



LONG BEACH WATER DEPARTMENT

The Standard in Water Conservation &
Environmental Stewardship

PRESS RELEASE

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Hilton's Massive Water Conservation Effort; September 2007 is City's Lowest Water Use in Last Decade

LONG BEACH, CA – Addressing Southern California's impending water supply shortage, Mayor Foster joined officials from the Long Beach Board of Water Commissioners, the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) of Southern California, the Water Replenishment District (WRD) of Southern California and the Long Beach Convention and Visitor's Bureau to acknowledge the water conservation efforts of The Hilton Long Beach & Executive Meeting Center, which has installed 400 high efficiency toilets throughout its facilities that will save 111 million gallons of water over the next 20 years.

High efficiency toilets each use only one gallon of water per flush, compared to 3.5 gallons of water per flush in standard toilets and 1.6 gallons of water per flush in "low-flow" toilets. "The Hilton's effort doesn't just benefit the city of Long Beach, but all of southern California," stated Bob Foster, Mayor of the City of Long Beach. "The water saved by these high efficiency toilets alone is enough water to cover a football field 340 feet deep." The \$116,000 cost of purchasing and installing these new high efficiency toilets is being paid for by grants from the MWD, the WRD and the Long Beach Water Department.

"This project is an excellent example of the sorts of local efforts that will help Long Beach and our region through dry spells and droughts—such as we're currently experiencing—for years to come," said Jeff Kightlinger, general manager of the MWD.

Also today, William Townsend, President of the Long Beach Board of Water Commissioners, announced that “the people and business community of Long Beach have risen to the need to preserve our region’s strategic water storage supplies more positively than perhaps any other community in the region.” Water use in Long Beach this past September was lower than any other September in the last decade: 6% below the previous low and 12% lower than average. “To the people of Long Beach I would like to say, thank you; and thank you to the Hilton Long Beach for raising the bar on water conservation for other businesses in our city and, indeed, all of southern California.”

The Long Beach Water Department is an urban, southern California, retail water supply agency and the standard in water conservation and environmental stewardship.

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