

## **2.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **2.1 PURPOSE**

In 2010, the City of Manhattan Beach (City) completed its previous Water Master Plan (WMP), and in 2020, the city completed an Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP). The City has been implementing the recommendations from its 2010 WMP, including implementing the improvements identified as high priority and providing recommended annual flushing of the existing water mains.

The purpose of this WMP update is to incorporate recent improvements and changes to the City's water infrastructure since the last WMP and to serve as a guide for planning water system improvements through year 2030. The goals of the City are to provide a high-quality potable water supply that meets all applicable regulations, to supply adequate flows and pressures for water service and fire protection, to operate at high efficiency and low cost, and to maintain service reliability through redundancy. To support the City's goals, the objectives for this WMP include:

- Updating the current hydraulic model to include any changes since the last WMP
- Calibrating the updated model to reflect current system conditions
- Analyzing water demand and supply projections since the last WMP to understand changes to the water use in the City's system
- Evaluating optimization of supply facility operation
- Performing conditions assessment of City's Block 35 Facility
- Providing a phased capital improvement program (CIP) with cost estimates
- Identifying any deficiencies and "bottlenecks" in the water system

## **2.2 HISTORY AND BACKGROUND**

Major development in Manhattan Beach began in 1888, when a railroad was constructed between Redondo Beach Wharf and Downtown Los Angeles. By the early 1900s, the northern portion of the site was called Shore Acres and was owned by George Peck. The southern portion was owned by John Merrill, who named it after his old home Manhattan in New York City. Ultimately, the fate of the City's name was left to a coin flip, in which "Manhattan" won.

Visitors flooded Manhattan Beach and it was initially regarded as a vacation destination until December 7, 1912, when it was incorporated, and 600 people permanently resided in the City. After World War II, the City grew rapidly with servicemen settling in the City and contributions by the aerospace and defense industries, such as Douglas Aircraft, Hughes Aircraft, Northrop, and North American Aviation, which moved into the nearby area and created many new jobs.

Shortly after the City was incorporated, the first municipal water plant and water system consisting of 23 miles of pipeline were established and later, several elevated tanks were added to improve the water system. In the 1940s, the Water Department Building and a water well was constructed through a federal Work Progress Administration project. Today, the only remaining elevated water tank is located at the City's Block 35 facility on Rowell Avenue and 6th Street. The tower was built in late 1948 and retrofitted in 1994. It is primarily used for pressure control and not storage.