



Santa Clara Valley Water District Environmental and Water Resources Committee Meeting

HQ Boardroom
5700 Almaden Expressway

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

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

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

Charles Ice, Committee Chair
Arthur M. Keller, Committee Vice Chair

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

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

John Bourgeois
Vincent Gin
(Staff Liaisons)

Dave Leon, (COB Liaison)
Assistant Deputy Clerk II
daveleon@valleywater.org
1-408-630-2006

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

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

Monday, July 15, 2024

6:00 PM

HQ Boardroom
5700 Almaden Expressway
San Jose CA 95118

IMPORTANT NOTICES AND PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS

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

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

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

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

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

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

not been prepared with a view to informing an investment decision in any of Valley Water's bonds, notes or other obligations. Any projections, plans or other forward-looking statements included in the information in this agenda are subject to a variety of uncertainties that could cause any actual plans or results to differ materially from any such statement. The information herein is not intended to be used by investors or potential investors in considering the purchase or sale of Valley Water's bonds, notes or other obligations and investors and potential investors should rely only on information filed by Valley Water on the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board's Electronic Municipal Market Access System for municipal securities disclosures and Valley Water's Investor Relations website, maintained on the World Wide Web at <https://emma.msrb.org/> and <https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/financebudget/investor-relations>, respectively.

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

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/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 April 15, 2024 Environmental and Water Resources Committee Minutes. [24-0512](#)
Recommendation: Approve the minutes.
Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193
Attachments: [Attachment 1: 041524 EWRC minutes](#)

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

- 4.1. Receive an update on Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) Regulations and the development of a Potable Reuse project. [24-0505](#)
Recommendation: Receive an update on Direct Potable Reuse Regulations and the development of a Potable Reuse project.
Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138
Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)
- 4.2. Valley Water's Habitat Lands Mitigation, Conservation, and Monitoring Efforts [24-0597](#)
Recommendation: Receive an update/summary of the habitat land mitigation, conservation, monitoring and management efforts undertaken by Valley Water's Watershed Stewardship and Planning Division, including the Stream and Watershed Protection Program and the Safe, Clean Water Program's Project D7 - Partnerships for the Conservation of Habitat Lands.
Manager: John Bourgeois, 408-630-2990
Attachments: [Attachment 1: Powerpoint](#)
- 4.3. Review and Receive Updates on the Environmental and Water Resources Committee's Working Groups. [24-0648](#)
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](#)

- 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.

[24-0649](#)

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](#)

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:

6.1. Adjourn to Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on October 21, 2024.

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 24-0512

Agenda Date: 7/15/2024

Item No.: 3.1.

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 April 15, 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: 041524 EWRC Minutes

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

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ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES

Monday, April 15, 2024

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Environmental and Water Resources Committee (Committee) Meeting was held on April 15, 2024, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters Building, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Committee Chair Charles Ice called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. A quorum was established with 10 members present.

Members in attendance were:

District 1: Swanee Edwards, Loren Lewis
District 2: Chairperson Charles Ice, Shiloh Ballard
District 3: Bill Roth
District 4: Bob Levy
District 5: Mike Michitaka, Hon. Patrick S. Kwok
District 6: Eleni Jacobson
District 7: Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D.

Members not in attendance were:

District 3: Charles Taylor
District 7: Tess Byler

Jim Piazza (District 6) arrived as noted below.

Board members in attendance were: Director Tony Estremera (District 6).

Director Barbara Keegan attended the meeting virtually.

Staff members in attendance were: Lisa Bankosh, Justin Burks, Samantha Greene, Dave Leon, Metra Richert, Ashley Shannon, Kirsten Struve, Sana Wazit, and Jing Wu.

Public in attendance were: Rebecca Eisenberg, Betsy Megas, Rick, and Richard Santos.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Attachment 1
Page 1 of 3

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Member Kwok, seconded by Member Levy, and majority vote carried, to approve the January 22, 2024 Committee meeting minutes as presented. Members Ballard and Lewis abstained.

4. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

4.1. RECEIVE INFORMATION AND PROVIDE FEEDBACK ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF VALLEY WATER'S WATER SUPPLY MASTER PLAN 2050.

Kirsten Struve and Jing Wu reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachments 1, 2, and 3.

Jing Wu, Kirsten Struve, and Samantha Greene were available to answer questions.

Member Piazza arrived at 6:09 p.m.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and requested that staff provide a link to the Committee members relating to the benchmarking study.

4.2 VALLEY WATER DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

Kirsten Struve and Ashley Shannon reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1, and were available to answer questions.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

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

Dave Leon reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachments 1 and 2 and was available to answer questions.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

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.

Dave Leon reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachments 1 and 2 and was available to answer questions.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

5. STANDING ITEMS

5.1 DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

There were no reports from the Directors.

5.2 MANAGER'S REPORTS

Lisa Bankosh thanked the Committee for its work relating to One Water Watershed Plan, which was adopted by the Board on April 9, 2024.

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

Dave Leon noted the request made on item no. 4.1.

6. ADJOURNMENT

6.1 ADJOURN

Chairperson Ice adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m. to the next regular meeting on Monday, July 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.: 24-0505

Agenda Date: 7/15/2024

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 an update on Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) Regulations and the development of a Potable Reuse project.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update on Direct Potable Reuse Regulations and the development of a Potable Reuse project.

SUMMARY:

Updates on Direct Potable Reuse Regulations

The California State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) released the draft Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) regulations on July 21st, 2023. The draft regulations provide a comprehensive framework for implementing both raw water augmentation (planned introduction of highly treated recycled water upstream of a drinking water treatment plant) and treated water augmentation projects (planned introduction of highly treated recycled water directly into a public drinking water system). Since then, on October 17th, 2023, the Water Board released revisions to the DPR regulations - which included significant changes incorporating some of the comments received from water utilities, professional organizations, and technical consultants.

Valley Water has long been a supporter throughout the development of the DPR regulations, sharing our agency's experiences and needs. Valley Water also has been participating in various studies that directly support the implementation of future DPR projects.

On December 19th, 2023, the Water Board voted to adopt the draft DPR regulations, beginning the final series of rulemaking steps, which include:

- Submission of rulemaking file to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL)
- Approval by OAL
- Filing with the Secretary of State

- Signing of the regulations by the Secretary of State, making them effective

Of the above, the first step has been completed and the remaining are in the works. It is anticipated that the regulations would become effective in the Summer of 2024.

Development of a Potable Reuse Project

Santa Clara County relies on imported water for half its water supply, which becomes vulnerable as the snowpack shrinks due to climate change. Climate change also makes our community more vulnerable to extreme weather conditions, including periods of long-term drought and more intense wet-weather events. To prepare for these extreme and uncertain events, Valley Water is committed to developing purified water as a locally controlled, drought proof water supply.

Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR) is the planned introduction of highly treated recycled water into an environmental buffer, such as a groundwater aquifer or large surface water reservoir, that serves as a source for a drinking water system. Prior to the adoption of the new DPR regulations, IPR was the only possible type of potable reuse.

At a joint Valley Water Board and City of San José Council meeting on November 17, 2023, the Council and Board directed staff to work together on a DPR project. DPR allows purified water to efficiently serve many uses, in a more flexible manner than groundwater replenishment alone. Consequently, it was determined to be the preferred potable reuse approach for collaboration between the Cities of San José and Santa Clara and Valley Water on a future potable reuse project.

Compared to the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center (SVAWPC), the DPR treatment process will be more stringent and includes additional treatment steps to ensure that the water is always safe to drink. The future DPR facility would be situated next to, but separate from the SVAWPC, since the SVAWPC provides an essential and permitted function to the South Bay Water Recycling system.

Based on consultation with our technical experts and discussions with our peer agencies, development of a demonstration facility as part of developing a full-scale facility is needed. While the regulations do not specifically mention development of a demonstration facility, the steps required to obtain regulatory permits for a full-scale DPR facility necessitate the demonstration facility to ensure public health is protected.

The demonstration facility would help expedite a full-scale facility and provide the following benefits:

- Operational and performance testing to inform treatment process selection and research;
- Regulatory approvals and permitting;
- Public outreach and education;
- Development of needed institutional arrangements; and

-
- Training of operations staff and required State certification to run a purification facility.

The proposed demonstration facility will play a crucial role in the assessment and demonstration of treatment technologies to satisfy the new DPR regulatory requirements. It will also provide the engineering framework for building a full-scale DPR facility that would safeguard public health and provide drought-proof potable water.

The San José Purified Water Project - Phase 1(demonstration) was presented to the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) committee on December 11th and added to the CIP funded list of projects on February 27, 2024. The final CIP was approved by the Board on May 14, 2024. The Phase 2 - Full Scale DPR project is under development for inclusion in the CIP.

This item will discuss some of the considerations that have to be addressed, including how much wastewater may be available, where the water will be used in the water supply system, and environmental considerations related to Reverse Osmosis Concentrate Management.

Outreach for a Potable Reuse Project

Since the opening of the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center in 2014, Valley Water has established a comprehensive public tour and outreach program to help bolster support for potable reuse as a potential drinking water supply for Santa Clara County. The Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center also serves as a demonstration, research and educational facility to raise awareness on potable reuse, and it is open to the public so they can witness the cutting-edge technology that turns treated wastewater into clean, safe drinking water.

In preparation for a Direct Potable Reuse facility in San Jose, staff is currently updating the outreach strategies to align with the demonstration and full-scale facility's project timeline and will collaborate with the cities, including San José and Santa Clara, to develop and implement tailored outreach strategies for the Santa Clara County communities. Staff is also exploring the potential for a learning education center to create a space that could accommodate tours and events for interactive educational experiences. Education and awareness are key to ensuring overall public support of potable reuse and mitigating any potential opposition to the project.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

There are no environmental justice impacts associated with this agenda item.

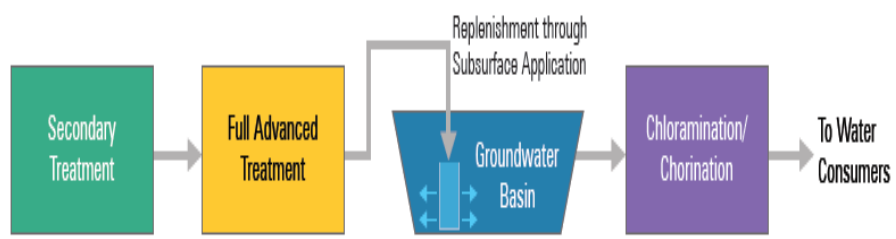
ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

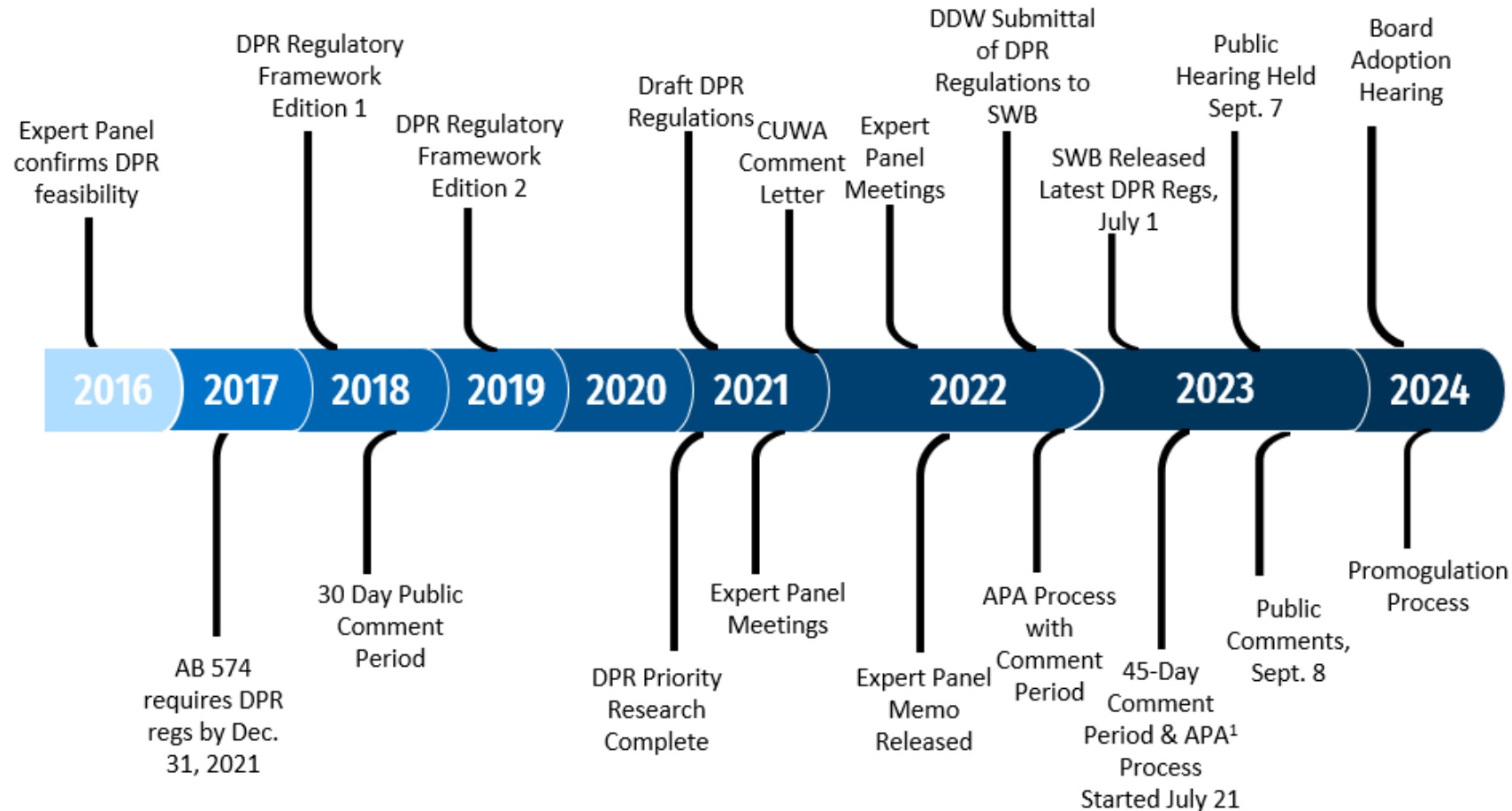
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Update on Direct Potable Reuse Regulations and the Development of a Potable Reuse Project

Environmental and Water Resources Committee July 15th, 2024

Direct Potable Reuse Regulatory Development



Recent Progression of DPR Regulations

2023

- December 19th – Water Board voted to adopt the Direct Potable Regulations (DPR)

2024

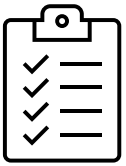
- Approval by Office of Administrative Law
- Filing with the Secretary of State
- Signing of the regulations
- Regulations go into effect (anticipated early Summer of 2024).



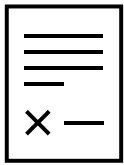
Pathway to Direct Potable Reuse

- Direct Potable Reuse allows greatest flexibility for water supply
- New regulations will require additional treatment processes and new institutional arrangements
- Demonstration facility is necessary first step to a full-scale project

Benefits:



Regulatory
Permitting



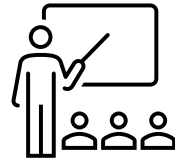
Interagency
Agreements



Train
Operators



Operational
and Technical
Studies



Outreach and
Public Perception

Example Demonstration Facilities



City of San Diego Pure Water Program



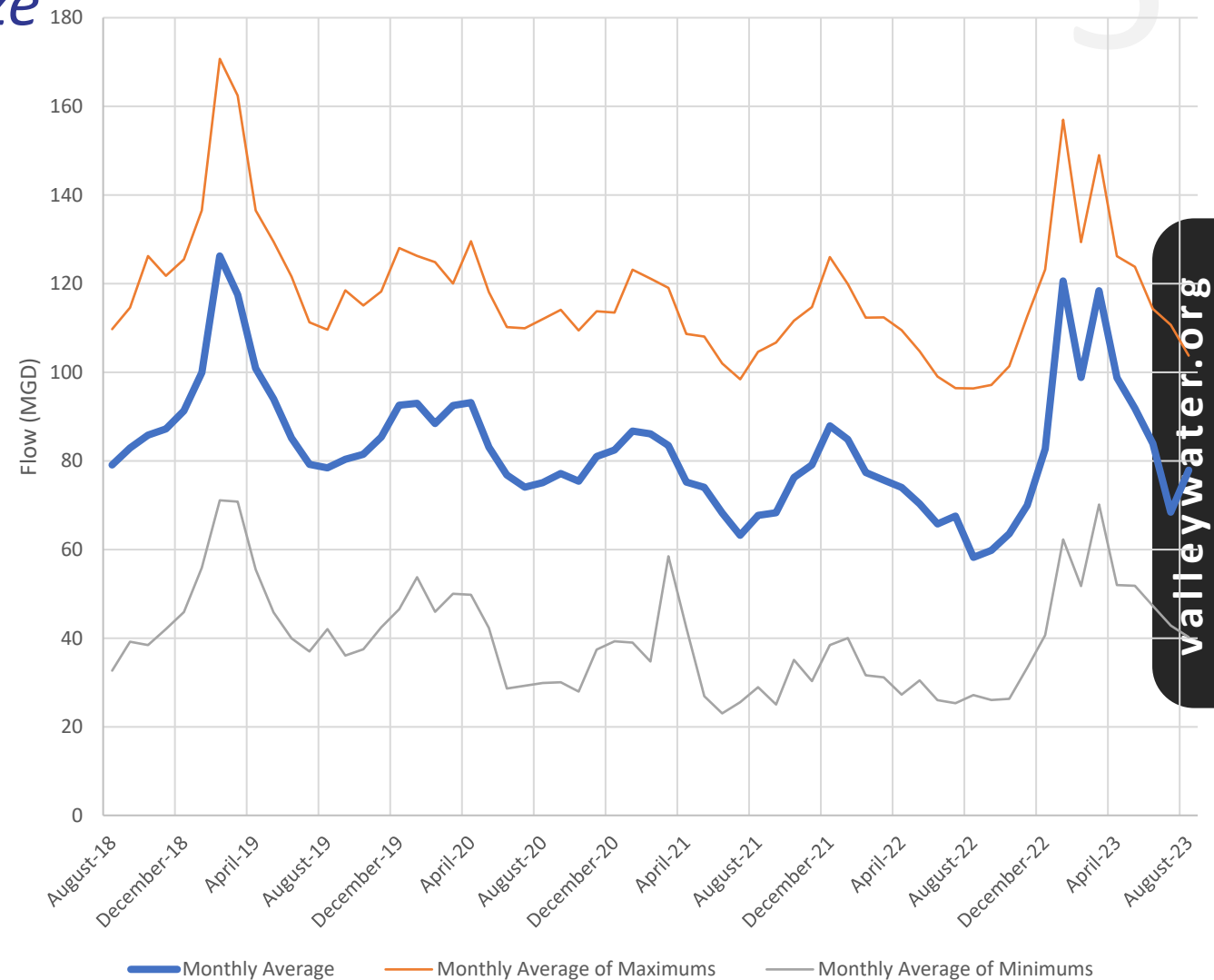
Metropolitan Water District of Southern
California

Project Considerations

Wastewater Availability and Facility Size

- Understand wastewater availability given increased water conservation and significant variation (seasonal/annual)
- Drought = less wastewater available
- Expansion of the non-potable system (SBWR) will impact wastewater availability for potable reuse

San José - Santa Clara RWF - Monthly Average Effluent Flows



Project Considerations

Water Utilization

- Understand where and how potable reuse facility will be connected to the water supply system and infrastructure needs
- Understand water supply needs (dry year vs. wet year)
- Meet blending requirements



Project Considerations

Reverse Osmosis Concentrate Management

7



Ensure Reverse Osmosis
Concentrate management in
an environmentally
responsible manner



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Exploring Nature Based Solutions:
Horizontal Levee, Floating Wetlands
and engineering options

Project Considerations

Potable Reuse Outreach – public support

8

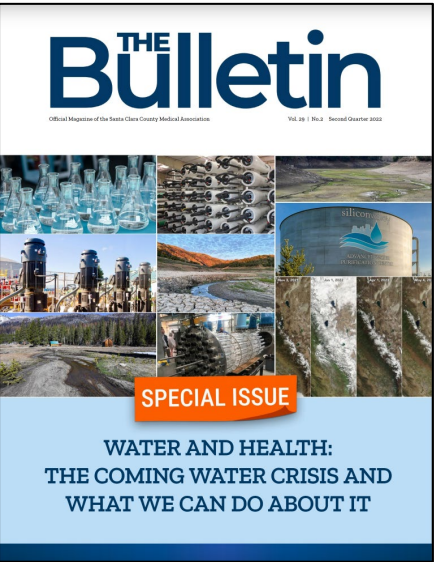
Community Events & Presentations



Public tours and private tours



Stakeholder Endorsements

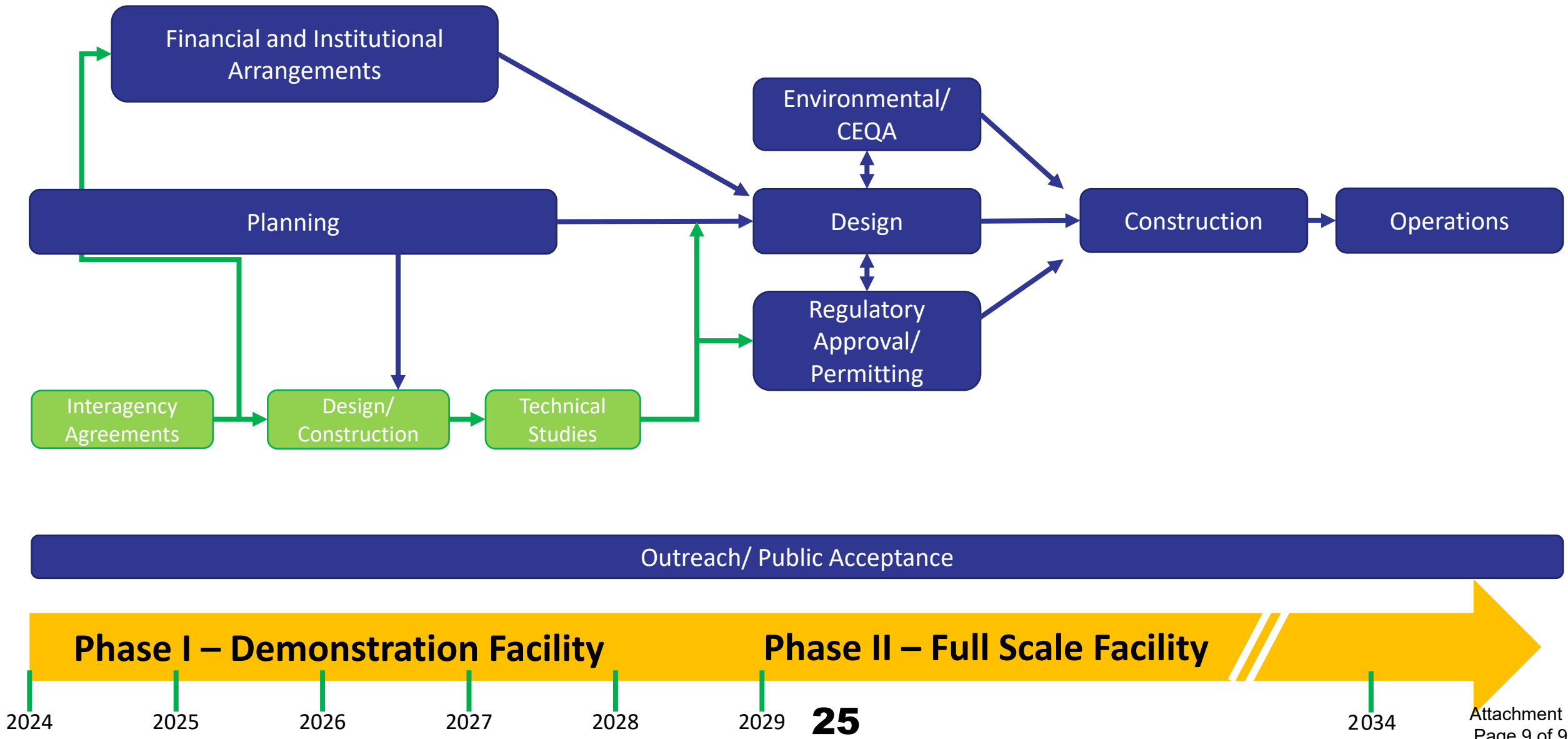


Inclusive & Equitable Outreach



valleywater.org

Collaboration with City of San Jose on DPR Project



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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 24-0597

Agenda Date: 7/15/2024

Item No.: 4.2.

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's Habitat Lands Mitigation, Conservation, and Monitoring Efforts

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update/summary of the habitat land mitigation, conservation, monitoring and management efforts undertaken by Valley Water's Watershed Stewardship and Planning Division, including the Stream and Watershed Protection Program and the Safe, Clean Water Program's Project D7 - Partnerships for the Conservation of Habitat Lands.

SUMMARY:

Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water; VW) contributes to the conservation, preservation, monitoring, and management of several thousand acres of habitat land in Santa Clara County.

More specifically, VW's Stream and Watershed Protection Program (SWPP) has preserved nearly 3600 acres of upper watershed land in Santa Clara County. The SWPP targeted the preservation of upper watershed streams and the buffer lands surrounding them. Partnering with open space agencies such as the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, and the Nature Conservancy, seven properties were acquired and preserved between 2004 and 2015 (Carnadero Preserve, Stevens Canyon Ranch, Moore Property, Coyote Ridge Preserve, Upper Penitencia Creek Property, Hendrys Creek Property, and Rancho Cañada de Pala Preserve). Portions of the SWPP land provided mitigation for VW projects including the Stream Maintenance Program; several hundred excess acres were also preserved. Valley Water and its partners will continue, in perpetuity, to manage this land and to preserve the many and varied conservation values it provides.

Every year, biologists in the Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Unit conduct a variety of surveys/monitoring efforts at the SWPP properties, including conservation easement monitoring, habitat monitoring, and surveys for special-status species including California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, and Tiburon paintbrush.

Through the Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program's Project D7- Partnerships for the Conservation of Habitat Lands, VW helps the community acquire and protect habitat land to preserve local ecosystems by supporting the implementation of multi-agency agreements that pool mitigation/conservation dollars to protect or restore large areas of habitat land. In 2019, VW contributed \$8 million towards the acquisition of the 834-acre Baird parcels, which was part of the larger 2700-acre Tilton Ranch conservation effort. Earlier this year (2024), VW contributed \$4 million towards the acquisition of a 978-acre portion of the over 3600-acre Richmond Ranch. These Project D7 properties support several sensitive habitats and special-status plant and wildlife species.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item. Habitat land preservation, conservation, and management in Santa Clara County has a positive impact on all communities including disadvantaged communities by preserving important local ecosystems. Acquiring, restoring, connecting and protecting habitat areas helps native species to adapt to a changing climate.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

John Bourgeois, 408-630-2990



Valley Water

Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection

Valley Water PPT Template
Version Release v.2.02



Habitat Lands Preservation & Management

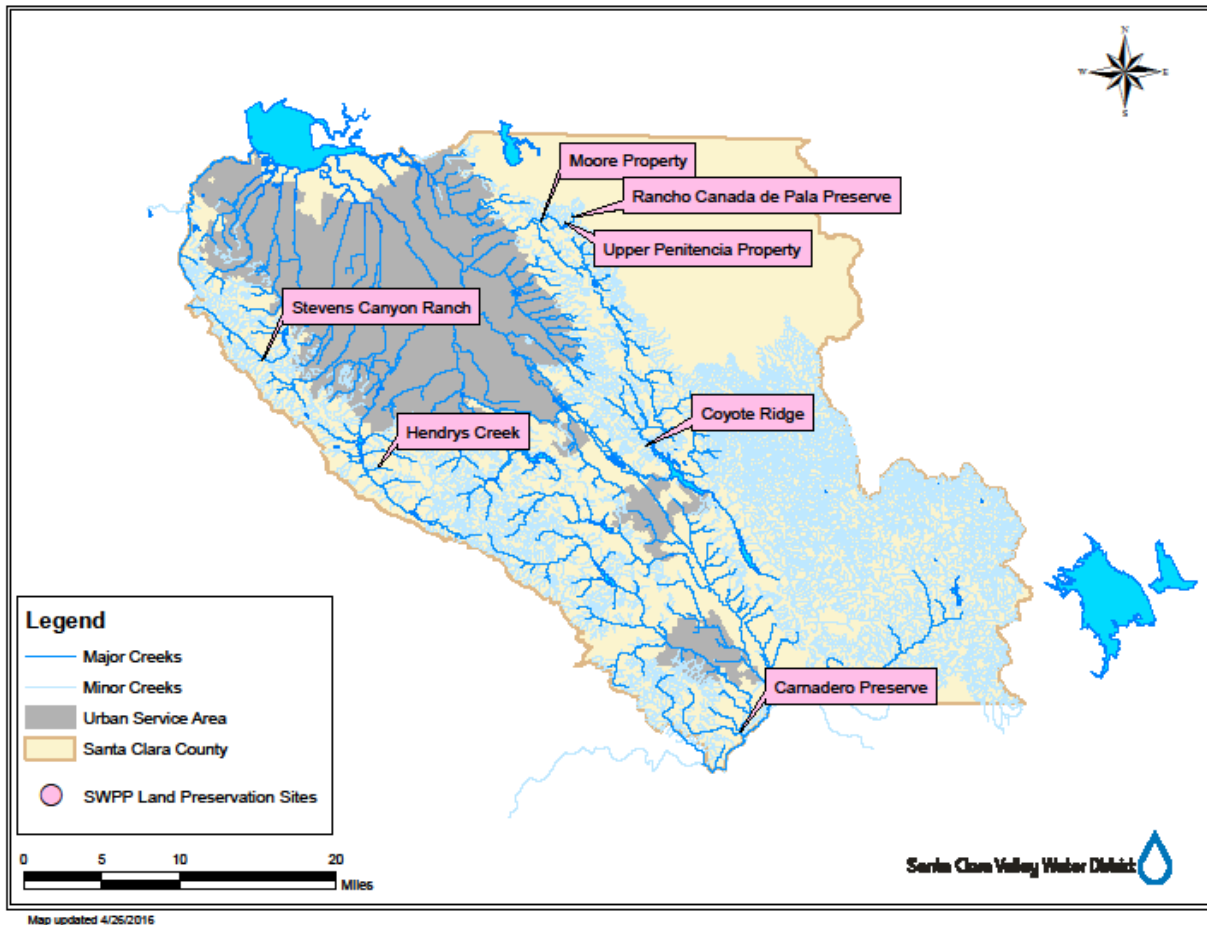
Environmental and Water Resources Committee - July 15, 2024

Presented by: **Navroop K. Jassal**, SWRS, Watershed Stewardship & Planning Division

Stream & Watershed Protection Program

3

Stream and Watershed Land Preservation Sites



- Nearly 3600 acres preserved/managed in Santa Clara County
- Portions for mitigation; several hundred excess acres
- Upper watershed streams and buffers/sensitive-species habitat

Carnadero Preserve

VW owner/land manager



Rancho Canada de Pala Preserve

VW owner/land manager;
TNC CE holder



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valleywater.org

Coyote Ridge Preserve

VW owner; SCVOSA land manager/
CE holder



Upper Penitencia Creek Property

VW owner; SCVOSA land manager/
CE holder

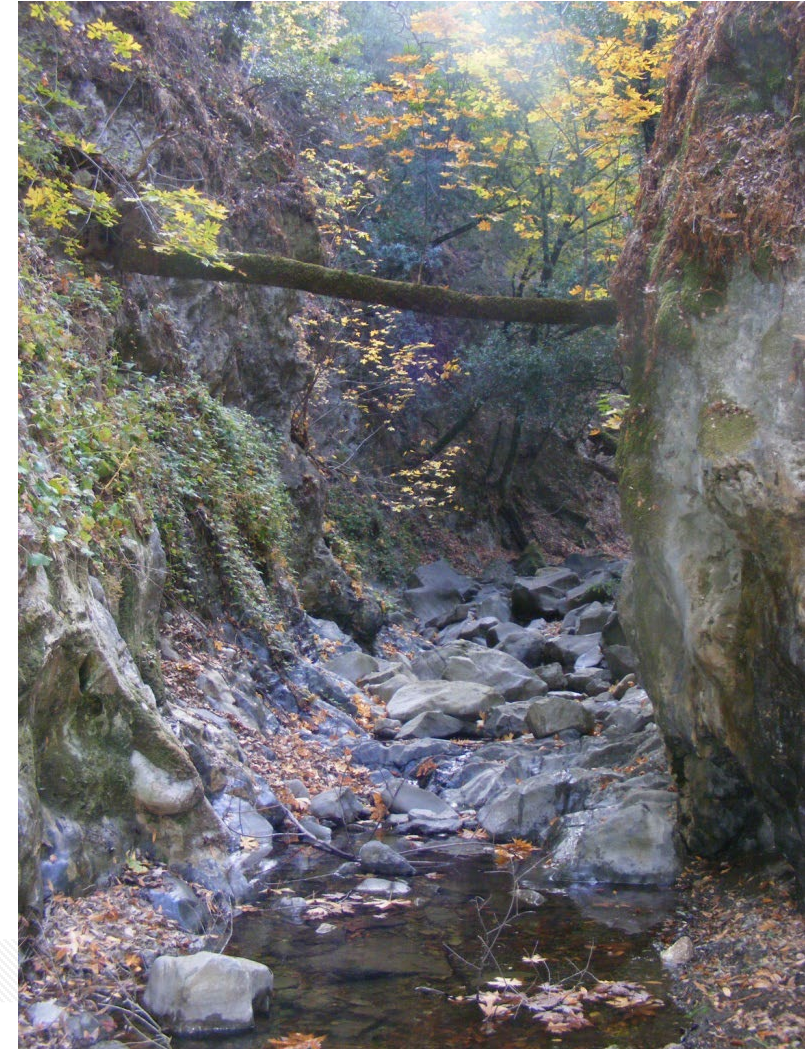


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valleywater.org

Moore Property

SCVOSA owner/land manager; VW CE holder



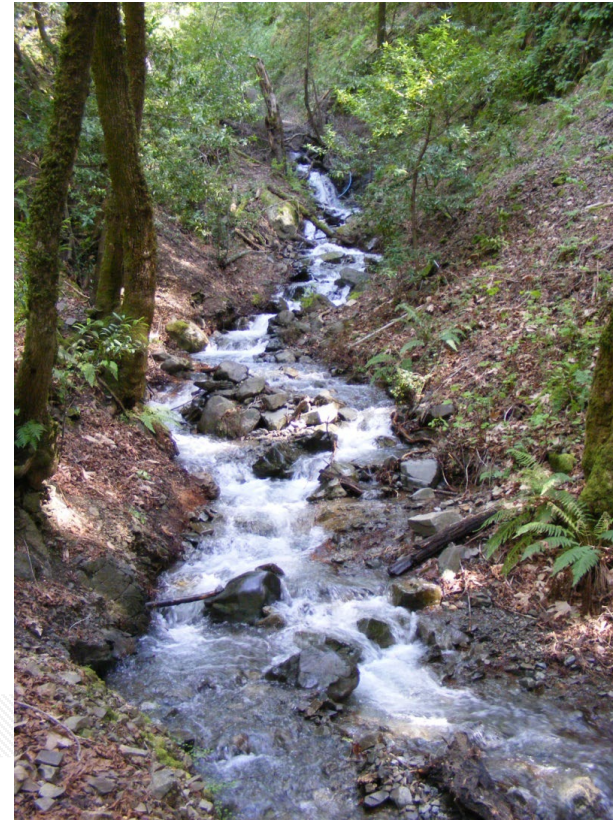
Stevens Canyon Ranch

MROSD owner/land manager;
VW CE holder



Hendrys Creek Property

MROSD owner/land manager;
VW CE holder



Safe, Clean Water Project D7

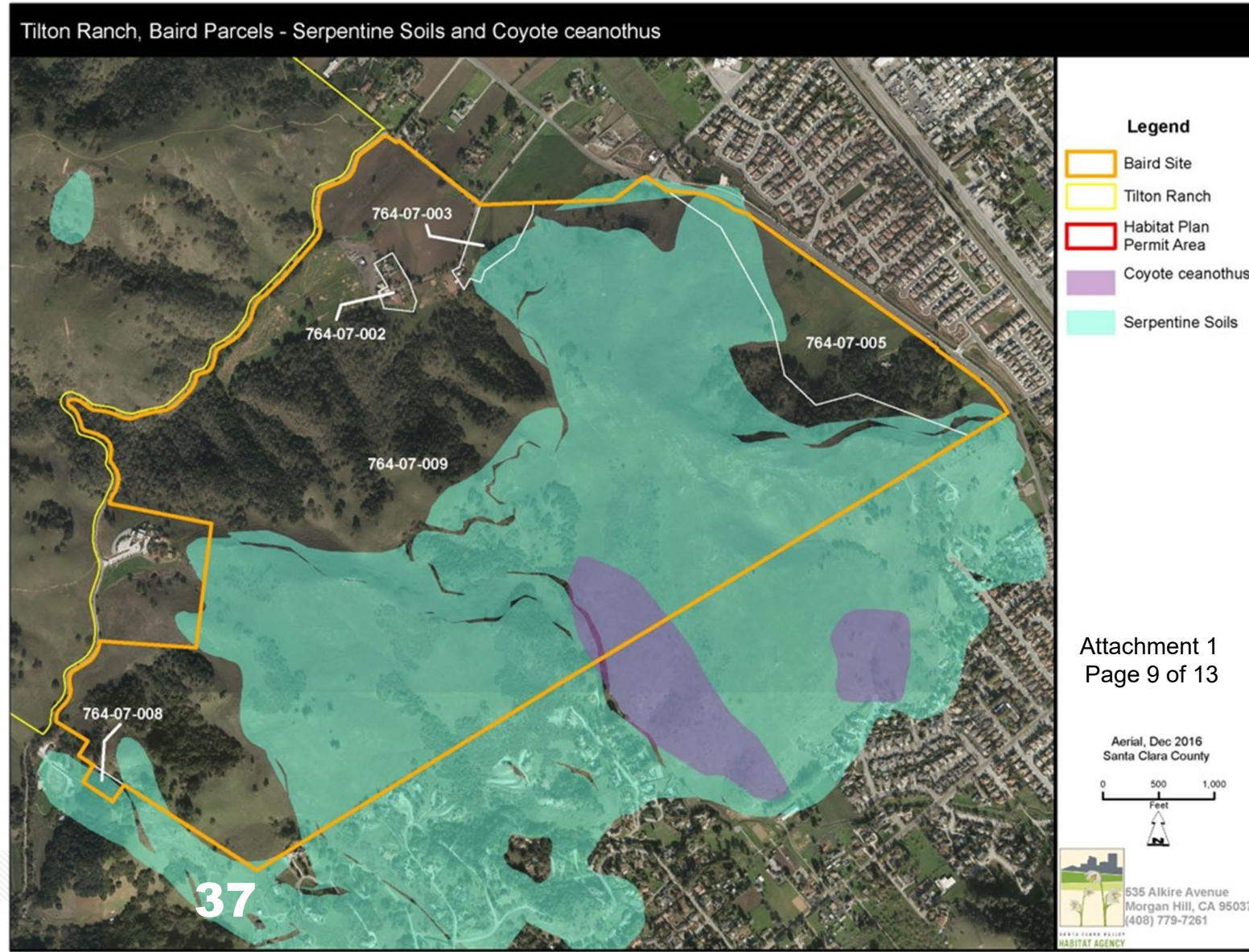
Partnerships for the Conservation of Habitat Lands

- Helps the community acquire and protect habitat land to preserve local ecosystems
- Supports implementation of multi-agency agreements that pool mitigation/conservation dollars to protect or restore large areas of habitat land
- KPI #1 – Provide up to \$8 million per 15-year period for the acquisition or enhancement of property for the conservation of habitat lands

Tilton Ranch Baird Parcels (2019)

Property Location

- VW contributed \$8 million toward acquisition of 834-acre Baird Parcels
- Part of the larger 2,700-acre Tilton Ranch conservation effort
- Serpentine habitat and Coyote ceanothus permanently protected



Tilton Ranch Baird Parcels (2019)

Serpentine Habitat and Coyote Ceanothus



Richmond Ranch (2024)

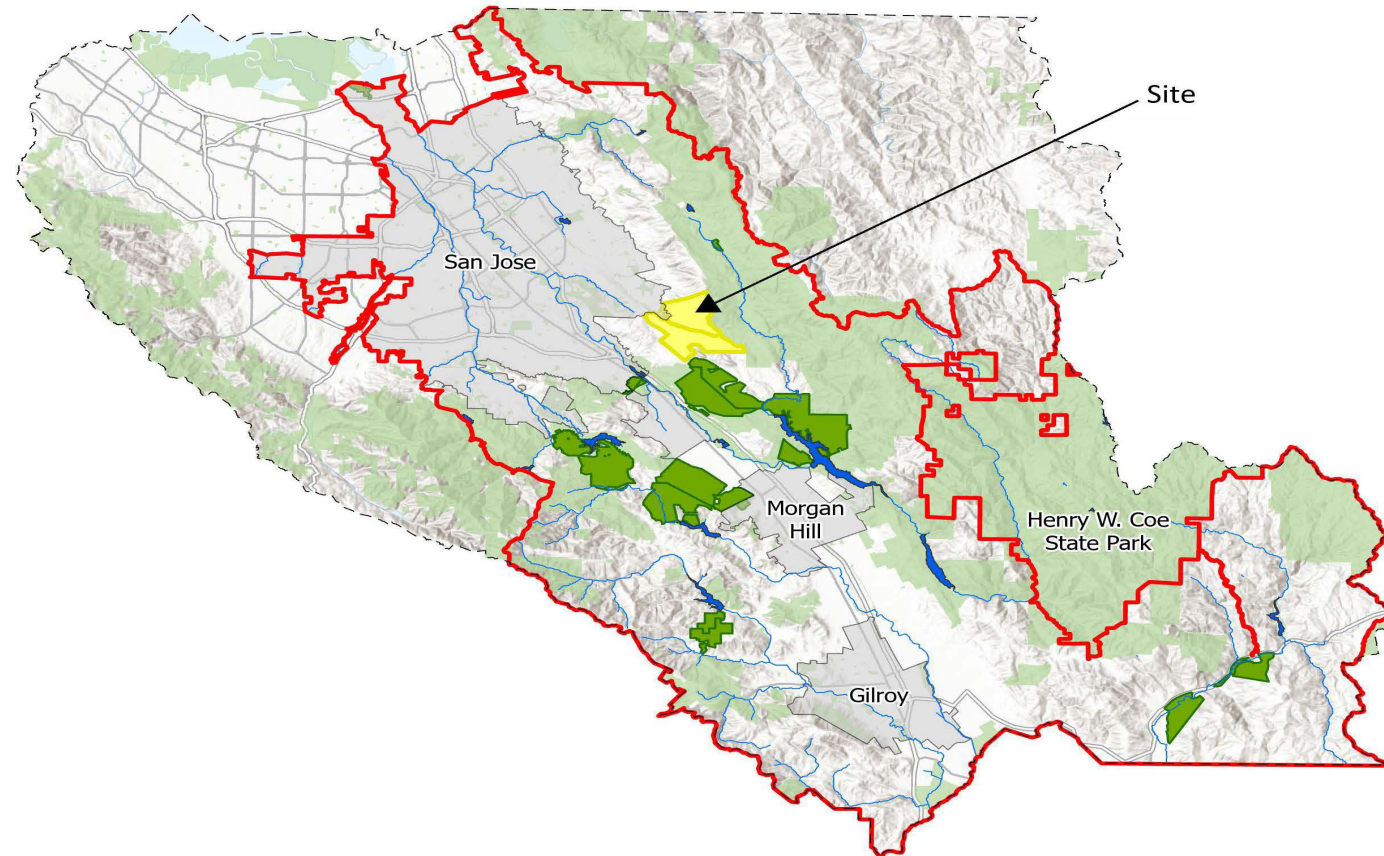
Property Location

- VW contributed \$4 million toward acquisition of 978-acre portion of larger 3,600-acre Richmond Ranch
- Several sensitive habitats and species protected



Folder: S:\GIS\Reserve System\Potential Acquisitions\Richmond Ranch\Richmond Ranch PAA and Section 6\

Attachment 1: Richmond Ranch - Property Location



- County Boundary (Area)
- Habitat Plan Permit Area
- Major Streams
- Reservoirs
- Planning Limits of Urban Growth
- SCVHA Reserves & Pending Acquisitions
- Protected Lands and Open Space Overlay
- Richmond Ranch

0 2.5 5
Miles



Richmond Ranch (2024)

Special-status Species

California tiger salamander

California red-legged frog

Foothill yellow-legged frog

Western pond turtle

Mount Hamilton thistle

Most beautiful jewelflower

Metcalf Canyon jewelflower

Santa Clara Valley dudleya

Fragrant fritillary

Smooth lessingia

Western burrowing owl

Tricolored blackbird

Bay checkerspot butterfly

Western monarch butterfly

Mountain lion

American badger



QUESTIONS



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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 24-0648

Agenda Date: 7/15/2024

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, jbourgeois@valleywater.org, 1-408-630-2990				
1	INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT:			
Valley Water Staff Liaison: Brian Mendenhall, bmendenhall@valleywater.org, 1-408-630-3093		Tess Byler Charles Ice Loren Lewis		3
2	WATER SUPPLY:			
Valley Water Staff Liaison: Jing Wu, jwu@valleywater.org, 1-408-630-2330		Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D. Hon. Patrick S. Kwok Mike Michitaka Jim Piazza		4
3	NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION:			
Valley Water Staff Liaison: Katie Muller, kmuller@valleywater.org, 1-408-630-2934		Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D. Mike Michitaka Charles Taylor		3
4	ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP:			
Valley Water Staff Liaison: John Bourgeois jbourgeois@valleywater.org, 1-408-630-2990		Swanee Edwards Bob Levy Jim Piazza	Bob	3
5	CLIMATE CHANGE:			
Valley Water Staff Liaison: Brian Mendenhall, bmendenhall@valleywater.org, 1-408-630-3093		Bob Levy Charles Taylor	Bob	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) and John Bourgeois (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 agendaize 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 agendaize 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.: 24-0649

Agenda Date: 7/15/2024

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 July 2024

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

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

2024 Work Plan: Environmental and Water Resources Committee

Updated July 2024

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
5	Standing Items Report Fiscal Year 2024 Goals and Strategies:	April 15 July 15 October 21	•Receive quarterly reports on standing items. (Information)	Accomplished April 15, 2024: The Committee received the information and took no formal action.
6	One Water Plan – Stevens Creek and West Valley Watershed Plans' Metrics, Targets, and Prioritizaion Criteria	April 15	•Receive information on the metrics and targets, and prioritization criteria for the Guadalupe and Upper Pajaro Watershed Plans. (Action) •Provide feedback to staff.	Anticipated accomplishment date: November 2024 or January 2025
7	Water Supply Master Plan Update	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.	Accomplished April 15, 2024: The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and requested that staff provide a link to the Committee members relating to the benchmarking study.
8	Demonstration Garden	April 15	•Receive an update on the creation of a Demonstration Garden featuring Valley Water's Landscape Rebate Program.	Accomplished April 15, 2024: The Committee received the information and took no formal action.
9	Baylands Projects Update	July 15		
10	Upper Watershed Lands Management Update	July 15		
11	Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Update	October 21		

2024 Work Plan: Environmental and Water Resources Committee

Updated July 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 (Information)	

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2024 Work Plan Appendix

GOAL	OBJECTIVE	FY23 TACTICS	MONITORING COMMITTEE
INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT <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"> • Develop a Fuel Management Policy to guide the incorporation of wildfire planning efforts in an integrated and programmatic way. • Continue a robust preventive maintenance program including monitoring asset condition and risk. • 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. • 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. • 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 & Maintenance Plans. • Expedient execution of the adopted Capital program and projects. 	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"> • 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. • Continue to foster better relationships with regulatory agencies and open dialogue with environmental, environmental justice and other stakeholders. • 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. • Collaborate with RWQCB on the Steelhead Regional Temperature Study. 	BPPC
WATER SUPPLY <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"> • 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. • Determine level of participation for projects and decisions about partnerships in accordance with the Water Supply Master Plan and water affordability. • Explore partnership opportunities for the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project • 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 	Water Storage Exploratory Committee (WSEC)

2024 Work Plan Appendix

	<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>	of the project's Environmental Impact Report (EIR).	
	<u>Objective #2 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in and influence decisions regarding the Delta Conveyance Project. • Participate in regional water supply resilience efforts. • Build and maintain effective partnerships to increase resiliency. • Complete and implement infrastructure master plans and asset management plans. • Partner with the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to ensure reliability of the South Bay Aqueduct. 	Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee (WCaDMC) (Groundwater) CIPC (infrastructure projects)
	<u>Objective #3 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Implement the Countywide Water Reuse Master Plan. • Develop a Comprehensive Water Reuse Agreement for South County to advance water reuse and its production, distribution, and wholesaling in South County. • 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. • 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. 	Recycled Water Committee (RWC)
	<u>Objective #4 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the Anderson Reservoir level at the FERC directed level. • Complete the construction on the Anderson Dam Tunnel Project (ADTP). • Complete the design of the ADSRP. • Continue to work with appropriate regulatory agencies to advance the ADSRP. • Release the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the ADSRP. • Obtain all necessary permits for ADSRP construction. • Continue to educate and engage the public, key stakeholders, decision makers, and elected officials of the project progress and construction timeline. • Coordinate long term ADSRP operations with the Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE). 	CIPC Stream Planning and Operations Committee (SPOC)
	<u>Objective #5 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue communication and educational outreach to promote Valley Water's water conservation programs. • Increase collaboration with our retailer partners to promote Valley Water's water conservation programs. • Implement new water conservation programs and engagement strategies identified within the Water Conservation Strategic Plan. 	WCaDMC

2024 Work Plan Appendix

	<i>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.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Engage and support private-sector stakeholders, local, state, and federal agencies that promote water conservation. •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. 	
NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION “Provide Natural Flood Protection to reduce risk and improve health and safety.”	<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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Make significant progress on One Water plans for the Guadalupe and Pajaro watersheds. •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 level rise. •Complete construction of Phase 2A of the Upper Llagas Flood Protection Project to provide flood protection and habitat enhancement. •Advance the Palo Alto Flood Basin Project into construction, a repair project to ensure a functional flood basin with wetland habitat. •Advance the Sunnyvale East/West Channels Project into construction to provide 100-year storm water flood protection. •Compete the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Upper Guadalupe River Project General Reevaluation Study to provide 100-year flood protection. •Advance the San Francisquito Creek upstream 101 Project into construction to provide flood protection. •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. 	CIPC BPPC
	<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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •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. •Continue progress on flood protection capital projects consistent with Valley Water’s commitment to the Safe, Clean Water Program and equitability in all regions. •Plan flood risk reduction projects to provide a minimum level of protection countywide. 	CIPC BPPC
ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP “Sustain ecosystem health while managing local water resources for flood protection and water supply.”	<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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •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. •Implement high priority actions included in the Climate Change Action Plan. •Make significant progress on the grant-funded planning study for the San Tomas Aquino Calabazas Creek Realignment Project. •Advance construction for the Bolsa Creek and Hale Creek projects to 	BPPC

2024 Work Plan Appendix

		<p>begin in Summer 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advance Almaden Lake Improvement Project to begin construction in 2023. • Continue to develop and build on partnerships with environmental organizations and tribal communities when developing projects. 	
	<p><u>Objective #2 Challenge/Opportunity</u> 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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Coordinate with the County, cities, and other service providers to try to ensure the permanent removal of homeless encampments from creeks and trails. • 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). 	Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee (ECCC) (SPOC)
	<p><u>Objective #3 Challenge/Opportunity</u> 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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize the June 2021 Guadalupe River and Stevens Creek Environmental Impact Report (EIR) consistent with existing stakeholder agreement. • Advance 10 water right change petitions for securing water right orders. • Continue to implement the pilot flow program in Guadalupe and Stevens Creek. • Continue to implement feasibility studies, monitoring activities, and Planning and construction of various fish passage improvements as identified in existing stakeholder agreement. • Continue fisheries monitoring program. • Continue to support an adaptive management program that encompasses all three creeks. 	SPOC
CLIMATE CHANGE “Mitigate Carbon Emissions and Adapt Valley Water Operations to Climate Change Impacts.”	<p><u>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</u> 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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update carbon accounting and establish new emissions reduction goal if needed. • Make significant progress on development of an agency-wide greenhouse gas reduction plan. 	Climate Adaptation and Sustainability Committee (CAaSC)
BUSINESS MANAGEMENT “Promote effective management of water supply, flood protection, and environmental stewardship through responsive and socially responsible business services.”	<p><u>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</u> 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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • 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. 	Diversity & Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee (DIAHC)

2024 Work Plan Appendix

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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.• Advance and foster mutually beneficial partnerships with regional tribal communities.	
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