

EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

DATE: October 8, 2026

MEMO TO: Board of Directors

THROUGH: Clifford C. Chan, General Manager 

FROM: Roberto C. Cortez, Manager of Water Operations 

SUBJECT: Follow-up to Water Quality Program Semi-Annual Report

SUMMARY

At the request of the Planning Committee at its September 8, 2026 meeting, this memorandum provides additional information about the District's water quality goals (WQGs) related to disinfection byproducts (DBPs).

DISCUSSION

The Committee requested a clearer plot of historical trihalomethanes (THMs) concentrations. Figure 1 includes the maximum locational running annual average (LRAA) for THMs for all 16 monitoring locations since 2016. Compliance with the regulations is determined by the maximum LRAA each quarter. Overall, THM levels are stable.

THMs, like all DBPs, are a result of the disinfection process and form when chlorine is added to water containing certain organic compounds naturally present in the water. Water systems must balance two competing objectives: (1) adequately disinfect water to protect customers from the acute risk of microbial disease, and (2) control the formation of DBPs to reduce the potential long-term risk of chronic health effects. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) considered these risk tradeoffs when establishing maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) and disinfection requirements, creating a regulatory framework intended to balance these two objectives.

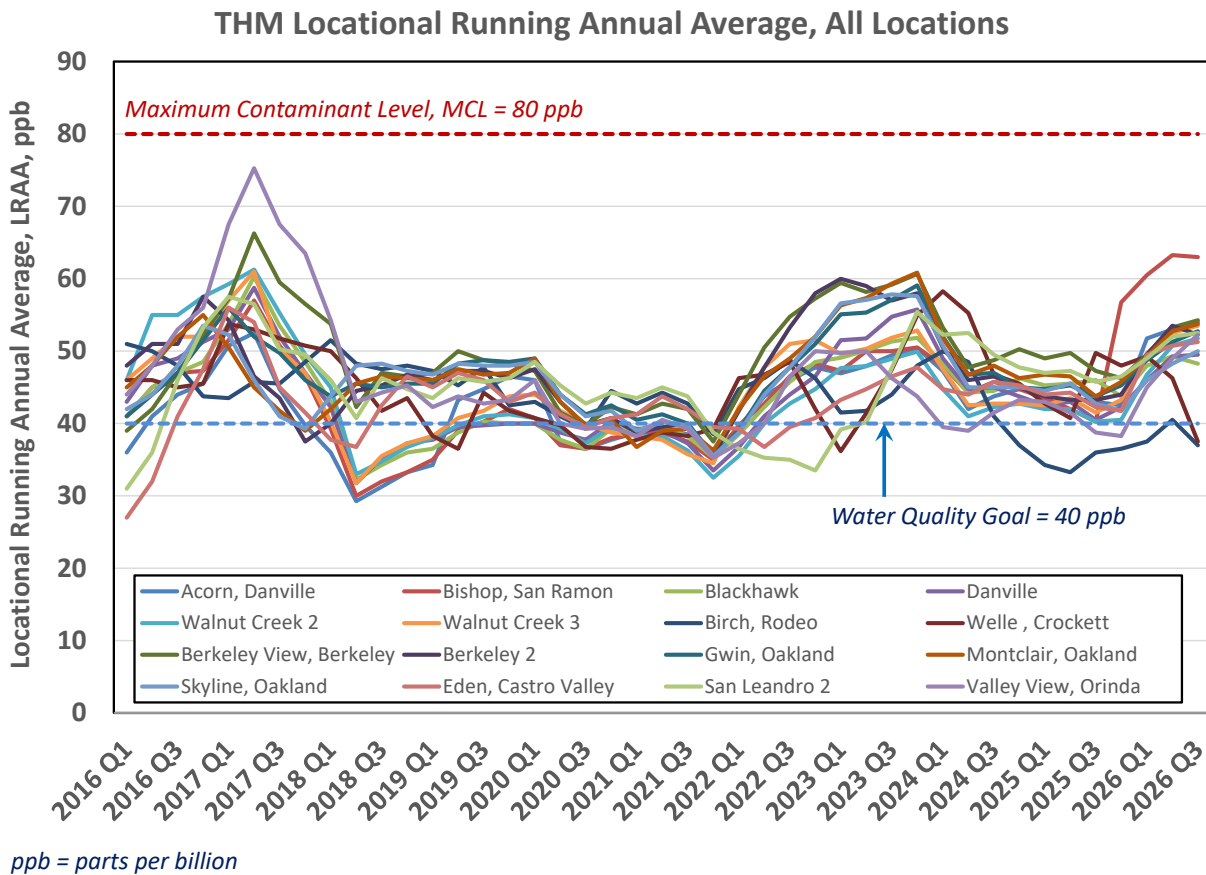


Figure 1. Quarterly THM results, 2016 through 2026

The committee also requested a comparison of the District's DBP levels with other large water systems in the United States. Figure 2 includes the maximum THM LRAA from 21 large water systems. The data is for calendar year 2025 and was published in each water systems' annual Consumer Confidence Report.

THM formation varies among water providers based on source water quality, treatment processes, disinfectant practices, water temperature, and distribution system characteristics. The District's THM concentrations remain below the MCL.

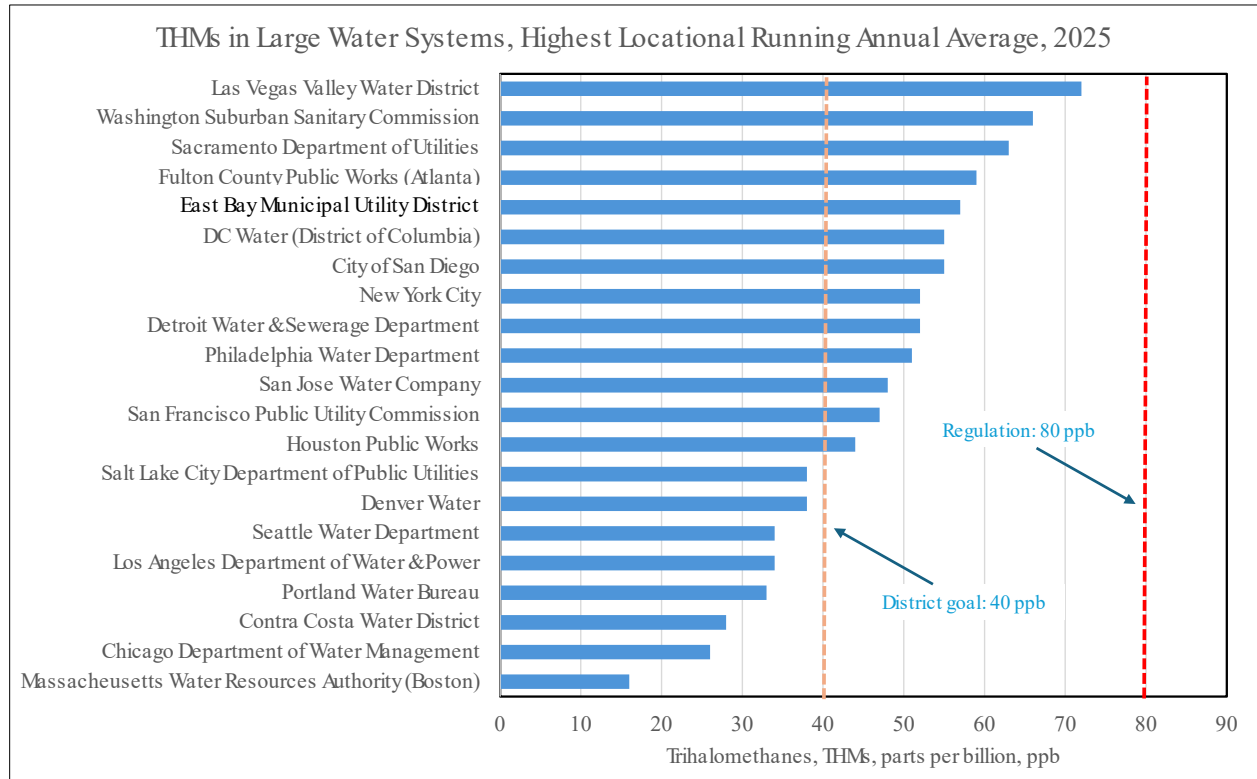


Figure 2. THM Compliance Results, Calendar Year 2025, 21 Large Water Systems

NEXT STEPS

The District will continue to employ all available operational tools to minimize DBP formation. The new disinfection facilities under construction at the Orinda Water Treatment Plant are expected to further reduce chlorinated DBP levels.

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