DATE: 07/09/2025 TIME: 9:45 a.m. LOCATION: Executive Boardroom

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Janet Howard, Chair | Tamika Duplessis, Ph.D. | Joseph Peychaud |

| Maurice Sholas, M.D., Ph.D. | Chadrick Kennedy |



### **Operations Committee Meeting Agenda**

### **PUBLIC MEETING**

All meetings are open to the public, and we encourage your attendance.

Those interested can join in person or virtually.

**Join In-Person:** Executive Board Room, Second Floor 625 St. Joseph St., New Orleans, LA 70165

Join Virtually: <a href="https://www.swbno.org/BoardMeetings">https://www.swbno.org/BoardMeetings</a>

E-Public comments will be accepted via <a href="https://www.swbno.org/BoardMeetings">https://www.swbno.org/BoardMeetings</a>.

All e-public comments must be received at least 2 hours prior to the meeting. Comments will be read verbatim into the record.

### I. Roll Call

### II. Action Item

A. Resolution (R-120-2025) Declare August 29<sup>th</sup> Holiday (Hurricane Katrina Remembrance)

### III. Presentation Items

- A. Systems Modernization Update (Financial, Human Resources, Billing Software, and Asset Management Darrell Eilts, Chief Information Officer, and Cathy Smith, IT Director
- **B.** Smart Metering Update: Changing the Way We Do Business Rebecca Johnsey, Deputy General Superintendent

### IV. Public Comment

### V. Adjournment

### **HOLIDAY CALENDAR ADDITION - 2025**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans that the Sewerage and Water Board does hereby adopt the following change (addition) to the Holiday calendar for the year 2025, as set forth below:

Hurricane Katrina Remembrance: Friday, August 29, 2025, Normal Holiday

I, M. Ron Spooner, P.E. Interim Executive Director of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at the Regular Monthly Meeting of said Board duly called and held, according to law, on

July 16, 2025

M. Ron Spooner P.E.
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SEWERAGE AND WATER BOARD

#### **MOTION**

#### NO. M-25-330

CITY HALL: June 12, 2025

### BY: COUNCILMEMBERS MORENO, MORRELL, HARRIS, KING, GREEN AND THOMAS

A MOTION recognizing the solemn 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, one of the worst man-made disasters in our nation's history that caused inconceivable devastation and immense hardship and heartbreak here in New Orleans and throughout the Gulf Coast region. Twenty years later, we continue to honor the memory of those who lost their lives, provide comfort and strength to the families of the victims, and ensure we never forget the impacts and legacy of this tragedy. The Council hereby declares a Day of Remembrance to be observed on August 29, 2025, to be added to the City government holiday schedule.

WHEREAS, on August 23, 2005, a tropical depression formed southeast of the Bahamas and became Tropical Storm Katrina on August 24, 2005, becoming the 11<sup>th</sup> tropical storm of the season and the third strongest hurricane to hit the United States in its history at the time; and

WHEREAS, by the evening of August 25, when Katrina made landfall north of the Broward-Miami-Dade county line, it had intensified to a Category 1 hurricane designation, but after passing over Florida, the storm again weakened and was reclassified as a tropical storm; as it moved over the Gulf of Mexico, the storm increased in strength and on August 28, the storm was upgraded to a Category 5 hurricane, with maximum sustained wind speeds ultimately reaching 175 miles per hour; and

WHEREAS, on the morning of August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall southeast of New Orleans in Buras, Louisiana, destroying the coastline with estimated storm surges of 15 to 19 feet from New Orleans East to St. Bernard and Plaquemines parishes; though downgraded to a Category 3, the storm's relatively slow forward movement covered the region with significant rainfall; and

WHEREAS, in the early morning hours on August 29, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers received a report that water had broken through the concrete flood wall between the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal and the city, with the Industrial Canal later breaching and flooding the Lower Ninth Ward; in 2006, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, responsible for the design of the levee

system in New Orleans, acknowledged that outdated and faulty engineering practices used to build the levees led to a majority of the flooding that occurred due to Katrina; and

WHEREAS, by late afternoon, the breaching of the London Avenue Canal levees had led to 80% of New Orleans neighborhoods to be inundated with rising floodwaters, reaching upwards of 15 feet in depth; and

WHEREAS, roughly 100,000 people were tragically trapped in the city when the storm hit – due in large part to late evacuation notices and lack of transportation – with many taking refuge in the New Orleans Superdome and the Ernest J. Morial Convention Center; and

WHEREAS, this man-made disaster resulted in the deaths of 1,833 people regionally and left millions homeless in New Orleans and along the Gulf Coast of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama; according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Katrina is the costliest U.S. hurricane on record, inflicting upwards of \$160 billion in total damages; and

WHEREAS, Hurricane Katrina had an overwhelming impact on the city of New Orleans and our people; the mass exodus from New Orleans and the Gulf Coast during and after Katrina represented one of the largest and most sudden relocations of people in U.S. history with an estimated 1.2 million Louisianans being displaced for months or even years, and thousands never returning to their homes; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the tragic loss of life and abundant displacement, the storm caused significant damage to businesses, infrastructure, and housing and left behind standing water, oil pollution, sewage, and other environmental hazards; and

WHEREAS, the storm further exposed major gaps in the U.S. emergency management response and highlighted the importance of infrastructure resilience with storm impacts continuing to be felt in New Orleans as ongoing efforts to rebuild and recover continue even twenty years later; and

WHEREAS, the storm serves as a stark and chilling reminder of the destructive power of extreme weather events and the importance of disaster preparedness; nevertheless, our city remains united in compassion for the victims and in resolve to overcome the tremendous impacts through perseverance and thoughtful action to address systemic failures; and

WHEREAS, the City Council announced the City Government's 2025 Holiday schedule in Motion No. M-24-527 and the motion was approved at the September 19, 2024 Council meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Council desires to amend this schedule to include a Day of Remembrance acknowledging the devastating impacts and loss of life resulting from Hurricane Katrina to be recognized on August 29, 2025, without adverse impact on the City budget or ability to provide services to the public; NOW THEREFORE

BE IT MOVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS, That the Holiday schedule for City Government for the year 2025 is hereby amended to include the following additional holiday:

HOLIDAYS

#### DATE OF OBSERVANCE

DAY

Hurricane Katrina Remembrance

August 29, 2025

Friday

THE FOREGOING MOTION WAS READ IN FULL, THE ROLL WAS CALLED ON THE ADOPTION THEREOF, AND RESULTED AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS:

Green, Harris, King, Moreno, Morrell, Thomas - 6

NAYS:

0

ABSENT:

Giarrusso - 1

AND THE MOTION WAS ADOPTED.

THE FOREGOING IS CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY

ASSISTANT CLERK OF COUNCIL

G:\DoCS\JOYCELYN\COUNCIL\MOTIONS-RESOLUTIONS\2025\June 12\M-330.doex

# SWBNO Technology Modernization and Optimization

# Information Systems Projects

as of July 9, 2025





# Major System Replacement Projects



Oracle Cloud
Financials
(AFIN Replacement)

Implementation [Sponsor: CFO]



Human Capital
Management System
(GPHR Replacement)

Selection Committee [Sponsor: CAO]



Enterprise Asset

Management System
(RJN Cassworks
Replacement)

RFP Published [Sponsor: GSO]



Customer
Information System
(Cogsdale CSM
Replacement)

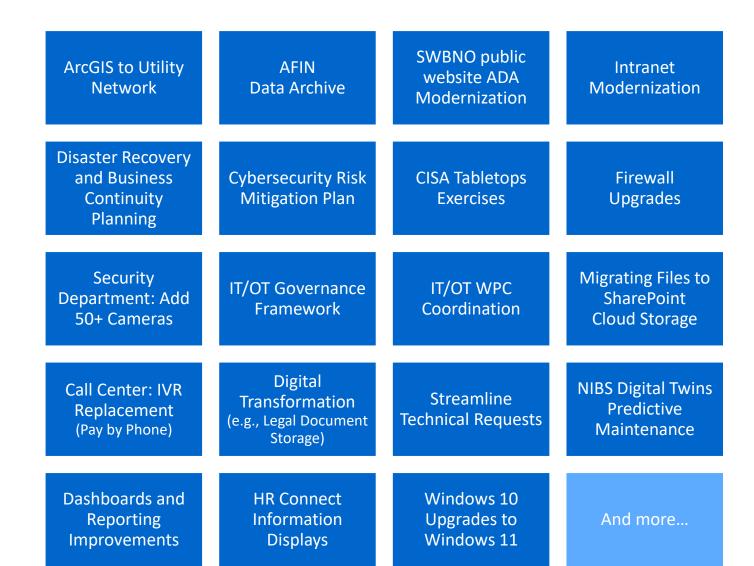
Est. RFP July 2025 [Sponsor: CCSO]



Cloud ERP Middleware for Integration

Est. RFP Q1 2026 [Sponsor: CIO]

# Other Projects







# **Timeline**

	2005																			
	2025				2026				2027				2028			2029				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4** SmartMete Completion		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Oracle Financials System (AFIN Replacement)		Implen	nentatio	on	Post-Go Live Support															
	22 months			3 months	months															
HCM System (GPHR Replacement)	Advertise	lection Committee Review of RFP ponses and decisio	Board C	ontract gotiations	lm	pleme	ntation		Post-Go I Suppor									d of Life		
	2 months	4 months	1 mth 3	months		14 mor	iths		3 month	s								onths		
Asset Mgmt System (Cassworks Replacement)		Advertise RFP		nmittee Review ses and decision M			Implementation				Post-Go Live Support									
-	2 months 5 months 1 mo				o 3 months	ths 27 months								3 months						
CIS System (CSM Replacement)			Advertise RFF	Selection Comp Review of RFP re and decision	sponses Board	Contract egotiations			In		ntation				st-Go Live Support			d of Life ZONE		
			2 months	5 months	1 mth	3 months				24 mon	ths			3	months		6 m	onths		
Cloud ERP Middleware for Integration					Drafting RFF	Advertise RFP	Selection Committee Review of RFP respons and decision		Contract Negotiations	ı	mpleme	entation								
				\	2 months	2 months	5 months	1 mo	3 months		12 mo	nths					<u> </u>			-
ArcGIS to Utility Network		Implen	nentatio	on																
		17	months									<u> </u>	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4



# **Key Takeaways**

- Modernization of Core Business Systems: Replacing legacy platforms (AFIN, CSM, Cassworks, GPHR) with modern, cloud-based solutions ensures scalability, security, and long-term sustainability.
- > Improved Integration: The planned Cloud ERP Middleware will enable seamless data flow across systems, reducing silos and manual workarounds.
- Enhanced Customer Service: Upgraded systems will improve responsiveness, billing accuracy, and customer engagement.
- Operational Efficiency: Asset management and predictive maintenance tools will optimize field operations and reduce downtime.
- **Data-Driven Decision Making:** Dashboards, reporting improvements, and GIS modernization empower leadership with near real-time insights.
- **Cybersecurity and Compliance:** Implementation of a cybersecurity risk mitigation plan, firewall upgrades, and ADA modernization ensures regulatory compliance and data protection.
- The department has approximately 60 employees and contractors supporting all aspects of technology.



# **Path to Success**

- Sustained Project Governance: Continued oversight through steering committees, board engagement, and milestone tracking will ensure accountability and transparency.
- **Workforce Enablement:** Ongoing training and change management will empower staff to fully leverage new systems and workflows.
- □ **Cloud-First Strategy:** Migration and adoption of cloud-native tools will reduce infrastructure overhead and improve disaster recovery capabilities.
- Performance Monitoring: Post-go-live support phases and KPIs will track system performance, user adoption, and ROI.
- **Future-Proofing:** Establishing a governance framework and embracing digital transformation initiatives positions SWBNO for long-term innovation.
- Community Impact: Enhanced service delivery, transparency, and responsiveness will build public trust and satisfaction.



# POSITIVELY CHANGING THE WAY WE DO BUSINESS

July 9, 2025









Installed over 120k smart meters

Installed over 2900 smart meters with pressure and temperature monitors

This state-of-the-art technology changes how we do business resulting in positive impacts to Operations, Customer Service, Customers and Our Community.

# How Smart Metering works



Hourly Water Usage Data

# Customer Service

Customers

- Less truck rolls
- Nearly eliminates
   estimated readings
- Accurate Data

Customer Service

Customers

Provides tools to help agents resolve customer issues

Customers

# Customer Service

- Enables customers
- Understand Usage
- Manage their acct

# Customer Service

Customers

Helps builds trust between SWBNO and the Community



# Operations

Reduced truck rolls and manual meter reading.

More timely and accurate meter readings.

Eliminates most estimated readings.

Increased operational insights into meter performance:

Ex: Dashboard analysis and alarms such as low pressure, failed communications, continuous flow, reverse flow, low pressure, no reads, etc.

Optimization of work prioritization and operational analysis based on utilization of data.

Ex: Pressure profiles, water audits and work prioritization.



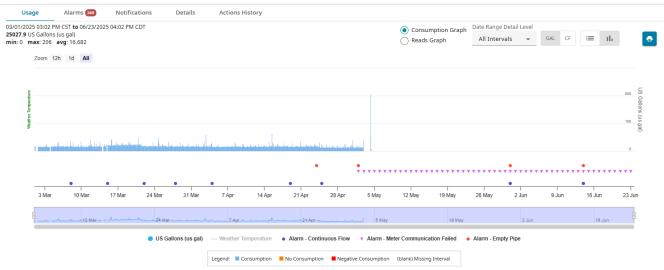


## Many field issues can be diagnosed from a computer.



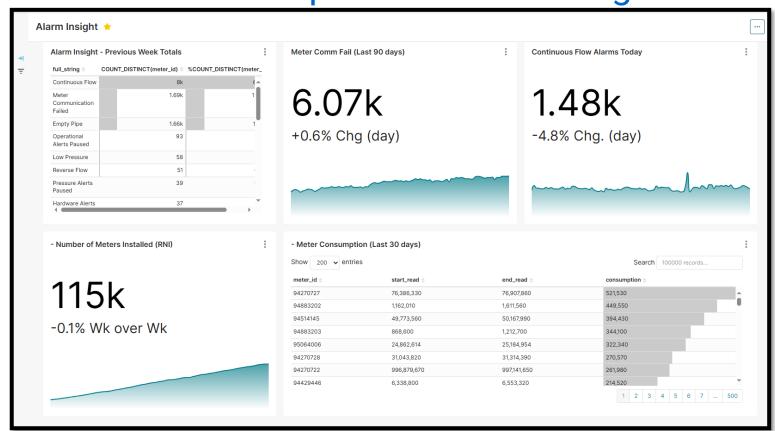
Potential leak on the customer's side of the meter = no truck roll

# Meter that has stopped communicating = truck roll

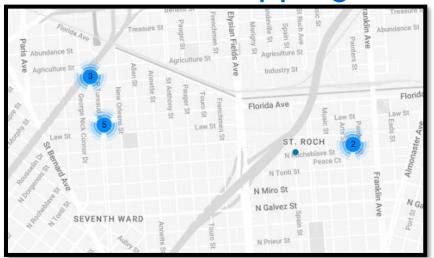




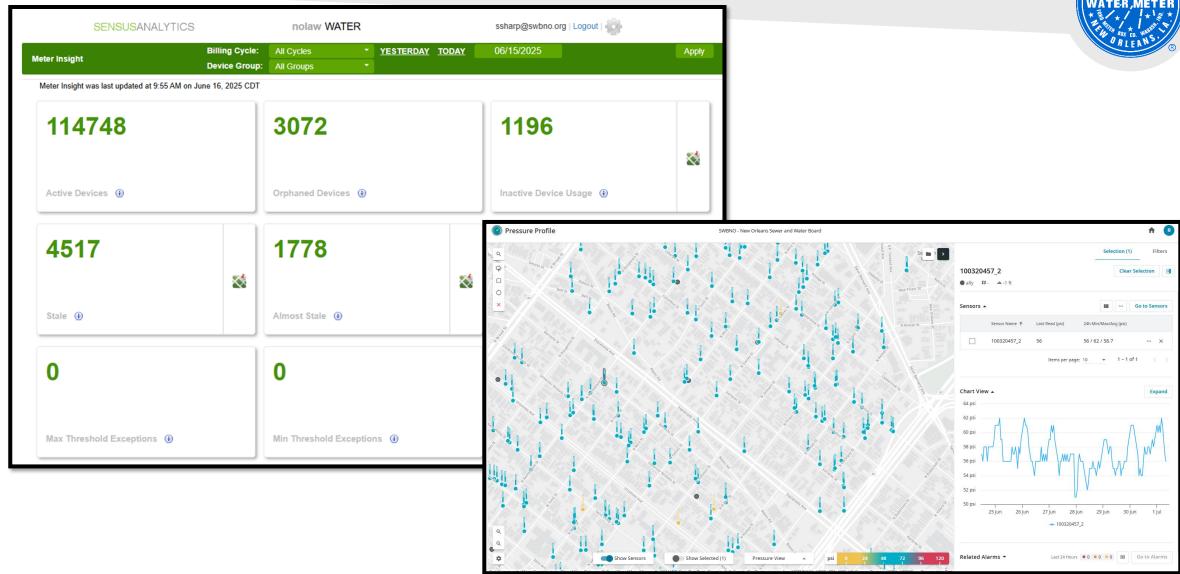
### Meter Population Monitoring



**Alarm Mapping** 









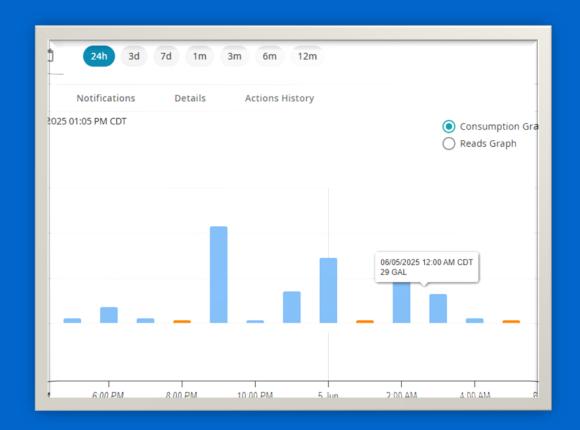
# **Customer Service**

Agent ability to proxy into customer online account.

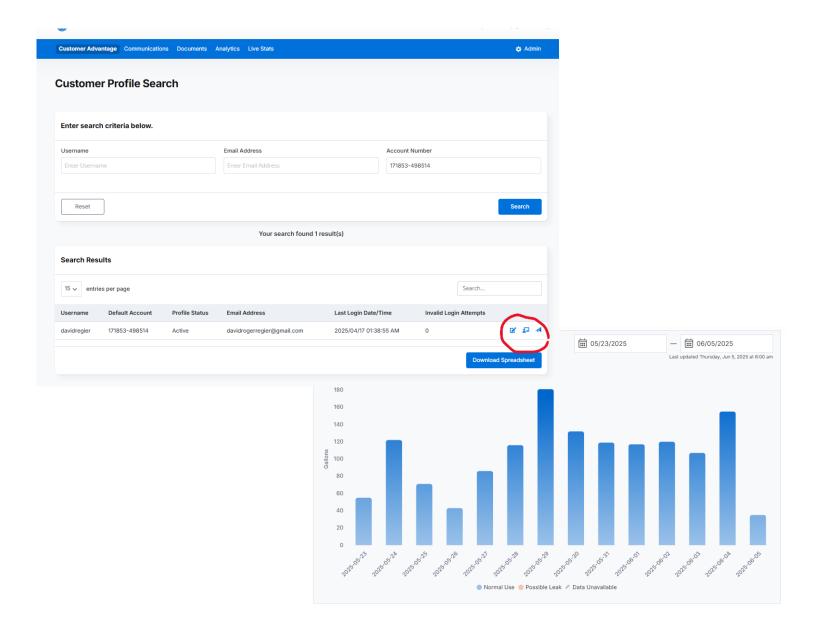
Improved tools to analyze customer's usage and potential leaks.

Billing detail for agents to better explain billing, rates and payment history.

Messaging center for improved communications with customers.



Example of how agents can proxy view to customer account





### Hourly





# Customers

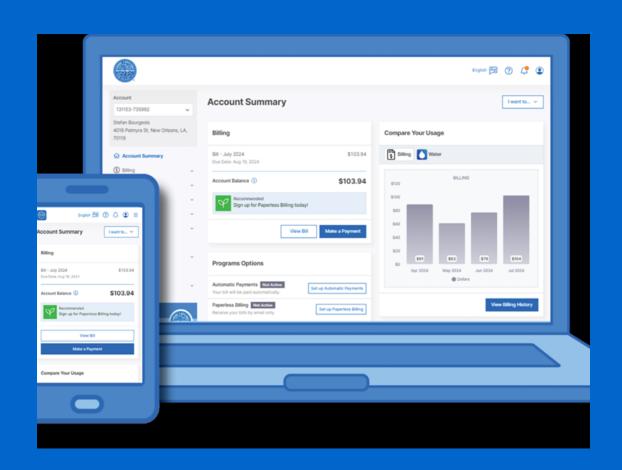
Customers can activate their new online portal to better manage their account.

Access to hourly usage to help understand, manage and compare their usage data.

Detailed views of billing details including history and comparisons.

Easy online payment options and access to payment details including 2 years of history.

Customers can sign up for proactive notifications such as early leak detection and customized usage alerts.



# Example of tools to help understand Usage



Usage History

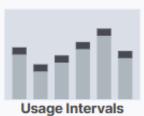
#### **Understand Usage**

Leak History (Contact 52-WATER to Report Leaks to SWBNO)

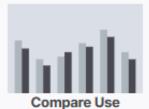
### **Tools:**

- Hour/Day/Week/Month/Year views.
  - Hourly Usage (updated approx. every 4 hours)
- Continuous Usage / Possible Leak
  - orange bars
- Historical Usage:
  - Looks back one year (or when AMI installed)
- Compare Usage:
  - To previous Year / Avg Household / Seasonal (temps/rain)
- Water use categories
  - Analysis improved over-time and with input.

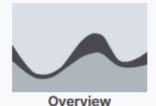




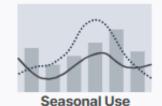
View your use per interval period



Compare your use over the last 24 months



Compare usage with average households



View with temperature and precipitation



Use per Category

Estimates for your use per category



Your Use This Billing Period



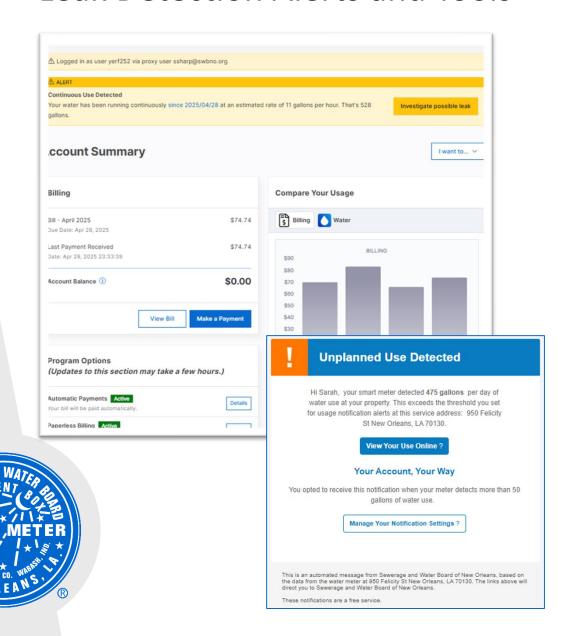
### Understand Bill (by time period)

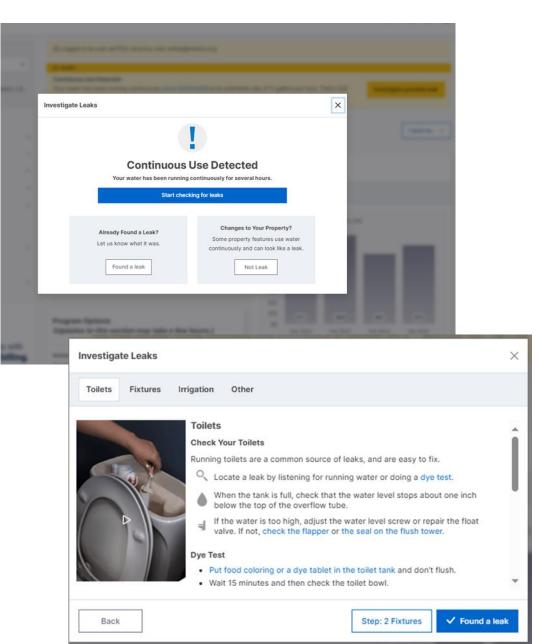


### Understand Bill (use vs rate tiers)



### **Leak Detection Alerts and Tools**







# Community

Reliable, industry-proven technology helps build trust with better data, accurate information and timely communications.

Targeted communications on issues such as boil water notice, construction and weather-related events help keep the community informed.



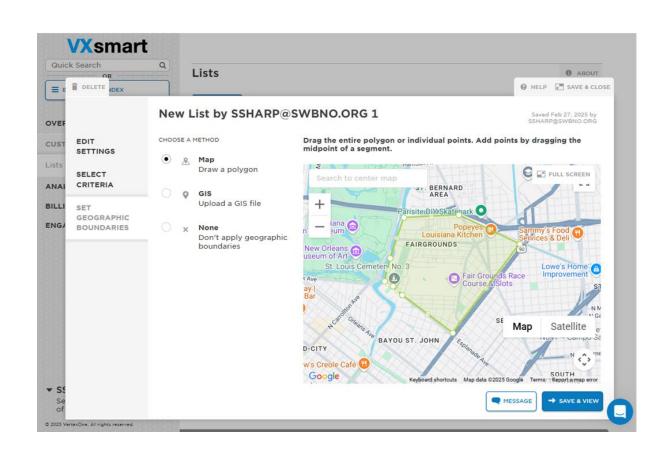
### **Examples of Targeted Customer Communication Capabilities**

### Awareness:

Freeze Warning and Tips
Planned Construction
Planned Test Closure
Planned Water Disruption
Pitcher Distribution
Boil Water Notice
Emergency Water Shutoff

### **Promotions:**

Auto Pay Portal Registration Water Talk Sessions Promo



# Customer Communication Videos

- SWBNO Smart Meter Program
- SWBNO Smart Meter Video Billing
- SWBNO's New Online Account
- O How to Sign up for your New Online Account
- How to Pay your Bill Online
- Setting up AutoPay and E-bill
- Detect A Leak Video





customers how to

check for potential

leaks themselves

https://vimeo.com/1073026308/ddaa82c51b?share=copy

# Communication: How we utilize water

- Average Residential Bill is \$125
- On average, bills are comprised of:
  - Residential Bill
    - 50% based on usage
    - 50% based on fees
  - Commercial Bill
    - 96% based on usage
    - 4% based on fees

### AVERAGE DAILY WATER USE FOR





80 - 100 gallons

400 - 500 gallons

Based on EPA data for the average American

	Water Use					
Bathing	10-minute shower	25 gallons				
	Average bath	50 - 70 gallons				
Laundry (one load)	Energy efficient washer	14 gallons				
	Standard washer	20 gallons				
Washing Dishes By Hand	With water running for five minutes	10 - 15 gallons				
14	By filling up the sink	5 gallons				
Dishwasher	Energy efficient dishwasher	4 gallons				
O	Standard dishwasher	9 - 14 gallons				
Brushing Teeth	With water running for two minutes	4 gallons				
The state of the s	Without water running	1.5 gallons				
Outdoor	Outdoor Lawn Irrigation / Sprinkler					



### WATER LOSS THROUGH LEAKS

Fixing easily corrected household leaks can save you money on your water bill.



(One drip per sec.)

8 gallons per day \$3.16 a month



LEAKY SHOWERHEAD (One drip per sec.)

6 - 8 gallons per day \$2.37 - \$3.16 a month



LEAKY TOILET

100 - 200 gallons per day \$39.48 - \$91.18

a month

# Questions?

More information available at swbno.org/Projects/SmartMetering

