



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Press Release

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Denmark, MWRD sign MOU for knowledge exchange

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) has entered into a collaborative agreement with Lars Schröder, Chief Executive Officer of Aarhus Water, an independent regional water and wastewater enterprise owned by the municipality of Aarhus, Denmark.

The partnership was celebrated during a ceremonial gathering held at the Consulate General of Denmark in the John Hancock Center in Chicago on January 16. H.E. Peter Taksøe-Jensen, The Ambassador of Denmark to the United States, MWRD President Mariyana T. Spyropoulos and other MWRD Commissioners also participated in the Memorandum of Understanding signing ceremony.

“It is an honor that the District joins in this mutually beneficial partnership,” said President Spyropoulos. “The District and the Danish entities share many common goals such as effective water management, sustainable operations, efficient customer service and environmental stewardship.”

The mission of Aarhus Water is to supply drinking water and provide wastewater treatment of the highest quality in terms of health and the environment, while taking into account reliable supplies, nature and efficient operation in a manner that is transparent to consumers. Aarhus is the second largest city in Denmark with 259,754 residents in the inner urban area, a municipal population of 326,676, and approx. 845,971 inhabitants in the metropolitan area. Aarhus Water provides drinking water to 285,000 customers through 950 miles of supply lines and 10 waterworks. They treat wastewater for 300,000 customers through 10 wastewater treatment plants and 1,400 miles of sewage pipes.

“This relationship will allow our joint technical staffs the opportunity to share knowledge of best management practices, exchange experiences and engage in thoughtful dialogue about the water sector and wastewater industry,” said Danish Consul General Jakob Andersen.

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Recovering Resources, Transforming Water



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(L-R): MWRD Commissioner Timothy Bradford, Exec. Director David St. Pierre, Commissioners Debra Shore and Frank Avila, President Mariyana T. Spyropoulos, Chief Executive Officer of Aarhus Water Lars Schröder, Vice President Barbara McGowan and Commissioner Kari Steele present a paperweight depicting Tunnel and Reservoir Plan construction equipment to Mr. Schröder following the Memorandum of Understanding ceremony.

Established in 1889, the MWRD (www.mwr.org) is an award-winning, special purpose government agency responsible for wastewater treatment and stormwater management in Cook County, Illinois.