



Converting Waste Into Resources

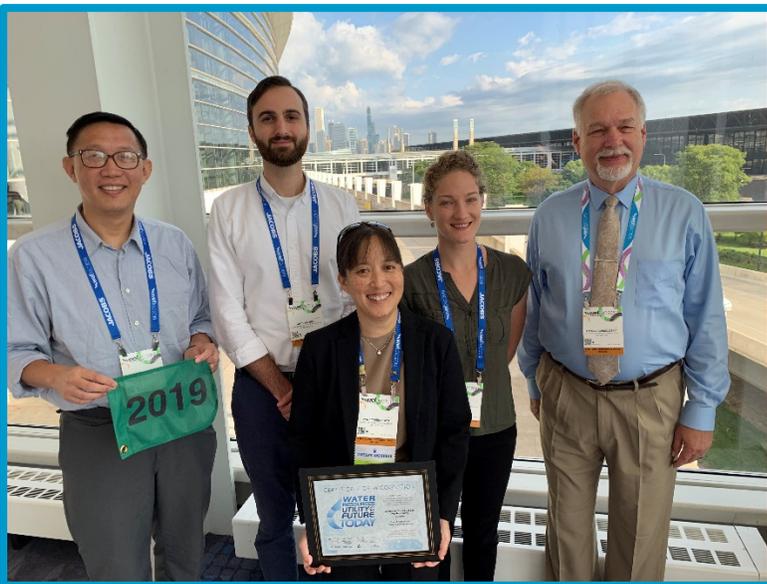
The Sanitation Districts were one of the inaugural utilities recognized in 2016 and recognized again for advances in Partnering and Engagement.



On September 24, 2019 Dan Schmolesky and Hana Long accept the Utility of the Future Today recognition for achievement in Partnering and Engagement.

The Utility of the Future concept is being promoted as the nation's water systems transform operations through innovation and technology. The Utility of the Future is a model for utilities of all sizes to achieve more efficient operations, enhanced productivity, and long-term sustainability.

43 utilities were recognized in 2019 bringing the total to 118.



Dung Kong, Artin Laleian, Naoko Munakata, Hanna Long, and Dan Schmolesky of the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County at the recognition ceremony on September 24, 2019 at WEFTEC Chicago.



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Jim Herberg, P.E., BCEE General Manager of Orange County Water District and Wendy Wert, P.E., BCEE Environmental Engineer with the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County at the recognition ceremony on September 24, 2019 at WEFTEC Chicago.

The Utility of the Future Today (UotFT) program honors water resource recovery facilities for community engagement, watershed stewardship, and recovery of resources such as water, energy, and nutrients.

The water resources partnership consists of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), the Water Environment Federation (WEF), the Water Environment Research Foundation (WERF) and WaterReuse—with support from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The partnership celebrates the progress of our nation’s water and wastewater utilities as they adopt and innovative business model.

In 2016 Sanitation Districts were recognized in the inaugural year of the program. The flag on display in the boardroom commemorates this outstanding achievement.

The utility business model is not static therefore, agencies must show progress in Organizational Culture and at least one other activity area every 3 years. In 2019 the Sanitation Districts exceeded the requirements by demonstrating progress in Organizational Culture and five activity areas including:

- *Beneficial Biosolids Reuse*
- *Partnering & Engagement*
- *Energy Efficiency*
- *Energy Generation & Recovery*
- *Water Reuse*



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This Organizational Culture emphasizes collaborative learning through employee, community, and stakeholder engagement. Every employee is empowered to creatively problem-solve, allowing innovation to be infused throughout the organization.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to everyone whose daily work for the Sanitation Districts contributes to this achievement.

Congratulations and Thank You! – Robert Ferrante, P.E., BCEE Chief Engineer and General Manager Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County