

Daily Bulletin

SOLVING A CRISIS

Water project starts

Recycled waste to be used for landscaping

By Wendy Leung Staff Writer

Residents in Rancho Cucamonga and Fontana will see a lot more purple on their commutes.

The color that distinguishes pipes using recycled water will be more visible now that a \$30 million project has officially broken ground.

Lawmakers and water officials on Thursday announced the start of the North East Area Project at Victoria Gardens, one of the sites that will begin using recycled water for landscaping next October when the project is scheduled to be complete.

The Inland Empire Regional Recycled Water Program will benefit areas near the Rancho Cucamonga and Fontana border. The areas include The Epicenter, Etiwanda High School, some medians in Rancho Cucamonga and Fontana as well as other nearby shopping plazas.

"By October 2010, we'll be on our way to making recycled water the new normal," said Randall Reed, Cucamonga Valley Water District board member.

The project is funded by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Title XVI stimulus grant, the State Water Resources Control Board stimulus loan and a State Water Resources Control Board grant.

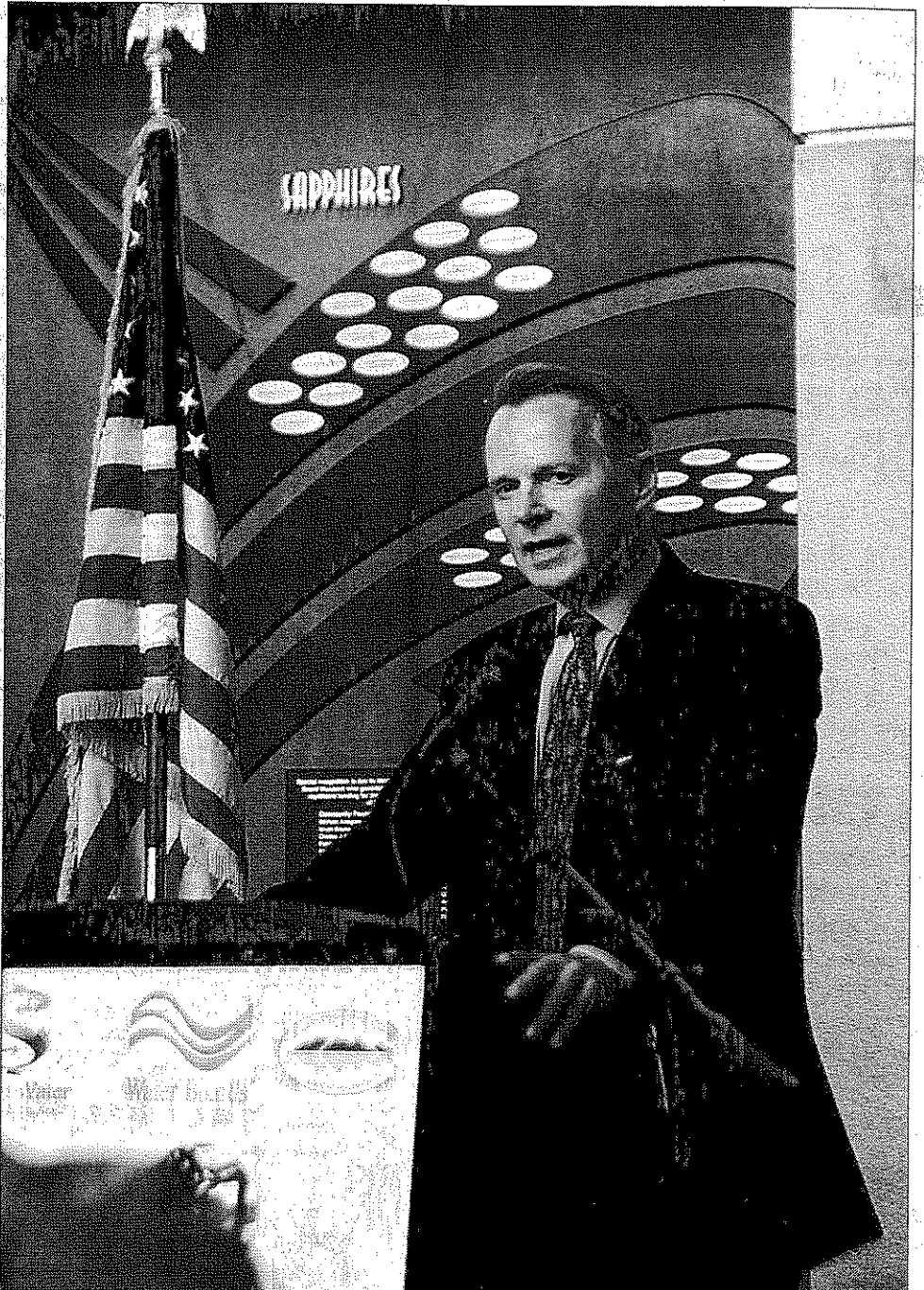
After the customary presentation of oversized checks worth \$30 million, Rep. David Dreier, R-San Dimas, admitted he didn't vote for some of the funding.

"I voted against the economic stimulus bill so all the money in there, I voted against," Dreier said. "That doesn't mean I'm not proud that something good came out of that package from Washington."

Recycled water, or waste water that has been purified to be used for landscaping, is already used in the southern portion of Rancho Cucamonga and other Inland Valley cities, including Chino, Chino Hills, Ontario and Montclair.

Dreier thanked local leaders for spearheading the project, calling it a "creative and innovative" way to deal with the water crisis.

"Were it not for what all of you are doing, we would not be able to deal with the challenge of survival that we face on a daily basis," Dreier said.



Frank Perez Correspondent

Rep. David Dreier, R-San Dimas, speaks at the start of a recycled water project by the Inland Empire Utilities Agency on Thursday at the Lewis Family Playhouse in Rancho Cucamonga.