



Santa Clara Valley Water District Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee Meeting

HQ. Bldg. Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California
Join Zoom Meeting: <https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/88314500886>

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

**Thursday, March 13, 2025
12:00 PM**

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

Environmental Creek Cleanup
Committee

Director Jim Beall (District 4)
Director Nai Hsueh (District 5)
Director Richard P. Santos (District 3,
Committee Chair)

All public records relating to an open session 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 to the public through the legislative body agenda web page 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 participate in the legislative body's meeting. Please advise the Clerk of the Board Office of any special needs by calling (408) 265-2600.

Jennifer Codianne (Staff
Liaison)

Dave Leon, (COB Liaison)
Assistant Deputy Clerk II
daveleon@valleywater.org
(408) 630-2006

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
Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee**

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*****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>

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Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/88314500886>

Meeting ID:883 1450 0886

Join by Phone:

1 (669) 900-9128, 88314500886#

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.

2.1. Elect 2025 Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee Officers.

25-0218

Recommendation: Nominate and elect the 2025 Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193
Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

3.1. Approval of August 29, 2024 Committee Meeting Minutes. [25-0266](#)

Recommendation: Approve the August 29, 2024 Meeting Minutes.
Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193
Attachments: [Attachment 1: 082924 ECCC Minutes](#)
Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

4.1. Receive Update on Valley Water's Encampment Cleanup Operations. [25-0251](#)

Recommendation: Receive updates and provide feedback on the following topics:
A. City of San José interim housing update.
B. San José Police Department update.
C. Encampment cleanup schedule.
D. Encampment cleanup costs and funding.
E. Trash and debris project costs and accomplishments.
F. Recent encampment cleanups.
G. 2025 encampment and unsheltered individual count.
Manager: Jennifer Codianne, 408-630-3876
Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)
Est. Staff Time: 15 minutes

4.2. Update on Valley Water's Water Resources Protection Zones (WRPZ) [25-0252](#)
Ordinance Implementation.

Recommendation: Receive updates and provide feedback on the following topics:
A. WRPZ Ordinance and encampment cleanup operations
B. Ordinance education and outreach
C. Ordinance Adaptive Implementation Team (OAIT)
Manager: Mark Bilski, 408-630-2830
Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)
Est. Staff Time: 5 minutes

4.3. Receive Information on the Proposed Water Resources Encampment [25-0253](#)
Inspection Report Process.

Recommendation: Receive information on the proposed Water Resources
Encampment Inspection Report process and provide feedback,
as necessary.

Manager: Mark Bilski, 408-630-2830

Attachments: [Attachment 1: Risk Assessment](#)
[Attachment 2: Inspection Report](#)
[Attachment 3: Compliance Action Tag](#)
[Attachment 4: Inspection and Response Protocol](#)
[Attachment 5: PowerPoint](#)

Est. Staff Time: 10 minutes

4.4. Review of Valley Water's Agreements and Collaborative Efforts for Unhoused Services. [25-0254](#)

Recommendation: Review Valley Water's agreements with the County of Santa Clara and the City of San José related to services for unhoused individuals and help identify proactive collaborative methods that can be pursued to collectively make meaningful progress with the unhoused living along the waterways in Santa Clara County.

Manager: Mark Bilski, 408-630-2830

Attachments: [Attachment 1: Letter](#)

Est. Staff Time: 10 minutes

4.5. Receive information from the Youth Commission's Policy Writing Ad-Hoc Committee on the Proposed Plan to Address the Growing Concerns of Environmental Impacts in Relation to the Unhoused Population in Santa Clara County. [25-0243](#)

Recommendation: Receive information from the Youth Commission's Policy Writing Ad-Hoc Committee on the Proposed Plan to address the growing concerns of environmental impacts in relation to the unhoused population in Santa Clara County.

Manager: Rachael Gibson, 408-630-2884

Attachments: [Attachment 1: Memo - Proposed Plan](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

4.6. Review the Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee (ECCC) Work Plan. [25-0260](#)

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

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

Attachments: [Attachment 1: ECCC 2025 Work Plan](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

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.

6. ADJOURN:

6.1. Adjourn.



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0218

Agenda Date: 3/13/2025

Item No.: 2.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Elect 2025 Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee Officers.

RECOMMENDATION:

Nominate and elect the 2025 Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

SUMMARY:

The Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee was established to discuss homelessness and encampment issues and bring discussion and recommendations back to the Board.

The Committee is comprised of the Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, who serve as the Committee's primary and secondary facilitators, and Committee representatives. The Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson are elected by the Committee annually.

The following is a summary of the Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee officer terms since the Committee's 2017 enactment by the Board of Directors.

2017:

Director Richard Santos, Chairperson
Director Tony Estremera, Vice Chairperson

2018:

Director Richard Santos, Chairperson
Director Tony Estremera, Vice Chairperson

2019:

Director Richard Santos, Chairperson
Director Tony Estremera, Vice Chairperson

2020:

Director Richard Santos, Chairperson

Director Tony Estremera, Vice Chairperson

2021:

Director Richard Santos, Chairperson
Director John Varela, Vice Chairperson

2022:

Director Richard Santos, Chairperson
Director John Varela, Vice Chairperson

2023:

Director Richard Santos, Chairperson
Director Rebecca Eisenberg, Vice Chairperson

2024:

Director Richard Santos, Chairperson
Director John Varela, Vice Chairperson

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

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

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0266

Agenda Date: 3/13/2025

Item No.: 3.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Approval of August 29, 2024 Committee Meeting Minutes.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the August 29, 2024 Meeting 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:

There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: 082924 ECCC Minutes

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

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ENVIRONMENTAL CREEK CLEANUP COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES

THURSDAY, August 29, 2024

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A special scheduled meeting of the Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee Meeting was held on August 29, 2024, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters Building, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Director Richard P. Santos called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

1.1. ROLL CALL

Committee Board Members in attendance were: Director Jim Beall (District 4), Committee Vice Chair Director John Varela (District 1), and Committee Chair Director Richard P. Santos (District 3), constituting a quorum of the Committee.

Valley Water Staff in attendance were: Lisa Bankosh, Ricardo Barajas, Audrey Beaman, Mark Bilski, Roselyn Bhudsabourg, Rick Callender, Isela Chaparro, Theresa Chinte, Jennifer Codianne, Meenakshi Ganjoo, Rachael Gibson, Christopher Hakes, Jeff Ham, Heather Hamp, Nick Ingram, Michele King, Candice Kwok-Smith, Dave Leon, Marta Lugo, Deyanira Martinez, Kathy Nguyen, Linda D. Nguyen, Carlos Orellana, Leslie Orta, Mario Rivas, Cecilia Rocha, Don Rocha, Stephanie Simunic, Zuberi White, Kalah Williams, Tina Yoke, and Beckie Zisser.

Public in attendance were: Ann, Kathe Bassi, Brooks Bell, John Betts, Bart Broome, Carlos, Shawn Cartwright, Joyce Chu, Tony Estremera, Felice, Lucia Foster, Brad Fox, Giselle, K. Irvin, Deb K., Todd Langton, David Low, TJ Napihaa, Nick, Gail Osmer, Jhaid Parreno, Bill Roth, Yamini Sadasivam, Joe Salvato, Sam, Arthur Saye, Debra Townley, and Jim Watermen.

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

Debra Townley and Shawn Cartwright spoke relating to accommodations and meeting times.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1. APPROVAL OF JULY 29, 2024 COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

It was moved by Vice Chairperson Varela and seconded by Director Beall, and unanimously carried, to approve the July 29, 2024 Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee meeting minutes as submitted.

4. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

4.1 RECEIVE UPDATE ON UNHOUSED PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT SUMMIT

Roselyn Bhudsabourg reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1, and was available to answer questions.

Public Comments: The following members of the public spoke regarding the item: Shawn Cartwright, Gail Osmer, John Betts, and Debra Townley.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

4.2 PROPOSED WATER RESOURCES PROTECTION ZONES ORDINANCE

Mark Bilski reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachments 1 through 4, and was available to answer questions.

Public Comments: The following members of the public spoke regarding the item: TJ Napihaa, John Betts, Debra Townley, Shawn Cartwright, Todd Langton, David Low, Yamini Sadasivam, and Lucia Foster.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and forwarded the Ordinance to the Board of Directors on consensus.

4.3 REVIEW THE ENVIRONMENTAL CREEK CLEANUP COMMITTEE (ECCC) WORK PLAN.

The Committee considered this item without a staff presentation.

Public Comments: Gail Osmer inquired relating to Willow Street properties owned by Valley Water.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE'S REQUESTS TO THE BOARD

The Committee took no action.

6. ADJOURNMENT

6.1 ADJOURN

Chairperson Santos adjourned the meeting at 10:51 a.m.

Submitted by:

Dave Leon
Assistant Deputy Clerk II

Date Approved:



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0251

Agenda Date: 3/13/2025

Item No.: 4.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Receive Update on Valley Water's Encampment Cleanup Operations.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive updates and provide feedback on the following topics:

- A. City of San José interim housing update.
- B. San José Police Department update.
- C. Encampment cleanup schedule.
- D. Encampment cleanup costs and funding.
- E. Trash and debris project costs and accomplishments.
- F. Recent encampment cleanups.
- G. 2025 encampment and unsheltered individual count.

SUMMARY:

Staff will brief the Committee and provide up-to-date information on issues related to encampment cleanups:

- A. City of San José Interim Housing Update. Update on Cherry Avenue Emergency Interim Housing (EIH) development and safe sleeping sites.
- B. San José Police Department (SJPD) Update. Regular report on creek safety issues, including recent statistics from SJPD's Stream Stewardship Law Enforcement (SSLE) Program.

- C. Encampment Cleanup Schedule: Review of recently completed encampment cleanups.
- D. Encampment Cleanup Program Costs and Funding: Update on Fiscal Year 2024-25 encampment cleanup expenditures and prior-year comparisons.
- E. Trash and Debris Project Costs and Accomplishments: Update on current and past year expenditures and cubic yards removed for all Valley Water trash and debris removal projects.
- F. Recent Encampment Cleanups: Discussion of selected recent encampment cleanups, including accomplishments and before-and-after photos.
- G. 2025 Encampment and Unsheltered Individual Count: Update on encampment and unsheltered individual counts on Valley Water property owned in fee title.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Jennifer Codianne, 408-630-3876

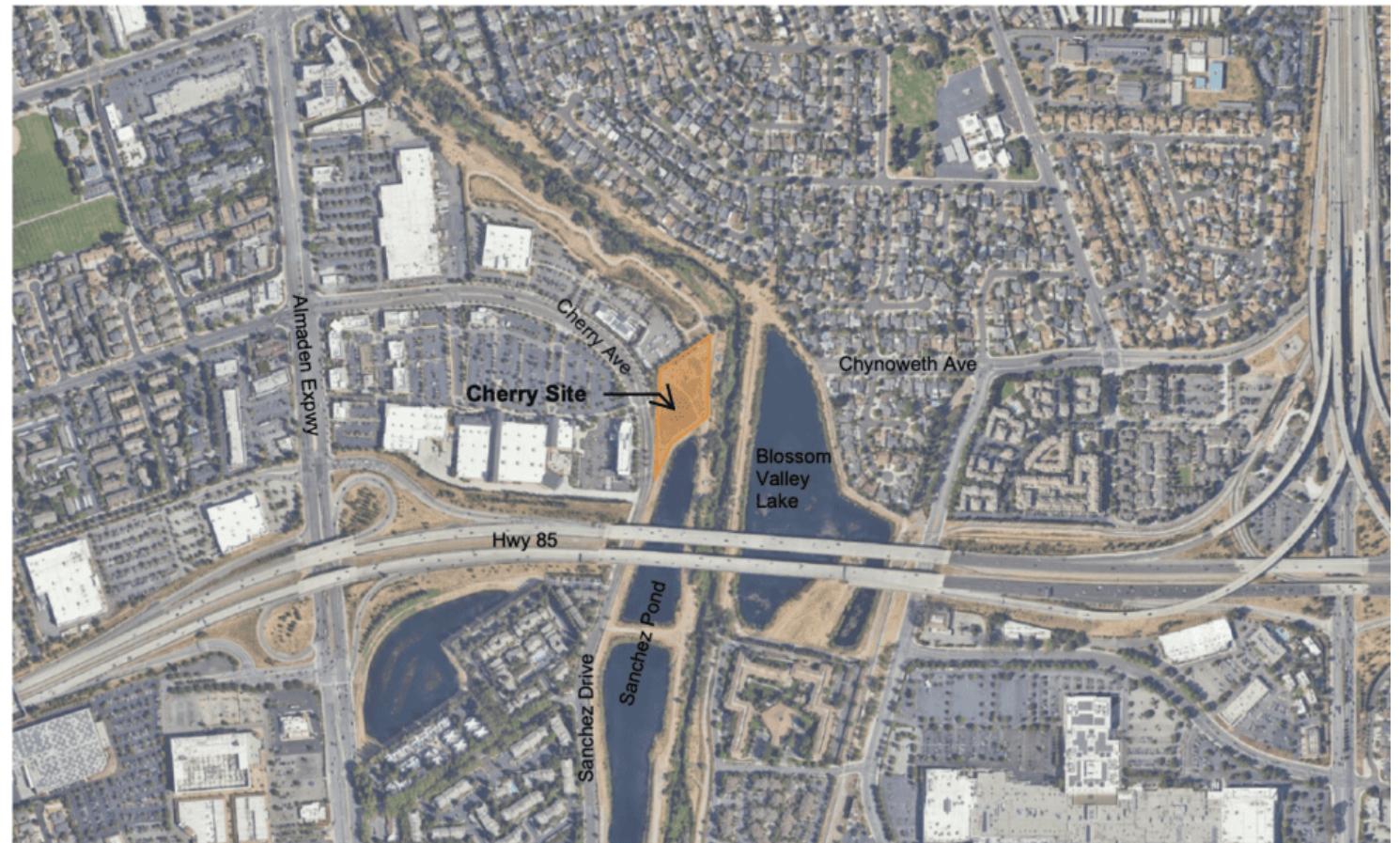


Encampment Cleanup Update **175.75 Tons Removed | Jan 1 – Feb 14, 2025**

Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee
March 13, 2025

City of San José Interim Housing Update

- Cherry Avenue – Emergency Interim Housing (EIH) Development
- Safe Sleeping Sites



San José Police Department Update

Stream Stewardship Law Enforcement (SSLE)

- **January 24 Statistics:** 6 arrests; 8 citations; 10 warrants associated to the individuals arrested/cited
- **February Statistics:** No SSLE patrols (as of February 19)

Encampment Cleanup Schedule

1/6 – 1/17	1/21 – 1/24	1/27 – 1/28	1/29 – 1/31
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Enhanced Cleanup / Abatements due to EIH Construction: Guadalupe River - Blossom Hill Road to Branham LaneEnhanced Cleanup / Abatement due to Public Safety: Guadalupe River - Branham Lane to Almaden ExpresswayEnhanced Cleanup: Guadalupe River - Coleman Avenue to Julian StreetAbatements (No Re-encampment Zone): Guadalupe Creek - Almaden Expressway to Camden AvenueEnhanced Cleanup / Abatements due to Public Safety: Lower Silver Creek - Story Road to Coyote Creek ConfluenceAbatements (No Re-encampment Zone): Thompson Creek - Keaton Loop to Tully Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Enhanced Cleanup / Abatement due to Public Safety: Los Gatos Creek - Hamilton Avenue to Meridian AvenueAbatements (No Re-encampment Zone): Los Gatos Creek - Lonus Street to Auzerais AvenueEnhanced Cleanup / Abatements due to Public Safety: Los Gatos Creek - San Carlos Street to Santa Clara StreetEnhanced Cleanup / Abatements (No Re-encampment Zone) : West Branch Llagas - Monterey Road to Llagas Creek Confluence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Abatements (No Re-encampment Zone): Thompson Creek - Quimby Road to Aborn RoadEnhanced Cleanup / Abatement due to Public Safety: Coyote Creek - UPRR to Charcot AvenueEnhanced Cleanup / Abatement due to Public Safety: Coyote Creek - Galveston Avenue to Umbarger RoadTrash Hot Spots: Guadalupe Watershed - Golf Creek, Ross Creek, Guadalupe CreekAbatements (No Re-encampment Zone): Los Gatos Creek - Hwy 17 to Meridian Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Abatements (No Re-encampment Zone): Lower Silver Creek - Quimby Road to Coyote Creek ConfluenceAbatements (No Re-encampment Zone): Guadalupe Creek - Almaden Expressway to Camden AvenueTrash Hot Spots: Lower Silver Creek Watershed - North Babb Creek, South Babb Creek, Norwood Creek, Quimby Creek

Encampment Cleanup Schedule

2/3 – 2/4 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Enhanced Cleanup / Abatements due to Public Safety: Guadalupe River - Blossom Hill Road to Branham LaneEnhanced Cleanup / Abatements (No Re-encampment Zone): Guadalupe River - Branham Lane to Almaden ExpresswayTrash Hot Spots: Capital Ponds, Helmsley PondAbatements (No Re-encampment Zone): Guadalupe River - Blossom Hill Road to Branham Lane	2/5 – 2/7 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Abatements (No Re-encampment Zone): Guadalupe River - Alma Avenue to West Virginia StreetEnhanced Cleanup / Abatements due to Public Safety: Guadalupe River - Coleman Avenue to Julian StreetTrash Hot Spots: Calabazas Watershed - Calabazas Creek, Regnart Creek, Rodeo Creek, El Camino StormdrainAbatements (No Re-encampment Zone): Upper Penitencia Creek - Capital Avenue to Jackson AvenueEnhanced Cleanup / Abatements due to Public Safety: Los Gatos Creek - San Carlos Street to Santa Clara Street	2/10 – 2/11 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Abatements (No Re-encampment Zone): Los Gatos Creek - Highway 17 to Meridian AvenueAbatements (No Re-encampment Zone): Los Gatos Creek- Lonus Street to Santa Clara StreetAbatements (No Re-encampment Zone): Thompson Creek - Quimby Road to Aborn RoadAbatements (No Re-encampment Zone): Lower Silver Creek - Quimby Road to Coyote Creek Confluence	2/12 – 2/14 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Enhanced Cleanup / Abatements (No Re-encampment Zone): Saratoga Creek - Prospect Street to Homestead RoadEnhanced Cleanup / Abatements due to Public Safety: Calabazas Creek - Central Expressway to Hwy 237Abatement due to Public Safety: Coyote Creek - Tully Road to Umbarger RoadEnhanced Cleanup / Abatements due to Public Safety: Coyote Creek - Montague Expressway to Hwy 237Abatements (No Re-encampment Zone): Upper Penitencia Creek - Capital Avenue to Jackson Avenue
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Encampment Cleanup Costs & Funding

SCW: F5 Encampment Cleanup Project (FY20-FY25) & Encampment Management Project (beginning FY25)	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25 (Preliminary)
Encampment Cleanup Budget	\$1,515,073	\$922,107	\$1,923,736	\$2,406,885	\$4,129,755	\$4,320,728*
Encampment Cleanup Expenditures	\$845,455	\$364,895	\$2,216,292	\$2,430,071	\$3,585,660	\$2,548,269
Encampment Cleanup Budget Remaining	\$669,618	\$557,212	(\$292,556)	(\$23,186)	\$544,094	\$1,772,460
Encampment Cleanup Budget Expended	56%	40%	115%	101%	87%	59%

*FY25 Encampment Management Budget also includes \$10M intended for use in collaboration with City of San Jose as it seeks NPDES Stormwater Permit compliance

Encampment Cleanup Cost Breakdown

Encampment Cleanup Cost Categories	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25 (Preliminary)
Internal Labor <i>(Salaries, benefits, and overhead)</i>	\$504,411	\$153,523	\$1,321,519	\$1,428,700	\$1,613,881	\$1,106,964
Skilled Contract Labor	\$321,131	\$131,368	\$810,216	\$850,515	\$1,016,341	\$721,692
SCC Outreach Services	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$101,613	\$ -
Portable Toilet Facilities Program	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$89,890	\$67,057
SJPD Secondary Employment	N/A	\$3,743	\$10,675	\$77,595	\$174,510	\$128,205
SJPD Stream Stewardship Law Enforcement (SSLE)* <i>*FY20-23 SSLE expenditures of \$524,160.21 were charged to SCW Priority B projects rather than Encampment Cleanup</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$221,826	\$18,591
Trash Disposal	\$10,699	\$6,566	\$42,525	\$25,115	\$88,938	\$77,238
Lease & Rental Equipment	\$1,829	\$10,148	\$11,711	\$10,699	\$16,290	\$2,333
Other Costs <i>(General construction materials, operating supplies, safety supplies, minor equipment, small tools, fuel, chemicals, etc.)</i>	\$7,350	\$59,548	\$19,650	\$37,446	\$45,809	\$104,779
Encumbered Agreement Amounts	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$272,217	\$321,409
Encampment Cleanup Cost - Totals:	\$845,420	\$364,896	\$2,216,296	\$2,430,070	\$3,641,315	\$2,548,268

Trash & Debris Impact on Waterways

CY = cubic yards of trash, debris, and hazardous pollutants removed from waterways

Budget Year	SCW Project F5		SCW Project F6		SCW Priority B Projects
	Encampment Cleanup (CY)	Encampment Cleanup Cost	Litter Removal (CY)	Litter Removal Cost	Trash accumulation point mapping & removal, Trash Booms, Hot Spots, & Volunteer Cleanup Efforts (CY)
FY 2013-14	9,982	\$ 786,085	1,174	\$ 130,881	450
FY 2014-15	17,024	\$ 1,341,166	1,793	\$ 189,675	420
FY 2015-16	11,746	\$ 929,727	1,589	\$ 198,269	615
FY 2016-17	12,698	\$ 1,018,873	1,148	\$ 144,733	478
FY 2017-18	16,923	\$ 1,485,693	1,704	\$ 219,078	731
FY 2018-19	11,480	\$ 968,819	1,045	\$ 512,487	637
FY 2019-20	9,536	\$ 845,455	1,219	\$ 639,570	295
FY 2020-21	1,523	\$ 364,896	2,347	\$ 864,082	706
FY 2021-22	12,158	\$ 2,216,292	1,009	\$ 516,140	649
FY 2022-23	11,158	\$ 2,430,070	1,172	\$ 364,657	1,005
FY 2023-24	15,123	\$ 3,585,663	976	\$ 322,157	513
FY 2024-25 (Preliminary)	9,680	\$ 2,353,026	657	\$ 252,144	3,302
Estimated Totals	139,031	\$ 18,325,765	15,833	\$ 4,353,873	9,800

- NOTE: In FY2022-23 Valley Water also removed 7,910 cubic Yards (564.54 tons) and managed 36.23 acres for the construction of the Coyote Creek Flood Management Measures Project (CCFMMMP) under SCW Project C1: Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit and E1: Coyote Creek Flood Protection.

Upper Penitencia Creek – Jackson Avenue



Accomplishments:

- 20.52 Tons Removed
- 26.43 Acres Managed

Cherry Avenue – City of San José Emergency Interim Housing Site



Accomplishments:

- 20.96 Tons Removed
- 35.50 Acres Managed

Princevale Drain – Downstream Highway 101



Accomplishments:

- 3.64 Tons Removed
- 1.00 Acre Managed

2025 Encampment & Unsheltered Individual Count

Coyote Watershed	Encampments Valley Water Fee	Unsheltered Individual Count
Coyote Creek	28	34
Thompson Creek	11	11
Lower Silver Creek	18	23
Penitencia Creek	8	9
Miguelita Creek	0	0
Berryessa Creek	0	0
Total:	65	77

Uvas/Llagas Watershed	Encampments Valley Water Fee	Unsheltered Individual Count
West Branch Llagas	51	59
Uvas Creek	0	0
West Little Llagas	3	3
Total:	54	62

2025 Encampment & Unsheltered Individual Count

Guadalupe Watershed	Encampments Valley Water Fee	Unsheltered Individual Count
Guadalupe Creek	3	3
Guadalupe River	74	87
Los Gatos Creek	18	19
Total:	95	109

West Valley Watershed	Encampments Valley Water Fee	Unsheltered Individual Count
Calabazas Creek	3	4
Saratoga Creek	6	11
Sunnyvale East	0	0
San Tomas Aquino	1	1
Total:	10	16

	Encampments Valley Water Fee	Unsheltered Individual Count
Totals:	224 (467 in Feb 2024)	264 (602 in Feb 2024)

QUESTIONS





Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0252

Agenda Date: 3/13/2025

Item No.: 4.2.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Update on Valley Water's Water Resources Protection Zones (WRPZ) Ordinance Implementation.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive updates and provide feedback on the following topics:

- A. WRPZ Ordinance and encampment cleanup operations
- B. Ordinance education and outreach
- C. Ordinance Adaptive Implementation Team (OAIT)

SUMMARY:

Staff will brief the Committee and provide up-to-date information on items related to implementation of the WRPZ Ordinance:

- A. WRPZ Ordinance and Encampment Cleanup Operations: Update on any significant changes to Valley Water encampment cleanup operations since the start of WRPZ Ordinance implementation.
- B. Ordinance Education and Outreach: Update on education and outreach efforts by Valley Water staff, including field education, agency outreach, and new communication materials; as well as the pilot program for nonprofit outreach services contractors to provide education on the ordinance.
- C. Ordinance Adaptive Implementation Team (OAIT): Update on scope of work, meetings, and expected outcomes for the OAIT.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Mark Bilski, 408-630-2830



Water Resources Protection Zones (WRPZ) Ordinance Implementation Update

Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee
March 13, 2025

WRPZ Ordinance – Overview

- **WRPZ Ordinance:** adopted by the Board on November 26, 2024; went into effect December 26, 2025
- **Ordinance Implementation Plan:** provides framework for how ordinance will be implemented
- **Encampment Condition Guidelines:** provide guidance for unsheltered individuals to be considered low priority for enforcement
 - **High Priority** – immediate enforcement for severe environmental, health, or safety risk or obstructing Valley Water projects
 - **Low Priority** – comply with safe and sanitary camping practices

Water Resources
Protection Zones
Ordinance

Ordinance
Implementation Plan

Encampment
Condition
Guidelines

WRPZ Ordinance – Implementation Updates

- **Encampment Cleanup Operations:** no initial changes to operations as the education and outreach structure is being put in place
- **Early Education:** Valley Water field staff have begun to provide education to unsheltered individuals on Encampment Condition Guidelines
- **Progressive Enforcement Approach:** unsheltered individuals will receive education across multiple visits and have opportunities to self-remedy violations to stay low priority



Providing educational information on activities prohibited by the ordinance.



Assisting in identifying Valley Water lands where ordinance prohibitions apply.



Providing an opportunity to self-remedy any violations.

WRPZ Ordinance – Implementation Updates

- **Agency Outreach:** Valley Water staff is conducting outreach to local cities and law enforcement agencies regarding the Ordinance Implementation Plan and Valley Water intentions
- **Encampment Condition Guidelines Compliance:** field staff to receive training on how to assess encampments for high and low priority levels and how to educate for compliance
- **Outreach Services Pilot Program:** RFP for nonprofit outreach services contractors to provide education on the ordinance (3 contracts awarded)



Education & Outreach



FACT SHEET
Water Resources Protection Zones Ordinance

 Valley Water

OVERVIEW
Valley Water's Water Resources Protection Zones (WRPZ) Ordinance was adopted Nov. 26, 2024, to address the environmental, health, and safety impacts of encampments of unsheltered individuals living on Valley Water lands. The WRPZ Ordinance establishes new regulations prohibiting camping and encampment-related activities on Valley Water lands and outlines Valley Water's approach to encampment cleanup, removal, and enforcement related to violations of the regulations.

IMPLEMENTATION
The WRPZ Ordinance will enable Valley Water to better manage encampment impacts while continuing to work with local agencies and private partners to implement long-term solutions to address unsheltered homelessness within Santa Clara County. To read the full WRPZ Ordinance and Ordinance Implementation Plan and view a map of Valley Water lands, visit valleywater.org/encampments.

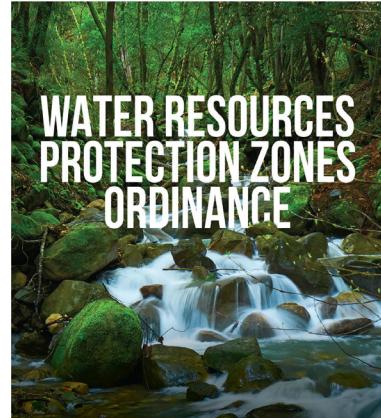
ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY LEVELS
Implementation of the ordinance uniformly across all Valley Water lands would displace unsheltered people from encampments before adequate safe relocation sites, shelter, and housing options are available in Santa Clara County. In consideration of this reality, Valley Water will establish priority levels for encampment cleanup and removal under the ordinance. See *reverse for priority levels*.

ENCAMPMENT CONDITION GUIDELINES
The Ordinance Implementation Plan includes Encampment Condition Guidelines that establish basic parameters by which unsheltered individuals living in encampments on Valley Water lands can minimize negative environmental, health, and safety impacts by promoting positive camping practices and discouraging harmful actions. Valley Water will monitor encampments to ensure that conditions are safe and sanitary. Observations or complaints will be addressed with the unsheltered individuals living in an encampment where complaints or observations occur.

PROGRESSIVE ENFORCEMENT
Encampments that do not create operations or maintenance access issues and that meet the Encampment Condition Guidelines will be considered low priority for cleanup and/or removal. Valley Water is committed to alternatives to enforcement that avoid citation and arrest wherever possible. Valley Water will strive to provide options to remedy violations through positive actions such as education.

Scan the QR code to read the WRPZ Ordinance, Implementation Plan, and Encampment Condition Guidelines and to view a map of Valley Water lands.  delivr.com/zqdjm

Continued on back »



PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES UNDER THE ORDINANCE*

The ordinance prohibits camping within Water Resources Protection Zones, which encompass all lands where Valley Water owns property in fee title, has an easement or has maintenance obligations.

"Camping" is defined as unauthorized sleeping, erecting a shelter of any type, storing, using, maintaining, or placing personal property.

The WRPZ Ordinance also prohibits:

- Dumping trash, debris, and/or other hazardous pollutants
- Activities that could create a hazard to Valley Water employees or the public, or that could interfere with the safe operation of Valley Water facilities
- Unlawful activities, and possession of firearms, ammunition, or fireworks

*Refer to the full ordinance for a complete list of prohibited activities

Continued on back »

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Valley Water staff will inform and educate unsheltered people living within Water Resources Protection Zones (WRPZ) on the ordinance and Encampment Condition Guidelines on a real-time, continual basis during encampment site visits.

VALLEY WATER RESPONSE TO PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

Valley Water will take an educational approach to enforcing the ordinance by:

 Providing educational information on activities prohibited by the ordinance.	 Assisting in identifying Valley Water lands where ordinance prohibitions apply.	 Providing an opportunity to self-remedy any violations.
--	---	---

Valley Water may take one or more of the following actions in response to activities prohibited by the ordinance:

 Request the violator cease the prohibited activity or activities.	 Request the violator relocate an encampment.
 Prioritize an encampment for cleanup and/or removal.	 Request law enforcement involvement to address unlawful activity.



Guadalupe River encampment cleanup at Willow Street in San Jose.

ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY LEVELS

Valley Water will prioritize encampment cleanup and removal as necessary to protect employees and public safety and to carry out Valley Water business.

HIGH PRIORITY FOR ENFORCEMENT

An encampment will be prioritized as high priority for cleanup and removal under any of the following conditions:

- The encampment is located in the path of or obstructing access to flood protection or water infrastructure facilities or projects; or designated restoration or vegetation management sites.
- The encampment is located within an area with posted signage listing restrictions on camping or re-encamping.
- The encampment poses an immediate safety risk, including situations that involve Valley Water staff safety or public safety issues, as determined by government agencies and their police or fire departments.
- The encampment is associated with extreme environmental hazards, including impacts to fish and wildlife or imminent human health or fire hazards.

In addition, unauthorized motor vehicles and trailers located within a Water Resources Protection Zone will be classified as high priority for cleanup and removal.

LOW PRIORITY FOR ENFORCEMENT

Encampments that meet the Encampment Condition Guidelines and maintain an external footprint, including all belongings, of 12 feet by 12 feet or less and do not create operations or maintenance access issues.

ENCAMPMENT REMOVAL PROTOCOL

When cleanup and removal action is warranted, per the priority levels described above, Valley Water staff will follow an encampment removal protocol:

 Post the encampment for cleanup and removal.	 Provide 72 hours notice before cleanup and removal.
 Collaborate with local agencies for offers of available services and/or housing or shelter.	
 Arrange for processing and storage of personal belongings.	 Perform encampment cleanup and removal.
 Before	 After

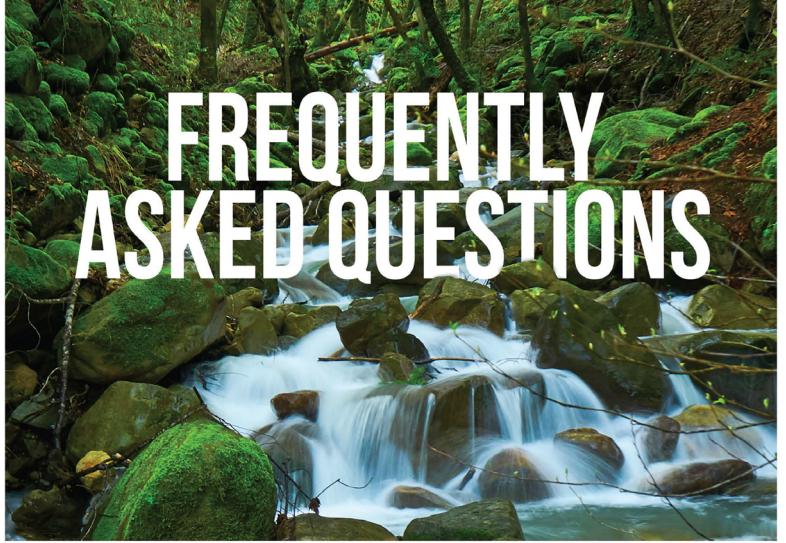
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Education & Outreach



Encampment Response Protocol

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



WHAT IS AN ENCAMPMENT?
Valley Water's Water Resources Protection Zones
Ordinance defines an encampment as one or more structures operating as a single entity, occupied by an individual or group of individuals, that is located illegally on Valley Water or other public property. An area where there are no structures, but where personal property is stored or where animals are kept and or maintained without authorization from Valley Water, is also considered an encampment.

WHAT IS VALLEY WATER DOING TO ADDRESS ENCAMPMENTS?
Valley Water collaborates with local agencies, social service providers, and law enforcement officers to address the challenges posed by encampments located on Valley Water property and their impacts to waterways and water supply and flood protection facilities.

Continued on back »

WHEN WILL VALLEY WATER REMOVE AN ENCAMPMENT?
Valley Water will prioritize encampment cleanup and removal as necessary to protect employee and public safety and to carry out Valley Water business.

Implementation of the ordinance uniformly across all Valley Water lands would displace unsheltered people from encampments before adequate safe relocation sites, shelter, and housing options are available in Santa Clara County. In consideration of this reality, Valley Water will establish priority levels for encampment cleanup and removal under the ordinance.

HOW DOES VALLEY WATER PRIORITIZE ENCAMPMENT CLEANUP?

HIGH PRIORITY FOR ENFORCEMENT
An encampment will be prioritized as high priority for cleanup and removal under any of the following conditions.

- The encampment is located in the path of or obstructing access to flood protection or water infrastructure facilities or projects; or designated restoration or vegetation management sites.
- The encampment is located within an area with posted signage listing restrictions on camping or re-encamping.
- The encampment poses an immediate safety risk, including situations that involve Valley Water staff safety or public safety issues, as determined by government agencies and their police or fire departments.
- The encampment is associated with extreme environmental hazards, including impacts to fish and wildlife or imminent human health or fire hazards.

In addition, unauthorized motor vehicles and trailers located within a Water Resources Protection Zone will be classified as high priority for cleanup and removal.

LOW PRIORITY FOR ENFORCEMENT
Valley Water's Encampment Condition Guidelines establish basic parameters by which unsheltered individuals living in encampments on Valley Water lands can minimize negative environmental, health, and safety impacts by promoting positive camping practices and discouraging harmful actions.

Encampments that do not create operations or maintenance access issues and that meet the **Encampment Condition Guidelines** will be considered low priority for cleanup and or removal. You can read the Encampment Condition Guidelines at: valleywater.org/encampments.

WHAT IS VALLEY WATER'S ENCAMPMENT RESPONSE PROTOCOL?
When cleanup and removal action is warranted, per the priority levels described above, Valley Water staff will follow an Encampment Response Protocol:

 Post the encampment for cleanup and removal.	 Provide 72 hours notice before cleanup and removal.
 Collaborate with local agencies for offers of available services and or housing or shelter.	
 Arrange for processing and storage of personal belongings.	 Perform encampment cleanup and removal.
 Request the violator cease the prohibited activity or activities.	 Request the violator relocate an encampment.
 Prioritize an encampment for cleanup and or removal.	 Request law enforcement involvement to address unlawful activity.

Valley Water may take one or more of the following enforcement actions in response to activities prohibited by the ordinance:

CONTACT US
To find out the latest information on Valley Water projects or to submit questions or comments, use our **Access Valley Water** customer request system at access.valleywater.org.

FOLLOW US

  scwwd  valleywater  valleywater  Join our mailing list: <https://delivr.com/2uz9z>



Education & Outreach



ABOUT

- Valley Water adopted a **Water Resources Protection Zones (WRPZ)** Ordinance on Nov. 26, 2024 to address the environmental, health, and safety impacts of encampments on Valley Water lands.
- The ordinance **prohibits camping and encampment-related activities** on Valley Water lands.

DOES THIS IMPACT ME?

- If you **do not** have access to available housing or shelter, then **you must follow the new Encampment Condition Guidelines** to be considered low priority for enforcement.
- If you have access to available housing or shelter, you cannot camp on Valley Water lands.

Scan the QR code

A square QR code with the URL "delivr.com/2adim" printed below it.

or visit valleywater.org/encampments to read the ordinance and the full Encampment Condition Guidelines and view a map of Valley Water lands. You may also request hard copies from Valley Water staff.

ENFORCEMENT

Encampments will be low priority for enforcement if they:

- Do not create operations or maintenance access issues for Valley Water projects; and
- Meet the Encampment Condition Guidelines.

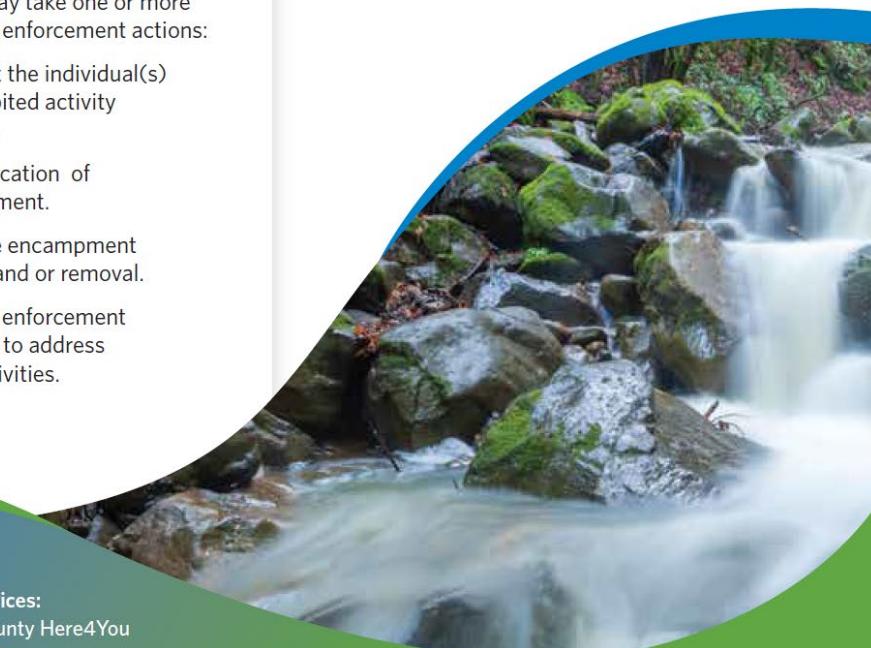
In response to prohibited activities, Valley Water may take one or more of the following enforcement actions:

- Request that the individual(s) cease prohibited activity or activities.
- Request relocation of the encampment.
- Prioritize the encampment for cleanup and or removal.
- Request law enforcement involvement to address unlawful activities.

If you need shelter services:
Call the Santa Clara County Here4You Hotline at 408-385-2400

If you are having a mental health crisis:
Call the Santa Clara County Suicide Hotline at 988 or 800-704-0900, or Santa Clara County Behavioral Health Services at 855-278-4204 or text 'RENEW' to 741741

Water Resources Protection Zones Ordinance & Encampment Condition Guidelines



“ This guide provides important information for those who are currently living in encampments on Valley Water lands. **”**

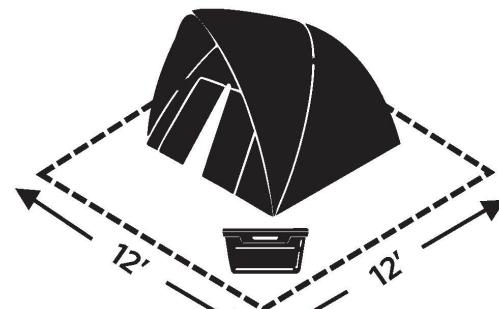
Education & Outreach



ENCAMPMENT CONDITION GUIDELINES*

Adhering to the guidelines will enhance the health and safety of you and your neighbors and help to protect the natural environment.

**NOTE: This handout provides a summary of the guidelines. Please refer to the full list of guidelines at valleywater.org/encampments or request a copy from Valley Water staff.*



Keep your shelter and personal belongings in a 12'x12' area and keep food in closed containers



Do not build structures out of wood, metal, or other hard materials



No open fires

 Pets must be kept under control and leashed; Dispose of pet waste

 No loudspeakers or sound amplifiers; No other unreasonable noise disturbances

 No possession or use of firearms, ammunition, or weapons

 No illegal drug possession or distribution, or other criminal activities

 No possession or use of fireworks or explosives

 No threats or acts of violence

 Do not trespass or dump debris on neighboring properties

 No unauthorized vehicles

 No dumping trash, debris, hazardous waste, or human or animal waste on Valley Water lands or in waterways

 No digging, excavating, or terracing soil, or altering the natural environment

 Keep all belongings off maintenance access roads, ramps, and trails

 No tapping into electrical or water utility lines

 Do not damage or remove vegetation, including trees

 Do not capture fish or harm wildlife

Disclaimer: This brochure is for informational purposes only. Adhering to the Encampment Condition Guidelines does not guarantee that an encampment will not be subject to enforcement under the ordinance. The ordinance prohibits camping and encampment-related activities on Valley Water land, and Valley Water reserves the right to remove an encampment regardless of priority level.

Ordinance Adaptive Implementation Team (OAIT)

- **Scope of Work:** provide ongoing feedback, input, and recommendations to ensure successful implementation of the ordinance
- **Logistics:**
 - Monthly meetings via Zoom
 - Kickoff Meeting: February 13, 2025
 - Next Meeting: March 20, 2025
- **Outcomes:** Valley Water staff will report on pertinent OAIT input to Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee (ECCC)



QUESTIONS





Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0253

Agenda Date: 3/13/2025

Item No.: 4.3.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Receive Information on the Proposed Water Resources Encampment Inspection Report Process.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive information on the proposed Water Resources Encampment Inspection Report process and provide feedback, as necessary.

SUMMARY:

On November 26, 2024, the Board adopted the Water Resources Protection Zones (WRPZ) Ordinance to address the environmental, health, and safety impacts of encampments on Valley Water property. The WRPZ Ordinance Implementation Plan (Plan) establishes criteria for classifying encampments as High Priority or Low Priority for cleanup or removal under the ordinance. The Plan includes Encampment Condition Guidelines to promote responsible camping practices and discourage harmful activities for encampments. Encampments that comply with these guidelines and do not obstruct Valley Water operations or maintenance will be designated as Low Priority. The Plan also introduces a progressive enforcement and education approach, allowing unsheltered individuals to learn about the guidelines and correct violations to avoid enforcement actions.

To align with the Plan's provisions, Valley Water is updating its encampment assessment approach. Since 2022, staff had utilized the Water Resources Encampment Risk Assessment tool as a standardized and transparent method for documenting and assessing encampments based on risk factors affecting Valley Water staff, facilities, environmental resources, and public safety (see Attachment 1). The risk assessment tool and process were considered by the ECCC in May 2022 and approved by the Board in August 2022. The assessment tool guides staff's determination of priorities for abatement and the process provides for Valley Water's CEO to approve staff's recommendations for abatement. Valley Water's Assistant CEO has since been delegated the authority to approve encampment removals conducted under the Risk Assessment. As part of ordinance implementation, staff has developed a proposed Water Resources Encampment Inspection Report (Inspection Report) (Attachment 2) to replace the Risk Assessment. Staff also created a Compliance Action Tag (Attachment 3) to inform unsheltered individuals of necessary

corrective actions if they are not present during staff inspections.

The attached Water Resources Encampment Inspection and Response Protocol (Attachment 4) provides a visual guide for the Inspection Report process. High Priority violations, as defined in the Plan, will trigger immediate enforcement. For Low Priority violations, individuals will receive education over multiple visits and have opportunities to correct issues. Like the prior Risk Assessment, the Inspection Report will standardize decision-making and enhance transparency.

Encampment cleanup or removal will be initiated if any High Priority violation occurs or is observed during any visit or if ongoing violations of the Encampment Condition Guidelines persist without significant progress toward compliance. Under the new procedures, encampment removals will be subject to final approval by Valley Water's Good Neighbor Program Assistant Officer, based on the Inspection Report.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

There are no environmental justice impacts associated with this item. However, Valley Water's WRPZ Ordinance Implementation Plan provides for a progressive enforcement and education approach, allowing vulnerable unsheltered individuals to correct violations to avoid enforcement actions under the ordinance.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Attachment 1: Risk Assessment
- Attachment 2: Inspection Report
- Attachment 3: Compliance Action Tag
- Attachment 4: Inspection and Response Protocol
- Attachment 5: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Mark Bilski, 408-630-2830

Water Resources Encampment Risk Assessment

Assessor: _____

Date: _____

Creek Reach: _____

Location of encampment		
Cross Section of Waterway	Points	Notes
Non-riparian Area	5	
Beyond Top of Bank (Upland)	5	
Raw Water Facility	10	
Below Top of Bank	10	
Below Ordinary High Water (In-channel)	20	
Infrastructure		
Camp(s) located in unmodified creek channel?	5	
Camp(s) located in modified creek channel?	10	
Camp(s) damaging Valley Water infrastructure (road, fencing)?	10	
Camp(s) damaging flood protection/raw water structures?	20	
Camp(s) damaging active mitigation/regulatory compliance?	20	
Are camp structure(s) a flow conveyance issue?	20	
Access for Maintenance & Inspection		
Does camp(s) block maintenance & emergency vehicle access?	5	
Does camp(s) block inspection of flood protection/raw water structures?	20	
Does camp(s) block access of upcoming CIP/SMP projects?	20	
Safety Issues		
Fire Safety		
Camp(s) within a vegetated area (fuel ladder present)?	10	
Is camp(s) a constructed wooden structure?	10	
Camp(s) have evidence of fuel loading (cut wood, dead brush piled)?	10	
Visual evidence of open flames, propane tank, etc.?	20	
Visual evidence of recent fire activity (fire pit, ashes, etc.)?	20	
Camp(s) have caused recent wildfire?	50	
Camp(s) adjacent to flammable structure with open flames?	50	
Criminal Activity (Documented by Valley Water staff or Police)		
Drug activity visible?	2	
Weaponry visible?	5	
Aggressive Behavior?	10	
Criminal sweep/multiple arrests at camp(s)?	20	
Public Safety		
Rodent/vermin infestation visible?	5	
Hypodermic needles present?	10	
Is unhoused person(s) excavation a safety hazard?	20	
Vicious dog(s) present?	20	
Environmental Factors		
Hazmat		
Biowaste present?	5	
Hazardous waste present per 22CCRDiv4.5?	5	
Is Hazmat/biowaste entering waterway or raw water facility?	20	
Environmental Impacts		
Camp(s) creating trash raft in waterway/raw water facility?	10	
Camp(s) located on a salmonid stream?	10	
Camp(s) excavating riparian area and/or soil entering waterway?	20	
Camp(s) damaging riparian trees?	20	
Camp(s) located in critical species habitat?	20	

Adjacent Facilities		
Critical Infrastructure		
Critical Infrastructure > 100 feet from waterway/raw water facility?	5	
Critical Infrastructure > 30 feet from waterway/raw water facility?	10	
Critical Infrastructure < 30 feet from waterway/raw water facility?	20	
Structure Setbacks to Creek Area		
>200 feet from structure	1	
>100 feet, <200 feet from structure	3	
>30 feet, <100 feet from structure	10	
<30 feet from structure	20	

Totals for Encampment Risk Assessment				
Hazard Rating Scale	1-50 Low	51-100 Moderate	101-150 High	>150 Extreme

Notes:

Water Resources Encampment Inspection Report

Creek Reach: _____

High Priority for Encampment Response Protocol	
The encampment is in the path of, obstructing access, or causing damage to:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Flood protection or water infrastructure facility or project
<input type="checkbox"/>	Designated mitigation or vegetation management site
The encampment poses:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Immediate health, safety, or fire risk (staff or public safety)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extreme environmental hazards (impacts to fish/wildlife)
The encampment is located:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	In-channel or in an area with immediate flood risk
<input type="checkbox"/>	In a posted no camping zone
Other high priority violations:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Unauthorized motor vehicles/trailers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Possessing firearms/weapons/ammunition/fireworks
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wood, metal, or other material constructed encampment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tapping into electrical or water utility lines

Visit			Visit			Encampment Condition Guideline		
1	2	3	1	2	3	Encampment Condition Guideline		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Belongings on VW maintenance road or ramp		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Damaging or altering VW appurtenances			Tents closer than 12' apart		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Erecting a bridge or waterway crossing			Affixing object(s) to a fence/tree/vegetation		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Damaging riparian vegetation or trees			Excavating/altering/destroying the landscape		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Harming or capturing fish or wildlife			Fire risk (open flames/smoke/ashes/fuel/etc.)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rodent/vermin/pest infestation			Storage of combustible materials		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uncontained food or biowaste			Excessive dumping of trash/waste/pollutants		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Excessive number of bikes/carts/bicycle parts			Associated animals out of control or off leash		

Visit 1	Date:	Assessor:

Visit 2	Date:	Assessor:

Visit 3	Date:	Assessor:

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Sorry we missed you.

A Valley Water staff member stopped by today to provide a **reminder about the need for you to comply with the Encampment Condition Guidelines:**

-  Do not build structures out of wood, metal, or other hard materials
-  No open fires
-  Pets must be kept under control and leashed; Dispose of pet waste
-  No unauthorized vehicles
-  No dumping trash, debris, hazardous waste, or human or animal waste on Valley Water lands or in waterways
-  No digging, excavating, or terracing soil, or altering the natural environment
-  Keep all belongings off maintenance access roads, ramps, and trails
-  No tapping into electrical, irrigation, or water utility lines
-  Do not damage or remove vegetation, including trees
-  Do not capture or harm wildlife

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-  No tapping into electrical, irrigation, or water utility lines
-  Do not damage or remove vegetation, including trees
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Sorry we missed you.

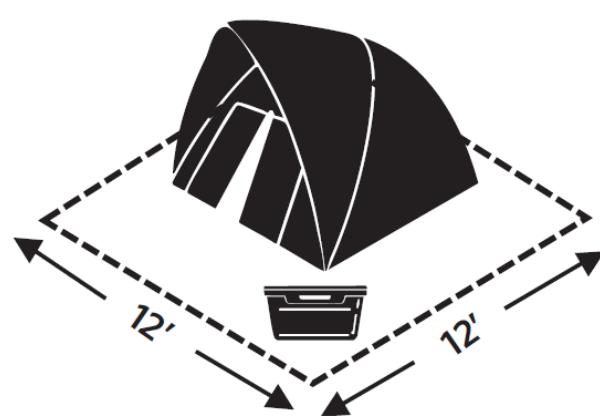
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-  Do not capture or harm wildlife

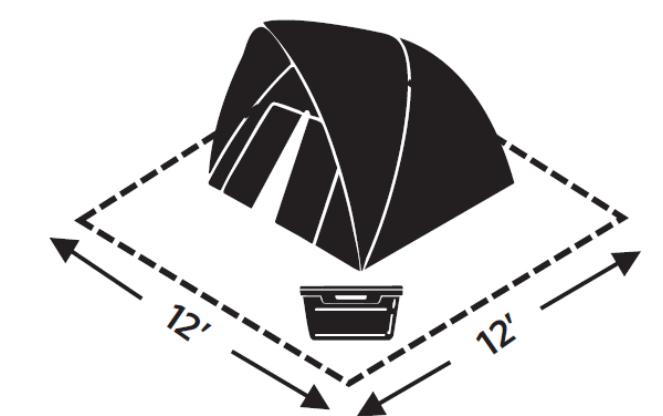


Keep your shelter and personal belongings in a **12'x12'** area and keep food in closed containers

Date: 1 2 3

Reference Number:

Required Action:

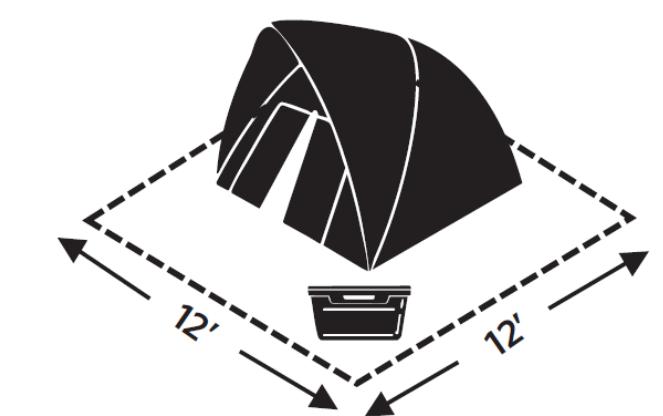


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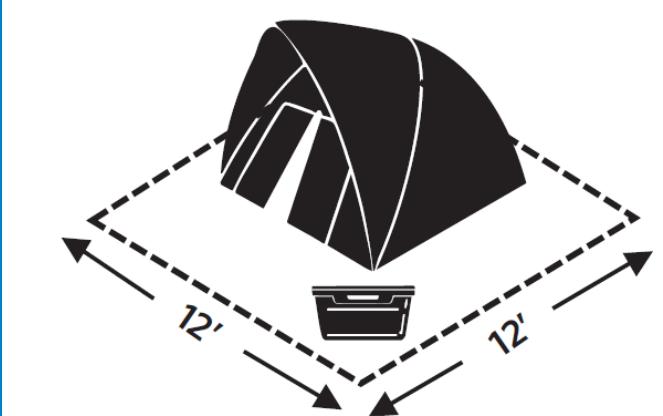


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Date: 1 2 3

Reference Number:

Required Action:



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Date: 1 2 3

Reference Number:

Required Action:

Please note that failure to comply with the Encampment Condition Guidelines may result in enforcement action.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact us at **(408) 630-2378** or cleancreeks@valleywater.org.

Please note that failure to comply with the Encampment Condition Guidelines may result in enforcement action.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact us at **(408) 630-2378** or cleancreeks@valleywater.org.

VISIT 1

Site Assessment:

A staff member inspects the encampment on Valley Water property using the **Water Resources Encampment Inspection Report**.

High Priority Response Determination:

If any condition under the **High Priority** section of the **Encampment Inspection Report** is present, staff will check the corresponding box(es).

A single checked box in this section may trigger **immediate High Priority enforcement**.

Education/Enforcement Actions:

Based on the High-Priority determination, staff will take one or more of the following actions:

Education/Self-Remedy (must be readily practicable for these options to apply)

- If feasible, ask the individual(s) to stop the prohibited activity.
- Request the relocation of the encampment.

Enforcement

- Prioritize the encampment for **cleanup and/or removal with at least a 72-hour posting**.
- Request law enforcement assistance when necessary for addressing unlawful activity.

Documentation:

Staff will complete the **Visit 1 Notes** section with:

- Date and assessor's name
- Justification for any checked boxes

Photos will be taken to document encampment conditions and support for checked boxes.



Water Resources Encampment Inspection and Response Protocol

VISIT 2

Follow-Up Inspection:

A staff member revisits the encampment to reassess conditions.

Encampment Condition Guidelines Review:

Staff will note any ongoing or new violations of the **Encampment Condition Guidelines** by checking the relevant boxes under the **Visit 2** column.

Education/Enforcement Actions:

Individuals will be reminded of compliance requirements and corrective actions needed.

If no one is present, a **Compliance Action Tag** will be left at the site with information on corrective actions needed.

Documentation:

Staff will complete the **Visit 2 Notes** section with:

- Date and assessor's name
- Justification for any checked boxes
- Summary of education and recommended actions provided

Photos will be taken to document encampment conditions and support for checked boxes.

The Encampment Response Protocol will be triggered if:

- Any box in the **High Priority** section of the **Water Resources Encampment Inspection Report** is checked during any visit, or
- Persistent violations of the **Encampment Condition Guidelines** occur across Visits 1-3.

VISIT 3

Final Inspection:

A staff member revisits the encampment for a third assessment.

Encampment Condition Guidelines Review:

Staff will note any remaining violations of the **Encampment Condition Guidelines** by checking the relevant boxes under the **Visit 3** column.

Staff will review the number of checked boxes across Visits 1-3. If the Encampment Inspection Report shows no significant progress toward compliance with the Encampment Condition Guidelines, the encampment will be classified as **High Priority** for enforcement.

Enforcement Action:

The encampment will be prioritized for **cleanup and/or removal with at least a 72-hour posting**.

Documentation:

Staff will complete the **Visit 3 Notes** section with:

- Date and assessor's name
- Justification for any checked boxes

Photos will be taken to document encampment conditions and support for checked boxes.

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Water Resources Encampment Inspection Report

Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee
March 13, 2025

Water Resources Encampment Inspection Report

- Valley Water Board adopted the **Water Resources Protection Zones (WRPZ) Ordinance**
- The **Ordinance Implementation Plan** includes:
 - Criteria for classifying encampments as High Priority or Low Priority for cleanup or removal
 - **Encampment Condition Guidelines** to promote responsible camping practices, discourage harmful activities, and stay Low Priority for enforcement
 - Progressive enforcement and education approach
- Proposed **Water Resources Encampment Inspection Report**:
 - Aligns with new encampment assessment approach under the Ordinance Implementation Plan
 - Replaces the current Water Resources Encampment Risk Assessment method of evaluating encampments based on risk factors

Water Resources Encampment Risk Assessment

Assessor: _____ Date: _____

Creek Reach: _____

Location of encampment	Points	Notes
Cross Section of Waterway		
Non-riparian Area	5	
Beyond Top of Bank (Upland)	5	
Raw Water Facility	10	
Below Top of Bank	10	
Below Ordinary High Water (In-channel)	20	
Infrastructure		
Camp(s) located in unmodified creek channel?	5	
Camp(s) located in modified creek channel?	10	
Camp(s) damaging Valley Water infrastructure (road, fencing)?	10	
Camp(s) damaging flood protection/raw water structures?	20	
Camp(s) damaging active mitigation/regulatory compliance?	20	
Are camp structure(s) a flow conveyance issue?	20	

Water Resources Encampment Inspection Report

Creek Reach: _____

High Priority for Encampment Response Protocol

The encampment is in the path of, obstructing access, or causing damage to:

<input type="checkbox"/> Flood protection or water infrastructure facility or project
<input type="checkbox"/> Designated mitigation or vegetation management site

The encampment poses:

<input type="checkbox"/> Immediate health, safety, or fire risk (staff or public safety)
<input type="checkbox"/> Extreme environmental hazards (impacts to fish/wildlife)

The encampment is located:

<input type="checkbox"/> In-channel or in an area with immediate flood risk
<input type="checkbox"/> In a posted no camping zone

Other high priority violations:

<input type="checkbox"/> Unauthorized motor vehicles/trailers
<input type="checkbox"/> Possessing firearms/weapons/ammunition/fireworks
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood, metal, or other material constructed encampment
<input type="checkbox"/> Tapping into electrical or water utility lines

High Priority for Encampment Response Protocol

- If any condition under the **High Priority** section of the **Encampment Inspection Report** is present, staff will check the corresponding box(es)
- A single checked box in this section may trigger **immediate High Priority enforcement** (e.g., relocation, Encampment Response Protocol, law enforcement assistance)

High Priority for Encampment Response Protocol		
The encampment is in the path of, obstructing access, or causing damage to:		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Flood protection or water infrastructure facility or project	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Designated mitigation or vegetation management site	
The encampment poses:		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Immediate health, safety, or fire risk (staff or public safety)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extreme environmental hazards (impacts to fish/wildlife)	
The encampment is located:		
<input type="checkbox"/>	In-channel or in an area with immediate flood risk	
<input type="checkbox"/>	In a posted no camping zone	
Other high priority violations:		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Unauthorized motor vehicles/trailers	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Possessing firearms/weapons/ammunition/fireworks	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wood, metal, or other material constructed encampment	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tapping into electrical or water utility lines	

Encampment Condition Guidelines Review

- If no High Priority conditions are identified, staff will proceed to evaluate the encampment based on the **Encampment Condition Guidelines**
- Any violations will be recorded by checking the relevant boxes under the Visit 1-3 columns

Visit			Encampment Condition Guideline	Visit			Encampment Condition Guideline
1	2	3		1	2	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shelter/belongings outside 12' x 12' area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Belongings on VW maintenance road or ramp
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tents closer than 12' apart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Damaging or altering VW appurtenances
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Affixing object(s) to a fence/tree/vegetation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Erecting a bridge or waterway crossing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Excavating/altering/destroying the landscape	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Damaging riparian vegetation or trees
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire risk (open flames/smoke/ashes/fuel/etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Harming or capturing fish or wildlife
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Storage of combustible materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rodent/vermin/pest infestation
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Excessive dumping of trash/waste/pollutants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uncontained food or biowaste
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Associated animals out of control or off leash	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Excessive number of bikes/carts/bicycle parts

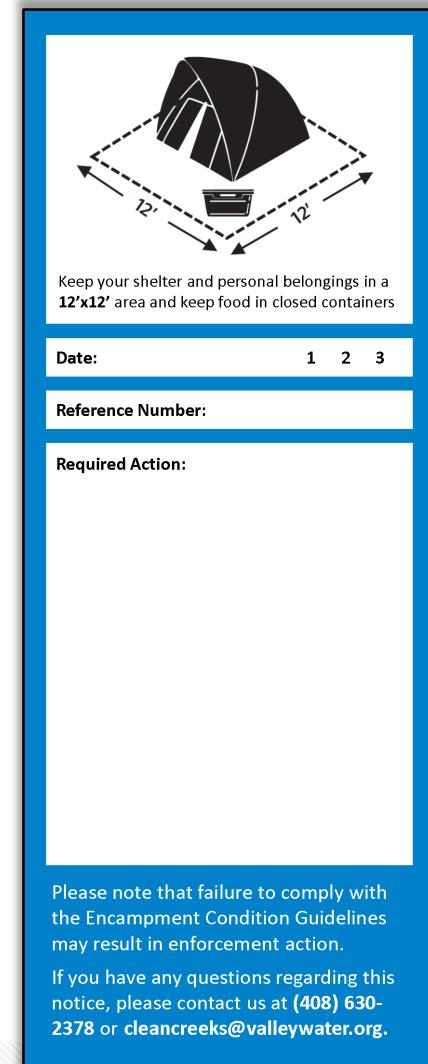
Education/Enforcement of Encampment Condition Guidelines

- During Visits 1 and 2, staff will educate individuals on compliance requirements and specific corrective actions
- If no one is present, a **Compliance Action Tag** will be left at the site with information on corrective actions needed
- Staff will take notes and photos to document encampment conditions at each visit

Visit 1	Date:	Assessor:

Visit 2	Date:	Assessor:

Visit 3	Date:	Assessor:



Encampment Response Protocol

- Encampment Response Protocol will be triggered by:
 - Any box in the **High Priority** section of the **Water Resources Encampment Inspection Report** is checked during any visit, or
 - Persistent violations of the **Encampment Condition Guidelines** occur across Visits 1-3
- Encampment Response Protocol includes posting the encampment for cleanup and removal with a minimum of 72 hours notice
- Encampment abatements will be subject to final approval by Valley Water's Good Neighbor Program Assistant Officer, based on the Inspection Report

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valleywater.org

Water Resources Encampment Inspection Report

Creek Reach: _____

High Priority for Encampment Response Protocol

The encampment is in the path of, obstructing access, or causing damage to:

Flood protection or water infrastructure facility or project
 Designated mitigation or vegetation management site

The encampment poses:

Immediate health, safety, or fire risk (staff or public safety)
 Extreme environmental hazards (impacts to fish/wildlife)

The encampment is located:

In-channel or in an area with immediate flood risk
 In a posted no camping zone

Other high priority violations:

Unauthorized motor vehicles/trailers
 Possessing firearms/weapons/ammunition/fireworks
 Wood, metal, or other material constructed encampment
 Tapping into electrical or water utility lines

Visit	Encampment Condition Guideline	Visit			Encampment Condition Guideline
		1	2	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Shelter/belongings outside 12' x 12' area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Belongings on VW maintenance road or ramp
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tents closer than 12' apart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Damaging or altering VW appurtenances
<input type="checkbox"/>	Affixing object(s) to a fence/tree/vegetation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Erecting a bridge or waterway crossing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Excavating/altering/destroying the landscape	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Damaging riparian vegetation or trees
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire risk (open flames/smoke/ashes/fuel/etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Harming or capturing fish or wildlife
<input type="checkbox"/>	Storage of combustible materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rodent/vermin/pest infestation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Excessive dumping of trash/waste/pollutants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uncontained food or biowaste
<input type="checkbox"/>	Associated animals out of control or off leash	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Excessive number of bikes/carts/bicycle parts

Visit 1 Date: _____ Assessor: _____

Visit 2 Date: _____ Assessor: _____

Visit 3 Date: _____ Assessor: _____

QUESTIONS





Valley Water

Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0254

Agenda Date: 3/13/2025

Item No.: 4.4.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Review of Valley Water's Agreements and Collaborative Efforts for Unhoused Services.

RECOMMENDATION:

Review Valley Water's agreements with the County of Santa Clara and the City of San José related to services for unhoused individuals and help identify proactive collaborative methods that can be pursued to collectively make meaningful progress with the unhoused living along the waterways in Santa Clara County.

SUMMARY:

At the November 26, 2024, meeting, the Valley Water Board adopted the Water Resources Protection Zones (WRPZ) Ordinance. As part of the motion to adopt the ordinance, the Board referred to the Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee (ECCC) a review of existing agreements with the County of Santa Clara and the City of San José related to services for unhoused individuals to help identify proactive collaborative methods that can be pursued to collectively make meaningful progress with the unhoused living along the waterways in Santa Clara County.

Current Agreements Related to Unhoused Services

County of Santa Clara

Since May 25, 2023, Valley Water has maintained an agreement with the County of Santa Clara Office of Supportive Housing (OSH) to provide funding for outreach and support services for unhoused individuals along waterways. Under this agreement, Valley Water provides up to \$200,000 annually to expand the County's outreach and coordination of human services to support encampments located on Valley Water owned land. The County's outreach teams focus on areas outside of the City of San José. Outreach services align with the Santa Clara County Continuum of Care Quality Assurance Standards and include housing needs assessments, temporary shelter referrals, and access to healthcare and behavioral health services in coordination with various County departments, such as Valley Homelessness Healthcare Program, the Public Health

Department, and the Behavioral Health Services Department. Valley Water and OSH are in discussions to extend this agreement and potentially expand its funding to cover Valley Water lands within the City of San José as well.

City of San José

On April 21, 2023, Valley Water executed an agreement with the City of San José to resolve unhoused encampments to facilitate construction of the Coyote Creek Flood Protection Projects. This partnership is driven by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) order (February 20, 2020) requiring flood risk reduction measures related to the Anderson Dam Tunnel Project. The Coyote Creek Flood Management Measures Project and the Coyote Creek Flood Protection Project require the relocation of unhoused individuals to allow for project construction.

This agreement lays out existing related expenditures by each agency: the City of San José funds and manages outreach, supportive services, staffing, emergency/temporary housing, and other services at an estimated cost of \$9,329,655 and Valley Water provides public communication, labor and equipment for cleanup, ongoing maintenance, and security services at an estimated cost of \$4,685,081. Per the agreement, Valley Water is to reimburse the City up to \$4,844,414 for specific targeted services in furtherance of clearing the construction zone.

On May 6, 2019, Valley Water entered into an agreement with the City of San José to fund targeted patrols under SJPD's Stream Stewardship Law Enforcement (SSLE) program. These patrols aim to ensure the safety of Valley Water staff, volunteers, and the public along streams. The program includes up to three dedicated law enforcement teams that focus on specific stream segments identified by Valley Water. In addition to law enforcement duties, the City collaborates with the County and social service providers to offer outreach and support services to unhoused individuals living in encampments along waterways. On July 19, 2024, the agreement was renewed for a 12-month term with a not-to-exceed amount of \$340,000. Separately, Valley Water also provides funding at an hourly rate to San José Police Department (SJPD) via its Secondary Employment Unit to ensure staff safety during encampment cleanups.

Past Agreements Related to Unhoused Services

Valley Water and the City of San José had maintained a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for Encampment Abatement, Trash Removal and Prevention since April 19, 2019, until it was terminated by the City on June 3, 2024. After rounds of negotiation, the parties did not reach agreement on a replacement MOA, but staff continue to collaborate on coordinated encampment cleanups as necessary. Valley Water and the City had entered into prior MOA's to partner on trash prevention and removal in 2004, 2008, and 2013.

Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Formation Request

At the request of Board Vice Chair Santos, Valley Water issued a letter to the County of Santa Clara and all 15 cities within the County on February 28, 2025. This letter solicited interest in forming a JPA dedicated to addressing homelessness, encampments, and the increasing need for housing, shelter, and social services across Santa Clara County (Attachment 1).

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

There are no environmental justice impacts associated with this item. However, Valley Water's effort to improve and expand its collaboration with local governmental agencies is intended to positively impact the vulnerable unsheltered community through better integration with the overall homelessness response in Santa Clara County.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Letter

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Mark Bilski, 408-630-2830

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John L. Varela (District 1)

Shiloh Ballard (District 2)

Richard P. Santos / Vice Chair (District 3)

Jim Beall (District 4)

Nai Hsueh (District 5)

Tony Estremera / Chair (District 6)

Rebecca Eisenberg (District 7)

INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Melanie Richardson, P.E.

INTERIM CLERK OF THE BOARD

Candice Kwok-Smith

February 28, 2025

The Honorable Otto Lee
 President, County of Santa Clara Board of Supervisors
 70 West Hedding Street, 10th Floor
 San Jose, CA 95110

The Honorable Liang Chao
 Mayor, City of Cupertino
 10300 Torre Avenue
 Cupertino, CA 95014

The Honorable Pete Dailey
 Mayor, City of Los Altos
 1 North San Antonio Road
 Los Altos, CA 94022

The Honorable Matthew Hudes
 Mayor, Town of Los Gatos
 110 East Main Street
 Los Gatos, CA 95030

The Honorable Burton Craig
 Mayor, City of Monte Sereno
 18041 Saratoga-Los Gatos Road
 Monte Sereno, CA 95030

The Honorable Ellen Kamei
 Mayor, City of Mountain View
 500 Castro Street, 3rd Floor
 Mountain View, CA 94041

The Honorable Matt Mahan
 Mayor, City of San José
 200 East Santa Clara Street, 18th Floor
 San Jose, CA 95113

The Honorable Belal Aftab
 Mayor, City of Saratoga
 13777 Fruitvale Avenue
 Saratoga, CA 95070

The Honorable Sergio Lopez
 Mayor, City of Campbell
 70 North First Street
 Campbell, CA 95008

The Honorable Greg Bozzo
 Mayor, City of Gilroy
 7351 Rosanna Street
 Gilroy, CA 95020

The Honorable Kavita Tankha
 Mayor, Town of Los Altos Hills
 26379 W Fremont Road
 Los Altos Hills, CA 94022

The Honorable Carmen Montano
 Mayor, City of Milpitas
 455 East Calaveras Boulevard
 Milpitas, CA 95035

The Honorable Mark Turner
 Mayor, City of Morgan Hill
 17575 Peak Avenue
 Morgan Hill, CA 95037

The Honorable Ed Lauing
 Mayor, City of Palo Alto
 250 Hamilton Avenue
 Palo Alto, CA 94301

The Honorable Lisa M. Gillmor
 Mayor, City of Santa Clara
 1500 Warburton Avenue
 Santa Clara, CA 95050

The Honorable Larry Klein
 Mayor, City of Sunnyvale
 456 West Olive Avenue
 Sunnyvale, CA 94086

 Attachment 1
 Page 1 of 2


Dear Esteemed Colleagues,

As we continue to face the growing and pressing issue of unsheltered homelessness in our community, I write to you today on behalf of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Board of Directors to propose an idea that could help us address this challenge in a more coordinated and impactful way. Given the complexities of homelessness, I encourage local officials to explore the possibility of forming a county-wide Joint Powers Authority (JPA) focused on this issue. This could serve as a platform for representatives of our respective jurisdictions to collaborate and take collective, action-oriented steps toward meaningful solutions.

As we all know, homelessness in Santa Clara County, particularly unsheltered homelessness, has reached humanitarian, environmental, and public safety crises levels. While each of our jurisdictions has made significant strides in addressing this issue, the scale and scope of the problem requires an approach that transcends individual city or county efforts. We must collaborate in a more coordinated and effective manner to truly make progress.

The JPA could function similarly to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), which was established in 1993 as a joint powers authority between the City and County of Los Angeles. LAHSA has proven to be an effective mechanism for the coordination of resources, policy development, and service delivery across a diverse and complex region. A JPA in Santa Clara County would bring together the expertise and resources of each of our jurisdictions, while providing a platform for accountability, shared decision-making, and innovation on the most pressing issues surrounding homelessness.

By leveraging the strengths and collective resources of each participating jurisdiction, we would be better positioned to develop and implement policies that help address the underlying causes of homelessness and provide comprehensive solutions. The JPA could focus on a variety of critical areas, including emergency shelter expansion, permanent supportive housing development, mental health and substance use disorder services, outreach strategies, and more. Through this collaboration, we can better serve the public, reduce duplication of efforts, and maximize our collective impact.

I am confident that by working together, we can make a meaningful difference in the lives of those experiencing homelessness in our community. Valley Water is happy to facilitate a joint discussion to explore this idea if there is interest. We invite you to share any thoughts and feedback with Marta Lugo, Deputy Administrative Officer for Valley Water's Office of Government Relations, at MLugo@valleywater.org or (408) 630-2237, by Friday, March 28, 2025.

Thank you for your time and consideration, as well as your dedicated leadership, partnership, and commitment to serving all residents of Santa Clara County. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Richard P. Santos
Vice Chair, Board of Directors

cc: Valley Water Board of Directors, Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, Campbell City Council, Cupertino City Council, Gilroy City Council, Los Altos City Council, Los Altos Hills City Council, Los Gatos Town Council, Milpitas City Council, Monte Sereno City Council, Morgan Hill City Council, Mountain View City Council, Palo Alto City Council, San José City Council, Santa Clara City Council, Saratoga City Council, Sunnyvale City Council

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Attachment 1
Page 2 of 2





Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0243

Agenda Date: 3/13/2025

Item No.: 4.5.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Receive information from the Youth Commission's Policy Writing Ad-Hoc Committee on the Proposed Plan to Address the Growing Concerns of Environmental Impacts in Relation to the Unhoused Population in Santa Clara County.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive information from the Youth Commission's Policy Writing Ad-Hoc Committee on the Proposed Plan to address the growing concerns of environmental impacts in relation to the unhoused population in Santa Clara County.

SUMMARY:

The Valley Water Youth Commission is a Board Advisory Committee that consists of 21 high-school students throughout Santa Clara County. Each year, the Youth Commission develops a work plan that is approved by the Board.

In fiscal year 24 (FY24), the Youth Commission established the Policy Ad-Hoc Committee (Committee) to develop a proposal (Proposed Plan) with recommendations to address the growing concerns of environmental impacts in relation to the unhoused population in Santa Clara County.

On August 27, 2024, the Committee presented their Proposed Plan (Attachment 1) to the Board. The Board requested that the Proposed Plan be shared with the Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee for consideration.

Since then, the recommendations in the Proposed Plan have been evaluated and implemented, where applicable.

The Youth Commission developed an implementation project based on the Proposed Plan, called the Creekside Community Care Initiative (CCCI) Project. The CCCI Project was approved by the Board on November 12, 2024 as part of the Youth Commission's fiscal year 25 (FY25) work plan.

The CCCI Project implemented elements of recommendations 1.2 and 1.3 in the Proposed Plan,

including establishing community partnerships and providing resources to unhoused youth in Santa Clara County.

As part of the CCCI Project, the Youth Commission partnered with the Bill Wilson Center, a non-profit organization that provides services and resources to runaway and unhoused youth and families in Santa Clara County. The Youth Commission established a collection of hygiene items made of post-consumer recycled content and/or sustainable materials and assembled them into 100 hygiene kits, including a brochure on pollution prevention education and resources.

On February 23, 2025, the Youth Commission delivered the hygiene kits to the Bill Wilson Center for distribution to unhoused youth in Santa Clara County. The Commission also toured the Bill Wilson Center's drop-in facility, where they learned about the housing services and other resources the Bill Wilson Center provides for the unhoused community in Santa Clara County.

Recommendation 1.1 of the Proposed Plan focused on securing funding for safe sleeping sites on Valley Water land and supporting an established community land trust through financial contributions or land donations to promote affordable housing. While Valley Water's budget does not allow for directly financing housing projects or establishing a land trust, the agency is collaborating with external partners to develop interim housing and shelter solutions. Through a collaborative use agreement, Valley Water has partnered with the City of San José to provide land at Cherry Avenue for Emergency Interim Housing. Additionally, the City has evaluated four other Valley Water properties as potential safe sleeping sites. Staff continues to explore other opportunities for interim and permanent housing on underutilized parcels.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

The submission of this report on FY 25 activities under the Creekside Community Care Initiative Project by the Youth Commission is not subject to environmental justice analysis because it is unlikely to result in environmental or human health impacts. However, the work performed by the Youth Commission under this initiative aligns with Valley Water's values of fairness and equity and resulted in benefits for unhoused youth who received needed hygiene supplies kits through our partner agency.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Proposed Plan

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Rachael Gibson, 408-630-2884

TO: Board of Directors**FROM:** Valley Water Youth Commission**SUBJECT:** Unhoused Population on Valley Water Lands Policy Proposal**DATE:** August 13, 2024**Message from Youth Commission Chair Emma Gao:**

As Chair of the 2023-24 Youth Commission, I sought to create a way for members of the Commission to voice their thoughts, in the form of policy, to the Board. In addition to the Commission's established work, I thought that a channel of direct communication with the Board was missing, especially in the form of new ideas that only the next generation can cultivate. With the valuable guidance of Valley Water staff, this year, a small group of Youth Commissioners took up this policy writing project that addresses the burgeoning problem of the environmental impacts of the unhoused population. The components of our three-part plan especially leverage our unique role as youth to contribute toward a solution to this complicated issue.

Proposal Introduction & Purpose:

The Valley Water Youth Commission Policy Writing Ad Hoc Committee consists of the following members: Samuel Alvarez, Emma Gao, Anika Kulkarni, Grace Liu, and Daphne Zhu. With the expanded authority to assist unsheltered people within Valley Water as granted by Assembly Bill 1469, we, the Policy Writing Ad Hoc Committee of the Valley Water Youth Commission, propose a three-part plan for the Board to adopt in order to address the environmental impacts of the unhoused population on Valley Water lands.

The first part of the proposal is establishing a plan to aid in resolving the houselessness issue within the county with concrete actions, such as a safe sleeping site on Valley Water land, and support towards certain policies by the Youth Commission; included with this is our strategy for acquiring funding for said projects. The second portion of the proposal involves outreach techniques and resources we hope to connect the unhoused population to while working with various nonprofits. The last part of the project is to conduct outreach to the public through existing channels within Valley Water. We hope that the Board will consider incorporating aspects of our proposal within their budget and work plan for next year.

1.1: Build a coalition to garner support from various government agencies and foundations/non-profit organizations to provide additional funding and resources toward a land trust and an interim housing development.

This proposal aims to create a collaborative effort to address the pressing housing crisis within our county. Our mission is to build a coalition comprising various government agencies, foundations, non-profit organizations, and youth groups to secure funding for a safe sleeping site and some funding towards a local community land trust.

Our strategy involves targeting key youth groups within our community to form a large body of youths aimed at the same mission; we plan to engage with entities including, but not limited to, the San Jose Youth Commission, Saratoga Youth Commission, the Allcove Youth Advisory Group, California Youth Connection, and numerous other groups, along with advocacy-focused school clubs. Upon joining the coalition, participating youth groups will be provided with immediate action plans, including signing petitions and endorsing our efforts. By collaborating with and gaining these groups' support, we aim to engage youth in our community, amplify our impact, and broaden our support base.

We recognize the power of the youth voice and hope to leverage our unique position in the county to secure funding for this project. We have identified several key agencies and foundations that align with our mission that we hope to reach out to for funding. These include, but are not limited to, the Sobrato Foundation, Chang-Zuckerberg Initiative, the City of San Jose Measure E Fund, Housing Trust Silicon Valley, Tipping Point Community, Silicon Valley Community Foundation, and Bay Area Community Foundation. To gather these organizations' support, we intend to organize presentations on behalf of the Valley Water Youth Commission, outlining the issue and our proposed solutions. Additionally, we will utilize flyers and social media infographics to raise awareness and rally support from the community, again hoping to leverage the community to bolster our financial resources for this project. In terms of fund allocation, we propose two primary avenues: investing in safe sleeping sites on Valley Water land and contributing to an already established community land trust within Valley Water's jurisdiction.

- A. Bill 1469 enables Valley Water to utilize its land for the construction of affordable and emergency housing facilities, which we propose can take the form of safe sleeping sites. Safe sleeping sites are a form of interim housing that places like Reno and San Diego have adopted. In March, Mayor Mahan suggested in his budget message that the City Manager work with Valley Water to get a site like this up and running. Our safe sleeping site could target those living along creeks, allowing Valley Water and other organizations to perform more extensive cleanings and lessen the pollution in these waterways. We are incentivized to use and support a program like this due to the fines the city of San Jose could face because of the polluted waterways. We can use this fact, along with the existing precedent and want, to leverage more support from local officials and groups. While safe sleeping sites only serve as a short-term solution, we believe it is the best course of action for Valley Water due to the low start-up costs and fast set-up times. This approach enables Valley Water to address issues of polluted waterways more quickly, and it paves the way for other wraparound services and the eventual development of long-term affordable housing.
- B. Bill 1469 also allows Valley Water to provide, sell, or lease land in the interest of housing development for unsheltered people. We propose that Valley Water contributes to an established community land trust, which operates as a nonprofit entity tasked with holding land for a specific community's benefit and providing various community assets such as affordable housing, green spaces, civic structures, and commercial areas. Specifically, we recommend partnering with the South Bay Community Land Trust, which focuses on housing development in Santa Clara County. By balancing the interests of its residents, the broader community, and public interests, land trusts ensure equitable wealth creation and preservation of communal resources, and they address the community's needs effectively. Through contributions to a land trust in the form of land or funding, Valley Water can promote permanent affordable housing in the county.

Our proposed housing development strategies encompass various approaches, including collaborating with community land trusts, advocating for inclusionary housing ordinances, exploring accessory dwelling unit (ADU) programs, and identifying underutilized land for development. Furthermore, we are committed to supporting long-term policy changes, such as Roadmap Home 2030. Moving forward, the Youth Commission would like to play a pivotal role in coordinating efforts with supporting youth groups, documenting their support, and engaging with organizations to secure funds. This will involve presenting project plans, submitting grant applications, and informing stakeholders of progress.

1.2: Develop partnerships with local nonprofits that aim to address various facets of homelessness under Valley Water jurisdiction.

Partnerships with the following organizations will contribute to a reduction in the unhoused population, an increase in the services and dignity we could provide in a sleeping site, and aid in the reduction in the waste produced in encampments. Shortlisted are organizations with which collaborations and partnerships may be fruitful:

1. Downtown Streets Team, which seeks to end houselessness by restoring dignity and rebuilding the lives of unhoused persons to prepare them for permanent employment and housing.
 - a. The Downtown Streets Team works toward this goal by providing unhoused and low-income individuals with the opportunity to become Team Members and volunteer on beautification projects; in exchange, Team Members receive food and shelter and can use the organization's resources to find housing and employment.
 - b. An ideal partnership would include establishing joint operations with the Downtown Streets Team on creek stewardship and public art events, such as Valley Water's biannual cleanups and beautification projects.
2. We Hope, acts to provide clean water, meals, and housing for unhoused individuals.
 - a. We Hope aims to end homelessness, unemployment, and hunger through programs such as "Dignity on Wheels," through which they provide mobile showers and laundry devices to alleviate hygiene necessities.
 - b. An ideal partnership would include expanding the Dignity on Wheels program to Valley Water lands and the sleeping site, informing the unhoused community in the area of these resources through fliers and potentially staff.
3. Simplify the Basics provides hygiene products to the unhoused population, with over 2.5 million products distributed as of January 2024. Their goal is to help sustain the mental and physical health of people who are experiencing or at risk of houselessness. In addition to this, they also take great care in making sure that all their supplies are sustainable and environmentally friendly, which aligns with the goals of Valley Water.
 - a. An ideal partnership would include targeting areas on Valley Water lands to distribute hygiene products along with distributing said products in the new housing project proposed in 1.1. An extension may include aiding Simplify the Basics in supplying and distributing these environmentally friendly hygiene supplies with Valley Water employees and volunteers.

1.3: Raise awareness about the environmental impacts of encampments and solutions with the unhoused community and the public.

By raising awareness about the environmental impacts of encampments we can garner more support for affordable housing development, and elevate this complicated aspect of the homelessness issue within the public consciousness; ultimately, we hope to spark dialogue around potential solutions and build more understanding for all parties involved. In particular, as members of the Youth Commission, we seek to target the middle and high school students in our communities. Although most youth may not yet have the power to directly address this topic, learning about it will nevertheless provide the next generation with a stronger understanding of the intersectionality of this issue.

To accomplish this objective, we first seek to identify existing outreach channels within Valley Water that we can build on to educate the general public. By utilizing Valley Water's existing [Education and Outreach Program](#), which includes School Classroom Programs, Library Programs, and Teacher

Resources, we can reach students within our target demographic. Moreover, we can incorporate this topic into the curriculum of the Water 101 Academy so that Water Ambassadors can tackle this issue during and after the duration of the course. Additional avenues include virtual, public discussion sessions as well as informational speaker sessions. This outreach will also support the greater network and coalition that we hope to build.

We also propose the continuation of existing efforts and collaborations regarding encampment cleanup and waste disposal. This includes expanding Valley Water's Good Neighbor Program and Environmental Cleanup Project if the budget allows. In addition to current updates on the website, Valley Water can provide further outlets of communication to the public on developments in this program by giving brief but regular updates in Valley Water's newsletter, as well as increasing the frequency of the published reports that are accessible on the website.

For each of these outreach opportunities, the Youth Commission, in partnership with Valley Water's outreach team, can develop a curriculum that covers information pertinent to this issue. The curriculum would include an explanation of the problem, the current solutions in place and their shortcomings, as well as insight into the perspective of the relevant parties, such as members of the unhoused community as well as Valley Water staff.

1.4: Conclusion & Next Steps

1.4.1

The organizations we provided can serve as a starting point for considering how Valley Water can collaborate with existing non-profit organizations to provide aid to the unhoused population in a way that will mitigate their environmental impact. We hope that the Board will consider allocating resources for this objective, potentially involving the Youth Commission in their efforts as well.

1.4.2

By leveraging existing Valley Water resources, the provided means of outreach will require, in most cases, only an addition to a curriculum or presentation. The Youth Commission can also collaborate with outreach staff to develop these new materials.

1.4.3

The immediate next steps involved for the Youth Commission include:

- 1.4.3.1 Contacting youth groups to inform them of the issue and gather their support
- 1.4.3.2 Formalizing a proposal to send to our sources of funding

The Youth Commission intends to move forward with this component of the proposal within their own timeline.



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0260

Agenda Date: 3/13/2025

Item No.: 4.6.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Review the Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee (ECCC) Work Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

SUMMARY:

The attached Work Plan outlines the approved 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 additional 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 IMPACT:

There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: ECCC 2025 Work Plan

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

2025 ENVIRONMENTAL CREEK CLEANUP COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
<i>Category</i>												
Updates on Valley Water Encampment Cleanup Operations			X			X			X			X
Subsection: City of San José Interim Housing Update			X									
Subsection: Creek Safety Issues Report			X									
Subsection: Encampment and Unsheltered Individual Count			X									
Updates on Water Resources Protection Zones (WRPZ) Ordinance Implementation			X			X			X			X
Encampment Inspection Report Process			X									
Review of Valley Water's Agreements and Collaborative Efforts for Unhoused Services			X									
ECCC Review of WRPZ Ordinance Implementation												X
<i>Standing Items:</i>												
Election of Officers			X									
Approval of Minutes			X			X			X			X
Review of Committee Work Plan			X			X			X			X

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