

## Water Forward 2018 - FY23 Q1 Implementation Progress Report

	<p><b>Water Forward 2024 (WF24)</b> The five-year update to the Water Forward 2018 Plan will include updated data, analyses, and community engagement activities. The final plan will include an updated 50-year portfolio of water management strategies and a 100-year adaptive management plan.</p> <p><b><u>FY23 Q1 Progress</u></b> Water Forward University (WFU) webinar held November 9th and recording has been posted to SpeakUp Austin webpage. Community Ambassadors collected input from community to inform Equity and Affordability Roadmap (EARM). Performed QA/QC on draft population and employment projections and final updates to the Disaggregated Demand Model (DDM). Refined scenario planning methodology and began work on model logic and metrics for optimization. Finalized climate-adjusted streamflow sequences and began work on developing stochastic streamflow sequences.</p>	<p><b><u>Actual vs. planned progress</u></b> Progressing on revised schedule targeting plan completion in 2024.</p> <p><b><u>Current/Planned FY23 Q2 Activities</u></b> Gather staff and Task Force feedback on EARM framework questions. WFU on equity and affordability planned for 3/29. Integrate population and employment projections into DDM to develop draft demand projections; identify alternatives and approach for developing ranges in demands. Finalize optimization model logic and preliminary metrics to begin model testing. Finalize stochastic streamflow sequences. Continue to meet with CTAG to get input on climate and hydrology analysis.</p>	<p><b><u>FY23 Q1 Stats</u></b> 3 - # of community engagement events ~45 - # of meeting attendees</p> <p><b><u>Future Implementation Steps</u></b> FY23: Complete Equity and Affordability Roadmap and Tool. Gather community input on WMS and continue broader community engagement. Develop demand projections, identify water needs, and characterize WMS. Perform preliminary water needs analysis. Develop and test WMS optimization model.</p>
2040: 3,880 Acre Feet/Year	<p><b>My ATX Water</b> This program will replace more than 250,000 analog water meters with digitally read water meters connected to a wireless network. The My ATX Water program also includes a brand-new customer portal that provides up-to-date water usage metrics, leak alerts, emergency alerts, water conservation tips, and many other customizable features.</p> <p><b><u>FY23 Q1 Progress</u></b> The My ATX Water contracted vendor, Aclara, continues pre-install field surveys and meter installations around Austin, bringing the total number of installs to ~110,000. The My ATX Water customer portal has almost 30,000 registered, engaged users and continues to grow.</p>	<p><b><u>Actual vs. planned progress</u></b> Delayed, but continuing to catch up. In the past month, Aclara has hit a stride and technicians are installing meters at a faster rate.</p> <p><b><u>Current/Planned FY23 Q2 Activities</u></b> Meter surveys and installs continue around Austin, increasing in frequency as more installers are hired. A marketing campaign set for early May to celebrate the 100,000th install will help continue to draw eyes to the program.</p>	<p><b><u>FY23 Q1 Stats</u></b> ~110,000 - # of meters installed ~30,000 - # of customer portal registrations ~30% - Avg. customer portal registration rate ~64,000 - # of continuous usage alerts</p> <p><b><u>Future Implementation Steps</u></b> FY23: Installation of 250,000 meters will continue. FY25: Anticipated project completion.</p>
2040: 3,040 Acre Feet/Year	<p><b>Irrigation and Landscape Ordinance</b> AW will create an Irrigation and Landscape Ordinance for new single-family residences that will set requirements for conserving water in irrigation systems and landscapes.</p> <p><b><u>FY23 Q1 Progress</u></b> Staff met with the Austin Fire Department and held two public meetings in November. Staff also gave a Central Texas Irrigation Professional Talk and provided a presentation to the Resource Management Commission in November. Another public survey was posted to the SpeakUp Austin page. Staff continued to work on implementation planning.</p>	<p><b><u>Actual vs. planned progress</u></b> On schedule (W/WW commission meeting slot got pushed back twice)</p> <p><b><u>Current/Planned FY23 Q2 Activities</u></b> Attending Green Industry meetings on 1/23,02/03; Providing W/WW Commission update 02/08; Will continue coordination with other City departments involved with enforcement of options; Will continue development of an implementation plan.</p>	<p><b><u>FY23 Q1 Stats</u></b> 4 - # of community engagement events 88- # Event attendees 216- Survey responses</p> <p><b><u>Future Implementation Steps</u></b> FY23: Planning to host final public meeting and include local amendments in the adoption of the 2024 Uniform Plumbing Code</p>

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### OWRS, Benchmarking and Reclaimed Code Changes

This suite of code changes includes requirements that site plan submittals include water benchmarking applications, extends the current reclaimed connection requirements, and requires that new developments ≥250,000 square feet install onsite water reuse systems.

**FY23 Q1 Progress**

Worked with internal City of Austin stakeholders to ensure implementation of mandatory program is smooth across departments, including working with WPD to develop dual crediting policies and working with Law on ordinance language. Developed billing and metering approach for OWRS. Established reviews in City's permitting database for compliance with OWRS and reclaimed connection requirements. Completed 50% of dual plumbing cost study to better understand cost implications; Completed preliminary programming in AMANDA to allow applicants to submit OWRS permit applications through AB&C portal; Developing OWRS cost estimates and cost saving estimates in support of affordability impact analysis requirements

**Actual vs. planned progress**

On Schedule

**Current/Planned FY23 Q2 Activities**

Plan for external stakeholder engagement (in person and virtual stakeholder meeting dates set for mid-June).

**FY23 Q1 Stats**

N/A

**Future Implementation Steps**

Work towards Council adoption of Mandatory OWRS ordinance in December 2023. Compile Affordability Impact Statement by September 2023. Update OWRS guidance materials to reflect mandatory program requirements.

### Onsite Water Reuse Systems (OWRS)

In December 2020, the City of Austin adopted the Onsite Water Reuse Systems Ordinance to regulate the collection, treatment, and use of alternative water sources for non-potable uses in multi-family and commercial buildings. AW's new OWRS team implements these requirements and assists the development community with the benchmarking and OWRS application processes.

**FY23 Q1 Progress**

Staff has reviewed OWRS applications that have come in and fielded questions on several potential applications. Staff continues to review water benchmarking applications for all site plans submitted after Dec. 1, 2021 and field questions regarding OWRS applications.

**Actual vs. planned progress**

On Schedule

**Current/Planned FY23 Q2 Activities**

Staff is using benchmarking process to identify projects that are required to implement OWRS and making sure project owners are aware of these requirements early in the process. Staff is continuing to work with OWRS applicants to get their systems permitted and incentive program funds applied.

**FY23 Q1 Stats**

- 78** - # of benchmarking applications received (this quarter)
- 27** - # of benchmarking applications received for developments >250,000 Square Feet (this quarter)
- 0** - # of OWRS applications received (FYTD)
- 1** - # of OWRS application approved (FYTD)
- # of OWRS incentive applications received (FYTD)

**0**

**Future Implementation Steps**

FY23: Staff will work on programmatic changes and implementation steps in preparation for the mandatory OWRS program. Development of the Affordability Impact Statement will begin. Will complete a national OWRS operator certification program.

2040: 5,480 Acre Feet/Year

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2040: 3,560 AF/Year	<p><b>Decentralized Reclaimed</b></p> <p>Decentralized reclaimed is the collection of effluent from the wastewater system in new development areas, treatment to non-drinking water quality at a small wastewater treatment plant, and reuse at the community scale via a decentralized reclaimed water distribution system that would be separate from the centralized reclaimed water system.</p> <p><b><u>FY23 Q1 Progress</u></b> AW has begun meeting internally to scope and implement a project to define internal standards for Decentralized WWTP and Reclaimed infrastructure design elements. AW is continuing to develop infrastructure planning documents related to decentralized reclaimed for the Northeast and Southeast service regions.</p>	<p><b><u>Actual vs. planned progress</u></b></p> <p>On Schedule</p> <p><b><u>Current/Planned FY23 Q2 Activities</u></b> Continue scope definition and work toward consultant selection for Decentralized WWTP &amp; Reclaimed Design Criteria; Begin analysis of on-site and other decentralized reuse yield updates for Water Forward 2024 Plan Update.</p>	<p><b><u>FY23 Q1 Stats</u></b></p> <p>3 - # of decentralized reclaimed water customers 32.8 - Decentralized reclaimed water use in Q1 (MG)</p> <p><b><u>Future Implementation Steps</u></b> FY23: Finalize consultant selection and continue Decentralized WWTP &amp; Reclaimed Design Criteria planning efforts; begin pilot project conceptualization.</p>
2040: 15,480 Acre Feet/Year	<p><b>Centralized Reclaimed</b></p> <p>Austin Water provides highly treated wastewater through the centralized reclaimed water system for non-potable uses such as irrigation, cooling, manufacturing, and toilet flushing. The Water Forward plan includes expansion of the existing reclaimed water system to meet non-potable demands.</p> <p><b><u>FY23 Q1 Progress</u></b> Design is ongoing for the final Completing the Core mains. Onion Creek Phase 1 and Oltorf Phase 1 is in construction.</p>	<p><b><u>Actual vs. planned progress</u></b></p> <p>On Schedule</p> <p><b><u>Current/Planned FY23 Q2 Activities</u></b> Continue design and construction of the final Completing the Core mains.</p>	<p><b><u>FY23 Q1 Stats</u></b></p> <p>~186 - # of centralized reclaimed water customers 385 - Centralized reclaimed water use in Q1 (MG) 385 - Centralized reclaimed water use FYTD (MG) 1,402 - FY23 Goal (MG)</p> <p><b><u>Future Implementation Steps</u></b> FY26: Estimated completion of all Completing the Core mains as well as completion of SAR and Montopolis Pump Station Upgrades.</p>
2040: 60,000 Acre Feet/Year	<p><b>Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR)</b></p> <p>Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) is a water supply strategy to store available water in a natural aquifer during wet times for later recovery and use. An ASR project will make Austin's water supply more resilient to the effects of climate change and drought and could provide a second source of water during emergencies, like freeze events or flooding.</p> <p><b><u>FY23 Q1 Progress</u></b> Virtual and in-person ASR community workshops were held in Fall 2022 to get community input on the ASR evaluation process, including the technical criteria and equity and affordability evaluation framework. Continued work on characterizing ASR project alternatives and finalizing evaluation criteria, including incorporating input from community workshops.</p>	<p><b><u>Actual vs. planned progress</u></b></p> <p>On Schedule</p> <p><b><u>Current/Planned FY23 Q2 Activities</u></b> Complete characterization of project alternatives and begin scoring for technical aspects and equity and affordability.</p>	<p><b><u>FY23 Q1 Stats</u></b></p> <p>8 - # of community engagement events 213 - # of people reached</p> <p><b><u>Future Implementation Steps</u></b> FY22-23: Initial contract and identify where to pilot. FY24-27: Design, construct, and test ASR pilot. Develop recommendations for full-scale ASR. FY28-35: Preliminary engineering, design, construction of full-scale ASR.</p>

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### Water Loss

Water Forward includes a strategy to reduce losses from pipes in the utility's water distribution system by enhancing Austin Water's current water loss reduction program. Austin Water is focusing on leak response, leak detection through tried and tested techniques, pilot testing emerging leak detection technologies, and, through its Renewing Austin program, repairing and replacing water mains.

#### FY23 Q1 Progress

AW continues its ongoing efforts related to water loss (proactive leak detection, minimizing leak response times, replacing deteriorated infrastructure, and AMI implementation). Responses to AW's Water Loss Program Review Analysis and Optimization RFQ were reviewed.

#### Actual vs. planned progress

N/A

#### Current/Planned FY23 Q2 Activities

AW will continue its ongoing efforts related to water loss. Anticipate City Council consideration of the RCA for the Water Loss Program Review Analysis and Optimization project.

#### FY23 Q1 Stats

N/A

#### Future Implementation Steps

AW will continue its ongoing efforts related to water loss. The Water Loss Program Review Analysis and Optimization project will kick off in Q3 with anticipated report delivery in Q4 of FY23 or Q1 of FY24.