



# **Santa Clara Valley Water District Environmental and Water Resources Committee Meeting**

HQ Boardroom  
5700 Almaden Expressway

## **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**Monday, April 15, 2024  
6:00 PM**

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

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Loren Lewis, Committee Chair  
Charles Ice, Committee Vice Chair

Director Barbara F. Keegan, District 2  
Director Nai Hsueh, District 5  
Director Tony Estremera, District 6

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John Bourgeois  
Vincent Gin  
(Staff Liaisons)

Dave Leon, (COB Liaison)  
Assistant Deputy Clerk II  
[daveleon@valleywater.org](mailto:daveleon@valleywater.org)  
1-408-630-2406

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

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**Santa Clara Valley Water District**  
**Environmental and Water Resources Committee**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**AGENDA**

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Monday, April 15, 2024

6:00 PM

HQ Boardroom  
5700 Almaden Expressway  
San Jose CA 95118

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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.

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- 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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**<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/94403145442>**

**Meeting ID: 944 0314 5442**

**Join by Phone:**

**1 (669) 900-9128, 94403145442#**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

1.1. Roll Call.

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

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

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

3.1. Approval of January 22, 2024 Environmental and Water Resources Committee Minutes. [24-0384](#)

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

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

Attachments: [Attachment 1: 012224 EWRC minutes](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

**4. REGULAR AGENDA:**

4.1. Receive Information and Provide Feedback on the Development of Valley Water's Water Supply Master Plan 2050. [24-0373](#)

Recommendation: A. Receive an update on the Water Supply Master Plan 2050 development; and  
B. Provide feedback on the Water Supply Master Plan 2050 portfolio development and analysis.

Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

Attachments: [Attachment 1: Project Description](#)  
[Attachment 2: Project Evaluation Criteria](#)  
[Attachment 3: PowerPoint](#)

Est. Staff Time: 20 Minutes

4.2. Valley Water Demonstration Garden [24-0374](#)

Recommendation: Receive an update on the creation of a Demonstration Garden featuring Valley Water's Landscape Rebate Program.

Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)

Est. Staff Time: 10 Minutes

4.3. Review and Receive Updates on the Environmental and Water Resources Committee's Working Groups. [24-0385](#)

Recommendation: A. Review and receive updates on the Environmental and Water Resources Committee's Working Groups, and  
B. Provide comments to the Board on implementation of Valley Water's mission applicable to working groups' recommendations.

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

Attachments: [Attachment 1: EWRC Working Groups January 2024](#)  
[Attachment 2: EWRC FINAL Working Group Restructure](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

4.4. Review Environmental and Water Resources Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests; and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda.

[24-0386](#)

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: EWRC 2024 Work Plan](#)

[Attachment 2: EWRC Work Plan Appendix](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

**5. STANDING ITEMS**

5.1. Director's Reports.

5.2. Manager's Reports.

**6. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS.**

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

**7. ADJOURN:**

7.1. Adjourn to Regular Meeting at 6:00 P.M. on July 15, 2024.

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# Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 24-0384

Agenda Date: 4/15/2024

Item No.: 3.1.

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## COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

### Environmental and Water Resources Committee

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

#### **SUBJECT:**

Approval of January 22, 2024 Environmental and Water Resources Committee Minutes.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the minutes.

#### **SUMMARY:**

In accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act, a summary of Committee discussions, and details of all actions taken by the Capital Improvement Program Committee, during all open and public Committee meetings, is transcribed and submitted to the Committee for review and approval.

Upon Committee approval, minutes transcripts are finalized and entered into the Committee's historical record archives and serve as the official historical record of the Committee's meeting.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:**

There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1: 012224 EWRC Minutes

#### **UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

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ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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# DRAFT MINUTES

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**Monday, January 22, 2024**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Environmental and Water Resources Committee (Committee) Meeting was held on January 22, 2024, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters Building, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California.

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Committee Chair Loren Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was established with eight members present.

Members in attendance were:

District 1: Loren Lewis, Chairperson  
District 2: Charles Ice, Vice Chairperson  
District 3: Charles Taylor and Bill Roth  
District 4: Bob Levy  
District 5: Hon. Patrick S. Kwok  
District 7: Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D. and Tess Byler

Members not in attendance were:

District 1: Swanee Edwards  
District 5: Mike Michitake  
District 6: Eleni Jacobson

Jim Piazza (District 6) arrived as noted below.

Board members in attendance were: Director Nai Hsueh (District 5).

Directors Rebecca Eisenberg and Barbara Keegan attended the meeting virtually.

Staff members in attendance were: Lisa Bankosh, John Bourgeois, Olivia Cobb, Vincent Gin Christopher Hakes, Jeffrey Ham, Dave Leon, Nick Mascarello, Brian Mendenhall, Luz Penilla, and Sunny Williams.

Public in attendance were: Lana Li and Will Ware.

Attachment 1  
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## **2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

## **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### **3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D., seconded by Hon. Patrick S. Kwok, and majority vote carried, to approve the October 16, 2023 Committee meeting minutes as presented. Charles Taylor abstained.

## **4. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS**

### **4.1. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR.**

Charles Taylor nominated Vice Chairperson Charles Ice for Chairperson. Bob Levy seconded the motion.

Loren Lewis nominated Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D. for Chairperson. Member Keller declined the nomination.

The Committee unanimously elected Charles Ice as Chairperson.

Loren Lewis nominated Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D. for Vice Chairperson. Hon. Patrick S. Kwok seconded the motion, and the Committee unanimously elected Arthur M. Keller, Ph. D as Vice Chairperson.

Member Lewis left the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

### **4.2 REVIEW AND APPROVE 2023 ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT FOR PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD.**

It was moved by Tess Byler, seconded by Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D., and unanimously carried, to approve the 2023 Accomplishments Report and forward to the Board for consideration.

### **4.3 RECEIVE INFORMATION ON ONE WATER GUADALUPE AND UPPER PAJARO WATERSHED PLAN PRIORITY ACTIONS.**

Brian Mendenhall reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachments 1, 2, and 3. Brian Mendenhall, Lisa Bankosh, and John Bourgeois and were available to answer questions.

Jim Piazza arrived at 6:10 p.m.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and requested that staff report to the Committee with information relating to mine closures, and information regarding collaborations with Monterey County.

### **4.4 RECEIVE UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF VALLEY WATER'S WILDFIRE RESILIENCY PLAN.**

Jeffrey Ham 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.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

**4.5 REVIEW AND RECEIVE UPDATES ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE'S WORKING GROUPS.**

John Bourgeois reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1. John Bourgeois and Dave Leon were available to answer questions.

Director Nai Hsueh addressed the Committee relating to Anderson Dam and Capital Improvement Project updates.

The Committee took no formal action and requested that staff provide documentation relating to Subgroups and their operations.

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

Dave Leon noted the requests made on item nos. 4.3 and 4.5.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

**6.1 ADJOURN**

Chairperson Ice adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m. to the next regular meeting on Monday, April 15, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Dave Leon  
Assistant Deputy Clerk II

Date approved:

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# Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 24-0373

Agenda Date: 4/15/2024

Item No.: 4.1.

## COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Environmental and Water Resources Committee

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

### **SUBJECT:**

Receive Information and Provide Feedback on the Development of Valley Water's Water Supply Master Plan 2050.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

- A. Receive an update on the Water Supply Master Plan 2050 development; and
- B. Provide feedback on the Water Supply Master Plan 2050 portfolio development and analysis.

### **SUMMARY:**

The Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP) is the Santa Clara Valley Water District's (Valley Water) guiding document for long-term water supply investments to ensure water supply reliability for Santa Clara County. Updated about every five years, this long-range plan assesses future county-wide demands and evaluates and recommends water supply and infrastructure projects to meet those demands to achieve Valley Water's level of service (LOS) goal through the planning horizon. Valley Water's LOS goal is "Meet 100 percent of annual water demand during non-drought years and at least 80 percent of demand in drought years" that is established in Board Ends Policy E-2.

In October 2023, Staff presented the first major update of the WSMP 2050 development to the Environmental and Water Resources Committee (Committee), including the planning framework, project list, expert panel, and stakeholder engagement plan. This memorandum presents the progress since the last update and includes preliminary portfolio analysis, cost analysis approach, and proposed next steps for developing an investment strategy that ensures sufficient water supply in the face of climate change.

### **Water Supply Needs Assessment**

As presented at the October 2023 Committee meeting, Valley Water is using a scenario planning approach to analyze four possible future scenarios based on the combination of demand projections and forecasted imported water supplies:

- Stable demand and moderately impacted imported supplies

- Stable demand and severely impacted imported supplies
- High demand and moderately impacted imported supplies
- High demand and severely impacted imported supplies

This approach is intended to account for uncertainty in forecasted future demand and supply as well as to provide an adaptive framework for decision-making.

The first step in developing an investment strategy is to identify future water supply needs in the County and the potential supplies available to meet those needs from our current system. To serve as a basis for identifying projects and programs for potential investment, water supply needs under the baseline condition were assessed using modeling analysis for each of the four future scenarios. The baseline condition assumes no new investments but completion of local dam seismic retrofits by 2035, achieving long-term water conservation goals, continued implementation of the Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE) Plus flows, and maintaining Valley Water assets. The baseline condition analysis simulates how baseline supplies can meet future demands and then unmet demand is estimated as shortage. The shortage evaluation assumes Valley Water meets its water conservation goal through 2050 and can achieve 10-15% water use reduction during droughts for stable demands and increasing demands, respectively.

Under all four 2050 futures, Valley Water will experience water shortages if relying only on existing supplies and infrastructure (Table 1). The biggest challenge for meeting water supply needs will be multi-year droughts. The shortages may start as early as 2030 in the future scenario of severely impacted imported supplies and by 2040 in all four future scenarios. In 2050, if existing out-of-county groundwater banking storage is maintained, the average shortages over a six-year drought could range from 4 to 76 thousand acre-feet per year (TAFY), and the shortages increase as demands increase and imported supplies decrease. In a scenario with no out-of-county groundwater banking, the shortages could get worse, with a range from 30 to 82 TAFY. Valley Water's current system can handle the first two years of a multi-year drought in 2050, with shortage starting the third year.

**Table 1 Average shortage (TAFY) during a six-year drought over planning horizon**

Year	Stable Demand, Moderately Impacted Imports		Stable Demand, Severely Impacted Imports		High Demand, Moderately Impacted Imports		High Demand, Severely Impacted Imports	
	w/ GW bank	w/o GW bank	w/ GW bank	w/o GW bank	w/ GW bank	w/o GW bank	w/ GW bank	w/o GW bank
2030 <sup>1</sup>	0	NA	14	NA	0	NA	14	NA
2035	0	0	3 <sup>2</sup>	30	0	7	13	40
2040	4	30	22	51	13	46	55	64
2045	4	30	22	50	19	53	66	71
2050	4	30	22	50	29	59	76	82

<sup>1</sup>2030 demand is the same for Stable and High demands, and Semitropic is in place.

<sup>2</sup>For this future, the 2030 and 2035 values assume the same demands and imported water scenarios, but Anderson is back online in 2035, resulting in lower shortage than 2030.

The projected shortages represent the targets that future water supply investments aim to meet to

achieve Valley Water's LOS goal. The shortages are large in all futures except the future with stable demand and moderately impacted imports. To address the projected shortage, Valley Water is evaluating potential projects and project combinations (hereafter referred to as portfolios).

### **Portfolio Analysis Under Alternative Futures**

Valley Water is evaluating a total of 18 projects (Attachment 1), including alternative supply projects, local and imported surface supply projects, storage projects, and local recharge and pipeline projects. Since no single project can meet all our future needs and consistent with the planning goal of diversifying water supply, portfolio analyses are used to identify the combinations of projects that may be needed to achieve water supply reliability under each future scenario.

An initial list of over 50 portfolios was developed with different combinations of projects. As the first step in portfolio analysis, those portfolios were evaluated through modeling analysis to determine how they may be able to meet water supply needs across the four possible future scenarios. As expected, the performance of those portfolios varies: some will not address shortage under any future, others will only work for one or two futures, and only a few will work for all four futures. Additional portfolio modeling and further evaluation of portfolios is needed before making investment recommendations.

This memorandum therefore includes four example portfolios that can meet future water supply needs under different futures with various levels of groundwater bank storage (Table 2). The first one can meet supply needs under the future scenario of stable demand and moderately impacted imports. Portfolios #2 and 3 can address the shortages in all but the future scenario of high demand and severely impacted imports, while portfolio #4 is an example of how Valley Water could meet future needs in all four future scenarios without out-of-county groundwater banking (e.g., Semitropic contract not renewed in 2035 and not investing in other groundwater banking).

**Table 2 Example Portfolios**

Project	Portfolios			
	1	2	3	4
<b>Alternative Supply<sup>1</sup></b>				
Potable Reuse – Palo Alto	X			
Potable Reuse – San Jose		X	X	X
Refinery Recycled Project				X
Local Seawater Desalination				X
<b>Surface Supply</b>				
Delta Conveyance Project	X		X	X
Sites Reservoir				X
<b>Storage</b>				
Pacheco Reservoir Expansion	X		X	
Los Vaqueros Expansion	X	X	X	X
B.F. Sisk Dam Raise	X	X	X	X
Groundwater Banking (TAF)	350	275	250	0
<b>Recharge and Pipelines</b>				
Coyote Recharge Pond		X	X	X
San Pedro Ponds Improvement		X	X	X

<sup>1</sup>Recycled and purified water, desalination, and stormwater capture are considered alternative supply as defined by CA Department of Water Resources.

While still ongoing, the portfolio analysis so far provides some findings and insights:

- Drought resilient supply such as direct potable reuse coupled with storage is effective in eliminating shortage for all future scenarios.
- Maintaining out-of-county storage is critical in securing water supply reliability, and diversifying storage, in particular improving take/put capacity, is needed to help reduce risk and mitigate drought impacts.
- Some projects work better when paired with other projects, and diversified portfolios could help improve resilience of the water supply system.
- Under each future scenarios, multiple options can meet water supply needs. Other factors (such as cost and reliability) need to be considered to compare portfolios and develop recommendations.
- More portfolios need to be explored to provide a full range of options.

Based on these preliminary findings, staff is developing more portfolios and refining the analysis. In addition, staff will conduct a comprehensive portfolio evaluation and comparison as discussed in a later section.

### **Cost Analysis**

Cost is an important factor when developing a recommended investment strategy because of its impact on water rates and affordability. Working with the expert panel discussed below and benchmarking with peer agency approaches, staff is developing a cost evaluation approach to enable comparing various projects and portfolios. The cost analysis includes total lifecycle cost and unit cost estimates of each project. For each feasible portfolio, the total cost and the water rate impact will also be developed to provide a comprehensive evaluation of the projects from a financial perspective. The lifecycle cost includes capital and annual operations and maintenance costs over a project's useful service life (30 years for purified water, desalination and pipeline projects and 50 years for other projects, before incurring any significant repair/replace costs). For purified water projects where Valley Water reimburses the wastewater partner for the source water, these costs are included. For supply projects, the unit cost is calculated using present values of lifecycle cost relative to the proposed annual supply benefit, while for storage projects, a "storage capacity cost" or cost per acre-foot of storage capacity is calculated.

The portfolio lifecycle cost, unit cost, and rate impact analyses can inform the financial implications of different investment strategies and help select cost-effective portfolios that meet our future needs. In addition, staff will include an overall evaluation of the economic benefits of investing in our water infrastructure. As indicated above, one of the example portfolios presented was the baseline case for this year's preliminary water rate analysis provided to the Board in January 2024: Staff continues to ensure coordination among the CIP, budget and rate calculation, and the WSMP 2050.

### **Portfolio Evaluation and Comparison**

Meeting water supply needs is the most important criteria in evaluating and comparing projects and portfolios, but other factors also need to be considered when making recommendations. To fully capture a wide range of benefits of the projects and address Valley Water's other needs, a tiered evaluation approach will be used to select portfolios using a list of criteria which was presented at October 2023 Committee meeting (Attachment 2). With this approach, the first-tier criteria used to filter projects and portfolios is meeting water supply needs and costs. Following the modeling analysis, the cost for each project as well as the portfolios that meet water supply needs will be used to further evaluate and compare portfolios.

To help compare projects with similar benefits and differentiate the portfolios with similar performance in meeting water supply needs, the second-tier criteria will be used. The second tier includes reliability, timing, and readiness/likelihood of success. This step can also help to identify backup projects for each major project to lay the foundation for developing an adaptive management decision tree. Following this step, the remaining criteria, including environmental impacts and environmental justice, can be used to further narrow down the recommendations and identify priorities. At the end of this evaluation process, a decision tree will be developed to identify different pathways and project combinations for the Board of Directors (Board) to consider. The decision tree provides an adaptive

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management framework that recognizes the risk and uncertainty associated with large water infrastructure projects and their planned benefits and provide options to respond to changes in future conditions, project benefits, or if projects fail to move to construction.

### **Outreach Efforts**

In addition to Board and committee meetings, Valley Water continues to use the WSMP webpage (<https://www.valleywater.org/your-water/water-supply-planning/water-supply-master-plan>), stakeholder email list, blogs, social media, communication newsletter or other channels as ongoing opportunities to provide updates and engage the public and stakeholders.

### **Expert Engagement**

Over the past few months, staff has engaged the WSMP experts to seek their advice on several topics, including:

- Cost analysis approaches and economic benefits of water supply projects
- Water conservation targets and programs
- Recycled and purified water projects
- Project evaluation and scenario planning framework

The input and suggestions from the experts help ensure appropriate approaches are used for the WSMP analysis. Staff will continue to work with the expert panel on key issues of the WSMP 2050 development throughout this year.

### **Next Steps**

Staff will bring a proposed 2050 water conservation goal to the Water Supply and Conservation Committee at its next meeting. In addition, the Recycled Water Committee will make recommendation to Valley Water's Board a potable reuse goal of 24,000 Acre-feet per Year (AFY) by 2035 as well as a long-term vision to maximize water reuse in the county for inclusion in the Water Supply Master Plan 2050. This long-term vision includes additional potable and non-potable reuse, desalination, stormwater capture and other alternative water sources.

The focus of the effort for 2024 is as follows:

- Portfolio analysis and recommendation
- Plan development
- Stakeholder outreach
- Plan adoption

Next update to the Board will be in June 2024.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:**

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

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1: Project Description

Attachment 2: Project Evaluation Criteria

Attachment 3: PowerPoint

**UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

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## Attachment 1 Water Supply Master Plan Project Description

Project Type	Project Name	Description
Alternative Supply	<b>Potable Reuse – Palo Alto</b>	Construction of an Advanced Water Purification Facility in Palo Alto capable of producing up to 10 MGD of purified water, for groundwater replenishment at the existing percolation ponds within the Los Gatos Recharge System Complex (LGRS). This project is included in the CIP.
	<b>Potable Reuse – San Jose</b>	Constructs an expanded advanced water purification facility in San Jose to increase purified water for potable reuse.
	<b>Refinery Recycled Project</b>	Builds a tertiary recycled water facility in Contra Costa County through a partnership with Central San. Central San would provide the recycled water produced from the facility to two oil refineries in Contra Costa County. Valley Water would then receive Contra Costa Water District's (CCWD) Central Valley Project (CVP) water currently used by the refineries. This project has an existing committee.
	<b>Local Seawater Desalination Project</b>	Proposes a seawater desalination project in Santa Clara County using seawater from the South San Francisco Bay to obtain a reliable local water supply. The project would provide treated water supplies directly to Valley Water's treated water system for distribution to customers but would generate brine effluent that requires management. This project is at the pre-feasibility stage
	<b>Delta Conveyance Project</b>	Modernizes the State Water Project (SWP) infrastructure by constructing alternative conveyance to divert up to 6,000 CFS from the Sacramento River north of the Delta and deliver it to SWP facilities at the southern end of the Delta. The project helps restore and protect the reliability of SWP water deliveries and, potentially, CVP water supplies south of the Delta.

	<b>Sites Reservoir</b>	By partnering with other agencies, builds an off-stream water supply reservoir north of the Delta to collect flood flows from the Sacramento River. This project would provide dry year yield and would be operated in coordination with the SWP and CVP, which could improve flexibility of the statewide water system.
	<b>Stormwater - Agricultural Land Recharge (FloodMar)</b>	Recharge stormflows on open space during the winter months. Feasibility study under way.
	<b>Stormwater Capture</b>	Constructs a stormwater capture and infiltration system. Site selection is still underway and will most likely require partnerships with other agencies.
<b>Storage</b>	<b>Pacheco Reservoir Expansion</b>	Enlarges Pacheco Reservoir from about 5,500 AF to 140,000 AF and connects the reservoir to the Pacheco Conduit. The reservoir plans to be filled with natural inflow and CVP supplies. Potential project benefits include water for downstream fisheries, emergency storage, and managing water quality impacts. This project is in the CIP.
	<b>Los Vaqueros Expansion</b>	Secures an agreement with CCWD and other partners to expand Los Vaqueros Reservoir by 115,000 AF, use CCWD intakes, and constructs a new pipeline (Transfer-Bethany) connecting the reservoir to the South Bay Aqueduct. This would provide storage and deliveries of delta surplus supplies. This project has a JPA.
	<b>Groundwater Banking</b>	Explores options for securing out-of-county storage through the development of new groundwater banks.

	<b>B.F. Sisk Dam Raise</b>	Increases the height of B.F. Sisk Dam and expands the capacity of San Luis Reservoir by 130,000 AF. New capacity would be shared by Reclamation and project participants and would be operationally integrated with the CVP. Benefits are expected to include dedicated storage capacity and supplemental imported water supply.
<b>Recharge &amp; Pipelines</b>	<b>Coyote Valley Recharge Pond</b>	Constructs a new percolation pond(s) in Coyote Valley off-stream of Coyote Creek and near the Cross-Valley Pipeline (CVP). This project would require purchasing land and creating a new turn-out and diversion pipeline from the CVP to the pond. This project helps create operational flexibility for managed recharge operations in Coyote Valley, reducing its reliance on Coyote Creek flows and operational constraints.
	<b>Lexington Pipeline</b>	Constructs a pipeline between Lexington Reservoir (or Vasona Reservoir) and the raw water system to allow surface water from Lexington to be put to beneficial use elsewhere in the county. The pipeline may also convey some wet-weather flows to treatment plants or recharge facilities.
	<b>Lexington-Montevina Water Treatment Plant Connection</b>	Sends water from Lexington Reservoir to San Jose Water Company's (SJWC) Montevina WTP to allow for Lexington water to be used in the SJWC service area. The project would require construction of a pump station and intake pipe from Lexington to Montevina.
	<b>Butterfield Channel Managed Aquifer Recharge</b>	Connects Butterfield Channel to Valley Water's raw water conveyance system so imported water can be recharged along Butterfield Channel during the summer months when it is not used for stormwater conveyance.
	<b>Madrone Channel Expansion</b>	Expand managed aquifer recharge in Madrone Channel by adding one or two dams/ponds downstream of the existing Madrone Channel Pond #10. There's a reach approximately 4,600 feet in length between

		the dam for pond #10 and the confluence with East Little Llagas Creek, located downstream.
	<b>San Pedro Ponds Improvement Project</b>	Implements a project or program to enable the ponds to be operated at full capacity without interfering with existing septic systems in the vicinity.

## Attachment 2 Project Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation Criteria	Description
<b>Water Supply Benefit</b>	Quantifiable water supply benefits of the project
<b>Cost/Rate Impact</b>	Construction, planning/design, O&M, and other cost
<b>Timing</b>	The year the project will be in service
<b>Technical Feasibility</b>	Technical ability to implement the project
<b>Operation</b>	How the project operates, specifically how it connects to existing system and moves water around
<b>Reliability</b>	Reliability of the project in providing its primary benefits during periods of dry year need
<b>Readiness/Likelihood of Success</b>	The readiness of project implementation and chance of success
<b>Flexibility</b>	Operation/implementation across a wide range of conditions and whether it can enhance overall system flexibility
<b>Jurisdiction/Partnership</b>	Primary jurisdiction and partners of the project
<b>Permitting/Legal Issues</b>	Permits required and any legal issues/concerns
<b>Environmental Impacts/Justice</b>	Anticipated positive or negative impacts on the natural environment and environmental justice
<b>Public Acceptance</b>	Public opinion and political support for the project
<b>Inter-dependence</b>	Whether the project will need other projects to be functioning or can magnify other projects
<b>Risk/Challenges</b>	Any significant risks/challenges that could potentially derail the project

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# Water Supply Master Plan 2050

Environmental and Water Resources Committee, 04/15/2024

# WSMP 2050 Updates

2

Goals

Planning horizon

Wider range of values

Portfolio approach

Recognition of uncertainty

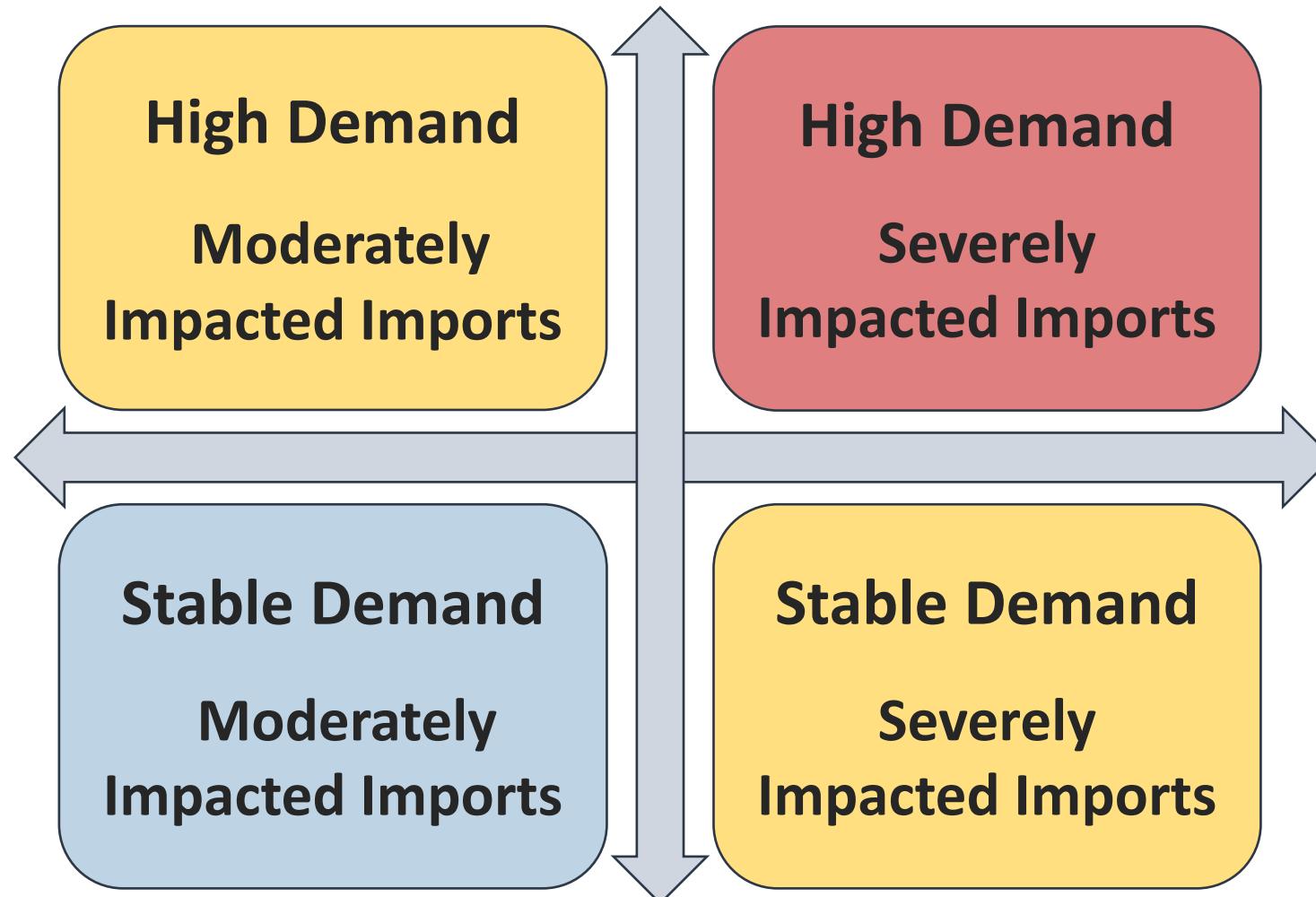


# Topics for This Update

- Water supply needs assessment
- Portfolio analysis
- Next steps for developing recommendations

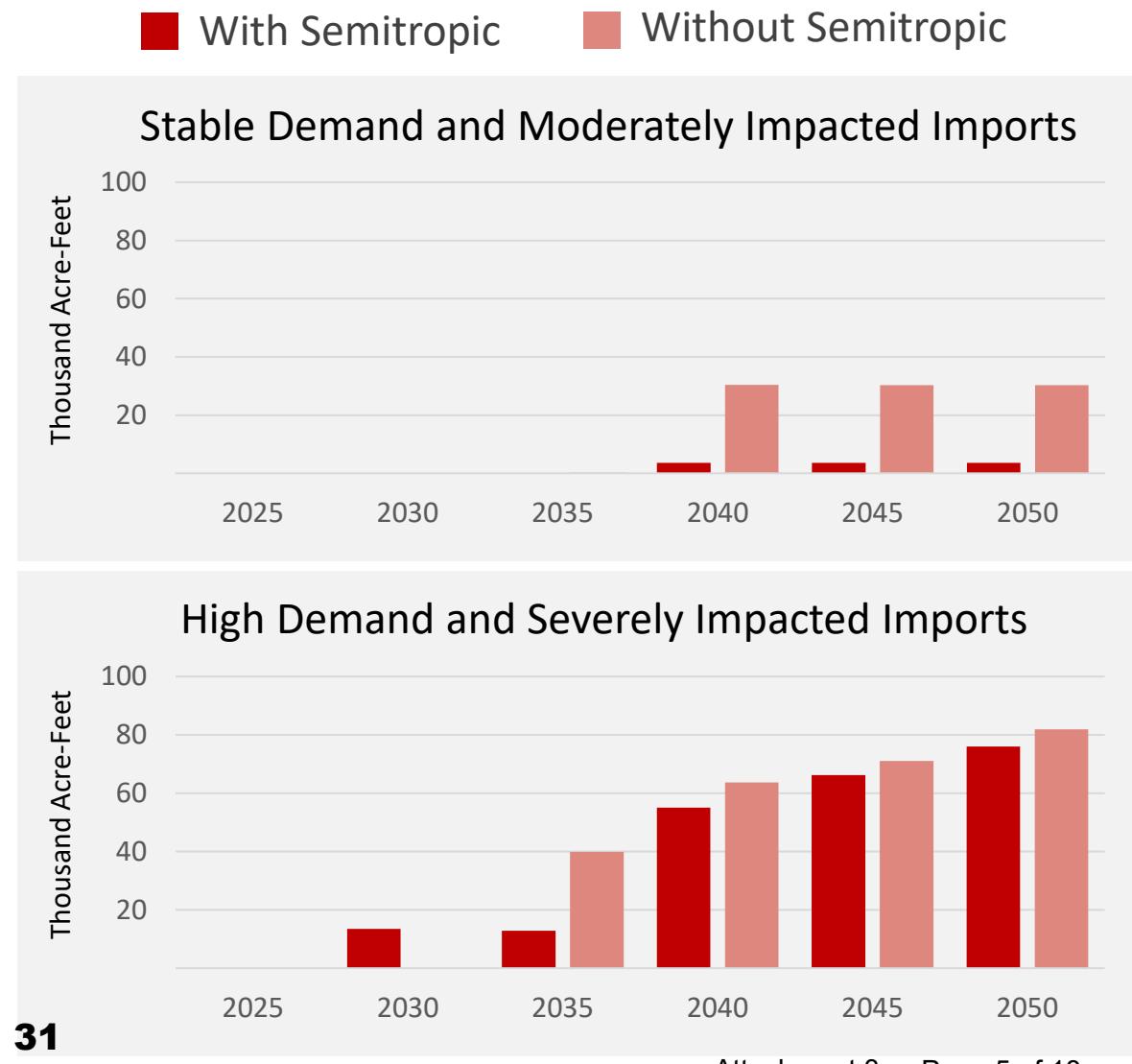
# Planning Approach – Scenario Planning

4

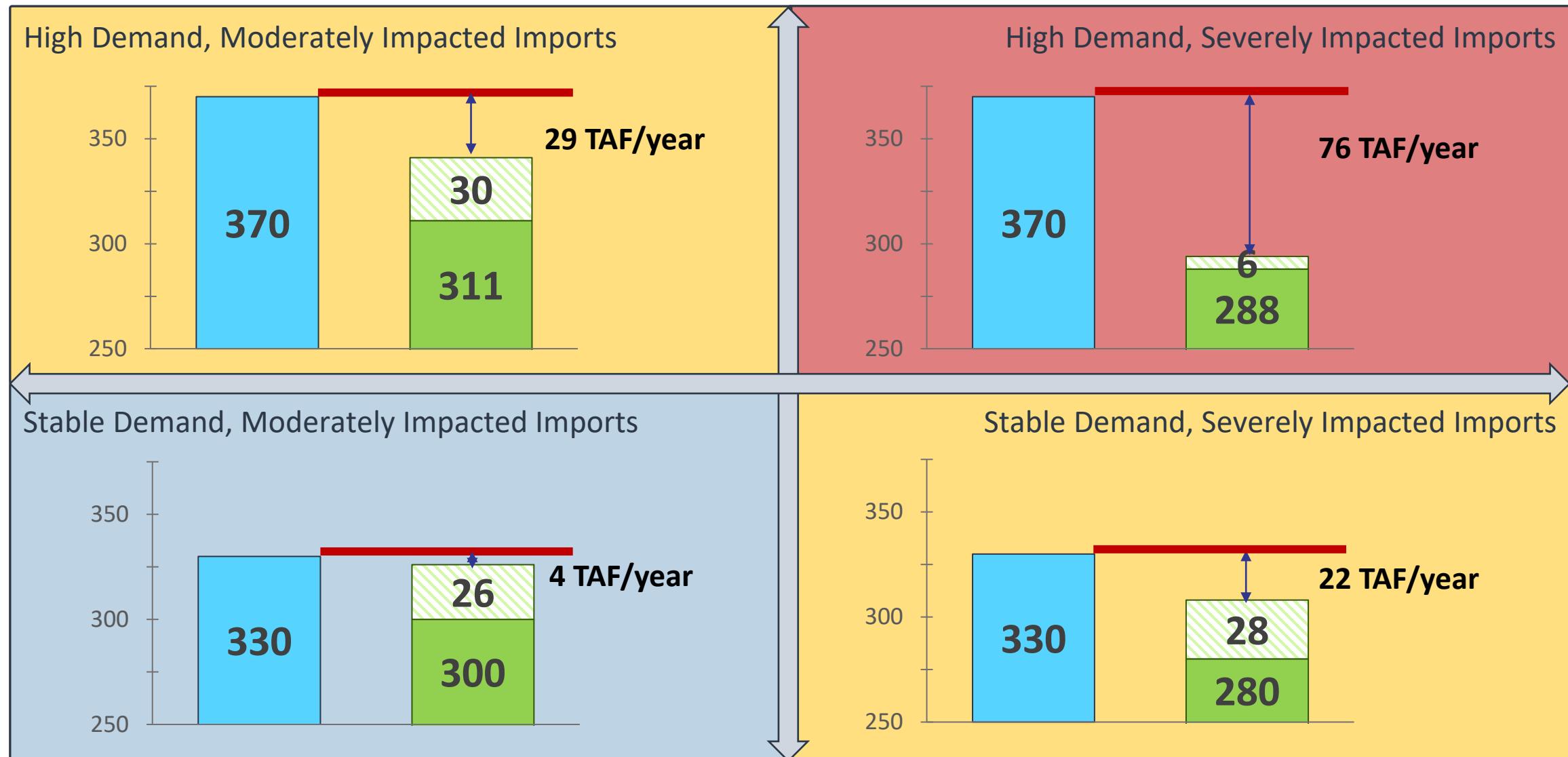


# Baseline Assessment

- Shortage in all scenarios and as early as 2030
- Average annual shortages 4-76 TAF in 2050
- Out-of-County groundwater storage important



# Annual Shortage in Six-year Drought in 2050



# Project List Grouped by Primary Benefits

7

## Alternative Supply

Indirect Potable Reuse – Palo Alto

Potable Reuse – San Jose

Refinery Recycled Project

Local Seawater Desalination Project

## Surface Supply

Delta Conveyance Project

Sites Reservoir

Stormwater – Agricultural Land Recharge  
(FloodMar)

Stormwater Capture

## Storage

Pacheco Reservoir Expansion

Los Vaqueros Expansion

Groundwater Banking

B.F. Sisk Dam Raise

## Recharge and Pipelines

Coyote Valley Recharge Pond

Lexington Pipeline

Lexington-Montevina Water Treatment Plant  
Connection

Butterfield Channel Managed Aquifer Recharge

Madrone Channel Expansion

San Pedro Ponds Improvement Project

# Project and Portfolio Analysis

- 50+ portfolios formulated
- Modeling analysis to evaluate water supply benefit
- Iterative process

# Example Portfolios

High Demand Moderately Impacted Imports	High Demand Severely Impacted Imports
Stable Demand Moderately Impacted Imports	Stable Demand Severely Impacted Imports

Project Name	Rate Baseline 1	2	3	4
<b>Alternative Supply</b>				
Potable Reuse – Palo Alto	★			
Potable Reuse – San Jose	★	★	★	
Refinery Recycled Project				★
Local Seawater Desalination				★
<b>Surface Supply</b>				
Delta Conveyance Project	★	★	★	
Sites Reservoir				★
<b>Storage</b>				
Pacheco Reservoir Expansion	★		★	
Los Vaqueros Expansion	★	★	★	
B.F. Sisk Dam Raise	★	★	★	
Groundwater Banking (TAF)	350	275	250	0
<b>Recharge and Pipelines</b>				
Coyote Recharge Pond	★	★	★	
San Pedro Ponds Improvement	★	★	★	

# Preliminary findings

- Drought resilient supply coupled with storage effective
- Maintaining out-of-county groundwater storage critical
- Some projects work better when paired with other projects, while others are independent of each other
- Multiple options under each future, other factors into play
- More portfolios needed to provide a full range of options.

# Cost analysis

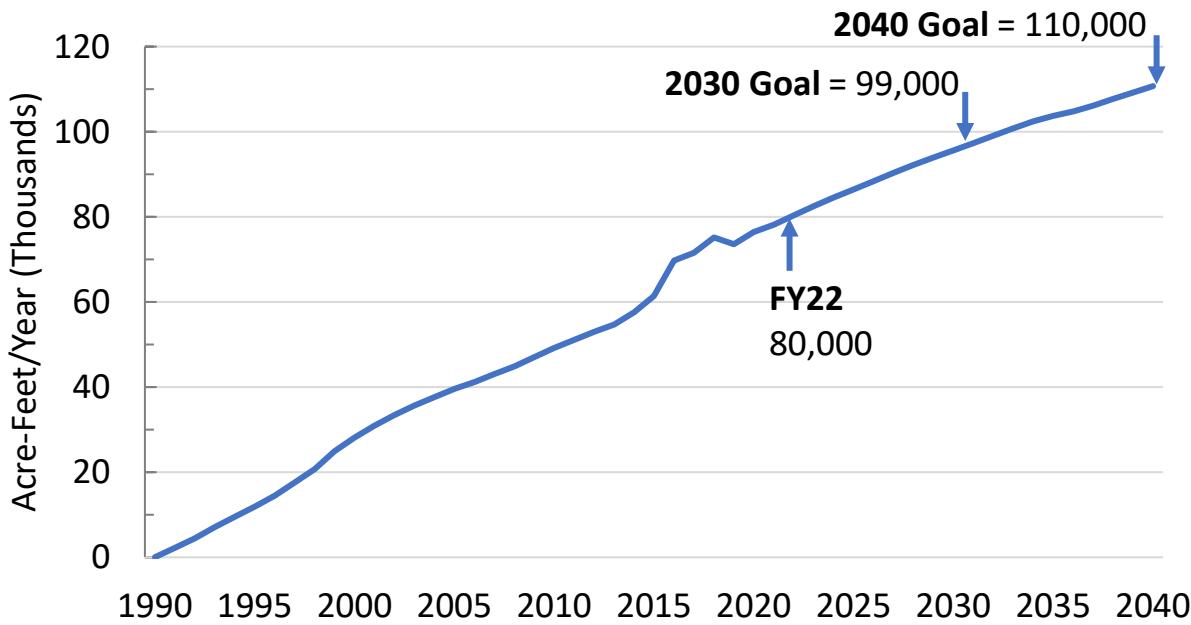
11

- Updating project cost estimates
  - Total lifecycle cost
  - Unit cost
- Develop cost of portfolios
- Analyze impact on water rate

# Conservation Effort and Reuse

12

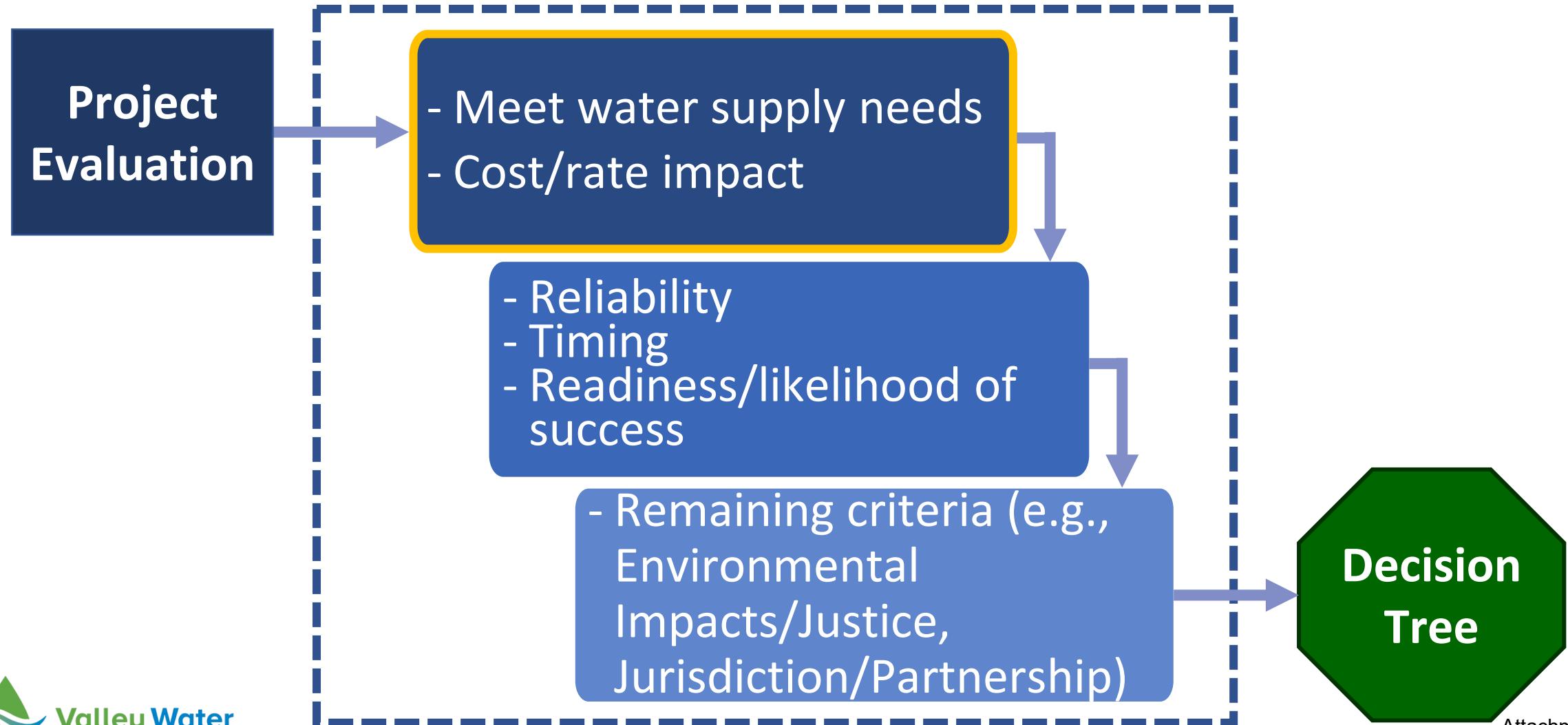
- Continued conservation
- Develop 2050 conservation targets
- Develop water reuse goal



Partner Agency	Potential Future Wastewater Available (AFY)	Potential Purified Water Production (AFY)
Palo Alto	10,000	8,000
Sunnyvale	5,600	4,800
San Jose/ Santa Clara	40,000	24,000 – 32,000
SCRWA	Fully Utilized in Summer	--
Countywide Total:	55,600	36,800 – 44,800

# Portfolio Evaluation and Comparison

13



# Stakeholder Engagement

14

- Board and committee meetings
- Newsletter/blog/social media

# Expert Engagement

15

- Cost analysis approaches
- Conservation targets and programs
- Recycled and purified water projects
- Project evaluation and scenario planning framework

# Next Steps

16

- Finalize conservation and reuse goals
- Evaluate portfolios
- Determine cost/rate impacts
- Make recommendations
- Continue stakeholder engagement

# WSMP Update Schedule

17

2023

- Establish overall framework and procedures
- Project/portfolio analysis and evaluation
- Stakeholder engagement

2024

- Portfolio analysis and recommendations
- Plan development
- Stakeholder outreach
- Plan adoption

# QUESTIONS





# Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 24-0374

Agenda Date: 4/15/2024

Item No.: 4.2.

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## COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

### Environmental and Water Resources Committee

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

**SUBJECT:**  
Valley Water Demonstration Garden

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive an update on the creation of a Demonstration Garden featuring Valley Water's Landscape Rebate Program.

**SUMMARY:**

Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) is proposing to install a Demonstration Garden (Garden) located at the southeast corner of Valley Water's Headquarters building located on Almaden Expressway. The Valley Water Garden will highlight a watershed approach to landscaping and serve as a beautiful, functional demonstration garden and community gathering space. Specifically, the Garden would showcase Valley Water's Landscape Rebate Program, serving as a tangible example for the public to see, to engage with, and to learn from. While rebate participants often inquire about visiting Valley Water's campus to find inspiration for their landscaping projects, at this time, they are redirected to gardens installed and maintained by other organizations and agencies throughout the county.

The Garden will convert approximately 22,000 square feet of existing landscape areas into a low water-use, Bay-friendly landscape and will include the creation of several Low Impact Development (LID) features. These LID features will include vegetated swales/rain gardens within the landscape and the renovation of existing bioretention areas in the main parking lot to infiltrate and treat stormwater runoff. High-efficiency irrigation technology and a rainwater harvesting demonstration system are planned. This project will also include the creation of a public gathering area, permeable hardscape, and educational signage. Due to the public location of this project, multiple internal and external stakeholder groups will be included in the design process to ensure the Garden achieves its full potential. The Garden, easily accessible by the public, will reflect garden design elements that can be applied to both residential and commercial sites.

Valley Water hopes to release the Request for Proposal for design services later this year and hopes

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to begin construction in FY26. The estimated cost for design and construction is \$1.4 million. Safe Clean Water funding will be used in addition to potential grants and other Valley Water funding sources.

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:**

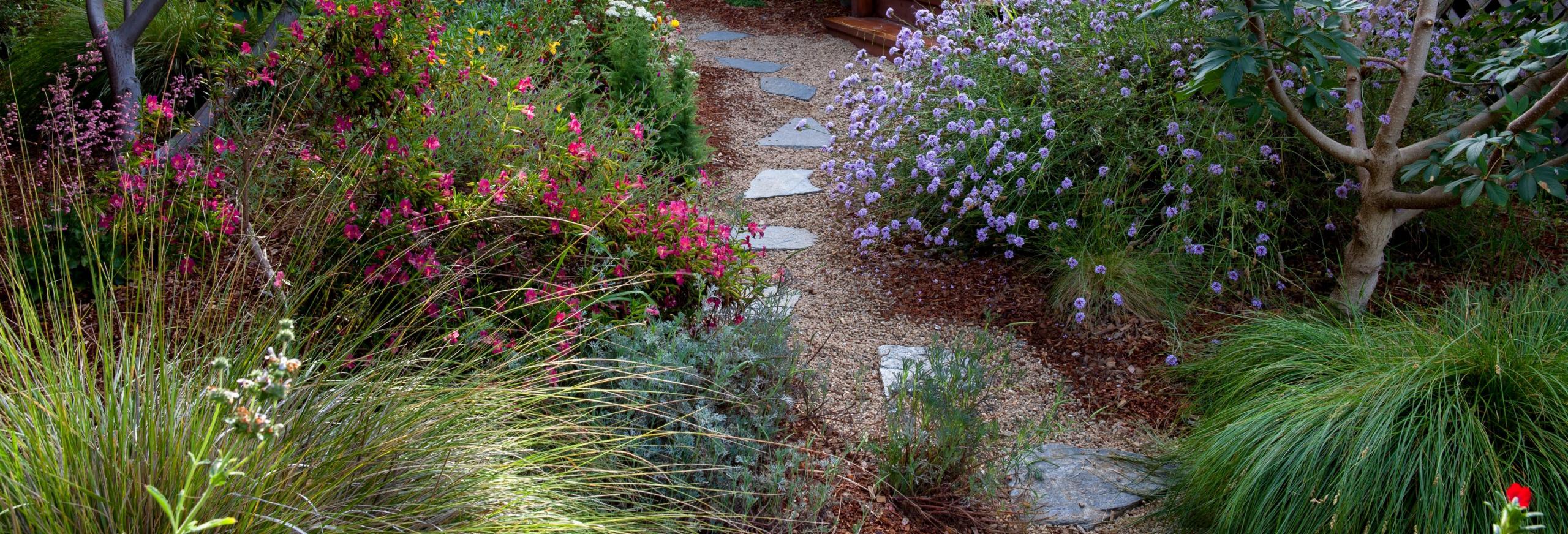
The Valley Water Garden addresses water supply equity by helping to reduce water use and lower water bills in all communities (including disadvantaged communities) by providing inspirational and educational resources needed to successfully complete water conservation rebates and utilize tools for reducing water demand.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

**UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138



# Valley Water Demonstration Garden

Environmental and Water Resources Committee

April 15, 2024

# Valley Water Demonstration Garden

2

## Inspiration

- Opportunity to exemplify leadership in sustainable landscaping
- Educate and inspire the community to rethink traditional lawn-centered landscapes
- Opportunity to create a multi-functional public gathering space



City of Santa Rosa Sustainable Education Garden design rendering.

# Valley Water Demonstration Garden

3

## Project Overview

- Multi-functional garden that serves as a public gathering space, demonstrates Landscape Rebate Program requirements and highlights a watershed approach to sustainable landscaping
- Replace 22,000 sq ft of existing, struggling landscape



# Valley Water Demonstration Garden

4

## Design Elements

- Public gathering and educational space
- Climate-appropriate planting, prioritizing CA native plants
- High-efficiency irrigation equipment
- Rainwater capture
- Stormwater management
- Educational signage
- ADA Accessible
- Space enhancement through art installations



UCCE Master Gardener Demonstration Garden, Martial Cottle Park.

# Valley Water Demonstration Garden

5

## Draft Timeline

- Design RFP: Release Q1 FY25
- Construction RFP: Release Q4 FY25
- Begin Construction FY26

## Estimated Costs

- Design: \$100K-\$150K
- Construction: \$1M - \$1.25M
- Maintenance: TBD

## Funding Sources

- Safe Clean Water A2 funding
- Potential grants (Prop 1 Stormwater, Green Stormwater Infrastructure, etc.)
- Contributions from multiple Valley Water units



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# Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 24-0385

Agenda Date: 4/15/2024

Item No.: 4.3.

## COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Environmental and Water Resources Committee

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

### **SUBJECT:**

Review and Receive Updates on the Environmental and Water Resources Committee's Working Groups.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

- A. Review and receive updates on the Environmental and Water Resources Committee's Working Groups, and
- B. Provide comments to the Board on implementation of Valley Water's mission applicable to working groups' recommendations.

### **SUMMARY:**

At the Committee's October 2021, meeting, the Committee approved the working groups' structure to align with the issues and policies that the Board of Directors has on their work plan and calendar for the fiscal year.

The Board will continue to keep the Committee informed of the working groups' activities and results.

This will be a standing agenda item.

### **BACKGROUND:**

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

Accordingly, the Board has established Board 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, Board 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 Board's Committees may help the Board produce the link between the District and the public through information sharing to the communities they represent.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1: EWRC Working Groups April 2024

Attachment 2: EWRC FINAL Working Group Restructure

**UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

# FY 2023-2024 EWRC Working Groups

**PLEASE SIGN UP TODAY!**

Working Group Number/Title	Member Name	Lead	Total Members
EWRC Oversight Manager: John Bourgeois, <a href="mailto:jbourgeois@valleywater.org">jb Bourgeois@valleywater.org</a> , 1-408-630-2990			
1	<b>INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT:</b>		
Valley Water Staff Liaison: Brian Mendenhall, <a href="mailto:bmendenhall@valleywater.org">bmendenhall@valleywater.org</a> , 1-408-630-3093			
	Tess Byler Charles Ice Loren Lewis		3
2	<b>WATER SUPPLY:</b>		
Valley Water Staff Liaison: Jing Wu, <a href="mailto:jwu@valleywater.org">jwu@valleywater.org</a> , 1-408-630-2330		Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D. Hon. Patrick S. Kwok Mike Michitaka Jim Piazza	4
3	<b>NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION:</b>		
Valley Water Staff Liaison: Katie Muller, <a href="mailto:kmuller@valleywater.org">kmuller@valleywater.org</a> , 1-408-630-2934		Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D. Mike Michitaka Charles Taylor	3
4	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP:</b>		
Valley Water Staff Liaison: John Bourgeois, <a href="mailto:jb Bourgeois@valleywater.org">jb Bourgeois@valleywater.org</a> , 1-408-630-2990		Swanee Edwards Bob Levy Jim Piazza	3
5	<b>CLIMATE CHANGE:</b>		
Valley Water Staff Liaison: Brian Mendenhall, <a href="mailto:bmendenhall@valleywater.org">bmendenhall@valleywater.org</a> , 1-408-630-3093		Bob Levy Charles Taylor	2

# FY 2023-2024 EWRC Working Groups

**PLEASE SIGN UP TODAY!**

Working Group Number/Title	Member Name	Lead	Total Members
Lead Member			

**SPECIAL NOTES:**  
See 2021 EWRC Working Group Restructure Guidelines.  
Members should limit the number of working groups they participate in because of possible Brown Act Violations (2-3 groups only).  
Please Note: You will be sharing your phone number and email address with the other members when signing up for a working group.  
When planning meetings, the Group Chair (Lead) should contact Dave Leon via email ([daveleon@valleywater.org](mailto:daveleon@valleywater.org)) and John Bourgeois ([jb Bourgeois@valleywater.org](mailto:jbourgeois@valleywater.org)) with meeting date/time and location and how many members are expected to attend.

## Environmental and Water Resources Committee

Draft Work Plan Revisions, Working Groups

Originated on August 10, 2021

(Latest revision: October 19, 2021)

The Environmental and Water Resources Committee (EWRC) has a broad mandate that includes all aspects of the Valley Water mission (see attached excerpt from Board Resolution 17-75). However, this broad mandate can at times result in a dilution of purpose. These draft work plan revisions are aimed at focusing the EWRC's efforts in a way that takes better advantage of the resources and experience of a strong and diverse membership, while strengthening the advisory role of the EWRC to the benefit of the Valley Water Board and staff.

The EWRC takes its direction from the Board. Action items as directed by the Board will take top priority in Committee business.

The defined roles of the EWRC are to:

1. Provide input on policy.
2. Provide comment on activities in the implementation of Valley Water's mission.
3. Act as a link between Valley Water and the public.
4. Produce and present an Annual Accomplishments Report.

With these simple guiding principles in mind, to make the committee more directly connected to its stated purpose, we propose the following structure:

### Policy and Implementation Input (roles 1 and 2 above)

The formation of 5 Working Groups:

1. **Integrated Water Resources Management** (sample topics: One Water Plan [Integrated Water Resources Master Plan], Flood-MAR [Managed Aquifer Recharge], Green stormwater infrastructure); staff liaison: Senior Water Resources Specialist overseeing One Water (currently Brian Mendenhall)
2. **Water Supply** (sample topics: Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit project, Purified Water, Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project); staff liaison: Senior Water Resources Specialist (currently Jing Wu)
3. **Natural Flood Protection** (sample topics: Shoreline Phase 2, Upper Penitencia Creek); staff liaison: Unit Manager (currently Afshin Rouhani)
4. **Environmental Stewardship** (sample topics: FAHCE, habitat connectivity and riparian corridors, fish passage including gravel and LWD); staff liaison: Unit Manager (currently Lisa Porcella)
5. **Climate Change** (sample topics: Climate Change Action Plan [CCAP] Implementation, GHG methodology updates); staff liaison: Senior Water Resources Specialist overseeing CCAP (currently Brian Mendenhall)

Access to the staff liaisons should be used respectfully, with the intent of 1) clarifying questions on specific topics and 2) obtaining access to background information and/or resources being provided to other committees.

Each Working Group will have 4-8 members and will designate a Lead.

Assigned Work: Assigned tasks by the Board will take priority for the EWRC. When input on an issue is desired by the Board, the item will go first to the Working Group (unless time does not permit and the WG feels the item can go straight to the full Committee). The Working Group will then present recommendations to the full committee for action if deemed appropriate.

Proactive Topics: If there are items that the EWRC would like more information on, and they are not an item requested from the Board, we suggest the following process:

- When applicable, EWRC liaison (see below) will attend the relevant Board or Committee where the item is being discussed.
- Discuss the item at the Working Group level to see if there is consensus on whether an item is appropriate to be brought to the entire Committee.
- Bring the item to the full EWRC during the standing agenda item to review the work plan and vote on whether or not to fully agendize the item for discussion at a subsequent meeting. If time is short, the Working Group Lead may bring the item to the Chair and Vice Chair of the EWRC who will consult with staff and may agendize it for the next meeting.
- Questions to consider when voting on an item:
  - Is the item being adequately addressed in another forum (see Standing Items Report for updates)?
  - Will the item, if brought to the EWRC, fall under one of the stated purposes of the Committee?
  - Can the EWRC positively contribute to the item to benefit Valley Water and the community?
  - Is there support from the Board liaisons for spending time on this item?

#### **Board and Committee Liaisons (roles 1 and 2 above)**

We recommend that EWRC assign a liaison (plus an alternate) to each Board Committee and that these Committee members briefly report out at each quarterly EWRC (as done under the Working Groups Update, a standing item on the agenda). The Chair will assign at-large appointments, and each Working Group will assign those liaisons for committees designated to that Working Group (see below). Updates will include any items that may be of interest to the EWRC and/or pertinent to the Committee Work Plan.

The Board Committees that we recommend designated liaisons include (with Working Group designation in parenthesis):

- Board Audit Committee (At-Large)
- Board Policy and Planning Committee (At-Large)
- Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Committee (At-Large)
- Diversity and Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee (At-Large)
- Homeless Encampment Committee (Environmental Stewardship)
- Recycled Water Committee (Water Supply)

- Stream Planning and Operations Committee (Environmental Stewardship)
- Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee (Water Supply)
- Water Storage Exploratory Committee (Water Supply)

**Roles and responsibilities:** The Board Committee liaisons are expected to regularly attend their designated Board Committee meetings, alerting their alternate if they are unable to attend. At those meetings, they will represent EWRC interests, report back to EWRC any items of interest, and elevate recommendations within their Working Groups on any items desired for proactive engagement (see above). The meeting schedule of these committees can be located as part of the regular meeting minutes and ongoing agenda item (Informational Link Reports), as well as at the below links. Typical meeting frequency and duration are listed below but are subject to variances.

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

- Board Policy and Planning Committee (BPPC) (typically 1 meeting per month, 2 hours)
- Stream Planning and Operations Committee (SPOC) (formerly FAHCE Ad Hoc Committee, typically every other month, 2 hours)
- Homeless Encampment Committee (typically every other month, 2 hours)
- Water Storage Exploratory Committee (WSEC) meetings are scheduled as called for by the Committee Chair, but typically 2 hours

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

- Redistricting Advisory Committee (RAC) this is a special Committee for Redistricting and will be completed by March 2022.
- Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee (WCaDMC) (typically 1 meeting per month, 2 hours)

### **Stakeholder Engagement (role 3 above)**

The EWRC represents a vital cross-section of the Valley Water constituency. We want to emphasize the EWRC's role in being an extension of the larger community. As such, we request that EWRC members perform three vital functions:

1. Communicate relevant Valley Water issues and project updates to your network.
2. Bring to the Committee any environmental and water resources concerns or issues you are hearing in the community.
3. Bring to the Committee any environmental justice concerns or issues you are hearing in the community.

EWRC members have been carefully selected by Board members to represent a broad cross-section of the community. As leaders in the community, the Board values and relies on the EWRC members to assist in two-way communication with stakeholders and residents.

*Pertinent excerpts from Board Resolution 17-75 on the functions of advisory committees.*

**RESOLUTION 17- 75**

**PROVIDING FOR AND DEFINING THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION OF**

**ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND REPEALING RESOLUTION**

...

1.2 The Committees are established to assist the Board with policy review and development, provide comment on activities in the implementation of the District's mission for Board consideration, and to identify Board-related issues pertaining to the following:

1.2.2 Environmental and Water Resources Committee: ***water supply, flood protection, and environmental stewardship.***

...

1.3 In accordance with Governance Process Policy-8, the specific duties of the Committees are to:

1.3.1. Provide ***input on policy alternatives*** for Board deliberation.

1.3.2 Provide ***comment on the activities in the implementation*** of the District's mission for Board consideration.

1.3.3 Produce and present to the Board an ***Annual Accomplishments Report*** summarizing the outcomes of the Committee's annual Board-approved work plan.

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



# Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 24-0386

Agenda Date: 4/15/2024

Item No.: 4.4.

## COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Environmental and Water Resources Committee

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

### **SUBJECT:**

Review Environmental and Water Resources Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests; and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda.

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

### **BACKGROUND:**

#### **Governance Process Policy-8:**

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

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

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

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:**

There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1: EWRC 2024 Work Plan

Attachment 2: EWRC Work Plan Appendix

**UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

## 2024 Work Plan: Environmental and Water Resources Committee

Updated April 2024

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

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
1	<b>Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2023</b>	January 22	•Committee Elects Chair and Vice Chair for 2023. <b>(Action)</b>	<b>Accomplished January 22, 2024:</b> The Committee unanimously approved Charles Ice as the 2023 Environmental and Water Resources Committee Chair and Arthur M. Keller, PhD. as the 2023 Environmental and Water Resources Committee Vice Chair.
2	<b>Annual Accomplishments Report</b>	January 22	•Review and approve 2022 Accomplishments Report for presentation to the Board. <b>(Action)</b>	<b>Accomplished January 22, 2024:</b> The Committee unanimously approved the 2023 Annual Accomplishments Report.
3	<b>Update Status of Working Groups</b>	January 22 April 15 July 15 October 21	•Receive updates on the status of the working groups. <b>(Action)</b> •Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate.	<b>Accomplished January 22, 2024:</b> The Committee received no updates from the Working Groups.
4	<b>Review of Environmental and Water Resources Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda</b>	April 14 July 15 October 21	•Receive and review the 2024 Board-approved Committee work plan. <b>(Action)</b> •Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate.	

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
5	<b>Standing Items Report Fiscal Year 2024 Goals and Strategies:</b>	April 15 July 15 October 21	•Receive quarterly reports on standing items. <b>(Information)</b>	
6	<b>One Water Plan – Stevens Creek and West valley Watershed Plans' Metrics, Targets, and Prioritization Criteria</b>	April 15	•Receive information on the metrics and targets, and prioritization criteria for the Guadalupe and Upper Pajaro Watershed Plans. <b>(Action)</b> •Provide feedback to staff.	Anticipated accomplishment date: November 2024 or January 2025
7	<b>Water Supply Master Plan Update</b>	April 15	•Receive an update on the Water Supply Master Plan 2050 development •Provide feedback on the Water Supply Master Plan 2050 portfolio development and analysis.	
8	<b>Demonstration Garden</b>	April 15	•Receive an update on the creation of a Demonstration Garden featuring Valley Water's Landscape Rebate Program.	
9	<b>Baylands Projects Update</b>	July 15		
10	<b>Upper Watershed Lands Management Update</b>	July 15		
11	<b>Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Update</b>	October 21		

## 2024 Work Plan: Environmental and Water Resources Committee

Updated April 2024

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
12	Review Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Board Work plan	October 21	•Review Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Board Work Plan <b>(Information)</b>	

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## 2024 Work Plan Appendix

GOAL	OBJECTIVE	FY23 TACTICS	MONITORING COMMITTEE
<b>INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT</b> <i>"Efficiently manage water resources across business areas."</i>	<u>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>The maintenance of Valley Water's infrastructure is crucial to ensuring we continue to provide safe, clean water and critical flood protection for our communities. Timely maintenance is the most cost-effective investment, whereas deferred maintenance disproportionately increases costs and causes unplanned outages and failures risking the population of the county. In addition, aging assets are reaching the end of the design life and will require major recapitalization.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a Fuel Management Policy to guide the incorporation of wildfire planning efforts in an integrated and programmatic way.</li> <li>Continue a robust preventive maintenance program including monitoring asset condition and risk.</li> <li>Strategically plan for larger infrastructure renewal projects through Safe Clean Water Project F8 – Sustainable Creek Infrastructure for Continued Public Safety; Water Treatment Plant, Distribution System, and SCADA Implementation Plans; Watersheds and Water Utility Operations and Maintenance Plans; and various Asset Management Plans.</li> <li>Advance infrastructure renewal projects identified in strategic planning efforts by initiating new Capital or Small Capital Projects, or by conducting work as part of ongoing operations projects.</li> <li>Develop comprehensive infrastructure master plans for all water utility treatment plant and distribution infrastructure (e.g. pipelines and pump stations) to plan out 30-year capital investments that meet future regulatory requirements, and fold in projects identified in the Asset Management and Operations &amp; Maintenance Plans.</li> <li>Expedient execution of the adopted Capital program and projects.</li> </ul>	Board Policy and Planning Committee (BPPC) CIP Committee (CIPC)
	<u>Objective #2 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>Valley Water continues to pursue legislative and administrative solutions to resolve regulatory and permitting issues at the federal and state levels. The Board's efforts will continue to focus on improving internal capacity when applying for permits, as well as continuing to build relationships with regulatory agencies and staying abreast of the regulatory environment.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to provide for agency-wide regulatory planning and permitting effort and pursue other efforts at the state and federal level to expedite permit review.</li> <li>Continue to foster better relationships with regulatory agencies and open dialogue with environmental, environmental justice and other stakeholders.</li> <li>Continue to work with the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) under the terms of our memorandum of understanding (MOU) to expedite issue resolution and prevent regulatory overreach.</li> <li>Collaborate with RWQCB on the Steelhead Regional Temperature Study.</li> </ul>	BPPC
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b> <i>"Provide a reliable, safe, and affordable water supply for current and future generations in all communities served."</i>	<u>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>Half of Santa Clara County's water supply is imported from outside the county. At this time, when there is a lot of water, Valley Water may not be able to take advantage of these supplies due to limitations in existing storage and transmission infrastructure as well as regulatory constraints. Having a diverse portfolio of storage options helps Valley Water be resilient. Therefore, Valley Water is evaluating whether diversifying its storage portfolio could help maximize our use of storage and stored water recovery under future conditions. Water storage in reservoirs also</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore opportunities to develop new surface and groundwater storage projects that help Valley Water meet future water supply needs and be resilient to climate change.</li> <li>Determine level of participation for projects and decisions about partnerships in accordance with the Water Supply Master Plan and water affordability.</li> <li>Explore partnership opportunities for the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project</li> <li>Validate Valley Water's continued participation in the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project during the MAP review process, bi-annual budget development, and following review and certification</li> </ul>	Water Storage Exploratory Committee (WSEC)

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	<p><i>provides environmental, recreational, and incidental flood risk reduction benefits. Challenges include determining the appropriate level of participation for Valley Water in collaborative water storage projects and prioritizing projects within funding constraints.</i></p> <p><b><u>Objective #2 Challenge/Opportunity</u></b>  <i>The Water Supply Master Plan's "Ensure Sustainability" strategy includes securing existing water supplies and infrastructure. Valley Water's local and imported water supplies are vulnerable to climate change impacts, droughts, earthquake, and regulatory requirements that may restrict the amount of available water.</i></p> <p><b><u>Objective #3 Challenge/Opportunity</u></b>  <i>Recycled and purified water is a drought resilient, locally controlled water supply important to long-term sustainability. The Water Supply Master Plan includes developing up to 24,000 acre-feet per year of purified water by 2040. Purified water is recycled water that has been treated further using reverse osmosis and other advanced treatment to make it fit for drinking. Valley Water is pursuing indirect potable reuse which would use this purified water to replenish our groundwater. Implementation challenges include securing wastewater supply contractual agreements with wastewater agencies, available land, stringent regulatory requirements, and implementation costs.</i></p> <p><b><u>Objective #4 Challenge/Opportunity</u></b>  <i>As our largest reservoir, Anderson serves not only as a critical water supply facility, but also supports Valley Water's mission of flood protection and environmental stewardship. Given the reservoir's critical importance to ensuring safe, clean water for our communities and to protect public safety, it is imperative that the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project (ADSRP) move forward expeditiously. This includes the reconstruction of the Dam and completion of the interim risk reduction measures resulting from the February 20, 2020, directive from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).</i></p> <p><b><u>Objective #5 Challenge/Opportunity</u></b>  <i>Droughts are a recurring feature of California's climate and may intensify with climate change. Water conservation is an essential component in providing a reliable water supply and Valley Water has set a water conservation goal for annual water savings of 99,000</i></p>	<p>of the project's Environmental Impact Report (EIR).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in and influence decisions regarding the Delta Conveyance Project.</li> <li>Participate in regional water supply resilience efforts.</li> <li>Build and maintain effective partnerships to increase resiliency.</li> <li>Complete and implement infrastructure master plans and asset management plans.</li> <li>Partner with the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to ensure reliability of the South Bay Aqueduct.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement the first phase of the Purified Water Program, including release of a Request For Proposal (RFP) and enter into a contract for an Indirect Potable Reuse project that is implemented via a Public Private Partnership.</li> <li>Implement the Countywide Water Reuse Master Plan.</li> <li>Develop a Comprehensive Water Reuse Agreement for South County to advance water reuse and its production, distribution, and wholesaling in South County.</li> <li>Continue to actively be involved with the Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) guidance and ensure Valley Water is positioned to implement a DPR project in the future.</li> <li>Continue collaboration on the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center including building a strong collaborative relationship with the San José-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility to expand the facility.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain the Anderson Reservoir level at the FERC directed level.</li> <li>Complete the construction on the Anderson Dam Tunnel Project (ADTP).</li> <li>Complete the design of the ADSRP.</li> <li>Continue to work with appropriate regulatory agencies to advance the ADSRP.</li> <li>Release the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the ADSRP.</li> <li>Obtain all necessary permits for ADSRP construction.</li> <li>Continue to educate and engage the public, key stakeholders, decision makers, and elected officials of the project progress and construction timeline.</li> <li>Coordinate long term ADSRP operations with the Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE).</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue communication and educational outreach to promote Valley Water's water conservation programs.</li> <li>Increase collaboration with our retailer partners to promote Valley Water's water conservation programs.</li> <li>Implement new water conservation programs and engagement strategies identified within the Water Conservation Strategic Plan.</li> </ul>	<p>Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee (WCaDMC) (Groundwater) CIPC (infrastructure projects)</p> <p>Recycled Water Committee (RWC)</p> <p>CIPC Stream Planning and Operations Committee (SPOC)</p> <p>WCaDMC</p>
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	<p>acre-feet (AF) by 2030 and 109,000 AF by 2040. As Valley Water faces challenges from climate change and drought, water conservation will continue to be amongst the most cost-effective tools for efficiently meeting current and future demands while mitigating droughts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage and support private-sector stakeholders, local, state, and federal agencies that promote water conservation.</li> <li>Develop and implement a Drought Response Plan with support and input from our retailer partners and the broader community to guide short-term behavioral changes during water shortages.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION</b> <b>“Provide Natural Flood Protection to reduce risk and improve health and safety.”</b></p>	<p><u>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>Valley Water is challenged to sustain ecosystem health while managing local water resources for flood protection and water supply. By using an integrated approach to planning and designing flood protection planning, there is an opportunity to create projects with multiple benefits.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make significant progress on One Water plans for the Guadalupe and Pajaro watersheds.</li> <li>Complete construction of Reaches 1-3 of the Shoreline Phase I Project and pursue funding alternatives for Reaches 4-5 to provide 100-year coastal flood risk management, ecosystem restoration, recreational opportunities, and resiliency for sea levelrise.</li> <li>Complete construction of Phase 2A of the Upper Llagas Flood Protection Project to provide flood protection and habitat enhancement.</li> <li>Advance the Palo Alto Flood Basin Project into construction, a repair project to ensure a functional flood basin with wetland habitat.</li> <li>Advance the Sunnyvale East/West Channels Project into construction to provide 100-year storm water flood protection.</li> <li>Compete the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Upper Guadalupe River Project General Reevaluation Study to provide 100-year flood protection.</li> <li>Advance the San Francisquito Creek upstream 101 Project into construction to provide flood protection.</li> <li>Advance the Coyote Creek Flood Mitigation and Flood Protection Projects into construction to provide flood protection for an event equivalent to the 2017 storm event.</li> </ul>	CIPC BPPC
	<p><u>Objective #2 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>As Valley Water continues to advance flood protection projects, the Board has an opportunity to strengthen relationships and improve coordination with conservation and environmental justice groups, as well as other local jurisdictions, with a specific focus on ensuring the voices of disadvantaged communities are equitably represented.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advance One Water Countywide Framework in a comprehensive manner that includes diverse community-wide stakeholders and the incorporation of environmental justice policies in all planning efforts.</li> <li>Continue progress on flood protection capital projects consistent with Valley Water’s commitment to the Safe, Clean Water Program and equitability in all regions.</li> <li>Plan flood risk reduction projects to provide a minimum level of protection countywide.</li> </ul>	CIPC BPPC
<p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP</b> <b>“Sustain ecosystem health while managing local water resources for flood protection and water supply.”</b></p>	<p><u>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>Valley Water’s projects and programs require integrated planning to ensure capital improvements, operations, and maintenance activities are balanced with environmental stewardship goals. Valley Water strives to protect and restore habitats to support native species throughout Santa Clara County.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to develop an integrated water resource plan for each watershed, including appropriate metrics to monitor Valley Water’s impacts on and benefit to the environment.</li> <li>Implement high priority actions included in the Climate Change Action Plan.</li> <li>Make significant progress on the grant-funded planning study for the San Tomas Aquino Calabazas Creek Realignment Project.</li> <li>Advance construction for the Bolsa Creek and Hale Creek projects to</li> </ul>	BPPC

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		<p>begin in Summer 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advance Almaden Lake Improvement Project to begin construction in 2023.</li> <li>• Continue to develop and build on partnerships with environmental organizations and tribal communities when developing projects.</li> </ul>	
	<p><u><b>Objective #2 Challenge/Opportunity</b></u>  <i>Valley Water continues to coordinate with local cities and agencies to improve the health of our local waterways, including pollution prevention and addressing threats to water quality. Opportunities exist to further collaborate with the County, cities, and social services agencies on encampment abatement efforts and to develop long-term solutions for the homeless to keep our creeks clean.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue efforts to protect the ecosystem and water quality of our water Bodies and the integrity of our infrastructure. Such efforts include preventing stormwater pollution, increased implementation of green stormwater infrastructure, addressing mercury pollution, and homeless encampment clean ups.</li> <li>• Coordinate with the County, cities, and other service providers to try to ensure the permanent removal of homeless encampments from creeks and trails.</li> <li>• Continue partnerships and investments on a regional scale such as the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration and Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program (SCVURPPP).</li> </ul>	<p>Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee (ECCC) (SPOC)</p>
	<p><u><b>Objective #3 Challenge/Opportunity</b></u>  <i>For nearly 20 years, Valley Water has been working to resolve a water rights complaint surrounding fish, wildlife, water quality, and other beneficial uses in Coyote Creek, Guadalupe River, and Stevens Creek watershed areas. Challenges include completing the environmental review process, obtaining federal and state permits from multiple regulatory agencies, refining and processing water rights change petitions, the technical complexity of the fisheries impacts analysis, coordination with other ongoing related projects and managing stakeholder expectations.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalize the June 2021 Guadalupe River and Stevens Creek Environmental Impact Report (EIR) consistent with existing stakeholder agreement.</li> <li>• Advance 10 water right change petitions for securing water right orders.</li> <li>• Continue to implement the pilot flow program in Guadalupe and Stevens Creek.</li> <li>• Continue to implement feasibility studies, monitoring activities, and Planning and construction of various fish passage improvements as identified in existing stakeholder agreement.</li> <li>• Continue fisheries monitoring program.</li> <li>• Continue to support an adaptive management program that encompasses all three creeks.</li> </ul>	<p>SPOC</p>
<p><b>CLIMATE CHANGE</b>  <i>"Mitigate Carbon Emissions and Adapt Valley Water Operations to Climate Change Impacts."</i></p>	<p><u><b>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</b></u>  <i>Valley Water's ability to fulfill its mission will be challenged in the future by warmer temperatures, changing precipitation patterns, reduced snowpack, and rising sea levels. Valley Water has been working on greenhouse reduction efforts since 2008 and many adaptation actions over the past decade; however, with adoption of the Climate Change Action Plan there is an opportunity for greater impact.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update carbon accounting and establish new emissions reduction goal if needed.</li> <li>• Make significant progress on development of an agency-wide greenhouse gas reduction plan.</li> </ul>	<p>Climate Adaptation and Sustainability Committee (CAaSC)</p>
<p><b>BUSINESS MANAGEMENT</b>  <i>"Promote effective management of water supply, flood protection, and environmental stewardship through responsive and socially responsible business services."</i></p>	<p><u><b>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</b></u>  <i>Valley Water is committed to creating and maintaining a diverse, inclusive, and equitable work environment that is devoid of discrimination and harassment and provides equal opportunity employment and advancement. Valley Water aims to implement the same values in the community through its flood protection, water supply, and environmental stewardship projects, and has an opportunity to serve as a leader for racial equity, diversity, and inclusion throughout the state.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and implement a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Master Plan that institutes best practices to address internal and external disparities and builds an organizational culture that is consistent with the Board's Resolution addressing racial equity, diversity, and inclusion.</li> <li>• Remain committed to environmental justice and the fair treatment and meaningful engagement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, gender identity, disability status, tribe, culture, income, immigration status, or English language proficiency, with respect to the planning, projects, policies, services, and operations of Valley Water.</li> </ul>	<p>Diversity &amp; Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee (DIAHC)</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to collaborate with external stakeholders that are engaged in developing diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives and actively participate in and provide leadership for diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts throughout the state.</li><li>• Advance and foster mutually beneficial partnerships with regional tribal communities.</li></ul>	
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