



Legislation and Communications Committee

# Highlights of the Community Partnering Program

Item 6a

June 8, 2026

Presented by: Joseph Chavez

Legislation & Communications Committee

## Item 6a Conservation & Community

### Subject Community Partnering Program

Purpose  
Highlight the program's 25th anniversary and key achievements for FY 2025-26



# Community Partnering Program Objectives

Engaging Diverse Communities

## Building Water Awareness



- Promote water education through community-based and educational organizations
- Foster water stewardship through community engagement
- Reduce financial barriers to project implementation





Community Partnering Program

## 25 Years of Success

# Program History Highlights

- 2000 – Started program by providing funds to educational institutions, nonprofit organizations, and public agencies to support water education projects
- 2003 – Expanded program scope by designating funds for native plant heritage gardens
- 2021 – Implemented online application process to facilitate program participation
- 2023 – Launched a pilot to award two \$10,000 grants to support partnerships with a more impactful and larger reach

# Outcomes

Water education initiatives that promote learning around conservation and water supply

- Native and California Friendly ® educational gardens
- Water education through the arts
- Community events focused on water designed for all ages
- Water-themed STEAM student workshops
- Long-lasting partnerships

Community Partnering Program

## Sponsorships for 25 Years





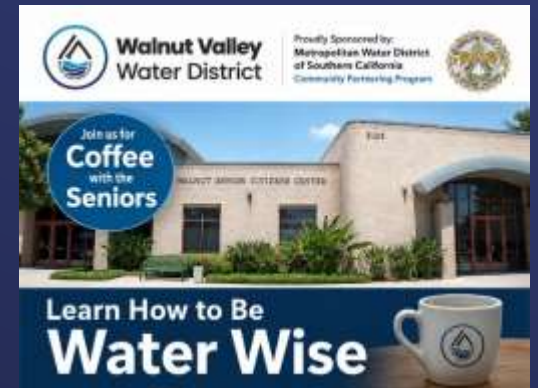
Highlights for FY 2025-26

# Making an Impact



## Outcomes

- Earth Day Native Plant Educational Garden
- Water Education on Stage
- Coffee with the Seniors: A Community Waterwise Workshop
- Interpreting Water on the Landscape: A Tribal Partnership Model
- Water Wise City Truck Art Contest

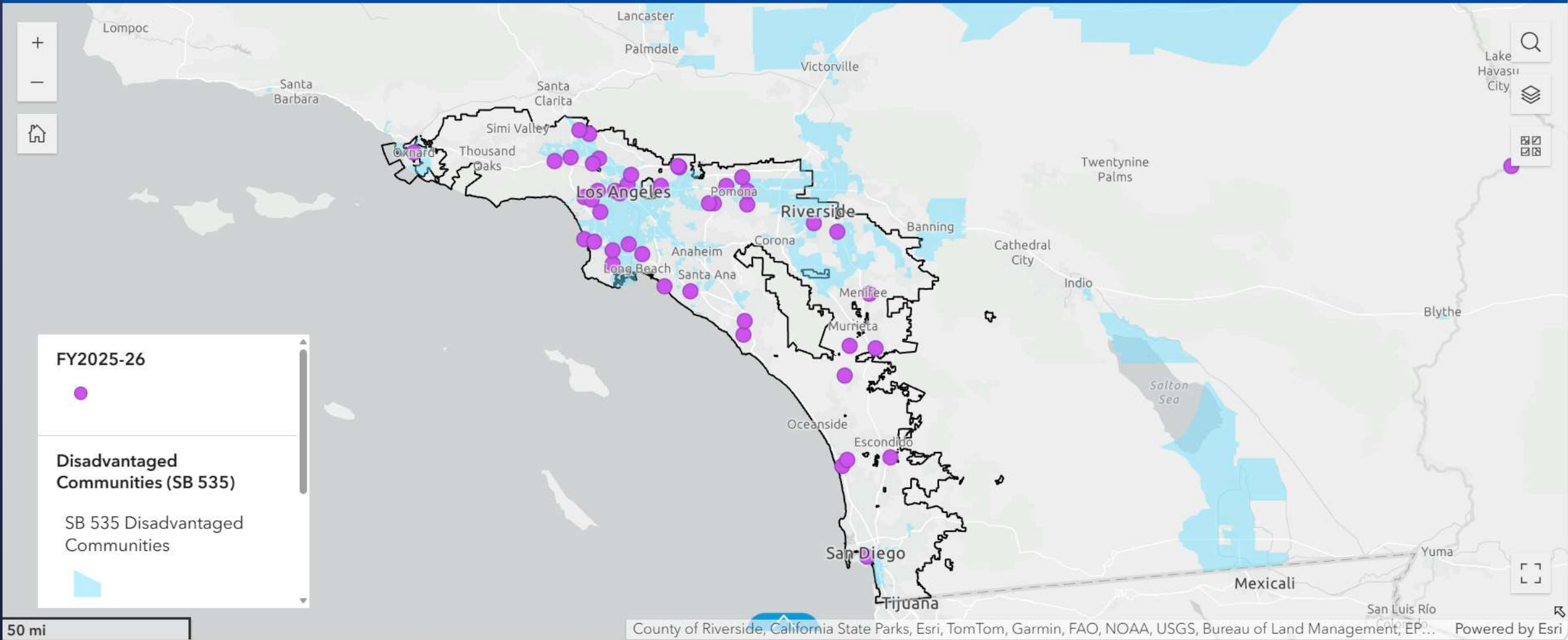


# Awards for FY 2025-26

MWD  
IT GIS

Developed by MWD's IT GIS Team

## Community Partnering Program



# Reflections & Visions ahead

Community Partnering Program

## A Strong History & Bright Future

Video of Chair Ortega





