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**BLUE PRINT TO ADDRESS GREATER LOS ANGELES
COUNTY REGION'S WATER NEEDS
OFFICIALLY ADOPTED BY MULTI-AGENCY GROUP**

Alhambra, CA – (Wednesday, December 14, 2006) The Regional Water Management Group for the Greater Los Angeles County Region officially adopted the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) at a public hearing yesterday morning. The IRWMP is a comprehensive plan that lays out issues and possible integrated solutions to water supply, water quality, and water pollution problems in the Region. Quantifiable targets for the next 20 years are described in this plan along with multi-purpose approaches to meeting objectives.

“Having the IRWMP adopted is an exciting opportunity for us to address the very complex water management issues of the Region”, said Don Wolfe, Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and Chair of the IRWMP Leadership Committee. “Establishing the strategies now will lead to improvement projects that will address water supply, water quality, recreation, open space and flood protection needs of the Region in an integrated and collaborative manner”, he added.

To date, there are over 1,500 projects submitted and included in the IRWMP. A consortium of over 400 local agencies and organizations have been collaborating since February 2006 to develop the IRWMP for the Region, which encompasses over 2,200 square miles and includes portions of both Orange and Ventura Counties.

This collaborative effort was led by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District as chair of the Regional Water Management Group. The Group also consists of these agencies:

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- Central Basin Municipal Water District
- City of Arcadia
- City of Burbank Department of Water and Power
- City of Downey
- City of Long Beach
- City of Los Angeles, Board of Public Works
- City of Los Angeles, Department of Water and Power
- City of Malibu
- City of Pasadena
- County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
- Gateway Cities Council of Governments
- Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
- Long Beach Water Department
- Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council
- Los Angeles County Flood Control District
- Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster
- Palos Verdes/ South Bay Audubon
- San Gabriel / Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
- San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority
- Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission
- Water Replenishment District of Southern California
- Watershed Conservation Authority
- West Basin Municipal Water District

The Regional Water Management Group also intends to use this IRWMP as a tool in securing future funding from various local, State and Federal sources. Increased

stakeholder participation is encouraged by the Group as the Plan is put into effect. Thirteen projects included in the IRWMP have already been earmarked for a \$25 million dollar grant from The California Department of Water Resources and the State Water Resources Control Board. These projects were prioritized using criteria developed by the State and they demonstrate an ability to use water efficiently, protect water quality and support environmental stewardship. The funding is expected to be approved by the State in January 2007.

“This is an exciting opportunity for us to be able to put into action the water management plan to which so many contributed”, said Don Wolfe, Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and Chair of the IRWMP Leadership Committee. “The 13 projects that will be funded will provide multi-purpose solutions to the issues that address the Region’s use of water. The \$25 million is a tremendous investment in the Region providing a greater impetus for more collaboration and participation by stakeholders”, he added.

The IRWMP will be a living document that will evolve with the needs of the Region and input from stakeholders.

For more information regarding the Greater Los Angeles County Region’s IRWMP, please visit www.lawaterplan.org.

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