

WATER BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, December 9, 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/6ac8c9d9-9d9e-46a4-94c0-a6b55d51bb71@c06a8be7-8479-4d73-b351-93bc9ba8295c>

A. MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 12, 2025, MEETING

B. MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- PFAS
- Drought Status Update
- Presentation - Little Fresh Pond In-Lake Study Results (Hatch, K. Wagner)

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 November 2025
 - FY26 Consumption through November 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

- January 13th, 2026: TBA/TBD

CAMBRIDGE WATER BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

November 12th, 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 and Jim Burruss.

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

A: MINUTES OF OCTOBER MEETING

Ms. Roosevelt moved and Jim Burruss seconded the motion to approve November 12th, 2025, minutes as amended. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

PFAS Update: The 4th quarter samples came back with the combined PFAS six compounds at 4.45 parts per trillion. Our next carbon change out for filters is to start in January.

Drought status: The state has declared we are at a level 1 mild drought. Hobbs is 300 Million gallons over where we were last year.

Lead and Copper Rule (LCR): Director for Distribution and Engineering Rich Holly gave a presentation:

- There is a 10-year time frame for lead service line replacement.
- When we started 2194 of the city services were lead and 354 were unknown.
- As of date, 1881 are lead and 69 are unknown.
- We have replaced 197 in the last 11 months.
- We will be sending out letters within the next couple of weeks
- We have an accelerated Mass DEP goal of 2030 for full replacement.

Transmission and Distribution, Questions/Comments:

Q: Do we know anything about not requiring sewer separation?

A: Sewer separation is under DPW. CWD does coordinate with DPW to do water replacement while the street is open, this potential change does not affect CWD.

Transmission and Distribution, Questions/Comments (Cont):

Q: DPW Phase 1: Why are they removing and replacing existing hydrant connections?

A: This is being done to accommodate new floating bus stops, which are part of the DPW bike lane construction project on Mass Ave.

Watershed, Questions/Comments:

Q: We have a new ranger, Amanda Garms. Will they be trained on the master plan, rules and regulations, shared use policies, etc.

A: Yes, these will all be reviewed during the on-boarding process.

Q: How many rangers do we have now

A: We have two rangers with schedules that allow for 7 day a week coverage.

Q: How did the inspection of the plant health go at route 2 Algonquin restoration area?

A: We identified and agreed on replacements that will happen in the Spring. The fences are doing their job and all the plants look healthy.

Water Operations, Questions/Comments:

Q: Is the daily Max of 16.25 normal and how often does that occur?

A: This is the max for the month, so it's only once a month.

Engineering and Program Development, Questions/Comments:

Q: Is 221 Mount Auburn Street building demolition under review?

A: It is. CWD issued a permit to cut and cap the water service line. It is anticipated that work will begin within a few weeks and the anticipated project duration is two years.

A. ACTION ITEMS:

a. None

B. NEW BUSINESS:

a. None

E. NEXT MEETING: DATES/AGENDA:

December 9th, 2025. TBA/TBD

Ms. Burress 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
- Presentation - Little Fresh Pond In-Lake Study Results (Hatch, K. Wagner)

C. OPERATIONS – Transmission and Distribution, November 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:
- **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** – Complete as of 11/26/25
 - **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.
 - **Mass @ Wendell & Shepard** – New installation of water main and crossings to begin mid-November. Permitted to begin on 11/19/25
- **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 begun, and the final meeting with DOT is pending.

C. OPERATIONS – Transmission and Distribution, November 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.
(Completed as of 11/26/25)

November 2025 Distribution Crew Work

• Work Orders Completed	6
• Leaks Repaired	4
• Hydrants Repaired/Replaced	5
• Valves Repaired/Replaced	1
• Gate boxes Reset/Replaced	1
• City Parks Devices removed	127
• Valves Exercised	388
• Inspections Performed	254
• Dig Safe utility mark-outs	451

C. OPERATIONS – Watershed, November 2025

- I. *Fresh Pond Reservation:*
 1. *Landscape Maintenance* – Moving to winter schedule; Installing plow stakes, signage.
 2. *Little Fresh Pond* – Ken Wagner presented his in-pond study findings and recommendations to the Fresh Pond Reservation Master Plan Advisory Board 11/20. The Board supported annual alum treatments for water column nutrient inactivation as an initial intervention aimed at reducing aquatic weeds and cyanobacteria blooms
- 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:* Level 1 (Mild Drought) continues. Still partially reliant on Hobbs Brook Reservoir.
- III. *Reporting and Website:*
 1. *Site Monitoring Program Tool:* New inspections forms completed.
- 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:* None
- VI. *Communications:* Discussed projects with Town Officials and project proponents regarding 12 Highland St (septic), and 44 Page Rd (Hobbs Brook riverfront area) Weston, and reviewed the Lincoln Road, Lincoln water main in-stream work draft Order of Conditions.
- VII. *Site Visits:* Wagon Wheel Nursery encroachments, Lexington - 11/6/25
- VIII. *Hazmat:* No incidents



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
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December 1, 2025

NOVEMBER 2025 WATER SUPPLY SUMMARY REPORT

Highlights

- The November percent water supply system capacity of 38% (based on 2.9BG usable capacity) is:
 - 1 percentage points lower than October 2025 (39%);
 - 9 percentage points higher than November 2024 (29%); and
 - 24 percentage points higher than November 2016 (15%, the sixth month of the 2016-2017 drought)
- Precipitation at the Lincoln Field Office in November 2025 totaled 1.89 inches, 1.83 inches below 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.

C-41

Storage

Figure 1: Hobbs Brook Reservoir Storage, November 2025

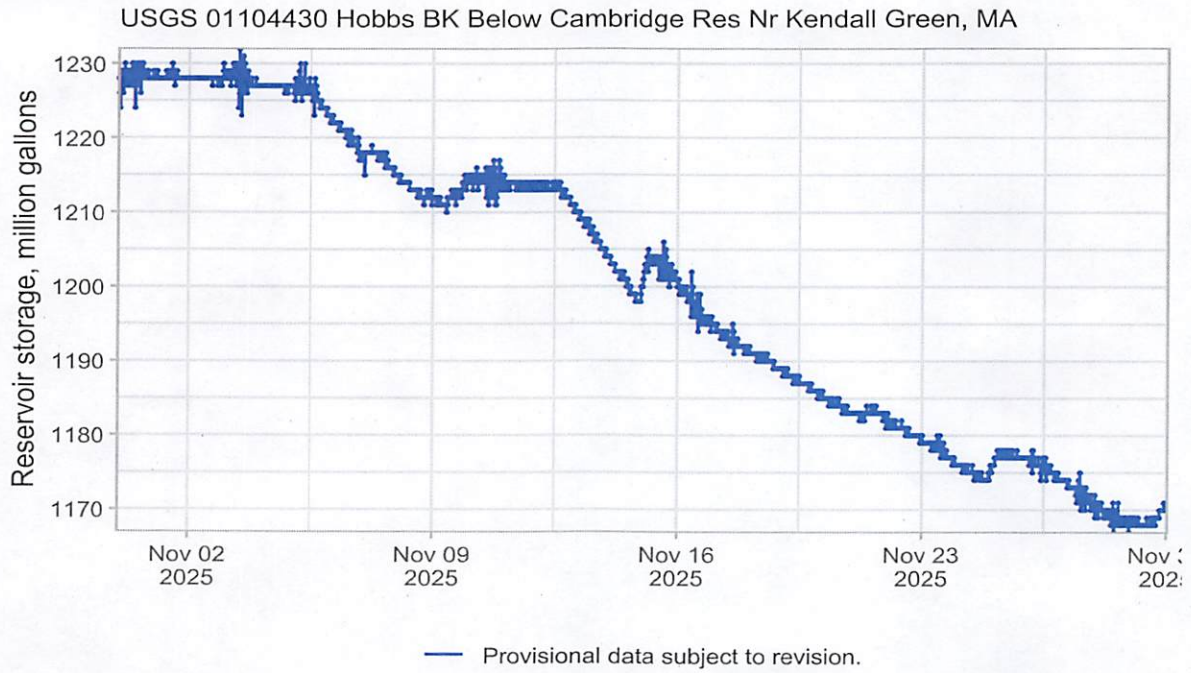


Figure 2: Stony Brook Reservoir Storage, November 2025

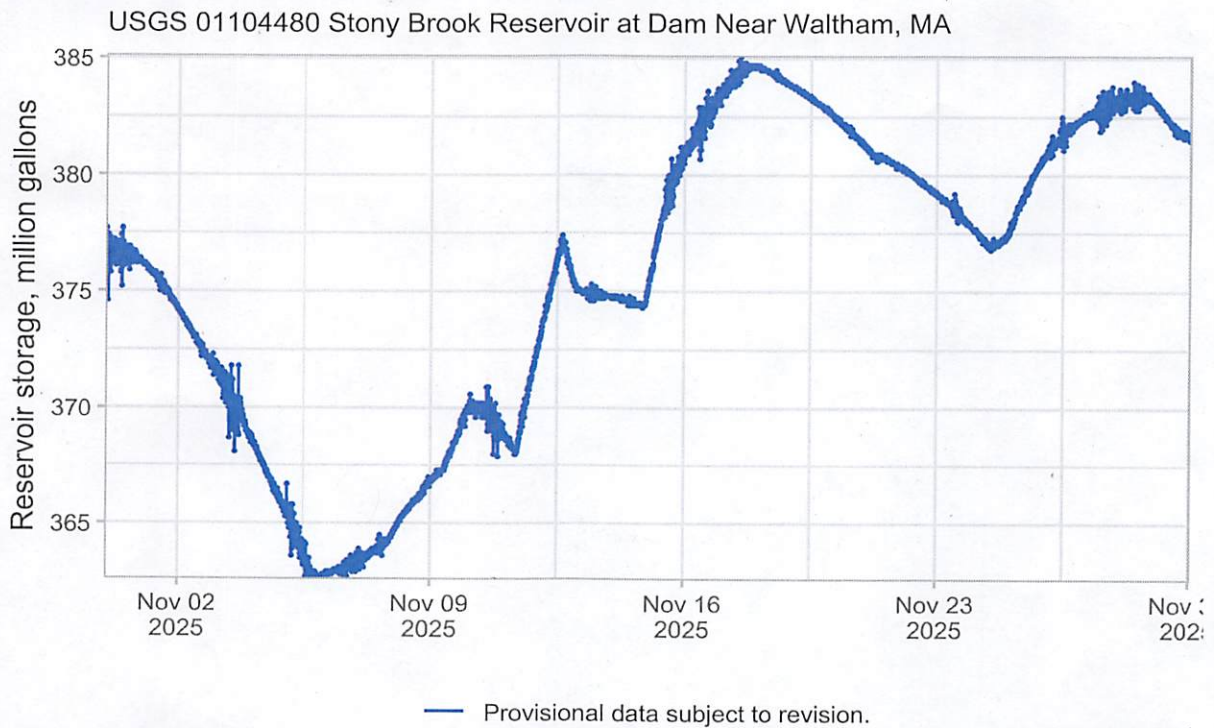


Figure 3: Fresh Pond Reservoir Storage, November 2025

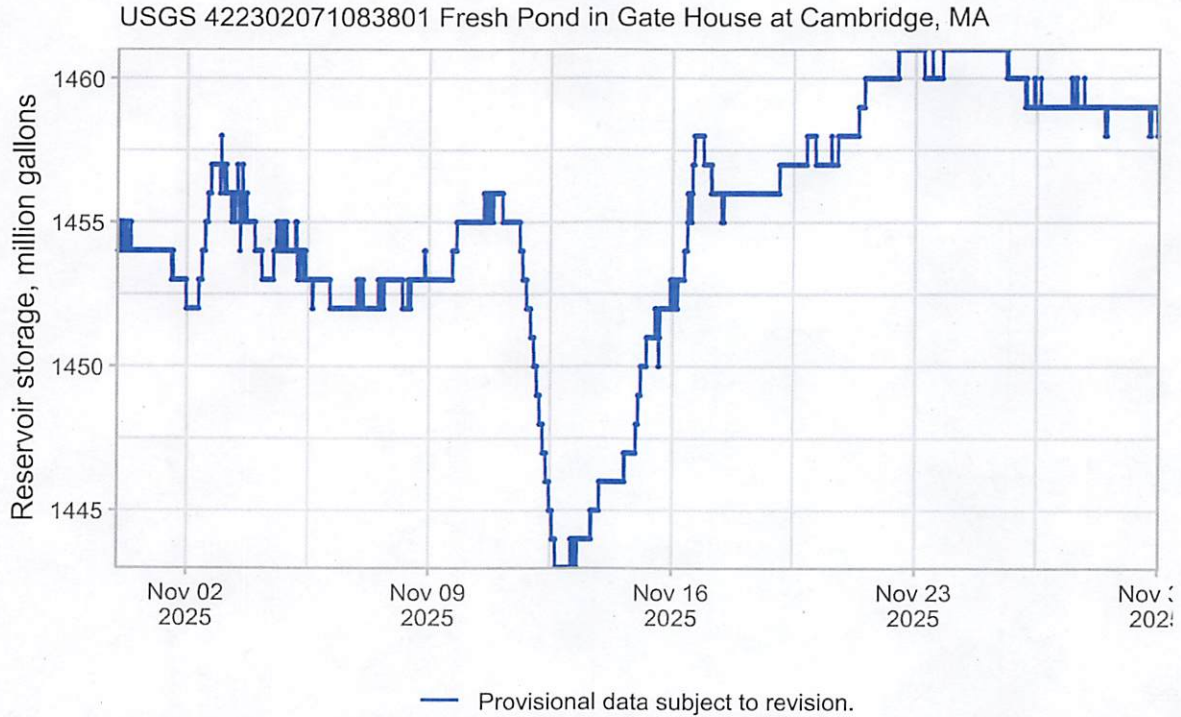
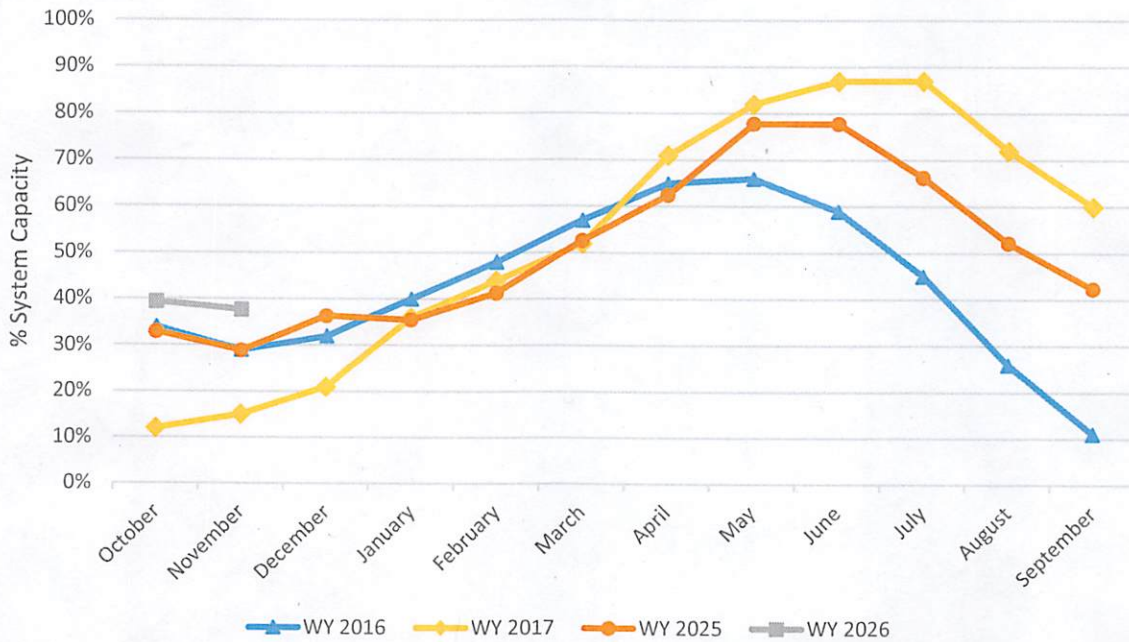
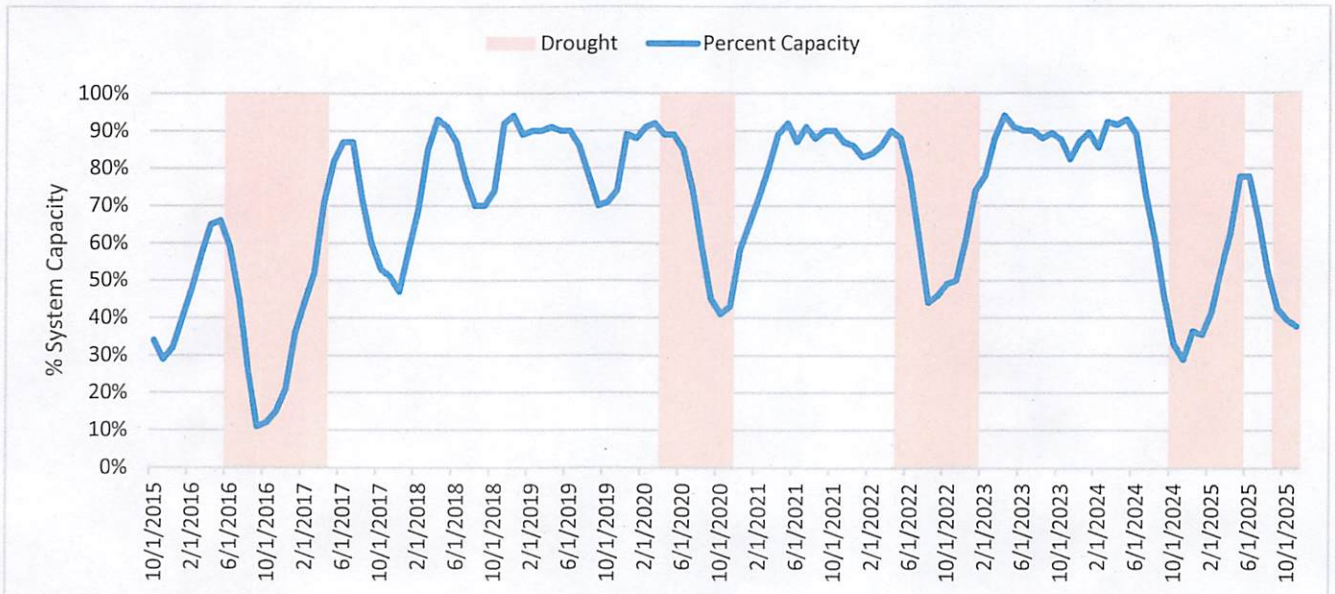


Figure 4: CWD % System Capacity, Water Years 2016 and 2017 (drought), 2025, and 2026



C-6

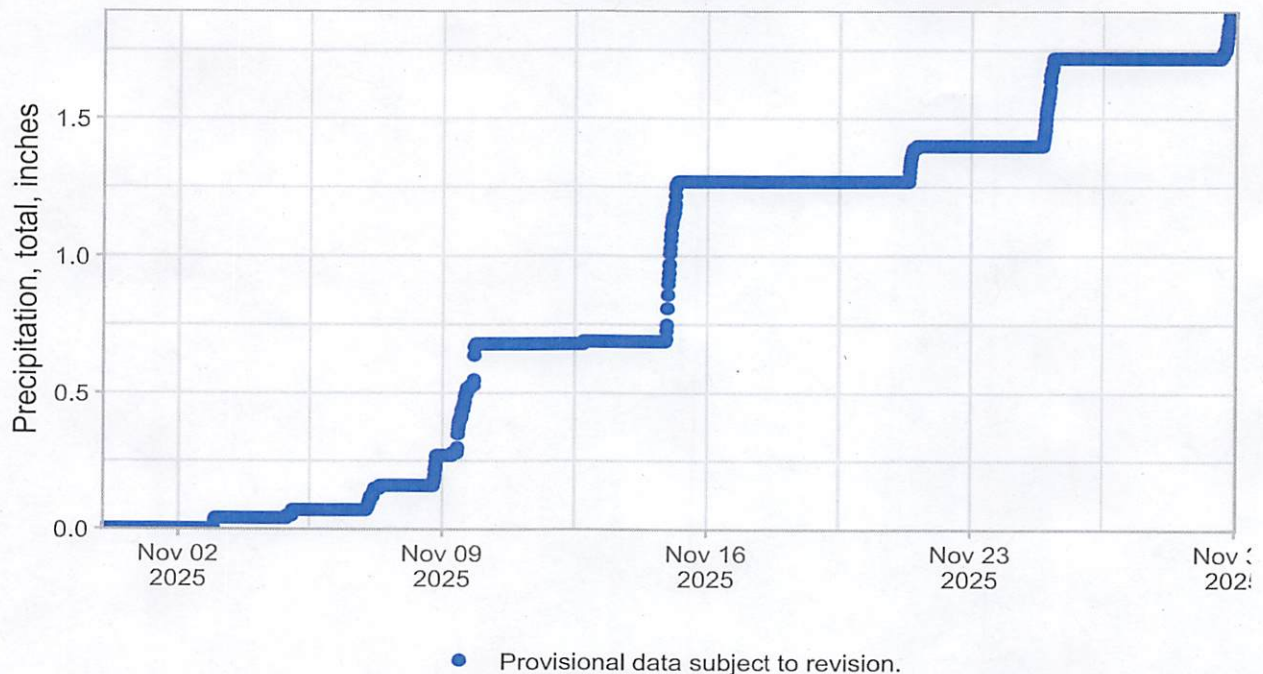
Figure 5. Percent Monthly Supply Capacity from November 2015 through November 2025



Precipitation

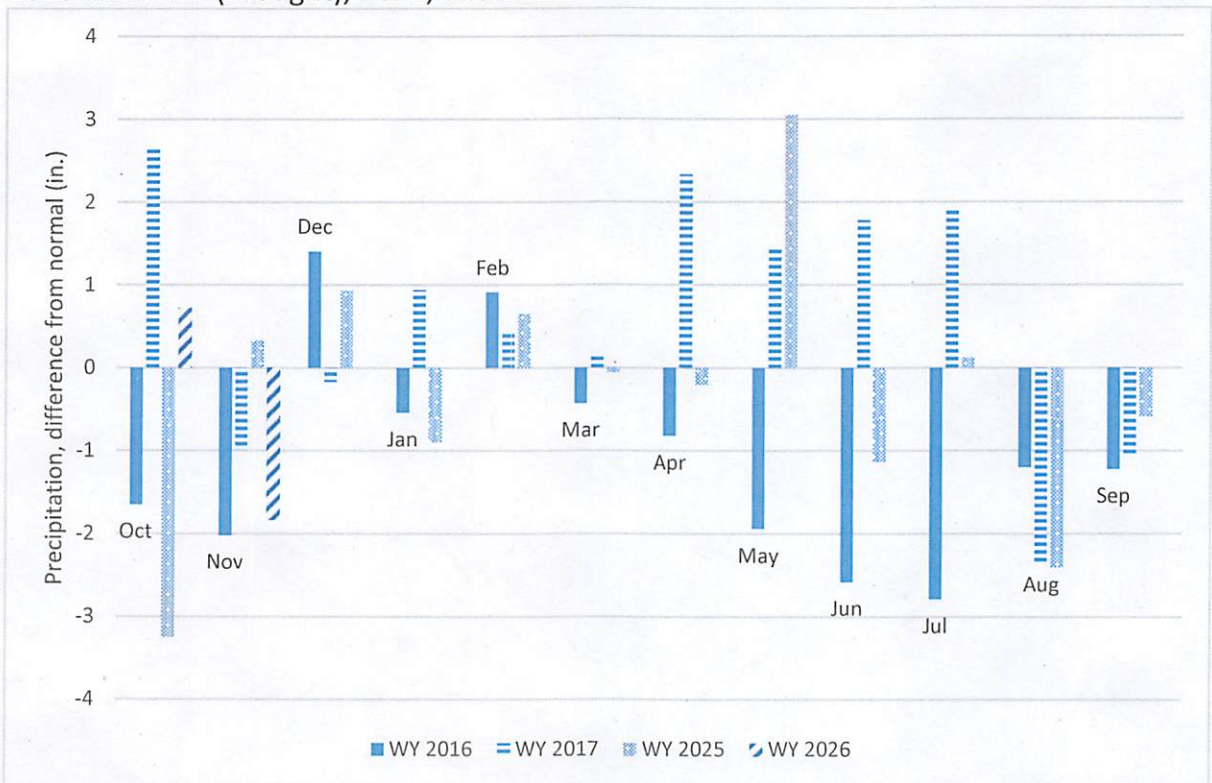
Figure 6: Precipitation measured at Lincoln Field Office, November 2025

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



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-8

C. OPERATIONS – Water Operations, November 2025

Plant Operations

	Flow	Comment
Production (MG)	332.77	
Monthly Average (MGD)	11.09	
Daily Min (MGD)	7.64	11/3 (Plant shut down for SCADA project-LCP4)
Daily Max (MGD)	11.77	11/4 (Plant ONLINE)

Water Quality/Laboratory

- There were 0 total coliform positives for November.
November: 108 samples collected for compliance
- PFAS
 - Next compliance sample to be collected in Quarter 1 (January 2026)

C. OPERATIONS – Engineering and Program Development, November 2025

CONSTRUCTION / WATER USE PERMITS

- 19 construction permits issued in November 2025

PROJECTS & OTHER ACTIVITIES

- **Utility Design Reviews:**

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

252 Lexington Ave., 12 – 30 Palmer St., 168 – 170 Webster Ave., 19 Kelly Rd., 9 Wyman Rd., 4 Griswold St., 221 Mt. Auburn St., 1 Myrtle Ave. (aka 36 Magnolia Ave.), 35 Cherry St., 73 – 75 Kirkland St., 139 Banks St., 11 Kassul Park, 78 Bolton St., 55 Murray Hill, 19 – 21 Acorn St., 90 Lexington Ave., 98 Clay St., 10 Fawcett St., 203 Franklin St., 11 Ivy St., 119 Pacific St., 78 Ellery St., 12 Hubbard Ave., 30 Fresh Pond Pkwy., 29 Mellen St., 27 Mellen St., 51 Porter St., 545 Franklin St., 37 Creighton St., 69 Hammond St., 322 Prospect St., 624 Green St., 585 Third St. (aka 585 Kendall), 39 Holyoke St., 48 – 50 Park Ave., 14 Antrim St., 343 Allston St., 11 – 13 Mellen St., 40 Reservoir St., 30 Dudley St., 74 Kirkland St., 309 Broadway, 78 Bolton St., 43 – 45 Cameron Ave., 350 Water St., 221 Morgan Ave., 360 Jackson St., 14 White Pl. Somerville line, 1200 Massachusetts Ave., 101 Dunster St. (aka 80 JFK St.), 102 – 104 Sciarappa St., 68 Francis St., 10 Hillard Place, 18 – 24 Thingvalla Ave., 26 Brattle St., 181 Grove St., 28 – 30 Wendell St., 13 – 15 Hunting St., 550 Memorial Dr., 460 Massachusetts Ave., 2161 Massachusetts Ave., 37 Tremont St., 270 Sidney St., 86 – 88 Holworthy St., 44 Russell St., 491 Broadway, 29 Sargent St., 25 – 523 Harvard Coop, 30 Mooney St. & 11 – 13 Dover Street.

- **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
 - Chetwynd Road (in-house)
 - Hillside Avenue (in-house)
 - Carlisle Street

C. OPERATIONS – Engineering and Program Development, November 2025

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 the end of June for 2026(37 resumes)

COMPLETED ITEMS

- **Hired two Engineering Interns from Northeastern University (Meghana Tigulla & Kartikey Tilavat) starting January 2026.**
- **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, November 2025

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	919,450	April	0
November	327,009	May	0
December	0	June	0
		FY26 TOTAL	2,773,352
		FY25 TOTAL	2,554,055
			8.59%

Cross Connection Program Results	
November	
Total Tests	Fails
335	11

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

- January 13th, 2026: TBA/TBD