



Water Management Strategy Implementation REPORT

Water & Wastewater Commission
August 20, 2025

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Second Quarter Summary

The second quarter of the year (April – June) transitions from the drier winter to one of the wettest months of the year in May. Implementation efforts also transition to meet changing conditions and environments.

- 💧 Landscape water conservation expands for existing and new homes.
- 💧 Increased leak detection for small-diameter pipes.
- 💧 Additional reclaimed customers and usage, while approving onsite reuse permits for future development.
- 💧 Expanded public outreach with springtime messaging.
- 💧 Planning for the aquifer storage and recovery project continued, as well as an emergency implementation plan for indirect potable reuse.



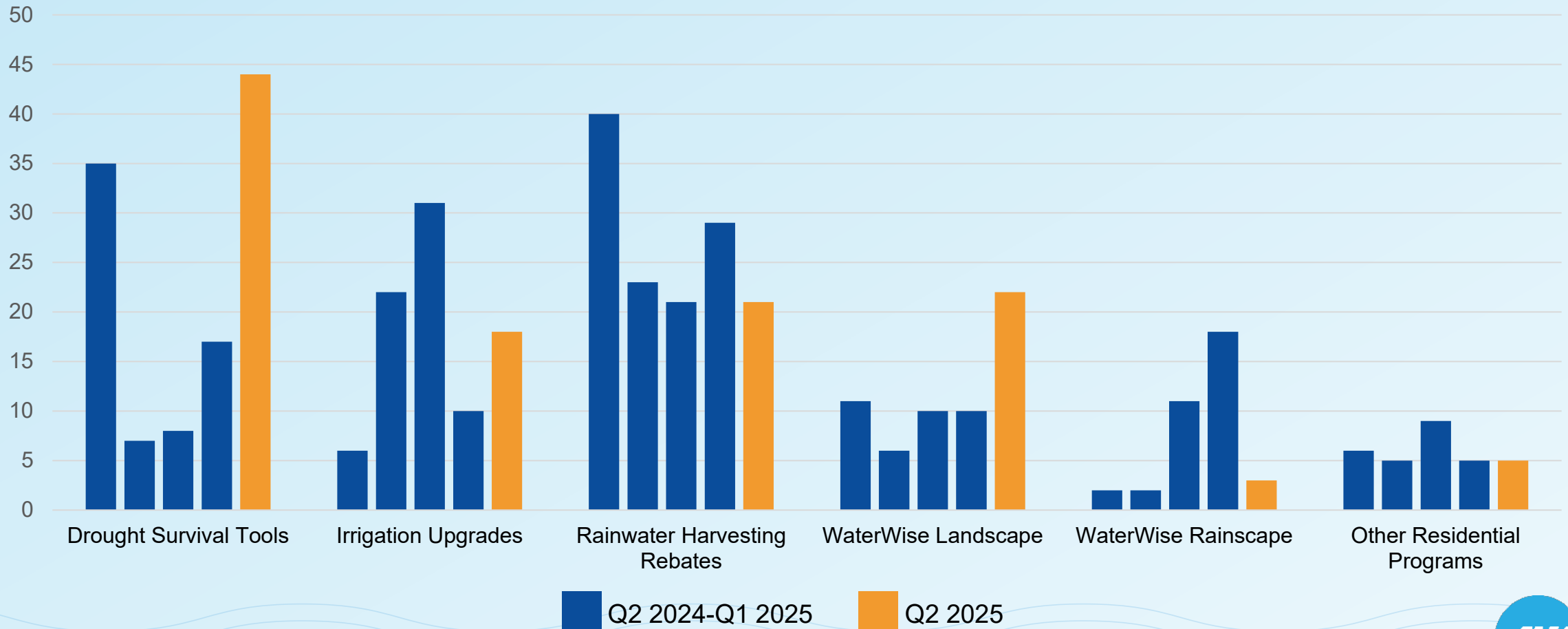
Water Conservation Updates

- Council approved Uniform Plumbing Code with 3 local amendments that implement the Water Forward 2018 Landscape Transformation strategy:
 - Irrigation pressure reduction components
 - Limitation of the size of automatic irrigation systems
 - Requirement of laundry to landscape plumbing
- Residential landscape rebates – 140% increase over 2024 year to date
- Staff completed water efficiency audits on 6 City of Austin facilities; immediate action at one facility lowered irrigation consumption by 88% and total use by 21%

Water Conservation Metrics

Residential Rebate Programs

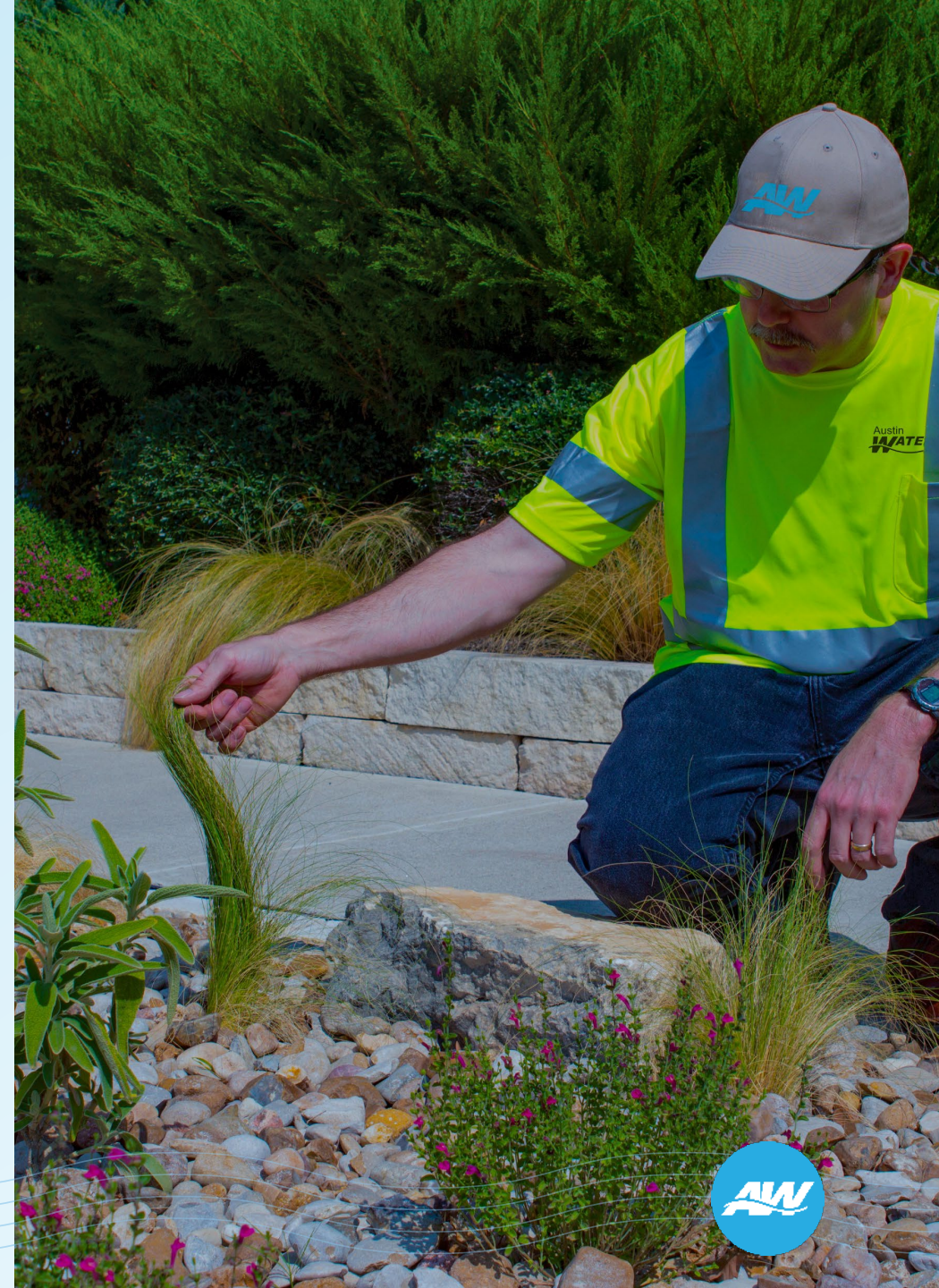
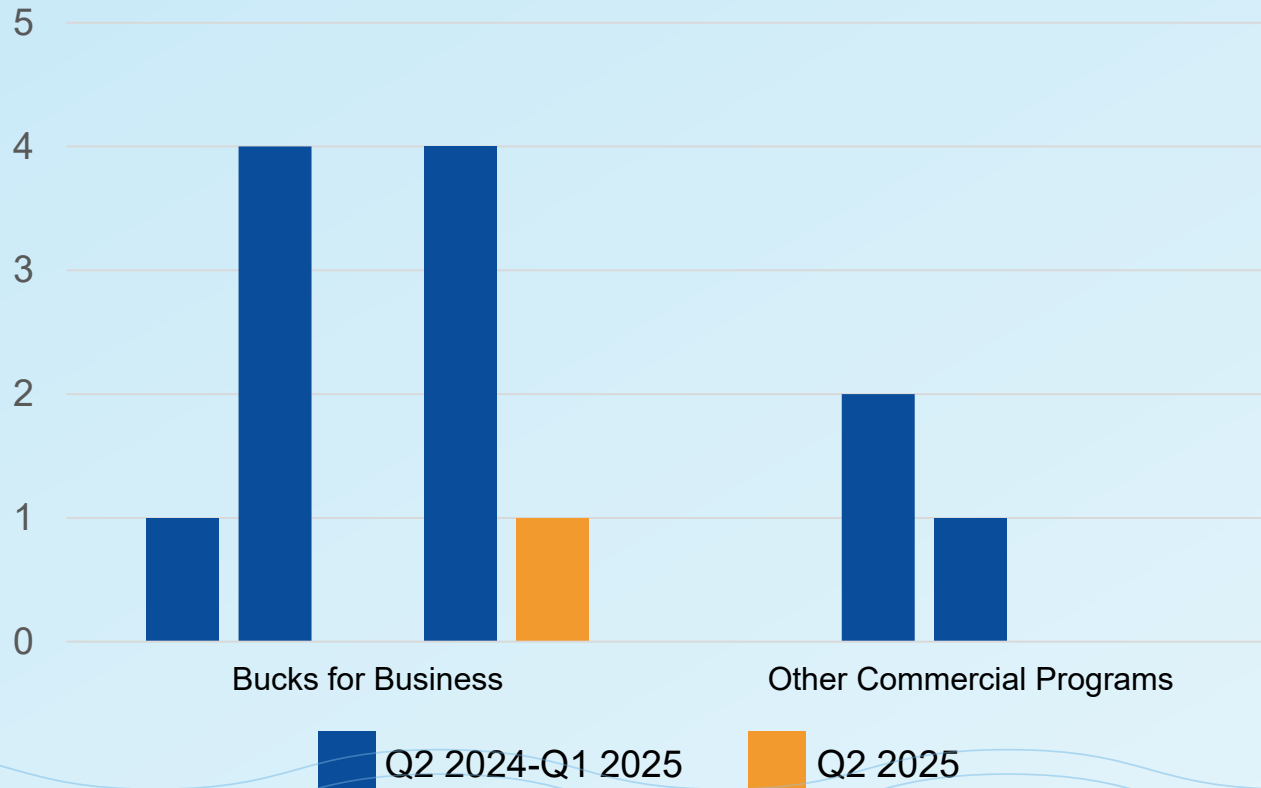
Approved Rebates



Water Conservation Metrics

Commercial Rebate Programs

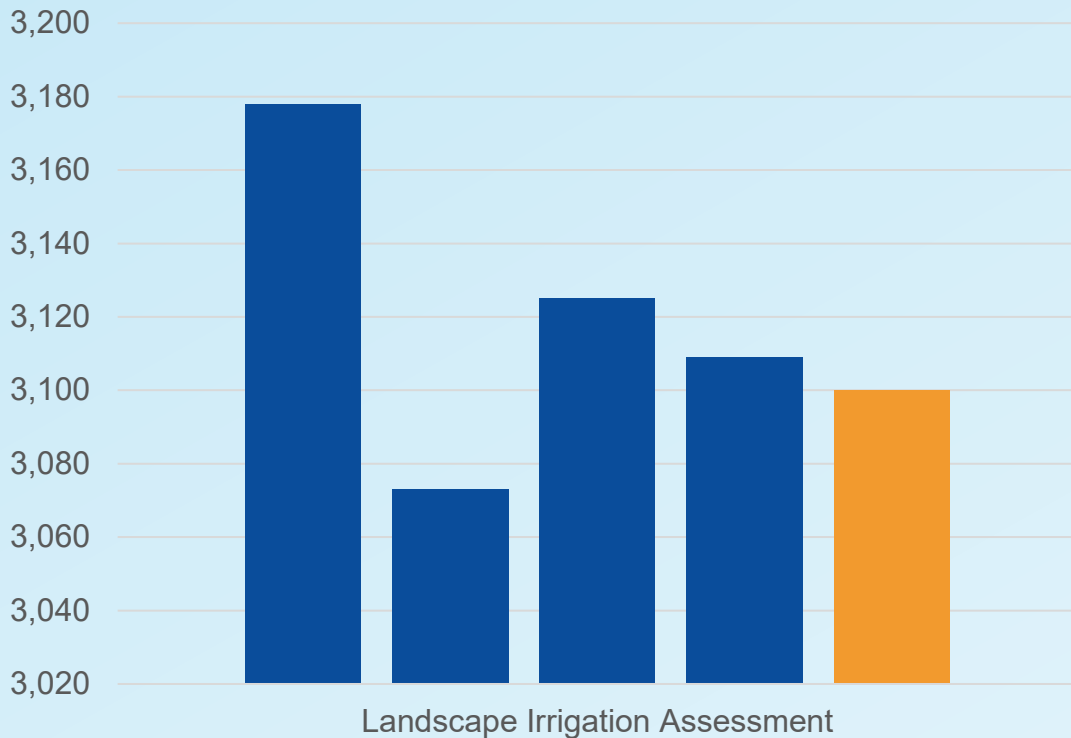
Approved Rebates



Water Conservation Metrics

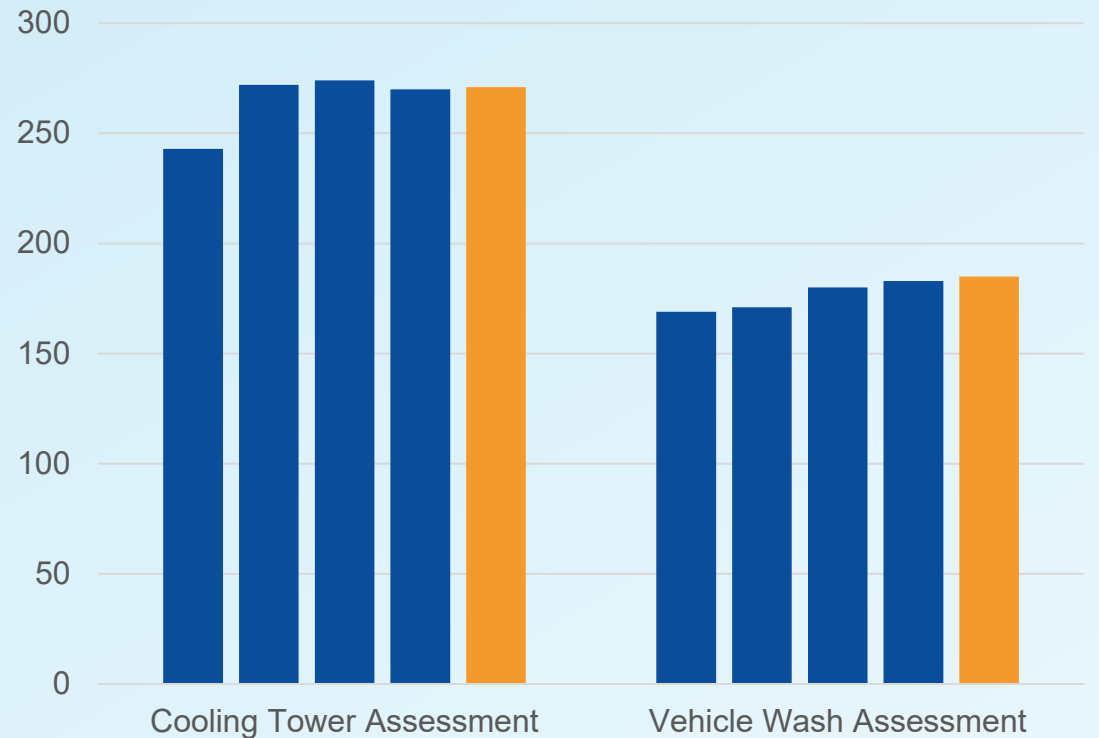
Compliance Assessments

Number of Compliant Commercial Facilities



■ Q2 2024-Q1 2025 ■ Q2 2025



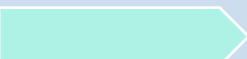
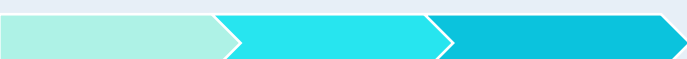
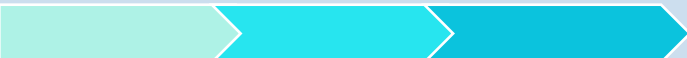
Number of Compliant Commercial Facilities



■ Q2 2024-Q1 2025 ■ Q2 2025



Water Conservation Strategy Milestones

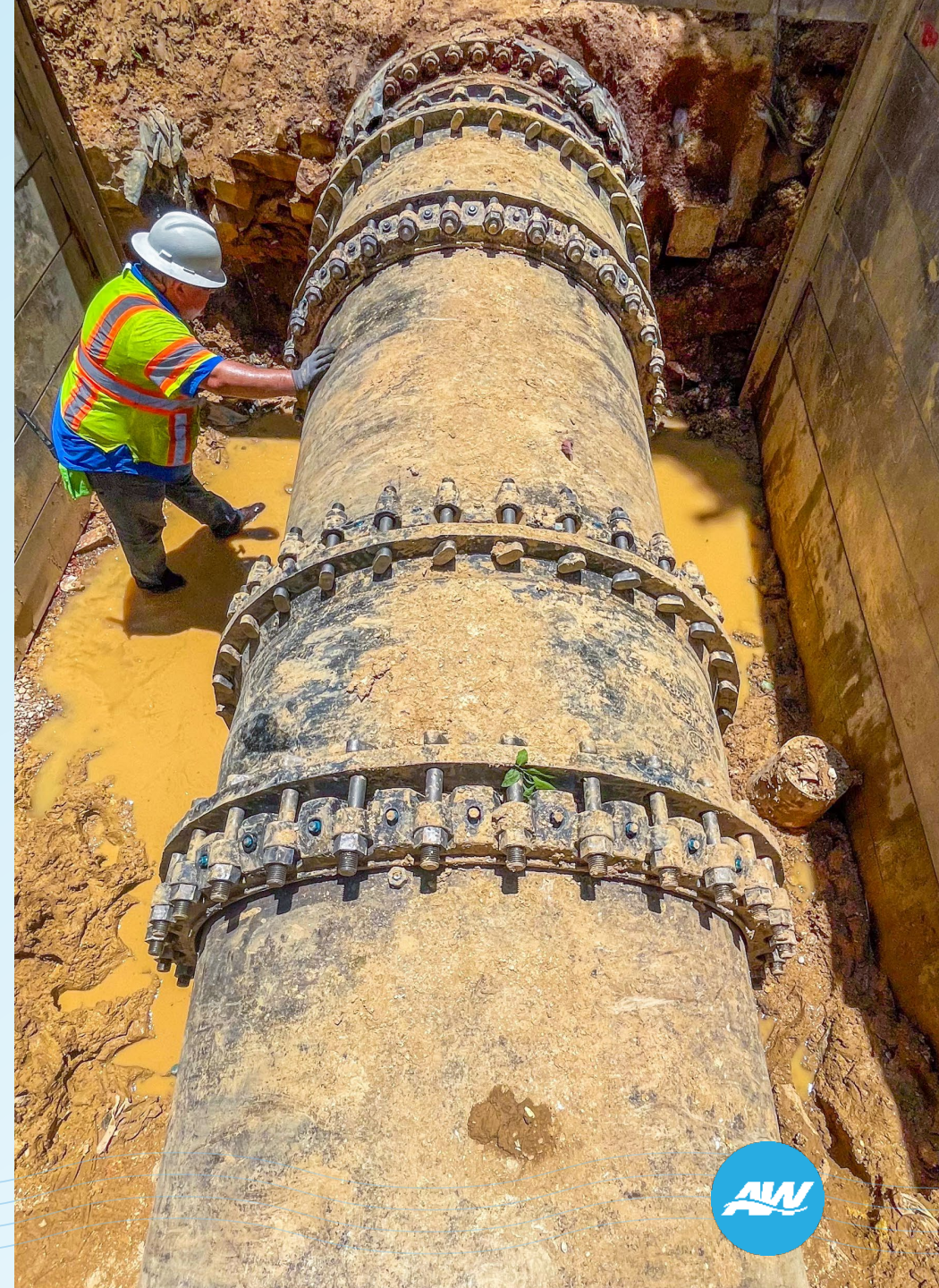
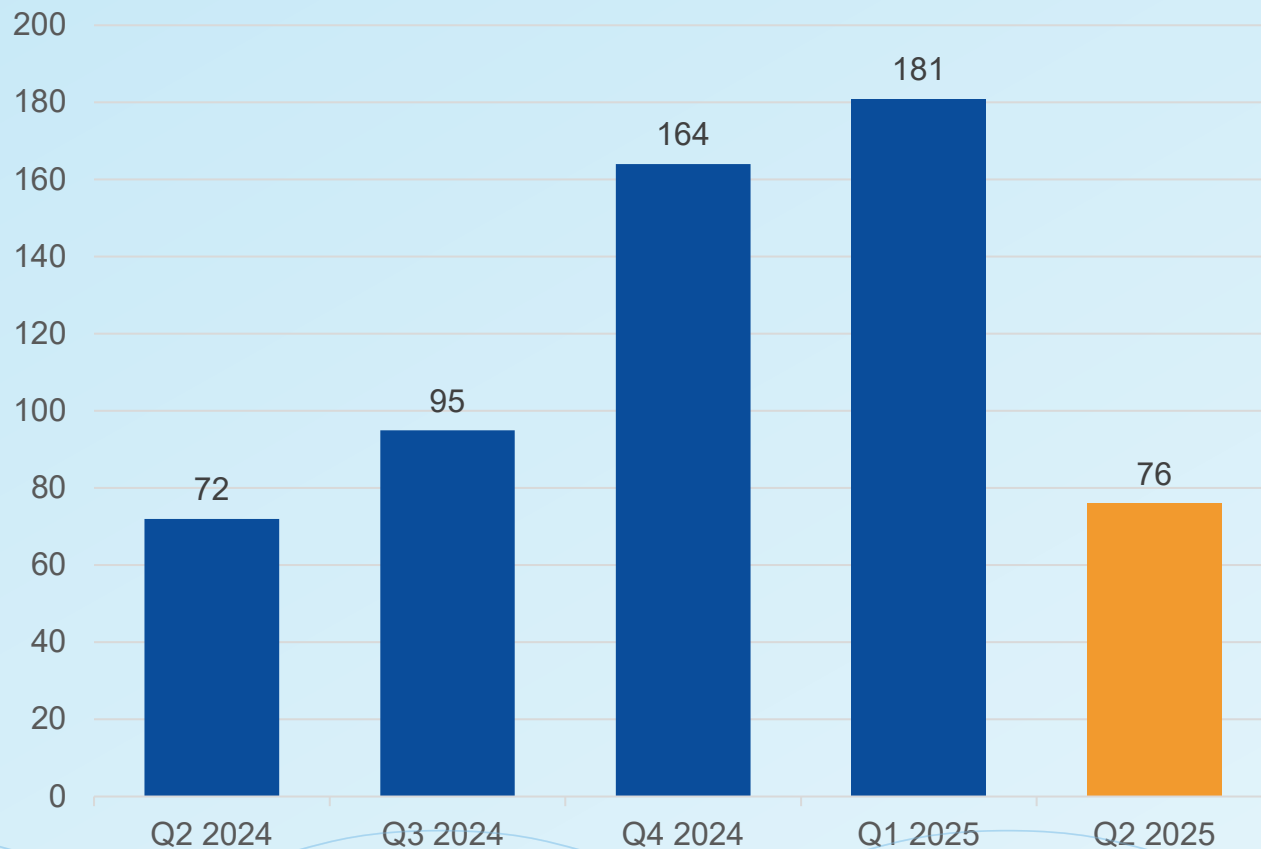
2025 Milestones	Progress
Commercial Incentives	
Pilot an increased rebate for commercial water use audits.	
Identify opportunities for CII facility owners/managers to benefit from the My ATX Water alerts and information.	
Landscape transformation	
Coordinate with COA Development Services Department to increase inspections of new-development soil inspections.	
Council adoption and implementation of local amendments to the 2024 Uniform Plumbing Code (pressure-reduction devices, irrigation area, laundry to landscape).	
Austin Water inspection of all new residential irrigation systems and offering new homeowners follow-up checkups.	

Water Loss Reduction Updates

- AW's Effective Utility Management Water Loss Team meets regularly to implement recommendations from the Black & Veatch Water Loss Report
- AW's proposed FY26-30 budget includes \$18 million for service line replacements, up from \$8 million in the previous budget. Currently working on plan to accelerate replacement schedule.
- The 2024 infrastructure leakage index has been calculated as 5.4, an increase over 4.2 in 2023. This increase can be attributed to: improved water plant metering, updated reporting of municipal water use, and an increase in real losses.

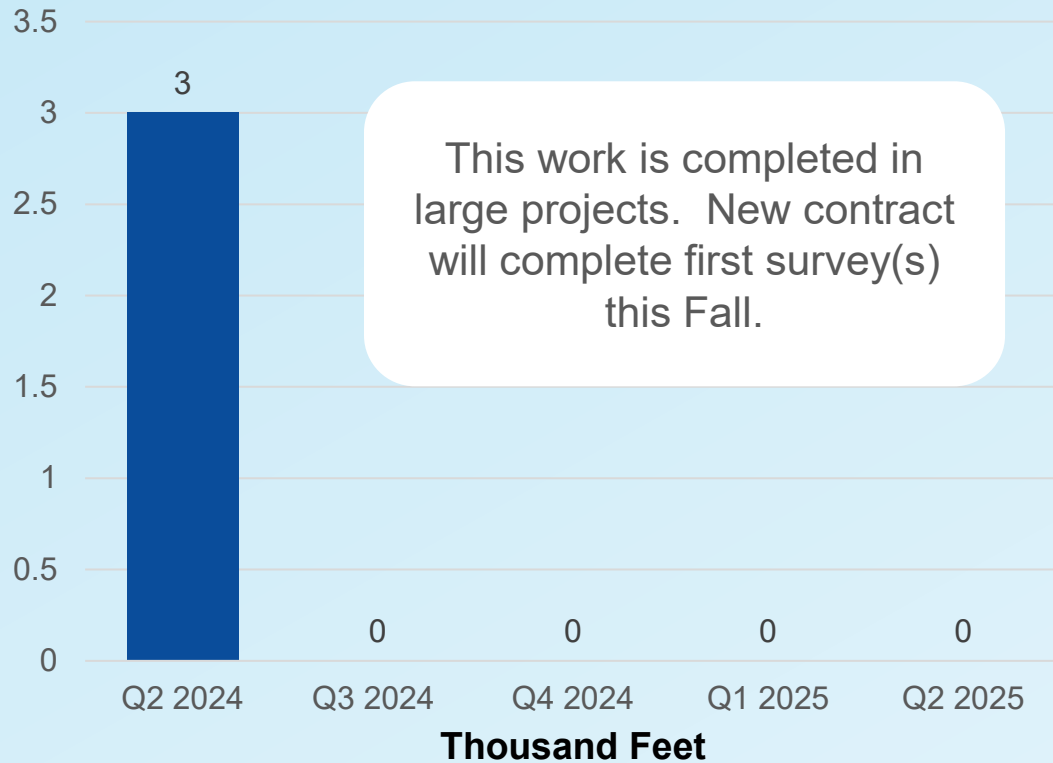
Water Loss Reduction Metrics

Number of water main leaks

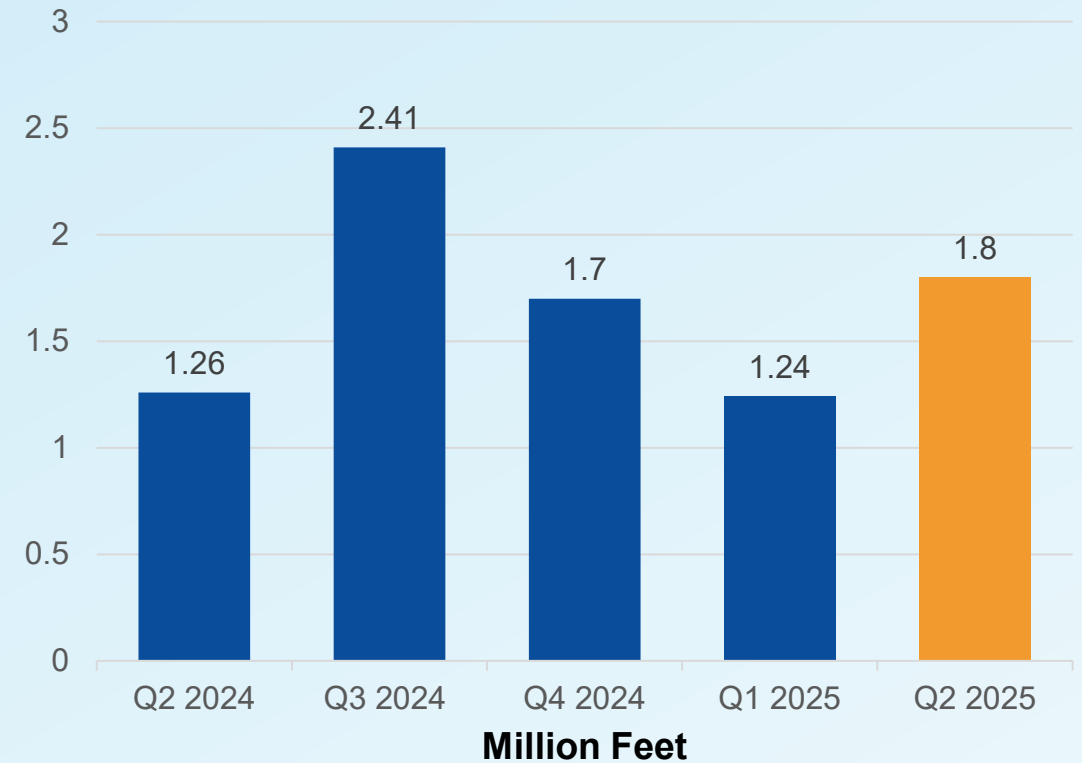


Water Loss Reduction Metrics

Linear feet of leak detection performed on large diameter water transmission lines



Linear feet of leak detection performed on small diameter water distribution



Water Loss Reduction Strategy Milestones

2025 Milestones	Progress
Launch a cross-functional AW Water Loss Team to implement the recommendations of the water loss report.	
Develop an AW Leak Detection Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for leak detection practices, data management, and continuous training requirements.	
Develop an AW Production Meter SOP which includes production meter measurement improvement recommendations.	
Update AW Meter Testing SOPs for meter testing, sizing, and replacement.	
Develop an AW Unauthorized Consumption Mitigation SOP.	
Develop an AW Data Handling Errors Mitigation SOP.	
Pilot the implementation of two District Metering Areas (DMAs) to reduce water loss through pressure management.	
Create dashboards to integrate SCADA, AMI, pressure monitoring and leak detection data.	

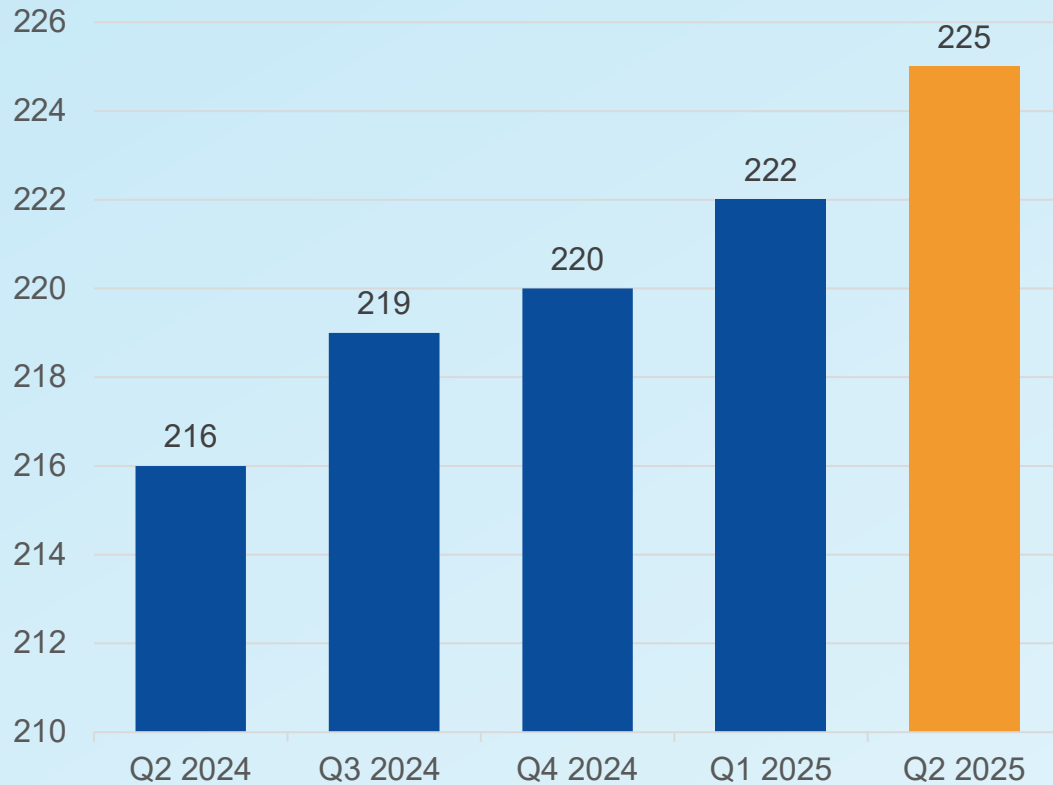


Reclaimed Water & Onsite Water Reuse Updates

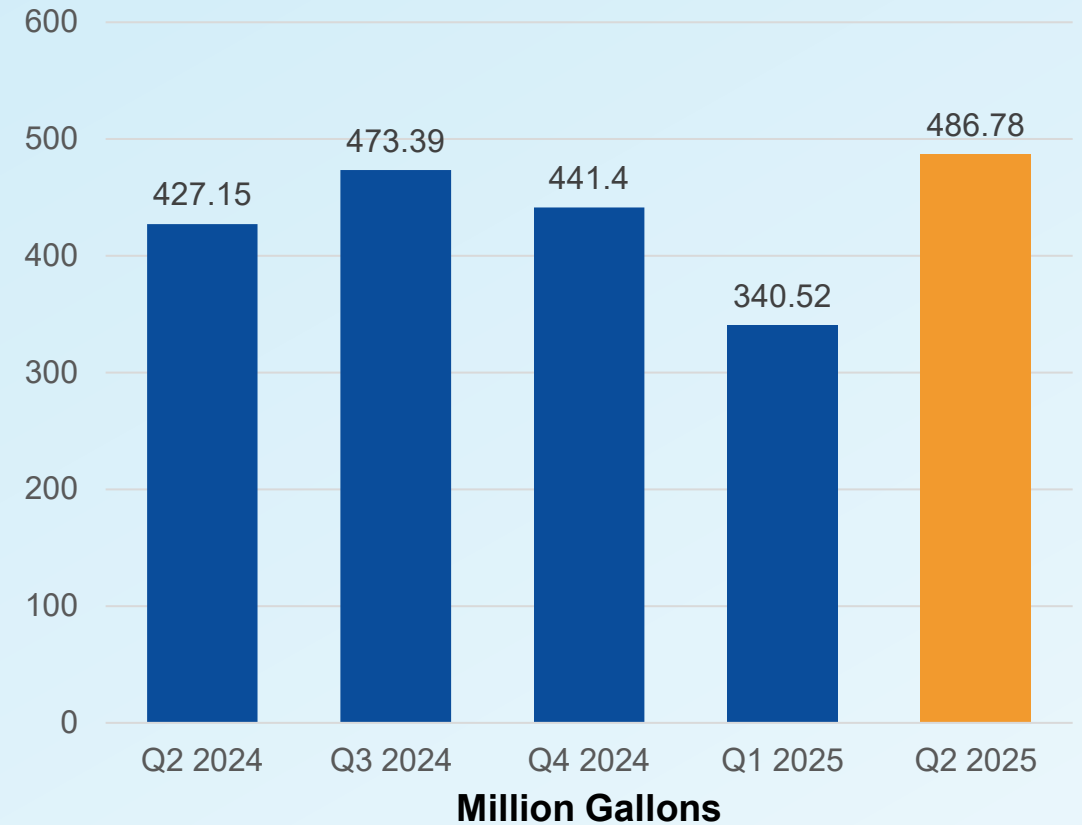
- 💧 Amended GoPurple resolution with incentives to fully subsidize reclaimed water, dual plumbing, and onsite reuse for deeply affordable housing projects.
- 💧 Reclaimed Long Range Plan update has started with a consultant

Reclaimed Water Metrics

Total number of reclaimed water meters



Volume of centralized reclaimed water used



Current Reclaimed CIP Projects

Projects	Phase
Oltorf Reclaimed Water Main Phase 2	
Fallwell Lane Capital Renewal Project	
ABIA North Reclaimed Loop Main	
Travis Heights Reclaimed Water Main	
West Riverside Reclaimed Water Main	
South 1st Reclaimed Water Main	
Toomey Road Reclaimed Water Main	
Travis County Courts Reclaimed Water Main Extensions	
Montopolis Reclaimed Elevated Storage Tank	
Downtown Reclaimed Water Transmission Mains	



Preliminary Design



Design



Advertisement



Construction

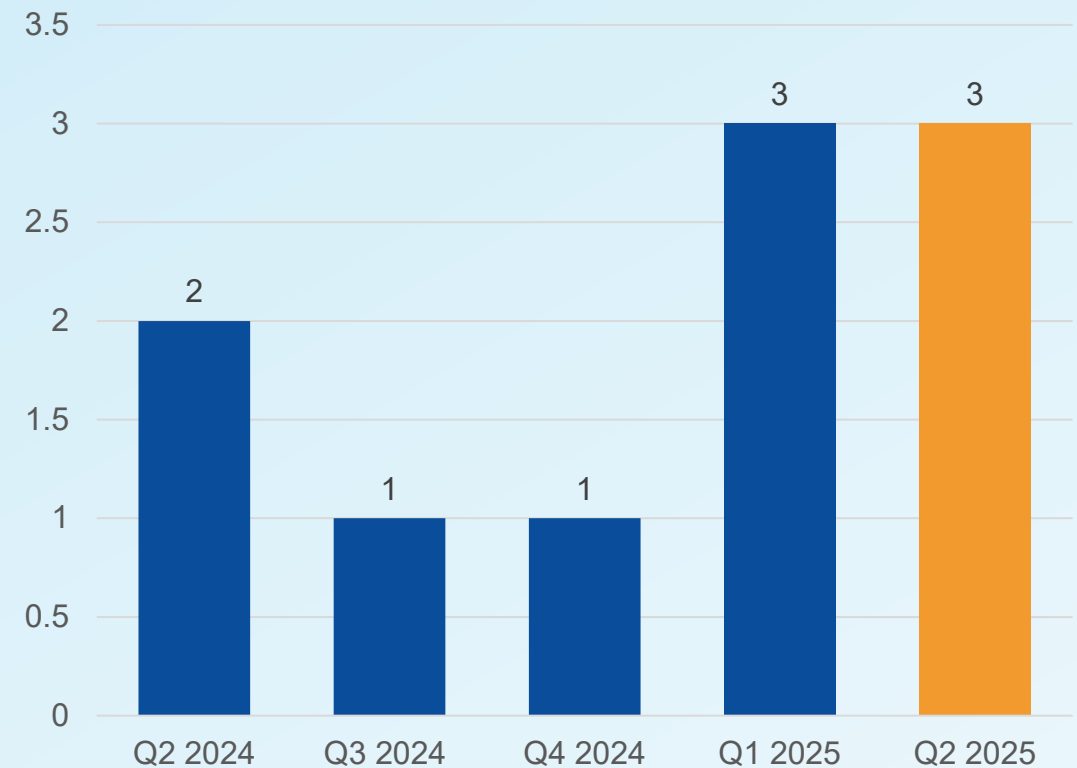


Onsite Water Reuse and GoPurple Metrics

GoPurple Program Activity in Previous Quarter

- 💧 **Onsite Water Reuse System Incentives**
0 project(s), 0 in funding, 0 MGY estimated water savings
- 💧 **Reclaimed Main Extension Rebates**
0 project(s), \$0 in funding, 0 MGY estimated water savings, 0 LF of main extension
- 💧 **Fee in Lieu of Onsite Water Reuse Systems**
0 reclaimed-ready project(s) approved for fee in lieu

Onsite water reuse system construction permits approved



Reclaimed and Onsite Water Reuse Milestones

2025 Milestones	Progress
Centralized Reclaimed	
Implement new projects to increase supply and extend the centralized service area.	
Conduct water benchmarking to identify uses appropriate for reclaimed water and required connections.	
Implement projects to Complete the Core.	
Complete Reclaimed Water Long Range Plan update	
Decentralized Reclaimed	
Collaborate with new developments to identify opportunities for decentralized reclaimed.	
Complete Wastewater Collection System Long Range Plan.	



Reclaimed and Onsite Water Reuse Milestones

2025 Milestones	Progress
Onsite Water Reuse	
Adopt wastewater billing ordinance for onsite water reuse systems.	
Develop an operator training certification program for onsite reuse systems.	
Amend GoPurple resolution with incentives for deeply affordable housing projects.	
Update utility billing and permitting systems with new metering and billing methodologies for onsite water reuse systems.	
Program new software to track onsite reuse system permit compliance.	



Conservation Outreach Updates

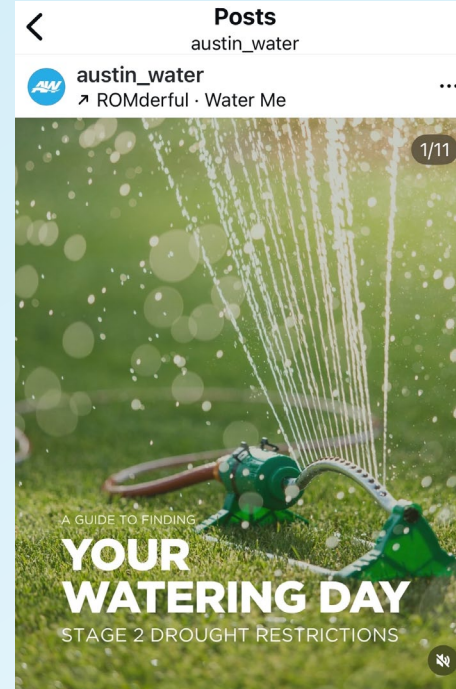
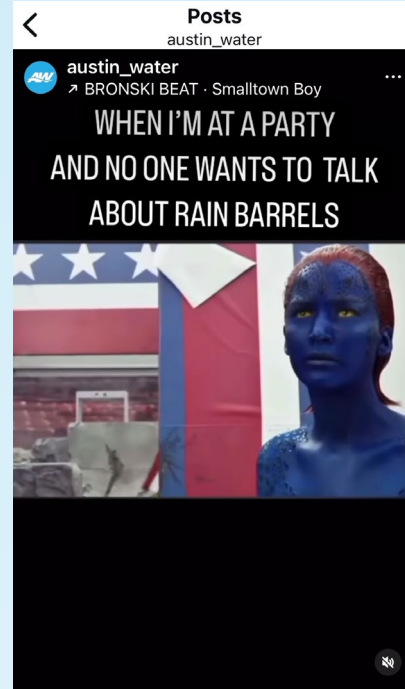
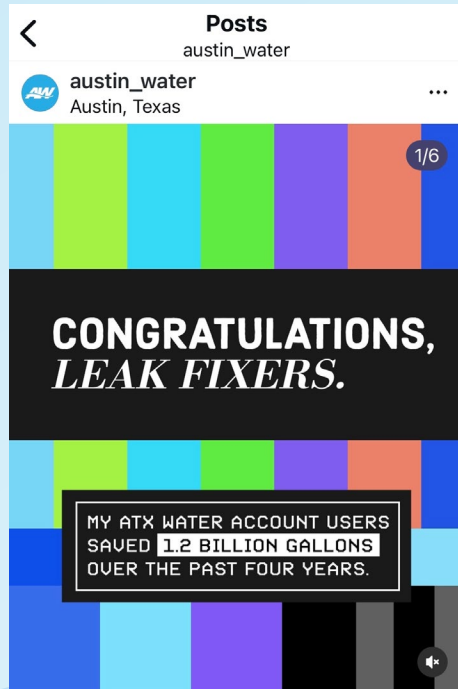
- Spring campaigns emphasizing watering schedule, drought awareness and conservation rebates saw a 50% increase in audience reach over Q1
- Web page traffic increases from Q1:
 - Watering Schedule page – 250%
 - Drought Response page – 177%
 - AW Conservation Rebates page – 92%

Conservation Outreach Metrics

Total audience reached with conservation messaging

22,878,000

Impressions



Know your watering day

Stick to your one day per week—Time it right and save!

Catch leaks early

Join My ATX Water for near real time water use data and leak alerts.

Take advantage of rebates

You can save money while reducing outdoor use.

Austin **WATER**
austinwater.org



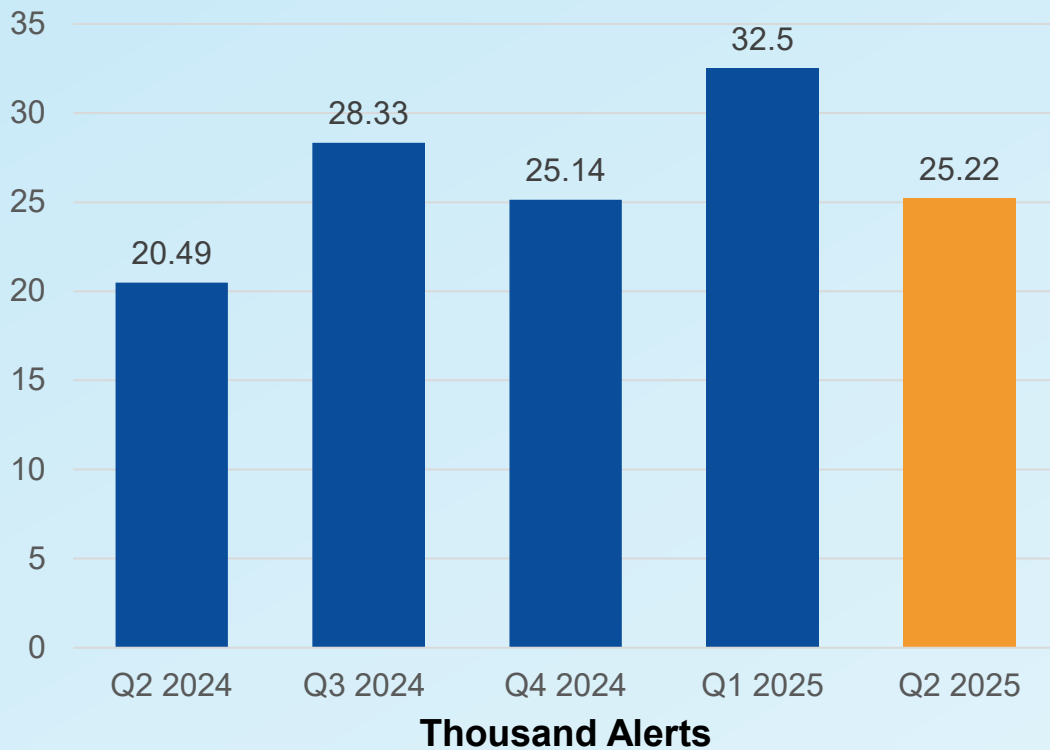
Find your watering day, explore rebates, and get more tips at austinwater.org



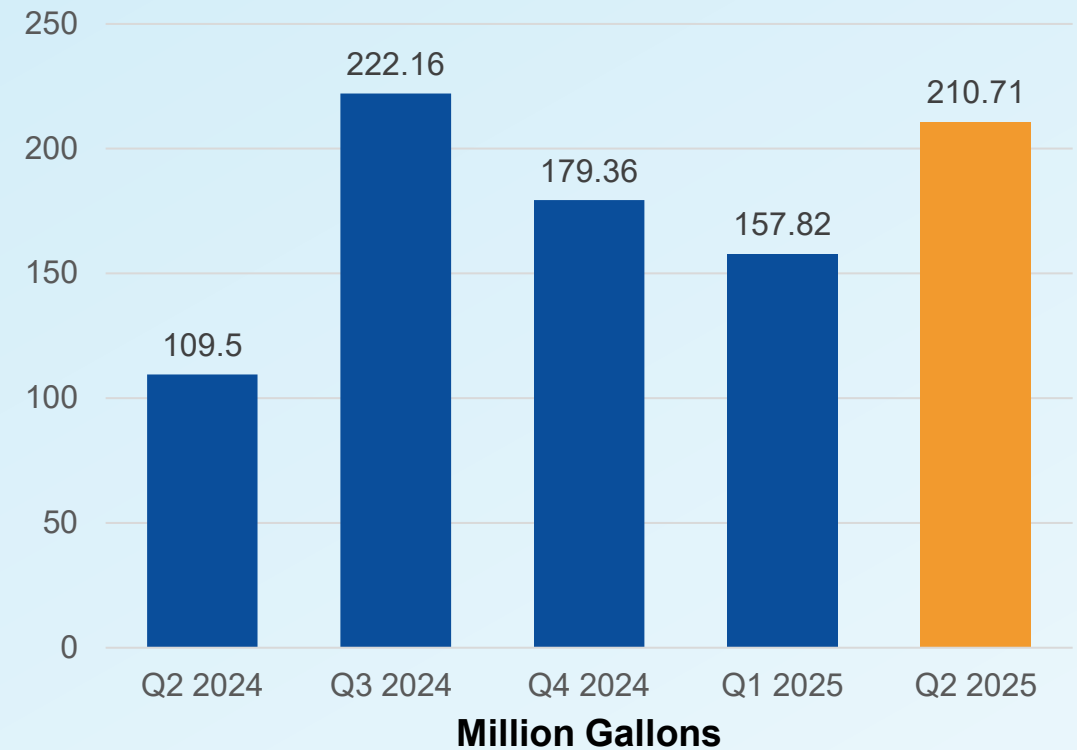
Conservation Outreach Metrics

My ATX Water Portal Leak Alerts





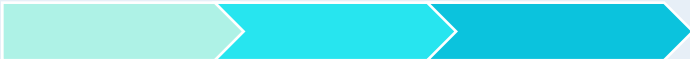
My ATX Water continuous use (leak) alerts sent to customers



Estimated water savings from My ATX Water continuous use alerts



Conservation Outreach Milestones






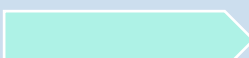
2025 Milestones	Progress
My ATX Water	
Develop data regarding CII customer categorization to assist in benchmarking and the identification of facilities for water conservation outreach.	
Expand My ATX Water reporting to better understand customer engagement through the portal.	
Investigate additional methods to encourage residential customers to use the My ATX Water portal and water-saving alerts.	
Conduct pilot outreach activities to learn the best ways to encourage customers to save water.	
Austin Water will work with the My ATX Water software vendor to develop reporting to identify customers with My ATX Water meters installed who are irrigating outside of the mandatory watering schedule and deliver courtesy notices to those customers. (Council Amendment)	



Water Supply Updates

- ◆ Austin Water and the Bastrop Stakeholder Working Group continued to develop a draft Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) collaboration agreement for Phase 1B field testing. Austin Water will conduct community engagement in Bastrop beginning August 2025. Results of community engagement and the draft agreement will go to entities' governing bodies in Fall 2025.
- ◆ Austin Water and consultants are developing the Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR) Emergency Implementation Plan, now expected in early 2026.
- ◆ Austin Water and consultants are performing preliminary planning for use of Lake Long as a supply reservoir, brackish groundwater desalination, and emergency direct potable reuse.

Water Supply Strategies

2025 Milestones	Progress
Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR)	
Complete Phase 1A desktop analysis to identify favorable ASR locations	
Conduct Phase 1B field testing and make recommendations for ASR pilot project	
Lake Walter E. Long Water Supply Reservoir	
Complete feasibility report to evaluate off-channel reservoir configurations and recommend a preferred configuration	
Begin water quality sampling of Lake Walter E. Long	
Indirect Potable Reuse and Capture Local Inflows to Lady Bird Lake	
Develop IPR schematic design, design criteria, technical specifications, to include development of project configuration and sizing components	
Begin design-build procurement process and, pending Council approval, issue design-build contract	

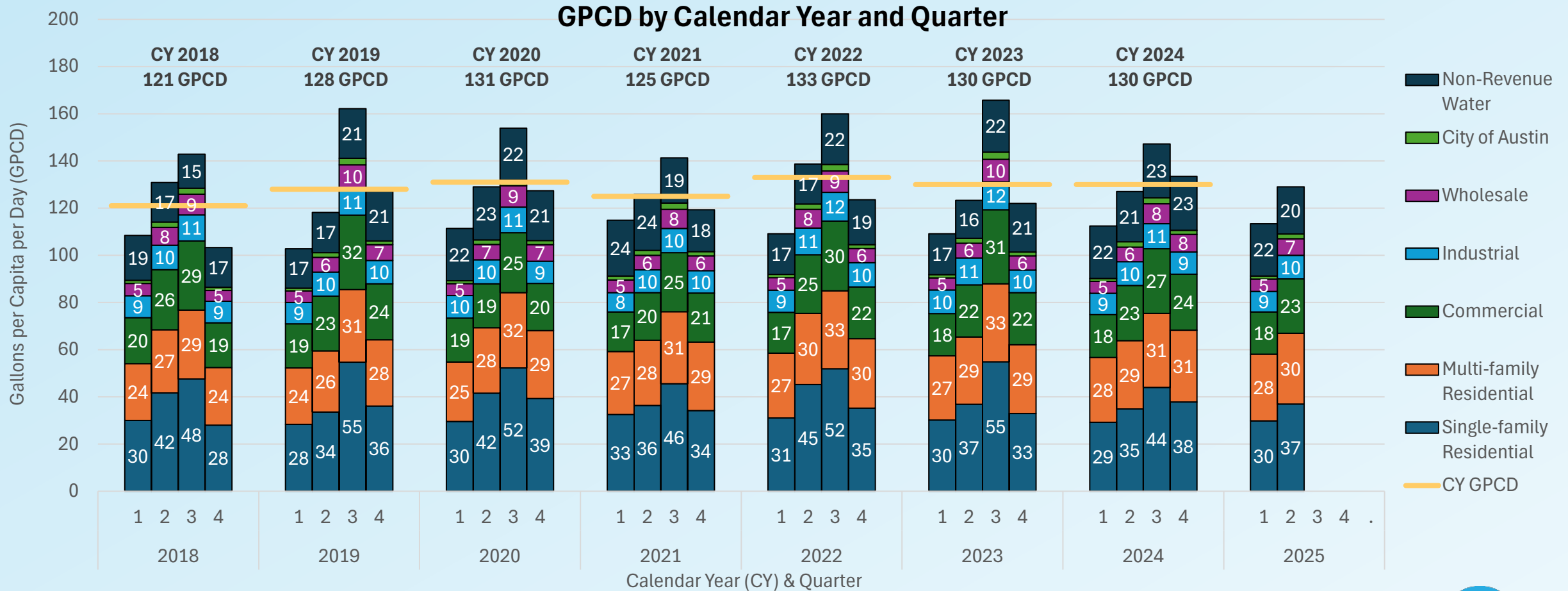
The first **Brackish Groundwater Desalination** milestone is planned for 2028.



Water Use and Gallons Per Capita Daily (GPCD)

- 💧 2nd Quarter GPCD (129) increased over Q1 (winter) GPCD (113) and over Q2 2024 (127) due to slight increases in the residential sectors.
- 💧 2025 Q1 and Q2 GPCD (average 121) is comparable to the 2024 Q1 and Q2 GPCD (average 120).

Water Use and GPCD (Gallons Per Capita Daily)



STAGE 1

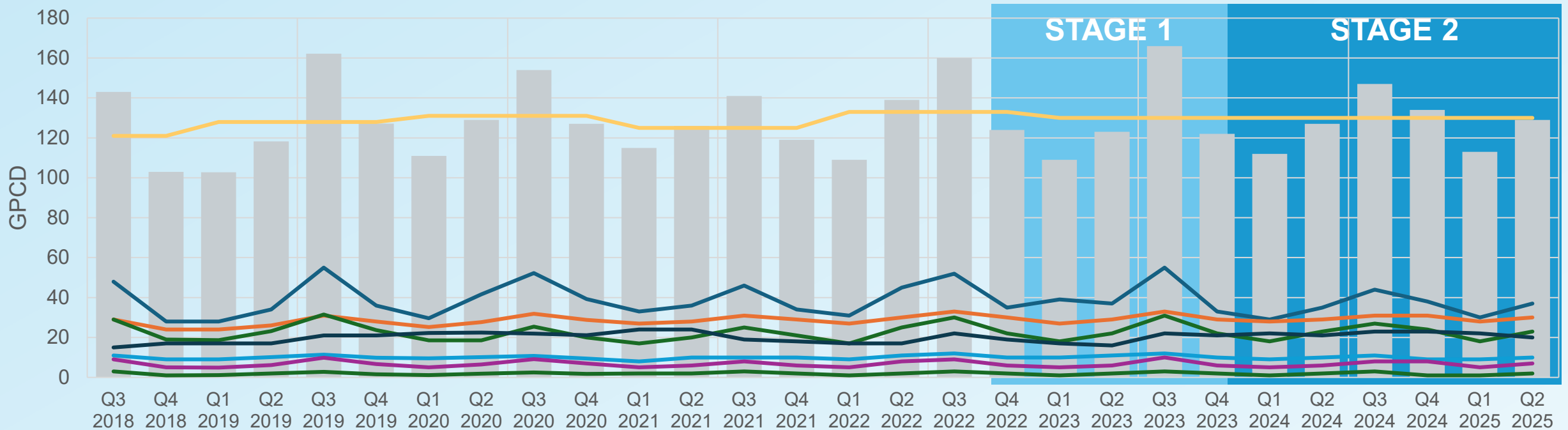
STAGE 2



Residential Water Use

Highest use with greatest variation

GPCD by Calendar Year and Quarter



- Total
- Single-family Residential
- Multi-family Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Wholesale
- City of Austin
- Non-revenue Water
- GPCD



Moving Forward

The third quarter of the year is when Austin really begins to heat up, literally. This will also be a time when the utility anticipates several important efforts bear fruit:

- 💧 Austin Water will launch a new incentive for affordable housing dual-use plumbing to fulfill Goal 1 of the [City Manager's Top 25 Goals](#).
- 💧 Austin Water will begin community engagement with Bastrop County regarding aquifer storage and recovery.
- 💧 On July 24, 2025, the TWDB approved AW's SWIFT loan applications, with anticipated loan closings in November 2025.
 - \$45 million – Polybutylene Pipe Replacement
 - \$10 million - Travis Heights Reclaimed Water Main



Notes Regarding Data

Quarterly reporting of strategy implementation is a groundbreaking effort undertaken by Austin Water. Several important metrics require both explanation and development. Some metrics will be available in future quarterly reports.

- 💧 **Quarterly Data** – All quarterly data should be considered preliminary and draft, subject to adjustment and revision at the end of the year and included in the annual report.
- 💧 **Historical Data** – Where possible, 2024 quarterly metrics are included for reference with the 2025 first quarter metrics. Not all metrics have historical data.
- 💧 **Yield of Strategies** – Estimated volumetric yields from strategies are included in the Water Conservation Plan (2029 and 2034) and the Water Forward Plan (2030). Austin Water is working to identify the volumetric yields of strategies as they are being implemented and report them in future reporting.

Questions

