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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, JULY 26, 2023
REGULAR MEETING
6:30 P.M.
WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
CITY HALL
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, Kawai, Masnek, Mattie, Siani, Thomas, Chair Jay

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 Thursday, July 20, 2023

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 ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Limited to a 30-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 3 minutes 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

I. Regular Meeting June 28, 2023

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Matters listed under Administrative Matters are considered separately. Comment by members of public on each is limited to a maximum of 2 minutes per item. Speakers must stay on topic and confine their comments to the item under consideration.

7A. Discussion - Presentation Regarding Status of Pure Water Project -

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

7B. Election of Water Commission Chair and Vice-Chair for Fiscal 2023-24 -

Recommendation of the Deputy Public Works Director - Operations that the Water Commission conduct a vote to select the Chair and Vice-Chair for Fiscal 2022-23.

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 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 date to Wednesday, August 23, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

June 28, 2023

**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, June 28, 2023, in the West Annex Meeting Room.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Deemer, Kawai, Masnek, Siani, and Chair Jay.
Absent: Commissioner Mattie.
Also Present: Water Operations Manager Andrew Darlak, Policy and Resources Specialist Chuck Schaich, and Metropolitan Water District Director Russel Lefevre.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Siani 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

Members of the public spoke.

Mr. Tom Newman presented a document to the Commission regarding public drinking fountains. Policy and Resources Specialist Schaich, Chair Jay, and Water Operations Manager Darlak responded.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: APRIL 26, 2023

MOTION: Commissioner Kawai moved to approve the April 26, 2023, minutes as presented. Commissioner Masnek seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 5-0 approval (Commissioner Mattie absent).

7. **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

7A. **DISCUSSION – UPDATE REGARDING**

Policy and Resources Specialist Chuck Schaich presented Item 7A:

- Lake Oroville is approximately 99% full compared to the 30-35% measured last year.
- As a result of an abundant amount of snowpack, Department of Water Resources increased the State Water Project supplies over 100%.
- Groundwater basins that normally store water are at capacity; Metropolitan is researching alternatives to keep the most water supply.
- Lower Basin States [Arizona, California, Nevada] presented a plan to voluntarily cut 3-million acre-feet of Colorado River diversions through 2026.
- Drought cycles are occurring more rapidly and are lasting longer, sustained conservation and augmented water supply in storage are key to ensure long-term reliability for both local and regional systems.

Members of the Commission and staff spoke.

MOTION: Commissioner Kawai moved to accept and file the report. Commissioner Siani seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 5-0 approval (Commissioner Mattie absent).

7B. **DISCUSSION – STATUS OF WATER CONDITIONS IN THE STATE AND THE WATER SUPPLY SITUATION**

Water Operations Manager Darlak presented Item 7B:

- The Annual Water Quality Report brochure was presented.
- The electronic version was available June 7, 2023, and was posted to the website; Torrance water customers received an email and / or a letter in the mail as mandated by the state of California.

Members of the Commission and staff spoke.

MOTION: Chair Jay moved to accept and file the report. Commissioner Masnek seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 5-0 approval (Commissioner Mattie absent).

7C. DISCUSSION – MONTHLY WATER OPERATIONS REPORT

Water Operations Manager Darlak gave the monthly Water Operations report:

- North Torrance Well Field is offline, and Goldsworthy is operating at 300-330 acre-feet a month.
- There were two main breaks, one at 182nd and Prairie and the other on Lomita in the Torrance Skypark area.
- North Torrance Well Field's contractor is investigating the hydrogen sulfide issue and a proposal for a blower and scrubber has been submitted. The well is anticipated to come back online August 2023 to see if the blower and scrubber exhausted the hydrogen sulfide; if there is still an issue, greensand will be used.

Members of the Commission and staff spoke.

MOTION: Commissioner Masnek moved to accept and file the report. Commissioner Deemer seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 5-0 approval (Commissioner Mattie absent).

8. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT MATTERS

8A. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Metropolitan Water District Director Lefevre presented Item 8A:

- Metropolitan Water District has been heavily involved with the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water that focuses on reliability, resilience, financial sustainability, affordability, and equity.
- The Pure Water Southern California Plant will be going up in Carson, leading in the direction of direct potable water.
- East / West Conveyance is an infrastructure that will move water from the Colorado river to areas that only take water from the State Water Project.
- Drought mitigation is currently being researched.

Members of the Commission and staff spoke.

MOTION: Commissioner Masnek moved to accept and file the report. Commissioner Kawai seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 5-0 approval (Commissioner Mattie absent).

9. COMMISSION AND STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioners Masnek, Siani, Deemer, and Chair Jay spoke.

Commissioner Siani requested to have a presentation regarding the Van Ness Well Project as a future Agenda Item. Staff acknowledged the request.

Chair Jay requested that the Commission go on local site visits. Policy and Resources Specialist Schaich acknowledged the request.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:04 p.m., Chair Jay moved to adjourn the meeting to Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the West Annex Meeting Room. Commissioner Kawai seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 5-0 approval (Commissioner Mattie absent).

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Subject to Approval

TO: WATER COMMISSION
FROM: MATTHEW KNAPP, DEPUTY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR - OPERATIONS
SUBJECT: ~~PRESENTATION REGARDING STATUS OF PURE WATER PROJECT~~

Pure Water Southern California (formerly known as the Regional Recycled Water Program) is a partnership between the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) and the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (LACSD) to beneficially reuse wastewater that is currently discharged into the ocean. An advanced water treatment (AWT) plant is proposed to be constructed at LACSD's Joint Water Pollution Control Plant (JWPCP) in the City of Carson. At ultimate development in the late-2030s, the facility is projected to produce approximately 165,000 acre-feet (AF) annually of a very high quality water as a new local sustainable water source to offset the use of imported supplies, which are being negatively impacted by climate change. This highly purified wastewater will initially be used to replenish groundwater in the Central, San Gabriel, Orange and the West Coast Groundwater Basins, and for industrial purposes. Once the State finalizes pending regulations on direct potable reuse (DPR), a portion of this advanced treated water could be used as a direct potable water supply.

Both MWD and the Sanitation District began exploring this concept in 2010. Over the course of the last decade, a number of evaluations, technical analyses, feasibility studies and pilot programs were completed to assess the overall feasibility of the project, improve processes, reduce costs and optimize treatment methods. In 2019, a 0.5 million per day (mgd) demonstration scale purification facility was built at the JWPCP site. This facility is being used to evaluate and test alternative treatment processes, improve performance, enhance cost-effectiveness and provide opportunities for public outreach and education.

In addition to the Pure Water Project, the City of Los Angeles is in the process of developing its own project to convert wastewater from its Hyperion Wastewater Treatment plant in Playa del Rey into a high quality potable water resource. It is envisioned that both of the projects will be operated in a coordinated and conjunctive manner to maximize regional water benefits. Together at final completion, these two facilities are estimated to provide up to 400,000 acre-feet (AF) annually of new potable water for Southern California. Once fully developed, the combined projects will provide a drought supply to meet the water needs of approximately 4 million residents. These water reuse projects are our "new aqueducts" to ensure future water supply reliability for Southern California.

On July 19, State Water Board officials presented an \$80 million check to advance the Pure Water Project. The event was attended by approximately 200 people representing a cross section of the water, environmental and political community. MWD and LACSD and other entities are in the process of applying for a number of additional grants and other funding opportunities for development of the project. This is a broad based partnership project with participation from other

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

entities. Both the State of Arizona and the Southern Nevada Water Authority are providing funding in order to reduce water diversions from the stressed Colorado River Basin.

Construction and operation of the Pure Water Project is expected to occur in two phases, with Phase I providing approximately 100 million gallons a day (mgd) in 2032. Phase II of the project would involve expansion of the advanced water treatment (AWT) facilities to purify a portion of the water for direct potable reuse and construction of pipelines to connect to conventional MWD treatment plants.

In addition, to more quickly augment regional supplies in an area approximately within five miles of the AWT plant, an early delivery component as part of Phase I was proposed several years ago. The early delivery component would provide up to 30 mgd to the Long Beach-Carson area and to our local West Coast Basin area for groundwater recharge and large scale industrial use, including possible use by the Torrance Refinery (TRC). However, earlier this year it was determined that Southern California Edison Company (SCE) did not at the time have sufficient power generation capacity in the area to support the project. Although it initially appeared that the early start component may need to be curtailed, MWD and LASCD are engaged in high level discussions with SCE to facilitate the timely construction of additional power generation to restore the early start component at some level.

Currently, the Pure Water Project is in the process of completing various environmental review processes, refining conveyance pipeline alignments, updating program costs and cost of service evaluations, finishing pre-treatment testing at the demonstration plant, planning for DPR pilot testing and updating agency demands for the advanced treated supplies from the Pure Water Project.

Staff will provide a brief overview presentation on this matter.



Matthew Knapp
Deputy Public Works Director-Operations

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

News for Immediate Release__

Note to editors: B-roll of the Pure Water demonstration facility is available [here](#).

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State presents \$80 million check to advance development of Pure Water Southern California

State funding supports one of the largest water recycling programs in the world, creates new local climate-resilient supply

July 19, 2023

CARSON – State officials presented an \$80 million check today to help advance Pure Water Southern California, a large-scale, regional water recycling program that will create a new source of water to benefit 19 million people amid a changing climate and weather whiplash.

State Assemblymember Lisa Calderon (D-Whittier), E. Joaquin Esquivel, State Water Resources Control Board chair, and Carson Mayor Pro Tem Jawane Hilton joined representatives from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts during the event at the Pure Water demonstration facility. Metropolitan and the Sanitation Districts are partnering on work to accelerate the project's design and construction, with the potential to begin construction as early as 2025 and water deliveries to start in 2032.

"The climate crisis has strained our region's water supply," said Assemblymember Calderon. "It's imperative we continue investing in projects focused on addressing our water needs. I am pleased to support the work of the Metropolitan Water District and the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts in advancing the Pure Water Southern California project. This effort will provide a more resilient, sustainable water infrastructure system for our local communities."

Scientists and engineers are testing an innovative purification process at the demonstration plant to ensure the treated water meets the highest water purification standards. Once built, the full-scale project will take cleaned wastewater that is currently sent to the ocean and purify it to produce high-quality drinking water. The purified water will then be delivered through up to 60 miles of new pipelines to the region's groundwater basins, industrial facilities and two of Metropolitan's water treatment plants.

Pure Water could also be among the first projects in California to utilize new regulations proposed just last week by the State Water Resources Control Board, which would allow Metropolitan to distribute the purified wastewater to existing water treatment plants where it could mix with its other water sources before it is delivered to customers.

"Pure Water Southern California is a critical 21st century investment in the region's water future. It will expand the water supply with a climate resilient source and help the entire state respond to hotter, drier conditions," said SWRCB Chair Joaquin Esquivel. **"This project won't just benefit supply, as this wastewater is recycled, it is also diverted away from the ocean, reducing impacts on marine ecosystems and water quality. This is why water recycling is a pillar of Governor Newsom's Water Supply Strategy and the State Water Board invests hundreds of millions of dollars each year in low-interest loans and grants to bring these projects forward."**

Metropolitan officials expressed appreciation for the state funding as the agency works to address the many challenges to its water supplies.

"I am deeply grateful to the state for their support of Pure Water as we embark on an aggressive agenda to prepare for the challenging decades ahead," said Metropolitan board Director Dennis Erdman, who serves as chair of the board's Engineering, Operations and Technology Committee. **"This project is critical to the success and well-being of Southern California and the many communities we serve. This funding will help us move forward as expeditiously as possible."**

Metropolitan General Manager Adel Hagekhalil said the Pure Water program is a foundational component of the district's development of its Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water, which makes climate adaptation central to the district's long-term planning and financial investments, taking into consideration infrastructure and water supply projects.

"The way we managed our water resources is no longer sufficient as we encounter longer, hotter periods of drought and increasingly limited water resources," Hagekhalil said. **"Today's celebration showcases what happens when we work together. Through collaboration and innovation, we are taking the necessary steps to safeguard our future."**

Robert Ferrante, the Sanitation Districts' general manager and chief engineer, also emphasized the importance of partnerships.

"We look forward to producing a new sustainable supply of water for Southern California to mitigate future droughts," Ferrante said. **"We can only move forward on a project of this size with a partner like Metropolitan that has the right experience and expertise to make the effort successful."**

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The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a state-established cooperative that, along with its 26 cities and retail suppliers, provide water for 19 million people in six counties. The district imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies, and helps its members to develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource-management programs.

TO: WATER COMMISSION
FROM: MATTHEW KNAPP, DEPUTY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR - OPERATIONS
SUBJECT: ELECTION OF COMMISSION CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR FOR FISCAL CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

The terms of the Water Commission Chair and Vice-Chair expired at the end of fiscal year 2022-23. Therefore, it is necessary that the Commission hold an election for both positions for fiscal 2023-24 at this month's meeting.

The Commission has broad discretion regarding the appointment of both positions and there are no term limit requirements, and the current and past Chairs and Vice-Chairs are eligible for reappointment. The current Chair is Raymond Jay and the Vice-Chair is Kent Kawai and both have served for the last three years. The term for both positions are through fiscal 2023-24. The Commission should conduct a nomination process and then vote to choose both positions.



Matthew Knapp
Deputy Public Works Director - Operations

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

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

1. Total potable water produced from local potable sources is 54.6% lower than in June 2022. On a year-to-date basis, total potable water is 9.1% lower than last year and total water produced from all sources, including recycled water is 7.1% lower than in 2022. The Torrance Refining Company continues to use a large volume of both potable and recycled water as a result of continued high refinery production.

Water Produced and Imported (Acre-feet)

Month: June				Year to Date: 2022 vs 2023			
Water Source	June 2022	June 2023	Change	Water Source	2022 YTD	2023 YTD	Change
Potable Groundwater				Potable Groundwater			
Wells*	155.0	0.0	-100.0%	Wells	955.0	145.2	-84.8%
WRD Desalter*	323.4	217.3	-32.8%	WRD Desalter	1,673.4	1,601.0	-4.3%
Subtotal	478.4	217.3	-54.6%	Subtotal	2,628.4	1,746.3	-33.6%
Imported Potable				Imported Potable			
MWD	1,111.8	1,274.0	14.6%	MWD	6,780.4	6,804.6	0.4%
Imported Recycled				Imported Recycled			
WBMWD	423.0	432.2	2.2%	WBMWD	2,215.1	2,243.0	1.3%
Total Produced/Imported				Total Produced/Imported			
All Potable Sources	1,590.2	1,491.3	-6.2%	All Potable Sources	9,408.8	8,550.9	-9.1%
All Sources + Recycled	2,013.2	1,923.5	-4.5%	All Sources + Recycled	11,623.9	10,793.8	-7.1%

*data estimate based on production reads

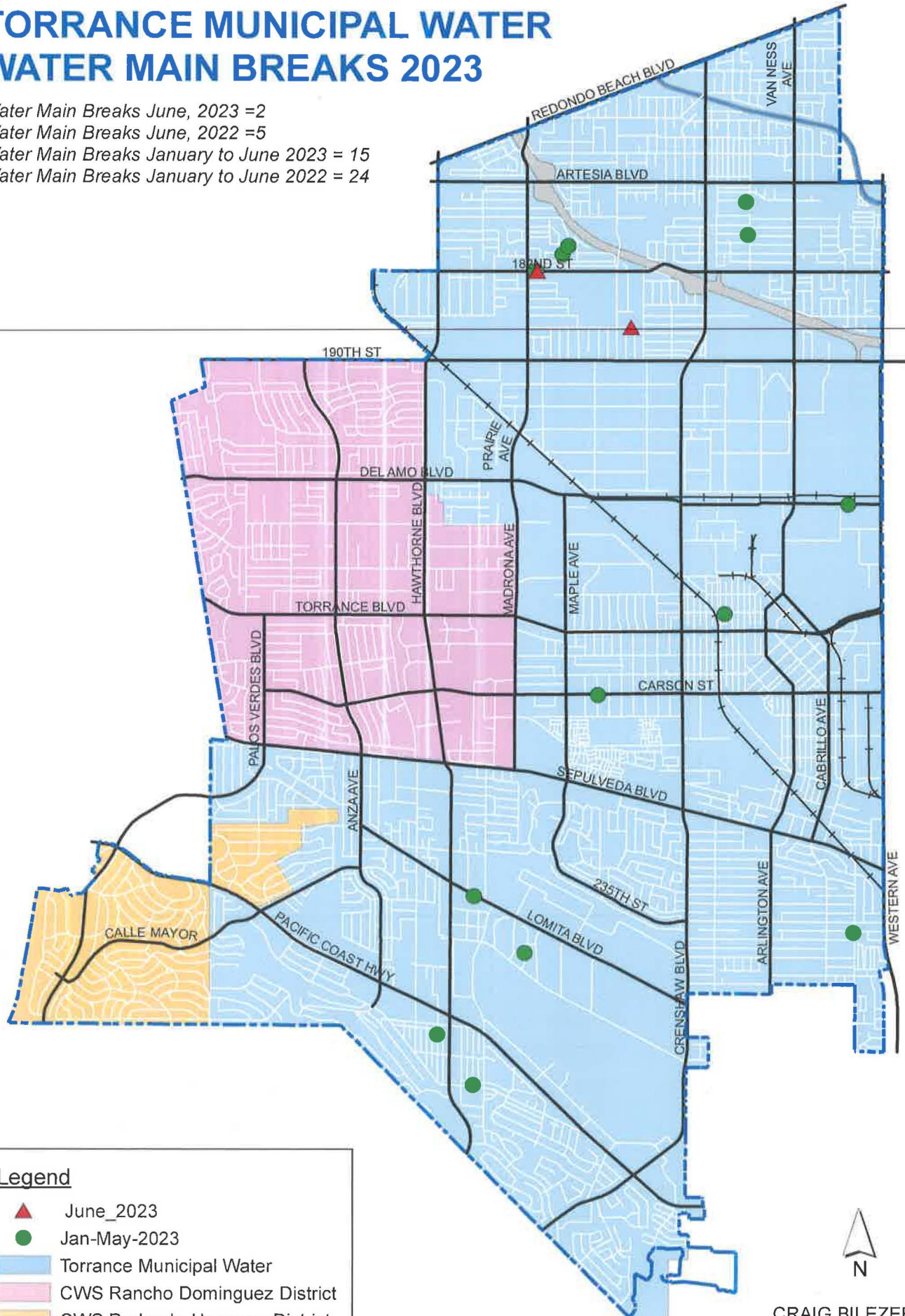
2. There were 2 water main breaks for the month of June 2023, compared to 5 for the same period in 2022. Total main breaks for calendar year 2023 are 15 compared to 24 in 2022.
3. Goldsworthy Desalter is operating at near full capacity. The Water Replenishment District (WRD) continues to work on plans to connect the Brewer Well with the Goldsworthy Desalter. WRD is also set to begin drilling pilot wells to test water quality in anticipation of expanding the Goldsworthy Desalter in the near future.
4. Currently, all potable ground water wells are out of service due to the occurrence of a higher level of hydrogen sulfide. Our consultant for the North Torrance Well Field is in the process of procuring additional equipment to treat the higher concentration of hydrogen sulfide. However, we're experiencing supply chain issues which are causing the delay.


 Matthew Knapp
 Deputy Public Works Director - Operations

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

TORRANCE MUNICIPAL WATER WATER MAIN BREAKS 2023

Water Main Breaks June, 2023 =2
 Water Main Breaks June, 2022 =5
 Water Main Breaks January to June 2023 = 15
 Water Main Breaks January to June 2022 = 24



Legend

- ▲ June_2023
- Jan-May-2023
- Torrance Municipal Water
- CWS Rancho Dominguez District
- CWS Redondo-Hermosa District

CRAIG BILEZERIAN
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR



CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

CALIFORNIA MAJOR WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS

Midnight - July 20, 2023

CURRENT CONDITIONS

