Riverside, Calif. – Western Municipal Water District (Western) has named Ryan Shaw, a seasoned public-sector leader with nearly 15 years of water resource management experience, as its new director of the Water Resources Department.

“Ryan’s knowledge of Western coupled with his expertise in water management and policy along with water use efficiency programs made him the ideal candidate to lead the Water Resources Department,” said Western’s General Manager Craig Miller. “Not only does Ryan understand the needs of the District and region, but also he has excellent leadership and customer service skills that will benefit our customers and Western.”

Shaw joined Western in 2016 in the position of deputy director of the Water Resources Department. During his tenure, he has been a part of a team that has successfully negotiated two historic local reliability projects: the Santa Ana River Conservation and Conjunctive Use Program (SARCCUP), which provides dry-year water supply reliability, and a long-term water purchase agreement with the City of Riverside, which provides Western with access to roughly 40 percent of its retail water supply.

As director of water resources, Shaw will oversee the department’s project and contract management, program compliance, and water and environmental resource functions. Additionally, he will oversee the development and implementation of the District’s Urban Water Management Plan and Watermaster data and reporting.

“I am looking forward to leading Western’s high caliber water resources team and building on the department’s continued success of developing and implementing regional and local water projects,” said Shaw. “Water and the environment are my passions, so to work with the incredible team at Western and make a difference in the communities we serve, is an honor.”
Shaw has extensive experience in facilitating state-wide policy and regional water supply planning. Prior to Western, he served as the water resource manager for the Ontario Municipal Utilities Company and worked as a senior associate engineer for the Planning and Environmental Compliance Department at the Inland Empire Utilities Agency.

Shaw holds a Bachelor of Environmental and Resource Science, University of California at Davis, and a Master of Engineering, Environmental Quality Management, University of Southern California.

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*Western Municipal Water District provides water supply, wastewater disposal and water resource management to the public in a safe, reliable, environmentally sensitive and financially responsible manner.*