



# General Manager's Monthly Report



## Activities for the Month of **November 2025**

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# Message from the General Manager

When I first joined Metropolitan 30 years ago, the agency was beginning construction of Diamond Valley Lake. It was impossible to not be awestruck by the sheer magnitude of our organization – embarking on one of the largest earthworks projects in the nation, to build Southern California’s largest reservoir, to serve a population larger than 46 states.

In the decades since, that initial awe has sometimes faded into the day-to-day task of managing. Fortunately, I continue to experience the extraordinary nature of Metropolitan in more every day moments. We remain at the forefront, pushing boundaries, trying new things, and showing ourselves to be the regional leader we have always been. In my final months at Metropolitan, I have found myself appreciating the collective greatness of seemingly smaller actions.

The recent start of the shutdown season is one such example, when our Operations teams carefully inspect and repair more than 1,000 miles of pipeline, open aqueduct and other critical infrastructure across our system. It’s an annual routine, but its importance cannot be overstated – each inspection and repair ensures Metropolitan’s continued ability to fulfill its mission to reliably deliver water to communities across the region. And the symphonic coordination of this work, involving hundreds of Metropolitan staff, member agencies and contractors across our service area, while still delivering water, is truly remarkable.

Last month, Metropolitan also launched a campaign to help businesses and institutions comply with the new state law prohibiting the use of potable water for irrigation of used grass, legislation sponsored by Metropolitan. As part of this effort, we are offering our largest ever rebate for grass removal and replacement – \$7 per square foot! Through these actions, and many others over the past decade, we are literally changing the landscape of Southern California.

We also took a new step in November to protect our facilities and neighboring communities from wildfires with the opening of two new helicopter dip tanks at Diemer Water Treatment Plant and Palos Verdes Reservoir. Never before have we supported regional firefighting in this way, but as we face the growing threat of more extreme wildfires, we know our climate adaptation must take us in new directions.

These actions and activities may not feel on par with building a new reservoir. But sometimes you need to look closely to see the big things. And as I enjoy my final days at Metropolitan, I am every bit in awe of this organization today as I was 30 years ago.

Deven Upadhyay  
General Manager



The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a state-established regional cooperative of 26 cities and public water agencies, which collectively serve nearly 19 million people in six counties. Metropolitan imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies and supports its members through the development of increased conservation, recycling, storage and other resource management programs.

Following are important highlights for this month on four goals of the GM Business Plan.



Hoover Dam Arizona spillway, photo by Connie Castle, Department of Interior.

## Goal: Develop Post-2026 Guidelines and Negotiate Implementation Agreements

Metropolitan staff and other Colorado River contractors in California are heavily engaged with Colorado River Basin States and the Department of Interior to forge a consensus agreement on new Operational Guidelines for the Colorado River. The current Guidelines, which include provisions for Lower Basin shortages and storage of Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS), expire at the end of the 2026 water year. Last summer, the Department of Interior developed a roadmap to have the new Guidelines in place by the fall of 2026. Included in that roadmap was a goal to reach consensus on the principles of an agreement among the Basin States by November 11, 2025. While much work was put in to reaching that agreement, the Basin States did not meet that target date.

Interior issued a statement that much progress has been made, and work with the Basin States continues toward the next target dates. Interior has now set December 15 as the target for completion of Phase 1 of the agreement, which would establish Operational Guidelines for the next five years, and February 14, 2026 as the goal for completion of Phase 2 of the agreement, which would guide operations for the following 15 years.

In Metropolitan's view, the components of that agreement should include: provisions for Upper Basin conservation programs; use of storage in federal reservoirs upstream of Lake Powell; criteria for the release of water from Lake Powell to Lake Mead; reductions required during times of shortage; and provisions for Lower Basin ICS. If terms can be agreed to on those components by February 14, then agreements would be drafted so they can be executed and implemented in time for water year 2027. A consensus agreement is needed to allow for solutions that reduce use of Colorado River water with the least amount of impact and uncertainty. For example, strategies can provide users access to water when they need it most and opportunities to store water in the system when they don't.



Metropolitan's Colorado River Aqueduct.



Working towards  
Consensus

## Goal: Execute CAMP4W Implementation Strategy to Integrate Climate Adaptation District Wide

Staff is making significant progress to implement the CAMP4W decision-making framework, which will support the board's consideration of a number of important decisions in the coming months.

Consistent with the adaptive management approach integral to the CAMP4W Implementation Strategy, we have updated the Integrated Resources Plan Needs Assessment with newly available information and to improve our understanding of the range of supply risks faced in the coming 20 years. This recent update was done ahead of the normal annual schedule in order to include the latest information in CAMP4W Assessments of portfolio views that explore how investments might be combined and sequenced.

A few initial combinations of supply, storage and water management approaches are being assessed to provide a greater ability to compare the attributes of different projects and a better understanding of how each project can perform in the context of other investments. Projects can then be further refined, reorganized into other combinations, or deferred in pursuit of a more optimal and flexible sequence of investments. We believe these analyses will provide valuable and improved insight for the board when making decisions on upcoming projects.

These steps have been discussed in and informed by recent meetings with member agency managers as well as the board's subcommittee on CAMP4W. We are planning to meet again with the member agency managers in January 2026 and to present assessment findings to the Subcommittee on CAMP4W in February.



Measuring Risk over  
a 20-year Horizon



*The High Desert Water Bank is a partnership between Metropolitan and the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency to store State Water Project supplies in the Antelope Valley groundwater basin.*



*View of Upper Feather River watershed.*

**Goal: Decide on Sites Reservoir and Protect our Bay Delta Interests**

Last fall, Metropolitan’s Board of Directors authorized funding for three pilot investigations in the northern Sierra to evaluate the cost-effectiveness and potential benefits of improved forest health on water supply resilience and water quality. The forest restoration programs use an innovative finance model known as a Forest Resilience Bond and are managed by the non-profit Blue Forest, which was founded to advance restoration projects through partnerships. The financing mechanism combines public and private funding to expedite restoration efforts that otherwise could take decades to accomplish.

Board Chair Adán Ortega, Jr. and Metropolitan Director Shepherd Romey recently led an inspection trip that started in the upper watershed to continue building relationships with local leaders and to examine the projects and progress being made by Blue Forest. This trip is the third time Metropolitan directors have visited the upper watershed this year. Last month’s trip included a stop in Yuba City, where directors learned about other successful watershed management projects, and concluded in the Delta with presentations by the Delta Watermaster and in-Delta farmers. Together, these trips have focused attention on a wide range of improvements that advance Metropolitan’s interests in the health and natural infrastructure of the northern Sierra watersheds and the Delta, which underlie the reliability of supplies through the State Water Project.



*Inspection trips build understanding and educate community leaders.*



**Building Relationships  
for Water Resilience**

## Goal: Improve the Workplace and Promote START Values

A new five-year contract for security guard services, approved by the board in November, will enhance security capabilities to protect Metropolitan's employees and facilities. As the threat landscape continues to grow in severity and complexity, security improvements in the contract will augment our existing 24/7 security coverage with:

- Standardized security resources District-wide with increased staffing, armed security officers, and emergency surge capacity
- Patrols at Metropolitan's islands in the Delta
- Coverage at the Pure Water Southern California Napolitano Innovation Center
- Support for workplace violence investigations through comprehensive background checks, threat assessments, and behavioral risk analysis
- Open-source intelligence gathering and analysis to identify and plan for emerging threats
- The integration of new technologies, including aerial and ground robotics

Securitas, which is Metropolitan's existing security contractor, was selected for the new contract through a competitive bid process. Continuing a contract model for critical security activities allows trained security staff to respond to threats without diverting water treatment plant and system operators from their core operational responsibilities.



Adding Security Measures to Protect Metropolitan's People and Assets



*Enhanced security at our facilities are among the safety improvements in place.*

## New Aerial Firefighting Capabilities

By Nikki DuranAubrecht, Engineering Services Group, Diemer plant engineer

### INFRASTRUCTURE RELIABILITY

Metropolitan's first helicopter hydrant facility was dedicated November 6, 2025 at the Robert B. Diemer Water Treatment Plant in Yorba Linda. The new facility consists of one 15-diameter by 8-ft high Heli-Hydrant™ and a 75-ft by 75-ft emergency landing zone for firefighting operations. The large open water tank holds 8,500 gallons of water and can be continuously refilled in less than 10 minutes via gravity-fed treated water from East Orange County Feeder #2. Helicopters hover overhead, fill directly, and return to the fire line in minutes. The Diemer Heli-Hydrant™ can be remotely operated by Metropolitan staff from the plant control room, on the ground, or by firefighters from the flight deck while in the air. This minimizes risk for ground crews, reduces flight time and increases firefighting efficiency.

### IMPORTANCE TO METROPOLITAN

The project was a collaboration between Metropolitan and Yorba Linda Water District using a \$500k grant YLWD secured from the U.S. Forest Service. Metropolitan provided additional funding along with key staff to design and construct the facility. The Diemer Helicopter Hydrant Facility complements two existing helicopter hydrants owned by YLWD, expanding aerial firefighting coverage in fire prone areas. The collaboration reflects Metropolitan's commitment towards protecting public safety, ultimately helping save lives, property and the environment.



Diemer plant engineer Nikki DuranAubrecht (fourth from the left) with team responsible for the helicopter hydrant facility construction.



More than 100 guests were onsite to dedicate the new facility that improves aerial firefighting capabilities.

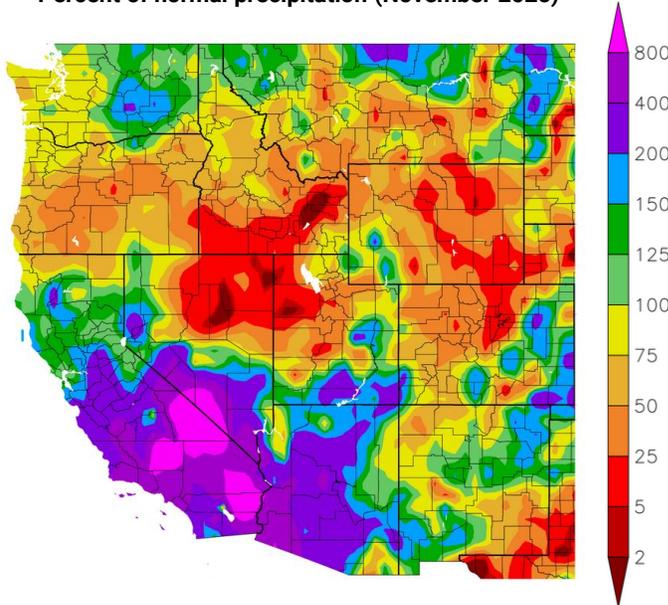
### MEMORABLE MOMENT

My memorable moment was during the first flight test with Orange County Fire Authority, when the project came to life and OCFA said it was the best facility to date. The helicopter hovered over the tank, rotor wash hit our faces, the pilot dropped the snorkel and successfully drew water. That first flight made all the challenges the team faced worthwhile. I felt a sense of pride for myself and all who worked on the project because one day this facility will save someone's life and property.

# November 2025 Report

Extended Report: [mwdh2o.com/WSCR](https://mwdh2o.com/WSCR)

Percent of normal precipitation (November 2025)



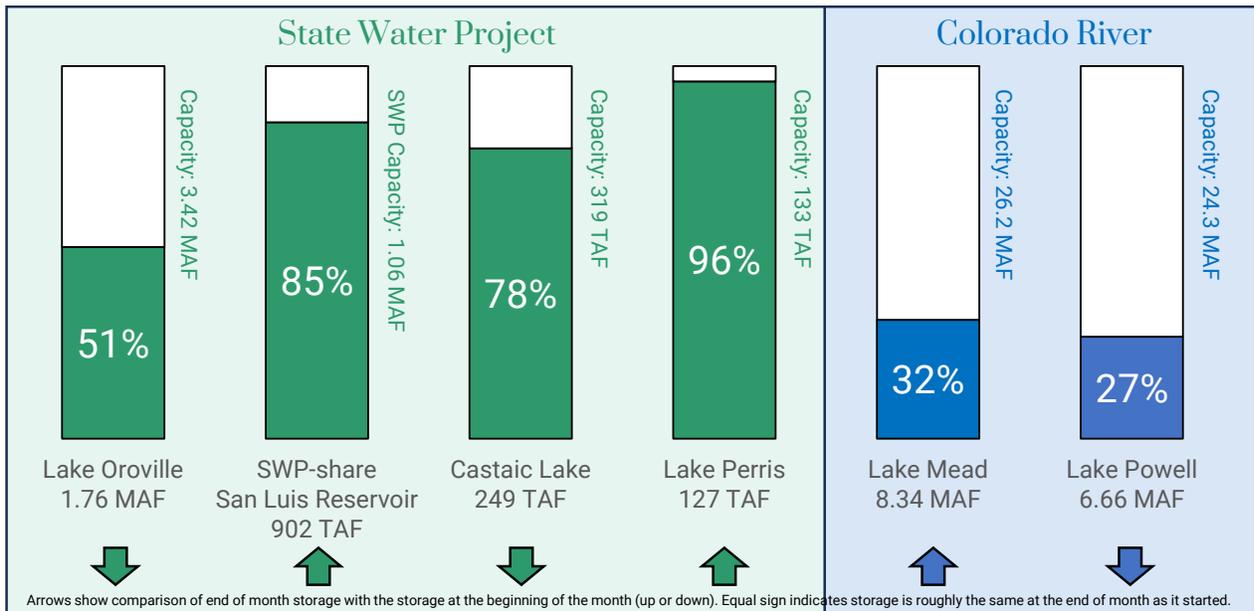
Continuing the trend of a good start for the water year, atmospheric rivers brought 1.65 inches of precipitation to Downtown Los Angeles on November 15<sup>th</sup> for a total of 5.53 inches for the month.

The Northern Sierra 8 Station Index observed 7.7 inches of rain (145% of normal) and the San Joaquin 5 Station Index experienced 6.7 inches (186% of normal).

However, the Upper Colorado River Basin only received 1.32 inches of precipitation bringing the total cumulative to 98% of normal for this time of the year.

HPRCC Climate Summary

<https://hprcc.unl.edu/products/maps/acis/wrcc/Last1mPNormWRCC.png>



# The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

## Monthly Operations At-A-Glance

**November 2025**

30-day window: October 18–November 17

### Distribution \* denotes change compared to previous 30-Day period

30-Day Member Agency Deliveries

**3,860 AF/Day**

Change in Deliveries\*

▶ **0 AF/Day**

Recorded **October** Deliveries to Member Agencies  
Consumptive and Replenishment

**124 TAF**

Forecast **November** Deliveries to Member Agencies  
Consumptive and Replenishment

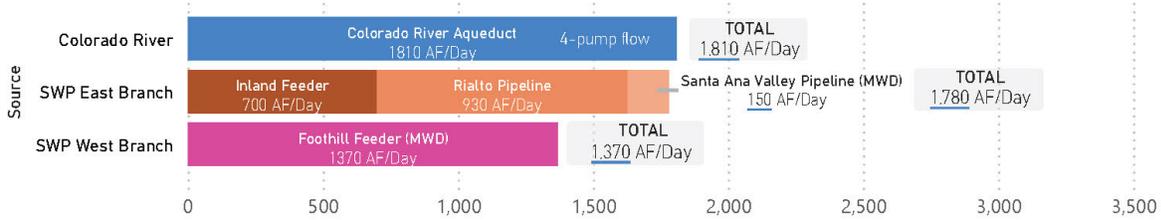
**98 TAF**

Recorded **October**  
Deliveries utilizing  
water programs  
(CYC, RCYC, CUP, CCOP)

**0 TAF**

### Supply

30-Day Average by Source (AF/Day)



### Storage

Data as of November 17, 2025

Lake Mathews

161,900 AF

▲ 4,170 AF\*



Lake Skinner

42,100 AF

▲ 4,020 AF\*



Diamond Valley Lake

764,600 AF

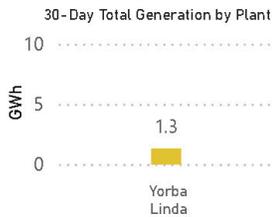
▼ -1,910 AF\*



### Hydropower

30-Day Total Generation:  
**1.3 GWh**

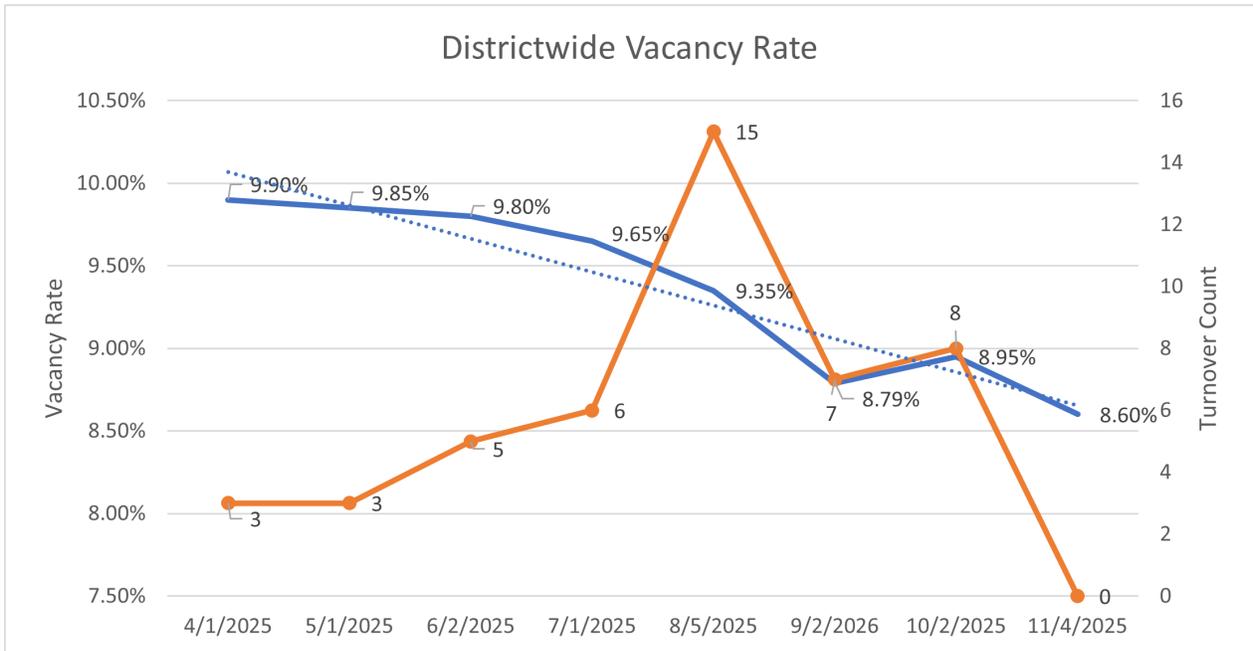
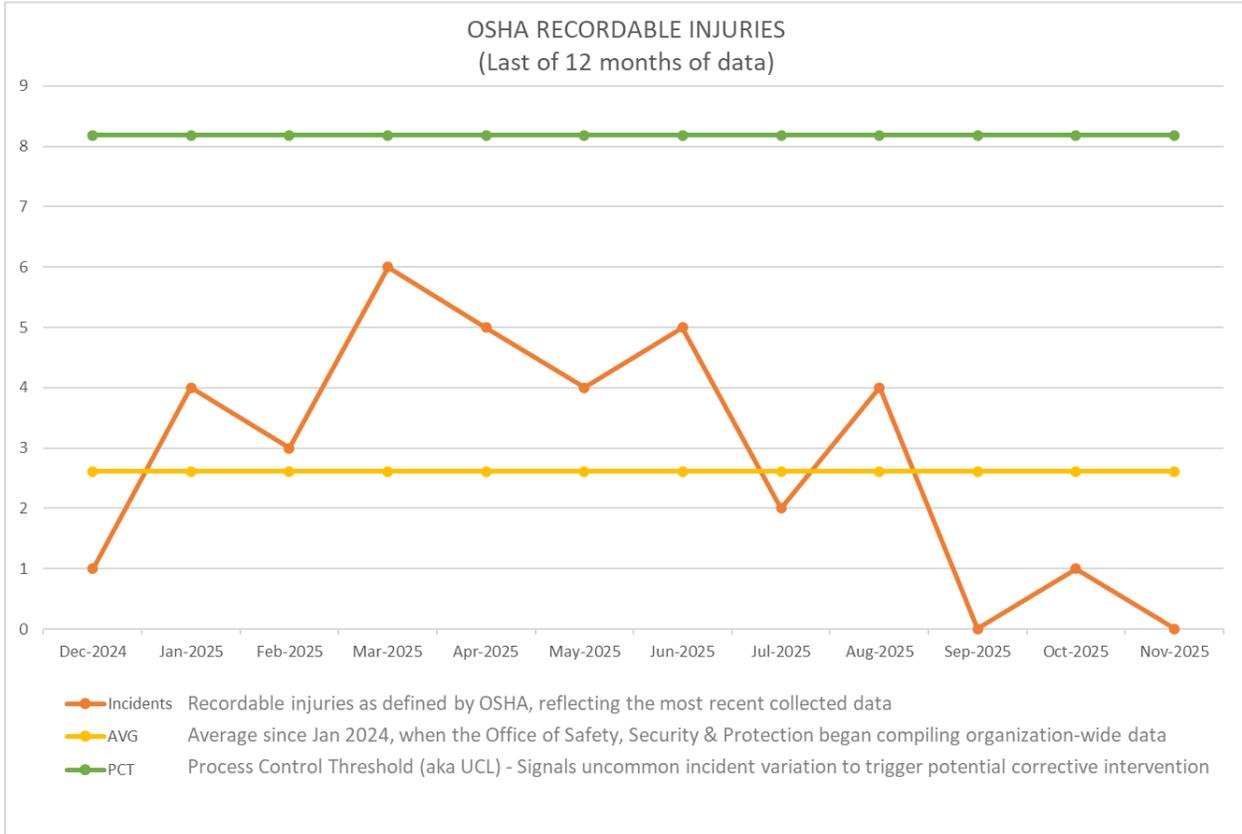
30-Day Average Power:  
**1.8 MW**



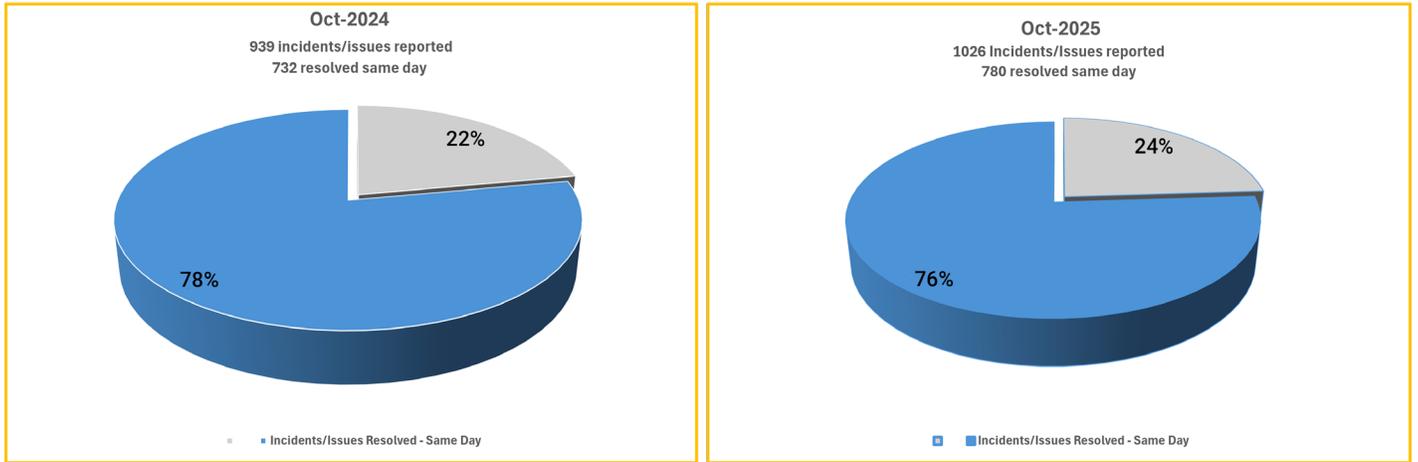
### Water Quality

Plant Name	Targeted Blend (% SPW)	Current TDS (mg/L)	TTHMs (µg/L)	Flow-Weighted RAA TDS (mg/L) October 2024 - September 2025
	As of 11/17/2025	As of 11/12/2025	As of 10/20/2025	
Weymouth	75%	280	26.0	476
Diemer	75%	270	23.0	485
Skinner	75%	447	17.0	482
Jensen	100%	272	10.0	294
Mills	100%	293	18.0	173

TDS = Total Dissolved Solids    TTHM = Total Trihalomethanes    RAA = Running Annual Average

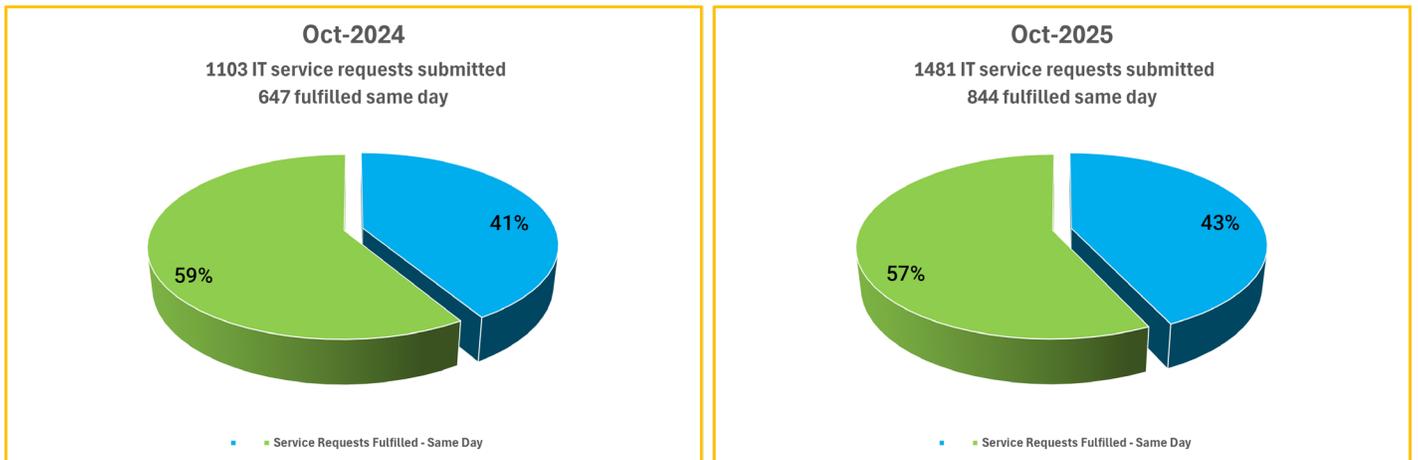


## IT Incidents/Issues Reported vs Resolved within Same Day Oct-2024 Vs Oct-2025



**IT Service Request:** An unexpected interruption/error is encountered and reported by an IT customer while using an IT application or system or a device.

## IT Service Requests Submitted vs Fulfilled Same Day Oct-2024 Vs Oct-2025



**IT Service Request:** A formal request by an IT customer for something standard, such as a password reset, new hardware, or software access, that follows a routine fulfillment process.



Metropolitan's mission is to provide its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

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