



# Chino Basin Watermaster Commemorates 40 Years of Success in Groundwater Management

*Collaboration and professionalism are trademarks of organization's strength in the Inland Empire*

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**Rancho Cucamonga, CA (October 25, 2018)** – This year, Chino Basin Watermaster will mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the judgment that governs one of the largest groundwater basins in Southern California. To commemorate the milestone, the organization launched a special 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary emblem showcasing its iconic logo and reflecting its pledge: *Partnerships and Solutions for a Sustainable Future*.

As part of the Chino Basin Judgment in 1978, the San Bernardino Superior Court set water rights for the hundreds of original parties and assigned water users specific rules on pumping water. The court also created the Chino Basin Watermaster to administer the Basin's adjudicated water rights and provide for governance of groundwater resources within the Chino Basin. The groundbreaking legal action compelled water users to cooperate on issues such as water quality, data monitoring and the amount of groundwater that can safely be extracted, commonly known as operating safe yield.

"Since the beginning of our organization, all parties have worked hand in hand to improve groundwater management in the Chino Basin and ensure the reliability of our region's most precious resource," General Manager Peter Kavounas said. "As we celebrate Watermaster's 40 successful years, we look forward to the future and meeting the collective and unique needs of the evolving communities we serve."

Chino Basin Watermaster is comprised of three groups that represent: agriculture and the State of California; area industries; and local cities, public water districts and private water companies. Engineering, legal and other committees supervise key program areas in the Basin.

By 2020, the population of the Chino Basin is expected to reach nearly 2 million, contributing to a significantly higher water demand and call for more efficient water use. The organization is in the process of reevaluating the Basin's safe yield and will create a storage management plan to protect the reliability and quality of this important resource. Watermaster's ability to meet the region's water needs for four decades means it is ready for the future.

"As we enter Watermaster's next 40 years, our vision for continued success is to add value through dedication to responsible groundwater governance and transparency to our stakeholders," said Board Chairman Robert DiPrimio. "There are significant issues ahead that require the same collaboration, professionalism and drive that has led us to this milestone. I join all parties in celebrating our past performance and looking forward to an even better future working together."

For more information on Chino Basin Watermaster and its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, visit [www.cbwm.org](http://www.cbwm.org).

**About the Chino Basin:** The Chino Basin is one of the largest groundwater basins in Southern California, containing approximately 5 million acre-feet of water and 1 million acre-feet of unused storage capacity. The Basin covers more than 220 square miles of the upper Santa Ana River watershed and provides water for more than 1.5 million people. About 80% of the Basin is located in San Bernardino County, 15% in Riverside County and 5% in Los Angeles County. The legal boundaries of the Basin are defined in the Judgment; it is bordered by Cucamonga Basin and the San Gabriel Mountains to the north, the Temescal Basin to the south, Chino Hills and Puente Hills to the southwest, San Jose Hills, Pomona and Claremont Basins on the northwest and the Rialto/Colton Basins on the east.

