



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Ron Wildermuth, (714) 378-3351, [rwildermuth@ocwd.com](mailto:rwildermuth@ocwd.com)

**WATER PIPELINE PROJECT REACHES SECOND MAJOR MILESTONE**  
*Pipeline Delivering a New, High-Quality Water Supply to Orange County*

**FOUNTAIN VALLEY, Calif.** – (Aug. 30, 2006) Orange County Water District (OCWD) completed the second of three segments of a 13-mile pipeline that will connect a new state-of-the-art water purification facility in Fountain Valley to an existing percolation pond in Anaheim. The pipeline is part of the Groundwater Replenishment (GWR) System, an innovative water purification project designed to provide a new supplemental source of high-quality water for up to 20 percent of north and central Orange County residents.

The GWR System, a joint project of the Orange County Water District (OCWD) and Orange County Sanitation District (OCSA), takes highly treated sewer water currently released into the ocean and purifies it using the same technologies that purify baby food, fruit juices, medicines and bottled water. The new water will be used to expand the already existing seawater intrusion barrier along the coast and to augment groundwater supplies.

The pipeline, which will eventually transport an average of 35 million gallons of purified water per day, was constructed under an existing regional riding and hiking trail on the west bank of the Santa Ana River. The first four-mile segment, from Katella Avenue to OCWD's percolation pond in the city of Anaheim, was completed in August 2005. The second segment of the pipeline, from just north of 17<sup>th</sup> Street in Santa Ana, through River View Golf Course to Katella Avenue in Anaheim, is now complete. During construction of this segment, a portion of the recreational trail was relocated to the east side of the Santa Ana River so that approximately 17,000 linear feet of 66-inch diameter cement mortar lined and coated steel pipe could be placed under the existing trail. The trail has now been restored to its original condition on the west side of the river.

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“We are extremely pleased to announce another milestone on this project,” said Philip Anthony, president of OCWD’s board. “This segment of the pipeline was completed under budget and two months ahead of schedule minimizing the potential inconvenience to trail users and the local community.”

The southern one-third of the pipeline, from 17<sup>th</sup> Street in Santa Ana to Garfield Avenue in Fountain Valley, is expected to be completed this fall. The GWR System will begin delivering water via the pipeline in the Fall of 2007. Both the pipeline and the purification plant are designed to handle additional purified water if it is needed in the future to meet Orange County’s water supply needs.

The GWR System project will help increase water reliability in Orange County. Over time, it will also help improve and protect the overall water quality in the groundwater basin by reducing the mineral content and preventing ocean water contamination. Additionally, it will provide a reliable, locally-controlled supply of water during droughts, which are recurring events in Southern California.

For more information about the Groundwater Replenishment System, go to [www.gwrssystem.com](http://www.gwrssystem.com).

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**About Orange County Water District**

Orange County Water District (OCWD) manages the large groundwater basin that underlies north-central Orange County that provides most of the water for 2.3 million citizens. OCWD is committed to enhancing Orange County’s groundwater quality and reliability in an environmentally friendly manner. With years of prudent planning and careful investment, OCWD has doubled the sustainable yield of the groundwater basin. Recently, the basin, larger than the largest reservoir in Southern California, sustained the county through a five-year drought. OCWD has also spent millions of dollars on studies by outside experts to ensure the quality of our groundwater. We want to be your trusted source for water quality. We will continue to plan and invest in ways to get more water into and out of the basin. OCWD is a special district, separate from the County of Orange that supplies water to residents in the cities of Anaheim, Buena Park, Cypress, Costa Mesa, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Irvine, La Palma, Los Alamitos, Newport Beach, Orange, Placentia, Santa Ana, Seal Beach, Stanton, Tustin, Villa Park, Westminster and Yorba Linda. Go to [www.ocwd.com](http://www.ocwd.com) for information.

**About Orange County Sanitation District**

The Orange County Sanitation District is a public agency responsible for safely collecting and treating wastewater (sewage) for 2.5 million people. OCSD beneficially reuses and recycles the treated wastewater and other resources resulting from the treatment process. It is a special district established by the California State legislature and governed by a 25-member board of directors. The directors are comprised of elected representatives for each of the sewer agencies or cities within OCSD’s 471 square mile service area. Go to [www.ocsd.com](http://www.ocsd.com) for information.