

Massachusetts Water Resources Authority

Presentation to

MWRA Advisory Board

MWRA Year End Highlights and Look Ahead

September 18, 2025



Boston Harbor Case

- Construction of Deer Island and historic clean up of Boston Harbor
- Have also made significant progress in reducing CSOs over the past 35+ years
 - Spent \$1 Billion
 - CSOs have been reduced by 88%
 - 3.3 billion gallon of CSO has been reduced to 401 million gallons in the typical year
 - 94% of remaining CSO flows are treated
 - 78 of 86 outfalls met or materially met
- Just this year...
 - Work is underway on Somerville Marginal Project allowing two more CSOs to materially meet
 - A project will soon be bid to raise a weir at CAM005
 - BWSC continues Sewer Separation work in South and East Boston
- Now the focus is continuing to work in the variance waters



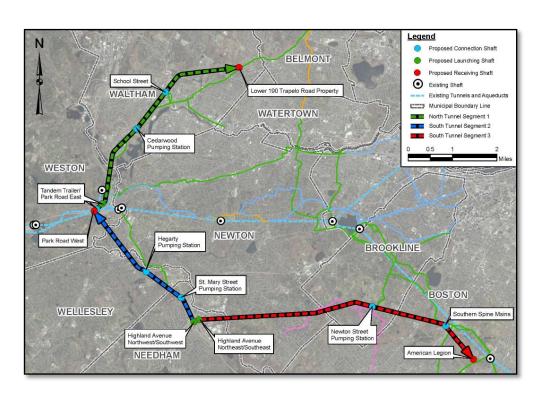


Updated CSO Control Plan

- Surface Water Quality Variances for the Lower Charles River, Alewife Brook and Upper Mystic require an Updated CSO Control Plan
- Evaluating alternatives to further reduce or eliminate CSO's in these waterbodies with Cambridge and Somerville
- Presented a range of alternatives to Board yesterday
- Preliminary capital cost estimates range \$400 Million \$5.6 Billion
- Must submit Draft Updated CSO Control Plan by December 31, 2025
- Advisory Board and public input critically important



Metropolitan Water Tunnel Program



- Final Design was awarded to WSP in October 2024
- Geotechnical Investigations and Public Outreach continue
- Looking Forward
 - Construction Management
 - Owner's Rep
 - Land Acquisition

All while maintaining commitment to MWRA's long-term capital program



Dorchester Tunnel Drilling Incident

- Oct 2024 geothermal contractor drilled into Dorchester Tunnel on Brookline
- Staff utilized surface mains to maintain water service with no interruption to water quality
- Tunnel was repaired with inflatable packer without dewatering the tunnel
- Highlights the need for redundancy!





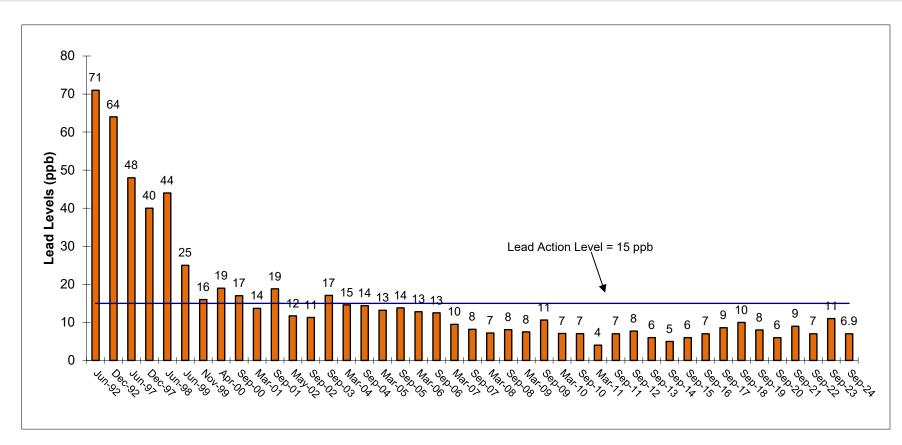
Lead in Drinking Water

- MWRA water is lead-free when it leaves the reservoirs, and MWRA and local water mains do not add lead to the water. However, lead can get into water through a lead service line or household plumbing
- System-wide, MWRA has been below EPA's Lead Action Level for many years





2024 Lead Results – 6.9 ppb compared to 15 ppb Action Level





Lead Service Line Replacement Program

- LSL Replacement Program
 - Have provided \$64.85 million to 21 communities since 2016
 - In 2024, added \$100 million and a 25% grant component
- LSL Replacement is critical to avoid needing to add orthophosphate
- Continuing significant outreach to every community



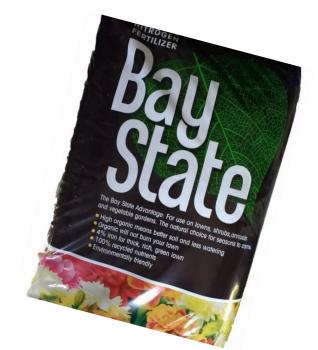


Water

MWRA's drinking water already meets
new PFAS Drinking Water Standards

Wastewater

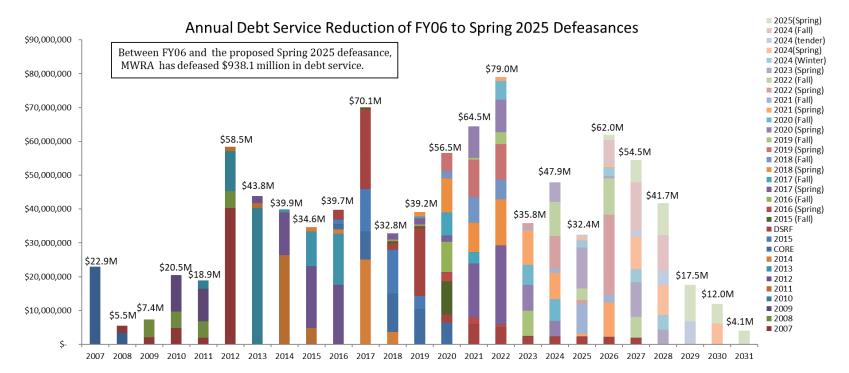
- Continue to monitor the situation on the wastewater side.
- Uncertainty regarding land application of biosolids in the future





Management of Outstanding Debt

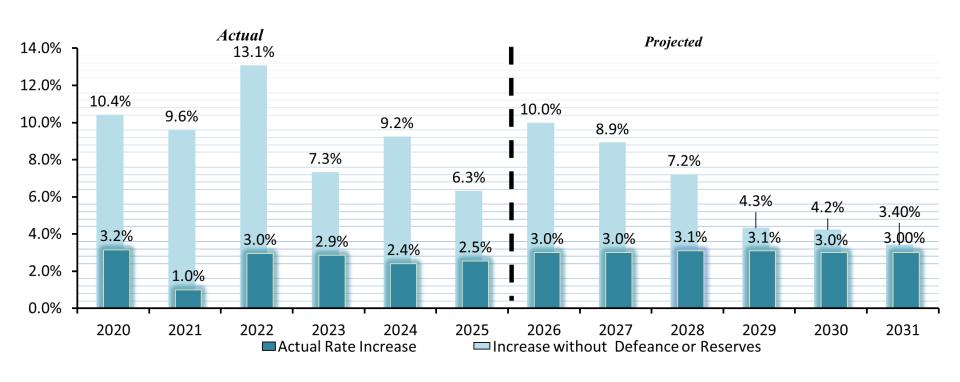
- Since 2006, over \$938 million in available funds has been used defease ("pre-pay") debt service to manage rate increases and saving over \$48 million in avoided interest costs.
- The multi-year defeasance strategy allows MWRA to manage rates over the long-term





Rates Management

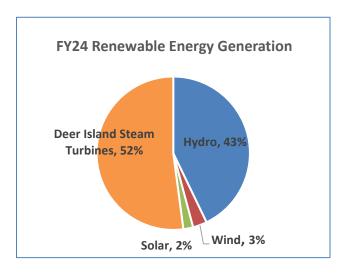
 Budgetary controls and active debt management including defeasances has limited Actual and Projected Rate Increases.





Energy and Sustainability

- Long standing commitment to renewable energy and energy savings
- Using biogas, wind, solar and hydro generated ~58 million kWh in FY24 at a value of nearly \$8m in avoided purchased energy costs







Energy Initiatives Looking Forward

- New Combined Head & Power
- Deer Island Canopy and Roof Solar
- Norumbega Solar
- Deer Island Wind Turbine Replacement
- Building Electrification
- Large-Scale Battery Energy Storage Feasibility Study
- Wastewater Energy Recovery Pilot Opportunities
- Additional EV Chargers











Quinapoxet River Restoration

