



# EAST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **East Valley Water District Receives \$2 Million Grant Award** *Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project will save water and energy*

**Highland, Calif., (June 26, 2015)** – The California Department of Water Resources announced final funding awards for the 2014 Water-Energy Grant Program. East Valley Water District (District) was one of 22 awardees and will receive \$2,011,465 to implement an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Pilot Project.

“This effort focuses on the disadvantaged communities within our District, allowing us to partner with the State to help those most in need,” said James Morales, Jr., East Valley Water District Chairman of the Board. “We have the ability to take this \$2 million grant and use it to support our efforts to preserve precious resources while providing world class customer service.”

The District will replace 6,100 meters with an AMI system that can automatically send meter reads to the District headquarters on an hourly basis. This consistent stream of water- use history can alert both the District and customers to pipe breaks, toilet leaks and broken valves. In turn, customers have the ability to manage their monthly bills more efficiently, reducing water waste and preventing possible water damage. It will also help reduce greenhouse gas emissions through reduced vehicle miles, emissions and fuel consumption. Traditional meter reading is a labor intensive process performed manually by a staff member at each location.

“Now is the time to implement programs that will help our customers better understand their daily water use,” said John Mura, General Manager/CEO. “By launching the first phase of advanced meters, we can begin providing our customers with real-time information and work together to develop customized approaches to conservation.”

Leaking meters are responsible for the loss of millions of gallons of water. The average toilet leak wastes six gallons per hour. Undetected, this could potentially waste 52,560 gallons of water per year. This new system has the ability to measure leaks as small as one gallon per hour, and can alert customers directly when unusual activity occurs. This has the potential to dramatically reduce water loss, thereby reducing water costs to individual residents.

The 2014 Water-Energy Grant Program helps California respond to the immediate drought while building infrastructure improvements to address future droughts and climate changes.

For more information on the drought and how you can help to conserve, visit our website at [eastvalley.org/conservation](http://eastvalley.org/conservation) and follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram using [eastvalleywater](https://www.facebook.com/eastvalleywater).

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*East Valley Water District is a California Special District that provides water and wastewater services to 101,733 residents within the City of Highland and portions of both the City and County of San Bernardino. For more information please visit the District's website at [www.eastvalley.org](http://www.eastvalley.org).*