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**San Bernardino Municipal Water Department Awarded \$500,000 Grant for
Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project**

San Bernardino, Calif. (March 24, 2021) – The San Bernardino Municipal Water Department (SBMWD) has been selected to receive a \$500,000 grant from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grant program.

The grant will fund Phase I of SBMWD’s Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project which will install data communication infrastructure, upgrade 7,500 water meters to smart metering technology, and connect over one quarter of the Department’s total water meters to an advanced metering network.

This project will save water with more timely correction of leaks, notification of abnormal consumption patterns, and by providing access to real-time water use data through a new customer engagement portal. Resulting water savings will offset water pumped from San Bernardino’s primary water source, the Bunker Hill Groundwater Basin, and help reduce the need to purchase imported water supplies to recharge the basin.

“The system upgrades accomplished through the AMI project will allow SBMWD to increase operational efficiencies, save water, and provide better services to the Department’s customers. The Department is proud to be one of the applicants selected for funding through the Bureau’s WaterSMART grant,” said Miguel Guerrero, SBMWD General Manager. “Deployment of the advanced metering network supports the many actions SBMWD is taking to ensure sustainability of our local water supplies.”

"Improving water and energy efficiencies is one way Reclamation is using its resources to provide communities in the West the ability to be resilient to climate change, because conserving water is also saving energy," said Bureau of Reclamation Deputy Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton. The Bureau of Reclamation’s WaterSMART Program allows water agencies to secure federal grant funding needed to modernize water infrastructure, enabling communities to protect and use water more efficiently, which contributes to water supply resiliency in the western United States.

About San Bernardino Municipal Water Department

Established by The City of San Bernardino Charter in 1905, the San Bernardino Municipal Water Department is a municipal utility serving a population of more than 200,000, encompassing a forty-five square mile area of the City of San Bernardino and its surrounding communities. SBMWD also provides Water Reclamation services for the cities of San Bernardino, Highland and Loma Linda as well as Sewer Collection services for the City of San Bernardino. For over a century, SBMWD has been committed to delivering trusted, quality service to residents and ratepayers. Please visit www.sbcitywater.org for more information.

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CITY OF SAN BERNARDINO MUNICIPAL WATER DEPARTMENT

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