



Central Basin Municipal Water District

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Small Businesses Connect with Government Agencies

Central Basin MWD Hosts Seminar to Highlight Partnership Opportunities

Santa Fe Springs, CA – More than 125 people packed the Santa Fe Springs Town Hall Center last week for “Connect at Met,” a seminar for small business owners to get an edge in attracting clients from the public sector. Assemblymembers Ronald S. Calderon and Rudy Bermudez were on hand to support the program hosted by Central Basin Municipal Water District and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD).

Central Basin and MWD Director Robert Apodaca kicked off the seminar that included speakers from MWD, Los Angeles Unified School District and the Port of Los Angeles, who offered small businesses insight into the world of government contracts.

“This is a program that is very important to me,” said Dir. Apodaca, Board President representing Division II, which includes Santa Fe Springs. “There are lots of opportunities available, but small businesses don’t know about them and don’t think they have the resources to compete. We wanted to show them that this isn’t true. And it also helps government agencies better understand how to reach out to community businesses.”

“Connect at Met” speakers highlighted all of the opportunities available within their agencies and provided small businesses with advice on how to make themselves marketable to large public agencies. Bank and accounting executives gave a presentation on how to grow small businesses by making smart financial decisions. After the event was completed, networking time was provided for the small businesses and government agencies to develop future business connections.

The seminar was the first offered through MWD's Regional/Small Business Program, which offers incentives to local, small, minority and women-owned businesses. By reaching out to small businesses, public agencies are able to invest in the communities they serve and help local economy thrive.

For more information on MWD's Regional/Small Business Program, please visit www.mwdh2o.com.

Central Basin is a public agency that wholesales imported water to cities, mutual water companies, investor-owned utilities and private companies in southeast Los Angeles County, serving a population of more than 1.5 million. In addition, Central Basin provides the region with recycled water for municipal, commercial and industrial uses. Formed in 1952, Central Basin is committed to ensuring a safe and reliable water supply for the region.

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