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WRD HOSTS PROCUREMENT POLICY ROUNDTABLE FOR LOCAL CHAMBERS

Lakewood, CA- Today, the Water Replenishment District (WRD) hosted its first Procurement Policy Roundtable for local chambers within WRD's service area.

As part of WRD's ongoing efforts to increase local and small business participation, representatives were on hand to learn about WRD's *Small Businesses Enterprise Outreach Program*, as well how to do business with the District.

The purpose of WRD's *Small Business Enterprise Outreach Program* is to encourage and promote broad-based participation in contracting activities and to stimulate participation by bidders who might otherwise be left out of the District's procurement activities.

"The District takes great pride in creating forward thinking procurement policies that encourage local and small business participation," stated WRD Board President Sergio Calderon. "It is in everyone's best interest to create a positive business environment that contributes to the local economic engine of Southern California."

"WRD has a progressive procurement policy and we welcome the opportunity to provide our input," said, Julian Canete, Executive Director for the California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

Board President Sergio Calderon stated, "I am very pleased that we can work together with the business community to promote water conservation and continued procurement within the District's service area."

Participating Chambers include: the Bell Gardens Chamber of Commerce, the California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, LA Metro Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the South Bay Latino Chamber of Commerce.

The Water Replenishment District of Southern California is the regional groundwater management agency that protects and preserves the quantity and quality of groundwater for two of the most utilized basins in the State of California, with a service area that is home to over ten percent of California's population residing in 43 cities in southern Los Angeles County with a publicly elected Board of Directors including Willard H. Murray, Jr., Robert Katherman, Lillian Kawasaki, Sergio Calderon, and Albert Robles.

For more information about the Water Replenishment District please visit www.wrd.org.