

# The Key to Solving California's Water Crisis

e often hear about the need to tackle tough problems, and there is no shortage to choose from. Among Southern California's tough issues, climate change is a complex and increasingly important one.

In our region, we're already seeing the impacts of climate changes. Droughts are getting longer and more severe; rain and snow come in bigger, more



intense storms. These volatile weather patterns place water at the forefront of climate change adaptation.

That's why water agencies and community leaders find themselves looking to forge innovative answers to one of the greatest dilemmas we may face. How can we think differently about our infrastructure and

our water storage and conveyance systems to meet these climate conditions?

Developing sustainable water supplies must take priority in our policymaking, legislation, and local action. We must cultivate positive, forward-looking solutions to current water supply problems. We also must foster collaborative relationships between stakeholders and drive our daily lives toward less waste and more efficient use of resources. If you're reading this publication, then you've already taken an important step in learning more.

Forging ahead, the mission is clear. We must prioritize infrastructure investments and innovative solutions that allow us to use and reuse every drop of water we have. We must modernize and integrate operations of our water grid, including reservoirs, conveyance, groundwater storage, recycling and recharge. Water supply sustainability is a big, complex problem that cannot be solved simply, but I believe we can do it.

I hope you'll join us in this effort — whether it is through learning more, changing water use habits, or working with policymakers and other leaders on long-term fixes. We can make a real impact if we work together.

#### **Charley Wilson Executive Director**

The Southern California Water Coalition, a nonprofit, nonpartisan public education partnership is dedicated to informing Southern Californians about our water needs and our state's water resources.





### Rain or Shine: Water Supply Issues Remain

A Sustainable Water Reserve Requires Conservation, Investment in Big Projects

By Elizabeth Smilor Special Sections Writer

#### Basic Water Fact #1:

Eighty percent of California's water demand comes from the southern two-thirds of the state and 75 percent of precipitation falls in the watersheds north of Sacramento. Thus, more than half of Southern California's water must be imported. Sources of imported water are the Los Angeles Aqueduct, State Water Project (SWP) and the Colorado River Aqueduct.

#### Basic Water Fact #2:

Southern California's population has grown by nearly 30 percent since 1990, but the total demand for water during that time dropped by almost 20 percent.

#### Basic Water Fact #3:

The current drought from 2020-2022 is the driest three years on record.

Publisher Chris Lancaster

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On the cover, Sean de Guzman, of the California Department of Water Resources Snow Surveys and Water Supply Forecasting Unit, inserts the long aluminum snow depth survey pole into the deep snow on Feb.1. Above, a drone provides a view of water pumped from the Harvey O. Banks Delta Pumping Plant into the California Aqueduct at 9,790 cubic feet per second after January storms. The photo was taken on Jan. 20. Winter storms have added much needed water to California reservoirs and groundwater basins, but officials caution that Photo courtesy of California Department of Water Resources long-term drought conditions persist.

hat is the takeaway from these simple facts about the very complicated California water picture? First, Southern California has to develop more local supply and the state needs to invest in improved conveyance and storage. Second, water conservation is and will continue to be a way of life. Lastly, don't let the recent rain and snow fool you, the drought isn't over.

"It's really tough when you see continuous news coverage of streets under water and houses flooded out, to talk about drought," said San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District General Manager Darin

"It's really tough when you see continuous news coverage of streets under water and houses flooded out, to talk about drought."

**Darin Kasamoto** General Manager, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District Kasamoto. "However, the overriding message, whether you call it drought or not, is that typically the area doesn't produce enough water to sustain historic needs and that's only going to get worse going forward."

Overall, the message from regional water managers is to keep up water conservation while they continue to invest in long-term water supply solutions from storage to recycling to improved statewide conveyance.

"I am of the opinion that the local water agencies do their part to conserve and to develop local supply sources. We do that very well," said Three Valleys Municipal Water District General Manager and

Chief Engineer Matt Litchfield. "To respond to climate change, we need big projects on the state level. We need generational change from the state of California on how we capture and manage our water resources. What worked 40 years ago, doesn't work now."

"To respond to climate change, we need big projects on the state level."

Matt Litchfield, P.E. General Manager and Chief Engineer Three Valleys Municipal Water District

Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District General Manager Tom Love said he once heard water management described as facing "a 21st Century climate with 20th Century infrastructure and 19th Century water law."

"Water policy needs to evolve," he said. "One of my challenges is to get everyone to understand that we need to find better ways to bring in much, much more water when

it's plentiful and store it because we are going to be in worse situations than this last drought. Hoping for rain is not a sustainable water management policy."

The January storms contributed significantly to California's reservoirs, including Lake Oroville (the largest on the SWP) that went from 28 percent capacity to 70 percent by mid-February before another set of storms. The influx of rainfall and the coming snowmelt, prompted Gov. Gavin Newsom to sign an executive order on Feb. 13 to modify

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The Joint Water Pollution Control Plant (JWPCP) in Carson treats about 260 million gallons of wastewater per day, but most goes to the ocean. Pure Water Southern California, a joint project of the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, would produce 150 million gallons per day (mgd) of purified water from the JWPCP for 15 million people upon completion in 2032.

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requirements in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta in order to hold more water in Lake Oroville and in reservoirs south of the Delta.

"Water policy needs to evolve. One of my challenges is to get everyone to understand that we need to find better ways to bring in much, much more water ..."

#### Tom Love General Manager Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water

"I was glad to hear about the executive order, but executive orders are not law," said California Assemblymember Blanca Rubio (D-Baldwin Park). "This response is reactionary. The conversation about storage has been going on for decades and conservation is always on the table. We need real, long-term solutions."

Rubio, whose 48th District encompasses part of the San Gabriel Valley, serves on the Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee where at least a half dozen bills pertaining

to water regulations and storage are currently on the table. Rubio has supported San Gabriel Basin groundwater cleanup efforts and will continue to support projects that improve local supply.

"The big picture is that if we can supply more of our own water that lessens the impact on the imported water supplies," she said. "The more we have available, the less impact on other areas of the state."

Three Valleys, a water wholesaler with 13 members in the San Gabriel Valley; Upper District, which serves 18 cities and portions of unincorporated Los Angeles County; and SGVMWD, which provides supplemental water from the SWP for the communities of Alhambra, Azusa, Monterey Park and Sierra Madre, all purchase imported water via the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

The drought has added stress to the SWP and allocations to Metropolitan have been drastically cut. For much of the drought, Southern California received a five percent allocation. The January rains prompted the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to increase the allocation to 30 percent and then to 35 percent on Feb. 22 before additional winter storms.

The regional agencies support and have invested in the Delta Conveyance Project, which would divert water before it reaches the ecologically sensitive Delta and move it through a tunnel to reservoirs south of the Delta. While a Draft Environmental Impact Report has been completed and the public input window has ended, the project is at least a decade away.

Had the proposed Delta Conveyance Project been in place, the SWP could have stored an additional 202,000 acre-feet of water- enough to supply more than 710,000 households for a year – between Jan. 1 and Jan. 23, while staying within compliance of rules to protect endangered species, according to the California Department of Water Resources.

Locally, stormwater capture is improving but is highly dependent on the area. L.A. County Public Works reports that nearly 50 billion gallons of stormwater was captured from October -January. The Safe Clean Water Program, approved by L.A County voters as Measure W in 2018, is a 2.5-cent per square foot of impermeable space tax to support stormwater capture. The program aims to conserve an additional 18.5 billion gallons over the next five years as projects are completed.

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# THE DROUGHT IS NOT OVER WE NEED TO CONTINUE TO BE WATER SMART

# Tips

to use water wisely

#### Did you know

watering your lawn only when it needs it can add up to major savings? Water only in the early morning hours and you will save up to 25 gallons each time you water!

#### Did you know

replacing a portion of your lawn with beautiful native and California Friendly® plants will save 1,000 to 1,800 gallons of water per month, depending on your climate?

#### Did vou know

washing a car by hand uses about 150 gallons of water? Using a self-closing spray nozzle can save 8 to 18 gallons every minute!

#### Did you know

washing dishes at the sink uses about 20 gallons of water on average? An Energy Star® dishwasher uses just 4 gallons per load, while a standard dishwasher uses about 6 gallons per load. If you run the dishwasher only when it is full, you'll save even more!

#### Did you know

a standard faucet uses 3 to 7 gallons of water per minute, while a water-efficient faucet uses as little as 1.5 gallons per minute? Installing low-flow aerators on your faucets can save thousands of gallons of water a year!

### Remember **Saving Water is the Right Thing to Do!**





The Santa Fe Spreading Grounds, shown above, are operated and maintained by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. The spreading grounds in Irwindale are designed to control flooding and conserve water through stormwater capture that recharges the Main San Gabriel groundwater basin.

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San Gabriel Valley residents and water managers are fortunate to have the Main San Gabriel Basin, a groundwater basin with a surface

"The conversation about storage has been going on for decades and conservation is always on the table. We need real, long-term solutions."

Blanca Rubio California Assemblymember area of approximately 167 square miles and a fresh water storage capacity of about 8.6 million acre-feet. About 85 percent of the San Gabriel Basin's demand is met with local groundwater, 10 percent is from imported water and 5 percent is from other local supplies (recycled water and local surface water diversions).

Upper District tracks rainfall in the upper San Gabriel Valley watershed, north of Whittier Narrows, and on average 98 percent of that rainfall is captured by

L.A. County Public Works and Flood Control District infrastructure and filtered into the Basin, said Love.

"I would say if there's a model for stormwater capture it's the San Gabriel Valley," said Three Valleys' Litchfield. "But we have to recharge with imported water."

The other long-term, drought-resistant solution to improving regional water supply is water recycling. Currently, two major projects are in development.

Pure Water Southern California, a joint project of the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts and Metropolitan, would produce 150 million gallons per day (mgd) of purified water for 15 million people upon completion in 2032.

"We recycle water at 10 of our 11 treatment plants but send a lot out to the ocean from that 11th plant. We can purify that water to create a

sustainable supply for our region," said L.A. County Sanitation Districts General Manager and Chief Engineer Robert Ferrante. "This is the least costly way to fill that gap. Imported water is less reliable year to year.

The water purification process is proposed at the Sanitation Districts' Joint Water Pollution Control Plant in Carson. The project is supported by the San Gabriel Valley water managers.

"For our San Gabriel Valley water supply, the most important initiative is the Pure Water Southern California project," said Love, from Upper

"We recycle water at 10 of our 11 treatment plants but send a lot out to the ocean from that 11th plant. We can purify that water to create a sustainable supply for our region."

**Robert Ferrante** General Manager and Chief Engineer **LACSD** 

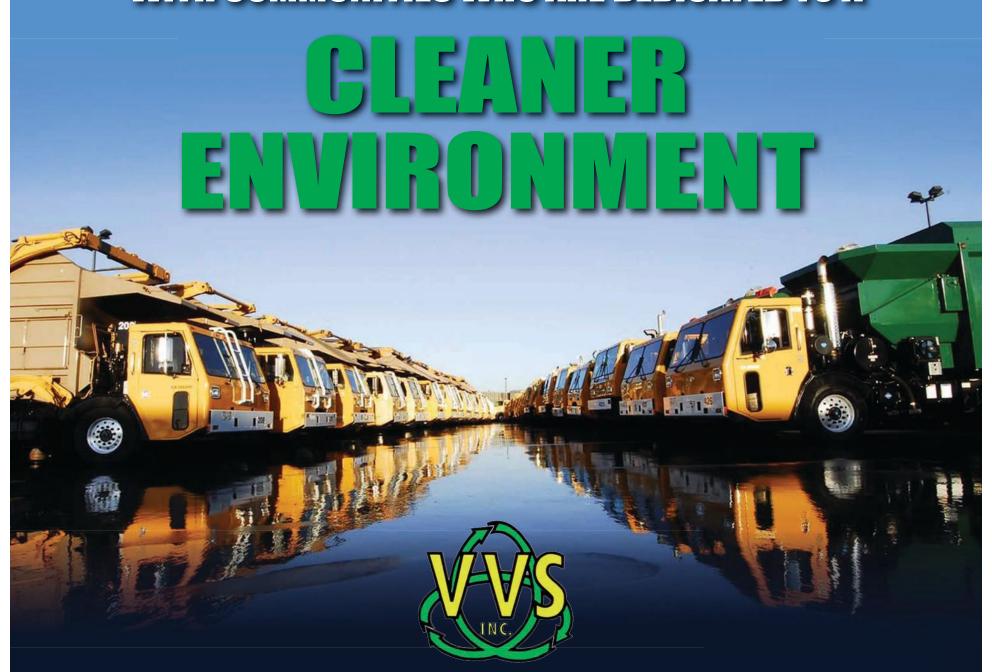
District. "It will be the largest water recycling facility in the country when it's built in 10 years or less. It will have a pipeline from Carson to the Santa Fe Dam spreading grounds and will deliver enough recycled water to SGV to eliminate entirely our dependence on imported water."

The City of Los Angeles has its own wastewater recycling project in the works. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) is partnered with the city's Sanitation and Environment (LASAN) department for the co-programs Operation NEXT/Hyperion 2035 to maximize water

recycling from the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant for beneficial use by the City of the Los Angeles. Hyperion will be the source water and Operation NEXT will be the conveyance and management of that supply, said LADWP's Senior Assistant Manager of the Water System Anselmo Collins, Sr.

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### **VALLEY VISTA IS PROUD TO PARTNER** WITH COMMUNITIES WHO ARE DEDICATED TO A



### **VALLEY VISTA SERVICES**

**Waste Disposal and Recycling Division** 800-442-6454 • 17445 E. Railroad St., City of Industry, CA 91748



















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# Restoring a Valuable Regional Asset

San Gabriel Basin WQA Continues to Seek Funds for Groundwater Cleanup

By Elizabeth Smilor Special Sections Writer

"We see the Basin as an extremely valuable asset. Our communities have a great local source for clean drinking water and part of our mission is to help protect it."

Randy Schoellerman, P.E. **Executive Director** San Gabriel Basin

Water Quality Authority

bout several hundred feet below much of the San Gabriel Valley is a massive groundwater basin with the capacity to store 2.8 trillion gallons of water. The Main San Gabriel Basin accounts for 80 percent of the drinking water for more than 1.4 million people.



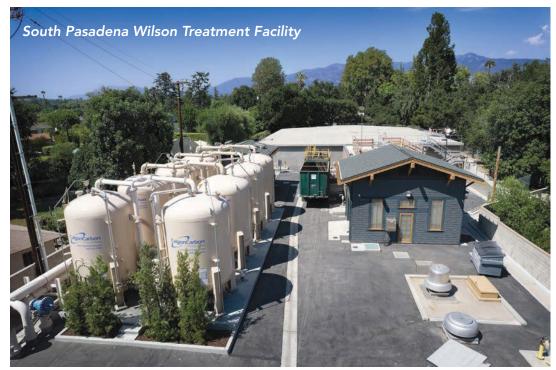
Randy Schoellerman

"We see the Basin as an extremely valuable asset. Our communities have a great local source for clean drinking water and part of our mission is to help protect it," said San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority (WQA) Executive Director Randy Schoellerman.

The WQA was established by the State Legislature in 1993 to develop, finance, and implement groundwater treatment programs in the San Gabriel Basin after contaminants were identified in the late 1970s. The contamination is believed to be the result of decades of improper chemical handling and disposal practices by

various industries. As a result, water suppliers had to shut down wells and large portions of the basin were placed on the federal Superfund cleanup list in 1984.

"Our role is coordinating the cleanup of the Basin to ensure the sustainability of that groundwater supply for today and for future generations," said Schoellerman. "As prolonged drought impacts affect the big water picture, a clean Basin becomes even



The San Gabriel Basin Quality Authority coordinates the cleanup of contaminants from the Basin. There are 33 active groundwater treatment plants, two of which are shown at left and above. Site investigations, as shown at right, continue to find new areas of contamination.

more important. The region needs to store local recharge and imported water in wet years in order to be sustainable in dry years. Restoring the Basin will create a reliable source of drinking water for generations to come."

There are 33 active groundwater treatment plants in the San Gabriel Basin. The WQA has coordinated cleanup efforts that have resulted in the treatment of more than 1.9 million acre-feet of water. An acre-foot is equal to approximately 326,000 gallons. Though variable, about 200,000 acre-feet of water is pumped from the Basin annually and distributed. The San Gabriel Basin is the primary source of drinking water for residents in Alhambra, Irwindale, La Puente, Rosemead, Azusa, Baldwin Park, City of Industry, El Monte, South El Monte, West Covina, Glendora, Monrovia, Arcadia and other areas of the San Gabriel Valley.

The cleanup is partially funded with state and federal monies as well as significant contributions from the responsible parties. This funding helps to lessen the burden on local ratepayers.

In the past two fiscal years, the WQA has received two \$10 million federal Restoration Fund allocations following a decade without any. The funds help to pay for new and existing treatment facilities and contaminant investigations, but fall far short of the almost \$200 million in project requests received by the WQA this past year.



"We are at the forefront in supporting the remediation of Per- and Polyfluorinated Substances (PFAS), an emerging contaminant of great concern in many areas," said Schoellerman. "It's important that we continue to receive sufficient funds to not only keep the treatments plants operating, but to address these new contaminants."

The California Legislature has extended the life of the WQA to July 1, 2050. Both the changing climate and the emergence of new groundwater contaminants illustrate the continued need for the WOA for a resilient and sustainable future.

#### **Board Members**



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**Robert Gonzales Board Member** 



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# The Beauty of a Water-Saving Yard

Receive Money through Rebates and Save Dollars with Drought-Tolerant Landscapes

By Elizabeth Smilor Special Sections Writer s the catch-phrase goes, beauty is in the eye of the beholder. The challenge for water districts and cities promoting outdoor water conservation is in changing the perception of the beholder.

"Ultimately, given our dire water supply situation, we have to change the aesthetic. We have to get away from green grass and the rolling perfect lawn as what we aspire to have," said David Bare, Director of Horticulture and Garden Operations at Descanso Gardens in La Cañada Flintridge. "In Southern California, we've had a very water-intensive landscape for a very long time. The message has been that you can grow anything you want here as long as you can put the water on it. We can't put the water on it anymore."

The good news is there are a lot of beautiful drought-tolerant landscape options and many financial incentives offered by water districts and cities. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California via their member water agencies offers rebates on smart irrigation devices as well as turf replacement.

Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Upper District), which serves 18 cities and portions of unincorporated Los Angeles County, promotes Metropolitan's rebates to its retailers, including a \$2-per-square-foot turf replacement program.

"We work very closely with Upper District to help our residents," said Monrovia Interim Director of Public Works Alex Tachiki. "We have staff assigned to help with water conservation programs and communicate between the residents and Upper District."

The City of Monrovia took their program one step further, increasing the turf rebate by \$1 per square foot. After Gov. Gavin Newsom included Los Angeles County in the drought emergency declaration last October, the city enforced a 10 percent water-use reduction and promoted conservation incentives for its community. The mandate resulted in more than \$900,000 in penalty revenue. The Monrovia City Council voted to reinvest that money back into the community and increased the turf rebate from \$3 per square foot to \$4 per square foot for fiscal year 2022-23.



At Descanso Gardens in La Cañada Flintridge, there are many examples of drought-tolerant and native California plants, from salvia to succulents to poppies. At right, whimsical fish sculptures with ornamental grass are part of the Center Circle "Water Evocative" garden. Photos courtesy of Descanso Gardens

"Since the governor's announcement, we've seen an increase in turf removal projects," said Tachiki, adding the approved projects went from one or two a year to 36 this fiscal year. In 2021-22, there were 22 approved projects. "We are retroactively paying those residents (from 2021-22) the additional \$1 per square foot, because we didn't want to penalize them for doing the right thing at that time."

If you want to convert your landscape, Bare says now is a good time to get started as it's best to plant before the heat of the summer. To establish a strong root system for plants and trees, gardeners need to give the plants a little more water than usual at first.

Before you rip out your lawn, go to Metropolitan's rebate website socalwatersmart.com or contact your city or water agency. You have to apply for the rebate before beginning your project.

Once you have project approval, plan your space and cut out your sod. Then, says Bare, spend some time with your soil. Dig up, cover or smother weeds or stubborn Bermuda grass and amend your soil with sand and compost to create good drainage. Then, put in any hardscape and install a drip irrigation system with a programmable clock. Finally, plant your drought-tolerant plants.

For inspiration, visit Descanso Gardens where many California native and drought-tolerant landscapes are on display. Bare said they recently redesigned the Center Circle near the entrance as a "Water Evocative" garden.

"We want to evoke the feeling of water without it being water," Bare said, explaining how they used cascading mirrors in a fountain and have ornamental grass shooting from sculptural fish mouths. "We wanted it to be a little bit whimsical, but also get the message across about drought tolerance."

Bare advises home gardeners to consider a variety of factors when planning a landscape, including how colors work together, when flowers bloom, how the plants support wildlife such as bees, butterflies and birds, as well as ease of maintenance.

"I think gardens are so many things at one time," said Bare. "Gardens are supposed to be beautiful, first and foremost, and they're supposed to bring joy into your life. Let's not forget that part."

### What to Plant

Descanso Gardens Director of Horticulture and Garden Operations David Bare shared a few drought-tolerant plants that are currently doing well at Descanso and add interest to any space.



Leucadendrons (Conebushes): This flowering plant is endemic to South Africa and comes in many varieties, including Ebony (dark, winecolored foliage), Wilson's Wonder (yellow cast), and Safari Sunset (scarlet red, shown above).



eonothus (California lilac): A full-sun California native shrub with bunches of vivid blue blooms.

Ornamental grasses: One example is White Cloud Muhly Grass that produces billowy white seed heads.



Native trees: Arbutus Marina (strawberry tree, shown above) and Manzanita trees do well in our

Succulents: The stark shapes of agaves and aloes add a "sculptural element" to landscapes, said Bare. "And you can't get more droughttolerant!"





At left, a drone view of the California Aqueduct in Kern County. Above, the Harvey O. Banks Delta Pumping Plant in Alameda County as it lifts water into the California Aqueduct. As part of the State Water Project, the aqueduct carries water from from north to south. Photos courtesy of California Department of Water Resources

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"LADWP has developed a variety of master plans to diversify our water supply, protect existing supplies, and better forecast future conditions.

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Anselmo Collins, Sr. Senior Assistant Manager of the Water System Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

Due to potential climate change impacts and risks to existing water supplies, LADWP is evaluating all available options for the City's water supply portfolio," Collins said. "This multi-faceted approach and strategy includes recycled water, groundwater, stormwater, water conservation and use efficiency. The approach best ensures future supply reliability, resiliency, and sustainability."

The Operation NEXT Program is currently in the pre-planning stages. Hyperion 2035 is currently in the conceptual planning stages.

LASAN aims to complete the Implementation Plan by early 2024. They will be built in phases with the goal of producing 50 mgd by 2032.

"The Hyperion 2035 and Operation NEXT programs are the two programs in Los Angeles that would collectively provide up to 230 mgd of new recycled water as a new, local source of water for potable reuse," said LASAN Director and General Manager Barbara Romero. "It reduces

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Barbara Romero LASAN Director and General Manager

the City's reliance on imported water, and makes that imported water potentially available for other areas in Southern California. It's a program by and for Los Angeles, but providing benefits that extend to the region and state."

Water managers are glad the big projects are moving forward, but the short-term picture remains the same. Much of California is still under drought conditions.

"Conservation is a way of life. There's no way around it," said SGVMWD's Kasamoto. "Water is not an issue unless there's flooding

or a drought. Otherwise, people don't think about it. The rain helps, but we're definitely not out of the woods." ■



Anselmo Collins, Sr. Senior Asst. Mgr. Water System Los Angeles Dept. of Water and Power



**Darin Kasamoto** General Manager San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District



**Robert Ferrante** General Manager and Chief Engineer L.A. County Sanitation Districts



Matt Litchfield, P.E. General Manager and Chief Engineer Three Valleys **MWD** 



**Tom Love** General Manager Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District



**Barbara Romero** Director and General Manager LA City Sanitation



**Blanca Rubio** California Assemblymember 48th District



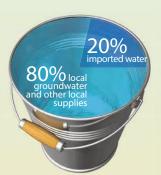
# TAKING STEPS TOWARD A SUSTAINABLE WATER FUTURE

Rainfall, Snowpack, Groundwater, Reservoirs & Imported Water Supplies **Are Trending Positively** 

#### **SGVMWD Mission Statement**

The San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District provides reliable supplemental water for the communities of Alhambra, Azusa, Monterey Park and Sierra Madre in a cost-effective and environmentally responsible manner.

## LET'S STAY THE COURSE!



Groundwater: 80% of the water we use in the San Gabriel Valley is groundwater, created by runoff from rainfall, streams and local mountains into the Main San Gabriel Basin. We average 17 inches of rain annually, not enough to support our growing population and economy.

Recent stormwater runoff will take time to reach and improve groundwater levels, and cleanup of contaminated wells reduces access to some aroundwater.

**Recycled Water:** Reuse of purified wastewater is becoming more feasible and safer. The District supports the Metropolitan Water District's Pure Water Southern California project initiative which has the potential to add 150 million gallons per day of purified wastewater to our local water supply.

The Pure Water Southern California Project is a decade away from completion.





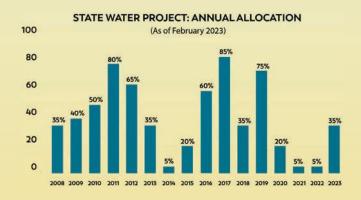
**Public Support for Sustainability and Conservation: The** public has voted its support for investments in water supply and water quality infrastructure projects and conservation. The San Gabriel Valley exceeded the State's mandatory 25% conservation requirement in the last drought and we are building a conservation ethic for the future. Conservation is efficient: every drop of water we save is a drop we don't need to import, pump, treat, recycle, desalinate, or pay for.

The State has called for 15% voluntary water use reductions, but conservation levels have been lower than desired.



Imported Water: Water imported from northern California by the State Water Project (SWP) to supplement local groundwater provides about 20% of our water supply. Allocations to State Water Contractors, such as the SGVMWD, increased to 35% in 2023. The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the hub of the SWP, is vulnerable to earthquakes, flooding and rising sea levels. More than \$340 million has been pledged, \$2.68 million by SGVMWD, to plan the Delta Conveyance Project, which would increase sustainability of the Delta and imported water supplies.

The chart below shows the variability of imported water supplies. The Delta Conveyance Project is about a decade from completion.







Thank U, for... Growing gorgeous gardens.

Save water today for tomorrow's harvest.





Director Anthony R. Fellow Division 1



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Director Katarina Garcia Secretary Division 4



Director Jennifer Santana Vice President Division 5

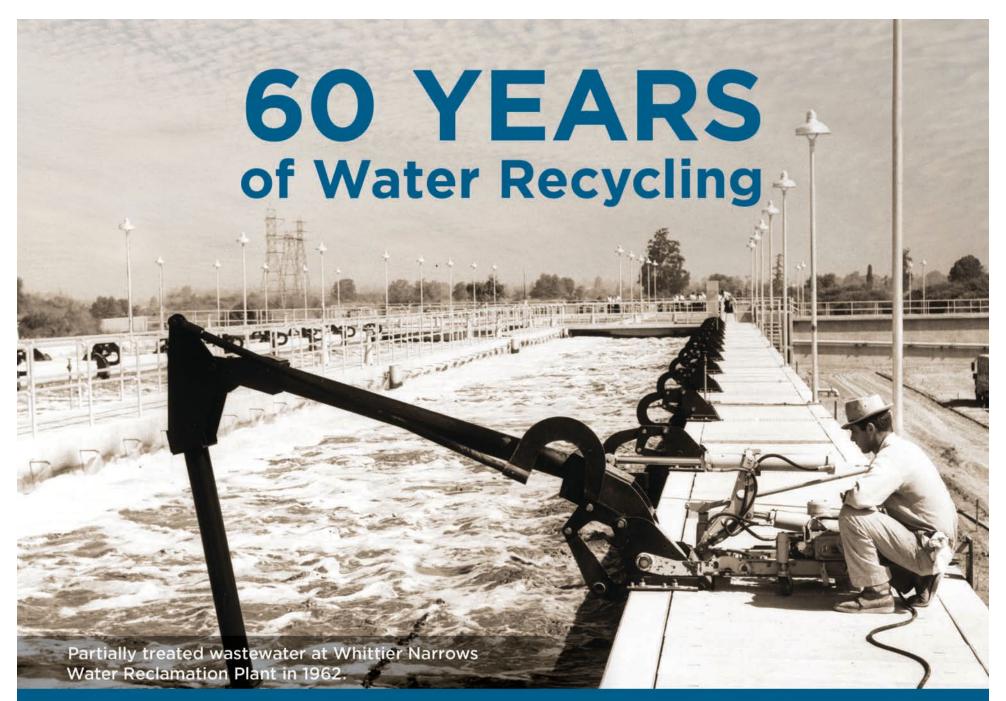
For more information on the drought and water conservation visit www.upperdistrict.org/drought/











### **OVER 1 TRILLION GALLONS RECYCLED**

In Los Angeles County, about half of our drinking water comes from wells pumping up groundwater and the remainder is imported from hundreds of miles away-from the Colorado River and Northern California. In 1962, our Whittier Narrows Water Reclamation Plant began producing recycled water that is used to refill our groundwater basins. Since then, we have been recycling at 10 of our 11 wastewater treatment plants and, along with our water agency partners, have recycled over 1 trillion gallons. That's enough water to fill an 8-foot diameter pipe that circles the earth 23 times! This recycling reduces the need to import water and makes our region more sustainable.

Nonetheless, we are striving to do more. We have partnered with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California on a project to reuse the water from our 11th treatment plant. This project could produce enough water for 1.5 million people, making it one of the world's largest water recycling projects.

For more info, contact us at info@lacsd.org or 562-908-4288, ext. 2301. For more on the new recycling project, visit www.mwdh2o.com/rrwp.



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