



SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

NON-AGENDA

February 28, 2025

Board Policy EL-7 Communication and Support to the Board
The BAOs shall inform and support the Board in its work.

Page	<u>CEO BULLETIN & NEWSLETTERS</u>
	CEO Bulletin: None
	<u>BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS & INFORMATIONAL ITEMS</u>
3	BMR/IBMR Weekly Reports: 02/28/25
4	Memo from Marta Lugo, Administrative Officer to Rachael Gibson, Chief of External Affairs, dated 02/07/25, providing information on anticipated community events in 2025.
	<u>INCOMING BOARD CORRESPONDENCE</u>
9	Board Correspondence Weekly Report: 02/28/25
11	Email from various constituents to the board, dated 02/18/25-02/23/25, urging them to vote no on the Delta Tunnel funding. C-25-0037
16	Email from Helen Brock to Director Beall, dated 02/21/25, thanking him for his response to their concerns about Alamitos Creek Maintenance. C-25-0038
19	Email from Tammy Clark to the board, dated 02/22/25, submitting follow-up questions regarding the Anderson Retrofit Meeting held on 02/20/25. C-25-0039
22	Email from Vladimir Starov to the board, dated 02/24/25, expressing their concerns with the hazardous conditions created by the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project. C-25-0040
24	Email from Daniel Miakotkin to Director Beall, dated 02/22/25, inquiring about potential assistance for their property near flood zone A on Alamitos Creek due to landslides. C-25-0041
26	Email from Alek to Director Ballard, dated 02/22/25, thanking her for her response to their inquiry about encampments on the Los Gatos Creek Trail. C-25-0042
30	Email from Ron Cachopo to Jennifer Coadianne, Deputy Operating Officer (copied to the board), dated 02/24/25, reporting that there is a 4-foot cut on the gate close to El Camino. C-25-0043
32	Email from Logan Lewis to the board, dated 02/25/25, requesting a meeting to discuss their product, a pool water recycling system meant to collect and reuse backwash water. C-25-0044
	<u>OUTGOING BOARD CORRESPONDENCE</u>
34	Email from Chair Estremera to Danny Garza, dated 02/19/25, responding to their concerns regarding Lower Silver Creek.
48	Email from Director Beall to Helen Brock, dated 02/20/25, addressing their concerns about dry vegetation adjacent to the Los Alamitos Creek Trail.
51	Email from Director Ballard to Alek, dated 02/21/25, responding to their email about encampments of unsheltered people located adjacent to the Los Gatos Creek Trail between Leigh Ave. and Meridian Ave.

BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS and Informational Items

Report Name: Board Member Requests

Request	Request Date	Director	BAO/Chief	Staff	Description	20 Days Due Date	Expected Completion Date	Disposition
R-25-0003	01/28/25	Hsueh	Gibson	Lugo	Staff to work with the Water Commission chairperson to schedule discussions of Valley Water's CIP and conservation programs at the upcoming July and October 2025 Water Commission Meetings.	02/17/25		
I-25-0004	02/25/25	Eisenberg	Yoke	Lawson	Director Eisenberg requested that staff provide her with a copy of the video from the Board meeting in which she spoke regarding her mother's lifetime award for education.	03/17/25		
I-25-0003	02/19/25	Beall	Taylor	Gibson	Staff to provide a status on actual federal capital reimbursement receipts relative to budget for FY 25, and if not yet received, include any insight as to the likelihood of receiving.	03/12/25		
I-25-0001	02/04/25	Hsueh	Taylor	Sun	Staff to answer Director Hsueh's DCP participation questions.	02/24/25		

TO: Rachael Gibson, Chief of External Affairs**FROM:** Marta Lugo, Deputy
Administrative Officer**SUBJECT:** Anticipated Community Events in 2025**DATE:** February 7, 2025

The Office of Government Relations has compiled a list of anticipated community events in 2025 for the Board's reference, which is attached to this memorandum. Please note that this reflects only anticipated events and is not an exhaustive list as additional events may come up throughout the year that are new, and event dates are subject to change at any time, or cancelled altogether.

These anticipated community events provide a valuable forum in which Valley Water can engage with the Santa Clara County community on water-related issues, such as water conservation, water recycling and purification, flood preparedness, and projects in specific communities, among many others. This community outreach effort also provides an opportunity to partner with our nonprofit community stakeholders as they attract their constituencies and supporters. Many of the community events included are where we have hosted an informational booth in the past and have had a high level of visibility due to the size of the crowds.

For any inquiries regarding community events, please contact the Office of Government Relations.



Marta M. Lugo
Deputy Administrative Officer, Offices of Government Relations and REDI

Annual Community Events Planned for Calendar Year 2025		
Organization	Event Name	Date of Event
January		
Valley Health Foundation	Swearing in Ceremony and Community Celebration of Supervisor Betty Duong	1/10/2025
Positive Alternative Recreation Teambuilding Impact (PARTI)	MLK Stop the Violence Event	1/17/2025
African American Community Service Agency (AACSA)	MLK Luncheon	1/20/2025
Vietnamese American Roundtable (VAR)	Lunar New Year Festival	1/25-1/26/2025
February		
Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute (APALI)	Funders and Fellows Lunch for Lunar New Year	2/7/2025
San Jose State University	Science Extravaganza	2/8/2025
CompassPoint Mentorship	AI for Good Hackathon	2/8/2025
	Middle School Day	
Office of San Jose Council District 1	Black History Month Flag Raising	2/7/2025
San Jose Chapter of The Links, Incorporated	Emergency Preparedness Workshop: Safety Now, Peace Later	2/1/2025
March		
Joint Venture	State of the Valley Conference	3/7/2025
Silicon Valley Central	Mayor's Breakfast	
Milpitas Chamber of Commerce	Annual Crab Feed	
American Association of University Women (AAUW)	41st Annual Wildflower Run	3/30/2025
WaterReuse Association	Annual WaterReuse Symposium	3/16-3/19/2025
Valley Health Foundation (VHF)	Women's Leadership and Policy Summit	
Rotary Foundation	Gala Event	
April		
Salmonid Restoration Federation	Annual Conference	
Bay Nature	Local Hero Awards	
Cupertino High School	Earth Day Festival	4/3/2025
Palo Alto Chamber	Tall Tree Awards	
Gilroy Chamber of Commerce	Legislative Summit	
California Native Plant Society- Santa Clara Valley Chapter	Growing Natives Garden Tour	4/1-4/2/2025
May		
Silicon Valley Bike Coalition	Bike to Wherever Days and Bike Month	5/15/2025
Morgan Hill Mushroom Mardi Gras Inc	Morgan Hill Mushroom Festival	5/24-5/25/2025
San Jose District 4	Berryessa Art Festival	5/10/2025
Bay Planning Coalition	Spring Summit	
Mountain View Chamber	Celebration of Leaders and Athena Awards	5/16/2025
Bay Area Council	Pacific Summit	

Annual Community Events Planned for Calendar Year 2025		
Organization	Event Name	Date of Event
June		
Happy Hollow Foundation	Season of the Senior Safari	6/26/2025
Guadalupe River Park Conservancy	Window on the River Park	6/5/2025
Portuguese Heritage Society of California	Dia de Portugal Festival	
African American Community Service Agency (AACSA)	Juneteenth Festival	
Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute (APALI)	APALI Anniversary Event	
July		
Happy Hollow Foundation	Season of the Senior Safari	6/26/2025
Valley Health Foundation	Bloom Energy Stars and Strides Run/Walk	6/29/2025
National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies (NAFSMA)	Annual Flood & Stormwater Management Conference	6/21-6/29/2025
Office of San Jose Council District 10	District 4 July 4th Celebration	7/4/2025
August		
Working Partnerships	Champions for Change	8/21/2025
San Jose Chamber of Commerce	Annual BBQ	8/21/2025
Greenbelt Alliance	Hidden Heroes of the Greenbelt	
Silicon Valley Pride	Silicon Valley Pride Parade	8/24-8/25/2025
Santos Family Car Show	19th Annual Santos Family Car Show	
September		
Mountain View Chamber	Art and Wine Festival	
La Raza Historical Society of Santa Clara	La Raza Awards	
Happy Hollow Foundation	Hooray for Happy Hollow Event	
Green Foothills	Nature's Inspiration	
Friends of Stevens Creek Trail	Trailblazer Race	
October		
Bay Planning Coalition	Energy and Water Nexus Event	
San Jose/Silicon Valley National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)	Freedom Funds Awards Gala	
Office of Santa Clara County District 3	Day on the Bay	
Teatro Vision	Dia de Los Muertos Student Matinee	
California Invasive Plant Council	Cal-IPC Summit	
Office of San Jose Council District 8	D8 Family Fall Festival	
CA/HI National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)	State Convention	
November		
Latina Coalition	Sisterhood Brunch	
American Society of Civil Engineers	San Jose Chapter Annual Student Scholarship Awards	
Catalyze Silicon Valley	2nd Annual Catalyzing Change Awards	

Annual Community Events Planned for Calendar Year 2025

Organization	Event Name	Date of Event
<i>December</i>		
Acterra	Waterpalooza	
Santa Visits Alviso	Foundation Drive	

INCOMING BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Board Correspondence (open)

Correspond No	Rec'd By District	Rec'd By COB	Letter To	Letter From	Description	Disposition	BAO/ Chief	Staff	Draft Response Due Date	Draft Response Submitted	Writer Ack. Sent	Final Response Due Date
C-25-0039	02/22/25	02/24/25	All	TAMMY CLARK	Email from Tammy Clark to the board, dated 02/20/25, submitting follow-up questions regarding the Anderson Retrofit Meeting held on 02/20/25.	Refer to Staff	Chan	Mccarter	03/04/25	-	n/a	03/10/25
C-25-0040	02/24/25	02/24/25	All	VLADIMIR STAROV	Email from Vladimir Starov to the board, dated 02/24/25, expressing their concerns with the hazardous conditions created by the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project.	Refer to Staff	Chan	Mccarter	03/04/25	-	n/a	03/10/25
C-25-0041	02/24/25	02/24/25	All	DANIEL MIAKOTKIN	Email from Daniel Miakotkin to Director Beall, dated 02/22/25, inquiring about potential assistance for their property near	Refer to Staff	Hakes	Codianne	03/04/25	-	n/a	03/10/25

Correspond No	Rec'd By District	Rec'd By COB	Letter To	Letter From	Description	Disposition	BAO/ Chief	Staff	Draft Response Due Date	Draft Response Submitted	Writer Ack. Sent	Final Response Due Date
					flood zone A on Alamitos Creek due to landslides.							

From: [diana waters \(\[REDACTED\]\) Sent You a Personal Message](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: Please Vote NO on Delta Tunnel Funding
Date: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 7:34:00 PM

*** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. ***

Dear Valley Water Board of Directors,

Dear Chair Estremera and the Board of Directors,

I am writing to urge Valley Water not to allocate any additional funds to the proposed Delta Conveyance Project and vote no on Agenda Item 3.5.

The Delta tunnel project is a proposal to construct a single underground tunnel to divert millions of acre-feet of freshwater that would otherwise flow naturally through the Bay-Delta, diverting up to 6,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) from the Sacramento River without preserving sufficient flows for salmon species and Delta smelt.

For years, the Bay-Delta ecosystem has been severely depleted of its essential freshwater flows, causing the destruction of natural habitat for endemic species and worsening the livelihood of residents in Delta communities. This project will absolutely hasten the decline of the Delta.

Ratepayers will face increased water bills and property taxes, with no assurance of a sustainable water supply if Valley Water continues to spend millions of dollars - nearly \$650 million by the final construction vote - on this project! Remember that the board is ultimately accountable to their ratepayers who do not want their bills to rise amid an era of constant inflation and an affordability crisis.

The Delta tunnel project is an expensive and environmentally harmful project - failing to ensure new water resources in a time of climate change. Valley Water must prioritize limited public funds for projects that will deliver tangible improvements in water security and the overall health of the Delta.

I urge you to make a responsible and informed decision by rejecting this funding, and voting NO on Agenda Item 3.5.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

diana waters
[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Member Care at Sierra Club at member.care@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5673.

From: [Linda Schulz](#) [REDACTED] [Sent You a Personal Message](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: Please Vote NO on Delta Tunnel Funding
Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 1:41:50 AM

*** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. ***

Dear Valley Water Board of Directors,

Dear Chair Estremera and the Board of Directors,

I am writing to urge Valley Water not to allocate any additional funds to the proposed Delta Conveyance Project and vote no on Agenda Item 3.5.

The Delta tunnel project is a proposal to construct a single underground tunnel to divert millions of acre-feet of freshwater that would otherwise flow naturally through the Bay-Delta, diverting up to 6,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) from the Sacramento River without preserving sufficient flows for salmon species and Delta smelt.

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I urge you to make a responsible and informed decision by rejecting this funding, and voting NO on Agenda Item 3.5.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Linda Schulz
[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Member Care at Sierra Club at member.care@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5673.

From: [Stuart Greenburg](#) [REDACTED] [Sent You a Personal Message](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: Please Vote NO on Delta Tunnel Funding
Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 6:31:05 PM

*** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. ***

Dear Valley Water Board of Directors,

Dear Chair Estremera and the Board of Directors,

I am writing to urge Valley Water not to allocate any additional funds to the proposed Delta Conveyance Project and vote no on Agenda Item 3.5.

The Delta tunnel project is a proposal to construct a single underground tunnel to divert millions of acre-feet of freshwater that would otherwise flow naturally through the Bay-Delta, diverting up to 6,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) from the Sacramento River without preserving sufficient flows for salmon species and Delta smelt.

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I urge you to make a responsible and informed decision by rejecting this funding, and voting NO on Agenda Item 3.5.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Stuart Greenburg
[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Member Care at Sierra Club at member.care@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5673.

From: [winifred hopkins](#) [REDACTED] [Sent You a Personal Message](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: Please Vote NO on Delta Tunnel Funding
Date: Saturday, February 22, 2025 11:43:07 PM

*** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. ***

Dear Valley Water Board of Directors,

Dear Chair Estremera and the Board of Directors,

I am writing to urge Valley Water not to allocate any additional funds to the proposed Delta Conveyance Project and vote no on Agenda Item 3.5.

The Delta tunnel project is a proposal to construct a single underground tunnel to divert millions of acre-feet of freshwater that would otherwise flow naturally through the Bay-Delta, diverting up to 6,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) from the Sacramento River without preserving sufficient flows for salmon species and Delta smelt.

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The Delta tunnel project is an expensive and environmentally harmful project - failing to ensure new water resources in a time of climate change. Valley Water must prioritize limited public funds for projects that will deliver tangible improvements in water security and the overall health of the Delta.

I urge you to make a responsible and informed decision by rejecting this funding, and voting NO on Agenda Item 3.5.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

winifred hopkins
[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Member Care at Sierra Club at member.care@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5673.

From: [Sheila Desmond](#) [REDACTED] [Sent You a Personal Message](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: Please Vote NO on Delta Tunnel Funding
Date: Sunday, February 23, 2025 2:01:41 PM

*** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. ***

Dear Valley Water Board of Directors,

We have already seen breakdowns in the canals that take Delta water to Southern California. Until these canals are fixed, it seems like you will be wasting money on another devastating project that will ultimately cause more damage than it fixes.

Dear Chair Estremera and the Board of Directors,

I am writing to urge Valley Water not to allocate any additional funds to the proposed Delta Conveyance Project and vote no on Agenda Item 3.5.

The Delta tunnel project is a proposal to construct a single underground tunnel to divert millions of acre-feet of freshwater that would otherwise flow naturally through the Bay-Delta, diverting up to 6,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) from the Sacramento River without preserving sufficient flows for salmon species and Delta smelt.

For years, the Bay-Delta ecosystem has been severely depleted of its essential freshwater flows, causing the destruction of natural habitat for endemic species and worsening the livelihood of residents in Delta communities. This project will absolutely hasten the decline of the Delta.

Ratepayers will face increased water bills and property taxes, with no assurance of a sustainable water supply if Valley Water continues to spend millions of dollars - nearly \$650 million by the final construction vote - on this project! Remember that the board is ultimately accountable to their ratepayers who do not want their bills to rise amid an era of constant inflation and an affordability crisis.

The Delta tunnel project is an expensive and environmentally harmful project - failing to ensure new water resources in a time of climate change. Valley Water must prioritize limited public funds for projects that will deliver tangible improvements in water security and the overall health of the Delta.

I urge you to make a responsible and informed decision by rejecting this funding, and voting NO on Agenda Item 3.5.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Sheila Desmond
[REDACTED]

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Member Care at Sierra Club at member.care@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5673.

From: [jorjapeach2](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: Re: Deferred maintenance Los Alamitos Creek...time sensitive!
Date: Friday, February 21, 2025 4:33:16 PM

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

Dear Mr Beale,

Thank you for your speedy response to my concerns about the excessive amount of fuel, including dead wood and trees adjacent to the Los Alamitos creek biking/walking trail. Because you mentioned so many miles of land area, I thought that you might appreciate knowing that the problem area extends from the lake south to Pfeiffer park area. It is in really bad shape. If anyone dropped a cigarette around the various picnic tables in the dry season a serious fire is a distinct possibility.

I appreciate your plans for a spring cleanup in the near future.

Best,
Helen Brock

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Board of Directors <board@valleywater.org>
Date: 2/20/25 2:45 PM (GMT-08:00)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Deferred maintenance Los Alamitos Creek...time sensitive!

Sent on Behalf of Director Beall:

Dear Helen Brock,

Thank you for reaching out to Valley Water to share your concerns about dry vegetation adjacent to the Los Alamitos Creek Trail.

Valley Water has a comprehensive weed abatement and fuel management program that incorporates over 3000 acres in Santa Clara County. Please see the attached informational brochure for more detail on these programs. Our work includes upland mechanical mowing, hand weed abatement, pre/post emergent herbicide treatments of service roads, trails, and fence lines, targeting goat grazing, and fuel abatement through our Stream Maintenance Program and hazard tree program. The creek area is managed in a natural state to balance flood protection with habitat value for birds and wildlife. The weed abatement work on Los Alamitos Creek will occur this spring and approximately 44 acres will be managed which does include land outboard of the trail system.

Valley Water owns and manages 333 of the more than 800 miles of creeks in Santa Clara County and maintains property where it has built flood protection projects and possesses land rights. The remaining stretches of creeks are owned by Santa Clara County, private entities, cities in which the creeks are located, and other public agencies. Property owners whose land extends into the creek have a primary role in stream maintenance. You may review Valley Water land ownership on our website by using the following link: <https://gis.valleywater.org/FeeEasement/>. The green areas show lands Valley Water owns in fee title; the yellow areas show land held in easement. On Los Alamitos Creek, Valley Water owns land from Almaden Lake to Harry Road, the rest of the creek is owned by various private properties and Valley Water has no jurisdiction.

Valley Water has constructed flood protection projects on approximately 185 miles of creek within the 333 miles of right-of-way. Maintaining these 185 miles of constructed and improved channels is a top priority for Valley Water. Valley Water did construct a flood protection project on Los Alamitos Creek from Almaden Lake to Harry Road. Staff recently removed over 18 acres of vegetation on Los Alamitos Creek (Camden Ave to Harry Road) along the levee and in-channel to ensure integrity of the levee structure, support visual inspection of the levee, and maintain flow conveyance in-channel to reduce flood risk.

This upcoming instream work season (June 15 – October 15), staff will be removing *Arundo donax* within Los Alamitos Creek from Graystone Lane to Almaden Lake.

If you have any further questions, please contact Deputy Operating Officer Jen Codianne at jcodianne@valleywater.org for follow-up information.

Thanks again for contacting us.

Sincerely,



Jim Beall

Director, District 4

C-25-0035

From: jorjapeach2 [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2025 2:10 PM
To: Board of Directors <board@valleywater.org>
Subject: Deferred maintenance Los Alamitos Creek...time sensitive!

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

Attn: Board of Directors

I have reviewed your website and am aware of your policy of allowing vegetation IN THE CREEK to remain in its natural state. However, there is an abundance of dead fuel all along the trail that is NOWHERE near the creek bed. In its current state it presents a danger to surrounding homes similar to the recent Altadena fire in southern california if it is not removed before the dry season. Please advise your plans to clear it this year.

Sincerely,

Helen Brock

40-year Almaden resident

Founder Beautify Almaden

Adelina Del Real

From: tlcs [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, February 22, 2025 1:23 PM
To: Board of Directors
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Questions from 2/20/25 Anderson Retrofit meeting.
Attachments: Questions-FEIR 2-20-25 meeting.pdf

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

Please see attached. Thank you.

Tammy Clark



Virus-free. www.avast.com

I attended the zoom presentation of Valley Water on February 20, 2025 regarding the Anderson Retrofit Meeting and have the following questions:

1. Have there been any studies about the EFFECTS of what the blasting of the dam will have on the HOMES NEAR THE LAKE?

Besides the ones you have already purchased on Hoot Owl for upwards of \$1.8M for each property with the taxpayer's money!

There are many other homes on the lake front, and I cannot believe this blasting will NOT AFFECT the structure of the **homes which we purchased BASED ON A LAKE BEING THERE** (for aesthetic value and fire protection).

We bought our home in 1998 ON the lake, based on the MAIN FACT that in case of any fire we would have water in there in reserve. Which they HAVE **USED the lake to assist in case of a fire.**

2. How will this affect HLE Home Values, and do we have to disclose to potential buyers when we sell? Local Realtors DO NOT KNOW THIS ANSWER. They don't know what to expect, or what to disclose and neither do we, as there is no real construction schedule?

We were recently advised by a realtor that our view of the lake was worth approximately \$200,000.00 are we to lose this money based on a "if and when" the lake will be completed, who will pay for this oversight?

3. What are the "odds" of an 8.6 earthquake SLUMPING the dam and flowing into the City vis a vis the ODDS OF A FIRE WITHOUT HAVING THE LAKE AS BACKUP...especially with climate change?

Note: The dam was built in 1950 and research shows that there have only been 2 earthquakes since 1950 on the Calaveras fault. Have you done the math?

4. Have you ever heard of a company located in Morgan Hill called KOMODO? PG&E uses them now and many other states have used them as well to APPLY FIRE PREVENTION to the land? We have purchased their product for our home now because of the terrifying feeling of there being no lake for another 10 years! You can contact them at 888-563-4523 – csr@komodo-fire.com. Perhaps you might be able to utilize their product to help Holiday Lake and Jackson Oaks?

5. May I request a copy of the FERC letter of 10/1/20 in which they ordered the Deadpool?

6. Would Governor Newsom be the point of contact to advise of the 2035 completion date and all the delays and costs of this project? It needs to be brought to someone's attention to ORDER the completion of this project earlier perhaps, without all the environmental HOOPS you have to go through.

The only problem the dam has caused to the public was in 2017 when the RAINS overflowed the dam and went into San Jose and Coyote Creek had not been maintained for several years. THAT HAD **NOTHING** to do with *earthquakes* and now that the **tunnel** is **RETROFITTED**, what is the need to do any further work on the dam?

7. Finally, we DO NEED a second evacuation route if Rosendin is going to be closed for any amount of time. Please address this issue as well.

I hope this time my questions will be addressed in a timely manner. Thank you.

Tammy Clark and many residents of HLE and JOA!

From: [Vladimir Starov](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Cc: [Sean Mulligan](#)
Subject: Current Hazardous Conditions Created by the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project, ADSRP
Date: Monday, February 24, 2025 12:19:14 AM

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

February 23, 2025

Via email to: Board@valleywater.org

To the Board of Directors of the Santa Clara Valley Water District:

I am writing to express my serious concerns regarding the hazardous conditions created by the ADSRP that currently exist and require immediate attention.

As a resident of Holiday Lake Estates (HLE), living near Rosendin Park at the northern end of Holiday Drive, I am part of a community that relies on the alternative evacuation route through Rosendin Park trails in the event of a wildfire. This route is critical, as relying solely on Dunne Avenue for evacuation could create a deadly bottleneck, endangering lives.

However, locked gates in Rosendin Park are currently blocking this vital evacuation path. Alarming, your future plans for the project include partial and even full closure of the park, further exacerbating the risk to residents. This demonstrates a disregard for the safety of our community.

I urge the Valley Water Board to take immediate action now to:

1. **Implement a clear, definitive plan to open the gates in case of emergency,** ensuring an unobstructed evacuation route for HLE residents.
2. **Share this plan with the community** so that all residents are informed and prepared in case of an emergency.
3. **Revise future project plans to prevent any interference** with emergency evacuation access through Rosendin Park at any stage of the project.

The safety of our community is at stake. I urge you to address this issue with the urgency it demands.

Sincerely,
Vladimir Starov, Ph D

Cc: Lily Starov
Sean Mulligan

From: [Candice Kwok-Smith](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: FW: Alamos creek, shore erosion, potential for a landslide
Date: Monday, February 24, 2025 8:22:03 AM
Attachments: [image.png](#)

From: D.M. [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, February 22, 2025 6:08:14 PM
To: Jim Beall <JBeall@valleywater.org>
Subject: Alamos creek, shore erosion, potential for a landslide

*** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. ***

Hello Mr. Beall! I found your contact information [here](#).

My house is adjacent to flood zone A on the Alamos creek, the address is [REDACTED]
Bertram Rd, San Jose, CA 95120.

I have a pretty high drop to the creek and the creek bank is deteriorating, especially after recent rains. I'm afraid a part of my deck and a fence can fall down into the creek soon, then my house will follow.

The house was built about 100 years ago and now I see that the lot has been reduced by small landslides over time.

Please advise, where I can get help with that?

<https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search?AddressQuery=21385%20bertram%20rd%20san%20jose>



Thanks,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Candice Kwok-Smith](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: FW: Attention Needed - Urgent Issue Homeless Encampment (Los Gatos Creek - Willow Glen)
Date: Monday, February 24, 2025 8:24:09 AM

From: Admin Account [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, February 22, 2025 6:40 PM
To: Shiloh Ballard <SBallard@valleywater.org>
Cc: Candice Kwok-Smith <ckwok-smith@valleywater.org>
Subject: Re: Attention Needed - Urgent Issue Homeless Encampment (Los Gatos Creek - Willow Glen)

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

Hi Shiloh,

Thank you for your response.

I have come to learn that the creek is not simply city owned and that it apparently crosses into residences property, Valley Water, and various city limits.

I have not been coordinating with neighbors, but I would love to. I was not aware other individuals have been reaching out as well. I think if we can actually figure out a way to get all of us in touch I am happy to manage a mailing group so we all can be actively involved.

In terms of what you referenced, if you look at specific location I am mentioning there is quiet a large encampment built out there, has that been addressed? Or is that what is being addressed?

For folks who own the property where these individuals camp out, what is the right course of action for them? Do they need to notify police? Is there an active relationship with the police department for them to address the trespassing. Again, this is an area I would be happy to help coordinate. The safety of my family is the number one priority and I am sure others feel the same way.

I hope you have a pleasant rest of your weekend.

Best Regards

Alek

On Fri, Feb 21, 2025 at 12:57 PM Shiloh Ballard <SBallard@valleywater.org> wrote:

Dear Alek,

Thank you for reaching out to Valley Water and sharing your experiences regarding encampments of unsheltered people located adjacent to the Los Gatos Creek Trail between Leigh Ave. and Meridian Ave. We've had quite a few other residents nearby reach out with similar concerns. Have you been in contact with your neighbors on this as well? I ask because I'd love to make sure folks are coordinated.

You may already know that over the past several months, Valley Water has prioritized the removal of encampments on our property along Los Gatos Creek between Bascom Ave. and Meridian Ave. due to serious environmental and safety impacts. We have designated our property in this area as a no encampment zone and have posted signage to deter encampment activity. Re-encampments do occur from time to time, and our encampment cleanup staff regularly visits this reach of Los Gatos Creek to post new encampments for cleanup and removal. Valley Water crews also continue to perform large scale trash cleanups throughout jurisdictional areas countywide to prevent encampment-generated trash and debris from polluting the waterways. During this Fiscal Year (since July 2024), our crews have removed 94.56 tons of trash generated from encampments and illegal dumping on Los Gatos Creek between Bascom Ave. to Meridian Ave. The most recent encampment cleanup along this reach took place on February 20, 2025, and we are scheduled to return on March 6, 2025.

While Valley Water is able to address encampments on the land that we own and manage, we do not have authority to perform this work on land owned by other entities. We are currently working with a private landowner to ensure that it understands the property boundaries so it can arrange for the removal of encampments on its land between Leigh Ave. and Bascom Ave. For your reference, here is a GIS map that shows Valley Water-owned lands highlighted in green:

<https://gis.valleywater.org/FeeEasement/> (it may take a moment for the map highlighting to load).

Regarding your observation of potentially criminal activities, if you witness illegal activity or a threat to public health and safety, please contact the police and, if possible, file an official report. If you observe smoke or fire, please contact the fire department. Concerns relating to fires and unwanted or illegal behaviors are best handled by city resources. Because Valley Water is not a law enforcement agency, we must rely on cities to address these types of activities.

Thank you again for your message. Valley Water is committed to using the power we have as an environmental stewardship agency to protect our waterways in collaboration with the cities and the County as they fulfill their public safety and social service roles. Please contact Assistant Operating Officer Mark Bilski at mbilski@valleywater.org with any follow-up information. You can also report concerns to Valley Water via our online system at <https://access.valleywater.org/s/>.

Sincerely,

Shiloh Ballard
Director, District 2

From: Admin Account [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 7:12 PM
To: Shiloh Ballard <SBallard@valleywater.org>
Subject: Attention Needed - Urgent Issue Homeless Encampment (Los Gatos Creek - Willow Glen)

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

Hello,

I am writing to bring urgent attention to the unsafe conditions along Los Gatos Creek Trail (Near Willow Glen) due to the growing number of homeless encampments, drug use, and violence. This situation has escalated into a serious public safety and health hazard that requires immediate action.

Here is the specific location, you can go half a mile either way and continuously see either homeless camping or trash all throughout the creek (it's very sad what our wonderful city has turned into) - (37.3027585, -121.9178984)

There have been physical altercations witnessed in the area and it is no longer safe to walk, and my own mother feared for her life while walking with my young daughter a week ago, which was the last straw for me. The fact that my mother and daughters life was in serious danger is unacceptable. Open alcohol consumption and drug use are common, making the trail unsafe for families, runners, and cyclists. Additionally, the area is littered with trash and hazardous debris, further contributing to its deterioration.

While I understand the complexity of homelessness, the city has a legal and moral obligation to ensure that public spaces remain safe and accessible. I urge your office to take immediate action to:

1. Enforce laws prohibiting camping, open drug use, and public intoxication along the trail.
2. Increase law enforcement presence to prevent crime and restore safety.
3. Conduct regular and continuous thorough cleanups to remove trash, hazardous waste, and

encampments (this needs to be a #1 priority).

This issue cannot be ignored any longer. The residents of San Jose deserve a city where they can safely enjoy public spaces without fear. I look forward to your response on how you plan to address this matter.

The cost of living is too high for such a low quality of life.

I hope to see this prioritized and immediate action taken.

Best Regards,

Alek

From: [Ron Cachopo](#)
To: [Jennifer Codianne](#)
Cc: [Cecilia Rocha](#); [Board of Directors](#); [Diana Martin](#)
Subject: Re: Saratoga Creek - Bowe Ave - 4 Foot Cut in Fence by Gate close to the El Camino
Date: Monday, February 24, 2025 5:09:28 PM

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

Hi Jen,

There is a large 4 foot Cut in the Fence by the Gate close to the El Camino.

Is it possible to have someone come out and take a look?

Thank you, Ron P. Cachopo

Santa Clara Hampton Place

[REDACTED]

On Sunday, December 29, 2024 at 01:25:16 PM PST, Ron Cachopo [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi Jen,

Out for a morning walk discovered a 4 foot cut in the fence to the left of the New Gate.

Also, Looks like someone has taken up residence with a mattress inside the fence along Bowe Ave.

Can you please have someone take a look?

Thanks, Ron P. Cachopo

Santa Clara Hampton Place

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at 05:34:47 PM PDT, Ron Cachopo [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi Jen,

Confirmed this Morning at 6:30 am and this Afternoon 4:30 pm the New Gate was locked.

I will monitor and keep you posted.

Thank you, Ron P. Cachopo

Santa Clara Hampton Place

[REDACTED]

On Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at 09:04:01 AM PDT, Jennifer Codianne <jcodianne@valleywater.org> wrote:

Staff locked it yesterday, there are no new encampments in the creek so we are not sure why it was unlocked. Staff are out that way again today and will make sure it is locked.

From: Ron Cachopo [REDACTED] >

Sent: Monday, September 16, 2024 5:44 PM

To: Jennifer Codianne <JCodianne@valleywater.org>

Cc: Cecilia Rocha <CRocha@valleywater.org>; Board of Directors <board@valleywater.org>; Diana Martin <dmartin@commoninterest.com>

Subject: Saratoga Creek - Bowe Ave - New Gate Unlocked This Morning

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

Hi Jennifer,

On the way to work this morning around 6:30 am noticed the New Gate was open and the lock and chain were missing; however, upon arriving home Today around 4:30 pm noticed the New Gate was locked back up.

Do you know anything about this?

Thanks, Ron P. Cachopo

Santa Clara Hampton Place

[REDACTED]

From: [Manufacturing](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: Request for Meeting on our Pool Water Recycling Solution
Date: Tuesday, February 25, 2025 9:13:37 AM

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

Dear Board of Directors

I hope you are all doing well. My name is Logan Lewis, and my Grandpa and I have developed a pool water recycling system designed to reclaim and reuse backwash water, reducing the water waste by up to 93%. Given the importance of sustainable water management and that we just got NSF 50 certified, I believe this innovation could be a valuable tool for public and private pools in the community.

I would love the opportunity to meet with you all to discuss how this product could support local conservation efforts and explore potential partnerships or pilot programs. Please let me know a time that works for you all, and I'd be happy to provide more details.

Thank you all for your time, and I look forward to your response.

Best regards,
Logan Lewis

OUTGOING BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Adelina Del Real

From: Candice Kwok-Smith on behalf of Board Correspondence
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 12:00 PM
To: Jennifer Codianne; Shanika Richards; Christopher Hakes; Kathy Nguyen
Cc: Board of Directors; Max Overland
Subject: FW: Branches in the Creek that need to be removed
Attachments: Fact Sheet_Stream Maintenance and Property Management.pdf

Good afternoon,

C-24-0034 is complete.

Thanks,
Candice

From: Candice Kwok-Smith **On Behalf Of** Board of Directors
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 11:57 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Branches in the Creek that need to be removed

Sent on Behalf of Chair Estremera:

Dear Danny Garza,

Thank you for reaching out with your concerns regarding Lower Silver Creek which is a constructed flood protection project. Valley Water staff monitored Lower Silver Creek flows during the last storm event and the creek continues to have sufficient capacity to convey design flows. Minor woody debris was removed at the following locations: Murtha Drive and Barberry Lane.

The vegetation in question has been assessed by staff post-storm and no action is required at this time. Creek flows are not restricted and little to no debris was seen on the vegetation.

Routine maintenance actions such as vegetation and sediment removal are planned on Lower Silver Creek to ensure design flow capacity. Selective instream vegetation removal started on February 18 from Lake Cunningham to Tully Road. Additionally, sediment removal is planned to occur this upcoming instream season (June 15 – October 15) from Highway 680 to Moss Point Drive.

There is not a singular entity in charge of the creeks and property owners whose land extends into the creek have a primary role. Valley Water owns or has access to maintain approximately 333 miles of the 800 miles of the creeks and rivers in Santa Clara County. The remaining stretches of creeks are owned by Santa Clara County, private entities, cities in which the creeks are located, and other public agencies. Valley Water maintains property where it has built flood protection projects and possesses land rights.

Valley Water does not possess land rights on the section of Upper Penitencia Creek near Lundy Place where the blockage occurred.

I have attached a fact sheet that identifies Valley Water's role in stream maintenance, and you may review Valley Water ownership on our website by using the following link: <https://gis.valleywater.org/FeeEasement/>. The green areas show lands owned in fee title the yellow areas show land held in easement. Activities in the creek regardless of ownership are further regulated by state and federal regulatory agencies.

Lastly, the encampment located on Valley Water property adjacent to East James Street will be abated on February 20th.

We are always appreciative of your comments, we will continue to monitor the site. If you notice any significant changes in site conditions, please let us know. In the future, if you need to report other concerns to Valley Water, you may also use our online system at <https://access.valleywater.org/s/>.

Please contact Deputy Operating Officer Jennifer Codianne at jcodianne@valleywater.org for follow-up information or future concerns.

Thanks again for contacting us.

Sincerely,



Tony Estremera
Chair, Board of Directors

C-25-0034

From: Danny Garza [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 8:41 AM
To: Ricardo Barajas <RBarajas@valleywater.org>; Board of Directors <board@valleywater.org>
Subject: Branches in the Creek that need to be removed

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

Honorable Santa Clara Valley Water District Board of Directors,

I want to present to images I took yesterday before the big rain last night.

These images directly relate, and accurately reflect, the flooding that was caused by downed Branches and Trees, in our "Waterways".

The Plata Arroyo Neighborhood Association and Gateway East N.A.C. has always been on the lookout for troubled issues on Lower Silver Creek, especially near Plata Arroyo Park.

Last night Flooding occurred on Lundy Avenue, just 3 Stoplights to the North of Plata Arroyo Neighborhood and Park on Lundy and King Road.

Here is our images of Branches that need to be removed before any Higher Water Level pulled these trees into Lower Silver Creek and cause possible blockages or Dams in Lower Silver Creek or Coyote Creek.











As the Water level get Higher, there is no telling if the branches will pull whole trees into the Creek because the Soils are wet and less able to hold back the roots of these dead trees.

Especially with these UNHOSED CAMPS on Water District Property





The City did remove CAMPS further upstream from here, but decided this was out of the City Property inside the Creek Banks.

We might have made it through this storm, but what about the next time.

Thank you for all of the positive Protections you give our Families.

In Community Spirit,
Danny Garza

President
Plata Arroyo Neighborhood Association and Gateway East N.A.C.

[Yahoo Mail - Email Simplified](#)

Stream Maintenance by Valley Water and Others

There is not a singular entity in charge of creeks. Valley Water owns or has access to maintain approximately 333 of the 800 miles of creeks in the urbanized valley areas of Santa Clara County. The remaining stretches of creeks are owned by private property owners whose lands extend into the creek, and by public agencies including Santa Clara County, and cities in which the creeks are located. Of these 333 miles, Valley Water has built flood protection projects (improved channels) on 185 miles; the remaining 148 miles are natural channels (unmodified channels with no design flow capacity). Valley Water maintains property where it has built flood protection projects (capital improvement projects) and possesses land rights. Routine work activities are defined and permitted under a Stream Maintenance Program (SMP), a multi-year program approved by seven state and federal regulatory agencies.

Valley Water maintenance as a Landowner

Valley Water performs work on properties it owns in fee title or where otherwise obligated by permit or agreement.

Activities performed may include weed abatement, downed tree management, hazardous tree removal, pruning for access, care of planted mitigation sites, fence and erosion repair, and graffiti, trash, and debris removal including encampment management activities.



Property Owner's Responsibility for Creek Maintenance

Every landowner has a duty to maintain their property in a reasonably safe condition that does not interfere with a neighbor's ability to enjoy their property. A landowner's creek maintenance duties may include vegetation management, erosion repair, and removal of graffiti, trash, debris, and downed trees. Some activities are subject to permitting by local, state, and federal regulatory agencies prior to work. A property owner is not required to enlarge or increase the capacity of a creek for flood protection purposes.



Valley Water maintenance on Easements

Valley Water performs limited work on properties owned by others where Valley Water has an easement on a natural or unmodified channel. Easements are generally acquired for flood protection or water management and storm drainage purposes and grant Valley Water the right, but not the obligation, to take actions in accordance with those purposes.

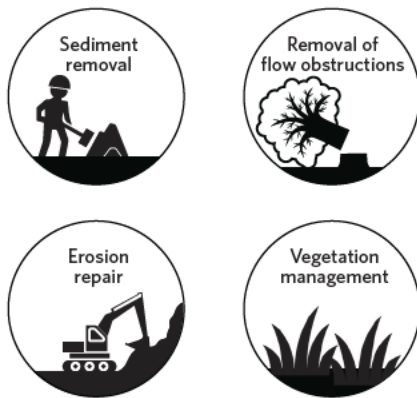
Valley Water may perform flood protection activities such as downed tree management or removal of other obstructions to flow. While activities conducted on natural channels may have a flow conveyance benefit, work is not conducted to meet a defined flow conveyance target as no such threshold or stream maintenance guidelines exist for natural channels. For Valley Water to determine that removal of a debris blockage needs to occur in a natural channel under typical flood protection-related easement language, the debris would have to be blocking the main channel across most of the cross-section and be significant enough to push the water over the banks.

Valley Water does not perform activities such as weed abatement, erosion repair, graffiti or trash removal, or encampment management activities on easements as these are landowner responsibilities. Unless otherwise stated, erosion repair on easements is a property owner responsibility.

The landowner retains rights to use the easement but cannot take actions, such as construction of a building, that conflict with the Valley Water easement right. A typical easement deed requires a property owner to seek Valley Water's approval for certain construction activities, such as grading and fencing.

Valley Water maintenance of Capital Projects on Improved Channels

Capital projects are large-scale projects that maintain or improve capital assets. They involve a planning, design and approval process that includes public review, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance, funding, and land and regulatory permit acquisition. Valley Water maintains these constructed and improved channels to ensure the structural and functional integrity of these projects to protect the significant investment in infrastructure, and to provide the flood protection benefits as intended by the project's design and construction. In areas where capital improvement projects occur outside of the regulated channel and Valley Water does not possess land rights, it remains the landowner's duty to maintain the property as referenced above.



Erosion is a natural process; Valley Water is not obligated to keep a creek "in place". Rather, Valley Water is obligated (considering the availability of resources) to preserve the functional and structural integrity of flood protection projects built or accepted by Valley Water.

Activities Performed

Capital project maintenance activities include removal of sediment, vegetation, and other obstructions to flow, erosion repair, and vegetation management for maintenance access and inspection purposes. To ensure the continued reliability and functionality of the flood protection infrastructure built for capital projects, other activities, such as removal of safety hazards and graffiti, may also be conducted.

Activities Not Performed

For portions of capital projects built on easement, Valley Water will only perform vegetation management, hazardous tree removal, graffiti abatement, trash removal, or encampment management activities as necessary to maintain the flood protection infrastructure itself. Otherwise, these activities are landowner responsibilities.

Flood Protection Projects on Improved Channels

The design flow conveyance of a completed flood protection project, reflected in as-builts or record drawings, establishes an expected level of service (LOS). Work planning and prioritization to assess maintenance needs on flood protection projects relies on data from the projects' as-built plans, stream maintenance guidelines, and associated flow data, including cross-sections, where they exist. In addition, data from Valley Water hydraulic models and the corresponding geographic information system (GIS) flooding and facility data are used. These documents provide: a quantitative approach to identifying deficiencies that would trigger maintenance actions; channel dimensions and type (e.g., natural, concrete, levee) on a reach-by-reach basis; and dimensions and types of other in-channel features such as culverts and bridges.

Exceptions and Joint Efforts

There are limited situations where Valley Water may conduct work on private or other public agency-owned property. Work may be conducted, subject to agreements, on other public agency-owned property or on private property, with permission, during emergencies or for limited stream stewardship purposes.

Flood Protection Infrastructure on Natural Channels

Valley Water activities on Coyote Creek between Montague Expressway and Tully Road are limited to maintenance and inspection of the constructed flood protection infrastructure, which is not located within the natural channel. The responsibility for maintenance of the natural channel remains with the individual property owners.

Emergency Work

Valley Water may perform urgent and emergency flood protection work on other public or private property where a public purpose is endangered, subject to written permission to enter from the property owner. Staff availability and priorities will likely limit Valley Water's response in an urgent or emergency situation.

Stream Stewardship

Valley Water may perform stream stewardship activities such as the removal of invasive plants along streams. This work may occur on Valley Water fee title property and easements. Given the importance of eradicating invasive plants along a creek on a watershed-wide basis and with the Safe Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program providing funding for this activity, Valley Water may also perform this work on private property with permission from the property owner.

From: [Candice Kwok-Smith](#) on behalf of [Board Correspondence](#)
To: [Jennifer Codianne](#); [Christopher Hakes](#); [Shanika Richards](#); [Kathy Nguyen](#)
Cc: [Max Overland](#); [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: FW: Deferred maintenance Los Alamitos Creek...time sensitive!
Date: Thursday, February 20, 2025 2:46:32 PM
Attachments: [F4 Vegetation Management for Access & Fire Safety Fact Sheet.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Good afternoon,

C-25-0035 is complete.

Thanks,
Candice

From: Candice Kwok-Smith **On Behalf Of** Board of Directors
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 2:46 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Deferred maintenance Los Alamitos Creek...time sensitive!

Sent on Behalf of Director Beall:

Dear Helen Brock,

Thank you for reaching out to Valley Water to share your concerns about dry vegetation adjacent to the Los Alamitos Creek Trail.

Valley Water has a comprehensive weed abatement and fuel management program that incorporates over 3000 acres in Santa Clara County. Please see the attached informational brochure for more detail on these programs. Our work includes upland mechanical mowing, hand weed abatement, pre/post emergent herbicide treatments of service roads, trails, and fence lines, targeting goat grazing, and fuel abatement through our Stream Maintenance Program and hazard tree program. The creek area is managed in a natural state to balance flood protection with habitat value for birds and wildlife. The weed abatement work on Los Alamitos Creek will occur this spring and approximately 44 acres will be managed which does include land outboard of the trail system.

Valley Water owns and manages 333 of the more than 800 miles of creeks in Santa Clara County and maintains property where it has built flood protection projects and possesses land rights. The remaining stretches of creeks are owned by Santa Clara County, private entities, cities in which the creeks are located, and other public agencies. Property owners whose land extends into the creek have a primary role in stream maintenance. You may review Valley Water land ownership on our website by using the following link: <https://gis.valleywater.org/FeeEasement/>. The green areas show lands Valley Water owns in fee title; the yellow areas show land held in easement. On Los Alamitos Creek, Valley Water owns land from Almaden Lake to Harry Road, the rest of the creek is owned by various private properties and Valley Water has no jurisdiction.

Valley Water has constructed flood protection projects on approximately 185 miles of creek within the 333 miles of right-of-way. Maintaining these 185 miles of constructed and improved channels is a top priority for Valley Water. Valley Water did construct a flood protection project on Los Alamitos Creek from Almaden Lake to Harry Road. Staff recently removed over 18 acres of vegetation on Los Alamitos Creek (Camden Ave to Harry Road) along the levee and in-channel to ensure integrity of the levee structure, support visual inspection of the levee, and maintain flow conveyance in-channel to reduce flood risk.

This upcoming instream work season (June 15 – October 15), staff will be removing *Arundo donax* within Los Alamitos Creek from Graystone Lane to Almaden Lake.

If you have any further questions, please contact Deputy Operating Officer Jen Codianne at jcodianne@valleywater.org for follow-up information.

Thanks again for contacting us.

Sincerely,



Jim Beall
Director, District 4

C-25-0035

From: jorjapeach2 [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2025 2:10 PM
To: Board of Directors <board@valleywater.org>
Subject: Deferred maintenance Los Alamitos Creek...time sensitive!

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

Attn: Board of Directors

I have reviewed your website and am aware of your policy of allowing vegetation IN THE CREEK to remain in its natural state. However, there is an abundance of dead fuel all along the trail that is NOWHERE near the creek bed. In its current state it presents a danger to surrounding homes similar to the recent Altadena fire in southern california if it is not removed before the dry season. Please advise your plans to clear it this year.

Sincerely,
Helen Brock

40-year Almaden resident
Founder Beautify Almaden

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [Candice Kwok-Smith](#) on behalf of [Board Correspondence](#)
To: [Mark Bilski](#); [Shanika Richards](#); [Jennifer Codianne](#); [Kathy Nguyen](#)
Cc: [Max Overland](#); [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: FW: Attention Needed - Urgent Issue Homeless Encampment (Los Gatos Creek - Willow Glen)
Date: Friday, February 21, 2025 1:16:22 PM

Good afternoon,

C-25-0032 is complete.

Thanks,
Candice

From: Shiloh Ballard <SBallard@valleywater.org>
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2025 12:57 PM
To: Admin Account [REDACTED]
Cc: Candice Kwok-Smith <ckwok-smith@valleywater.org>
Subject: Re: Attention Needed - Urgent Issue Homeless Encampment (Los Gatos Creek - Willow Glen)

Dear Alek,

Thank you for reaching out to Valley Water and sharing your experiences regarding encampments of unsheltered people located adjacent to the Los Gatos Creek Trail between Leigh Ave. and Meridian Ave. We've had quite a few other residents nearby reach out with similar concerns. Have you been in contact with your neighbors on this as well? I ask because I'd love to make sure folks are coordinated.

You may already know that over the past several months, Valley Water has prioritized the removal of encampments on our property along Los Gatos Creek between Bascom Ave. and Meridian Ave. due to serious environmental and safety impacts. We have designated our property in this area as a no encampment zone and have posted signage to deter encampment activity. Re-encampments do occur from time to time, and our encampment cleanup staff regularly visits this reach of Los Gatos Creek to post new encampments for cleanup and removal. Valley Water crews also continue to perform large scale trash cleanups throughout jurisdictional areas countywide to prevent encampment-generated trash and debris from polluting the waterways. During this Fiscal Year (since July 2024), our crews have removed 94.56 tons of trash generated from encampments and illegal dumping on Los Gatos Creek between Bascom Ave. to Meridian Ave. The most recent encampment cleanup along this reach took place on February 20, 2025, and we are scheduled to return on March 6, 2025.

While Valley Water is able to address encampments on the land that we own and manage,

we do not have authority to perform this work on land owned by other entities. We are currently working with a private landowner to ensure that it understands the property boundaries so it can arrange for the removal of encampments on its land between Leigh Ave. and Bascom Ave. For your reference, here is a GIS map that shows Valley Water-owned lands highlighted in green: <https://gis.valleywater.org/FeeEasement/> (it may take a moment for the map highlighting to load).

Regarding your observation of potentially criminal activities, if you witness illegal activity or a threat to public health and safety, please contact the police and, if possible, file an official report. If you observe smoke or fire, please contact the fire department. Concerns relating to fires and unwanted or illegal behaviors are best handled by city resources. Because Valley Water is not a law enforcement agency, we must rely on cities to address these types of activities.

Thank you again for your message. Valley Water is committed to using the power we have as an environmental stewardship agency to protect our waterways in collaboration with the cities and the County as they fulfill their public safety and social service roles. Please contact Assistant Operating Officer Mark Bilski at mbilski@valleywater.org with any follow-up information. You can also report concerns to Valley Water via our online system at <https://access.valleywater.org/s/>.

Sincerely,

Shiloh Ballard

Director, District 2

C-25-0032

From: Admin Account [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 7:12 PM
To: Shiloh Ballard <SBallard@valleywater.org>
Subject: Attention Needed - Urgent Issue Homeless Encampment (Los Gatos Creek - Willow Glen)

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

Hello,

I am writing to bring urgent attention to the unsafe conditions along Los Gatos Creek Trail (Near Willow Glen) due to the growing number of homeless encampments, drug use, and

violence. This situation has escalated into a serious public safety and health hazard that requires immediate action.

Here is the specific location, you can go half a mile either way and continuously see either homeless camping or trash all throughout the creek (it's very sad what our wonderful city has turned into) - (37.3027585, -121.9178984)

There have been physical altercations witnessed in the area and it is no longer safe to walk, and my own mother feared for her life while walking with my young daughter a week ago, which was the last straw for me. The fact that my mother and daughters life was in serious danger is unacceptable. Open alcohol consumption and drug use are common, making the trail unsafe for families, runners, and cyclists. Additionally, the area is littered with trash and hazardous debris, further contributing to its deterioration.

While I understand the complexity of homelessness, the city has a legal and moral obligation to ensure that public spaces remain safe and accessible. I urge your office to take immediate action to:

1. Enforce laws prohibiting camping, open drug use, and public intoxication along the trail.
2. Increase law enforcement presence to prevent crime and restore safety.
3. Conduct regular and continuous thorough cleanups to remove trash, hazardous waste, and encampments (this needs to be a #1 priority).

This issue cannot be ignored any longer. The residents of San Jose deserve a city where they can safely enjoy public spaces without fear. I look forward to your response on how you plan to address this matter.

The cost of living is too high for such a low quality of life.

I hope to see this prioritized and immediate action taken.

Best Regards,

Alek