

WATER BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, February 10, 2026

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/36324c93-e601-481a-b89f-9c74fb9a6c8b@c06a8be7-8479-4d73-b351-93bc9ba8295c>

A. MINUTES OF JANUARY 10, 2026, MEETING

B. MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Drought Status Update

The PFAS Presentation Has Been Postponed until the March Meeting

- PFAS Presentation

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 January 2026
 - FY26 Consumption through January 2026
 - 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

- March 10th, 2026: TBA/TBD

CAMBRIDGE WATER BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

January 20th, 2026

This meeting is available virtually on MS 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, Tahir Kapoor, Kathleen Kelly, Jim Burruss, Benjamas Lendorff

Cambridge Water Department (CWD): Mark Gallagher, Fred Centanni, Dave Kaplan, Katherine Orciuch and Rich Holly.

A: MINUTES OF DECEMBER MEETING

Ann Roosevelt moved to accept the December minutes, member Tahir Kapoor seconded the motion accepting the meeting minutes.

B. MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

PFAS6 Update: Director Gallagher presented the CWD 2025 fourth quarter PFAS6 monitoring summary report to the board. The report showed that all four quarterly PFAS6 regulatory compliance samples for 2025 stayed below the Mass DEP MCL of 20ppt and the secondary DEP goal of 10ppt allowing CWD to maintain quarterly sampling rather than monthly.

Based on these continued positive results for PFAS6 removal, CWD is maintaining an annual GAC filter media change out schedule. After reviewing the quarterly PFAS6 results, member Kapoor expressed concern that under the new upcoming EPA regulation set to begin in 2029, that CWD would be out of compliance when that regulation takes effect. Director Gallagher explained the new EPA MCLs are not based on individual quarterly results but on an annual running average and that CWD would remain in compliance. Waterboard members agreed the report shows we are in compliant, but don't necessarily agree that the new annual average regulation is best for high quality water. The Managing Director informed the board that we are ahead of the curve on PFAS6 treatment and CWD continues to surpass the Mass DEP's much stricter regulations and CWD continues to maintain full compliance with all water quality regulations. The Waterboard requested an update on the upcoming EPA PFAS6 regulation and their MCL limits. Member Kapoor requested an update on the status of CWDs in house PFAS analyzer. Director Gallagher stated that due to Lab staffing changes use of the in house analyzer was on hold until the new staff could be properly trained. Member Kapoor requested, and member Lendorff seconded, that the managing director provide an updated timeline for completion of staff training on the use of the PFAS analyzer and the re-start of in-house PFAS testing for the February meeting. Director Gallagher agreed to supply the requested update.

Drought status: The state declared a level 2 significant drought.

Q: Usually at this time of year, don't we close Hobbs Brook and only use Stony Brook to meet demand.

A: Yes, however, this year because of the drought, Stony Brook recharge was not providing enough water to meet daily demand and we have to continue to supplement with water from Hobbs Brook.

Q: Is the Harvard Square Kiosk open?

A: It is, but the water work has been suspended for the winter season.

Q: How many lead services are there in the city

A: Approx. 1,800 lead service lines in the city.

Q: Is the water fund balance low?

A: The Water Fund is currently at 15% of the annual operating budget which is the recommended minimum threshold.

C. ACTION ITEMS:

None

D. NEW BUSINESS:

None

E. NEXT MEETING: DATES/AGENDA:

February 10th, 2026.

Ms. Roosevelt moved and Mr. Kapoor Seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:03 pm. All were in favor of the motion.

B. MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Drought Status

The PFAS Presentation Has Been Postponed until the March Meeting

- PFAS Presentation
 - First Quarter Sample Results
 - In house PFAS Analyzer Status
 - EPA PFAS MCL - Running Annual Average (RAA) methodology

C. OPERATIONS – Transmission and Distribution January 2026

- 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 & 26.
- Work with DPW and contractors on several water main projects that include:
- **DPW Chap 90 Contract 25** - Working with DPW Project Engineers and Contractor on water distribution infrastructure upgrades:
 - **Dana St** –Project is 85% complete.
 - **Sciarappa St (Winter 2026)** - 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. To begin winter 2026. The permit has been executed.
- **DPW Chap 90 Contract 26A** (out to bid Spring 2025)
 - **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).
 - **Gray St, Inman St, Haskell St, Kirkland Rd, Hillside Ave**
- **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. The current project is out to bid with an opening date of February 5, 2026.
- **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 @ 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. New tees and connections installed. One hydrant remains to connect.
 - **Mass @ Wendell & Shepard** – New installation of water main and crossings to begin mid-November. Permitted to begin on 11/19/25. Ongoing as of 1/31/26
- **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. Community meetings have started, and the final meeting with DOT is pending.
- **MassDOT Superstructure Replacement (Alewife Bridge work)**
 - Coordination with Utility contractor to confirm water main shutdown from Rindge Ave to Rt 2 interchange
- **5 Craigie Circle Construction** – Review design and comment on the new three-story building. New 6” private water main to come from the existing 20” cast iron main on Craigie St. CWD recommending redundancy at the main (Installation of 2 new 20” butterfly valves)
- **Distribution Staff**
 - Continue to field lead line calls from residents who have received notices that were recently mailed out (December 22nd). Calls include notifying residents of the options to renew lead service lines.
 - Continuing to replace, repair, and thaw out fire hydrants that are damaged or frozen.
 - Continually working on in house database (Megalodon) to eliminate/update “unknown” services
 - Cross-checking all lead line records for accuracy with the new map created by our IT staff

C. OPERATIONS – Transmission and Distribution January 2026

January 2026 Distribution Crew Work

- Work Orders Completed 24
- Leaks Repaired 11
- Hydrants Repaired/Replaced 3
- Valves Repaired/Replaced 2
- Gate boxes Reset/Replaced 1
- Water main repair/replace 10
- Valves Exercised 238
- Inspections Performed 197
- Dig Safe utility mark-outs 329

C. OPERATIONS – Watershed, January, 2026

- I. *Fresh Pond Reservation:*
 1. *Landscape Maintenance* – Winter deicing operations in effect.
 2. *Little Fresh Pond* – Ongoing discussions with the City Conservation Agent and Contractors for permitting and costing a spring alum treatment.
 3. *Monthly Newsletter:* Rangers are working on the February update and switching to the City's Constant Contact platform for future issues.
 4. *Fresh Pond Day:* Secured and confirmed Saturday, 6/13/2026 for Annual Fresh Pond Day Event. Mark your calendars!!
- II. *Cambridge Watershed:*
 1. *Stony Brook Gatehouse Low Sluice Gate Repairs:* 11/10 work identified an unanticipated needed part. Work is postponed until the new part is fabricated and delivered
 2. *Drought Status:* MA increased drought status to Level 2 (Significant Drought) necessitating Hobbs Brook Dam releases starting 1/31 after a month of no flow/recharge.
 3. *Stony Brook Barn:* Received one proposal to assess and make recommendations for repairs to the Stony Brook Barn. Under review. This is a CPA (historic preservation) funded project.
 4. *Dam Emergency Action Plan:* CWD issued updates to the 2019 Cambridge Reservoir Dam and Stony Brook Dam Emergency Action Plan. Updates were limited to personnel and contact information changes.
- III. *Reporting and Website:*
 1. *Site Monitoring Program Tool:* New inspections forms completed. Consultants working to tie those into the map browser for field access. Wrapping up the latest updates.
- 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:* Attended a Page Rd. Notice of Intent pre-filing meeting with the Lincoln Conservation Commission and proponents 1/5.
- VI. *Communications:* No significant project-related communications.
- VII. *Site Visits:* Site visit to 27 Canaan Dr., Lincoln with DEP staff to assess Zone A extents 1/15. Routine reservoir caretaker and ranger land inspections.
- VIII. *Hazmat:* No incidents



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February 2, 2026

JANUARY 2026 WATER SUPPLY SUMMARY REPORT

Highlights

- The January percent water supply system capacity of 42% (based on 2.9BG usable capacity) is:
 - 2 percentage points higher than December 2025 (40%);
 - 6 percentage points higher than January 2025 (36%); and
 - 6 percentage points higher than January 2017 (36%, the eighth month of the 2016-2017 drought)
- Precipitation at the Lincoln Field Office in January 2026 totaled 2.68 inches, 0.22 inches below the National Climate Data Center (NCDC)'s monthly normal at Bedford Hanscom Field (2.9 inches).
- The drought status set by the MA EEA Secretary is currently a Level 2 – Significant Drought.

Storage

Figure 1: Hobbs Brook Reservoir Storage, January 2026

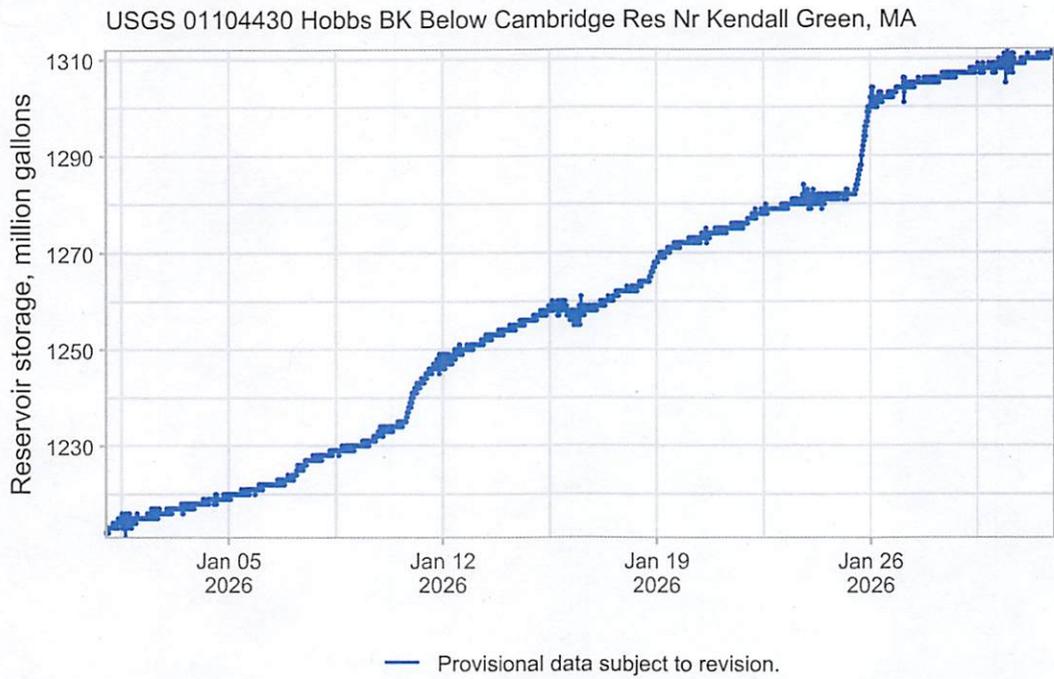


Figure 2: Stony Brook Reservoir Storage, January 2026

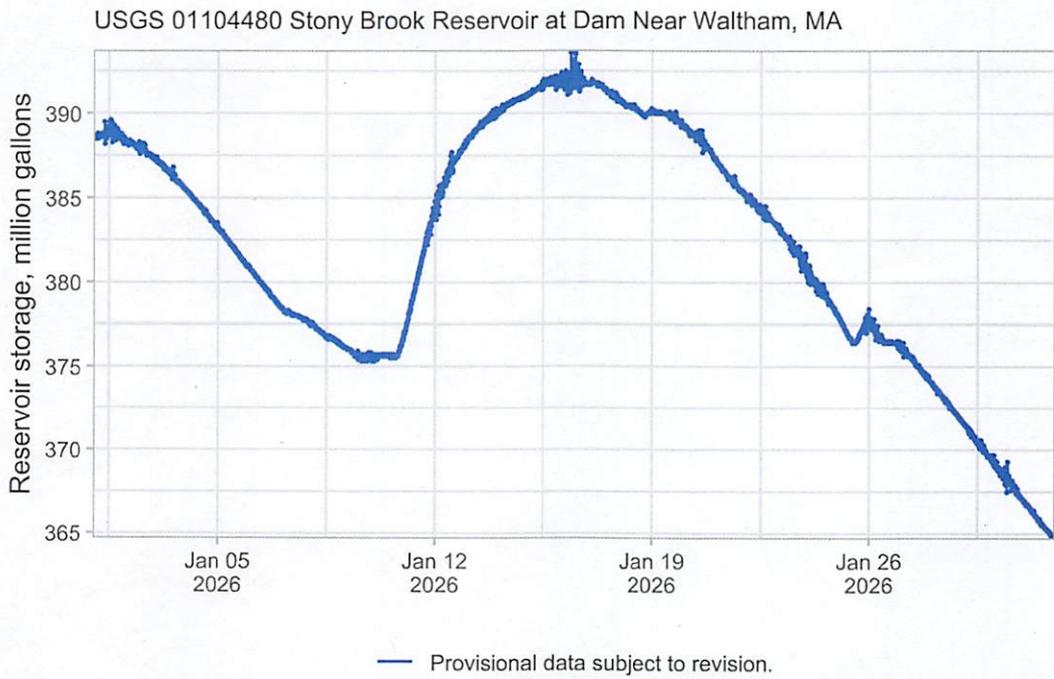


Figure 3: Fresh Pond Reservoir Storage, January 2026

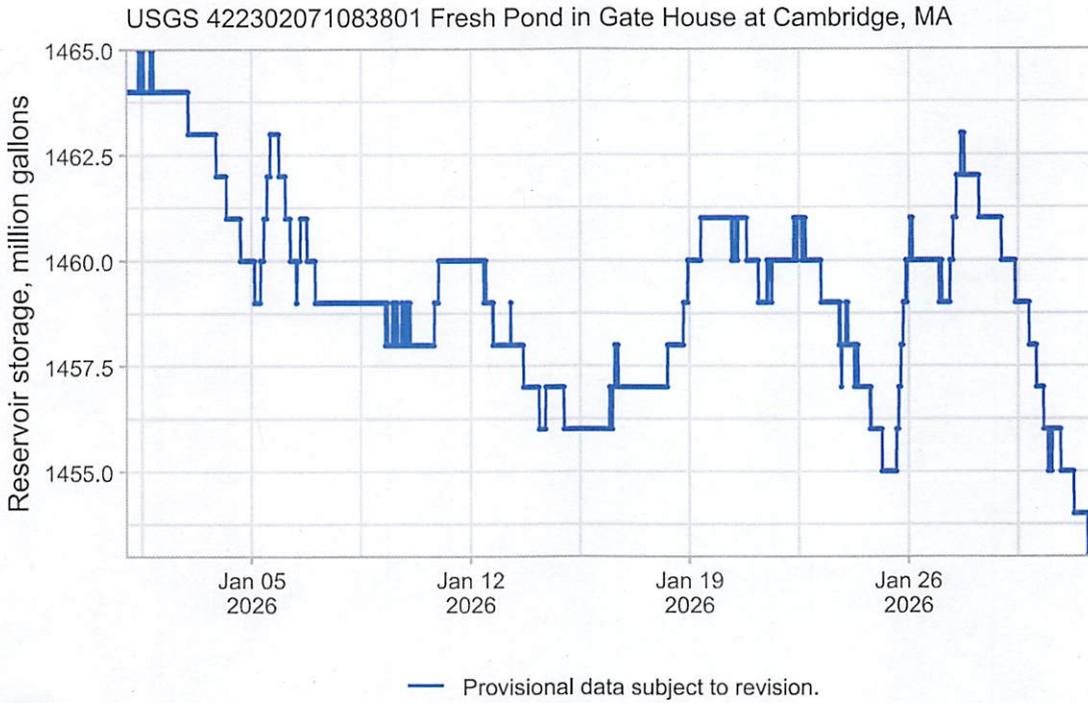


Figure 4: CWD % System Capacity, Water Years 2016 and 2017 (drought), 2025, and 2026

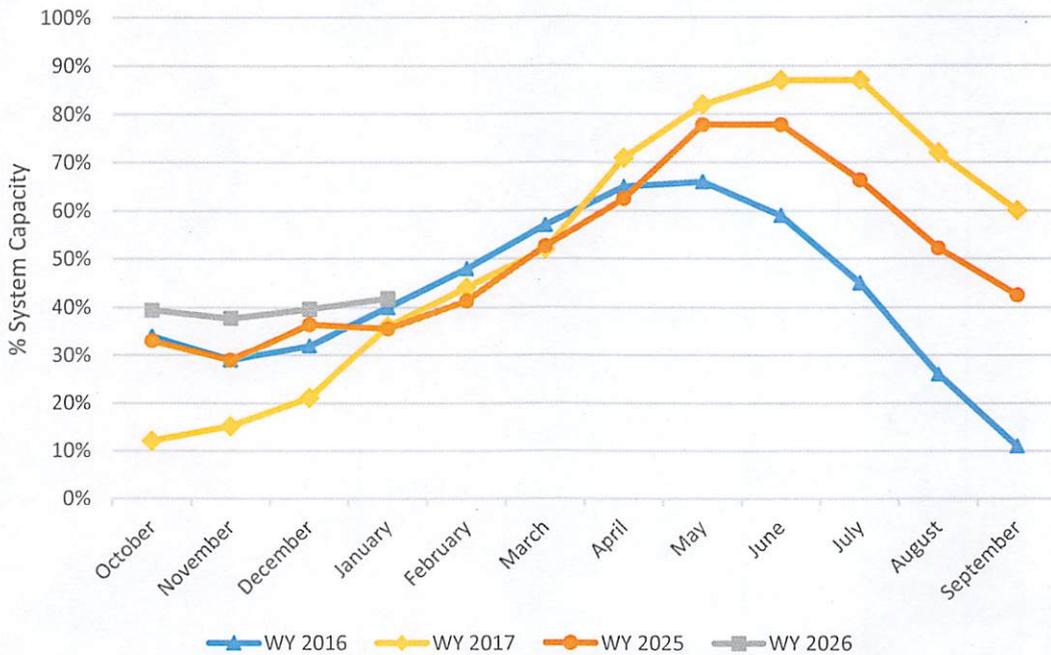
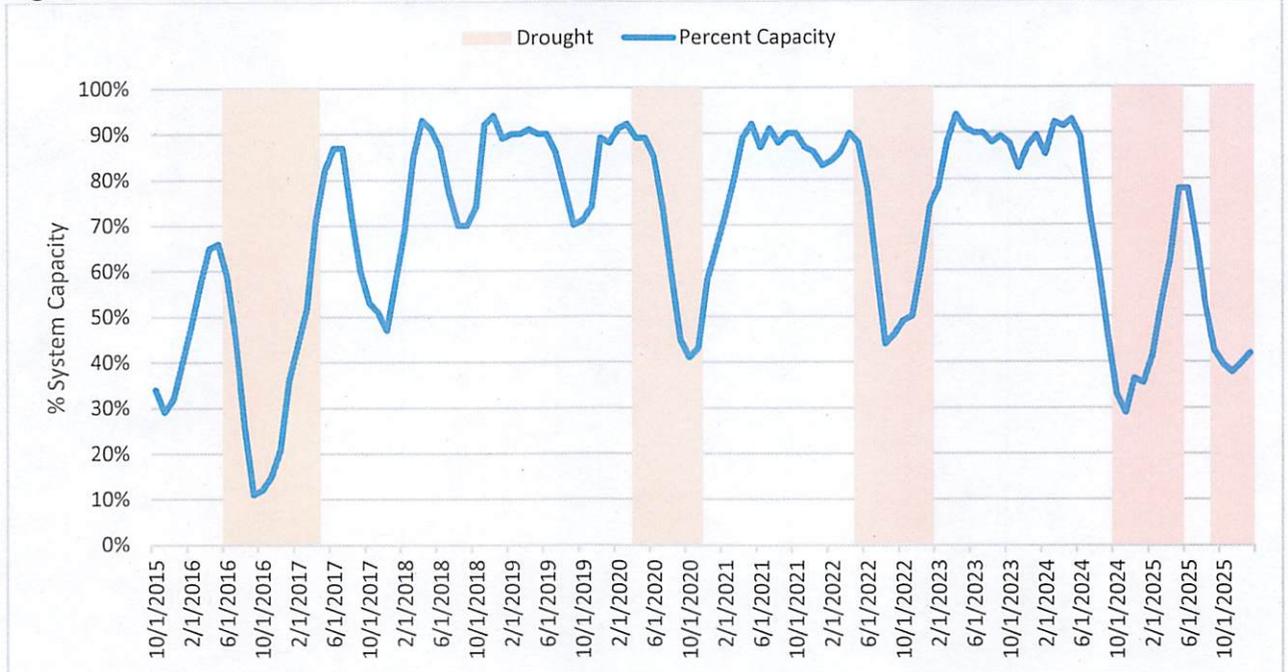


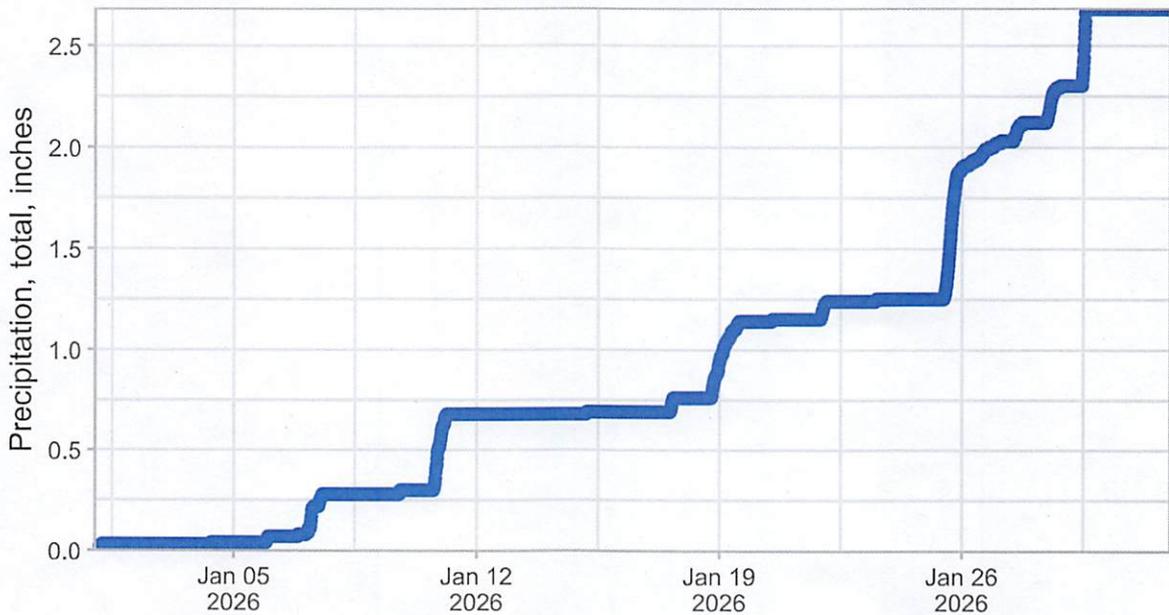
Figure 5. Percent Monthly Supply Capacity from October 2015 through January 2026



Precipitation

Figure 6: Precipitation measured at Lincoln Field Office, January 2026

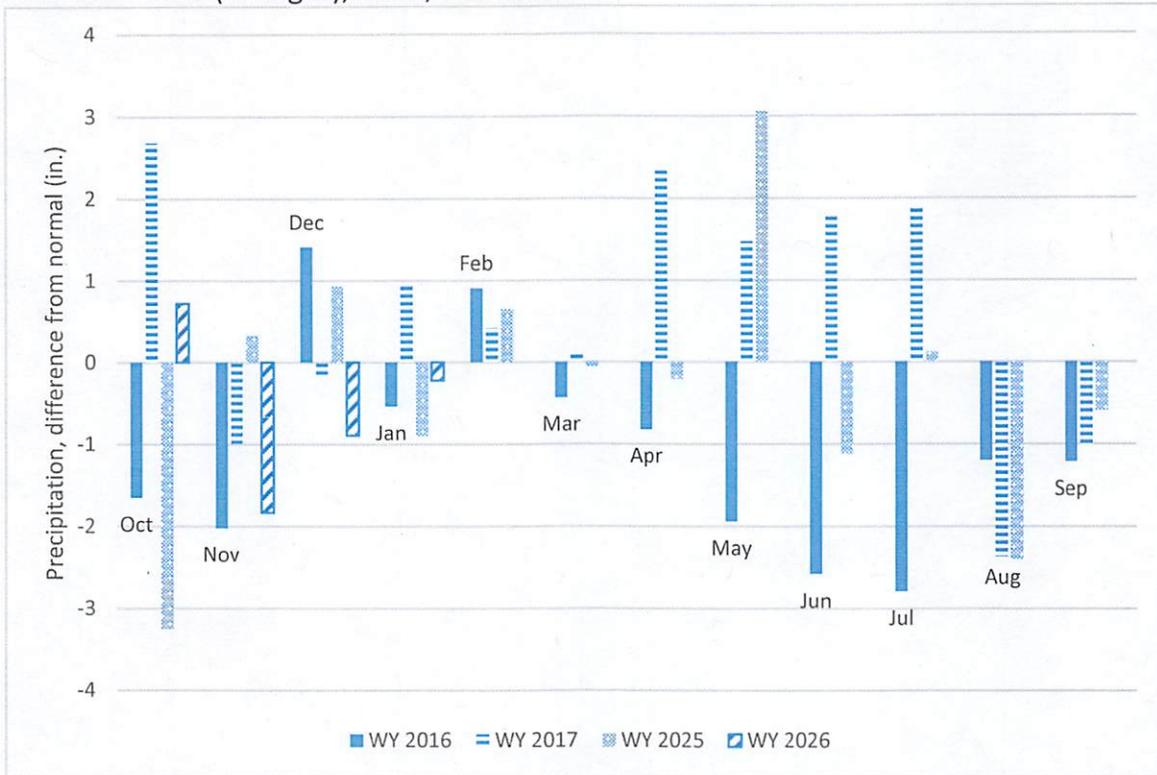
USGS 422518071162501 Cambridge Res., Met. Station, Near Lexington, MA



● Provisional data subject to revision.

C-7

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](#)

C. OPERATIONS – Water Operations, January 2026

PLANT OPERATIONS

	Flow	Comment
Production (MG)	331.89	
Monthly Average (MGD)	10.37	
Daily Min (MGD)	6.7 (1/27/2026)	Shutdown for SCADA project
Daily Max (MGD)	11.92 (1/29/2029)	

Water Quality/Laboratory

- There were 0 total coliform positives for January: 107 samples collected for compliance.
- PFAS - Compliance sample collected January 22nd for the 1st Quarter. PFAS 6 = 3.73 ng/L
 - Next compliance sample to be collected in Quarter 2 (April 2026)

C. OPERATIONS – Engineering and Program Development January 2026

CONSTRUCTION / WATER USE PERMITS

- **14 construction permits issued in January 2026**

PROJECTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES

- **Utility Design Reviews:**
Provided engineering feedback on utility design plans for the following addresses:
21 Acorn St., 1 Pine St., 13 Dover St., 110 – 112 Hampshire St., 387 Norfolk St., 12 Hubbard Park Rd., 182 Larch Rd., 162 Holyworthy St., 212 Hamilton St., 58 Cedar St., 243 Lexington Ave., 174 Hamilton St., 21 Notre Dame Ave., 61 A Gore St., 15 Forest St., 13 Kirkland Place, 378 – 380 Rindge Ave., 122 Berkshire St., 20 Sidney St., 1341 Massachusetts Ave., 27 Alewife Brook Parkway(aka 55 Murray Hill Road), 46 Trowbridge Rd., 82 Avon Hill Rd., 10 Kelly Rd., 65 Mt. Auburn St., 10 Fawcett St., 409 Memorial Dr., 311 – 313 Broadway, 55 south Normandy Ave., 88 Ellery St., 50 – 52 Chilton Rd., 203 Franklin St., 49 Sixth St., 30 Dudley St., 73 – 75 Kirkland St., 15 Fairmont St., 69 – 71 Chilton St., 53 Crescent St., 11 – 13 Dover St., 40 – 42 Pleasant St., 44 Pleasant St., 10 Cottage St., 108 Grozier Rd., 1200 Massachusetts Ave., 11 Mt. Auburn St., 7 Blanchard Rd., 15 – 17 Worcester St., 182 Larch Rd., 47 Wendell St., 38 Fifth St., 295 Harvard St., 22 – 24 Wendell St. 11 Dover St., 54 Banks St. & 322 Prospect St.
- **Private Development & Coordination with DPW:**
 - Harvard Square Kiosk/Jefferson Park Federal Parcel
 - Chapter 90 Contract 26
 - Inman St (Hampshire to Broadway)
 - Walden Square Apartments
 - Broadway Safety Project – Under Review by CWD
- **City Projects – Water Main (WM):**
 - Coordination with Eversource Gas for citywide utility replacement
 - Active WM projects:
 - Dana Street(95%complete)
 - Chetwynd Road (in-house)
 - Hillside Avenue (in-house)
 - Carlisle Street
 - Sciarappa 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.
- The two new interns have completed their orientation & are now working on different projects as listed below
 - Importing the as-builts received for new 12” water main work on River Street into the City GIS.
 - Providing water utility record requests for different parts of the city, these requests have been coming from outside contractors.
 - Scanning old, issued permits going back from 1997 into Megalodon which is Cambridge Water Department form of database

C. OPERATIONS - Business, January 2026

FY26 Billings			
Month	Billed Water Consumption	Month	Billed Water Consumption
July	381,061	January	338,478
August	838,272	February	0
September	307,560	March	0
October	919,450	April	0
November	327,009	May	0
December	250,021	June	0
		FY26 TOTAL	3,361,851
		FY25 TOTAL	3,147,627
			6.81%

Cross Connection Program Results	
January	
Total Tests	Fails
614	42

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

- March 10th, 2026: TBA/TBD