



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>

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

**Wednesday, July 30, 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

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

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Recycled Water Committee
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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.

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

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Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/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 June 25, 2025, Recycled Water Committee Minutes. [25-0620](#)

Recommendation: Approve the minutes

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

Attachments: [Attachment 1: 06252025 RWC Meeting Minutes](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

- 4.1. Receive Purified Water Program Update Including Partnerships with Cities of San Jose and Santa Clara. [25-0600](#)

Recommendation: Receive an update on the Demonstration Facility and Full-Scale Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) Facility at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center, including DPR engagement and outreach as related to the August 19, 2025, Joint Valley Water Board and San Jose City Council meeting.

Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

- 4.2. Receive Update on the Expansion of Non-Potable Recycled Water Use. [25-0604](#)

Recommendation: Receive and discuss information on the potential for expanding non-potable recycled water use in the County.

Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)

Est. Staff Time: 15 Minutes

- 4.3. Receive and Discuss the 2025 Recycled Water Committee (RWC) Work Plan, and Provide Feedback on Upcoming Discussion Items, and Next Meeting Date. [25-0621](#)

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 Regular Meeting is Scheduled at 12:00 p.m., on September 24, 2025.



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0620

Agenda Date: 7/30/2025
Item No.: 3.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Recycled Water Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Approval of June 25, 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: 06252025 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
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 2025
12:00 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 12:00 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, Gina Adriano, Karen Adriano, Emmanuel Aryee, Sepideh Bahrami, Henry Barrientos, Nastaran Basiri, Roseryn Bhudsabourg, Rita Chan, Rachael Gibson, Joshua Golka, Brian Hopper, Girlie Jacobson, Francesca Lomotan, Melissa Mendolla, Nicole Merritt, Carlos Orellana, Angie Perkins Haslam, Mario Rivas, Ray Ruiz, Medi Sinaki, Kirsten Struve, Charlene Sun, Darin Taylor, David Tucker, Nadia Webster, Kristen Yasukawa and Tina Yoke.

Public in attendance were: Valley Water District 2 Director Shiloh Ballard, Valley Water District 7 Director Rebecca Eisenberg, Aracely Barrientos, Maya Barrientos, Jan Davel (CDM Smith), Scott Maloni, Melanie Tan, and Roya Yousefelahiyeh (Black & Veatch), Eileen McLaughlin (Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge), Mark Millan (Data Instincts), Pedro Hernandez and Sanjay Reddy (Carollo Engineers), Doug Peterson, and XXX-XXX-8150.

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 May 19, 2025, Recycled Water Committee Meeting Minutes.

Attachment 1

Page 1 of 4

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

The Committee considered the attached minutes of the May 19, 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. Receive Purified Water Program Update Including Partnership with the 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

Kirsten Struve reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo.

Kirsten Struve was available to answer questions.

Public Comments:
None.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and noted the following:

- Director Beall confirmed the City of Milpitas has purple pipes and is involved with the San Jose-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility and expressed interest in potentially engaging cities outside the county such as the City of Fremont or areas in the South Alameda County for the purified water initiative.

4.2. Receive Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study Update.

Recommendation: Receive an update on the Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study.

Nastaran Basiri and Henry Barrientos reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the information contained in Attachment 1 and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1 were reviewed by staff as follows: Nastaran Basiri reviewed Slides 1 through 6 and Henry Barrientos reviewed Slides 7 through 19.

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

Nastaran Basiri, Henry Barrientos, and Kirsten Struve were available to answer questions.

Public Comments:

Eileen McLaughlin expressed looking forward to meeting with staff to ask additional questions, noted staff has been effective at explaining the project status, and shared appreciation for the Seawater Intrusion, Groundwater Rise and Emergence report as an informational resource.

Doug Peterson expressed support for Valley Water exploring the feasibility of desalination, noted wastewater purification as the more appropriate and cost effective option for the South Bay to avoid undermining the environmental and recreation goals for the area south of Charleston Slough, and requested to be included in future meetings that address any decisions related to this area.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and noted the following:

- Director Beall confirmed staff is looking to reach out in the future to the Cities of Palo Alto, Mountain View, Sunnyvale regarding desalination.
- The Committee noted water rights, high costs, and proximity to both a deep-water outfall and the Valley Water system are among the challenges associated with desalination.
- The Committee confirmed interest in receiving the reports again regarding the regional desalination effort.
- Director Beall confirmed that dependent upon the final alternative selected, staff may look to review how sea level rise could affect desalination in the Bay Area.
- The Committee confirmed that the study is in the preliminary stage and an update is scheduled for the fall 2025.

4.3. 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.

Angie Perkins Haslam, Dave Tucker, and Joshua Golka reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo.

Angie Perkins Haslam, Dave Tucker, Joshua Golka, and Rachael Gibson were available to answer questions.

Public Comments:

None.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and noted the following:

- The Committee confirmed that staff are scheduling meetings with local congressional representatives during their time in their home districts.

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

- The Committee confirmed that the Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) Planning grants update would be shared at the next Joint Water Resources Committee meeting with the Cities of Gilroy and Morgan Hill.

4.4. 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 further discussion the updated RWC Work Plan and support for the expansion of nonpotable recycled water use topic, which was a referral from the June 10, 2025 Board of Directors meeting, to be addressed at the RWC July 30, 2025, meeting.

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 Special Meeting is Scheduled at 12:00 p.m. on July 30, 2025.

Chairperson Estremera adjourned the meeting at 12:48 p.m. The next special meeting is scheduled to occur at 12:00 p.m. on July 30, 2025.

Nicole Merritt
Assistant Deputy Clerk II

Date Approved:



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0600

Agenda Date: 7/30/2025

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 Partnerships with Cities of San Jose and Santa Clara.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update on the Demonstration Facility and Full-Scale Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) Facility at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center, including DPR engagement and outreach as related to the August 19, 2025, Joint Valley Water Board and San Jose City Council meeting.

SUMMARY:

Staff from the City of San Jose and Valley Water are jointly developing a report for the August 19, 2025, joint meeting. For the Pure Water Silicon Valley Project, the update will consist of the following:

- Update on progress of the Demonstration Facility, including amended agreements, engagement with the Division of Drinking Water (DDW), and required studies
- Update on progress of planning for the Full-Scale Pure Water Silicon Valley Facility, including:
 - Collaboration with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC)
 - Development of a charter which will form the roadmap for future new agreements with the cities
 - Development of an exclusive negotiation agreement to set aside land for the proposed full-scale facility
 - Grants update
 - Outreach update

The draft shared vision for inclusion in the charter is proposed to be:

Spurred by a sense of urgency and a shared commitment to a sustainable future providing safe, clean water for those who live and work in our region, we will implement an innovative, cost-effective, potable reuse program providing a locally-controlled, drought-resilient water supply. This project will be a model of inter-agency cooperation efficiently synergizing with existing resources in the interest

of the public good and environmental stewardship.

Staff will request direction and guidance from the Valley Water Board and San Jose City Council to ensure development of win-win solutions that meet the Cities' and Valley Water's needs:

- Support the development of a project charter and exclusive negotiation agreement as needed first steps towards the full-scale advanced water purification facility.
- Support for coordinated public education and outreach programs to ensure the success of a Direct Potable Reuse project.
- Support project updates twice a year or as needed to the Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee (JRWPAC).

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.: 25-0604

Agenda Date: 7/30/2025

Item No.: 4.2.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Recycled Water Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Receive Update on the Expansion of Non-Potable Recycled Water Use.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and discuss information on the potential for expanding non-potable recycled water use in the County.

SUMMARY:

At the June 10, 2025, Valley Water Board of Directors meeting, the Board referred discussion of the potential opportunities to expand non-potable recycled water use in the county to the Recycled Water Committee (Committee). This item was added to the Committee's workplan at the June 2025 Committee meeting.

Over the past decades, Valley Water has advanced non-potable water reuse in the county by leading water reuse planning efforts, providing funding and technical support for system expansion, developing wholesale recycled water programs, and constructing new infrastructure. About 11% of wastewater generated in the county is recycled, with an average recycled water use of 17,000 acre-feet per year (AFY), or about 5% of the county's water supply, and distributed for non-potable uses such as landscape irrigation, industrial cooling, and dual plumbed facilities. This recycled water is produced at four wastewater treatment plants in the county - Palo Alto Regional Water Quality Control Plant (RWQCP), City of Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP), San Jose-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility (RWF), and South County Regional Wastewater Authority (SCRWA).

Countywide Water Reuse Master Plan

The Board accepted the Countywide Water Reuse Master Plan (CoRe Plan) in 2021. The CoRe Plan was developed following the Water Supply Master Plan 2040 and Board direction to develop a potable reuse project. The CoRe Plan was a collaborative effort with our four wastewater partners, retailers, state regulators and interested stakeholders to identify opportunities for both potable and non-potable reuse (NPR). One of the key planning objectives was to integrate existing recycled water

systems and expand NPR. The focus of the CoRe plan, however, was on developing potable reuse portfolios given the direction of the Board and findings from a joint study with the City of San Jose (South Bay Water Recycling Strategic Master Planning, 2014) which found that the development of potable reuse to add to the base water supply is more economically favorable as opposed to further development of a supplemental water supply, i.e. NPR. The CoRe Plan is available at <https://fta.valleywater.org/fl/XNyG7Fja6T#folder-link/> <<https://fta.valleywater.org/fl/XNyG7Fja6T>>

Current NPR System and Valley Water Support

Each of the wastewater treatment plants in our county has an NPR system that was developed over time to reach large water users, such as industrial and landscape customers. Much of the NPR system in the county was developed through requirements for developers to expand NPR, as new development projects are approved by cities. Several cities require new developments to connect to nearby recycled water systems, require dual plumbing of larger buildings, or require specific users including data centers to connect to the system. Users must obtain a recycled water use permit before receiving NPR water. The cost of recycled water is lower than potable water to incentivize its use. For the South Bay Water Recycling (SBWR) program, the cost of recycled water is discounted \$105 per acre-foot from Valley Water's North County groundwater rate.

SBWR, managed by the City of San Jose, was initially developed to divert wastewater in response to a regulatory directive to reduce wastewater discharge and protect salt marsh habitat. At this time, according to the SBWR Master Plan, there is no longer a need to expand the system for wastewater purposes, and future expansion will need to be focused on water supply benefits. Valley Water has supported water recycling at the RWF since the 1950s, contributed to SBWR financially until 2014, and has since completed the construction of the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center (SVAWPC) to enhance the SBWR recycled water and expand its uses. Valley Water now operates the SVAWPC and cost-shares with SBWR. Valley Water also collaborated on SBWR master plan development. SBWR is the wholesaler who provides recycled water to retailers in San Jose, Santa Clara and Milpitas. SBWR serves over 900 commercial customers, delivering on average 11 million gallons per day (mgd). About 75% of the customers are landscape customers.

The Palo Alto RWQCP, in addition to a purple pipe network serving users in Palo Alto and Mountain View, has a truck filling station that allows permitted users to receive recycled water to be used for construction and landscape uses via a water truck. Valley Water and the Cities of Palo Alto and Mountain View entered into a partnership agreement to reserve treated wastewater for Valley Water to construct a future potable reuse project. This agreement also included Valley Water funding for a portion (\$16 million) of a local advanced water treatment facility designed to enhance the recycled water quality distributed by the RWQCP. This local advanced water treatment facility is anticipated to cost \$63 million, will produce 1.125 mgd of purified water, and be completed in 2028.

The Sunnyvale WPCP provides recycled water locally and is currently working on updating its recycled water master plan. Valley Water has financially supported NPR in Sunnyvale, collaborated on constructing the Wolfe Road Pipeline to bring recycled water to the Apple campus, and is currently working with Sunnyvale on studying additional future water reuse opportunities.

Valley Water has partnered with SCRWA since the 1970s and is the wholesaler of recycled water in

South County receiving about \$440,000 annually in revenue from the sale of recycled water. Currently the system has a capacity of 8.5 mgd with 12 customers. Valley Water works with the City of Gilroy to ensure development in the city assists with expanding the recycled water network, which is currently just over 17 miles of pipelines. Valley Water recently completed a collaborative master planning effort by updating the 2015 master plan which Valley Water also led. This recent planning effort included analyzing wastewater availability, potential new customers, and expansion opportunities. At peak demand during the summer months, SCRWA recycles all its treated wastewater. In addition, Valley Water has been expanding recycled water infrastructure in South County and will perform a grant funded feasibility study that will evaluate future improvements to the current system to maximize reuse.

WSMP NPR expansion assumption

The CoRe Plan found that NPR demands could increase to about 40,000 AFY by 2040. However, since then, our County has experienced a severe drought, lowering overall water demand as well as wastewater availability. Wastewater, and its availability for reuse has trended downward due to water conservation inside homes and businesses. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic and rising inflation have significantly increased costs for new infrastructure including new pipelines, resulting in little to no expansion of the current NPR system.

Recycled water use in the county has diminished slightly since 2015 and remained relatively constant over the last five years. While it is anticipated that water recycling programs in the county may be expanded, these expansions are highly dependent upon funding and new development. Currently, landscape irrigation is the highest use, however, new ordinances are also requiring data centers and other large users to connect to the recycled water system. NPR expansion requires an additional pipe network to reach new customers. The existing network already serves most of the large users. For the water supply needs assessment in the WSMP 2050, NPR is assumed to increase to 23,000 AFY by 2030 with 5,000 AFY of planned increase in San Jose and remain stable through 2050. The non-potable reuse growth assumption is warranted during this time but should be reviewed through the annual Monitoring and Assessment Program (MAP) or the next WSMP update to ensure it accurately reflects the reuse development. In addition, if any major recycled water projects are developed in the future, they will be incorporated into the WSMP portfolios and analysis.

Regulatory Requirements and Water Quality

The recycled water producers and distributors must meet strict regulatory requirements for water quality, reporting, and training of users of recycled water. California regulates recycled water according to California Code of Regulations Title 22, including treatment, discharge, end use, and cross-connection control. Site Supervisors of recycled water systems must attend training to learn about appropriate water reuse application and avoiding cross connections. In addition, signage, annual inspections and reporting are required.

Many trees and plants are sensitive to high salt content of the recycled water and salts can build up in soil, which can affect plant growth. Several golf courses in the county use recycled water but salinity, nutrient levels, and variable quality as well as the need for investment in infrastructure can be significant barriers. Data centers require high quality water to prevent corrosion, scaling, and

microbial growth. The SBWR 500 mg/L goal for Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) provides an acceptable water quality for landscape and industrial uses, which the SVAWPC helps to ensure by blending purified water with recycled water from the RWF. As described above, Palo Alto is developing a facility to purify a portion of the recycled water for blending to also lower TDS and expand uses of recycled water. Valley Water has restricted the use of NPR in some areas to protect groundwater basin water quality (see next section).

Benefits and Challenges of NPR

NPR can reduce wastewater discharges into the sensitive South Bay environment and lower pollutant loads, while also providing a drought resilient water supply. Recently promulgated nutrient regulations for wastewater discharge into the South Bay, in particular, can be an incentive for wastewater plants to promote NPR. Recycled water use is often not affected by drought restrictions, providing an incentive for its use by NPR customers. Using NPR for industrial and irrigation purposes is generally supported by the public.

NPR can provide water supply for uses that do not require the level of treatment necessary for drinking, therefore reducing treatment costs. However, since a separate “purple pipe” distribution system is required and water quality concerns have increased the need for advanced purification of at least a portion of the recycled water, these cost advantages are being diminished. For example, a recent engineers’ estimate for a 36-inch diameter recycled water pipe was \$3 million per mile just for pipe materials.

For Valley Water, increased NPR will result in less water available for potable reuse as analyzed in the CoRe Plan. Water conservation results in less wastewater available as well. As described above, potable reuse was deemed a more effective investment for Valley Water.

While recycled water is safe for many uses, to protect Coyote Valley aquifers and well users, Valley Water previously established a position that tertiary treated recycled water should not be used for irrigation in areas overlying the groundwater basin (Valley Floor).

Conclusion

The CoRe Plan summarizes the potential expansion and interconnection of the NPR systems, and Valley Water continues to support all our wastewater partners in expanding and improving the NPR system through infrastructure investment, planning, studies, and support for grant funding. For purposes of the WSMP 2050, a moderate growth in NPR was assumed. Additional expansion would be included via the annual MAP process.

Next steps for non-potable reuse include:

- Continue to collaborate with Palo Alto on their local facility to improve non-potable recycled water quality
- Collaborate with Sunnyvale on a study of future wastewater availability for recycling and continue to collaborate on the Wolfe Road pipeline
- Continue successful operation of SVAWPC and collaborate with SBWR and participate in master planning
- Collaborate with SCRWA and the South County cities on the grant funded feasibility study,

construct needed pipelines to serve the Amazon data center and continue working with the cities and developers to expand the system.

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

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Expanding Non-Potable Recycled Water

Kirsten Struve, Assistant Officer
Recycled Water Committee, July 30, 2025

Countywide Water Reuse Master Plan (CoRe Plan)

Goal:

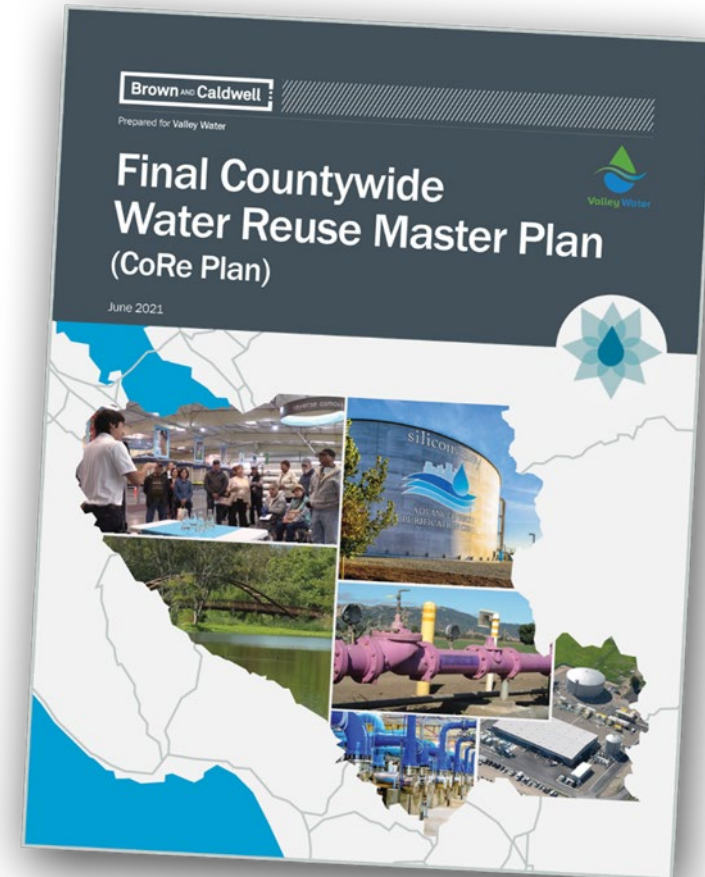
Identify feasible opportunities for expanding reuse as part of Valley Water's strategy to improve water supply reliability and regional self-reliance

Considerations:

- Alignment with Valley Water's One Water Plan and Water Supply Master Plan 2040
- Aiming for substantial engagement and collaboration with Partner Agencies

Objectives:

- Integrate existing recycled water systems and expand non-potable reuse
- Develop purified water systems



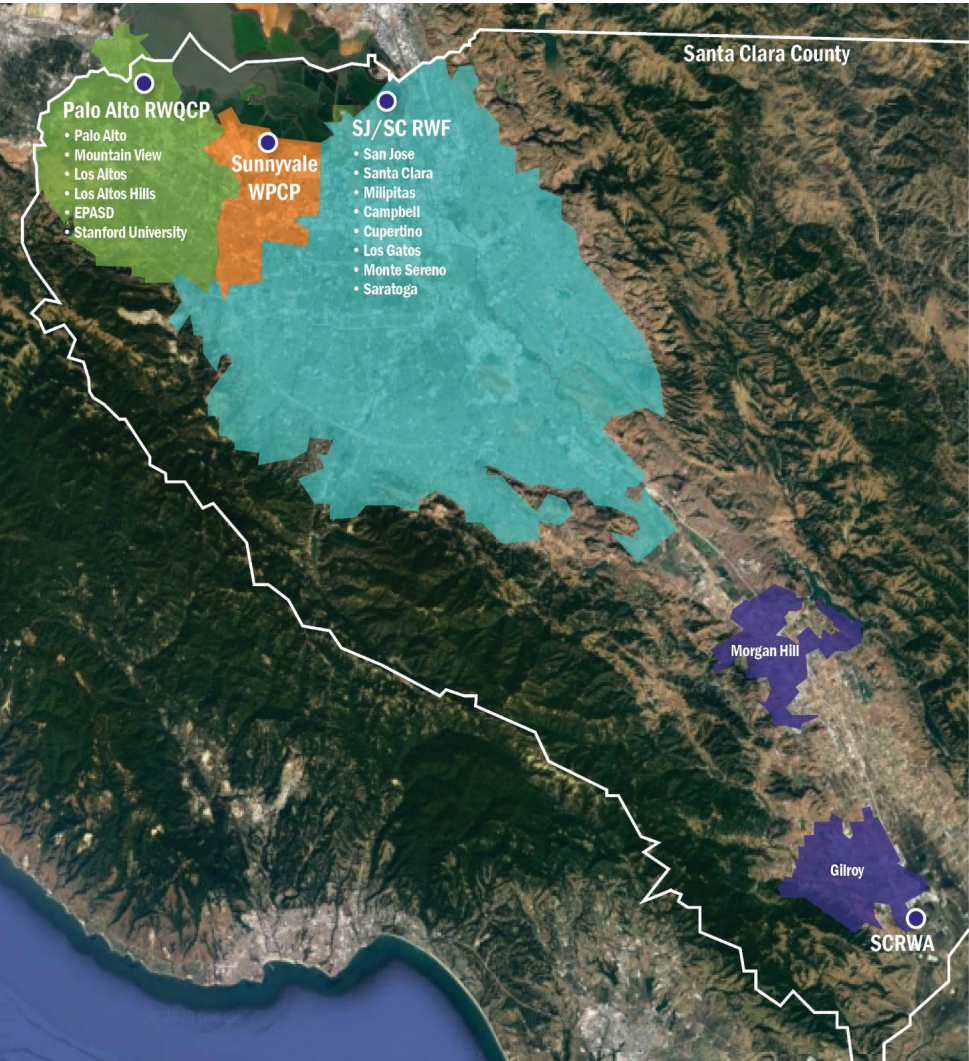
Partner Agencies

Recycled
Water
Producers
(WWTP*)

- Palo Alto RWQCP
- Sunnyvale WPCP
- San José/Santa Clara RWF
- SCRWA

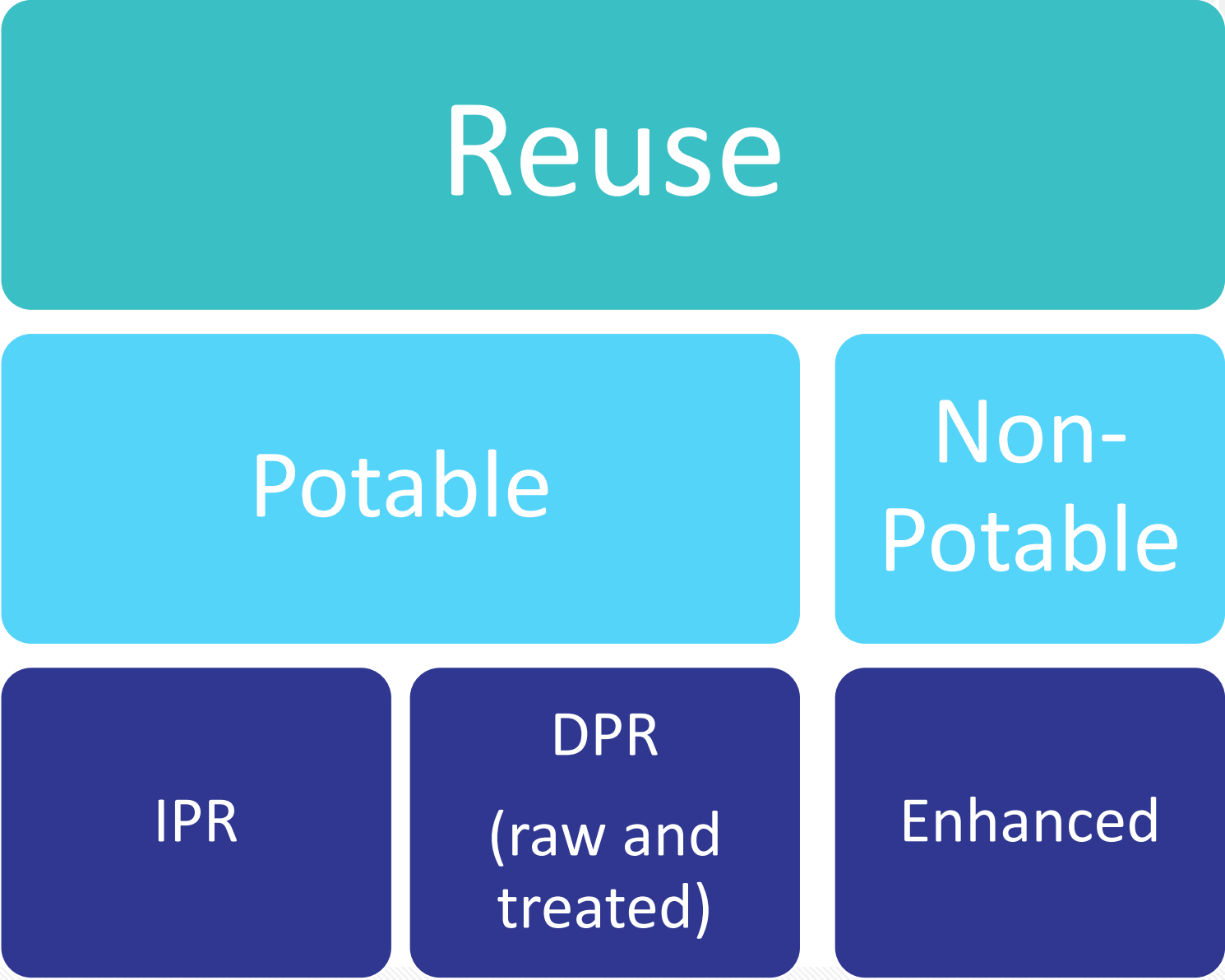
Recycled
Water Systems
(RWS)

- Palo Alto/Mountain View RWS
- Sunnyvale RWS
- South Bay Water Recycling
- South County RWS (Gilroy)



*Wastewater Treatment Plant

CoRe Plan
Encompassed
Various
Projects



Current Recycled Water Uses – Non-Potable Reuse (NPR)



Existing Non-potable System

Section 4: Existing Reuse Systems

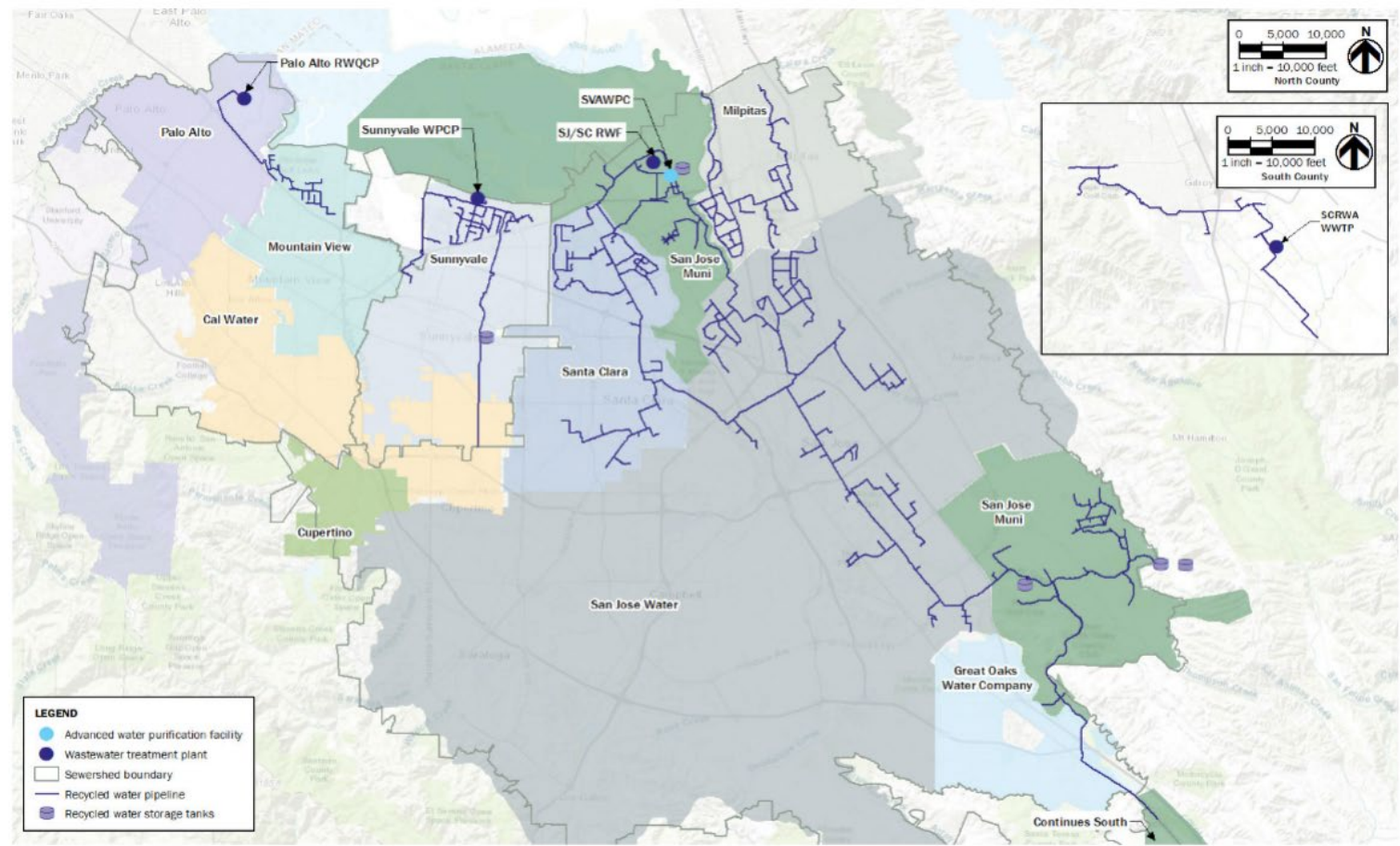


Figure 4-1. Existing recycled water distribution systems, water/recycled water retailer service areas, and sewershed boundaries throughout Santa Clara County

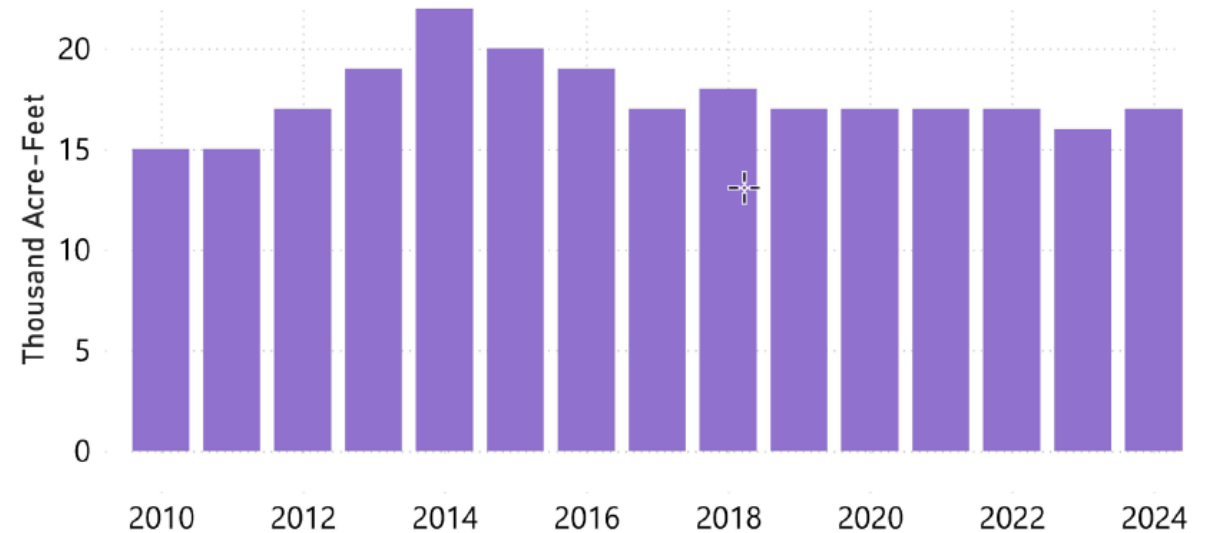
History of Valley Water NPR support for expansion

- **San Jose-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility**
 - Supported the development of a non-potable recycled water use
 - Collaborated with Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center to enhance water quality to allow for increased use
- **Sunnyvale Wastewater Plant**
 - Supported non-potable recycled water use & current study
 - Collaborated on the Wolfe Road pipeline to bring recycled water to the Apple Campus
- **Palo Alto Regional Water Quality Control Plant**
 - 2019 agreement: contribution of \$16M to a local advanced treatment facility to enhance the quality of recycled water
 - Additional funding to improve wastewater through another grant program
- **South Santa Clara County Water Reuse Collaboration**
 - Valley Water and SCRWA entered into a Producer-Wholesaler Agreement to distribute non-potable recycled water in South County in 1999
 - VW and the Cities of Gilroy and Morgan Hill entered into Wholesaler-Retailer Agreements in 1999

Water Supply Master Plan 2050 Assumptions

- Assumed NPR increase to 23,000 AFY (from current 17,000 AFY)
- Update if additional projects materialize as part of Monitoring and Assessment Program

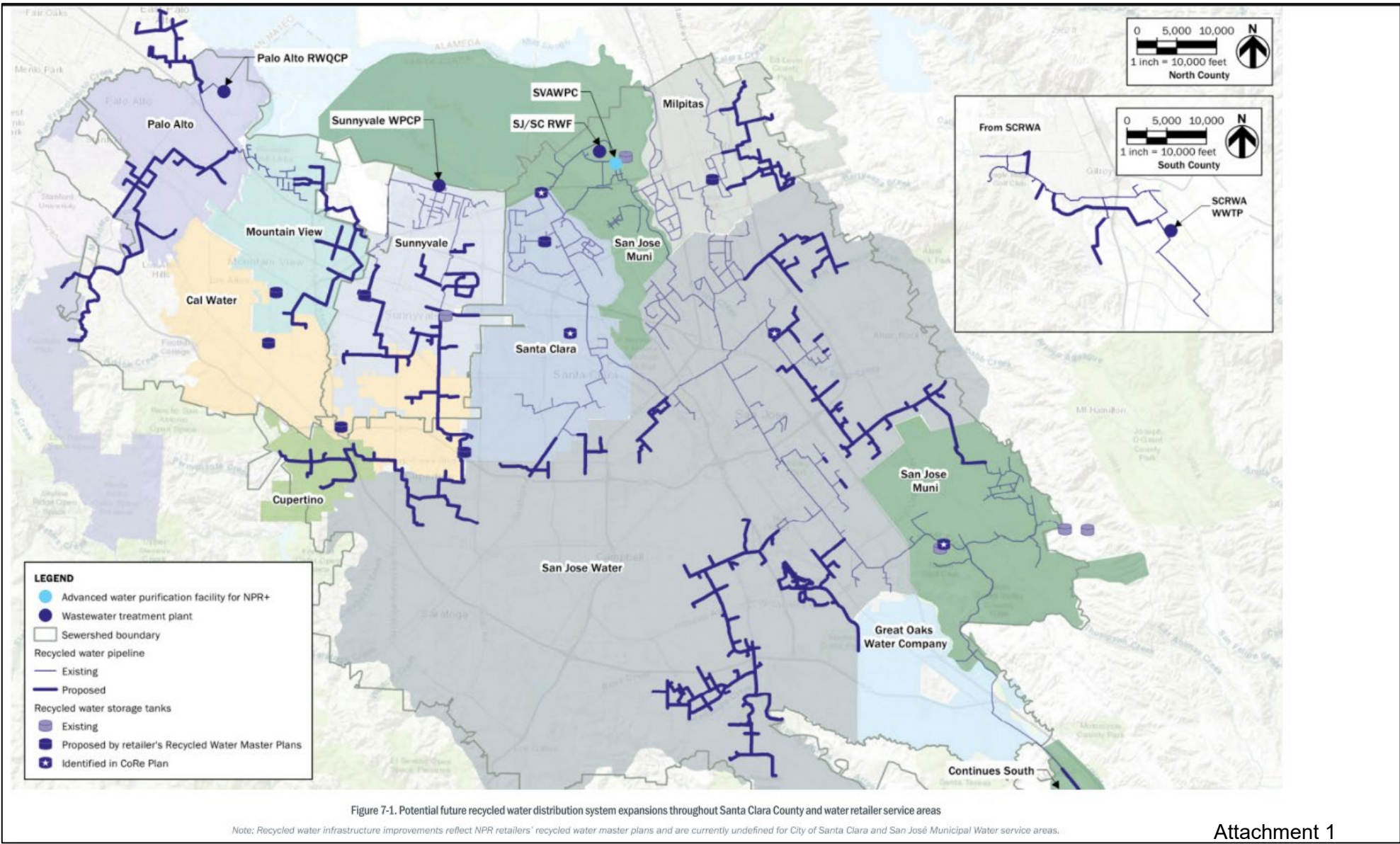
Figure 4-3 Non-Potable Recycled Water Use from 2010 to 2024



Considerations for Non-potable expansion

- Regulatory and Water Quality
- Production is cost-effective to some extent but requires new pipelines to reach users
- Performed study in collaboration with San Jose supporting potable reuse as more cost effective
- NPR limited uses: primarily for irrigation, dual flush, and cooling; currently, 2/3 of use in San Jose is for irrigation
- Potential future contaminants of concern

CoRe Plan NPR Expansion Potential



Next Steps on Non-Potable Recycled Water

- Continue to collaborate with Palo Alto on their local facility to improve non-potable recycled water quality
- Collaborate with Sunnyvale on a study of future wastewater availability for recycling and continue to collaborate on the Wolfe Road pipeline
- Continue successful operation of the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center to enhance SBWR water quality, collaborate with South Bay Water Recycling and participate in master planning
- Collaborate with SCRWA and the cities on the grant funded feasibility study, construct needed pipeline to serve the Amazon data center and continue working with the cities and developers to expand the system.

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0621

Agenda Date: 7/30/2025

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 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 the 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 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	Canceled	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		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	X								
2.5	Independent Advisory Panel.				X											
2.6	Expansion of nonpotable recycled water use.							X								
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								
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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