



For Immediate Release:
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**WEST BASIN DIRECTOR DONALD L. DEAR APPOINTED TO
METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
Dear Brings 13 Years' Experience as Water Leader to New Post

CARSON, Calif. — Director Donald L. Dear (Division V) of the West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) has been appointed by the West Basin Board of Directors to succeed Director Edward C. Little (Division IV) as one of two West Basin Directors appointed to the Metropolitan Water District (Metropolitan) of Southern California Board of Directors. The Metropolitan Board of Directors is made up of 37 members appointed by Metropolitan's 26-member agencies. Director Gloria D. Gray (Division II) remains seated as the second West Basin representative.

Donald L. Dear was elected to the West Basin Board of Directors in November 2000 to represent the cities of Gardena, Hawthorne, Lawndale and portions of El Camino Village. He is currently serving his fourth term after being re-elected in November 2012. Director Dear joined the West Basin Board with diverse experience including public service, as Mayor of Gardena, Calif. for nine consecutive terms before his retirement in 2001. Since 2004, Director Dear has served on the Local Agency Formation Commission, an agency that oversees changes to local government boundaries involving the formation and expansion of cities and special districts where he currently serves as first Vice Chair. He is also a respected and award-winning teacher who taught at Stephen White Middle School in Carson, Calif. for 37 years.

"It is with great honor that I follow in the footsteps of legendary water leader Edward C. Little," said Donald L. Dear, West Basin Director. "Ed has provided exemplary leadership for both Metropolitan and West Basin for many years. He has contributed to some of the most important decisions in Southern California's water history and I am committed to continuing his legacy at Metropolitan as we plan for future water supplies for Southern California," he said.

Director Little served as a Metropolitan Water District Board Member from 1994 to September of 2013. He retired from the Metropolitan Board to devote more time progressing West Basin's Water Reliability 2020 program which was initiated to provide a more reliable water future for coastal Los Angeles through water recycling, water conservation and researching ocean-water desalination.

Director Little was one of the original five visionary West Basin Board Members who approved building a pioneering water recycling facility in the early 1990s, a facility that today is nationally recognized as a leading state-of-the-art research facility. The Edward C. Little Water Recycling facility, named in his honor, provides five "designer waters" that are specially designed water qualities for unique industrial customer needs. West Basin's recycled water program has recycled more than 100 billion gallons of water, which reduces the use of imported water and saves drinking water supplies. The facility brings more than 6,000 school children and guests for educational tours each year.

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West Basin Municipal Water District is a wholesale water district that serves nearly one million people in 17 cities and unincorporated areas throughout its 185-square mile service area. West Basin is reducing its dependence on imported water through doubling conservation, doubling recycled water production and researching ocean-water desalination as part of the agencies Water Reliability 2020 program. Partnering with community organizations, businesses and other public agencies keeps West Basin lean and strengthens its programs. www.westbasin.org