

## EAST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

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### **NEWS RELEASE**

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# HUNDREDS OF SUPPORTERS CELEBRATE STERLING NATURAL RESOURCE CENTER GROUNDBREAKING

East Valley Water District marks start of construction on state-of-the-art recycled water treatment facility, community center

**HIGHLAND, Calif. (Oct. 22, 2018)** – On Oct. 20, more than 300 local officials and community members joined East Valley Water District (EVWD) to celebrate the groundbreaking of the Sterling Natural Resource Center (SNRC), a state-of-the-art wastewater treatment facility in Highland, Calif., on the corner of N. Del Rosa and 6th Street. Permitting and construction of the SNRC is expected to be completed in less than three years.

EVWD General Manager/CEO John Mura kicked off the celebration with remarks on how the facility will transform and enhance the region by creating a sustainable source of water for 800,000 area residents by treating up to eight million gallons of water per day, with the ability to expand to 10 million gallons daily, for recharging the local Bunker Hill Groundwater Basin.

"The Sterling Natural Resource Center is much more than a wastewater treatment facility, it's an investment in the future of Highland," said EVWD General Manager/CEO John Mura.

"Beyond bolstering our region's water independence, the SNRC will be working with local schools to offer hands-on educational opportunities and provide a pathway for students to learn about water and wastewater treatment operations as a potential career option."

The event included an official breaking of the ground with ceremonial shovels by EVWD Board of Directors and Mura along with design-build partners Balfour Beatty (project management), Arcadis U.S., Inc. (design manager/engineer-of-record); Ruhnau Clark Architects (architect); Trussell Technologies (regulatory/permitting); WSP (off-site pipelines/recharge); and Inframark (operations). Other event highlights included: family-friendly activities such as a photobooth, arts and crafts, an educational water recycling lab demonstrating SNRC's technology, backyard games, food trucks and live music.

"One of our primary objectives for the SNRC is to bring our neighborhood together," said Carrillo. "This is a milestone we proudly share with the entire community, and we are excited at the opportunities that lie ahead and the partnerships we will form that will help to ensure the long-term success of this great region."

Event sponsors included Sunbelt Rentals, Quinn Cat, Burrtec, and the East Valley Water District Employee Events Association.



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#### **About East Valley Water District and Sterling Natural Resource Center**

Capable of treating up to 8 million gallons a day, with the ability to expand to 10 million gallons a day, the SNRC recharges the local Bunker Hill Groundwater Basin and creates new opportunities for the surrounding community in the form of education and training, community space, neighborhood improvements, and new habitat for the Santa Ana Sucker fish. Located on North Del Rosa Drive between East Fifth and East Sixth Streets, SNRC is a project of East Valley Water District. East Valley Water District was formed in 1954 and provides water and wastewater collection services to more than 100,000 residents within the City of Highland and portions of both the City and County of San Bernardino. EVWD operates under the direction of a five-member elected Board. More information is available at <a href="https://www.eastvalley.org">www.eastvalley.org</a>.

### **About Balfour Beatty**

Balfour Beatty is an industry-leading provider of general contracting, at-risk construction management and design-build services for public and private sector clients across the United States. Performing heavy civil and vertical construction, the company is part of Balfour Beatty plc (LSE: BBY), a leading international infrastructure group that provides innovative and efficient infrastructure that underpins our daily lives, supports communities and enables economic growth. Consistently ranked among the nation's largest building contractors, Balfour Beatty is the No. 6 Domestic Building Contractor in the United States as ranked by Engineering News-Record. To learn more, visit www.balfourbeattyus.com.

Photo Caption: EVWD Board of Directors and General Manager CEO/ John Mura along with design-build partners Balfour Beatty, Arcadis U.S., Inc., Ruhnau Clark Architects, Trussell Technologies, WSP and Inframark break ground for the Sterling Natural Resource Center.

Photo Caption: Community members join East Valley Water District in celebrating the groundbreaking of the Sterling Natural Resource Center.

Photo Caption: The Sterling Natural Resource Center groundbreaking celebration included activities for the whole family. In one of the activities, children planted small succulent plants.