

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk's office at (310) 618-2780. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. [28CFR35.102-35.104 ADA Title II]

Direct questions or concerns to the Commission Liaison at (310) 781-6900 or individual department head prior to submission to the Commission. Parties will be notified if the complaint will be included on a subsequent agenda.

The Water Commission is an advisory body to the City Council that meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. All meetings are open to the public.

Staff reports are attached to the agenda and available for review online. Questions or concerns may be directed to Chuck Schaich at (310) 781-6900. Agendas and Minutes are posted on the City of Torrance Home Page www.TorranceCA.Gov.

**TORRANCE WATER COMMISSION AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2024
REGULAR MEETING
6:30 P.M.
WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
AT 3031 TORRANCE BOULEVARD
TORRANCE, CA 90503**

**WATER COMMISSION MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM
LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Commission Members: Deemer, Jay, Masnek, Siani, Thomas, and Chair Kawai

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. REPORT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Bl. and on the City's Website on Friday, January 19, 2023.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Limited to a 15-minute period)

This portion of the meeting is reserved for public comment on items on the agenda or on topics of interest to the general public. Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, Commissioners cannot act on items raised during public comment but may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed; request clarification; or refer the item to staff. Speakers under this Public Comment period will have no longer than 1 minute per speaker.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed by a Commissioner from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.

6A. Approval of Minutes –

Regular Meeting October 25, 2023.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Matters listed under Administrative Matters are considered separately. Comments by members of the public on each is limited to a maximum of 1 minute per item. Speakers must stay on topic and confine their comments to the item under consideration.

7A. Presentation and Discussion – Update Regarding Water Supply Conditions and Status of Colorado River Situation

Recommendation of the Deputy Public Works Director - Operations that the Water Commission accept and file this report.

7B. Presentation and Discussion – Overview Regarding Development and Implementation of Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) System in Torrance Municipal Water Service Area

Recommendation of the Deputy Public Work Director - Operations that Water Commission accept and file this report.

7C. Discussion – Monthly Water Operations Report

Recommendation of the Deputy Public Works Director - Operations that the Water Commission accept and file this report.

8. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT MATTERS

8A. Metropolitan Water District Director’s Report

Recommendation of the Deputy Public Works Director - Operations that the Water Commission accept and file this report.

9. COMMISSION AND STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

10. ADJOURNMENT

10A. Adjournment of the Water Commission Meeting to Wednesday February 28, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room.

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE WATER COMMISSION AGENDA**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Torrance Water Commission convened in a regular session at 6:31 p.m. on Wednesday, October 25, 2023, in the West Annex Meeting Room.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Deemer, Masnek, Mattie, Siani, Thomas, and Chair Kawai.

Absent: Commissioner Jay.

Also Present: Water Operations Manager Andrew Darlak, Policy and Resources Specialist Chuck Schaich, and Metropolitan Water District Director Russel Lefevre.

MOTION: Commissioner Siani moved to excuse the absence of Commissioner Jay. Commissioner Mattie seconded the motion; motion carried with Commissioner Jay absent.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Deemer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. REPORT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

Policy and Resources Specialist Schaich reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard and on the City's Website.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

None.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 27, 2023

MOTION: Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the September 27, 2023, minutes. Commissioner Deemer seconded the motion; motion carried with Commissioner Jay absent.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION – CONSERVATION AS A CALIFORNIA WAY OF LIFE PENDING REGULATIONS

Policy and Resources Specialist Schaich presented Item 7A.

- Urban Water Conservation Standards looks to reduce water loss, strengthen local drought resilience, and improve agricultural water use.
- A water budget will be the sum of several things: indoor residential water budget, outdoor residential water budget, commercial / industrial / institutional budget (CII), and water loss threshold.
- The Water Loss Standard has yet to be determined and bonus incentives have yet to be fully described; a residential water budget will be clarified in 2024.

Members of the Commission spoke.

MOTION: Commissioner Thomas moved to accept Item 7A. Commissioner Masnek seconded the motion; motion carried with Commissioner Jay absent.

7B. PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL – PUBLIC HEALTH GOAL REPORT (PHG) AND RECOMMENDATION OF APPROVAL

Water Operations Manager Darlak presented Item 7B:

- Public Health Goal: level of contaminate in drinking water to be below known or expected risk to health.
- Public Health Goal is set by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) of Health and Hazardous Assessment Division.
- Torrance Municipal Water tests over (100) constituents in the water and only (3) constituents tested above the Public Health Goal: Coliform Bacteria, Bromoform, and Dibromochloromethane.
- If harmful organisms are found at any water sites, staff will resample the site, sampling upstream, downstream, and any groundwater sources for any positives on the water routes (27 routes).
- All water served in 2019 – 2021 met all federal and state drinking water requirements.

Members of the Commission spoke.

MOTION: Commissioner Siani moved to accept and adopt the Public Health Goal Report 2019 - 2021. Commissioner Deemer seconded the motion; motion carried with Commissioner Jay absent.

7C. DISCUSSION - MONTHLY WATER OPERATIONS REPORT

Water Operations Manager Darlak presented Item 7C:

- North Torrance Well Field is back online; the blower and scrubber has been installed regarding the H2S issue, and staff is testing for air samples.
- Well Nine is running into the system with no feedback from the public.
- Water Main project in the north is almost complete.

Members of the Commission spoke.

MOTION: Commissioner Masnek moved to accept and file the report on the Monthly Water Operations. Commissioner Siani seconded the motion; motion carried with Commissioner Jay absent.

8. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT MATTERS

8A. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Metropolitan Water District Director Lefevre presented Item 8A:

- Tina Shields with the Imperial Irrigation District will be scheduled to talk on the Imperial Water operations on the last day of the scheduled tour.
- Reservoirs are full; if more water comes in with anticipated El Niño, MET may not have a place to park the water, resulting in it having to be released to the ocean.
- The Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water is a 2045 road map to reduce climate risks in water resources and financial planning.

Members of the Commission and staff spoke.

MOTION: Commissioner Thomas moved to accept and file the Metropolitan Water District Director's Report. Commissioner Masnek seconded the motion; motion carried with Commissioner Jay absent.

9. COMMISSION AND STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Policy and Resources Specialist Schaich stated that the November 2023 meeting will be canceled due to the Thanksgiving holiday and that the December 2023 meeting will coincide with the facility tour.

Members of the Commission spoke.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:23 p.m., Commissioner Siani moved to adjourn the meeting to Monday, December 18, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. at the Public Works Facility. Commissioner Masnek seconded the motion; motion carried with Commissioner Jay absent.

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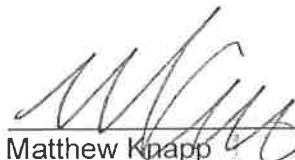
TO: WATER COMMISSION
FROM: MATTHEW KNAPP, DEPUTY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR - OPERATIONS
SUBJECT: UPDATE REGARDING WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS AND STATUS OF COLORADO RIVER SITUATION

Climate change has fundamentally altered California's and most of the southwest's hydrologic system – intensifying severe weather as we swing from extreme dry to extreme wet weather conditions. This high degree of variability in weather creates unique challenges for managing water resources. California has experienced three major drought cycles in the last 18 years (2006 to 2009, 2012 to 2015 and 2020 to 2022) followed by much shorter intense wet periods. After three of the driest years on record, heavy rains, and record snowpacks in the Sierra watershed in 2023 filled almost all major reservoirs in the state, and enabled the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) to increase its water storage reserves to an all-time record high of 3.4 million acre-feet (AF). Unfortunately, due to the lack of storage, MWD was unable to capture nearly 500,000 AF of available runoff that was discharged to the ocean.

Although precipitation and snowpacks in the key State Water Project (SWP) Sierra and the Colorado River Basin watersheds are below normal, we are only halfway through the “wet season”, which typically runs through March. El Nino weather conditions are still active in the mid-Pacific region, which can often produce substantial precipitation in California. However, the weather outlook is still uncertain.

While conditions on the SWP system improved dramatically in 2023 as we swung from extreme drought to extreme wet conditions, the other major source of MWD's supply – the Colorado River system continues to face major constraints and challenges. To preserve the level in Lake Mead, which is the principal reservoir on the Colorado River (CR), the Lower Basin States of California, Arizona and Nevada agreed to reduce diversions by three million AF by 2026. In 2027, a new operating plan will be in place that may result in permanent reductions in Colorado River deliveries. Even with a wet winter in 2023, Lake Mead is only at 34% of capacity and its level has been steadily declining over the last 23 years.

Staff will provide a brief overview presentation regarding this matter.



Matthew Knapp
Deputy Public Works Director - Operations

Roll Call: _____ Deemer _____ Jay _____ Masnek _____ Vacant
_____ Siani _____ Thomas _____ Chairperson Kawai

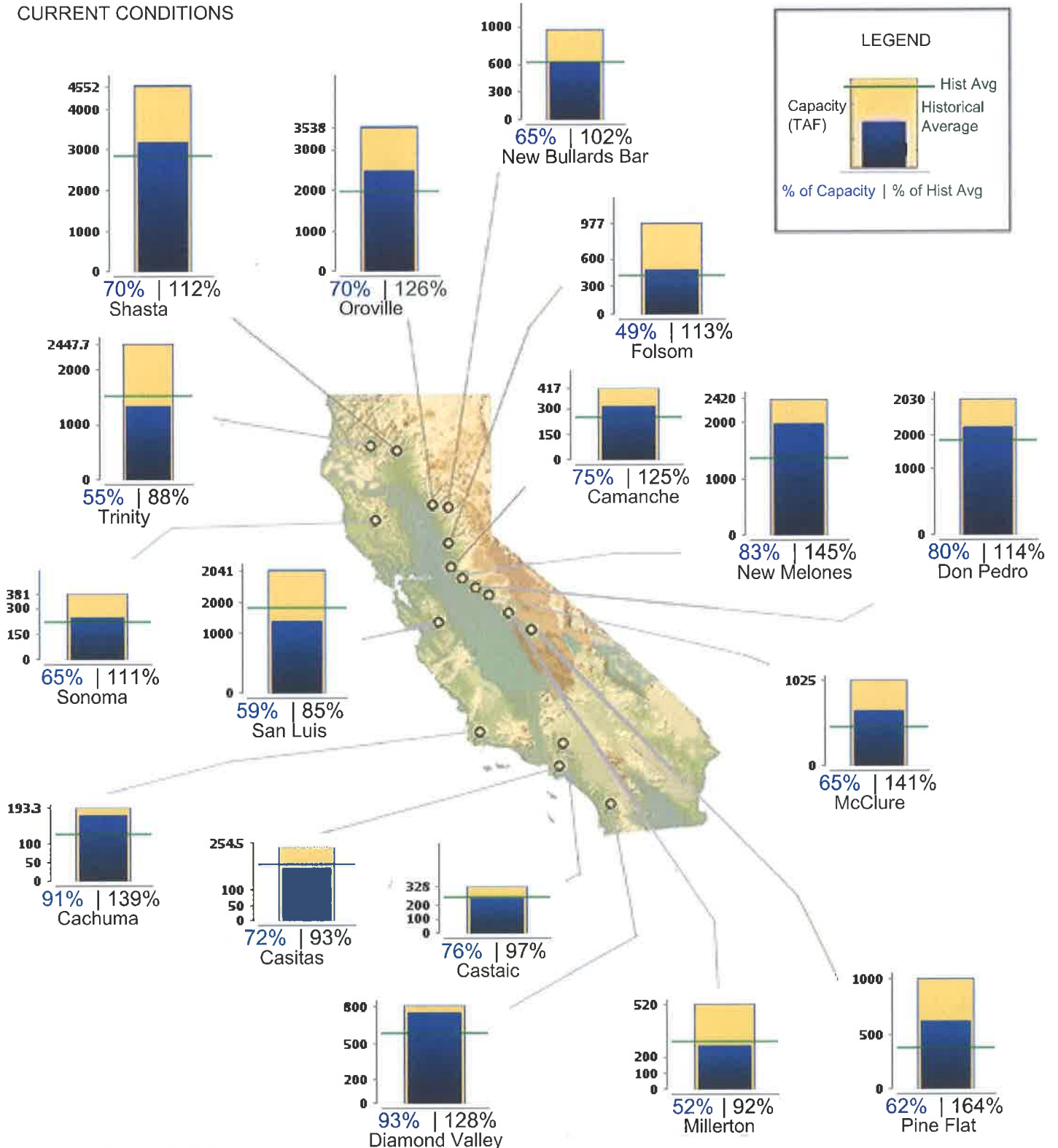


CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

CALIFORNIA MAJOR WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS

Midnight - January 18, 2024

CURRENT CONDITIONS



State Water Project Resources

2024 SWP Table A – 10% - 191,150 AF



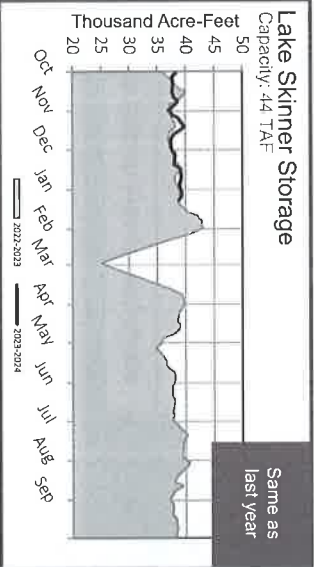
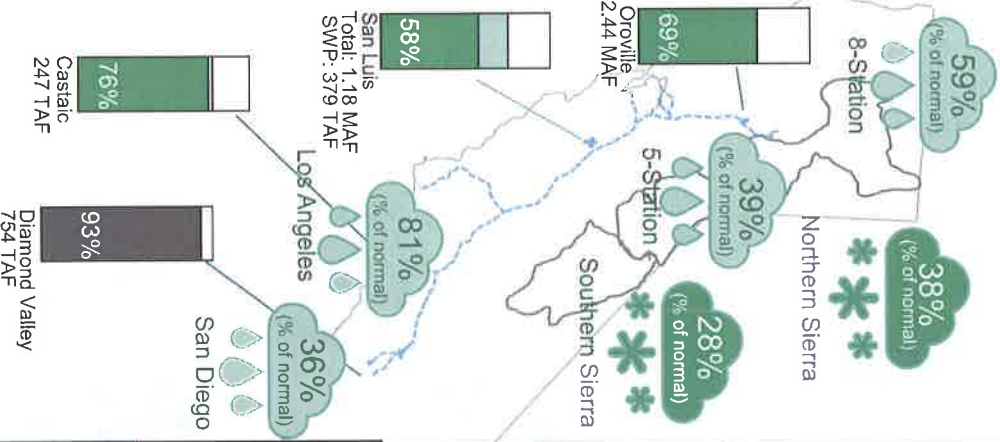
WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS REPORT

Metropolitan Resources

Water Year
2023-2024
As of: January 09, 2024

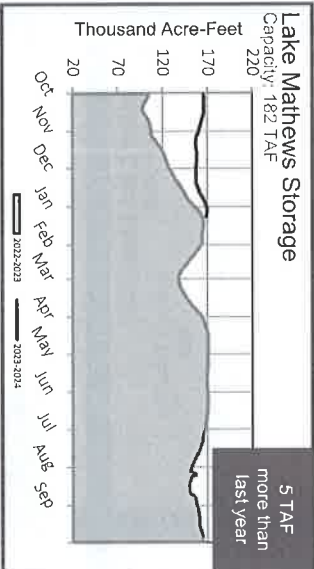
Colorado River Resources

Projected 2023 CRA Diversions – 552,000 AF

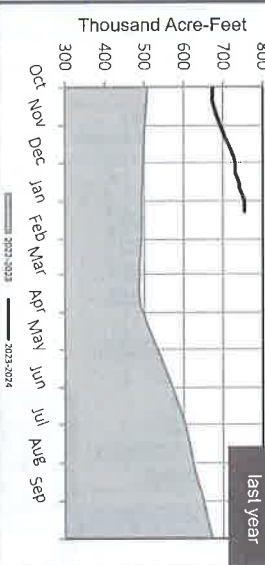


MWD WSDM Storage
Calendar Year 2024

	Take Capacity (2024)
Lake Mead ICS	147,000 acre-feet
State Water Project System	593,000 acre-feet
In-Region Supplies and WSDM Actions	633,000 acre-feet



Diamond Valley Lake Storage
Capacity: 810 TAF



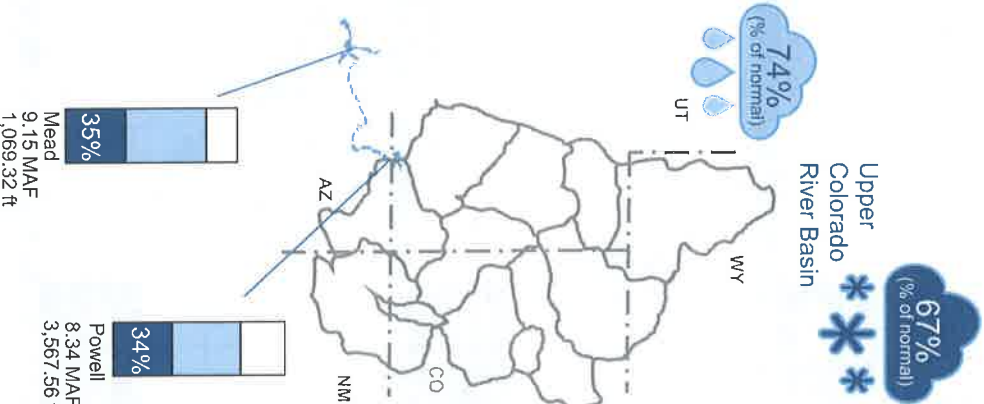
Highlights

- Learn more about imported supplies:
 - State Water Project - <https://www.mwdh2o.com/state-water-project-map/>
 - Colorado River Aqueduct - <https://www.mwdh2o.com/colorado-river-aqueduct-map/>



This report is produced by the Water Resources Management Group and contains information from various federal, state, and local agencies. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California cannot guarantee the accuracy or completeness of this information. Readers should refer to the relevant state, federal, and local agencies for additional or for the most up to date water supply information. Reservoirs, lakes, aqueducts, maps, watersheds, and all other visual representations on this report are not drawn to scale. Questions? Email mlm@metwa.com

<https://www.mwdh2o.com/WSCR>



TO: WATER COMMISSION
FROM: MATTHEW KNAPP, DEPUTY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR - OPERATIONS
**SUBJECT: OVERVIEW REGARDING DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF
ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE (AMI) SYSTEM IN TORRANCE
MUNICIPAL WATER SERVICE AREA**

Torrance Municipal Water (TMW) has approximately 27,000 meters within its service area. Some 500 large commercial and industrial water meters are read on a monthly basis, while the remaining 26,500 residential and smaller business meters are read bi-monthly. As a means to increase efficiency in meter reading, City Council approved an upgrade of all meters to a Neptune-based automated meter reading (AMR) device in March 2013. The upgrade to AMR meters eliminated the need for staff to walk over 90 meter routes, which were then condensed into eight drivable routes.

The AMR system has been a successful upgrade for Torrance Municipal Water since it has the ability to store up to three months of water usage that can be shared with the customer. Staff can download the data from the device and provide daily usage feedback, including hourly consumption for leak detection. Staff receives approximately 60 data log requests monthly, which requires staff to respond to the address to retrieve the data.

New technology, known as advanced metering infrastructure (AMI), has been developed to provide a fully automated meter reading, data collection and retrieval system, and an online portal feature to enable customers to view their usage and billing history in real time. The AMI infrastructure involves installation of a new meter register that transmits the meter read and water usage data through a cellular signal to a City central computer, and eliminates the need to drive meter routes and respond to in-person data log requests. This technology will allow customers to view their own water usage on a daily basis without interaction with staff members. Customers will be able to set alarms and identify leaks in a timely manner, as opposed to waiting for their bi-monthly bill revealing high usage. Many customers do not discover a leak until they receive their water bill, which could be up to 60 days after a leak started. Having the ability to set alarms and view daily water usage can result in cost savings for the customer while reducing water loss for the City.

Staff will provide an overview presentation regarding the proposed transition to the AMI metering system.



Matthew Knapp
Deputy Public Works Director - Operations

Roll Call: _____ Deemer _____ Jay _____ Masnek _____ Vacant
_____ Siani _____ Thomas _____ Chairperson Kawai

TO: WATER COMMISSION
FROM: MATTHEW KNAPP, DEPUTY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR - OPERATIONS
SUBJECT: ACCEPT AND FILE MONTHLY WATER OPERATIONS REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2023

It is the recommendation of the Deputy Public Works Director - Operations that the Water Commission accept and file this report.

Monthly Water Department highlights for the month of December 2023 are:

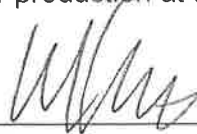
1. Total potable water produced from local potable sources is 165.7% higher than in December 2022. On a year-to-date basis, total potable water is 7.7% lower than last year and total water produced from all sources, including recycled water is 6.9% lower than in 2022.

Water Produced and Imported (Acre-feet)			
Month: December			
Water Source	December 2022	December 2023	Change
Potable Groundwater			
Wells*	44.5	274.9	517.8%
WRD Desalter*	175.0	308.2	76.1%
Subtotal	219.5	583.1	165.7%
Imported Potable			
MWD	1,184.9	843.7	-28.8%
Imported Recycled			
WBMWD	393.8	526.2	33.6%
Total Produced/Imported			
All Potable Sources	1,404.4	1,426.8	1.6%
All Sources + Recycled	1,798.2	1,953.0	8.6%

Year to Date: 2022 vs 2023			
Water Source	2022 YTD	2023 YTD	Change
Potable Groundwater			
Wells	1,762.3	512.2	-70.9%
WRD Desalter	2,947.3	3,586.6	21.7%
Subtotal	4,709.6	4,098.8	-13.0%
Imported Potable			
MWD	14,312.1	13,467.3	-5.9%
Imported Recycled			
WBMWD	4,996.0	4,801.8	-3.9%
Total Produced/Imported			
All Potable Sources	19,021.7	17,566.1	-7.7%
All Sources + Recycled	24,017.7	22,367.9	-6.9%

*data estimate based on production reads

2. There were 7 water main breaks for the month of December 2023, compared to 9 for the same period in 2022. Total main breaks for calendar year 2023 are 41 compared to 57 in 2022.
3. Goldsworthy Desalter is operating at near full capacity. The Water Replenishment District (WRD) continues to work on plans to connect the Brewer Well with the Goldsworthy Desalter planned expansion. WRD has drilled the pilot wells to test water quality for the Goldsworthy Desalter and is analyzing water quality and gathering data for preliminary design.
4. Currently, our contractor has nearly completed a three-month test cycle for new blowers and scrubber system on the North Torrance Wellfield storage tank for the removal of hydrogen sulfide. Over the past couple of months, water has been introduced into the system and is meeting all water quality requirements. We anticipate increasing groundwater production at the North Torrance Wellfield.

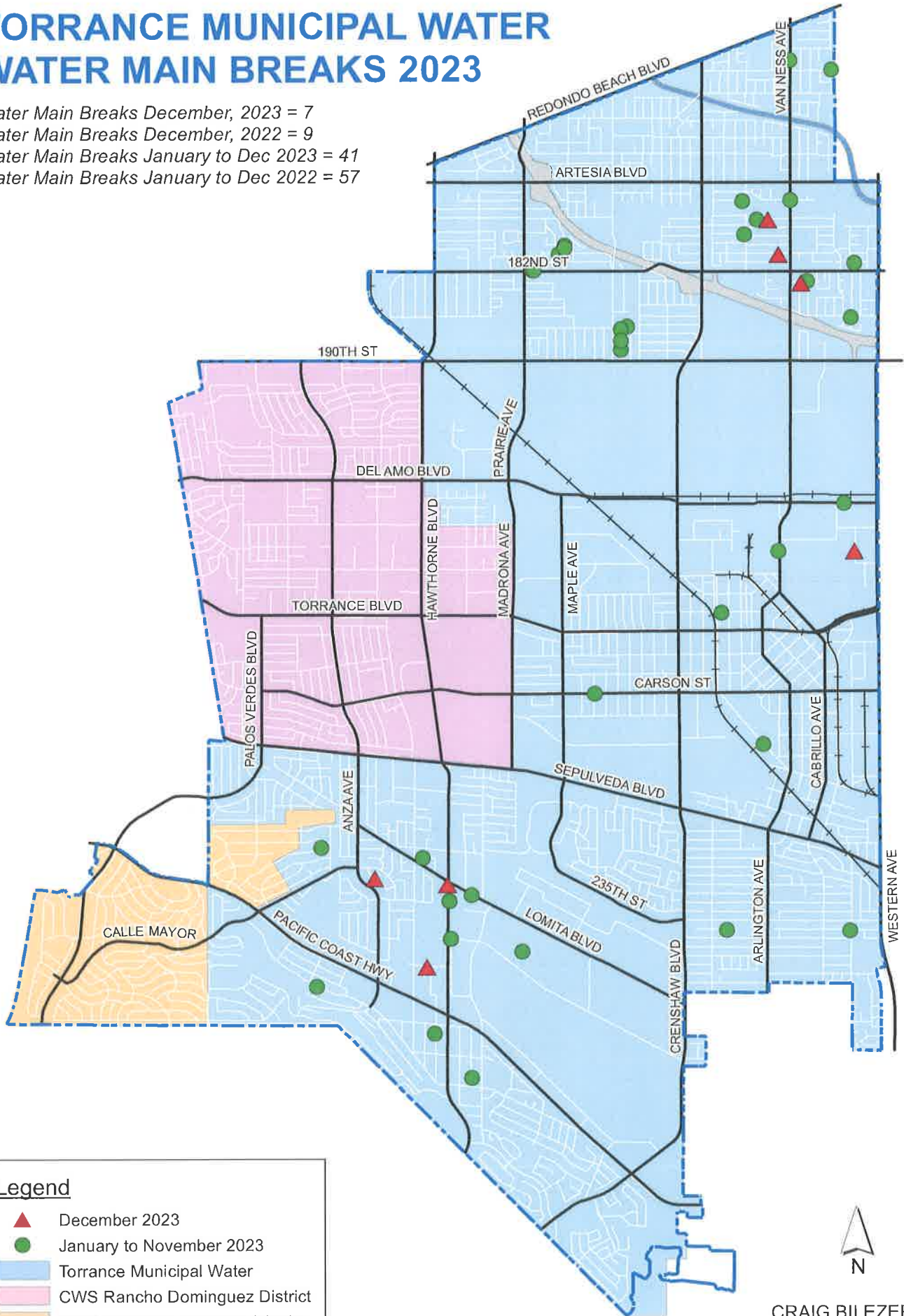


Matthew Knapp
Deputy Public Works Director - Operations

Roll Call: _____ Deemer _____ Jay _____ Masnek _____ Vacant
 _____ Siani _____ Thomas _____ Chairperson Kawai

TORRANCE MUNICIPAL WATER WATER MAIN BREAKS 2023

Water Main Breaks December, 2023 = 7
 Water Main Breaks December, 2022 = 9
 Water Main Breaks January to Dec 2023 = 41
 Water Main Breaks January to Dec 2022 = 57



CRAIG BILEZERIAN
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR