



February 2022

## 2021 WaterReuse California Annual Conference

By Dawn Taffler, P.E., LEED, Vice President at Kennedy Jenks

The [2021 WaterReuse California Annual Conference](#) was the first in-person conference in two and a half years. Held on Sept. 19-21 at JW Marriott Hotel Los Angeles at L.A. LIVE, the event included numerous technical sessions, plenary discussions, networking events and broadcasted sessions for at home viewers. Leaders in reuse presented efforts being made across the state to maximize beneficial reuse – including: innovative technologies, research, design, operations, and communications strategies. The event also featured a Grammy-style awards luncheon which recognized agencies, customers and individuals that have demonstrated exceptional leadership in advancing water recycling in California.



WRCA President Paul Sciuto and Conf Co-Chair Lyndsey Bloxom hosted the Annual Awards Luncheon

## Plenary Session on LA's Water Reuse Future



Leaders from water and wastewater agencies in Los Angeles participated in an engaging discussion on the future of water reuse in the Los Angeles region and beyond. A future that includes bold, large-scale, collaborative projects that will build

lasting sustainable, reliable, and resilient water supplies. The panel provided an overview on the Operation NEXT-Hyperion 2035 Joint Programs, the Regional Recycled Water Program, and WIN 4 ALL program (see map). Participants discussed project challenges and opportunities, and how collaboration and partnerships are propelling these projects forward.

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### NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, April 12, 2022

### LOCATION:

Virtual Meeting

Newsletter designed by:

## Family Feud Grudge Match

2021 saw the return of the North vs South 'Family Feud' Grudge Match. The Southern California team, with our home court advantage, triumphantly recovered from our 2018 loss to Northern California in Monterey.

Family Feud was a fun way to wrap up the event – mixing water recycling facts with public perception challenges and a few curve balls on pop culture. However, the highlight of the conference was reconnecting with clients and friends face-to-face (though behind a mask) to hear about how they navigated the last 18 months and how the reuse community can help solve the challenges of our current drought. Getting truly entrenched in the organization. Through my time on the Board, presenting on projects, serving on the conference planning committee, and participating in team building activities such as this gameshow truly builds relationships with our most valued clients and unforgettable moments.



WRCA Conference Chairs (standing left to right): Paul Liu (LADWP), Lyndsey Bloxom (WRD), Raymond Jay (MWD)  
Panel of Leaders for LA's WateReuse Future (seated left to right): Ron Gastelum (moderator), Traci Minamide (LASAN), Anselmo Collins (LADWP), Martha Tremblay (LACSD), Deven Upadhyay (MWD), Stephan Tucker (MWD)



Team South took an early lead and maintained it throughout the match, but our NorCal counterparts keep their spirit throughout.  
Team North - Roger Bailey (CCCSD), Melanie Holmer (BC), Ron Duncan (SqCWD) and Mike McCullough (MIW) and Team South - Paul Cook (IRWD), Shivaji Deshmukh (IEUA), Dawn Taffler (KJ) and Jesus Gonzalez (LADWP)

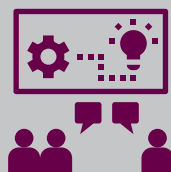


## 2021 WateReuse California Annual Conference in Review



**600**

attendees



**28**

sessions



**58**

presentations



**10**

awards

# 2021 WateReuse California Award Winners



## **BAHMAN SHEIKH AWARD FOR VISION IN WATER REUSE**

**Felicia Marcus**

*William C. Landreth Visiting Fellow,  
Stanford University Water in the West Program*

## **WATEREUSE CALIFORNIA AWARDS RECYCLED WATER ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR**

**Jesus Gonzalez**

*Manager of Water Recycling Policy,  
Water Resources Division, Los Angeles  
Department of Water and Power*

## **RECYCLED WATER AGENCY OF THE YEAR – LARGE**

**Terminal Island Water Reclamation Plant**

## **RECYCLED WATER AGENCY OF THE YEAR – MEDIUM**

**City of Ukiah**

## **RECYCLED WATER AGENCY OF THE YEAR – SMALL**

**City of Healdsburg Reclamation Facility**

## **RECYCLED WATER CUSTOMER OF THE YEAR**

**Forest Lawn Memorial Parks**

## **RECYCLED WATER OUTREACH/EDUCATION PROGRAM OF THE YEAR**

**Pure Water Oceanside**

## **RECYCLED WATER STAFF PERSON OF THE YEAR**

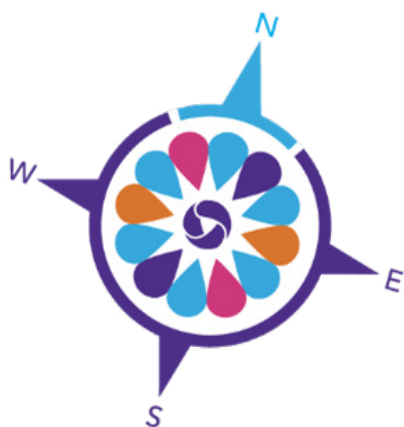
**Ben Smith**

*Senior Engineer,  
Orange County Water District*

***Congratulations to the 2021 WateReuse  
California Award Winners!***



## 2022 WateReuse Symposium



The 37th Annual WateReuse Symposium will be held in San Antonio, Texas on **March 6-9, 2022**, and on the WateReuse virtual conference platform. Register to attend in person, stream sessions on-demand, or both!

The Annual WateReuse Symposium is the premier conference on water recycling — attracting more than **800** water professionals globally for knowledge-sharing, networking, and more than **80** technical sessions! The event is planned in collaboration with the Water Research Foundation and includes engaging sessions on the latest reuse-related research projects.

This year's theme, Water Reuse: Shaping Our Past & Charting Our Future, is a call to action for the water reuse community to tap into innovation and address the urgency of our changing earth, including floods, fires, droughts, and pandemics. [View the program](#) to learn more.

## Reuse Regulations and California Drought

By Alex Franchi, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE is an Associate Vice President with AECOM Water in Orange, CA

Despite heavy precipitations in December, drought conditions persist in most of California. To address wasteful water uses and boost drought resilience and following Governor Newsom's extending Emergency Drought Proclamation on October 19, 2021, the State Water Resources Control Board has mandated new Drought Conservation Emergency Regulations across the state supplementing voluntary conservation measures by prohibiting certain wasteful water uses. The emergency regulations are effective as of mid-January 2022 and will remain in place for one year unless extended.

The new rules apply to specific uses and apply to all water users, including individuals, businesses, and public agencies. They are similar to those that were adopted between 2012 and 2016, and include prohibitions for using potable water for irrigating outdoor landscaped areas using a method that results in more than incidental runoff; washing cars without a shutoff nozzle; washing sidewalk, driveways, patios, and parking lots unless health and safety are at risk; street cleaning or construction site preparation, unless no other methods are available or as needed to protect public health and safety; filling or topping off decorative fountains, lakes or ponds; irrigate turf and ornamental landscape during or within 48 hours of rainfall of at least a quarter-inch of rain; and irrigation of ornamental turf on public street medians.

They can be enforced through warning letters, water audits, or fines. Citizens can file complaints of water waste is by accessing [saveourwater.org](https://www.saveourwater.org). Fines for violators can be up to \$500. A complete description of the Drought Conservation Emergency Regulations can be found at [waterboards.ca.gov](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov).



*A faulty sprinkler sprays water on the sidewalk.*

## Trustee Update

Hello LA Chapter!

I hope this update finds you and your family safe and healthy as we begin this new year. During my second year as your Chapter Trustee, I felt proud to witness all the great work our members and our Chapter have done to continue advancing recycled water in both our region and in our State. One of the many highlights this year was the LA Chapter's presence at the 2021 WateReuse California Annual Conference in Los Angeles. Our members collectively presented in almost every topic session and panel discussion. You all did a great job of sharing your knowledge and experience to over 600 attendees.

As we enter this new year, I am excited to see all the new accomplishments our chapter will bring in. I look forward to seeing you at our chapter meetings next year and at the 2022 WateReuse Symposium in early March. Lastly, I look forward to continue to serve you as your Chapter Trustee.

Please continue protecting yourselves and each other!

Your Los Angeles Chapter Trustee,

**Rafael Villegas, P.E., MSCE**

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power



## President's Message

I hope that everyone enjoyed the holidays and has had a great start to 2022. Despite the obvious challenges posed by the pandemic, 2021 was a great year for water reuse in the LA region. We continue to see the progression of multiple noteworthy projects that probably combine to make this the metropolitan area in the country, if not the world, with the highest capacity of upcoming potable reuse projects. That makes it an exciting time here for anyone working in the reuse industry.

Considering the trajectory of reuse in LA, it was fitting that our chapter hosted the WateReuse California Annual Conference in September. Fortunately, this event threaded the pandemic needle, allowing hundreds of water reuse professionals to gather at the JW Marriott in Downtown Los Angeles. Whether it was seeing old friends, making new ones, or catching up on the latest in potable reuse across the state and beyond, the conference was a refreshing experience for all attendees.

Another bright spot for our chapter was the City of Santa Monica hosting our first in-person meeting in December in 22 months. It was a relatively small gathering with about as many people joining remotely as were there in the room, but that moved us closer to a return of routine in-person events for those who can attend.

With the best years of water reuse in LA still to come, it is hard not to be optimistic about what 2022 holds for the industry. Stay safe, and I hope to see you at an LA Chapter meeting later this year.

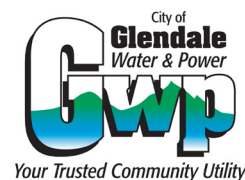
Best Wishes!

**Fred Gerringier, President**

WateReuse California, Los Angeles Chapter



## Our Members



AECOM	HDR	SPI
Arcadis	Jacobs	Stantec
Black & Veatch	John Robinson Consulting	Tetra Tech
Brown and Caldwell	Katz & Associates	Trussell Technologies
Carollo Engineers	Kennedy/Jenks	Walnut Valley Water District
CDM Smith	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works	West Yost Associates
ESA	Rowland Water District	Woodard & Curran
Hazen and Sawyer		