

DATE ISSUED: November 7, 2001

REPORT NO: 01-245

ATTENTION: Honorable Mayor and City Council

SUBJECT: Appointment of Assistant Director, Metropolitan Wastewater Department

SUMMARY

THIS IS AN INFORMATION ITEM ONLY. NO ACTION IS REQUIRED ON THE PART OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Robert J. Ferrier as Assistant Director of the Metropolitan Wastewater Department. During Bob's 33 years with the City of San Diego, he has been Deputy Director of several major operating divisions in various departments, including Water Utilities, Park and Recreation and Environmental Services. He has also served as Labor Relations Manager.

Since 1993 Bob has served as Deputy Director of the Refuse Disposal Division. During his tenure there he partnered with MWWD on the Miramar Landfill/Metro Biosolids Center cogeneration project that saved millions of dollars and was awarded the Golden Watchdog Award by the San Diego Taxpayers Association. He also collaborated with a private partner to use the landfill gas from the South Chollas Landfill to produce liquified natural gas for use by the department's refuse collection packers, the first small scale liquefaction project in the country using landfill gas. Most recently he has engaged with the Environmental Protection Agency to pursue ISO 14001 certification. When completed, this will be another notable achievement: the first such certification of a refuse disposal operation in the country. Clearly, Bob's leadership and vision have helped to put Environmental Services in the forefront of best practices in the nation.

At the Park Development Division, one of Bob's notable achievements was the award-winning Mission Trails Visitor Center. He was also the Deputy Director of Systems Division in the former Water Utilities Department. He will bring the skills learned rising through the ranks of a field division back to MWWD in his new position.

Bob has been a long-time trainer of Dimensions in Discipline and Rewards and Recognition. For the past two years, he has been a Learning Leader in the Career Management Program.

He earned both a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Public Administration Degree at San Diego State University.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael T. Uberuaga
City Manager

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