

# THE METRO UPDATE

Issue 162 - December 2025



## LITTLE COTTONWOOD INTAKE CLEANING PROJECT

Maintenance team recently partnered with the Provo River Water Users Association staff to support the Little Cottonwood intake cleaning along the creek. Using a track hoe, the Provo River team removed rocks and debris from the waterway, while our crew hauled several large dump truck loads of material back to the Little Cottonwood site for recycling.

The project took three full days and was a great example of teamwork and interagency collaboration. A big thank you to both the Provo River staff and our Maintenance team for their hard work and dedication!



## NEW IDEXX TECTA INSTRUMENT

In September, the Metro lab received a cutting-edge addition to its microbiological testing capabilities: the IDEXX Tecta system. This is the first EPA-approved automated microbiology instrument, designed to detect total coliforms and E. coli in water samples, all within a self-contained incubation chamber.

Unlike the traditional Colilert method, the Tecta system provides faster results by continuously monitoring samples and sending real-time email notifications when a positive result is detected. This eliminates the need for staff to check samples manually or come in during off-hours.

The system can process up to 16 samples simultaneously, making it ideal for both routine and emergency testing. Once the lab receives state accreditation for this technology, both Metro Water and its member cities will be able to analyze emergency samples outside of normal working hours helping take a significant step forward in responsiveness and efficiency.



## HUMAN RESOURCES

### New Hires:

Michael Russell – Junior SCADA Programmer  
Clay Rose – Facilities Technician

### Promotions:

Rikely Gonzales – Senior Water System Operator  
Todd Tucker – Senior Water System Operator



## HMI MODERNIZATION UPDATE

Staff is making great progress on the HMI/SCADA modernization. We've selected the new platform and are preparing to build the servers and install the software.

Next up: bringing on a systems integrator to help with programming and network design. Once complete, staff can start developing Metro-specific screen standards in close coordination with Operations' staff to ensure the design is intuitive and effective.

Staff have already tested some of these ideas on the Managed Aquifer Recharge project, and will continue refining them at the Point of the Mountain Water Treatment Plant before rolling them out more broadly.

## DROP OF WATER TOUR COMPLETE

Metro Water staff recently wrapped up the annual Drop of Water Tour, completing all three parts of this hands-on learning experience.

After exploring water sources and treatment facilities in earlier segments, the final leg of the tour focused on the distribution system. Staff met with representatives from the Sandy City Public Utilities, Provo River Water Users Association, Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District, and Utah Lake Water Users Association to learn more about how treated water is delivered throughout the region.

The full tour offered a comprehensive look at the journey of water—from source to tap—and highlighted the collaboration, infrastructure, and expertise that make it all possible. A big thank you to all the partner agencies and staff who helped make this year's tour a success!

