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Water Reliability Gets a Shot in the Arm with California WaterFix and Pure Water Las Virgenes-Triunfo Projects

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) Board historically voted on Tuesday to proceed with the full twin tunnel California WaterFix Project to more efficiently distribute Bay Delta water.

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For Immediate Release

Climate change, water reliability concerns, increasing water demand and environmental stressors have created a need to ensure that Sierra Nevada Mountain snowmelt be more easily diverted to the existing State Water Project for use in the agriculturally rich San Joaquin Valley and here in Southern California.

The WaterFix, one of Governor Brown's signature accomplishments, was made possible by the cooperation and foresight of many State Water Project Contractors, MWD member agencies and cities and communities from across the State.

While many MWD member agencies can produce locally-sourced water, LVMWD relies exclusively on State Water Project supplies as its only source of drinking water for use throughout the District's service area.

"LVMWD currently relies 100% upon imported water to provide and sustain the drinking water needs of our residents, businesses and schools," said Susan Pan, board member of the Triunfo Sanitation District. "This project will help ensure that our communities have adequate water supplies for generations to come."

This week, Las Virgenes Triunfo-JPA board members and staff met with lawmakers in Washington D.C. to discuss the "Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo," and how this innovative project will produce viable, clean and healthy potable water by recycling wastewater from the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility and mixing it with existing State Water Project water, for later use, in the Las Virgenes Reservoir.

"Creating a locally-sourced water supply enables us to diversify our water portfolio, which is critical to ensuring reliability and managing tough drought years when imported supplies are limited," said David Pedersen, general manager of

LVMWD. "We spent several days with our legislators gaining support for the project and requesting assistance for the necessary funding mechanisms to make this project a reality."

The Pure Water Project is in its early stages of development, but the demonstration facility is slated to break ground later this year and will be completed and open for tours to the public sometime in 2019. The project will close the sustainability loop by virtually eliminating discharge from the wastewater plant into Malibu Creek and instead using that water to produce clean, healthy drinking water for future generations.

"I have dedicated a major portion of my life to California water by serving on both the LVMWD and the MWD Boards for over 32 years. The most important part of that service has been to make sure that our communities have a clean and reliable water supply," said Glen Peterson, LVMWD and MWD board member. "Voting in favor of the California WaterFix this week and knowing that the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo, with support from our elected officials, are both moving forward are two of the most significant benefits to our region that I could have ever dreamed of advancing; and they both are happening together."

For more information on the Pure Water Project, please visit us on our website at LVMWD.com/Pure-Water-Project

The Las Virgenes - Triunfo Joint Powers Authority is comprised of Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and Triunfo Sanitation District. The JPA provides wastewater treatment, recycled water service and biosolids composting for residents and businesses in Agoura Hills, Calabasas, North Ranch, Oak Park, portions of Thousand Oaks, Westlake Village, and surrounding unincorporated areas of eastern Ventura and western Los Angeles Counties.