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East Valley Water District Preparing Plans for Future Water Service

Highland, Calif., and (October 29, 2012) – How do you lay the groundwork to provide reliable water and sewer services for a new development with 40,000 additional residents? The key is collaboration between government agencies and the developer in order to have a plan in place long before construction begins. East Valley Water District, Lewis Development and the City of Highland have already begun this process for the future Harmony Project Development, on the east side of Highland, by working together to evaluate different options to safely and efficiently provide these services.

“East Valley Water District is working closely with Lewis Development to draft a Water and Sewer Service Plan to meet the long term needs of the residents within the Harmony Project,” said Board President Matt LeVesque. “Because the Harmony Project is a Master Plan community, we have the opportunity to work directly with the developer to make sure that the water and sewer system is designed to meet the specific needs of that area and smoothly integrate with the our existing system.”

In an effort to ensure that new service connections, not existing customers, are responsible for the increased system usage, East Valley Water District requires that new developments install necessary infrastructure as part of the project construction, including new water and sewer lines and any additional facilities that will be necessary to meet new demand requirements. The process of developing this Water and Sewer Service Plan evaluates system options, including potential benefits of constructing a sewer treatment facility. East Valley Water District currently contracts with the City of San Bernardino for all sewer treatment services.

“A facility located on the east end of the District would reduce the distance that wastewater would need to travel for treatment, while also conserving valuable drinking water within this community by having recycled water available for landscaping irrigation,” said General Manager John Mura. “East Valley Water District is looking ahead and preparing for future demand keeping in mind that current customer’s investments should be protected by having new developments offset their impacts to our water and sewer system.”

A formal Water and Sewer Service Plan is anticipated for Board of Directors approval in early 2013. Members of the public are encouraged to attend regular Board of Director meetings on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at the East Valley Water District headquarters.

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.