Posted 7/18/2025, 11:05am, updated 7/22/2025. 1:00pm

MASSACHUSETTS WATER RESOURCES AUTHORITY
Deer Island
33 Tafts Avenue
Boston, MA 02128

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Telephone: (617) 242-6000
Fax: (617) 788-4899
TTY: (617) 788-4971

Date: Wednesday, July 23, 2025

Time: 1:00pm

Location: MWRA Administration Facility, Board Room 2C/2D
2 Griffin Way, Chelsea, MA 02150
Photo ID required for entry.
The meeting will also be available via Webex.

Webex meeting link (registration required)
https://mwra.webex.com/weblink/register/ra0973f4fa5301ffd886ec22db959e222

Meeting number: 2337 542 3477 Password: 72325

AGENDA

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

II. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

III. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

i. Approval of the June 18, 2025 Executive Session Minutes

A. Litigation

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation:

1. *U.S. v. M.D.C., et al.*, USDC (Mass) No. 85-0489-RGS (Boston Harbor Case) (verbal)
2. *In the Matters of MWRA Challenge to Certain Conditions in Alewife Brook/Upper Mystic River Basin and Lower Charles River/Charles River Basin Variances*, OADR Nos. 2024-029 and 2024-030; *MWRA v. Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection*, Suffolk Sup. Ct. No. 2484CV02837 (verbal)
3. *Massachusetts Natural Fertilizer Co., Inc. et al. v. MWRA et al.*, Superior Ct. No. 2585CV00439

V. ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE AND AUDIT

A. Information

1. Delegated Authority Report – June 2025
2. MWRA Energy and Sustainability Program Overview

B. Approvals

1. Approval of Eighty-Ninth and Ninetieth Supplemental Resolutions and Award of Liquidity Agreements

VI. WASTEWATER POLICY AND OVERSIGHT

A. Contract Amendments/Change Orders

1. Deer Island Treatment Plant Clarifier Rehabilitation, Phase II: Walsh Construction Company II, LLC, Contract 7395, Change Order 2
2. Deer Island Treatment Plant Clarifier Rehabilitation, Phase II, Design/Engineering Services During Construction: CDM Smith Consultant: CDM Smith Inc., Contract 7394, Amendment 4
3. Hayes Pump Station Rehabilitation: Hazen and Sawyer, Contract 7162, Amendment 4

VII. WATER POLICY AND OVERSIGHT

A. Information

1. 8(m) Permitting Update
2. Metropolitan Water Tunnel Program Look Ahead

B. Approvals

1. ~~Approval for Admission of Lynnfield Center Water District to the MWRA Water System, waiver of Entrance Fee and Authorization to Execute a Water Supply Agreement (materials to follow)~~ **(Item postponed)**

C. Contract Awards

1. Technical Assistance Consulting Services at John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant and other Treatment and Transmission Facilities: Contracts 8130 and 8131

D. Contract Amendments/Change Orders

1. Section 101 Pipeline Extension: Baltazar Construction Corporation, Contract 7457, Change Order 14

VIII. PERSONNEL AND COMPENSATION

A. Approvals

1. PCR Amendments – July 2025
2. Appointment of Mark Lavino, Manager, Maintenance, Deer Island

IX. CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD

A. July 11, 2025 correspondence from Phillip Warbasse, Chairman, Town of Oakham Planning Board regarding Effect of Battery Storage (BESS) Fire on MWRA Quabbin Water System

B. July 11, 2025 correspondence from Michael Horvitz of Brookline, MA regarding Proposed battery storage facility near Ware River

X. OTHER BUSINESS

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MASSACHUSETTS WATER RESOURCES AUTHORITY

Meeting of the Board of Directors

June 18, 2025

A meeting of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority ("MWRA") Board of Directors was held on June 18, 2025 at MWRA Headquarters at Deer Island, Boston and via remote participation.

Vice Chair Pappastergion presided from MWRA Headquarters. Board Members Flanagan, Foti, Peña, Vitale, Jack Walsh and Patrick Walsh also participated from the MWRA Headquarters . Board Member Swett participated remotely. Board Members Taverna, Tepper and Wolowicz were absent.

MWRA Executive Director Frederick Laskey attended at MWRA Headquarters. General Counsel Carolyn Francisco Murphy; Chief Operating Officer David Coppes; Deputy Chief Operating Officer Rebecca Weidman; Director of Finance Thomas Durkin; Director of Administration Michele Gillen; Director of Tunnel Redundancy Kathy Murtagh; Deputy Finance Director/Treasurer Matthew Horan; Budget Director Michael Cole; Assistant Rates, Budget and Finance Manager Leo Norton; Public Affairs Director Sean Navin; Chief Engineer Brian Kubaska; Human Resources Director Wendy Chu; IT Asset and Configuration Manager Michael Curtis; and, Assistant Secretary Kristin MacDougall attended at MWRA Headquarters. Associate Special Assistant for Affirmative Action Tomeka Cribb attended remotely.

Matt Romero, MWRA Advisory Board ("Advisory Board"), attended at MWRA Headquarters.

Vice Chair Pappastergion called the meeting to order at 1:04pm.

INTRODUCTION

Mr. Pappastergion noted that the Annual Meeting of the Personnel and Compensation Committee Independent of Management would immediately follow Personnel Approval items.

ROLL CALL

MWRA General Counsel Francisco Murphy took roll call of Board members in attendance and announced that Mr. Swett was participating remotely. The Vice Chair announced that the meeting was being held at MWRA's Headquarters at Deer Island and virtually, via a link posted on MWRA's website. He added that the meeting would be recorded, and that the agenda and meeting materials were available on MWRA's website.

APPROVAL OF MAY 21, 2025 MINUTES

A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the minutes of the Board of

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Documents used for this meeting and cited in these minutes, including meeting materials/staff summaries, presentations, and approved minutes, are posted on MWRA's website. https://www.mwra.com/about-mwra/governance-management/board-directors/archive-agendas-and-minutes

Directors' meeting of May 21, 2025.

There was brief discussion about the quorum.

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Pappastergion requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		
		Foti
Pappastergion		Peña
Swett		
Vitale		
		J. Walsh
P. Walsh		

(ref. I)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice Chair Pappastergion requested that the Board move into Executive Session to discuss real estate and litigation, since discussing such in Open Session could have a detrimental effect on the negotiating and litigating positions of the Authority. He announced that the planned topics for Executive Session were a discussion of strategy with respect to litigation and a Watershed Land Acquisition approval with amendment of a previous vote. He advised that the Board would return to Open Session after the conclusion of Executive Session.

A motion was duly made and seconded to enter Executive Session for these purposes, and to resume Open Session after Executive Session adjournment.

General Counsel Francisco Murphy reminded Board members that under the Open Meeting Law members who were participating remotely in Executive Session must state that no other person is present or able to hear the discussion at their remote location. A response of "yes" to the Roll Call to enter Executive Session when their name was called would also be deemed their statement that no other person was present or able to hear the Executive Session discussion.

Upon the motion duly made and seconded, a roll call vote was taken in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		
Foti		
Pappastergion		
Peña		

Yes	No	Abstain
Swett		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

Voted: to enter Executive Session, and to resume Open Session after Executive Session adjournment.

*** EXECUTIVE SESSION ***

The meeting entered Executive Session at 1:07pm and adjourned at 1:31pm.

*** CONTINUATION OF OPEN SESSION ***

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MWRA Executive Director Fred Laskey reported that the Deer Island Treatment Plant received the National Association of Clean Water Agencies' Platinum Peak Performance Award for the 18th time, and MWRA received 2024 Public Water System Award from the MassDEP Drinking Water Program.

Next, Mr. Laskey updated the Board on a four-hour disruption of the Carroll Water Treatment Plant's ammonia chemical feed system on June 8, 2025; the detection of an *Alexandrium* algae (red tide) bloom in Massachusetts Bay that had spread via ocean currents from Maine and New Hampshire; and the progress of a Disparity Study. He also noted that the MWRA's Annual Water Quality Report for 2024 has been mailed to all homes in the service area, and distributed hardcopies to Board members.

Finally, Mr. Laskey and Board members congratulated MWRA Chief Operating Officer David Coppes on his upcoming retirement. Mr. Coppes thanked Mr. Laskey and the Board for their leadership, and his colleagues for their support and friendship.

Mr. Foti complimented staff on Deer Island's well-maintained facilities and grounds. (ref. III)

ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE AND AUDIT

Information

Delegated Authority Report – May 2025

Committee Chair Flanagan invited Board Members' questions and comments on the May 2025 Delegated Authority Report. Hearing none, he moved to the next Information item. (ref. V A.1)

Update on Pension Funding Status

Matthew Horan, MWRA Deputy Finance Director/Treasurer, provided background on a

January, 2025 actuarial evaluation of the MWRA pension that revealed some actuarial assumption discrepancies. He explained that staff and the MWRA Retirement System's Executive Director had recently met with the actuary for the Massachusetts Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission ("PERAC") to discuss options for addressing the unfunded liability increase, meeting MWRA's long-term rates management plan, and maintaining a goal of full funding by 2030.

Mr. Horan reported that the PERAC actuary recognized MWRA's commitment to making optional payments and multi-year rates management strategy and recommended a funding schedule to address the unfunded liability through optional prepayments over multiple years. Mr. Horan explained this would be a workable solution within MWRA's strategies for rates management and meeting the full funding target. He noted that the schedule's optional payments have been incorporated into the proposed FY26 Current Expense Budget ("CEB") and briefly discussed the payment structure.

He then advised that the Retirement System would perform actuarial reviews annually, adjust budgets accordingly, and continue to update the Board on the system's funding status. Finally, Mr. Horan briefly described what the impact to the funding schedule would be without the additional payments.

In response to a question from Mr. Pappastergion, Mr. Horan confirmed that the MWRA Retirement System was still on track for full funding by 2030. Mr. Vitale asked if staff had discussed the pension funding strategy with independent auditors and rating agencies. Mr. Horan responded in the affirmative. (ref. V A.2)

FY25 Financial Update and Summary through May 2025

Michael Cole, MWRA Budget Director, reported a $24.3 million total year-to-date variance for the FY25 CEB, largely attributable to underspending on wages and salaries, professional services and watershed reimbursements. He noted that FY25's CEB variance represents an improvement over FY24's ($36.7 million underspent).

Mr. Cole then relayed that the FY25 Capital Improvement Program ("CIP") was approximately 25% underspent through May 2025, which is a significant improvement over FY24 underspending (37.4%). Finally, he noted that the FY25 CIP variance is in line with 20-year trends and the budget is progressing well.

Mr. Jack Walsh requested an update on variable rate debt. Mr. Horan reported a drop in MWRA's total outstanding variable rate debt, attributable to natural amortization. There was brief, general discussion about MWRA's variable rate debt strategy.

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Flanagan moved to Approvals. (ref. V A.3)

Approvals

Approval of the FY26 Final Capital Improvement Program

A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the FY26 Final Capital Improvement Program (CIP) with planned spending of $380.8 million, including $296.9 million in project spending and $83.9 million in community assistance loan programs.

Thomas Durkin, MWRA Finance Director, described the budget process, and noted that the CIP is a means for planning and communicating MWRA's construction priorities to stakeholders. He briefly explained how CIP spending and debt service factor in the CEB.

Hearing no discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Pappastergion requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		
Foti		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

(ref. V B.1)

Approval of the FY26 Final Current Expense Budget

A motion was duly made and seconded to:

1. **Adopt the Final FY26 Current Expense Budget (CEB) set forth in Attachment A of the June 18, 2025 Staff Summary presented and filed with the records of this meeting, with current revenue and expense of $919,709,027; and,**
2. **Adopt the Final FY26 Operating Budget (Trustee's Budget) set forth in Attachment B of the June 18, 2025 Staff Summary presented and filed with the records of this meeting.**

Mr. Durkin advised that the Final FY26 CEB presented for approval includes a combined assessment increase of 2.7%, which represents a 0.3% rate reduction since the draft budget was transmitted to the MWRA Advisory Board in February 2025. He noted the lower rate was developed by reexamining budgetary assumptions and strategies as recommended by the Advisory Board, and thanked staff for their cooperation.

Finally, Mr. Durkin explained that defeasances are key to MWRA's multi-year rate management strategy and noted that staff currently project annual combined assessment increases of approximately 3% over the next four years.

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Pappastergion requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		
Foti		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

(ref. V B.2)

Final FY26 Water and Sewer Assessments

A motion was duly made and seconded to adopt the following effective July 1, 2025:

1. **Water system assessments of $323,597,942 and sewer system assessments of $555,163,058 for FY26;**
2. **FY26 sewer assessments of $500,000 for the Town of Clinton and $490,390 for the Lancaster Sewer District;**
3. **FY26 charge to the City of Worcester of $247,777 representing approximately 7.9% of the direct operating expenses for the Clinton Wastewater Treatment Plant;**
4. **FY26 water assessments of $4,176,999 for the City of Chicopee, $880,815 for South Hadley Fire District #1, and $939,166 for the Town of Wilbraham;**
5. **A wholesale water rate of $5,005.64 per million gallons; and,**
6. **A retail sewer rate of $8,936.69 per million gallons,**[1]

all as further detailed in the June 18, 2025 Staff Summary presented and filed with the records of this meeting.

There was brief discussion about the inadvertent misreading of numbers from the written motion. Mr. Flanagan confirmed that he intended to read the sewer system assessments for FY26 as written in the Staff Summary (recommended motion). The dollar amount was restated correctly as "five hundred fifty-five million, one hundred sixty-three thousand, fifty-eight dollars" ($555,163,058).

Board members, Mr. Laskey and Mr. Durkin recognized MWRA Assistant Rates, Budget and Finance Manager Leo Norton on his upcoming retirement. Mr. Pappastergion noted that MWRA's water rate was $240 per million gallons 40 years ago.

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Pappastergion requested a

[1] Numbers in this motion were inadvertently misread; the motion was later amended. (ref. XIII)

roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		
Foti		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

(ref. V B.3)

WASTEWATER POLICY AND OVERSIGHT

Approvals

Wastewater Advisory Committee Contract

A motion was duly made and seconded to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute a contract, substantially in the form attached in the June 18, 2025 Staff Summary presented and filed with the records of this meeting, with the Wastewater Advisory Committee for a term of one year, from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026, for a total contract cost of $92,785.

Sean Navin, MWRA Director of Public Affairs, reviewed the Wastewater Advisory Committee's history and the terms of a proposed FY26 contract that represents a 6.19% increase over FY25. Mr. Navin noted that the proposed contract includes a 5% salary increase on par with FY25 increases for MWRA union employees and non-union managers, and a 13.8% health insurance increase that is budgeted at 80% reimbursement for the Executive Director only.

Mr. Pappastergion asked if there was any discussion or questions for the Board. Hearing none, he requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		
Foti		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

(ref. VI A.1)

Approval of New Members of the Wastewater Advisory Committee

A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the addition of three new members to the Wastewater Advisory Committee: Dr. Zhenyu Tian of Northeastern University; Ms. Felina Silver of the League of Women Voters of Brookline; and Mr. Jonathan Smith of the City of Somerville.

Mr. Navin described WAC's current leadership and membership and requested Board approval of three proposed new members.

Hearing no discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Pappastergion requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		
Foti		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

(ref. VI A.2)

Contract Amendments/Change Orders

Third Amendment the Financial Assistance Agreement with the Boston Water and Sewer Commission for Implementation of the Fort Point Channel and Mystic/Chelsea Confluence Combined Sewer Overflow Control Projects

A motion was duly made and seconded to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute the Third Amendment to the Financial Assistance Agreement by and between Massachusetts Water Resources Authority and Boston Water and Sewer Commission for the Implementation of Fort Point Channel and Mystic/Chelsea Confluence Combined Sewer Overflow Control to extend the term of the agreement for six months from June 30, 2025 to December 31, 2025.

Brian Kubaska, Chief Engineer, discussed an amended 2022 Memorandum of Agreement ("MOU") and Financial Assistance Agreement ("FAA") with the Boston Water and Sewer Commission to make modifications to the BWSC collection system which supports the Authority's Long Term CSO Control Plan.

Mr. Kubaska described BWSC's work under the MOU/FAA and its amendments. He then explained that most construction was completed in 2024, however, the installation of a relief pipe to control discharges to the Fort Point Channel was delayed until January 2025 due to unforeseen field conditions.

Finally, Mr. Kubaska requested Board approval of an amendment to extend the FAA's term by six months, with no cost increase, to allow the relief pipe's excavation site to settle before final paving.

Mr. Pappastergion asked if there was any discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, he requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		
Foti		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

(ref. VI B.1)

WATER POLICY AND OVERSIGHT

Approvals

Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee Contract

A motion was duly made and seconded to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute a contract, substantially in the form attached in the June 18, 2025 Staff Summary presented and filed with the records of this meeting, with the Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee for a one-year period beginning July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026, with a total contract cost of $133,315.

Mr. Navin outlined the history of the Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee and the terms of a proposed FY26 contract. He noted the proposed contract is 6.6% higher than last year's and includes a 5% increase to the salaries line item and a 13.8% increase for health insurance.

Mr. Pappastergion asked if there was any discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, he requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		
Foti		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		

Yes	No	Abstain
P. Walsh		

(ref. VII A.1)

PERSONNEL AND COMPENSATION

Approvals

June 2025 PCR Amendment

A motion was duly made and seconded to approve an amendment to the Position Control Register (PCR) as presented in the June 18, 2025 Staff Summary and filed with the records of this meeting.

Wendy Chu, MWRA Human Resources Director, requested Board approval for a title and grade change to one vacant position in the Water Quality Department to align with operational and staffing needs.

There was brief, general discussion about the timing of PCR amendments.

Mr. Pappastergion asked if there was any further discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, he requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		
Foti		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

(ref. VIII A.1)

Appointment of Manager, Operations Support, Operations Division

A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the appointment of Mr. Steven Perry to the position of Manager, Operations Support (Non-Union, Grade 14) in the Operations Division at an annual salary of $146,237, commencing on a date to be determined by the Executive Director.

Ms. Chu summarized the responsibilities and vacancy history of the Operations Support Manager position. She described the operational needs for filling this position, including leave management and the mitigation of day-to-day personnel matters to avoid escalation. Finally, Ms. Chu reviewed the recommended candidate's qualifications and work history.

There was brief discussion about the difference between this position's salary and that of

the Manager of Talent Acquisition.

Mr. Pappastergion asked if there was any further discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, he requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		
Foti		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

(ref. VIII A.2)

Appointment of Manager, Talent Acquisition, Human Resources

A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the appointment of Mr. Stuart Leinson to the position of Manager, Talent Acquisition (Non-Union, Grade 14) in the Administration Division, at an annual salary of $146,250, commencing on a date to be determined by the Executive Director.

Ms. Chu reviewed the vacancy history and hiring process for the Manager of Talent Acquisition position and described the recommended candidate's work experience and qualifications.

Mr. Pappastergion asked if there was any discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, he requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		
Foti		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

(ref. VIII A.3)

Appointment of Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Operations Division

A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the appointment of Mr. Stephen D. Cullen to the position of Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Operations Division (Non-

Union Grade 17) at an annual salary of $203,657commencing on a date to be determined by the Executive Director.

Ms. Chu discussed the work responsibilities and the hiring process for a Deputy Chief Operating Officer position.

Kathleen Murtagh, MWRA Director of Tunnel Redundancy and incoming Chief Operating Officer, then described the excellent qualifications of this position's applicants and the recommended candidate.

There was brief, general discussion about the Chief Engineer's salary and potential organizational changes in the Operations Division.

Mr. Pappastergion asked if there was any further discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, he requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		
Foti		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

(ref. VIII A.4)

MEETING OF THE PERSONNEL AND COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INDEPENDENT OF MANAGEMENT

Mr. Pappastergion noted that the next order of business was for the Board to conduct the Annual meeting of the Personnel and Compensation Committee Independent of Management with Committee Vice-Chair Jack Walsh presiding.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:18pm.

Mr. Jack Walsh announced that the Personnel and Compensation Committee would conduct the annual Accountability and Transparency Act review independent of management, and that the same Board members who were attending the Board of Directors' meeting were participating in the Committee meeting.

Authority Accountability and Transparency Act Compliance

MWRA General Counsel Carolyn Francisco Murphy briefly explained the Authority Accountability and Transparency Act and asked MWRA non-union managers to leave the

meeting. The managers and Ms. Francisco Murphy then left the meeting.

Mr. Jack Walsh reminded those present that Board members would conduct the annual review of the MWRA Executive Director's performance and contract during the Other Business section of the Board of Directors' meeting (ref. IX) and invited Board members' comments on the information presented in the Staff Summary. There was discussion about the agendas for this meeting and the Board of Directors' meeting.

Board members noted that the results of the ongoing MWRA compensation study for non-union managers would have been useful for this meeting and for Mr. Laskey's upcoming performance review.

Board members then reviewed the Staff Summary materials, which included a review of executive compensation at comparable state and US water and sewer utilities, not-for-profit agencies, and private entities. They discussed Mr. Laskey's last (2024) performance review and a salary study board subcommittee that was discussed at the June 26, 2024 meeting, but had not convened.

Mr. Pappastergion and Mr. Foti recommended the formation of a salary study subcommittee of the Board of Directors to work in conjunction with the Personnel and Compensation Committee.

Mr. Vitale discussed a recent MWRA compensation study and the ongoing study for non-union managers. There was discussion about the value of compensation studies.

Mr. Pappastergion and Mr. Patrick Walsh recommended that the Board move to establish a salary study board subcommittee.

Matt Romero, MWRA Advisory Board Executive Director, briefly updated Board members on the status of the current non-union managers' compensation study.

There was further discussion about a proposed motion to form a Board subcommittee and the subcommittee's scope and structure.

At the Board's request, MWRA General Counsel Carolyn Francisco Murphy returned to the meeting to assist in the development of a motion. There was discussion about this meeting's procedures and the motion's wording.

A motion was duly made and seconded to establish a subcommittee of the Board to review the wage and salary information provided by the outside consultant and to make recommendations to the full Board thereafter.

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Pappastergion requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		

Yes	No	Abstain
Foti		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

Adjournment

A motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn the Authority Accountability and Transparency Act review independent of management.

A roll call vote was taken in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		
Foti		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

The meeting adjourned at 2:35pm.
(ref. P&C A.1)

*** CONTINUATION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING ***

OTHER BUSINESS (BOARD ACTION)

MWRA non-union managers returned to the meeting. Mr. Laskey voluntarily remained out of the meeting.

Review and Extension of Contract for Frederick A. Laskey, Executive Director

There was brief discussion with questions and answers about the wording of the MWRA Executive Director's FY25 performance review.

Board members discussed Mr. Laskey's job performance, contract length and salary; how the Executive Director's performance reflects on all MWRA staff; and how Mr. Laskey's salary compares to the average for similar quasi-public Executive Directors as presented in the Authority Transparency Act Staff Summary.

There was also discussion about Mr. Laskey's past performance reviews and the vote to

form a salary subcommittee that took place during the Meeting of the Personnel and Compensation Committee Independent of Management. Board members agreed to reserve the right to further adjust Mr. Laskey's compensation in the future, contingent on the results of the ongoing compensation study for non-union managers.

Mr. Foti suggested a draft motion. Board members discussed last year's salary increases for Mr. Laskey and non-union managers and revised the motion's wording.

A motion was duly made and seconded: 1) that the performance of Frederick A. Laskey, MWRA Executive Director, for Fiscal Year 2025 be rated as Exceptional; 2) to extend the term of the Executive Director's employment agreement and his appointment as the Executive Director by one year, through June 30, 2030; and, 3) to increase the Executive Director's current salary by 3% retroactive to January 1, 2025, and by 2% effective July 1, 2025.

Mr. Pappastergion asked if there was any further discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, he requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		
Foti		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

Mr. Laskey returned to the meeting. Mr. Pappastergion briefly discussed the Executive Director's performance review, contract extension and the Board's vote to form a salary subcommittee. (ref. IX A)

CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD

Mr. Pappastergion announced that the Board of Directors received May 27, 2025 correspondence from fifteen watershed communities regarding Quabbin stewardship and equity concerns. He noted that MWRA is working with the legislative delegation to find a date for a future meeting that representatives of the communities can join and share their concerns with the Board.

Mr. Pappastergion asked if there was any discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, he moved to adjournment. (ref. X)

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Hearing no discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Pappastergion requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		
Foti		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

(ref. XI)

The meeting adjourned at 2:52pm.

(Mr. Swett left the meeting.)

*** REOPENING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING ***

Vice Chair Pappastergion reopened the meeting at 2:53pm.

TO AMEND A MISREADING OF NUMBERS IN A MOTION

A motion was duly made and seconded to amend a misreading of numbers in a motion. (ref. V B.3)

There was brief discussion about the inadvertent misreading of numbers from the written motion. Mr. Flanagan confirmed that he intended to read the wholesale water rate for FY26 as written in the Staff Summary (recommended motion). The dollar amount was restated correctly as "five thousand five dollars, sixty-four cents" per million gallons ($5,005.64).

Hearing no discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Pappastergion requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		
Foti		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		

Yes	No	Abstain
P. Walsh		

(ref. XII)

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Hearing no discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Pappastergion requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes	No	Abstain
Flanagan		
Foti		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

The meeting adjourned at 2:55pm.

Approved: July 23, 2025

Attest: _____

Brian Peña, Secretary

LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED

- Draft Minutes of the May 21, 2025 MWRA Board of Directors' Meeting (ref. I)
- June 18, 2025 Staff Summary – Delegated Authority Report – May 2025 (ref. V A.1)
- June 18, 2025 Staff Summary – Update on Pension Funding Status (ref. V A.2)
- June 18, 2025 Staff Summary – FY25 Financial Update and Summary through May 2025 (ref. V A.3)
- June 18, 2025 Staff Summary – Approval of the FY26 Final Capital Improvement Program (ref. V B.1)
- June 18, 2025 Staff Summary – Approval of the FY26 Final Current Expense Budget (ref. V B.2)
- June 18, 2025 Staff Summary – Final FY26 Water and Sewer Assessments (ref. V B.3)
- June 18, 2025 Staff Summary – Wastewater Advisory Committee Contract (rev. VI A.1)
- June 18, 2025 Staff Summary – Approval of New Members of the Wastewater Advisory Committee (ref. VI A.2)

- June 18, 2025 Staff Summary – Third Amendment the Financial Assistance Agreement with the Boston Water and Sewer Commission for Implementation of the Fort Point Channel and Mystic/Chelsea Confluence Combined Sewer Overflow Control Projects (ref. VI B.1)
- June 18, 2025 Staff Summary – Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee Contract (ref. VII A.1)
- June 18, 2025 Staff Summary – June 2025 PCR Amendment (ref. VIII A.1)
- June 18, 2025 Staff Summary – Appointment of Manager, Operations Support
- Operations Division (ref. VIII A.2)
- June 18, 2025 Staff Summary – Appointment of Manager, Talent Acquisition (ref. VIII A.3)
- June 18, 2025 Staff Summary – Appointment of Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Operations, Operations Division (ref. VIII A.4)
- June 18, 2025 Staff Summary – (ref. P A.1)
- May 27, 2025 correspondence from fifteen watershed communities regarding Quabbin stewardship and equity concerns (ref. X)

STAFF SUMMARY

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Frederick A. Laskey, Executive Director
DATE: July 23, 2025
SUBJECT: Delegated Authority Report – June 2025

COMMITTEE: Administration, Finance & Audit

X INFORMATION
___ VOTE

Michele S. Gillen
Director, Administration

Barbara Aylward, Administrator A&F
Julio Esperas, Assistant Buyer
Preparer/Title

Douglas J. Rice
Director of Procurement

RECOMMENDATION:

For information only. Attached is a listing of actions taken by the Executive Director under delegated authority for the period June 1-30, 2025.

This report is broken down into three sections:

- Awards of Construction, non-professional and professional services contracts and change orders and amendments in excess of $25,000, including credit change orders and amendments in excess of $25,000;
- Awards of purchase orders in excess of $90,000; and
- Amendments to the Position Control Register, if applicable.

DISCUSSION:

The Board of Directors' Management Policies and Procedures, as amended by the Board's vote on February 16, 2022, delegate authority to the Executive Director to approve the following:

Construction Contract Awards:

Up to $3.5 million if the award is to the lowest bidder.

Change Orders:

Up to 25% of the original contract amount or $1,000,000.00, whichever is less, where the change increases the contract amount, and for a term not exceeding an aggregate of six months; and for any amount and for any term, where the change decreases the contract amount. The delegations for cost increases and time can be restored by Board vote.

Professional Service Contract Awards:

Up to $1,000,000 and three years with a firm; or up to $200,000 and two years with an individual.

Non-Professional Service Contract Awards:

Up to $1,000,000 if a competitive procurement process has been conducted, or up to $100,000 if a procurement process other than a competitive process has been conducted.

Purchase or Lease of Equipment, Materials or Supplies:

Up to $3.5 million if the award is to the lowest bidder.
Up to $15 million for purchases of chemicals that are required for normal day-to-day operations where the award is to the lowest responsive bidder under a competitive procurement.

Amendments:

Up to 25% of the original contract amount or $500,000, whichever is less, and for a term not exceeding an aggregate of twelve months.

Amendments to the Position Control Register:

Amendments which result only in a change in cost center.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT:

Recommendations for delegated authority approval include information on the budget/fiscal impact related to the action. For items funded through the capital budget, dollars are measured against the approved capital budget. If the dollars are in excess of the amount authorized in the budget, the amount will be covered within the five-year CIP spending cap. For items funded through the Current Expense Budget, variances are reported monthly and year-end projections are prepared at least twice per year. Staff review all variances and projections so that appropriate measures may be taken to ensure that overall spending is within the MWRA budget.

Construction & Professional Services Delegated Authority Items June 1 – 30, 2025

No.	Date of Award	Title and Explanation	Contract	Amend/CO	Company	Value
C-1	**06/18/25**	**KEY Project Work Crew Services at Deer Island and Nut Island** Award of a contract to a non-profit, Department of Children and Families approved organization to perform additional landscaping and public access area cleaning services at Deer Island and Nut Island for a term of seven months.	**OP-495**	**Award**	**ROCA, Inc.**	**$50,000.00**
C-2	**06/18/25**	**Oxygen Generation Facility Services Deer Island Treatment Plant** Final balancing change order to decrease the following bid items: Annual oxygen training services, Non-emergency and emergency on-call services, Tools, equipment and materials allowance, Fire Department services allowance, Factory representative allowance and replacement parts.	**S587**	**3**	**Solutionwerks, Inc.**	**($441,150.14)**
C-3	**06/18/25**	**Braintree-Weymouth Pump Station Improvements** Furnish and install seven local control panels along with conduit, wire and breakers; Furnish and install conduit and wire to restore power to the existing exterior building mounted lights; Relocate the existing unit heater 2; Increase allowance to provide services to activate and deactivate the fire alarm control panel during impairments of the fire sprinkler system; Increase Fire Department services allowance; Extend the existing second floor concrete slab; Furnish and install an 18-inch blind flange with 4-inch and 2-inch pipe, valves and fittings on the new pipe discharge to provide a connection to the existing drain; Furnish and install 2 solenoid valves to replace the existing solenoid valves on the fuel supply line to the generator day tank; Remove, handle, transport and dispose of an additional 105.33 tons of Group II excavated materials; Furnish and install bi-directional amplifier (BDA) radio cable around perimeter of the new building addition and make a connection to the existing BDA radio cable; Core 12-inch and 28-inch penetrations in the existing masonry walls for new mechanical and HVAC duct; Furnish and install an exterior light fixture above the new exterior door 201b; Furnish and install a continuous stainless steel plate to terminate and seal the existing channel liner at the new slide gate frames; Furnish and install additional tubing, conduit and wire to relocate the H2S sample pump and monitoring device from the roof of the	**7366**	**13**	**Walsh Construction Co. II, LLC**	**$191,494.38**

		building to the building interior; Furnish and install metal angles, metal framing; roof decking, insulation, flashing and shingles to connect the existing roof to the new addition; Furnish and install additional conduit and wire to connect the new carbon adsorber differential pressure transmitter to Control Panel 2; Furnish and install additional conduit and wire to relocate the existing rain gauge to an alternate location of the building roof; Furnish and install additional fuel oil piping, including a floor penetration, to connect the new fuel oil piping to the existing piping; Furnish and install missing fireproofing material to the top of the existing wall located between the second floor and the new Stair 3; Repair roof leak at the existing odor control exhaust stack; Provide the services of specialized technician to assist with decommissioning the existing pressurized hydraulic system used to operate the channel inlet slide gates; Furnish and install 1-1/2 inch copper pipe fittings to relocate the existing facility water service pipe; Transport and dispose of an additional 96.41 tons of asphalt Group V excavated materials; Furnish and install conduit and wire from Control Panel 2 to the strobe light located on the exterior of the pump station.				
C-4	**06/24/25**	**Section 101 Waltham Pipeline Extension** Furnish and install two additional blow-off assemblies with two 4-foot diameter manholes near Lionel Avenue intersection and Lexington town line; Perform additional test pits to identify actual conditions to determine acceptable utility options to correct utility conflicts on Lexington Street.	**7457**	**13**	**Baltazar Contractors, Inc.**	**$245,388.34**
C-5	**06/24/25**	**Saugus River Crossing Section 56 Pipe Replacement Resident Engineering/Inspection Services** Award of a contract to the highest ranked proposer to provide resident engineering and inspection services for the Saugus River Crossing Section 56 Replacement project for a term 12 months.	**7681**	**Award**	**AECOM Technical Services, Inc.**	**$848,863.00**
C-6	**06/26/25**	**Wachusett Dam Lower Gatehouse Pipe and Boiler Replacement** Repair existing 48-inch lead caulked pipe joints; Replace well 4 overflow troughs; extend contract term by 45 calendar days from July 1, 2025 to August 15, 2025.	**7380**	**6**	**J.F. White Contracting Company**	**$365,000.00**

Purchasing Delegated Authority Items June 1-30, 2025

No.	Date of Award	Title and Explanation	Company	Value
P-1	**6/5/25**	**One-Year Purchase Order Contract for the Supply and Delivery of Sodium Bisulfite** Sodium bisulfite is used at the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant to remove residual ozone from the water following primary disinfection. Sodium bisulfite is also used at the Clinton Wastewater Treatment Plant to eliminate chlorine residual after disinfection of wastewater. Compared to the current contract pricing, bid prices have decreased by $0.20 per gallon for both locations.	**JCI Jones Chemicals, Inc.**	**$166,600.00**
P-2	**6/5/25**	**One-Year Purchase Order Contract for the Supply and Delivery of Aqua Ammonia** The Carroll Water Treatment Plant uses aqua ammonia for secondary disinfection. Compared to the existing contract, the cost per gallon decreased by 6%.	**Univar Solutions USA Inc.**	**$251,780.00**
P-3	**6/5/25**	**Three-Year Purchase Order for a Cisco Unified Communications System Managed Services—*State Contract ITC73*** Support for all Cisco Unified Communications system components installed at eight MWRA locations. This includes one annual preventative maintenance and health check, proactive monitoring of events, management of incidents 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for 365 days a year, and system administration such as moves, adds and changes.	**ePlus Technology, Inc.**	**$305,964.00**
P-4	**6/5/25**	**Three Year Purchase Order Contract for Flow Testing Services for MWRA's Revenue Water Meters** Independent testing and verification of MWRA's revenue water meters. The meters are evaluated on an as-needed basis, and MWRA pays only for services used.	**Acquatech LLC, dba Complete Control Services**	**$317,350.00**
P-5	**6/16/25**	**Purchase Order for 24 2-Core Microsoft SQL Server Enterprise Licenses with Three Years of Software Assurance—*State Contract ITS75*** MWRA uses Microsoft SQL Server Enterprise to support numerous administrative, financial and operational applications.	**Dell Marketing, LP**	**$175,193.28**
P-6	**6/16/25**	**Two Separate Two-Year Purchase Order Contracts for Trash and Single Stream Recycling Services** Trash removal, including single stream recycling at some locations. DBI Waste Systems, Inc. will service Metro-Boston Sites. Republic Services, dba Allied Waste Services of Massachusetts, LLC will service Western Sites	**DBI Waste Systems, Inc.; Republic Services, dba Allied Waste Services of Massachusetts, LLC**	**$283,084.00; $30,153.52**

No.	Date of Award	Title and Explanation	Company	Value
P-7	**6/16/25**	**One-Year Purchase Order Contract for the Supply and Delivery of Carbon Dioxide** The Carroll Water Treatment Plant adds carbon dioxide to the water to help reduce corrosion of lead and copper in the plumbing systems of older homes. Compared to the existing contract, the cost per ton decreased by 21%.	**Airgas, Inc., dba Airgas USA LLC**	**$540,800.00**
P-8	**6/16/25**	**Three-Year Purchase Order Contract for the Refurbishment of Secondary Reactor Aerator and Mixer Gearboxes** Refurbishment of the Secondary Reactor Aerator and Mixer Gearboxes at the Deer Island Treatment Plant requires a complete teardown and inspection of all components, accompanied by a written report describing the problems found and the repairs needed. Based upon previous experience, staff estimate approximately seven gearboxes will require refurbishment over the next three years.	**SPX Corporation**	**$973,480.67**
P-9	**6/17/25**	**Sole Source Purchase Order for One Reactor Battery 50 Horsepower Gearbox** Purchase of a spare gearbox for use in the Cryogenic Oxygen Generation Facility at the Deer Island Treatment Plant. SPX Flow US, LLC has been identified as the sole source provider for this gearbox. The Director of Procurement has approved the sole source nature of this procurement.	**SPX Flow US, LLC**	**$195,508.00**
P-10	**6/18/25**	**Two Separate One-Year Purchase Order Contracts for the Supply and Delivery of Sodium Hypochlorite** MWRA uses sodium hypochlorite at the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant for secondary disinfection, and at the William A. Brutsch Water Treatment Facility for primary disinfection. The new bid prices represent a $.2002 per gallon decrease at the Carroll Plant and a $.0798 per gallon decrease at Brutsch.	**Kuehne Chemical Company, Inc.; Univar Solutions USA, Inc.**	**$2,670,915.00; $118,413.90**

STAFF SUMMARY

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Frederick A. Laskey, Executive Director
DATE: July 23, 2025
SUBJECT: MWRA Energy and Sustainability Program Overview

COMMITTEE: Administration, Finance and Audit

X INFORMATION
_____ VOTE

Rebecca Weidman, Deputy Chief Operating Officer
Kristen Patneaude, Manager, Energy
Preparer/Title

Kathleen M. Murtagh, P.E.
Chief Operating Officer

MWRA is dedicated to both mitigating the impacts of climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting its infrastructure to increase resilience to those impacts. To inform the Board on MWRA's sustainability and resiliency efforts, staff are providing a series of three staff summaries and presentations this year. This item provides an overview of the Authority's energy management success and ongoing strategy, as the second of a series that also includes updates on MWRA's progress on emissions reduction, and a summary of achievements in protecting vulnerable facilities from the effects of climate change.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information only.

DISCUSSION:

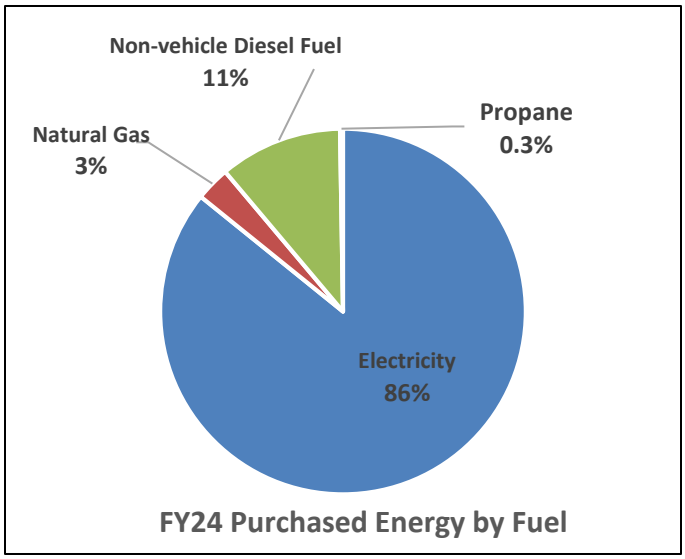
MWRA has a long-standing and successful commitment to renewable energy and energy savings initiatives with attention to fiscal responsibility, environmental protection, and greenhouse gas emissions reduction and mitigation. In continuing support of the Commonwealth's goals and guidance from the Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2050 and Massachusetts Executive Order 594, MWRA continues with energy and sustainability efforts, and future plans to improve efficiencies and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Staff recently discussed MWRA's greenhouse gas emission reductions to date and plans for further progress at the April 16, 2025 Board meeting. This staff summary provides an update on MWRA's energy and sustainability efforts - successes and challenges, and plans for continuous efficiency improvements and greenhouse gas emissions reductions.

Energy Consumption

MWRA owns and operates over 100 facilities that purchase approximately 170 million kWh of electricity, 700,000 therms of natural gas, and 1.2 million gallons of non-vehicle fuel annually. Approximately 84% is attributable to wastewater transport and treatment, 13% is used for water treatment and transmission, and 3% for administrative and support functions. The Deer Island

Treatment Plant represents over 66% of the total electricity consumption, and 67% of MWRA's fuel oil usage.



FY24 Purchased Energy by Fuel

Utility spending accounts for 12% of operating expenses, approximately $30 million per year. Electricity is the primary purchased energy source, representing over 77% of utility spending. Two of MWRA's facilities, Deer Island Treatment Plant and Carroll Water Treatment Plant, account for over 60% of purchased electricity. MWRA energy expenses also include $998,000 for natural gas used primarily for heating. Although MWRA's pellet plant utilizes a significant amount of gas for biosolids drying, those utilities are paid through the third-party operations contract. MWRA uses fuel oil at a number of facilities, for backup generation, and some process and building heating. MWRA also utilizes gasoline and diesel for fleet vehicles.

Total Energy Used in FY24

- **Electricity** – 171.2 million kWh, cost $29.4 million
- **Fuel Oil** – 1.26 million gal, cost $3.4 million
- **Natural Gas** – 670,000 therms, cost $908,000

This is the equivalent of over 17,000 homes' energy use for one year.

Process and Energy Characteristics

MWRA's energy demand is influenced by many factors, including precipitation, temperature, customer demand, and regulatory requirements. This is especially the case for the wastewater system, which accounts for nearly 90% of MWRA's emissions due to energy intensive processes, such as pumping, oxygen generation, and odor control. Specifically, wet weather events increase the treatment plant flows due to increased inflow and infiltration and flow from combined sewers in some MWRA communities. When there are high flows, more wastewater needs to be pumped throughout MWRA's collection system and processed at Deer Island, resulting in increased electricity purchases and associated emissions. The close relationship between wastewater flow to Deer Island and total MWRA electrical purchases is reflected in Figure 1. Regardless of MWRA's efforts, energy demand will always fluctuate annually based on the amount of precipitation in the service area.

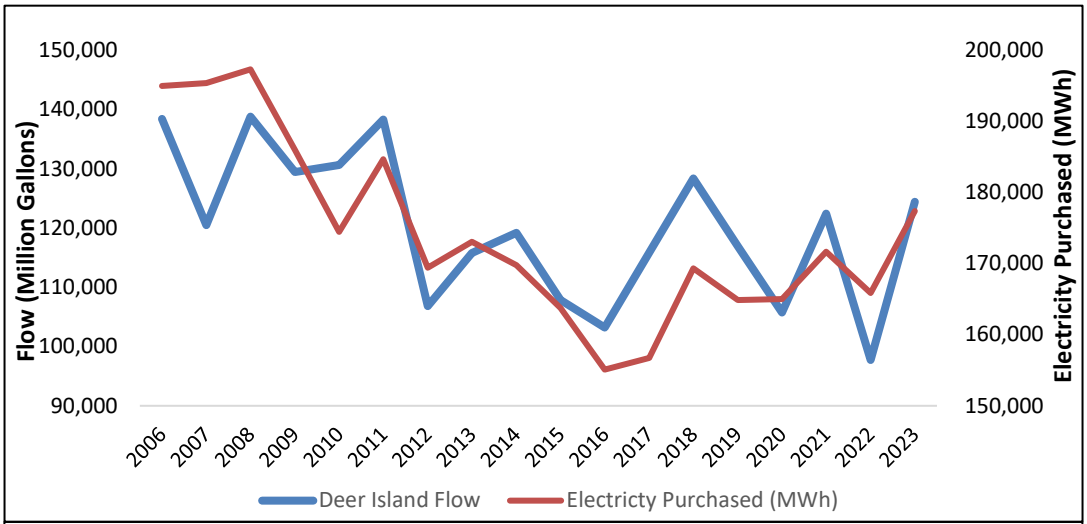


Figure 1: Relationship between Deer Island Treatment Plant Flow and Electricity Purchased

The largest energy use related to the supply of drinking water is the treatment process. The Carroll Water Treatment Plant processes 180 million gallons per day (mgd) of water from Quabbin and Wachusett Reservoirs for the 47 communities in Metropolitan Boston and MetroWest. The treatment process involves energy intensive applications, including disinfection by ozone and ultraviolet light, to ensure that the drinking water is free of any pathogens. Although over 75% of water in MWRA's drinking water system flows by gravity, several pumping stations are used to move water to high service areas.

Energy Procurement

MWRA has been competitively procuring electricity supply since 2001. Since electricity restructuring in 1998, it has been economically beneficial for commercial and industrial customers like MWRA to buy electricity from a third party supplier in the competitive market, as opposed to paying for basic service from the utilities.

Based on account load profiles and a strategy to diversify the contract structures and terms of its energy portfolio, MWRA currently has three distinct electricity contracts. The largest contract is the Deer Island account, representing approximately 68% of MWRA's total purchased electricity load. The Interval Accounts include 29 larger facilities (e.g., Carroll Water Treatment Plant, headworks, Clinton Wastewater Treatment Plant, and large pump stations) and are approximately 28% of MWRA's total purchased load. The third contract is the Profile Accounts for 38 of the smaller facilities (e.g., CSOs and small pump stations), representing 3% of MWRA's total purchased load. The remaining <1% of MWRA's total purchased electricity load consists of accounts that include small electrical devices such as meters, motorized valves, and cathodic protection. These accounts remain on basic service with the utilities as there is no economic advantage to including them on competitive supply due to the administration required relative to the load size. There are also several accounts in municipal light plant districts, which prohibit customers from third-party supply of electricity.

Staff developed these different contract structures to optimize the Authority's overall procurement strategy, based on factors such as the account load sizes and operational characteristics of the facilities. Additionally, keeping these separate contract structures and staggered end dates helps to

mitigate the risk of procuring the majority of MWRA's electricity load at the same time in what continues to be a historically volatile and sometimes unpredictable market.

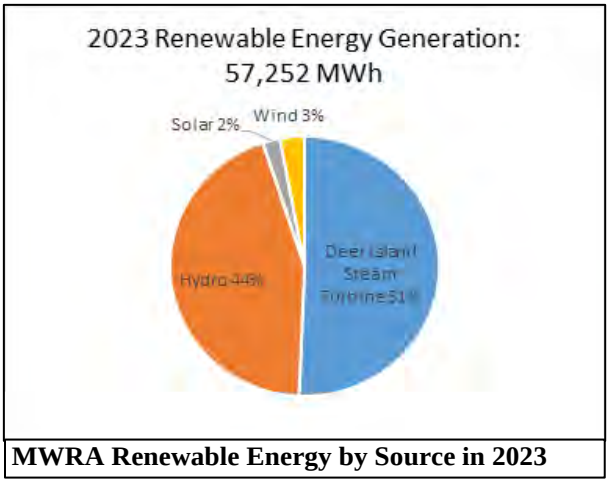
Decarbonizing Energy Supply

As required by the Massachusetts Renewable Portfolio Standard, a minimum percentage of electricity supply must be from renewable resources. This renewable electricity is broken into two products, the electricity and the environmental attributes (renewable energy certificates or "RECs"). Historically, MWRA has procured voluntary RECs above the state requirements, as a component of our sustainability efforts. In light of the changing REC landscape[1] and the Commonwealth's focus on greenhouse gas reductions and decarbonization, the state's guidance is to use resources to focus on reduction of onsite fossil fuel use instead of the procurement of voluntary RECs. Therefore, MWRA no longer includes additional voluntary RECs in electricity supply contracts, but will continue to monitor the REC market and consult with the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (Mass DOER) to determine whether REC purchases in the future are warranted.

Renewable Energy

MWRA has sought opportunities to minimize its environmental footprint while maximizing value to its ratepayers. The development of clean energy projects brings together these principles in a way that provides lasting value. MWRA has been on the forefront of energy efficiency and renewable energy since its creation and over the years has built up a significant portfolio of renewable energy.

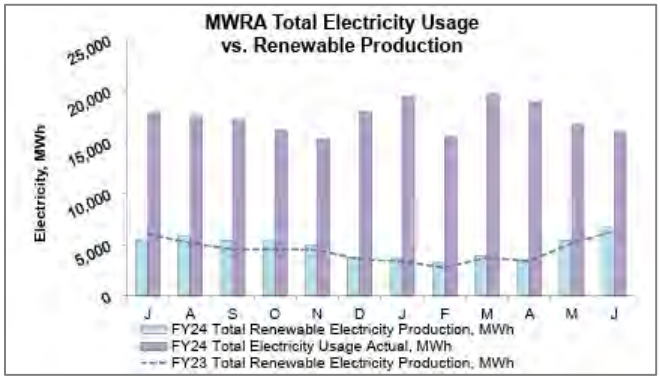
MWRA portfolio currently includes five hydroelectric facilities, two wind turbines, five photovoltaic solar arrays, and the Deer Island steam turbine generators. Onsite generation of renewable energy enables MWRA to decrease its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by reducing reliance on grid electricity at some facilities. Most notably, the steam turbine generators make up over 51% of MWRA's renewable energy production. Deer Island combusts the methane gas that is produced during the sludge digestion process, in a combined heat and power (CHP) system to meet the facility's thermal demand and provide much of its electricity. This system provides the heating equivalent of over five million gallons of fuel oil each year and produces more than 30 million kilowatt-hours of electricity. As described below, MWRA is in the process of designing a new CHP system that will substantially increase renewable energy production.

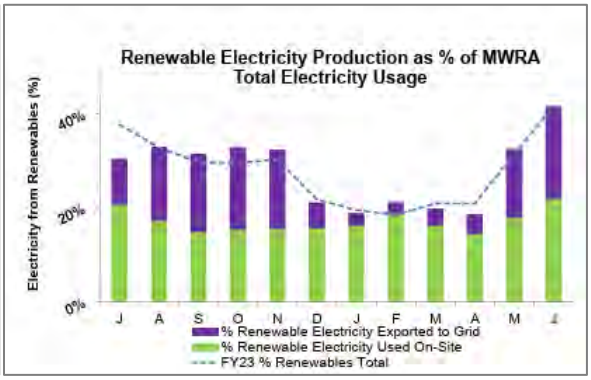


MWRA Renewable Energy by Source in 2023

[1] There is an undersupply of RECs, which leads to higher prices, the purchase of voluntary RECs generally comes from existing projects, and the grid is getting cleaner due to regulatory renewable supply requirements, despite procurement of voluntary RECs.

The graphs below show the total amount of electricity generated by renewable energy assets as a percentage of the total electricity consumed by MWRA in FY2024. The total renewable electricity generated by MWRA assets was 57,800 MWh or approximately 28% of total electricity demand in FY2024. These existing renewable generation assets save MWRA almost $8 million in avoided energy costs each year.





Energy Efficiency

Reducing overall energy use by increasing efficiency continues to be MWRA's most effective strategy for mitigating GHG emissions. Energy audits conducted over the last decade resulted in measures such as the installation of variable frequency drives in pumping facilities, piping insulation, energy efficient lighting, efficient heating and cooling systems, and other customized solutions. Energy management systems (EMS) have been installed in several MWRA buildings, providing staff the ability to actively manage heating, ventilation, and air conditioning energy use. EMS will be considered for all new space conditioning electrification projects.

Internal standard operating procedures have been established to ensure that energy efficiency and costs are considered whenever facilities are rehabilitated or newly constructed. Major investments for furthering efficiency are planned in coming years, and staff continue to explore opportunities to reduce MWRA's reliance on purchased power.

To further support these efforts, MWRA works closely with its vendors and the utilities to ensure all available incentives are applied to these projects.

Combined Heat and Power Optimization

The most impactful emissions reduction project currently underway at MWRA is a new CHP system at Deer Island as an efficient replacement of the existing aging system. Design of the new system started in October 2024. The current CHP system produces over 30 GWh per year from methane derived from the digested wastewater residuals while the new system is predicted[2] to produce approximately 69 GWh per year, more than doubling the renewable electricity produced. This increase in production will mean that roughly 75% (an increase from the current 57%) of the

[2] The predicted energy generation from the new facility was determined during the conceptual design stage through extensive simulations performed both by staff and the conceptual design consultant. These simulations took into account how the new CHP would perform based on the availability of digester gas as well as the thermal demands of Deer Island. As the details of the design are honed, the current detailed design consultant is also simulating the performance of the new CHP system, to capture any changes in the performance prediction as the design is developed.

energy required to run the Deer Island facility will be produced onsite, significantly lowering the amount of energy purchased from the regional grid and the associated emissions. The new CHP system will also optimize thermal production to meet process heating demands while using 75% less fuel oil. The detailed design consultant, Burns and McDonnell, will also simulate the performance of the new CHP system to capture any changes in the performance prediction as the design is developed.

The total project duration is 8.3 years with 2.8 years in design, six months to bid the construction contract, and then five years for construction. Currently, the CHP project is in detailed design (scheduled for completion in August 2027), and is progressing on schedule. The following design related tasks are currently ongoing:

- initial siting of the new CHP buildings;
- creation of a model of the existing heat loop to better understand how the new CHP facility will interact with the existing heat distribution system;
- development of conceptual level elevations and sizes of the buildings for MWRA to provide feedback on the aesthetics of the building; and
- market survey of the availability of major equipment.

The Road to Net Zero

To achieve long-term emission reduction goals aligned with the Commonwealth, MWRA is undertaking a planning process to identify cost effective and equitable strategies to ensure MWRA reduces GHG emissions from its operations and business practices, with an eye toward a carbon-free future. These future decarbonization and electrification efforts are described below.

Electrification

In Massachusetts, and most other states, the building sector is second only to transportation in GHG emissions. Working toward fossil-fuel-free heating in the future, MWRA's focus has shifted to electrification, and studying the feasibility of replacing fuel oil heat with air source or water source heat pumps. MWRA installed a geothermal heat pump system at the Wachusett Aqueduct Pump Station, several water source heat pumps at Spot Pond Pump Station, and an air source heat pump at Norumbega Headquarters. These projects (discussed in more detail below) have been a guide for increased implementation at other MWRA facilities.

Given that transportation is the leading source of GHG emissions in the Commonwealth (>40%), transitioning MWRA's fleet from fossil fuel-powered vehicles to electric plays a key role in reducing the environmental and health impacts in the region. Low or no emission vehicles (electric vehicles or EVs) provide a host of health and environmental benefits, and as regional power grids integrate more renewable energy, the electricity that fuels these vehicles gets cleaner. These technologies also reduce maintenance and fuel costs, benefitting the lifetime ownership costs of the vehicles. Over the past decade, MWRA started to replace fossil fuel vehicles with hybrid and electric vehicles. Currently, there are 30 alternative fuel vehicles in the fleet (24 fully electric, not including the smaller electric burden vehicles[3] at Deer Island used to move personnel and tools around the facilities) and, as more vehicles suitable for MWRA use become available, the Authority will increase replacement schedules with more efficient electric vehicles.

[3] These are battery-powered industrial vehicles.

MWRA was selected by Eversource to receive a no-cost full fleet electrification assessment, which will supplement a previous fleet assessment (a subset for vehicles in Western Operations) that was supported by National Grid. This assessment will provide a full fleet conversion strategy, including fuel cost and carbon emissions savings, fleet purchase cost and incentives, and charging station infrastructure recommendations. It is expected to be completed in early FY26.

To ensure there is adequate charging infrastructure available as MWRA increases electric vehicles in the fleet, MWRA is concurrently installing and planning for additional electric vehicle chargers. There are currently 16 chargers across major facilities, providing sufficient charging capacity for existing fleet electric vehicles, with ongoing plans to install an additional 60 charging ports. These chargers will also be available, at cost, for employees to charge their personal vehicles.

Photo of New Dual Port Level 2 EV Chargers at MWRA Southborough Facility

There are several clean, transportation-related incentive programs available to MWRA. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) Workplace and Fleet Charging Electric Vehicle Incentive Program (MassEVIP) is a rolling grant program providing incentives for the acquisition and installation of EV charging stations. Eversource and National Grid offer complementary EV Make-Ready Programs where funding can be combined with the MassEVIP programs, for additional financial support toward EV charging equipment and installation. However, the utility EV Make-Ready programs are currently without funding and are awaiting the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities's (DPU) approval for expansion of the existing programs. This has resulted in some project delays at additional MWRA sites (e.g., Deer Island, Carroll Water Treatment Plant), but staff have also pursued alternative funding sources. The recently completed Southborough charging station installation (shown in photo above) was fully funded through the Mass DOER Leading by Example program.

Highlights of Ongoing and Planned Emission Reduction Efforts

MWRA continues to advance projects that reduce GHG emissions while continuing to fulfill the core mission of providing high quality and reliable water and wastewater services to its communities. MWRA has concrete plans to build on its achievements and reinforce its commitment to mitigating the impacts of climate change by broadening the use of its three main emissions reduction strategies: energy efficiency; renewables; and electrification. The information below highlights some of the drivers, successes, and challenges related to MWRA's energy and sustainability efforts.

Climate Mitigation Trust Grant

In October 2024, MassDEP awarded MWRA a $20 million Climate Mitigation Trust Grant [4] to fund several decarbonization projects that will be completed over the next five years. The bulk of this funding is expected to be used toward construction costs for new renewable energy infrastructure, including canopy and roof mounted solar arrays at Deer Island, a ground mounted solar array at the Norumbega Covered Water Storage Facility, and replacement of a wind turbine at Deer Island. More information on these projects is described below.

Wind

As previously reported, on May 29, 2023 there was a catastrophic failure of Wind Turbine #1 at Deer Island, resulting in significant damage to the turbine that could not be repaired. Through a Deer Island task order contract, it was determined that an in-kind replacement of a new tower and refurbished generator (and all related equipment in the wind turbine nacelle) would be the most cost effective and time efficient solution. Testing was performed on the foundation anchors, which confirmed the foundation is structurally sound and can be re-used with the new tower and nacelle.

The design for a replacement turbine and tower has been completed and the construction project is expected to go out to bid this summer. The projected timeline for construction completion is late FY26/early FY27, at an estimated cost of $3.8 million (exclusive of any potential tariff cost impacts).

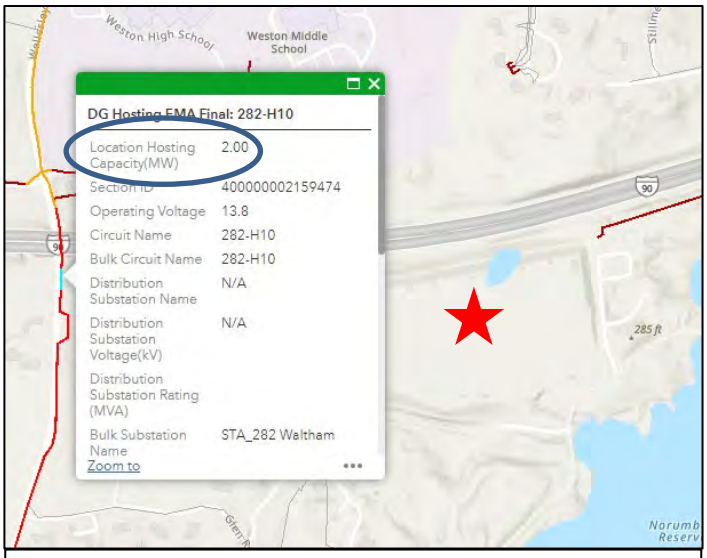
Solar

MWRA executed a Letter of Intent with Solect Energy Development, LLC (Solect) in February 2025, through the PowerOptions solar program in accordance with G. L. c. 164, § 137[5], regarding a possible solar canopy and roof-mounted system at Deer Island. The initial indicative design work (exploring and developing preliminary ideas and concepts) started in March 2025. One of the challenges with the installation of parking lot canopies on Deer Island is determining the existence, depth and composition of existing subsurface structures. Existing subsurface geotech borings and site plans will be supplemented with ground penetrating radar in order to determine the footprint of a potential parking canopy.

[4] The Climate Mitigation Trust Grant, reported to the Board in May 2024, proposed projects including solar, wind, and building electrification.

[5] G.L. c. 164,§ 137 allows non-profit institutions in the Commonwealth, government entities, or an authority established by the legislature to serve a public purpose, to participate in and become a member of any competitively procured energy program in Massachusetts organized and offered, under Chapter 164, by or on behalf of a public instrumentality of the Commonwealth or subsidiary organization for the purpose of group purchasing of electricity, natural gas, telecommunications services or similar products.

HB 4967 (c. 179 of Acts of 1997) was signed by the Governor in August 2024 to expand the use of the Norumbega Covered Storage Facility land area to include solar photovoltaic. Staff are currently assessing the potential interconnection challenges for the Norumbega site. The utility (Eversource) hosting capacity maps show distributed generation capacity that is lower than the proposed project size at the nearby distribution substations. Therefore, MWRA is in the process of coordinating with Eversource to evaluate the interconnection feasibility for solar on the top of the Norumbega Covered Storage facility. The potential interconnection limitations or potential distribution system upgrade needs are critical information that may influence the scope of this project going forward.



Eversource Hosting Capacity near Norumbega Covered Storage Facility

Building Electrification

The greening of the regional electric grid underlines the importance of electrifying facilities throughout the water and wastewater system. As part of MWRA's comprehensive energy strategy, staff continue to explore opportunities to reduce MWRA's reliance on higher carbon intensive fuels, such as heating oil, in order to reduce MWRA's carbon emissions.

MWRA recently replaced the existing oil-fired heating system, installed approximately 30 years ago, with a new hyper heating heat pump system, designed to provide efficient heating in colder climates, in addition to cooling to the Norumbega Headquarters building. The contract was executed in November 2024 and work was substantially completed in March 2025.

MWRA conducted a competitive procurement for the design and installation of heat pump systems, in accordance with G.L. c. 25A, §11C, for Newton Street Pump Station (Brookline), New Neponset Pump Station (Canton), and Wachusett Lower Gate House (Clinton) in December 2024. One proposal was received but was rejected because the bidder did not meet the DCAMM single project limit requirement. Also, the cost for the scope of work in the wastewater classified areas was significantly higher than anticipated. The higher costs are related to the explosion proof equipment and the need for larger heat pumps to handle the 100% outside air requirements. MWRA is in the process of revising the scope of work for these projects to address some of these challenges, and expects to rebid in the coming months.

As part of major facility rehabilitation, MWRA examines avenues for both energy efficiency improvements and electrification. For example, while designing the upgrades for the Columbus Park and Ward Street Headworks,[6] MWRA determined that the existing diesel heating system would be replaced with a combination of electricity and natural gas (including installation of air

[6] The Board was briefed on the progress of the design work at the December 11, 2024 Board of Directors' meeting, and information was provided in the Staff Summary concerning an amendment to the professional services contract.

source heat pumps to meet heating demand for administrative areas and electrical rooms). Staff, also, evaluated several possible configurations of a wastewater energy recovery system at the Headworks, but due to large and variable wet weather flows and the lack of installations at similarly sized facilities this proved impractical. Nevertheless, MWRA continues to explore wastewater energy recovery at other facilities.

MWRA conducted a competitive procurement in December 2024, in accordance with G. L. c. 25A, §11C, for the Chelsea Administration Building. The scope of work included the replacement of 19 existing gas-fired rooftop units with heat pump rooftop units. Despite several interested vendors attending the site visit and obtaining plans and specifications, no bids were received. Staff are conducting outreach to the interested parties to learn why they did not submit bids. In the meantime, staff are proceeding with the design of a new heat pump replacement system through an engineering task order contract, and will proceed with a G.L. c.149 procurement in the coming months for the purchase and installation of equipment.

Staff are also working with MWRA's utility partners, National Grid and Eversource, and are performing heat pump specific audits at other facilities that utilize fossil fuels for heating. MWRA will move forward with the audit recommendations as they are received. In addition, all new facility construction, renovation, HVAC replacements or upgrades will include a heat pump evaluation.

Resiliency/Innovation

While MWRA continues work toward implementing more traditional energy efficiency projects and renewable installations, in order to meet decarbonization goals while ensuring resiliency in the face of future climate challenges, the Authority must also evaluate more innovative approaches.

<u>Existing Solar</u>

As noted above, MWRA has five photovoltaic solar arrays, with the first installation on the roof of the Deer Island Residuals Odor Control (ROC) building in 2008. Some of the early installations are now facing maintenance difficulties due to the original inverter manufacturer not supporting any equipment that is out of warranty. This has resulted in systems that are difficult or unable to be repaired before the end of their expected operational lifetime. Finding replacement inverters presents another challenge due to the unforeseen situation in the solar industry related to a change in solar system designs. Current inverters are designed at a higher voltage (1,000 V) than MWRA's older systems (600 V). Therefore, to replace the inverter, the system would need to be entirely re-engineered and repowered (new wiring and other related equipment to ensure it has sufficient capacity). There are no replacement inverter solutions at the existing system voltage.

An advantage of the new solar systems is they use a design of several smaller string inverters, rather than one or more larger inverters. This allows the system to continue to partially function if one of the string inverters fails. One string inverter failure would not take out the whole system, which has been the case for the Deer Island ROC system and the Carroll Water Treatment Plant system. In addition, most new systems have panel wattage up to over 400W whereas the existing panels on the ROC are 190W. Therefore, more production is possible with the same footprint, improving the overall economics.

Solect performed an inspection of MWRA's systems and noted most systems of similar age (16 to17 years) are not worth repairing (rework of the entire system) using existing components. This is because many parts are no longer manufactured and warrantees are provided with new systems. Three of MWRA's existing solar systems (Deer Island ROC, Deer Island Maintenance/Warehouse, and Carroll Water Treatment Plant) have experienced maintenance issues resulting in production outages and shortfalls. Staff are exploring grant opportunities for the restoration of these systems to increase the amount of active solar capacity by repairing or replacing components.

Battery Energy Storage

MWRA is also assessing the potential benefits of using batteries at its facilities. MWRA received a $150,000 grant from Mass DOER to examine the costs and benefits of different sized large-scale battery energy storage systems (BESS) for the Deer Island Treatment Plant. The purpose of this analysis is to determine if a BESS can support MWRA's goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by decreasing backup power diesel fuel use, increasing operational resilience, and/or whether financial advantages would result. Analysis is expected to be completed this fall.

250kW Battery Demonstration Project at Chelsea Administration Facility

The pilot battery storage systems at Brattle Court Pump Station and the Chelsea Administration Building continue to operate by reducing demand costs and participating in grid peak reductions. These demonstration projects included no upfront costs and an annual performance savings guarantee.

The 250kW battery at each facility targets Eversource demand charges, ISO-NE Installed Capacity savings, and earned revenue through participation in the utility demand reduction program. As shown in Figure 2, the dark blue indicates the variable building electrical demand during a summer day. The purple shows when the battery is automatically activated to discharge and provide power to the building, thereby reducing the building load during this peak period. As the building load decreases (after the end of main work hours), the battery recharges by taking power from the grid.

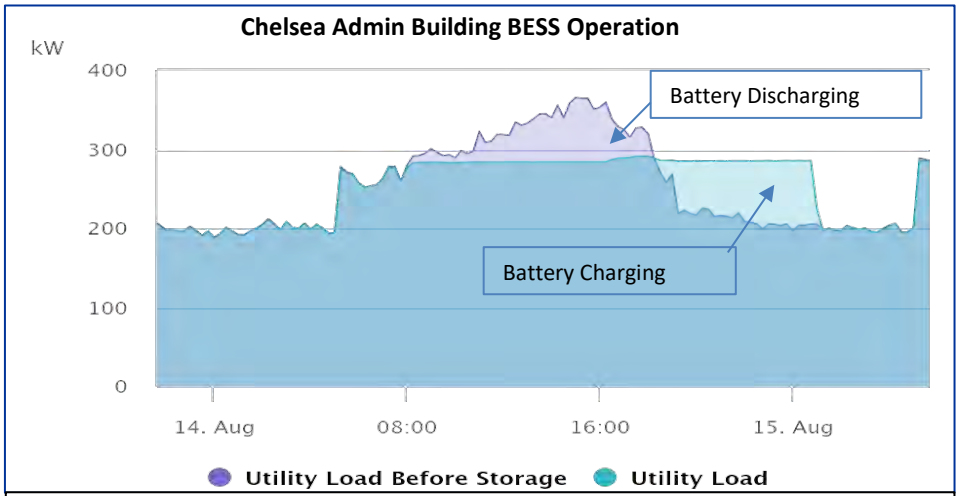


Figure 2 – Impact of BESS Operation on Electricity Load

The demonstration period is ten years (2021-2031), and the information and experience obtained during these pilots will be useful in determining future opportunities at other MWRA facilities.

Wastewater Energy Recovery

With the advancement of heat pump technology and the greening of the regional electrical grid, staff continue to look for more innovative approaches using heat pumps. Heat pumps have high efficiencies, so there is overall power savings to deliver the same amount of energy compared to traditional systems.

There is significant thermal energy resource in wastewater sewers as the wastewater that flows throughout MWRA's collection system maintains fairly consistent temperature, making it ideal for an efficient use of thermal energy for heating or cooling.

With the growing emphasis on community scale electrification of buildings and a focus on fossil-fuel-free-development, contractors and municipalities who are interested in incorporating wastewater energy recovery with heat pump heating and cooling solutions have approached MWRA. Staff are drafting internal policies on how to address this systematically and tackle technical feasibility as well as legal and financial implications for community development; in addition, to focusing on applications at MWRA facilities.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACTS:

Although many of MWRA's energy initiatives result in energy savings, they do require capital investments, and some of those investments can be significant, even when taking into account the social cost of carbon. Accordingly, MWRA pursues grants, rebates, and other incentives when available to improve project economics and reduce budget impacts.

The FY26 Current Expense Budget (CEB) includes $33.6 million for energy and utilities, driven by $26.1 million for electricity, $3.3 million for diesel fuel, and $992 thousand for natural gas.

The FY26 CIP includes $20.5 million for future Alternative Energy Initiatives. The projects described above are expected to exceed the proposed $20 million Climate Mitigation Trust Grant. MWRA will be responsible for any project costs that are either not eligible (e.g. feasibility study or design) or exceed any grant funds awarded.

STAFF SUMMARY

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Frederick A. Laskey, Executive Director
DATE: July 23, 2025
SUBJECT: Approval of Eighty-Ninth and Ninetieth Supplemental Resolutions and Award of Liquidity Agreements

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COMMITTEE: Administration, Finance & Audit

X VOTE
INFORMATION

Michele S. Gillen
Director, Administration

Matthew Horan, Deputy Director,Finance/Treasurer
Preparer/Title

Thomas J. Durkin
Director of Finance

RECOMMENDATION:

To approve the recommendation of the Selection Committee to award Letter of Credit Agreements in the aggregate amount not-to-exceed $191,723,000 to Bank of America, N.A. and Standby Bond Purchase Agreements in the aggregate amount not-to-exceed $141,615,000 to the Royal Bank of Canada, TD Bank, N.A. and U.S. Bank, N.A. as further described in this staff summary; and

To adopt the Eighty-Ninth Supplemental Resolution authorizing the issuance of up to $184,338,000 of Massachusetts Water Resources Authority Multimodal Subordinated General Revenue Refunding Bonds and the supporting Issuance Resolution and further authorizing amendments to the definition of Credit Facility in the Amended and Restated General Revenue Bond Resolution; and

To adopt the Ninetieth Supplemental Resolution authorizing the issuance of up to $150,000,000 of Massachusetts Water Resources Authority Tax Exempt Commercial Paper Notes, Series 2025 and the supporting Issuance Resolution.

DISCUSSION:

As of August 1, 2025, MWRA will have $295.4 million of long-term variable rate debt. The long-term debt is currently comprised of series of bonds offered in the public market, backed by either a Letter of Credit (LOC) or Standby Bond Purchase Agreement (SBPA) and privately placed series of bonds directly purchased and held by banks. MWRA also has $250.0 million in short-term variable rate debt in a $150.0 million commercial paper program backed by a LOC and a $100.0 million direct placement revolving loan. LOCs and SBPAs provide a line of credit that can be used in the event that bondholders no longer wish to hold bonds, and the remarketing agent is unable to place them in the market or hold the bonds themselves. Bonds issued with a SBPA trade on MWRA's subordinate long-term and the bank's short-term credit ratings. Bonds backed by a LOC trade on a combination of the

MWRA's and the Bank's long-term rating and only the Bank's short-term rating. In the case of a direct purchase, the bondholder is typically a financial institution that agrees to purchase the entire series of bonds at the time of issuance and hold them for a set period of time.

At the time of issuance, the LOC or SBPA become an integral component of the bond structure. Similarly, the terms and conditions of a direct purchase also become an integral part of the bond structure. In both cases, the Supplemental and Issuance Resolutions allow for the agreement to be extended for the life of the bonds. At the end of each extension period, the firm or MWRA can opt out of the agreement with prior notice. Typically, extending the existing facility at the current market rates is more cost effective because it avoids certain legal, rating agency, and bond placement fees associated with a new facility. MWRA continues to actively diversify its variable rate portfolio to limit exposure to any one provider, as well as the renewal risk caused by having a large number of agreements reaching the end of their term in any one time period. This diversity is to ensure that potential disruptions caused by any one provider or changes in market conditions are isolated to a smaller portion of the total portfolio.

At this time, MWRA could not extend its SBPA with the Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. or to extend its direct purchases with the TD Bank, N.A., Citibank N.A., and U.S. Bank, N.A. The renewal terms for the Wells Fargo SBPA were at higher rates than the current market. As a result of regulatory changes that have reduced the value of Direct Purchases for banks, the renewal terms for the direct purchase agreements have significantly increased. In both cases, MWRA and its Financial Advisor determined that the terms to continue the existing facilities resulted in additional costs over what MWRA could achieve through new agreements.

In addition to replacing the existing variable rate bonds, this procurement will also allow for the creation of a new commercial paper program for short-term borrowings. MWRA historically had $350.0 million in commercial paper capacity but based on CIP spending reduced that amount to $250.0 million in February 2022. In anticipation of the Metropolitan Tunnel Project, and the higher CIP spending projected over the next 10 years, staff are requesting to add an additional $150.0 million bringing the total commercial paper capacity to $400.0 million. Increasing the commercial paper capacity will allow for increased flexibility in timing of long-term borrowings around cash flow needs. During the construction of the metro-west tunnel MWRA had on average $300 million in commercial paper outstanding to manage the project's cash flow needs. In addition to the cash flow needs, the current NPDES permit requires $25 million in short-term borrowing capacity to be reserved for unanticipated capital needs. The General Bond Resolution also requires that the Renewal and Replacement Reserve Fund Requirement consist of $10.0 million in available funds and the remaining portion of the requirement be reserved in short-term borrowing capacity. The current Renewal and Replacement Reserve Fund Requirement is $35.0 million of which $25.0 million is reserved short-term borrowing capacity.

As discussed at the March 2025 meeting, the definition of Credit Facility in MWRA's General Revenue Bond Resolution limits Credit Facility providers to institutions that have a long-term credit rating in one of the two highest rating categories ("AAA"/"AA") from each rating agency. This ratings constraint significantly limited the number of institutions which could provide proposals to provide SBPAs/LOCs. As part of the approval for the issuance of these bonds, the definition of Credit Facility will be amended for all future bonds issuances by removing the long-term credit rating requirement for all future issuances. This amendment will provide MWRA with significantly more flexibility in managing its variable rate programs going forward.

As a result, staff issued a Request for Qualifications Statements/Proposals (RFQ/P) for firms interested in providing a new LOC/SBPA or purchasing the bonds through a Direct Purchase Agreement. One RFQ/P was used to evaluate pricing and other terms for both categories since many of the providers would likely be able to offer more than one of the products.

Under the replacement LOC/SBPA option, the bonds would be sold with the new LOC/SBPA. The interest rate on the bonds would be reset either daily or weekly and at each rate reset the bondholders would have the opportunity to decide to no longer hold the bonds. The remarketing agent would then either resell them or, if that was not possible, the SBPA bank would have to buy them at higher interest rates. MWRA received six competitive proposals for LOCs and/or SBPAs with terms ranging from one to five years. The pricing for the SBPAs ranged from a low of 19 basis points for one year to a high of 72.5 basis points for five years. At the end of that period, MWRA would either extend the existing SBPA or procure a new firm to provide those services.

With the Direct Purchase of the bonds, they would all be purchased by the successful proposer (most likely a bank). Under the terms of agreement with the purchaser, MWRA would pay the institution a market floating rate tied to either the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA) rate, which is a tax-exempt rate set weekly, or to a percentage of the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) which is a taxable rate established by the New York Federal Reserve Bank. MWRA received five competitive proposals for Direct Purchase Agreements with terms ranging from one to six years. The pricing for the fixed fee component of the Direct Purchase Agreements ranged from a low of 35 basis points for one year to a high of 137.5 basis points for five years. At the end of that period, MWRA would either extend the agreement with the existing provider or procure a new firm.

PROCUREMENT PROCESS:

On June 2, 2025, MWRA issued a one-step Request for Qualifications Statements/Proposals (RFQ/P) that was publicly advertised in Goods and Services, the Boston Herald, Banner Publications, the Dorchester Reporter, and El Mundo. In addition, 27 firms were directly notified. The RFQ/P documents were requested by 28 firms.

On June 25, 2025, MWRA received six proposals to provide LOC/SBPA from Bank of America, J.P. Morgan Chase Bank (JP Morgan), Royal Bank of Canada (RBC), Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC), TD Bank and U.S. Bank. Five proposals for Direct Purchase Agreements were received from Bank of America, J.P. Morgan, TD Bank, U.S. Bank and Wells Fargo Bank

The Selection Committee reviewed and ranked the proposals for the two categories described above. The results of the Direct Purchase Agreements and LOC/SBPA rankings are as follows and staff recommend award to the firms shaded in blue:

LOC/SBPA Proposals

Rank	Firm	Ranking Points
1	Bank of America	6
2	RBC	12
3	TD Bank	14
4	US Bank	18
5	SMBC	26
6	JP Morgan	29

Direct Purchase Proposals

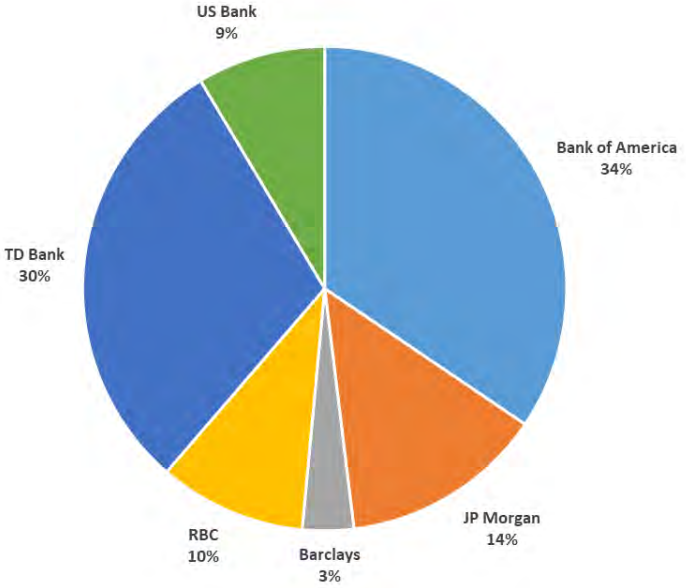
Rank	Firm	Ranking Points
1	Bank of America	5
2	US Bank	12
3	TD Bank	15
4	Wells Fargo	19
5	JP Morgan	24

After reviewing the LOC/SBPA and Direct Purchase options available to MWRA, considering the competitive pricing received on the LOC/SBPA proposals and the higher costs associated with the direct purchases, staff are recommending awarding only LOC/SBPA agreements. The higher costs on the direct purchase are a combination of the higher fixed contract rate and the cost of the SOFR index proposed by most firms. The fixed cost difference ranged from 14 to 65 basis points higher than the LOC/SBPA costs. During FY25, SOFR averaged 53 basis points higher than the SIFMA index rate which closely matches MWRA's publicly traded bonds. The following table details the amounts of bonds to be allocated, fixed fee and the terms of the agreements by entity and program.

Bank	Program	Facility Type	Allocated Amount	Fee (in bps)	Term (in years)
Bank of America	Commerical Paper	LOC	$ 150,000,000	29	3.5
Bank of America	Variable Rate Bond	LOC	$ 41,723,000	25	2.5
RBC	Variable Rate Bond	SBPA	$ 54,720,000	30	3
TD Bank	Variable Rate Bond	SBPA	$ 39,195,000	23	4
US Bank	Variable Rate Bond	SBPA	$ 47,700,000	35	3

The available bonds and commercial paper have been allocated between the top four ranked firms. The fifth ranked firm, SMBC, set a minimum allocation of $125.0 million in bonds to enter into an

agreement which was not possible given their rankings. The sixth ranked firm, JP Morgan, while having high credit ratings, was offering rates significantly higher than the top ranked firms. The following graph details the revised concentration of business partners in MWRA's publicly traded variable rate portfolio after the proposed transactions are completed



BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT:

There are sufficient funds in the FY26 CEB capital finance budget to pay for the anticipated costs associated with the LOC and SBPA agreements. The cost of these agreements will be included in future budgets.

MBE/WBE PARTICIPATION:

No minimum MBE/WBE participation requirements were established due to the lack of subcontracting opportunities.

STAFF SUMMARY

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Frederick A. Laskey, Executive Director
DATE: July 23, 2025
SUBJECT: Deer Island Treatment Plant Clarifier Rehabilitation, Phase II
Walsh Construction Company II, LLC
Contract 7395, Change Order 2

COMMITTEE: Wastewater Policy and Oversight

_____ INFORMATION
__X__ VOTE

David F. Duest, Director, Deer Island Treatment Plant
Richard J. Adams, Engineering Services
Preparer/Title

Kathleen M. Murtagh, P.E.
Chief Operating Officer

RECOMMENDATION:

To authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Change Order 2 to Contract 7395, Deer Island Treatment Clarifier Rehabilitation, Phase II, with Walsh Construction Company II, LLC to increase the contract amount by $6,956,606, from $289,595,007.12 to $296,551,613.12 and to increase the contract term by 209 days, from November 14, 2027 to June 10, 2028.

Further, to authorize the Executive Director to approve additional change orders as may be needed to Contract 7395 in an amount not to exceed the aggregate of $1,000,000 and 180 days in accordance with the Management Policies and Procedures of the Board of Directors.

DISCUSSION:

Contract 7395 includes the replacement of the original remaining scum and sludge equipment and the remediation of the concrete and coating systems in the primary and secondary clarifiers that were not replaced under previous construction projects. The work included in this contract is necessary in order to maintain the overall integrity and reliability of the primary and secondary clarifier tank assets which are required to meet the EPA-issued Deer Island Treatment Plant National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit. The equipment included in this contract is in need of replacement in order to prevent future failures from occurring. The scum and sludge equipment is continuously subjected to a very corrosive environment (hydrogen sulfide) and has reached the end of its useful life. The majority of equipment being replaced under this contract has been in service for approximately 28 years. The interior concrete structures of the primary clarifier tanks have experienced moderate deterioration. Additional deterioration may lead to major structural repairs. The secondary tanks have displayed significantly less corrosion than the primary tanks due to the reduced concentration of hydrogen sulfide remaining in the partially treated wastewater influent stream and the upper tanks that are open to the atmosphere.

This Change Order

Change Order 2 consists of the following two items:

Extend Existing Concrete Slabs — Not to Exceed $4,574,606

Concrete Slab Extension

A problem was discovered during the construction phase related to the new secondary clarifier tank isolation knife gate supports that are required for isolation of each clarifier tank. The original design required the contractor to cut the existing grating at 108 locations and then sleeve the new gate stem through the grating. After the contractor started the work, it became apparent that the contract drawings did not correctly reflect the locations of the existing grating. It was not possible to perform the work as originally depicted on the drawings due to alignment of the new gate stems. The work as specified would have required the contractor to core through the vertical tank walls, which is not possible. The design was modified to account for the actual field conditions. The contractor is now required to extend the existing concrete slab approximately 14 inches by 10 feet at each of the 108 locations (two per tank). The new gate stems will be supported by the new extended concrete slab at each location. The average cost to modify each concrete slab location is approximately $42,400. All costs will be tracked and verified and the contractor will only be paid for services rendered.

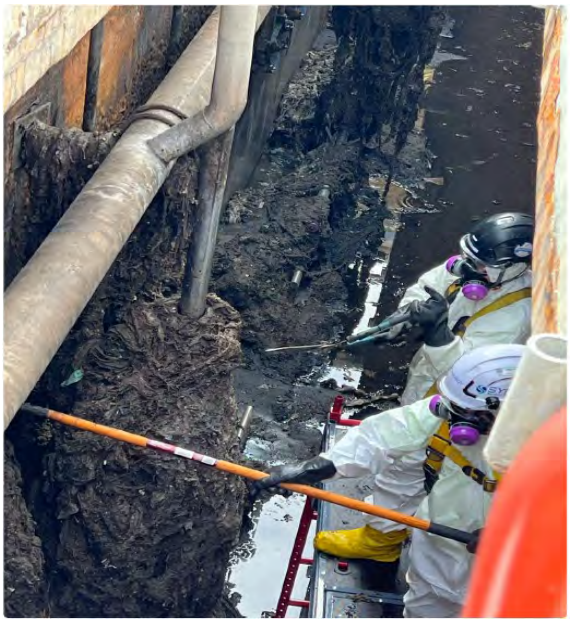
In addition, the contract duration must be extended by 209 calendar days due to the inability to install the new isolation knife gates, supplied under this contract, as indicated on the contract drawings. The contractor must extend the existing secondary clarifier tank slabs at each of the 108 knife gate locations before the contract work in the secondary clarifiers can be completed.

This item was identified by MWRA staff as a design error.

Increase Allowance for Rag Removal — Increase Allowance by $2,382,000

The contract documents originally included an allowance of $75,000 to remove existing rags from the four primary channels and another allowance of $75,000 to remove rags from the 48 primary clarifier tanks for a total of $150,000. The rags must be removed from the scum and sludge equipment within the tanks and channels in order for the contractor to proceed with the work. During the early phase of construction, it became apparent that rags must also be removed from the secondary clarifier channel and tanks. This work was not included in the original allowance.

The extent of the rag problem was not identified during the design phase as the designer had only interior access to a small number of tanks and channels due to difficulty in shutting down and draining more clarifiers. In addition, the rag issue in the influent has increased over the last several years due to the wide use of disposable wipes. Once the wipes enter into the wastewater treatment process they quickly collect and get entangled on the sludge/scum collection equipment.



The accumulated rags need to be manually cut and untangled from the equipment before they can be fully removed. This activity is a very time intensive process. In addition, this work takes place in confined spaces which also complicates the removal process. The average cost to remove and dispose of the accumulated rags from each of the four primary clarifier channels is approximately $54,000 and approximately $31,500 for each of the forty-eight primary clarifier tanks. The projected cost to remove the rags for each of the three secondary clarifier channels is approximately $40,000 and $10,000 for each of the fifty-four secondary clarifier tanks.

This item has been identified by MWRA staff as an unforeseen condition. The tanks accessible during the design phase did not have a large accumulation of rags as was found during construction. MWRA staff and the contractor have agreed to increase the total allowance from $150,000 to $2,532,000, a net increase of $2,382,000 for this additional work. All costs will be tracked and verified and the contractor will only be paid for services rendered.

CONTRACT SUMMARY:

	Amount	**Time**	**Dated**
Original Contract:	$289,359,690.00	1,620 Days	03/10/23
Change Orders:			
Change Order 1*	$235,317.12	90 Days	5/14/24
Change Order 2	$6,956,606.00	209 Days	Pending
Total Change Orders:	$7,191,923.12	299 Days	
Adjusted Contract:	$296,551,613.12	1,919 Days	

*Approved under delegated authority

If Change Order 2 is approved, the cumulative value of all change orders to this contract will be $7,191,923.12 or 2.4% of the original contract amount. Work on this contract is approximately 20% complete.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACTS:

The FY26 CIP includes funding of $294,795,007 for Contract 7395. Including this change order for $6,956,606.00, the adjusted total will be $296,551,613.12 or $1,756,606.12 over the CIP amount. This amount will be absorbed within the five-year CIP spending cap.

MBE/WBE PARTICIPATION:

MassDEP establishes D/MBE and D/WBE participation goals for SRF funded projects. The current goals applicable to this project are 4.2% for D/MBE and 4.5% for D/WBE. Walsh requested and was approved a partial waiver of 1.29% for the D/WBE participation goal.

STAFF SUMMARY

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Frederick A. Laskey, Executive Director
DATE: July 23, 2025
SUBJECT: Deer Island Treatment Plant Clarifier Rehabilitation, Phase II
Design/Engineering Services During Construction
CDM Smith Inc.
Contract 7394, Amendment 4

COMMITTEE: Wastewater Policy & Oversight

___ INFORMATION
_X_ VOTE

David F. Duest, Director, Deer Island Treatment Plant
Richard J. Adams, Manager, Engineering Services
Preparer/Title

Kathleen M. Murtagh, P.E.
Chief Operating Officer

RECOMMENDATION:

To authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Amendment 4 to Contract 7394, Deer Island Treatment Clarifier Rehabilitation, Phase II, with CDM Smith Inc. for a not-to-exceed amount of $1,612,000, from $2,488,930 to $4,100,930, and to increase the contract term by 18 months, from December 20, 2026 to June 20, 2028.

DISCUSSION:

The primary treatment facilities at Deer Island were constructed in the mid-1990s and include four primary clarifier batteries identified from east to west as Batteries A, B, C, and D. There are 48 primary clarifiers in total located at the center of Deer Island and each of the four batteries contains 12 stacked sets (upper and lower) of primary clarifiers. Flows enter aerated influent channels and then are equally distributed to each of the 12 stacked clarifiers through eight 14-inch diameter inlet ports located at the same centerline elevation in the influent channel. Primary treatment is provided as flow moves slowly to the opposite end of the upper and lower clarifiers. Gravity separates sludge and scum from the wastewater and it is removed from the clarifiers using chain-driven longitudinal sludge and scum collectors.

Secondary Clarifiers

Construction began on the secondary treatment facilities in the mid-1990s and was completed in 2001. The biological secondary treatment facility at Deer Island is a high-purity, oxygen-activated sludge system. The secondary facilities consist of three oxygen reactor batteries, followed by three clarifier batteries. These facilities provide secondary clarification to separate the liquid and solid components of what is referred to as the "mixed liquor" for the oxygen activated sludge process. The three clarifier batteries each contain 18 stacked

(upper and lower) clarifiers for a total of 54 clarifiers. Each clarifier battery receives flow from the corresponding oxygen reactor battery in an influent channel.

Much of the primary and secondary treatment equipment has been in operation for approximately 28 years. This equipment is subjected to very corrosive environments and is approaching the end of its useful life. The protective coating on the concrete has delaminated and the concrete is now exposed to the high levels of hydrogen sulfide in the primary tanks. The sludge collection equipment in the tanks was manufactured with carbon steel, which has deteriorated and requires replacement. In addition, components such as wear strips, flights, and sprockets have reached the end of their useful life and also need to be replaced.

Clarifier Coating Failure

Contract 7394 includes design, bid support, construction administration services and engineering services during construction for the Phase II Clarifier Rehabilitation Project (Construction Contract 7395). Resident engineering and inspection services (REI) were not included in Contract 7394. REI services were originally planned to be bid as a separate contract, but it was decided that in-house staff would perform this work.

The Phase II Clarifier Rehabilitation construction project includes the replacement of various equipment, such as clarifier influent, effluent, and dewatering gates; primary effluent cross channel gate actuators; and secondary scum influent gates and actuators. Further, the work includes the replacement of influent channel aerations systems, longitudinal and cross collection equipment and drive systems (not chain and sprockets), primary sludge pump suction piping, return sludge line vent piping, and various concrete and aluminum hatches. Finally, the work includes various repairs and upgrades, such as installation of concrete cores for head shaft maintenance, concrete repairs around hatch openings, minor expansion joint repair, and miscellaneous electrical upgrades.

Prior Amendments

Amendment 1 increased the contract amount by $43,116, with no increase in contract term. The added costs were for design work related to replacement of the current density baffles at the effluent launders in Secondary Batteries A and B and the replacement of corroded conduits and conductors for the flight drive systems.

Amendment 2 increased the contract amount by $94,832, with no increase in contract term. The added costs were for design work related to the installation of semi-permanent scaffolding in the secondary influent channels to assist staff with accessing and maintaining the knife gates that isolate each tank, concrete remediation for the Primary Clarifier tank ceilings, and replacement of the corroded headshaft bearings in both the Primary and Secondary Clarifier tanks.

Amendment 3 increased the contract amount by $113,581, with a 62 month increase in contract term. The added costs were for additional design work identified during the preliminary design

phase which included replacement of all the primary clarifier headshafts and replacement of primary clarifier stop logs. The additional time requested was associated with an increase in the level of design (noted above) based upon, among other things, recommendations submitted in the Preliminary Design Report (PDR), increase in the construction term after the design was completed, and delays encountered during the construction contract original bid phase.

This Amendment

If approved this amendment will add a not-to-exceed amount of $1,612,000 and 18 months to Contract 7394. The increase in funding and time extension is requested for the following changes from the original scope.

Ten Months/Engineering Services During Construction (ESDC) $200,000

A contract extension is requested to account for additional time that was added to the term of construction Contract 7395 during a rebidding phase in 2023 relating to the painting filed sub-bids. Also, during the rebidding phase it was brought to staff's attention that the manufacturer of the mechanical collection equipment required additional time to supply the equipment due to delays in the commodities market. Seven months was added to construction Contract 7395 for these issues. Further, construction Contract 7395 was extended an additional three months under Change Order No 1, approved under delegated authority, to add drain lines in Primary Clarifier Channels A, B and C, for repairs for the Secondary Battery Bypass gates and to modify existing electrical conduit interfaces from 1-1/2 inches to 2-inches at selected existing control panels. If approved, this additional $200,000 sum will pay for administering the construction contract during the extended ten-month period, as well as escalation costs for the hours utilized.

Increase to Submittals and Request for Information (RFI) Funding $165,000

Several challenges have arisen during the construction phase of the work which have impacted the number of contractor submittals and RFIs that the design engineer must address. Examples include manufacturing issues with the glass lining for the replacement piping systems in the primary clarifier tanks and with the new stainless steel drive chain and premature corrosion of equipment manufactured with cast stainless steel. These issues have required a significant amount of unanticipated research and additional manufacturer testing that the design engineer was required to review in order to identify and remedy the issues. Due to the above unanticipated items, the number of submittals and RFIs have exceeded the quantity that was originally included in the scope of services for Contract 7394. The original scope of services included a total of 500 submittals and 150 RFIs. The quantities for both items have been exceeded and are now estimated to be 700 submittals and 200 RFIs.

Eight Months/ESDC $160,000

The contract drawings require the Contractor to cut the existing grating at 108 locations and then sleeve the new gate stems through the grating. After the Contractor started the work, it become apparent that it was not possible to perform the work as originally depicted on the drawings due to the alignment of the new gate stems that would require coring through the tank wall and grating support system that may compromise the overall structure of the tank. The design has now been modified to account for the actual field condition. This has been identified as a design error. No

payment will be made to the consultant for work to correct the design and construction related documents. Rather, if approved, this additional sum will pay for the cost of administering the construction contract, and escalation costs due to inflation for the hours utilized, during the eight month contract extension.

Specialty Corrosion Engineering Inspection Services $987,000

During the initial cleaning and inspection of the first four primary clarifier tanks it was discovered that the rate of corrosion and physical condition of the existing concrete in the interior of each tank varied significantly and requires a detailed inspection to determine the method and extent of the concrete repairs that are necessary. Staff originally expected that the concrete corrosion and repair work would be fairly uniform and the repair would be fairly consistent and typical in nature. As set forth above, REI services are being performed with in-house staff, but the specific concrete corrosion concerns are beyond their level of expertise. This type of inspection should be performed by a qualified corrosion engineer who possesses the specific skill set required to identify the necessary corrective repairs. The majority of this work will be performed by Corrosion Probe, Inc., a specialized corrosion engineering company. Corrosion Probe is presently supporting CDM Smith as a subconsultant under this Contract and is being utilized to review submittals and RFIs that are directly related to the primary tank coating systems. Corrosion Probe is aware of the issues that have developed related to the tank concrete issues and would require no loss of time to become familiarized with the project.

Contract 7394 was competitively bid and the Authority received four proposals. CDM Smith's rates were very competitive and have only increased in line with other consultants since contract award. Staff discussed the possibility of bidding the specialized corrosion services now required, but determined that it would not be cost effective due to additional overhead, higher wage rates and unfamiliarity with the project. The sum requested is a not-to-exceed amount; Corrosion Probe will be paid for services actually furnished.

Additional Services Allowance $100,000

The original contract included an allowance of $100,000 which could be utilized to address unanticipated issues including, without limitation, for additional inspections or field investigations and additional related technical services not addressed in the scope of services. Allowance services are requested under a task order basis. Two task orders, for a total of approximately $68,000, have been utilized to date: 1) design of new baffles in the Secondary Clarifier Batteries A and B to increase the overall efficiency of the treatment process and 2) to determine the level of concrete repairs necessary at the interface of the existing secondary tanks to allow for the new tie beams to be installed in the secondary tanks. Both items were discovered after the design phase commenced. The requested additional funding may be used for work including material testing, and engineering support during the maintenance cycles of the equipment to identify potential performance issues.

CONTRACT SUMMARY:

	AMOUNT	TIME	DATED
Contract Amount:	$ 2,237,401	81 Months	1/20/2015
Amendment 1*	$ 43,116	0 Months	04/28/2017
Amendment 2*	$ 94,832	0 Months	04/28/2017

Amendment 3**	$ 113,581	62 Months	11/23/2021
Proposed Amendment 4	$ 1,612,000	18 Months	Pending
Adjusted Contract	$ 4,100,930	161 Months	

*Approved under delegated authority
** Approved by the Board of Directors

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT:

The FY26 CIP includes a budget of $ 3,787,376 for Contract 7394. Including this amendment for $1,612,000, the adjusted total will be $4,100,930 or $313,554 over the CIP amount. This amount will be absorbed within the five-year CIP spending cap.

MBE/WBE PARTICIPATION:

The MBE and WBE participation requirements established for this project are 7.18% and 5.77%, respectively. CDM Smith has committed to 8.68% MBE and 5.82% WBE participation. This commitment is unchanged by this amendment.

STAFF SUMMARY

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Frederick A. Laskey, Executive Director
DATE: July 23, 2025
SUBJECT: Hayes Pump Station Rehabilitation Design and Engineering Services
Hazen and Sawyer, P.C.
Contract 7162, Amendment 4

COMMITTEE: Wastewater Policy and Oversight

_____ INFORMATION
__X__ VOTE

Brian Kubaska, P.E., Chief Engineer
Ester Lwebuga, P.E., Assistant Director, Engineering
Patricia Mallett, P.E., Senior Program Manager
Preparer/Title

Kathleen M. Murtagh, P.E.
Chief Operating Officer

RECOMMENDATION:

To authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Amendment 4 to Contract 7162, Hayes Pump Station Rehabilitation Design and Engineering Services During Construction, with Hazen and Sawyer P.C., increasing the contract amount by $582,804, from $2,330,751 to $2,913,555, and extending the contract term by three months, from September 22, 2028 to December 22, 2028.

Further, to authorize the Executive Director to approve additional amendments as may be needed to Contract 7162 in an amount not to exceed the aggregate of $500,000 and 12 months in accordance with the Management Policies and Procedures of the Board of Directors.

DISCUSSION:

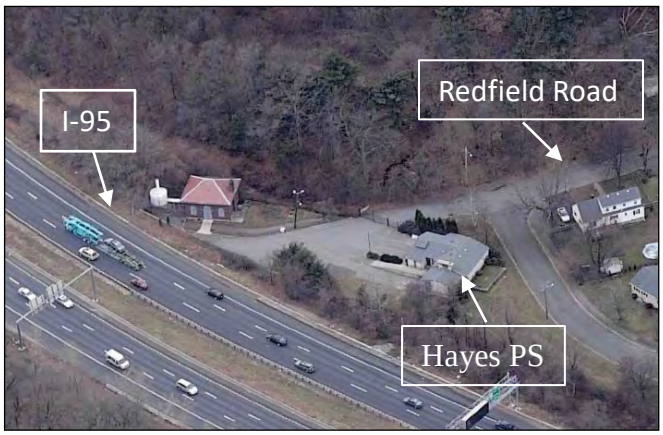


Figure 1 – Hayes Pump Station Location

The Hayes Pump Station was built in 1987 to replace the old Reading Pump Station. It is located adjacent to I-95 in Reading at the end of Redfield Road, as shown in Figure 1. The station receives wastewater flows from Reading, the northwest corner of Wakefield and portions of Stoneham. The station pumps flows of approximately three mgd on a typical day and is able to pump peak flows of approximately 9.4 mgd. Pumped flows are conveyed through a force main under I-95 to MWRA's Reading Extension Relief Sewer. The old Reading Pump Station building located on the southern end of the property is currently used to house the odor control fan, which draws air from the Hayes Pump Station and discharges through a carbon vessel.

On September 16, 2020, the Board approved the award of Contract 7162 to Hazen and Sawyer, for a contract term of 60 months, for design and engineering services during construction for the Hayes Pump Station Rehabilitation project. This project will provide a major facility rehabilitation, including replacement of facility gates, solids handling equipment, primary wastewater pumps and motors, SCADA equipment, the odor control system, the HVAC system and electrical equipment, and the emergency generator. In addition, a 9.43 mgd bypass pumping system was also designed to allow the pump station to be taken offline, reducing the construction duration. Design of the pump station improvements and bypass pumping system was completed in 2024 and the Notice to Proceed for construction Contract 7375 was issued on December 9, 2024 with a contract expiration date of December 9, 2027.

Amendment 1, approved under delegated authority, modified the contract's technical assistance allowance to permit the use of the remaining funds, which were earmarked for specific tasks, for other unanticipated services such as witness shop testing, additional geotechnical or hazardous material testing, and supplemental technical and permitting support. Amendment 1 did not increase the contract amount nor extend the contract term.

Amendment 2, approved by the Board at its May 24, 2023 meeting, increased the contract amount by $143,875 and extended the contract term by 23 months for additional project management services during the design phase and additional engineering services during construction. Both the design and construction phases were extended due to expansion of the project scope and longer than expected equipment delivery times due to supply chain problems.

Amendment 3, approved under delegated authority, increased the contract amount by $86,967 and extended the contract term by 12 months to provide sufficient time to complete the design and cover the additional project management services for this effort.

This Amendment

If approved, Amendment 4 will increase the contract amount by $582,804, from $2,330,751 to $2,913,555, and extend the contract term by three months, from September 22, 2028 to December 22, 2028, for the following items:

Additional Time 3 months

The construction phase of Contract 7162 was delayed, until December 2024, due to the time required to evaluate and qualify the seven categories of filed sub-bids and to resolve questions regarding the low general bid submitted for the project. This process took three months longer than estimated in the original schedule.

Additional Project Management for Design Phase $7,429

Additional funds are needed for project management, including preparation of invoices/monthly reports for the additional three months and to cover escalation costs for the additional three months.

Additional Engineering Services During Construction $475,375

Proposals were solicited for Contract 7162 in 2020 assuming a $10,000,000 construction contract with an estimated duration of 24 months. As set forth above, the scope of the construction project

expanded during the design phase. Construction Contract 7375 was awarded for $25,559,181 and a term of 36 months.

This amendment includes funds to cover construction administration during the 12 months added to Contract 7162 under Amendment 3, as well as funds for additional engineering services during construction due to the increased magnitude of the construction contract. Additional effort is required for submittal review/requests for information, technical support for change orders and construction, and startup services. The budgets for these subtasks were increased proportional to the additional construction scope of work. Escalation of labor rates is also included in the updated costs. An amount of $475,375 is requested to cover these additional costs.

Additional Allowance $100,000

A $275,000 allowance budget was established in 2020 for Contract 7162 to cover services such as witness shop testing, additional geotechnical or hazardous material testing, and supplemental technical and permitting support. The allowance was used during the design phase to cover out of scope design items such as an additional pump analysis that determined the pumps were undersized, extensive negotiations, meetings and modeling with MassDOT regarding the stormwater connection on site, additional structural evaluations of the building, an alternative heating system evaluation, and an evaluation of the additional design requirements to replace the emergency generator within the existing building. This amendment is seeking an additional $100,000 to replenish the allowance budget to cover engineering services, such as those identified above, that may be needed during the construction phase.

In total, $582,804 is requested for the project management services required to cover the three-month time extension, the cost of Engineering Services During Construction for the full 36-month construction duration, and additional allowance funds. With the approval of this amendment, the total time extension for Contract 7162 will be 38 months.

CONTRACT SUMMARY:

	AMOUNT	**TIME**	**DATED**
Original Contract:	$2,099,924	60 months	October 21, 2020
Amendment 1*	$0	0 months	January 6, 2023
Amendment 2	$143,860	23 months	May 24, 2023
Amendment 3*	$86,967	12 months	July 24, 2024
Amendment 4	$582,804	3 months	Pending
Adjusted Contract	$2,913,555	98 months	

* Approved under delegated authority.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT:

The FY26 CIP includes $2,330,840 for Contract 7162. Including this amendment for $582,804, the adjusted contract value is $2,913,555 or $582,715 over the amount in the CIP. This amount will be absorbed in the FY24-28 spending cap.

MBE/WBE PARTICIPATION:

Hazen and Sawyer has committed to 7.18% MBE and 6.8% WBE participation. These percentages were changed to 6.97% MBE and 5.94% WBE participation due to Amendment 3, which only increased the value of project management services and did not include any additional work for MBE or WBE firms.

STAFF SUMMARY

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Frederick A. Laskey, Executive Director
DATE: July 23, 2025
SUBJECT: 8(m) Permitting Update

COMMITTEE: Water Policy and Oversight

__X__ INFORMATION
_____VOTE

Rebecca Weidman, Deputy Chief Operating Officer
Matthew Dam, Director, Toxic Reduction and Control
Preparer/Title

Kathleen M. Murtagh, P.E.
Chief Operating Officer

RECOMMENDATION:

For information only

DISCUSSION:

Section 8(m) of Chapter 372 of the Acts of 1984, MWRA's Enabling Act, allows MWRA to regulate and require the taking of a permit from the Authority with respect to any building, construction, excavation or crossing within an easement or other property interest held by the Authority or in the immediate vicinity of a water or sewer main or other facility operated by the Authority. The primary purpose of the 8(m) permit program is to protect MWRA's assets to ensure it continuously provides water and wastewater services to its member communities.

Figure 1: Unapproved removal of thrust block to install gas line, encroaching on MWRA water line and causing a leak

Any project subject to Section 8(m) requires an 8(m) permit prior to the start of work. The entity responsible for the work is required to have an 8(m) permit; 8(m) permit holders include municipalities, businesses, developers, utility companies, residents, and even MWRA contractors. MWRA's 8(m) permit application and contact information for the 8(m) permit writers can be found on MWRA's website: https://www.mwra.com/your-sewer-system/toxic-reduction-and-control-trac/mwra-issued-permits. The permitting process takes several weeks and sometimes longer; it is dependent on the complexity of the project and the detail provided by the applicant.

The 8(m) program is included within the Toxic Reduction and Control (TRAC) Department. All 8(m) activities are managed by the Program Manager of Construction Permitting, including permit writing, dig safe, field inspections and mark outs. Staffing for the 8(m) program consists of two permit writers responsible for communicating with the permittees, reviewing all construction plans and coordinating with MWRA Engineering and MWRA Operations to review and execute permits. The 8(m) program has four full-time field inspectors and three field inspectors with primary responsibilities to inspect gas/oil separators and secondary responsibilities to perform 8(m) related inspection duties.

In addition to the 8(m) permitting program, staff are piloting the Dig Safe program in three communities for water infrastructure only. These communities are Brookline, Chelsea, and Saugus. Through Dig Safe alone, MWRA receives roughly 2,000 notifications annually. Many are for projects that do not impact MWRA's infrastructure, but approximately 30% of notifications require a mark out by 8(m) inspectors or will require an 8(m) permit.

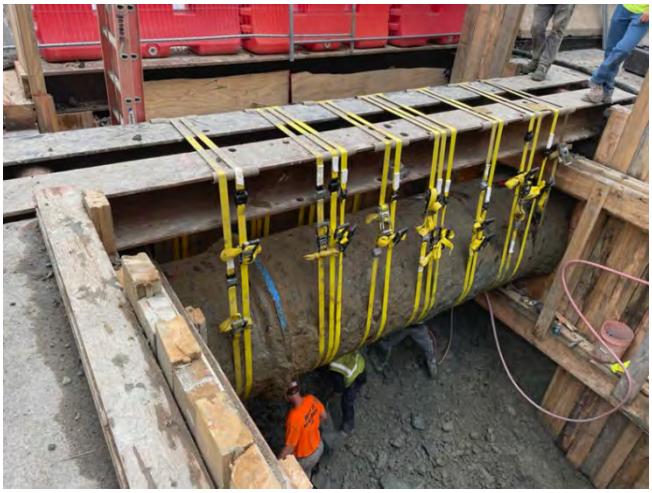


Figure 2: Contractor working with MWRA to properly support MWRA's water main

MWRA receives hundreds of 8(m) permit applications each year. Projects range in complexity from mill and overlay pavement projects to moving sections of MWRA's water and wastewater pipes. Utilities such as Eversource and National Grid, MWRA communities, and Verizon are frequent applicants for 8(m) permits. Over time, staff have worked with frequent permittees to establish processes for streamlining the application process and ensure that all projects are completed in a manner that is protective of MWRA's infrastructure. For example, in 2019, MWRA issued multiple 8(m) permits to Eversource to work near both water and sewer lines along Marginal Street in Chelsea. The permits allowed for multiple test pits in the roadway and the relocation of a MWRA water main to support the installation of a new electric transmission duct bank. This complex project was completed successfully and without causing unexpected water or sewer disruptions. In 2023, Tufts University installed an electric duct bank requiring the crossing beneath MWRA's water distribution pipeline. The 8(m) permit allowed Tuft's contractors to successfully work to support MWRA's water main and complete the job according to the 8(m) permit without disruption.

Although hundreds of 8(m) permits are issued each year, MWRA is still not notified of all projects or work subject to the 8(m) process. MWRA staff have been working to enhance outreach and education regarding the 8(m) permitting program. The goal of this outreach is to assure that MWRA is notified of all activities that are subject to Section 8(m) such as work performed within MWRA's property interest or in the immediate vicinity of MWRA infrastructure. Staff are working to expand partnerships with communities that also issue permits for construction activities (*e.g.*, street opening permits and building permits). MWRA and the MWRA Advisory Board staff are working to provide member communities with information about the 8(m) permitting program and are developing processes to share that information and encourage entities seeking a municipal permit to reach out to MWRA concurrently. Staff also made initial contact with all communities

with MWRA assets that are outside of MWRA's service area, and will focus in the future on developing a more robust outreach strategy.

Specific outreach actions are further delineated below.

- MWRA, in partnership with the Advisory Board, commenced an outreach campaign to all communities with MWRA infrastructure including facilities and tunnels (both inside and outside MWRA's service area).
- The Advisory Board issued a "Board Brief" that included a call for enhanced protocols, wider cross-community outreach, and rigorous protection of essential water systems.
- MWRA's website was reconfigured to make permitting information and permit applications easier find. Information about 8(m) permits in the form of fact sheets was added to the website at https://www.mwra.com/media/file/012325-construction8mpermitflyer.
- Community maps (both inside and outside MWRA's service area) showing all MWRA infrastructure (including tunnels) located within each community's boundary were created and distributed to local leaders along with the fact sheet describing the 8(m) program.
- MWRA staff met with the Advisory Board staff to discuss how the Advisory Board can assist in gathering community contact information as well as sending out a survey to better understand what each community has for construction-related permitting and how MWRA and community leaders can share that information. The Advisory Board created a survey, distributed it to communities, and compiled the results - requesting contact information for permitting activities executed by the community.
- When MWRA issues Municipal Sewer Use Permits to municipalities in the MWRA sewer district, the fact sheet describing the 8(m) program is included as an attachment to the email.
- Staff presented a full overview of the 8(m) permitting program to the Advisory Board and community representatives.
- Through outreach, MWRA learned that the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) was creating a permit process for drilling wells within the City of Boston. BPHC added MWRA for review and sign-off on the permit after verifying that the project will not interfere with MWRA infrastructure.

Staff continue to look for ways to improve compliance with its 8(m) permitting program and enhance outreach activities. Staff appreciate the feedback received from MWRA's member communities and Advisory Board and thank them for their assistance.

STAFF SUMMARY

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Frederick A. Laskey, Executive Director
DATE: July 23, 2025
SUBJECT: Metropolitan Water Tunnel Program Look Ahead

COMMITTEE: Water Policy and Oversight

X INFORMATION
VOTE

Paul V. Savard, P.E., Director, Design and Construction
Preparer/Title

Kathleen M. Murtagh, P.E.
Chief Operating Officer

RECOMMENDATION:
For information only. This staff summary provides a summary look ahead of upcoming activities for the Metropolitan Water Tunnel Program ("Tunnel Program"), including Construction Management services, Owner's Representative services, land acquisition, community and stakeholder agreements, and emergency response.

DISCUSSION:

Program Schedule
The Tunnel Program is a multi-decade effort with planning, permitting, design, and construction, each taking significant time to complete. Early program planning began in 2015. In 2018, the Authority established the Metropolitan Tunnel Redundancy Department (Tunnel Department) to develop and execute the Tunnel Program and lead its day-to-day management, decision-making and selection of implementation strategies as well as be responsible for the management of all professional services and construction contracts for the Tunnel Program.

Completed, Ongoing and Future Contracts
Currently, four professional services contracts to support the Tunnel Program have been approved by the Board, executed, and are being managed by the Tunnel Department. The professional services contracts include:

- Program Support Services (Contract 7655), which provides general consulting, submittal review, risk management support, constructability reviews, cost estimating/validation, schedule support, staff augmentation, and Expert Review Panel engagement support. This contract was awarded to JCK Underground, Inc. for an initial term of five years for $10,247,877. The initial term ended in April 2024, and the first of two optional two-year terms at $7,000,000 was approved by the Board in December 2023;

- Preliminary Design (Contract 7159), which consisted of the initial geotechnical investigations, preparation of Environmental Impact Reports, and preparation of a Preliminary Design Report, drawings, schedule and cost estimate. This contract was

awarded to CDM Smith Inc. for a term of 42 months for $15,692,527, and ended in January 2024;

- Geotechnical Support Services (Contract 7557), which focuses on the collection of geotechnical/geological data to support final design, bidding and construction of the Program. This contract was awarded to GEI-McMillen Jacobs JV for a term of 36 months for $12,789,889, and will end in January 2026; and

- Final Design Engineering Services (Contract 7556). This contract was awarded to WSP USA Inc. for a term of 180 months. The final design services include the development of the Basis of Design reports, performance of geotechnical investigations, final design development of two tunnel construction packages and three enabling works construction projects, along with project controls, risk management, quality management, cost estimating, and construction scheduling. The final design phase of this contract is for 60 months for $93,605,158 and will be completed in November 2029. As set forth in the October 23, 2024 Staff Summary for the award of Contract 7556, given the complexity and scope of the Tunnel Program, the performance of the design services may be critical to determine the duration of each tunnel construction package, and the schedule and level of effort required for engineering services during construction (ESDC). A detailed scope of ESDC will be developed by staff after the completion of the final design for each tunnel construction package. Staff will thereafter negotiate the cost for tunnel construction ESDC and seek authorization for such services from the Board which, if approved, will be implemented through amendment(s) to Contract 7556. The expected duration of ESDC services is 120 months.

Additional professional services contracts are planned in support of the Tunnel Program. These include Construction Management (CM) and Owner's Representative (OR) services. Procurement for CM services is to start in July 2025, and the OR services procurement is to start in December 2025. Staff will provide recommendations for award of these contracts to the Board of Directors for authorization in the future.

Two tunnel construction contract packages are planned: one for the North Tunnel and one for the South Tunnel. Bidding the South Tunnel construction contract is targeted for 2027 with tunnel construction starting in 2028. Bidding and start of construction of the North Tunnel is targeted for 2028 and 2029, respectively. Tunnel construction, including surface work and commissioning, is estimated to take eight to 12 years to complete.

Three smaller construction contracts are planned to be completed prior to the start of tunnel construction. This will remove early enabling work from the tunnel contracts' critical paths. These enabling contracts are related to demolition of existing buildings, site reconfiguration to allow continuity of current use, and dewatering drain line work at or near future launching shaft sites.

Construction Management Services
CM services would be similar to those provided on previous Authority tunnel projects, such as the MetroWest Water Supply Tunnel (MWWST). The scope of work would include full CM services, pre-construction services, construction contract administration, resident engineering and resident inspection, and other field services.

The CM has an important role prior to the start of construction in verifying the contract documents include all the requirements needed for the contractor to complete the work. Pre-construction services provided by the CM would include constructability and bidability reviews of the final design engineer's (FDE) design submissions. These independent reviews look at the design from a potential contractor's viewpoint to verify the contract documents follow the planned scope of construction for each tunnel, and the construction cost estimate captures current market conditions based on a reasonable construction schedule sequence.

Construction contract administration services would follow MWRA procedures. Contract administration will also include public relations support during construction. In addition, contract administration will manage all necessary closeout documentation, including submission of as-built drawings to the Authority for its records.

When the tunnel construction contracts begin, the CM would provide resident engineering and resident inspection (RE/RI) services. The RE/RI role requires CM staff with expertise and knowledge of specific tunnel and shaft construction methods for large water system infrastructure. The RE/RI services will continue during the disinfection and flushing when the tunnels are fully integrated into the Authority's water infrastructure and put into service.

CM services would also include other important field services such as: quality assurance of the constructed work independent of the tunnel contractor's quality control; survey checks of tunnel alignment and grade; vibration, noise, and geotechnical monitoring; pre-construction and post-construction condition assessments for structures near the tunnels and shafts; and environmental compliance oversight.

Subject to the Board's authorization, the CM contract will extend from spring 2026 through the duration of the tunnel construction projects (currently anticipated to end by 2040), and include the respective warranty periods. The CM would be precluded from any other role concerning the Tunnel Program.

Staff plan to follow a two-step procurement process for CM services. A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) will be publicly advertised in late July 2025. A Request for Proposals (RFP) will be issued to firms shortlisted after the RFQ phase.

Owner's Representative Services

OR services have not been used on previous Authority tunnel projects. Passage of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30, §39M½ in 2008 requires an Owner's Representative for certain projects estimated to cost in excess of $50 million, including construction of a tunnel. Accordingly, an OR services contract is planned for the Tunnel Program. The OR services would be independent of the FDE, CM, contractors, and subcontractors involved in the Tunnel Program.

The OR services would include:

- peer review of final design engineering submittals;
- oversight of cost recovery and value engineering practices implemented for the Tunnel Program; and
- filing annual reports with the Massachusetts Inspector General's Office.

Subject to Board approval, the OR services contract will extend from spring 2026 through the duration of the tunnel construction projects. The OR services consultant would be precluded from any other role concerning the Tunnel Program.

Staff plan to follow a one-step Request for Qualifications/Proposals (RFQ/P) process for OR services. The RFQ/P would be advertised later in 2025.

Project Labor Agreement

Staff intend to retain counsel, as it has in the past, to assist in evaluating the feasibility of using a Project Labor Agreement for the Tunnel Program. Staff will return to the Board with further updates.

Land Acquisition

Land acquisition will be required for shaft sites, along pipeline routes, and for subterranean easements along the tunnel alignments. All land acquisitions will be coordinated and in compliance with MWRA's Real Property Acquisition Policy and approval requirements. Where the Tunnel Program's current design would impact land owners who are state agencies and municipalities, the Authority will coordinate with these governmental bodies to comply with their multi-step requirements and approval processes for land dispositions. Staff are working with each stakeholder to identify land disposition steps and timing to ensure that such will meet the Tunnel Program's schedule for land acquisition.

Applicable land acquisitions will need to be completed prior to bidding each tunnel construction package, preferably by the 90% design stage. The design details necessary to prepare acquisition documents will likely not be finalized until after the 60% design stage. The time period between 60% and 90% design is approximately 12 months for each tunnel construction package, leaving a significant number of acquisitions to be executed expeditiously. Thus, land acquisitions are on a critical path for the Tunnel Program's schedule. Staff have already begun coordinating the shaft site acquisitions, pipeline easements, and access easements with each land owner in order to mitigate a potential schedule impact.

Any recommended land acquisition not within the Executive Director's delegated authority, such as acquisitions from public entities, will be presented in detail to the Board for authorization. A summary of land acquisitions for each tunnel is provided below.

<u>Shaft Site Land Acquisition</u>

The two tunnels will include 13 shaft sites of which three will be on land currently under care and control of the Authority. These three shaft sites are School Street in Waltham, St. Mary Street Pumping Station in Needham, and the Newton Street Pumping Station in Brookline, and none will require new land acquisition.

The remaining ten shaft sites are on land that is not currently owned by MWRA, and will require land acquisition from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), City of Waltham, and Town of Wellesley. Each shaft site was evaluated as part of the Environmental Impact Report, which provided opportunity for community outreach and public comment.

MassDOT Property Shaft Sites

Five shaft sites are on land under care and control of MassDOT. These include all three of the tunnel boring machine launching shaft sites, one receiving shaft site, and one large connection shaft site.

Each site provides direct access onto I-90 and I-95, which will greatly reduce construction traffic on local roadways. The two shaft sites within the I90/I95 Interchange in Weston, on either side of Park Road, will provide connection to the Authority's Hultman Aqueduct. A portion of these shaft sites will be within land that is under care and control of the Authority associated with the Hultman Aqueduct. However, a portion of these shaft sites will extend onto adjacent land that is under care and control of MassDOT.

Discussions between the Authority and MassDOT to date indicate that the land acquisition process would be for a permanent easement.

DCR Property Shaft Sites

Two of the shafts will be on land under care and control of DCR, and both are part of the South Tunnel. One is a receiving shaft site and one is a connection shaft site. The receiving shaft site is located on land at the intersection of American Legion Highway and Morton Street in Mattapan (American Legion). Staff are also working with the Department of Youth Services (DYS) on possible access to the shaft site through adjacent land that is under care and control of DYS.

The connection shaft site is located on land at the intersection of the Arborway and South Street in Jamaica Plain (Southern Spine Connection). In discussion with DCR and review of the property records, disposition of land at the Southern Spine Connection site will require Article 97 legislation to meet the obligations of the Open Space Act, including the identification of replacement land. The Authority is working with DCR to identify appropriate land to meet this requirement.

Waltham Property Shaft Sites

One receiving shaft site (Lower 190 Trapelo Road) and one connection shaft site (Cedarwood Pumping Station) associated with the North Tunnel are owned by the City of Waltham. The Lower 190 Trapelo Road site will be the termination of the North Tunnel providing the connection to the Authority's WASM 3 pipeline. The Cedarwood Pumping Station connection will provide a redundancy. Currently, the Cedarwood Pumping Station has a single connection to the Authority's WASM 3 pipeline. The Authority provided the Waltham City Council with a second Tunnel Program update in June 2025 regarding the land needs in the City.

Wellesley Property Shaft Site

One connection shaft site (Hegarty Pumping Station) associated with the South Tunnel is owned by the Town of Wellesley. The Hegarty Pumping Station connection will provide a redundant connection to this pumping station that currently has a single connection to the Authority's Section 80 pipeline. In discussion with Wellesley and review of the property records, disposition of land at this site will require Article 97 legislation to meet the obligations of the Open Space Act, including the identification of replacement land. The Authority is assisting Wellesley in identifying appropriate land to meet this requirement.

Pipeline Easements

Easements for pipelines in roadways or on public or private land for new water and drain pipelines will be required at eight sites involving approximately 6,000 feet of new pipeline. Staff are coordinating the pipeline alignments for each site with the landowners to minimize impacts.

Tunnel Subterranean Easements

Subterranean easements will be required for each property below which the new tunnels will be constructed. On past Authority tunnel projects, such as the MWWST, the subterranean easements were defined as extending 50-feet-wide by 50-feet-high centered on the tunnel alignment.

The subterranean easements will be 200 to 450 feet below ground and will not allow for surface access. Subterranean easements to be acquired that extend below protected and recreational open space will be subject to Article 97 legislation, but are not anticipated to require replacement land under the Open Space Act. The number of subterranean easements to be acquired will depend on the final tunnel alignments. Current estimates indicate approximately 160 subterranean easements will be required for the North Tunnel and approximately 440 subterranean easements for the South Tunnel.

Community and Stakeholder Agreements

Staff continue to coordinate with the seven communities in which the tunnels will be located. The final design will address a wide range of topics besides tunnel design including land acquisition, permitting and local regulations, public safety, emergency response, public communications, water supply contingency, work hours, hauling hours and routes, traffic management, dust and noise control, blasting and vibration control, connections to community water systems, mitigations, and final site conditions (fencing, lighting, landscaping, etc.). These items will need to be resolved with each community and documented in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Similar MOUs would be developed with DCR, MassDOT, and DYS related to land acquisitions.

Preferably, any MOU would be completed by the 90% design stage so that it could be included in the respective construction bid package. MOUs are not currently on the critical path, but may be in the future if efforts are not advanced in line with the Tunnel Program's schedule. All recommended MOUs will be presented to the Board for authorization.

Emergency Response

Staff are coordinating with local fire and emergency management services (EMS) entities from multiple communities to support the Tunnel Program with emergency response to the shaft sites during construction. The contractor will be responsible for safety and for providing the tunnel rescue teams required by OSHA. However, as has been done on past Authority tunnel projects and consistent with industry practice, advanced coordination during the design phase is necessary to ensure a proper framework is established for local fire and EMS response during construction. The framework is expected to include local fire and EMS personnel receiving specialized training, procuring specialized equipment, and establishing a coordinated response by the various communities. Fire and EMS personnel from the seven communities have indicated they would have to rely on mutual aid agreements between the communities as no one community in the Tunnel Program area is large enough to be the sole emergency responder during construction. Additional updates on the emergency response work will be presented to the Board in the future.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACTS:

The FY26 CIP includes $2.1 billion for the Metropolitan Water Tunnel Program. This budget will be refined during final design. It includes $151.1 million for CM services and $6.3 million for Owner's Representative services.

STAFF SUMMARY

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Frederick A. Laskey, Executive Director
DATE: July 23, 2025
SUBJECT: Technical Assistance Consulting Services for the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant
Hazen and Sawyer, P.C., Contract 8130
CDM Smith, Inc., Contract 8131

COMMITTEE: Water Policy & Oversight

_____ INFORMATION
_X_ VOTE

Michele S. Gillen
Director of Administration

Brian Kubaska, P.E., Chief Engineer
Patricia Mallett, P.E. Senior Program Manager
Preparer/Title

Kathleen M. Murtagh, P.E.
Chief Operating Officer

RECOMMENDATION:

To approve the recommendation of the Consultant Selection Committee to award two separate contracts to provide Technical Assistance Consulting Services for the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute Contract 8130 with Hazen and Sawyer, P.C. and Contract 8131 with CDM Smith, Inc., each in an amount not to exceed $2,000,000, with a contract term of 24 months from the Notice to Proceed.

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of these technical assistance contracts is to make available, on a continuing, as-needed basis, the services of qualified, professional engineering firms to assist MWRA staff with engineering and design initiatives for the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant and other western water transmission facilities. These contracts are primarily used for engineering disciplines, such as civil, structural, environmental and sanitary, mechanical, electrical and process engineering, and sometimes for related disciplines including architecture, geotechnical, surveying, fire protection, control systems, permitting, and security. The contracts are used on high priority and unanticipated projects, or projects that are not large enough to warrant the full procurement process of requiring engineering consultants to develop qualifications and cost proposals. These contracts also provide expertise on short-term assignments requiring specialized disciplines that are not cost effective for MWRA to maintain with in-house staff resources. The contracts are written to ensure that adequate resources are available to quickly and comprehensively respond to MWRA's needs, particularly when emergency or unanticipated situations arise.

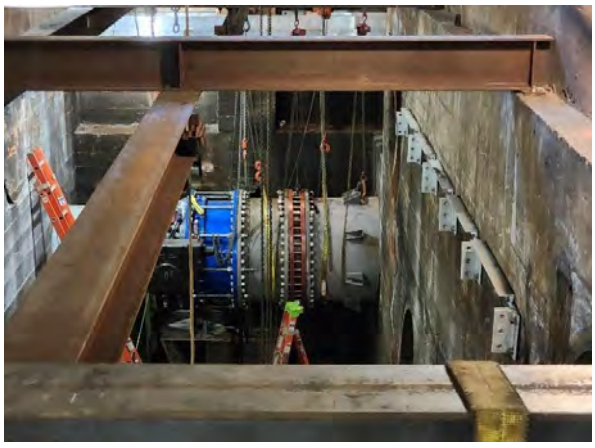
Staff are required to secure approval from the Chief Engineer for all task orders up to and including $25,000; from the Deputy Chief Operating Officer for task orders greater than $25,000 and up to and including $50,000; and from the Chief Operating Officer on any task order greater than

$50,000 and up to and including $100,000. In the event that a task order greater than $100,000 is needed, the Chief Operating Officer will confer with the Executive Director for approval.

Under previous technical assistance contracts, MWRA has issued task orders for a wide variety of work, including design of:

- replacement of the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant roof parapet wall caps;
- replacement of pipes in the Wachusett Dam Lower Gatehouse;
- evaluation of the potential to expand the MWRA water system to include Quabbin Reservoir watershed communities;
- inspection of the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant finished water storage tanks, ozone contactors, and interior ozone building walls;
- upgrades to the Brutsch Water Treatment Facility hypochlorite system;
- upgrades to the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant carbon dioxide system; and
- preliminary design of influent flow control improvements for the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant.

Parapet Installation on Chemical Building



Valve and Piping Installation - Wachusett Dam Lower Gatehouse

Potential future technical assistance projects include the design of the following Asset Protection projects:

- liquid oxygen yard piping and equipment redundancy improvements;
- Plant HVAC system component replacements;
- improvement of isolation in the Plant inlet channel;
- replacement of Plant and Wachusett Dam Lower Gatehouse roofing systems;
- replacement of ozone generation system; and
- ozone contactor and storage tank joint repairs.

Procurement Process

On May 19, 2025, MWRA issued a one-step Request for Qualifications Statements/Proposals (RFQ/P) that was publicly advertised in the Central Register, the Boston Herald, The Dorchester Reporter, Banner Publications, El Mundo, and on the MWRA Supplier Portal. On June 12, 2025, MWRA received proposals from the following four firms: CDM Smith Inc., Hazen and Sawyer, P.C., Jacobs Engineering Group, and Stantec Consulting Services Inc. The RFQ/P included the

following evaluation criteria and points: Cost - 25 points; Qualifications/Key Personnel - 25 points; Experience/Past Performance - 25 points; Capacity, Organization, Management and Technical Approach - 25 points.

Since the exact scope and estimated labor hours that will ultimately be required under the contracts are unknown, staff developed a sample cost exercise designed to compare the costs of the proposers. MWRA provided an approximate total number of hours that may be expended based on the average annual distribution of hours from prior technical assistance contracts, and required the proposers to provide average chargeable hourly rates per labor category, including escalation and multipliers incorporating indirect costs and profit. Proposers' submitted rates were inserted into the formula and the results are as follows:

PROPOSER	SAMPLE COST EXERCISE ESTIMATE
Jacobs Engineering Group Inc.	$1,775,746.84
CDM Smith Inc.	$1,812,486.00
Stantec Consulting Services Inc.	$1,832,133.10
Hazen and Sawyer, P.C.	$1,866,352.00
Engineer's Estimate	$2,000,000.00

The five voting members on the Selection Committee reviewed, scored and ranked the proposals as follows:

PROPOSER	TOTAL POINTS	ORDER OF PREFERENCE*	FINAL RANKING
Hazen and Sawyer, P.C.	434	8	1
CDM Smith Inc.	410	8	2
Jacobs Engineering Group	368	15	3
Stantec Consulting Services Inc.	329	19	4

* Order of Preference represents the sum of individual Selection Committee members' rankings where the firm receiving the highest number of points is assigned a "1," the firm receiving the next highest number of points is assigned a "2,"and so on.

Hazen and Sawyer was ranked first. The personnel listed for Hazen and Sawyer are highly qualified for this type of work. Hazen and Sawyer also demonstrated a wide variety of experience including extensive experience with water treatment plants. Hazen and Sawyer is currently providing services under one of the current John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant Technical Assistance contracts and one of the Agency-Wide Technical Assistance contracts. MWRA staff reported that Hazen and Sawyer's performance on the existing and past technical assistance contracts has been very good to excellent. While the firm had the highest cost in the cost exercise, it was only two percent more than the average of the four proposals.

CDM Smith was ranked second. CDM Smith's proposed personnel are highly qualified for this type of work. CDM Smith has extensive experience with water treatment plants and received very good to excellent reviews from both its internal and external references. As the original design firm for the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant, CDM Smith is very familiar with the facility. The proposed task order managers for the contract are in the firm's Boston office and will be supported by technical staff located primarily in New England. CDM Smith had the second lowest cost in the cost exercise.

Jacobs Engineering was the third ranked firm. While Jacobs' proposed personnel had the requisite water treatment plant experience, it has only worked on one recent MWRA project. Jacobs Engineering received very good to excellent external reviews, but its only MWRA project review was lower than those of other proposers. In addition, its management approach was not as clearly delineated as the approach proposed by the higher ranked firms and thus raised questions on its intended task order management strategy. Jacobs Engineering had the lowest cost in the cost exercise.

Stantec was the fourth ranked firm. Stantec's personnel met the experience requirements of the RFQ/P. While Stantec received excellent reviews for its external projects, its internal reviews were lower than those of the other proposers. Stantec had the second highest cost in the cost exercise.

Based on the above evaluation criteria and final ranking, Hazen and Sawyer, P.C. and CDM Smith Inc. are recommended for award of Contract 8130 and Contract 8131, respectively, for a not-to-exceed amount of $2,000,000 and a contract term of 24 months from the Notice to Proceed.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACTS:

The FY26 CIP includes $2,000,000 each for the Carroll Water Treatment Plant Technical Assistance Contracts 8130 and 8131.

MBE/WBE PARTICIPATION:

Due to the specialized and uncertain nature of this work, no minimum MBE or WBE participation was established for these contracts.

STAFF SUMMARY

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Frederick A. Laskey, Executive Director
DATE: July 23, 2025
SUBJECT: Section 101 Pipeline Extension (Waltham)
Baltazar Contractors, Inc.
Contract 7457, Change Order 14

COMMITTEE: Water Policy & Oversight

____ INFORMATION
__X__ VOTE

Martin E. McGowan, Director, Construction
Terrence Flynn, P.E., Construction Coordinator
Preparer/Title

Kathleen M. Murtagh, P.E.
Chief Operating Officer

RECOMMENDATION:

To authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Change Order 14 to Contract 7457, Section 101 Pipeline Extension, with Baltazar Contractors, Inc., for a not-to-exceed amount of $540,000, increasing the contract amount from $36,717,495.15 to $37,257,495.15, with no increase in contract term.

Further, to authorize the Executive Director to approve additional change orders as may be needed to Contract 7457 in an amount not-to-exceed the aggregate of $500,000 and 180 days in accordance with the Management Policies and Procedures of the Board of Directors.

DISCUSSION:

The Section 101 Pipeline Extension project consists of a new 36-inch diameter water main and appurtenances extending from MWRA's Meter 182 at the Waltham/Lexington town line down Lexington Street to Totten Pond Road, where it will connect to Waltham's water system. This connection will provide a new redundant water supply to Waltham's Prospect Hill Service area from the Northern Extra High (NEH) pressure zone and to MWRA's Lexington Street Pumping Station. The contract documents also include water, sewer and drain utility replacement work in the project area for the City of Waltham that had to be done concurrently with the MWRA work and prior to completion of construction of the City's new high school, which opened in August 2024. As reported in the March 13, 2024 Staff Summary for Change Order 4, while Waltham did not ultimately execute a Memorandum of Agreement with the Authority, the City agreed that it would reimburse the Authority for Waltham's work. Thus far, Waltham's completed portion of design and construction costs total $4,269,751.95. Waltham is currently reviewing an invoice in the amount of $2,337,925 for work completed in Phase 2, and previously paid $1,931,826.95 to the Authority for the work included in Phase 1.

This Change Order consists of the following two items:

Final Pavement Restoration on Lexington Street Not-to-exceed $400,000

The Contractor is required to install approximately 9,200 linear feet of new 36-inch ductile iron pipe to extend MWRA's Section 101 on Lexington Street in Waltham along with the replacement of municipal water main, sewer and drain lines for the City. The contract documents require full width mill and overlay as final pavement restoration for the majority of the alignment, but only permanent trench patch on portions of the road where limited City utilities were identified for replacement. Staff met with the City during design to establish the limits of final paving based on anticipated disturbance to the roadway necessary to install these new utilities. As a result of these meetings, the contract documents clearly detailed final pavement restoration requirements. Final pavement restoration was completed for the first phase of construction from Totten Pond Road to Jack's Way in August 2024 to support the opening of the City's new high school. This section of roadway called for full width mill and overlay over the entire length, given the numerous trenches for the MWRA water main, City water, sewer and drain, including multiple structures for each of these pipelines.

The second phase of pipeline construction, north of Jack's Way to the Lexington town line, began in the summer of 2024. This section of roadway included fewer City utility replacements with portions of the road divided by a median. As a result, the contract documents required only permanent trench patch for portions of this phase. During excavation for the MWRA's new 36-inch water main, numerous utility conflicts were encountered that resulted in additional trenching that went beyond the original limits of pavement restoration shown in the contract documents. In some cases, the Contractor was required to excavate further down side streets for water services and sewer laterals. Given the expansion of pipeline work and roadway disturbances, staff met with the City earlier this year to re-evaluate the final paving requirements for the second phase of construction. It was agreed that the entire length of roadway between Jack's Way and the Lexington town line should include full width mill and overlay pavement because the permanent trench patch as originally designed would be inadequate given the numerous additional utility trenches. If the change order is approved, MWRA will be responsible for the costs of additional pavement as a result of the additional utility replacement or relocation necessary to install the new 36-inch water main. In addition, the City has requested new pavement on the opposite side of the median that was undisturbed by this construction project. Staff are currently working with the City to determine the costs for this additional paving that will be reimbursed by Waltham.

Overlay Pavement on Lexington Street

The Contractor must now furnish and install additional full width mill and overlay pavement for an additional 13,000 square yards so the entire length of the roadway, between Jack's Way and the Lexington town line, is fully restored.

This item was identified by MWRA staff as an unforeseen condition. MWRA staff, the Consultant, and the Contractor have agreed to a not-to-exceed amount of $400,000 for this additional work. The Contractor has not yet begun this work.

Drain Crossings at Lexington Town Line and Trapelo Road Not-to-exceed $140,000

The Contractor is required to remove and replace a portion of an existing 36-inch drain line located near the Lexington town line so that the MWRA's new 36-inch water main can be installed beneath the drain. After commencement of the contract, test pits confirmed that this existing drain was actually a 30-inch square box culvert and not a 36-inch pipe as indicated on the contract drawings. Additionally, the box culvert was installed at a lower elevation, creating a direct conflict with the new 36-inch water main. The contract drawings were based on the latest record drawings provided by the City during design. Because this drain crossing is located at the northern project limit where the existing 24-inch Section 101 and 16-inch Section 83 piping combine, there was no opportunity to adjust the elevation of the new 36-inch water main to avoid the existing box culvert. The new pipe had to be installed at the same elevation as the existing pipes. Staff and the Consultant worked closely with the City's engineers to evaluate options to revise the existing drain crossing. To maintain the existing drain capacity, the new design required the Contractor to furnish and install twin 24-inch ductile iron pipes and two new drainage structures to raise the drain above the new water main and restore the drain/culvert connections in lieu of the 36-inch PVC drain pipe included in the contract.

Flooded Excavation from Stream Flow

24-inch Drain Pipes Over 36-inch Water Main

This drain crossing was further complicated when it was found to be flowing constantly, even during dry periods. Additional investigation revealed the drain was carrying diverted stream flow that could not be eliminated because the drain was lower than the stream elevation. This unforeseen condition provided a continuous flow of water into the trench that prevented installation of the new water main. The Contractor used an inflatable plug as its initial attempt to control the water infiltration, but water continued to flow into the trench from elevated groundwater levels. The existing drain line was found to be in very poor condition with numerous leaking joints, which influenced the surrounding groundwater levels. This required the Contractor to install high capacity pumps with a bypass piping system to divert the water from the excavation. This bypass pump system had to operate continuously to maintain the groundwater below the invert of the new 36-inch water main. An identical situation occurred with a 15-inch drain crossing at the intersection of Lexington Street and Trapelo Road. This 15-inch drain was also connected to the

same storm drain piping system with a direct connection to the stream. The Contractor needed to provide inflatable plugs with high capacity pumps and bypass piping at both locations to manage the excessive water infiltration to complete the installation of the new 36-inch water main.

This item was identified by MWRA staff as an unforeseen condition. MWRA staff, the Consultant, and the Contractor have agreed to a not-to-exceed amount of $140,000 for this additional work. The Contractor proceeded with this work at its own risk in order to perform the remainder of the contract work.

CONTRACT SUMMARY:

	AMOUNT	TIME	DATED
Original Contract:	$31,900,000.00	635 Days	07/12/22
CHANGE ORDERS:			
Change Order 1*	$500,000.00	0 Days	06/28/23
Change Order 2*	$126,454.82	0 Days	12/08/23
Change Order 3*	$209,522.07	0 Days	02/07/24
Change Order 4	$500,000.00	540 Days	03/25/24
Change Order 5*	$995,759.46	0 Days	08/22/24
Change Order 6	$1,650,000.00	0 Days	10/23/24
Change Order 7*	$10,000.00	0 Days	12/05/24
Change Order 8*	$12,541.39	0 Days	12/11/24
Change Order 9*	$75,000.00	0 Days	01/15/25
Change Order 10*	$18,169.06	0 Days	02/26/25
Change Order 11*	$450,000.00	0 Days	03/28/25
Change Order 12*	$24,660.01	0 Days	04/11/25
Change Order 13*	$245,388.34	0 Days	06/25/25
Change Order 14	$540,000.00	0 Days	Pending
Total Change Orders:	$5,357,495.15	540 Days	
Adjusted Contract:	$37,257,495.15	1,175 Days	

*Approved under delegated authority

If Change Order 14 is approved, the cumulative value of all change orders to this contract will be $5,357,495.15 or 16.8% of the original contract amount. Work on this contract is approximately 92% complete.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT:

The FY26 CIP includes $32,100,066 for Contract 7457. In addition, the CIP includes a credit for costs associated with the water, sewer and drain utility replacement work of $4,347,381, which will be reimbursed to MWRA by the City. Note that this credit amount does not include the additional paving costs requested by the City as detailed in this change order. Including this change order for $540,000, the adjusted subphase total including the reimbursement by the City will be $37,257,495.15, or $5,157,429.15 over the CIP amount. This amount will be absorbed within the five-year CIP spending cap.

MBE/WBE PARTICIPATION:

The MBE and WBE participation requirements for this contract were established at 7.24% and 3.6%, respectively. The Contractor will be notified that these requirements are still expected to be met.

STAFF SUMMARY

TO: Board of Director
FROM: Frederick A Laskey, Executive Director
DATE: July 23, 2025
SUBJECT: July 2025 PCR Amendments

COMMITTEE: Personnel and Compensation

____ INFORMATION
__X__ VOTE

Wendy Chu, Director of Human Resources
Preparer/Title

Michele S. Gillen
Director, Administration

RECOMMENDATION:

To approve amendments to the Position Control Register included in the attached chart.

DISCUSSION:

The Position Control Register (PCR) lists all positions of the Authority, filled and vacant. It is updated as changes occur and published at the end of each month. Any changes to positions during the year are proposed as amendments to the PCR. All amendments to the PCR, except those resulting only in a change in title or cost center, must be approved by the Personnel and Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors. All amendments resulting in an upgrade of a position by more than one grade level, and/or an increase in annual cost by $10,000 or more must be approved by the Board of Directors after review by the Personnel and Compensation Committee.

July 2025 PCR Amendments

There are four PCR Amendments this month.

Organizational Changes:

1. Creation of one Senior Laboratory Technician position in the Operations Division, Laboratory Services Department (Unit 9, Grade 15) to meet long-term staffing needs. The work is being performed by an employee in a contract position which will be eliminated.
2. Creation of one Senior Laboratory Technician position in the Operations Division, Laboratory Services Department (Unit 9, Grade 15) to meet long-term staffing needs. The work is being performed by an employee in a contract position which will be eliminated.
3. Salary adjustment in the Operations Division, Facilities Maintenance West Department for a Supervisor, Facility Maintenance (Unit 1F, Grade 26) to alleviate salary collisions with subordinates.

4. Salary adjustment in the Operations Division, Pipeline Maintenance-Water Department for a Senior Program Manager, Pipelines (Unit 9, Grade 30) to ensure internal pay equity per union agreement.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT:

The maximum annualized budget impact of the PCR amendment will be a cost of $149,193. Staff will ensure that the costs associated with the PCR amendment will not result in spending over the approved FY26 Budget.

ATTACHMENTS:
Job Descriptions

MASSACHUSETTS WATER RESOURCES AUTHORITY
POSITION CONTROL REGISTER AMENDMENTS
FISCAL YEAR 2026

PCR AMENDMENTS REQUIRING BOARD APPROVAL - July 23, 2025																		
Number	Current PCR #	V/F	Type	Current Title	UN	GR	Amended Title	UN	GR	Current/Budget Salary	Estimated New Salary			Estimated Annual $ Impact			Reason For Amendment
B1	Operations Laboratory Services TBD	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Senior Laboratory Technician	9	15	$0	$59,912	-	$59,912	$59,912	-	$59,912	To better meet long-term staffing needs.
B2	Operations Laboratory Services TBD	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Senior Laboratory Technician	9	15	$0	$59,912	-	$59,912	$59,912	-	$59,912	To better meet long-term staffing needs.
B3	Operations Facilities Maintenance West 3393001	F	S	Supervisor, Facility Maintenance	1F	26	Supervisor, Facility Maintenance	1F	26	$114,670	$119,975	-	$119,975	$5,305	-	$5,305	Salary adjustment to alleviate salary collision with subordinates. Union agreement.
B4	Operations Pipeline Maintenance - Water 3383021	F	S	Senior Program Manager, Pipelines	9	30	Senior Program Manager, Pipelines	9	30	$139,171	$163,235	-	$163,235	$24,064	-	$24,064	Salary adjustment to ensure internal pay equity. Union agreement.
				BOARD TOTAL =	4						**TOTAL:**			$149,193	-	$149,193	

MWRA
POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION: Senior Laboratory Technician

DIVISION: Operations

DEPARTMENT: Laboratory Services

BASIC PURPOSE:

Performs routine tests, using prescribed procedures, on water, air, and wastewater. Performs routine duties to assist scientists, including the compilation and preparation of data and the operation and maintenance of laboratory equipment.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED:

Works under the general supervision of the Laboratory Supervisor II or Laboratory Supervisor III.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED:

None.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Performs routine chemical and microbiological analyses and tests and operates all related equipment, assuring adherence to Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).Performs set-ups of more complex analytical equipment and instrumentation, also in accordance with Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

- Operates equipment to perform established testing procedures in accordance with SOPs.

- Assists higher level staff in chemical or biological analyses.

- Prepares standard solution reagents, media, and related materials to use in testing.

- Monitors the performance of, and performs routine calibration and maintenance duties, on laboratory instruments and equipment. Performs minor adjustments or repairs. Reports equipment malfunctions or other problems to supervisor.

- Performs checks to assure that the gathering of samples is in accordance with SOPs.

- Performs checks/edits to assure the accuracy to test data.

- Reviews reports, identifies discrepancies, and suggests or takes corrective action.

- Operates computer data terminal/personal computers to enter data into the LIMS system.

- Assures the accurate calculations, computation, compilation, summarization/tabulation of test data. Utilizes standard applications software summarization/tabulation of test data. Utilizes standard applications software package to prepare accurate statistical and graphic reports and displays as instructed. Modifies report formats using software as instructed.

- Monitors the supply of materials and supplies against established quantities, and informs supervisor of low levels as necessary to maintain adequate stock. Performs duties to take inventories of supplies and equipment.

SECONDARY DUTIES:

- Cleans and maintains assigned work area and follows procedures to ensure safety and avoid accidents and injuries.

- Performs related duties as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Education and Experience:

(A) Bachelor's degree in chemistry, biology, environmental science or a related field, including eight college credits in Chemistry or

(B) An Associate's degree in chemistry, biology, environmental science or related field including eight college credits in Chemistry and two (2) years experience of related environmental laboratory experience;

(C) Any equivalent combination of education and experience.

Necessary Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

(A) Familiarity with basic laboratory testing procedures, the operations, calibration and maintenance of basic laboratory equipment and instrumentation.

(B) Knowledge of techniques used for the accurate handling of data.

(C) Skill in the use of special application software.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

A valid Massachusetts Motor Vehicle Operators License.

Required to be available for standby duty and in an on call rotation pool.

TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT USED:

Laboratory equipment and instruments, telephone, personal computer including word processing and other software, copy and fax machines.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential duties.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to reach with his arms and use hands to handle, finger, feel or operate objects, tools, or controls. The employee is regularly required to stand and walk. The employee is occasionally required to climb, balance, stoop, kneel, crouch, crawl and smell.

The employee must frequently lift and/or move up to 10 pounds and occasionally lift and/or move more than 50 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close, distance, color and peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus.

WORK ENVIRONMENT:

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee regularly works in a laboratory environment. The employee regularly works near moving mechanical parts, is frequently exposed to outdoor weather conditions, and occasionally works in high, precarious places and is exposed to fumes and airborne particles, toxic or caustic chemicals and the risk of electric shock.

The noise level in the work environment is usually quiet in the laboratory and moderately loud in field settings.

May 2023

MWRA
POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION: Supervisor, Facility Maintenance

DIVISION: Operations

DEPARTMENT: Field Operations, Western Operations and Maintenance

BASIC PURPOSE:

Supervises and coordinates building and property management for Western Operations and Maintenance water and wastewater facilities. Oversees staff deployment for maintenance and upkeep of all western buildings, structures, grounds, and aqueducts.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED:

Works under the general supervision of the Senior Program Manager, Western Maintenance

SUPERVISION EXERCISED:

Exercises close supervision of facilities, grounds, aqueduct maintenance, and custodial staff.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Assists in the development, implementation and monitoring of formal facility inspection program to ensure that facilities are properly maintained and provide a safe, cost effective work environment. Assists in management inspections in accordance with the facility inspection program.

- Directs, coordinates, and prioritizes the work of building maintenance, grounds and aqueduct and custodial staff.

- Plans and coordinates all repairs and renovations to maintain building systems. Meets all building and fire codes/regulations.

- Manages snow removal for all western facilities.

- Works closely with the work coordination group to utilize MAXIMO maintenance work order planning and scheduling system to ensure that facilities and grounds maintenance work is identified, planned and completed in a cost-effective manner. Develops tracking system to ensure quality control, prepares monthly reports to document work order status and program performance.

- Works toward optimizing the effectiveness of the Section's CMMS. Establishes and updates

data such as machinery specifications, maintenance intervals and spare parts requirements. Ensures the timelines and accuracy of reported data.

- Advises on the procurement and administration of building service and grounds maintenance contracts. Assists in the identification of contract needs and the development of contract specifications. Coordinates maintenance activities with outside contractors and vendors.

- Ensures the building drawings and records are kept up to date.

- Provides information to assist in the development and monitoring of CEB and CIP budgets.

- Promotes the MWRA Safety Policy and Program ensuring all staff is properly trained on safety procedures as directed by the Authority's Safety Unit.

- Coordinates the Section's maintenance activities with operations staff, work coordination staff, engineers, outside utilities, contractors, vendors, and other agencies.

- Participates in maintenance optimization and asset management improvement programs.

- Performs administrative duties, such as those related to attendance, hiring, training, budget preparation and purchasing for the facilities maintenance group.

- Reviews performance of assigned staff according to MWRA procedures as established by the Human Resources Department.

SECONDARY DUTIES:

- Performs related duties as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Education and Experience:

(A) Completion of a two-year degree program in Engineering; and

(B) Five (5) to seven (7) years experience in the operation and maintenance of complex building systems with a minimum of three (3) years in a supervisory capacity. Experience in a Public sector, multi-union environment preferred; or

(C) Any equivalent combination of education and experience.

Necessary Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

(A) Knowledge and experience with multiple building facilities during various degrees of construction to full operation.

(B) Proven ability to provide timely and accurate project reporting.

(C) Proven experience with construction, renovation and relocation projects.

(D) Proven ability to plan, organize, direct, train and assign duties to subordinates and other personnel as required.

(E) Knowledge of applicable codes and regulations pertaining to building maintenance.

(F) Ability to be on-call seven (7) days a week, twenty-four (24) hours a day.

(G) Computer literacy in spreadsheets, MS Project, and computerized work order systems.

(H) Excellent oral, analytical, writing and organizational skills required.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

A valid Massachusetts Class D Motor Vehicle Operators License.

A Massachusetts Construction Supervisor's License, unrestricted, preferred.

TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT USED:

Office equipment as normally associated with the use of telephone, personal computer including word processing and other software, copy and fax machine.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to use hands to finger, handle, feel or operate objects, tools or controls and reach with hands and arms. The employee frequently is required to sit and talk or hear. The employee is occasionally required to stand, walk, climb or balance, stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl, taste or smell.

The employee must frequently lift and/or move up to 10 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, depth perception, peripheral vision and the ability to adjust focus.

WORK ENVIRONMENT:

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee occasionally works in outside weather conditions. The employee occasionally works near moving mechanical parts, and is occasionally exposed to wet and/or humid conditions and vibration. The employee occasionally works in high precarious places and is occasionally exposed to fumes or airborne particles, toxic or caustic chemicals and risk of electrical shock.

The noise level in the work environment is usually loud in field settings and moderately quiet in an office setting.

February 2004

MWRA
POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION: Senior Program Manager, Pipelines (Water)

DIVISION: Operations

DEPARTMENT: Field Operations/Metropolitan Operations

BASIC PURPOSE:

Manages the maintenance, operation, construction, and inspection of the Metropolitan Water System. Functions as a member of the Metropolitan Operations management team, responsible for the safe and efficient delivery of potable water. Responsible for all excavation activities of the Metropolitan Operations section. Required to be part of an on-call rotation for emergencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED:
Works under the general supervision of the Director, Metropolitan Operations.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED:

Directly supervises the WDS General Foreman (2), Supervisor of Inspection and indirectly supervises the staff in the water pipeline and inspection units.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Manages the in-house valve replacements including main line valves, blow off retrofits and meter valves. Valve sizes range from 8-inch to 60-inch. Valve types include: butterfly, resilient seat gate, double disc gate, and pressure reducing.

- Manages all water pipeline leak repairs within the Metropolitan distribution system. Pipeline sizes range from 8-inch to 72-inch.

- Manages all new construction work including projects designed by in-house engineering staff and consultant engineers.

- Manages supervision of excavation safety at all work sites. Manages Trench and Excavation Safety Permits as well as Excavation Safety Permits.

- Develops and manages weekly/monthly schedules to ensure that annualized construction and valve operations schedules are met. Utilizes computerized management software (CMS) and project scheduling software to generate annual project schedule.

- Utilizes CMS system to ensure appropriate levels of personnel, equipment and parts are

assigned to projects and to track and report on work completion, efficiency, and safety.

- Coordinates with Work Coordination Center Manager and Planning and Scheduling Coordinators to ensure that appropriate personnel, parts, and equipment are assigned to work activities.

- Coordinates with the Senior Program Manager, Valves to ensure adequate pipeline isolations to perform pipeline maintenance. Manages the inspection of all pipeline work including valve replacements, leak repairs, etc.-to ensure work is completed according to design plans and per construction standards and codes.

- Coordinates with Operations Engineering staff in scheduling pipeline maintenance work as well as procuring appropriate permits and permissions from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and individual municipalities.

- Coordinates with Operations Engineering staff on pipeline projects that are to be bid and awarded to outside contractors to ensure that water pipeline needs are addressed.

- Coordinates with Operations Engineering and the Operations Control Center staff to appropriately schedule pipeline valve replacements and maintenance while maintaining balanced water pressure throughout the Metropolitan pipeline system.

- Coordinate with Field Operations Department dispatcher to ensure that adequate traffic safety is assigned to project sites and that DIGSAFE notifications are completed.

- Coordinates and supervises filling, flushing, and disinfection of water mains.

- Coordinates and supervises isolation and activation of water mains.

- Manages Water Inspection group. Oversees leak detection, backflow prevention and meter testing programs.

- Generates metrics utilized in monthly and annual reports.

- Functions as Incident Commander or a member of ICS team during incident response.

SECONDARY DUTIES:

- Performs related duties as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Education and Experience:

(A) Knowledge of water systems as normally attained through a Bachelor's degree in civil engineering, sanitary engineering, or related field; and

(B) Demonstrated knowledge of equipment and practices related to construction, maintenance and repair of water pipeline distribution systems as acquired by eight (8) to ten (10) years experience in the field of which at least four (4) years must be in a supervisory position; or

(C) Any equivalent combination of education or experience.

Necessary Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

(A) Ability to read and interpret plans and drawings.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

A valid Massachusetts Class D driver's license.

Grade 3D Drinking Water Supply Facilities Operator License required within 18 months of appointment. Grade 4D Drinking Water Supply Facilities Operator License required within 24 months of appointment.

Successful completion of the following training:

- 40 hour Incident Command System (ICS) 300 training program within 1 year.
- Excavation Safety and Competent Person training program
- MWRA Confined Space Entry (CSE) training program

TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT USED:

Office equipment as normally associated with the use of telephone, personal computer including word processing and other software, copy and fax machine.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to use hands to finger, handle, feel or operate objects, including office equipment or controls and reaches with hands and arms. The employee frequently is required to sit and talk or hear. The employee is occasionally required to stand and walk; climb or balance; stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl; taste or smell.

The employee must frequently lift and/or move up to 10 pounds, occasionally lift/or move up to 25 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, depth perception and the ability to adjust focus.

WORK ENVIRONMENT:

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee regularly works in an office environment. The employee is quite often exposed to outdoor weather conditions. The employee is occasionally exposed to fumes and airborne particles.

The noise level in the work environment is a moderately quiet office setting. The noise level in the field is a moderately loud construction setting.

July 2022

STAFF SUMMARY

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Frederick A. Laskey, Executive Director
DATE: July 23, 2025
SUBJECT: Appointment of Manager, Maintenance, Deer Island Operations Division

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COMMITTEE: Personnel & Compensation

___ INFORMATION
_X_ VOTE

David Duest, Director, Deer Island Treatment Plant
Stephen D. Cullen, Deputy Chief Operating Officer
Wendy Chu, Director, Human Resources
Preparer/Title

Kathleen M. Murtagh, P.E.
Chief Operating Officer

RECOMMENDATION:

To approve the appointment of Mr. Mark Lavino to the position of Manager, Maintenance, Deer Island (Non-Union, Grade 14) at the recommended salary of $168,000 commencing on a date to be determined by the Executive Director.

DISCUSSION:

The position of Manager, Maintenance, Deer Island will become vacant upon the retirement of the incumbent in early September 2025. The Manager, Maintenance position reports to the Deputy Director, Deer Island Maintenance. This position is responsible for the trades and facility maintenance and condition monitoring programs of the Deer Island Treatment Plant facilities and equipment, managing the work of 130 staff, including the trades groups, facilities group and condition monitoring groups in Deer Island Maintenance. The trades groups managed include HVAC technicians, electricians, plumbers, maintenance and operations specialists, instrument and controls staff, machinists, welders, building and grounds, facilities staff and heavy equipment operators. The maintenance program of the now 30-year old Deer Island Treatment Plant has become increasingly important and is a critical function that must be directly managed on a short and long term basis in conjunction with the capital engineering group.

Selection Process

The position was posted internally. Two qualified candidates were identified and referred for interviews. The candidates were interviewed by the Director, Deer Island, the Deputy Director of Deer Island Maintenance, the Deputy Director of Deer Island Operations and the Chief Diversity and Equity Officer. Upon completion of the interviews, Mr. Mark Lavino was unanimously chosen as the best candidate for the position based upon his experience coupled with his knowledge of the industry and understanding of the position requirements and priorities as demonstrated during the interview.

Mr. Lavino started working at MWRA in 1993 as a Laborer and has gained vast knowledge and experience throughout his career at MWRA. During the past 32 years, Mr. Lavino has been

promoted to multiple roles with increasing levels of responsibilities. He has worked as a Heavy Equipment Operator, M&O Specialist, Unit Supervisor and Area Manager. Mr. Lavino currently holds the position of Area Manager, Residuals which he has held since July, 2016. This position is responsible for overseeing planning and scheduling of preventative, predictive, condition-based, and corrective maintenance work orders for the Residuals section of Deer Island. As Area Manager, Mr. Lavino supervises 17 staff, including supervisors, electricians, mechanics, plumbers and instrumentation technicians. He oversees a maintenance budget of $2.2 million annually for materials and services, ensuring all are procured according to MWRA procedures. Mr. Lavino was a member of the team that developed the reliability-centered maintenance strategies of the Deer Island Treatment Plant upon startup of the plant, focused on maximizing equipment life while minimizing operational downtime. He is extremely knowledgeable about Deer Island's Facility Asset Management Program and use of Maximo to track and schedule work and personnel, and report on maintenance-related metrics for the Orange and Yellow Notebooks.

While in the maintenance group, Mr. Lavino has developed many maintenance standard operating procedures (SOPs). He has used these SOPs to develop staff training programs on Deer Island. One example is training on the proper maintenance and troubleshooting of positive displacement hose pumps and various lubrication methods. In addition, he assisted with development and improvement of the Mechanic and Instrumentation Shadow Programs, which has helped prepare staff for future promotional opportunities and fill much needed vacancies within the Maintenance Department.

Mr. Lavino holds a Grade 2 Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator and Collection License, is a Journeyman Pipefitter, and holds an International Maintenance Institute Certification, a Vibration Certification and numerous certificates in leadership training. He has a 40-hour Hazardous Waste Operator's Certificate, which he used while on the Deer Island's Emergency Response Team. Mr. Lavino has recently written a paper that was accepted for presentation at NEWEA on Best Practices in Lubrication.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT:

There are sufficient funds for this position in the FY26 Current Expense Budget.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resume of Mark Lavino
Position Description
Organization Chart

MARK LAVINO
Area Manager

OBJECTIVE

My primary objective is to obtain a position within an organization that allows me to utilize my skill set in a managerial position to aid in my continued growth and development.

SKILLS

Communication

Problem-solving

Critical thinking

Time management

Project preparation

Budget preparation

Staff development

Leadership

EXPERIENCE

2016-PRESENT
Area Manager, Massachusetts Water Resources Authority

- Supervisor of 17 multi trade staff including Supervisors, Electricians, M&O Specialists, Plumbers, and Instrument Technicians.
- Responsible for the Residuals maintenance CEB budget of $2,200,000 for materials and service, and $1,621,276 for salaries; Total Current Expense Budge of $3,821,276.
- Provide recommendations to the Maintenance Managers for the overall maintenance CEB budget for materials and services for $17,440,045 and $12,700,000 for salaries; Total Current Expense Budget of $30,140,045.
- Implemented multiple asset improvements to protect and maintain MWRA assets on Deer Island Treatment Plant.
- Planned, scheduled, and obtained materials for the daily maintenance of 17 multi trade staff and approximately 4,800 work orders per year including PM's, CM's, and PDM's.
- Conducts interviews for maintenance trades positions including Supervisors, Electricians, M&O Specialist, Plumbers, Welders, and Instrument Technicians.
- Worked seamlessly with engineering and outside contractors on serval major rehabilitation projects, replacement of the DSL Abel pumps, and complete overhaul of the Gravity Thickeners.
- Developed and implemented maintenance training on positive displacement hose pumps for employees to advance their craft.
- Works with Operations and Process control departments to schedule shutdowns to preform corrective maintenance to ensure maximum efficiency for plant operation.

2008- 2016
Unit Supervisor, Massachusetts Water Resources Authority

- Supervisor of 7 multi trade staff including Electricians, M&O Specialists, Plumbers, and Instrument Technicians.
- Aided in the writing and implementing of several SOPs for various projects; Digester Scum Well entry, Gravity Thickener entry.
- Worked with Condition Monitoring Group (CMG) to help implement best practices throughout the plant.
- Lead supervisor for the installation of the new TPS pumps.
- Lead supervisor on the rehab of the Digester PRV and valve project.
- Supervised the Deer Island Facilities department.

MARK LAVINO
Area Manager

2016-PRESENT
Emergency Response Team Member

2000-2016
Treasurer of AFSCME Local 1242

- Aided in the negotiation and ratification of five (5) contracts.
- Worked with Human Resource to negotiate discipline of Unit 2 members.

1997-2008
M&O Specialist, Massachusetts Water Resources Authority

- Preformed mechanical repairs and installations of pumps, grinders, etc. in all aspects of plant operations including troubleshooting when necessary

1996-1997
Acting Heaving Equipment Operator, Massachusetts Water Resources Authority

1993-1996
Skilled Laborer, Massachusetts Water Resources Authority

LEADERSHIP

As a manager, I maintain a positive environment that promotes employee engagement, and the development of staff. I continuously work with staff to learn their strengths and weaknesses, helping them determine future goals and how to obtain them. This could be through different shadow programs, safety training and procedures, in-house training, or filling in as needed to achieve the skillset they need.

EDUCATION

University Of Notre Dame, Mendoza College of Business, Online

- Certificate for Leading Teams and Organizations
- Certificate for Effective Leadership
- Certificate for Executive Leadership Strategies
- Certificate for Leadership & Management

Malden High School, Malden Massachusetts

1988-1992 High School Diploma

LICENSE & MEMBERSHIPS

- Wastewater License Grade 2 - License: 17186
- Collections License Grade 2 - License: C-2558
- Pipefitter Journeyman – Process piping – License: PJ299557
- International Maintenance Institute License
- Vibration Analyst Certificate: 1102-VA1-06
- Counterbalanced Sit-down Rider Forklift Trucks: Certificate
- Member of New England Water Environment Association (NEWEA)

MWRA
POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION: Manager, Maintenance (Deer Island)

PCR#: **2988004**

DIVISION: Operations

DEPARTMENT: Deer Island, Maintenance

BASIC PURPOSE:

Manages the maintenance activities of the Area Managers, Sr. Program Manager, Deer Island Maintenance, and Facilities Manager and their staff to ensure completion of maintenance work necessary to meet operational needs and asset preservation of a large municipal facility.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED:

Works under the general supervision of the Deer Island Treatment Plant Deputy Director, Maintenance.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED:

Exercises close supervision over the assigned Area Managers, Facilities Manager, and Sr. Program Manager, Deer Island Maintenance.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Manages Area Managers, Facilities Manager, and Sr. Program Manager to ensure proper assignment and functioning of the maintenance unit.

- Reviews, monitors and evaluates work performed in all assigned areas and recommends appropriate improvements in equipment, techniques and procedures.

- In conjunction with the Sr. Program Manager, Deer Island Maintenance continues to implement predictive maintenance activities including oil analysis, vibration, acoustic ultrasonic, infrared thermography, motor analyses, thickness, and laser alignment.

- Coordinates with the Asset Management group, Operations, Power Generation, Capital Engineering and Process Control Group Managers to provide cost effective maintenance services ensuring optimum plant performance while maintaining equipment availability targets. Recommends overtime, when required, to meet equipment availability targets.

- Works with the Deputy Director of Maintenance, Assets Manager, and Engineering group to develop long-term maintenance strategies, implements new maintenance initiatives, capital projects, and required maintenance programs. Assigns work to ensure department meets maintenance milestones identified in the Authority's business plan.

- Manages the implementation of the Reliability Centered Maintenance strategy.

- Manages staff hiring of trades maintenance personnel. Prepares and submits organizational and personnel written recommendations to the Deputy Director as needed.

- Continuously reviews staff licensing and training requirements and works with the MWRA Training group and Occupational Health and Safety group to ensure staff are trained to perform their necessary maintenance activities in a safe and effective manner.

- Manages the development of the Maintenance Group's budget. Audits individual area manager's performance to budget. Identifies variances and works with staff and budget group to explain variances and take corrective action.

- Advises engineering personnel relative to the resolution of technical maintenance problems within the Facility.

- With the assistance of the Work Coordination Center Manager, generates, and reviews department's performance versus key performance indicators ("KPIs") such as work back log, preventive maintenance, and predictive maintenance. Develops new KPIs as needed. Recommends and implements corrective actions to department procedures as required.

- In conjunction with the Assets Manager and the Work Coordination Center Manager, ensures that the MAXIMO system and Work Coordination Group staff are delivering the necessary information and services required to meet day-to-day maintenance planning and work needs.

- Develops, in conjunction with the Asset Manager, comprehensive work practices that ensures proper data integrity within Maximo including updating equipment information as new equipment is purchased.

- Establishes maintenance service contract requirements, develops the appropriate Scope of Services and budgets, and manages contracted maintenance services as required. Responsible for writing and/or approving equipment specifications, justifications, staff summaries and maintenance reports to ensure maintenance materials and services are acquired as needed.

- Coordinates with maintenance staff, Operations, Engineering, Laboratory, PICS and Safety Departments to ensure all MWRA staff on Deer Island are receiving the required maintenance support.

- Performs quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) audits on standard work procedures, such as but not limited to staff working on priority jobs, safety procedures being followed,

appropriate staff levels by job, material availability, daily dispatch compliance, and technician work documentation on work orders and in Maximo.

- Utilizes personal computers, data terminals, and special applications software to perform related duties such as Maximo, Lawson and PICS, etc.

- Promotes the MWRA safety program within the department including but not limited to supporting staff involvement in safety committee meetings, keeping informed of the crews' safety records and formally investigating accidents with the assistance of the Occupational Health and Safety department. Works with the Occupational Health and Safety Department to implement Safety Training and Tool Box Talks to ensure compliance with the MWRA's safety procedures.

- Reviews assigned employees' performance per MWRA procedures.

- Acts as liaison and promotes harmonious relations with other maintenance units, vendors and MWRA departments.

- Manages the Department in a manner that is consistent with MWRA's goals of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

- Administers the application of collective bargaining provisions and personnel policies in the work place. Serves as Step I grievance Hearing Officer.

SECONDARY DUTIES:

- Assists employees with preparation of injury/illness reports, safety and maintenance work orders, and ensures that they keep high quality, accurate related documents and records.

- Assists in maintaining harmonious labor management relations through proper applications of collective bargaining agreement provisions and established personnel policies.

- Promotes and participates in the cross-functional work practices.

- Acts as lead senior manager on a rotating basis with other DITP senior management in DITP's Emergency Operation Center (EOC).

- Performs other related duties as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Education and Experience:

(A) A Bachelor's degree in Engineering, Facilities Management or related field; and

(B) Eight (8) to ten (10) years of water / wastewater design, operations and/or maintenance experience, including five (5) years of management/supervisory experience, preferably in maintenance; or

(C) Any equivalent combination of education and experience.

Necessary Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

(A) Working knowledge of the maintenance, repair, and replacement of equipment within a large industrial, water, wastewater treatment plant or liquid processing facility.

(B) Ability to plan, organize, direct, train and assign work through subordinate managers, supervisors, and staff in a unionized environment.

(C) Knowledge, experience and understanding of maintenance practices using a computerized maintenance management system such as but not limited to Maximo and Lawson.

(D) Knowledge, experience and understanding of Reliability Centered Maintenance methodology. Familiar with its principles, application, and outcomes to increase maintenance effectiveness and productivity.

(E) Excellent interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Is required to be part of an on-call rotation for emergencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

A valid Massachusetts Class D Motor Vehicle Operators License.

A Certified Maintenance and Reliability Professionals (CMRP) certification preferred.

TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT USED:

Mobile radio, telephone, personal computer including word processing and other software, copy and fax machine.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to use hands to finger, handle, feel or operate objects, tools, or controls and reach with hands and arms. The employee occasionally is required to sit, stand and walk. The employee is frequently required to climb or balance; stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl; taste or smell.

The employee must frequently lift and/or move up to 10 pounds and occasionally lift and/or move up to 25 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus.

WORK ENVIRONMENT:

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee regularly works in an office environment. The employee occasionally works in outside weather conditions. The employee occasionally works near moving mechanical parts and is occasionally exposed to wet and/or humid conditions and vibration. The employee occasionally works in high, precarious places and is occasionally exposed to fumes or airborne particles, toxic or caustic chemicals, and risk of electrical shock.

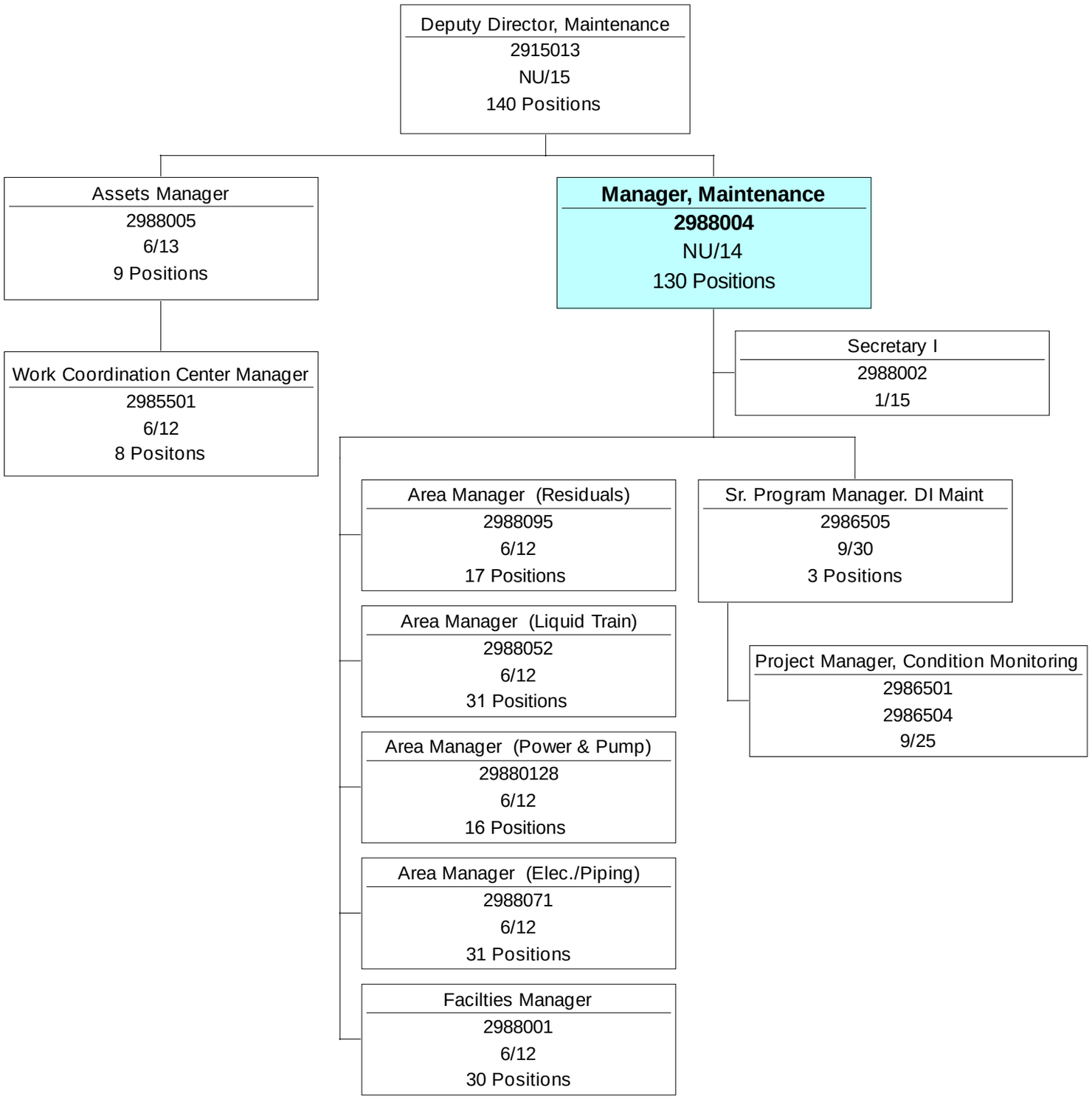
The noise level in the work environment is usually loud in field settings and moderately quiet in office settings.

March 2022

Operations-Wastewater Treatment

Deer Island - Maintenance

July, 2025



TOWN OF OAKHAM

PLANNING BOARD
2 Coldbrook Road, Unit 11
Oakham, MA 01068

508-882-5549
Fax 508-882-3060

July 11, 2025

Kristin MacDougall
Communications Manager / Board of Direectors
Massachusetts Water Resources Authority
2 Griffin Way
Chelsea, MA 02150
617-788-1197 / Kristin.MacDougall@mwra.com

Re: Effect of Battery Storage (BESS) Fire on MWRA Quabbin Water System

Hello, Ms. MacDougall:

On June 30 we emailed documents to Fred Laskey as Executive Director of the MWRA. The mailing was not deliverable due to message size, but it did reach all of the others in the email group, and is posted at Mass DPU Fileroom, Docket No.efsb25-07.

LINK to postings: https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/dpu/fileroom/#/dockets/docket/12514

On July 3 we emailed documents to MassDEP, copy to MWRA / Mr. Laskey, and knowing that the file would be again undeliverable, we added email to Jennifer L. Wolowicz as a member of the MWRA Board of Directors representing the interests of the Connecticut River Basin.

The DCR / MWRA Ware River Watershed abuts the east and north of the proposed BESS site. If you read either or both sets of documents, we would be interested to hear your reaction, as they describe the potential contamination of the Quabbin Water System at the Ware River and the Shaft 8 Ware River Diversion by this pending huge industrial project, including:

extensive earth disruption regrading the 18 acre forested rural wetland hollow;

replacement of much of the existing site with compacted gravel and concrete;

installation of a National Grid interconnect and 296 42 ton Tesla Megapack 2XL BESS units;

downgrade runoff from the impervious surfaced site;

toxic downgrade runoff into the abutting watershed from fighting a lithium battery fire;

fallout from a toxic lithium battery fire smoke plume.

We encourage you and Director Laskey to view both postings on the EFSB site to understand the very real risk to the MWRA system, and we invite you and Mr. Laskey and other MWRA Board Members to schedule a visit to meet us in Oakham, tour the proposed site and discuss the danger of this potential project to the DCR / MWRA Ware River Watershed and Quabbin Water System.

Sincerely,

Phillip Warbasse, Chairman
Oakham Planning Board
2 Coldbrook Road, Unit 11 Oakham, MA 01068
phillip.warbasse@oakham-ma.gov, WarbasseLLC@aol.com
508-769-7690

cc: BOS@oakham-ma.gov
L.Tessnau@oakham-ma.gov
contact@theACORNS.org

From: M H
To: Laskey, Fred
Cc: MWRA, Ask
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FYI Proposed battery-storage-facility near Ware River
Date: Friday, July 11, 2025 2:42:50 PM

Hi Fred,
(please forward to MWRA staff and Board of Directors)

Not sure if you have seen this or you or your staff have attended the hearings?
https://www.boston.com/news/local-news/2025/07/11/oakham-ma-battery-storage-facility/

Adding additional energy storage to offset peak electrical demand is a good idea for the power grid however, Lithium Ion batteries can become extremely volatile, and require large amounts of water to extinguish fires. Since the Ware River is used as a back up to the Quabbin, it would seem that this might not be the best location for this facility.

If the location is approved, can you please ensure that the facility has adequate fire protection to contain and extinguish a Lithion Ion fire and also that a containment vessel is built around the parameter to prevent water and chemicals from leeching into the surrounding ground water, Ware River and Quabbin.

Thank you to you and your staff for providing such excellent drinking water to our town.

Regards,
Michael Horvitz
Brookline MA.

A battery storage facility is being proposed in a rural Mass. town. Residents are pushing back. - Boston.com

Local News A battery storage facility is being proposed in a rural Mass. town. Residents are pushing back. Locals are citing concerns over the risk to the Quabbin watershed and the destruction of ...

www.boston.com