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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, MARCH 26, 2025
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, Mazinani, Stecker, Thomas, and Chair Siani

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 Blvd. and on the City's Website on Thursday, March 20, 2025.

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 ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS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 of January 22, 2025.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

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

7A. Accept and File Presentation and Report from the Water Replenishment District (WRD) regarding the Expansion of the Goldsworthy Groundwater Desalter.

Recommendation of the Water Operations Manager that the Water Commission accept and file this presentation and report.

7B. Accept and File Presentation and Report on Update of Water Supply Conditions.

Recommendation of the Water Operations Manager that the Water Commission accept and file this presentation and report.

7C. Accept and File the Monthly Operations Report for February 2025.

Recommendation of the Water Operations Manager that the Water Commission accept and file this report.

8. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT MATTERS

8A. Accept and File the Metropolitan Water District Director's Report.

Recommendation of the Water Operations Manager that the Water Commission accept and file this report.

9. COMMISSION AND STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

10. ADJOURNMENT

10A. Adjournment date for the next Water Commission Meeting to Wednesday, April 23, 2025

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

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Torrance Water Commission convened in a regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 22, 2025, in the West Annex Meeting Room.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Deemer, Jay, Masnek, Mazinani, Stecker, Thomas, and Chair Siani.

Absent: None.

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

2. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Jay 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.

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 ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

None.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: OCTOBER 23, 2024

MOTION: Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the October 23, 2024, minutes. Commissioner Jay seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 7-0 approval.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. ACCEPT AND FILE PRESENTATION AND REPORT FROM METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE ON STATUS OF DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

Policy and Resources Specialist Schaich presented Item 7A, introducing Ms. Nina Hawk, Chief of Bay-Delta Resources for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Ms. Hawk provided a slide presentation outlining managing risks and water supply reliability of the Bay Delta and Conveyance.

Ms. Hawk noted that the Bay Delta is a natural area that focuses on the following aspects: regulations, climate change, and seismic events. Metropolitan Water District (MET) is aware of these aspects and plans ahead by looking into levee modernization and emergency preparedness to address seismic events, advocates for robust science programs to address effects climate change can have on the system, has a science program in place to research various species, investigates ways to optimize State and Federal regulatory requirements, and constantly evaluates storage and conveyance solutions.

Ms. Hawk spoke on the Delta Conveyance Project, a single tunnel project, that is routed along the Bethany Alignment. The project was placed along the Bethany Alignment to avoid sensitive areas in the Bay-Delta and to be the least disruptive to the environment. MET has been investing in early design, scoping the project, bringing in experts to evaluate risks, and has been working with the Department of Water Resources to advance planning efforts.

Ms. Hawk noted that the Metropolitan Board identified concerns on the project regarding pending litigations, planning risks, water rights, and funds, and requested that the Department of Water Resources and the State be more accountable in the areas listed.

Ms. Hawk announced that the Metropolitan Board approved the Delta Conveyance Project with one "no" vote.

Commissioner Stecker excused himself from the Commission at 7:35 p.m.

Commissioner Stecker returned to the Commission at 7:36 p.m.

Members of the Commission spoke.

MOTION: Commissioner Thomas moved to accept and file the presentation and report from the Metropolitan Water District Representative on the status of the Delta Conveyance Project. Commissioner Masnek seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 7-0 approval.

7B. ACCEPT AND FILE PRESENTATION AND REPORT ON CURRENT STATUS OF WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS

Policy and Resources Specialist Schaich presented Item 7B, providing a report on the status of water supply conditions.

Policy and Resources Specialist Schaich reported that reservoir levels increased and that additional changes to the State Water Project allocation may occur depending on drought conditions.

Mr. Charles Gale, Metropolitan Water District's Principal Government Affairs Representative, spoke, providing clarifications to Commissioner's inquiries.

MOTION: Commissioner Stecker moved to accept Item 7B, a Report on the Current Status of Water Supply Conditions. Commissioner Masnek seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 7-0 approval.

7C. ACCEPT AND FILE THE MONTHLY WATER OPERATIONS REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2024

Water Operations Manager Darlak presented Item 7C, providing a Water Operations report for December 2024.

Water Operations Manager Darlak reported that the North Torrance Well Field ran 375-acre-feet total in December 2024 with January 2025 projected to be higher, announced that the Goldsworthy Desalter has been offline due to a major electrical issue, and noted that there were (41) watermain breaks in the year 2024.

MOTION: Commissioner Jay moved to accept Item 7C, Water Operations Report. Commissioner Stecker seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 7-0 approval.

8. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT MATTERS

8A. ACCEPT AND FILE THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Metropolitan Water District Director Lefevre presented Item 8A.

Metropolitan Water District Director Lefevre stated that there was a presentation on the Pure Water Program in the City of Carson that touched on direct potable reuse by 2028.

Metropolitan Water District Director Lefevre stated that MET will meet to discuss General Manager Hagekhalil's paid leave and that an update will be provided to the Commission in the next meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Jay moved to accept and file the Metropolitan Water District Director's Report. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 7-0 approval.

9. COMMISSION AND STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Members of the Commission spoke.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:35 p.m., Chair Siani moved to adjourn the meeting to Wednesday, February 26, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room. Commissioner Masnek seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 7-0 approval.

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TO: WATER COMMISSION
FROM: ANDREW DARLAK, WATER OPERATIONS MANAGER
SUBJECT: PRESENTATION AND REPORT FROM THE WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT REGARDING THE EXPANSION OF THE GOLDSWORTHY GROUNDWATER DESALTER

The Robert Goldsworthy Desalter Project was constructed and developed by the Water Replenishment District (WRD), in partnership with the City of Torrance, and became operational in 2001. The Desalter conditions brackish groundwater pumped from nearby saline wells by removing salts through a reverse osmosis treatment process and converts the brackish water into a drinking water supply. In 2018, the Desalter was expanded to treat up to maximum capacity of 5 million gallons per day (mgd). The Desalter is owned by WRD and operated and maintained by Torrance Municipal Water (TMW), who purchases the treated supply from WRD at a discount of 10% compared to the alternative of purchasing MWD imported water supplies.

The Goldsworthy Desalter has been very successful project and helps remediate saline water contamination in the local West Coast Groundwater Basin, as well as providing an alternative source of potable water source for the City. The facility currently provides approximately 15% of TMW's annual potable water requirements. The Desalter will be undergoing another expansion that will increase its current capacity up to a maximum of 9 mgd. The effective potable water yield of the expanded facility is estimated to be between 6,000 to 7,000 acre-feet per year at full scale, which would meet approximately one-third of the TMW service area annual potable water requirements.

In late November 2024, the McCarthy-Jacobs joint venture partnership was selected to undertake the progressive design-build project for the Goldsworthy expansion. The initial preliminary work will begin in early summer and the expanded desalter is projected to be completed in 2027. The project includes new state-of-the-art treatment facilities, the construction of new brackish extraction wells, raw water lines and ancillary facilities. The Desalter is expected to be out of service for approximately 1½ years during the construction phase. This brackish water desalination project will create a more reliable and resilient high quality local drinking water supply and eliminate the need to buy an equivalent amount of expensive and vulnerable imported water. This desalination project is key element WRD's WIN-for-all program to eliminate brackish water from the local groundwater basin over time and restore it entirely to a freshwater basin.

A representative from WRD will be providing a presentation on this matter.



Andy Darlak
Water Operations Manager

Roll Call: _____ Deemer _____ Jay _____ Masnek _____ Mazinani
_____ Stecker _____ Thomas _____ Chairperson Siani

TO: WATER COMMISSION
FROM: ANDREW DARLAK, WATER OPERATIONS MANAGER
SUBJECT: ACCEPT AND FILE PRESENTATION AND REPORT ON UPDATE OF WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS

As a result of a number of major storm activity and improved snowpacks in key northern California watersheds, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) increased the State Water Project (SWP) allocation from 20% to 35 % on February 25th. This increased allocation helps buttress the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) service area to prepare for the inevitable swing back to dry conditions in the future. Based on MWD's current water demand projection, this level of allocation is at the break even point with regard to adding or withdrawing from storage reserves.

Currently, MWD has a record level of 3.8 million acre-feet (AF) of usable water storage, which equates to nearly 2 ½ years of average annual demand on the MWD system. With recent storm activity, there is a distinct possibility that DWR will increase the SWP allocation when the next snow survey is conducted later this month. This would enable MWD to add to its storage reserves or, as an alternative, market a portion the surplus as a revenue enhancement to shore up its budget. Even if severe drought conditions reemerge, MWD has sufficient water storage to avoid the imposition of mandatory water rationing measures for several years.

Water storage levels for almost all major reservoirs are at or above historical average levels for this time of year. Currently, Lake Oroville is at 85% of its 3.4 million AF capacity, and Diamond Valley Lake in Hemet is virtually at its full capacity of 810,000 AF. The northern Sierra snowpack is at about 97% of normal and any additional storm activity will increase this total. MWD's other source of imported water – the Colorado River is experiencing a near normal year. Currently, the Colorado River Basin snowpack is at 91% of normal. However, Lake Mead, the principal reservoir on the Colorado River, remains at a critically low level of approximately 35% of capacity. Lake Mead had not been full since 1999, as result of a prolonged 25-year dry cycle.

Staff will provide a brief overview presentation on this matter



Andrew Darlak
Water Operations Manager

Roll Call: _____ Deemer _____ Jay _____ Masnek _____ Mazinani
_____ Stecker _____ Thomas _____ Chairperson Siani

TO: WATER COMMISSION
FROM: ANDY DARLAK, WATER OPERATIONS MANAGER
SUBJECT: ACCEPT AND FILE MONTHLY WATER OPERATIONS REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2025

It is the recommendation of the Water Operations Manager that the Water Commission accept and file this report.

Monthly Water Department highlights for the month of February 2025 are:

1. Total potable water produced from local potable sources is 1.2% higher than in February 2024. On a year-to-date basis, total potable water is 1.7% higher than last year and total water produced from all sources, including recycled water is 6.1% higher than in 2024.

Water Produced and Imported (Acre-feet)

| Month: February | | | | Year to Date: 2024 vs 2025 | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------|----------------------------|----------|----------|--------|
| Water Source | February 2024 | February 2025 | Change | Water Source | 2024 YTD | 2025 YTD | Change |
| Potable Groundwater | | | | Potable Groundwater | | | |
| Wells* | 145.6 | 475.6 | 226.7% | Wells | 447.5 | 896.1 | 100.2% |
| WRD Desalter* | 269.2 | 42.2 | -84.3% | WRD Desalter | 524.1 | 42.2 | -91.9% |
| Subtotal | 414.8 | 517.8 | 24.8% | Subtotal | 971.6 | 938.3 | -3.4% |
| Imported Potable | | | | Imported Potable | | | |
| MWD | 991.4 | 905.6 | -8.7% | MWD | 1,957.3 | 2,041.0 | 4.3% |
| Imported Recycled | | | | Imported Recycled | | | |
| WBMWD | 272.4 | 392.3 | 44.0% | WBMWD | 564.0 | 727.4 | 29.0% |
| Total Produced/Imported | | | | | | | |
| All Potable Sources | 1,406.2 | 1,423.4 | 1.2% | All Potable Sources | 2,928.9 | 2,979.3 | 1.7% |
| All Sources + Recycled | 1,678.6 | 1,815.7 | 8.2% | All Sources + Recycled | 3,492.9 | 3,706.7 | 6.1% |

*data estimate based on production reads

2. There were 4 water main breaks for the month of February 2025, compared to 3 in February 2024. Total main breaks for calendar year 2025 are 16, compared to 7 in 2024.
3. The Goldsworthy Desalter had been out of operation for the last several months due to the failure of power supply equipment. The Water Replenishment District has completed repairs and the facility is back in service.
4. TMW is in the process of purchasing a permanent blower and scrubber system. We are currently producing water from all 3 wells, including well #9, 10 and 11. Last month, our production was 475 AF and if sustained, well production at the North Torrance Wellfield would produce over 5,000 AFY.



 Andy Darlak
 Water Operations Manager

Roll Call: _____ **Deemer** _____ **Jay** _____ **Masnek** _____ **Mazinani**
 _____ **Stecker** _____ **Thomas** _____ **Chairperson Siani**