

WATER BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

5:00 – 6:30 pm

This meeting will be hybrid both in person at the Cambridge Water Department located at 250 Fresh Pond Parkway and available virtually on Teams:

<https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/47756171-1f90-47c7-bfc5-708a3dd8fe04@c06a8be7-8479-4d73-b351-93bc9ba8295c>

A. MINUTES OF OCTOBER 14, 2025, MEETING

B. MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- PFAS
- Drought Status Update
- Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) Update

C. OPERATIONS

- Transmission and Distribution
- Fresh Pond Reservation; Cambridge Watershed; Site Plan Review
- Water Operations
 - WTP Operational Status
 - Water Quality
- Engineering & Program Development
 - GIS
- Business
 - FY26 Cross Connection Program Results through October 2025
 - FY26 Consumption through October 2025
 - Water Fund Balance as of 6-30-2025

D. ACTION ITEMS

- None

E. MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE and ITEMS OF INTEREST

- None

F. NEW BUSINESS

- None

G. NEXT MEETING DATES/AGENDA

- December 9th, 2025: TBA/TBD

CAMBRIDGE WATER BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

October 14th, 2025

This meeting is available virtually on Teams and in person. This meeting is being recorded.

This meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. Those in attendance were:

Cambridge Water Board (CWB): Ann Roosevelt, Kathleen

Kelly, Benjamas Lendorff.

Cambridge Water Department (CWD): Mark Gallagher, Fred Centanni, Julie Greenwood-Torelli, Rich Lagerholm, Katherine Orciuch, Dave Kaplan, Lindsey VanFossen, and Rich Holly.

Members of the Public: Stephen Humphrey

A: MINUTES OF OCTOBER MEETING

Ms. Roosevelt asked for typos to be fixed.

Ms. Roosevelt moved and Benjamas Lendorff seconded the motion to approve October 14th, 2025, minutes as amended. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

PFAS Update: CWD took the 4th quarter samples the second week of October. CWD is currently waiting for the results from the lab.

Drought status: The drought status decreased from level 2 severe drought, and we are now in a level 1 mild drought.

Fresh Pond Shared Use Concerns: The Managing director gave a presentation on Fresh Pond Shared Use Public Engagement Process. CWD provides a multitude of recreational activities. CWD has developed a plan to create a safe space for all activities. Next steps are to create new signage detailing the norms for the Reservation and train the rangers to recognize usage changes or increases. CWD will be adding signs stating bicycles are to go at jogging speed and will be adding the rangers cell phone number to signage.

C. OPERATIONS

Transmission and Distribution, Questions/Comments:

Q: Can you please provide an update on the DPW sewer separation port project going?

A: They are planning on getting it out to bid by the end of this year and breaking ground by mid spring if not sooner.

Watershed, Questions/Comments:

Q: Is the little Fresh Pond study new?

A: CWD hired Ken Wagner for the assessment. It will identify potential causes as to nutrification, the smell of the water being unpleasant and make some recommendations to be able to keep little Fresh Pond an open body of water.

Q: Is it allowed to trench through the waters of Stoneybrook that the town of Lincoln proposed?

A: They can file permits to be able to do it. The impacts to the stream would be temporary.

Q: What has caused the increased hunting activity on Cambridge watershed property?

A: Hunters are primarily hunting deer. Most hunters use bow and arrow, not guns. CWD is working with the environmental police to prevent and/or cite illegal hunting on watershed property.

Water Operations, Questions/Comments:

Q: Can you please explain the reason for the SCADA shutdown?

A: CWD shut down the treatment plant for half a day under the SCADA upgrade contract. The work performed was terminating wires, replacing UPS backup power supplies for PLC controllers and calibrating equipment.

Q: What is Megalodon?

A: Megalodon is a software database developed in-house to store and manage CWD electronic files and data which allows every division to create and share files and pertinent records, department wide.

B. ACTION ITEMS:

None

C. NEW BUSINESS:

None

E. NEXT MEETING DATES: November 12th, 2025.

Ms. Kelly moved and Ms. Roosevelt Seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 pm. All were in favor of the motion.

B. MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- PFAS
- Drought Status
- Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) Update

C. OPERATIONS – Transmission and Distribution, October 2025

- Continue working with and supporting DPW regarding sewer separation, Chapter 90 Street and Sidewalk Reconstruction, and Common Manhole Removal Contracts.
- Scheduling lead water service replacements within DPW Chapter 90 Contract 25.
- Work with DPW and contractors on several water main projects that include:
- **River Street Sewer Separation Project** - We are working with the DPW Project Contractor on the replacement of 8,000 feet of old 6-12" Cast Iron Pipe with new 8-12" ductile iron, including all service valves and hydrants. As of 10/1/25, Contractor is 90% complete with all water-related work within the scope of the contract.
- **DPW Chap 90 Contract 25** - Working with DPW Project Engineers and Contractor on water distribution infrastructure upgrades:
 - **Dana St** – Continued replacement of 2200 ft 10" unlined Cast Iron with 8" cement-lined Ductile Iron to include all valves, hydrants, and service connections, and remove all lead service lines. Currently scheduled to start new 8" water main between Harvard St – Mass Ave.
 - **Sciarappa St (Fall 2025)** - Replace 1780 ft 6" unlined Cast Iron with 8" cement-lined Ductile Iron to include all valves, hydrants, and service connections, and replace all lead service lines with copper.
- **DPW Chap 90 Contract 26**
 - **Carlisle St** - In-house contractor to replace ~400 feet of 6" cast iron pipe with 8" ductile iron pipe to include all new valves and replace all lead line services with copper(4).
 - **Hillside Ave** – CWD crews replacing ~400' of old 6" cast iron water main with 8" ductile iron pipe. Install new valves and hydrants and replace all lead service lines with copper in their entirety.
 - **Kirkland Rd** – In-house contractor to replace ~300 feet of 6" cast iron pipe with 8" ductile iron pipe, to include all new valves, blow-off, and replace all lead line services with copper. Complete as of 10/22/2025
- **DPW Sewer Separation Port Project** - Working with DPW Project Engineers and Contractor on water distribution infrastructure upgrades, replacing 12,509 feet of water main in the Port area to include all valves, hydrants, service connections, and removal of all lead service lines.
- **DPW Mass Ave 4 Phase 1** - Working with DPW Project Engineers and Contractor on water distribution infrastructure upgrades within the Mass Ave bike lane project from the Cambridge Common to Alewife Brook Parkway. This includes water main sections, valves, hydrants, and service connections, as well as the removal of all lead service lines.
 - **Mass @ Linnaean** – Currently getting bacteria tested. Final tie-ins will be completed by November
 - **Mass @ Jarvis St** – Remove and replace existing hydrant connections and install new fire hydrants fed from the existing 20" water main. Work is scheduled for the week of November 10th.
 - **Mass @ Wendell & Shepard** – New installation of water main and crossings to begin mid-November
- **MassDOT (Boulevard Project #607981)** – We continue to engage in ongoing meetings and discussions with MassDOT regarding the McGrath O'Brien Highway reconstruction project, spanning from Third Street to Rufo Road. The project is tentatively scheduled to begin construction in April 2027.

C. OPERATIONS – Transmission and Distribution, October 2025

- **Distribution Staff**

- Continue to field lead line calls from residents who have received notices. Calls include notifying residents of the options to renew lead service lines.
- Continuing to replace and repair fire hydrants that are damaged.
- Continually working on in house database (Megalodon) to eliminate/update “unknown” services
- City Parks and Gardens – Removal of all meters and backflow devices (~150) city-wide that feed waterplay structures, water bubblers/fountains, and irrigation systems. (90% complete)

October 2025 Distribution Work

• Work Orders Completed	5
• Leaks Repaired	3
• Lead Services Renewed	1
• Hydrants Repaired/Replaced	2
• Valves Repaired/Replaced	3
• Gate boxes Reset/Replaced	2
• City Parks Devices removed	119
• Valves Exercised	306
• Inspections Performed	270
• Dig Safe utility mark-outs	625

C. OPERATIONS – Watershed, October 2025

- I. *Fresh Pond Reservation:*
 1. *Landscape Maintenance* – Moving to fall schedule; water bubbler and irrigation blow downs, tree plantings, turf aeration and slice seeding, invasives work slowing down.
 2. *Ranger* – Amanda Garms start date 11/3/2025.
- II. *Cambridge Watershed:*
 1. *Stony Brook Gatehouse Low Sluice Gate Repairs:* Repairs scheduled for week of 11/10.
 2. *Drought Status:* Level 1 (Mild Drought) continues. Still partially reliant on Hobbs Brook Reservoir.
- III. *Reporting and Website:*
 1. *Site Monitoring Program Tool:* Ongoing.
- IV. *Projects Overview:*
 1. Construction projects in Waltham at 305 Second Ave and 40 Sylvan Road are ongoing.
 2. Plans for redeveloping 1342, 1345, 1362, and 1486 Main Street, Waltham are in development.
 3. Bridge replacement and roadway construction at Rt 2A over I-95 in Lexington is ongoing.
 4. Multiple subdivision or multi-unit housing projects in Lexington and Weston are in the pipeline (Weston: 0 Wellesley St; Lexington: 15-17 Fairland St). Construction is currently ongoing in Weston for a small subdivision at 576 North Ave, a 40B housing project at 269 North Ave, and an apartment complex at 751-761 Boston Post Road.
 5. 104 Boston Post Road (Weston) Housing Appeals Committee (HAC) hearings concluded in April 2021. The HAC issued a decision June 22, 2023, to overturn the Weston Zoning Board of Appeals denial of a comprehensive permit. Litigation ongoing.
 6. 125 Spring Street, Lexington – a proposed redevelopment with solar parking canopies and geothermal heating/cooling for the building. The project requires a groundwater discharge permit. No updates.
- V. *Comment Letters/Hearings:*
 1. *Town of Lincoln* – CWD attended a conservation commission hearing 10/29 to discuss the water main replacement project trenching through the Stony Brook at Lincoln Rd. The hearing was continued and additional DEP permitting is required due to water supply resource sensitivity. As proposed, no significant impact is anticipated.
- VI. *Communications:* Nothing significant
- VII. *Site Visits:*
 1. *Algonquin, Route 2, Lincoln:* CWD, Hatch and Enbridge inspected plant health at the Route 2 restoration area. Another site walk, invasives spp. management, and plant replacements are scheduled spring, 2026.
- VIII. *Hazmat:* No incidents



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
MASSACHUSETTS
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250 Fresh Pond Parkway
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November 4, 2025

OCTOBER 2025 WATER SUPPLY SUMMARY REPORT

Highlights

- The October percent water supply system capacity of 39% (based on 2.9BG usable capacity) is:
 - 3 percentage points lower than September 2025 (42%);
 - 6 percentage points higher than October 2024 (33%); and
 - 27 percentage points higher than October 2016 (12%, the fifth month of the 2016-2017 drought)
- Precipitation at the Lincoln Field Office in October 2025 totaled 4.96 inches, 0.72 inches above the National Climate Data Center (NCDC)'s monthly normal at Bedford Hanscom Field (4.24 inches).
- The current drought status set by the MA EEA Secretary is at Level 1 – Mild Drought.

Storage

Figure 1: Hobbs Brook Reservoir Storage, October 2025

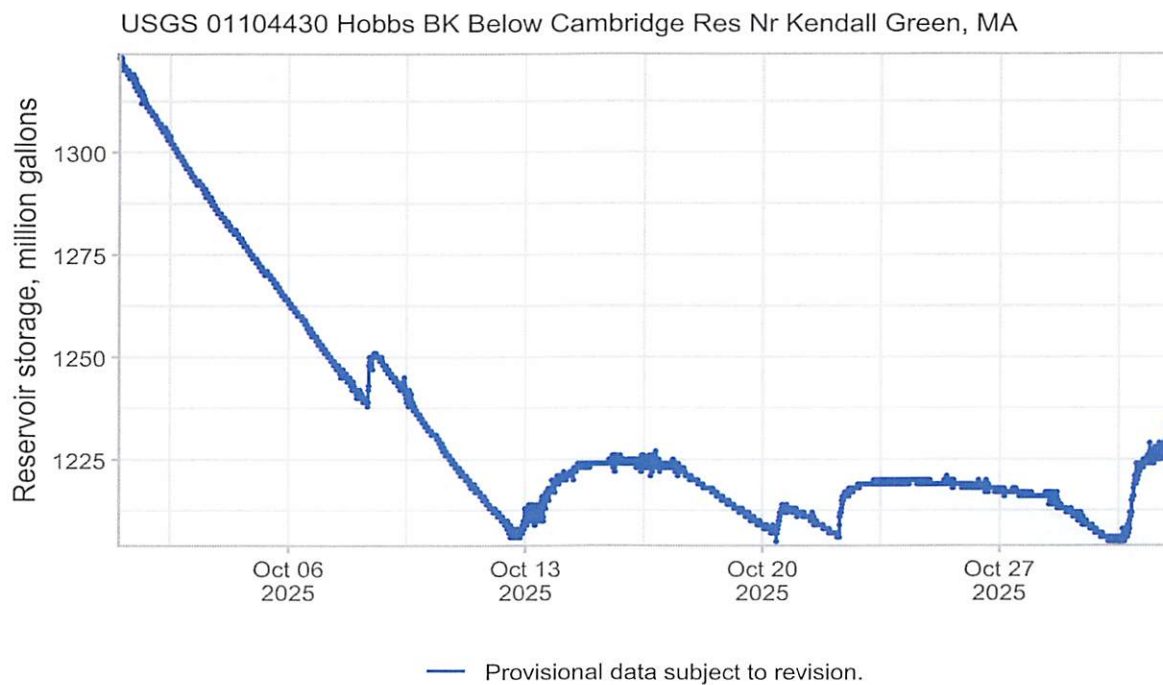


Figure 2: Stony Brook Reservoir Storage, October 2025

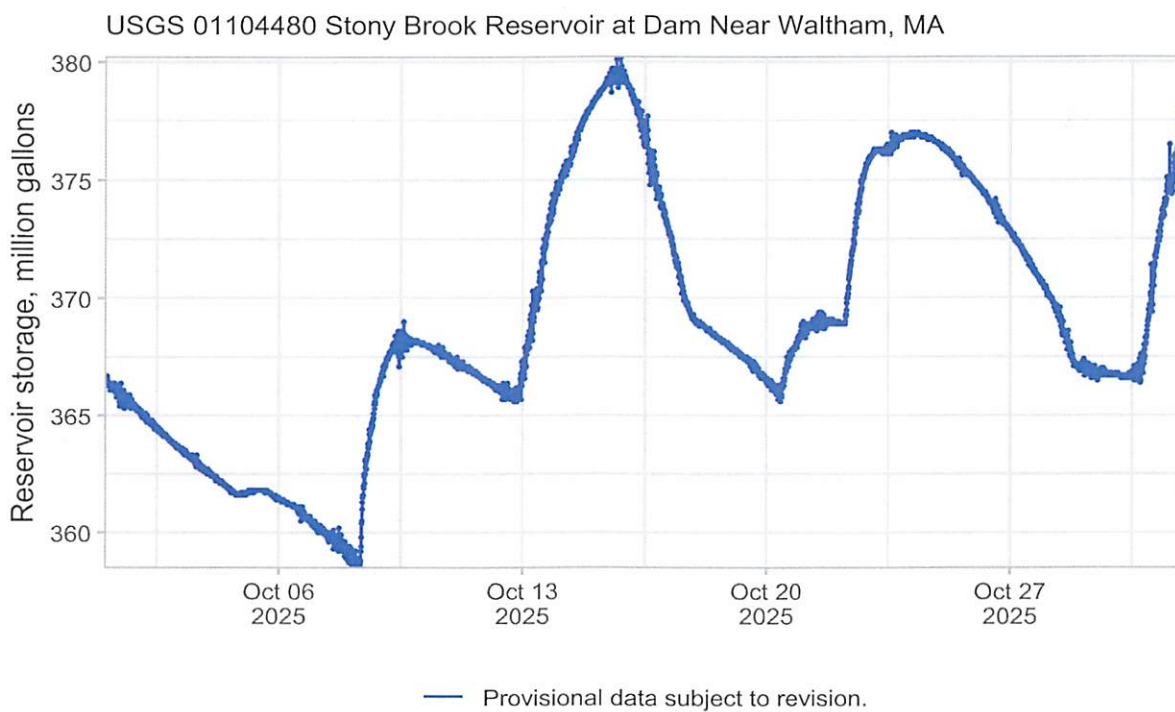


Figure 3: Fresh Pond Reservoir Storage, October 2025

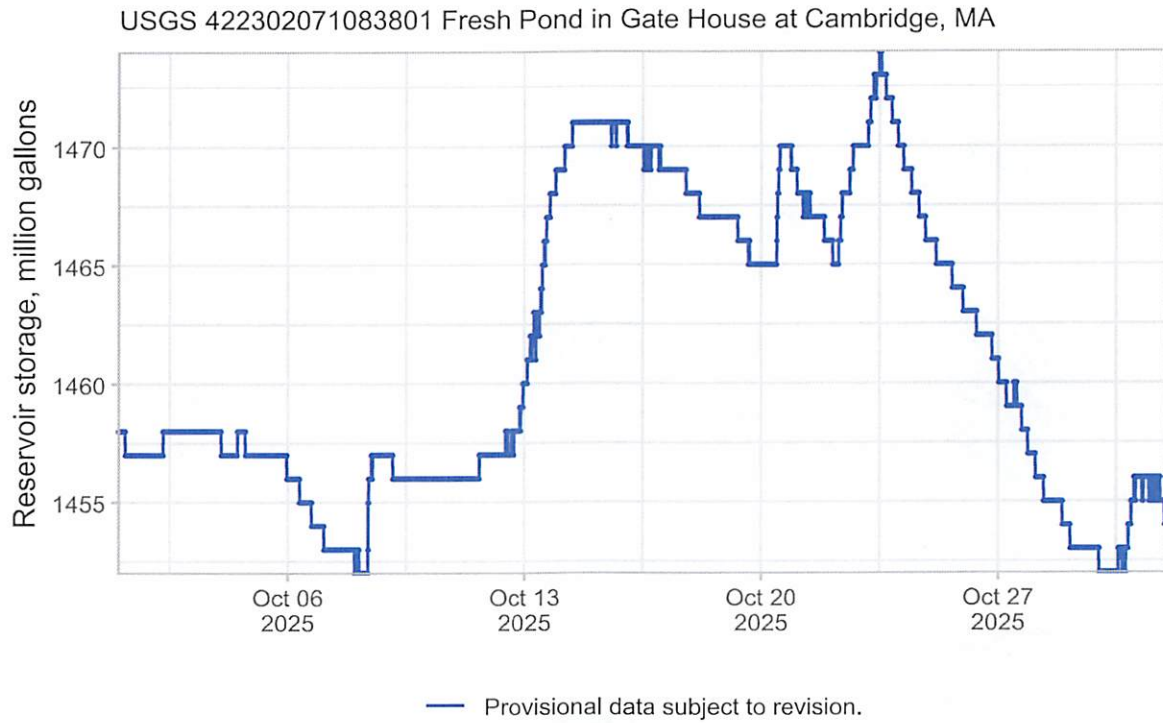


Figure 4: CWD % System Capacity, Water Years 2016 and 2017 (drought), 2025, and 2026

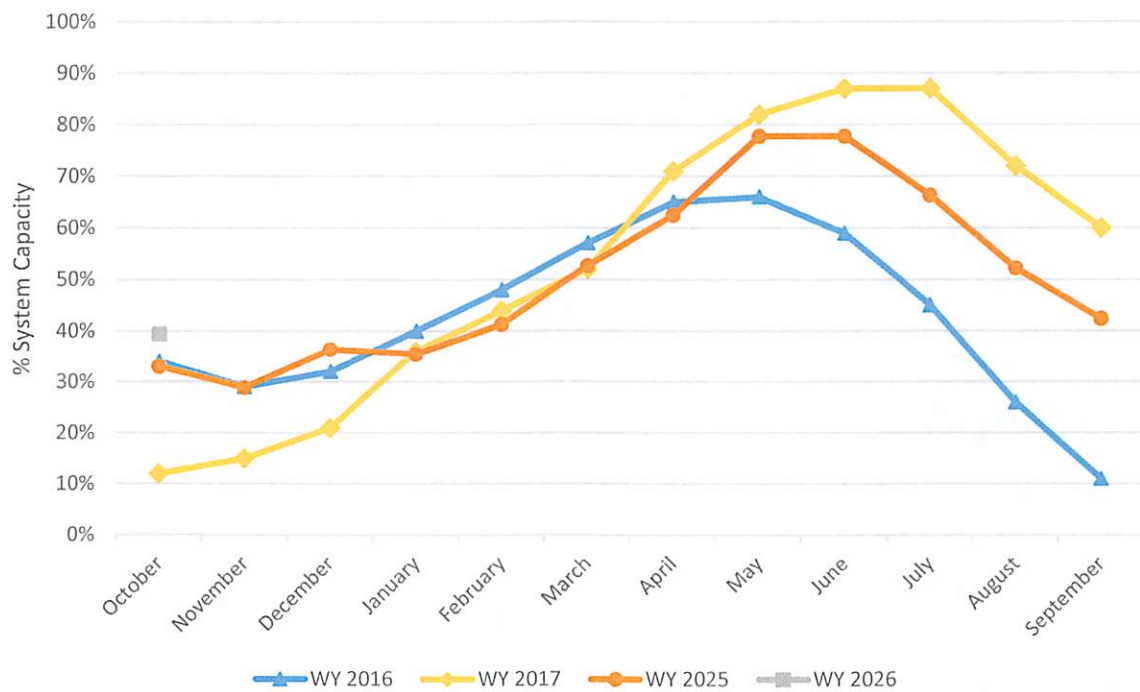
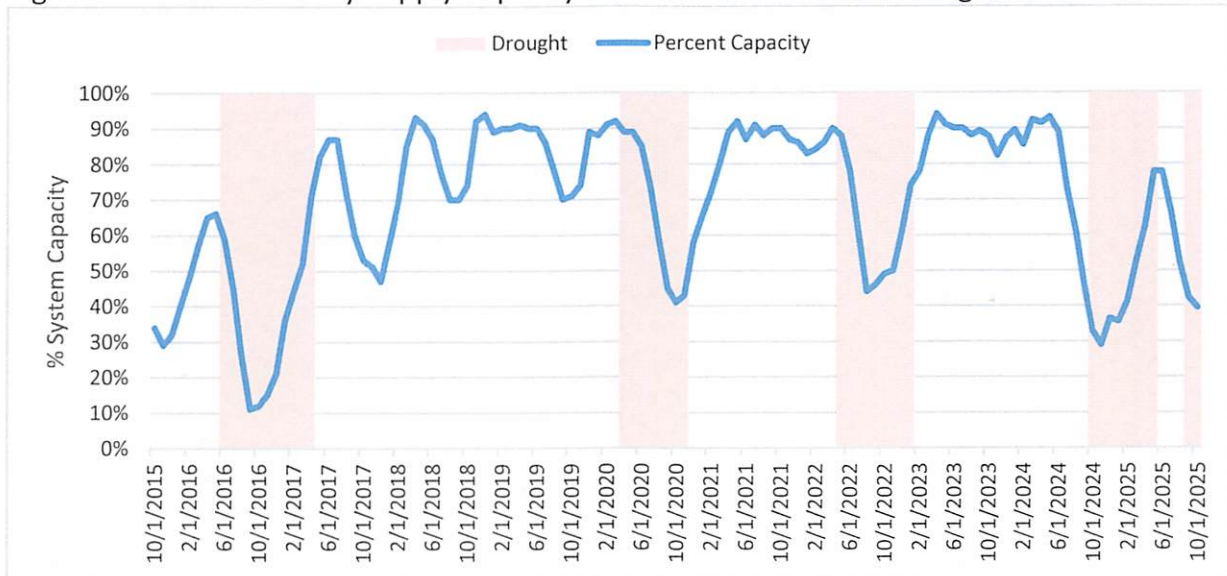


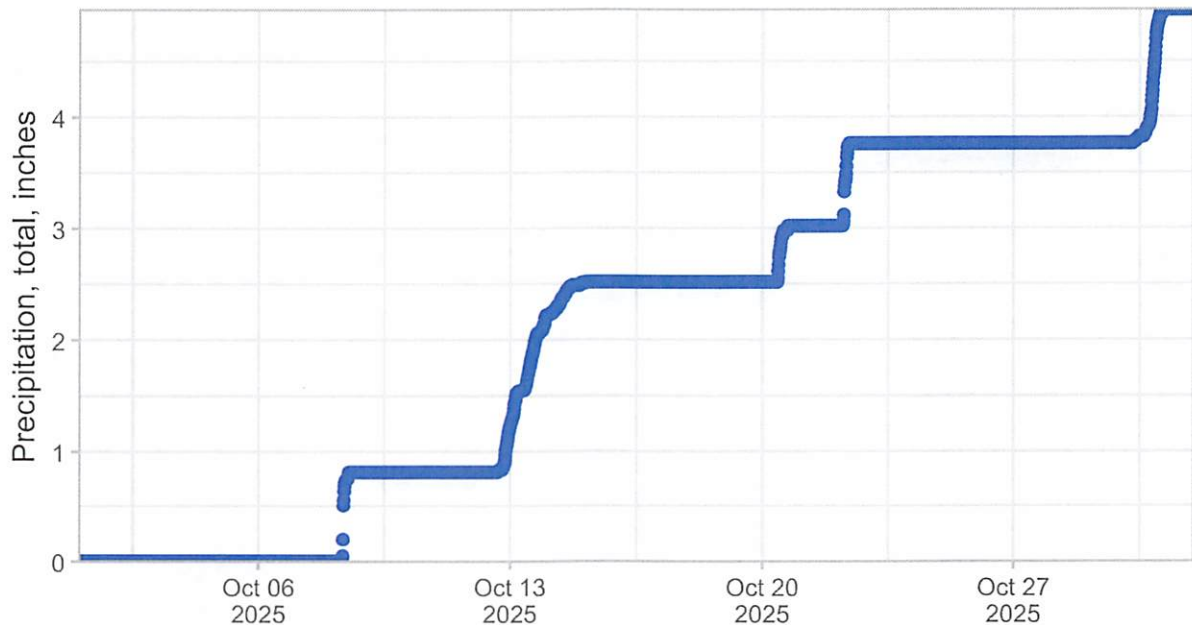
Figure 5. Percent Monthly Supply Capacity from November 2015 through October 2025



Precipitation

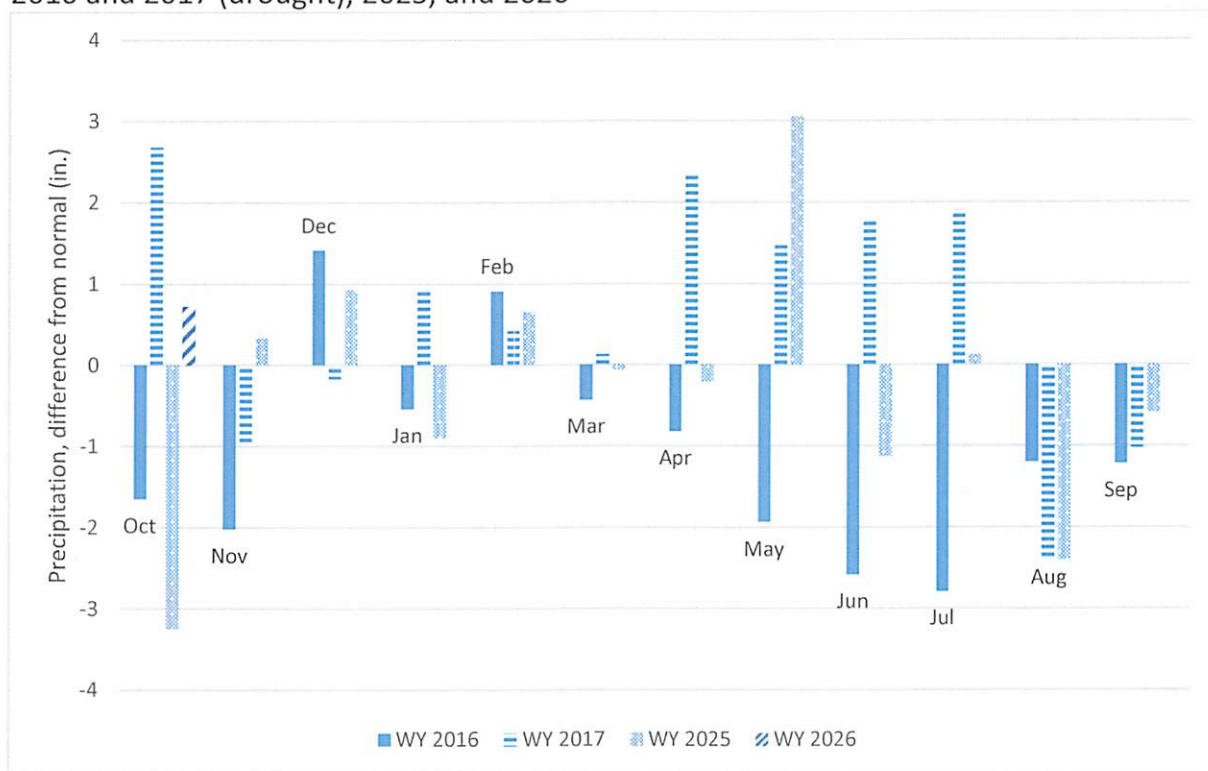
Figure 6: Precipitation measured at Lincoln Field Office, October 2025

USGS 422518071162501 Cambridge Res., Met. Station, Near Lexington, MA



● Provisional data subject to revision.

Figure 7: Monthly Precipitation (Lincoln Field Office) Relative to Normal, Water Years 2016 and 2017 (drought), 2025, and 2026



Lindsay VanFossen

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Real-time data available on the web at

[Cambridge Water Supply Monitoring Locations - USGS Water Data for the Nation](https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/rt/)

C. OPERATIONS – Water Operations, October 2025

Plant Operations

	Flow	Comment
Production (MG)	395	
Monthly Average (MGD)	13.17	
Daily Min (MGD)	9.74	Finish Water PID testing, shutdown for couple hours
Daily Max (MGD)	16.52	10/6/25

Water Quality/Laboratory

- There were 2 total coliform positives for October.
September: 118 samples collected for compliance
- PFAS
 - Compliance sample collected October 1st for the 4th Quarter. PFAS 6 = 4.45 ng/L
 - Next compliance sample to be collected in Quarter 1 (January 2026)

C. OPERATIONS – Engineering and Program Development, October 2025

Monthly Report: October 2025

CONSTRUCTION / WATER USE PERMITS

- 28 construction permits issued in October 2025

PROJECTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES

- **Utility Design Reviews:**

Provided engineering feedback on utility design plans for the following addresses:

70 Walden St., 8 Mercer Circle, 24 Fisk Place, 78 Bolton St., 73 Kirkland St., 35 Cherry St., 102 Sciarappa St., 10 Highland Place, 168 – 170 Webster Ave., 27 Alewife Brook Pkwy., 2 Garden St., 1680 Massachusetts Ave., 101 Pleasant St., 96 Jackson St., 18 – 24 Thingvalla Ave., 156 – 158 Putnam Ave., 20 Wendell St., 119 Pacific St., 12 Palmer St (aka 25 – 523 Harvard Coop), 21 Cottage St., 221 Mt. Auburn St., 11A – 11B Mt. Auburn St., 127 Broadway, 21 Sibley Ct., 14 White St. PL.(Somerville line), 130 Cushing St., 25 Homer Ave., 460 Massachusetts Ave., 44 Russell St., 11 Ivy St., 8 – 10 Thingvalla Ave., 156 Thorndike St., 191 Alewife Brook Pkwy., 1 – 2 Norfolk Place, 270 Sidney St., 33 – 37 Webster Ave., 73 Dudley St., 235 Third St., 300 Bent St., 114 – 116 Clay St., 92 – 99-2 Brattle St.(Lesley College), 98 – 98A Fayerweather St., 138 – 140 Rindge Ave., 15 Ash St., 3 Alewife Brook Parkway, 110 – 112 Hampshire St., 343 Allston St., 191 Alewife Brook Parkway, 93 Sixth St., 325 Binney St., 45 – 47 Dana St., Harvard @ Portland St, 104 Mt Auburn St, 197 Vassal Lane, 17 Ware St, 6 Sacramento St, 24 Foster St, 165 Brattle St, 1680 Mass Ave, 22-24 Wendell St, 10 Hazel St, 48-50 Park Ave, 43-47 Dana St, 79 Rice St, 24 Hardwick St, 90 Lexington St, 27 Alewife Brook Parkway, 98 Clay St, 351 Cardinal Mederios(on Marney St), 29 Sargent St

- **Private Development & Coordination with DPW:**

- Harvard Square Kiosk
- Jefferson Park Federal Parcel
- Chapter 90 Contract 26
- Inman St (Hampshire to Broadway)

- **City Projects – Water Main (WM):**

- Coordination with Eversource Gas for citywide utility replacement
- Active WM projects:
 - Dana Street
 - Massachusetts Avenue @ Linnaean Street
 - Chetwynd Road (in-house)
 - Hillside Avenue (in-house)
 - Carlisle Street

GIS & DATABASE UPDATES

- Ongoing GIS edits to distribution maps and valve/hydrant systems.
- Continuing to update the Fire Hydrant Database and system valve IDs as part of the valve exercising program.
- Continued tracking of lead service lines using the in-house system “Megalodon”.
- Updating the “Service Cards” spreadsheet – linking card locations with sketches for field identification.
- Development of a “List of All Lead Services” report for inclusion in the Monthly Lead Report.
- Compilation of monthly summary reports on lead service line elimination.
- Edits for citywide GIS water maps, adding service information and performing quality control.
- Updated the WM/Service Leak Layer with Distribution Division work orders (2013–2025).
- Continued use of Viewpoint Cloud to process demolition and building permits.
- Started interviews for new Engineering interns for the period of January through end of June for 2026

C. OPERATIONS – Engineering and Program Development, October 2025

COMPLETED ITEMS

- **Hired one Engineering Intern & still looking for a second one (Interviews are ongoing).**
- **Completed all edits to the distribution system and printed out a draft copy for Distribution Staff to review.**
- **Assisted Distribution in entering all parks and garden information into the in-house database to help track water usage at all City parks & gardens**

C. OPERATIONS - Business June through August

FY26 Billings			
Month	Billed Water Consumption	Month	Billed Water Consumption
July	381,061	January	0
August	838,272	February	0
September	307,560	March	0
October	823,154	April	0
November	0	May	0
December	0	June	0
		FY26 TOTAL	2,350,047
		FY25 TOTAL	2,110,373
			11.36%

Cross Connection Program Results		
October		
Total Tests	Fails	
546	25	

Water Fund Balance: \$4.4 M (6-30-2025)

D. ACTION ITEMS

- None

E. MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE and ITEMS OF NTEREST

- None

F. NEW BUSINESS

- None

G. NEXT MEETING DATE/AGENDA

- December 9th, 2025: TBA/TBD