

December 31, 2024

MEETING NOTICE & REQUEST FOR RSVP**TO: AGRICULTURAL WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE****Jurisdiction**

District 1
District 2
District 3
District 4
District 5
District 6
District 7
Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District
Santa Clara County Farm Bureau

Representative

Erin Gil
James Provenzano
Vacant
Sheila Barry
Jan F. Garrod
Tim Chiala
Vacant
Peter Van Dyke
Vacant

Representative

Mitchell Mariani
Vacant
Vacant
Brent Bonino
Trevor Garrod
Robert Long
Vacant

The regular meeting of the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee is scheduled to be held on **Monday, January 6, 2025, at 1:30 p.m., at Headquarters Building Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118.**

Enclosed are the meeting agenda and corresponding materials. Please bring this packet with you to the meeting. Additional copies of this meeting packet are available on our website at <https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/committees/board-committees>.

A majority of the appointed membership is required to constitute a quorum, which is fifty percent plus one. A quorum for this meeting must be confirmed at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting date or it will be canceled.

Further, a quorum must be present on the day of the scheduled meeting to call the meeting to order and take action on agenda items.

Members with two or more consecutive unexcused absences will be subject to rescinded membership.

Please confirm your attendance no later than **12:00 p.m., Thursday, January 2, 2025** by contacting Nicole Merritt at 1-408-630-3262, or nmerritt@valleywater.org.



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Santa Clara Valley Water District Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Meeting

HQ. Bldg. Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California
Join Zoom Meeting: <https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/98850905996>

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

**Monday, January 6, 2025
1:30 PM**

District Mission: Provide Silicon Valley safe, clean water for a healthy life, environment and economy.

COMMITTEE:

Peter Van Dyke, Chairperson
Trevor Garrod, Vice Chairperson

BOARD REPRESENTATIVES:

Director Jim Beall
Vice Chairperson Richard P. Santos
Director John L. Varela

All public records relating to an item on this agenda, which are not exempt from disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, that are distributed to a majority of the legislative body will be available for public inspection at the Office of the Clerk of the Board at the Santa Clara Valley Water District Headquarters Building, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118, at the same time that the public records are distributed or made available to the legislative body. Santa Clara Valley Water District will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities wishing to attend Board of Directors' meeting. Please advise the Clerk of the Board Office of any special needs by calling (408) 265-2600.

Vincent Gin
Darin Taylor, (Staff Liaisons)

Nicole Merritt (COB Liaison)
Assistant Deputy Clerk II
nmerritt@valleywater.org
408-630-3262

Note: The finalized Board Agenda, exception items and supplemental items will be posted prior to the meeting in accordance with the Brown Act.

Santa Clara Valley Water District
Agricultural Water Advisory Committee
REGULAR MEETING
AGENDA

Monday, January 6, 2025

1:30 PM

HQ. Bldg. Boardroom, 5700 Almaden
Expressway, San Jose, California

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/98850905996>

*****IMPORTANT NOTICES AND PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS*****

Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Board of Directors/Board Committee meetings are held as a “hybrid” meetings, conducted in-person as well as by telecommunication, and is compliant with the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act.

To maximize public safety while still maintaining transparency and public access, members of the public have an option to participate by teleconference/video conference or attend in-person. To observe and participate in the meeting by teleconference/video conference, please see the meeting link located at the top of the agenda. If attending in-person, you are required to comply with Ordinance 22-03 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT SPECIFYING RULES OF DECORUM FOR PARTICIPATION IN BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS located at <https://s3.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/valleywater.org.if-us-west-2/f2-live/s3fs-public/Ord.pdf>

In accordance with the requirements of Gov. Code Section 54954.3(a), members of the public wishing to address the Board/Committee during public comment or on any item listed on the agenda, may do so by filling out a Speaker Card and submitting it to the Clerk or using the “Raise Hand” tool located in the Zoom meeting application to identify yourself in order to speak, at the time the item is called. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Board/Committee Chair in the order requests are received and granted speaking access to address the Board.

- Members of the Public may test their connection to Zoom Meetings at: <https://zoom.us/test>
- Members of the Public are encouraged to review our overview on joining Valley Water Board Meetings at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TojJpYCxXm0>

Valley Water, in complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), requests individuals who require special accommodations to access and/or participate in Valley Water Board of Directors/Board Committee meetings to please contact the Clerk of the Board’s office at (408) 630-2711, at least 3 business days before the scheduled meeting to ensure that Valley Water may assist you.

This agenda has been prepared as required by the applicable laws of the State of California, including but not limited to, Government Code Sections 54950 et. seq. and has not been prepared with a view to informing an investment decision in any of Valley Water's bonds, notes or other obligations. Any projections, plans or other forward-looking statements included in the information in this agenda are subject to a variety of uncertainties that could cause any actual plans or results to differ materially from any such statement. The information herein is not intended to be used by investors or potential investors in considering the purchase or sale of Valley Water's bonds, notes or other obligations and investors and potential investors should rely only on information filed by Valley Water on the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board's Electronic Municipal Market Access System for municipal securities disclosures and Valley Water's Investor Relations website, maintained on the World Wide Web at [h t t p s : / / e m m a . m s r b . o r g /](http://emmas.msrb.org/) and <https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/financebudget/investor-relations>, respectively.

Under the Brown Act, members of the public are not required to provide identifying information in order to attend public meetings. Through the link below, the Zoom webinar program requests entry of a name and email address, and Valley Water is unable to modify this requirement. Members of the public not wishing to provide such identifying information are encouraged to enter "Anonymous" or some other reference under name and to enter a fictional email address (e.g., attendee@valleywater.org) in lieu of their actual address. Inputting such values will not impact your ability to access the meeting through Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/98850905996>

Meeting ID: 988 5090 5996

Join by Phone:

1 (669) 900-9128, 988 5090 5996#

1. CALL TO ORDER:

1.1. Roll Call.

2. TIME OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA.

Notice to the public: Members of the public who wish to address the Board/Committee on any item not listed on the agenda may do so by filling out a Speaker Card and submitting it to the Clerk or using the "Raise Hand" tool located in the Zoom meeting application to identify yourself to speak. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Board/Committee Chair in the order requests are received and granted speaking access to address the Board/Committee. Speakers' comments should be limited to three minutes or as set by the Chair. The law does not permit Board/Committee action on, or extended discussion of, any item not on the agenda except under special circumstances. If Board/Committee action is requested, the matter may be placed on a future agenda. All comments that require a response will be referred to staff for a reply in writing. The Board/Committee may take action on any item of business appearing on the posted agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 3.1. Approval of October 7, 2024 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Minutes. [24-1015](#)
Recommendation: Approve the minutes.
Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193
Attachments: [Attachment 1: 100724 AWAC Minutes](#)
Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

- 4.1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair. [25-0002](#)
Recommendation: Elect 2025 Chair and Vice Chair.
Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193
Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes
- 4.2. Review and Approve 2024 Annual Accomplishments Report for Presentation to the Board (Committee Chair). [25-0001](#)
Recommendation: A. Approve the 2024 Accomplishments Report for presentation to the Board; and
B. Provide comments to the Committee Chair to share with the Board as part of the Accomplishments Report presentation pertaining to the purpose, structure, and function of the Committee.
Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193
Attachments: [Attachment 1: AWAC 2024 Accomplishments Report](#)
Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes
- 4.3. Review and Provide Comment to the Board on Staff's Preliminary Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 - 2026 Groundwater Production Charges. [24-0904](#)
Recommendation: Review staff's preliminary Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Groundwater Production Charges and provide comment to the Board as appropriate.
Manager: Darin Taylor, 408-630-3068
Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)
Est. Staff Time: 20 Minutes

- 4.4. Receive and Discuss Introduction to the Upper Pajaro Native Ecosystem Enhancement Tool and Provide Feedback. [25-0026](#)
Recommendation: Receive and discuss introduction to Introduction to the Upper Pajaro Native Ecosystem Enhancement Tool and provide feedback as necessary.
Manager: John Bourgeois, 408-630-2990
Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)
Est. Staff Time: 20 Minutes
- 4.5. Discuss the Potential of Forming a Subcommittee for the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (AWAC). [25-0038](#)
Recommendation: Discuss the potential of forming an AWAC subcommittee per the Committee's approval at the January 9, 2023 meeting.
Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193
Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes
- 4.6. Review and Discuss Resolution 17-75 Regarding the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Membership and Provide Feedback or Recommendations to the Board. [25-0024](#)
Recommendation: Review and discuss Resolution 17-75 (PROVIDING FOR AND DEFINING THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND REPEALING RESOLUTION 15-28) as to its provisions regarding the membership of the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (AWAC) and provide feedback or recommendations to the Board.
Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193
Attachments: [Attachment 1: Resolution 17-75](#)
Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes
- 4.7. Review and Approve the Proposed 2025 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (AWAC) Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests, the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda, and Recommend the Proposed 2025 AWAC Work Plan to the Board. [25-0023](#)
Recommendation: Review and approve the Committee work plan to guide the committee's discussions regarding policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation; and recommend the proposed 2025 AWAC Work Plan to the Board.
Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193
Attachments: [Attachment 1: AWAC 2025 Work Plan](#)
Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

5. INFORMATION ITEMS:

5.1. Standing Items Report.

[25-0003](#)

Recommendation: Standing Items Report

This item allows the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee to receive verbal or written updates and discuss the Board's Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Work Plan Strategies. These items are generally informational; however, the Committee may request additional information and/or provide collective input to the assigned Board Committee.

Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

Attachments: [Attachment 1: Board Work Plan Standing Items Report](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

6. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS.

This is an opportunity for the Clerk to review and obtain clarification on any formally moved, seconded, and approved requests and recommendations made by the Committee during the meeting.

7. REPORTS:

7.1. Federal and State Affairs Report

7.2. Director's Report

7.3. Manager's Report

7.4. Committee Member Report

7.5. Information Links:

<https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/committees/board-committees>

- Board Policy and Monitoring Committee (BPMC) - formerly Board Policy and Planning Committee & Diversity and Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee

- Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee (ECCC) - formerly Homeless Encampment Committee

- Water Supply and Demand Management (WSDM) - formerly Water Storage Exploratory Committee & Water Conservation & Demand Management Committee

<https://www.valleywater.org/your-water/water-supply-planning/monthly-water-tracker>

- Water Tracker

8. ADJOURN:

8.1. Adjourn to Regular Meeting at 1:30 p.m., on April 7, 2025.



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 24-1015

Agenda Date: 1/6/2025
Item No.: 3.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐ No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:

Approval of October 7, 2024 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Minutes.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes.

SUMMARY:

A summary of Committee discussions, and details of all actions taken by the Committee, during all open and public Committee meetings, is transcribed and submitted for review and approval.

Upon Committee approval, minutes transcripts are finalized and entered into the District's historical records archives and serve as historical records of the Committee's meetings.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

Approval of minutes is not subject to environmental justice analysis.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: 100724 AWAC Minutes

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

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AGRICULTURAL WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING SESSION
MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2024
1:30 PM

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A regular meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (Committee) was called to order in the Valley Water Headquarters Building Boardroom at 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California, and by Zoom teleconference, at 1:30 p.m.

1.1 Roll Call.

Committee members in attendance were District 1 Erin Gil, District 2 James Provenzano, District 5 Jan Garrod, District 6 Robert Long, District 5 and Vice Chairperson Trevor Garrod, and Loma Prieta Resource Conservative District and Chairperson presiding, Peter Van Dyke constituting a quorum of the Committee.

District 1 Mitchell Mariani, District 4 Sheila Barry and District 6 Tim Chiala arrived as noted below.

Committee member not in attendance in person was District 4 Brent Bonino.

Staff members in attendance were: Mark Bilski, Theresa Chinte, Jennifer Codianne, Vanessa De La Piedra, Vincent Gin, Jason Gurdak, Andy Gschwind, Kaho Kong, Candice Kwok-Smith, Nicole Merritt, Walter Gonzalez, Ryan McCarter, Julianne O'Brien, Ashley Shannon, Stephanie Simunic, Kirsten Struve, Darin Taylor, Nadia Webster, Gregory Williams, and Beckie Zisser.

Board Representatives in attendance were: Valley Water Vice Chairperson Richard P. Santos (District 3) and Director John L. Varela (District 1).

Public in attendance were: Valley Water Director Rebecca Eisenberg (District 7) and Sarah.

2. TIME OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA:

Chairperson Van Dyke declared time open for public comment on any item not on the agenda. There was no one present who wished to speak.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

3.1. Approval of July 1, 2024 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

The Committee considered the attached minutes of the July 1, 2024 Committee meeting.

Public Comments:
None.

It was moved by James Provenzano and seconded by Erin Gil and unanimously carried that the minutes be approved.

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

4.1. Receive the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update.

Recommendation: Receive update on SGMA.

Mitchell Mariani and Tim Chiala arrived.

Jason Gurdak and Kaho Kong reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding materials contained in Attachment 1 were reviewed by staff as follows: Jason Gurdak reviewed Slides 1 through 5 and Kaho Kong reviewed Slide 6.

Sheila Barry arrived.

Jason Gurdak, Kaho Kong, Vanessa De La Piedra, Ryan McCarter, Vincent Gin, and Valley Water Board Director Varela were available to answer questions.

Public Comments:
None.

The Committee discussed the following topics: the groundwater divide and county boundary and the general comparison of outcome measures between the Santa Clara and Llagas subbasins and the San Benito County subbasin; confirmed the State Water Board is evaluating further the accounting procedure for the water banked in Semitropics by Valley Water; confirmed a subbasin on probation may require metering, fees, and reporting requirements for pumping groundwater, with 1 year to address any deficiencies in its sustainability plan, otherwise,

a state interim plan may be imposed; expressed concern over continued water banking with Semitropics and noted water is banked with Semitropic during wet years at a low price to use in future dry seasons; noted Valley Water is staying in communication and fully engaged with the State Water Board's probationary hearing new regulatory process for the Kern County Subbasin; confirmed options to recover water from Semitropics or have stored water be purchased for the cost of water at the time it was placed at Semitropic; noted Valley Water is looking at diversifying groundwater banking outside of Semitropic; confirmed subsidence is one of the deficiencies that the State Water Board is reviewing for the Kern County Subbasin; and noted the water quality issues related to 1,2,3 – Trichloropropane (TCP) and arsenic for Semitropic; and noted the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion project is currently going through the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process and working towards obtaining water banking partners to provide a significant future watershed capture and off stream storage option.

The Committee received and noted the information and took no formal action.

4.2. Discuss Policy for Securing Agricultural Water for Food Production/Security.

Recommendation: Discuss policy for securing agricultural water for food production/security.

Erin Gil requested this agenda item and reviewed the information contained in Attachment 1.

Vincent Gin, Kirsten Struve, Valley Water Board Vice Chairperson Santos and Director Varela were available to answer questions.

Public Comments:
None.

The Committee discussed the following topics: noted support of public outreach regarding agricultural water supply challenges per regulatory processes and urban development; noted invitation to attend various community meetings to increase representation of farmers and build relationships with agencies to assist with legislation; noted Vincent Gin will follow up with information for the Committee regarding the Family Farm Alliance and the California Farm Water Coalition; confirmed potable reuse recycled water is heavily regulated and non-potable recycled water is also regulated and depleted during peak times.

The Committee received and noted the information and took no formal action.

4.3. Review Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests; and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda and the Committee's Vacancies.

Recommendation: Review the Committee work plan to guide the committee's discussions regarding policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation.

The Committee considered this Item without a staff presentation.

Public Comments:
None.

Nicole Merritt, Vincent Gin, Valley Water Board Vice Chairperson Santos and Director Varela were available to answer questions.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and noted interest in the AWAC Work Plan focusing on agricultural water, keeping water rates low, and confirmed Chairperson Peter Van Dyke will work with Committee Oversight Managers Vincent Gin and Darin Taylor on the AWAC Work Plan updates; and noted the ongoing challenges to fulfilling the AWAC vacancies.

5. INFORMATION ITEM:

5.1. Standing Items Report.

Recommendation: This item allows the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee to receive verbal or written updates and discuss the Board's Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Work Plan Strategies. These items are generally informational; however, the Committee may request additional information and/or provide collective input to the assigned Board Committee.

The Committee considered this Item without a staff presentation.

Public Comments:
None.

Nicole Merritt, Darin Taylor, Vincent Gin, and Valley Water Board Vice Chairperson Santos were available to answer questions.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, noted the attached Board Work Plan standing items report, confirmed the WIFIA loan details for the planning and design portion of the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project, and discussed the challenges associated with the Endangered Species Act.

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS:

This is an opportunity for the Clerk to review and obtain clarification on any formally moved, seconded, and approved requests and recommendations made by the Committee during the meeting.

Nicole Merritt confirmed there were no items for Board consideration; noted the Committee received, discussed, and provided feedback on Items 4.1 through 4.3 and Item 5.1; and noted staff follow up regarding further information for other agricultural associations under Item 4.2.

6. REPORTS:

6.1. Director's Report

Valley Water Board Vice Chairperson Director Santos noted the former AWAC member Vincent Cortese Jr.'s passing, and noted Valley Water is not out of the equation for the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project if the price is reasonable.

6.2. Manager's Report

Vincent Gin provided the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project Update: increased project prices due to facility cost, project yield has diminished per prioritization of access to Contra Costa's intakes/internal pipes/systems to the Delta and fish/wildlife restrictions for 20,000-acre feet (AF) storage for Valley Water, and negotiations have not yet started for access to the Transfer-Bethany Pipeline. Vincent Gin also noted for the B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion project that Valley Water's share is 60,000 AF storage and recently reached milestone in negotiations with investors through the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority with the Bureau and Reclamation for agreement and principal for cost sharing and management of the reservoir.

Ryan McCarter provided the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project Update: Valley Water is actively reaching out to potential partners/agencies; noted target of 65% for Valley Water's share - generally 90,000 AF of storage and 35% for partnership.

6.3. Committee Member Report

Mitchell Mariani requested status of Anderson Dam tunnel.

Ryan McCarter confirmed that the excavation of the tunnel was completed, pipe is in place, and the next stage is to line the tunnel with reinforced concrete/piping with generally another year of construction for completion.

Chairperson Peter Van Dyke requested Anderson Dam status.

Ryan McCarter confirmed that CEQA is in process and the target is to finalize the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) early next year, and go into dam construction early 2026 for the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project, and noted continued work on the Coyote Creek flood management measures and flood protection projects to manage flows from the dam's releases in addition to the dam safety upgrades.

Robert Long requested status of pollution from the United Technology Corporation (UTC) facility regarding Anderson and local wells.

Vanessa De La Piedra confirmed that Valley Water is closely monitoring this matter through the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, who oversees site cleanup, and there are no known impacts to Anderson.

- 6.4. Information Links:
Links noted on agenda.

7. ADJOURN:

- 7.1. Adjourn to Regular Meeting at 1:30 p.m. on January 6, 2025.

Chairperson Van Dyke adjourned the meeting at 3:14 p.m., to
the regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. on January 6, 2025.

Date approved:

Nicole Merritt
Assistant Deputy Clerk II



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0002

Agenda Date: 1/6/2025

Item No.: 4.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐ No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:

Election of Chair and Vice Chair.

RECOMMENDATION:

Elect 2025 Chair and Vice Chair.

SUMMARY:

Per the Board Resolution, the duties of the Chair and Vice-Chair are as follows:

The officers of each Committee shall be a Chair and Vice-Chair, both of whom shall be members of that Committee. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected by the Committee, each for a term of one year commencing on January 1 and ending on December 31 and for no more than two consecutive terms. The Committee shall elect its officers at the first meeting of the calendar year. All officers shall hold over in their respective offices after their term of office has expired until their successors have been elected and have assumed office.

The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Committee, and he or she shall perform other such duties as the Committee may prescribe consistent with the purpose of the Committee.

The Vice-Chair shall perform the duties of the Chair in the absence or incapacity of the Chair. In case of the unexpected vacancy of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall perform such duties as are imposed upon the Chair until such time as a new Chair is elected by the Committee.

Should the office of Chair or Vice-Chair become vacant during the term of such office, the Committee shall elect a successor from its membership at the earliest meeting at which such election would be practicable, and such election shall be for the unexpired term of such office.

Should the Chair and Vice-Chair know in advance that they will both be absent from a meeting, the Chair may appoint a Chair Pro-tempore to preside over that meeting. In the event of an unanticipated absence of both the Chair and Vice-Chair, the Committee may elect a Chair Pro-tempore to preside over the meeting in their absence.

BACKGROUND:

The District Act provides for the creation of advisory boards, committees, or commissions by resolution to serve at the pleasure of the Board.

Accordingly, the Board has established Advisory Committees, which bring respective expertise and community interest, to advise the Board, when requested, in a capacity as defined: prepare Board policy alternatives and provide comment on activities in the implementation of the District's mission for Board consideration. In keeping with the Board's broader focus, Advisory Committees will not direct the implementation of District programs and projects, other than to receive information and provide comment.

Further, in accordance with Governance Process Policy-3, when requested by the Board, the Advisory Committees may help the Board produce the link between the District and the public through information sharing to the communities they represent.

The Board may also establish Ad-hoc Committees to serve in a capacity as defined by the Board and will be used sparingly.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

There are no environmental justice and equity impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0001

Agenda Date: 1/6/2025

Item No.: 4.2.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐ No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:

Review and Approve 2024 Annual Accomplishments Report for Presentation to the Board
(Committee Chair).

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. Approve the 2024 Accomplishments Report for presentation to the Board; and
- B. Provide comments to the Committee Chair to share with the Board as part of the Accomplishments Report presentation pertaining to the purpose, structure, and function of the Committee.

SUMMARY:

The Accomplishments Report summarizes the committee's discussions and actions to prepare Board policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation throughout 2024. The Committee Chair, or designee, presents the Accomplishments Report to the Board at a future Board meeting.

The Committee may provide feedback to the Committee Chair, at this time, to share with Board as part of the Accomplishments Report presentation pertaining to the purpose, structure, and function of the Committee.

BACKGROUND: Governance Process Policy-8: The District Act provides for the creation of advisory boards, committees, or commissions by resolution to serve at the pleasure of the Board.

Accordingly, the Board has established Advisory Committees, which bring respective expertise and community interest, to advise the Board, when requested, in a capacity as defined: prepare Board policy alternatives and provide comment on activities in the implementation of the District's mission for Board consideration. In keeping with the Board's broader focus, Advisory Committees will not direct the implementation of District programs and projects, other than to receive information and provide comment.

Further, in accordance with Governance Process Policy-3, when requested by the Board, the Advisory Committees may help the Board produce the link between the District and the public through information sharing to the communities they represent.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

There are no environmental justice and equity impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: AWAC 2024 Accomplishments Report

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

2024 Accomplishments Report: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: December 2024

The annual work plan establishes a framework for committee discussion and action during the annual meeting schedule. The committee work plan is a dynamic document, subject to change as external and internal issues impacting the District occur and are recommended for committee discussion. Subsequently, an annual committee accomplishments report is developed based on the work plan and presented to the District Board of Directors.

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
1	Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2024.	January 8	Accomplished January 8, 2024: The Committee unanimously approved Peter Van Dyke as the 2024 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Chair and Trevor Garrod as the 2024 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Vice-Chair.
2	Annual Accomplishments Report.	January 8	Accomplished January 8, 2024: The Committee unanimously approved the 2023 Annual Accomplishments Report. <i>The Board received the Committee's presentation by Chairperson Peter Van Dyke and accepted the 2023 Annual Accomplishments Report at its March 26, 2024 meeting.</i>
3	Review and Comment to the Board on the Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025 Preliminary Groundwater Production Charges.	January 8 April 8	Accomplished January 8, 2024: The Committee reviewed and commented on the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Preliminary Groundwater Production Charges and took the following action: The Committee unanimously approved the Committee recommend to the Board to hold the agricultural groundwater rate unchanged at 36.85 per acre foot. The Committee received a motion and a second to include additional information in the presentation, but no vote was taken per staff confirmed this was a preliminary analysis agenda item and will return in April 2024 for further discussion. Accomplished April 8, 2024: The Committee unanimously approved to recommend to the Board to suspend any increases to the agriculture groundwater production water charges until the Board approves a consultant to conduct an updated accounting/mathematical study quantifying the ecosystem benefits including climate change, carbon sequestration, and carbon dioxide cleansing/removal. <i>The Board approved the Resolution: DETERMINING SURFACE WATER, TREATED WATER, AND SOUTH COUNTY RECYCLED WATER CHARGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 at the May 14, 2024 meeting.</i>

Yellow = Update Since Last Meeting

Blue = Action taken by the Board of Directors

Attachment 1
Page 1 of 4

2024 Accomplishments Report: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: December 2024

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
4	Receive Information and Provide Feedback on the Development of Valley Water's Water Supply Master Plan 2050.	January 8 July 1	Accomplished January 8, 2024: The Committee received information and provided feedback on the Water Supply Master Plan 2050 and took no action. Accomplished July 1, 2024: The Committee received information and provided feedback on the Water Supply Master Plan 2050, took no action and requested information regarding wastewater in the county and a possible retention pond at Butterfield Technology Park.
5	One Water Plan Upper Pajaro Watershed Plan Priority Actions.	January 8	Accomplished January 8, 2024: The Committee received information and provided feedback on the One Water Plan and took no action. The Committee confirmed staff anticipates incorporating feedback, finalizing the plan, and presenting to the Board in 2 to 3 months.
6	Review Climate Change and the benefits of ecosystems on Agriculture in Santa Clara County.	April 8	Accomplished April 8, 2024: The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and noted potential of banning fake grass/turf, pro-farming programs, and federal funding for climate smart practices.
7	Discuss the Potential of Forming a Subcommittee.	April 8	Accomplished April 8, 2024: The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and noted support for an AWAC subcommittee to promote productivity and communication. No specific purpose was confirmed for the Subcommittee at this time and support was noted for a Committee survey to confirm potential topics.
8	Receive Update on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Compliance and Semitropic banking.	October 7	Accomplished October 7, 2024: The Committee received and noted the information and took no formal action.
9	Discuss Policy for Securing Agricultural Water for Food Production/Security.	October 7	Accomplished October 7, 2024: The Committee received and noted the information and took no formal action.
10	Standing Items Report Fiscal Year 2024 Goals and Strategies:	January 8 October 7	Accomplished January 8, 2024 and October 7, 2024: The Committee received the quarterly report on standing items for FY2024 and took no action.

Yellow = Update Since Last Meeting

Blue = Action taken by the Board of Directors

Attachment 1
Page 2 of 4

2024 Accomplishments Report: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: December 2024

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
11	Review of Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda.	January 8 April 8 July 1 October 7	<p>Accomplished January 8, 2024: The Committee received and reviewed the 2024 Board-approved Committee work plan and noted support for a future update on the One Water Plan and inclusion of water retention of grasslands versus brushlands; and reconfirmed request to discuss climate change and carbon sequestration at the next meeting.</p> <p>Accomplished April 8, 2024: The Committee unanimously approved the review of population growth versus water use and confirm the justification for the project capital costs when water use is flat or slightly increasing to be addressed by the future Water Supply Master Plan Update and noted support for a future Unhoused agenda item with a County update.</p> <p>Accomplished July 1, 2024: The Committee noted support for adding a Work Plan topic regarding the status of SGMA in the Valley and Valley Water's involvement with the underground water movement and expanding water recharge in Kern County, receiving information about future Valley Water Board meetings, and support for ensuring rate payers understand the water rate increases.</p> <p>Accomplished October 7, 2024: The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and noted interest in the AWAC Work Plan focusing on agricultural water, keeping water rates low, and confirmed Chairperson Peter Van Dyke will work with Committee Oversight Managers Vincent Gin and Darin Taylor on the AWAC Work Plan updates; and noted the ongoing challenges to fulfilling the AWAC vacancies.</p>
BOARD WORK PLAN GOALS: Integrated Water Resources Management - Goal: Efficiently manage water resources across business areas. 1. Water Supply – Goal: Provide a reliable, safe, and affordable water supply for current and future generations in all communities served. 2. Natural Flood Protection – Goal: Provide natural flood protection to reduce risk and improve health and safety. 4. Environmental Stewardship – Goal: Sustain ecosystem health while managing local water resources for flood protection and water supply. 5. Addressing Encampment of Unsheltered People – Goal: Humanely assist in the permanent relocation of unsheltered people on Valley Water lands along waterways and at water supply and flood risk reduction facilities in order to address the human health, public safety, operational, and environmental challenges posed by encampments.			

Yellow = Update Since Last Meeting

Blue = Action taken by the Board of Directors

Attachment 1
Page 3 of 4

2024 Accomplishments Report:
Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: December 2024

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
6.	Climate Change	– Goal: Mitigate carbon emissions and adapt Valley Water operations to climate change impacts.	
7.	Business Management	– Goal: Promote effective management of water supply, flood protection, and environmental stewardship through responsive and socially responsible business services.	

Yellow = Update Since Last Meeting
Blue = Action taken by the Board of Directors



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 24-0904

Agenda Date: 1/6/2025

Item No.: 4.3.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐ No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:

Review and Provide Comment to the Board on Staff's Preliminary Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 - 2026 Groundwater Production Charges.

RECOMMENDATION:

Review staff's preliminary Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Groundwater Production Charges and provide comment to the Board as appropriate.

SUMMARY:

Summary of Preliminary Groundwater Production Charge Analysis:

Staff has prepared the preliminary Fiscal Year 2025 - 2026 (FY 2025-26) groundwater production charge analysis for Board review. Staff is seeking Committee input on the preliminary analysis to incorporate into the development of the groundwater production charge recommendation.

The groundwater production charge reflects the benefit of District activities to protect and augment groundwater supplies and is applied to water extracted from the groundwater basin in Zones W-2, W-5, W-7, and W-8. Zone W-2 encompasses the Santa Clara groundwater subbasin north of Metcalf Road or the North County. Zone W-5 overlays the Llagas subbasin from northern Morgan Hill south to the Pajaro River. Zone W-7 overlays the Coyote Valley south of Metcalf Road to northern Morgan Hill, and W-8 encompasses the area below Uvas and Chesbro Reservoirs.

The groundwater production charge recommendation will be detailed in the Annual Report on the Protection and Augmentation of Water Supplies that is planned to be filed with the Clerk of the Board on February 28, 2025. The public hearing on groundwater production charges is scheduled to open on April 8, 2025. It is anticipated that the Board would set the FY 2025-26 groundwater production charges by May 13, 2025, that would become effective on July 1, 2025.

The FY 2025-26 groundwater production charge and surface water charge setting process will be conducted consistent with the District Act, and Board resolutions 99-21 and 12-10.

Water Usage Trend

District managed water use for FY 2023-24 is estimated to be approximately 204,600 acre-feet (AF), roughly 2,400 AF lower than budgeted due to slower than anticipated rebound. Water use is budgeted higher for FY 2024-25 at 222,500 AF based on continued rebound from the previous drought. Projected water use of 219,000 AF in FY 2025-26 is slightly lower compared to FY 2024-25 budget. The multi-year projection has been adjusted to reflect an ongoing moderate rebound from the previous drought, returning to around 230,000 AF by FY 2031-32.

Agricultural water use trends remain stable, with agricultural District-managed water use averaging nearly 27,000 AF per fiscal year. In FY 2025-26, around 26,700 AF is projected for total agricultural water use. This represents about 12% of total District-managed water use projected for FY 2025-26.

Groundwater Production Charge Projections

Staff has prepared an initial baseline groundwater production charge projection scenario for Board review. The preliminary groundwater production charge analysis includes an 8.0% increase in the FY 2025-26 Municipal & Industrial (M&I) groundwater production charge for Zone W-8 from \$430.00/AF to \$464.00/AF. The preliminary agricultural groundwater production charge assumes it will be set at [approximately] 9.25% of the Zone W-8 M&I rate for FY 2025-26. This translates to a groundwater production charge of about \$43.00 per acre foot for agricultural use.

Staff has prepared the following baseline scenario for Board consideration:

Scenario 1) Baseline:

This scenario includes the following projects and assumptions:

- Agricultural rates set at 9.25% of lowest M&I rate (Zone W-8)
- Water use nearly flat compared to FY 2024-25 budget, or 221,000 AF
- Anderson Reservoir leveraging WIFIA loans (up to 49% of total project cost [TPC])*
- Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project (PREP) with \$504M Proposition 1 grants, WIFIA loans (up to 49% of TPC) and Partnership Participation at 35% of TPC*
- Purified Water Program with City of San Jose Phase 1 Demonstration Facility and Phase 2 Full Scale Facility as a placeholder *
- Sisk Dam Raise with up to 60,000 AF storage*

In addition to the baseline scenario outlined above, Staff anticipates preparing several scenarios for Board consideration reflecting a range of assumptions for capital projects. Staff can model additional scenarios for the Board as needed. Valley Water's participation in the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project has been eliminated from all scenarios.

* Of note, the projects listed above as part of Baseline do not impact the South County Zone W-8 groundwater production charge that the agricultural rate is based upon.

The preliminary analysis does not include unfunded capital projects or additional unfunded operations cost needs identified by staff.

Open Space Credit

The Valley Water Board has historically recognized that agriculture brings value to Santa Clara County in the form of open space and local produce. To help preserve this value, the District Act limits the agricultural charge to be no more than 25% of the M&I charge. In 1999, to further its support for agricultural lands, the Board put a policy in place to further limit the agricultural groundwater production charge to no more than 10% of the M&I charge.

The agricultural community currently benefits from low groundwater charges that are equivalent to about 1.75% of M&I charges in North County Zone W-2, 7% of M&I charges in South County Zone W-5, 5% of M&I charges in South County Zone W-7, and 9.25% of M&I charges in South County Zone W-8. According to Section 26.1 of the District Act, agricultural water is “water primarily used in the commercial production of agricultural crops or livestock.”

The credit to agricultural water users has become known as an “Open Space Credit.” It is paid for by fungible, non-rate related revenue. To offset lost revenue that results from the difference between the adopted agricultural groundwater production charge and the agricultural charge that would have resulted at the full cost of service, Valley Water redirects a portion of the 1% ad valorem property taxes generated in the Water Utility, General and Watershed Stream Stewardship Funds.

A PowerPoint presentation will be provided at the meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Darin Taylor, 408-630-3068

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Preliminary FY 2025-26 Groundwater Production Charges

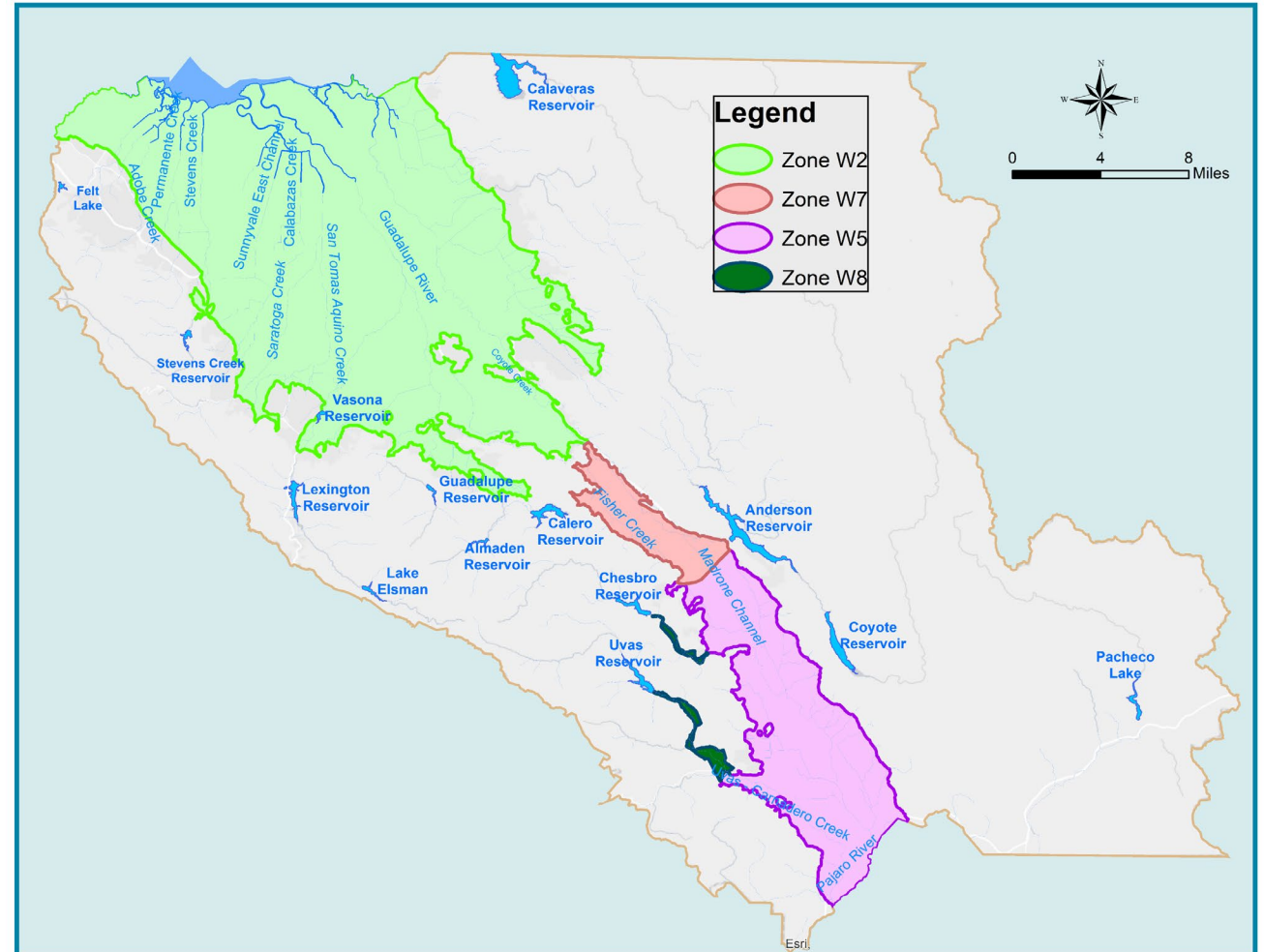
Presented by: **Carmen Narayanan**, Financial Planning & Revenue Manager
Agricultural Water Advisory Committee, January 6, 2025

Topics

1. Background Information on Groundwater Charge Zones & Board's Pricing Policy
2. Water Usage Projections
3. Preliminary Groundwater Production Charges
4. Schedule & Summary

Resolution 99-21 is the Board's Pricing Policy

- Groundwater charges are levied within a zone for benefits received
- All water sources and water facilities contribute to common benefit within a zone regardless of cost, known as “pooling” concept
 - Helps maximize effective use of available resources
- Agricultural water charge shall not exceed 10% of M&I water charge



Rate Setting Strategy for FY 2025-26

FY 26 Baseline Case Assumptions

Maintain Agricultural Rate set at 9.25% of lowest M&I rate (Zone W-8)

Water use relatively flat in FY 2025-26 at 219,000 AF → Ag water projection projected at 26,700 AF

Secure Existing Supplies and Infrastructure

- Baseline Projects¹
- Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit with WIFIA loan (up to 49% of TPC)
- Dam Safety Program for Almaden, Calero, Coyote, and Guadalupe Dams
- Master Plan Projects Placeholder²: Assumes \$377M from FY27-FY35
- SWP Tax pays for 100% of SWP costs (excludes SWP portion of Delta Conveyance)
- Delta Conveyance SWP portion continues at 3.23%³

Expand Conservation and Reuse

- Purified Water Program with City of San Jose: Phase 1 Demonstration Facility & Phase 2 Full Scale Facility (as a placeholder)

Increase System Reliability & Flexibility

- Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project (PREP) with \$504M Proposition 1 grants, WIFIA loan (up to 49% of TPC) and Partnership Participation at 35% of TPC
- Sisk Dam Raise at San Luis Reservoir with up to 60,000 AF Storage^{3, 4}

¹ Includes but not limited to dam seismic retrofits, Rinconada WTP reliability improvement, 10-year pipeline rehabilitation program.

² Master Plan Project Placeholder includes anticipated costs for new pipelines, pipeline rehabilitations, treatment plant upgrades & SCADA implementation projects.

³ Project costs are reflected as Operations & Maintenance costs.

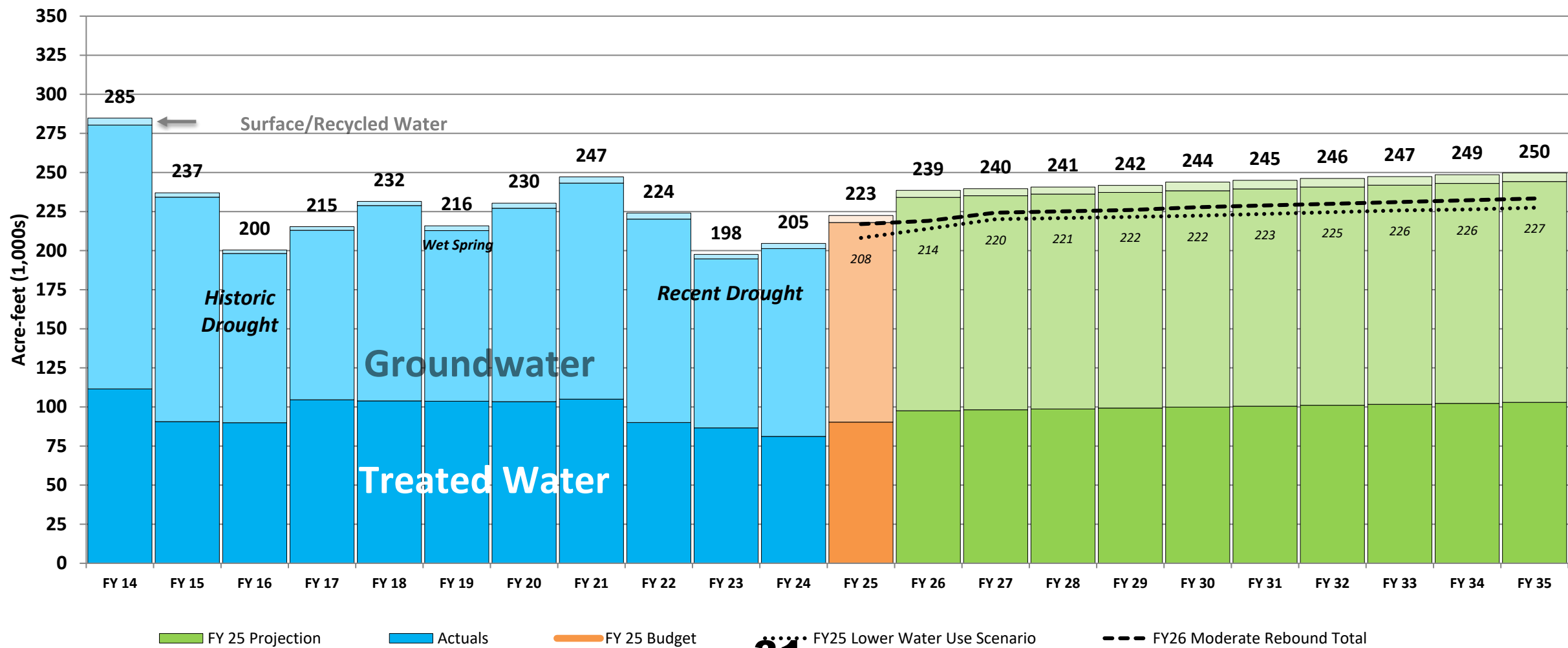
⁴ Staff recommendation to the Board is to include project in Baseline.

Note: Participation in the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion project has been eliminated from baseline case assumptions.

District Managed Water Usage

Reflects Ongoing Rebound from 2023 Drought

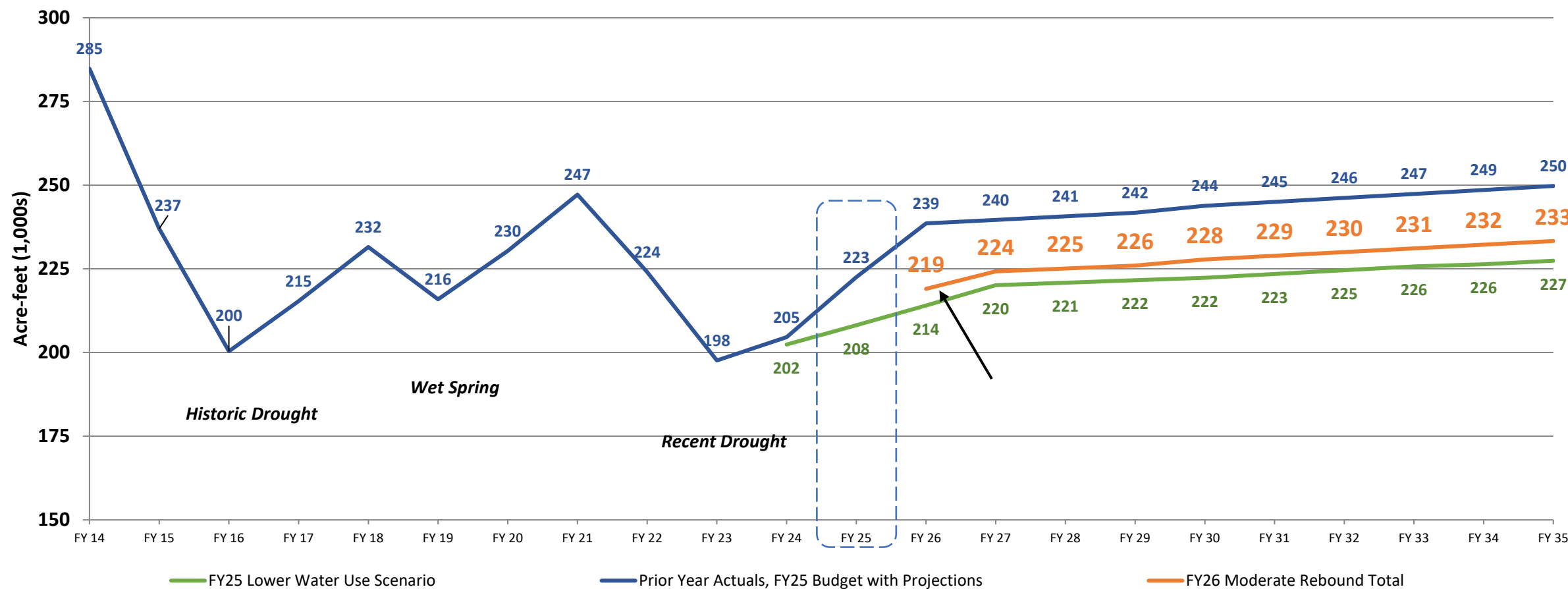
District Managed Water Usage (TAF)



District Managed Water Usage

Reflects Ongoing Rebound from 2023 Drought

District Managed Water Usage (TAF)

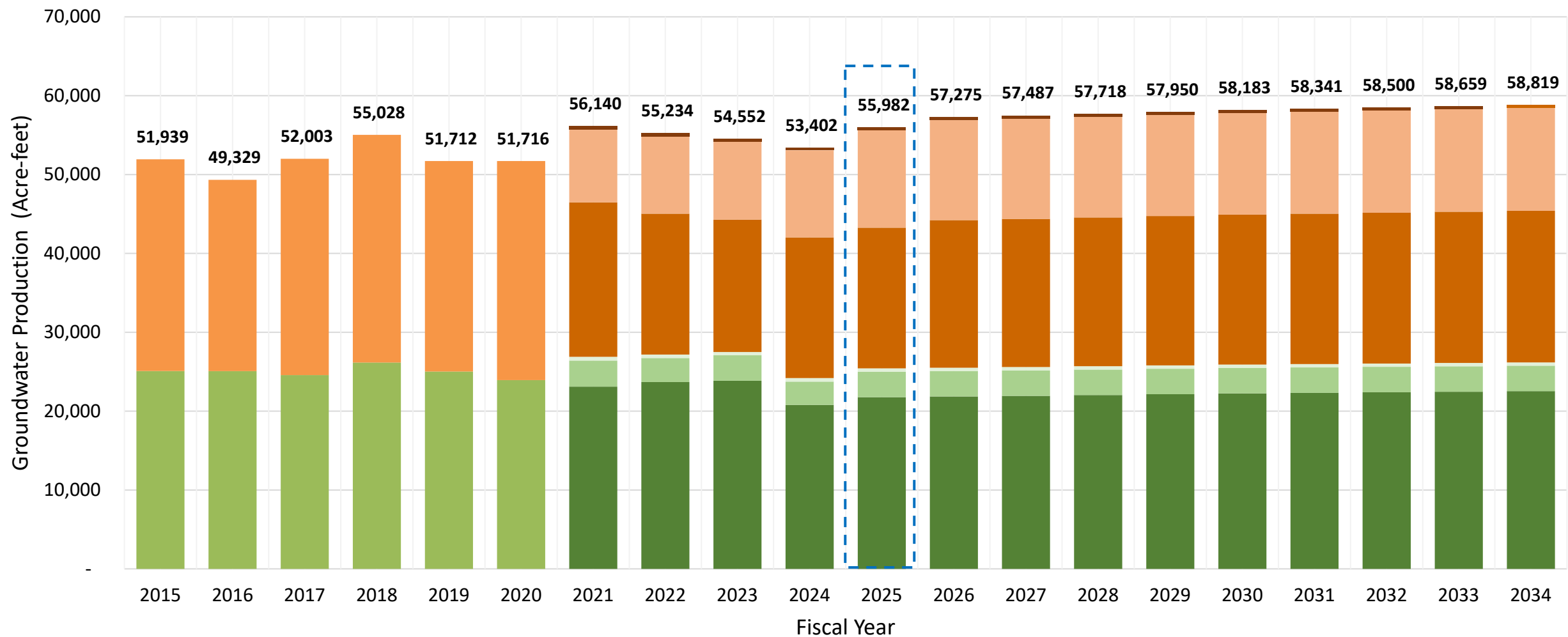


Moderate Rebound projection reflected for purposes of preliminary FY 2025-26 water charges.

District Managed Water Usage

Agricultural Use by Zone in South County

7



Zone W-5 Agricultural Groundwater Production

Zone W-5 Non-agricultural Groundwater Production

Zone W-5 Agricultural Groundwater Production

Zone W-7 Agricultural Groundwater Production

Zone W-8 Agricultural Groundwater Production

Zone W-5 Non-agricultural Groundwater Production

Zone W-7 Non-agricultural Groundwater Production

Zone W-8 Non-agricultural Groundwater Production

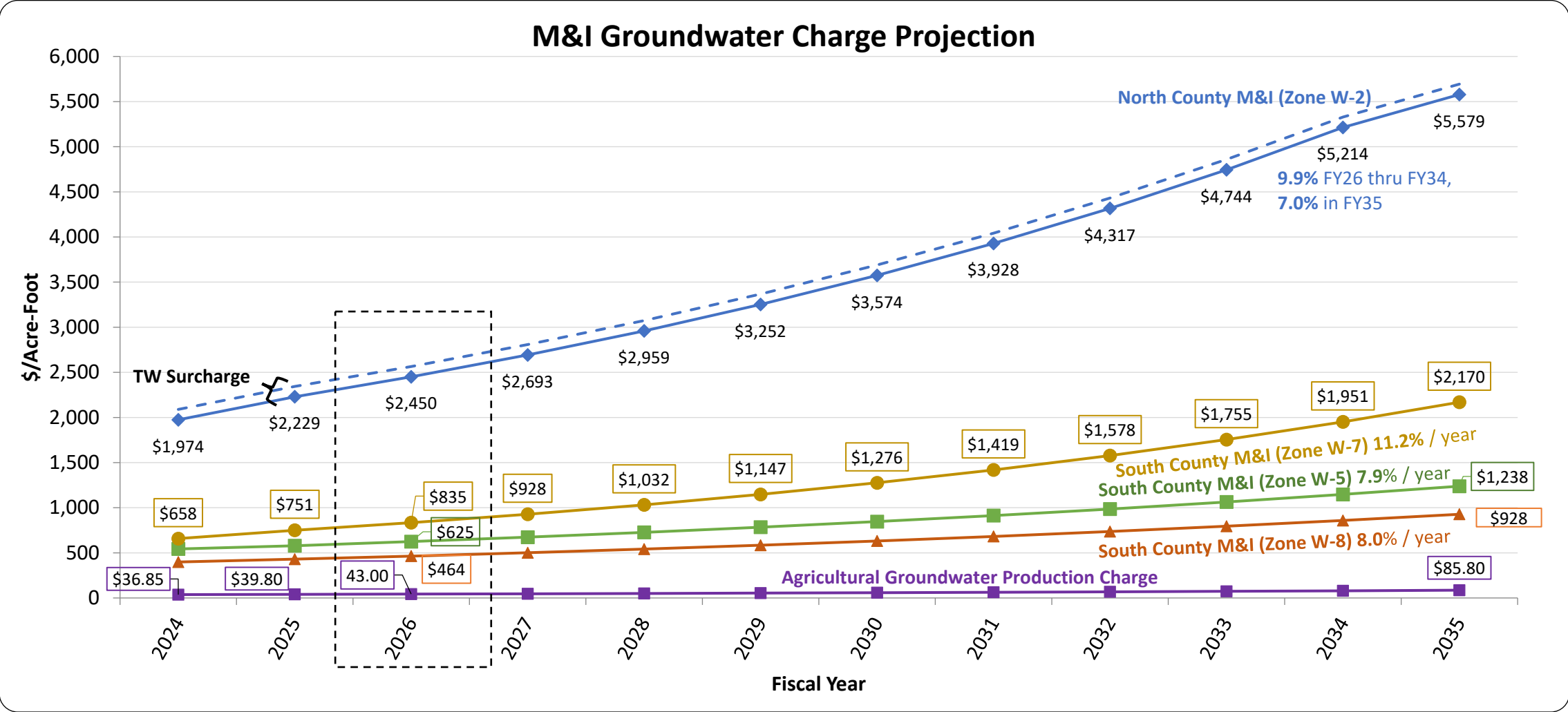
FY 2025-26 Preliminary Groundwater Production Charge Projection

8

Municipal & Industrial Rate by Zone	FY 2024-25 GW Production Charge	FY 2025-26 Preliminary GW Production Charge	Preliminary % Increase	Increase to Average Monthly Bill (1,500 CCF/month)
North County W-2	\$2,229.00	\$2,450.00	9.9%	\$7.61
South County W-5	\$578.50	\$624.50	7.9%	\$1.57
South County W-7	\$749.50	\$834.50	11.2%	\$2.89
South County W-8	\$430.00	\$464.00	8.0%	\$1.17
Agricultural	\$39.80	\$43.00	8.0%	\$0.53*

Preliminary Groundwater Production Charge Projection

Baseline Scenario



Rate Setting Schedule FY 2025-26

10

- Jan 6 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee
- Jan 14 Board Meeting: Preliminary Groundwater Charge Analysis
- Jan 15 Water Retailers Meeting: Preliminary Groundwater Charge Analysis
- Jan 22 Water Commission Meeting: Prelim Groundwater Charge Analysis

- Feb 11 Board Meeting: Set time & place of Public Hearing
- Feb 28 Mail notice of public hearing and file PAWS report

- Mar 11 Board Meeting: Budget development update
- Mar 19 Water Retailers Meeting: FY 24 Groundwater Charge Recommendation
- Mar 25 Long Range Financial Forecast Review

- Apr 7 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee
- Apr 8 Open Public Hearing
- Apr 9 Water Commission Meeting
- Apr 10 Continue Public Hearing in South County
- Apr 22 Conclude Public Hearing

- Apr 23-24 Board Meeting: Budget work study session
- May 13 Adopt budget & groundwater production and other water charges

Summary

11



COMMITTEE ACTIONS TODAY

1. **Review and Comment to the Board on the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Preliminary Groundwater Production Charges**

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0026

Agenda Date: 1/6/2025

Item No.: 4.4.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐ No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:

Receive and Discuss Introduction to the Upper Pajaro Native Ecosystem Enhancement Tool and Provide Feedback.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and discuss introduction to Introduction to the Upper Pajaro Native Ecosystem Enhancement Tool and provide feedback as necessary.

SUMMARY:

Valley Water, in partnership with the San Francisco Estuary Institute, is developing the Upper Pajaro Native Ecosystem Enhancement Tool (UPNEET), a data-driven interactive online tool to identify areas for ecosystem protection and enhancement in the valleys and foothills of the Santa Clara County portion of the Pajaro River watershed. UPNEET was one of the short-term ecological resource recommendations from Valley Water's Upper Pajaro One Water plan that was presented to the Committee on January 8, 2024, and it builds directly from the One Water data compilation and analysis effort. Staff will present the process and schedule for UPNEET development, goals and objectives, and expected content. UPNEET is anticipated to include recommendations for rangeland and farmland, and input from the Committee will be valuable to the tool's development.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

There are no environmental justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

John Bourgeois, 408-630-2990

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Valley Water

Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection



Introduction to the Upper Pajaro Native Ecosystem Enhancement Tool (UPNEET)

Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

January 6, 2025

Impetus, Goals, and Objectives

Project Goals

- Help coordinate, prioritize, plan, and implement Upper Pajaro Watershed Plan recommendations
- Build from Coyote Creek Native Ecosystem Enhancement Tool programming

Overarching Goals

- Enhance and protect creek habitats
- Facilitate watershed approach to project selection
- Support grant applications and partnerships
- Enable organization and project coordination



The image shows the cover of the "Upper Pajaro Watershed Plan: An Integrated Approach to Water Resources Management" and a table of contents for Chapter 4: Priority Actions. The cover features a scenic view of a river flowing through a forested landscape, with the title "UPPER PAJARO WATERSHED PLAN" in large, bold, white letters. Below the title, it says "An Integrated Approach to Water Resources Management". The Valley Water logo is in the top right corner. The table of contents lists various actions and projects across different watersheds, including Coyote, Pajaro, Guadalupe, West Valley, and Lower Peninsula.

Number	Watershed Action	Watershed	Project/Study	Timeline	Cost
CC-01	Complete Reservoir Greenhouse Emission Study and evaluate results.	COYOTE	Assessment/Study, Partnership	Final Report 2024	
ECO-01	Partner with Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority and other organizations to expand and enhance floodplain at Pajaro River Agricultural Preserve.	PAJARO	Project, Partnership	0-10	\$
ECO-02	Partner with organizations in San Benito County to conserve and enhance San Felipe Lake.	GUADALUPE	Assessment/Study, Project, Partnership	0-10	\$\$\$
ECO-03	Develop a program and best management practices to incorporate tribal involvement, traditional ecological knowledge, and cultural resource protection into Priority Actions.	WEST VALLEY	Partnership, Policy	0-10	\$
ECO-04	Expand and enhance riparian and wetland habitat at the Camarero Preserve.	LOWER PENINSULA	Project	0-10	\$

*Cost estimates correspond to the following maximum dollar values: \$ = \$100 thousand, \$\$ = 1 million, \$\$\$ = 10 million, \$\$\$\$ = 100 million, \$\$\$\$\$ = 100+ million

Examples of Watershed Plan Recommendations in UPNEET

Pretty specific

- Partner with organizations in San Benito County to conserve and enhance San Felipe Lake
- Expand and enhance riparian and wetland habitat at Carnadero Preserve
- Implement gravel and LWD projects at specific locations in Uvas, Llagas, and Pacheco Creek

Less specific

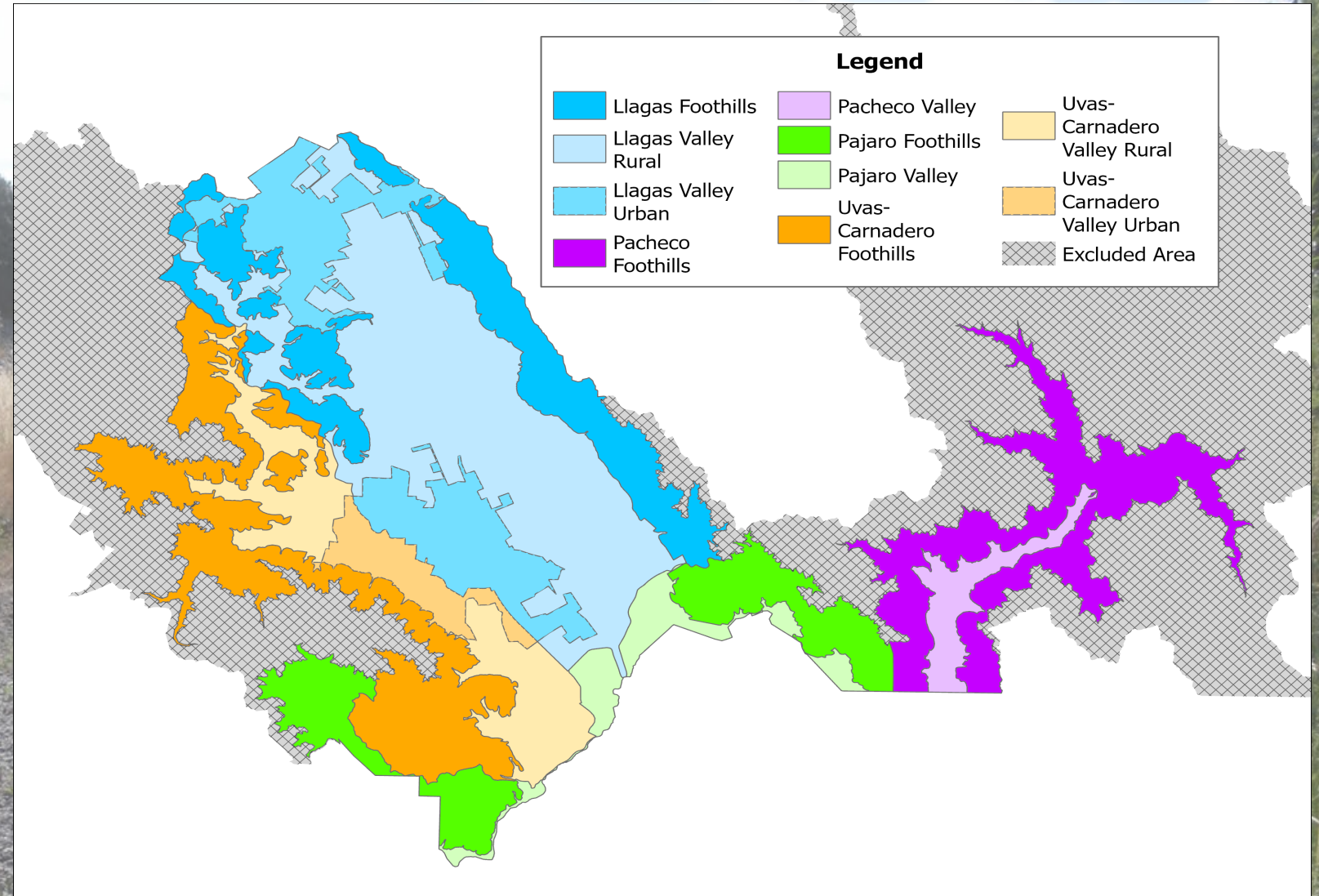
- Enhance ecological conditions in modified channels
- Connect and expand riparian corridors where missing or very narrow
- Partner to support efforts to manage livestock ponds for habitat benefit

Multi-benefit

- Identify open space areas for flood detention and environmental protection
- Support efforts to assist farmers and landowners to improve water quality and habitat conditions
- Partner with cities to reduce and prevent specific trash dumping areas

Coverage Area

- Llagas, Uvas, Pacheco, and Pajaro subwatersheds
- Foothills
- Rural Valley Floor
- Urban Valley Floor



UPNEET Development Process

TAC &
Core Team

Stakeholder
Groups



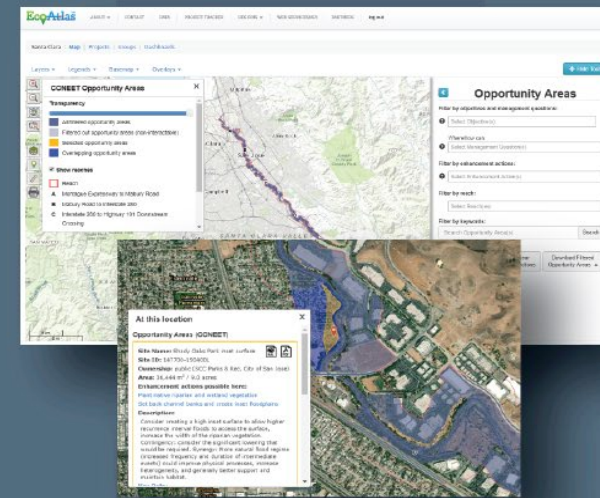
Best available science

Historical, current and potential future
physical and ecological conditions

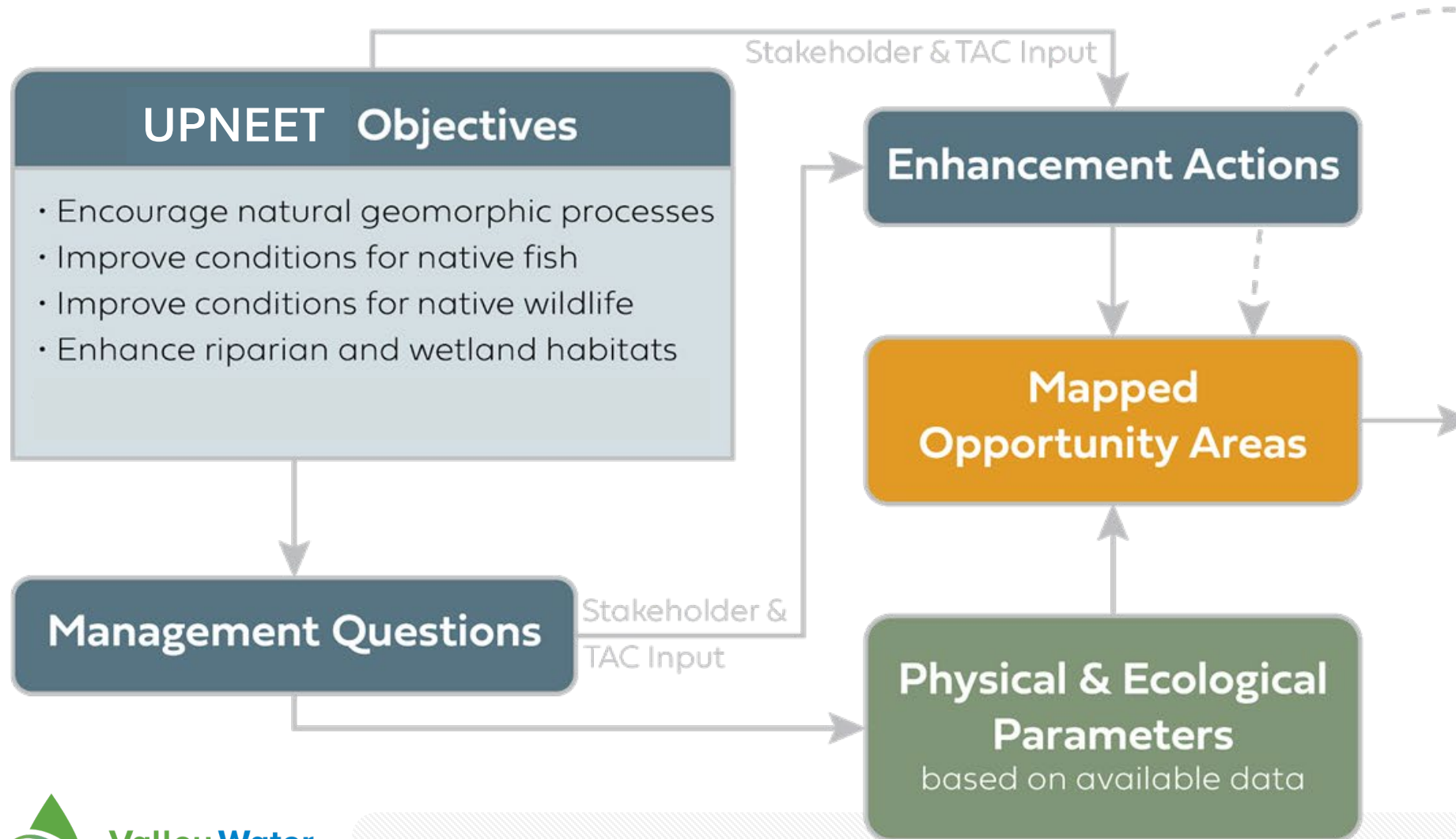


Native Ecosystem Enhancement Tool

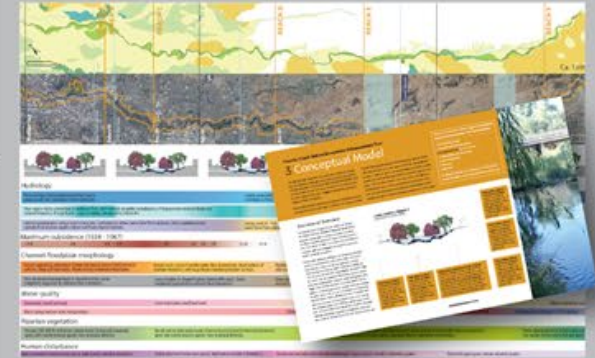
Online interactive
data-driven decision
support tool showing
enhancement opportunity
areas and actions with
supporting documentation
including a conceptual
model and user guide



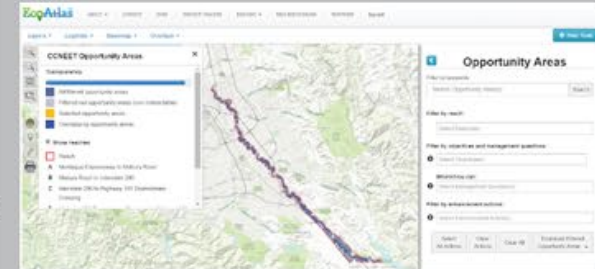
UPNEET Content & Products



Conceptual Model



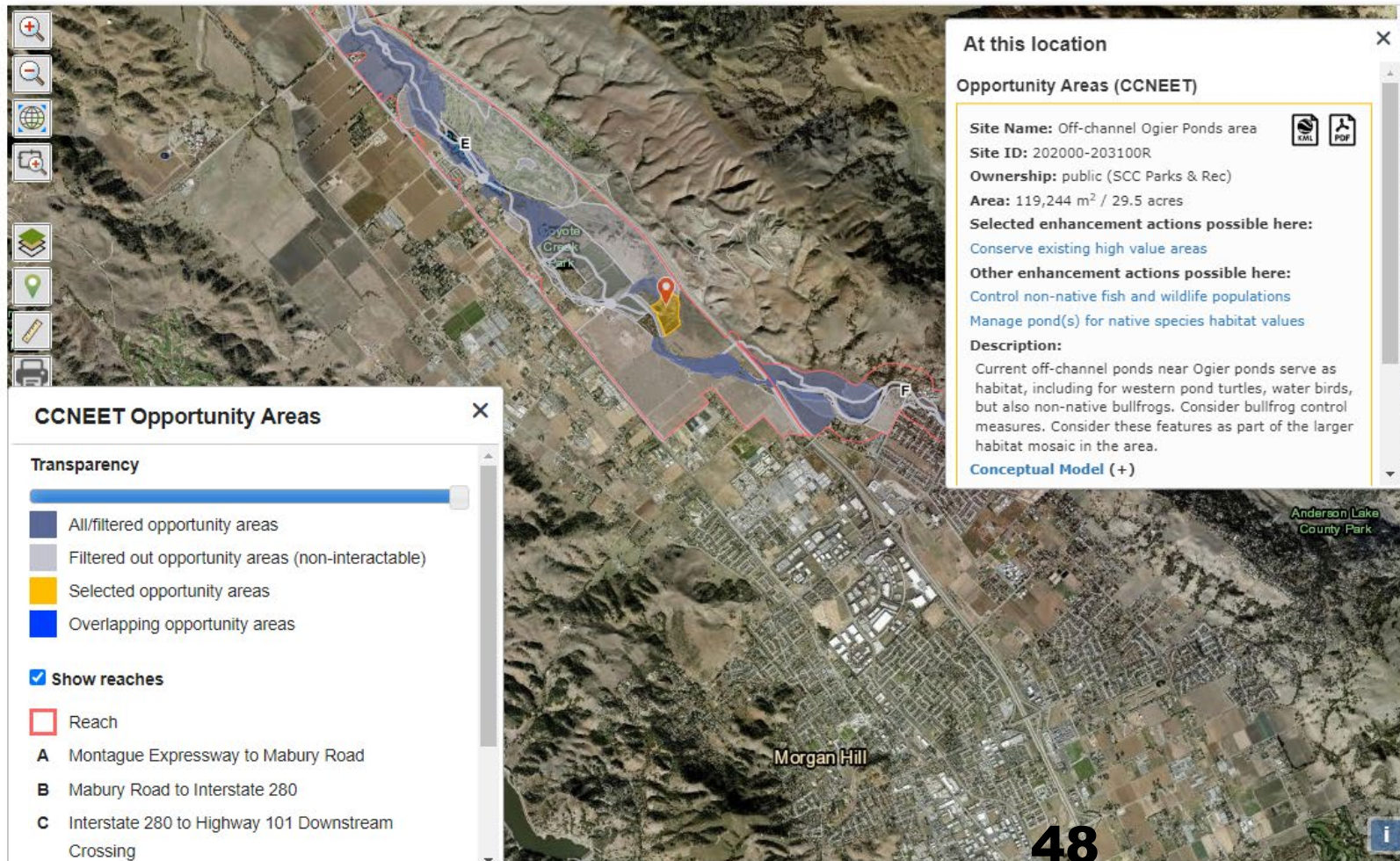
Online Tool



User Guide



UPNEET User Interface

[ABOUT ▾](#)[CONTACT](#)[DATA](#)[PROJECT TRACKER](#)[REGIONS ▾](#)[WEB SERVICES/API](#)[PARTNERS](#)[log out](#)[Santa Clara](#) : [Map](#) | [Projects](#) | [Groups](#) | [Dashboards](#)[Layers ▾](#) | [Legends ▾](#) | [Basemap ▾](#) | [Overlays ▾](#)[Hide Tools](#)

Opportunity Areas

Filter by objectives and management questions:

Where/how can:

Filter by enhancement actions:

Filter by reaches:

Filter by keywords:

Search

☐ Show Valley Water opportunity areas

☐ View additional layers

Clear Filters

Reset

Download Filtered
Opportunity Areas

UPNEET Development Schedule

Planning & Beta Tool

11/2023 – 2/2025

- Develop Objectives, Questions, & Actions
- Convene Technical Advisory Committee
- Reach Out to Stakeholders
- Data Compilation
- Beta Tool Production

UPNEET Production

2/2025 – 2/2026

- Opportunity area development
- Conceptual model development
- TAC and Stakeholder Review
- Launch UPNEET

UPNEET Maintenance

2/2026 - ?

- Hosting & programming
- Training for UPNEET use
- Updates & enhancements

QUESTIONS



50



Valley Water

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0038

Agenda Date: 1/6/2025

Item No.: 4.5.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐ No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:

Discuss the Potential of Forming a Subcommittee for the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (AWAC).

RECOMMENDATION:

Discuss the potential of forming an AWAC subcommittee per the Committee's approval at the January 9, 2023 meeting.

SUMMARY:

AWAC unanimously approved forming a subcommittee to discuss the rates and comparison data from other agencies regarding farming at the January 9, 2023 meeting.

AWAC Chairperson Peter Van Dyke requested this matter be added to the April 8, 2024 agenda to follow up on the potential for forming a subcommittee.

At the AWAC meeting on April 8, 2024, the Committee noted support for an AWAC subcommittee to promote productivity and communication. No specific purpose was confirmed for the Subcommittee at this time and support was noted for a Committee survey to confirm potential topics.

AWAC Chairperson Peter Van Dyke requested this matter be added to the January 6, 2025 agenda to follow up on this matter.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

The discussion of forming a subcommittee is not subject to environmental justice analysis.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193ce Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0024

Agenda Date: 1/6/2025

Item No.: 4.6.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐ No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:

Review and Discuss Resolution 17-75 Regarding the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Membership and Provide Feedback or Recommendations to the Board.

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and discuss Resolution 17-75 (PROVIDING FOR AND DEFINING THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND REPEALING RESOLUTION 15-28) as to its provisions regarding the membership of the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (AWAC) and provide feedback or recommendations to the Board.

SUMMARY:

BACKGROUND:

Governance Process Policy-8:

The District Act provides for the creation of advisory boards, committees, or commissions by resolution to serve at the pleasure of the Board.

Accordingly, the Board has established Advisory Committees, which bring respective expertise and community interest, to advise the Board, when requested, in a capacity as defined: prepare Board policy alternatives and provide comment on activities in the implementation of the District's mission for Board consideration. In keeping with the Board's broader focus, Advisory Committees will not direct the implementation of District programs and projects, other than to receive information and provide comment.

Further, in accordance with Governance Process Policy-3, when requested by the Board, the Advisory Committees may help the Board produce the link between the District and the public through information sharing to the communities they represent.

Recently, members of the AWAC have requested that the membership requirements of the AWAC,

set forth in Resolution 17-75, be revisited, and possibly changed or updated.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

The review of Resolution 17-75 and the AWAC Membership is not subject to environmental justice analysis.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Resolution 17-75

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER
DISTRICT**

**RESOLUTION 17- 75
PROVIDING FOR AND DEFINING THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION OF
ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND REPEALING RESOLUTION 15-28**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Santa Clara Valley Water District as follows:

There have been established as advisory to the Santa Clara Valley Water District (District) Board of Directors (Board), in accordance with the District Act, the following committees (hereafter "Committees"), which shall continue in accordance with the provisions of this resolution:

1. Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (established by the District Act, which states ". . . The Board shall create an advisory committee consisting of farmers to represent users of agricultural water.");
2. Environmental and Water Resources Committee;
3. Santa Clara Valley Water Commission; and
4. Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission.

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This resolution sets forth the purpose, activities, and membership guidelines of the Committees.
- 1.2 The Committees are established to assist the Board with policy review and development, provide comment on activities in the implementation of the District's mission for Board consideration, and to identify Board-related issues pertaining to the following:
 - 1.2.1 **Agricultural Water Advisory Committee:** agricultural water supply and use and groundwater production charges.
 - 1.2.2 **Environmental and Water Resources Committee:** water supply, flood protection, and environmental stewardship.
 - 1.2.3 **Santa Clara Valley Water Commission:** water supply, flood protection, and environmental stewardship.
 - 1.2.4 **Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission:** public policy, education, outreach, and all matters impacting the Santa Clara County youth and the water district.

- 1.3 In accordance with Governance Process Policy-8, the specific duties of the Committees are to:
 - 1.3.1 Provide input on policy alternatives for Board deliberation.
 - 1.3.2 Provide comment on the activities in the implementation of the District's mission for Board consideration.
 - 1.3.3 Produce and present to the Board an Annual Accomplishments Report summarizing the outcomes of the Committee's annual Board-approved work plan.
 - 1.3.4 Further, in accordance with Governance Process Policy-3, when requested by the Board, the Advisory Committees may help the Board produce the link between the District and the public through information sharing to the communities they represent.
- 1.4 In carrying out these duties, the Committee members bring to the District their respective expertise and the interests of the communities they represent.

2. MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 Committee membership shall consist of the following:

Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

- 2.1.1 The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee shall be comprised of 16 members who are farmers and reside or do business, as determined by the Board, within Santa Clara County.
- 2.1.2 The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee shall also be comprised of one member who owns a private well (non-retail) within Santa Clara County.
- 2.1.3 Each Director may nominate up to two farmers who reside and/or farm within the nominating Director's district. In the event that a Director is unable to nominate a farmer from his/her district, the Director may nominate a farmer from anywhere within Santa Clara County.
- 2.1.4 The Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District and the Santa Clara County Farm Bureau may each nominate one representative for appointment as long as the nominee is a farmer who resides or does business, as determined by the Board, within Santa Clara County.
- 2.1.5 The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee does not have alternate members.

Environmental and Water Resources Committee

- 2.1.6 Effective July 1, 2015, the Environmental and Water Resources Committee shall be comprised of 21 At-Large members, who reside or do business, as determined by the Board, within Santa Clara County.
- 2.1.7 Effective July 1, 2015, each Director may nominate up to three at-large members.

Santa Clara Valley Water Commission

- 2.1.8 The Santa Clara Valley Water Commission shall be comprised of 18 elected representatives: one from each City and Town in Santa Clara County, the County of Santa Clara, the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority, and the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District. Each elected representative may have at least one alternate who may be another elected official or staff person from the same jurisdiction.
- 2.1.9 All municipal representatives and alternates to the Santa Clara Valley Water Commission shall be appointed by their perspective agency.

Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission

- 2.1.10 The Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission shall be comprised of 21 Board-appointed members who reside and attend high school in Santa Clara County.
- 2.1.11 Each Director may nominate up to three at-large members of the Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission.
- 2.2 Members and alternates (where applicable) of the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee, Environmental and Water Resources Committee, and Santa Clara Valley Water Commission serve a two-year renewable term that begins upon appointment, or January 1 if a renewed appointment, and expires on December 31 of the year following appointment. Term of office for Committee members and alternates who are appointed mid-year shall begin upon appointment and run through December 31 of the year following appointment.
- 2.3 Members of the Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission serve a two-year renewable term that begins upon appointment, or September 1 if a renewed appointment, and expires on August 31 of the year following appointment. Term of office for Committee members and alternates who are appointed mid-term shall begin upon appointment and run through August 31 of the year following appointment.
- 2.4 Board appointed Committee members shall be held over until they are reappointed or successors are appointed by the Board.
- 2.5 Municipal appointed Committee members shall be held over until they are reappointed or successors are appointed by the County of Santa Clara and each City and Town therein.

- 2.6 Board member nominee appointments to Committees shall be subject to a majority vote of a quorum of the Board.
- 2.7 Following two or more consecutive unexcused absences, the Board may choose to remove a Board appointee. An unexcused absence is defined as failure to notify the District at least 48 hours in advance that the member will not attend the meeting.
- 2.8 Nothing in this resolution affects the eligibility of any current member of any Committee to serve out his or her current term, as long as the member continues to meet the eligibility criteria in effect when he or she was appointed to the Committee.

3. OFFICERS AND DUTIES

- 3.1 The officers of each Committee shall be a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, both of whom shall be members of that Committee. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be elected by the Committee.
- 3.2 The term of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee, Environmental and Water Resources Committee, and Santa Clara Valley Water Commission is one year commencing on January 1 and ending on December 31 and for no more than two consecutive terms. The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee, Environmental and Water Resources Committee, and Santa Clara Valley Water Commission shall elect their officers at the first meeting of the calendar year. All officers shall hold over in their respective offices after their term of office has expired until their successors have been elected and have assumed office.
- 3.3 The term of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for the Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission shall commence on September 1 and end on August 31 of the following year. However, the term of the first Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission will commence at the Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission's first meeting and end on August 31 of the following year.
- 3.4 The Chairperson of each Committee shall have the following authority and duties:
 - (a) Preside at all meetings of the Committee;
 - (b) Facilitate productive meetings in accordance with posted Agenda and the Ralph M. Brown Act (open meeting law);
 - (c) Add items to the committee agenda;
 - (d) Invite speakers for any agenda item;
 - (e) Manage speaker time limits;

- (f) Facilitate communication of committee comments, requests, and recommendations to the Board of Directors;
 - (g) Report to the committee on decisions of the Board of Directors which impact the committee's activities; and
 - (h) Perform other such duties as the Committee may prescribe consistent with the purpose of the Committee.
- 3.5 The Vice-Chairperson shall perform the duties of the Chairperson in the absence or incapacity of the Chairperson. In case of the unexpected vacancy of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall perform such duties as are imposed upon the Chairperson until such time as a new Chairperson is elected by the Committee.
- 3.6 Should the office of Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson become vacant during the term of such office, the Committee shall elect a successor from its membership at the earliest meeting at which such election would be practicable and such election shall be for the unexpired term of such office.
- 3.7 Should the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson know in advance that they will both be absent from a meeting, the Chair may appoint a Chairperson Pro-tempore to preside over that meeting. In the event of an unanticipated absence of both the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, the Committee may elect a Chairperson Pro-tempore to preside over the meeting in their absence.

4. MEETINGS

- 4.1 Meetings of the Committees shall be open and public and called in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act, Government Code Sections 54950 and following. Such meetings shall be held at the District Headquarters or such other place and time within Santa Clara County as the Board may designate.
- 4.2 Special meetings may be called by the Board and conducted in accordance with Section 54956 of the Government Code.
- 4.3 Committees shall convene four times per year or more often, as authorized by the Board, except for the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee, which shall convene at least once a year, or more often, as authorized by the Board.
- 4.4 The Board approves and sets all Committee annual work plans and meeting agendas. Committee meeting agendas will be considered pre-approved by the Board once it has approved each of the annual Advisory Committee work plans. Modifications to meeting agendas will be considered by the Board, or Board Chair, as needed, through a review of the pre-approved work plans when it receives and considers Committee policy recommendations, comments, and requests, staff recommended modifications, and requests by members of the public. The Board may also initiate modifications to pre-approved work plans at any time.

- 4.5 Notices of each meeting, together with an agenda, the draft minutes of the preceding meeting, and supporting meeting materials, shall be provided to the Committee members no less than ten business days in advance.
- 4.6 Any Committee meeting in which all items on the Agenda are informational, excluding the approval of meeting minutes, will be cancelled and notification sent from the Clerk of the Board at least ten days prior to the scheduled meeting date.
- 4.7 A majority of the appointed members of the Committee or their alternates is required to constitute a quorum for the purposes of conducting its business and exercising its powers and for all other purposes. If the Clerk of the Board, or his/her designated representative (Clerk), has been notified at least two business days in advance of a scheduled meeting that a quorum will not be present, the Clerk will cancel the meeting and notice the membership of the cancellation.
- 4.8 In the event that a Committee meeting is cancelled due to the lack of a quorum, upon concurrence of the Committee Chair and the Board Representative, the Committee meeting may be re-scheduled or re-convened to a specified date, time, and place.
- 4.9 In the event a quorum of the Committee is not present at the scheduled start time of the meeting, or is lost during the meeting, at the discretion of the Chair of each Advisory Committee, individual Committee members present in the room may proceed to hear informational agenda items, including any staff reports. No action shall be taken on any agenda item when a quorum does not exist. No official record of statements made by individual Committee members, staff, or members of the public will be created. However, if a quorum is achieved at any time, action items may be heard, discussed, and voted upon.
- 4.10 Except for such actions to adjourn, action of the Committee may be taken only upon the affirmative vote of not less than a majority of the appointed members or their alternates present. The voting on all matters shall be by voice vote unless a roll call vote is called for by any member of the Committee. Only appointed Committee members or appointed alternates (who are sitting in an appointed member's stead) may vote on a matter.
- 4.11 Discussion on any agenda item by either Committee members or by any member of the general public may be limited, at the discretion of the Chairperson, to such length of time as the Chairperson may deem reasonable under the circumstances.
- 4.12 The Committee may adjourn any regular or special meeting to a time and place specified in the order of adjournment.

5. SUB-COMMITTEES

- 5.1 Subcommittees of Board Advisory Committees will not be recognized. However, less than a quorum of Committee members may meet informally outside of meetings in accordance with Ralph M. Brown Act requirements.

**PROVIDING FOR AND DEFINING THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION OF
ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND REPEALING RESOLUTION 15-28**

RESOLUTION 17- 75

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Resolution No. 15-28 is hereby repealed.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Santa Clara Valley Water District by the following vote on

AYES: Directors T. Estremera, R. Santos, N. Hsueh, G. Kremen,
L. LeZotte, J. Varela

NOES: Directors None

ABSENT: Directors B. Keegan

ABSTAIN: Directors None

SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT



JOHN L. VARELA
Chair/Board of Directors

ATTEST: MICHELE L. KING, CMC



Clerk/Board of Directors

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0023

Agenda Date: 1/6/2025

Item No.: 4.7.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐ No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:

Review and Approve the Proposed 2025 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (AWAC) Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests, the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda, and Recommend the Proposed 2025 AWAC Work Plan to the Board.

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and approve the Committee work plan to guide the committee's discussions regarding policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation; and recommend the proposed 2025 AWAC Work Plan to the Board.

SUMMARY:

The attached Work Plan outlines the topics for discussion to be able to prepare policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation. The work plan is agendized at each meeting as accomplishments are updated and to review any work plan assignments by the Board.

BACKGROUND:

Governance Process Policy-8:

The District Act provides for the creation of advisory boards, committees, or commissions by resolution to serve at the pleasure of the Board.

Accordingly, the Board has established Advisory Committees, which bring respective expertise and community interest, to advise the Board, when requested, in a capacity as defined: prepare Board policy alternatives and provide comment on activities in the implementation of the District's mission for Board consideration. In keeping with the Board's broader focus, Advisory Committees will not direct the implementation of District programs and projects, other than to receive information and provide comment.

Further, in accordance with Governance Process Policy-3, when requested by the Board, the Advisory Committees may help the Board produce the link between the District and the public

through information sharing to the communities they represent.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

The review of the Committee Work Plan is not subject to environmental justice analysis.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: AWAC 2024 Work Plan

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

2025 Work Plan: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: December 2024

The annual work plan establishes a framework for committee discussion and action during the annual meeting schedule. The committee work plan is a dynamic document, subject to change as external and internal issues impacting the District occur and are recommended for committee discussion. Subsequently, an annual committee accomplishments report is developed based on the work plan and presented to the District Board of Directors.

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
1	Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2025.	January 6	•Committee Elects Chair and Vice Chair for 2025. (Action)	
2	Annual Accomplishments Report.	January 6	•Review and approve 2024 Accomplishments Report for presentation to the Board. (Action) •Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate.	
3	Review and Comment to the Board on the Fiscal Year 2025 – 2026 Preliminary Groundwater Production Charges.	January 6 April 7	•Review and comment to the Board on the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Preliminary Groundwater Production Charges. (Action) •Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate.	
4	Receive Information and Provide Feedback on the Development of Valley Water's Water Supply Master Plan 2050.	April 7	•Receive Information and provide feedback on the development of Valley Water's Water Supply Master Plan 2050.	

Yellow = Update Since Last Meeting

Blue = Action taken by the Board of Directors

Attachment 1
Page 1 of 4

2025 Work Plan: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: December 2024

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
5	One Water Plan Upper Pajaro Watershed Plan Priority Actions.	January 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Receive information about development of the One Water Upper Pajaro Watershed Plan. • Review and provide input on One Water Upper Pajaro Watershed Plan Priority Actions 	
6	Receive an update of Valley Water's activities of the Unhoused and information on how enforcement of violations of companies are handled within the County.	TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Receive an update of Valley Water's activities of the Unhoused and information on how the enforcement of violations of companies are handled within the County. •Board is requesting the committee give more detailed information on this item for the Board's consideration. 	
7	Review Climate Change and the benefits of ecosystems on Agriculture in Santa Clara County.	April 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Discuss how climate change impacts the benefits of ecosystems on agriculture within Santa Clara County. 	
8	Discuss the Potential of Forming a Subcommittee.	January 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Discuss the potential of forming an AWAC subcommittee per the Committee's approval at the January 9, 2023 meeting. 	
9	Receive Update on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Compliance and Semitropic banking.	October 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Receive update on SGMA compliance and Semitropic banking. 	

Yellow = Update Since Last Meeting

Blue = Action taken by the Board of Directors

Attachment 1
Page 2 of 4

2025 Work Plan: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: December 2024

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
10	Standing Items Report Fiscal Year 2025 Goals and Strategies.	January 6 October 6	•Receive reports on standing items, FY2025. (Information)	
11	Federal and State Affairs Report	January 6 April 7 July 7 October 6	• Receive update.	
12	Review and Discuss Resolution 17-75 and the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (AWAC) Membership.	January 6	•Review and discuss Reso. 17-75 and the AWAC Membership plan. (Action) •Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate.	
13	Review of Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda.	January 6 April 7 July 7 October 6	•Receive and review the 2025 Board-approved Committee work plan. (Action) •Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate.	
BOARD WORK PLAN GOALS: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated Water Resources Management - Goal: Efficiently manage water resources across business areas. Water Supply – Goal: Provide a reliable, safe, and affordable water supply for current and future generations in all communities served. Natural Flood Protection – Goal: Provide natural flood protection to reduce risk and improve health and safety. Environmental Stewardship – Goal: Sustain ecosystem health while managing local water resources for flood protection and water supply. Addressing Encampment of Unsheltered People – Goal: Humanely assist in the permanent relocation of unsheltered people on Valley Water lands along waterways and at water supply and flood risk reduction facilities in order to address the human health, public safety, operational, and environmental challenges posed by encampments. Climate Change – Goal: Mitigate carbon emissions and adapt Valley Water operations to climate change impacts. 				

Yellow = Update Since Last Meeting

Blue = Action taken by the Board of Directors

Attachment 1
Page 3 of 4

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
7.	Business Management – Goal: Promote effective management of water supply, flood protection, and environmental stewardship through responsive and socially responsible business services.			



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0003

Agenda Date: 1/6/2025

Item No.: 5.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐ No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:

Standing Items Report.

RECOMMENDATION:

Standing Items Report

This item allows the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee to receive verbal or written updates and discuss the Board's Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Work Plan Strategies. These items are generally informational; however, the Committee may request additional information and/or provide collective input to the assigned Board Committee.

SUMMARY:

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee was established to assist the Board with policy review and development, provide comment on activities in the implementation of Valley Water's mission, and to identify Board-related issues.

On January 2022, the Board of Directors approved aligning the Board Advisory Committees' agendas and work plans with the Board's yearly work plan.

The new agenda format will allow regular reports on the Board's priorities from the Board's committees and/or Board committee representative and identify subjects where the committees could provide advice to the Board on identified subjects in a timely manner to meet the Board's schedule and distribute information/reports that may be of interest to committee members.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

The Standing Items Report is not subject to environmental justice analysis.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Board Work Plan Standing Items Report

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

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FY2024-2025 BOARD WORK PLAN – STANDING ITEMS REPORT

July-December 2024

INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT GOAL: Efficiently manage water resources across business areas.	
Objective 1:	Protect and maintain existing assets and infrastructure and advance new projects.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On October 8, 2024, the Board received an overview of the Annual Capital Improvement Program Development Process, the Capital Improvement Program Fiscal Years 2025-29 Five-Year Plan Capital Projects by Fund and Funding Categories, and the Integrated Financial Planning Schedule.
Objective 2:	Improve internal capacity to negotiate and acquire regulatory permits.
Updates:	
Objective 3:	Educate the community, elected officials and external stakeholders on our management of water resources in Santa Clara County.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On October 24th, Valley Water's Office of Emergency Services hosted its annual Winter Preparedness Workshop for external agencies that included the County of Santa Clara, City of San Jose, City of Palo Alto, City of Milpitas, City of Morgan Hill, and many others. The purpose of the workshop is to inform stakeholder partners of Valley Water preparedness efforts for the Winter season. The workshop had 63 registered participants, and included presentations for emergency services, external communications, reservoir operations, watershed field operations, hydrology/hydraulics support, sandbag operations, and the National Weather Service Winter forecast. On December 4, 2024, Valley Water hosted the annual San Francisquito Creek Multi-Agency Coordination (SFCMAC) Tabletop Exercise in Palo Alto. This event provided a no-fault environment for the SFC MAC members to discuss a challenging inclement weather scenario where the storm forecast was uncertain. Valley Water uses these exercises to validate planning and training efforts for preparedness, and to find ways to improve the agency's capability to respond and support impacted jurisdictions during emergencies. On December 10, 2024, the Board approved Legislative Policy Proposals and Guiding Principles for 2025. Legislative policy proposals and legislative guiding principles are approved on an annual basis to form the framework for advocacy efforts at the local, regional, state, and federal levels.

WATER SUPPLY GOAL: Provide a reliable, safe, and affordable water supply for current and future generations in all communities served.	
Objective 1:	Pursue new and diversified water supply and storage opportunities.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On October 8, 2024, the Board received an update on the unique requirements for the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project including a multi-year fill and drain pattern and the possibility to accept and store additional water supply, as well as potential resulting unique environmental benefits. On October 17, 2024, Valley Water hosted a virtual public scoping meeting for the community to learn more about the scope and content of the draft Environmental Impact Report for the Design Level Geotechnical Investigations for the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project.
Objective 2:	Secure existing water supplies and water supply infrastructure
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On June 12 and 13, 2024, Valley Water held two public meetings to present and seek feedback on its comprehensive plan to update and upgrade its water treatment plants (Santa Teresa and Penitencia in San Jose, and Rinconada in Los Gatos). Valley Water is committed to keeping safe, clean water flowing as we recognize the need to repair or replace much of our aging infrastructure. Valley Water released a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on the Pipeline Maintenance Program (PMP) for public review between September 12, 2024 and October 28, 2024. The PMP covers inspection, maintenance, rehabilitation and/or repair of all existing conveyance systems (including pipelines, and tunnels) for raw, treated, and recycled water that are owned and/or operated by Valley Water. On December 10, 2024 the Board received an update on the development of Santa Clara Valley Water District's Water Supply Master Plan 2050; and approved a Potable Reuse Goal of 24,000 Acre-Feet per Year by 2035 and a Long-Term Vision to Maximize Water Reuse in the County up to 32,000 Acre-Feet per Year. On October 10, 2024, Valley Water hosted the Rinconada Water Treatment Plant Reliability Improvement Project Phases 3-6 construction community meeting to update neighbors about the project's current status and to share our response to neighborhood concerns.
Objective 3:	Lead purified water efforts with committed partners.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After more than 14 years of development, on August 6, 2024, the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) approved the Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) Regulations. The DPR regulations had previously been adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board on December 19, 2023. The effective date of the regulation is October 1, 2024. Valley Water has been involved in the development of DPR regulations since the beginning as part of the WaterReuse California Direct Potable Reuse Working Group, which has been guiding the development of these regulations for the past two years. The finalization of DPR regulations opens up new possibilities for implementing large-scale water recycling projects throughout the State. Valley Water is working to implement the San Jose Purified Water Project - Phase 1 (DPR Demonstration Facility) in collaboration with the Cities of San Jose and Santa Clara. On December 10, 2024 the Board received an update on the development of Santa Clara Valley Water District's Water Supply Master Plan 2050; and approved a Potable Reuse Goal of 24,000 Acre-Feet per Year by 2035 and a Long-Term Vision to Maximize Water Reuse in the County up to 32,000 Acre-Feet per Year.

Objective 4:	Complete the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project (ADSRP) reached a major milestone with the submittal of the environmental regulatory permit applications on June 28, 2024. Permit applications were submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Clean Water Act Section 404 permit), the Water Boards (Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality certification), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement per Section 1600 of California Fish and Game Code), and the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (Consistency Certification). Valley Water has released a Partially Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project (ADSRP) for a 45-day public review period between August 5, 2024 and September 20, 2024. Written comments received in response to the Partially Recirculated Draft EIR, along with prior comments received on the Draft EIR, will be addressed in the Final EIR.
Objective 5:	Make water conservation a California way of life in Santa Clara County.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On December 10, 2024 the Board received an update on the development of Santa Clara Valley Water District's Water Supply Master Plan 2050; and approved a Potable Reuse Goal of 24,000 Acre-Feet per Year by 2035 and a Long-Term Vision to Maximize Water Reuse in the County up to 32,000 Acre-Feet per Year. In July 2024, the Governor of California approved the specific regulation for Making Conservation a California Way of Life (also known by several variations of "the Framework"). The regulation sets new, permanent water use budgets for urban retail water suppliers (water retailers). While Valley Water is not directly subject to these regulations, our Water Conservation Program supports the compliance efforts of our water retailers, which in turn will keep water demand low or flat into the future. With comprehensive guidance and resources staff preemptively began developing, Valley Water is well-prepared to assist our retailers in meeting these new regulations and achieving significant water savings.

NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION	
GOAL: Provide Natural Flood Protection to reduce risk and improve health and safety.	
Objective 1:	Protect people and property from flooding equitably in all regions of the County, prioritizing disadvantaged communities, by applying a comprehensive, integrated watershed management approach that balances environmental quality, environmental justice impacts, sustainability, and cost.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valley Water released a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on the Coyote Creek Flood Protection Project for public review between July 12, 2024, and August 26, 2024. The Project objectives are to plan, design, and construct improvements along approximately nine (9) miles of Coyote Creek, between Montague Expressway and Tully Road in the City of San Jose. On September 3, 2024, Valley Water hosted the Upper Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project pre-construction community meeting to update neighbors about the project, flood protection, environmental and recreation benefits, and construction impacts. The Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) application to revise the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps to reflect the flood protection projects on Permanente Creek became effective on September 5, 2024. The LOMR application was jointly filed by Valley Water, Santa Clara County, and the cities of Mountain View, Los Altos and Cupertino on April 18, 2022.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On September 25, 2024, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers staff conducted a tour of the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Phase I Project and the Upper Guadalupe River Project for Lt. Col. Timothy W. Shebesta. USACE staff, joined by Valley Water and State Coastal Conservancy staff, presented background on the project, described challenges during construction, and challenges remaining for the project, including Reaches 4-5 (from Artesian Slough to Coyote Creek). The General Re-evaluation Study is scheduled for completion in 2025. • On November 20, 2024, Valley Water held a public meeting to present and gather feedback on the Palo Alto Flood Basin Tide Gate Seismic Retrofit and Rehabilitation Project.
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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP GOAL: Sustain ecosystem health while managing local water resources for flood protection and water supply.	
Objective 1:	Plan and design projects with multiple benefits, including protecting ecosystem functions, enhancing habitat, and improving connectivity, equitably in all regions of the County.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A small defunct dam and steep pass fish ladder on Little Arthur Creek (known as Pickell's Dam) was removed for mitigation credit for the Stream Maintenance Program (SMP). The removal of the dam that is over 100 years old provides access to ~3.5 miles of high quality spawning and rearing habitat for South Central California Coast Steelhead. The removal also allows for a more natural state of stream processes by allowing habitat feature formation that was previously impacted by the full spanning concrete structure. The project construction was completed on private property under a non-consultant agreement with Trout Unlimited; where Valley Water O&M staff provided training, funding, permitting, and oversight for project implementation. The project's success will be monitored by Valley Water's SMP Team over the next 5 years following construction as part of mitigation monitoring for the SMP. Environmental staff believe this is a good model to follow for future projects, identifying strategies to implement mitigation/restoration projects that are cost effective, beneficial to the ecosystem, and meaningful to the community/stakeholders.
Objective 2:	Protect creeks, bay, and other aquatic ecosystems from threats of pollution and degradation.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In support of the 40th Annual California Coastal Cleanup Day (CCD), Valley Water, in partnership with the Creek Connections Action Group (CCAG), coordinated another successful cleanup event in Santa Clara County on Saturday, September 21, 2024. This year, 953 volunteers participated at 49 cleanup sites throughout the county and removed an estimated 32,874 pounds of litter along 56 miles of creeks, shorelines, and natural areas.
Objective 3:	Complete and implement the Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE) agreement.
Updates:	

ADDRESSING ENCAMPMENTS OF UNSHELTERED PEOPLE

GOAL: Humanely assist in the permanent relocation of unsheltered people on Valley Water lands along waterways and at water supply and flood risk reduction facilities in order to address the human health, public safety, operational, and environmental challenges posed by encampments.

Objective 1:	Collaborate with agencies and other service providers to address the challenges posed by encampments and their impacts to waterways and water supply and flood risk reduction facilities, including supporting the provision of outreach, counseling, transitional or affordable housing, or other services by these agencies and service providers.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On July 25, 2024, Valley Water held a Listening Session to seek input and feedback on Valley Water's proposed Water Resources Protection Zones Ordinance. Valley Water invited advocates and nonprofits who support unhoused people to share their concerns, ideas, and solutions related to the Ordinance and the impacts of encampments of unsheltered people located on Valley Water lands. • On October 11, 2024 Valley Water hosted the Unhoused People and Environment Summit to bring together local agency officials, nonprofit organizations and housing advocates to discuss challenges related to the humanitarian and environmental concerns with addressing the unhoused people living along Santa Clara County waterways. • On November 26, 2024 the Board adopted the Water Resources Protection Ordinance establish water resources protection zones (WRPZ) along creeks, waterways, water supply facilities, and other lands where Valley Water holds land rights. The Ordinance is intended to improve water quality, to protect water supply facilities and riparian habitats, and to support staff safety by prohibiting camping and encampment-related activities, reducing encampments, and preventing re-encampments within the WRPZ.
Objective 2:	Collaborate with the County and municipal partners to secure the safety of unsheltered people living on Valley Water lands along waterways and at water supply and flood risk reduction facilities, as well as secure the safety of residential neighbors and Valley Water staff.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On July 25, 2024, Valley Water held a Listening Session to seek input and feedback on Valley Water's proposed Water Resources Protection Zones Ordinance. Valley Water invited advocates and nonprofits who support unhoused people to share their concerns, ideas, and solutions related to the Ordinance and the impacts of encampments of unsheltered people located on Valley Water lands. • On October 11, 2024 Valley Water hosted the Unhoused People and Environment Summit to bring together local agency officials, nonprofit organizations and housing advocates to discuss challenges related to the humanitarian and environmental concerns with addressing the unhoused people living along Santa Clara County waterways. • On November 26, 2024 the Board adopted the Water Resources Protection Ordinance establish water resources protection zones (WRPZ) along creeks, waterways, water supply facilities, and other lands where Valley Water holds land rights. The Ordinance is intended to improve water quality, to protect water supply facilities and riparian habitats, and to support staff safety by prohibiting camping and encampment-related activities, reducing encampments, and preventing re-encampments within the WRPZ.

CLIMATE CHANGE GOAL: Mitigate carbon emissions and adapt Valley Water operations to climate change impacts.	
Objective:	Address future impacts of climate change to Valley Water’s mission and operations.
Updates:	

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT GOAL: Promote effective management of water supply, flood protection, and environmental stewardship through responsive and socially responsible business services.	
Objective 1:	Incorporate racial equity, diversity, and inclusion throughout Valley Water as a core value.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On December 12, 2024 the Board adopted a Resolution declaring Santa Clara Valley Water District’s 2025 Monthly Cultural Observances. Cultural celebrations, such as monthly observances, are important as they help honor and elevate each culture’s history, experiences, and contributions to the United States.
Objective 2:	Maintain budgeted staffing levels and expertise, prioritize the safety of our staff, and build and sustain an inclusive and equitable working environment for all staff and partners while ensuring fair employment.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valley Water has launched a first-of-its-kind apprenticeship program for Instrumentation and Controls Technicians (I&C Techs) in the water industry. Thanks to a partnership with Baywork, a network of water and wastewater agencies in the San Francisco Bay Area, this apprenticeship is registered with the U.S. Department of Labor, making it one of the only registered I&C Tech apprenticeships in the Bay Area. This July 2024, Valley Water’s Raw Water Division welcomed two apprentices to the Treatment Plant Maintenance Unit. The apprentices will receive on-the-job training as full-time Valley Water employees while simultaneously completing related education courses through Mission College. Upon completion of the four- to five-year apprenticeship, the apprentices will receive their journey level card and become full-time I&C Techs servicing Valley Water’s water treatment plants and pipelines.
Objective 3:	Provide affordable and cost-effective level of services.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On August 6, 2024, Valley Water was awarded the District Transparency Certificate of Excellence by the Special District Leadership Foundation (SDLF). To earn this award Valley Water demonstrated its adherence to key governance transparency standards, including conducting ethics training for all board members, ensuring that meetings are open and public, and timely filing of financial transactions and compensation reports with the State Controller. This recognition highlights Valley Water’s commitment to transparency, accountability, and good governance in its operations. On September 24, 2024, Valley Water closed on \$314 million of debt issuances, comprised of \$198.5 million of tax-exempt debt and \$115.5 million of taxable debt, for the Water Utility capital program. The debt proceeds were primarily used to refund outstanding short-term debt issued for Water Utility capital projects. Valley Water achieved very favorable pricing with an aggregate true interest cost of 4.14% vs. 4.93% estimated in the August 13, 2024 Board Agenda Memo and achieved debt service savings of approximately \$1.5 million per year or \$43 million over the 30 years repayment term. Valley Water received AA+ and Aa1 credit ratings from Fitch and Moody’s, respectively.