



# **WATER SUPPLY ASSESSMENT FOR THE FOX FUTURE PROJECT**

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## References

1. Upper Los Angeles River Area Watermaster Report for 2019/2020 (December 2021)
2. Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's 2020 Urban Water Management Plan
3. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's 2020 Urban Water Management Water Plan
4. California Code of Regulations Title 23. Waters, Division 2. Department of Water Resources, Chapter 2.7. Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance
5. City of Los Angeles' Department of Public Works Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN) Sewer Generation Rates Table (2012)

## Appendices

- A. City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning letter, Request for Water Supply Assessment, received on September 23, 2024, and Scope Confirmation e-mail received on March 6, 2025
- B. Water Conservation Commitments for the Fox Future Project Letter
- C. Project Location Map
- D. Adjudicated Groundwater Basin Judgments

## Introduction

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A Water Supply Assessment (WSA) includes an analysis of the sufficiency of a public water system to meet a proposed development's anticipated water demand. Per California Water Code (CWC) Sections 10910-10915, a WSA is required for specified types of development projects subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and is prepared by the public water system that supplies water to the proposed project. The water supplier will determine whether the projected water demand associated with the proposed project was accounted for in the water supplier's most recently adopted Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) and that there is an adequate 20-year water supply. For the City of Los Angeles (City), the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's (LADWP) 2020 UWMP serves as the City's master plan for reliable water supply and resources management consistent with the LADWP's goals and policy objectives.

The City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning (Planning Department), serving as the CEQA lead agency for the proposed Fox Future Project (Project), has identified LADWP as the public water system that will supply water to the Project. In response to Planning Department's request for a WSA on September 23, 2024, LADWP has performed the assessment contained herein.

The WSA is prepared to meet the applicable requirements of CWC Sections 10910-10915. Significant references and data for this WSA are from LADWP's 2020 UWMP, adopted by the Board of Water and Power Commissioners (Board) on May 25, 2021. LADWP's 2020 UWMP is incorporated by reference and is available through LADWP's website, [www.ladwp.com/uwmp](http://www.ladwp.com/uwmp).

LADWP's 2020 UWMP details the department's plans to meet all of the City's current and 25-year projected water needs. LADWP is planning for projected water demands and variable hydrology through expansion of local water supply programs and reduction of purchased imported water. These local water supply programs include significant investments in local groundwater, recycled water, stormwater capture, and water conservation and water-use efficiency to diversify LADWP's water supply portfolio.

## Findings

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The Project's projected net water demand is 355 acre-feet per year (AFY). This projected annual net water demand was calculated using information from the Project's scope of work provided by the Planning Department and included additional voluntary water use efficiency measures that the Fox Studio Lot, LLC, Pico Property, LLC and 10271-10275 W Pico Boulevard, LLC, collectively referred to as "Applicants", have committed to include in the Project. LADWP finds adequate water supplies will be available to meet the Project's net water demand of 355 AFY during normal, single-dry, and multiple-dry water years, in addition to the existing and planned future demands on LADWP.

The basis for approving WSAs for projects is LADWP's most recently adopted UWMP. LADWP's water demand forecast, as contained in LADWP's 2020 UWMP, uses long-term demographic projections for population, housing, and employment. The California Urban Water Management Planning Act requires water suppliers to develop a UWMP every five years to

identify short-term and long-term water resources management measures to meet water demands during normal, single-dry, and multiple-dry years. If the Project's projected net water demand was not accounted for in the most recently adopted UWMP, the WSA must include a discussion with regard to whether LADWP's total projected water supplies available during normal, single-dry, and multiple-dry water years during a 20-year projection will meet the projected net water demand associated with the Project, in addition to LADWP's existing and planned future uses.

The City's water demand projection in LADWP's 2020 UWMP was developed based on the 2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2020 RTP/SCS) demographic projection by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). The demographic projection was provided to LADWP from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD), who collaborates with SCAG to aggregate demographic data for each of its 26 member agencies. LADWP's 2020 UWMP identified water supplies to meet projected water demands through 2045. Therefore, the City's water supply projections in LADWP's 2020 UWMP are sufficient to meet the water demand for projects that are determined by the CEQA lead agency to be consistent with the 2020 RTP/SCS by SCAG.

The Planning Department has indicated that a General Plan Amendment is required to conform with the City's General Plan. The Planning Department has also determined that the Project is consistent with the demographic projections for the City from the 2020 RTP/SCS. Based on the information provided by the Planning Department, the Project's anticipated net water demand is accounted for within LADWP's 2020 UWMP projected water supplies for normal, single-dry, and multiple-dry years through the year 2045. This WSA can be approved based on the fact that the Project's net water demand falls within the LADWP's 2020 UWMP projected demand in LADWP's service area.

This WSA evaluates and confirms that the City's long-term water supply is able to accommodate the Project. A subsequent WSA revision may be required if one or more of the following occurs:

1. Changes in the Project result in a substantial increase in net water demand for the Project
2. Changes in the circumstances or conditions substantially affecting the ability of LADWP to provide a sufficient supply of water for the Project
3. Significant new information becomes available which was not known and could not have been known at the time when WSA was prepared.

If deemed necessary, the Applicants may request a revised WSA through the Planning Department.

This WSA is also not an approval for a water service connection. A separate request shall be made to LADWP requesting an evaluation of water service connection for the Project. Also, this WSA is an informational document required to be prepared for use in the Planning Department's environmental review of the Project under CEQA, and it assesses the adequacy of water supplies to serve the Project's existing and planned future water demands of LADWP's service area. Approval of this WSA is not equivalent to approval of the Project.

## **The Fox Future Project Description**

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The following project information was obtained from Planning Department's WSA Request Letter and the scope confirmation e-mail:

Project Name: Fox Future Project

Lead Agency: City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning

Community Plan: West Los Angeles

The Project will redevelop approximately 53 acres within the West Los Angeles Community Plan of the City of Los Angeles. The Project site, currently known as the Fox Studio Lot, is generally bounded by Olympic Boulevard and Galaxy Way to the north, Avenue of the Stars to the east, Pico Boulevard to the south, and a residential area to the west.

The Project site currently contains existing studio-related structures with surface and structured parking. The Project will demolish approximately 406,298 square feet (sf) and adaptively reuse approximately 59,717 sf of the existing floor area. The existing water demand associated with the demolished and adaptively reuse areas is approximately 27 AFY.

The Project will construct approximately 2,101,583 sf of studio-related uses and supporting facilities. The Project will consist of the following:

- 223,241 sf of stage space,
- 214,746 sf of production office,
- 650,611 sf of production support,
- 922,878 sf of general office.

The Project will also include basecamp, covered parking, landscaping, and cooling towers.

LADWP performed the water demand assessment and the estimated net water demand for the Project is 355 AFY.

## **The Fox Future Project Net Water Demand Estimate**

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The projected net water demand for the Project is estimated to be 355 AFY. This amount accounts for the additional voluntary conservation measures, which is estimated at approximately 1 AFY.

In evaluating the Project's net water demand, the Sewer Generation Factors (SGF), published by the City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN) in 2012, are applied to the Project's scope of work in order to calculate the indoor water use. SGFs are factors of the amount of wastewater generated (gallons per day) per unit of use (sf, dwelling unit, seat, etc.). LASAN publishes a list of SGFs for approximately 175 different building use types in the City. Outdoor landscape water demand is estimated using the California Code of Regulations Title 23 Division 2 Chapter 2.7 Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance. And, customer historical billing records were used to estimate the existing water demand on the

property. LADWP also encouraged the Applicants to implement additional water conservation measures above and beyond the current water conservation ordinance requirements in order to reduce the Project's net water demand. For the Project, the additional voluntary conservation is estimated at approximately 1 AFY.

The net water demand, which is the projected additional water demand of the Project, is calculated by subtracting the existing water demand and the additional voluntary water conservation savings amount from the total projected water demand.

Table I shows a breakdown of the existing and proposed types of uses for the Project, and the corresponding estimated volume of water demands inclusive of the required and voluntary conservation measures for this project. Types of use were derived from the WSA Request Letter and the scope confirmation e-mail from City Planning on March 6, 2025.

Table II shows an estimation of the total volume of additional voluntary water conservation based on conservation measures the Applicants had committed to in their Water Conservation Commitments for the Fox Future Project Letter.

<b>TABLE I</b> <b>Fox Future Project</b> <b>Estimated Net Water Demand</b>							
Existing Use to be Removed <sup>1</sup>		Quantity	Unit			Existing Water Use to be Removed	
						(gpd)	(af/y)
Fox Studio Lot		328,568	sf				
Office Development Area 1		73,221	sf				
Pico Properties		4,509	sf				
Fox Studio Lot Adaptive Reuse		50,482	sf				
Pico Properties Adaptive Reuse		9,235	sf				
<b>Existing Use to be Removed Total<sup>2</sup></b>		<b>466,015</b>	<b>sf</b>			<b>23,741</b>	<b>26.60</b>
Proposed Use <sup>1</sup>		Quantity	Unit	Water Use Factor <sup>3</sup>	Base Demand	Required Ordinances Water Savings <sup>4</sup>	Projected Water Demand
				(gpd/unit)	(gpd)	(gpd)	(gpd) (af/y)
Stage Space		223,241	sf	0.05	11,162		
Production Office		214,746	sf	0.12	25,770		
Production Support		650,611	sf	0.05	32,531		
General Office		922,878	sf	0.12	110,745		
Child Care (Floor Area = 6,607 sf)		58	child	9.00	522		
Gym/Fitness Area		25,000	sf	0.65	16,250		
Retail		10,000	sf	0.025	250		
Restaurant (Floor Area = 32,500 sf)		790	seat	30.00	23,700		
Theater (Floor Area = 16,000 sf)		470	seat	3.00	1,410		
Basecamp <sup>5</sup>		187,000	sf	0.03	5,610		
Base Demand Adjustment <sup>6</sup>					6,021		
<b>Commercial Total</b>					<b>233,971</b>	<b>21,941</b>	<b>212,030 237.52</b>
<b>Landscaping<sup>7</sup></b>		<b>178,000</b>	<b>sf</b>		<b>15,097</b>	<b>8,303</b>	<b>6,793 7.61</b>
<b>Covered Parking<sup>8</sup></b>		<b>1,980,300</b>	<b>sf</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>1,302</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,302 1.46</b>
<b>Cooling Tower</b>		<b>6,616</b>	<b>ton</b>	<b>22.82</b>	<b>150,944</b>	<b>30,189</b>	<b>120,755 135.27</b>
<b>Proposed Subtotal</b>					<b>401,314</b>	<b>60,433</b>	<b>340,880 381.86</b>
Less Existing to be Removed Total							-23,741 -26.60
Less Additional Conservation <sup>9</sup>							-604 -0.68
<b>Net Water Demand</b>							<b>316,535 gpd 355 af/y</b>

<sup>1</sup> Provided by City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning in the Request for Water Supply Assessment letter and Scope Confirmation e-mail. See Appendix A. Existing and proposed uses that do not have a water demand are not shown here. Proposed uses include new construction and adaptive reuse.

<sup>2</sup> The existing water demand is based on the LADWP billing data from January 2021 to December 2024.

<sup>3</sup> Indoor water uses are based on 2012 City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation Sewer Generation Rates table available at <https://engpermitmanual.lacity.org/sewer-s-permits/technical-procedures/sewage-generation-factors-chart>.

<sup>4</sup> Water savings for plumbing fixtures and appliances based on current codes.

<sup>5</sup> Basecamp areas are not included in the project's total floor area, but are accounted for the project's water demand.

<sup>6</sup> Base Demand Adjustment is the estimated savings due to Ordinance No. 180822 accounted for in the current version of Bureau of Sanitation Sewer Generation Rates.

<sup>7</sup> Landscaping water use is estimated per California Code of Regulations Title 23, Division 2, Chapter 2.7, Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance.

<sup>8</sup> Auto parking water uses are based on City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation Sewer Generation Rates table, and 12 times/year cleaning assumption.

<sup>9</sup> The Applicant has agreed to additional water conservation, with a combination of some or all of the measures listed in the water conservation commitment letter (See Appendix B of the Water Supply Assessment).

Abbreviations:

sf - square feet      gpd - gallons per day      af/y - acre feet per year



**TABLE II**  
**Fox Future Project**  
**Estimated Additional Water Conservation**

Conservation Measures <sup>1</sup>	Quantity <sup>2</sup>	Units	Water Saving Factor <sup>3</sup>	Water Saved	
			(gpd/unit)	(gpd)	(af/y)
Faucet (Bath) - 0.35 gpm, in lieu of 0.4 gpm	430	ea	0.74	319	0.36
Showerhead - 1.5 gpm, in lieu of 1.8 gpm	38	ea	7.50	285	0.32
<b>Total Additional Water Conserved =</b>				<b>604</b>	<b>0.68</b>

<sup>1</sup> Water conservation measures agreed to by the Applicants. See Appendix B.

<sup>2</sup> Plumbing fixture quantities were provided by the Applicants.

<sup>3</sup> Based on LADWP estimates.

Abbreviations: af/y - acre feet per year

gpd - gallons per day

ea – each

gpm – gallons per minute

## **Los Angeles Department of Water and Power – 2020 UWMP**

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The California Urban Water Management Planning Act (first effective on January 1, 1984) requires every urban water supplier prepare and adopt a UWMP every five years in compliance with state guidelines and requirements. The main goals of UWMPs are to forecast future water demands and water supplies under average and dry hydrologic conditions, identify future water supply projects, and provide a reliability assessment under average, single dry year, and multi-dry years, and assess near term drought risk management.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power 2020 Urban Water Management Plan.*

## Water Supplies

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The Los Angeles Aqueducts (LAA), local groundwater, purchased water from MWD, and recycled water are the primary sources of water supplies for the City. Table III shows LADWP water supplies from Fiscal Year Ending (FYE) 2020 to FYE 2024 from these sources.

TABLE III  
LADWP Water Supply

Fiscal Year Ending	Los Angeles Aqueducts (AF)	Local Groundwater (AF)	MWD (AF)	Recycled Water (AF)	Transfer, Spread, Spills, and Storage (AF)	Total (AF)
2020	292,095	34,363	152,647	9,641	1,155	487,591
2021	128,268	51,070	316,627	11,455	-938	508,359
2022	69,183	53,057	366,690	12,022	208	500,743
2023	184,320	28,170	219,406	9,428	468	440,855
2024	291,098	6,521	140,497	10,030	-212	448,358

Note: Units are in area-feet (AF).

### 1.0 Los Angeles Aqueduct

The City receives surface water and groundwater from the Eastern Sierra through the Los Angeles Aqueduct (LAA). LADWP constructed the first LAA in 1913 to convey water from the Eastern Sierra to the City. In 1940, the LAA was extended 40 miles north from the Owens River to the Mono Basin. To meet additional water demands from the City, a second barrel of the LAA was constructed and completed in 1970. The second LAA increased the City's capacity to deliver water from the Eastern Sierra from 485 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 775 cfs. The value of the City's historical investment in the LAA system is substantial because the City has benefited from the LAA's delivery of high-quality, cost-effective water supplies from the Eastern Sierra for over a century.

The City's water rights in the Eastern Sierra are comprised of riparian rights, pre-1914 appropriations, and post-1914 appropriation licenses held on various streams in the Mono Basin and Owens Valley. The most significant basis for export of surface water from the Eastern Sierra is an appropriation claim in 1905 to divert up to 50,000 miner's inches (1,250 cfs) from the Owens River. Up to 16,000 AFY can be supplied from Mono Basin, which is permitted by the 1994 Mono Lake Basin Water Right Decision 1631. Decision 1631 set a limit on LADWP water exports from the Mono Basin, which were set to a range of 0 to 16,000 AFY based on Mono Lake's water elevation. Aside from the primary surface water rights, the groundwater right in the Owens Valley is managed under the 1991 Long Term Water Agreement (LTWA) and uses vegetation water demand and available soil moisture to determine whether groundwater wells can be pumped. Since 1991, the average annual pumping from Owens Valley wellfields has been less than 75,000 AFY compared to on average 107,000 AFY from 1974 to 1990.

Annual water deliveries from the LAA to the City are impacted by hydrologic variability in the Eastern Sierra and water set aside for environmental projects. At its peak in fiscal year ending (FYE) 1984, the LAA delivered 531,729 AF to the City. Concerns over environmental impacts have required the City to reallocate approximately one-half of the LAA water supply to other uses within the Owens Valley and Mono Basin. Between 1992 and 2020, LADWP reduced deliveries to the City by approximately 177,000 AFY to supply water for a variety of environmental projects throughout the Eastern Sierra. Environmental enhancement and mitigation projects in the Mono Basin and Owens Valley that utilize water from the Eastern Sierra include Mono Basin releases, Lower Owens River Project, Owens Lake Dust Mitigation Program, as well as other environmental enhancement and mitigation projects and uses. The expected annual long term LAA delivery from 2020 to 2045 will range from approximately 184,200 AFY to 192,000 AFY for average hydrologic conditions.

The primary reliance on LAA supply with impacts due to natural variability and water set aside for environmental projects is not sufficient to meet the City's annual water demands; therefore, LADWP has implemented, and continues to increase, stormwater capture, local groundwater, water conservation, water use efficiency, and water recycling programs to diversify LADWP's local water supplies. Additionally, LADWP can purchase supplemental imported water from MWD to meet the City's remaining water demands.

For additional information, refer to Chapter 4 "Los Angeles Aqueduct System" of LADWP's 2020 UWMP.

## **2.0 Local Groundwater Supplies**

Local groundwater provided approximately 7 percent of City's total water supply from FYE 2020 to FYE 2024. This amount declined considerably since 1970 when local groundwater provided up to 23 percent of the total water supply during extended dry periods. In recent years, contamination issues have impacted LADWP's ability to fully utilize its local groundwater entitlements and supplies. In response to this issue and to address the hydrologic variability impacts to imported water supplies, LADWP has a focus on sustainable management of its local groundwater basins. LADWP continues to invest in stormwater capture projects as well as advanced water purification systems to produce advanced treated recycled water for groundwater replenishment. Furthermore, LADWP has, and will continue to, conjunctively use the groundwater basin within the City to store available LAA flows in wet years as future supply during dry periods.

The City's total adjudicated water rights are approximately 109,809 AFY, which are located within the San Fernando Basin (SFB), Sylmar Basin, Central Basin, and West Coast Basin. There are additional groundwater basins near and within the Los Angeles area, such as the unadjudicated Hollywood, Santa Monica, and northern Central Basins that may provide additional groundwater supplies for the City.

The SFB is the primary source of local groundwater for the City. It is located in the Upper Los Angeles River Area (ULARA) and spans 112,000 acres. The ULARA encompasses the San Fernando, Sylmar, Verdugo and Eagle Rock Basins. It is managed by a court-appointed

Watermaster and administrative committee that oversees the operation of groundwater system and report the groundwater elevations and water quality. The City's average SFB groundwater rights is approximately 87,000 AFY. LADWP is implementing its SFB Groundwater Remediation Program to help restore the access to SFB as a drinking water source and groundwater storage. The SFB groundwater remediation facilities are expected to be complete and operational in 2025.

LADWP also receives SFB water through the Los Angeles-Burbank Interim Interconnection Pipeline. In 2015, the City of Los Angeles and the City of Burbank entered into an agreement to construct and operate the Los Angeles-Burbank Interim Interconnection and began delivery of a minimum of 500 AF of blended water in August 2019. The blended water consists of SFB groundwater treated at the Burbank Operable Unit and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California imported water supply. This connection began service in August 2019 and will operate until early 2029.

The Central Basin is another source of groundwater supply for the City. The Central Basin Watermaster oversees this area that is located in the southeastern part of the Los Angeles Coastal Plan in Los Angeles County. The City has approximately 17,236 AFY of groundwater rights in this basin. With additional carryover and storage of unused water rights, the City has accrued a total of 22,943 AF of stored water as of FYE 2020 as documented in the latest UWMP. LADWP is implementing the Manhattan and 99<sup>th</sup> St. Wellfield Improvement Projects to address several issues such as water quality matters, deteriorating groundwater pumps, and necessary upgrades. These projects are expected to be completed in 2025.

Besides the SFB and Central Basin, the City holds water rights in the following local groundwater basins:

1. The Sylmar Basin is an adjudicated basin within the ULARA that provides 3,570 AF of annual groundwater rights.
2. The Eagle Rock Basin is an adjudicated basin within the ULARA that provides 500 AF of annual groundwater rights. Although the City has the right to produce groundwater from the Eagle Rock Basin, there are no current plans to establish groundwater production facilities here.
3. The West Coast Basin is managed by the West Coast Basin Watermaster and is located in the southwestern part of the Los Angeles Coastal Plain in Los Angeles County. The City has the right to pump 1,503 AF per year. In 2014, the West Coast Basin Judgment was amended to increase certain parties', like LADWP's, pumping capacity to 5,000 AFY of unused West Coast Basin rights out of the Central Basin. This basin has known groundwater quality problems; therefore, LADWP has discontinued use of West Coast Basin facilities in 1980 until further studies are completed to restore groundwater pumping.

Groundwater supplies from the San Fernando, Sylmar, and Central Basins serving the City for the last available five years are shown in Table IV.

Table IV  
Historical Local Groundwater Production by Basin

Fiscal Year (July-June)	San Fernando (AF)	Sylmar (AF)	Central (AF)
2019-2020	35,949	2*	10*
2020-2021	53,625	1,368*	2,247
2021-2022	48,408	3,018	4,562
2022-2023	24,804	1,858	3,298
2023-2024	6,318	7*	17*

\*Small quantities pumped from Sylmar and Central Basin were for water quality testing purposes, not as water supply

LADWP also has groundwater rights outside the of City. There are 3,975 AF of groundwater rights in the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin. This basin only allows the native water rights to be used locally within the Antelope Valley; however, LADWP would have the ability to store water it imports into the basin for future export. LADWP would be able to recover imported and stored water for export to the City at times when it is necessary to manage seasonal peak demands or augment supplies during dry periods, emergencies, or natural disasters.

The Central and West Los Angeles areas of the City overlie the unadjudicated groundwater basins of Hollywood Basin, Santa Monica Basin, and the northerly portion of the unadjudicated Central Basin. For the Santa Monica Basin, LADWP and four other local agencies have formed the Santa Monica Basin Sustainability Agency to create a Groundwater Sustainability Plan that was approved by the Department of Water Resources in October 2023. LADWP is considering and exploring opportunities to develop groundwater resources in a manner that is locally sustainable and in cooperation with its regional partners to increase the City's use of local resources for all these other groundwater basins.

For additional information, refer to Chapter 5 "Local Groundwater" of LADWP's 2020 UWMP.

### 3.0 Water Conservation

Water conservation and water use efficiency have significant beneficial effects on the City's water use patterns to reduce water demands. Water conservation has become a permanent part of LADWP's water resources management philosophy. The City's total water usage today is about the same as fifty years ago despite a significant increase in population of over one million people, reflecting the success and importance of the City's water conservation and water use efficiency strategies. Conservation will continue to be an important part of maintaining long term water supply reliability and is a key component of LADWP's goals to reduce potable water use per capita by 22.5 percent in 2025 and 25 percent by 2035.

LADWP has developed many progressive water conservation and water use efficiency programs in conjunction with state and local conservation ordinances and plumbing codes. The 2018 State bills, Assembly Bill 1668 and Senate Bill 606, will be incorporated into the water supply planning process to ensure that the standards are met in the future. Since inception of LADWP's conservation program, the estimated cumulative annual active savings are over 150,000 AF as of FYE 2020. Additional passive water conservation savings are achieved because of plumbing code mandates, local conservation ordinances, and changes in customer behavior due to outreach and educational programs.

Since 1988, the City has utilized ordinances as a tool to reduce water waste, beginning with the adoption of its first version of a plumbing retrofit ordinance. The applicable ordinances are, but not limited to: 2009 City's "High Efficiency Plumbing Fixture", 2016 Citywide Water Efficiency Standards Ordinance, 2016 Emergency Water Conservation Plan, and the 2025 Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO). The conservation ordinances were developed for the City to implement water demand management measures in case of a water supply shortage and to respond to ongoing dry conditions. For a full list of conservation ordinances prohibited water uses for various levels, please refer to LADWP's 2020 UWMP.

LADWP also achieves and maintains water use reductions through the application of tiered volumetric water rates. Since 1993, LADWP has used an ascending tier water rate structure that is entirely volumetric based pricing. LADWP's tiered volume water rates, which were last amended by the City's Water Rate Ordinance (Ordinance No. 184130) effective April 15, 2016, incorporate and further reinforce foundational water conservation and water use efficiency.

LADWP offers customer rebates and incentives to promote the installation of water-efficient fixtures and appliances. The rebates and incentives are administered through MWD's SoCal Water\$mart Program. This program delivers uniform rebate amounts across the MWD service area to all MWD member agencies like LADWP. LADWP takes full advantage of regional programs for many product rebates offered through MWD for the residential and Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional (CII) sector, and adds supplemental funding to increase the rebate incentives provided for LADWP customers for many qualifying products. Also, since 1992, LADWP has continued the Technical Assistance Program to promote innovative solutions to conserve water. The program provides customized incentives for retrofitting water-intensive equipment in the CII and multi-family customer sectors.

LADWP plans its future water conservation programs, focusing on obtaining additional active and passive water savings in the water end uses that have the most non-conserving devices still

remaining for each of the customer sectors. LADWP has launched and/or is developing the following programs:

- CalConserve Loan Program
- Flume Direct Distribution program for Single-Family Residential Customers
- My Water Insights Program: Home water use reports for single-family residential customers

LADWP actively monitors the gallon per capita per day water use metric, particularly in the context of all existing and new standards to ensure that target reductions are met in the future. Additional information on water conservation programs can be found in Chapter 3 “Water Conservation” of LADWP’s 2020 UWMP and at [www.ladwp.com/uwmp](http://www.ladwp.com/uwmp).

## **4.0 Stormwater Capture**

Stormwater runoff from urban areas is an underutilized local water resource. Within the City, the majority of stormwater runoff is directed to storm drains and ultimately channeled into the ocean. In addition, local groundwater aquifers that are historically replenished by stormwater are receiving less recharge because of increased urbanization. Urbanization has increased the City’s hardscape with impermeable surface, which has resulted in less infiltration of stormwater and a decline in groundwater elevations. In response, LADWP completed a Stormwater Capture Master Plan in 2015 to evaluate stormwater capture potential within the City. Stormwater capture can be achieved by increasing infiltration into groundwater basins and by onsite capture and reuse for landscape irrigation (i.e., direct use). The City’s total baseline amount of stormwater captured is 64,000 AF per year based on the 2015 Stormwater Capture Master Plan. Under LADWP’s current implementation strategy, the total estimated stormwater capture capacity is projected to increase to 150,000 AFY by 2035.

LADWP utilizes various strategies to respond to hydrologic variability to maintain supply reliability. One of the strategies, known as conjunctive use, is storing supplies when available to mitigate the impacts of water shortages during future dry periods. Since the 1930’s, LADWP has recognized the greater operational flexibility provided by a conjunctive use storage program. LADWP has operated its groundwater resources conjunctively by reducing groundwater pumping and diverting available water from the LAA into the Tujunga and Pacoima Spreading Grounds for groundwater augmentation. Another strategy is to capture large stormwater flows through the centralized stormwater capture projects for recharge. The captured stormwater is a major source for replenishing groundwater through spreading basins where it is infiltrated into underlying groundwater aquifers. Groundwater recharge helps address the overall long-term decline in groundwater basin elevations, protect the safe yield of the groundwater basin, and ensure the long-term water supply reliability. The 2020 UWMP projects that by 2045 there may be 15,000 AFY of increased groundwater pumping in the SFB due to increased groundwater recharge from centralized stormwater capture project implementation. Anticipating that stored groundwater will rebound in response to enhanced groundwater recharge, LADWP will work with the ULARA Watermaster to continue observing actual basin elevations and re-evaluate basin safe yield to allow additional increases in groundwater production over time as SFB elevations rebound.



Flood control facilities are the primary means to divert stormwater into the spreading basin facilities. LADWP coordinates stormwater capture related activities, such as collection and delivery of large stormwater runoff to spreading basins, with the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to effectively recharge the SFB. Completed in November 2021, the Tujunga Spreading Grounds Enhancement Project increased stormwater capture capacity.

LADWP's Stormwater Capture Parks Program (Parks Program) has identified nine City parks suitable for centralized stormwater capture projects. The primary objective of the Parks Program is to recharge the SFB by capturing and diverting stormwater from local storm drain and channel. The anticipated Parks Program stormwater capture capacity is 3,088 AFY. The Parks Program also provides multiple benefits, such as improvements to the Los Angeles River water quality, reducing localized flooding, raising public awareness, and providing public open space enhancements.

While centralized stormwater capture plays a key role in groundwater recharge in the City, space constraints limit opportunities for new large centralized facilities, and the City also uses distributed stormwater capture projects. Distributed stormwater capture includes stormwater management Best Management practices that utilize vegetation, soils, and natural processes to manage stormwater runoff close to the source. Distributed facilities also aim to conserve water by capturing stormwater for uses that reduce potable water demand.

For additional information, refer to Chapter 6 "Watershed Management" of LADWP's 2020 UWMP.

## 5.0 Water Recycling

As early as 1960, the City recognized the potential for water recycling and invested in infrastructure that produced recycled water of tertiary quality, a higher treatment standard for wastewater, to be utilized for non-potable reuse to offset potable demands. In 1979, LADWP began delivering tertiary quality recycled water to the City's Department of Recreation and Parks for irrigation in Griffith Park. Today, LADWP serves recycled water for irrigation, industrial, and environmental beneficial non-potable uses. The quantities of recycled water delivered by LADWP to our customers in the prior years are shown in Table III.

LADWP is committed to maximizing the use of recycled water in the City's water supply portfolio. Expansion of recycled water use to offset potable demands has been recognized as one method that will help LADWP achieve its local water supply development goal. LADWP is working in conjunction with LASAN to develop non-potable reuse projects for irrigation and industrial uses. In addition, the City is pursuing a groundwater replenishment project to replenish the San Fernando Groundwater Basin with advanced treated recycled water. LADWP's recycled water use is projected to increase to 67,600 AFY through FYE 2045, which is inclusive of planned municipal/industrial use, indirect potable reuse (groundwater replenishment), and environmental reuse.

For additional information, refer to Chapter 7 "Recycled Water" of LADWP's 2020 UWMP.

## 6.0 Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

MWD is the largest water wholesaler for supplemental water in Southern California. As one of the twenty-six member agencies of MWD, the City, through LADWP, purchases water from MWD to supplement its water supplies. Between FYE 2020 to FYE 2024, LADWP purchased on average 239,173 AFY from MWD or approximately 50 percent of the City's average total annual water supply.

MWD imports water from two principal sources: the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta via the California State Water Project (SWP) and the Colorado River via the Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA). MWD also manages and owns in-basin surface storage facilities, stores groundwater within the basin via contracts, engages in groundwater storage outside the basin, and conducts water transfers to provide additional supplies for its member agencies. All member agencies have preferential rights to purchase water from MWD, pursuant to Section 135 of MWD Act. As of FYE 2024, LADWP has a preferential right to purchase 17.40 percent of MWD's total water supply.

MWD is a contractor for imported water from Northern California through the SWP. MWD holds a contract for 1.912 million acre-feet (MAF) per year, or 46 percent of the total contracted amount of the 4.173 MAF ultimate delivery capacity of the SWP. However, this amount varies annually due to many factors. Department of Water Resources (DWR) annually approves the amount of contract allocations SWP receives, which is shown in DWR's "Table A."

MWD owns and operates the CRA. Since 1942, the CRA has delivered water from the Colorado River to Southern California. The Colorado River supplies come from watersheds of the Upper Colorado River Basin in the states of Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming. Under a permanent service contract with the U.S. Secretary of the Interior, MWD is entitled to receive water from the Colorado River and its tributaries. California is apportioned 4.4 MAF, annually, plus one-half of any surplus that may be available for use, collectively, in Arizona, California, and Nevada. Of the California apportionment, MWD holds the fourth priority right to 550,000 AFY under the 1931 priority system governing allotments to California. Beyond the basic apportionment, MWD holds a fifth priority right to 662,000 AF of water.

MWD has been developing plans and making efforts to provide additional water supply reliability for the entire Southern California region. LADWP coordinates closely with MWD to ensure implementation of these water resource development plans. MWD's actions have been focused on the following: continuing water conservation, developing water supply management programs, developing storage programs related to the SWP and the Colorado River, developing storage and groundwater management programs within the Southern California region, increasing water recycling, groundwater recovery, stormwater, and seawater desalination and pursuing long-term solutions for the ecosystem, regulatory and water supply issues in the California Bay-Delta.

MWD's water reliability assessments are presented in MWD's 2020 UWMP, which can be found at the following link:

[MWDSC 2020 Urban Water Management Plan - June 2021 WUE Portal.pdf](#)

## 7.0 Summary of Water Demand and Supply Projections for 20 years

LADWP's 2020 UWMP projects total yearly water demand to reach up to 710,500 AF by FYE 2045 with existing water conservation prior to FYE 2014 already subtracted from projected demands, and with new water conservation savings achieved included as a supply source. Demographic data from 2020 SCAG RTP/SCS for LADWP's service area, as well as billing data for each major customer class, price of water, median household income, household size, economy, and dry period conservation effect were factors used in forecasting future water demands. Further details on LADWP's water demand forecast methodology can be found in Chapter 2 "Water Demand" of LADWP's 2020 UWMP. Table V tabulates the service reliability assessment for average weather year.

**Table V**

### Service Area Reliability Assessment for Average Weather Year

Demand and Supply Projections (in acre-feet)	Average Year Fiscal Year Ending (FYE) on June 30				
	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045
<b>Total Water Demand<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>642,600</b>	<b>660,200</b>	<b>678,800</b>	<b>697,800</b>	<b>710,500</b>
<b>Post-Conservation Demand</b>	<b>509,500</b>	<b>526,700</b>	<b>536,100</b>	<b>554,500</b>	<b>565,800</b>
<b>Existing / Planned Supplies</b>					
Conservation (Additional Active <sup>2</sup> and Passive <sup>3</sup> after FYE 14)	133,100	133,500	142,700	143,300	144,700
Los Angeles Aqueduct <sup>4</sup>	190,400	188,900	187,300	185,800	184,200
Groundwater					
- Entitlements <sup>5</sup>	109,400	109,400	109,400	108,800	108,800
- Groundwater Replenishment	7,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000
- Stormwater Recharge (Increased Pumping)	4,000	8,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Recycled Water- Irrigation and Industrial Use	17,300	29,200	29,700	29,800	30,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>461,200</b>	<b>480,000</b>	<b>495,100</b>	<b>493,700</b>	<b>493,700</b>
<b>MWD Water Purchases</b>					
With Existing/Planned Supplies	181,400	180,200	183,700	204,100	216,800
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>642,600</b>	<b>660,200</b>	<b>678,800</b>	<b>697,800</b>	<b>710,500</b>

<sup>1</sup> Total Demand with existing passive conservation prior to FYE 14

<sup>2</sup> Cumulative hardware savings since late 1980s reached 110,822 AFY by FYE 14

<sup>3</sup> Additional non-hardware conservation inclusive of retained passive savings from the dry period ending in 2017

<sup>4</sup> Los Angeles Aqueduct supply is estimated to decrease 0.1652 percent per year due to climate impacts.

<sup>5</sup> LADWP Groundwater Remediation projects in the San Fernando Basin are expected to be in operation in 2025. Sylmar Basin production will increase to 4,170 AFY from FYE 2021 to 2036 to avoid the expiration of stored water credits, then revert to entitlement amounts of 3,570 AFY in 2037.

Service area reliability assessments for single-dry year and multiple-dry year conditions are shown in LADWP 2020 UWMP Exhibits 11F through 11G. Demands are met by the available supplies under all scenarios.

## Water System Financing Program

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Capital costs to finance facilities for the production and delivery of water supply to LADWP's service area are supported through customer-billed water rates. The Board sets rates subject to approval of City Council by ordinance. The Board is obligated by City Charter to establish water rates and collect charges in an amount sufficient to service the water system indebtedness and to meet its expenses for operation and maintenance.

The current water rates and its structures provide for modest rate increases each year over a five-year period for infrastructure improvements, meeting regulatory water quality requirements, and expanding the local water supply, which includes recycled water, stormwater capture, conservation, water efficiency, and groundwater remediation. LADWP's volumetric water rates incorporate and further reinforce foundational water conservation, water use efficiency, and financial principles. For example, the current water rate structure contains four tiers for single-family residential customers. The four tiers structure provides a first-tier indoor water use base allocation, a second-tier allocation based on California Friendly Landscaping efficient outdoor use, a third-tier allocation capturing high outdoor water use, and a fourth-tier allocation for excessive use. In keeping with cost of service principles, the incremental pricing for the tiers is based on the cost of water supply.

In addition, LADWP seeks a combination of the following external funding sources:

- MWD – Currently provides funding through their Local Resources Program for the development of local water supplies such as water recycling and groundwater recovery.
- Grants and loans – LADWP continues to proactively seek government funding to offset potential impacts to ratepayers. Local funds, such as the Measure W's "Safe, Clean Water Program," provide funding for stormwater capture projects. State funds, such as Propositions 1, 50, and 84, provide funding for water recycling, groundwater, conservation and stormwater capture projects. And Federal funds, such as the Water Resource Development Act and the US Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI program, provide funding for water recycling projects.

## Conclusion

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The Project's net annual water demand within the site is estimated to be 355 AF. This annual net water demand for the Project site has been accounted for in the City's overall total demand projections in the LADWP's 2020 UWMP using a service area-wide approach that does not rely on individual development demand. The LADWP's 2020 UWMP utilized SCAG's 2020 RTP/SCS data for water demand forecasts, considering changes in population, housing units, and employment.

Based on the Planning Department's determination that the Project is consistent with the demographic forecasts for the City from the SCAG's 2020 RTP/SCS, LADWP has determined that the proposed Project's net annual water demand is included in the LADWP's 2020 UWMP, which forecasts adequate water supplies to meet all projected water demands in the City through the year 2045. LADWP concluded that the projected net water demand of 355 AFY for this proposed Project is accounted for in the LADWP's 2020 UWMP 25-year water demand projections. LADWP has determined that it will be able to meet the projected net water demand of the Project as well as existing and planned future water demands of its service area.

This WSA evaluates and confirms that the City's long-term water supply would be able to accommodate the Project. The WSA is not an approval for a water service connection. A separate request shall be made to LADWP requesting an evaluation of water service connection for the Project.