

**CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT****JUNE 6, 2007 - Communications**

Apodaca, Chacon

**JUNE 22, 2007 - Special Board Meeting**

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## INFORMATION CALENDAR

CONSERVATION UPDATESUMMARY:**Conservation Master Plan Implementation**Commercial Industrial Institutional: Save Water – Save A Buck Program

Additional funding, approved by the Board in November 2006 along with contributions from outside partners, was used to increase incentives for commercial devices through the Save A Buck program and has been pivotal to the success of the commercial program. Working with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) and its vendor Honeywell, the District has distributed nearly \$110,000 in additional incentives to Commercial, Industrial, Institutional (CII) customers. So far this fiscal year, the District has more than doubled the number of CII rebates distributed in previous years.

Zero Consumption Urinal Installation Program (Proposition 13)

The Zero Consumption Urinal Installation Program is a Proposition 13 Water Use Efficiency grant sponsored by the Department of Water Resources (DWR). Falcon Waterfree Technologies was hired to market, furnish and install the urinals to commercial sites in the District's service area. To date, Falcon has installed 1,756 zero consumption urinals and has 844 urinals to install by the end of the program. This pilot program is scheduled to end in April 2009.

Weather Based Irrigation Controllers (Proposition 50)

The End Use Management System program is a Proposition 50 Water Use Efficiency Technical Study sponsored by the DWR. The contractor hired by the District to furnish and install the equipment is HydroEarth.

Through this End Use Management grant, the District provides cities and other large landscape sites with a centralized management system that is made up of WBICs, wireless patented valves and a computer to maintain the operations of the system. Funding from the grant and MWD provide these End Use Management systems to customers at little to no cost.

The End Use Management program began February 2006 and is scheduled to end in June 30, 2008, with the completion of approximately 10 cities and/or large sites. To date, three End Use Management systems, for a total of 14 controllers, have been installed at the following locations:

- South Gate Park;
- Nine parks and City Hall in the City of Montebello; and
- Six Downey Unified School District campuses.

## **Partnerships**

### LivingWise

The District successfully completed this program in partnership with Southern California Edison, Southern California Gas Company and their vendor LivingWise. This program provides a classroom lesson for students on how to conduct a water and energy audit in their own homes and provides them with all the tools in a take-home kit. Through the LivingWise program, approximately 1,600 sixth graders received water/energy-efficient devices to install in their own homes.

As a part the program, the vendor will provide the District with survey results as to the communities' acceptance of the program and reports on actual water savings.

### Water/Energy

The projected start date of July 1, 2007, for the Water and Energy pilot programs has been pushed back due to issues and questions raised by the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and ratepayer advocacy groups. Most of the issues raised relate to the cost-effectiveness of saving energy through water conservation programs and how to measure the savings.

The District will continue to be heavily involved in the approval process of the pilot programs and will update the Board on the progress. Once the proposed programs are approved by the PUC, \$1.7 million will be provided by SCE for the installation of HETs and \$282,000 for schools program in low-income communities.

### Purveyors

Several purveyors and outside agencies have expressed interest in partnering with the District to supplement the conservation program. So far, the estimated additional funding from other agencies for fiscal year 2007-08 is \$139,600.

Additionally, a survey to better understand the conservation marketing material needs of our purveyors was conducted to identify retailers that need bill inserts and/or jumbo post cards to mail directly to their customers. The bill inserts and post cards will offer different conservation topics varying from advertisements on current programs to seasonal tips.

Through this effort, the District is able to provide assistance to purveyors in promoting conservation programs in areas that are financially restricted from creating their own marketing materials.

**Bell Gardens - California Friendly City Grant**

Through this MWD grant, the City of Bell Gardens will be transformed into the First California Friendly City. Several water-saving devices are scheduled for installation in public areas throughout the City, and the City has already received 18 Waterbrooms.

In the upcoming months, staff will coordinate with Bell Gardens and MWD to launch the "California Friendly City Events Week." With resources from the three agencies, a whole week of activities will be hosted in Bell Gardens in early August to raise public awareness about conservation and the First California Friendly City grant. This awareness week will coincide with the City's 46<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Updates on the planned events and implementation of the grant will be provided to the Board.

**FISCAL IMPACTS:**

None.

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:**

Not applicable.

**COMMITTEE STATUS:**

This item was reviewed by the Communications Committee on June 6, 2007 and was agendaized to the June 22, 2007 Special Board meeting.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

This item is for information only.

**EXHIBITS:**

None.