

Message from the General Manager



The Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Upper District) is pleased to present the agency's annual report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. This fiscal year, Upper District moved into its new headquarters in Monrovia. The move was both exciting and challenging as we navigated through construction delays, but I am pleased to report that the board, staff, and management have settled in well in the new office space.

As California grappled with yet another historically dry year in 2022, Upper District worked closely with Metropolitan, Watermaster and the producers to develop potential short-term and long-term actions to reduce dependence on State Water Project (SWP) supplies. Upper District activated its Emergency Water Conservation Plan in the Summer of 2022, and actively worked with its producers and cities to issue a call to action for water conservation. Additional efforts included, completing a Quagga Mussel Control Plan that would permit Colorado River water deliveries into the basin.

Entering into 2023, mother nature shifted by providing the state with an exceptionally wet winter, bringing drought relief across California. With reservoirs nearing capacity and the snowpack being one of the largest on record in California, the Department of Water Resources raised the SWP allocations to 100% in April 2023, a first since 2006. The Upper District shifted from drought restrictions to working collaboratively with Watermaster, the County, and Metropolitan to facilitate imported water deliveries into the Basin. Some noteworthy efforts that led to historic agreements:

- A new 10-year cyclic storage agreement executed in March 2022 by Upper District, Metropolitan and Watermaster provides much needed flexibility in moving water into the Main San Gabriel Basin by allowing Metropolitan to deliver and store up to 200,000 acre-feet of water in advance of demand for water by Watermaster and Upper District.

- Participating in Metropolitan's reverse cyclic storage program and executing an agreement with Watermaster for 15,000 acre-feet of water purchased in December 2022. The letter provides for deferred billing of Upper District's surcharge and recognition of related water sales revenue in the year water is actually delivered by Metropolitan.

At the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2023, the District had approximately 5,700 acre-feet of water in its storage account. Upper District will continue working with its partnering agencies and producers to maximize water deliveries and provide supply reliability consistent with its mission statement.

Under the leadership of the Board of Directors, Upper District embarked on updating its five-year strategic plan that will provide a blueprint for how Upper District will respond to current challenges and make the best of future opportunities for the benefit of its customers. The agency also remained active in educating the public on water conservation and best practices. The agency was honored with the prestigious WaterSense Sustained Excellence Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for a second consecutive year. Upper District also received accolades for its fiscal transparency earning its 12th consecutive Government Finance Officers Association award.

Looking forward, Upper District will continue to advocate and find solutions to the water issues that impact our region. This is a challenging goal because factors such as climate change, water quality, water policy and affordability affect every water agency's planning and operations. But in working collaboratively with our regional partners, I am confident Upper District will continue its legacy of leadership and service to the San Gabriel Valley.

Thomas Love
General Manager

EXECUTIVE TEAM

PATTY CORTEZ, Assistant General Manager, External Affairs

EVELYN RODRIGUEZ, Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer

VENESSA NAVARRETTE, Executive Assistant

JENNIFER AGUILAR, Water Use Efficiency Analyst

PRISCILLA LU, Accounting/Financial Analyst

KATHERINE VAZQUEZ, Government & Community Affairs Assistant

RUBEN GALLEGOS, Project Assistant

JESSICA HERNANDEZ, Administrative Assistant

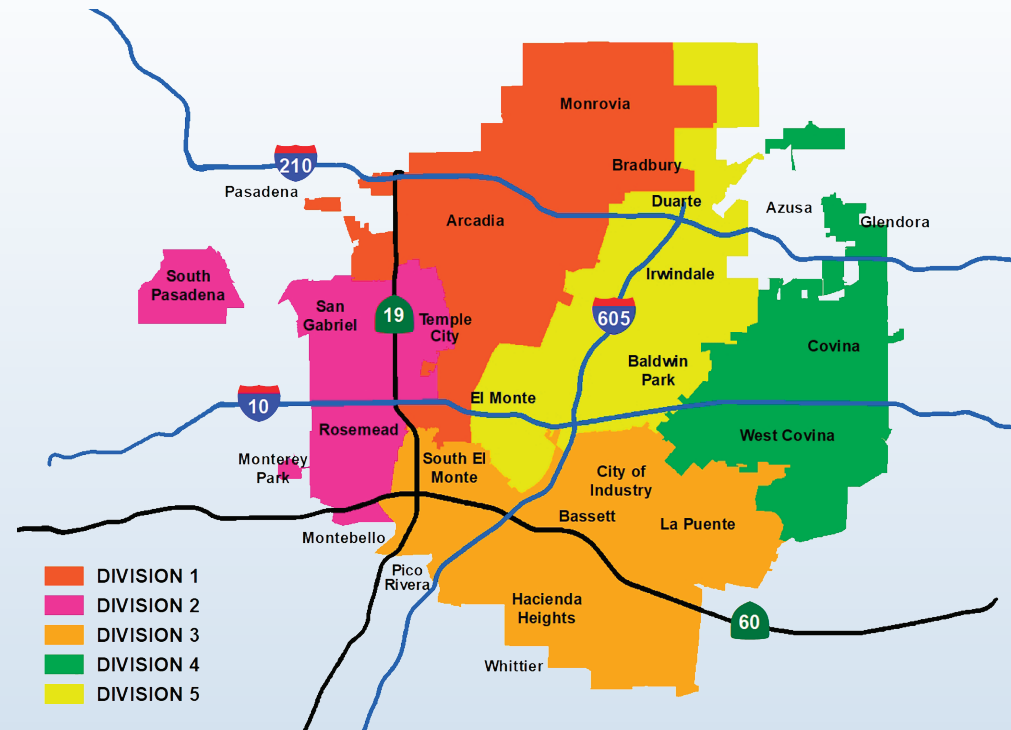
FRANK AGUILAR, Part-time Project Assistant

STAFF

Our Mission
To consistently meet our region's need for reliable, high-quality and affordable water.

Our Core Values

- **Diversity** – Our team will maintain an inclusive culture that is characterized by civility, respect, and consideration of all viewpoints and reflects the community we serve.
- **Collaborative** – Our team is collaborative, supporting each other's efforts, loyal to one another, and cares for each other both personally and professionally.
- **Innovative** – Our team will encourage and value the introduction of new ideas and methods.
- **Integrity** – Our team will consistently adhere to high moral and ethical principles.
- **Professionalism** – Our team will professionally, respectfully, and responsively serve the needs of its customers.
- **Transparency** – Our team will interact with all in a fair, open and honest manner.



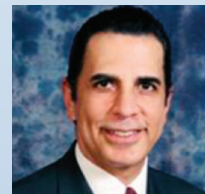
Board of Directors



Director Jennifer Santana
President, Division 5



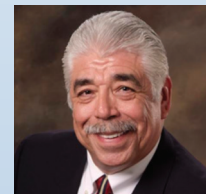
Director Anthony R. Fellow
Vice President, Division 1



Director Ed Chavez
Secretary, Division 3



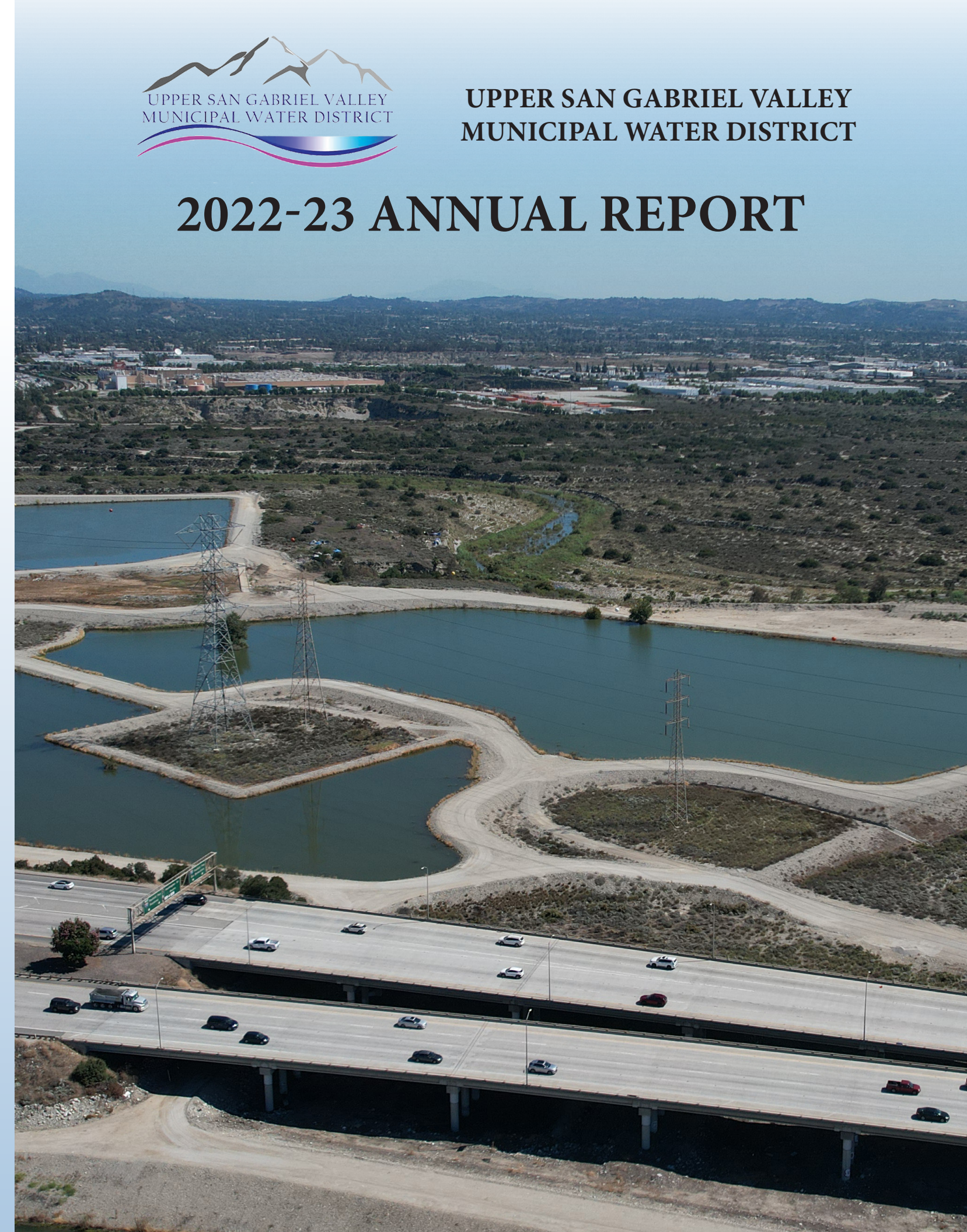
Director Katarina Garcia
Treasurer, Division 4



Director Charles Treviño
Division 2



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UPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT



NEW BUILDING

In November 2022, Upper District relocated to 248 E. Foothill Blvd., in Monrovia, California. The new building has undergone extensive renovations and improvements to create a modern and efficient workspace for staff, board meetings, and public workshops. A small dedication ceremony was held on November 28, 2022. Additionally, Upper District had an Open House on March 28, 2023 where elected officials, local city staff, and water producers were in attendance.

EDUCATION AND PROGRAMS

Watershed Restoration Program

After a three-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Upper District partnered with the U.S. Forest Service to bring back the Watershed Restoration Program. The program has been an integral part of Upper District since 1991 and has been successful in helping maintain a healthy watershed and reduce negative impacts affecting our local groundwater.



Waterfest

Waterfest also made its return after three years, with about 1,000 residents who attended the one-day festival. Waterfest is an educational event for residents, families and children which features various interactive educational booths, environmental displays, informative presentations, free conservation materials, and more.



Water Fill Station Program

The Water Fill Station Program provides local communities with accessibility to tap water, builds public confidence in tap water quality, and decreases the negative environmental impacts of using single-use water bottles. Upper District partnered with several water producers within the service area to have 97 water fill stations installed in areas with high pedestrian traffic or in recreational areas.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

4th-7th Grade Sustainable Watershed Education Program

In-person and virtual workshops were offered by the Discovery Cube of Los Angeles/Santa Ana to 4th-7th graders who live within Upper District's service area. The program offers curriculum in a series of different topics such as groundwater awareness, watershed issues, and water use efficiency. Upper District partnered with the Discovery

Science Cube to provide 2,286 students from nine schools, free interactive assemblies and in-class hands-on workshops.

Water Engineering 4 Good (WE4G)

Water Engineering 4 Good is an online STEAM competition for middle school through high school students, which is provided by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Four teams within the Upper District service area had the opportunity to compete with other students by developing engineering solutions. Solutions can range from conserving water inside or outside the home, in industry, in agriculture, or in treatment and distribution.

Water Education Grant Program

Upper District's Water Education Grant Program (WEGP) offers teachers an opportunity to apply for grants of up to \$1,000 for school projects related to water. 24 applications were received and Upper District awarded \$24,660.85 in the 2022-2023 school year.

Landscaping Workshops

Upper District hosts a variety of workshops that offer useful tips and how-to information on water efficient topics such as sustainable landscaping, turf removal methods, DIY greywater home systems, and leak detection and repair. Virtual workshops are available at no-cost for residents and Upper District was able to host 14 workshops with a total of 341 participants.



Water Conservation Booths

Informational booths on water conservation are hosted by Upper District at city sponsored events such as summer concerts, community, and environmental events. In the past year, there were 63 outreach booths throughout the San Gabriel Valley to continue Upper District's educational outreach efforts.

Major Initiatives and Recognition

District Receives the Sustained Excellence Award from the EPA

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) honored Upper District with its first Sustained Excellence Award for its efforts in tackling water waste, offering free workshops in landscaping and fixing leaks, and promoting WaterSense products throughout the San Gabriel Valley. The Sustained Excellence Award is the highest honor the WaterSense program provides for its exceptional efforts in assisting residents and businesses save water and bring awareness to the WaterSense Program.



Upper District Receives Prestigious Financial Award

"The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District for its annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. The report was judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, which includes demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the report. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. This is the 12th consecutive year Upper District has achieved this prestigious award."

CONSERVATION BY THE NUMBERS

330,441 Rebates for High-Efficiency Residential Devices
275 Million Gallons Saved
37,868 Rebates for High-Efficiency Commercial Devices
32.2 Million Gallons Saved

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Water Deliveries
(in acre-feet)



Imported Water
Municipal and Industrial Use
3,734
Groundwater Replenishment (Untreated Water Sales)
44,614
Recycled Water
1,994

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Total Operating Expenses
\$50,748,846
Total Revenues
\$51,484,627
Capital Contributions
\$325,327



November 28, 2022
New Headquarters Dedication Ceremony held.

November 2020
Katarina Garcia becomes the district's first Latina and Asian Pacific Islander to be elected as a director.

Water Fill Station and Plant Voucher programs introduced.



November 2018
Jennifer Santana becomes the district's first woman to be elected as a director.

The Indirect Reuse Replenishment Project is initiated.



Water Education Grant program starts. Upper District continues to offer grants to K-12th grade schools for class projects that foster a better understanding about the role of water in our lives.



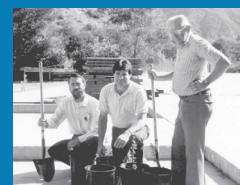
Oct. 11, 2003
First WaterFest is held in Santa Anita Park in collaboration with the L.A. County Parks and Recreation Department.



San Gabriel Valley Recycled Water Demonstration Project approved.

1996

Water Smart workshops begin. Over 230 classes have been offered with 2,700 residents and agency staff.



Signing of the "Best Management Practices" program for water conservation in California and the start of residential rebate programs.

1992

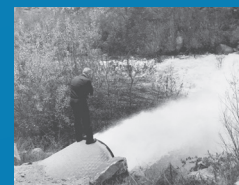
Nov. 18, 1970
Open house for first office building in El Monte.

1973

Groundwater recharge project, the first recycled water project, is initiated. Upper District partners with U.S. Forest Service to restore and maintain the local watershed, one of its first conservation programs.

1970

Jan. 4, 1973
Final judgement on adjudication case leads to creation of Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster.



Sep. 23, 1969
Upper District and MWD sign agreement to construct the pipeline connection known as USG-3 to deliver imported water to the region.

1963

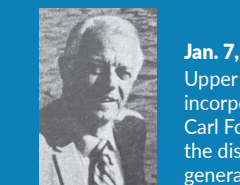
March 12, 1963
Election to annex Upper District into Metropolitan Water District.



Jan. 7, 1960
Upper District is incorporated. Carl Fossette is the district's first general manager.

1960

Dec. 8, 1959
Upper District is formed by voters.



1959