



## **Santa Clara Valley Water District Recycled Water Committee Meeting**

HQ. Bldg. Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California  
Join Zoom Meeting: <https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/99518153521>

### **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**Wednesday, June 25, 2025  
12:00 PM**

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

#### **RECYCLED WATER COMMITTEE**

Tony Estremera - District 6, Chair  
Richard P. Santos - District 3, Vice Chair  
Jim Beall - District 4, Member

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.

KIRSTEN STRUVE  
Committee Liaison

NICOLE MERRITT  
Assistant Deputy Clerk II  
Office/Clerk of the Board  
(408) 630-3262  
[nmerritt@valleywater.org](mailto:nmerritt@valleywater.org)

**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  
Recycled Water Committee  
REGULAR MEETING  
AGENDA**

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Wednesday, June 25, 2025

12:00 PM

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

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/99518153521>

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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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This agenda has been prepared as required by the applicable laws of the State of California, including but not limited to, Government Code Sections 54950 et. seq. and has

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**Join Zoom Meeting:**

**<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/99518153521>**

**Meeting ID: 995 1815 3521**

**Join by Phone:**

**1 (669) 900-9128, 99518153521#**

**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 May 19, 2025, Recycled Water Committee Minutes. [25-0559](#)

Recommendation: Approve the minutes

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

Attachments: [Attachment 1: 05192025 RWC Meeting Minutes](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

#### 4. REGULAR AGENDA:

- 4.1. Receive Purified Water Program Update Including Partnership with Cities of San Jose and Santa Clara. [25-0540](#)

Recommendation: Receive an update on the following topics:

- A. Update on Demonstration Facility and Full-Scale Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) Facility at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center
- B. DPR Engagement Efforts;
- C. Debrief on Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee;
- D. SFPUC/BAWSCA collaboration efforts; and
- E. Ongoing Outreach Activities

Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

- 4.2. Receive Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study Update. [25-0541](#)

Recommendation: Receive an update on Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study.

Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)

Est. Staff Time: 10 Minutes

- 4.3. Receive State and Federal Grant Opportunities Update. [25-0542](#)

Recommendation: Receive an update on state and federal financial assistance programs supporting Valley Water's recycled and purified water programs.

Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

Est. Staff Time: 10 Minutes

- 4.4. Receive and Discuss the 2025 Recycled Water Committee (RWC) Work Plan, and Provide Feedback on Upcoming Discussion Items, and Next Meeting Date.

[25-0560](#)

Recommendation: Receive and discuss the 2025 RWC Work Plan and provide feedback on upcoming discussion items and the next meeting date.

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

Attachments: [Attachment 1: 2025 RWC 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. The Next Special Meeting is Scheduled at 12:00 p.m., on July 30, 2025.

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# Santa Clara Valley Water District

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**File No.:** 25-0559

**Agenda Date:** 6/25/2025  
**Item No.:** 3.1.

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## **COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Recycled Water Committee**

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

### **SUBJECT:**

Approval of May 19, 2025, Recycled Water 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 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 Valley Water's historical records archives and serve as historical records of the Committee's meetings.

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

The approval of minutes is not subject to environmental justice analysis.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1: 05192025 RWC Meeting Minutes

### **UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

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For full meeting record, please review meeting videos at:  
<https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/committees/board-committees>

## RECYCLED WATER COMMITTEE MEETING

# DRAFT MINUTES

**SPECIAL MEETING  
MONDAY, MAY 19, 2025  
1:30 PM**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

### **1. CALL TO ORDER:**

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

#### **1.1. Roll Call.**

Committee members in attendance were District 4 Director Jim Beall, District 3 Vice Chairperson Richard P. Santos, and District 6 Director Tony Estremera, Chairperson presiding, constituting a quorum of the Committee.

Staff members in attendance were: Brandon Adriano, Karen Adriano, Antonio Alfaro, Gina Adriano, Aaron Baker, Henry Barrientos, Nastaran Basiri, Roseryn Bhudsabourg, Jiana Escobar, Walter Gonzalez, Linh Hoang, Girlie Jacobson, Candice Kwok-Smith, Francesca Lomotan, Marta Lugo, Nicole Merritt, Carlos Orellana, Max Overland, Mark Poole, Mike Potter, Ray Ruiz, Desiree Sausele, Nicholas Simard, Medi Sinaki, Kirsten Struve, Charlene Sun, David Tucker, and Andrea Yau-Chan.

Public in attendance were: Jan Davel (CDM Smith), iPhone (58), Katja Irvin (Sierra Club), Mark Millan (Data Instincts), and Sanjay Reddy (Carollo Engineers).

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

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

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

#### **3.1. Approval of April 29, 2025, Recycled Water Committee Meeting Minutes.**

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

For full meeting record, please review meeting videos at:  
<https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/committees/board-committees>

The Committee considered the attached minutes of the April 29, 2025 Committee meeting.

It was moved by Vice Chairperson Santos and seconded by Director Beall, and unanimously carried that the minutes be approved.

#### **4. REGULAR AGENDA:**

- 4.1. Review and Discuss the Option Agreement for First Amendment to Ground Lease and Property Use Agreement and Draft Amended Agreements for the Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) Demonstration Facility and Recommend that the Board Adopt a Resolution to Authorize the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to Negotiate and Execute the Option Agreement for First Amendment to Ground Lease and Property Use Agreement Among Valley Water, the City of San Jose, and the City of Santa Clara and the Draft Amended Agreements Between Valley Water and the City of San Jose to Develop a DPR Demonstration Facility.

Recommendation: Recommend that the Board of Directors adopt a resolution to authorize the CEO to negotiate and execute the following agreements to develop a DPR Demonstration Facility:

- A. Option Agreement for First Amendment to Ground Lease and Property Use Agreement among Valley Water, the City of San Jose, and the City of Santa Clara;
- B. First Amendment to Ground Lease and Property Use Agreement for the Advanced Water Treatment Facility between City of San Jose, City of Santa Clara and the Santa Clara Valley Water District upon satisfaction of the conditions to exercise the option;
- C. First Amendment to Recycled Water Facilities and Programs Integration Agreement, between Valley Water and the City of San Jose; and
- D. Amended and Restated Agreement for Operation and Maintenance of the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center, between Valley Water and the City of San Jose.

Kirsten Struve reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the information contained in Attachment 1.

Kirsten Struve and Francesca Lomotan were available to answer questions.

Public Comments:  
None.

The Committee reviewed the information, and noted the following:

- The Committee confirmed Valley Water's learning center would be suitable for adults and children in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade and up and noted support for outreach with the Santa Clara Unified School District.

For full meeting record, please review meeting videos at:  
<https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/committees/board-committees>

- The Committee expressed support and appreciation for staff's work and noted support for media outreach regarding the progress of the project.

It was moved by Vice Chairperson Santos and seconded by Director Beall and carried by unanimous vote that the following Recommendations A through D be approved:

Recommendation: Recommend that the Board of Directors adopt a resolution to authorize the CEO to negotiate and execute the following agreements to develop a DPR Demonstration Facility:

- A. Option Agreement for First Amendment to Ground Lease and Property Use Agreement among Valley Water, the City of San Jose, and the City of Santa Clara;
- B. First Amendment to Ground Lease and Property Use Agreement for the Advanced Water Treatment Facility between City of San Jose, City of Santa Clara and the Santa Clara Valley Water District upon satisfaction of the conditions to exercise the option;
- C. First Amendment to Recycled Water Facilities and Programs Integration Agreement, between Valley Water and the City of San Jose; and
- D. Amended and Restated Agreement for Operation and Maintenance of the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center, between Valley Water and the City of San Jose.

4.2. Discuss and Recommend to the Board to Modify the Name of the San Jose Purified Water Project to the Interim Name of Pure Water Silicon Valley.

Recommendation: Discuss and recommend to the Board to modify the name of the San Jose Purified Water Project to the staff recommended interim name of Pure Water Silicon Valley.

Linh Hoang reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the information contained in Attachment 1.

Linh Hoang and Mark Millan were available to answer questions.

Public Comments:  
None.

The Committee received the information, and noted the following:

- The Committee noted without discussion the name of the San Jose Purified Water Project would be modified through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) process.

For full meeting record, please review meeting videos at:  
<https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/committees/board-committees>

It was moved by Vice Chairperson Santos and seconded by Director Beall and carried by unanimous vote to approve to recommend to the Board to modify the name of the San Jose Purified Water Project to the Interim Name of Pure Water Silicon Valley.

- 4.3. Receive and Discuss the 2025 Recycled Water Committee (RWC) Work Plan, and Provide Feedback on Upcoming Discussion Items, and the Next Meeting Date.

Recommendation: Receive and discuss the 2025 RWC Work Plan and provide feedback on upcoming discussion items and the next meeting date.

Kirsten Struve reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and per the information contained in Attachment 1.

Kirsten Struve was available to answer questions.

Public Comment:  
None.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and noted without discussion the updated RWC Work Plan.

**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.*

None.

**6. Adjourn:**

- 6.1. Adjourn. The Next Regular Meeting is Scheduled at 12:00 p.m. on June 25, 2025.

Chairperson Estremera adjourned the meeting at 1:48 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled to occur at 12:00 p.m. on June 25, 2025.

Nicole Merritt  
Assistant Deputy Clerk II

Date Approved:



# Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0540

Agenda Date: 6/25/2025

Item No.: 4.1.

## COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Recycled Water Committee

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

### SUBJECT:

Receive Purified Water Program Update Including Partnership with Cities of San Jose and Santa Clara.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update on the following topics:

- A. Update on Demonstration Facility and Full-Scale Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) Facility at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center
- B. DPR Engagement Efforts;
- C. Debrief on Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee;
- D. SFPUC/BAWSCA collaboration efforts; and
- E. Ongoing Outreach Activities

### SUMMARY:

#### **A. Update on Demonstration Facility and Full-Scale Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) Facility at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center**

Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) and the Cities of San Jose and Santa Clara continue to meet on a regular basis (at least every other week) to work on various elements of the DPR Demonstration facility. Now that the agreement amendment negotiations have been completed, the team has focused on developing the charter, which provides a framework for the development of the full-scale facility agreements. Major items to be discussed include wastewater flow availability and Reverse Osmosis Concentrate management.

Valley Water staff is working to procure a design consultant for the demonstration facility and learning center.

#### **B. DPR Engagement Efforts**

As part of the continuous efforts to keep the regulatory entities informed about the project, Valley Water began a series of meetings with the Division of Drinking Water (DDW) to develop the

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demonstration facility in January 2025. The latest meeting was in May 2025, with monthly meetings going forward.

### **C. Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee**

A Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee (JRWPAC) was held on May 23, 2025. The committee heard an update on the purified water project, South Bay Water Recycling and Purification Center budgets, outreach and polling, and data centers. The committee provided positive feedback on the progress on the purified water project. A joint meeting of the Valley Water Board and the San Jose City Council is planned for August. Staff is working jointly on an update on the Pure Water Silicon Valley project.

### **D. SFPUC/BAWSCA Collaboration**

Staff from Valley Water and the Cities of San Jose and Santa Clara held a workshop with staff from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) to discuss developing a partnership charter for the Purified Water Project on September 25, 2024. All agencies are interested in partnering on a purified water project. One of the follow-ups from this workshop was exploring joint outreach efforts on potable reuse. Valley Water coordinated a joint outreach meeting with SFPUC, Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA), and other agencies interested in potable reuse on May 6, 2025; there were 32 meeting attendees. Moving forward, quarterly meetings will be held to discuss potential ideas for collaboration.

### **E. Ongoing Outreach Activities**

#### **General Purified Water Outreach**

Staff continues to conduct tours of the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center (SVAWPC) and outreach initiatives to build support for potable reuse, which include:

- Purified Water Tour Program - In April and May, 143 visitors toured the SVAWPC, which included Valley Water's VIP Water Walk Tour for elected officials, staff representing elected officials, and key advocacy stakeholders.
- Demonstration Water Bottle Distribution - In April and May, 1,665 purified demonstration water bottles were distributed.
- Tailored Outreach Initiatives - Based on the results of the latest public perception poll, staff is conducting tailored outreach to reach older adults, ages 50 and over. In April, staff presented to the Almaden Lions Club.

#### **Outreach Coordination with San Jose and Santa Clara Partners**

To further outreach collaboration, staff met with City of San Jose staff in May and met with City of Santa Clara staff in June. Staff will continue to meet with the partner agencies on a regular basis to identify and implement collaborative outreach opportunities.

#### **Learning Center Development**

Staff continues to work with the Purified Water Project team on the specifications for a learning center that will be part of Phase 1 of the demonstration facility. In April and May, staff continued

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benchmarking and industry research with the Oakland Museum of California and the Chabot Space & Science Center. The information learned will be incorporated into Valley Water's approach to the Learning Center development.

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:**

There are no environmental justice and equity impacts associated with this item. This action is unlikely to or will not result in adverse impacts and is not associated with an equity opportunity.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None.

**UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

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# Santa Clara Valley Water District

**File No.:** 25-0541

**Agenda Date:** 6/25/2025

**Item No.:** 4.2.

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## COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Recycled Water Committee

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

### SUBJECT:

Receive Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study Update.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update on Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study.

### SUMMARY:

The purpose of this agenda memorandum is to provide the Recycled Water Committee (RWC) with an update to the Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study. As reported to the RWC in February 2025, on July 9, 2024, the Valley Water Board of Directors approved Agreement A5050A with Black and Veatch Corporation (Consultant) to conduct a Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study (EFS). Since then both Valley Water and the Consultant continue making steady progress, including data collection and evaluation of different options for site location, bay water intake, and brine management. In addition, Valley Water has engaged with state regulators and local non-profit environmental organizations to discuss the project and gather input.

On October 7 and 31, 2024, Valley Water met with the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) to introduce the study and gather feedback that will assist in our evaluation. Additionally, on December 6, 2024, Valley Water held a joint meeting with the Regional Board and the State Water Resources Control Board to discuss specific concerns related to potential groundwater interaction with a future bay water intake.

Valley Water is actively collaborating with the Consultant to plan and implement engagement efforts with environmental and community stakeholders. On January 16, 2025, Valley Water met with the Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge (CCCR) to introduce the study and obtain their feedback for consideration into the EFS.

On April 2, 2025, staff provided an update on the EFS at the Environmentally Focused Stakeholder Meeting hosted by Valley Water. During the meeting staff presented the project background, drivers, and overall approach. In addition, staff discussed the project schedule, outlined next steps and

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responded to questions from attendees. Stakeholder questions included interest in cost estimates for a potential project, impacts on greenhouse gas emissions and energy use, demand projections, and alignment with the Water Supply Master Plan 2050. These topics will be addressed in the forthcoming EFS. Valley Water remains committed to ongoing engagement and will continue reaching out to interested stakeholders to gather input that will inform future phases of the study.

The regulatory framework guiding the EFS is based on the California Water Code, San Francisco Basin Plan, and to some extent the California Ocean Plan. The regulatory framework requires that coastal industrial facilities using seawater, such as desalination plants, implement the best available technologies and mitigation measures to minimize marine life mortality from water intake systems. Although the San Francisco Bay (SF Bay) is not subject to the Ocean Plan, Valley Water is conservatively using it as a guiding reference. For instance, the Ocean Plan recommends prioritizing subsurface intakes over surface intakes. In alignment with this guidance, Valley Water has conducted a hydrologic analysis to evaluate the feasibility of potential subsurface intake locations in the SF Bay.

Project alternatives unlikely to receive permits for construction and operation, were identified as fatal-flaw and subsequently eliminated. The remaining alternatives are considered feasible as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the California Ocean Plan. Based on feedback from both environmental stakeholders and state regulators, the Consultant has completed a draft Fatal Flaw Analysis, which resulted in narrowing the number of alternatives carried forward to the Alternatives Analysis (see attached PowerPoint).

Facility siting options were reduced from 12 to 4 locations, including sites in Palo Alto, Mountain View, Sunnyvale, and San José. Based on the hydrogeologic analysis, subsurface intakes are deemed infeasible due to the low permeability of bay mud. Surface intake alternatives under consideration include a deep south San Francisco Bay location, Coyote Creek, and Guadalupe Slough. For brine management, the alternatives include co-mingling with treated wastewater from an existing South Bay wastewater treatment plant, a deep San Francisco Bay outfall with a diffuser, a nature-based solution, and discharge via the Cargill channel.

The next steps are to complete the feasibility study report and schedule meetings with relevant agencies and stakeholders at the 50% and 100% Alternatives Analysis Report milestones. Staff are planning to update the RWC and get its feedback before finalizing the final report.

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

There are no environmental justice and equity impacts associated with this item. This action is unlikely to or will not result in adverse impacts and is not associated with an equity opportunity.

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

#### **UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138





# Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study-Update

## Santa Clara Valley Water District

Recycled Water Committee, June 25, 2025  
Draft Fatal Flaw Analysis

# Agenda

- Study Overview & Approach
- Components of the Fatal Flaw Analysis:
  - Subsurface Intakes
  - Screened Surface Intakes
  - Siting Facility
  - Brine Management
- Next Steps

# Study Overview & Approach

# Regulatory Framework

4

- **California Statute**

- California Water Code section 13142.5(b) for “... coastal industrial facilities using seawater apply the best available site, design, technology, and mitigation measures, feasible, to minimize the intake and mortality of all marine life.”

- **California Regulation**

- CA Ocean Plan provides regulatory guidance for the application of CWC section 13142.5(b) to seawater desalination plants utilizing “ocean water”.
- The San Francisco Bay is not subject to the CA Ocean Plan’s seawater desalination regulations, however, **the fatal flaw’s feasibility analysis utilizes the Ocean Plan as guidance** as it represents the most conservative regulatory scenario.

# Definition

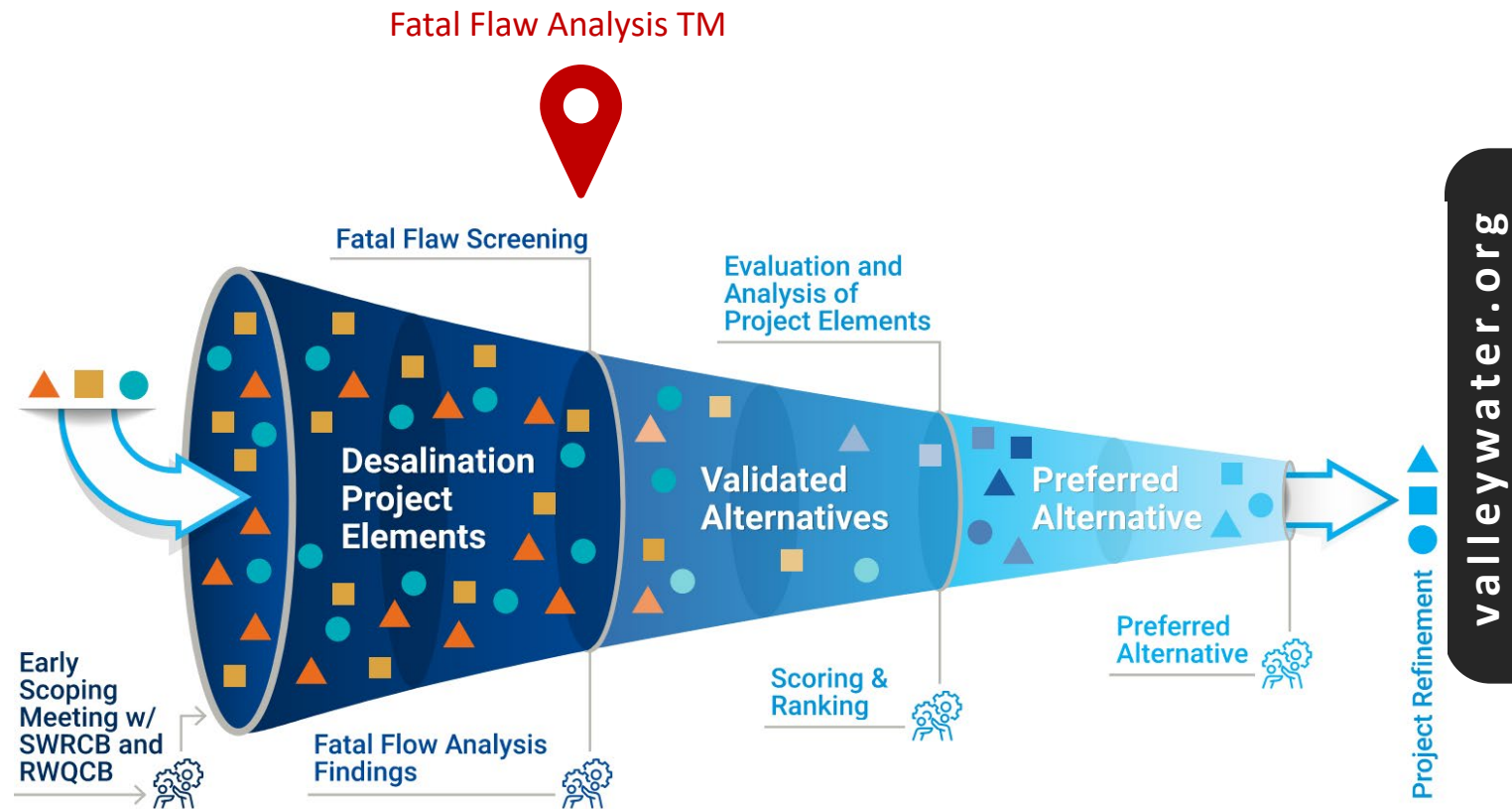
- **Fatal Flaw**
  - May face permitting challenges when evaluated against relevant regulatory frameworks, such as the California Ocean Plan, Bay Plan, or SF Basin Plan.
  - Unlikely to meet capacity needs.
- **Feasible** as defined by CEQA and the CA Ocean Plan
  - Feasible shall mean capable of being accomplished within a reasonable time, considering economic, environmental, social, and technological factors.



# Fatal Flaw Analysis Components

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- **Intakes**
  - Subsurface
  - Screened surface intake
    - Type, location, and screen options
- **Facility Siting**
  - Several sites analyzed
- **Brine Management**
  - Comingling brine with treated wastewater
  - New Deep outfall with diffusers
  - Horizontal levees
  - Cargill use



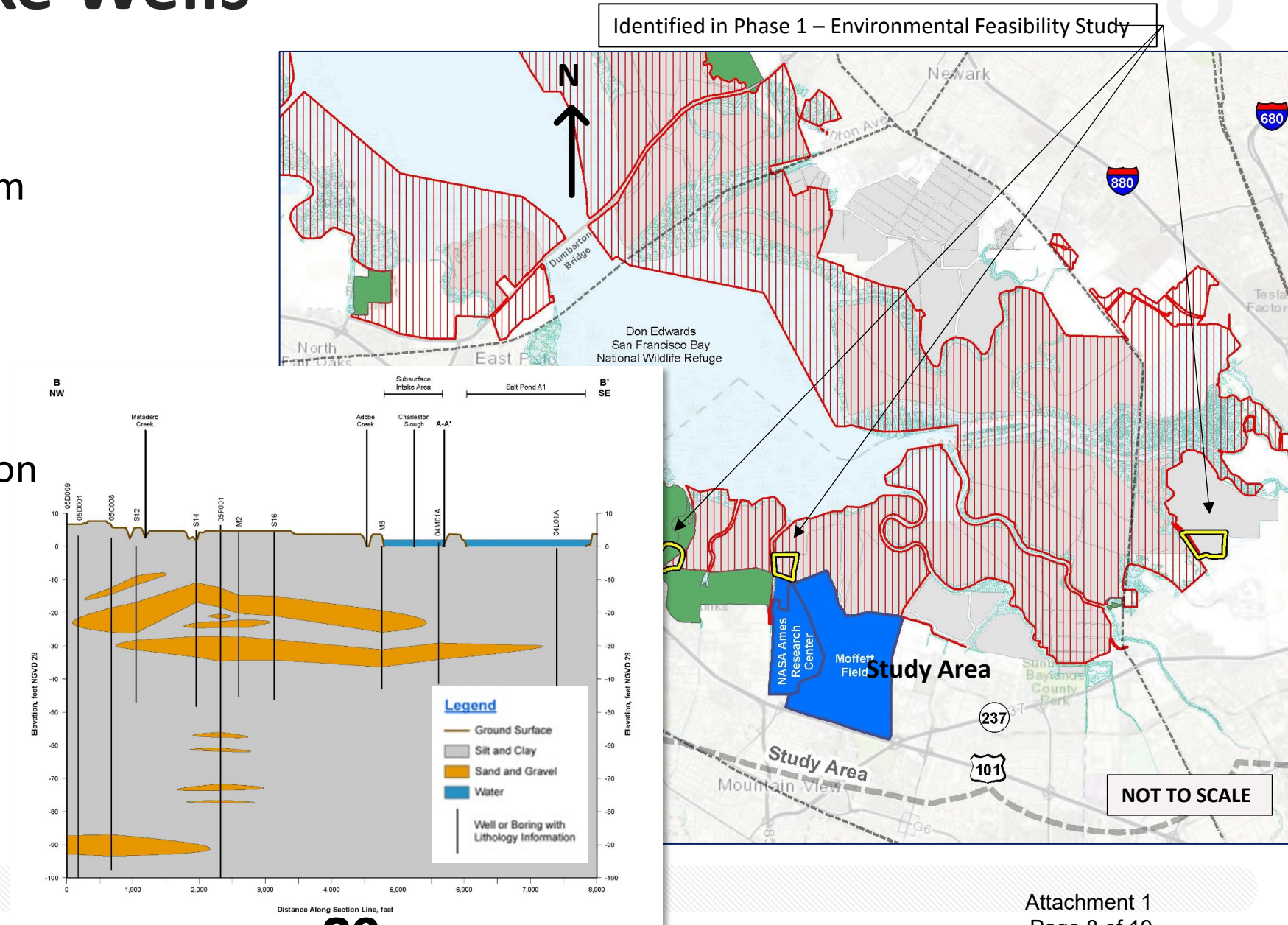


# Components of the Fatal Flaw Analysis

# Subsurface Intake Wells

## Preliminary Findings

- The shallow aquifer system near the Bay has thin, discontinuous water pockets separated by impermeable Bay mud.
- No direct lateral connection between shallow aquifers and the Bay.



# Subsurface Intake Wells Hydrogeology

## Preliminary Findings

- Shallow aquifer wells have low to moderate yields limiting source water production from brackish aquifers
  - Aquifer testing near SJ RWF (Dec 2023) - 2.5 gpm
  - Valley Water study (URS, 2009)- 1 and 11 gpm near the Bay
- Based on these data, assuming a single well yield of 20 gpm and a minimum plant source water demand of ~20 MGD, **a total of ~700 production wells would be required.**
- This number of wells would require VW to acquire large areas of land

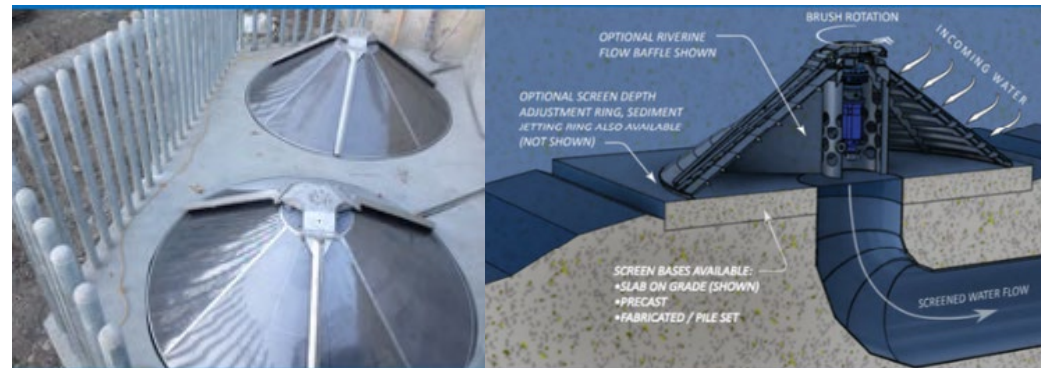
# Screened Surface Intake

A surface intake refers to a system that draws seawater directly from the ocean/bay typically from above the seabed or at the ocean surface, using open structures like pipes or channels with screens to minimize aquatic impacts.

## Cylindrical Screen



## Conical Screen



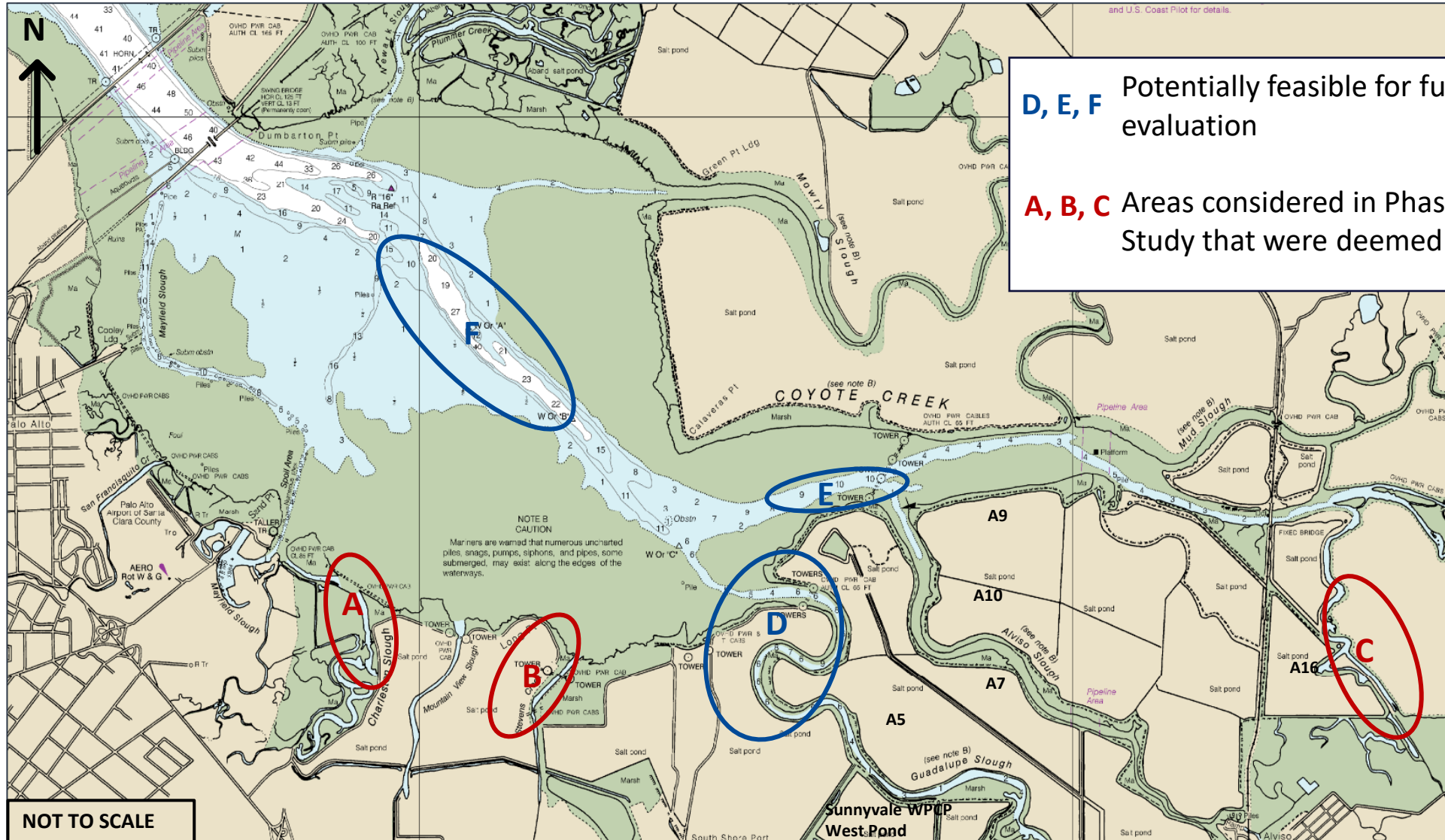
## Hemispherical Screen



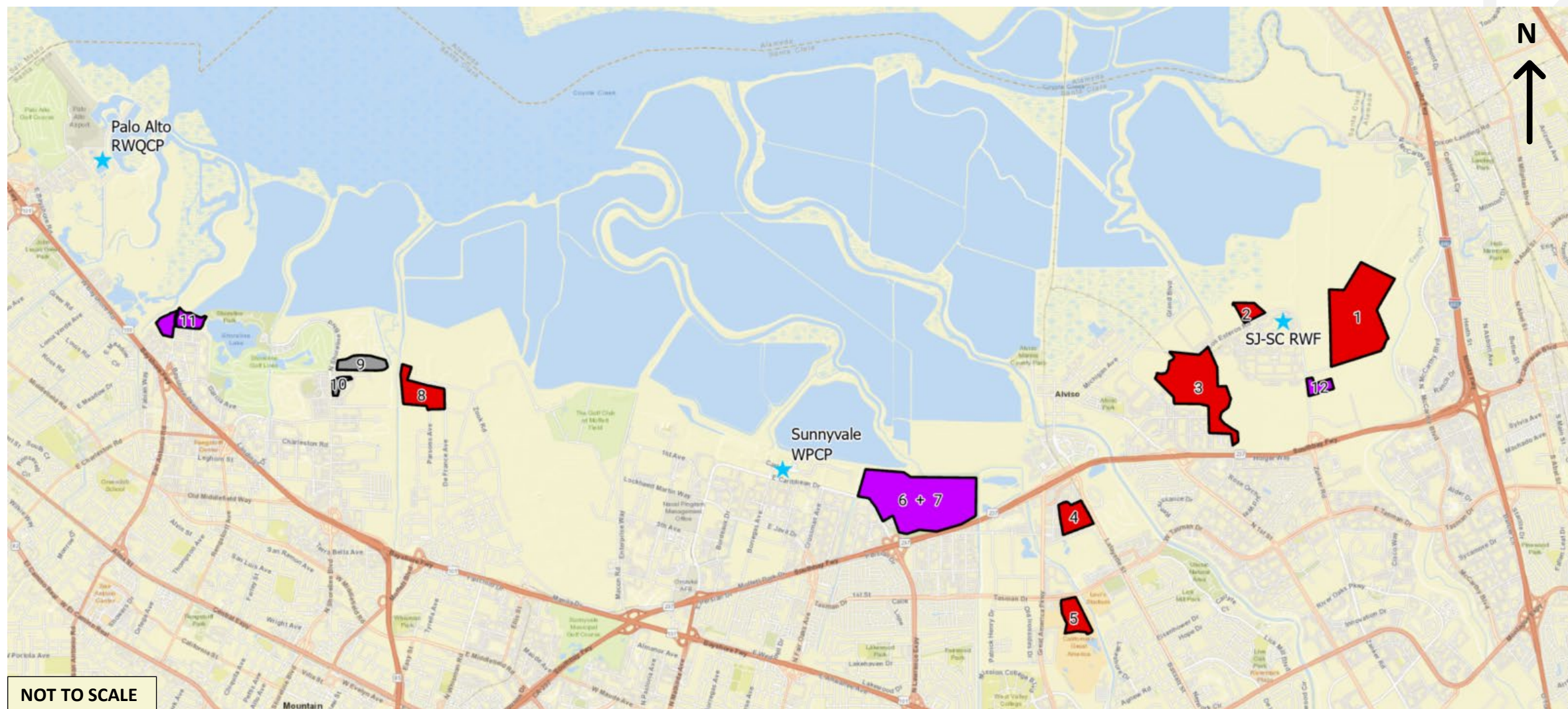


# Proposed Screened Open Intake Areas

11



# Facility Siting: Locations Evaluated



NOT TO SCALE



Local WWTP



Preferred Site



Potentially Infeasible Site



Other Site



# Brine Management

## Key Consideration

Maintaining ambient salt levels in the Bay

Minimizing aquatic impacts as required by applicable environmental regulations

## Studied Options

Comingling with Treated Wastewater Effluent from Existing WWTP

New Deep Bay Outfall with Brine Diffuser

Horizontal Levee

Cargill Salt Use

# Brine Management

## Feasible Options for Further Evaluation

- Comingling with Treated Wastewater Effluent from Existing WWTP
- New deep Bay Outfall with Brine Diffuser





# Fatal Flaw Analysis Summary

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- **Intakes**
  - Subsurface – infeasible
  - Screened surface intake
    - 3 locations potentially feasible
    - 3 screen types (conical, cylindrical, and hemispherical)
- **Facility Siting**
  - Multiple sites analyzed
    - 3 sites potentially feasible
- **Brine Management**
  - Comingling brine with treated wastewater
  - New Deep outfall with diffusers
  - Horizontal levees – infeasible
  - Cargill use – infeasible

# Next Steps

# Next Steps

- **Complete** Alternative Analysis Report.
- **Plan to meet** with the Recycled Water Committee after completion of Alternative Analysis Report.
- **Plan to engage** with relevant stakeholders during development of Alternative Analysis Report.
- If desalination emerges as a viable alternative to potable reuse, subsequent steps will include further project planning, Board discussion and approval, CEQA review and further stakeholder engagement.

# Study Schedule



# Thank you!



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# Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0542

Agenda Date: 6/25/2025

Item No.: 4.3.

## COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Recycled Water Committee

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

### SUBJECT:

Receive State and Federal Grant Opportunities Update.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update on state and federal financial assistance programs supporting Valley Water's recycled and purified water programs.

### SUMMARY:

Valley Water's Board of Directors has set a supply objective to meet at least 10 percent of the county's total water demands using recycled and purified water. The Water Supply Master Plan 2050 also includes potable reuse goals, including a new goal of 24,000 AFY by 2035 of potable reuse and a long term vision to maximize reuse in the County up to 32,000 AFY. To achieve water reuse goals, Valley Water is building on its partnerships with four water reuse systems in the County, referred to as our-Partner Agencies, to further expand the use of recycled water, including developing potable reuse projects. Subsequently, the Valley Water Board of Directors and San José City Council directed staff to develop needed agreements with the Cities of San José and Santa Clara for a direct potable reuse (DPR) project in San José using treated wastewater from the Regional Wastewater Facility. These activities will require a significant investment of staff and financial resources as Valley Water partners with local agencies to implement its water supply master plan.

Likewise, Valley Water must continue investing significant capital dollars into constructing, repairing, and rehabilitating the infrastructure required to deliver safe, reliable recycled water to Silicon Valley residents and businesses. Valley Water constructs, operates, and maintains reservoirs, pipelines, recharge facilities, and water reuse and treatment facilities to achieve the Boards Ends Policies. Valley Water has historically relied on both pay-as-you-go financing as well as short-term debt financing. Valley Water routinely seeks state and federal funding opportunities to help fund its capital planning, design, and construction activities. The purpose of today's discussion is to update the Committee on the following:

- State and federal grant services from the Grants, Compliance, and Claims Management Unit

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that supports Valley Water's recycled and purified water program and projects,

- Current federal funding outlook regarding water recycling and reuse, and the status of our \$4M request for Congressionally Directed Spending for the purified water demonstration facility,
- Status of our two United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) planning grants to develop feasibility studies for the Pure Water Silicon Valley project and the South County Water Reuse program, and
- Summary of technical consultant services for state and federal funding opportunities for water reuse, including engineering support to develop feasibility studies as a pre-requisite for future USBR design and construction funding.

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:**

There are no environmental justice and equity impacts associated with this item. This action is unlikely to or will not result in adverse impacts and is not associated with an equity opportunity.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None.

**UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138



# Santa Clara Valley Water District

**File No.:** 25-0560

**Agenda Date:** 6/25/2025

**Item No.:** 4.4.

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## COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Recycled Water Committee

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

### SUBJECT:

Receive and Discuss the 2025 Recycled Water Committee (RWC) Work Plan, and Provide Feedback on Upcoming Discussion Items, and Next Meeting Date.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and discuss the 2025 RWC Work Plan and provide feedback on upcoming discussion items and the next meeting date.

### SUMMARY:

Under direction of the Clerk, Work Plans are used by all Board Committees to increase Committee efficiency, provide increased public notice of intended Committee discussions, and enable improved follow-up by staff. Work Plans are dynamic documents managed by Committee Chairs and are subject to change.

At the February 26, 2025 meeting, the Committee approved the 2025 work plan that has agenda items necessary for the continuation of the recycled water projects.

An updated 2025 work plan (Attachment 1) proposes changes for the remaining meetings in the year.

Staff solicits Committee feedback on any additional timeline information for holding discussions on the assigned Work Plan items and confirmation of the next meeting date.

### ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

The review and acceptance of the RWC Work Plan and meeting schedule are not subject to environmental justice analysis.

### ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: 2025 RWC Work Plan

### UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

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RWC 2025 WORK PLAN												
Task	Agenda Item	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	December
FY 25 Tactic 1: Advance the Purified Water Program.												
1.1	Update on Purified Water Program including Partnership with Cities of San Jose and Santa Clara. Phase I Facility and full-scale Direct Potable Reuse Facility at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center. On-going outreach. Actively Engage in statewide implementation of Direct Potable Reuse.	Canceled	X	Canceled	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1.2	Update on Partnership with Cities of Palo Alto and Mountain View.											
FY 25 Tactic 2: Implement the Countywide Water Reuse Master Plan.												
2.1	Joint Mtg Prep/Debrief: Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee, including coordination on the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Facility and building strong collaborative relationships.				X							
2.2	Joint Mtg Prep/Debrief: Cities of Palo Alto/Mtn View.											
2.3	Joint Mtg Prep/Debrief: City of Sunnyvale.											
2.4	Update on SFPUC/BAWSCA Collaboration Efforts.					X						
2.5	Independent Advisory Panel.				X						X	
2.6	Expansion of nonpotable recycled water use.											
FY 25 Tactic 3: Develop a Comprehensive Water Reuse Agreement for South County to advance water reuse and its production, distribution, and wholesaling in South County.												
4.1	South Santa Clara County Water Reuse Collaboration.	X		X						X		
FY 25 Tactic 4: Continue to monitor feasibility of desalination.												
5.1	Continue to investigate feasibility of desalination (local and regional).	X		X		X		X				
Others.												
6.1	Regional discussion on options: Feasibility analysis of Recycled Water Exchange with Contra Costa Water District and Central Contra Costa Sanitary District.											
6.2	Investigating Different Source of Water for Purification including Urban Water Runoff/Stormwater.				X							
6.3	Outreach Comprehensive Efforts.									X		
6.4	State and Federal Grant opportunities.					X	X					
6.5	Large Water User Reuse Opportunities.								X			
6.6	Name of Purified Water Project.					X						

\*Blue Strikes - Items added on updated Work Plan.

\*Red Strikes - Items deleted from updated Work Plan.

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