



OMWD Honored for Government Transparency and Sound Financial Practices

Encinitas, CA—The Special District Leadership Foundation recognized Olivenhain Municipal Water District today at California Special Districts Association’s annual conference in Anaheim for a sixth “District of Distinction” biennial accreditation. This recognition celebrates OMWD’s sound fiscal management and commitment to transparency in all areas of its operations.

OMWD was the first water district in San Diego County to achieve this accreditation in 2008 and remains one of only 37 agencies statewide designated as a District of Distinction. OMWD also received SDLF’s District Transparency Certificate of Excellence in recognition of its efforts to engage ratepayers and promote transparency in the areas of governance, finances, and board conduct. This is the fourth time OMWD received the biennial certification.

“OMWD’s board appreciates the Special District Leadership Foundation for creating a rigorous program through which efforts like ours may be recognized,” said Larry Watt, Treasurer of OMWD’s Board of Directors. “Our district has a long-standing commitment to transparency and public engagement and is extremely proud to achieve this honor again.”

To ensure fiscally responsible practices, SDLF conducted an independent audit review of the last three years of OMWD’s operations. SDLF also determined that OMWD demonstrated outreach practices that engaged and informed the public, such as posting to its website compensation data of board members and staff, its most recent financial audit, current budget, board meeting schedules and agendas, and election procedures and deadlines. Additionally, OMWD’s executive staff and board demonstrated compliance in ethics, public governance, and harassment prevention training.

SDLF is an independent, non-profit organization formed to promote good governance and best practices among California’s special districts through certification, accreditation, and other recognition programs.

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Olivenhain Municipal Water District is a public agency providing water, wastewater services, recycled water, hydroelectricity, and operation of Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve. Organized in 1959, OMWD currently serves approximately 86,000 customers over 48 square miles in northern San Diego County.

For Immediate Release

September 27, 2019

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2019-2008=11

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