

April 7, 2009

Noelle Collins 310-660-6217 noellec@westbasin.org

County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas Appoints West Basin Director Gloria Gray to County Water Quality Task Force

CARSON - West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) Director Gloria D. Gray, of Inglewood, has been appointed by L.A. County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas to serve on a water quality Community Task Force (Task Force). The Task Force is part of the County's Clean Water, Clean Beaches Initiative to address pollution in our local waterways that include rivers, lakes, bays, beaches, and coastal waters. In her duties on the Task Force, Director Gray will review programs and policies intended to clean up our polluted waterways and watersheds and will address how to fund them.

Director Gray was chosen by Supervisor Ridley-Thomas because of her leadership in the community, her dedication on the West Basin Board of Directors and her strong interest in improving water quality. She has served on the West Basin Board of Directors since 2006 and, in that time, has worked together with her fellow directors to adopt a new strategic plan, mission statement, branding identity, and commitment statements; renew its Small Bank Program; implement a Local Business Enterprise policy; and adopt the Water Reliability 2020 Program, West Basin's plan to reduce its dependence on imported water by 50% by the year 2020.

"Providing a reliable water supply is our mission at West Basin and I'm bringing vast community relations experience with me to the County level to assess water quality programs, policies and associated funding opportunities," said Gloria Gray. "I'm thankful to Supervisor Ridley-Thomas and the Board of Supervisors for asking me to be part of this team and look forward to working together to achieve results for the region."

Director Gray was elected by her peers in March 2009 to serve as Vice President of the West Basin Board of Directors and to represent West Basin on the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) Board of Directors. She currently chairs the Communications Committee and the Ad Hoc West Basin/Water Replenishment District Committee. Gray was awarded a "Women in Water" award in 2007 by the Water Replenishment District of Southern California for her commitment to conservation and building reliable water supplies for our communities.