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East Valley Water District Brings On Higher Capacity Sewer Truck

Highland, Calif., (September 26, 2012) – How the sewer system remains running smoothly isn't something that most customers think about, but it is always a top priority for East Valley Water District. Operating a reliable sewer system includes ensuring that equipment meets demand needs and is an efficient and safe use of staff time. After careful consideration East Valley Water District recently purchased a higher capacity Vactor sewer cleaning truck that went into service on August 31, 2012.

“Customers depend on us to keep the sewer system working properly, and the new Vactor truck is important for preventative maintenance and emergency response,” said Governing Board President Matt LeVesque. “By investing in new equipment, customers can be confident in our ability to continue efficiently and safely operating our sewer system.”

The sewer cleaning truck is responsible for clearing debris that may partially block the pipe, to allow sewer material to make its way from the customer to the treatment facility in San Bernardino. The larger capacity truck has been designed to reach farther underground, remove more debris and require less fuel. These enhancements are already increasing staff efficiency by covering 33% more pipeline before needing to relocate and re-establish a work site. Not only does this truck have a higher capacity, it also has multiple features that increase field crew safety when working in the street including: main shut-off switches located in three different places on the truck, computer sequences that ensure proper transition from drive to work mode, and reduced engine volume increasing the crew's ability to hear their surroundings.

The new sewer cleaning truck is a \$310,000 investment in the modernization and maintenance of the system. A benefit of modern equipment is that the engine releases fewer emissions into the air and complies with new California emissions guidelines by coming equipped with a Diesel Particulate Filter or DFP. Concern for the environment is needed both above and below the ground, which is why the vehicle also includes hydro-excavation capabilities to access underground utility lines using high powered water, minimizing the risk of damaging existing pipe and surrounding soil, compared to traditional excavation.

“Now that the new truck is in service, we are preparing to transition the smaller truck to respond to other service calls, allowing for even more response flexibility,” commented General Manager John Mura. “This is another example of how we continue to walk the walk of our Strategic Plan, including planning for sewer system maintenance and modernization.”

EVWD provides water and sewer collection services to about 70,000 people in the cities of Highland and San Bernardino. For more information about EVWD, call (909) 889-9501 or visit www.eastvalley.org.

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East Valley Water District was formed in 1954 to provide domestic water service to the unincorporated and agricultural-based communities of Highland and East Highlands. Today EVWD provides water and sewer collection services to about 70,000 people in western San Bernardino County. EVWD operates under the direction of a 5-member elected Board. The Mission of East Valley Water District is to provide its customers with a safe and reliable water supply that is delivered at a fair and cost-effective price. More information is available at www.eastvalley.org.