

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 2, 2026

Contact: Charlene Engeron, Public Information Officer
(760) 946-7001 or cengeron@mojavewater.org

Mojave Water Agency to break ground on West Victorville infrastructure project

Apple Valley, CA — Mojave Water Agency (MWA) will host a groundbreaking ceremony on June 10, 2026, at 10 a.m. to celebrate the start of construction on the West Victorville Groundwater Banking Pilot Test Project, a major investment in regional water reliability and drought resilience.

The ceremony will take place at 11987 Duncan Road in Victorville and will bring together Agency leadership, project partners, elected officials, community stakeholders, and residents to mark the beginning of a project designed to expand groundwater recharge capacity and improve long-term water security throughout the Mojave Desert region.

The West Victorville Groundwater Banking Pilot Test Project will transform a 40-acre site into a groundwater recharge facility capable of adding an estimated 12,000 to 18,000 acre-feet per year of off-river recharge capacity to the Alto Subarea of the Mojave Groundwater Basin. The project will allow Mojave Water Agency to capture imported State Water Project supplies during wet periods and store that water underground for future use during droughts and dry years.

“This project represents a significant step forward in our commitment to ensuring a reliable water future for the High Desert,” said Marina West, President of the Mojave Water Agency Board of Directors. “Groundwater banking allows us to make the most of available water supplies today while preparing responsibly for the challenges of tomorrow.”

Unlike traditional recharge projects that simply replenish groundwater supplies, the West Victorville project is designed as a pilot groundwater banking facility, allowing MWA to evaluate recharge rates, recovery potential, groundwater quality, and aquifer response. The information gathered will help guide future groundwater banking efforts throughout the region.

The project is supported by a \$12.87 million grant from the California Department of Water Resources through the Urban and Multi-Benefit Drought Relief Program. Construction was awarded to Ames Construction in an amount not to exceed approximately \$17.9 million.

Mojave Water Agency, which was established in 1960, plays a vital role in securing reliable water supplies for the High Desert region. As one of 29 State Water Project contractors, the Agency manages water resources across a 4,900-square-mile service area, promoting long-term sustainability and stewardship. For more information, visit the Agency’s website at www.mojavewater.org or follow us on social media @mojavewater.

###