

To: Board of Directors

From: David W. Pedersen, P.E., General Manager via Joe McDermott, Assistant

General Manager Ooe McDermott

Subject: Monthly Report of District Activities - August

The following is a summary of the noteworthy District activities completed in August.

## I. General Manager

Heal the Bay ONE Water Day Event: On August 16, 2024, the General Manager participated in a panel discussion on the value of stormwater to serve the needs of Los Angeles County as part of Heal the Bay's annual ONE Water Day Event. The panel also included Anselmo Collins, Senior Assistant General Manager of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power; Deven Upadhyay, Interim General Manager of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; Robert Ferrante, General Manager and Chief Engineer of Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts and Teresa Villegas, Commissioner of the City of Los Angeles Board of Public Works.



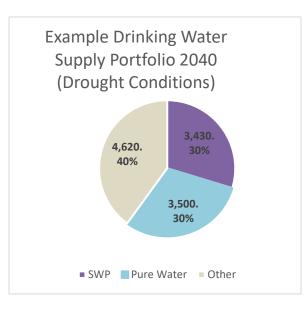
Alliance for Water Efficiency (AWE) Symposium: Assistant General Manager, Joe McDermott, attended the AWE Symposium in Chicago and sat on a panel with two other agencies providing information to attendees from throughout the U.S. and other countries including Canada and Australia about conservation programs. Joe shared the District's conservation efforts during the last drought with a focus on the Flow Restrictor Program, which many attendees expressed an interest in pursuing.



Joe McDermott (center left) providing a presentation on the District's Flow Restrictor Program at the annual Alliance for Water Efficiency Symposium.

Water Supply Reliability and Diversification
Study: The GM's office is taking the lead with
the study and prepared a Board Report to
authorize a Professional Services Agreement
with Kennedy/Jenks Engineers for the
September 3 Board Meeting. There will be a
kickoff meeting in September.

Ocean Well Pilot: A monthly workgroup meeting was held at Headquarters on August 22. The meeting focused on efforts to finalize a Letter of Intent for several agencies to participate in a feasibility study for making onshore infrastructure improvements that



could accommodate desalination via the OceanWell system. The pod for the pilot study in Las Virgenes Reservoir is tentatively scheduled to be deployed in late October.

Potable Water Pipeline Condition Assessment, Rehabilitation and Replacement Study: During the month of August, a workshop was conducted with participation from Finance staff to discuss budget impacts associated with a pipeline rehabilitation and replacement program. The engineering consultant, HDR, is compiling a draft report for staff's review and to solicit feedback from the Board by November.

<u>K2i (Knowledge to Implementation Software Platform):</u> In August, the Contract for K2i was brought to the Board and extended for another year. K2i has sense conducted a workshop for staff to learn how to access and utilize the platform to obtain information on best practices on a variety of topics.

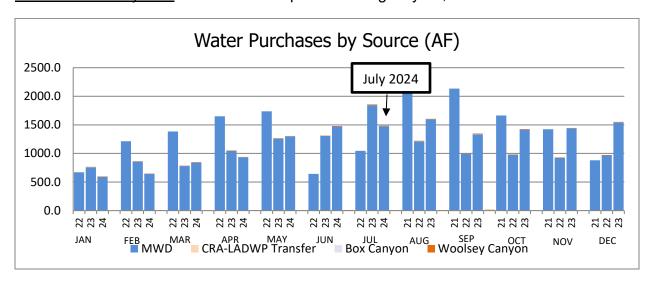
<u>Rancho Sprayfield Repurposing Study:</u> The GM's office disseminated a Request for Proposals (RFP) but no firms responded. The RFP will be revised and readvertised in the coming months.

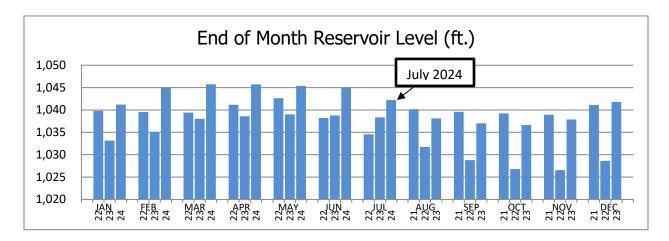
<u>Asterra Satellite Leak Detection:</u> The GM's office obtained approval from the Board to enter into a contract with Asterra to provide satellite-based leak detection for the potable water system. The effort will begin in September and be completed in the coming months.

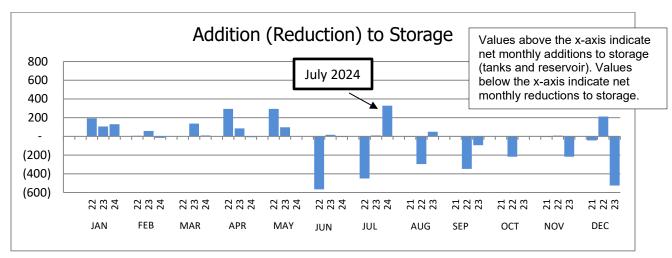
<u>District 29 Consolidation:</u> The GM's office initiated efforts to investigate the feasibility of consolidating District 29 with LVMWD. The next step is to have discussions with the County regarding the possibility. Staff intends to bring a report to the Board in the coming months to get direction on whether to move forward with a study.

# II. Water Operations

Potable Water System: Latest data for period ending July 31, 2024.

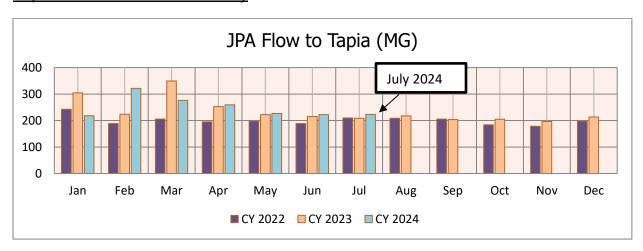


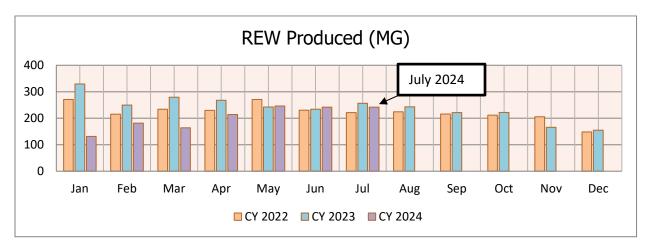


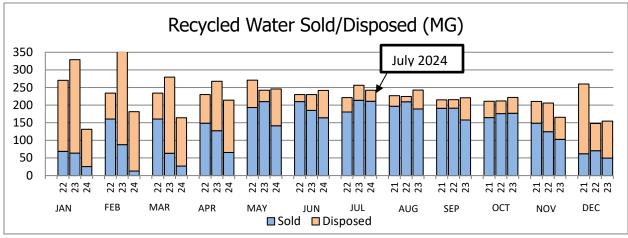


Values above the x-axis indicate net monthly additions to storage (tanks and reservoir). Values below the x-axis indicate net monthly reductions to storage.

### **Tapia Water Reclamation Facility:**



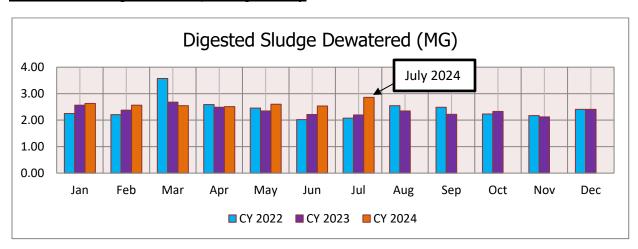


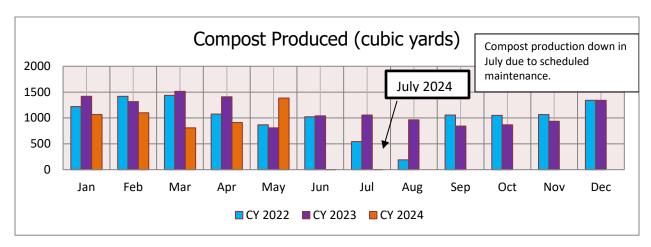


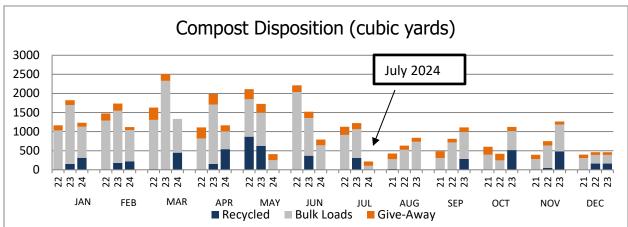
MG = Million Gallons REW = Recycled Water

Notes: July 2024 Potable Supplement = 1.1 A.F.; Fish Flow augmentation to Malibu Creek = 0.0 A.F.

# Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility:

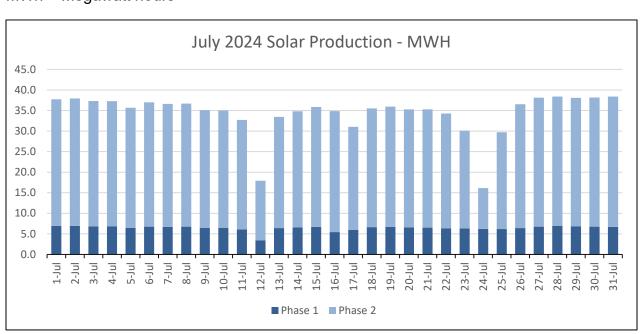


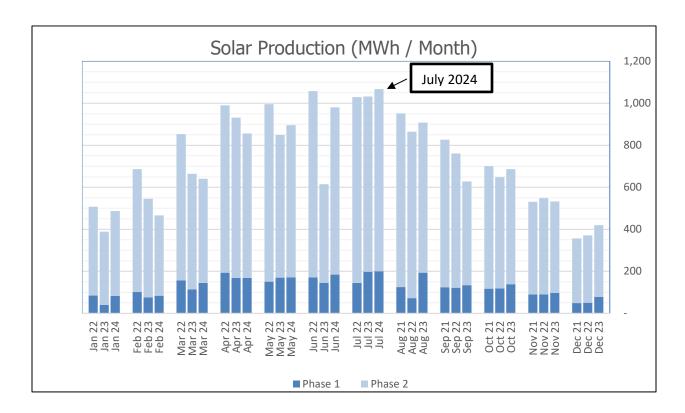




## **Solar Production:**

# MWh - Megawatt hours





<u>Construction</u>: On August 3, 2024, the construction crew, along with Toro Enterprises, worked through the night to repair a broken ten-inch potable water main at the intersection of Mulholland Highway and Decker Canyon Road. Twenty-nine inches of ten-inch mortar coated and concrete lined steel pipe was replaced, and a ten-inch mechanical joint sleeve was used to make the repair (before and after repair photos below).





On August 12 and August 13, 2024, Toro Enterprises replaced a broken hydrant lateral at 33277 Mulholland Highway. Five feet of asbestos concrete pipe was replaced with seven feet of six-inch C900 pipe. Since the lateral had to be completely replaced, staff moved the hydrant two additional feet off of the road for safety reasons (photos below).







On August 15, 2024, Construction staff replaced a broken corporation stop and adjusted a service to avoid the root system of an oak tree at 5747 Fairview Place in Agoura Hills. The crew returned a few days later to backfill the hole because it was too wet from the leak (photos below).





On August 25, 2024, construction staff repaired a ten-inch main line break on Escondido Trail in Malibu. Two feet of mortar coated and concrete lined pipe was cut out and replaced with two feet of ductile pipe. Two mechanical joint couplings were used to close it (photos below).



On August 22, 2024, the Construction staff repaired a main line leak in the intersection of Eldorado Meadow Road and William Bent Road in Hidden Hills. The eight-inch C900 pipe had a linear crack. The damaged section was cut out and replaced with C900 and macro

couplings (photo right).

Westlake Filtration Plant Re-sealing of bins on Filter
Diatomaceous Pre-Coaters:
Water Treatment staff
discovered leaks of
diatomaceous earth (DE)
inside the bins of the filter
precoaters. There are two
main precoat machines, and
these are used to coat all 43
septa inside a filter when
preparing it to go online.
Staff removed the panels,



cleaned out all the old sealant, and resealed the joints. Precoaters were then tested and verified for proper operation, and are now back online.





DE leak inside precoat bins (above left)
DE removed showing rust spots that were treated (above right)

Water Systems: Water Systems staff has been working to replace broken valves at various pressure reducing stations throughout the District. A four-inch shutoff valve and relief valve were recently replaced at the Park Granada pressure reducing station (photo to the right). Water Systems staff also worked with the contracting service, Corrpro, to complete the initial survey of the cathodic protection system on the District's transmission mains. Corrpro provided recommendations to rehabilitate the cathodic protection system to help ensure system reliability.

<u>Tapia Water Reclamation Facility</u>: The District's integrator, RoviSys, is currently implementing a new Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system at the Rancho Las Virgenes



Composting Facility (Rancho). Rancho SCADA and Tapia Water Reclamation Facility (Tapia) SCADA will share a server located at Tapia. Since the Rancho SCADA transition began, Tapia staff has encountered some issues with on-site SCADA, but is actively collaborating with RoviSys to resolve those issues.





On August 13, 2024, District electricians disconnected Balancing Pond Pump No. 3. The Maintenance Team, along with Operations and TNT Crane, then removed the pump and motor for rebuilding due to a mechanical failure that rendered the pump inoperable (photos above).

During the removal process, staff discovered a family of bats nesting under the cover plate (photos below). The bats were not harmed and were kept protected with a piece of plywood.





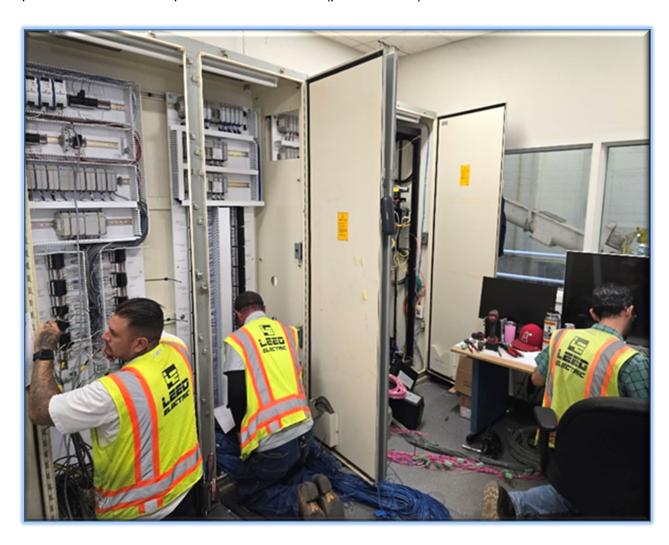
Tapia staff continues to face issues with starting the backup generators. This month, Quinn replaced all fuel nozzles on Generator Nos. 1 and 2. During the monthly generator test on August 28, 2024, Generator No. 1 failed to start; therefore, Operators manually pumped fuel to have it operational. Quinn has been notified and is determining the next steps to address this persistent issue.

On August 28, 2024, the Tapia Operations Team, along with the Maintenance Crew, worked overnight during low flows to replace the actuators and leaking valves on Filter Nos. 3, 4, 6, and 8. To facilitate this repair, staff needed to divert flow to the balancing pond and take the filter building offline.

Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility: The Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility remains shut down for compost production. Currently, all processes beyond centrifuge dewatering, such as Reactor and Cure Buildings, are offline. Class B "Sludge Cake" Biosolids are being hauled offsite. The shutdown is providing an opportunity for several maintenance projects to take place. The Composting Facility has been in operation for 30 years and many components need to be replaced in the next several years. The Facility is scheduled to be up and running by the end of September.

The Rancho SCADA Implementation Project continued through August 2024. Having the plant offline has facilitated with the cutover from the old Distributed Control System (DCS)

to the new SCADA System. RoviSys and Leed Electric have implemented Phase II of the cutover plan. The work involved removing old electrical panels and installing rebuilt, updated panels. As part of this process, Rancho Operators had to manage valves, pumps, boiler, and flare in manual mode for eight days without computer control. Operations staff relied on security cameras connected to the dewatering office for process monitoring, and used handheld radios to communicate tasks, such as opening and closing valves and starting and stopping the flare. On the ninth day of manual operation, RoviSys conducted a loop test and functional operational test, and restored remote operation to Rancho Operator's satisfaction (photo below).



On August 26, 2024, solar field construction began with trenching and installing the foundation for the solar panels (photo right).

Rancho has received the delivery of the sixinch stainless steel replacement pipes for the boiler feed line replacement (photo below).





Toro Enterprises began trenching and demolishing concrete in the boiler room in preparation for installing the replacement hot water loop line, which will connect the boiler to the heat exchangers for the digesters. With value engineering, staff was able to reduce the cost for the project from over \$600,000 to \$450,000 by utilizing a different type of pipe insulation that will be just as effective (photos next page).



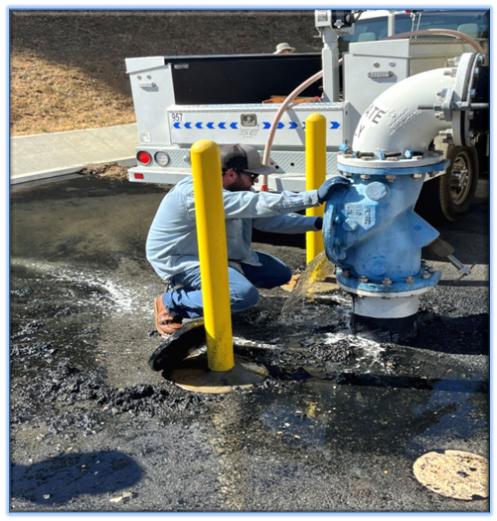
Water Quality Laboratory: Laboratory staff have been steadily working on conducting tests for the annual proficiency testing (PT) studies required maintain environmental laboratory to accreditation. The laboratory participates in two PT studies (one for drinking water and one for wastewater), and analyzes over 50 "blind" samples, one for each analytical method for which the laboratory holds a certification. A certified Proficiency Testing Provider provides the "blind" samples, meaning that the laboratory does not know the concentrations of the parameters being tested. All laboratory staff are required to participate in this testing, and this is an opportunity to train new staff. Sara Alvarez, Water Quality Supervisor, reviews all data before uploading results to the Proficiency Testing Provider's website. Once the study window closes, the Provider will send a final report of the results to both the laboratory and to California Environmental Laboratory the Accreditation Program. Photographed right are a few of the PT samples for the laboratory's certification studies.



### III. Engineering and Facilities

### Facilities Maintenance:

<u>Mechanical</u>: Staff performed monthly preventative maintenance at all District-wide facility locations; performed emergency repairs on a plugged centrifuge feed line; executed emergency repairs to Centrate Pump No. 4 at the Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility; and cleaned the check valve on Centrate Tank No. 3 (Jack Recinos, Maintenance Mechanic I, photo below).



<u>Maintenance</u>: Staff performed all monthly services and inspections; performed ongoing janitorial monitoring and inspections; performed repairs to the top thread of the stairs located on the north side of Building 7; and cleaned out Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility Substation for the upcoming solar project (photo next page).



Collections: Staff closely monitored the collection system; cleaned Lift Station No. 1 Wet Well and the Bluebird Syphon; performed inspections of various sewer lines throughout the District service area; and replaced two sump pumps at the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility.

Fleet: Staff performed all ongoing standard fleet repairs and services and monthly inspections of the fuel system. Shawn Triplett, Facilities Supervisor, and Spencer Kratochvil, Fleet Coordinator, attended the California Air Resources Board Zero-Emission Vehicle program (CARB ZEV) Conference in Monterey to learn more about compliance requirements.

<u>Electrical/Instrumentation</u>: This month, Electrical/Instrumentation staff worked on installing an automatic transfer switch at the Agoura Pump Station during a planned Southern California Edison outage. Electrical/Instrumentation Technicians Dario Guevara-Lopez, Mark Gomez, and Brian Lopez (photos below) diligently worked as a team to have the automatic transfer switch (ATS) installed and wired in a timely manner ensuring limited down time for customers. Once the ATS was installed, it was tested with a portable generator and performed as designed.







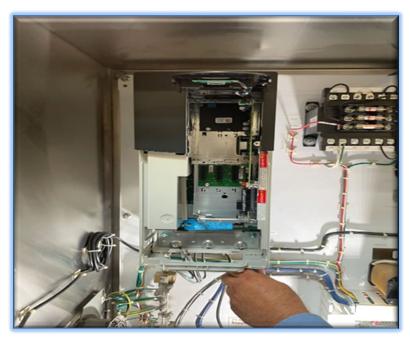
Electrical/Instrumentation staff also installed an automatic transfer switch at Upper Twin Lakes Pump Station (photos below) and are in the process of finalizing the wiring with a new feeder circuit being pulled in due to degradation of the wiring and to provide insulation from heat. After installation, the ATS will allow an emergency backup generator to be installed during Public Safety Power Shut-off (PSPS) events for automatic power transfer to ensure reliable water service for our customers.





Electrical/Instrumentation staff also responded to a report from Westlake Filtration Plant staff that the Filter Basin No. 2 motor was experiencing issues operating properly (photo right). After troubleshooting the issue, staff determined that the drive had internally failed components. Electrical/Instrumentation staff were able to source a new drive and installed it within two days, thereby getting the filter basin back in service expeditiously.

Electrical/Instrumentation staff were faced with several challenges at the Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility



with instrumentation complaints of various instruments not reading correctly (photo next page). The most common occurrence was due to process connections being plugged.



Process instrumentation after being cleaned by Electrical/Instrumentation staff (photo below).

## **Engineering and Technical Services**:

- Technical Services: Continued Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Inspections
- Technical Services recap:
  - Fire Flow Availability 15
  - Sewer Only Connections 0
  - Physical Fire Flows 5
  - Right-of-Way 0
  - Water and Sewer Connections 0
  - Tenant Improvements 3
- <u>Cornell Pump Station Improvement Project</u>: The construction contract was awarded to Pacific Hydrotech Corporation on April 16, 2024. Long lead time equipment submittals are currently being reviewed, and mobilization is anticipated to begin in December 2024.
- Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility Waste Gas Flare Design Project: Brown and Caldwell submitted a preliminary design report, which is currently circulating for review by District staff.



- Ingleside Drive Pipeline Relocation: Relocation of the pipeline is needed due to a
  conflict with the County's retaining wall project. The District will move the water line
  through the on-call agreement with Toro Enterprises. The County was contacted
  in February 2023, and they notified the District that they no longer accept relocation
  within their project boundary. Staff sent an alternate installation proposal to the
  County, which is under review. A new project manager has been identified, and
  the project is still undergoing the permitting process.
- <u>Stationary Emergency Generators for Critical Potable Water Pump Stations</u>: The Board awarded the construction contract on February 1, 2022, and accepted the project on April 2, 2024. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program closeout is ongoing.
- Twin Lakes Pump Station Pipeline Project: The project was authorized by the Board on November 21, 2023 for public bidding, and will be advertised once all easements and agreements are finalized. The Public Outreach Team is scheduling dates to engage with residents and other stakeholders along the pipeline alignment.
- <u>Lift Station No.1 Rehabilitation</u>: The design kick-off meeting was held on November 7, 2023. Preliminary design tasks, such as 3D scanning and wet-well assessment, have been completed, and design is underway.
- <u>Malibou Lake Siphon Replacement Project</u>: Construction is on track to be completed in December 2024.
- <u>Tapia Water Reclamation Facility Secondary Clarifier Rehabilitation</u>: District staff have finalized and accepted a condition assessment report as of March 5, 2024. The final design was completed in August 2024, and is currently under review.
- <u>Title 22 Engineering Report and Antidegradation Analysis</u>: Staff submitted the Title 22 Engineering Report and Antidegradation Analysis to the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) in November 2022, and comments were received from the Regional Board. Staff are awaiting comments on the antidegradation analysis from the Department of Drinking Water (DDW). Staff conducted a tour of the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility (Tapia) with DDW staff to verify the report. Staff confirmed that there is no tracer study for the Chlorine Contact Basin at Tapia with DDW staff. Staff are completing the antidegradation analysis revisions and scheduling a meeting with Steven Webb from the Regional Board to discuss responses. Staff is moving forward with the dual plumbed property analysis and adding a scope for general order at Tapia to Larry Walker Associate's scope of work. The scope change is in progress.

- <u>Tapia Aluminum Sulfate Tank Replacement Project</u>: The design was completed by PACE in April 2024. A call for bids was scheduled with the JPA Board on August 5, 2024. A mandatory pre-bid conference was held August 28th, and sealed bids are due by September 12, 2024.
- <u>LV-2 Pump Station Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) Upgrade Project</u>: The VFDs have been fabricated and arrived on-site in August 2024. Construction is ongoing and is expected to be completed by October 2024.
- <u>Jed Smith Tank No. 1, McCoy, and Calabasas Tank Rehabilitation</u>: Cannon was awarded the project at the November 21, 2023 Board Meeting. Project kickoff was held January 16, 2024, and design is ongoing. The 90 percent design was completed in August 2024 and is currently under review.
- Rancho Screw Conveyor No. 2 Replacement: Work for replacing worn screw conveyors began and is expected to be completed by October 2024 (photos below).



- <u>Westlake Dam Road Repairs</u>: The construction contract was awarded to MD Engineering on May 21, 2024, and work is anticipated to begin September 2024.
- Potable Water Main Relocation at Lindero Canyon Road and Agoura Road:
   Recommendation for award was accepted by the Board for DRP Engineering, Inc.,

- on April 2, 2024. Preliminary field investigations began in July 2024, and design is ongoing.
- <u>Calabasas Recycled Water Pipeline Improvement Project Park Entrada</u>: The Board awarded a construction contract to Dominguez General Engineering, Inc., in the amount of \$1,537,900, to replace a large section of this pipeline. Construction is anticipated to begin in September 2024, and will be completed by January 2025.

# IV. External Affairs

Customer Service: Total Active Accounts in CIS: 21,382 through July or August.

| Activity                | May 31, 2024    | June 30, 2024   | July 31, 2024   | EOY Target |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|
| Registered              | 19,925 (93.18%) | 20,026 (93.65%) | 20,165 (94.30%) |            |
| Signed up for paperless | 10,960 (51.25%) | 11,046 (51.26%) | 11,105 (51.93%) | 11,092     |
| Registered for AutoPay  | 12,383(57.91%)  | 12,345 (58.20%) | 12,504 (58.47%) | 12,426     |

| Notices                              | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June | July | Aug                                   | Total |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|---------------------------------------|-------|
| Notice of 2nd Exceedance             | 0   | 308 | 131 | 50  | 61  | 60   | 96   | 58                                    | 764   |
| Final Exceedance Notice              | 0   | 0   | 0   | 44  | 29  | 15   | 28   | 22                                    | 138   |
| Door Tag                             | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 5    | 19   | 7                                     | 31    |
| Flow Restriction Device<br>Installed | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 2    | 8    | 6                                     | 16    |
| Accounts Disconnected                | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 5    | 4    | 8                                     | 17    |
|                                      |     |     |     |     |     | •    |      | 9 flow restrictors currently in place |       |

| Water Violations                      | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June | July | Aug | Total |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|-------|
| 1st Violation Warning                 | 1   | 0   | 3   | 2   | 2   | 3    | 2    | 0   | 13    |
| 2nd Violation Warning                 | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0    | 0    | 0   | 0     |
| 3rd Violation/Fine                    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0    | 0    | 0   | 0     |
| 4th Violation/Fine                    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0    | 0    | 0   | 0     |
| 5th Violation/Possible FRD or Shutoff | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0    | 0    | 0   | 0     |

| Appeals  | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June | July | Aug | Total |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|-------|
| Approved | 6   | 4   | 5   | 4   | 10  | 6    | 8    | 4   | 47    |
| Denied   | 5   | 7   | 6   | 9   | 6   | 8    | 10   | 4   | 55    |

| WaterSmart Sign Ups     | Jan   | Feb   | Mar   | Apr   | May   | June  | July  | Aug   | EOY<br>Target |
|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| (Cumulative)            | 6616  | 6661  | 6693  | 6753  | 6798  | 6836  | 6862  | 6927  | 8000          |
| % of customers (21,382) | 30.9% | 31.2% | 31.3% | 31.6% | 31.8% | 32.0% | 32.1% | 32.4% | 37.6%         |

| Budget Compliance                            | Jan<br>• | Feb    | Mar    | Apr    | May    | June   | July   | Aug    | Running<br>Average | EOY Target<br>(Ave.<br>Monthly) |
|--|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Customers in Water budget (of 21,382)        | 16,493   | 16,345 | 18,759 | 20,462 | 17,415 | 16,210 | 19,117 | 15,654 | 17,557             | 18,114                          |
| %  | 77.1%    | 76.4%  | 87.7%  | 95.7%  | 81.4%  | 75.8%  | 89.4%  | 73.2%  | 82.1%              | 85% min                         |
| Customers in Inefficient<br>Tier (of 21,382) | 3,916    | 3,868  | 1,613  | 1,801  | 2,263  | 3,374  | 2,815  | 4,604  | 3,032              |                                 |
| %  | 18.3%    | 18.1%  | 7.5%   | 8.4%   | 10.6%  | 15.8%  | 13.2%  | 21.5%  | 14.2%              | 10% max                         |
| Penalties 2024 ( of 21,382)                  | 935      | 655    | 389    | 305    | 321    | 439    | 349    | 481    | 484                | 1,045                           |
| %  | 4.4%     | 3.1%   | 0.2%   | 1.4%   | 1.5%   | 2.1%   | 1.6%   | 2.2%   | 2.3%               | 5% max                          |
| Penalties 2020 (of 21,310)                   | NA       | 2,104  | 3,193  | 648    | 826    | 1,207  | 1,408  | 1,532  | 2,090              | 2,090                           |
| %  |          | 9.9%   | 15.0%  | 3.0%   | 3.9%   | 5.7%   | 6.6%   | 7.2%   | 9.8%               | NA                              |

| Customer Side Leaks                          | Jan | Feb | Mar  | Apr | May | June | July | Aug | Running<br>Total | EOY Target |
|--|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|------|------|-----|------------------|------------|
| Large Leak Notifications                     | 20  | 20  | 20   | 20  | 20  | 20   | 20   | 20  | 160              | 240        |
| Estimated Annual Gallons<br>Saved (millions) | 4.5 | 9   | 12.8 | 2.1 | 9   | 12.4 | 0.47 | NA  | 39               | NA         |

| REW (Reclaimed Effluent<br>Water) Fill Station                | Jan     | Feb       | Mar       | Apr       | May       | June      | July      | Aug |
|---|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----|
| Customer Count (total for month)                              | 0       | 0         | 2         | 6         | 8         | 19        | 53        | NA  |
| Gallons Taken (total for month)                               | 0       | 0         | 2,094     | 2,722     | 5,730     | 19,762    | 17,713    | NA  |
| Recycled Water Metered<br>Accounts Daily Average<br>(gallons) | 153,548 | 1,203,103 | 1,744,193 | 5,324,333 | 7,798,710 | 7,918,665 | 7,597,419 | NA  |
| % Fill Station vs. Metered<br>Accounts                        | 0.0000% | 0.0000%   | 0.0039%   | 0.0016%   | 0.0000%   | 0.0000%   | 0.0075%   | NA  |
| Potable Water Daily<br>Average Augmentation<br>(gallons)      | 0       | 0         | 221,667   | 21,967    | 0         | 0         | 11,741    | NA  |

- Ursula Bosson, Customer Service Manager, participated with Craig Jones, Resource Conservation Manager, in an online webinar event for the Isle Utilities AMI Partnership. Staff spoke on the District's experiences with our AMI project and how we are using it for conservation methods. Attendees were from areas such as Las Vegas, Santa Barbara, Washington State, and Ecuador.
- Customer Service staff continue to work on developing report cards to be e-mailed and mailed to customers twice a year. These report cards will highlight customer usage compared to other water users with similar budgets and rank the customer accordingly.
- Customer Service staff continue to work with Information Systems staff on redesigning customer water bills.
- Cason Gilmer, Customer Service Programs Supervisor, oversaw tree trimming at the AMI Latigo Tank Site. The site was down and staff suspected it was an

- overgrown tree blocking the antenna causing the service disruption. After the tree was trimmed, the site successfully started reporting reads again.
- Customer Service staff are working on a program to limit water theft. This program will include working with Resource Conservation and Public Outreach staff to educate customers on what water theft looks like and how to report it.
- Field Customer Service continued recruiting for a six-month limited term position.
- Field Customer Service continued recruiting a Senior Field Operations Technician.
- Cason Gilmer, Customer Service Programs Supervisor, and Ursula Bosson, Customer Service Manager, are participating in a case study for Ferguson/Neptune on the AMI project takeaways and how the District is utilizing AMI going forward for water loss and conservation.
- Derek Krauss, Customer Service Office Supervisor, presented the District's new billing options of reading/billing two set dates each month to the Board on August 19, 2024. These and other changes, including a new "bill look" will take effect in February 2025.
- Customer Service staff had a "Beat the Heat" event on Tuesday August 27, 2024. Staff enjoyed cold treats at the end of the day to cool off.
- Customer Service Office staff attended a "Tips and Tricks" billing training presented by Ursula Bosson, Customer Service Manager, on August 27, 2024.

#### Legislative:

- Staff held bi-weekly calls with Best Best & Krieger (BBK) and Syrus Devers, the District's lobbyists, to obtain updated information on state and federal legislative activity.
- Staff attended a Pure Water Demonstration Facility tour with Assembly Member Jesse Gabriel's staff.
- Staff participated in the Association of California Water Agencies Region 8 call.
- Staff participated in the California Municipal Utilities Legislative Committee Zoom meeting.
- Staff participated in the MWD Legislative Coordinator Meeting.
- Staff attended the Heal the Bay ONE Water Day Event.
- Staff attended the Calabasas Chamber of Commerce Calabasas Mayoral Luncheon.
- Staff participated in the tour of the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility and Pure Water Demonstration Facility with Lake Lindero Homeowners' Association President.
- Staff attended a facilities tour with U.S. Senator Alex Padillia's staff.

- Staff attended a facilities tour with Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath.
- Staff attended a meeting with Malibu Foundation to plan Pollinator Garden.

### Public Affairs and Communications:

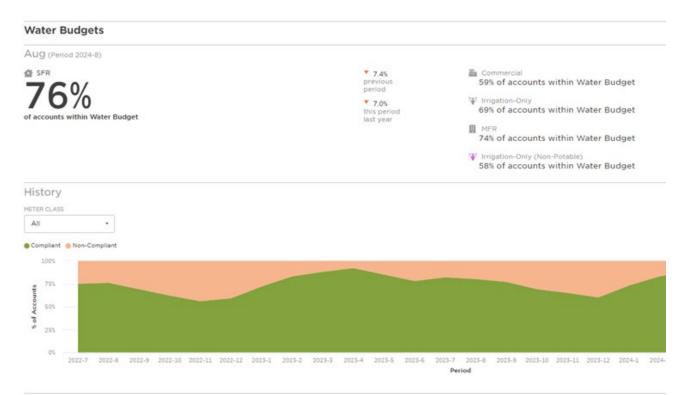
- Pure Water Demonstration Facility Tours (# attendees):
  - 08/06 Assembly Member Jesse Gabriel Staff (Interns) 4
  - 08/23 Lindero HOA Paul Hobbs 2
  - 08/29 Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath 3
- Tapia Water Reclamation Facility Tours:
  - 08/23 Lindero HOA and Paul Hobbs 2
- Pure Beer
  - Worked with Ladyface Brewery for a new batch of pure beer brew completion 09/09
- WateReuse
  - Completed Panel Presentation on Pure Water Demonstration Facility for WateReuse - 09/15
- Turnkey Turf Transformation
  - Selected logos, branding, and finalized narrative for Turnkey Turn Transformation
- News Release
  - Full-scale Landscape Irrigation Efficiency Retrofit Program Launch 08/20
- Articles/Publications
  - Submitted Vox Article about Water Supply Portfolio Diversification
- Full Circle Podcast
  - Recorded episode with Mike McNutt, Public Affairs and Communications Manager – 08/06
- Las Virgenes Unified School District
  - MWD Traveling Art Show arrived late 08/27
  - District will receive the exhibit again in October to make up for lost days.
  - 4th/5th Grade Science Team grant drafted and pending Board approval at the 09/03 Board Meeting
  - Shows that Teach contract extended for the current school year. Scheduling has begun.

### Resource Conservation:

- A total of 76 percent of single-family residences were within their Water Budget for August 2024, which is a decrease from July 2024 (82 percent). See chart next page.
- Cumulative savings associated with leak alerts are estimated based on continuous consumption in WaterSmart. For August 2024, the leak notifications sent to

customers resulted in an estimated 17,937 hundred cubic feet (HCF) of water savings based on a total leak detected volume of 37,211 HCF. 1 HCF is equal to 748 gallons of water. 17,937 HCF is over 13 million gallons of water – enough water to supply 75 households for an entire year.

 The Irrigation Efficiency Retrofit Program (IERP) was launched on August 21, 2024. A press release and email were sent out, which were picked up by several media outlets including *The Acorn*, KCLU, and the Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce. As of August 30th, 140 customers have submitted survey requests to verify eligibility for the program.



 Resource Conservation Intern, Emma Nguyen, selected the recipients of the August Water Warriors Customer Appreciation Awards. The program aims to acknowledge and reward customers who have worked hard to reduce their daily usage through water efficient best practices.





(Photo left) Ilene Chong, recipient of the WISE (Water-Conscious Individual Stewardship and Excellence) Award. (Photo right) Home of Per and Lori Hultin, recipients of the Greenovation Landscape Transformation Award.

- Craig Jones, Resource Conservation Manager, and Cindy Chau, Management Analyst, continue to work closely with West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) and Waterworks District 29 to finalize a three-way Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Drought Resiliency Water Conservation Program (DRWCP) associated with the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Proposition 1 Round 2 grant. A finalized draft has been circulated to partner agencies for final review before the MOU is presented to the Board for approval. West Basin has approved the MOU, and staff are currently waiting for Waterworks District 29 to approve the MOU. Staff recently met with Waterworks District 29 staff to address issues with the MOU, expedite MOU approval, and onboard the Project Manager as soon as possible.
- Cindy Chau, Management Analyst, prepared the second quarterly progress report
  and invoicing to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) as
  required by IRWM Proposition 1 Round 2 guidelines in July. Due to delays in
  receiving progress reports from West Basin and Waterworks District 29, the report
  was delayed. Staff has notified LACFCD, and submitted the completed report in
  August.

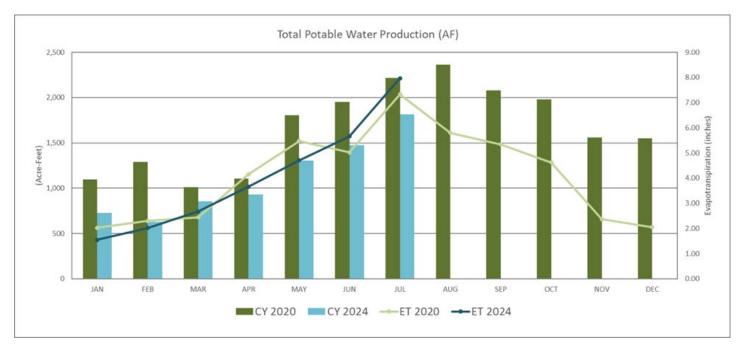
 Resource Conservation staff continue to work with the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) to deploy and monitor motion-activated trail cameras on District property.
 Images captured help inform land management decisions and improve habitat connectivity. Staff continues to see frequent activity from mountain lions, bobcats, foxes, deer, coyotes, and more.





- Resource Conservation staff and West Yost held a monthly grants check-in meeting to provide updates on current grant opportunities. Staff and West Yost continue to encourage any District departments to submit a grant intake form for any future projects to determine grant funding opportunities.
- Craig Jones, Resource Conservation Manager, and Cindy Chau, Management Analyst, are working closely with staff and OceanWell to finalize an agreement for grant funding provided by MWD for the Future Supply Actions Program.
- Resource Conservation staff attended the MWD Water Use Efficiency meeting on August 15, 2024.
- Resource Conservation staff attended the DWR Water Loss and Leak Detection webinar on August 15, 2024.
- Craig Jones, Resource Conservation Manager, staff, and Jeremy Wolf, Legislative Program Manager, held a kick-off meeting with the Malibu Foundation and the City of Calabasas to discuss Phase 1 of the Bark Park Butterfly Garden.
- Cindy Chau, Management Analyst, attended a workshop regarding upcoming grant auditing requirements.
- Craig Jones, Resource Conservation Manager, and staff held a meeting with the City of Westlake Village and Turnkey Turf Transformation Program staff to discuss next steps for landscape transformation of specified medians according to the grant timeline.
- Alexa Hendricks, Resource Conservation Supervisor, attended CalWEP's Fall Plenary on August 29, 2024.
- Staff are planning events for the Fall Sustainable Landscape Workshop Series.
   Four workshops have been scheduled, including Firescaping and Native Garden Maintenance. A full list of events can be found at https://www.lvmwd.com/community-resources/landscape-classes

Water Production/Conservation through July 2024 (August metrics not yet available): District customers used 18 percent less potable water and 16 percent less recycled water compared to July 2020. Potable water consumption is down 27% year to date compared to the same period in 2020. Recycled water consumption is down 39% year to date compared to the same period in 2020.





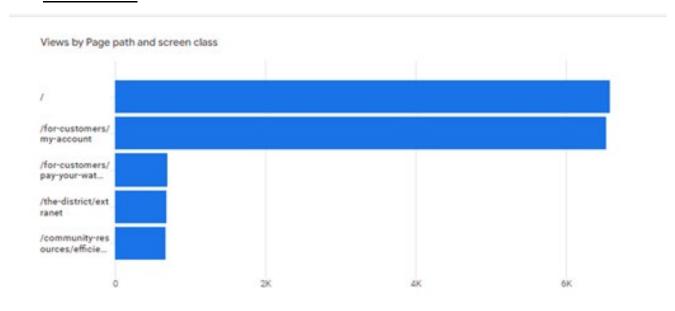
| Conservation<br>reduction (-)<br>from 2020                               | Jan  | Feb  | Mar  | Apr  | May  | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Running<br>Average | EOY Target<br>(Monthly<br>Average) |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| Potable<br>Conservation  | -34% | -51% | -15% | -16% | -28% | -24% | -18% |     |      |     |     |     | -27%               | -20%                               |
| Recycle<br>Conservation  | -56% | -85% | -45% | -19% | -26% | -25% | -16% |     |      |     |     |     | -39%               | -20%                               |
| ET 2024 VS.<br>2020  | -24% | -12% | 9%   | -12% | -14% | 13%  | 9%   |     |      |     |     |     | NA                 | NA                                 |
| ET Adjusted Potable Water Conservation Effort (2024 v. 2020)             | -13% | -44% | -23% | -5%  | -16% | -33% | -25% |     |      |     |     |     | -23%               | NA                                 |
| ET Adjusted<br>Recycle Water<br>Conservation<br>Effort (2024 v.<br>2020) | -42% | -83% | -50% | -8%  | -14% | -34% | -23% |     |      |     |     |     | -36%               | NA                                 |

| Landscape<br>Transformation<br>Program | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Running Total | EOY Target |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|---------------|------------|
| # Landscape<br>Participants            | 1   | 2   | 6   | 6   | 4   | 5    | 4    |     |      |     |     |     | 28            | 200        |
| # Gardening<br>Workshops               | 0   | 1   | 2   | 0   | 0   | 0    | 0    |     |      |     |     |     | 3             | 4          |
| # WBICs<br>Installed                   | 21  | 4   | 3   | 24  | 60  | 49   | 0    |     |      |     |     |     | 161           | 500        |
| # Irrigation<br>Retrofit Sign-<br>Ups  | 83  | 24  | 2   | 4   | 0   | 2    | 0    |     |      |     |     |     | 115           | NA         |
| #Irrigation<br>Retrofit Installs       | 10  | 12  | 40  | 18  | 0   | 0    | 0    |     |      |     |     |     | 80            | NA         |

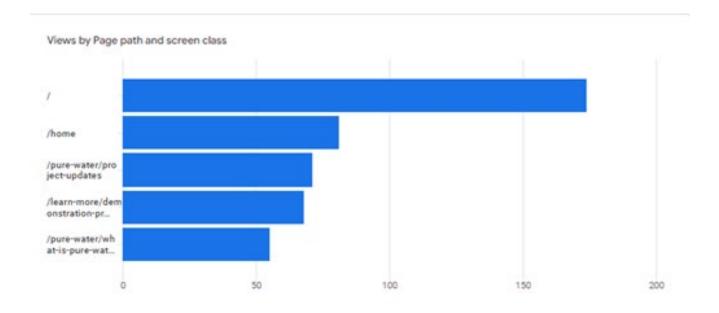
<u>Digital Outreach Summary</u>: August presented the District's communications team with the opportunity to use digital platforms to raise awareness surrounding the amazing work the District does in supplying the highest quality water to District customers with National Water Quality Month.

# Top Pages/Acquisition and Behavior Analytics:

### LVMWD.com:



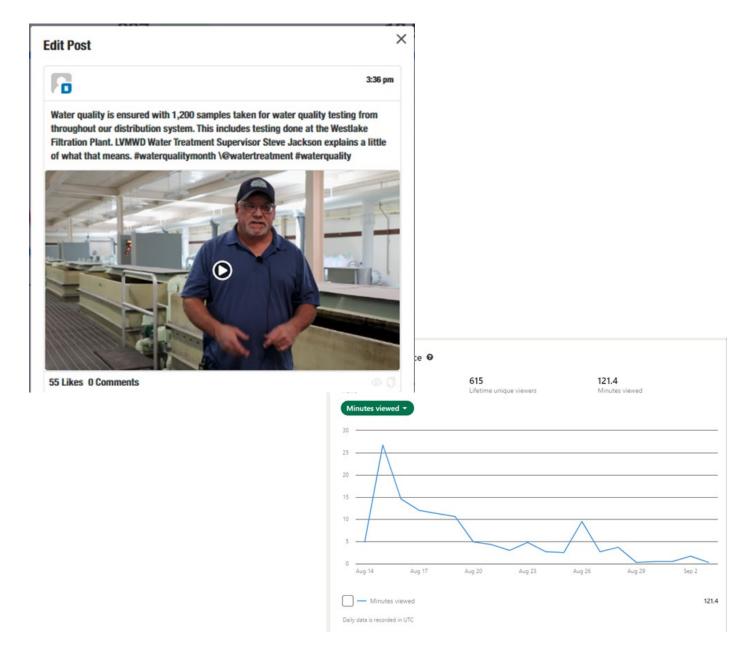
## OurPureH2O.com:



In August, a total of 77 updates were made to the website, 10,113 users visited LVMWD.com, and 382 users visited OurPureH2O.com. The Project Updates page and the Irrigation Retrofit page experienced excellent traffic in August. Analytics continue to

show customers use our website mostly to pay their bill by the disproportionate amount of traffic the My Account page receives. OurPureH2O.com will be a priority in August as staff updates content with information provided by the Walsh Design-Build Team and adds the second season of the Full Circle Podcast.

<u>Social Media Metrics Top Performer</u>: August's top performer was the August 14th post in honor of Water Quality Month that features Steve Jackson, Water Treatment Supervisor, explaining how water quality is ensured at the Westlake Filtration Plant. This post performed well across all platforms, but especially well on LinkedIn with 1,324 impressions and 653 views (photo and analytics below).



<u>Social Media Analytics</u>: Public Affairs has recently contracted with SocialNewsDesk for Social Media Management, Listening, and Reporting.

### **Social Media Metrics**:

| Post Time<br>Aug 01 - Aug 31 ~ | Posted By Showing all ~ |        |                         |    | Account<br>Showing all v |                 |     | Post Type<br>Showing all ~ |                           | Post Content<br>Showing all ~ |        |                      |     |           |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------------|----|--------------------------|-----------------|-----|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------|----------------------|-----|-----------|
| Posts 87 - +39%                |                         |        | Clicks <b>85</b> * +81% |    | Sec.                     | Video Views 987 |     |                            | Impressions 12,940 • +44% |                               |        | Engagement 642 -207% |     |           |
| Facebook                       | 22                      | A +41% | Facebook                | 85 | A +81%                   | Facebook        | 144 | a +36%                     | Facebook                  | 1,699                         | A +38% | Facebook             | 63  | A +32%    |
| Instagram                      | 23                      | A +43% | Instagram               | 0  |                          | Instagram       | 722 | A +37%                     | Instagram                 | 1,772                         | A +34% | Instagram            | 107 | A +19%    |
| X/Twitter                      | 17                      | + +24% | X/Twitter               | 0  |                          | X/Twitter       | 0   |                            | X/Twitter                 | 1,088                         | A +85% | X/Twitter            | 118 | ▼ -1,280% |
| Youtube                        | 9                       | A +22% | Youtube                 | 0  |                          | Youtube         | 121 | A +34%                     | Youtube                   | 0                             |        | Youtube              | 13  | A +62%    |
| LinkedIn                       | 16                      | a +56% | LinkedIn                | 0  |                          | LinkedIn        | 0   |                            | LinkedIn                  | 8,381                         | A +41% | LinkedIn             | 341 | A +39%    |

<u>Analysis</u>: Once again there was good performance on LinkedIn in August, and there continued to be lack of engagement on Twitter/X though impressions did rise by 85 percent from July. LinkedIn is an important part of the District's digital outreach, but tends to not be customer focused as almost 40 percent of our followers on LinkedIn are from outside the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area. LinkedIn is critical to our recruiting outreach, as well as continuing to promote the District as a leader in the water industry.

This month staff used a multiplatform approach to drive traffic to the Irrigation Retrofit page. This coincided with the launch of the full-scale program, and staff employed all social media channels, print advertising, and a news release, as well as an e-blast. The combined efforts resulted in 664 views from 482 users and over 140 requests for surveys. This effort matches the monthly results from some of the digital placements performed by AdTaxi, outpacing traffic to the Rebates and Advanced Meter pages. Landscape Transformation traffic is shown below.

|    |   | <u>Views</u> | <u>Users</u> |
|----|---|--------------|--------------|
| 1  | 7   | 6,581        | 4,509        |
| 2  | /for-customers/my-account   | 6,530        | 2,979        |
| 3  | /for-customers/pay-your-water-bill  | 692          | 545          |
| 4  | /the-district/extranet  | 687          | 131          |
| 5  | /community-resources/efficient-outdoor-water-use/landscape-transformation-resources | 678          | 631          |
| 6  | /community-resources/irrigation-retrofit  | 664          | 482          |
| 7  | /Sys/Sso/Login  | 598          | 193          |
| 8  | /home   | 537          | 313          |
| 9  | /community-resources/rebates  | 522          | 463          |
| 10 | /our-services/construction-projects/lvmwd-advanced-meter-program                    | 515          | 425          |

<u>30-Day Strategy</u>: September will feature content from the upcoming WateReuse Conference, a continued push for the Irrigation Retrofit Program, and the release of the Full Circle Pod

#### V. Finance and Administration

<u>Fiscal Year 2023-24 Financial Reporting:</u> Finance staff worked on closing financial reporting for Fiscal Year 2023-24 and continued to prepare for the annual independent audit scheduled to take place in September.

<u>Fiscal Years 2024-26 Budget Submission</u>: Finance staff submitted the District's Fiscal Years 2024-26 Budget to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for consideration of its annual award.

<u>Ten-Year Internal Rate Projections</u>: Finance staff worked on updating the ten-year water and sanitation rate projections along with average residential bill impacts as part of a forthcoming Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo funding and financing presentation at the September 3, 2024 JPA meeting.

<u>Electronic Document Management System (EDMS)</u>: Information Systems staff published a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking proposals from qualified firms to offer Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) Procurement and Implementation Consulting Services. Staff received five proposals and will be evaluating them in the next few weeks and selecting the proposal that best meet the District's requirements. The selected firm will also provide Project Management support for the comprehensive EDMS implementation.

### SCADA:

Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility DCS Migration to SCADA: Staff and the RoviSys company (RoviSys) began work on commissioning the new SCADA system on the digester and dewatering process areas at the Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility. A significant portion of the Compost Reactor and Compost Cure process areas were commissioned last July. Staff anticipates that most of the plant will be working on the upgraded system by the end of September 2024.

<u>Tapia Water Reclamation Facility iGreen System Implementation</u>: Information Systems staff continues to work with IOSight to deploy the iGreen Water/Wastewater Data management platform to the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility. Various dashboards and reports have been deployed for staff to review and provide feedback.

Recruitment and Selection Status: The District is currently in the process of filling the positions of Assistant/Associate Engineer, Water Reclamation Plant Operator I/II/III/OIT, Senior Water Distribution Operator, Senior Field Operations Technician, Principal Engineer, Water Systems Manager/Engineer, Field Operations Technician I/II, and Water Distribution Operator I/II. These recruitments are in various stages of the recruitment

process, ranging from the application filing period to the on-boarding stage. Staff bid farewell to Erick Rivas, Water Distribution Operator II, and Ramiro Gomez, Water Reclamation Plant Operator I.

<u>Service Awards/Anniversaries</u>: The following employees celebrated anniversaries in August: Travis Garman, Customer Service Operations Supervisor, 15 years; Ivo Nkwenji, Information Systems Manager, five years; Cindy Chau, Management Analyst I, one year; and Alexander Montano, Network & Security Technician, one year. Staff extends congratulations to Travis, Ivo, Cindy, and Alexander on reaching these milestones!

<u>Training/Safety</u>: During the month of August, all staff were provided with Slips, Trips, and Falls Prevention training, and select staff were provided with Asbestos Awareness training, in Vector Solutions, and were provided with 30 days to complete the training. Select staff were also provided with hands-on Asbestos Cement Pipe training.

<u>Collective Bargaining</u>: The District's Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with the General and Office Unit, Supervisor, Professional, Confidential (SPC) Unit, and Management Unit will expire on December 31, 2024. The District entered collective bargaining negotiations with all four units.

<u>Special Events</u>: August's Lunch and Learn was presented by Liz Smith, Purchasing Supervisor, and Brian Richie, Finance Manager, on the procurement process (photos below).





## VI. Upcoming Meetings and Events

- Monday Thursday September 9th 12th CSDA Annual Conference, Indian Wells
- Sunday Tuesday September 15th 17th WateReuse California Conference,
   Garden Grove
- Tuesday, September 17th LVMWD Regular Board Meeting Canceled
- Wednesday, September 18th ACWA CLE Workshop Series Webinar
- Thursday, September 19th AWAVC Elected Officials Reception, Reagan Library
- Wednesday, September 25th ACWA CLE Workshop Series Webinar
- Tuesday, October 1st LVMWD Regular Board Meeting
- Wednesday, October 2nd ACWA CLE Workshop Series Webinar
- Monday, October 7th JPA Regular Board Meeting @ TWSD
- Thursday, October 10th Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission Governing Board Meeting
- Tuesday, October 15th LVMWD Regular Board Meeting
- Thursday, October 17th AWAVC WaterWise Program
- Tuesday, October 29th LVMWD Special Board Meeting