

NIAGARA FALLS WATER BOARD RESOLUTION # 2025-12-006

**2025 ANNUAL REVIEW OF MISSION STATEMENT,
ADOPTION OF AND REPORT ON PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS,
AND REPORT ON OPERATIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Public Authorities Law and best-practice guidance from the Authorities Budget Office, the Niagara Falls Water Board ("Water Board") has determined annually to review its mission statement, has prepared performance measurement objectives as a means for the Board and management to evaluate and monitor whether the Water Board's policies and operating practices are in accordance with its mission, has reviewed those performance measurements, and has developed a format for an annual report on operations and accomplishments that it deems appropriately describes the Water Board's operations, completed and active projects, as well as material changes in its operations and programs, if any;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Niagara Falls Water Board hereby adopts the performance measurements set forth in the attached 2025 Annual Review of Mission Statement, Performance Measurement Report, and Report on Operations and Accomplishments, as well as the reports on those subjects set forth in that document.

On December 15, 2025, the question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Board Member Cole	[✓]	[]	[]	[]
Board Member Dean ^{2ND}	[✓]	[]	[]	[]
Board Member Kimble ^{1ST}	[✓]	[]	[]	[]
Chairman Sirianni	[✓]	[]	[]	[]

⁴⁻⁰ Vote Witnessed By:


Sean W. Costello, Secretary to Board



**2025 Annual Review of Mission Statement,
Performance Measurement Report,
and Report on Operations and Accomplishments**

December 15, 2025

A. Mission Statement

Pursuant to Public Authorities Law Section 2824-a, the Niagara Falls Water Board has adopted a mission statement and reviews that statement annually to ensure its mission has not changed and that its performance goals continue to support its mission.

The Water Board's mission statement, adopted in 2003, is as follows:

**The mission of the Niagara Falls Water Board (NFWB) is to provide
safe and reliable water and wastewater management services to
our community in an economical and efficient manner.**

The Water Board has reviewed its mission statement and the following performance goals and is proud to report that its policies and operating practices are in accordance with its mission statement.

B. Performance Goals

The Niagara Falls Water Board has established the following performance goals, and met them during 2025 as follows:

1) Safe:

- **Meet or exceed Department of Health and EPA drinking water quality requirements.**

In 2025, the Water Treatment Plant has operated with no violations, providing clean, ample, and high-quality water for our service area. In May 2025, the Water Board issued its Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024, and it is proud to report that our system has never violated a state established maximum contaminant level.

- **Environmentally sound sewage treatment in accordance with SPDES permit.**

As documented in the 2025 progress reports prepared pursuant to an Order on Consent with the NYSDEC, the Water Board has operated its aging wastewater treatment plant as efficiently and effectively as possible. In 2025 significant work has been undertaken toward a Preliminary Engineering Report to recommend improvements needed to comply with the NYSDEC Order on Consent and the WWTP's draft SPDES permit, which imposes new and tightened limits.

2) Reliable:

- **Invest in capital projects required to maintain facilities and customer satisfaction.**

The Board has invested millions of dollars annually in well-planned and efficiently executed capital projects. Its capital investments are intended to ensure reliable drinking water and wastewater treatment and delivery of those services through the City-wide network of mains maintained by the Water Board. Refer to the monthly Operations and Maintenance Reports in Board agenda packets for major capital project activities.

3) Economical:

- **Consider burden on ratepayers when determining operational and capital spending.**

The Water Board funds all its operational costs from rates and fees charged to users of its system, and covenants with its bondholders require it to raise the full amount of its operations budget in rates and fees each year. With careful cost control, the Water Board was able to pass balanced budgets with no rate increase in 2024 and 2025. Since the last rate increase effective January 1, 2023, many costs have increased and revenues, particularly from Significant Industrial Users, have fallen. To balance the 2026 budget required a 5.9% rate increase. The rate increase demonstrates the Board's commitment to maintaining high-quality physical and human assets to protect human health and the environment while making every effort to reduce the burden on ratepayers.

- **Actively seek grants and cooperative agreements with other government entities to reduce costs.**

In 2025, the Water Board continued to work cooperatively with partners in government to deliver efficient and cost-effective services to the community. In particular, it worked cooperatively with the City of Niagara Falls on many occasions in 2025 pursuant to an agreement that permits shared services between the parties.

The Water Board also continued to invest during 2025 in professional grant writing services and in a consultant to assist with seeking State and Federal infrastructure

funds to maximize the grant money it can obtain, as its ratepayers cannot shoulder the cost of all needed system investments on their own.

4) Efficient:

- **Leverage advances in technology and science to meet expanding system needs without excess increases in costs.**

In 2025, further integration or enhancement of SCADA control for equipment continued to be a focus of projects implemented at Water Board facilities. IT infrastructure continues to be upgraded with an awareness of the increasing level of cybersecurity threats against water and wastewater systems.

C. Report on Operations and Accomplishments

There have been no material changes in the Water Board's operations, which are focused on its mission to provide safe and reliable water and wastewater management services to our community in an economical and efficient manner. The Water Board continuously monitors its operations and accomplishments through creation and review of monthly operations and maintenance reports. Reference is made to the full reports which are posted as part of monthly Water Board agenda packets here: [Minutes | Niagara Falls Water Board \(nfwb.org\)](#). For future-looking projects, the Water Board maintains and updates its Capital Improvement Plan, available at [Capital Improvements | Niagara Falls Water Board \(nfwb.org\)](#). Combined, these documents provide a detailed picture of the Water Board's operations as well as its completed and active projects. Interested persons may request a compilation of these reports by contacting the Water Board's Secretary at scostello@NFWB.org.