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**MetroWest Master Association Receives City of Orlando's Environmental Excellence Award**

*Cost-Saving, Green Initiative Recognized for its Environmental Efficiencies*

**ORLANDO, FL (December 10, 2014)** – On behalf of Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer, Orlando City Commissioner Samuel Ings and Victor Godlewski, City of Orlando Environmental Control Section Wastewater Division Manager presented the MetroWest Master Association with the City of Orlando's Environmental Excellence Award for the community's efficient use of reclaimed water.

"The MetroWest Master Association's irrigation project is a great example of our community joining with us as we work to make Orlando the most sustainable City in the southeastern United States," said Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer. "I am thankful for MetroWest's investment in both our community and in helping us more efficiently utilize our resources and protect our environment."

The MetroWest Master Association along with FirstService Residential and Newberg Irrigation recently celebrated the completion of their \$1.5 million irrigation project to benefit and enhance the MetroWest community. Together with the City of Orlando Public Works Department, MetroWest spent three years designing and redesigning the entirety of the community's water distribution network to bring MetroWest into compliance with the City of Orlando's guidelines for water management.

"It wasn't easy, but we all worked together to move the project along quickly. You are to be commended," said Commissioner Ings. Godlewski added, "As a big reclaimed water customer of the City's, MetroWest's water efficiency is outstanding. Limiting water distribution to turf and flowers with little overspray is of great benefit to our overall water supply. Kudos to the Board of the MetroWest Master Association for making a significant investment in your community. It is my honor to present this token of the City's appreciation for your reclaimed water efforts."

The new, cost-saving irrigation system provides MetroWest with the ability for isolated watering, eco-friendly and water conservation technology and will reduce reclaimed water from impacting pedestrian walkways. The green initiative will enhance the manageability and control of the massive, original irrigation system for the community of over 18,500 that has not been enhanced since the community's inception almost 30 years ago. The scope of the project was significant as it took 16,000 sprinklers and used 280,000 lineal feet of pipe and wiring – the equivalency of making 24 round trip excursions from Downtown Orlando to MetroWest! The irrigation system upgrade is an integral part of enriching MetroWest's reputation as a great place to live, work and play.

***About MetroWest***

MetroWest, developed in 1985, is one of Orlando's first master-planned communities and features award-winning landscaping and MetroWest Golf Club, as well as all "A" public schools, Valencia College campus and convenient access to both I-4 and 408 from the West side of Orlando. MetroWest offers a community lifestyle with neighborhood businesses and outdoor recreation options. The diverse community is complemented by a range of living options, from single-family homes of all sizes to apartments and condominiums. For more information, please visit [www.MetroWestCommunity.com](http://www.MetroWestCommunity.com).

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