



Media Notice for Immediate Release

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MCWD Earns National Recognition for Delivering Clear, Community-Focused Budget

District Also Earned the Distinguished Financial Award for the 17th Year

Marina, CA — Once again, the Marina Coast Water District has been recognized for outstanding financial stewardship by earning the **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award** from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA).

This recognition follows MCWD's long-standing record of excellence in financial reporting. The District has also earned GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting 17 years in a row for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), further underscoring the organization's commitment to responsible and transparent financial management.

District General Manager **Remleh Scherzinger** praised the achievement, stating: *"This award affirms our District's dedication to accountability and transparency in financial planning. Our goal is to provide a clear, comprehensive, and understandable budget that allows the Board, staff, and our community to confidently assess the District's financial position and operational priorities."*

Scherzinger added, *"Earning the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award reflects the outstanding professionalism of our finance team led by Mary Lagasca. They continue to set a high standard for public-sector financial stewardship."*

\$2.3 Million Savings. In additional financial news this year, the District refinanced a bond and saved its customers \$2,372,421 in interest payments. The District's bond rating was also upgraded to AA- Positive Outlook, one of the highest ratings available.

[A Press Release on the Award from the Government Finance Officers Association is on the Following Page](#)



GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

6/26/2025

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(Chicago, Illinois)—Government Finance Officers Association is pleased to announce that **Marina Coast Water District, California** received GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget.

The award represents a significant achievement by the entity. It reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the entity had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as:

- a policy document
- a financial plan
- an operations guide
- a communications device

Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories, and in the fourteen mandatory criteria within those categories, to receive the award.

There are over 1,700 participants in the Budget Awards Program. The most recent Budget Award recipients, along with their corresponding budget documents, are posted quarterly on GFOA's website. Award recipients have pioneered efforts to improve the quality of budgeting and provide an excellent example for other governments throughout North America.

Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) advances excellence in government finance by providing best practices, professional development, resources, and practical research for more than 25,000 members and the communities they serve.

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