# News Release

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## Focus on new leadership with emphasis on water resource management

***Tom Evans to represent Western Municipal Water District on the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors***

RIVERSIDE, CA – July 14, 2009 – Thomas P. Evans, Western Municipal Water District's board president, was seated yesterday to represent the District on the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors. Evans succeeds S.R. "Al" Lopez who has served in the role since Jan. 2008. Western has one seat on the 37-member Metropolitan governing board.

"I'm honored to take on this critical position that provides a voice for the District and its constituents at the Metropolitan table. The Metropolitan Board plays a key role in shaping water use policy in Southern California," Evans commented. Evans, who joined the Western board in Jan. 2007, represents Division 2, which consists of a portion of the City of Riverside south of Magnolia Avenue, north of Victoria Avenue and Alessandro Boulevard, as well as March Air Reserve Base. The five members of the Western Board of Directors comprise the governing body and are responsible for setting public policy. The Directors are elected to four-year terms by the registered voters in the five geographical divisions of the 527-square mile district.

John V. Rossi, Western's general manager, said, "Tom has been instrumental in helping to guide our agency through complex policy issues these past 2 ½ years. His knowledge of the critical water resource management issues facing our District is invaluable. His skills and experiences will serve the District well as he represents us on the Metropolitan board." Rossi elaborated that the District's short, mid-range and long-term priorities:

- To build projects that make the region more water independent, such as the expansion of desalter facilities and water recycling plants.
- To restore water reliability from the Bay-Delta by supporting the construction of a peripheral canal; this action will result in the greatest amount of quality water being delivered to the greatest number of people, farms and industries.
- To convey to legislators the importance of protecting local property taxes from state budget impacts; this revenue helps build projects that are critical to solving our water shortage crisis.

Director Evans sits on numerous Western board committees including the City of Riverside and Eastern Municipal Water District; and on the Ad Hoc committee for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's Coalition. He is the alternate representing Western with the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA).

Evans has 35 years of experience in water, electric and gas utility management. In 2005, he retired from the City of Riverside as interim City Manager. He also served the City of Riverside for four years as director of Public Utilities. Evans has served as a director for both the Southern California Public Power Agency and the Northern California Power Agency. He is a past board member of the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce and past chair of the Leadership Steering Committee. Evans is a member of the Riverside East Rotary Club as well as a past board member with Smart Riverside. He's currently serving as a volunteer counselor for SCORE, an organization designed to provide counsel to small business owners. A graduate of the University of California, Davis, Mr. Evans also holds a Masters Degree in Business and Information Systems Management from Golden Gate University. He is married to Marcia; they have two grown children.

*Western Municipal Water District provides water supply, wastewater disposal and water resource management to the public in a safe, reliable, environmentally sensitive and financially responsible manner.*

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