REDEFINING ORANGE COUNTY LANDSCAPES
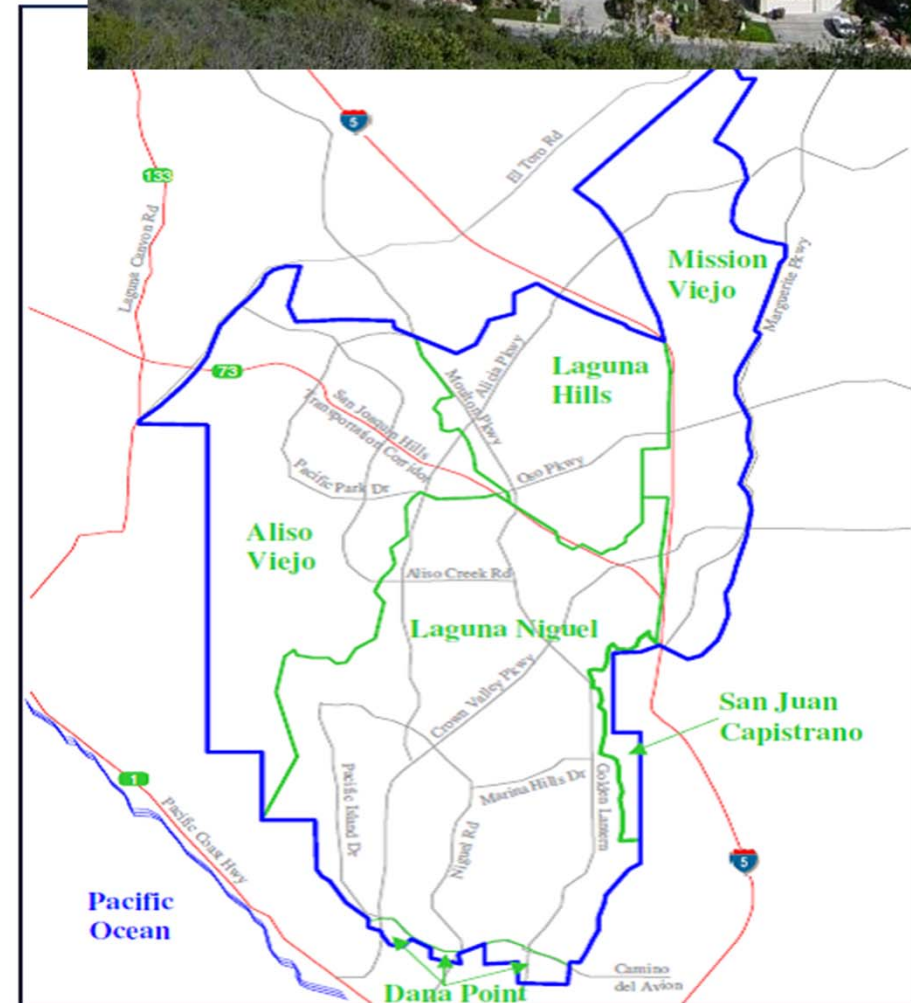
Joone Lopez

General Manager

Moulton Niguel Water District

Wednesday, August 12, 2015
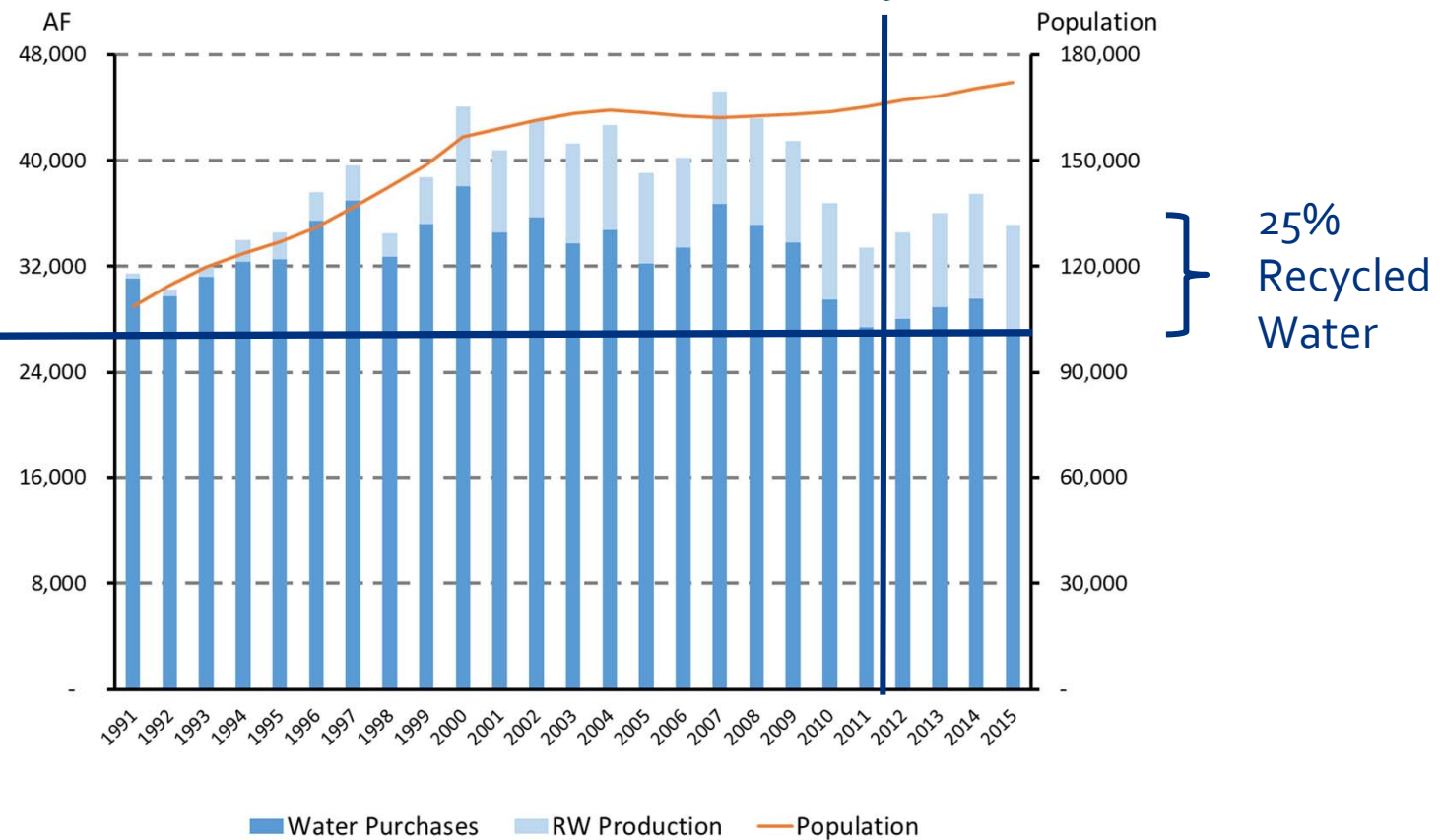
ABOUT MNWD

- Water, recycled water & sewer service
  - 170,000 people
  - 5 Cities in South Orange County

- 100% dependent on imported water for Potable Demand
  - MWD (≈ 29,000 AFY)

- Recycled Water ≈ 25% Total Demand

- Annual budget: $126 M

- Key revenues
  - Rates
  - Property tax

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DEMAND MANAGEMENT EFFORTS

Water Budget Rates Implemented

2015 = Lowest potable water use since 1990

25% Recycled Water

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Water Purchases   RW Production   Population

DROUGHT ACTIONS

20%

- Alternate plan approval by SWRCB
- Water Budget Based Rates
- Water Shortage Contingency Plan
- Customer communications
- Recycled Water Master Plan
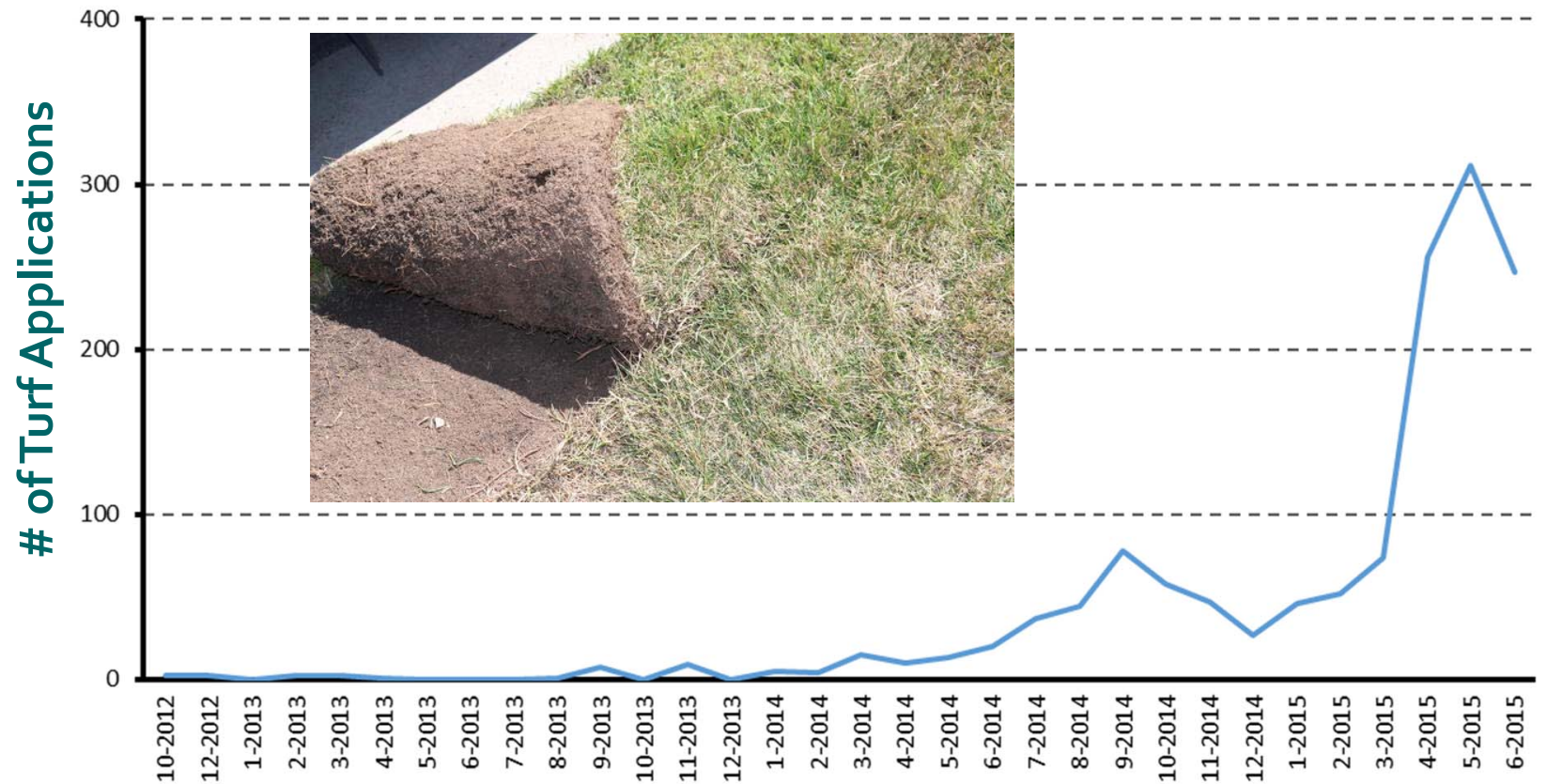- Partnership with cities
- Media

LIVE within your BUDGET

Water Shortage Contingency Plan Stage 2

Penalty

| | Tier 1 | Tier 2 | Tier 3 | Tier 4 | Tier 5 |

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OUTDOOR FOCUS

- 50 to 70% for outdoor usage

- Approximately 300 million square feet of irrigable area in service area

- Approximately 3 million square feet of turf removed

# of Turf Applications (y-axis: 0 to 400)

x-axis: 10-2012, 12-2012, 1-2013, 2-2013, 3-2013, 4-2013, 5-2013, 6-2013, 7-2013, 8-2013, 9-2013, 10-2013, 11-2013, 12-2013, 1-2014, 2-2014, 3-2014, 4-2014, 5-2014, 6-2014, 7-2014, 8-2014, 9-2014, 10-2014, 11-2014, 12-2014, 1-2015, 2-2015, 3-2015, 4-2015, 5-2015, 6-2015

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ACTIONS: SHORT-TERM WITH LONG-TERM IMPACTS

Immediate
- Water Shortage Contingency Plan
- Outdoor watering
- Irrigation controllers
- Irrigation system
- Turf removal
- CA Friendly landscaping

Long-term
- Shifting mindset and behavior
- Responsible aesthetics
- Market transformation

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PARTNERSHIPS

- Research institutions to inform innovation
  - Stanford
  - UC Riverside

- Surrounding agencies

- Home Depot, Lowes, local nurseries

- Local Cities

- Live Smart Event

RESULTS

- Exceeded targets for June & July

- Highest ever percentage of customers within their water budget

- Financially stable after greater than 20% reduction in demand

- Lowest overall water use since 1990

- Currently at approximately 50% of per capita water use in 1991

May: **29%**

June: **22%**

July: **27%**

Moulton Niguel Water
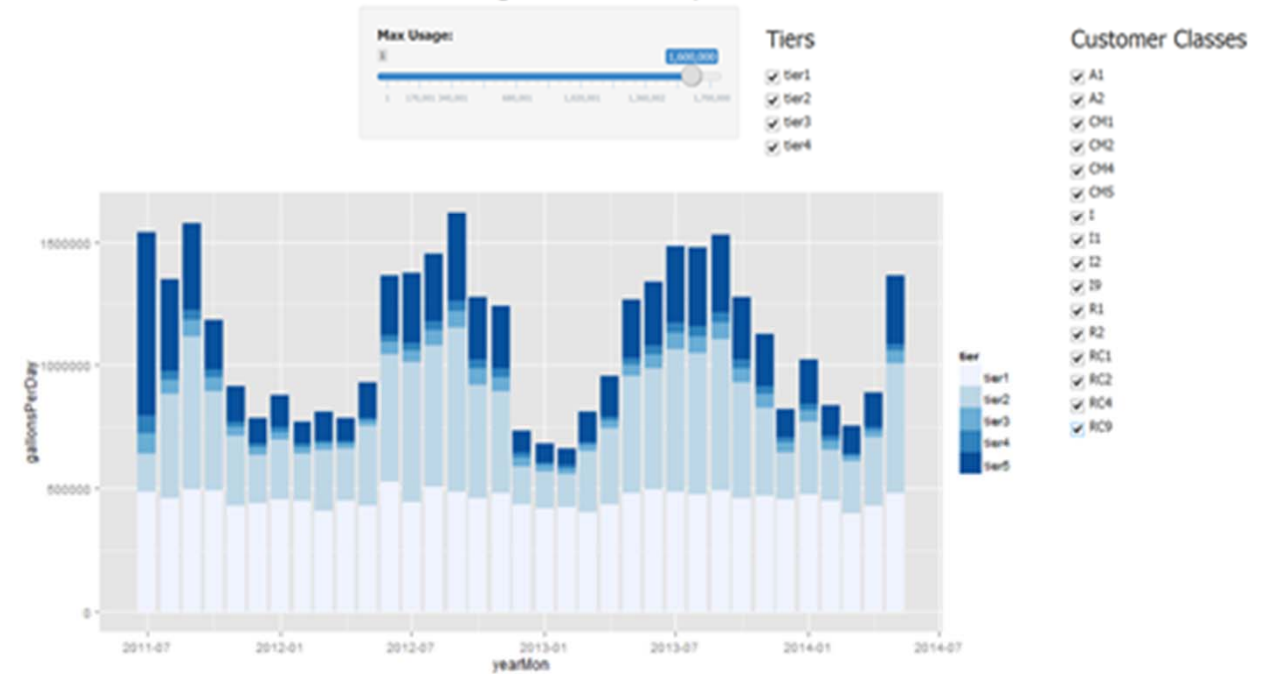*Leading the Way in Service*

GOING FORWARD

- Permanent, long-term, sustainable strategies

- Better data
  - Statewide data collaborative

- Effective strategies that are measurable and adaptable

- Build upon partnerships

INTERACTIVE CUSTOMER USAGE DASHBOARD

Strategic **C**alifornia **Urb**an Water **A**nalytics
(SCUBA) *Data Collaborative*

CONTACT

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