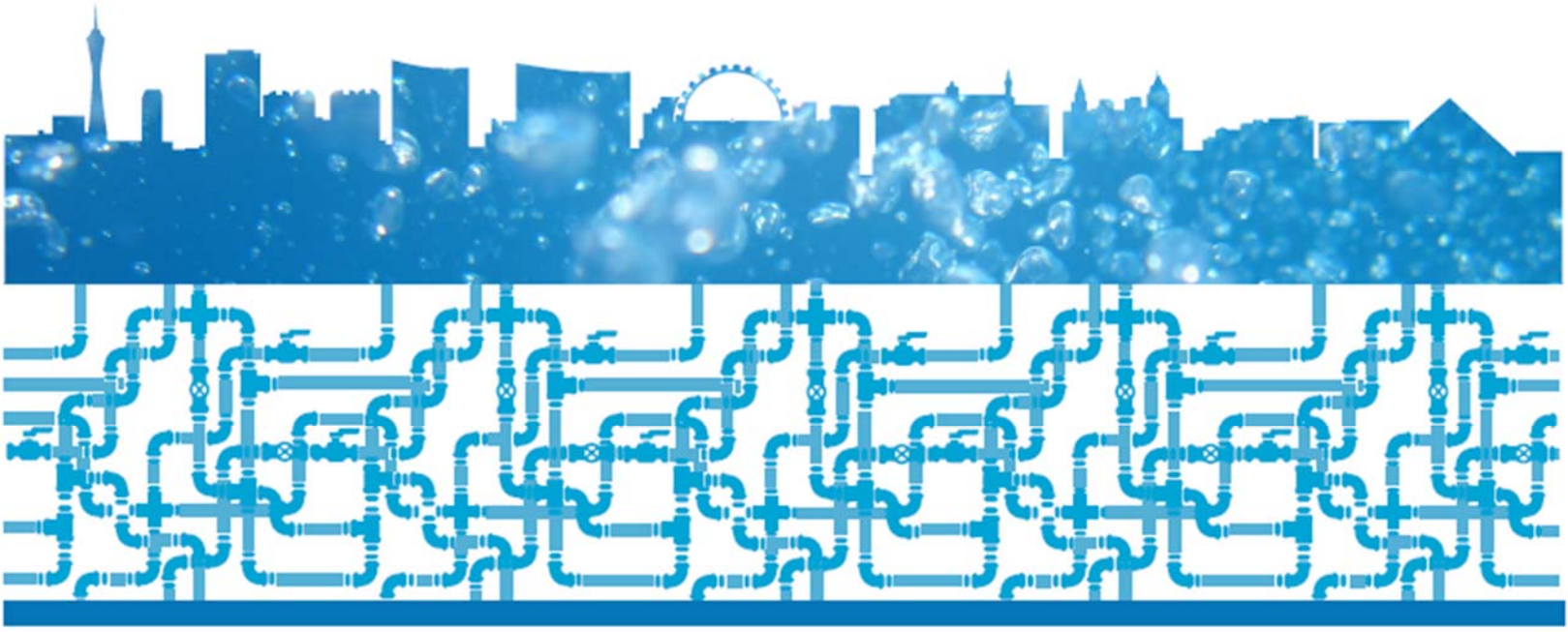
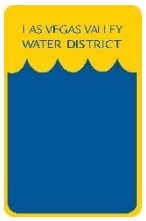


LAS VEGAS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

2017

LAS VEGAS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT



LAS VEGAS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
Capital Improvement Plan 2017-2027

About the Las Vegas Valley Water District

The Las Vegas Valley Water District (LVVWD) is a subdivision of the State of Nevada. The agency was created by a special act of the Nevada Legislature in 1947 to acquire and distribute water, primarily in the Las Vegas Valley. The not-for-profit LVVWD commenced operations in July 1954 and has served as the Southern Nevada region's largest municipal water provider since that time. As of 2017, the water distribution system comprises more than 6,500 miles of pipeline, 53 pumping stations, 70 reservoirs/tanks, 76 production wells, approximately 400,000 water meters and a 3.1 megawatt solar-electric system.

Vision

The Las Vegas Valley Water District's aims to be a global leader in service, innovation and stewardship.

Mission

The Las Vegas Valley Water District's strives to provide world class water service in a sustainable, adaptive and responsible manner to our customers through reliable, cost effective systems.

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CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) outlines the District's plan for achieving organizational goals and objectives. The plan outlines the projected capital needs over a 10-year period.

Doing Business

For much of its past, the District focused on developing new facilities to meet the evolving needs of the community. Between 1980 and 1998, Clark County was among the fastest-growing communities in the nation, which necessitated major capital investments in new infrastructure. However, beginning in late 2007, these conditions changed significantly when much of the nation began to experience significant economic disruption. Local expansion efforts halted abruptly and many projects in progress were put on hold.

During this time and continuing today, the Water District's focus shifted from system expansion to asset management, with an increased emphasis on customer care. In accordance with its mission, the District works to provide a safe, reliable water supply to more than 1.4 million residents within the City of Las Vegas and unincorporated portions of Clark County, Nevada. All functions in support of this mission—from maintaining infrastructure to ensuring accurate metering and protecting water quality—require properly functioning physical assets.

Capital Improvement Plan

Capital improvements are needed to reliably operate and maintain the District's extensive water distribution system, as well as to address state-mandated water quality issues and new development needs. This 10-Year Capital Improvement Plan serves to guide decisions related to maintaining and, as required, replacing those assets, as well as necessary water system expansion and water quality compliance activities.

The following provides a brief introduction to system needs, which are further detailed in the latter portions of this document. Costs represented herein are intended only to detail the size and scope of improvements needed over the 10-year planning horizon. Cost authorizations for improvements will be considered by the Board of Directors annually as part of the organization's regular budget process.

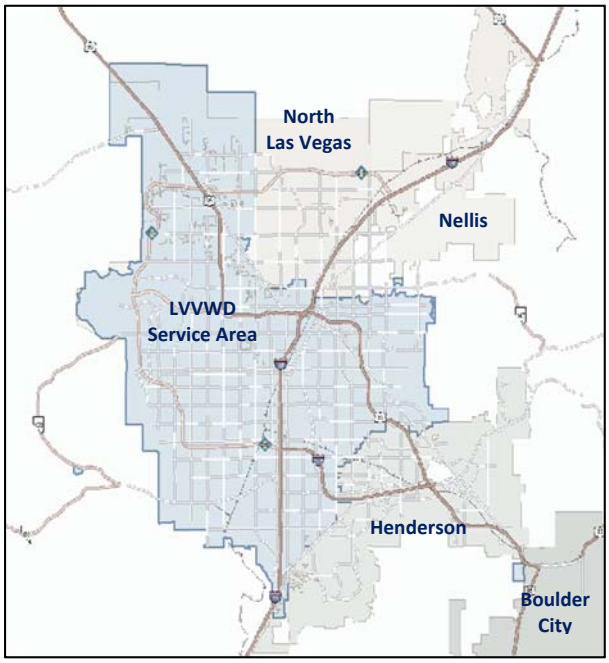


Image: LVVWD Service Area

Asset Management Improvements

The Infrastructure Management department is primarily responsible for overseeing the organization's physical assets, with considerable input and support from the Engineering, Operations, Water Quality and Finance work groups. Because the service life of individual components comprising a large water system can vary by decades, Infrastructure Management uses sophisticated planning tools to develop repair/replacement schedules, allowing for orderly and fiscally prudent implementation.

The agency's infrastructure management strategy is based on five foundational principles:

- Extend infrastructure life and prevent failures through timely maintenance and repairs
- Protect system assets through continual condition assessments
- Assess and prioritize projects to ensure critical

system operations remain functional

- Minimize financial impacts through orderly, phased implementation
- Minimize financial outlays by maximizing asset life cycle

A substantial percentage of the community's water system was constructed in the 1980s to address increasing demands. As a result, numerous facilities now exceed 30 years of age. Research has demonstrated that replacing or repairing utility components under emergency conditions—for instance, a broken water main—is both more expensive and disruptive to customers than affecting maintenance through a systematic approach.
Key system components that must be addressed during the 10-year planning horizon include:

- Reservoirs
- Pumping Stations
- Pipelines and Service Laterals
- Valves and Vaults
- Meters
- Water Quality Systems
- Groundwater Wells
- Facilities and Building Improvements
- Electrical Systems
- Communication Systems

Cumulative costs associated with the repair and/or replacement of these hundreds of thousands of components—measures necessary to maintain current service levels, system reliability and water quality—are projected to be approximately $390 million over the next decade.

Maintaining Water Quality

As a Public Water System, the LVVWD is responsible for ensuring compliance with all water quality regulations, enforced by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water. In addition to rigorous testing for more than 100 constituents—the Water District collects more than 33,000 water samples annually for analysis—it must comply with mandates from these agencies designed to protect water quality.

Chief among these mandates is what is termed "backflow protection," a mechanism that prevents the reintroduction of water from private properties into the municipal water system. Compliance with this State requirement will entail the installation of approximately 35,000 backflow prevention devices on meters throughout the District's service area.

New Development Improvements

During the recession, the District deferred all non-essential construction projects. While this decision was fiscally prudent, it required engineers to devise mid-term solutions that could provide access to the municipal water supply for residents and businesses in newly developed areas without investing in additional reservoirs and pumping stations. While those solutions proved effective, the absence of core infrastructure in affected areas undermines system reliability and subjects customers to vulnerability that is inconsistent with organizational standards.

Image: LVVWD Field Repair

To address this issue and ensure these customers receive the same level of reliability as their counterparts in other parts of the valley, the District plans to construct a total of four reservoirs, four pumping stations and associated appurtenances during the planning horizon. The District anticipates to expend approximately $125.7 million to design and construct these facilities, which will both serve existing customers and support additional development. Additional costs associated with facilities needed to support new communities will be borne by developers.

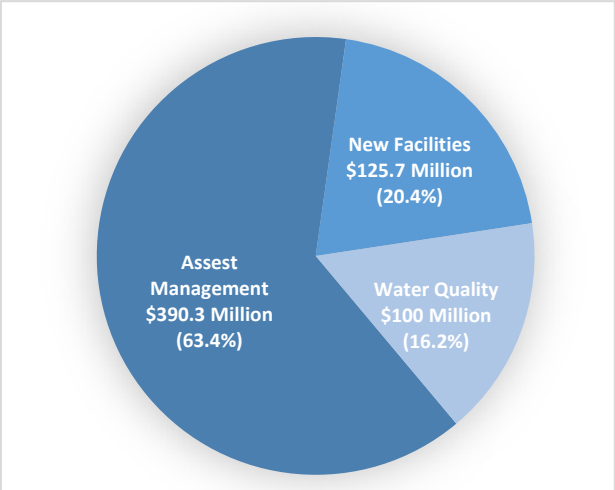


Figure 1.2: Cost Distribution by Improvement Type

10-Year Capital Planning

In total, the asset management, water quality protection and system expansion activities outlined in this document represent an investment of $616 million over the 10-year planning horizon. These improvements will help the District to maintain current service and water quality standards, ensuring continued reliability for the residents and businesses that depend upon this vital resource.

ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

Introduction

The Nevada State Legislature created the Las Vegas Valley Water District in 1947 to help manage local groundwater supplies. The newly-formed agency acquired the assets of its predecessor and began operations in 1954 as the municipal water provider for Las Vegas and unincorporated Clark County.

Transition and Growth

In the period between its creation and the early 1970s, the District got to work repairing and expanding the water system to meet the growing needs of the community. These efforts included installing more than 800 linear miles of pipeline and increasing reservoir storage to approximately 160 million gallons. At the same time, the District also entered into an agreement with what is now known as Basic Management Inc. for expansion of its small industrial line to deliver Colorado River water to the District's service area. These efforts decreased the community's reliance on groundwater supplies and marked the organization's first major initiative to help stabilize the local water table.

Post-war expansion paled in comparison to the unprecedented population growth that occurred over the years that followed. In the 1980s and '90s, Las Vegas ranked as the nation's fastest-growing city virtually every year. In response and to fulfill its mission of meeting the community's water needs, the District engaged in an infrastructure construction initiative without parallel in the United States. At the same time, water demands soared, necessitating a cohesive, regional approach to resource management. This resulted in the creation of the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA), of which the District serves as the administrative entity.

Current Environment and Operating Priorities

Beginning in 2007, the nation began to experience the most significant economic downturn since the Great Depression. Southern Nevada was hit harder than almost any other region in the nation, and this period of recession marked the first time in decades that the Las Vegas area experienced a sustained period of little or no growth. During this time, most new residential and commercial development projects came to a halt. While economic recovery is occurring, the massive booms of prior decades have not returned. As a result, the District's operational priorities have changed in response to meet the evolving needs of the community. While expanding the water system to accommodate new customers remains a core responsibility, the emphasis has shifted to ongoing operations and infrastructure management.

Today, the District provides water service to an area approximately 300 square miles in size, serving more than 375,000 residential and commercial customers through a network of approximately 6,500 linear miles of pipelines and service laterals. Accomplishing this task requires the agency to maintain millions of individual components, ranging in size from the small service laterals that deliver water to individual homes to massive pumping stations and reservoirs.

Strategic Approach

As a public, not-for-profit water agency, the District is committed to managing its finances and assets responsibly. The system represents a significant community investment; in total, the agency's capital assets were valued at $1.7 billion as of the last fiscal year. As with all capital assets, depreciation is inevitable, although the rate and degree thereof are influenced by many factors. The responsibility for optimizing the value of these assets—maximizing service life while maintaining the reliability of water delivery—rests with the LVVWD's infrastructure management and maintenance programs.

Calculating the necessary rate of replacement for water facilities is the responsibility of the District's Infrastructure Management department, which maintains an inventory of water system components categorized by type, age and material. The service life of a given pipeline, pump or valve is influenced by a variety of factors, but knowing when to replace assets is the key to operational efficiency, as well as minimizing leaks and service interruptions. These engineering professionals also work to optimize

infrastructure value by refurbishing equipment when possible instead of prematurely replacing it.

Given that the community's water system comprises millions of discrete components—from small 5/8" laterals serving individual homes to massive pumping stations that move water to the Las Vegas Strip—fully accounting for the entirety of an infrastructure network is a significant challenge. Infrastructure Management, Operations and Engineering work in concert to ensure that facilities are maintained in working condition and upgraded or replaced when needed.

As shown in Figure 1.3, the LVVWD evaluates the condition of its assets to identify potential issues, manage operational risks and reduce costs. By maintaining a comprehensive infrastructure inventory and reflecting factors such as age, material type, operating environment and historical failure rates, LVVWD is able to project capital reinvestment needs over decades, phasing projects to minimize spikes in financial outlays while maintaining the system's integrity. This strategy has proven highly effective; LVVWD customers enjoy one of the nation's most reliable water systems, with a leak rate far below the national average and an efficiency rating that has been classified as "world-class" by the International Water Association.

As with all systems, age is becoming a factor for the LVVWD infrastructure network. Some system components are now approaching or are more than 50 years old. The issue of aging infrastructure is hardly unique to Southern Nevada. To the contrary, the LVVWD's system is relatively young compared to other metropolitan communities. It is incumbent upon the LVVWD to undertake strategically guided rehabilitation and replacement initiatives in order to assure that Las Vegas does not experience similar service outages and leak rates such as have befallen other metropolitan communities. In total, current estimates by the American Water Works Association indicate that communities in the United States will need to collectively invest more than $1 trillion over the next 25 years to restore and expand public water systems.

To finance capital projects associated with system maintenance and expansion, the LVVWD uses funds generated through a combination of bond proceeds, water rate revenue and low-interest loans from the State Revolving Fund for drinking water systems. These three revenue streams provide access to funds for necessary improvements and save ratepayers money by reducing interest costs, a benefit of the LVVWD's AA Standard & Poor's rating and Aa1 Moody's rating.

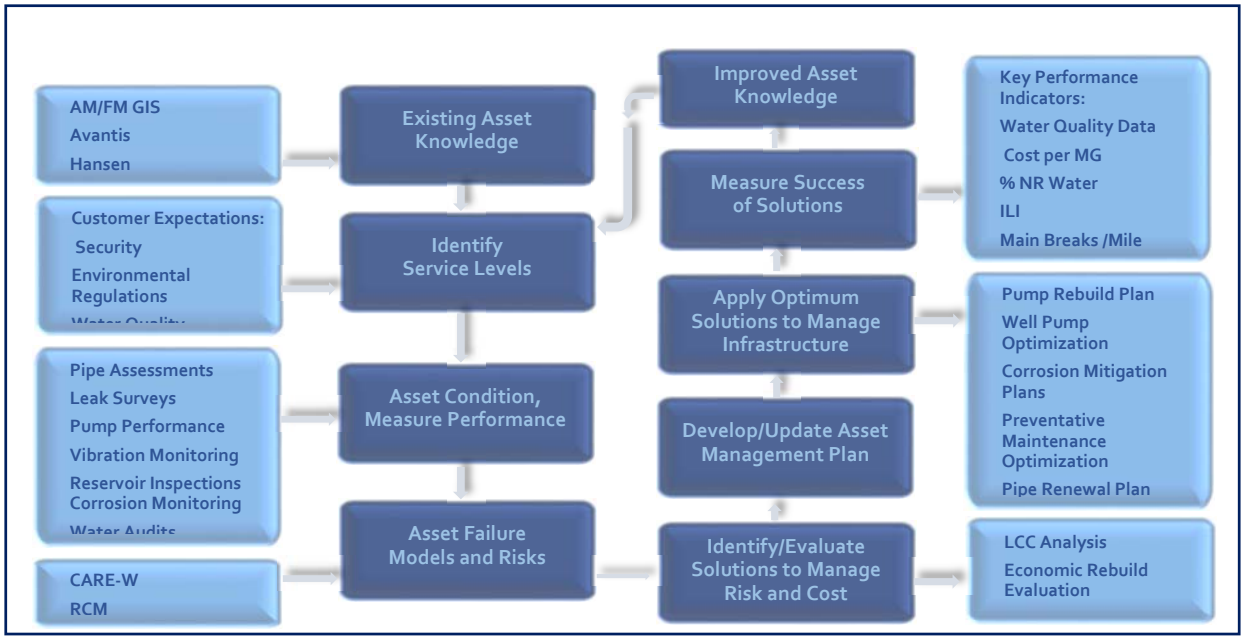


Figure1.3: LVVWD Asset Management Life Cycle

Maintaining a fiscal balance between the "pay-as-you-go" approach and long-term financial instruments is key. Overuse of bonds can negatively impact the agency's credit rating, resulting in higher interest rates, while funding all projects as they occur results in financial instability and significant rate fluctuations. Another important aspect related to project financing is maintaining appropriate reserves; strong reserves positively impact credit ratings and improve the agency's ability to respond to short-term capital needs or economic fluctuations.

This Capital Improvement Plan is intended to reflect projected capital improvement needs in the LVVWD service area over a 10-year planning horizon (2017 – 2027). The precise timing and cost of individual elements will be prioritized from year to year based on need and accounted for as part of the LVVWD's annual budget process. The following section provides an overview of purpose and need, and estimated cost in the areas of asset management, new facilities and water quality improvements.

ASSET MANAGEMENT

Introduction

In the context of a public water system, asset management refers to the proactive approach employed by utilities to reduce the life-cycle cost of infrastructure while maintaining high levels of reliability and meeting water-quality standards. At the District, this initiative is spearheaded by the Infrastructure Management department with considerable support and input from the Engineering, Operations and Finance work groups. Given the millions of individual water system components that must be evaluated based upon age, materials and projected service life, the District's asset management process is complex. However, the objective is simple: optimize system efficiency and the use of ratepayer dollars.

Achieving this goal requires the District to balance several factors, including cost, quality, reliability and safety. An excessively conservative approach could result in higher cost, particularly if equipment and facilities are replaced well before the end of their useful life cycle. Conversely, too little vigilance opens the door to frequent service outages, high leak rates and compromised water quality.

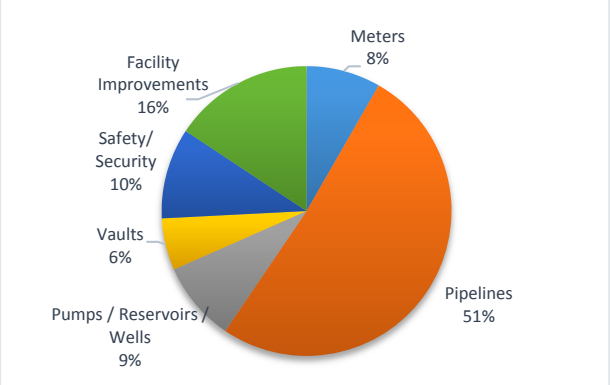
The LVVWD's infrastructure management strategy is based on several foundational principles:

- Extend infrastructure life and prevent failures through timely maintenance and repairs
- Protect system assets through continual condition assessments
- Assess and prioritize projects to ensure critical system operations remain functional
- Minimize financial impacts through orderly, phased implementation
- Minimize financial outlays by maximizing asset life cycle

While it is not unusual to implement numerous asset management-related projects simultaneously, the overall program must be managed on a longer-term basis to execute activities in an orderly manner. For the LVVWD, that means anticipating needs and scheduling work over a 10-year planning horizon. On an annual and ongoing basis, the LVVWD will conduct assessments to gauge progress and identify any necessary course adjustments.

The agency projects that an investment of approximately $390 million will be required over the planning horizon to maintain system infrastructure in a manner that meets current service levels and water quality standards. As shown in the Figure 1.5, key projects include: reservoir and pumping station maintenance and rehabilitation; replacement and renewal of vaults and valves; pipeline and service lateral replacement; cyclical water meter replacement; upgrades to the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) operations control system and improvements to existing facilities throughout the valley.

Figure1.5: Cost Distribution (%) by Asset Type



Asset Management Activity Detail

A detailed overview of major asset management activities included in the District's 10-year Capital Improvement Plan is provided below. While this plan reflects long-term projected expenditures, it does not represent a blanket authorization of funding for these improvements. Projected expenditures will be considered before the Board of Directors through an annual budgeting process for consideration and authorization. Each individual project also requires further authorization, with a majority of the projects requiring Board approval. This ensures that the Board is provided timely and complete information about asset management priorities and associated annual

costs, and has the opportunity to assess progress related to the plan's implementation.

Reservoirs

The Las Vegas Valley's bowl-like topography features approximately 2,000 feet of elevation change from downtown to the far reaches of the community, effectively precluding a "direct delivery" water system. Instead, water is pumped to higher-elevation storage reservoirs and delivered to customers via gravity. Reservoirs provide far greater reliability than direct-delivery systems, which are vulnerable to service interruptions caused by outages. In total, the District maintains more than 70 reservoir basins and tanks throughout the Las Vegas Valley. Collectively, these facilities hold nearly a billion gallons of water for delivery to customers.

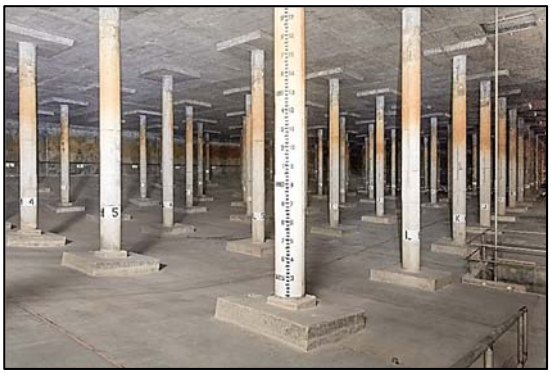


Image: Alta Reservoir

District reservoirs are typically constructed of concrete and installed below ground. This design protects them from the elements, helps safeguard water quality, stabilizes temperatures and provides for an exceptionally long service life if properly maintained. The District also maintains a small number of above-ground steel tanks as dictated by operating conditions and location. In addition to regular inspections of reservoir components critical to protecting water quality, these facilities are fully assessed every five years and serviced as needed. Typical capital reinvestment needs associated with these facilities include replacement of basin inlet and outlet valves, cathodic protection anodes, valve actuators, mixers, aeration systems, vent screening and back-up electrical generators. Over the next 10 years, the District projects that annual costs associated with maintaining reservoirs will be less than $500,000, bringing the cumulative 10-year total to approximately $4.65 million.

Pumping Stations

Most of Southern Nevada's drinking water comes from the Colorado River, drawn from pipelines within Lake Mead. The regional entity responsible for treating this water, the Southern Nevada Water Authority, sells water to local purveyors like the District at a wholesale rate and delivers it through facilities called Rate-of-Flow-Control Stations into receiving reservoirs.

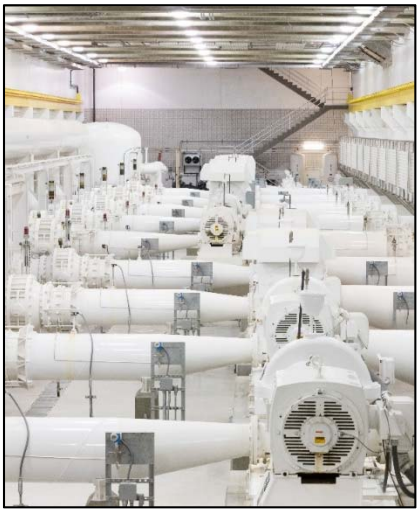


Image: LVVWD Pumping Station

For most customers, this is only the beginning of their water's journey. From these receiving reservoirs, water is pumped to dozens of District-operated reservoirs located throughout the valley. During summer months, when water use is highest, the District delivers more than 400 million gallons a day to its customers. To accomplish this, the agency operates more than 50 pumping stations that collectively produce 90,000-plus horsepower and have the capacity of 1.2 million gallons of water per minute. This is sufficient to meet even the highest "peak" demand. The ability to move water quickly around the valley is especially critical for fire suppression; there are approximately 30,000 fire hydrants within the District service area.

While variables such as the manufacturer and usage patterns affect the service life of individual pumps and ancillary equipment, a full pumping station is estimated to have a 100-year service life. The District evaluates pump performance semiannually by using an analysis of SCADA data to identify any issues. Major rehabilitation is typically performed at intervals of 35 and 65 years, while individual pumps undergo regular preventative maintenance. Performance monitoring systems automatically shut pumps down if anomalies occur, minimizing the impact of a failure. Several of the LVVWD's major pumping stations are

at or beyond the 35-year threshold and require refurbishment.

Expenditures associated with pumping stations are expected to be relatively modest given the District's successful ongoing maintenance activities. The cumulative 10-year cost associated with asset management on these facilities will be approximately $6.7 million.

Pipelines and Service Laterals

If pumping facilities represent the water system's heart, pipelines and service laterals are the veins that keep the community's lifeblood flowing. From the 5/8" service laterals that connect homes to the water mains beneath neighborhood streets to enormous 7-foot pipelines, the District must maintain approximately 6,500 miles of pipes, all constructed during different decades from a variety of materials.

The type of material from which pipelines are manufactured largely dictates their service life. In many parts of the District's service area, water mains are more than 40 years old. Where feasible, engineers incorporate auxiliary interconnections into the design that allow water to be rerouted to a property in the event of a pipeline break. Areas without such interconnections are most vulnerable to service outages, making their maintenance or replacement an even greater priority.

Given the immensity of the pipeline and service lateral network, it is not surprising that this category of infrastructure represents the largest reinvestment need for the organization. The pipeline system consists primarily of ACP (cement), PVC, steel and ductile-iron, while service laterals are fabricated largely from copper with a small percentage of polyethylene lines. Service life projections vary dramatically by material. For instance, polyethylene (an industry standard during the 1970s and '80s) has a far shorter service life than copper, exemplified by a failure rate 50 times that of copper. As a result, the District is aggressively replacing these laterals, which pose an unacceptable risk to the organization's high service reliability standards.

The District uses an array of tools—including acoustic wave technology—to perform pipe condition assessments, often without excavation. Based upon data collected in the field and service life status, the Asset Management team prioritizes replacement activities. To minimize disruption to customers and commuters during replacement, the District coordinates with other entities that may be executing construction projects such as road repaving or sewer system upgrades. For example, the District has developed a comprehensive master plan for replacement of the major pipelines serving the Las Vegas Strip; given the implications of major construction-related traffic impacts to employees and businesses in that corridor, the District will work in tandem with other agencies to minimize the duration of construction windows.

Image: LVVWD Pipeline Repair

Throughout the distribution system, the LVVWD is scheduling replacement of older sections of pipeline based upon leak incidence, breakage history and direct assessments. Addressing these issues systematically and proactively is critical given the implications of a prolonged service interruption for residential and commercial customers. Over the next decade, the LVVWD projects pipeline replacement costs of $130 million, with an additional $70 million required for service lateral replacements.

Valves

Most people are familiar with the water valves used in their landscape irrigation system. Within the context of a community water system, valves serve much the same function, but on a far larger scale—allowing water to be quickly shut off or rerouted in the event of a pipeline break or other failure. Given the importance of an uninterrupted water supply in this desert community, the ability to isolate a failed pipeline or appurtenance does more than simply reduce water loss. It also expedites the repair or replacement of the faulty component, minimizing the duration of service interruptions. Operations crews work to ensure that

the system's approximately 120,000 valves are maintained in working condition, "cycling" them periodically to prevent seizing and replacing them as necessary. Valves are also systematically changed out when the water main they serve is replaced. As a result of these efforts, the average elapsed time between notification of a pipeline break and shutdown is less than one hour.

Valves associated with large-diameter pipelines are housed in below-ground concrete structures called vaults; within the District's service area, there are approximately 2,300 vaults, which allow working access to underground equipment for testing, maintenance and replacement without excavating streets or private property. There are two categories of vaults: system vaults and meter vaults. System vaults house the isolation valves and are installed in public rights-of-way. Meter vaults, which house equipment used for accounts with meters sized 3" and larger, are located on individual properties. While both types of vaults are structurally designed to withstand traffic and soil loadings, they do have a finite service life. Inspections are conducted on a three-year cycle, with repair/replacement conducted as warranted by conditions.

On average, the District anticipates the need to replace 240 valves and execute 40 vault rehabilitation projects per year, in addition to "cycling" nearly 10,000 valves annually to ensure that they remain functional. The total cost associated with these activities is cumulatively projected at $22.5 million during the next decade.

Meters

In the early days of the District, the introduction of meters to measure water use was controversial, which is not surprising given that the average person used more than 600 gallons per day. Today, our community is among the world's leaders in water conservation, and meters are the foundation of a system that rewards efficiency by directly linking costs with water consumption. In addition to providing an equitable way to share costs for both the water and the infrastructure necessary to deliver it, metering encourages water efficiency. Allowing customers to track their water consumption is one of the tools Southern Nevada has used to cumulatively save more than half a trillion gallons of water during the current Colorado River drought.

The LVVWD is responsible both for installing meters at new services and for maintaining approximately 375,000 water meters already installed in the LVVWD service area. There are currently 11 different meter sizes in the system, ranging from the 5/8" units that serve many homes to 12" meters that support large-scale water users such as resort properties. New technology allows meter reading to be performed remotely, saving on labor costs.

However, as with all mechanical devices, meters have a finite service life and must be replaced periodically. Additionally, because meter technology has changed significantly over time, many meters—particularly large meters serving businesses—can no longer be repaired because the parts have become obsolete and are no longer manufactured. As meters age, they can begin to under-report usage, resulting in customers using more water than is accounted. Potential revenue loss associated with this is estimated to be as much as $1 million annually.

Image: Valve/Vault Repair

To address failing meters, the District has implemented a Preventative Maintenance Program to replace aging metering equipment. In addition to ensuring that customers' bills are commensurate with their demand, replacing high-volume meters with new technology—such as turbine meters—mitigates pressure loss, improving those properties' level of service. The LVVWD anticipates that costs associated with this program will be approximately $3.25 million annually over the next decade. A portion of those outlays will be recovered as those customers' water use is more accurately billed through the new meters.

Water Quality Controls

Although water delivered to the District from the Southern Nevada Water Authority and groundwater wells has been treated and tested to ensure it meets all state and federal health standards, the integrity of customers' drinking water must be maintained and carefully monitored all the way to the tap. For instance, chlorine levels dissipate over time, requiring periodic rechlorination to prevent bacteria from entering the water. Conversely, levels of chlorination byproducts—which themselves can have harmful effects—must be carefully managed.

To maintain water quality in the distribution system, the District operates scores of sampling stations, from which more than 30,000 samples are drawn annually for analysis. Additionally, the centralized Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) center allows operators to monitor the water system 24 hours a day, including the use of in-line sensors to detect subtle changes in water quality.

Costs associated with this critical function are relatively modest. The high-tech SCADA center, for instance, is projected to require approximately $6 million in upgrades over the planning horizon—much of it associated with upgrades to rapidly-advancing computer hardware and software. Other investments in water quality are embedded in broader facility maintenance initiatives that cover security enhancements and a host of other water quality protection-oriented projects.

Image: Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) center.

Groundwater Wells

Originally the sole source of water for Las Vegas residents, groundwater today represents about 10 percent of the District's supply. Despite its relatively modest role as a resource, groundwater is integral to meeting summer peak demand. The ability to supplement water from Lake Mead with this renewable supply reduces the strain on the region's water treatment facilities and extends our community's Colorado River allocation. Additionally, wells—which can be operated if necessary by generators—represent an excellent emergency water source.

To prevent adverse hydrologic impacts associated with withdrawals, groundwater pumping is distributed through more than 70 wells, largely located in the central and western parts of the Las Vegas Valley. Some of these wells are also used to store water saved through the community's successful conservation efforts; by reversing the powerful pumps, water can be injected into the aquifer for storage and future use.

A well system is comprised of two major components: the pumping equipment, and the wellbore itself. The service life expectancy of a wellbore can vary significantly depending upon its composition. Newer wells have an expected lifespan of 75 years, while older wells typically last between 40 and 60 years. Pumping equipment has a far shorter service life, rarely exceeding 13 years. Technicians monitor pumping efficiency to determine the optimal replacement or refurbishment window.

Image: LVVWD Groundwater Well

Over the next 10 years, 13 wellbores will require significant rehabilitation or redrilling, while five well pumps require replacement or rebuilding annually. During the 10-year planning horizon, the District anticipates that well- and pump-related costs will be approximately $15.6 million.

Facilities and Capital Improvements

Treating and delivering water requires a tremendous amount of electrical energy; from pumping stations and reservoirs to well facilities and the LVVWD's main campus, maintaining the reliability of the power supply is critical to the agency's operations. This entails assessing and servicing transformers and electrical panels throughout the valley. In support of its sustainability initiatives, the LVVWD also operates several solar photovoltaic generation facilities, which are co-located with existing infrastructure and provide electrical power to support operations.

Information systems also play a crucial role in ensuring that the community's water supply remains both reliable and safe. As noted above, the SCADA control center—which monitors water quality and production levels in virtually real-time—relies upon an extensive communications network. In addition, electronic facility intrusion detection and cyber-security are central to the ongoing protection of the community's water system.

The District maintains a fleet of more than 600 automotive vehicles and a similar number of heavy machines, including cranes, used to support facility maintenance and replacement, respond to emergency service outages, and conduct routine functions like valve cycling and meter reading. This award-winning fleet is housed at the District's main campus on Valley View Boulevard, which also serves as the base for the agency's customer service center, equipment warehouse, fleet maintenance center, administrative offices and other core functions. This 300,000-square-foot complex encompasses numerous buildings with all of the associated electrical, HVAC, communications and office infrastructure, and equipment.

Security, safety and fleet-related expenditures are projected at approximately $3.9 million annually over the next decade. Costs associated with electrical, telemetry and other related infrastructure is budgeted at $3.45 million per year over the next 10 years, with an additional $2.7 million annually for repair, replacement, and upgrades to infrastructure and equipment housed at the primary campus.

Asset Management Summary

A summary of forecasted Asset Management activities and associated costs over the 10-year planning horizon is detailed in Figure 1.6. Costs are represented in aggregate; however, LVVWD work efforts will be executed in a phases based on asset assessment results and need. Proposed expenditures to support this work will be presented to the Board of Directors for consideration and authorization as part of the annual budget process.

Figure 1.6: Projected Asset Management Activity and Cost by Asset Type

ACTIVITY	10-YEAR	PERCENTAGE
Meter Program	$32.4 million	8%
Vault Program	22.5 million	6%
Service Laterals	70.0 million	18%
Pipeline Rehabilitation and Replacement	130.0 million	33%
Facilities Improvements	27.0 million	7%
SCADA	6.0 million	2%
Pump Stations	6.7 million	2%
Reservoirs	4.65 million	1%
Wells	15.6 million	4%
Reclaimed Water	1.7 million	<1%
Fleet, Safety and Security	39.3 million	10%
Misc. Capital	34.5 million	9%
TOTAL	$390.3 million	

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

WATER QUALITY

The District is responsible for ensuring that municipal water supplies meet strict state and federal health standards. To accomplish this, the agency collects more than 33,000 water samples a year and analyzes them for more than 100 regulated and unregulated contaminants. The instrumentation used to test water quality can detect some compounds at one part per trillion, the equivalent of one teaspoon of water in 2,100 Olympic-size swimming pools. Additionally, the LVVWD's high-tech SCADA operations center uses advanced instrumentation to detect minute changes in water quality, providing a greater degree of protection.

To support its mission of providing customers with a safe, reliable water supply, the District works closely with the State of Nevada to identify and reduce any potential vulnerabilities to water contamination, including conditions known as backsiphonage or backpressure, more commonly referred to as backflow. This occurs when negative pressure in the system causes water to reverse its flow. There are a number of situations that can potentially cause this to occur. For example, a sudden decrease of water pressure due to a main break or a significant draw on hydrants for firefighting efforts can potentially cause backflow conditions. When this occurs, water from an individual property's plumbing system can be drawn back into the public portion of the water distribution network.

To prevent this from occurring, the State of Nevada in the mid-1990s began requiring the installation of backflow prevention devices on all new properties except single-family homes. These valve-like devices protect the community's drinking water system by preventing water from being siphoned back into water mains from private properties. This mandatory program is managed by the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection and requires that all backflow devices be tested annually by a certified technician.

System Needs

Approximately 35,000 meters within the District's service area require backflow protection. To fulfill state requirements, the District prioritized backflow installations based on their degree of risk to the system and has begun systematically retrofitting properties that require backflow protection. An annual cost of $10 million is needed over the 10-year planning horizon to implement its backflow retrofit program. The cost of individual retrofits varies by meter size and range from approximately $3,000 for small meters to more than $33,000 for 10" meters. The projected cost is anticipated to address approximately one-third of outstanding retrofit needs over the next decade. The quantity of devices involved and labor-intensive nature of the installations precludes a more aggressive approach.

Image: Commercial Backflow Assembly

NEW FACILITIES

Since its inception, the District has worked to develop, operate and maintain its water distribution system in a manner that meets the needs of the community. This includes ensuring the reliable delivery of high-quality water to all customers. Over the decades, this has required the agency to install thousands of miles of water mains, hundreds of millions of gallons worth of reservoir storage and massive pumping stations necessary to move water around the valley.

When the recession that began in 2007 brought commercial and residential development to a virtual standstill, the District quickly responded by curtailing facility expansion and reliability enhancement projects, and by deferring many of the major asset management needs discussed in the preceding section. In total, hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of construction activities were postponed, which increased the strain on the community's water system. Given the uncertain financial climate, it was determined this action to be in the best interest of both ratepayers and the organization.

System Needs

Today, development activity has resumed in Southern Nevada, although certainly not to the degree experienced in the decades prior to the recession. Accordingly, the LVVWD has resumed planning activities associated with expansion of the community's water delivery system. This action is necessary for the organization to fulfill its mission of providing a safe, reliable water system to all municipal water customers in its service area.

Below is a summary of three major system improvement projects planned for development within the 10-year planning horizon. None of these projects are being constructed exclusively for prospective development; rather, all simultaneously benefit existing customers while facilitating access to the municipal water supply for planned developments.

NEW FACILITIES

Northwest Major Facilities (NW)

Within the northwest portion of the Las Vegas Valley, approximately 21,000 customers in three separate pressure zones are serviced by a single pumping station and a single reservoir; a major development currently under construction is anticipated to bring that number to nearly 30,000 customers. In the event of a service interruption, current reservoir storage is inadequate to support customers for extended periods of time. New facilities are needed to address the strain on existing infrastructure and to reduce residents' vulnerability to service interruptions associated with scheduled or emergency outages.

New facilities planned for construction include the development of two new water storage reservoirs—one with a capacity of 10 million gallons, the other with a capacity of 5 million gallons—along with two pumping stations and associated appurtenances. The estimated cost of these improvements is $61.8 million.

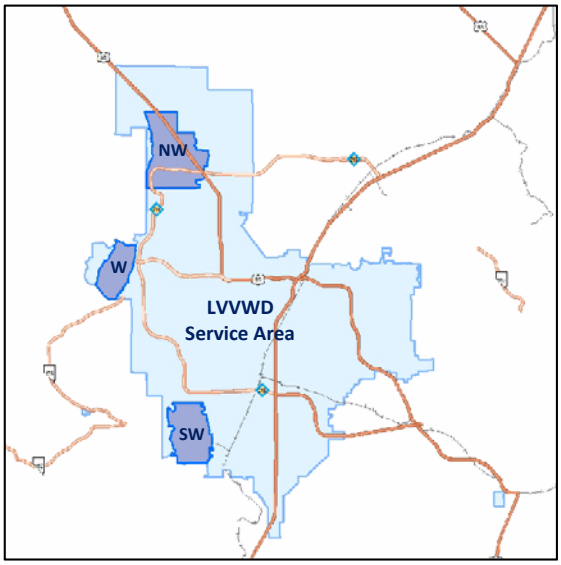


Figure 1.7: Customers to be served by new facilities

West Major Facilities (W)

Unlike the vast majority of customers in the District's service area, residents and businesses in this portion of the valley depend on direct delivery for their water service. As discussed previously, direct delivery is less reliable and impacts could arise in the event of scheduled and unanticipated outages, such as a water main break. Without storage or other redundant systems, customers could experience immediate service impacts.

New facilities planned for construction in this service area include the development of a 10-million-gallon water storage reservoir, a pumping station and associated appurtenances. Constructing this long-planned but deferred reservoir will reduce vulnerability and enhance overall system reliability. Additionally, it will provide additional capacity and emergency storage for any additional residential or commercial expansion that may occur in the area. The estimated cost of these improvements is $30.1 million.

Southwest Major Facilities (SW)

Within the southwest portion of the valley, there are more than 6,600 customers served by a single water storage reservoir and pumping station. These facilities are located approximately 3 miles away from their furthermost service connection. In the event of a service interruption, current reservoir storage is inadequate to support customers for extended periods of time. New facilities are needed to address the strain on existing infrastructure and reduce residents' vulnerability to service interruptions associated with scheduled or emergency outages.

New facilities planned for construction include a 10-million-gallon water storage reservoir, pumping station and associated appurtenances. In addition to providing an emergency water supply in close proximity to customers, the proposed reservoir will alleviate pressure variability issues associated with the current engineering configuration. This benefits existing customers not only in terms of reliability, but in service quality as well. The estimated cost of these improvements is $33.8 million.

Figure 1.8: Projected Activity and Cost by Asset Type

ACTIVITY	COST
Northwest Facilities	
5 MG Reservoir & Associated Inlet/Outlet Pipeline	$10.6 million
10 MG Reservoir & Associated Inlet/Outlet Pipeline	26.0 million
Pumping Station & Discharge Pipeline	13.6 million
Pumping Station & Discharge Pipeline	10.9 million
Pressure Reducing Valves	700,000
Subtotal	*$61.8 million*
Summerlin Facilities	
10 MG Reservoir & Inlet/Outlet Pipeline	$22.5 million
Pumping Station	7.6 million
Subtotal	*$30.1 million*
Southwest Facilities	
10 MG Reservoir	$20.8 million
Pumping Station	12.3 million
Pressure Reducing Valves	700,000
Subtotal	*$33.8 million*
TOTAL	$125.7 million