



News Release

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The San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District Mourns the Passing of Former Director Raul L. Romero

July 9, 2020; Azusa, California - The District board and staff mourns the passing of Raul L. Romero, former Board member for the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District. Raul served on the water district's board from January 2011 to December 2018 representing Division V - the City of Azusa.

Director Romero served as Treasurer and was on the District's External Affairs Committee. He also was the District's representative to the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Region 8 and the San Gabriel Valley Water Association.

During his tenure at the District, Director Romero was instrumental in the development of the *San Gabriel Valley Water Forum*, the school-based *Home Water Survey Program*, the *Opportunities for Water Leadership (OWL) Community Grant Program*, and the *H₂Owl Outreach Programs*, and educational water conservation pilot projects at Mountain View and Paramount Elementary School in Azusa.

Director Romero worked as a Union Representative/Organizer for more than twenty-five years for four different unions, and served in the U.S. Army First Infantry Division in Vietnam from 1967-1968.

He was also active in many civic organizations throughout the San Gabriel Valley and California such as the San Gabriel Valley Civic Alliance, Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, Los Angeles County Federation of Labor AFL-CIO, California Congress of Seniors, American Association of Retired People, California Alliance of Retired Americans, Nosotros, and Hispanic Americans for Fairness in Media.

Director Romero is survived by his wife, Rachel, and his children, Louis, Jessica and Nicole. He is also survived by his numerous grandchildren and great-grandchild.

"On behalf of the Board and staff of the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, we extend our heartfelt sympathies to the Romero family. Raul was a true public servant who proudly served his country, and the residents of Azusa. He worked tirelessly throughout his life and career to build bridges between the community, labor organizations and public agencies to make our communities stronger, and was a passionate advocate for working people. He will be dearly missed," said Thomas Wong, Board President.

On July 13, the District will adjourn its regularly scheduled board meeting in honor and memory of Director Romero, who was born on October 27, 1946 and passed away on July 8, 2020.

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About the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

The mission of the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District is to provide reliable supplemental water for the communities of Alhambra, Azusa, Monterey Park and Sierra Madre in a cost-effective and environmentally responsible manner.

The District was formed in 1959 after winning approval from the voters of Alhambra, Azusa, Monterey Park, and Sierra Madre. In anticipation of its long-term water needs, the District entered into a contract with the State of California Department of Water Resources in 1962 for the import of 25,000 acre-feet of water per year (now 28,800 acre-feet per year) from the State Water Project to supplement local water supplies in the San Gabriel Valley. The District is one of 29 State Water Contractors who obtain water from the State Water Project. The District operates the 38-mile Devil Canyon-Azusa pipeline which connects to the State Water Project, as well as several other facilities including a hydroelectric plant. The District also provides extensive public education and water conservation services throughout its service area. The Board of Directors meets regularly the second Monday of each month at 8 a.m. at District headquarters in Azusa. For more information please visit our website: www.sgvmd.org.