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## **West Basin Municipal Water District Board Honors Out-Going President**

*Water District Headquarters Building Named After Donald L. Dear*

CARSON – In a time of drought and potential water allocation, the West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) Board of Directors is celebrating the leadership and commitment to water reliability of its outgoing President Donald L. Dear. The remaining four members of West Basin’s Board of Directors recently approved honoring the service of out-going President Donald L. Dear at its January 2009 board meeting by naming the water district’s Carson headquarters after Director Dear. Dear was recently re-elected to his third term.

During Dear’s tenure on the Board, West Basin has made great strides in improving water reliability for the region. Some Board actions taken during this time include drafting and adopting a Conservation Master Plan to guide the District in doubling its water conservation program success, developing a Strategic Business Plan, and surveying its customers to better provide customer service to the communities it serves. More recently the Board of Directors launched its Water Reliability 2020 program to reduce its dependence on water imported from Northern California and the Colorado River to provide greater local control and reliability. Under the Water Reliability 2020 plan, the District will reduce its dependence on imported water from 66% today to 33% by 2020.

Director Dear was elected to the West Basin Board of Directors in 2000 to represent the cities of Gardena, Hawthorne, Lawndale, and unincorporated portions of El Camino Village. Director Dear came to the West Basin Board with a vast array of experience in public service, serving as Gardena Mayor for nine consecutive terms before retiring in 2001. Dear is also a widely respected, award-winning teacher who taught at Stephen White Middle School in Carson for 37 years. The Carson building is now named the Donald L. Dear - West Basin MWD Headquarters.

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