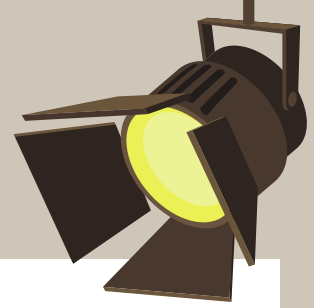


BAYWORK SPOTLIGHT WOMEN IN WATER



Michiko Mares

Engineering Manager of Construction
East Bay Municipal Utility District

Michiko, who has served East Bay MUD for over 17 years, and was nominated by her peers and the members of BAYWORK for her commitment to service and passion for women in the water and trades.

BAYWORK proudly honors
Women Leading the Way:
Women in leadership roles, serving on boards or representing them.



Michiko M. Mares, Engineering Manager of Construction responsible for delivering the District's \$1B water capital improvement program over the next 5-years.

Length of time at your agency, and certification(s):

17-years at EBMUD and 27-year career. Registered Civil Engineer

What interested you to pursue a career in the field?

I did not choose my career, my career chose me! While attending community college in South Phoenix enrolled in below college level algebra, a professor recognized my aptitude for math. As a contemporary of Jaime Escalante, my professor selected myself and a few other students to tutor our peers in algebra so all of the students would pass intermediate algebra. As a result, the college level algebra course was offered the following semester and subsequently calculus, physics, chemistry, etc. This was the beginning of a STEM program before the STEM acronym was introduced. At one point in the program, our mentor lined us up and told each one of us whether we would be engineers, secondary teachers, or professors based on our aptitude and disposition. He told me that I would be an engineer. I had no idea what an engineer was or what I would be learning/doing. Every day, I am appreciative that I had a mentor that recognized my potential and challenged me to do more than I ever imagined I could!

What is your philosophy about women in water/trades?

Find your people! To succeed, you need allies at all levels, lifting you up, cheering you on, and pulling you up.

To learn more about BAYWORK, or how to nominate a woman in water/trade, go to www.baywork.org

