

Year in Review 2023

**SACRAMENTO
SUBURBAN**
WATER
DISTRICT

Working Together
for Tomorrow

Mission Statement

To deliver a high quality, reliable supply of water and superior customer service at the lowest responsible water rate.

Working Together for Tomorrow

As I look back upon 2023, I am moved and inspired by all that SSWD accomplished and the significant groundwork that was laid for the future by our staff and the SSWD Board of Directors.

Thanks to the historic winter storms of 2023, we were able to boost groundwater levels, banking over 6.1 billion gallons of water in our groundwater aquifer. This accomplishment builds upon the work of the District over the past two decades through our partnerships with local water providers and the success of our conjunctive use program, which has resulted in the storage of nearly 124.8 billion gallons of groundwater in the aquifer for future use.

We made great progress on capital improvement projects and also received an \$18.8 million grant from the Department of Water Resources for the construction of four new groundwater wells and pump stations, further enhancing our water supply reliability.

The District also received recognition for its work in multiple ways. The U.S. EPA's WaterSense Program awarded a 2023 WaterSense Excellence in Education award for our outreach initiatives, and four members of our staff were honored with five H.R. LaBounty Safety Awards, recognizing our commitment to enhancing safety through initiatives and our dedication to continually innovating our operations.

In the pursuit of continuous enhancements to efficiency, reliability, and customer service, we explored combination opportunities with neighboring water providers and forged a unique collaboration with the California Special Districts Association and the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District that underscored the importance of maintaining firefighting infrastructure, essential for water delivery during emergencies.

As we continue to work together for tomorrow, we remain committed to providing you with a reliable water supply now and into the future.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan York', written in a cursive style.

DAN YORK
General Manager

SSWD Awarded \$18.8 Million Grant for Groundwater Wells, Pump Stations

SSWD was awarded an \$18.8 million grant to help pay for the construction of four new groundwater wells and pump stations in the North Service Area.

Three of the wells will be located at one site and when operational are anticipated to be able to produce 4,500 gallons per minute (gpm). The fourth groundwater well and pump station is anticipated to be able to produce 3,000 gpm. This new facility will have the capability to pump treated water down into the aquifer. This type of groundwater well is known as an Aquifer and Storage Recovery (ASR) well and is an innovative way of recharging the aquifer.

The grant from the California Natural Resources Agency and Department of Water Resources was part of a larger regional commitment to contribute \$55 million to help advance 21 projects that will boost local water supply reliability and protect the Lower American River during drought.



SSWD Harnesses Historic Storms to Boost Groundwater

SSWD leveraged the historic winter storms of 2023 to boost groundwater levels through in-lieu recharge, banking over 6.1 billion gallons of water during the year.

In-lieu recharge is the combined management of both surface water and groundwater use, resulting in the replenishment of groundwater supplies within the aquifers. Every gallon of surface water served to customers in lieu of groundwater results in water saved in the groundwater aquifer.

SSWD more than doubled the percentage of surface water served to its customers in 2023 compared to 2022, banking 18,772 acre-feet (over 6.1 billion gallons¹) of groundwater in the aquifers, enough to meet the annual water needs of over 56,300 households.

For over two decades, SSWD along with other local water providers has utilized in-lieu recharge to store water in the region's groundwater aquifers, resulting in significant increases in stored water and sustainable groundwater levels even during a megadrought, the driest two decades since AD 800. SSWD alone has banked nearly 124.8 billion gallons of groundwater in the aquifer in the past 20 years.

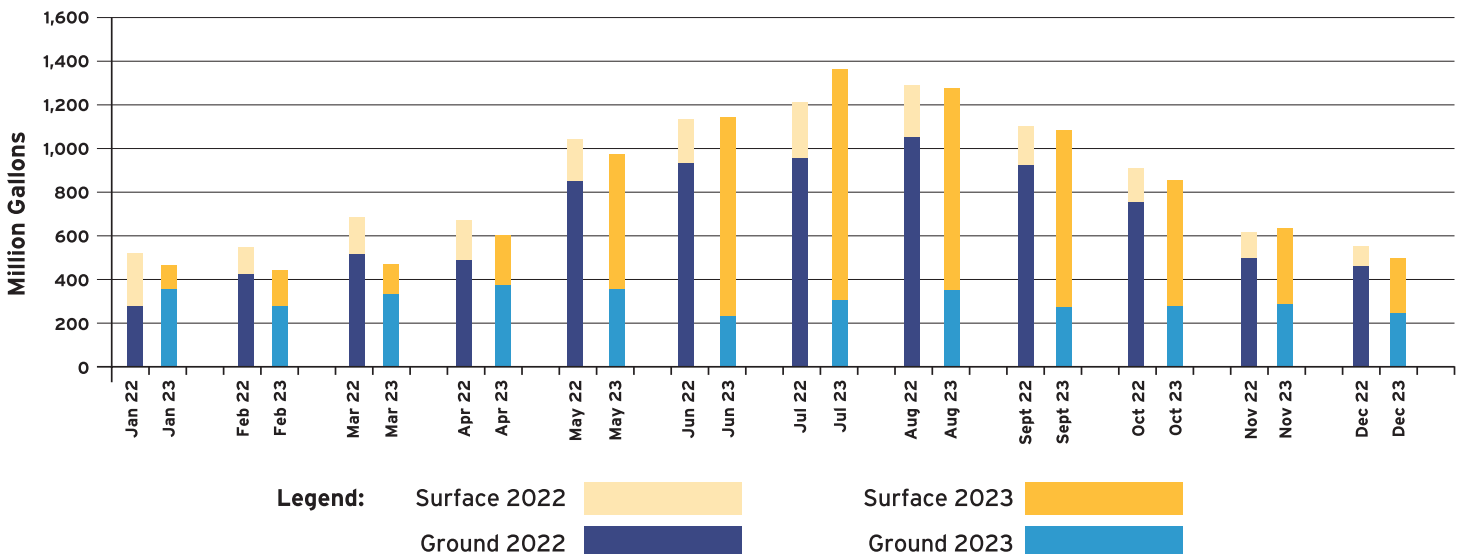
The capability to use both surface water or groundwater according to availability is called conjunctive use and has provided SSWD with a more diverse and sustainable water supply. The program, made possible by our ratepayers and agreements with neighboring water providers, has also improved the health of the Lower American River environment during drought by allowing local water providers to utilize more groundwater during dry times, leaving more water in the rivers.

¹ One acre-foot of water is equivalent to 325,851 gallons.



Monthly Water Production

MONTHLY WATER PRODUCTION



SSWD Capital Improvements

North Service Area: five new groundwater wells. Groundwater well construction is completed. Construction of above-ground facilities is underway.

The District successfully conducted various initiatives in 2023, significantly enhancing the water system by restoring declining pumping capacity, meeting demand, and maintaining and upgrading water infrastructure.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

Existing Well Projects:

On March 1, 2023, the District began an Exclusive Work Contract for Well Rehabilitation, Maintenance, and Destruction Services (Contract) with Kirby's Pump and Mechanical, Inc. The Contract has been very successful at restoring wells to service and increasing the reliability of other facilities. In particular, during the first nine months of the Contract (March through December 2023) 32 off-line wells were returned to on-line status which represents a combined capacity of 36,600 gpm. Additionally, important non-capacity projects were completed, such as booster pump replacement, installation of a reservoir tank mixer, and booster pump preventive maintenance.



New Well Projects:

Well 78 Butano/Cottage: Project consists of the construction of a well and pump station. Construction of the well portion of the project is complete, and the construction of the pump station will be completed in early 2024. The well is anticipated to produce 1,500 gpm.

Well 79 Verner/Panorama: Project consists of the construction of a well and pump station with ASR capability. Construction of the pump station was completed in the fall of 2023. The well produces 1,250 gpm.

Well 80 Walnut/Auburn: Project consists of the construction of a well and pump station. Construction of the well portion of the project is complete, and construction of the pump station will be completed in mid-2024. The well is anticipated to produce 1,500 gpm.

Wells 81, 82, and 83 Antelope North/Poker: Project consists of the construction of three wells and a single pump station. Each well is anticipated to produce 1,500 gpm. Construction of the wells is complete, and construction of the pump station is anticipated to be completed in 2026.

Well 84 Antelope/Don Julio: Project consists of the construction of a well and pump station with ASR capability. The well is anticipated to produce 3,000 gpm.

Construction of the well is complete, and construction of the pump station is anticipated to be completed in 2025.



Pipeline Projects:

Watt Avenue Main Extension: Project consists of the construction of a new water main connecting two non-contiguous portions of the District's North Service Area. The project provides water supply reliability to the area, improved fire flow capability to existing customers, and provides enough capacity to serve a new residential development. Approximately 3,750 feet of 12-inch and 16-inch pipe was installed. Construction was completed in the fall of 2023.

SSWD Teams Up to Boost Firefighting Preparedness and Funding Opportunities

SSWD joined forces with the California Special Districts Association and the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District to highlight the critical need for maintaining and enhancing firefighting infrastructure. This includes groundwater wells, pumps, pipes, and hydrants, all crucial for effective water delivery during fire emergencies. The partnership aimed to raise awareness and increase potential access to state and federal grants to support firefighting initiatives.



SSWD Board of Directors

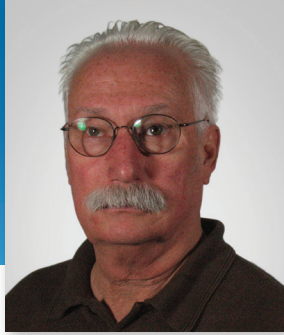
David A. Jones
(Division 1)



Jay Boatwright
(Division 2)



Robert P. Wichert
Vice President (Division 3)



Kevin M. Thomas
President (Division 4)

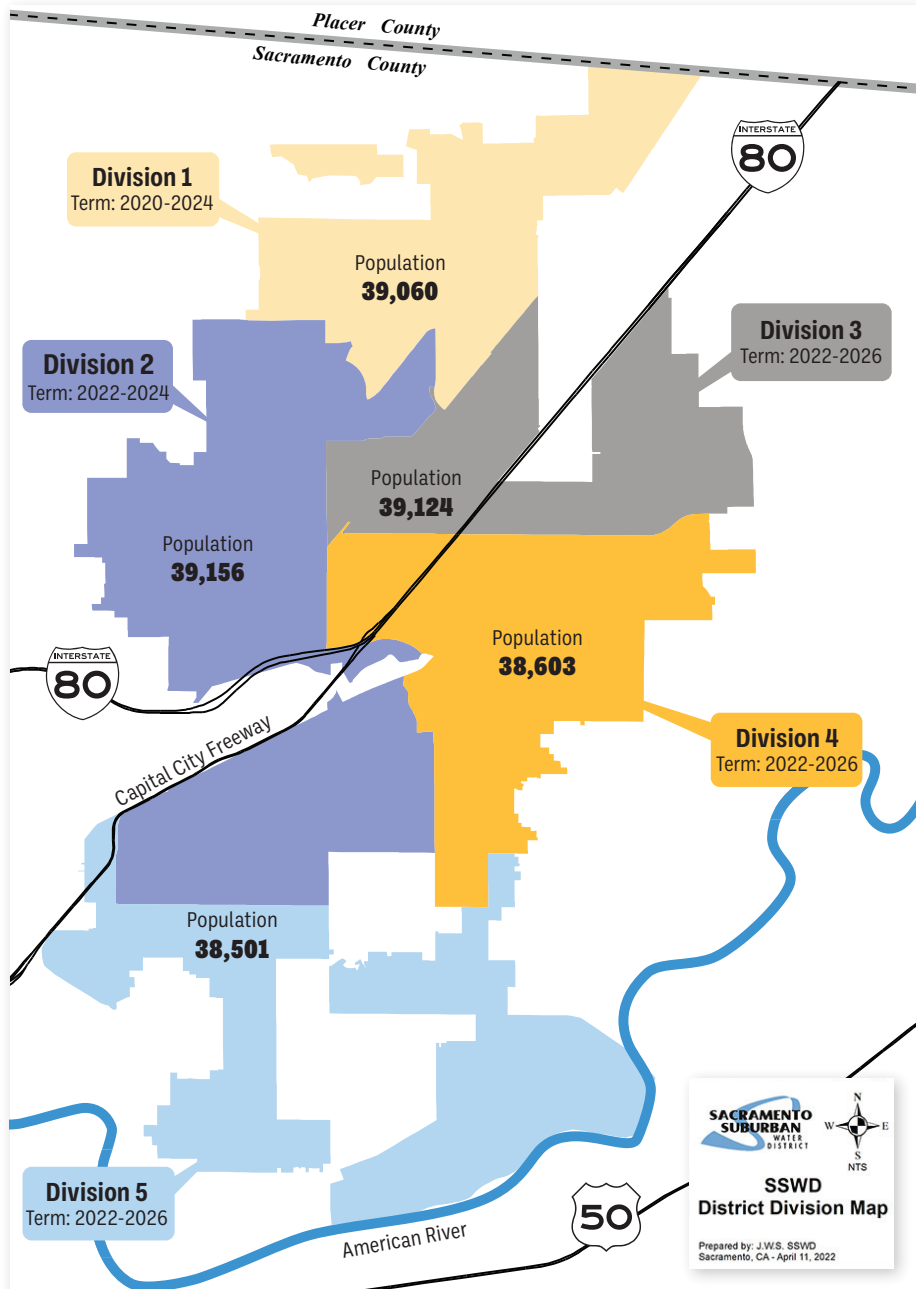


Craig M. Locke
(Division 5)



SSWD Service Area and Division Map

Population is based on Federal Census as of 04/01/2020.



194,444
Total population

SACRAMENTO SUBURBAN WATER DISTRICT

SSWD District Division Map

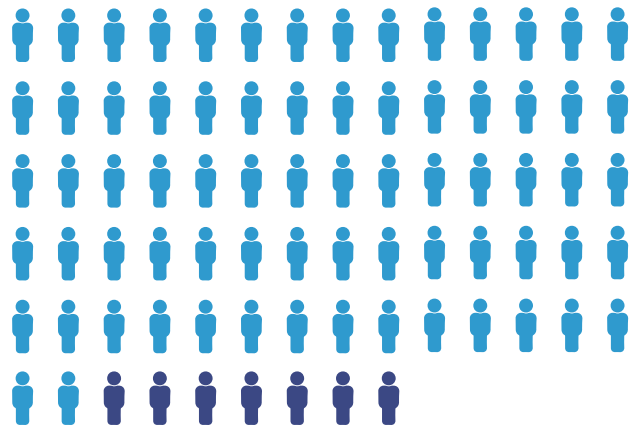
Prepared by: J.W.S. SSWD
Sacramento, CA - April 11, 2022

Staffing

Employee Classifications

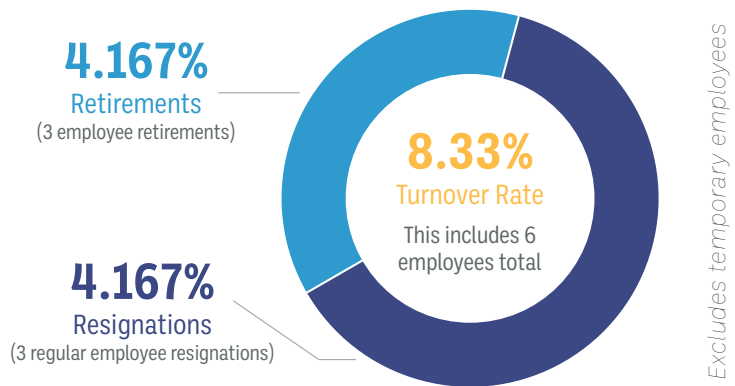
	Regular Employees	72
	Temporary Employees	7

People Employed 79



Employee Turnover Rate

SSWD is fortunate to have a stable workforce with an overall low turnover rate.



Honored for Excellence

Leading the Way on Safety

In 2023, SSWD was honored with five H.R. LaBounty Safety Awards, recognizing innovative initiatives by employees to enhance safety:

- Ergonomic Fire Hydrant Repair Station: Joe Crockett developed a raised station to maintain hydrants, reducing strain during repairs.
- Safety Calendar Coloring Contest: Ben Harris organized a contest promoting safety awareness among children of SSWD employees.
- Well Pump Turbine Motor Oiling Process: Allen Furr designed a battery-operated system to ease maintenance tasks and reduce ergonomic risks.
- Meter Box Replacement Job Hazard Analysis: Abel Ramirez meticulously documented and analyzed the replacement process to mitigate potential risks.
- To-Go Trauma Kits: Joe Crockett collaborated to equip remote areas with first aid kits, helping to ensure rapid and efficient care in emergencies.

These honors demonstrate the District's commitment to providing a healthy and safe working environment, which is essential to the well-being of SSWD's employees.

SSWD Receives National Honor from WaterSense

SSWD was honored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) WaterSense Program for the District's work at promoting water conservation and the WaterSense label. WaterSense, sponsored by the EPA, encourages water efficiency through its labeled products. SSWD received a 2023 WaterSense® Excellence in Education award for its outreach initiatives, including bill insert articles, workshops, online ads, and social media campaigns. This marks SSWD's second Excellence in Education Award for public outreach.



Financial Stewardship

2023 Financial Snapshot

Credit Outlook

AA+
Standard & Poor's rating

0.15
Leverage ratio
(debt-to-capitalization)
The median ratio for water is 0.36

4.16
Debt service coverage ratio
(The median ratio for water is 2.1)

Assets and Net Position

\$289,215,353
Net investment in capital assets

\$46,396,445
Cash and investments (Reserves)

\$33,625,165
Capital assets currently under construction

\$49,217,532
Outstanding debt

\$16,962,501
Retirement commitments

12 Years

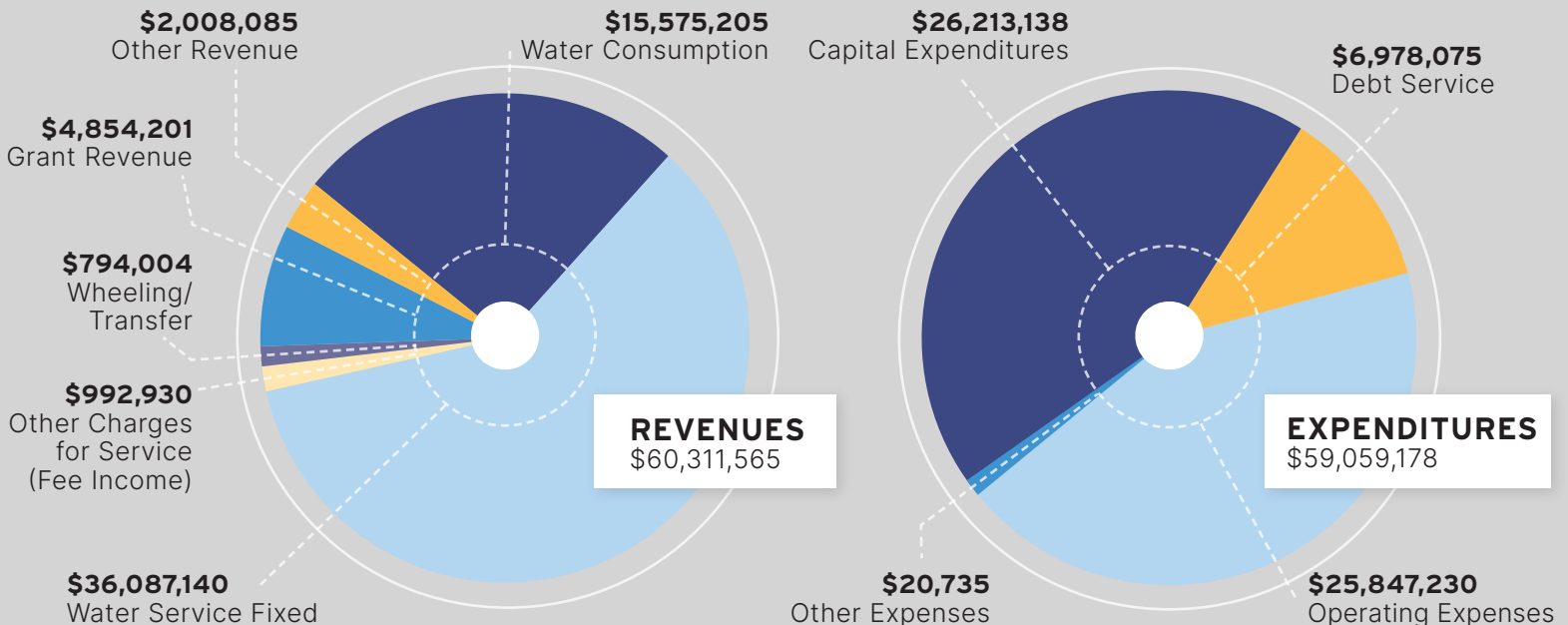
Years SSWD has received top honors from the Government Finance Officers Association for the completeness and readability of our annual reports for 12 years running

2023 Financial Notables

Billed approximately \$4.0 million against the \$18.8 million well/pump station grant mentioned above.

Billed approximately \$1.0 million for Well 79 Grant.

Water System Finances





3701 Marconi Ave
Sacramento, CA 95821

PRSRT STD.
US POSTAGE
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Sacramento, CA
Permit No. 516

Inside...

SSWD Harnesses Historic Storms
to Boost Groundwater

Water System Improvements

SSWD Board of Directors,
Staffing and Safety Record

Financial Stewardship

Leadership

SSWD is governed by a dedicated five-member Board of Directors elected to serve four-year terms.

Kevin M. Thomas, President (Division 4)

Robert P. Wichert, Vice President (Division 3)

Craig M. Locke (Division 5)

David A. Jones (Division 1)

Jay Boatwright (Division 2)

Sacramento Suburban Water District

Dan York, General Manager

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