



**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY**

Board of Directors

Governance Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

9:30 a.m.

Microsoft Teams meeting
Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 284 172 217 427

Passcode: NKGizz

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 202-753-6714, 977696346#](tel:+12027536714977696346)

Phone Conference ID: 977 696 346#

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order** **Christopher Herrington, Chairperson**
2. **Roll Call**..... **Michelle Rhodd, Board Secretary**
3. [Government Affairs Update Questions...](#).....[Barbara Mitchell, Associate General Counsel and Director Government Affairs & Public Policy](#)
4. [DC Water Works FY24 Annual Update.....](#)[Korey Gray, Vice President, Compliance and Interim Chief Procurement Officer](#)
5. **Executive Session***..... **Christopher Herrington, Chairperson**
 - **To obtain legal advice and preserve attorney-client privilege under DC Official Code § 2-575(b)(4)(A)**
6. **Adjournment**..... **Christopher Herrington, Chairperson**

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.

*The DC Water Board of Directors may go into executive session at this meeting pursuant to the District of Columbia Open Meetings Act of 2010, if such action is approved by a majority vote of the Board members who constitute a quorum to discuss certain matters, including but not limited to: matters prohibited from public disclosure pursuant to a court order or law under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(1); terms for negotiating a contract, including an employment contract, under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(2); obtain legal advice and preserve attorney-client privilege or settlement terms under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(4)(A); collective bargaining negotiations under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(5); facility security matters under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(8); disciplinary matters under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(9); personnel matters under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(10); third-party proprietary matters under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(11); train and develop Board members and staff under D.C. Official Codes § 2-575(b)(12); adjudication action under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(13); civil or criminal matters or violations of laws or regulations where disclosure to the public may harm the investigation under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(14); and other matters provided under the Act.



ALLIANCE

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE: GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

dc UPDATE: SNAPSHOT

2

July 12 - Meeting with DC Plug: Discussed infrastructure progress and collaboration strategies with DC Plug at their semi-annual meeting.

July 19 - Meeting with Executive Office of the Mayor (EOM) Officials: Met with officials from the EOM to discuss federal funding updates, focusing on Clean Rivers and Lead Free DC.

July 25 - Utility and Multi Agency Resource Fair: Connected with agencies and utilities at the DC Water Resource Fair and explored industry trends and community needs.

August 01 - Met with the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB): Met with ICPRB to discuss collaborative efforts in water resource management, focusing on Potomac River water quality and sustainability.

August 15 - LEAD Free DC Mandate: DC Water submitted the Lead-Free DC Mandate edits of the bill to the Council of the District of Columbia. The bill aims to accelerate lead pipe replacements, enhancing public health and safety. On September 16, DC Water and DOEE met to discuss funding, implementation, and reducing lead exposure. This collaboration is crucial for meeting federal standards and improving water safety.

August 26 - Office of Community Services (OCS) World Water Week 2024 Kickoff: Attended OCS World Water Week 2024, engaging in discussions on global water challenges and solutions with international leaders.

August 27-30 - Chesapeake Tri-Association Conference: Networked with professional and discussed water and wastewater management policies at the Chesapeake Tri-Association Conference.

September 10 - BEPS Taskforce Meeting: Attended the BEPS Task Force Meeting to discuss energy efficiency regulation updates, compliance strategies, and incentives for improving building performance.

September 11-13 - Maryland-DC Utilities Association Event: Discussed utility management, infrastructure modernization, regulatory compliance, and sustainable energy at the Maryland-DC Utilities Association event.

dc HIGHLIGHTS

August 12 - 30" PCCP Main Discussion with DDOT

Successfully negotiated \$186,000 from DDOT for the 30" PCCP main damage caused by ductbank demolition, marking a key win in recovering funds for DC Water's infrastructure repair.

September 19 - Meeting with Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

Met with a policy advisor from OMB to discuss the Lead and Copper Rule Implementation (LCRI). The focus was on progress, challenges in meeting federal guidelines, and securing funding for compliance. We explored strategies for timely lead service line replacement while ensuring financial stability for water utilities.

September 24 - Letter to Maryland State Chemist

Wrote to the Maryland State Chemist addressing concerns over revised metals limits for soil conditioners, emphasizing the impact on biosolids recycling. The letter requested clarification on the scientific basis and called for stakeholder engagement and a thorough public comment period to balance environmental protection with sustainable practices.

Sept 27 - Call with National Security Council (NSC) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on Water Infrastructure Cybersecurity

Participated in a call with the NSC and EPA, where we discussed cybersecurity threats to water infrastructure and state-level vulnerabilities. Key topics included federal-state collaboration on cybersecurity plans, the EPA's role in providing guidance and support, and the importance of conducting cybersecurity assessments for water systems.

B25-0987 - CRIAC Clarification Emergency Amendment Act of 2024

The CRIAC Clarification Emergency Amendment Act of 2024 clarifies the authority of DC Water to assess an impervious area charge on all properties in the District. This charge helps fund stormwater management and green infrastructure projects. The bill was introduced as temporary and emergency legislation in September.

Status: Sep 30, 2024: B25-0987 Introduced as temporary legislation and B25-0986 Introduced as emergency legislation. Approved on October 1, and awaits Mayoral signature.

H.R. 8812/S.4367 - Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)

The WRDA 2024 is a bipartisan bill that authorizes water infrastructure projects and studies, including several that are relevant for the District. The House and Senate have passed different versions of the bill and are currently negotiating a final version.

Status: The staffs for the House and Senate committees of jurisdiction are trying to negotiate a final bill.

dc TOURS

July 29 - Rep Owolewa - Live Lead Line Replacement Tour - Hosted by DC Water

Hosted Live Lead Line Replacement Tour for Rep. Oye Owolewa on July 29, where we explored the lead pipe replacement process firsthand. The tour provided key insights into the importance of modernizing water infrastructure to improve public health and safety. Engaged with officials and experts to discuss the challenges and progress in ensuring safe drinking water for all DC residents.

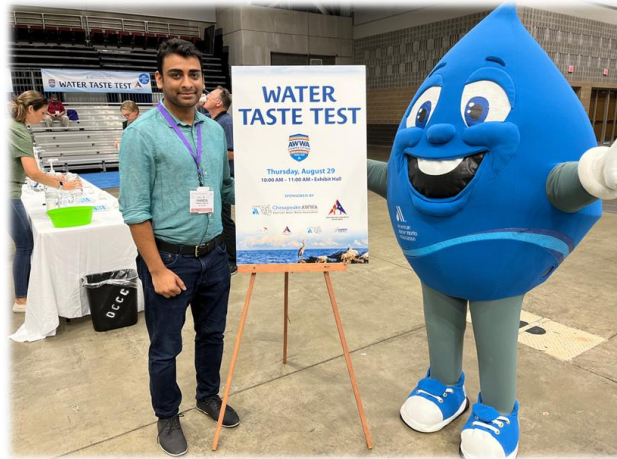
Sept 30 - Executive Office of Mayor (EOM) Tour Clean Rivers Project - Hosted by DC Water

DC Water hosted a tour for officials from the Executive Office of the Mayor (EOM) at the West Potomac Park site to showcase the Potomac River Tunnel, part of the DC Clean Rivers Project. This innovative initiative is significantly reducing combined sewer overflows and improving water quality across the District, marking a major step forward for environmental sustainability and public health. The tour highlighted the impressive work DC Water is doing and provided an opportunity to engage with EOM officials in discussions about securing additional funding for the Clean Rivers Project.



dc HIGHLIGHTS

A picture is worth a thousand words

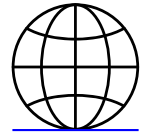


dc USEFUL LINKS

September 24 - Letter to Maryland State Chemist



H.R. 8812/S.4367 - Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)



B25-0987 - CRIAC Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2024



B25-0846 - DC Water Critical Infrastructure FOI Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2024



THIS CONCLUDES OUR
PRESENTATION

THANK YOU!



FY 24 Annual Report

Presented to the

Governance Committee

Christopher S. Herrington, Chairperson

October 9, 2024



DC Water Works Program



Program Overview

In 2016, DC Water established its Water Works Program to empower local and District residents to establish a meaningful employment on DC Water construction and service projects.

Program Elements

- New Hire Goals: Seventy-Five percent (75%) of new jobs created by contracts or procurements entered into by DC Water with contractors will be filled by local residents.
- Job/Candidate Referral Process
- Job Readiness and Skills Training Program
- Community Outreach
- Comprehensive Monitoring and Reporting



DC Water Works Program

Program Overview

Wrap Around Support

Supported by the District Department of Employment Services (DOES)



CASE MANAGEMENT



COUNSELING
(INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY)



MENTORSHIP



TRANSPORTATION
SUPPORT



EDUCATION & SPECIAL
SERVICES



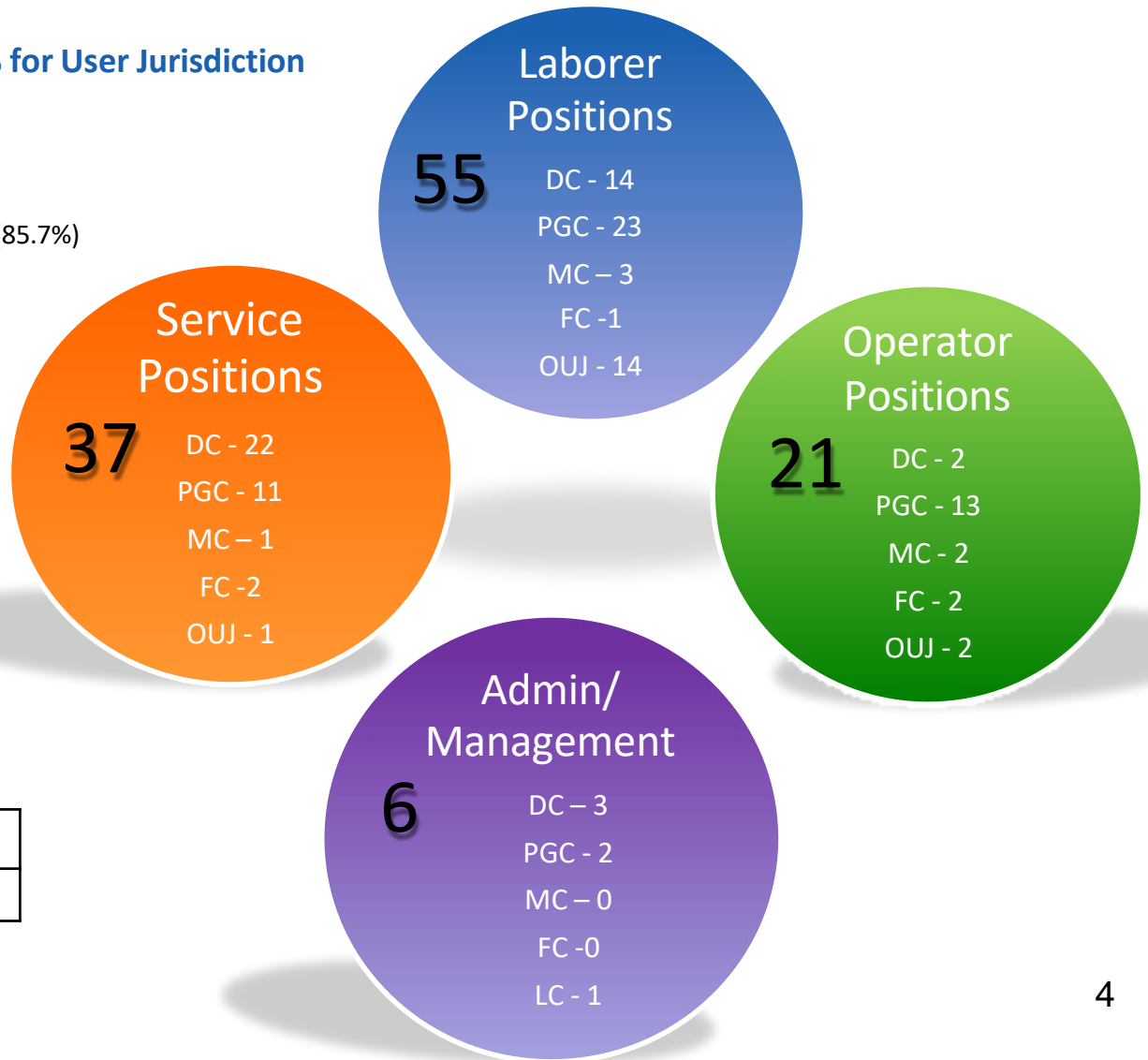
CHILDCARE SUPPORT



New Opportunities filled through Water Works (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)

DC Water Works New Hire Goal: 75% for User Jurisdiction

- Total Number of Positions Filled: 119
- Total User Jurisdiction Residents Hired: 102 (85.7%)
 - Total DC Residents Hired: 41 (34.4%)
- Total Outside User Jurisdiction: 17
- Total Number of Hiring Contractors: 27



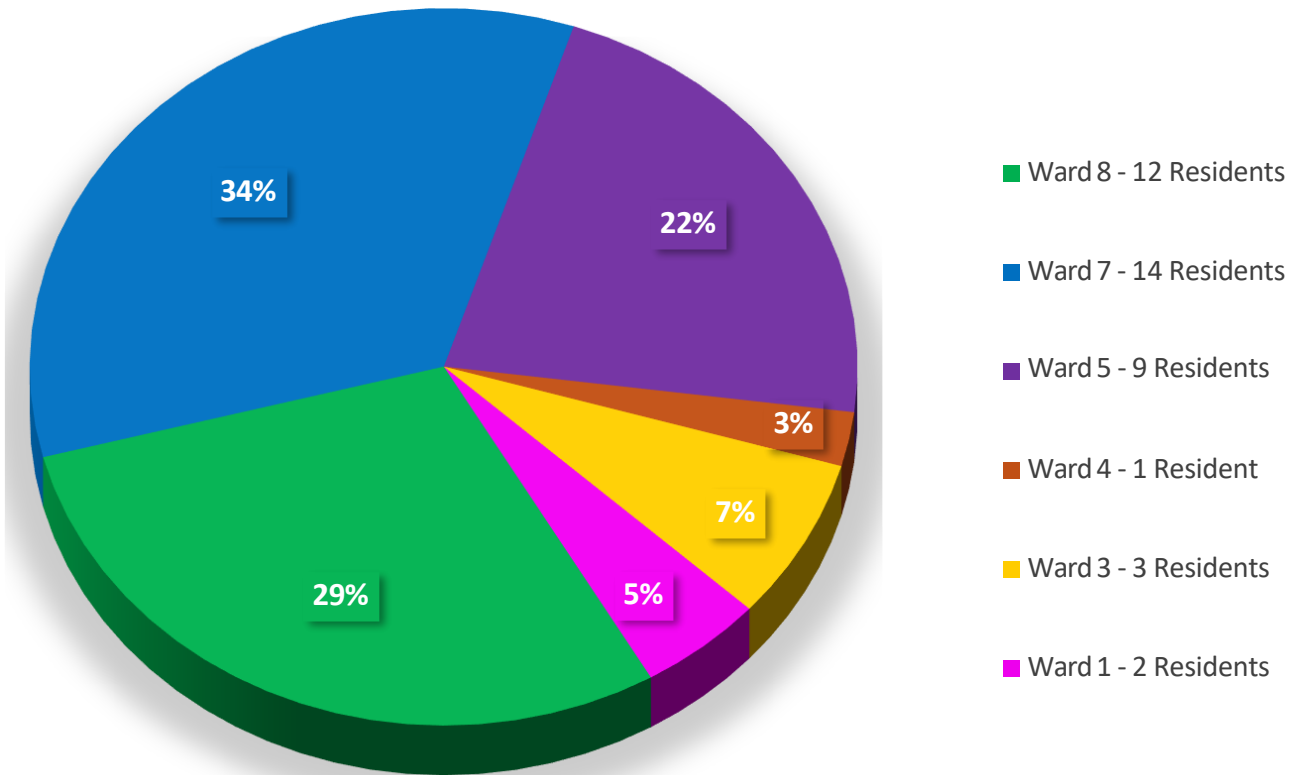
Positions Filled by Males	101 (85%)
Positions Filled by Females	18 (15%)



New Opportunities filled through Water Works (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)

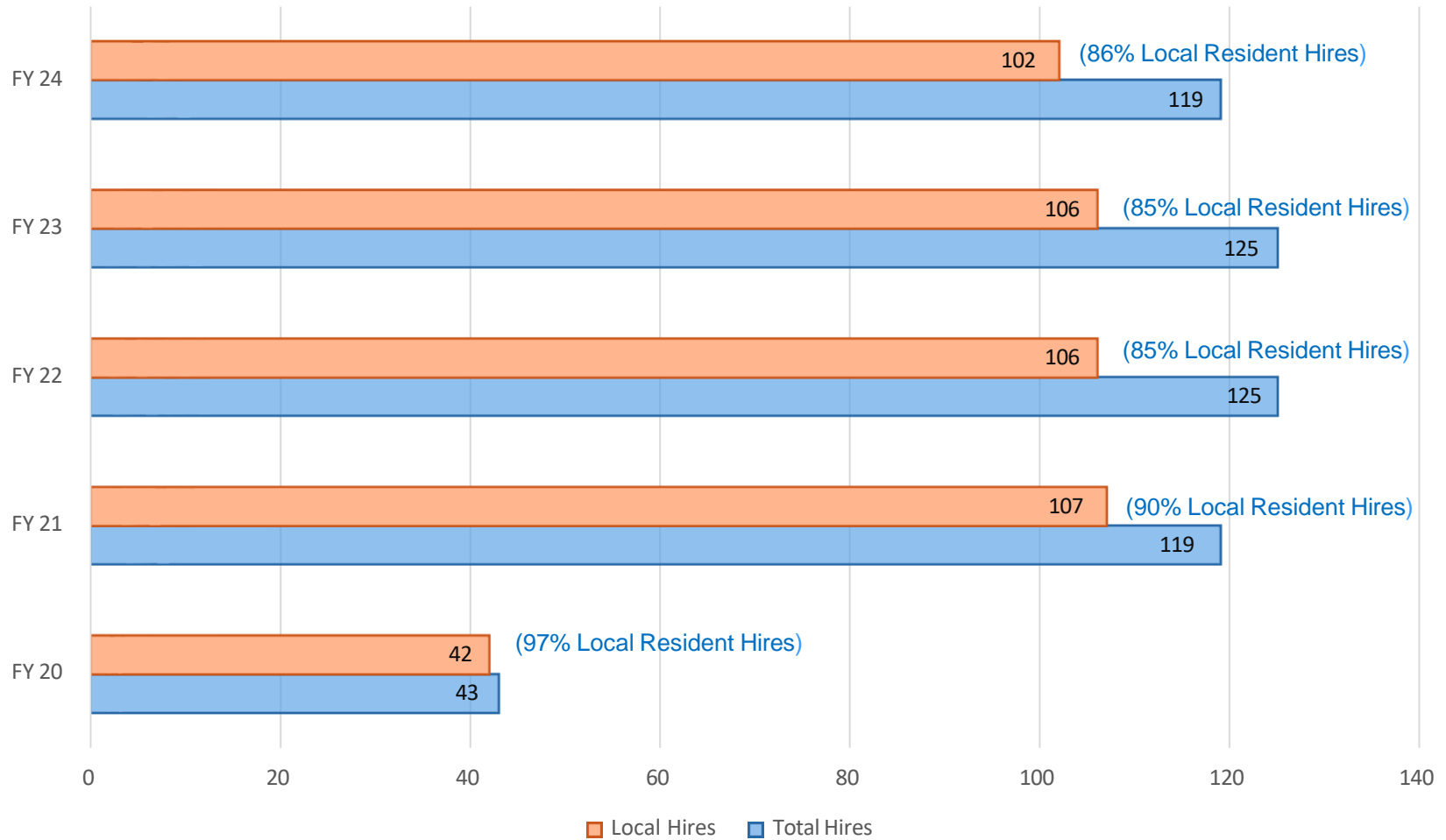
DC Resident Hires by Ward
Total DC Resident Hires: 41

DC Resident Hires By Ward





Employment Opportunities Filled Through DC Water Works 75% Annual Local Hiring Goal





Strategic Partner Referrals

DC Water Works maintains a set of Strategic Partners consisting of: Government agencies, community-based organizations, private contractors and union-affiliated groups that act as referral partners for contractor employment and training opportunities.

In FY 24, the Strategic Partners contributed to the placement of 12 individuals on DC Water projects or training programs.

Partner	Number of Placements	Placement Type(s)
District Department of Employment Services (DOES)	10	Service Positions – 10 LFDC community Activators
District of Columbia Infrastructure Academy (DCIA)	2	Service Positions – 2 LFDC community Activator



DC WATER APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

In 2018, DC Water established an Apprenticeship Program designed to empower District of Columbia and local residents to establish a long-term career with DC Water. By creating new employment pipelines, we are helping the economy of the local community to grow organically and nurturing a ratepayer first mindset.

Program Updates

Cohort I:

- First cohort was seated in October 2018
- Twelve (12) apprentices
 - All 12 from the District of Columbia
- Two (2) apprentices graduated in FY 24 – all from the HVAC Program.
- There are two (2) apprentices remaining in this 1st cohort (Plumbing and Fleet) and they are expected to graduate FY25.

Cohort II:

- Second cohort was seated in October 2022
- Eleven (11) apprentices
 - Ten (10) from the District of Columbia
 - One (1) from Prince Georges County)
- Three (3) apprentices graduated in FY 24:
 - Buildings and Grounds (2)
 - Sewer Services (1)

Key Components of a Registered Apprenticeship Program



DC Water Involvement



Structured On-the-job Learning



Related Training And Instruction



Rewards for Skill Gains



National Credential



DC WATER LEAD FREE DC COMMUNITY ACTIVATORS PROGRAM

In 2023, DC Water established the Community Activators Program which is designed to connect District of Columbia residents with training and employment opportunities related to Lead-Free DC. By making this investment, DC Water is expanding on its push for greater Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion within Lead-Free DC.



Program Updates

Cohort I:

- First cohort was completed in May 2024
 - Fifteen (15) Participants
- Fourteen (14) participants completed the program (93% graduation)
- Graduates received employment with the Lead-Free DC contractors.

Cohort II:

- Second cohort was seated in August 2024
- Twelve (12) participants – all from the District of Columbia
- Participants are receiving paid on the job training (from DOES) in community engagement with Lead-Free DC and Small Diameter Water Main Replacement projects.





High School Youth Internship Program

Pilot Program



DC WATER HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Key Components of the Program

The DC Water High School Youth Internship Program is designed for high school seniors interested in learning more about the utility sector. The program is a 24-week course for District of Columbia Public and Charter School students focused on preparing district school youth for the workforce and connecting them to opportunities through on-the-job training and classroom instruction.

In-school youth internship allows participants to earn practical education and experience through meaningful work experience in certain industries including, IT and business operations – all while graduating on-time

By the conclusion of the program, participants will acquire:

- *Paid, on-the-job learning
- *Supervised classroom-based instruction
- * Relevant On-the-job industry experience



Program participants earn up to \$17.00 per hour during the program. Wages were distributed on a certified debt card.

Program Updates

- Four Interns were seated in April 2024
 - Three (3) from Anacostia High School/ One (1) from Cesar Chavez Public Charter School
- 3 Participants completed the Program
 - 2 are pursuing college
 - 1 was placed in the LFDC Activator Training Program



Catch Basin Inspection

- NPDES permit requires cleaning of 85% of the catch basins in the CSS.
- Inspection of catch basins in the CSO Anacostia tributary area at least twice per year.
- Municipal Separate Stormwater System (MS4) permit requires every catch basin within the MS4 Permit Area is cleaned at least once annually.



PREPARING TO DESCALE SEWER LATERAL



Learning Water Operations





Fire Hydrant Education



Excavation and repair of the infrastructure

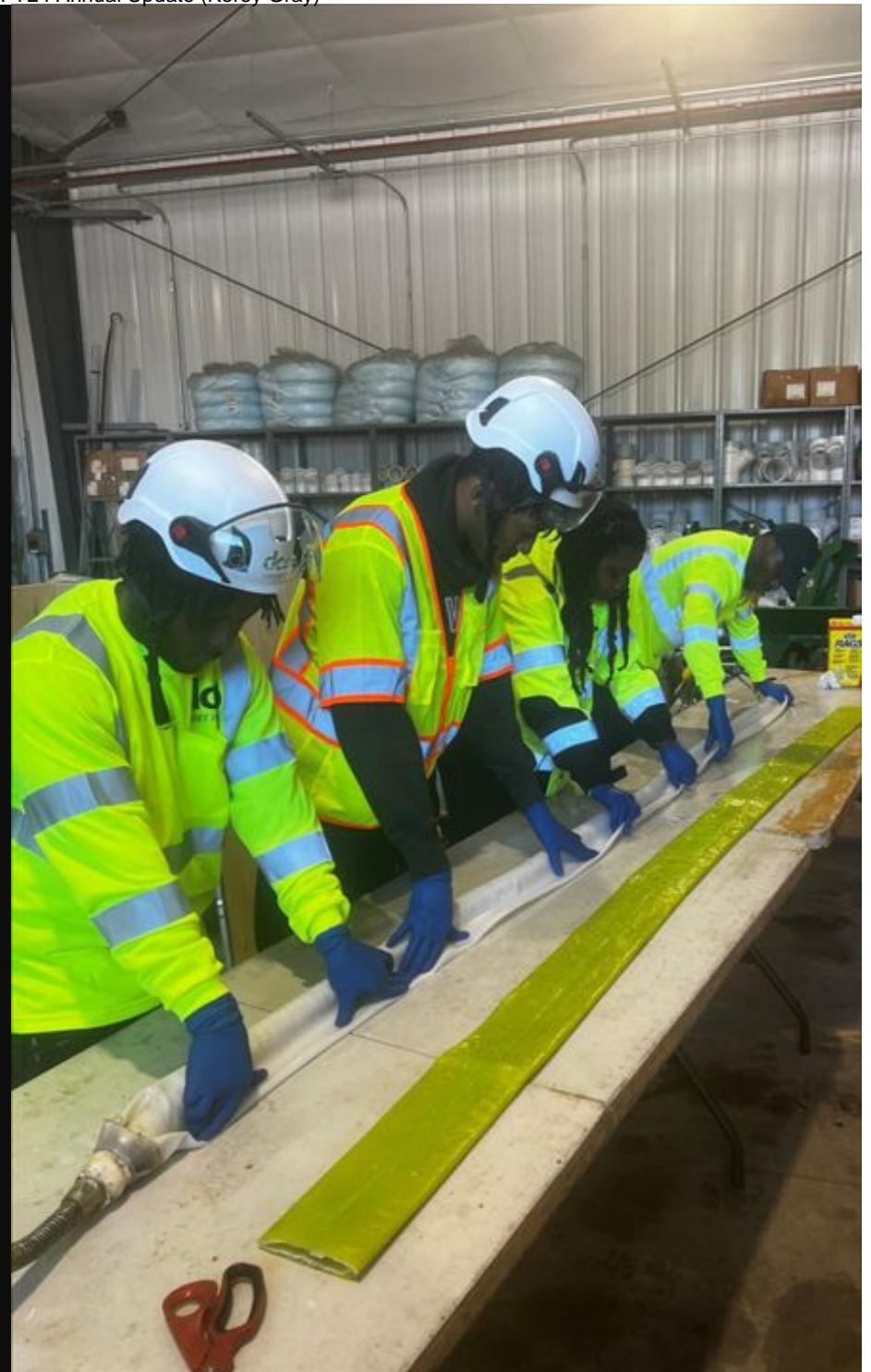
Conventional Approach

- Takes 3 days to repair a typical residential sewer lateral that is 8'-10' underground;
 - Cost \$12,000;
- Inconvenience to home or business owners;
- May cause damage to property and other utilities.



CIPP LINING

- **Trenchless Technology**
 - Takes 2-3 hours to repair a typical residential sewer lateral that is 8' -10' underground;
 - Cost \$4,000;
 - NO inconvenience to homeowners or businesses;
 - NO damage to other utilities.
-





DC Water Apprentice Training Summer Youth Apprentice



An aerial photograph of an industrial or construction site in Washington, D.C. The scene is dominated by a large, cylindrical water tower with a green, textured exterior. In the background, several tall construction cranes are visible against a clear sky. The foreground and middle ground consist of various industrial buildings, some with brick facades and others with corrugated metal roofs. A large parking lot filled with numerous white vans and other vehicles is situated in the center. The overall atmosphere is one of active development and infrastructure work.

(NEW INITIATIVE)
DC WATER HIGH SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT AND
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

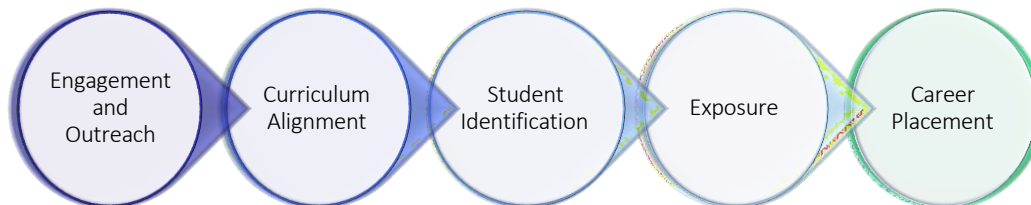


The DC WATER HIGH SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT Program

The DC Water High School Engagement and Workforce Development Program is an expansion of the “Youth Internship” initiative implemented in March 2024. Its purpose, **as part of the OCEO’s Strategic Program**, is to implement a standardized program to engage and works with high school students beginning at the 9th grade level as they prepare for careers in the utility sector. Included are internship and pre-apprenticeship opportunities to provide **(up to 10)** students each year with professional skill building, and career exploration opportunities to help them plan for after graduation. This expanded plan includes support from District Schools the University of the District of Columbia and the DC Water contractor community.



By creating new employment pipelines, DC Water is helping the economy of the local community to grow organically and nurturing a ratepayer first mindset.





The DC WATER HIGH SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT Program



The (proposed) DC Water High School Engagement and Workforce Development Program is specifically focused on engaging high school youth and preparing them for career opportunities through immersive outreach, on the job training and classroom instruction.

By the conclusion of the program, participants will acquire:

- ▾ Paid, on-the-job learning
- ▾ Job Readiness Training
- ▾ Supervised classroom-based instruction
- ▾ Relevant On-the-job industry experience

Key Components of the Program



DC Water/ Strategic Partner Involvement

- Implemented in partnership with DCPS, Charter Schools, and DOES
- Trainees receive a stipend.



Structured Hands-On Learning

- Under the guidance of DC Water staff, interns will observe, learn, and assist experienced staff.



Related Training And Instruction

- Trainees will participate in an in-depth program to support the OJL experience.



Career Transitioning Support

- Upon completion, interns are enrolled into DC Water Works for ongoing support and employment opportunities.



The DC WATER HIGH SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT AND WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT Program



Wrap Around Support
(In conjunction with Partnering Schools and Dept. of Employment Services)



CASE MANAGEMENT



COUNSELING
(INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY)



MENTORSHIP



Component 1 – Outreach and Engagement In Conjunction with OMAC’s Education Ambassador Program



Purpose:

To organize a structured collection/schedule of activities in which DC Water and its partners engage with students at targeted CTE schools to nurture their interest in utilities while educating them on the skills required for success in this industry.

Activities Include:

- Career Days - DC Water to participate and/or sponsor 1 or 2 Career Days with the partnering schools. Initial conversations with schools and employers lean towards one event in the fall and a second in spring.
 - Career Days will be a combination of seminars, exhibit tables, and demonstrations (i.e. Touch a truck).
 - Open to any student 9-12
- DC Water Open House and Site Tour – Spring tour offered to interested 10-12 grade students.
 - Blue Plains – 16 and Older
 - Off-Site - Open
- Volunteer Activity - At least one annual event (supported or sponsored) highlighting DC Water’s commitment to the community and showcasing a particular area/dept/ etc. (i.e. Barracks Road Event, Beat the Streets, Anacostia River Keepers event)





Component 2 – Participant Identification

In Conjunction with OMAC’s Education Ambassador Program



- Work with the schools to identify graduating students who are interested in working in (and have the acumen for) utilities.
 - Based on student eligibility and recommendations from guidance office
- Eligibility:
 - Participants must be a current HS senior or junior enrolled at the start of the Program
 - Be at least 18 at the time the Program starts
 - Successfully finish the following:
 - Program application(s)
 - Present required documents
 - Maintain a 2.0 GPA or higher



Component 3 – Internship Opportunities

- Internships for selected participants.
 - Interns to work up to 15 hours per week – 2 full days between Mon-Fri.
 - Internship counted towards classroom credit
 - Internships to run from March thru June
 - Interns pay rate commensurate with the District's minimum wage (currently \$17.50)
 - Internships will primarily focus on OJL experience.
 - Soft Skills/ Job Readiness Training to be incorporated (provided by DC Water)
 - Open to eligible Juniors and Seniors based on criteria established in Component 2

Professional Development Experience



- Conflict Resolution
- Effective Communications
- In conjunction with Safety
 - Safety (OSHA, CPR, Confined Space)
- In conjunction with DC Water Works
 - Financial Literacy
 - Resume Writing/ Interviewing



Component 4 – Pre Apprenticeship Opportunities



- Pre-Apprenticeship Program for Interns interested in continuing the workforce development experience
- Pre-Apprenticeships to run from August thru February
- Pre-apprentices to earn \$20 per hour
- OJL experience based on apprenticeship trades.
 - Training to include CDL Class A, some NCCER Level 1 certification training (for operations)
- Classroom training provided in partnership with UDC.
 - Participants will get college credits towards associate degree.
 - Classes provided by UDC are no charge (DC residents get up to \$2k per year in college credit by UDC)
- On-going Coaching/ Mentoring/ Wrap-Around Support in partnership with DOES



- Participants of the Pre-Apprenticeship Program will be connected with DC Water project contractors for on-going apprenticeship, laborer, or operator opportunities (DC Water Works).



Activities and Recognitions

➤ February 2024

- DC Water Recognized as an “Community Leadership Award” at the 2024 National Association of Clean Water Agencies Winter Conference

➤ April 2024

- Ward 8 Workforce Development Town Hall

➤ May 2024 (Infrastructure Week)

- DC Water Recognized as an “Outstanding Partner” with the DC Infrastructure Academy
- DC Water participated in the DC Infrastructure Academy Partners in Unity Open House
- DC Water hosted the DC Infrastructure Academy’s Annual Stakeholder Reception at HQO



➤ June 2024

- DC Water presented at the American Water Works Association ACE 24 event. The topic was, “Bridging The Gap: How DC Water’s Workforce Development Programs Help Meet the Utility’s Strategic Goals”

➤ July 2024

- Councilmember Kenyon McDuffie's Utility and Multi Agency Resource Fair and Job/Career Fair at Arena Stage

➤ August 2024

- DC Water spoke at the Job Corps 60th Anniversary Workforce Celebration Ceremony

➤ September 2024

- University of the District of Columbia Career Expo