

# News Release



**Foothill Municipal Water District  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Foothill Municipal Water District Receives Grant for Recycled Water Study, Defers Decision on Financing**

Foothill Municipal Water District has embarked on a comprehensive Local, Reliable Water Supply Program to gain more independence for the Foothill communities from imported water and, thus, achieve more reliability. The Program will develop recycled water, expand storm water capture and recharge and increase conservation. The Program includes significant upgrades and rehabilitation of the District's aging distribution system.

The District began community outreach in May 2009 to provide details on the Program. Foothill General Manager Nina Jazmadarian said, "There have been many positive results to the outreach including broad consensus that there should be more local supply development within the service area, broad support for the rehabilitation of the existing infrastructure and more knowledge by the public that there is a water supply problem and we should conserve."

The District announced today it will proceed with a recycled water facilities planning study. The study, to be partially paid through a \$75,000 grant from the State Water Resources Control Board will assist Foothill in developing a recycled water supply by providing a description of proposed facilities, pipeline routes, cost estimates and

potential users. The Plan should take about a year to complete. Additionally, the District will be completing the update to its Urban Water Management Plan by the end of 2010. That Plan, which details how water suppliers like Foothill will remain reliable through dry and wet periods, will address future water demands, local and imported supplies, greater use of recycled water, increased conservation and storm water recharge.

These reports will provide additional details for Foothill's new supply development portion of the Local, Reliable Water Supply Program. With these studies under way, the District Board decided today to defer a decision on a financing option for the Program until after the reports are concluded. The District has been considering how to pay back a proposed 30-year revenue bond for a portion of the work – either through a real property assessment or through water rates. A real property assessment would likely result in a lower interest rate on the bonds compared to the water-rate option, but would require voter approval. Board President Bob Gomperz said, "Considering timing and costs, the Board felt it more prudent to defer the decision on financing until all questions were answered. The needed rehabilitation of existing facilities will proceed through our regular budget cycle and continue to be supported through the water rates."

The District is suspending the application of exclusions for property assessments until after the studies are concluded.

Foothill Municipal Water District provides imported water to the retail agencies serving the communities of La Crescenta, La Cañada Flintridge and Altadena.

More details to the Program can be found at [www.fmwd.com](http://www.fmwd.com).

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