

The City of San Diego's water resource strategy includes conservation, recycled water, groundwater, water reuse, and watershed and resource protection to help meet future water needs.

# PureNews

*The City of San Diego | Public Utilities Department*

**December 2018**

Welcome to Pure News, a newsletter about Pure Water San Diego, the City of San Diego's multi-year program to address the need for a safe, secure and sustainable local water supply.

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## **Pure Water: A Look Back at 2018**

From innovative partnerships to regulatory and design achievements, 2018 has been a milestone year for Pure Water San Diego. As the Pure Water Phase 1 projects move toward construction in 2019, the City of San Diego continues to engage community members and businesses to keep them informed.

Read on for a look back at a few of the Pure Water Program's biggest accomplishments in 2018.

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## **\$614 Million Federal Loan Secured for Phase 1 Projects**

The City of San Diego closed on a low-cost \$614 million federal loan from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Program that will finance nearly half of Phase 1 of the Pure Water San Diego Program.

The WIFIA Program was created to accelerate investment in the nation's water infrastructure by providing long-term, low-cost supplemental loans for regionally and nationally significant projects. Benefits include a single fixed interest rate locked at loan closing and a customized repayment schedule over a 35-year period.



The City is pursuing a combination of grants and State Revolving Fund (SRF) loans to finance the remaining cost of the Phase 1 projects. Local state leaders have already included a \$30 million grant for Pure Water San Diego in the Fiscal Year 2019 California State budget.

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## **City Council Approved Environmental Impact Report and Construction of Phase 1 Projects**



On April 10, 2018 the San Diego City Council unanimously voted to move forward with Phase 1 of the Pure Water Program by certifying the Pure Water San Diego North City Project Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) and approving two construction management contracts for the Phase 1 projects. The Final EIR/EIS is available on the City's website [here](#).

On Thursday, Nov. 15, 2018 City Council voted to proceed with construction of the Phase 1 projects. This decision authorized Mayor Faulconer to execute construction contracts to the lowest and most responsible and reliable bidders for the Phase 1 projects. This action officially signaled the move of Pure Water San Diego from design to construction. This was a decade's long effort led by dedicated and committed city leaders, staff, industry experts, and stakeholders to bring a new water supply source to the City of San Diego.

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## Phase 1 Community Outreach Continues

On April 7, 2018, more than 200 community members from the Phase 1 project areas visited the Pure Water Demonstration Facility to learn about the Pure Water Program, including the future Phase 1 Pure Water facilities and pipelines that will be constructed in their communities. Community members had the opportunity to speak directly with project team members, toured the Pure Water Demonstration Facility and tasted the purified water.



Additionally, the Public Utilities Department created Phase 1 project area Working Groups (WG) whose members provided informed input and feedback regarding opportunities to avoid or minimize potential construction impacts. Four WGs were convened based on the Phase 1 construction areas: 1) Bay Park/Morena, 2) Clairemont, 3) University City, and 4) Scripps Ranch/Miramar.

In addition to informational discussions about the operational safety of the Phase 1 pipelines, City staff and consultants presented and asked for feedback on 11 construction topics. More than 100 recommendations were made by the four groups, and a matrix of the recommendations and the City's responses was prepared and distributed. The Pure Water team will continue to engage and inform the WG members throughout construction.

For more information on the Phase 1 projects and to view the final WG Report, please visit [phase1.purewatersd.org](http://phase1.purewatersd.org).

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## Pure Water Serves Sustainable Coffee on Bike to Work Day

In May 2018, the Pure Water Program partnered with [Ryan Bros Coffee](#) to brew coffee using purified water from the Pure Water Demonstration Facility. The limited-edition coffee was served to bikers during San Diego's Bike to Work Day and marked the first time a coffee roaster brewed coffee with purified recycled water.

The pit stop was located outside Ryan Bros' flagship store and attracted more than 60 bikers. Riders enjoyed samples of the purified water, giveaways, participated in media interviews and took photos with the Pure Water selfie frame. [KUSI News](#) and Fox 5 San Diego covered the partnership during their morning shows.



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## California Surface Water Augmentation Regulations Adopted

The California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) adopted regulations on March 6, 2018, which will allow the City of San Diego to augment surface water supplies with safe, reliable and locally sourced purified recycled water produced by the Pure Water Program.

The purified water produced by the future North City Pure Water Facility will augment water supplies in the Miramar Reservoir starting in 2023.

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## Pure Water Tours Reached Milestone

Pure Water Demonstration Facility tours remain the centerpiece of the Pure Water Program's outreach efforts by educating the public about the safety and reliability of water purification technology. Tour attendees receive an introductory presentation followed by a walking tour of the facility and an opportunity to taste the purified water. This year, the Pure Water team:

- Welcomed our 16,000th tour participant
- Guided 122 tours for more than 2,000 people
- Hosted international delegates, class field trips, Girl Scout troops, local community groups, and water industry professionals



To sign up for a free tour, please visit [tours.purewatersd.org](https://tours.purewatersd.org).

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### Quick Links

[Pure Water San Diego](#)

[City of San Diego](#)

[Sign up for emails](#)

### Get Involved

Now is a great time to learn about Pure Water San Diego through educational tours and community events!

Show your support

Check out our **Pure Water Calendar** to keep up with events and tours.



[www.purewatersd.org](http://www.purewatersd.org)

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