For Immediate Release

Santa Ana Celebrates Water Awareness Month With Its Award Winning Water
Santa Ana’s Water Receives Encore As Nation’s Best Tasting On Tap

(Santa Ana, CA) July 10, 2018 —The City of Santa Ana announced today it won the coveted honor of producing the best tasting and highest quality tap water in the nation. Santa Ana received the gold medal in the “Best Municipal Water” category at the 28th annual Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting, the largest and longest running competition in the world dedicated to preserving and protecting drinking water.

“Winning the nation’s top award in our category is phenomenal. Winning the award four times attests to the high standards we set for our tap water and the dedication of our certified specialists who are committed to serving our customers,” says Nabil Saba, Water Resources Manager, City of Santa Ana.

Santa Ana claimed the gold medal in 2014, preceded by the City’s bronze and silver medals in 2011 and 2012, Saba notes.

Year after year, Santa Ana’s Water Resources Division ensures a healthy, reliable, safe drinking water supply that exceeds the drinking water health standards required by both state and federal agencies.
These standards are outlined in the 2017 Water Quality Consumer Confidence Report, which will become available in June by visiting santaanaccr.org. Residents who prefer a print report can call 714-647-3320 or email info@SantaAnaCCR.org, explains Saba.

Santa Ana’s tap water comes primarily from the vast groundwater basin under northern and central Orange County, one of the largest in Southern California providing most of the water needs for 2.5 million people in Orange County. The City of Santa Ana works closely with the Orange County Water District (OCWD), which manages the groundwater basin, to ensure water is not only high in quality but a reliable and plentiful source.

**Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting**

More than 100 people and water officials from the U.S. and abroad attended the water tasting festival in Berkeley Springs, West Virginia. Twelve media judges spent hours tasting water sourced in 15 states, four Canadian provinces and nine foreign countries. Similar to a wine tasting, judges rated the water for each attribute including appearance (should be clear), aroma (should be none), taste (should taste clean), mouth feel (should feel light), and aftertaste (should leave people thirsty for more).


**About the City of Santa Ana Public Works Agency**

The City of Santa Ana Public Works Agency, with its four divisions and professional staff of more than 200 employees, is responsible for the city’s infrastructure and quality of life. The agency builds and maintains all public streets, storm drains, sewers, and water facilities, as well as coordinates refuse collection and recycling, street sweeping, public right-of-way landscaping, and graffiti removal. Through the agency’s Water Resources Division, it ensures the community enjoys high quality drinking water. It also ensures the community is able to travel around the city efficiently through the use of a state-of-the-art traffic management system, and collaboration with neighborhood associations and developers to resolve speeding, parking, and traffic problems.