



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

DEAN D. EFSTATHIOU, Acting Director

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

September 10, 2008

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: **WW-0**
A2874

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Dean D. Efstathiou ^{DDE}
Acting Director of Public Works

BOARD MOTION OF AUGUST 5, 2008, AGENDA ITEM 17 MONTHLY REPORT ON PROGRESS OF WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS

On August 5, 2008, your Board directed the Acting Director of the Department of Public Works (Public Works) to report monthly on the progress of the County's multidepartmental water conservation efforts. The following is the first monthly report that summarizes the progress of a collaborative effort to implement the water conservation and drought response actions approved by your Board on July 1, 2008.

Action No. 1 (100 percent complete)

Declare a Countywide Water Supply and Conservation Alert.

On August 5, 2008, your Board adopted a resolution declaring a Countywide Water Supply and Conservation Alert urging County residents, businesses, local water purveyors, and cities to intensify water conservation efforts. Public Works will prepare and send a letter to all 88 cities in Los Angeles County to inform them of the Alert and request their support to intensify water conservation efforts.

Action No. 2 (100 percent complete pending adoption by your Board)

Update and adopt a water wasting ordinance for unincorporated County areas and the Waterworks Districts' Phased Water Conservation Plan.

A water wasting ordinance has been prepared and approved by County Counsel. The proposed ordinance establishes water conservation and waste prevention measures for unincorporated County areas. In addition, the Waterworks Districts' Phased Water Conservation Plan has been updated. The ordinance and the plan are expected to be submitted by Public Works for your Board's consideration by early October.

Action No. 3 (15 percent complete)

Direct all County departments to evaluate water usage, immediately implement conservation measures to reduce consumption by a target amount of 10 percent by December 31, 2008, and report back to your Board with recommended measures to reduce consumption by an additional 10 percent.

The Internal Services Department (ISD), Public Works, and the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) developed a list of recommended water conservation measures that has been provided to those departments that perform facility maintenance throughout the County.

ISD receives water bills for all County departments, except for Public Works and DPR. To measure results for all County departments, the CEO and ISD is working with Public Works and DPR to enter their past billing information into ISD's Enterprise Energy Management Information System (EEMIS). This will establish baseline water consumption data for every County department. Future billing information will be input into EEMIS to compare against baseline consumption and to easily provide future water savings reports. ISD will report monthly to your Board on the water savings.

ISD conducts quarterly meetings with departmental managers who oversee facility maintenance throughout the County. At these meetings, implementation of conservation measures, best management practices, and reporting of water savings results will be discussed. The next meeting is scheduled for September 23, 2008.

DPR is evaluating the expanded use of recycled water at County parks and golf courses. DPR also proposes to apply for \$1,307,027 in financial assistance from the Metropolitan Water District to upgrade irrigation controllers and sprinkler heads with high efficiency water conserving devices at 70 County Park facilities. In addition, DPR has installed waterless urinals in various park facilities and has developed drought tolerant and native landscape design standards as a water conservation measure for their department.

Public Works has reduced irrigation water use at its headquarters by approximately 25 percent and is modifying its air conditioning system to reduce consumption for cooling by approximately 99 percent. Additionally, the feasibility of installing waterless urinals at Public Works facilities, which could result in future water reduction, is being assessed.

Other County departments, including the Sheriff's Department, Fire Department, Department of Beaches and Harbors, and Department of Public Health are assessing their water-intensive operations to identify water conservation opportunities. With support from ISD, these departments are focusing on reducing landscape irrigation water use and improving the efficiency of the air-conditioning systems for their buildings.

Action No. 4 (100 percent complete)

Send a five-signature letter to the Governor and leadership of the Legislature urging the State to expedite the award of bond funds from Propositions 84 and 1E to local agencies, including the County of Los Angeles.

A five-signature letter was sent to the Governor and leadership of the Legislature on July 7, 2008 (see Attachment A).

Action No. 5 (90 percent complete)

Send a five-signature letter to the Governor and leadership of the Legislature expressing support for the Governor's Delta Vision, which provides a comprehensive, sustainable management plan for the Delta that includes conveyance, expanded storage, ecosystem restoration, and conservation.

A draft five-signature letter to the Governor and leadership of the Legislature was prepared and sent to the Chief Executive Office (CEO), Intergovernmental Relations Branch, for review and comments. The letter is expected to be ready for your signatures by late September.

Action No. 6 (20 percent complete)

Direct the Chief Executive Officer through the Office of Recycled Water and the Energy and Environmental Policy Team in collaboration with ISD, Public Works, DPR, Fire, Sheriff, and other appropriate departments to develop a recycled, nonpotable water infrastructure plan for County facilities; the planning process to include consultation with appropriate water purveyors and waste water treatment agencies. The recycled water infrastructure plan should establish priorities based upon amount of potable water saved and include a funding analysis and recommendations.

As reported to your Board last month, the request for a cost estimate for converting County facilities to recycled water that was included in the adopted Board Motion by Supervisor Knabe on July 1, 2008, has been added to Action No. 6. A Recycled Water

Infrastructure Implementation Committee, comprised of representatives from the CEO, the Office of Water Recycling, the Energy and Environmental Policy Team, ISD, and DPR has been formed to prepare the recycled water infrastructure plan. The Committee held its first meeting on July 21, 2008, and established protocols for the review and approval of the recycled water infrastructure plan.

A preliminary review of water usage by County facilities indicates that parks, golf courses, jails, and hospitals are the largest water users within the County. Converting existing facilities to using recycled water for irrigation is the simplest type of conversion; therefore, the initial phase of the infrastructure plan will focus on DPR facilities. While numerous DPR facilities have already been converted, DPR has conducted an analysis of their facilities, is in the process of completing their recycled water plan for their department, and developed a preliminary list of priorities for performing the conversion for the remainder of their facilities based on their proximity to a recycled water pipeline. DPR has contacted the appropriate recycled water purveyor for these facilities and is developing cost estimates and schedules for converting these facilities. DPR has submitted initial cost estimates to the CEO for four parks that are available for recycled water conversion. ISD and the CEO have begun assessing the remaining County facilities for conversion. As indicated in the previous report to your Board, the infrastructure plan is expected to be completed prior to January 1, 2009.

Action No. 7 (20 percent complete)

Direct the CEO, working with the Energy and Environmental Policy Team and with input from water conservation specialists to ensure utilization of Best Management Practices, including Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design and Low Impact Development, to develop a water conservation policy applicable to retrofit, refurbishment, and new construction of County facilities and grounds.

The CEO, Public Works, DPR, and ISD are collaboratively preparing a checklist of Best Management Practices, including Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design and Low Impact Development that will be used to ensure that appropriate water conservation practices are incorporated in projects for the retrofit, refurbishment, and new construction of County facilities and grounds.

Action No. 8 (50 percent complete)

Instruct the Acting Director of Public Works and the Director of Planning to consult with the various water agencies that provide water services to County unincorporated areas, and report back to your Board in 30 days requesting information on how the drought

Each Supervisor
September 10, 2008
Page 5

may impact the land development review process for both discretionary and ministerial applications, and what your Board can expect regarding future actions by water agencies on pending development projects in the unincorporated area.

Public Works and DPR prepared and sent a Drought Impact Questionnaire to unincorporated County area retail water purveyors requesting information on how the drought may impact the land development review process. We are still collecting information from these water purveyors. Presently, we are analyzing the information to determine the drought's impact on the County land development review policies and procedures. We are scheduled to report back to your Board on this item on October 14, 2008.

Additional County Water Conservation Efforts and Accomplishments

Under the direction of your Board and the CEO, County departments, including Public Works and the special Districts it operates, ISD, DPR, Fire Department, Sheriff's Department, Department of Beaches and Harbors, and the Department of Public Health, are engaged in many water conservation efforts. Attachment B is a summary of our water conservation efforts and recent accomplishments.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call me or your staff may contact Adam Ariki at (626) 300-3300.

DWP:ea

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Attach.

cc: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Sheriff
Chief Executive Office (William T Fujioka, Lari Sheehan)
Fire Department
Internal Services Department
Department of Beaches and Harbors
Department of Parks and Recreation
Department of Public Health
Department of Regional Planning

ATTACHMENT A



SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 383
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
(213) 974-1411 • FAX (213) 620-0636

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

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YVONNE B. BURKE

ZEV YAROŠLAVSKY

DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

July 7, 2008

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

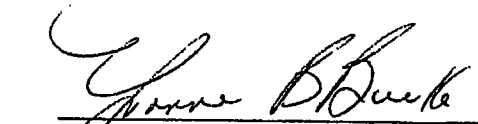
On behalf of the ten million residents living in Los Angeles County, we want to thank you for your leadership in addressing the drought situation in California with the issuance of Executive Order S-06-08 which directed the State Department of Water Resources (DWR) and other State agencies to take specific actions to reduce the impacts of the drought and improve local agencies' abilities to meet anticipated demands. We support the directive given by you to DWR and respectfully request that you urge the Legislature to expedite the appropriation of funds from Propositions 84 and 1E due to the current water crisis.

Los Angeles County has numerous programs and projects specifically intended to conserve water and reduce the use of water, including unfunded, ready-to-go projects submitted recently through the Integrated Regional Watershed Management Implementation Grant Program under Proposition 50. There is \$1 billion available for Integrated Regional Water Management projects under Proposition 84 and additional funds available under Proposition 1E. We are asking the Legislature to appropriate these funds to DWR in order to provide money to local agencies to implement critical water resource projects. DWR is currently working to establish criteria and grant application processes for funding from these propositions. Consistent with your Executive Order, these criteria and processes should be streamlined and expedited so these funds reach local water districts and other local agencies as quickly as possible.

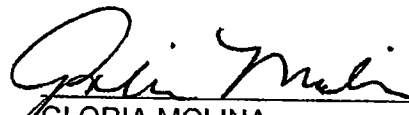
The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
July 7, 2008
Page 2

We request your support and appreciate your consideration of our request. If the Legislature appropriates the funds in a timely manner the impacts of the Statewide drought on the residents of Los Angeles County as well as residents throughout the State will be reduced.

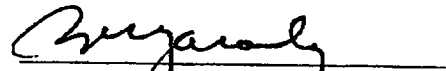
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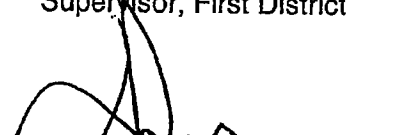
YVONNE B. BURKE
Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Second District



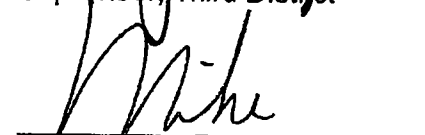
GLORIA MOLINA
Supervisor, First District



ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Supervisor, Third District



DON KNABE
Supervisor, Fourth District



MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Supervisor, Fifth District

- c: Susan Kennedy, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor
Cynthia Bryant, Director, Planning and Research Office, Office of the Governor
Michael Genest, Director, California Department of Finance
Lester A. Snow, California Department of Water Resources



SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

July 7, 2008

The Honorable Karen Bass
Speaker, California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 219
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Madam Speaker:

On behalf of the ten million residents living in Los Angeles County, we are writing to urge you to appropriate funds from Propositions 84 and 1E as quickly as possible due to the current water crises. California's water supply is experiencing drastic reductions that challenge local agencies' abilities to meet anticipated demands. These reductions are due to a Statewide drought in California, environmental impacts limiting deliveries from the State water project, and an eight-year drought in the Colorado River Watershed.

On June 4, 2008, Governor Schwarzenegger proclaimed a Statewide drought and issued Executive Order S-06-08 directing the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and other State agencies to take specific actions to reduce the impacts of the drought and improve local agencies' abilities to meet anticipated demands.

The first directive contained within Executive Order S-06-08 orders DWR to:

Expedite existing grant programs for local water districts and agencies for new or ongoing water conservation and water use reduction programs and projects that are capable of timely implementation to ease drought conditions in 2008 or 2009.

We support the recent directive given by the Governor to DWR. Los Angeles County has numerous programs and projects specifically intended to conserve water and reduce the use of water, including unfunded, ready-to-go projects submitted recently through the Integrated Regional Watershed Management Implementation Grant Program under Proposition 50. There is \$1 billion available for Integrated Regional

The Honorable Karen Bass

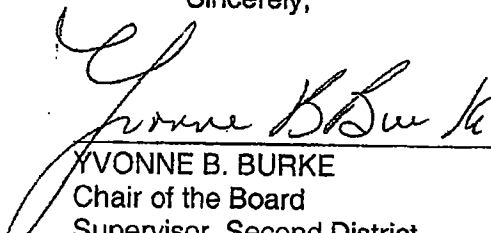
July 7, 2008

Page 2


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We appreciate your consideration of our request, which will lessen the impacts of the Statewide drought on the residents of Los Angeles County as well as residents throughout the State.

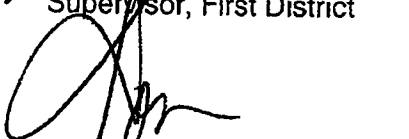
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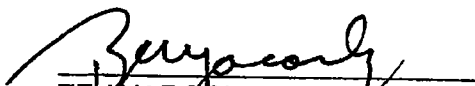
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Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Second District



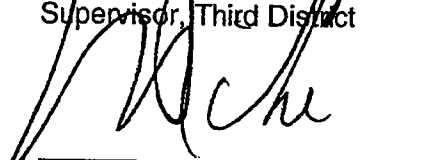
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MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

July 7, 2008

The Honorable Dave Cogdill
Senate Minority Floor Leader
State Capitol, Room 305
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Cogdill:

On behalf of the ten million residents living in Los Angeles County, we are writing to urge you to appropriate funds from Propositions 84 and 1E as quickly as possible due to the current water crises. California's water supply is experiencing drastic reductions that challenge local agencies' abilities to meet anticipated demands. These reductions are due to a Statewide drought in California, environmental impacts limiting deliveries from the State water project, and an eight-year drought in the Colorado River Watershed.

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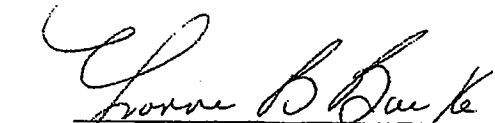
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The Honorable Dave Cogdill
July 7, 2008
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We appreciate your consideration of our request, which will lessen the impacts of the Statewide drought on the residents of Los Angeles County as well as residents throughout the State.

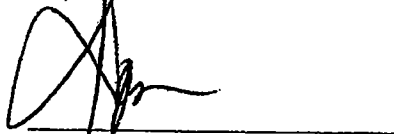
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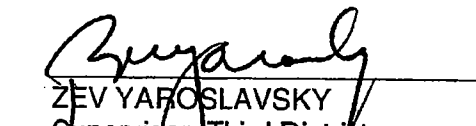
VONNE B. BURKE
Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Second District



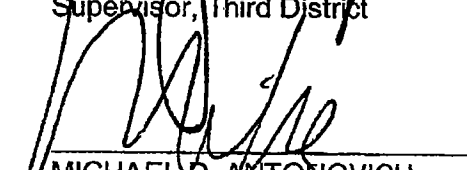
GLORIA MOLINA
Supervisor, First District



DON KNABE
Supervisor, Fourth District



ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Supervisor, Third District



MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Supervisor, Fifth District



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DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

July 7, 2008

The Honorable Don Perata
Senate President pro Tempore
State Capitol, Room 205
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Perata:

On behalf of the ten million residents living in Los Angeles County, we are writing to urge you to appropriate funds from Propositions 84 and 1E as quickly as possible due to the current water crises. California's water supply is experiencing drastic reductions that challenge local agencies' abilities to meet anticipated demands. These reductions are due to a Statewide drought in California, environmental impacts limiting deliveries from the State water project, and an eight-year drought in the Colorado River Watershed.

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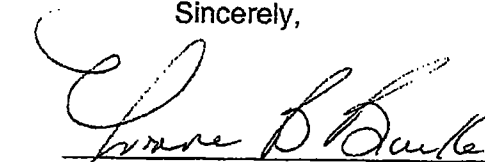
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The Honorable Don Perata
July 7, 2008
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We appreciate your consideration of our request, which will lessen the impacts of the Statewide drought on the residents of Los Angeles County as well as residents throughout the State.

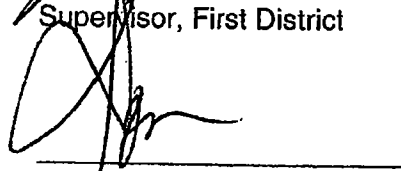
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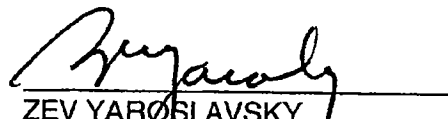
YVONNE B. BURKE
Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Second District



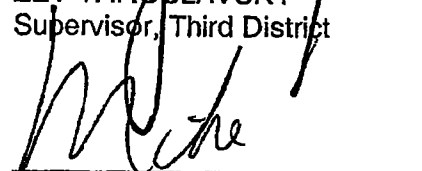
GLORIA MOLINA
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Supervisor, Fourth District



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Supervisor, Third District



MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Supervisor, Fifth District



SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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July 7, 2008

The Honorable Michael Villines
Assembly Minority Floor Leader
State Capitol, Room 3104
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assembly Member Villines:

On behalf of the ten million residents living in Los Angeles County, we are writing to urge you to appropriate funds from Propositions 84 and 1E as quickly as possible due to the current water crises. California's water supply is experiencing drastic reductions that challenge local agencies' abilities to meet anticipated demands. These reductions are due to a Statewide drought in California, environmental impacts limiting deliveries from the State water project, and an eight-year drought in the Colorado River Watershed.

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The Honorable Michael Villines

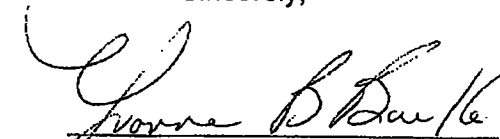
July 7, 2008

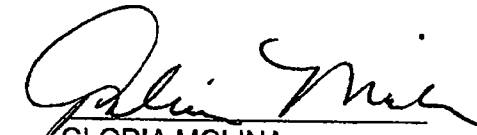
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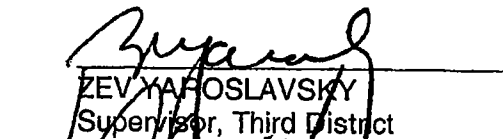
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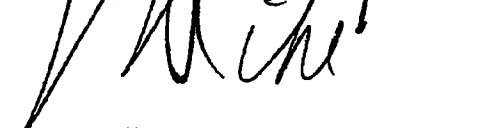
Sincerely,


YVONNE B. BURKE
Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Second District


GLORIA MOLINA
Supervisor, First District


DON KNABE
Supervisor, Fourth District


ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Supervisor, Third District


MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Supervisor, Fifth District

ATTACHMENT B

COUNTY WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Under the direction of your Board and the Chief Executive Office, the Department of Public Works including the Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts, Los Angeles County Flood Control District, and other County departments have achieved numerous water conservation accomplishments and are engaged in many water conservation efforts that support the County's overall preparedness for droughts. The following is a summary of our ongoing efforts and recent accomplishments:

Department of Public Works

- Office of Water Recycling – Establishment of the County Office of Water Recycling on July 1, 2007, to assist in efforts to double the amount of recycled water used within the County, from 167,400 acre-feet to 333,600 acre-feet, by 2030. The Office is charged with implementing 27 recommendations governing recycled water activities. It is working in partnership with the Department of Parks and Recreation and Internal Services Department to retrofit numerous County facilities for use of recycled water for landscape irrigation. County facilities that currently use recycled water for landscape irrigation include Bonelli Regional County Park, Schabarum Regional County Park, Vector Control Offices in Santa Fe Springs, Norwalk County Library, and the County Recorder's Office in Norwalk.
- Integrated Regional Water Management Planning – Preparation of three Integrated Regional Water Management Plans (IRWMPs): the Antelope Valley IRWMP, the Greater Los Angeles County IRWMP, and Upper Santa Clara River Watershed IRWMP. The IRWMPs identify and prioritize projects that address water supply, water conservation, water quality, flood control, environmental resources, and planning for the next 20 to 30 years.
- Spreading Grounds and Rubber Dams – Operation of 26 spreading grounds and 10 rubber dams in the Los Angeles Basin that allow the percolation of stormwater runoff, imported water, and recycled water to underground aquifers, conserving an average of 280,000 acre-feet of water annually, an amount to sustain 560,000 families for one year.
- Seawater Barriers – Operation of three seawater barrier projects along the coastline to protect and conserve coastal groundwater from seawater intrusion. Also, we are working with the water community, including the Water Replenishment District and regulatory agencies, to ultimately utilize 100 percent recycled water for the barrier projects. Modernization of these facilities over the past 20 years has increased the average annual recharge of the aquifers they protect by 2,700 acre-feet at a cost of \$26 million.
- Dams – Operations at County dams are performed to conserve as much stormwater as possible. This stored water is later released and used to recharge the

groundwater aquifers. Since 1985 \$155 million has been spent in needed seismic retrofit project that have also increased the total available storage at the dams by 8,000 acre-feet. On average, this additional storage will translate into conservation of 40,000 acre-feet of water each storm season.

- Weather Modification (Cloud Seeding) – Reactivation of the Cloud Seeding Program was approved by your Board on June 10, 2008. Cloud seeding generators are used to release silver iodide into the air, which can increase the amount of rainfall from storm clouds by 10 to 15 percent. The additional rainfall is collected in our reservoirs and later transferred to our spreading grounds for recharge of underground aquifers.
- Smart Gardening Program – Administration of a Smart Gardening Program, developed in collaboration with the Department of Parks and Recreation, to promote environmental practices related to water and fire-wise gardening, composting, and grass recycling. For water-wise gardening, residents are taught to conserve water with proper selection of plants, proper irrigation, use of compost, installation of groundcover, and grouping plants with similar water needs (hydrozoning). The workshops are held at the Program's 11 Smart Gardening Learning Centers, typically located at County parks, and at off-site locations in coordination with cities.
- Flood Control District Capital Improvements – The following water conservation construction projects have recently been completed or are under construction.
 - San Gabriel River Rubber Dams (\$6.7 million) – Construction of two rubber dams, to allow for in-stream recharge. The project, which was partially funded by State grants and the Water Replenishment District, is completed.
 - Big Tujunga Dam Seismic Rehabilitation and Spillway Modifications (\$88.5 million) – An integrated resources management project that involves the placement of new concrete on the downstream face of the existing arch dam to create a thick-arch. The rehabilitation of the dam will provide an additional 4,500 acre-feet of water for downstream recharge and later extraction, in addition to providing downstream flood protection and flow releases to enhance habitat. The project, which is partially funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, is under construction.
 - Hansen Spreading Ground Improvements (\$7.3 million) – Reconfiguration of spreading basin to increase storage capacity by 1,100 acre-feet. The construction contract has been awarded. This project is cost shared by the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

- Irwindale/Manning Spreading Grounds Interbasin Drain (\$1.4 million) – Construction of a drain from Irwindale Spreading Basin to Manning Pit to allow optimization of groundwater recharge. The construction contract has been awarded.
- Cooperative Agreements/Regional Partnerships – We continue to work in developing cooperative agreements with other local water management agencies to further advance water conservation, water recycling, and groundwater storage programs. Partnerships to date include Water Replenishment District of Southern California, Los Angeles City Department of Water and Power and West Basin Municipal Water District. The following projects are being pursued in partnership with the City of Los Angeles.
 - East Valley Recycling Project – Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa intends to renew efforts to deliver up to 25,000 acre-feet of highly treated recycled water from the Tillman Water Reclamation Plant to the County's Hansen Spreading Grounds for recharging the groundwater aquifers in the San Fernando Valley.
 - Tujunga Spreading Grounds Enhancement Project – Reconfiguration to increase capacity at the grounds, simplify operations, and improve data collection.
 - Pacoima Spreading Grounds Enhancement Project – Reconfiguration to increase capacity at the grounds, simplify operations, and improve data collection.
 - Sun Valley Watershed Management Project – Proposes 15 multiuse projects that will conserve an average of 8123 acre-feet of water annually. Additional benefits include 50-year flood protection, water quality improvement, recreational facilities and habitat restoration. Funding partners include the City of Los Angeles, State agencies, Federal agencies, and nongovernmental organizations. Total costs are estimated at \$270 million over a 20-year period.
- Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts – The Department of Public Works is responsible for the management of five County Waterworks Districts, serving the areas of Malibu, Topanga, Marina del Rey, Kagel Canyon, Val Verde, Acton, and the Antelope Valley, which are engaged in the following water conservation activities for its existing and new customers, as applicable.

- Implementation of Best Management Practices – Implementation of 14 Best Management Practices for water conservation specified in the California Urban Water Conservation Council's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding Urban Water Conservation in California. The Waterworks Districts became a signatory to the MOU in April 1996.
- Phased Water Conservation Plan – Established a Phased Water Conservation Plan, which was adopted by your Board on May 23, 1991, that can be implemented for a severe water shortage to reduce customer demands by up to 40 percent in 5 percent increments.
- Free Water Use Survey Program – Initiated a Free Water Use Survey Program for the Waterworks Districts' residential, commercial, industrial, institutional, and large-landscape customers to identify opportunities for water conservation. Approximately 3,200 surveys have been completed to date, resulting in an average of 10 percent reduction in water consumption for the participating customers.
- Tiered-Water Rates – Implemented tiered-water rate structures for Waterworks District Nos. 40, Antelope Valley, and 29, Malibu and the Marina del Rey Water System, together accounting for 95 percent of the Districts' customers, to encourage water conservation.
- Public Education – Implementation of a summer public education program consisting of 719 television ads, 816 radio announcements, 10 newspaper ads, 3 billboards, and regular press releases; a new customer rebate program for water-saving devices; partnerships and materials to promote the use of native plants; an ongoing program of participation in community events, which has reached more than 800 customers so far in 2008; publication of quarterly *Splash* newsletters sent to all the Districts' customers; and enhancement of our website, which receives more than 350 hits per month, with water conservation information.
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery – Implemented a Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board permitted Aquifer Storage and Recovery groundwater basin recharge program to inject up to 6,800 acre-feet of surplus treated State Water Project water annually.
- Optimization of Improved Water Use – Conservation of up to 5,000 acre-feet of groundwater annually by maximizing the use of surplus imported State Water Project water when available in-lieu of pumping groundwater.
- Recycled Water – Completed a Facilities Planning Report for a 38-mile recycled water backbone system and prepared environmental documents for the system; participated in the construction of 24,000 linear feet of 24-inch-diameter recycled water line in partnership with the

City of Lancaster; participated with the Cities of Lancaster and Palmdale to explore the use of recycled water for groundwater basin recharge; amended the Rules and Regulations of the Waterworks Districts to include provision for the use of recycled water; and negotiated a recycled water agreement with the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County for the annual purchase of up to 13,500 acre-feet of recycled water.

- Water Supply Reliability Charges – Establishment of the Water Supply Reliability Charges, which were approved by your Board on May 25, 2005, to provide funding to improve the reliability of the Districts' water supplies. The charges include components for water banking, groundwater supply, and recycled water.
- In-Lieu Water Storage – Negotiated and executed an agreement, which was authorized by your Board on June 19, 2007, with the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency, Palmdale Water District, and Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association for the in-lieu storage of 420 acre-feet of State Water Project water.
- Regional Water Conservation Coalition – Participated in the establishment of the Antelope Valley Water Conservation Coalition that includes the Cities of Lancaster and Palmdale, Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency, Antelope Valley Building Industry Association, and other interested parties.
- Water Wasting Advisory Notice Program – Administration of a program to notify the District's customers of incidents of water wasting (i.e., broken sprinkler heads, irrigation runoff, etc.) and encourage water conservation.
- Water Conservation Customer Rebate Program – Established a Water Conservation Customer Rebate Program, approved by your Board on June 4, 2008, to provide financial incentives to the Districts' customers to purchase and install pre-approved products to improve their water-use efficiency. The Program includes rebates for installation of high efficiency clothes washers, ultra low flow toilets, dual flush toilets, waterless urinals, smart weather-based sprinkler controllers, and rotating sprinkler nozzles.
- Upper Amargosa Creek Recharge Project – Participation with the City of Palmdale in a project to design and construct five off-channel and two in-channel recharge basins to allow for storage of surplus State Water Project water when it is available.

Department of Parks and Recreation

- **Water and Environmental Planning Section** – In anticipation of the serious water conservation and water quality issues facing the region and County, the Department of Parks and Recreation developed a Water and Environmental Planning Section, which is working in collaboration with other County departments and outside agencies on the following: park-watershed planning, lake planning and management, stormwater management in parks, recycled/reclaimed water, and water conservation and alternative energy planning.
- **Water Conservation Task Force** – The Department of Parks and Recreation created a task force consisting of water purveyors (Metropolitan Water District, West Basin Water District, Central Basin Water District, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, Rowland Water District, and Antelope Valley Sanitation District), and the Department of Public Works (Office of Water Recycling). The goal of this group is to expand the **Recycled Water Master Program** to all County park facilities for 100 percent use of recycled water for irrigation.
 - **Water Conservation and Recycled Water Use** – Reduction in usage of potable water by converting facilities to recycled water for irrigation, utilizing 2,000 acre-feet of recycled water annually.
 - **Other County Parks Currently on Recycled Water** – Cerritos, Countrywood, Alondra, Del Aire, Lennox, Sorenson, Sunshine, Whittier Narrows Recreation Area, and Apollo.
 - **County Golf Courses Currently on Recycled Water** – Mountain Meadows, Diamond Bar, Lakewood, Victoria, Chester Washington, and Whittier Narrows Recreation Area Golf Course recycled water project is currently underway.
- **Expanded Use of Native and Drought-Tolerant Plants** – The Department of Parks and Recreation developed policies and procedures for the use of native and drought-tolerant plants to be implemented at County parks and recreational facilities. Most recently, native and drought-tolerant plants have been installed at Cerritos Regional Park and Pickens Parks. There are 23 County parks currently with drought-tolerant and/or native plant material.

The following additional water conservation efforts are in progress:

- Recycled Water Master Program – Development of a Countywide Recycled Water Master Program for County parks and golf facilities, the goal is to establish 100 percent use of recycled water for irrigation.
- Energy and Water Conservation Pilot Project – Development of one energy and water conservation pilot project that will serve as a model for other facilities and incorporate successful results into County Park and Facilities Design Guidelines and Standards.
- Multi-Benefit Projects – Development of four multibenefit projects (stormwater quality projects) in collaboration with the Department of Public Works.
- Evapotranspiration (ET) Irrigation Systems – Design of efficient ET irrigation systems for disadvantaged parks to comply with Assembly Bill No. 2717, the Water Smart California Landscape Ordinance for immediate and long-term water conservation, and incorporate into County Park and Facilities Design guidelines and standards.
- Case Study of Energy Conservation System – Perform a case study of various energy conservation systems (solar-powered internal lighting, solar heating, high efficiency indoor water devices, high efficiency outdoor water devices, drought-tolerant plant material, and stormwater retention systems) for the development of park standards and incorporate successful results into County Park and Facilities Design Guidelines and Standards.
- Stormwater Management System – Develop and design a stormwater management system for the most disadvantaged park that will incorporate stormwater runoff and/or "first flush" filter strips, retention basins, bioswales, dry wells, and/or cisterns for groundwater recharge and irrigation.
- Water Conservation Grant/Funding Applications Pending – Applied for grants available through Proposition 84, Metropolitan Water District, and Proposition 50 for water conservation projects at over 80 Department of Parks and Recreation facilities (Smart Irrigation Systems).
- Swimming Lakes – Implementing suction pumps to draw water from swimming lakes to chlorinate rather than purchasing potable water and installing waterless urinals at park facilities.
- Synthetic Soccer Fields – Implementing synthetic soccer fields which will result in a decrease in water use.

Department of Regional Planning

- **Drought-Tolerant Landscaping** – Preparation of an ordinance, with the Department of Public Works, that establishes minimum standards for the design and installation of landscaping using drought-tolerant and native plants that require minimum water and ensure that the County will continue to realize the benefits of landscaping that is appropriate to the particular project and the region's climate. The drought-tolerant landscape ordinance will reduce the need for imported water by 65 percent compared to conventional landscapes. Additionally, drought-tolerant landscaping is being incorporated for all County facilities with landscaping plans approved after February 15, 2007. To date, landscaping plans incorporating native or drought-tolerant plants have been approved for 37 County facilities.
- **Low Impact Development (LID)** – Preparation of the Ordinance, with the Department of Public Works that establishes minimum standards to manage stormwater and other urban runoff. LID aims to protect surface and groundwater quality, maintain the integrity of aquatic living resources and ecosystems, and preserve the physical integrity of receiving streams by controlling rainfall, stormwater, and other urban runoff at the source. Key design features include: reducing the amount of stormwater and urban runoff by providing onsite storage measures, maximizing permeable surfaces on a lot, disconnecting impervious surfaces to reduce runoff, and treating runoff by routing it through vegetation.
- **Green Building Program** – Preparation of a report, with the Department of Public Works, entitled *Green Building Standards for the Unincorporated Areas of Los Angeles County*, which provides guidance for the implementation of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards of similar requirements in the County's development standards for all appropriate industrial, commercial, and residential development.

Internal Services Department

Internal Services Department (ISD) provides in-house, contracted, and advisory services in the areas of alterations and improvements, facilities maintenance and operations, energy management and custodial and grounds maintenance services. ISD operates building systems and provides maintenance and repair services to over 200 County facilities consisting of approximately 21,000,000 square feet.

Current Water Conservation Measures – The measures listed below are standard procedures currently used by ISD to ensure water conservation.

- Monitor and maintain flush valves on existing toilets and urinals – Maintaining flush valves on a routine basis ensures that leaks are discovered quickly, thus reducing the amount of water wasted and ensure all valves operate properly.
- Maintain aerators and flow restrictions on facets – Repair or replacement of aerators and flow restrictions control the stream of water to prevent splashing and limit the amount of water used during hand washing.
- Monitor pumps and seals for leaks – Various types of pumps are used to provide domestic water to all plumbing fixtures and are used to circulate comfort heating and cooling water used for air conditioning. With proper maintenance, energy costs are reduced and leaks are repaired preventing wasted water and possible building damage.
- Service cooling towers to maintain maximum efficiency and float levels to prevent overflow – Cooling towers use water to transfer building heat to the atmosphere to maintain a comfortable environment of building. They work similar to a car radiator.
- Check water make-up meters on closed loop chilled and hot water systems for excessive water use – Make-up meters are used to measure the amount of water lost during equipment operation. Measuring the amount of water consumed can reveal hidden water leaks or equipment failure.
- Regular irrigation checks – Inspect irrigation system to ensure time clocks, control valves, and sprinkler heads are functioning properly for correct time of day and length of watering cycles for type of plants installed.
- Retro-Commissioning buildings to provide more efficient air conditioning systems – Retro-Commissioning is a systematic, documented process that identifies low-cost operational and maintenance improvements in existing buildings and brings the building systems that use heated and chilled water to optimal performance. Retro-commissioning typically focuses on energy-using equipment and optimizes existing system performance, rather than relying on major equipment replacement. It typically results in improved indoor air quality, comfort, controls, energy efficiency, and water conservation.
- Continually monitor water bills – Check for unusual spikes in water consumption indicating possible leaks or problems. Coordinate with County departments to promote ways to conserve water and detect water leaks, or excessive water consumption.

- Installing new water saving devices – Installing waterless and low-flow fixtures when replacing existing fixtures significantly reduces the amount of water used.
- Landscape with drought-tolerant plants and vegetation – The installation of drought-tolerant plants at county facilities is used when replacement of plants is required.
- Touch-less type faucets – Replace faucets with touch-less type when existing cannot be repaired. Touch-less type faucets limit the amount of water per use.
- Remodel Projects – Install touch-less faucets and waterless urinals in all remodel projects.

Proposed Conservation Measures – Items proposed for future improvements in conservation measures.

- Power Plant Modifications – Investigate power plant modifications for use of recycled water in make-up water. Make-up water is used to cool the power plants equipment.
- "Retro Commissioning" Program – Partner with Public Works' Sewer Maintenance Division and County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County to develop a "retro-commissioning" program for water and wastewater systems.
- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design – Complete Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Existing Building (LEED EB) studies, which include water conservation measures.
- Upgrade urinals and toilets – Replace flush type urinals with a low-flow or waterless and replace high-consumption toilets with a low-flow. By converting urinals to waterless and all toilets to low-flow in the Hall of Administration, the County will save approximately 378,840 gallons of water per month or more than 4.5 million gallons per year.
- Energy and Water Efficiency Program – Management of an Energy and Water Efficiency Program with support from multiple other departments to further reduce County facilities' energy and water consumption through the establishment of specific reduction targets. The Program includes initiatives for an Energy Management Program, Facility Retrofitting Program, County Purchasing Policy (P-1050), Integrated Regional Water Management Planning (Department of Public Works), and Recycled Water Task Force (Department of Public Works).

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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held August 5, 2008, the Board took the following action:

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The following item was called up for consideration:

The Acting Director of Public Works' recommendation to adopt a resolution declaring a Countywide Water Supply and Conservation Alert urging County residents, businesses, local water purveyors and cities to intensify water conservation efforts; direct all County departments to evaluate water usage and immediately implement conservation measures; urge local water purveyors and cities to accelerate and intensify public outreach campaigns; also urge cities to update and adopt water wasting ordinances and prepare for the enforcement of the ordinances, if necessary; and encourage County residents to follow ten easy tips to reduce their water usage.

Dean D. Efstathiou, Acting Director of Public Works, responded to questions posed by the Board.

Arnold Sachs addressed the Board.

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried, the Acting Director of Public Works' attached recommendation was adopted as amended directing the Acting Director of Public Works to report back to the Board on a monthly basis on the progress of water conservation efforts.

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Attachment

Copies distributed:
Each Supervisor
Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Acting Director of Public Works