



Splash

Metro Water
Newsletter
Winter 2018-19

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CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The District actively constructs and upgrades critical infrastructure through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to ensure the reliability of the water system, improve operations, and minimize the risk of water infrastructure failures.

The CIP has been revenue funded since 2014. This means that all water infrastructure projects were funded by new meter connection fees and the District's adopted budget without any new bonds, loans or debt.

Because there is a limited amount of money available for capital improvements, the District utilizes a Priority Driven Budget process to develop and update the CIP. This process includes evaluation and input from all District Teams, including Utilities, Engineering, and Administration. The priorities from all teams are consolidated into a 10-year plan with the top priorities implemented as quickly as possible.

Part of the annual budgeting process includes a review by the District's Finance Oversight Committee (FOC). The FOC discusses with staff the anticipated financial impacts of the requested CIP for the upcoming fiscal year (July 1 – June 30), and makes any recommended changes. The FOC will then make a recommendation for staff to present the requested CIP to the District Board of Directors either as presented or with their recommended changes. The Board of Directors then holds a study session to review the requested CIP budget for the upcoming fiscal year and may request revisions. Once the process is complete, the Board of Directors adopts the CIP budget for the upcoming fiscal year as part of the annual budget.

For Fiscal Year 2019, the number one priority CIP project is the **Northwest Recharge, Recovery and Delivery System**. This critical project will enable the District to recover its Central Arizona Project water that has been stored in the Avra Valley area and deliver this renewable water resource to the Metro Main service area.

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Other priorities for Fiscal Year 2019 include:

Hub Storage Site Expansion, New Steel Tank (*pictured right*). This project includes the construction of a new 800,000 gallon water storage tank to replace the existing 186,000 gallon storage tank on the Hub Reservoir site. This storage expansion was identified and planned concurrently with the previously constructed 250,000 gallon storage tank and will improve reliability and expand the District's capability to store and deliver water in the Metro Hub service area.



Old Nogales Highway Waterline Replacement. This project located in the Metro Southwest – E&T service area is needed due to continued breaks occurring in the existing waterline. Once completed, the newly constructed waterline will improve reliability and minimize service outages. Another key benefit to this project is the cost savings associated with the elimination of numerous emergency call-outs necessary for repairs.



La Cholla Boulevard Waterline Replacement from Overton Road to Lambert Lane (*pictured left*). Located in the Metro Main service area, this project includes the relocation of approximately 1.5 miles of existing District waterline and is a high priority since the District is obligated to move waterlines out of conflict areas associated with the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) roadway improvement project. The waterline work is expected to be complete by early 2019.

Ina Road Sidewalk Improvement Project from Shannon Road to La Cholla Boulevard. This RTA project located in the Metro Main service area will require some valves and meters to be relocated or adjusted to accommodate the new sidewalks. The roadway contractor will perform the relocations and adjustments through an agreement between the District and Pima County ♠.

SPOTLIGHT ON METRO SOUTHWEST

Contractors with Smyth Industries prepare to construct a 180,000 gallon storage tank at the Diablo Village #1 wellsite. This tank construction is part of a developer funded expansion in the Diablo Village Service Area ♠.



METRO WATER DISTRICT WELCOMES A NEW BOARD MEMBER

This year Metro Water District had three Board Member terms coming to a close as of December 31, 2018. Two of our current Board Members wished to continue with the Board: Judy Scrivener and Jim Doyle. Richard Sarti who is currently a member of the District's Finance Oversight Committee (FOC), also decided to offer his services to the District as a Board Member.

Helen Ireland has chosen not seek re-election. During her time as a Board Member, Ms. Ireland utilized her wisdom and unique subject matter expertise to provide insight and guidance to staff and fellow Board Members. We thank her for many years of service to the District and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

Since there were three open seats on the Board of Directors and only three individuals filled petitions to be on the November 2018 ballot, the election was canceled with the Pima County Board of Supervisors to appointing Mr. Doyle, Mr. Sarti, and Ms. Scrivener to the Board of Directors with a term of January 2019 to December 2022. The decision to cancel the election saved the District \$25,000 in the cost budgeted for the election.

Jim Doyle has served six terms on the Board. He has worked for Pima County Wastewater Treatment for over 30 years and is currently the acting superintendent of the Tres Rios Treatment Plant.

Richard Sarti, who joins the Board as its newest member, is a native Tucsonan who has worked as a civil engineer in the private sector with a focus on land development, planning, surveying as well as mining and industrial design. Mr. Sarti has been employed by Tucson Water since September of 2012 and currently holds the position of Tucson Economic Advancement Center Administrator.

Judy Scrivener returns to the Board to serve a fourth term. She is the Senior Special Staff Assistant to the Deputy Director for Pima County Wastewater Treatment.

The three Board Members join Dan M. Offret and Bryan Foulk, who are both currently in the middle of their four-year terms.

The Board meets regularly the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. The Board establishes rates, approves and oversees the budget, and sets policies for the District. For more information and access to past and future meeting agendas go to <http://bit.ly/metrowaterboardmeeting> ♦

The Finance Oversight Committee (FOC) reviews District staff's financial recommendations and advises the Board of Directors on rate structure and adjustments, long range financial planning, and capital planning. The FOC traditionally meets three times annually.



The District welcomes the two newest members to the FOC, Ralph Churchill and Lee Jacobs.

Ralph Churchill is a District resident who possesses both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Chemical Engineering and is also a registered Professional Engineer. Mr. Churchill has extensive experience in industrial wastewater and effluent treatment systems, prepared comprehensive financial analyses, and instructed college level courses in Water Quality Management during his career that has spanned 50 years. Mr. Churchill's possesses unique expertise as well as a desire to support the District by serving on the FOC.

Lee Jacobs is a District resident and is the Water Utility Engineering Division Manager for the Town of Oro Valley. He is a licensed professional Civil Engineer in the State of Arizona and has over 20 years of professional experience in water, wastewater, planning, design, permitting, bidding, project delivery, construction, and construction management. Mr. Jacobs has served on other committees, and desires to support District residents and the Board of Directors by serving on the FOC.

The other FOC Members are: Charlie Maish, Lee Mayes, Scott Schladweiler, Barbara Gelband, and Robert Shonka.

For more information and access to past and future meeting agendas go to: <http://bit.ly/focmeeting> ♦

Metro Water District Wishes You a Happy Holiday Season

HOW CAN I PAY MY BILL?

Online Payment

With Xpress Bill Pay, you can view your bill, pay it online, or set up a recurring auto bill. Additional fees may apply. Go to Xpress Bill Pay at <https://www.xpressbillpay.com/#/?org=metrowater10014>

Direct Pay from your Checking or Saving Account

You can have your payment automatically deducted from your checking or saving account each month. This service is free. <http://bit.ly/metrowaterdirectpay>

Pay by Phone

You can call our office at 520-575-8100 and pay over the phone by using VISA, Master Card, Discover, American Express, or your checking account.

Pay by Mail or in Person

You can mail your payment to Metro Water with the enclosed envelope you receive with your water bill. You are always welcome to pay in person at our office 6265 N. La Cañada Drive, Tucson, Arizona 85704.

Drop Box

You can drop off your payment in a secure drop box near the drive thru window at our office 6265 N. La Cañada Drive, Tucson, Arizona 85704. Payments need to be in the drop box by 7:00 a.m. to be processed that day. Please do not place cash in the drop box. ♦

Metro Water offices will be closed:

Tuesday, December 25, 2018
Christmas Day

Tuesday, January 1, 2019
New Year's Day

Monday, January 21, 2019
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday, February 18, 2019
President's Day

Office Location:
6265 N. La Cañada Dr.
Tucson, Arizona 85704

Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m. - Noon

Board of Directors:

Judy Scrivener, Chair
Bryan Foulk, Vice Chair
Jim Doyle, Member
Helen Ireland, Member
Dan M. Offret, Member

Board Meetings:

Monday, January 14, 2018
Monday, February 11, 2018
Monday, March 11, 2018

Board meetings are held at
6265 N. La Cañada Drive
and typically start
at 6:00 p.m.

visit us at:

www.metrowater.com

call us at:

575-8100

email us at:

info@metrowater.com

like us on facebook:



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