

# WOMEN IN WATEREUSE: DIVERSITY FOR THE FUTURE TUESDAY MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup> TOWN HALL PLENARY SESSION & LUNCHEON

#### WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?

An inclusive and diverse water sector is necessary to build trust and promote innovation for the future.

Few sectors are as diverse and universal as the communities served by our WateReuse member agencies and businesses. Integrating our communities with the utilities and businesses that serve them is key, and one way to do that is for our industry to reflect the makeup or our customers. Public trust in water recycling agencies can be earned, in part, through transparent decision making and integration of perspectives that are reflective of the larger community.

There is a growing movement at water events, conferences and other venues, nationwide and internationally, to encourage open conversations about the benefits of gender balance and diversity at all levels of the water sector. Increased inclusion of women and a diverse workforce presents an obvious opportunity to encourage innovation and progress business goals alongside social and developmental goals.

This plenary session will be led by a professional facilitator, Desiree Adaway, who will both educate, entertain and provide pragmatic information related to understanding the benefits of equity and inclusivity. Women leaders from our industry will serve as supporting facilitators during a series of exercises, led by Desiree, to stimulate interactive discussions at the tables in the plenary session room.

### WHAT'S THE TAKEAWAY?

Diversity, equity and inclusion is good for business, good for our employees and good for our communities.

The goal is to challenge our membership to look within their organizations, and themselves, to see how they can contribute to supporting an inclusive culture at their organization.

### WHO HELPED MAKE THIS HAPPEN?

It takes a village.

**Core Committee:** made up of WateReuse California Board Members, this year's Conference Chair and the WRCA Managing Director, initiated the conversation and developed the plenary concept.

**Supporting Facilitators:** made up of volunteers representing the diversity of our industry and leadership of women in WateReuse will be seated at each table to engage the conversation, ensure ground rules are followed, take notes and report out.

**Opening Comments:** Joone Lopez, General Manager for Moulton Niguel Water District and WRCA Trustee to the Board representing the Orange County Section, will frame the conversation.

**External Facilitator:** Desiree Adaway, <a href="http://desireeadaway.com/">http://desireeadaway.com/</a>, will lead a series of exercises to stimulate interactive discussions at the tables in the plenary session room.



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## TUESDAY MARCH 19TH TOWN HALL PLENARY SESSION & LUNCHEON

### **CORE COMMITTEE**

Dawn Taffler	Kennedy Jenks	Vice President   WRCA Board Member
Elizabeth Dawson	El Dorado Irrigation District	Engineering Manager   WRCA Board Member
Jennifer West	WateReuse California	Managing Director
Joone Lopez	Moulton Niguel Water District	General Manager   WRCA Board Member
Kimberly Thorner	Olivenhain Municipal Water District	General Manager   WRCA Board Member
Mark Tettemer	Irvine Ranch Water District	RW Development Manager   Conference Co-Chair
Martha Davis	Martha Davis Consulting	Owner   WRCA Board Member
Norma Camacho	Santa Clara Valley Water District	General Manager   WRCA Board Member
Patricia Tennyson	Katz & Associates	Executive Vice President   WRCA Board Member
Desiree Adaway	Adaway Group (Facilitator)	Professional Facilitator

### **SUPPORTING FACILITATORS**

Cari Dale	City of Oceanside	Water Utilities Director
Carrie Del Boccio	Woodard & Curran	Civil Engineer / Project Manager
Christine Compton	Irvine Ranch Water District	Government Relations Officer
Evelyn Cortez-Davis	Los Angeles Dept of Water and Power	Assistant Director of Water Resources
Gina Dorrington	City of Ventura	Wastewater Utility Manager/
dilla Dolllington	City of Ventura	Interim Assistant General Manager
Heather Collins	Metropolitan Water District	Director of Water Treatment
Inge Wiersema	Carollo	Water Resources Practice Lead
Jennifer Duffy	HDR	SoCA Utility Planning Business Class Lead
Judi Miller	Jacobs	Senior Project Manager
Julie Minton	Water Research Foundation	Director of Strategic Initiatives
Karin North	City of Palo Alto	Watershed Protection Manager
Leah Walker	City of Petaluma	Environmental Services Manager
Lenise Marrero	City of Los Angeles - LA Sanitation and Environment	One Water Program Manager
Lesley Dobalian	San Diego County Water Authority	Principal Water Resources Specialist
Lindsey Stephenson	Encina Wastewater Authority	Engineering Services Manager
Martha Tremblay	Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County	Technical Services Department Head
Megan Schneider	Municipal Water District of Orange County	Board Member - Director
Melanie Mow Schumacher	Soquel Creek Water District	Special Projects-Communications Manager
Melody LaBella	Central Contra Costa Sanitary District	Resource Recovery Program Manager
Pat Sinicropi	WateReuse Association	Managing Director
Paula Kehoe	San Francisco Public Utilities Commission	Water Resource Manager
Piret Harmon	Scotts Valley Water District	General Manager
Rhodora Biagtan	HydroScience Engineers	Senior Project Manager
Sandy Scott-Roberts	Orange County Water District	GWRS Program Manager
Seval Sen	Padre Dam Municipal Water District	District Engineer
Sylvie Lee	Inland Empire Utilities Agency	Director of Water Resources
Terri Slifko	Metropolitan Water District	Water Quality Laboratory Manager: Chemistry
Wendy Broley	Brown and Caldwell	One Water Leader