

# WATER DEMAND MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

2025 UPDATE  
CITY OF VANCOUVER

RTS 17801 - April 16, 2025



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Water in its various forms plays a central role in the physical, cultural, spiritual, social, environmental, and economic well-being of Indigenous Peoples. Locally, water shapes a major role in the teachings, lives and cultural practices of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əy<sup>əm</sup> (Musqueam Indian Band), S<sub>k</sub>wx<sub>w</sub>ú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation), and səlilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

We acknowledge with respect and gratitude that this report was produced on the unceded traditional territories of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əy<sup>əm</sup>, S<sub>k</sub>wx<sub>w</sub>ú7mesh Úxwumixw, and səlilwətaʔ who have existed and stewarded these lands and water resources since time immemorial.

We acknowledge that our drinking water is sourced from the k<sup>w</sup>ik<sup>w</sup>əʔəm (Kwikwetlem) traditional and ancestral lands, including those parts that were historically shared with the sqəciyaʔt təməx<sup>w</sup> (Katzie), and other Coast Salish Peoples.

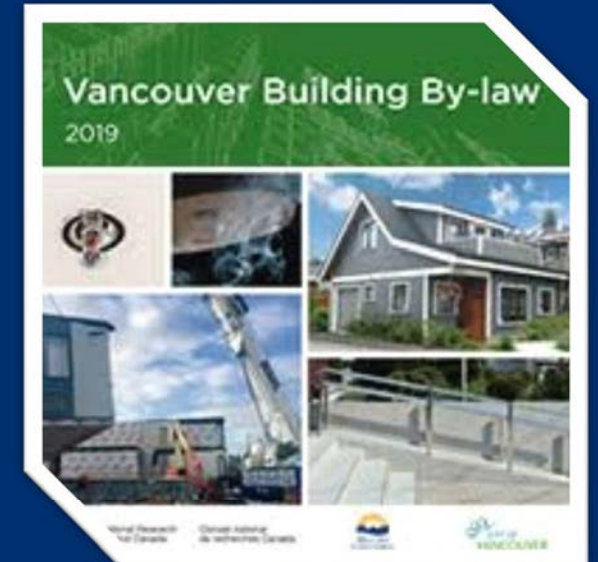
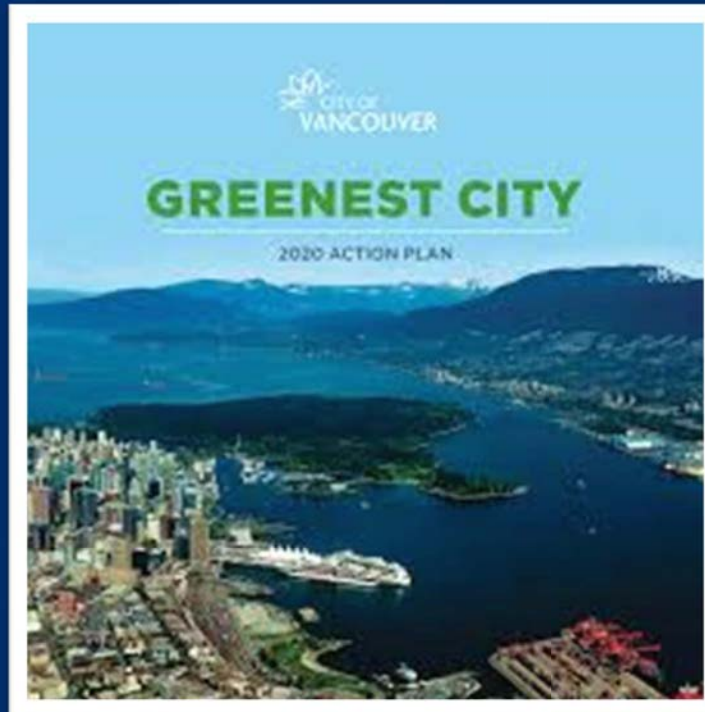
We are grateful to live and work on these lands and acknowledge the responsibility that we must ensure the land and water is cared for respectfully to ensure prosperity for future generations.



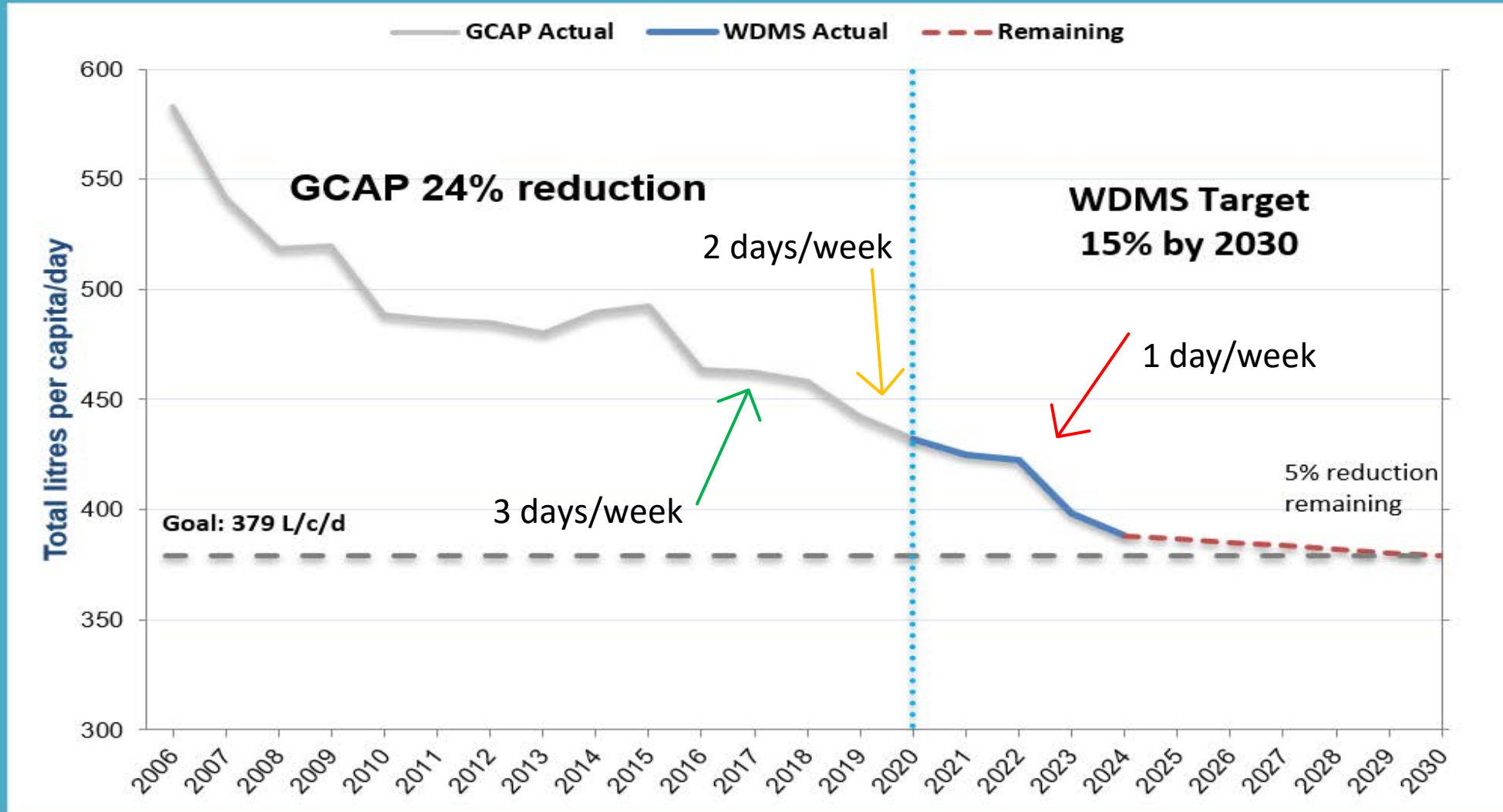
# AGENDA

- Policy & Programs
- Conservation In Action
- Water Demand Management Strategy (WDMS)
- Existing and Future Investment

# Policy & Programs



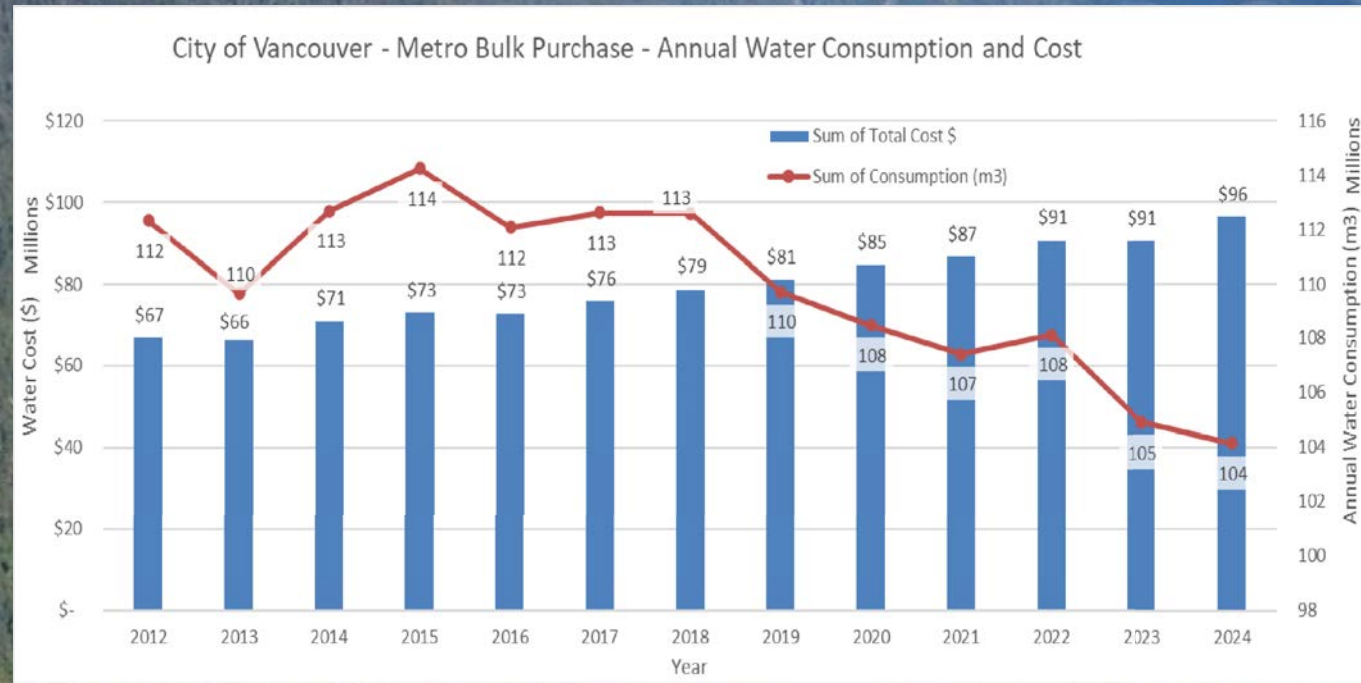
# Conservation in Action



**Climate Change**

# Increasing Pressures

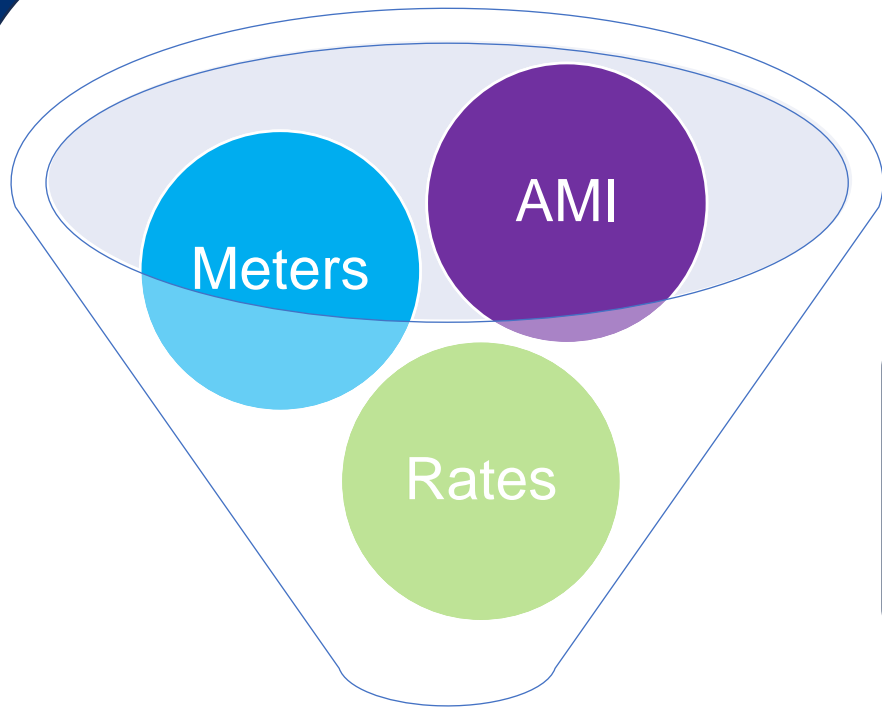
**Water Rates**



**Population Growth**

**Densification**

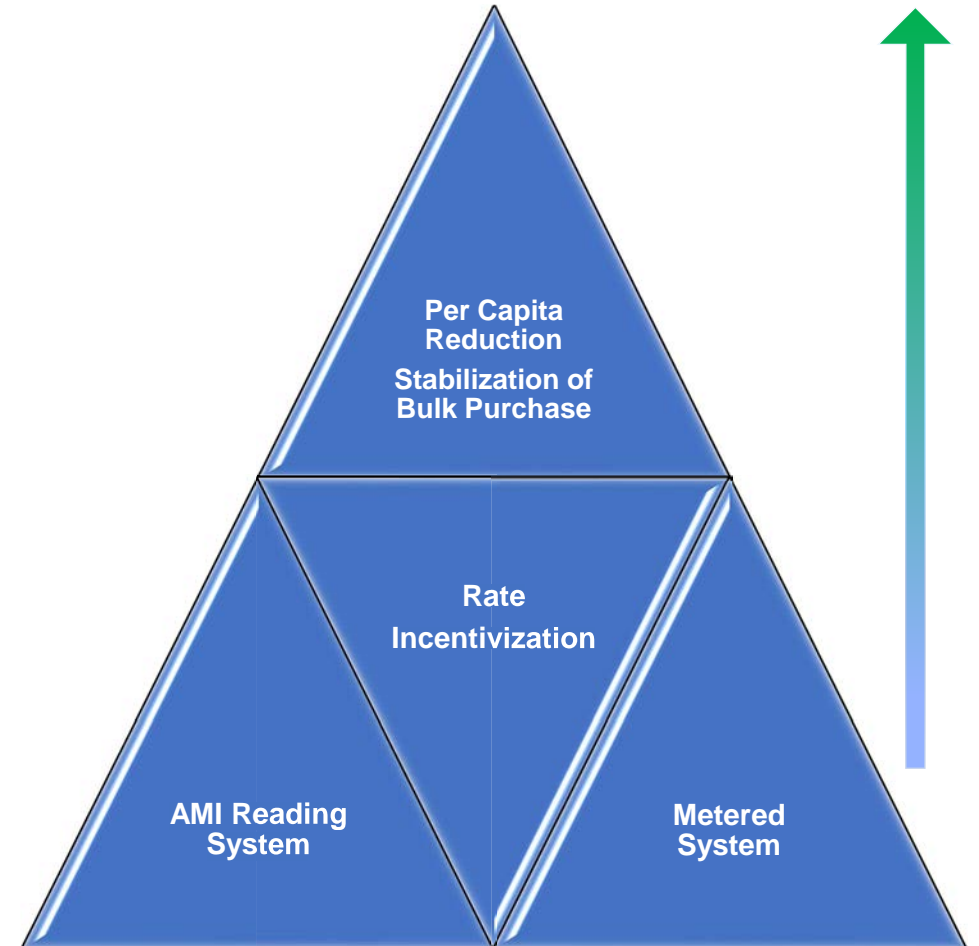
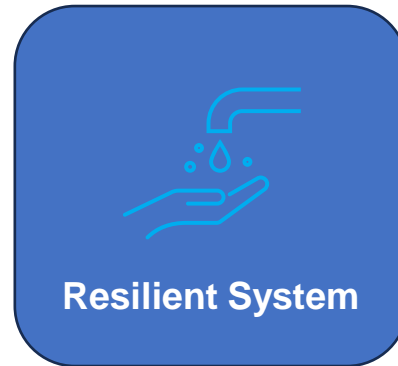
# Water Demand Management Strategy



**Demand Management**



**Drinking Water Offsets**



# WDMS Components & Benefits

## EDUCATION, OUTREACH, ENFORCEMENT

- Source water education.
- Effects of climate change & growth on water use.
- Conservation outreach.
- Seasonal water restrictions & enforcement.

## AMI

- Efficient data collection & leak detection.
- Improved customer service & notification with 'real time' data.
- Decreased GHGs.

## METERS

- Identify leaks & high consumption.
- Improve billing equity (user pay).
- Data-driven decision making.
- Focused water conservation.

## RATES

- Customer equity.
- Cost recovered water model.
- Incentivized water conservation.
- Improves system resiliency & sustainability.





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**TARGET: 15 per cent per capita reduction from 2019 levels by 2030.**

**Action #1: Implement AMI by end of 2026 to replace AMR meter reading system.**

**Action #2: Accelerate water meter installation to achieve universal metering by 2040.**

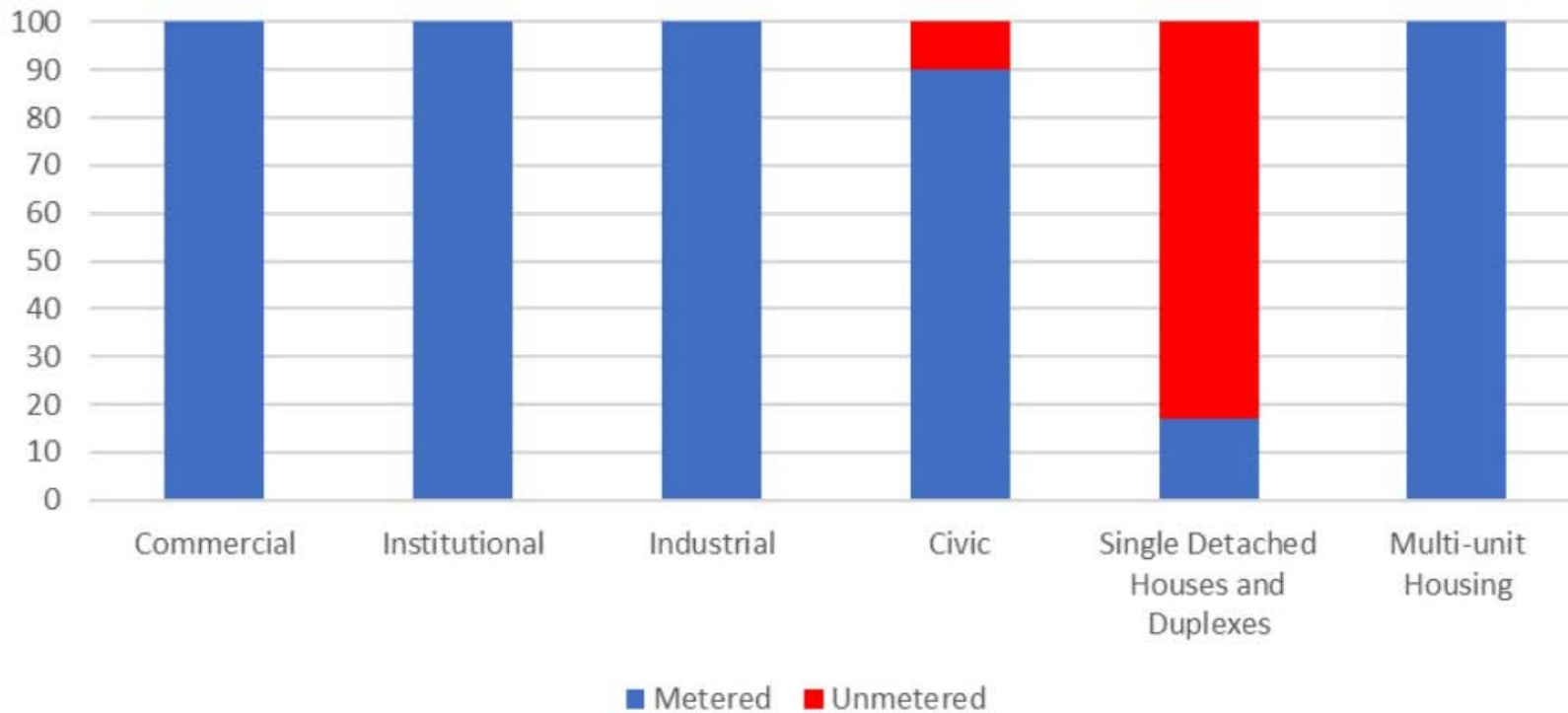
**Action #3: Water rate structure evaluation and scenario analysis to achieve equitable cost recovery and to incentivize conservation.**

**Action #4: Advance WDMS components to support CCAS Drought Hazard actions.**

**Action #5: Continue and expand water conservation programs that align with local initiatives and regional targets, while leading by example with civic water use.**

# Vancouver's Water Utility – Current State

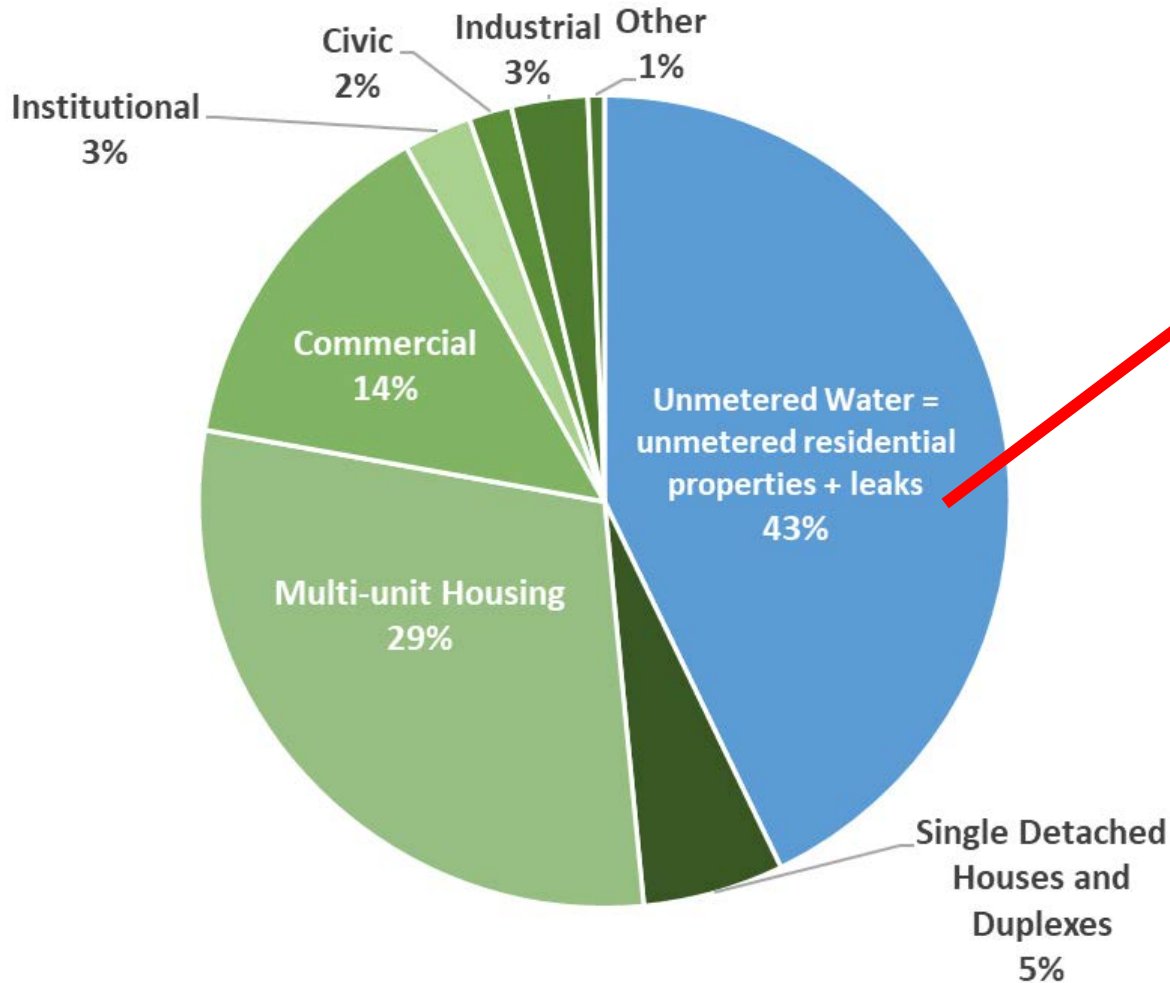
Percent Metered by Sector (2025)



- \$100 million annual bulk water purchase (2024).
- Metered customers: base meter charge + volume rate.
- Flat-rate customers: set rate based on cumulative usage (includes leaks).
- Approx. 1,000 meters installed annually with development.

# Water Consumption by Sector

Vancouver Annual Consumption by Sector (2024)



Projected 20% leak rate.  
Equivalent \$20M (2024).

## AMI Metered System



Leak detection & repair.



Customer pays for use.  
Ability to reduce bills.



Metered homes use 20%  
less water on average.



Water saved available to  
new housing: 5:1 ratio.

# Key Takeaways

- ❑ **Reduce per capita water use a further 15% from 2019 levels by 2030.**
- ❑ **Universally AMI Metered water utility by 2040.**



# WDMS Investments

		Investment Area	
	Capital Funding Approved/Required	AMI	Accelerated Metering
Capital Plan 2019-2022	\$8,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000
Capital Plan 2023-2026	\$23,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$20,000,000
Capital Plan 2027-2030	<b>\$47,100,000</b>		<b>\$47,100,000</b>
Capital Funding 2031-2040	<b>\$140,500,000</b>		<b>\$140,500,000</b>
<b>Total to fund WDMS</b>	<b>\$218,600,000</b>	<b>\$7,000,000</b>	<b>\$211,600,000</b>



Thank You