

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO PUBLIC UTILITIES

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## More than 350 Residents & Businesses Participate in City's Grass Replacement Rebate Program

## Program funding is exhausted but plans are to re-launch beginning July 1

**SAN DIEGO, CA** -- In answer to the call for increased water conservation measures by the state, San Diegans responded overwhelmingly to the City's grass replacement rebate program, which was relaunched April 15, 2015.

Between funding announced by Mayor Faulconer earlier this month, as well as additional monies from the City's Transportation and Storm Water Department and grant funding that became available, approximately \$750,000 in rebates will be distributed to help combat the unprecedented drought situation in the City of San Diego.

"The enormous and swift response we had to our grass replacement rebate program was unprecedented," said Public Utilities Water Resources Manager Luis Generoso. "This further bolstered what we already knew, which is that San Diegans remain ready and willing to step up to the plate and increase their water conservation efforts."

More than 350 residents and businesses will receive funding from the City to replace their traditional grass lawns with drought-tolerant landscaping. All told, the City's program will replace more than 500,000 square feet of water-thirsty grass throughout San Diego.

The City plans to restart the program in the next fiscal year and encourages residents still wishing to apply for a rebate to submit their application <u>on or after July 1, 2015</u>. Applications will not be accepted prior to July 1 (i.e. no waiting list will be established), but rather will be reviewed on a first-come, first served basis as of July 1, 2015. You may visit <u>www.wastenowater.org</u> for updated water conservation news and information.

**IMPORTANT:** Residents may still apply for grass replacement rebates through the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's "SoCal Water \$mart" rebate program. Visit <u>www.socalwatersmart.com</u> for details on that agency's rebate programs.

