



**Immediate Release
October 29, 2012**

Contact: Noelle Collins
Media and Public Information
310-660-6217 or noellec@westbasin.org

**WEST BASIN DIRECTOR GLORIA GRAY RECEIVES SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL, WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP**

CARSON, Calif. – This past weekend, two organizations recognized West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) Director Gloria D. Gray for her outstanding leadership on environmental and women's issues. On Saturday, Director Gray will be honored by the Friends of Ballona Wetlands at their annual *Moonlight on the Marsh* event for her support in restoring local wetland habitat and protecting water quality. On Sunday, the Friends of the Sisters of the Well will celebrate her mentoring in leadership, networking, and education for public and civic engagement at its *We See You Awards*.

"I'm thrilled for my work in water to be recognized by the Friends of the Ballona Wetlands and the Friends of the Sisters of the Well," said Director Gloria Gray. "These groups are doing wonderful work that makes our local communities more sustainable and livable," Gray said.

Director Gray has served on the West Basin Board of Directors since 2006, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) Board of Directors since 2009, and was appointed to serve on the Delta Stewardship Council in 2010 by then Assembly Speaker Karen Bass. Director Gray currently serves as Vice Chair of the Metropolitan Board and is one of six members of the State's Delta Stewardship Council.

Director Gray has received numerous awards, including "Outstanding Women of 2012" from the Gardena Chamber of Commerce, 2011 "Women in Action" from the Los Angeles African American Women's Public Policy Institute, 2009 "Democrat of the Year" from the 51st Assembly District, Black Woman of Achievement Award from the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Woman of the Year from the California Legislative Assembly 25th Senatorial District,

Outstanding Leadership Award from the American Business Women Association, Living History Maker from Turning Point Magazine, and in 2007 received a Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Achievement from Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.

Gray retired from the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services as an Associate Hospital Administrator. She was appointed to the Los Angeles County Hospital and Health Care Delivery Commission. Gray is an elected member of the Los Angeles County Democratic Party County Central Committee and has served as a member of the executive board, representing the 51st Assembly District.

Moonlight on the Marsh will be held Saturday, October 27, 2012 at 7:00 pm at The G2 Gallery in Venice Beach. The We See You Awards will be hosted on Sunday, October 28, 2012 at 4:00 pm at the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles.

###

West Basin Municipal Water District is reducing its dependence on imported water through its Water Reliability 2020 program that will double conservation, double recycled water production and add desalted ocean-water to our portfolio by the year 2020. Partnering with community organizations, businesses and other public agencies keeps West Basin lean and strengthens its programs. West Basin is a wholesale water district that serves nearly a million people in 17 cities and unincorporated areas throughout its 185-square mile service area in the coastal Los Angeles area. www.westbasin.org