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NEW GRANT FUNDING FOR WATER BOTTLE FILLING STATIONS AVAILABLE

Eligible public facilities can now receive up to \$2,000 to help the community access drinking water, stay hydrated and reduce plastic waste

CARSON, Calif. – The <u>West Basin Municipal Water District</u> (West Basin) announced its Water Bottle Filling Station Grant Program will return for another year with increased funding opportunities. Eligible public facilities can apply for a \$1,000 grant to install indoor water bottle filling stations. New funding includes a larger, \$2,000 grant for outdoor filling stations, which can cost more than indoor units. The popular program provides community members with access to safe, reliable drinking water and encourages users to refill personal, eco-friendly water bottles to reduce plastic waste.

"West Basin is pleased to not only renew this successful grant program, but also to provide additional funding for outdoor filling stations that usually cost more than indoor units," said West Basin Board President Scott Houston. "The drinking water in our service area is high quality and we want to ensure our residents have access to it while doing our part to reduce unnecessary waste and protect the environment."

Eligible grant applicants must be public facilities located in the District service area that meet all criteria specified in the application guidelines. Grant details and application forms are available at <u>www.westbasin.org/fillingstations</u>. Applications will be received and reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are exhausted. A total of \$35,000 in program funding is available for the fiscal year running July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

Since launching the program in 2017, West Basin has installed 21 water bottle filling stations throughout its service area. These 21 stations have prevented the use of approximately 110,000 plastic water bottles annually, potentially decreasing the harmful environmental impacts of single-use plastics while also providing access to free, high-quality water at local schools, community centers and parks.

Agencies awarded grant funding in 2018-2019 to install filling stations in in West Basin's service area include:

- California State University, Dominguez Hills
- City of Carson
- City of Culver City
- City of El Segundo
- City of Hawthorne
- City of Inglewood
- City of Lomita
- City of Redondo Beach
- City of Rolling Hills Estates
- El Segundo Unified School District
- Environmental Charter Middle School, Inglewood
- Lennox School District

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West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) is a wholesale water agency that serves nearly one million people in 17 cities and unincorporated areas in Los Angeles County. West Basin provides imported drinking water, recycled water, as well as conservation and education programs. Through its Water for Tomorrow Program, West Basin is committed to protecting, diversifying, and securing our water supply for the future while continuing a history of innovation and industry leadership. Visit www.westbasin.org to learn more.