



MARINA COAST WATER DISTRICT

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GENERAL MANAGER OF MARINA COAST WATER DISTRICT RETURNING HOME TO SO CAL

Van Der Maaten has led fight for sustainable groundwater in Monterey County

MARINA, Calif.–November 3, 2020: Keith Van Der Maaten, the general manager of the Marina Coast Water District (MCWD) has announced plans to become the general manager of Laguna Beach County Water District beginning in January 2021, launching a new chapter in his life.

Van Der Maaten is originally from San Diego, and he and his family have long envisioned returning to his lifelong home of Southern California. In Laguna Beach, Van Der Maaten will continue to tackle what he calls the “California issue” of securing a sustainable long-term water supply. Like Marina, Laguna Beach prioritizes water conservation and re-use.

“Marina Coast has obviously done a tremendous job on water conservation, and so has Laguna Beach,” said Van Der Maaten.

Van Der Maaten oversaw MCWD’s annexation of the Fort Ord community and helped the district form a groundwater sustainability agency. He also pushed for airborne electromagnetic surveying of the region’s groundwater to accurately map fresh water and saltwater below ground.

“I have enjoyed immensely working at Marina Coast and believe it's been the greatest five and a half years of my career,” said Van Der Maaten. “The Board is visionary and provides exemplary leadership, and the staff is hard working and dedicated to serving our customers.”

Van Der Maaten hopes MCWD will continue to work on water supply projects that benefit the entire region, including moving forward with Pure Water Monterey “to basically get every last drop of wastewater that we can put to good use.”

Starting this week, the MCWD Board of Directors will consider an interim general manager and initiate the process of finding a permanent replacement for Van Der Maaten.

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About Marina Coast Water District and MCWD Groundwater Sustainability Agency

The Marina Coast Water District (MCWD) was formed in 1960 as the Marina County Water District by a group of local citizens. It was first a municipal-owned water system with boundaries to coincide with the existing Marina Fire District. In 1966, voters authorized the sale of water bonds to acquire a privately-owned water company serving the area. With the closure of the Fort Ord military base in 1997, the Army contracted MCWD to operate its water and wastewater systems and, in 2001, officially transferred the systems to MCWD. Today, MCWD is an exclusive groundwater sustainability agency (GSA) in both the Monterey sub-basin and the 180/400 sub-basin, responsible for developing groundwater sustainability plans. MCWD is governed by a five-member board of directors elected by the voters. For more information, please visit www.mcwd.org.