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## GROUNDBREAKING OF INGLEWOOD FIRE STATION 171'S WATER-EFFICIENT, OCEAN-FRIENDLY GARDEN

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Inglewood Mayor James Butts joined, West Basin Municipal Water District Director Gloria Gray and Fire Chief Kelly Seyarto for the official Groundbreaking of Inglewood Fire Station 171's Water-Efficient, Ocean-Friendly Garden.

District Director Gray gave a warm welcome and overview of how the program will be implemented and result in a benefit to the City of Inglewood. "This is a major project

designed to help the City conserve water. This program is part of West Basin's Water Reliability 2020 program to reduce our dependence on imported water in half by the year 2020 by doubling conservation and recycling and adding a small amount of desalinated seawater. We would like to thank all of our partners," stated Gray.

Ocean-friendly landscapes are designed to help keep water on the property, using it for plants and wildlife living in the landscape and reducing or eliminating runoff that pollutes our local beaches and oceans. This garden is the first Demonstration Garden to be installed under West Basin's Ocean-Friendly Landscape Program.

Mayor James Butts grabbed a shovel and dug deep. He then remarked, "This is important on a couple of levels. Not only the conservation effort that supports low water usage for the project. Equally important it now gives us a chance to beautify what was once of our premiere structures here in the City of Inglewood when it was first built. This is the old Fire Station One. This works on a couple of levels conservation and unification. This will make this property an icon that the City can be proud of."

The Inglewood Fire Station 171 is located at 141 W. Regent Street in the heart of Inglewood near the Courthouse, City Hall and across from Crozier Middle School.

"This is an ideal location for the residents, visitors and commuters to be able to appreciate the garden which will have a plethora of greenery," stated Chief Seyarto.

Inglewood Fire Station 171's newly converted landscape is expected to reduce its water use by 80%. Previously covered with cool-season turf grass, it will soon have climate-adapted and native plants and a permeable hardscape. The 12,000 square-foot yard will serve as an educational resource for the community to demonstrate how to landscape for local climate conditions. The property is located near a middle school, senior center, police station and civic center.

This garden is funded by West Basin, California Department of Water Resources and the L.A. County Fire Department. Design and construction services for the garden are provided by G3LA, Surfrider Foundation, and The Jungle Nursery, Inc.

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