCAN ME' in blue. To the right of the QR code, the event details are listed: 'Thursday, April 29, 2021', '10:00 am - 11:00 a.m.', and 'Zoom Webinar'. A blue button with white text says 'REGISTER HERE'. At the bottom, a photograph shows two hands exchanging a key. At the very bottom, contact information for the Business Management Support Team is provided.

**ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
CROSS-TRAINING PILOT
PROGRAM**

The Administrative Services Section is happy to announce a new Cross-Training Pilot Program designed to facilitate opportunities for staff's professional development, career advancement, and personal growth.

A cross-training program survey was disseminated to all Administrative Services Section staff in August 2020. Based on the survey, below are the top three areas of the most interest:

- Business Management Team (Budget/Rideshare)
- Procurement
- Inventory Recovery Program

You are invited to come and join us to learn more information on these three key areas of interest. The Cross-Training program offers hands-on experience, increases exposure throughout the section, and promotes increased skills and knowledge valuable to Metropolitan. The focus is on training, leadership development, and other efforts that support succession planning, and strengthens diversity, reliability, and redundancy in the workforce.

Thursday, April 29, 2021
10:00 am - 11:00 a.m.
Zoom Webinar

REGISTER HERE

SCAN ME

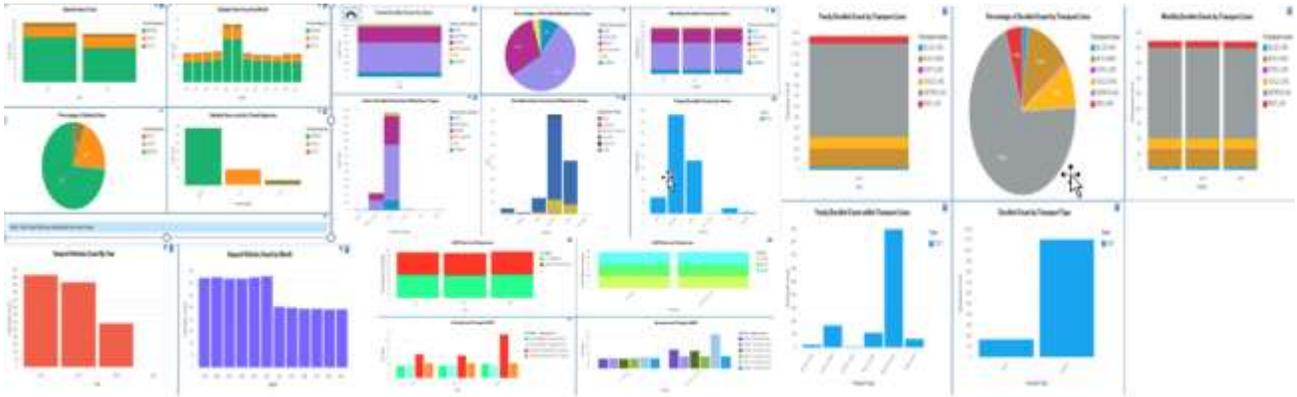
For questions, please contact us through the QR code or the Business Management Support Team at jcorrea@mwsh2o.com, stucker@mwsh2o.com, jchavez@mwsh2o.com, and cchan@mwsh2o.com

2. **Technical Writing Team staff attended online webinar:** *Developing Effective Standard Operating Procedures.* Sponsored by the California-Nevada Section of AWWA, the two-day class focused on best practices for developing standard operating procedures for water distribution system components.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES SECTION/CAO *continued*

3. Rideshare Dashboard Phase II

The Administrative Services Rideshare team continued to collaborate with Information Technology (IT) to finalize the development of Phase II of the Rideshare dashboard with the intent to develop final content in the upcoming fiscal year. The dashboard will make key program metrics easily accessible.



4. Q3 Water Talk Article

The third quarter Water Talk employee E-newsletter focusing on the Investment Recovery Program was distributed to district employees. Investment Recovery is the last stop for assets that have reached their end of life. Contracting Services staff inspects items as they arrive and determines whether the equipment can be reused, scrapped, recycled, or prepared for auction.



Investment Recovery – La Verne

BAY-DELTA INITIATIVES

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: RESILIENCY

Objective # 1 Pursue the development of adaptive management decision processes, governance, and funding mechanisms that would provide effective and stable means of meeting State Water Project (SWP) regulatory requirements.

Staff continued to participate in the collaborative groups called for in the 2019 Biological Opinions (BiOp) for the State Water Project (SWP) and Central Valley Project, and in the 2020 Incidental Take Permit (ITP) for Long-term Operation of the SWP to address science needs and inform management and Operations of the water projects. In April, staff provided input to the management questions that will guide monitoring and development of a spring-run Chinook salmon juvenile production estimate and participated in the Longfin Smelt Technical Team to provide input regarding the development of a longfin smelt life cycle model and review of the draft Interagency Charter for the team. Staff also participated in the Delta Coordination Group to provide input on the guidance document for the Delta Smelt Summer-Fall Habitat Action, the North Delta Food Subsidies Operations and Monitoring Plan, and the aquatic vegetation monitoring plan for the Suisun Marsh Salinity Control Gates operation.

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #2: SUSTAINABILITY

Objective # 1 Pursue completion of the planning and permitting process for the single tunnel Delta Conveyance Project (DCP).

Delta Conveyance

DWR conducted interviews with stakeholders in February and early March 2021 on the concept of incorporating a Community Benefits Program as part of the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) to help protect and enhance the cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta. A summary report of the stakeholder interviews was completed and published, “Community Benefits Interview Report,” which can be found on the DWR website. (https://water.ca.gov/-/media/DWR-Website/Web-Pages/Programs/Delta-Conveyance/Public-Information/DCP_CBP_Interview-Summary_Final_April2021.pdf). DWR scheduled three public workshops: April 14, May 6, and May 25, 2021, and one tribal workshop on May 17, 2021, to have additional discussions and obtain feedback from a wider audience. Registration to participate in the workshops and additional information can be found on DWR’s website (<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project/Delta-Conveyance/Community-Benefits-Program>). The April 14 public workshop focused on what community benefits meant to the participants. The May 6 public workshop will ask the participants to brainstorm project ideas they would like to be included in a Community Benefits Program. The May 25 public workshop will focus on education, infrastructure, and engagement and opportunity for suggestions.

Joint Powers Authorities

During the April 15 Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) Board of Directors meeting, the board was introduced to Graham Bradner, the Interim Executive Director. The board also received a presentation on the draft budget for 2021/22 for discussion for the fiscal year.

On April 28, the DCA Stakeholder Engagement Committee SEC is scheduled to meet and receive updates on design changes, the DWR Community Benefits Program, the environmental justice survey previously conducted by DWR, and the DWR Communications Plan.

The Delta Conveyance Finance Authority (DCFA) appointed Katano Kasine as the DCFA Treasurer at their regularly scheduled April 15 meeting. They also adopted the 2021/22 budget of \$206,600, requiring no additional payments from members.

BAY-DELTA INITIATIVES *continued*

Objective # 3 Engage in planning and permitting activities for the Sites Reservoir.

In their April meetings, the Sites Project Authority Board (Authority Board) and the Sites Reservoir Committee (Reservoir Committee) approved the Principles for the Storage, Delivery, and Sale of Sites Reservoir Project (Project) water (formally referred to as the Storage Policy). These storage principles will serve as the basic framework for the development of additional agreements, policies, and procedures for the Project.

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3: INNOVATION

Objective # 1 Provide leadership through advancing scientific knowledge that promotes opportunities for the improvement of SWP supply reliability through the improvement and protection of estuarine processes, native species, and Delta ecosystem health.

The 11th Biennial Bay-Delta Science Conference, a forum for sharing scientific information relevant to managing the connected San Francisco Bay and Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta systems, was held virtually April 6–9. The conference theme was *Building Resilience through Diversity in Science*.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

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

The Risk Management Unit completed 48 incident reports communicating instances of Metropolitan property damage, liability, workplace injuries, regulatory visits, and spills.

Risk Management completed 49 risk assessments on contracts, including professional service agreements, construction contracts, entry permits, special events, and film permits.

CORE PRIORITY: Business Continuity

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

Objective #1 Manage the Business Continuity Management Program in accordance with Operating Policy A-06.

- Continued working with groups across the district on Business Continuity Plan updates.
- Collaborated with IT and the MetAlert emergency notification vendor (MIR3) to make technical changes in support of the vendor's data center move to Amazon Web Services.
- Participated in Metropolitan's Innovation Council and its Charter Committee.
- Continued working with the vendor on enhancements being made to the Fusion business continuity software.
- In preparation for Fusion software renewal, participated in scoping calls to get estimates on a couple of other vendor products.

CORE BUSINESS: Financial Management

Manage Metropolitan's finances in an ethical and transparent manner and provide consistent, clear, and timely financial reporting. Update Metropolitan's capital financing plans and work with rating agencies and investors to communicate Metropolitan's financial needs, strategies, and capabilities thus ensuring Metropolitan has cost effective access to capital markets and the ability to finance ongoing future needs. In addition, actively manage Metropolitan's short-term investment portfolio to meet ongoing liquidity needs and changing economic environments.

Objective #1 Record and report the financial activities of Metropolitan in a timely, accurate, and transparent manner to the Board, executive management, member agencies, and the financial community.

- Water Transactions for March 2021 totaled 105.5 thousand acre-feet (TAF), which was 9.1 TAF lower than the budget of 114.6 TAF. This translates to \$94.5 million in revenues for March 2021, which were \$7.5 million lower than the budget of \$102.0 million.
- Year-to-date water transactions through March 2021 were 1,144.1 TAF, which was 38.0 TAF lower than the budget of 1,182.1 TAF. Year-to-date water transactions through March 2021 were \$1,008.2 million, which were \$39.7 million lower than the budget of \$1,047.9 million
- In March 2021, Accounts Payable processed approximately 3,700 vendor invoices for payment and took advantage of about \$13,300 in discounts.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER *continued*

Objective #5 Prudently manage the investment of Metropolitan's funds in accordance with policy guidelines and liquidity considerations.

- As of March 31, 2021, the balance in Metropolitan's investment portfolio was \$1,296.5 million; for the month of March 2021, Metropolitan's portfolio managers executed 59 trades.
- During the month of March 2021, Treasury staff processed 1,314 disbursements by check, 20 disbursements by Automated Clearing House (ACH), and 103 disbursements by wire transfer. Treasury staff also processed 92 receipts by check, 27 receipts by ACH, and 48 receipts by incoming wires and bank transfers.

Financial Summary - Charts & Graphics

Receipts

Expenditures

O&M Expenditures

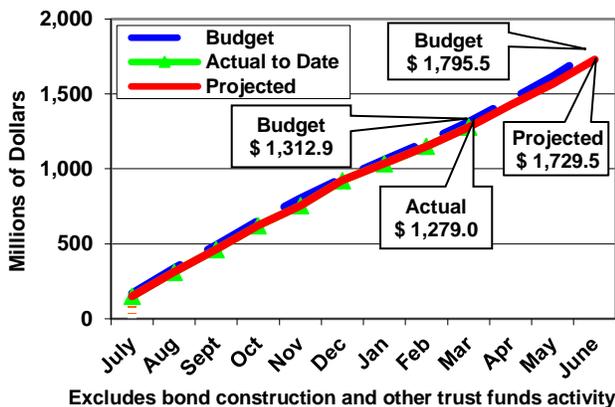
Construction Costs

Cash and Investments

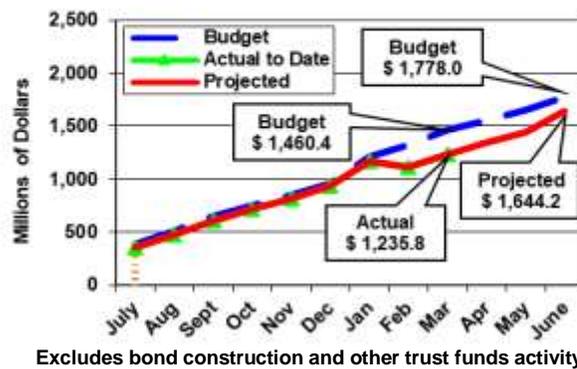
Summary of Financial Statistics

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER *continued*

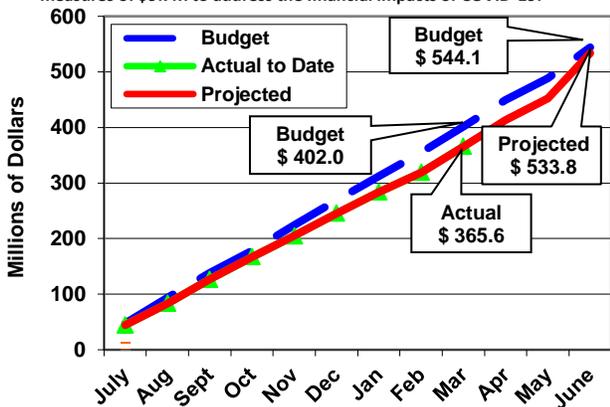
Revenues are expected to be \$66.0M under budget at year end primarily due to 63.2 TAF of lower water transactions.



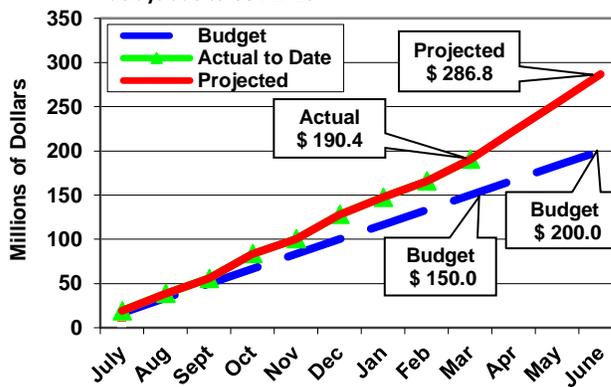
Expenses are expected to be \$133.8M under budget primarily due to \$106.5M lower State Water Contract costs. In addition, RRWPP, debt service & O&M costs are expected to be lower by \$12.2M, \$11.8M & \$10.3M, respectively. These favorable variances were offset by \$20.6M higher Supply Program costs.



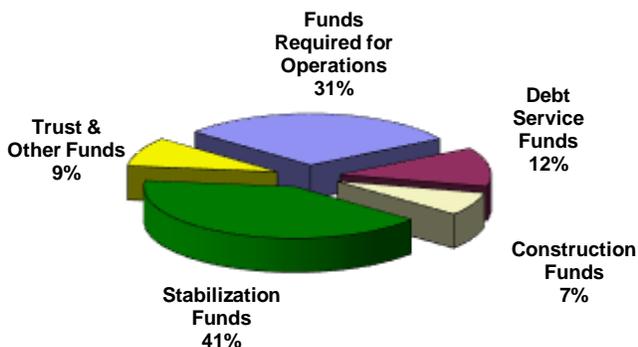
O&M expenses are expected to be \$10.3M under budget at year end. The variance primarily reflects the Sep-2020 Board approved cost containment measures of \$9.7M to address the financial impacts of COVID-19.



Capital Program expenses are expected to be \$86.8M over budget at year end as projects are no longer experiencing delays due to COVID-19.



Cash and Investments at Fair Value \$ 1,296.7 million



Summary Financial Statistics

	Target	Year-End Projected
Fixed Charge Coverage	≥ 1.20 x	1.76
Revenue Bond Coverage	> 2.00 x	1.67
Revenue Bond Debt / Equity Ratio	< 100.0%	54.2%

Senior Lien Revenue Bond Credit Ratings

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

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: RESILIENCY

Objective #1: 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:

- **Lake Perris Bypass Pipeline Relining**—This project will reline approximately 1,500 feet of the Lake Perris Bypass Pipeline. In April 2021, the contractor completed installation of steel liner, placed concrete encasement at pipeline, and backfilled the excavation pit. All construction activities were completed in April 2021.
- **Lakeview Pipeline Improvements**—This project will reline approximately 450 feet of the Lakeview Pipeline and replace a 60-inch tee at the Lake Perris Control Facility. Construction is 80 percent complete and scheduled to be complete by June 2021. The contractor is currently installing two internal bulkheads to allow deliveries of water from DVL to the Mills plant because of low State Project Water availability.
- **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. The contractor is performing start-up testing and commissioning. Construction is 99 percent complete and is scheduled to be completed by the end of May 2021.
- **Garvey Reservoir Hypochlorite System Replacement**—This project will replace the existing chemical feed pumps, reconfigure the feed pipe system, upgrade the existing control systems and automatic process controls, and implement remote feed control. The contractor has mobilized and is currently preparing contract submittals. Construction is 5 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in July 2022.
- **Garvey Reservoir Erosion Improvements Areas 6, 7, 8, 10, and 11**—This project will install a permanent drainage system and erosion control features including drainage piping, concrete ditches, stem walls, and flow detention and dissipation structures. The contractor has completed drainage and erosion improvements in Area 8 and started work in Areas 10 & 11. Construction is 25 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete in November 2021.

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. The priority pipelines included in the program are the Second Lower Feeder, Sepulveda Feeder, Calabasas Feeder, Rialto Pipeline, and the Allen-McColloch Pipeline. A total of 100 miles of PCCP pipelines will eventually be relined with new steel pipe liners under this 20-year program. 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. Approximately 10 miles of PCCP on the Second Lower Feeder have been relined. Construction for Reach 2 is 99 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by April 2021. The contractor is currently coordinating the construction of a manhole modification on Reach 2. Final design of Reach 3 is 96 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by September 2021. Preliminary design continues for Reach 9, which includes a section of pipeline that will be tunneled under the Los Angeles River.

- **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 inches 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 85 percent complete, and the valves are scheduled to be delivered by August 2021. Successful final inspection of two of the 48-inch conical plug valves was completed in November 2020 and the third 48-inch valve is undergoing shop testing. Fabrication and machining of the 54-inch conical plug components continued in preparation for the second delivery.
- **Allen McColloch Pipeline Relining**—This project rehabilitates approximately 1,200 feet of existing PCCP segments with a steel liner pipe that will accommodate full internal and external pressures on the line. Construction is 12 percent complete, with the contractor currently working on installation of the steel pipe liners. Construction is scheduled to be complete by June 2021.
- **Sepulveda Feeder PCCP Rehabilitation**—This project rehabilitates the remaining 35 miles of PCCP segments within the Sepulveda Feeder. Long-term rehabilitation of the Sepulveda Feeder will be staged over multiple years with multiple construction and procurement contracts. Final design of Reach 1 is 8 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by February 2023. Preliminary design to rehabilitate the remaining reaches of the feeder continues.

Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) Reliability Program

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

- **CRA Discharge Isolation Couplings**—This project fabricates and installs 44 isolation coupling assemblies at the five Colorado River Aqueduct pumping plants. Overall, construction is 99 percent complete with the contractor currently installing new concrete delivery line supports at the Intake Pumping Plant. The project is scheduled to be complete by June 2021.
- **CRA Radial Gates 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. Stage 2 work includes replacement of seven radial gates at seven facilities along the CRA. Construction of Stage 2 is 97 percent complete. The contractor is working on punch list items and installation of new transformer containment pads. Construction is scheduled to be complete by June 2021.
- **CRA Overhead Cranes**—This project consists of replacing five overhead bridge cranes and retrofitting the support structures within the pump bays located at all five of Metropolitan’s Colorado River Aqueduct pumping plants. Construction is five percent complete with the contractor working on contract submittals. Construction is scheduled to be complete by July 2023.



Lakeview Pipeline Relining—Welding new steel liner

Treatment Plant Reliability Program

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

Weymouth Plant

- **Weymouth Chlorination System Upgrades**—This project expands the existing chlorine building to house additional chlorination feed equipment and instrumentation at the Weymouth plant. The contractor is currently working on piping, instrumentation and electrical equipment installation, wire terminations, point-to-point checking and pre-dry commissioning. Construction is 93 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by September 2021.
- **Weymouth Water Quality Instrumentation Improvements**—This project will improve monitoring and rapid response to changing water quality conditions at the Weymouth plant, by adding required sample piping, pumps, and housing for water quality analyzers. The contractor is currently installing analyzer panels, stainless steel piping for sampling pumps, motor control centers, and cable trays. Construction is 92 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by June 2021.

Diemer Plant

- **West Basin and Filter Building Rehabilitation**—This project rehabilitates 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 was suspended last year for six weeks because of COVID-19 and resumed in May 2020. In January 2021, the contractor suspended work on this contract for two weeks because of a COVID-19 outbreak in its workforce. The contractor has resumed work since then and continues removing and replacing basin and filter equipment, installing new electrical conduits and panels, and performing hazardous material abatement activities. Construction is 97 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by May 2021.
- **Diemer Water Sampling System Improvements**—This project upgrades the existing Diemer water sampling system, composed of 13 sample locations. At each location, the sample pump, piping, and field analyzers will be upgraded by Metropolitan staff working in micro-teams because of COVID-19. All materials and equipment have been procured for this project and Metropolitan staff is currently installing and commissioning water quality field analyzers. Construction is 85 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by August 2021.

Jensen Plant

- **Jensen Electrical Upgrades, Stage 2**—This three-stage project upgrades the electrical system with dual power feeds to key process equipment to comply with current codes and industry practice. Stage 1 work is complete. Stage 2 improvements will upgrade UPC-7, UPC-9, and their associated motor control centers to support critical process equipment. The contractor completed installation of both unit substations and two motor control centers and is currently pulling feeder cables to this equipment and installing new motor control centers throughout the site. Because of the COVID-19 work suspension last year, the Spring 2021 plant shutdown for this project has been rescheduled for Spring 2022. Construction is 71 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by August 2022.



**West Basin and Filter Building Rehabilitation—
Installing wire mesh bird screen under new steel walkway bridge at Basin 8**

ENGINEERING SERVICES *continued*

System Reliability Program

The System Reliability Program consists of projects to improve or modify facilities located throughout Metropolitan's service area in order to use new processes or technologies or both and improve facility safety and overall reliability. Recent activities include the following:

- **Headquarters Building Improvements**—This project provides seismic upgrades and other needed improvements to the Metropolitan Headquarters Building. Construction related to the original contract scope is 94 percent complete, and the contractor is currently working on Floors 10 through 12 and continuing electrical work for the power door assist devices. Staff is working with the contractor to advance additional work while the building remains lightly occupied. Construction is anticipated to be complete by December 2021.
- **Board and Committee Room Upgrades**—This project upgrades audio/visual (A/V) systems in the boardroom, three committee rooms and the rotunda at the Metropolitan Headquarters Building. Engineering Services, IT, and Facilities Management are working collaboratively on this technology replacement project. Installation of the A/V equipment has been included as a board-approved change order to the original Headquarters Building Improvement contract, described in the previous paragraph. The contractor is currently installing electrical and HVAC equipment in the boardroom and second floor committee rooms and AV equipment in Committee Room 1-102. Construction is 60 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by August 2021.
- **Headquarters Physical Security Upgrades**—The comprehensive security upgrades for the Metropolitan Headquarters Building have been prioritized and staged to minimize rework and impacts on day-to-day operations within the building. The Stage 1 work enhances security related to perimeter windows and doors. Stage 2 improvements will provide security system upgrades inside the building with a focus on the main entry rotunda area, board room, executive dining lounge, and security control room. Stage 3 improvements will provide security system upgrades around the perimeter of the building. Construction of Stage 1 is 98 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by August 2021. Construction of Stage 2 improvements is 20 percent complete and is scheduled to be complete by April 2022. The contractor is installing cabling for cameras and card readers on Floors 1, 2, and 9–12, in concurrence with other building improvement work. Stage 3 improvements are currently in the design phase.
- **Headquarters Building Fire Alarm and Smoke Control System Upgrades**—This project upgrades the Metropolitan Headquarters Building fire life safety systems, which includes replacement of the fire detection and alarm system and HVAC system improvements for smoke control. The contractor is performing utility research, continuing the permit approval process, electrical closet installation, and revising the construction sequence in accordance with the Fire Department's request. Construction is 12 percent complete. The anticipated project completion date is being reassessed.



Headquarters Building Improvements—Installing security film on the 12th floor

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING SECTION/CAO

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: RESILIENCY

Objective #1 Provide planning, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)/National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and regulatory permitting support for programs and projects that focus on infrastructure reliability and redundancy.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Review

Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP) Reliability Program

- Provided Worker Environmental Awareness Training before the start of construction and monitored for nesting birds in proximity to construction for the Allen McCulloch Pipeline (AMP) Urgent Relining Project.
- Completed Second Lower Feeder Reach 8 Urgent Repair Final Monitoring Report.

Perris Valley Pipeline Project

- Completed Addendum No. 3 to the 2005 Perris Valley Pipeline Project Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

San Gabriel Tower and Spillway Upgrades

- Initiated protocol surveys for least Bell's vireo and southwestern willow flycatcher in support of biological resources analysis.

Objective #2 Emphasize employee development and recruitment, knowledge capture, cross-training, management/leadership training, and succession planning.

Webinars attended by staff:

- The Importance of Mapping Cultural Resources, presented by the National Preservation Institute
- CEQA at 50, presented by UC Davis

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #2: SUSTAINABILITY

Objective #3 Continue to actively manage Metropolitan's more than 30,000 acres of conservation lands through cooperative relationships with public agencies and non-governmental conservation organizations to promote sustainability of reserve resources.

Lake Mathews Multiple Species Reserve

- Observed red diamond and Southern Pacific rattlesnakes, gopher snakes, coachwhips, rosy boas, and striped racers during reptile and amphibian inventory surveys (see photo).
- Treated invasive vegetation, including mustard and stinknet, using herbicides.
- Conducted vegetation maintenance in support of Stephens' kangaroo rat (SKR) habitat enhancement.



Gopher Snake (*Pituophis catenifer*) at Lake Mathews

Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve

- Cleared tamarisk of animals and moved piles away from sensitive resources before CalFire prescribed burn.
- Coordinated with the San Diego Zoo biologists to conduct SKR mark and recapture surveys to assess the abundance of species on the reserve.
- Translocated a pair of burrowing owls from a construction site in nearby Menifee to an artificial burrow complex on the reserve in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).
- Installed cages to trap non-native brown-headed cowbird (see photo). Over 50 birds have been caught in the cages and removed from the reserve to date.
- Applied herbicide to invasive short pod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), Malta star thistle (*Centaurea melitensis*), and stinknet (*Oncosiphon piluliferum*) populations and conducted roadside weed abatement to Reserve roads.
- Opened Lake Skinner equestrian trail after completion of maintenance in coordination with CalFire.



Non-Native Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) Trapping at Southwestern Riverside Multi-Species Reserve

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING SECTION/CAO *continued*

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3 INNOVATION

Objective #1 Pursue programmatic CEQA and regulatory permitting efforts for operations and maintenance activities throughout Metropolitan's service area to streamline clearances for capital projects and O&M activities.

Western San Bernardino Right of Way and Infrastructure Protection Program (RWIPP)

- Conducted biological resources reconnaissance survey of Capital Improvement Plan project areas.

Orange County Right of Way and Infrastructure Protection Program (RWIPP)

- Executed long-term Routine Maintenance Streambed Alteration Agreement (SAA) with CDFW for the Orange County Right-of-Way and Infrastructure Protection Program (RWIPP).

Objective #2 Develop and improve internal processes, procedures, systems, and databases to streamline and standardize environmental analysis and project clearance in support of customers.

- Completed development and implementation of Environmental Planning ArcGIS map database.

Objective #3 Partner and collaborate with regulatory and resources agencies, as well as other public agencies and external organizations, to build relationships and expedite/streamline environmental authorizations and clearances for Metropolitan projects.

- Conducted coordination meeting with CDFW Region 5 management and supervisory staff.

CORE BUSINESS: REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

Objective #1 Provide timely and professional environmental planning services and CEQA and regulatory permitting support to ESG, WSO, WRM, External Affairs, and Real Property groups.

Engineering Services

- Provided design phase support for the following projects:
 - Irvine Regulating Structure Drain Line Replacement
 - Weymouth Basins 5–8 Rehabilitation
 - San Gabriel Tower Seismic Upgrades
 - Weymouth Administration Building Seismic Upgrades
 - La Verne Water Quality Building
 - Lake Perris Seepage
 - Perris Valley Pipeline
 - Battery Energy Storage Systems
 - Mills Electrical Upgrades Stage 2
 - Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) Reliability Program
 - CRA Mile 12 Flow and Chlorine Station Upgrades
 - Copper and Gene Sluiceways Rehabilitation
 - CRA 69kV and 230kV Transformers Replacement
- Provided CEQA analysis and environmental planning clearance for Safety of Dam activities at Lake Skinner.
- Completed biological and jurisdictional surveys in support of Copper Basin Road Access Road Repairs project.
- Completed review of UAV flight proposals for the CRA in the desert region and the AMP relining project.

Water System Operations

- Provided CEQA analysis and environmental planning clearances for four WSO projects:
 - Lower Feeder-Mud Canyon Road Grading (see photo)
 - Lake Skinner Outlet Tower Shutdown
 - Aden Nursery Vegetation Maintenance
 - Palos Verdes Reservoir Fence Realignment and Vegetation Maintenance
- Conducted environmental monitoring for maintenance activities in the desert region.
- Provided nesting bird guidance for the filling of a basin at the Jensen Water Treatment Plant.
- Submitted post-construction reports to CDFW for the Upper Feeder and Lower Feeder shutdown, per SAA conditions.
- Received final SAA for Lake Skinner Outlet Tower shutdown.
- Submitted SAA notification and Waste Discharge Requirements application to CDFW and the Regional Water Quality Control Board, respectively, to support the CRA Exposed Barrel Repairs Project.



Lower Feeder Mud Canyon Road Grading – Nesting Bird Survey

Water Resource Management

- Completed environmental analysis and provided environmental support for Beverly Hills Desalter Project Local Resources Program (LRP).

Real Property Support

- Provided CEQA analysis and determinations in support of four real property agreements.

Legislative Support

- Monitored status of pending state and federal legislation and provided legislative analysis on AB 303, AB 564, and SB 592.

External Reviews

- Reviewed 20 external projects to determine affects on Metropolitan facilities or operations or both and prepared a comment letter for one project with the potential to affect Metropolitan.

Construction Monitoring

- Provided construction monitoring for the following projects: Orange County RWIPP Santiago Lateral Roadway Improvement; Garvey Reservoir Drainage and Erosion Improvements Construction Monitoring; Palos Verdes Reservoir Discharge Line and AMP Urgent Relining Project.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

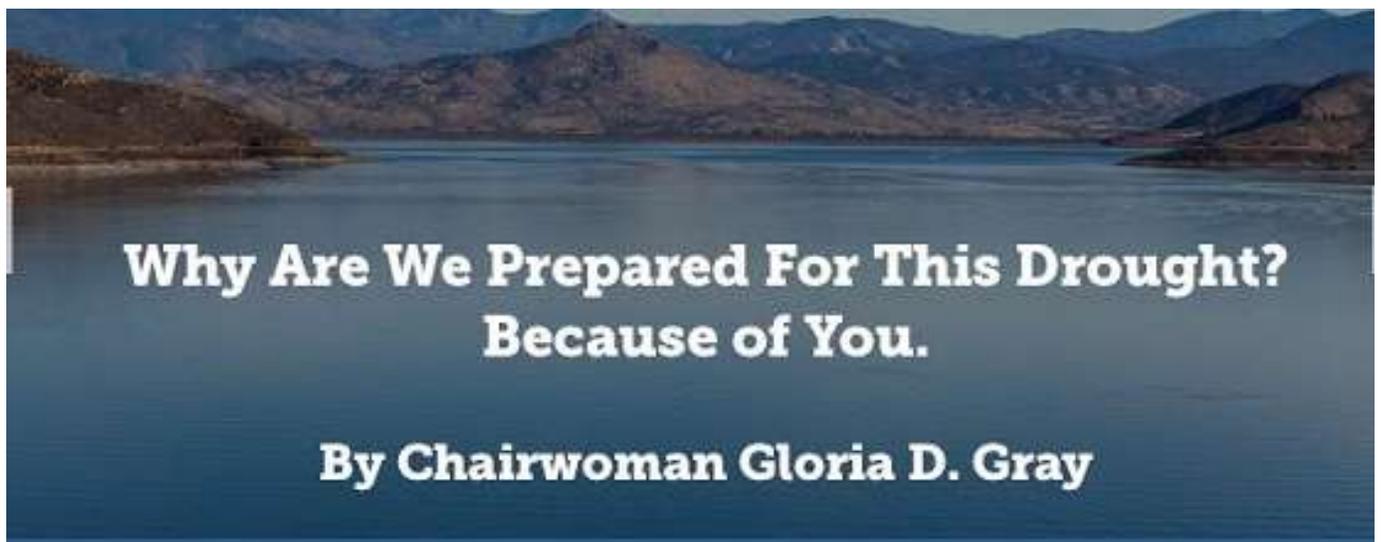
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS PRIORITY: Advance Initiatives to Educate and Inform the Public, Elected Officials and Stakeholders on Water Supply Conditions and Important Water Management Decisions.

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 #1 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, and informing 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.

Director Lefevre chaired a panel discussion on “The New Norm? Water Supply Challenges and Resiliency for California” as part of IEEE’s SusTech virtual conference to explore how emerging technologies are driving sustainability. (April 22)

California’s dry conditions and the impacts on some regions of the state are garnering strong press and public attention. Metropolitan senior management led by General Manager Kightlinger responded to numerous news media requests for interviews and information, including Los Angeles Times, Associated Press, Sacramento Bee, KCBS/KCAL, KNX radio, China Global News Network, E&E News, Today’s News-Herald (Arizona) and CalMatters, reinforcing the message that Southern California is prepared. Chairwoman Gray authored a blog thanking Southern Californians for maintaining a strong water conservation ethic. Social media posts featured strong messaging to diverse audiences about the need for continued conservation, Metropolitan rebates, and Southern California’s drought resiliency.



EXTERNAL AFFAIRS *continued*

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.

Objective #1 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

Chairwoman Gray, Directors Cordero and Kurtz, GM Kightlinger, and staff held virtual briefings with members of the Biden Administration and Congress to discuss legislative and appropriation priorities, including funding for the Regional Recycled Water Program, Colorado River water quality concerns, and tax parity for water conservation measures. Meetings were with Tanya Trujillo, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science; Camille Touton, Deputy Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation; and Representative Napolitano (D-El Monte). (April 8)

President Biden released an outline of his infrastructure plan that includes \$111 billion in investments in the water sector, including funding to modernize America's drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater systems. Additionally, the President released his proposed FY22 budget, which includes double-digit increases to the budgets for EPA and the Department of Interior. Metropolitan staff continues to advocate for increased investment in water infrastructure funding and is closely tracking the development of the infrastructure bill and FY22 appropriations.

State

Chairwoman Gray, Director Kurtz, and staff met with Assembly Member Friedman (D-Glendale) to discuss Metropolitan's sponsored bill AB 442, Metropolitan's legislative priorities, and the Board's response to the employee allegations about workplace harassment and retaliation. During the meeting, staff also shared that there is strong opposition among the retail water agencies to AB 1434 that proposes a new, lower indoor water use standard based on studies and data that have not been vetted with the water community. (April 6)

Metropolitan's Surface Mining and Reclamation Act legislation, AB 442 (Mayes, D-Yucca Valley), was heard in Assembly Water Parks and Wildlife Committee on April 26.

The Senate Governance and Finance Committee heard SB 480 by Senator Stern (D-Calabasas) that would amend the Metropolitan Act to make the Ethics Officer responsible for investigating alleged violations of rules related to inappropriate conduct. The Committee referred the bill to Senate Appropriations on a 5-0 vote. Staff has committed to work with the author's office on the bill language to ensure the safety and well-being of all Metropolitan employees and to make improvements to our EEO-related policies and procedures if deemed necessary based on the Shaw Law Group review or a possible state audit.

Metropolitan took a support position on AB 1500, proposed a \$6.7 billion Climate Resiliency bond by Assembly members Garcia (D-Coachella) and Mullin (S-South San Francisco). Metropolitan staff will continue to advocate to ensure adequate funding for recycled water projects, water quality monitoring and treatment, and subsidence repairs to conveyance infrastructure.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS *continued*

Senate President pro Tempore Atkins (D-San Diego) is leading an effort for a COVID-19 recovery package to take advantage of a one-time General Fund surplus and the federal American Rescue Plan funds. The Association of California Water Agencies and California Municipal Utilities Association have provided ideas for projects that could address the current drought and prepare California for climate change. Metropolitan has proposed funding for turf replacement rebates and to support an expansion of a toilet replacement program for multi-family homes, recycled water, water quality, and treatment, and shared a list of shovel-ready Member Agency projects.

Dr. Akilah Weber will become the newest member of the California Assembly after winning the special election for Assembly District 79 (San Diego).

Local

AGM/COO Upadhyay spoke to the Council of Water Utilities, San Diego County, on Metropolitan's regional planning, infrastructure investments, and water supply reliability. (April 20)

Chairwoman Gray was the featured speaker at the 10th Council Women's Steering Committee event and spoke about Metropolitan's role as a regional water provider, current water supply conditions, future challenges facing water agencies, and initiatives to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion in the water industry. (April 24).

Metropolitan staff participated in webinars this month with chambers of commerce, business associations, councils of governments, public affairs networks, and local elected officials, providing an update on water supply conditions and other water policy and current issues in the region:

- LAX Coastal Chamber of Commerce (April 1)
- Southern California Water Coalition Legislative Meeting (April 5)
- Western Riverside Council of Governments (April 5)
- South Bay Association of Chamber of Commerce (April 6)
- Inland Action (April 6)
- Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce (April 6)
- Glendora Chamber Legislative Action & Economic Development Committee (April 6)
- Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce ACCESS Sacramento advocacy meetings with the Chief of Staff for Assembly Member Luz Rivas (D-Arleta) (April 6)
- Orange County Virtual Sacramento Summit (April 6–7)
- San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership virtual event with Representative Napolitano (D-El Monte) (April 7)
- Representative Jimmy Gomez (D-Los Angeles) Forum on Climate Change and Environmental Justice (April 7)
- Los Angeles County Business Federation meeting with Representative Gomez (D-Los Angeles) (April 7)
- Ventura County Economic Development Association (April 7)
- Greater Irvine Chamber of Commerce (April 7)
- Upland Chamber of Commerce (April 8)
- San Gabriel Valley Public Affairs Network (April 8)
- San Gabriel Valley Legislative Coalition of Chambers (April 8)
- Long Beach Chamber of Commerce (April 8)
- South Bay Cities Council of Governments Elected Officials Briefings (April 8)
- Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce (April 8)
- Inland Empire Economic Partnership Public Policy Committee (April 9)
- Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce (April 9)
- Greater Ontario Business Council (April 9)
- Oxnard Chamber of Commerce (April 12)

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS *continued*

- Regional Chamber of Commerce—San Gabriel Valley (April 12)
- SGVCOG Water Committee & Water Technical Advisory Committee (April 13)
- Orange County Business Council (April 13)
- Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce (April 13)
- South Orange County Economic Coalition (April 14)
- VICA Newsmaker with Senator Anthony Portantino (D-La Canada Flintridge) (April 14)
- South Gate Chamber of Commerce (April 15)
- Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce meeting with City Councilmember Mitch O’Farrell (April 15)
- San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (April 15)
- Building Industry Association Southern California Water Conference Planning Committee (April 15)
- Association of California Cities—Orange County (April 16)
- San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership event featuring Senator Portantino (D-La Canada Flintridge). (April 16)
- Westside Coalition of Government’s Sustainability Committee (April 18)
- Southwest California Legislative Council (April 19)
- Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti State of the City Speech (April 19)
- El Segundo Chamber of Commerce (April 19)
- Pomona Chamber of Commerce (April 20)
- Inland Action (April 20)
- Association of California Cities Orange County Environment, Energy & Water Committee (April 20)
- Valley Industry and Commerce Association (April 21)
- Coalition of Labor, Agriculture and Water’s Water, Housing, Energy, Environment, and Labor Committee (April 21)
- SGVCOG Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee (April 21)
- El Monte/South El Monte Chamber of Commerce (April 22)
- Harbor Association of Industry and Commerce (April 22)
- Building Industry Association of Southern California (April 22)
- Oxnard Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting (April 22)
- San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership event featuring Assembly Member Rubio (D-Baldwin Park). (April 23)
- Ventura County Economic Development Association’s Board Meeting (April 23)
- South Orange County Economic Coalition Membership Meeting (April 23)
- Anaheim Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee (April 23)
- United Chambers of Commerce of the San Fernando Valley Board Meeting (April 26)
- Gateway Chambers Alliance (April 27)
- Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce (April 27)
- Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce (April 28)
- Valley Industry and Commerce Association (April 28)
- SGV Economic Partnership (April 28)
- San Gabriel Valley Public Affairs Network (April 28)
- Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce (April 28)
- Corona Chamber Legislative Action Committee (April 28)
- Construction Industry Coalition on Water Quality (April 28)
- League of California Cities Los Angeles Division (April 28)

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS *continued*

Objective #2 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.

Interviews

The following media interviews include those on drought conditions and conservation referenced in Objective #1 above:

- Arranged interview with Los Angeles Times reporter Bettina Boxall and Water Resources Management Group Manager Coffey regarding Metropolitan's supply outlook in 2012, including deliveries and Lake Oroville levels
- Set up an interview between E&E News reporter Jeremy Jacobs and General Manager Kightlinger about drought across the West
- Arranged interview with CalMatters reporter Rachel Becker and AGM/Chief Operating Officer Upadhyay on California drought
- Coordinated interview with KNX-AM 1070 News Radio reporter David Singer and General Manager Kightlinger about drought and Metropolitan preparedness and reliability
- Set up an on-camera interview with CGTN (China Global Television Network) reporter Luke Mines and General Manager Kightlinger about drought conditions, climate change, and Metropolitan preparedness
- Coordinated podcast interview with Capitol Weekly's John Howard and Tim Foster and General Manager Kightlinger on California drought, Delta Conveyance, and other water issues
- Arranged interview with freelance reporter Sarah Mosko and WSO managers Stewart and Slifko regarding microplastics for a story in Surf City Voice
- Coordinated interview between Sacramento Bee reporter Dale Kasler and General Manager Kightlinger on response to Metropolitan's news release on exploring the state water market
- Set up Zoom interview between KCAL/KCBS-TV reporter Alex Biston and General Manager Kightlinger regarding California's continuing dry conditions and water resources in Southern California
- Coordinated interview between American Society of Civil Engineers writer Poornima Apte and WSO managers Stewart and Slifko on microplastics
- Participated in the interview between Lake Havasu Today's News Herald reporter Daisy Nelson and Colorado River Resources Manager Hasencamp regarding Colorado River resources and likely shortage declaration
- Arranged for Riverside Press-Enterprise photographer to visit Diamond Valley Lake to take shots of Wildflower Trail activity

Press Releases

- Release on the opening of the Wildflower Trail at Diamond Valley Lake, which generated coverage on KNBC-TV
- Statement on the reduction of State Water Project allocation from 10 percent to 5 percent
- Release on Metropolitan's preparedness for California drought
- Release on Metropolitan exploring water market during a critically dry year
- Statement on Bureau of Reclamation's 24-month Colorado River study

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS *continued*

- Release on new virtual landscape classes offered in Mandarin. Classes were promoted on the district’s social media platforms, and assets were shared with member agency conservation coordinators. (see image below)



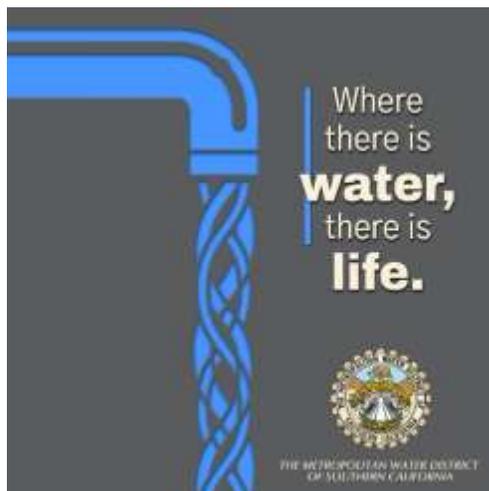
Online

- Garnered nearly 92,000 page views on mwdh2o.com home page, with the Regional Recycled Water, education, and MWD Innovates microsites the most popular.
- Posted a new Bay-Delta science fact sheet on Delta microsite on mwdh2o.com.
- Received more than 23,000 views on bewaterwise.com, with the turf replacement and native plant profile pages among the most visited.

Social Media

- Launched a six-week conservation social campaign to encourage Southern Californians to plant California Friendly® and native plants and get water-saving rebates that generated a strong reach on various platforms, particularly on Instagram.
- Featured Water Resource Management’s Guerrero in social media posts leading to the national premiere of the documentary, “The Last Drop,” on the National Geographic Channel. The documentary, which focuses on the water supply challenges in the region, includes a segment featuring Guerrero teaching actor Adrian Grenier how to save water.
- Received the most impressions and engagement on Twitter in response to several social media posts focused on Metropolitan reliably delivering water amid the Department of Water Resources reduction in the State Water Project allocation.
- Rolled out a new “Where there is Water, there is life” campaign, focusing on the value of water and the connection it has to our employees and the region. (see image below)

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS *continued*



Objective #3 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.

- Conducted virtual tour of the Regional Recycled Water Advanced Purification Center for NACE International Los Angeles Section (April 8)
- Participated in the Water Research Foundation DE&I Discussion Group (April 16)
- Held kickoff meeting for Regional Recycled Water Program with member agencies and Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (April 22)
- Provided public virtual tours of Regional Recycled Water Advanced Purification Center (April 27) in English and in Spanish (April 29)
- Organized and led WaterReuse California Communications Collaborative Group Meeting (April 28)

Construction Project Updates

- Notified residents of De Soto Valve Structure upgrades in the City of Los Angeles (April 6)
- Distributed 300 notifications to residents and business of the West Valley Feeder shutdown (April 12)
- Met with City of Rolling Hills Estates to discuss outreach related to Second Lower Feeder, Reach 3 (April 14)

Member Agency Support

- Met with Member Agency Managers to discuss water supply and drought actions, including supply, operations and transfers, operational shift cost offset program, and drought and conservation messaging; and Local Resource Program performance provisions; rate refinement principles. (April 16)

Objective #4 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.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS *continued*

General Education

Metropolitan continues to provide students and teachers with online virtual tours, scouting programs, and customized class presentations. Staff virtually interacted with nearly 1,559 teachers, students, and parents this month.

Solar Cup 2021

Final student challenges included building a solar car, electronics, video game building, and public service message on watersheds and water Conservation. The online program reached over 250 students through online challenges that cover a wide range of STEAM fields, including robotics, using CAD software, building an online game, social media messaging, and visual arts, and dream job skills.

All About Water

A redeveloped All About Water curriculum has been launched. The project is a collaboration between Metropolitan and Jen FoxBot, whose popular YouTube channel is dedicated to STEM education, especially for young women. All About Water is a project-based curriculum for K-2 classrooms to learn more about Earth's resources and systems, including water, soil, and climate. Each of the three lessons (The Water Cycle, Water Filtration, Drought, and Conservation) and optional pre-activities are aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards. **(see photo below)**



Water Industry Pathway Courses

Metropolitan is supporting a Water Industry Pathway Course, which was initially developed by San Bernardino Regional Occupational Program, and includes materials provided by Metropolitan on the region's water systems, geography, and economics of water. The curriculum, which is posted on Metropolitan's education website, integrates Next Generation Science Standards with the Career Technical Education (CTE) Model Curriculum Standards. The courses provide information to prepare students to pass the Level 1 examination for certification for Water-Use Efficiency Practitioner 1; Distribution Operator Level 1; Treatment Operator Level 1; and Wastewater Operator Level 1. **(see photo below)**



Water Industry Pathway Courses

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS *continued*

Community Partnering and Sponsorship Programs

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

- Theodore Payne Foundation Native Plant Garden Tour (April 16-18)
- Climate Action Reserve’s North American Carbon World 2020 Conference (April 22-23, 27-28)
- Southern California Water Coalition: What Matters webinar, April 29

California Native Plant Society – Native Plant Week

Staff participated in California Native Plant Week by promoting the California Native Plant Society’s vibrant new campaign to celebrate native plants. The campaign was designed as a “thank you” to partners, volunteers, gardeners, and advocates who “Grow CARE Everywhere.” Metropolitan shared campaign posts on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter platforms. (see image below)



Theodore Payne Foundation Social Media Collaboration

Metropolitan partnered with the Theodore Payne Foundation to promote the foundation’s 18th Annual Native Plant Garden Tour, a weekend-long online experience with interactive tours, stunning garden footage, and expert panel discussions. Staff developed social media posts in collaboration with the foundation to highlight California native plants as sustainable and drought tolerant. (April 16-18) (see image below)



Objective #5 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 and entrepreneurs throughout the region through its online participation and, in some cases, sponsorship of the following programs, online conferences, webinars, and events:

- Water Education for Latino Leaders (WELL) The Balancing Act of Water & Agriculture in California webinar (April 1)
- US Green Building Council Los Angeles—Equitable & Sustainable LA’s USGBC-LA Chapter (April 13)

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS *continued*

- Inland Empire Small Business Development Center: How to do Business with Metropolitan Water District (April 14)
- American Indian Chamber of Commerce Advisory Council meeting (April 14)
- Los Angeles Sustainability Executive Roundtable DEI Committee (April 19)
- Inland Empire Regional Chamber of Commerce Multi-Cultural Business Initiative (April 21)
- Women’s Business Enterprise Council—Supplier Program and Match Making conference (April 23)

Metropolitan’s Innovation staff participated in the Channels for Innovation conference hosted by WaterStart in Nevada. The event provides an opportunity for members, sponsors, and collaborators to share insights about how they structure innovation activities. (April 15)

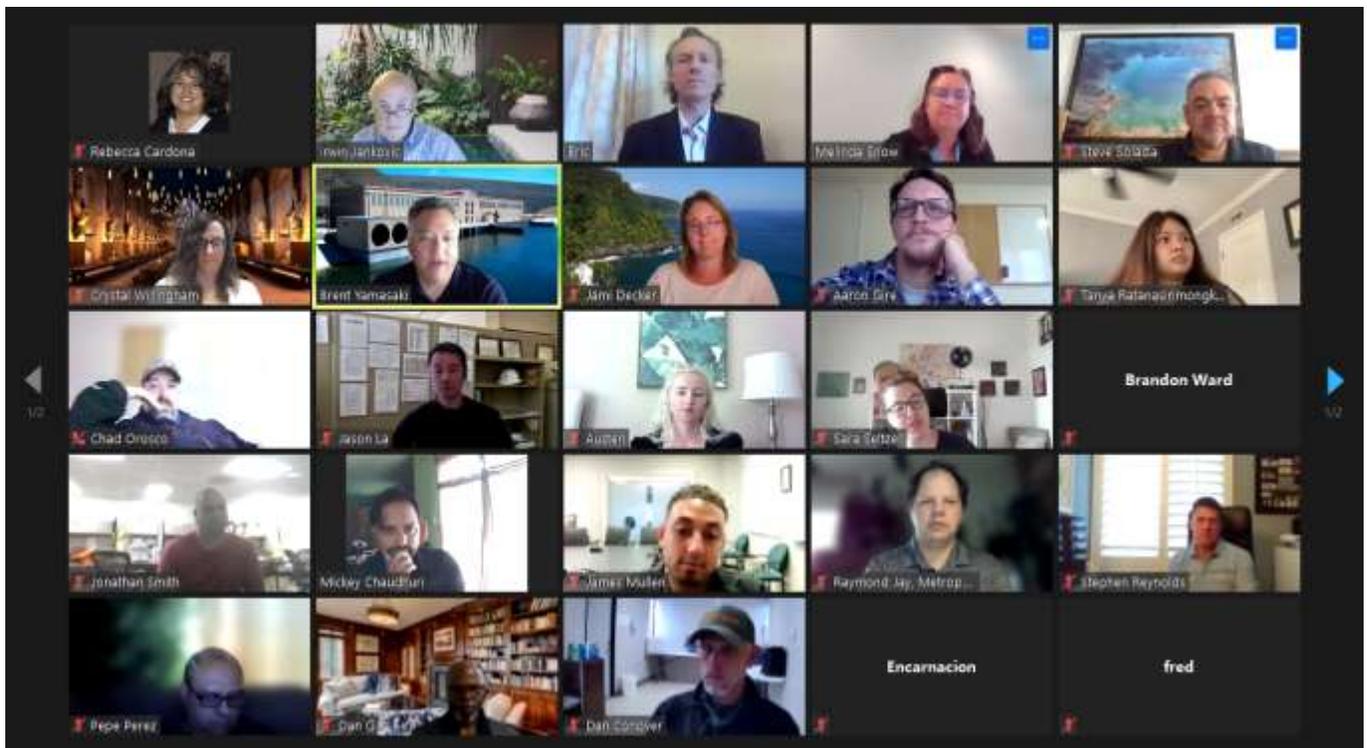
HUMAN RESOURCES

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: RESILIENCY

Objective #1 Partner with Metropolitan leadership to support learning, development, and adaptive workforce planning initiatives.

The Organizational Development and Training Unit continued Metropolitan Leadership Academy for 30 employees interested in moving into a management role. Recent sessions have focused on employee engagement, motivation, and the importance of building trust. Ethics Officer Abel Salinas gave a presentation on his office's responsibilities and how it can be an important resource for managers. There was also a Leadership Q&A panel with Section Managers Dan Guillory (Safety & Regulatory), Carolyn Schaffer (Public Services & Outreach), and John Arena (Business Outreach), where the topics of management professionalism and employee connection and engagement were explored.

This month, WSO Group Manager Brent Yamasaki, Assistant Group Manager Mickey Chaudhuri together with Dan Guillory (Environmental, Health, and Safety), Paul Rochelle (Water Quality), and Keith Nobriga (Water Operations & Planning) provided a comprehensive overview of Water System Operations to Leadership Academy participants that highlighted the responsibilities, complexities, challenges, and interdependencies with the rest of Metropolitan's organization in providing a cost-effective, safe, reliable, and environmentally sound water supply to Southern California.



This month, 447 Metropolitan employees attended other online classes, including Engaging Virtual Teams, Unconscious Bias, Personal Security Awareness, and Preventing Workplace Harassment.

LinkedIn Learning, Metropolitan's online, e-learning content platform, was used for 87 classes, including Writing with Impact, Skills for Inclusive Conversations, The Six Morning Habits of High Performers, Mastering Self-Motivation, and Managing in Difficult Times.

HUMAN RESOURCES *continued*

Objective #2 Seek diverse, high-quality talent, and establish partnerships to discover additional outreach opportunities that aid in staffing positions.

Recruitment filled 22 positions for the month of April. Twenty new staffing requisitions were received, resulting in 87 positions currently in recruitment. Recruitment continues to successfully conduct virtual job interviews using Zoom.

Staff hosted *Launching Your Career Path*, which consisted of two virtual outreach web events: the first for college students and recent graduates and the second for veterans. The series helped participants learn about Metropolitan employment opportunities and its water careers website and how to translate their education, internship, and military experience during an interview.

The General Manager recruitment announcement was closed on February 26, 2021. The Human Resources Group Manager is working directly with the Board of Directors and executive search firm on the General Manager recruitment process.

In April, meetings of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Council reviewed DEI governance and bylaws and Council meeting transparency and representation. Chief Administrative Officer Share Chapman reviewed and discussed the workplan of the Council. Eric Bachmann, Organizational Development and Training Unit Manager, provided a background briefing on Training and Development at Metropolitan. In addition, a DEI Council member updated the OP&T Committee on recent actions.

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #2: SUSTAINABILITY

Objective #1 Implement employee retention and engagement programs to ensure Metropolitan's investment in employees is supported.

Staff continued the transitioning of Metropolitan's new-hire on-boarding process to an online methodology that will ensure employee preparedness from day one as well as offer continual support by management and Human Resources throughout the new-hires' first year of employment.

Objective #2 Ensure Metropolitan managers have foundational knowledge, on-going support to effectively manage employees, and the tools to prepare for a changing workforce.

The Organizational Development and Training Unit facilitated the second session of the WSO Management Specialization Training Program for 13 new Operations managers. This program has been designed to continue leadership development within Operations once new managers have completed the Met Management University. This session covered time management and challenging conversations with team members, and it featured a Q&A panel with Glen Boyd (Section Mgr., Conveyance & Distribution), Jim Kostelecky (Unit Mgr., Water Treatment), and Sergio Escalante (Section Mgr., Support Services). They discussed common pitfalls new managers make and strategies to hold team members accountable.

Organizational Development & Training hosted two webinars for managers on how to use Microsoft Teams to run more engaging meetings. The class was designed in partnership with IT to promote technology that can help contribute to more effective management.

Human Resources (HR) staff continued to provide one-on-one coaching and mediation services for managers and employees in the developmental areas of trust-building, communication skills, and self-awareness.

HUMAN RESOURCES *continued*

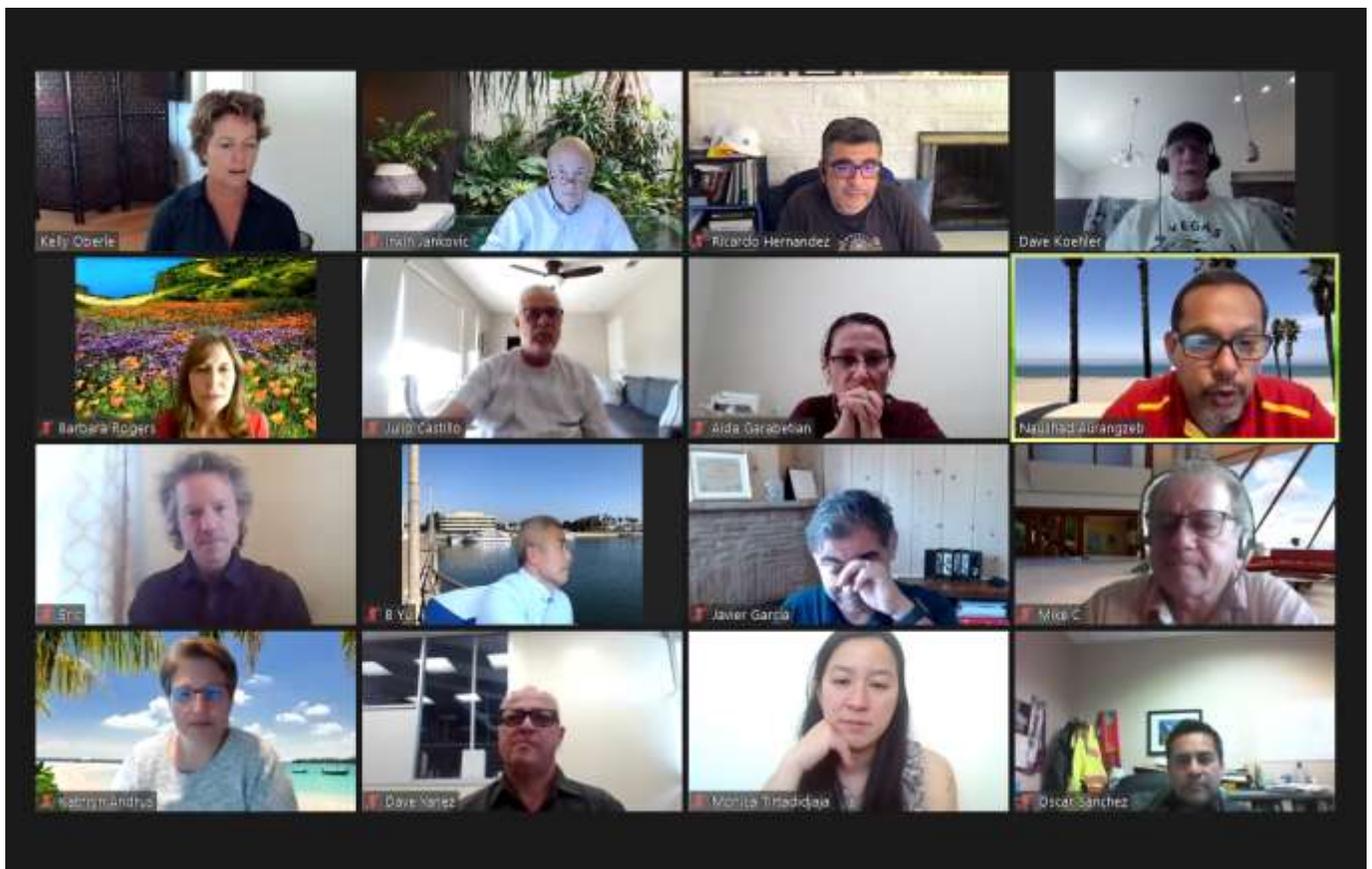
GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3: INNOVATION

Objective #1 Continue to upgrade HR's technological capabilities and continue to seek out improved technologies to better serve HR's customers.

HR Benefits and HRIS began working with IT on PeopleSoft system updates for continuous technology improvement options to MyHR, which provides online access to Benefit enrollment information, forms, and self-service election changes.

HR continued to work with Risk Management, Health and Safety, IT, and Security staff to design and test a new Incident Reporting System.

HR and IT are partnering on SharePoint solutions for improved information sharing, automation, and process improvement.



HUMAN RESOURCES *continued*

HR CORE BUSINESS: 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 #1 Administer all HR services with efficiency and a focus on customer service excellence, consistency, and flexibility.

HR worked with Legal to review the new laws under SB 95 and the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA), and investigated the impact to employee benefit and leave plans to ensure continued compliance by implementing the new Supplemental Paid Sick Leave (SPSL) that provides an additional 80 hours of emergency leave to all California employees that are unable to work or telework because of various impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic.

HR Benefits continued to administer the two emergency leaves, ESPLA and EFMLEA, under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), approving 19 leaves of absence for the month of April.

HR 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 #1 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.

In April, 12 new Workers' Compensation claims were received, and five were resolved. Seven employees remain off work because of an industrial injury or illness. This reflects Metropolitan's effort to accommodate injured workers while enabling them to be productive and on the job. In addition, interviews were conducted with three vendors vying to become Metropolitan's Third-Party Administrator ("TPA") for Workers Compensation claims.

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

- Coordinated medical surveillance exams at three facilities (Eagle, Iron, and Gene Camp). The exams included respirator exams, Department of Motor Vehicle exams, and hearing tests.
- Coordinated one random drug and alcohol test.
- Arranged 12 medical evaluations (DMV and medical surveillance).
- Addressed three accommodation issues.

HUMAN RESOURCES *continued*

HR Metrics	June 2020	April 2021	Prior Month February
Headcount			
Regular Employees	1,799	1,809	1,805
Temporary Employees	29	28	28
Interns	9	5	5
Recurrents	21	20	20
Annuitants	17	15	14

	April 2021	March 2021
Number of Recruitments in Progress (Includes Temps and Intern positions)	87	89
Number of New Staffing Requisitions	20	20
	April 2021	March 2021
Number of Job Audit Requests in Progress	14	14
Number of Completed/Closed Job Audits	1	0
Number of New Job Audit Requests	1	2

Transactions Current Month and Fiscal YTD (includes current month)			
<u>External Hires</u>	<u>FY 19/20 Totals</u>	<u>April 2021</u>	<u>FISCAL YTD</u>
Regular Employees	127	8	66
Temporary Employees	29	1	24
Interns	18	0	3
Internal Promotions	91	3	54
Management Requested Promotions	109	19	118
Retirements/Separations (regular employees)	124	4	67
Employee Requested Transfers	15	0	18

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: RESILIENCY

OBJECTIVE #1 Strengthen Metropolitan’s cybersecurity capabilities by deploying new and emerging technologies, and implementing enhanced security countermeasures

Continued to implement Cybersecurity projects and initiatives to improve Metropolitan’s security posture and collaborate with stakeholders to further enhance network security capabilities for Metropolitan’s computing environments.

- Partnered with business units on the deployment of security keys to provide multi-factor authentication to enable secure access when logging on remotely. Deployment is being conducted in phases with business groups and will ultimately be issued across the enterprise. The security key provides multi-factor authentication capability to enhance Metropolitan’s cybersecurity posture once fully deployed.
- Promoted IT governance to strengthen capabilities to mitigate increasing cybersecurity threats to Metropolitan’s business systems and networks. Coordinated with business groups to implement security protocols and enhancements to address evolving cyber threats.
- Conducted Lunch and Learn session for Unregistered Personal Mobile Devices and changes to email access. This change is needed to address risks associated with the changing global cybersecurity environment and the need to secure Metropolitan’s email system from security threats from unregistered personally owned mobile devices. The new requirement went into effect on April 23, 2021, to better safeguard Metropolitan’s digital infrastructure.



Cybersecurity Lunch and Learn

OBJECTIVE #2 Manage Information Technology Projects within the Capital Investment Plan to ensure reliability of Information Technology (IT) Systems and Infrastructure.

- Continued to execute IT capital projects to replace end-of-life infrastructure, upgrade applications, and deliver innovative solutions to ensure reliability of IT systems and infrastructure. IT works closely with ESG on projects within Metropolitan’s capital investment plan. Selected activities include:
 - **Desert Microwave and Two-Way Radio projects**—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. This project is in the design and construction phase.
 - **Budget System Replacement**—Upgrade Metropolitan’s budgeting systems to support the capital and O&M budget processes and Board deliverables. The project is in the development phase and is scheduled to deploy early next fiscal year to support the next biennial budgeting process.
 - **Water Information System (WINS)**—The scope of this project is to upgrade the WINS system used for monthly billing to the Member Agencies and was approved by the Board in April.
 - **Wireless connectivity enhancements**—Efforts are underway to enhance wireless infrastructure for the Headquarters building along with field facilities. This project is currently in the design and procurement phase.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY *continued*

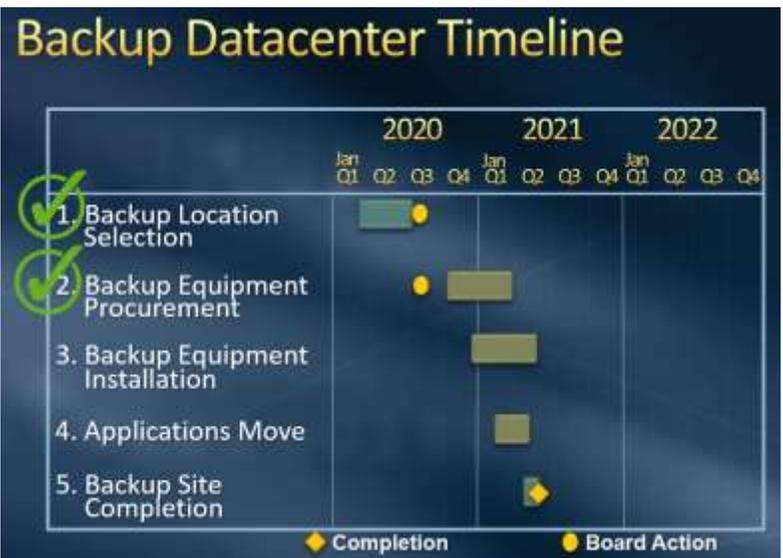
OBJECTIVE #4 Improve Metropolitan’s IT Disaster Recovery and Response Capability

- In April, staff initiated an IT Disaster Recovery (DR) exercise for the recovery of Business Continuity assets. The test involved staff from various IT disciplines, including network, server, database, cybersecurity, and quality assurance, to test and validate the DR computing environment. Periodic DR testing is an essential element to ensuring Metropolitan’s response capabilities in the event of a disaster and ensuring current processes support the expected recovery time and recovery point objectives.

OBJECTIVE #5 Provide leadership, planning, and solutions in support of Metropolitan’s Strategic Priorities.

- As part of the strategic priority to enhance Metropolitan’s resiliency, IT staff continued efforts to relocate Metropolitan’s data centers to modernize and enhance operational uptime of data center processing to meet current and future capacity and reliability needs. In April, a presentation was made to the Operations, Personnel, and Technology Committee as part of keeping the Board apprised of status and key activities.
 - Primary site**—The Board approved the work for the primary site in January 2021. The team is currently working on the procurement phase of the project while developing a comprehensive plan to address the logistics of migrating hardware, software, communication networks, and ancillary systems. The work for the primary site is proceeding according to plan, with completion scheduled for Q2 of 2022.
 - Secondary site**—Detailed planning and execution have allowed for a seamless transition while selected resources work off-hours and weekends to minimize interruption to Metropolitan’s daily operations while relocating the secondary site. During the period, the project team continued to work expeditiously to execute a complex set of activities while supporting day-to-day operations. Significant milestones have been successfully achieved, with remaining activities scheduled to substantially complete by the end of the month.

SECONDARY Datacenter	Status
Board Presentation	Completed
New Equipment and Services PO	Completed
New Site Contract	Completed
New Equipment Delivery	Completed
Old Equipment Move	80%
Network Installation and Configuration	90%
Applications Move	90%
Integrated System Testing	80%
Datacenter Move Completed	85%
Hand-off to MWD operations	4/19/2021



OP&T Committee Presentation

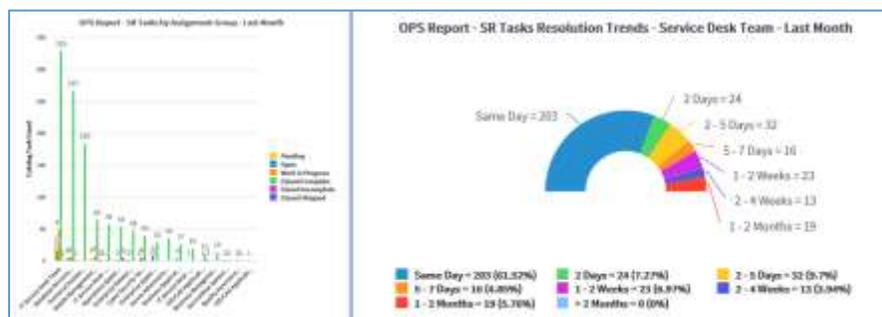
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY *continued*

OBJECTIVE #6 Deploy solutions to improve operations, promote collaboration, and provide business value.

- Continued the Personal Computer Replacement Project (PCRP) by deploying new laptops and workstations in a phased approach. Replacement of aging PCs and related equipment provides Metropolitan employees with computers that have greater processing speed, disc space, and improved reliability because the existing PCs have reached end-of-life. The PCRP project is on-schedule and will complete at the end of the fiscal year. Remaining deployment efforts are underway at selected Metropolitan field facilities and with business groups requiring special configurations and requirements (i.e., ruggedized units, unique configurations, and specialized software).
- Partnered with business users on a high-priority IT initiative to replace legacy PCs reliant upon Windows 7 operating systems, which are at end-of-life. Staff continued the effort to upgrade PCs using Windows 7 with Windows 10 to maintain the currency of the operating system and cybersecurity protection within Metropolitan's computing environment. In addition, IT is looking at innovative solutions and engaging with business units on alternatives.

OBJECTIVE #7 Enhance workforce productivity by simplifying access to business information and deploy technologies to support our customers in making business decisions.

- The scope of the IT Service Management project is to deploy a new service desk software to centralize and modernize service management within the Information Technology Group. The service desk tool provides a self-service portal for work requests and improve operational reporting capabilities.
 - Completed Phase One of the IT Service Management (ITSM) used by Metropolitan's IT Service Desk Team to manage service ticket requests generated by business users across the enterprise. Continued system enhancements and deployed new operational performance dashboard reporting as part of continuous improvement.
 - Worked on Phase Two of ITSM for Configuration Management Database (CMDB) and Asset Management (AM) to simplify access to information and improve IT response capabilities to customer service requests, incidents, and operational reporting. The work for CMDB and AM is proceeding according to plan, with the recent completion of development sprints #1 and #2 (Agile Methodology). Functional testing is scheduled to start in May.



Operational Dashboard Reporting

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #2: SUSTAINABILITY

OBJECTIVE #1 Provide IT services in support of the Headquarters Improvements Program.

- IT technical resources continued to partner with business units in support of physical security enhancements as part of the Headquarters Improvements Program. The work requires collaborating with Engineering Services Group and Facilities on construction-related activities and the deployment of new IT infrastructure to support physical security enhancements such as IP cameras and security equipment.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY *continued*

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3: INNOVATION

OBJECTIVE #1 Strengthen Metropolitan's cyber security capabilities by deploying new and emerging technologies and implementing enhanced security countermeasures.

- Continued key initiatives as cybersecurity remains a high priority and is a key part of the Information Technology Strategic Roadmap. Based on assessment of new cyber threats, elements of the Security Operations Center project are underway to implement countermeasures to protect Metropolitan's computing infrastructure. These cyber tools include monitoring and management services to identify network threats and malicious activities.

OBJECTIVE #4 Provide Leadership, planning, and solutions in support of Metropolitan's Strategic Priorities.

- Held on-going meetings with stakeholders to ensure cohesive strategic execution of IT priorities and governance. The implementation of IT governance allows Metropolitan to leverage innovative technologies to create business value while effectively managing risks. Recent IT activities include:
 - Decommissioning legacy systems (Skype)
 - Implementing new cybersecurity measures (Browser Isolation)
 - Upgrading Personal Mobile Device Access (Mobile Device Management)
 - Promoting Cybersecurity Awareness (IT Lunch and Learn)

IT Notification – Skype Retiring

Skype will be decommissioned on 4/30/21. All meetings should transition to Teams. [Read notification.](#)

Posted 4/19/21

IT Notification – Email

A new cybersecurity service called Browser Isolation will be enabled on Wednesday, April 21 for all MWD email users. [Read notification.](#)

Posted 4/19/21

Personal Mobile Devices

Read the [GM's follow up memo](#) regarding personal mobile devices and the MDM platform deadline. [Read the 3/22/21 memo.](#)

Posted 4/15/21

Lunch & Learn – April 21

Topic: Mobile Device Management And Change In Email Access. [Read flyer.](#)

Posted 4/15/21

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY *continued*

OBJECTIVE #5 Deploy innovative solutions to improve operations, promote collaboration, and provide business value.

- Provided on-going improvements to IT infrastructure and the extended network supporting Metropolitan's workforce working from home. The changes to IT infrastructure, as a result of COVID, allows for secure remote access and require on-going management of the network and systems.
- Continued to leverage innovative technology by conducting UAV/Drone Missions to support business needs. Recent activities include:
 - Weekly construction progression videos and photos for the AMP project in Orange County
 - Missions conducted at the Diemer Treatment Plant



Diemer Aerial Imagery

OBJECTIVE #6 Enhance workforce productivity by simplifying access to business information and deploy technologies to support our customers in business decisions.

- Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS)—LIMS is used by Water Quality and is a transactional processing system for water samples and their analytical results. IT staff is currently conducting a technical upgrade of the LIMS system (v9.5) to maintain vendor support and keeping the application current for optimum system performance. The work is proceeding according to plan, and the environment was successfully loaded to the staging environment. User-Acceptance-Testing is currently underway and is scheduled to go into production in May.
- Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (IESWTR)—IESWTR is an application used by Water Quality to capture, organize, validate, and report information related to Metropolitan's water quality. The IT Operations Applications Team supported Water Quality by developing new reporting capabilities such as a dashboard, KPIs, and exception reporting. The new capabilities provide quick access to information in a format that supports decision-making.
- Facility and Equipment Availability (FEA)—FEA is an application used by WSO's facility maintenance scheduler. IT began a Proof of Concept and successfully migrated the FEA database to the cloud environment for testing and tuning as part of the Information Technologies cloud initiative. This effort supports simplifying access to business information while providing other benefits associated with cloud computing.

REAL PROPERTY

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: RESILIENCY

Objective #1 Provide right-of-way planning, valuation, and real property acquisition support services for the protection and reliability of existing infrastructure.

Staff executed a one-year, right-of-entry permit granting the Department of Water Resources (DWR) access to Metropolitan easement to improve their flow control structure near Lake Perris. DWR is the underlying fee owner of the easement, and the improvement is required by the Division of Safety of Dams. The improvements to the structure will provide protection to the DWR facilities and surrounding area by preventing overflow and flooding in the event of an emergency.

Objective #2 Foster staff training and development.

Staff completed the following:

- Metropolitan-sponsored course: Project Management. This course provided staff with information on how to successfully deliver a project and addressed common challenges and solutions that can be used when working on Metropolitan projects.
- International Right of Way Association-sponsored course: Principles of Real Estate Engineering. The course provided staff with the basic skills in reading and interpreting engineering plans. By becoming familiar with engineer's scale to determine distances and basic features of property descriptions, staff can better assist interdisciplinary teams in acquiring real property interests such as fees and easements to protect existing Metropolitan infrastructure and facilities.
- External-sponsored webinar: Certified Commercial Investment Member-sponsored Real Estate Development: Land Packaging webinar. This course provided staff with information on unentitled land and risk assessment, including analysis for potential development to better assess higher and best use of properties which influences negotiation parameters. This course is particularly relevant to real property disposition transactions.

Staff hosted the fourth annual Real Property Group Outreach event to introduce college students, recent graduates, and professionals to public agencies and the right of way industry. The virtual event promoted internship and job opportunities within Real Property and included industry panelists from Metropolitan and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. The event drew more than 120 attendees and was successful in educating the audience on topics such as public agency real estate practices and Real Property's role in the Regional Recycled Water Program.

Core Business: Real Property Acquisition, Management And Revenue Enhancement

Objective #2 Provide valuation, land management, and real property disposition support services for the maximum return or use of Metropolitan-owned land and facilities.

Duke Realty was granted an entry permit for slope grading purposes near the Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) in Perris. Duke Realty requested the permit to facilitate a commercial development project abutting Metropolitan's right-of-way. The permit is for a three-month period and is related to RL 4070, which is a license for Duke Realty to traverse the CRA with its driveway.

REAL PROPERTY *continued*

A one-year lease was entered into with Jackson Land and Cattle, L.P. for the occupancy of the Holland Tract premises. Jackson's use of the land includes agricultural activities and livestock grazing. The short-term lease is intended to allow Jackson an opportunity to investigate site conditions and assess a long-term lease interest.

The City of Hemet was granted a permanent road easement for the proposed Chambers Street improvements in connection with a residential development project abutting the DVL surplus parcels.

Objective #3 Efficiently maintain and operate assets not related to the treatment and distribution of water.

Facility Management supported Union Station's efforts to Host the 93rd annual Academy Awards. Building parking and the USHQ valet area were leased out for use the day of the event. Facility Management staff was onsite to monitor the event and ensure that the terms and conditions of the lease were followed.

After being closed last spring because of the Governor's stay-at-home order, the Diamond Valley Lake Wildflower Trail reopened this spring with COVID-19 measures in place to limit crowds, ensure physical distancing, and wearing of face masks. While this year's wildflower bloom is not expected to rival the super blooms of previous years, it provides a safe opportunity for visitors to take in the scenic lake views as they enjoy the flower varieties in bloom this year.



Diamond Valley Lake Wildflower Trail

Objective #4 District Housing Maintenance and Management.

Completed the preparation of two Metropolitan houses for occupancy in April. The houses were prepared for employees whose positions require them to have an onsite Metropolitan residence.

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: RESILIENCY

Objective #1 Develop and Refine Security's Strategic Plan

A year-long collaborative effort between Administrative Services and Security Management Units to improve the security of Metropolitan's numerous warehouses is nearing completion. The minor project was initiated after commercial burglary crime incidents spiked in 2020. Staff quickly identified potential security gaps and low-cost/no-cost mitigation measures that were quickly implemented across Metropolitan within a few months. Recommendations included additional LED security lighting, reducing vegetation and hiding spots, relocating pilferable items from public view, eliminating fence gaps, and upgrading locking mechanisms. Additional access control measures, loss-prevention technologies, and theft-tracking forensics are being evaluated for potential future implementation.



Eliminating cover and concealment for criminal activity is an important security principle

Objective #2 Improve Security and Emergency Response

The Security Management Unit worked closely with Power System Operations staff to enhance access control measures and physical security at select desert facilities that use critical 230kV electrical systems. A series of additional security site surveys, vulnerability assessments, and security assessments are being conducted by in-house Certified Protection Professional (CPP) Security Specialists, third-party independent security experts, and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Protective Security Agents (PSA). These assessments will drive future improvements that will ensure the effective and efficient reduction of risks to the reliability and security of both the grid and Metropolitan's critical infrastructure.



Select desert facilities using 230kV systems will undergo a series of security assessments by both internal and external security professionals

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: RESILIENCY

Objective #5 Ensure reliable State Water Project (SWP).

Metropolitan finalized an agreement with the Department of Water Resources to allow for water deliveries from Diamond Valley Lake to the Mills water treatment plant using DWR's Santa Ana Valley Pipeline. The agreement allows for the introduction of water from DVL into DWR's facilities through March 2022. Meeting Mills' demands with water from DVL is a key drought action to minimize the use of limited SWP supplies in 2021 and preserve SWP surface storage for 2022.

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #2: SUSTAINABILITY

Objective #2 Complete the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan.

Staff continues to prepare Metropolitan's 2020 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) and Appendix 11 to both the 2020 UWMP and 2015 UWMP for reporting on Reduced Delta Reliance. On April 12, 2021, Metropolitan held a Public Hearing as part of the April 2021 Water Planning and Stewardship Committee meeting.

Objective #6 Maintain and enhance groundwater production in Metropolitan's service area.

Staff provided the Long Beach Water Department (Long Beach) with a letter in support of a grant application for their Wellfield Management and Forecasting Tool study. Long Beach is applying for funding under the Bureau of Reclamation's Fiscal Year 2021 Applied Science Grant Program. If awarded, the study will help Long Beach to maximize groundwater supplies in their service area.

Objective #8 Implement Regional Conservation Program.

Metropolitan executed Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) to facilitate collaboration and development of joint water-energy efficiency programs with utilities to achieve water and energy savings. In April, Metropolitan amended existing MOUs with Southern California Edison Company (SCE) and Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas), and executed a new MOU with SoCalGas:

- Disadvantaged Communities Customer Coordinated Outreach: Metropolitan and SoCalGas executed a new MOU for this program. SoCalGas is the lead agency for this new program. The program reaches out to disadvantaged communities (DACs) to increase awareness of water and energy efficiency best practices and incentives for retrofitted devices.
- Multifamily High Efficiency Vended Clothes Washers Rebate Program: Metropolitan and SoCalGas amended this program to facilitate replacement of older, less efficient vended washing machines in multi-family common areas with newer energy and water-efficient models. The Multifamily High Efficiency Vended Clothes Washers Rebate Program is expected to formally launch in May 2021, providing incentives of up to \$170 per washer (combined Metropolitan and SoCalGas funding.)
- High-Volume Water Efficiency Rebates Program: Metropolitan executed an amendment to extend the joint High-Volume Water Efficiency Rebates Program with SCE. This program funds replacement of old, inefficient residential clothes washers with new high efficiency washers. Metropolitan will provide its standard clothes washer incentive of \$85/washer to SCE, whose vendor replaces the old washers free of charge to the customers.

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT *continued*

OBJECTIVE #9 Ensure cost-effective State Water Project supplies

Metropolitan submitted a comment letter on the Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Westlands Water District Groundwater Pumping and Conveyance Project. This project aims to introduce up to 30,000 AF of groundwater into the California Aqueduct/San Luis Canal (SLC) during years in which the Central Valley Project allocation is below 20 percent. Metropolitan's comments focused on 1) the potential negative impacts to the water quality of the SLC and 2) subsidence impacts to the SLC because of groundwater pumping.

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3: INNOVATION

Objective #2 Collaborate with member agencies, water agencies and associations, and provide leadership for policy development, advocacy, outreach and education.

Metropolitan staff gave a presentation titled "California's Future Water Supply" to the Mt. San Antonio Gardens homeowners as part of their Earth Day speaker series. Topics discussed in the presentation included regional water recycling, stormwater capture, graywater, and other alternative water supplies for the region.

Staff hosted the third session of the Model Water Efficient Landscape (MWEL) Ordinance workshop series. There were approximately fifty attendees, including city personnel, landscape designers, and landscape contractors. Staff presented at the virtual WaterSmart Innovation Spring webinar series. The topic of the presentation focused on the conservation implementation guidelines and resources available from the Calscape Nursery Training Program.

Staff continued its focused engagement with local agencies to refine local supply assumptions for the 2020 IRP. Metropolitan held ten of these technical meetings with groundwater basin managers and local water agencies during March and April.

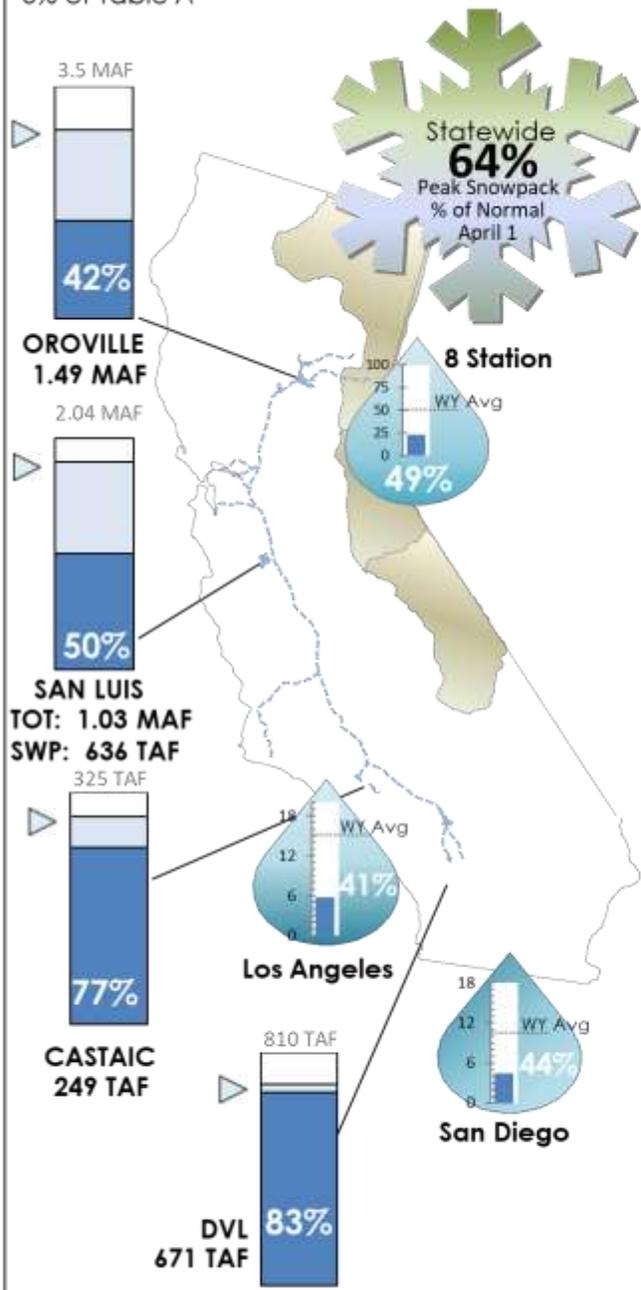
Objective #3 Implement Future Supply Actions Funding Program.

The Water Research Foundation (WRF) will be holding a webcast on June 2 at 10:00 AM on two Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) studies Metropolitan co-funded under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program (FSA) in 2018. The studies include the development of a modeling tool for evaluating advanced water treatment trains for use in DPR projects and an assessment of pathogen concentrations in wastewater feedwater stream.

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT *continued*

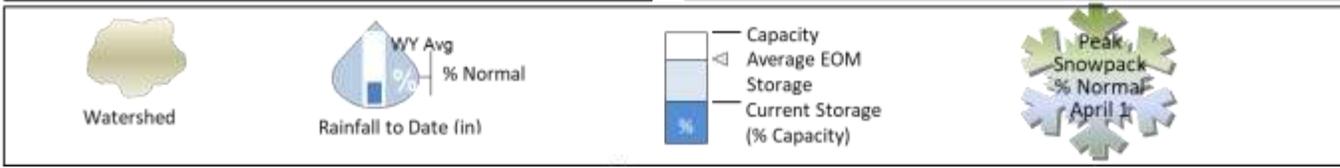
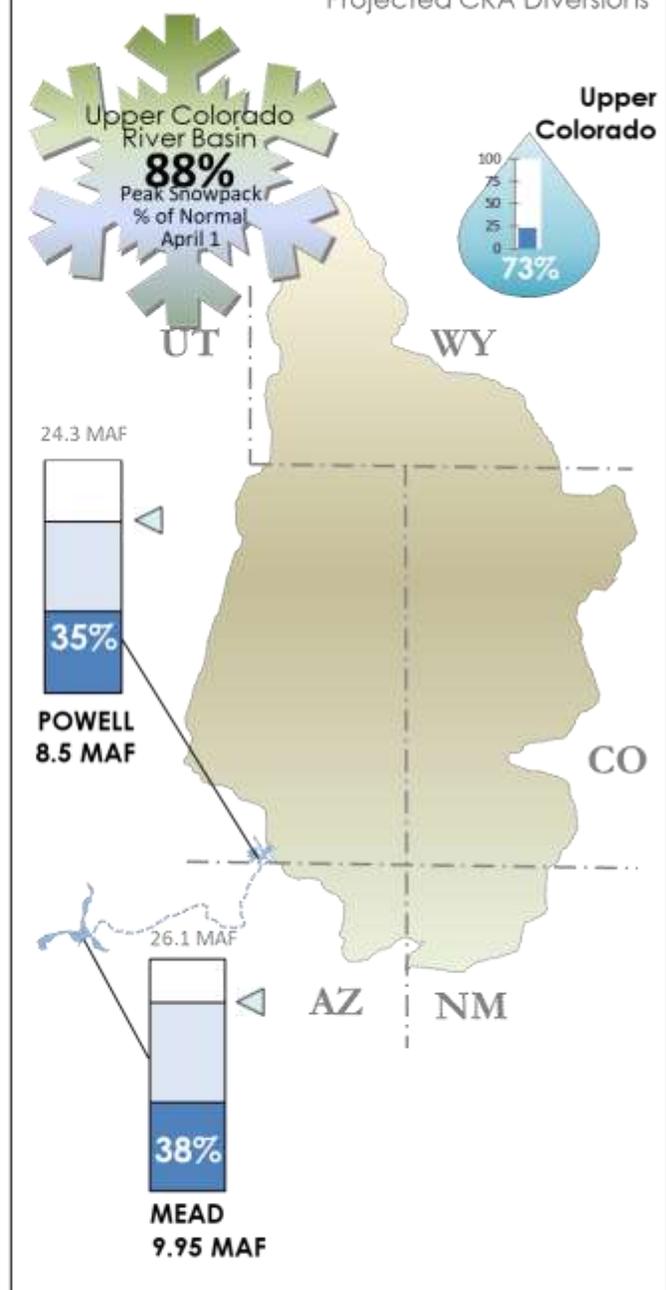
2021 SWP Allocation

95,575 AF
5% of Table A



2021 Colorado River

1,073,000 AF
Projected CRA Diversions



As of April 30, 2021

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: Resiliency

Objective #1 Provide Reliable Water Deliveries.

Metropolitan delivered approximately 135,120 acre-feet (AF) of water to member agencies in April. Deliveries averaged approximately 4,504 AF per day in April, which was 887 AF per day, higher than March's deliveries. Treated water deliveries for April totaled 58,072 AF or 43 percent of total deliveries for the month. This was a decrease of about 1,003 AF from March's treated water deliveries. The CRA was increased to an eight-pump flow on April 6 for the first time since October 2015. This increased CRA flow rate is the result of critically dry conditions and the need to conserve available State Water Project (SWP) supplies, as the SWP allocation was lowered to 5 percent, which is tied for the lowest in history. A total of 101,817 AF was pumped on the CRA for the month. SWP imports averaged 1,877 AF per day, totaling about 56,310 AF for the month, which accounted for about 42 percent of Metropolitan's deliveries. The target SWP blend remained at zero percent for the Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner plants.

Objective #2 Ensure Water Quality Compliance, Worker Safety, and Environmental Protection.

Metropolitan complied with all water quality regulations and primary drinking water standards during March 2021.

On April 7, staff met with the State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water (DDW) for the regular quarterly collaborative update. Discussion topics included regulatory updates, the Electronic Annual Report, Metropolitan's Annual Water Quality Report to Member Agencies, water supply update, corrosion control, and an update on disinfection byproducts.

On March 31, staff released the Annual Water Quality Report to Member Agencies. This report provides the results of Metropolitan's required monitoring of source waters, treatment plant influents, and plant effluents. Member Agencies use the data in the report to help in preparing their Consumer Confidence Reports.

Staff initiated a PFAS and Emerging Contaminant Working Group to address any future challenges these chemicals may create to ongoing Metropolitan (non-drinking water) operations and capital projects.

Objective #4 Optimize Maintenance.

On April 4, the Allen-McColloch Pipeline in Orange County was taken out of service to allow a contractor to reline approximately 1,200 feet of the prestressed concrete cylinder pipe (PCCP). Periodic eddy current inspection of the pipeline under the PCCP monitoring program identified sections of pipe with wire breakage that required reinforcement. After dewatering by staff, the contractor excavated around the pipe, cutting a section open to facilitate insertion of the new liner. Once the liner is installed, it will be welded and mortar-lined, and then the pipeline is returned to service. During the outage, staff performed preventive maintenance of the pumps at the OC-88 and OC-88A service connections and discovered a crack in a protective switch (trip) lever for the pump. Staff fabricated a new lever the same day. This scheduled shutdown is expected to be completed by May 10.

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Pipe section excavated and cut for liner installation on the Allen-McColloch Pipeline



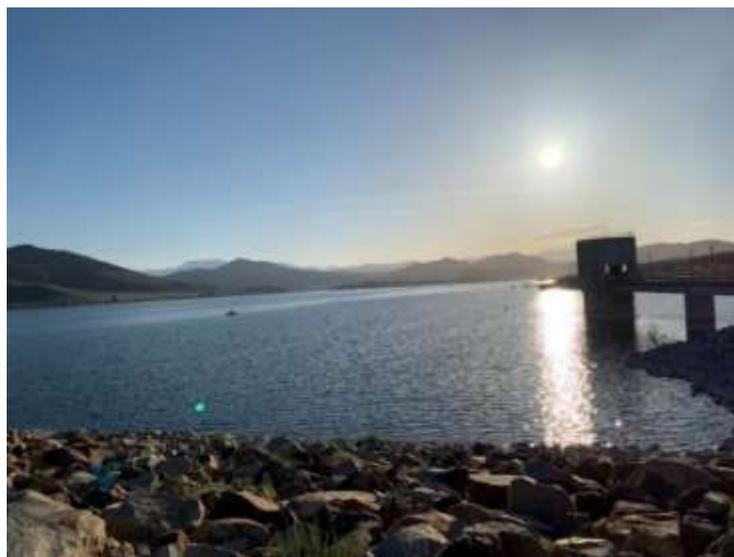
Cracked pump trip lever (left) and newly fabricated lever (right) for OC-88A pump unit

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Newly fabricated pump trip lever installed on pump unit at OC-88A

Between April 4 and 10, the Lake Skinner Outlet Tower was shut down for scheduled inspection of two inoperable large butterfly valves on the bottom tier. Staff dewatered the outlet tower to facilitate access to the valves for inspection and repairs. The valves were repaired and reconnected to the hydraulic actuator system. Subsequent testing revealed that additional repairs that could be performed outside of the shutdown window were needed on the actuators. The actuators were removed and transported to the La Verne Shops for repairs. Once repaired, the actuators will be re-installed, and valve operations will be tested during a future shutdown.



Lake Skinner Outlet Tower

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Staff inspecting valves and actuators inside the Lake Skinner Outlet Tower

During a scheduled outage on April 9, staff dewatered a portion of the Lakeview and Perris Bypass Pipelines for work by Metropolitan and contractors to reline, inspect, survey, and make mortar lining repairs. The contractor relined a section of the prestressed concrete cylinder pipe (PCCP) on the Perris Bypass Pipeline and installed bulkheads to allow Metropolitan staff to release water from Diamond Valley Lake by gravity to the Mills plant, reducing the use of SWP water and supporting drought contingency efforts. Metropolitan's inspection of the Lakeview Pipeline revealed 76 locations requiring mortar lining repairs, which were completed during the shutdown window.



Staff performing mortar lining repairs in the Lakeview Pipeline

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Staff performing mortar lining repairs in the Lakeview Pipeline

Staff completed a planned inspection of the South Coast Feeder pipeline between a sectionalizing valve in the city of Norwalk and the Second Lower Feeder Interconnection in the city of Lakewood. The pipeline inspection included a walk-behind electromagnetic (eddy current) and visual inspection of 7-1/2 miles of PCCP. Visually, the pipeline condition was good and did not require any surface repairs. The results of the electromagnetic inspection data will be received from the specialty inspection contractor and analyzed to determine whether any corrective work is necessary. Additionally, staff used this opportunity to replace aging valves in various locations and to perform maintenance along the pipeline.



Staff removing pipeline access flanges and preparing to enter for inspection at the South Coast Feeder

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*

Staff repaired a main pump unit which had failed because of a shorted rotor lead at the Eagle Mountain pumping plant. The insulation on the lead had been in place for over 80 years and had become brittle. This resulted in a short, which required a shutdown of the unit for repair. This unit is one of the nine 12,500 HP pumps at the plant capable of pumping approximately 225 CFS each.



Damaged insulation from electrical short on pump unit rotor lead at Eagle Mountain pumping plant

Staff conducts coating and corrosion inspections, including recoating valves, piping, and equipment to ensure maximum equipment life at Desert facilities. This month, staff blasted and recoated the spare motor air cooler head in preparation for a future repair. The motor air cooler head serves as a manifold for the individual air cooler piping, which acts as a heat exchanger, using water to transfer heat from motor bearings and electrical motor windings.



Blasted and recoated spare motor air cooler heat exchanger heads at a Desert facility

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*

Each of the five CRA facilities rely on local domestic water systems for the supply of potable water. Water from the aqueduct is pumped to the on-site domestic water system for treatment to meet potable water standards. Each day, staff inspect the domestic water membrane filtration units, take samples, and run water quality tests such as turbidity and chlorine residual to make certain the system is operating correctly.



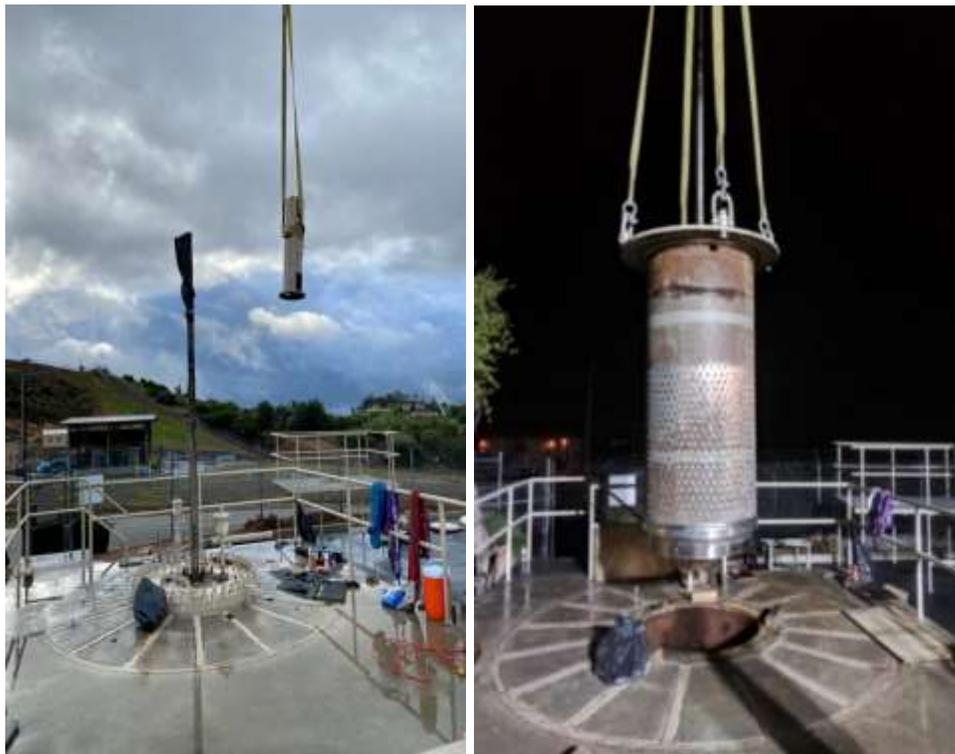
Staff conducting domestic water quality tests at Hinds pumping plant

The San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) requested a shutdown to perform an internal inspection of a pipeline in its jurisdiction. Staff used this outage to repair a damaged regulating sleeve valve at the Red Mountain Pressure Control Structure (PCS). The sleeve valve became inoperable and fixed at the 25 percent-open positions. During the inspection, staff noticed that foreign metal material had become lodged in the valve, requiring complete disassembly to facilitate repairs. The valve was transported to the La Verne Shops to remove the foreign material and overhaul the valve operator. Shop staff manufactured a new nut and repaired the shaft. Staff across WSO collaborated to repair and test fit all compromised valve components and the valve operator before transporting the parts back to Red Mountain PCS for reassembly of the sleeve valve on-site. By installing the repaired sleeve valve during the shutdown, staff was able to adapt to water demands and facilitate the commissioning of the Red Mountain power plant.



Foreign metal washer lodged in the sleeve valve basket at Red Mountain PCS

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Disassembly of sleeve valve pedestal (left) and sleeve valve basket and shaft (right) at Red Mountain PCS



Staff fit testing new lift nut in La Verne Shops for Red Mountain PCS

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



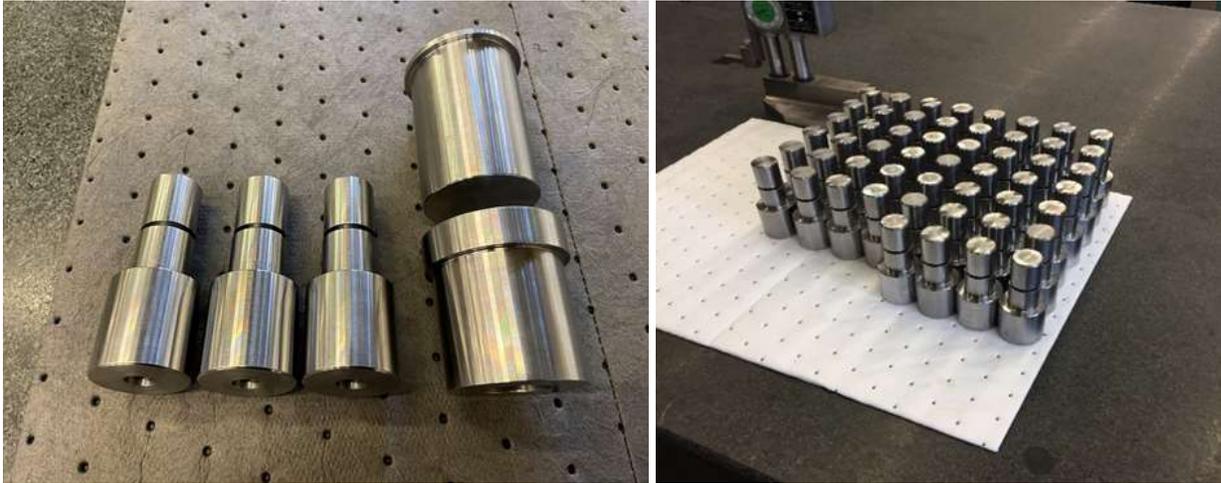
Staff setting limits of assembled valve (left) and completing reassembly of sleeve valve (right) at Red Mountain PCS

The La Verne Shops manufactured 50 new shear pins for the Rio Hondo HEP wicket gates. Shop staff prepared drawings for the new pins based on original equipment manufacturer prints. Staff machined three sets of shear pins that were tested by a metallurgist. Once the average breaking load was acceptable, staff began machining 50 shear pins. Staff also manufactured a set of bushings which were used during the testing phase. The shear pins are part of a fail-safe system used to protect the wicket gates and the wicket gate operator from damage. If a foreign object is caught in the wicket gate, the shear pin will break, sending an alarm and rendering the generator inoperable. The pin must be replaced, foreign object removed, and the alarm cleared before the generator can be restarted. The Rio Hondo HEP generates approximately \$750,000 per year in revenue when in operation.



Broken shear pin (left), new pin for testing (center), and bushings for testing shear pins (right) for Rio Hondo HEP

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Test shear pins and bushings before destructive testing (left) and newly manufactured shear pins (right) ready for inspection for Rio Hondo HEP

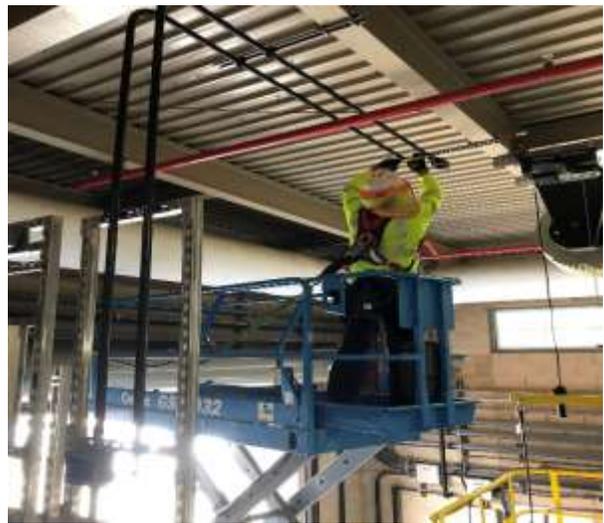
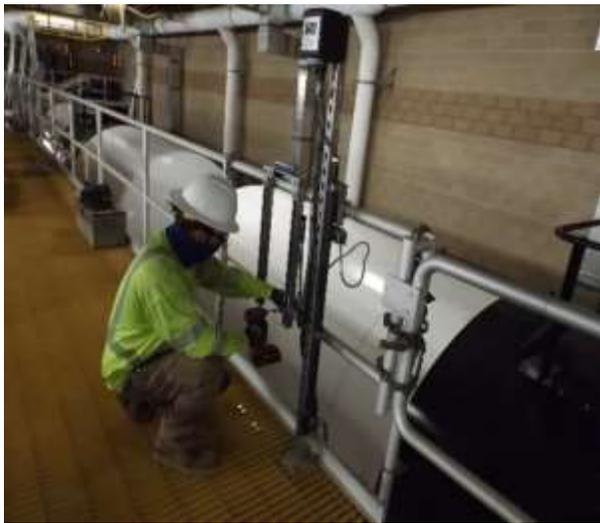
Staff performed routine patrol road grading, along with minor repairs to the San Diego Pipeline Nos. 4 and 5 patrol roads. This routine maintenance allows for ease of access to maintain Metropolitan pipelines and associated structures.



Staff finish grading the patrol road for San Diego Pipeline Nos. 4 and 5

Staff performed electrical upgrades at Metropolitan's Chemical Unloading Facility (CUF) in the city of Perris. The CUF is Metropolitan's transloading facility where chlorine is transferred from railcars to cargo truck trailers for delivery to the treatment plants. The new electrical upgrades will provide ease of use and improve operational safety for operators. The electrical upgrades replaced the temporary wiring and tripping hazards and provided power for manway lifting assistance.

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Staff installing brackets to hold new receptacles (left) and installing conduit to power new overhead crane (right) at CUF in the city of Perris

Staff performed an internal inspection of a high-voltage transformer at the Gene pumping plant. Metropolitan uses dissolved gas analysis and a variety of offline electrical test methods to assess the health of its power transformer fleet. This transformer exhibited signs of abnormal combustible gas generation, which warranted an internal inspection. Staff and the vendor completed this inspection with no visual defects found and are coordinating additional diagnostic tests to ensure that there are no underlying problems with the transformer.



Staff setting up for transformer entry (left) and inside the transformer (right) at Gene pumping plant

Staff performed routine biannual high-voltage maintenance of the Corona hydroelectric power plant (HEP). During this maintenance, capacitor bank protective relays were replaced with modern microprocessor-based relays. Staff also discovered water leaking into air coolers and sent them out for repair before any generator damage occurred.

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Staff performing high-voltage maintenance on switchgear at Corona HEP

Staff began installation of high-efficiency air conditioning units as part of a project to replace all aging units for the distribution system Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) equipment. A total of 32 units will be replaced within the Orange County area. Distribution system operations rely on the data received via the SCADA system. This equipment also allows remote operation of the system components. This equipment is housed in climate-controlled structures within the distribution system to ensure reliable operations. The existing air-conditioning units are being replaced with new, cost-efficient units.



Staff installing a new A/C unit in the distribution system

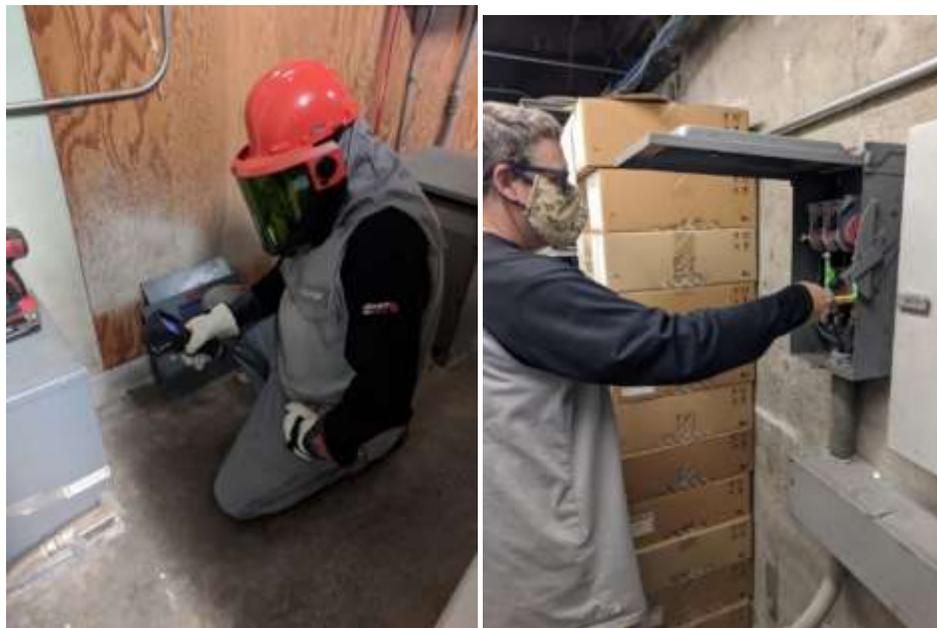
WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*

Staff performed preventive maintenance testing of backflow devices at the La Verne facility. This required annual testing falls under the regulatory authority of Los Angeles County. The mechanical devices protect the potable domestic water system of the facility from any potential contamination with a non-potable water supply, and the testing ensures water quality protection of the water supply for plant staff and visitors.



Staff performing annual testing of backflow device at the Weymouth plant

Staff performed annual infrared thermographic surveys throughout the Weymouth and La Verne facilities. Staff use thermal imaging sensors and a camera to survey and detect temperature differentials on the equipment being surveyed, which indicate potential sources of electrical equipment failures. Once an anomaly is detected, staff schedule corrective maintenance. This non-invasive and non-disruptive activity allows staff to perform the work without removing the equipment from service and has proven very effective in preventing the potential for an electrical arc-flash event that could cause injury or equipment damage.



Staff taking temperature readings (left) and replacing fuses after an electrical equipment survey (right) at the Weymouth plant

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*

Staff monitored power on the domestic water system at the Weymouth plant to assess operational efficiency. Technicians connected meters to electrical circuit breakers for the domestic water pumps that provide data to plant staff through the SCADA system. An additional serial port was installed in the CPU's remote terminal units of the pump's main circuit breaker that provided the power usage data. Through the SCADA system, power usage data will be analyzed to make adjustments that will allow the system to run more efficiently.



Technician programming and testing electrical equipment at the Weymouth plant

Objective #5 Manage the Power System.

On March 29, Metropolitan and California Independent System Operator (CAISO) staff jointly completed technical assessments on Metropolitan's CRA 230kV high-voltage transmission system as part of an Annual Transmission Reliability Assessment (ATRA). The technical assessments involved various studies to ensure the reliability of the CRA 230kV system. Metropolitan staff developed the ATRA report and distributed it to interconnected Transmission Planners, Balancing Authorities, and the regional Reliability Coordinator as required.

Objective #6 Improve Emergency Preparedness and Response.

During times of extreme wildfire risk, Southern California Edison (SCE) and other local power utilities may proactively de-energize circuits in high-risk fire areas to reduce the chances of accidentally igniting a wildfire. Metropolitan staff continues to work with representatives from SCE to streamline notifications and decrease the impacts of SCE Public Safety Power Shut-Offs (PSPS) on Metropolitan's critical facilities. SCE and Metropolitan continue to hold regular planning meetings and remain in continuous contact during all potential PSPS events.

Objective #7 Optimize Water Treatment and Distribution.

The State Project water (SPW) target blend entering the Weymouth and Diemer plants, and Lake Skinner was zero percent in April 2021.

Flow-weighted running annual averages for total dissolved solids from January 2020 through December 2020 for Metropolitan's treatment plants capable of receiving a blend of SPW and CRA water were 566, 570, and 485 mg/L for the Weymouth, Diemer, and Skinner plants, respectively.

Staff at the Jensen plant built a filter media hopper to replenish the 600 tons of anthracite coal lost over a period of years during normal filter backwash operations. With the addition of the filter media, the filters are now more robust and result in improved turbidity and longer run times between backwashes. The media hopper cone shape operates using a water-driven venturi system. With this new hopper, filter media replenishment can be completed in an efficient and safe manner.

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



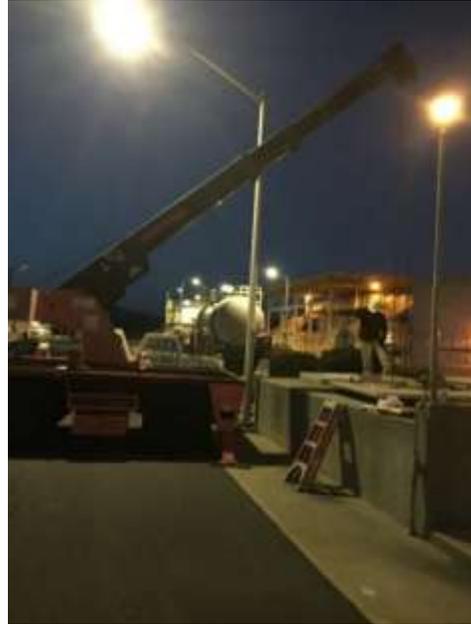
New anthracite coal being added to the filter media hopper at the Jensen plant



Coal in the hopper with coal slurry ready to add to filter at the Jensen plant

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*

Staff removed the actuator and repaired the shear pin for the eastside main backwash valve at the Diemer plant. The backwash valve helps control the rate of flow during filter backwashes. When the shear pin unexpectedly failed, backwashes could not be performed on half of the filters in service. However, staff was able to quickly replace the shear pin and restore normal operations. There were no impacts on the quality or quantity of water treated as a result of this incident.



Staff rigging the main backwash actuator (left) and crane removal of the actuator (right) at the Diemer plant

Staff replaced deteriorated flocculator boards and window boards in Module 1 at the Skinner plant. The boards are used to create an even flow of water entering the sedimentation basin to ensure that appropriate mixing is accomplished. Over time, the boards wear down and require replacement. Each year during annual maintenance, the boards are inspected and replaced as necessary.



New flocculator boards in Module 1 at the Skinner plant

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Replaced Module 1 window boards at the Skinner plant

Staff have spent more than 200 hours performing corrective maintenance in the past 18 months on the CPVC (grey plastic pipe) booster pump piping at the Chemical Unloading Facility (CUF). The piping has failed on various occasions, including deforming because of high ambient heat. The recent CRA shutdown provided a window for staff to replace the CPVC with stainless steel piping. This modification will result in increased reliability and a reduced need for further corrective maintenance. The booster pumps are used to create a vacuum on chlorine tankers, thereby transferring product from chlorine railcars to the tankers that are then used to provide chemical deliveries to Metropolitan's treatment plants. These upgrades help to ensure the safety, reliability, and cost-effectiveness of CUF transloading operations.



Previous piping with many direction changes (left) and collapsed 90° bend (right) at the CUF

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



New stainless-steel piping installed at the CUF

Objective #8 Manage Water Reserves.

Water reserves continued to be managed according to Water Surplus and Drought Management (WSDM) principles, operational objectives, and the current 5-percent SWP allocation. Deliveries of SWP supply were minimized to preserve SWP Carryover and Flexible Storage. Releases from DVL through PC-1 to connections on the Lakeview Pipeline continued in April to conserve SWP use in that area. Returns from the Semitropic and Kern Delta SWP Banking Programs also continued in April. Staff coordinated additional special operational actions to minimize SWP use in April for implementation later in the year, including delivering water from DVL to the Mills plant, operating the Greg Avenue pumps to deliver Colorado River water west to the Jensen service area, and member agencies shifting their deliveries from SWP connections to Colorado River connections, when possible. Eastern Municipal Water District began a shift from the Mills plant to the Skinner plant in April to preserve about 1,000 AF per month of SWP supply until the DVL to Mills operation is underway. Metropolitan's record high storage levels at the end of 2020 provide significant water supply reliability in 2021.

Objective #11 Prepare Employees for New Opportunities.

The Water System Operations Apprentice and Technical Training Program develops and trains personnel to become qualified mechanics and electricians responsible for maintaining Metropolitan's water treatment and distribution systems. On April 6, the Apprenticeship Program held a virtual ceremony for the Class of 2020 mechanical and electrical apprentices. This ceremony recognized the apprentices' completion of all academic requirements, with each apprentice receiving 36 college credits from Santiago Canyon College.

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Class of 2020 mechanical and electrical apprentices

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #2: Sustainability

Objective #1 Prepare for Future Legislation and Regulation.

On March 23, the SWRCB's Division of Drinking Water (DDW) posted a draft addendum to the August 2019 "A Proposed Framework for Regulating Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) in California" for public comment. The addendum provides an early draft of anticipated DPR regulatory criteria based on recent research findings. Staff participated in an April 14 workshop hosted by WateReuse California to discuss the draft criteria with industry partners and provided comments at an April 21 SWRCB public workshop.

On April 8, staff participated in South Coast Air Quality Management District's (SCAQMD) second workshop seeking to amend the rules governing emergency generator run times during public safety power shutoff (PSPS) events. SCAQMD is proposing a new rule, Proposed Rule 118.1 to address emergency standby engines exceeding the 200-hour annual operating limit found in Rule 1110.2. PR 118.1 allows additional run time for PSPS events. Staff is closely engaging in this rulemaking process, as the proposed rules may affect Metropolitan's stationary emergency generators.

On April 14-15, staff participated in a two-day training workshop to learn about new documentation requirements for compliance with future regulatory changes in the Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program.

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*

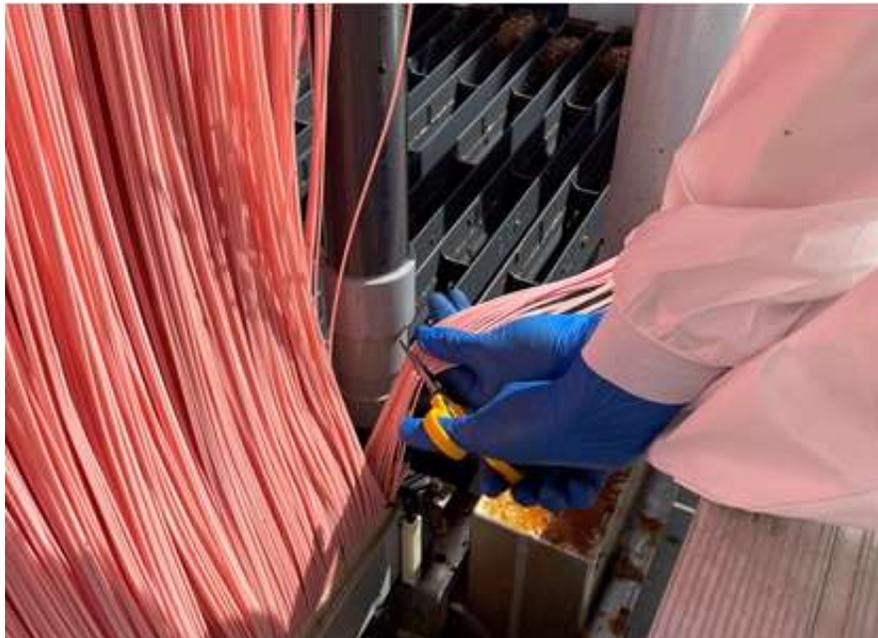
On April 14, staff participated in the biennial California/Nevada Section of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) Safe Drinking Water Act Committee meeting on the development and updates of drinking water regulations. Discussion topics included potential re-adoption of a maximum contaminant level (MCL) for hexavalent chromium, updates to the Lead and Copper Rule, the state regulatory framework for direct potable reuse, development of drinking water testing and reporting requirements for microplastics, continuing the investigation of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), developing harmful algal bloom notification levels, and developing MCLs for n-nitroso-dimethylamine (NDMA), styrene, and cadmium.

Staff participated in a series of microplastics monitoring methods workgroup discussions in April, which were organized by the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project. Metropolitan joined more than 35 laboratories from seven countries to evaluate microplastics monitoring methods and provide support and technical expertise in order to inform the development of recommendations that the state Board will use to fulfill obligations imposed by S.B. 1422 (California Safe Drinking Water Act: Microplastics).

Staff attended several meetings and stakeholder workshops in April on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5). The proposed UCMR5 will require monitoring for 29 per- and polyfluoroalkyl compounds (PFAS) and lithium at select public water systems during the 2023-to-2025 monitoring period. Metropolitan is participating in the AWWA Technical Advisory Workgroup to develop comments on UCMR5.

Objective #3 Support the Regional Recycled Water Program

Staff continued testing, operations, monitoring, and maintenance at the Regional Recycled Water Advanced Purification Center (RRWAPC) demonstration facility. The third phase of challenge testing was initiated in April following the completion of the first two phases in January and March. For the challenge tests, a few membrane bioreactor (MBR) fibers are cut so that the robustness and reliability of the system can be assessed under compromised operating conditions. Staff coordinated with consultants and the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts to support reverse osmosis (RO) brine sampling during challenge testing to evaluate the potential impact of the compromised MBR system on RO concentrate quality.



Staff cutting MBR fibers to test system performance under compromised conditions at the demonstration facility

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*



Staff re-installing the membrane cassette after fiber cutting at the demonstration facility

For the current testing phase, staff also submitted to the Division of Drinking Water an update to the testing and monitoring plan with a tertiary MBR that summarized improved test implementation and built upon findings from the pretesting phase. Staff continued to develop a new testing and monitoring plan for the next phase of demonstration facility testing, which is expected to begin in late 2021 and will treat primary effluent with a secondary MBR. A draft plan was submitted to the Independent Science Advisory Panel for review before regulatory submission.



Staff troubleshooting the mixed liquor return pump at the demonstration facility

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*

On April 26, staff attended the Water Research Foundation COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Symposium, which provided the latest information on the presence of SARS-CoV-2 in wastewater around the world. Although no studies to date have reported the presence of live and infectious SARS-CoV-2 in wastewater, staff have developed a method to inactivate coronaviruses, thereby minimizing the risk when handling reuse samples.

Objective #5 Manage Power Resources and Energy Use in a Sustainable Manner.

Metropolitan's hydroelectric plants generated an average of 8.7 megawatts, or nearly 6,500 megawatt-hours and over \$323,235 in revenue, for the month of March 2021. Metropolitan's solar facilities, totaling 5.4 megawatts of capacity, generated approximately 825 megawatt-hours in March 2021.

Objective #6 Protect Source Water Quality.

On April 6, staff attended the National Recreational Water Quality Workshop, which focused on problematic cyanobacterial blooms and fecal contamination of recreational waters.

GM STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3: Innovation

Objective #1 Develop New Solutions to Enhance Operational and Business Processes.

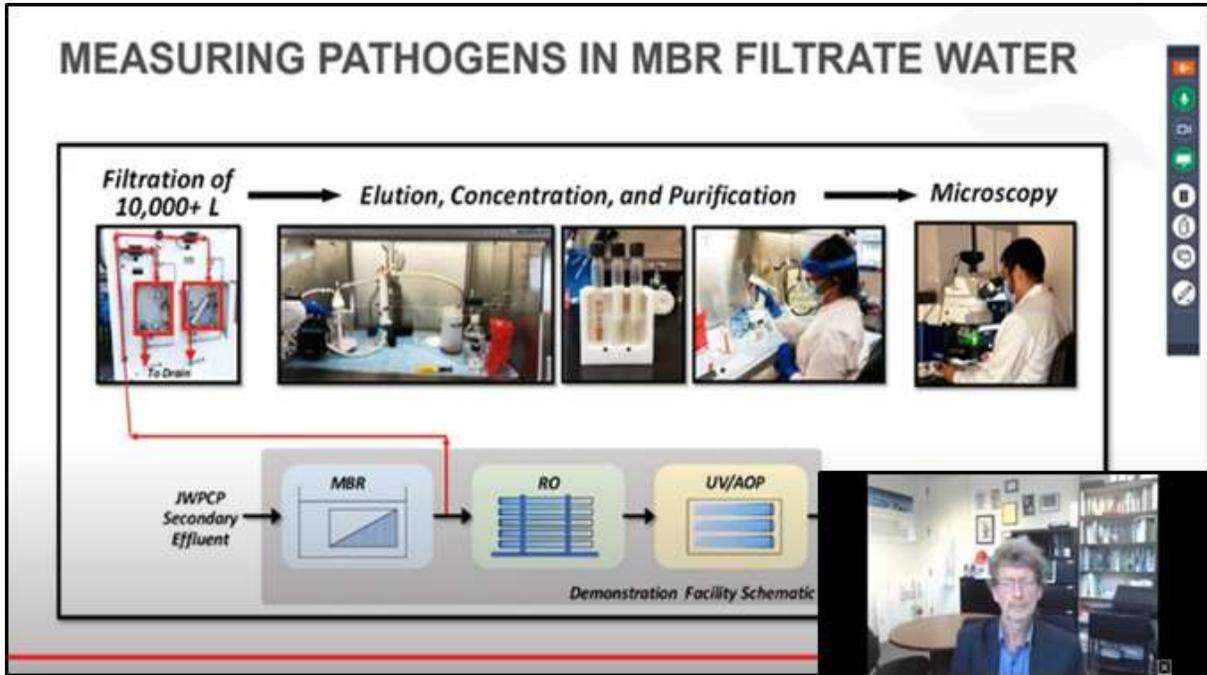
Staff initiated a Clean Air Fleet Innovation initiative to support the goal of transitioning to clean, zero-emission vehicle and equipment technologies where feasible. The effort will review fuel options, new and replacement vehicle purchases, technologies, infrastructure, and incentive opportunities to bridge the transition to regulatory-mandated zero-emission technology in the coming years. Recently, Metropolitan began the pilot use of renewable diesel from a new aboveground storage tank (AST) at Lake Mathews. The dispensing began on April 8 and will be evaluated for performance and maintenance with possible expanded use across Metropolitan. Compared with petroleum diesel, renewable diesel generates less combustion emissions and reduces overall greenhouse gas emissions.



CAL FIRE inspection at new diesel AST at Lake Mathews

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*

On April 14, staff participated in an AWWA webinar on research in potable reuse and presented results of the ongoing work to quantify pathogen removal by the MBR during demonstration testing at the RRWAPC. Metropolitan's novel work at the RRWAPC in pathogen detection and analysis will have significant value to the entire water reuse industry.



Staff presenting research in potable reuse for an AWWA webinar

WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS *continued*

Monthly Update as of:

4/29/2021

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>Current Storage</u>	<u>Percent of Capacity</u>
<i>Colorado River Basin</i>		
Lake Powell	8,528,000	35%
Lake Mead	9,995,000	39%
<i>DWR</i>		
Lake Oroville	1,490,001	42%
Shasta Lake	2,301,708	51%
San Luis Total	1,029,633	51%
San Luis CDWR	636,279	60%
Castaic Lake	251,280	78%
Silverwood Lake	66,603	89%
Lake Perris	118,535	90%
<i>MWD</i>		
DVL	671,526	83%
Lake Mathews	141,036	77%
Lake Skinner	38,876	88%



Hoover Dam



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

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