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SUBJECT: *TRANSPARENCY CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE AWARDED TO RANCHO WATER*

Temecula, CA 01/09/20 – Rancho Water received the District Transparency Certificate of Excellence by the Special District Leadership Foundation (SDLF) in recognition of its outstanding efforts to promote transparency and good governance.

“This award is a testament to Rancho Water’s commitment to open government,” said General Manager Jeff Armstrong. “The entire District staff is to be commended for their contributions that empower the public with information and facilitate engagement and oversight.” To receive the award, a special district must demonstrate the completion of essential governance transparency requirements, including conducting ethics training for all board members, properly conducting open and public meetings, and filing financial transactions and compensation reports to the State Controller in a timely manner. Out of approximately 2,000 independent special districts, Rancho was one of 137 that received this prestigious award.

The SDLF is an independent, non-profit organization formed to promote good governance and best practices among California’s special districts through certification, accreditation, and other recognition programs.

Special districts are independent public agencies that deliver core local services to communities, such as water, wastewater treatment, fire protection, parks and recreation, healthcare, sanitation, mosquito abatement, ports, libraries, public cemeteries, and more. Special districts are established by voters and their funding is approved by voters to meet specific needs through focused service.

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Formed in 1965, Rancho Water supplies an area consisting of approximately 150 square miles, serving the area known as Temecula/Rancho California, which includes the City of Temecula, parts of Murrieta, and other contiguous lands. The District is separated into two divisions: the Santa Rosa Division generally west of I-15 and Rancho Division generally east of I-15. The District currently provides sewer service to the Cal Oaks and Bear Creek areas.

“The mission of the Rancho California Water District is to deliver reliable, high-quality water, wastewater and reclamation services to its customers and communities in a prudent and sustainable manner.”