



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Type: Operations Committee/Board of Directors
Title: Update on Water Main Breaks in the Distribution System
From: Darren Machado, Director of Operations
Through: Ben Horenstein, General Manager
Meeting Date: April 5, 2024

DM
BH

TYPE OF ACTION: Action X Information Review and Refer

RECOMMENDATION: Receive staff update on water main breaks in the distribution system

SUMMARY: Water main breaks largely occur due to natural aging of pipelines. Staff will present an overview of the different aspects of water main breaks, including; impacts, trends, regulatory requirements, and repair.

DISCUSSION: The District maintains a distribution system of over 900 miles of pipelines to ensure delivery of high quality water to our customers. This distribution system requires consistent maintenance to deliver reliable water to our customers and respond to water emergencies at all hours of the day. Water main breaks largely occur due to natural aging of pipeline materials and repairs can range from inserting a leak clamp to installing an entire new section of pipe. When water main breaks occur in the distribution system, adverse impacts can result including unplanned water loss, damage to public and private infrastructure, and impacts to aquatic habitat. The District's capital improvement program has a continued focus on the replacement of aging pipeline infrastructure to identify leak-prone pipelines and staff will present an overview of the different aspects of water main breaks, including impacts, trends, regulatory requirements, and repair.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: Not applicable.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

ATTACHMENT(S): None.