



Santa Clara Valley Water District Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Meeting

HQ. Bldg. Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California
Join Zoom Meeting: <https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/98850905996>

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

**Monday, October 6, 2025
1:30 PM**

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

COMMITTEE:
Peter VanDyke, Chairperson
Trevor Garrod, Vice Chairperson

BOARD REPRESENTATIVES:
Director Jim Beall
Vice Chairperson Richard P. Santos
Director John L. Varela

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.

Vincent Gin
Darin Taylor, (Staff Liaisons)

Nicole Merritt (COB Liaison)
Deputy Clerk
(Committee Meetings)
nmerritt@valleywater.org
408-630-3262

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
Agricultural Water Advisory Committee
REGULAR MEETING
AGENDA**

Monday, October 6, 2025

1:30 PM

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

Join Zoom Meeting:

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*****IMPORTANT NOTICES AND PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS*****

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

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

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

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

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

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/98850905996>

Meeting ID: 988 5090 5996

Join by Phone:

1 (669) 900-9128, 988 5090 5996#

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 July 7, 2025 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Minutes. [25-0738](#)
- Recommendation: Approve the minutes.
- Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193
- Attachments: [Attachment 1: 07072025 AWAC Minutes](#)
- Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

- 4.1. Receive the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update. [25-0813](#)
- Recommendation: Receive an update on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).
- Manager: Gregory Williams, 408-630-2867
- Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)
- Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes
- 4.2. Receive Update on the Semitropic Groundwater Storage Bank. [25-0837](#)
- Recommendation: Receive and discuss information regarding the Semitropic Groundwater Storage Bank.
- Manager: Vincent Gin, 408-630-2633
- Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)
- Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes
- 4.3. Receive Information on the Impact to the Agricultural Groundwater Production Charge Projection from the Suspension of the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project. [25-0764](#)
- Recommendation: Receive information on the impact to the Agricultural groundwater production charge projection from the suspension of the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project.
- Manager: Darin Taylor, 408-630-3068
- Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes
- 4.4. Review 2025 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (AWAC) Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda. [25-0740](#)
- 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: AWAC 2025 Work Plan](#)
- Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

5. INFORMATION ITEM:

5.1. Standing Items Report.

[25-0736](#)

Recommendation: Standing Items Report

This item allows the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee to receive verbal or written updates and discuss the Board's Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Work Plan Strategies. These items are generally informational; however, the Committee may request additional information and/or provide collective input to the assigned Board Committee.

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

Attachments: [Attachment 1: Board Work Plan Standing Items Report](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

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. REPORTS:

7.1. Federal and State Affairs Report

7.2. Director's Report

7.3. Manager's Report

7.4. Committee Member's Report

7.5. Information Links:

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

- Board Policy and Monitoring Committee (BPMC) - formerly Board Policy and Planning Committee & Diversity and Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee

- Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee (ECCC) - formerly Homeless Encampment Committee

- Water Supply and Demand Management (WSDM) - formerly Water Storage Exploratory Committee & Water Conservation & Demand Management Committee

<https://www.valleywater.org/your-water/water-supply-planning/monthly-water-tracker>

- Water Tracker

8. ADJOURN:

8.1. Adjourn. The Next Regular Meeting is Scheduled at 1:30 p.m., on January 5, 2026.

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0738

Agenda Date: 10/6/2025
Item No.: 3.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Approval of July 7, 2025 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Minutes.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes.

SUMMARY:

A summary of Committee discussions, and details of all actions taken by the Committee, during all open and public Committee meetings, is transcribed and submitted for review and approval.

Upon Committee approval, minutes transcripts are finalized and entered into the District's historical records archives and serve as historical records of the Committee's meetings.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

Approval of minutes is not subject to environmental justice analysis.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: 07072025 AWAC Minutes

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

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AGRICULTURAL WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 7, 2025
1:30 PM

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

1. CALL TO ORDER:

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

1.1 Roll Call.

Committee members in attendance were, District 1 Mitchell Mariani, District 2 James Provenzano, District 3 Robert Long Jr., District 4 Sheila Barry, Santa Clara County Farm Bureau Jan Garrod, District 5 and Vice Chairperson Trevor Garrod, and Loma Prieta Resource Conservative District and Chairperson presiding, Peter Van Dyke constituting a quorum of the Committee.

Committee members who were not in attendance in person were District 1 Erin Gil, District 4 Brent Bonino, and District 6 Tim Chiala.

Staff members in attendance were: Aaron Baker, Lisa Bankosh, Justin Burks, Olivia Cobb, Scott Elkins, Walter Gonzalez, Samantha Greene, Andy Gschwind, Jason Gurdak, Chris Hakes, Dave Leon, Candice Kwok-Smith, Katherine Maher, Nicole Merritt, Carlos Orellana, Breanne Roderick, Clarissa Sangalang, Desiree Sausele, Ashley Shannon, Kirsten Struve, Nicholas Simard, Darin Taylor, Greg Williams, Heidi Williams, Jing Wu, Grace Yu, and Beckie Zisser.

Board Representatives in attendance were: Valley Water Vice Chairperson Richard P. Santos (District 3), Director Jim Beall (District 4), and Director John L. Varela (District 1).

Public in attendance were: Valley Water Directors Shiloh Ballard (District 2) and Rebecca Eisenberg (District 7), Katja Irvin (Sierra Club), and Julie Morris (University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources), and John Tang (San Jose Water).

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

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

3.1. Approval of April 7, 2025, Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

The Committee considered the attached minutes of the April 7, 2025, Committee meeting.

Public Comments:
None.

It was moved by James Provenzano and seconded by Vice Chairperson Trevor Garrod and unanimously carried that the minutes be approved.

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

4.1. Receive Update on The County of Santa Clara's Agricultural Outreach and Awareness Campaign - Agriculture's Impact on Water Conservation and Climate Change.

Recommendation: Receive information on the County of Santa Clara's Agricultural Outreach and Awareness Campaign Focus Area 8, which includes agriculture's role in supporting water conservation and responding to climate change.

Lisa Bankosh and Julie Morris reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda, and Julie Morris reviewed the information on this item, per the information contained in Attachment 2.

Julie Morris, Lisa Bankosh, and Valley Water Director Varela were available to answer questions.

The Committee discussed the following topics: noted the pause in federal grant funding; reviewed campaign estimate of \$200,000 with \$150,000 raised from various donors and application pending for a \$10,000 mini-grant from Valley Water; noted the effectiveness of campaign messaging for water conservation and agriculture along Interstate 5 and State Route 99; discussed the potential for involvement from the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) in the campaign; noted county

agricultural education classes designed for local community leaders to promote awareness of agriculture's role; and expressed support for outreach to the Cities of Gilroy and Morgan Hill.

Public Comments:

None.

The Committee received and noted the information, provided feedback, and took no formal action.

4.2. Receive Information and Provide Feedback on Valley Water's Draft Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP) 2050.

Recommendation: Provide feedback on the draft WSMP 2050.

Kirsten Struve reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and per the information contained in Attachment 2.

Kirsten Struve, Aaron Baker, Jason Gurdak, Valley Water Vice Chairperson Santos and Valley Water Director Varela were available to answer questions.

The Committee discussed the following topics: confirmed Valley Water's share in the Sites Reservoir project is currently too small to significantly impact the overall portfolios but can be revisited as future opportunities arise; confirmed the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit is included in the baseline; confirmed the importance of the contract with the Semitropic Groundwater Storage Bank and noted the contract may not be renewable at the same conditions; confirmed all WSMP project options are in different stages of development and still evolving; noted the Palo Alto potable reuse project is on hold due to high costs and Valley Water is currently working on the San Jose direct potable reuse project; confirmed local water agencies are working on long-term water plans and facing issues similar to Valley Water, though dealing with different water supplies; noted importance of securing water rights and expressed concern for impact of urbanization on South County groundwater, confirmed staff monitor the groundwater in South County and nitrate concentrations are going down, noted upcoming potential programs aimed at enhancing South County groundwater, and noted staff have been reviewing the environmental documents and providing feedback on the development impacts; confirmed the operational storage capacity for the South County Zone W-5 is about 150,000 acre feet (AF); confirmed the groundwater flow between Llagas Subbasin and San Benito County is seasonal with no net loss; confirmed subsidence has not been observed in South County and groundwater levels remain stable; noted Senate Bill 423 addressing affordable housing and its impact on water demand and agricultural land use; and noted support for outreach to local elected officials regarding legislation to moderate urban growth.

Public Comments:
None.

The Committee received and noted the information, provided feedback and took no formal action.

4.3. Receive Update and Provide Feedback on West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watersheds Master Plans.

Recommendation: Receive an update on the West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Master Plans and provide feedback as necessary.

Heidi Williams reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and per the information contained in Attachment 2.

Heidi Williams, Lisa Bankosh, and Samantha Greene were available to answer questions.

The Committee discussed the following topics: confirmed staff shares flood model information with the local cities to assist with analyzing potential flooding vulnerabilities; expressed support for community outreach efforts to the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, the Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST), mountain side vineyards, and homes with extensive gardens; confirmed there is no strict definition or size for rivers, creeks, or washes, the term creek is used generally by staff, and washes do not usually contain water year around; expressed support of including potential land management topics of open space grazing, brush encroachment data, vegetation impacts, and the Santa Clara County Weed Abatement Program; and noted the potential difficulty of including any rain water capture data from new homes in the area.

Public Comments:
None.

The Committee received and noted the information and took no formal action.

4.4. Receive Information on the Annual Report Regarding the Flood Control Benefit Assessments for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026.

Recommendation: Receive information on the annual report regarding the Flood Control Benefit Assessments for FY 2025-2026.

Darin Taylor reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and per the information contained in Attachments 1 and 2.

Darin Taylor and Valley Water Director Varela were available to answer questions.

The Committee discussed the following topics: confirmed that the benefit assessment rates are not related to the Open Space Credit; confirmed that the 2025-2026 benefit assessment rate for the South County land use category is \$0, as the debt for that zone has been paid off; and noted any South County continued flood control work will be supported by revenue sources outside of benefit assessments such as property taxes.

Public Comments:
None.

The Committee received and noted the information and took no formal action.

- 4.5. Review 2025 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (AWAC) 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.

The Committee considered this Item without a staff presentation.

Public Comments:
None.

Nicole Merritt and Kirsten Struve were available to answer questions.

The Committee reviewed and noted the updated Work Plan without discussion and took no formal action.

Valley Water Director Beall extended prayers for the victims of the recent flooding in Texas and expressed support for efforts ensuring vulnerable communities are not located within a designated floodplain.

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.

Nicole Merritt confirmed Brent Bonino was absent from today's meeting; noted all regular agenda items were informational with no requests to speak from the public; and the Committee received, noted, and provided feedback on Items 4.1 through 4.5.

6. REPORTS:

6.1. Federal and State Affairs Report

Beckie Zisser provided the verbal update and confirmed that it may be challenging for the state to grant California Environmental Quality Act

(CEQA) exemptions for water projects and Chairperson Peter Van Dyke expressed support for a CEQA update at the next meeting.

- 6.2. Director's Report
Valley Water Director Varela acknowledged Marissa Dinapoli's memory.
- 6.3. Manager's Report
Aaron Baker confirmed no verbal report.
- 6.4. Committee Member Report
Chairperson Peter Van Dyke noted attendance along with Valley Water staff at the Pajaro River Watershed meetings; and confirmed the continued work on the Upper Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project is a part of the PL-566 Watershed Project.
- 6.5. Information Links:
Links noted on agenda.

8. ADJOURN:

- 8.1. Adjourn. The Next Regular Meeting is Scheduled at 1:30 p.m. on October 6, 2025.

Chairperson Peter Van Dyke adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled to occur at 1:30 p.m. on October 6, 2025.

Date approved:

Nicole Merritt
Assistant Deputy Clerk II



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0813

Agenda Date: 10/6/2025

Item No.: 4.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Receive the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

SUMMARY:

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires that a groundwater sustainability agency (GSA) managing a basin ranked as medium- or high-priority submit a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) or Alternative to a GSP (Alternative) to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) by certain statutory deadlines. SGMA provides GSAs with various groundwater management authorities to implement GSPs or Alternatives with the goal of achieving sustainable groundwater conditions. This item presents a brief update on SGMA status for the following groundwater basins:

- Santa Clara and Llagas subbasins in Santa Clara County, managed exclusively by Valley Water, and
- North San Benito Subbasin in Santa Clara and San Benito counties, primarily managed by San Benito County Water District

Santa Clara and Llagas Subbasins

Valley Water is the exclusive GSA for the high-priority Santa Clara and Llagas subbasins, which are located entirely in Santa Clara County and have been sustainably managed for many decades. For initial SGMA compliance, Valley Water submitted the 2016 Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP) for the Santa Clara and Llagas subbasins to DWR as an Alternative. DWR approved the Alternative in 2019, confirming it satisfies the objectives of SGMA.

In December 2021, Valley Water submitted the 2021 GWMP to DWR as the first periodic evaluation of the approved Alternative (SGMA requires evaluations at least every five years). In June 2024, DWR approved the 2021 GWMP, confirming it was responsive to DWR comments on the 2016 GWMP, satisfies the objectives of SGMA, and complies with related regulations. The DWR Staff assessment proposes minor recommendations to enhance the Alternative and facilitate future

evaluation by DWR for the next periodic update due December 17, 2026. These recommended actions are summarized below:

1. Explain how inter-basin items have been coordinated.
2. Ensure monitoring network details are consistent with DWR's SGMA Portal Monitoring Network Module.

Staff have begun addressing DWR recommended actions and are conducting various technical analyses needed to incorporate 2021 GWMP recommendations into the next periodic update to the Alternative. As this work progresses further, staff will update the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee and engage basin stakeholders through email updates and public meetings. A public review of the draft updated Alternative is expected to be available in late summer 2026 to solicit public input prior to consideration by the Board of Directors.

Valley Water will continue implementing its comprehensive Groundwater Management Plan, provide annual SGMA reports to DWR by April 1, and submit the updated Alternative to DWR by December 17, 2026.

North San Benito Subbasin

Valley Water is also the GSA for the small portions of the North San Benito Subbasin located in Santa Clara County. Nearly all of this medium-priority basin is in San Benito County, so the San Benito County Water District GSA leads SGMA compliance efforts (including GSP development and implementation) in coordination with Valley Water. After being adopted by the Board of Directors for both agencies, the North San Benito Subbasin GSP was submitted to DWR in January 2022. In July 2023, DWR approved the GSP, indicating it satisfies the objectives of SGMA and substantially complies with GSP regulations. The DWR assessment includes four recommendations that will need to be addressed in the first periodic evaluation, which is due by January 2027. The assessment can be viewed on the SGMA portal at sgma.water.ca.gov.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no environmental justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Gregory Williams, 408-630-2867



Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update

Agricultural Water Advisory Committee October 6, 2025

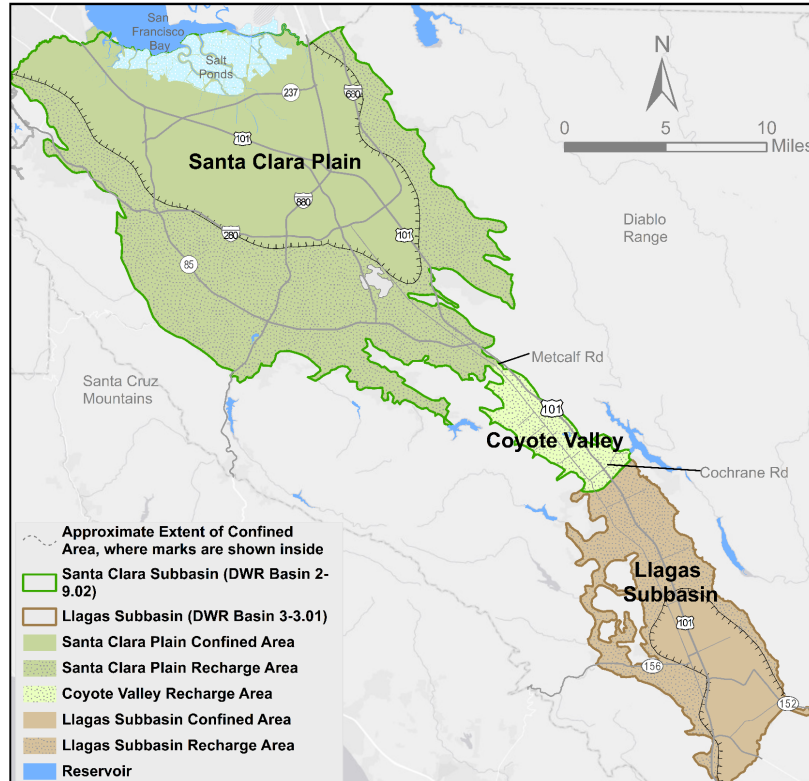
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Attachment 1
Page 1 of 6

Local Basins Subject to SGMA

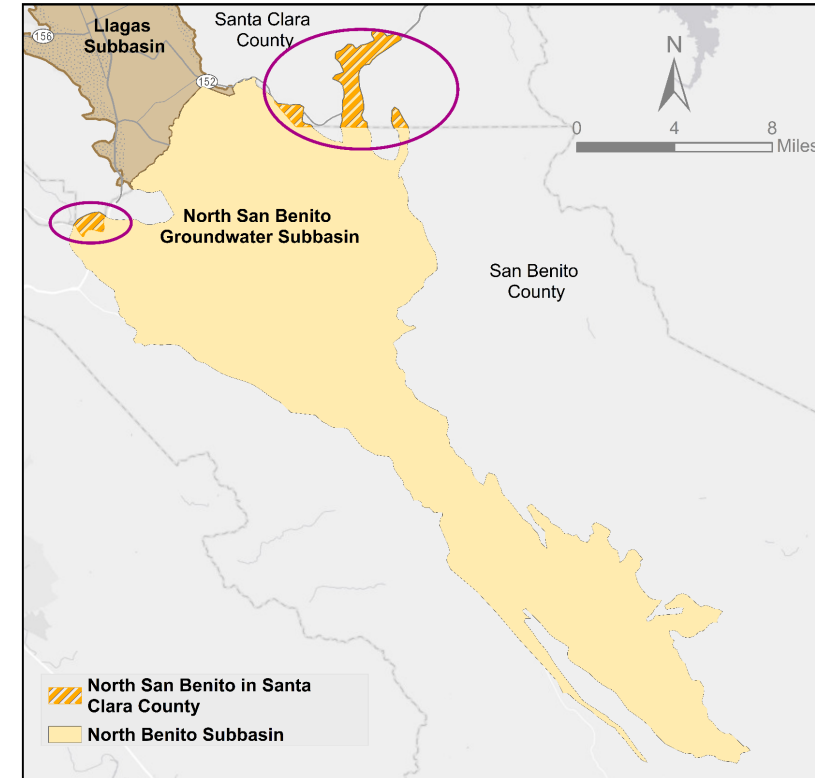
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Santa Clara & Llagas Subbasins



- Located entirely in Santa Clara County
- Cover about 400 square miles
- Valley Water is the exclusive groundwater sustainability agency (GSA)

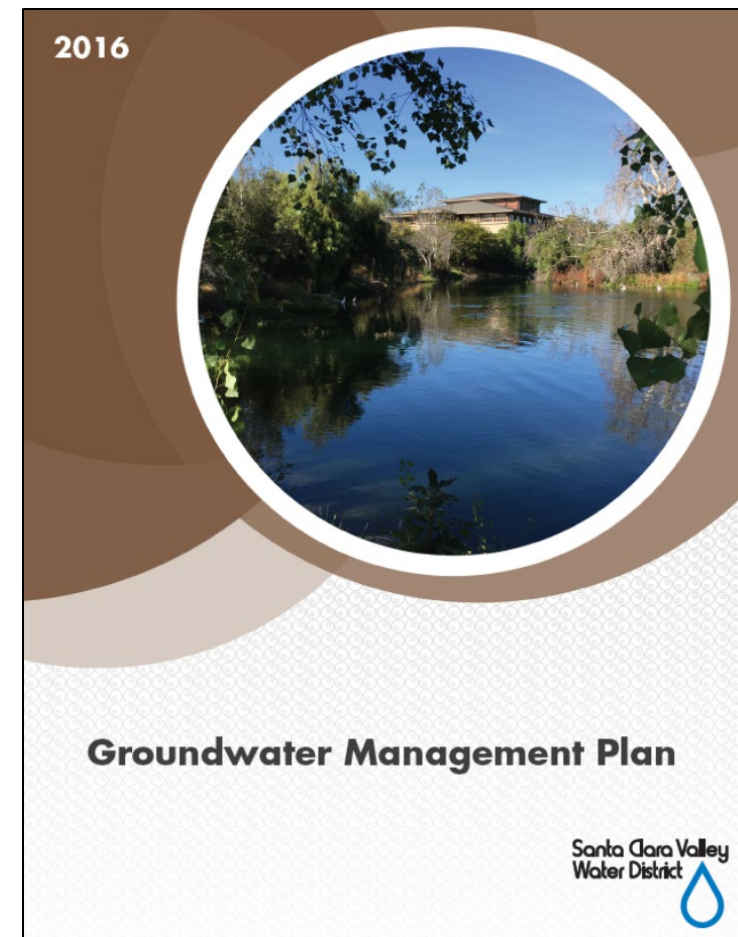
North San Benito Subbasin



- Primarily located in San Benito County
- Valley Water is the GSA for Santa Clara County portions (5.2 square miles)
- Coordination with San Benito County Water District

Santa Clara and Llagas Subbasins – SGMA History

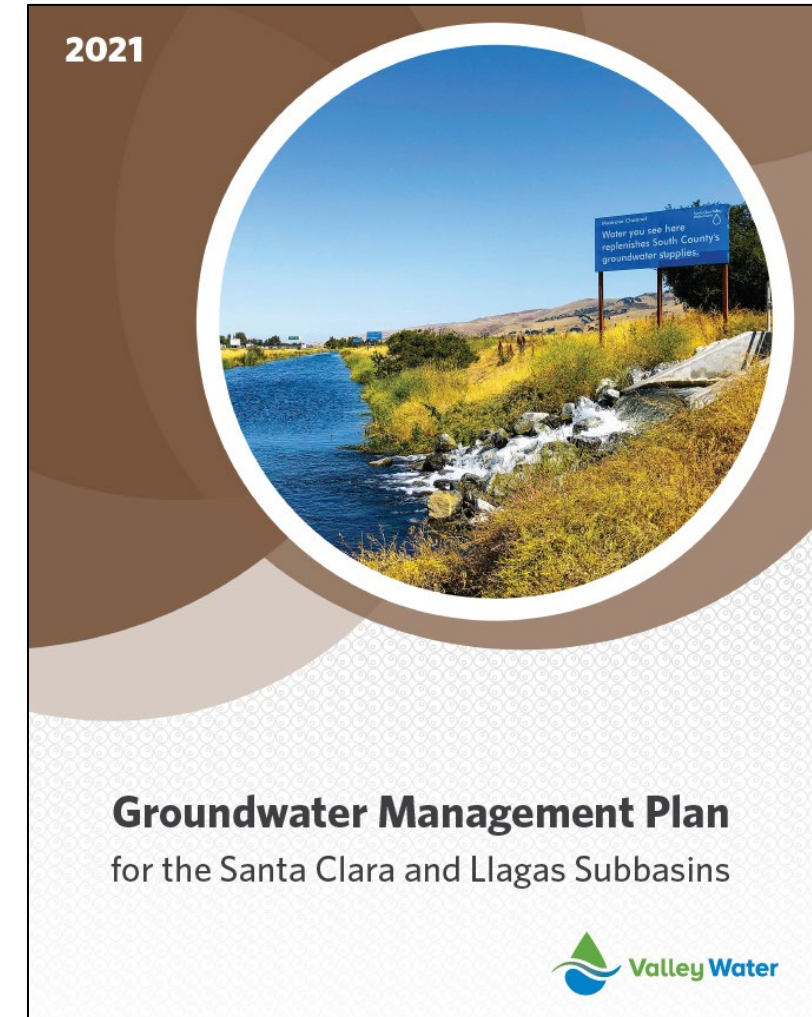
- **May 2016:** Valley Water became the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)
- **December 2016:** Submitted 2016 Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP) as Alternative to a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (Alternative)
- **July 2019:** Alternative approved by Dept. of Water Resources (DWR)
- **December 2021:** Submitted 2021 GWMP as first required periodic evaluation
- **June 2024:** Periodic evaluation approved by DWR
- **April 2017 to 2025:** Submitted annual Water Year reports
- **December 17, 2026:** Second periodic evaluation due to DWR



Santa Clara and Llagas Subbasins – SGMA Status

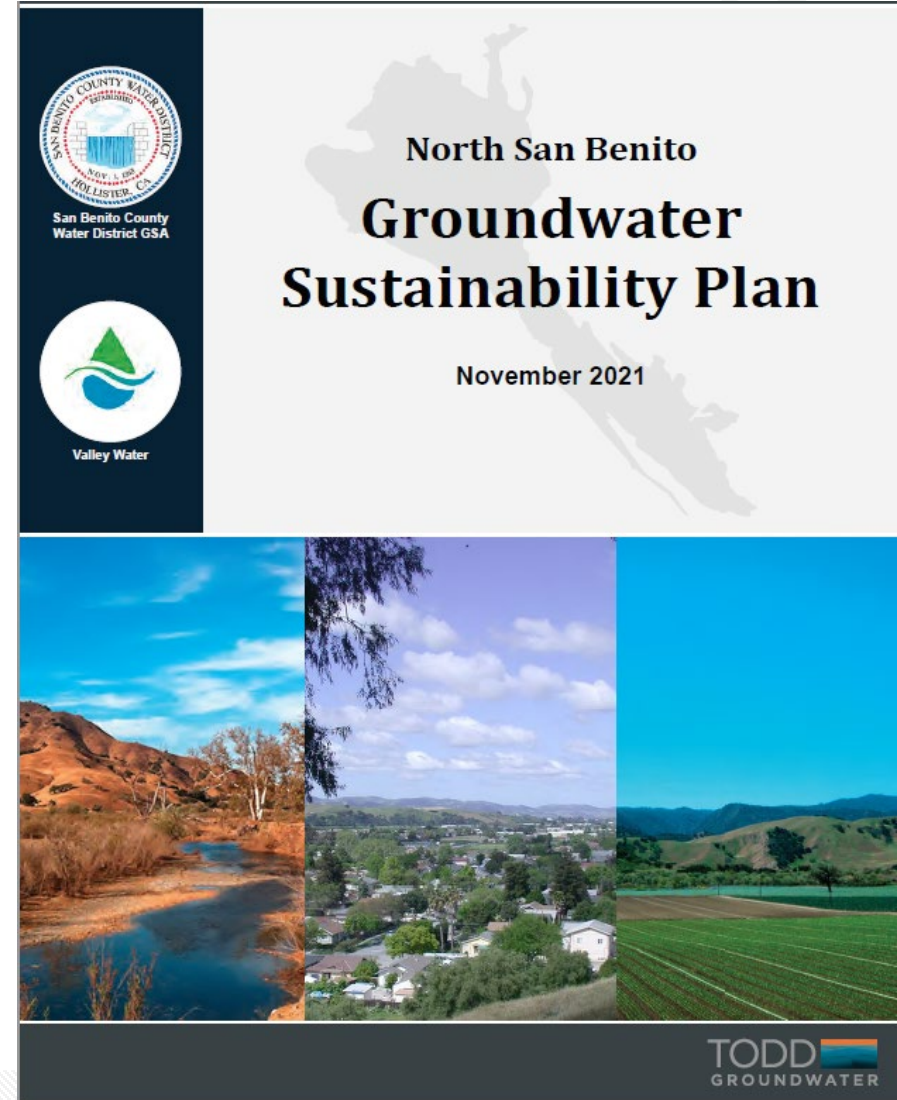
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- Staff updating the 2021 GWMP (Second periodic evaluation)
- Implementing 2021 GWMP technical recommendations
- Integrating DWR recommendations
 - Clarify coordination with adjacent GSAs
 - Ensure monitoring network details are consistent with DWR's Monitoring Network Module
- Outreach
 - Periodic updates to Board Advisory Committees
 - Engage stakeholders: well owners, retailers, other agencies
 - Public review of draft (late summer 2026)
 - Board consideration



North San Benito Subbasin – SGMA Status

- San Benito County Water District lead GSP development with support from Valley Water
- GSP submitted in January 2022
- GSP approved by DWR in July 2023
- DWR recommendations to be addressed in the next GSP update (due by January 2027)





Valley Water

Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0837

Agenda Date: 10/6/2025

Item No.: 4.2.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Receive Update on the Semitropic Groundwater Storage Bank.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and discuss information regarding the Semitropic Groundwater Storage Bank.

SUMMARY:

Semitropic Water Bank (Semitropic) is currently Valley Water's only out-of-county groundwater banking program, and Valley Water depends on Semitropic to meet its storage needs in years with excess imported water supplies and to meet its dry year demands. The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires that a groundwater sustainability agency (GSA) in a basin ranked as medium- or high-priority submit a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) or Alternative to a GSP (Alternative) to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) by certain statutory deadlines. SGMA provides GSAs with various groundwater management authorities to implement GSPs or Alternatives with the goal of achieving sustainable groundwater conditions. If DWR finds that a GSP is inadequate, it may refer the GSA to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) for State intervention.

Semitropic Groundwater Storage Bank (Semitropic) lies within the Kern County Subbasin (subbasin). At the previous update to the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee in October 2024, staff shared with the committee that the subbasin was referred to the State Water Board and that the Probationary Hearing was scheduled for February 20, 2025.

On February 20, 2025, the State Water Board opened a hearing to determine whether to place the subbasin on probation. The Final Staff Report for the hearing recommended that the State Water Board designate the subbasin as a probationary basin under SGMA. In the report, State Water Board staff expressed concerns that there may be adverse impacts during extended periods of banking operations withdrawing stored water from the basin. State Water Board staff also stated that they would need to evaluate whether water banked in groundwater banks utilizing in-lieu recharge, such as Semitropic, should be considered native groundwater rather than stored imported surface water, and therefore subject to SGMA reporting and fees if the basin is placed on probation. At the hearing, in recognition of the progress the subbasin GSAs made in revising their GSPs, the State Water Board

continued the hearing to September 17, 2025, so that remaining deficiencies may be resolved without the State Water Board designating the subbasin as probationary.

The GSAs submitted the 2025 Draft GSPs in June 2025, which State Water Board staff reviewed. Staff concluded that the GSAs substantially, though not completely, addressed the previously identified deficiencies. State Water Board staff recommended that the State Water Board return the subbasin to DWR oversight if three primary issues were resolved, which related to drinking water wells, drinking water contaminants, and governance. In its report of the review, State Water Board staff did not discuss water banking.

In response to the State Water Board's recommendation, the GSAs indicated that changes were or are being made to address the three primary issues. At the September 17, 2025 meeting, State Water Board approved a resolution to return the subbasin to DWR oversight, pending State Water Board's review of the final 2025 GSPs to confirm consistency with the draft 2025 GSPs and that the three priority deficiencies identified are addressed. If confirmed, State Water Board staff will transmit a letter to DWR to formalize the return of the subbasin to DWR's oversight, and DWR will begin its process of reviewing the Final 2025 GSPs.

While DWR reviews the plan, the subbasin will continue to implement the adopted GSPs. The Final 2025 GSPs recognize water banking within the subbasin, and the GSAs do not include banked supplies in their water budgets; however, the sustainable management criteria do not distinguish between banked water and native groundwater. The groundwater banks will operate consistent with the adopted GSPs to avoid undesirable results. Valley Water will continue to monitor the subbasin and evaluate potential impacts, if any, to banking operations as SGMA is implemented.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no environmental justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Vincent Gin, 408-630-2633



Semitropic Groundwater Storage Bank Update

Agricultural Water Advisory Committee, October 6, 2025

24

Attachment 1
Page 1 of 3

Kern County Subbasin – SGMA Status

- Subbasin focus has been on Probationary Hearing Process
- Semitropic Water Storage District is within the Kern County subbasin
- DWR referred the subbasin to State Water Board staff for intervention in March 2023
- After substantial progress in revising the Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs), State Water Board voted to return the subbasin to DWR oversight, pending staff review of the final 2025 GSPs



Figure 3-1

Overview of the Kern
County Subbasin

*Draft Staff Report
Kern County Subbasin
July 2024*

- Kern County Subbasin
- Hydrologic Regions
- Tulare Lake Hydrologic Region



Valley Water

Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0764

Agenda Date: 10/6/2025

Item No.: 4.3.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Receive Information on the Impact to the Agricultural Groundwater Production Charge Projection from the Suspension of the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive information on the impact to the Agricultural groundwater production charge projection from the suspension of the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project.

SUMMARY:

On August 26, 2025, the Valley Water Board of Directors voted to suspend development of the proposed Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project (PREP). On August 29, 2025, staff provided the Board with an updated Municipal & Industrial (M&I) groundwater charge projection for North County Zone W-2, which was lower due to the elimination of the PREP. The purpose of this item is to provide impact information relative to the Agricultural groundwater production charge projection.

Simply put, the suspension of the PREP has no impact on the Agricultural groundwater charge projection. The reason is that the Agricultural groundwater production charge projection is linked to the Zone W-8 M&I groundwater projection, and since Zone W-8 does not benefit from the PREP, costs associated with PREP were not included in the Zone W-8 M&I groundwater production charge projection. Accordingly, the suspension of PREP will have no impact on the Zone W-8 M&I groundwater production charge projection, and therefore, no impact on the Agricultural groundwater charge projection.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Darin Taylor, 408-630-3068



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0740

Agenda Date: 10/6/2025

Item No.: 4.4.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Review 2025 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (AWAC) 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 agendaized 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:

The review of the Committee Work Plan is not subject to environmental justice analysis.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: AWAC 2025 Work Plan

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

2025 Work Plan: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: September 2025

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 2025.	January 6	Committee Elects Chair and Vice Chair for 2025. (Action)	<u>Accomplished January 6, 2025</u> The Committee unanimously approved Peter Van Dyke to remain as the 2025 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Chairperson and Trevor Garrod to remain as the 2025 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Vice-Chairperson.
2	Annual Accomplishments Report.	January 6	Review and approve 2024 Accomplishments Report for presentation to the Board. (Action) Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate.	<u>Accomplished January 6, 2025</u> The Committee unanimously approved the 2024 Annual Accomplishments Report for presentation to the Board. <i>The Board received the Committee's presentation by Chairperson Peter Van Dyke and accepted the 2024 Annual Accomplishments Report at the March 11, 2025 meeting.</i>
3	Review and Comment to the Board on the Fiscal Year 2025 – 2026 Preliminary Groundwater Production Charges.	January 6 April 7	Review and comment to the Board on the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Preliminary Groundwater Production Charges. (Action) Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate.	<u>Accomplished January 6, 2025</u> The Committee reviewed and commented on the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Preliminary Groundwater Production Charges and took the following action: The Committee unanimously approved to receive and accept staff's preliminary report for the FY 2025-2026 groundwater production charges with the amendment to continue the pursuit of water conservation programs, studying the impact of increased rates on agriculture and the potential of freezing agricultural rates.

Yellow = Update Since Last Meeting

Blue = Action taken by the Board of Directors

2025 Work Plan: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: September 2025

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
	Review and Comment to the Board on the Fiscal Year 2025 – 2026 Preliminary Groundwater Production Charges. (continued)			Accomplished April 7, 2025 The Committee received and noted the information, provided feedback, and took no formal action. <i>The Board adopted the Resolutions: DETERMINING GROUNDWATER PRODUCTION CHARGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 and DETERMINING SURFACE WATER, TREATED WATER, AND SOUTH COUNTY RECYCLED WATER CHARGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 at the May 27, 2025 meeting.</i>
4	Receive Information and Provide Feedback on the Development of Valley Water's Water Supply Master Plan 2050.	April 7 July 7	Receive Information and provide feedback on the development of Valley Water's Water Supply Master Plan 2050.	Accomplished April 7, 2025 The Committee received and noted the information, provided feedback, and took no formal action. Accomplished July 7, 2025 The Committee received and noted the information, provided feedback, and took no formal action.
5	Receive Update on One Water Plan Upper Pajaro Watershed Plan Priority Actions.	January 6	Receive information about development of the One Water Upper Pajaro Watershed Plan. Review and provide input on One Water Upper Pajaro Watershed Plan Priority Actions	Accomplished January 6, 2025 The Committee received and noted the information and took no formal action.
6	Receive an update of Valley Water's activities of the Unhoused and information on how enforcement of violations of companies are handled within the County.	TBD	Receive an update of Valley Water's activities of the Unhoused and information on how the enforcement of violations of companies are handled within the County. Board is requesting the committee give more detailed information on this item for the Board's consideration.	

Yellow = Update Since Last Meeting

Blue = Action taken by the Board of Directors

2025 Work Plan: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: September 2025

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
7	Review Climate Change and the benefits of ecosystems on Agriculture in Santa Clara County. *Receive information on the County of Santa Clara's Agricultural Outreach and Awareness Campaign	July 7	Discuss how climate change impacts the benefits of ecosystems on agriculture within Santa Clara County.	Accomplished July 7, 2025 The Committee received and noted the information, provided feedback, and took no formal action.
8	Discuss the Potential of Forming a Subcommittee.	January 6	Discuss the potential of forming an AWAC subcommittee per the Committee's approval at the January 9, 2023 meeting.	Accomplished January 6, 2025 The Committee received the information, took no formal action and noted the option of forming a subcommittee as needed.
9	Receive Update on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Compliance.	October 6	Receive update on SGMA compliance and Semitropic banking.	
10	Receive Update on Semitropic Groundwater Storage Bank.	October 6	Receive update on Semitropic Groundwater Storage Bank.	
11	Receive an Update on Valley Water's South County Managed Aquifer Recharge Activities.	April 7	Receive update on Valley Water's South County managed aquifer recharge activities.	Accomplished April 7, 2025 The Committee received and noted the information, provided feedback, and took no formal action.
12	Receive Update on West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Master Plans.	July 7	Receive update on West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Master Plans.	Accomplished July 7, 2025 The Committee received and noted the information, and took no formal action.
13	Receive Information on the Annual Report Regarding the Flood Control Benefit Assessments for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026.	July 7	Receive information on the annual report regarding the Flood Control Benefit Assessments for FY 2025-2026.	Accomplished July 7, 2025 The Committee received and noted the information, and took no formal action.

Yellow = Update Since Last Meeting

Blue = Action taken by the Board of Directors

2025 Work Plan: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: September 2025

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
14	Receive Information on the Impact to the Agricultural Groundwater Production Charge Projection from the Suspension of the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project.	October 6	Receive on the impact to the Agricultural Groundwater Production Charge Projection from the suspension of the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project.	
15	Standing Items Report Fiscal Year 2025 Goals and Strategies.	January 6 October 6	Receive reports on standing items, FY2025.	Accomplished January 6, 2025 The Committee received the quarterly report on standing items for FY2025 and took no action.
16	Federal and State Affairs Report	January 6 April 7 July 7 October 6	Receive update.	Accomplished January 6, 2025 The Committee received the verbal update and confirmed financial assistance with the unhoused will be addressed locally through partnerships with the county or other jurisdictions to obtain federal funding. Accomplished April 7, 2025 The Committee received the verbal update and confirmed the state's insurance industry issues are a discussion topic with a focus on affordability for legislative representatives. Accomplished July 7, 2025 The Committee received the verbal update and confirmed that it may be challenging for the state to grant California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemptions for water projects and Chairperson Peter Van Dyke expressed support for a CEQA update at the next meeting.
17	Review and Discuss Resolution 17-75 and the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (AWAC) Membership.	January 6	Review and discuss Reso. 17-75 and the AWAC Membership plan. (Action) Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate.	Accomplished January 6, 2025 The Committee received the information, took no formal action and noted Chairperson Peter Van Dyke will continue working with the AWAC Committee Oversight Managers regarding a potential recommendation to the Board.

Yellow = Update Since Last Meeting

Blue = Action taken by the Board of Directors

2025 Work Plan: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: September 2025

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
18	Review of Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests, the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda.	January 6 April 7 July 7 October 6	Receive and review the 2025 Board-approved Committee work plan. (Action) Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate.	<u>Accomplished January 6, 2025</u> The Committee unanimously approved to recommend the proposed 2025 AWAC Work Plan to the Board with the amendment to add the Semitropics Groundwater Storage Bank as a separate AWAC Work Plan topic. <i>The Board received the Committee's presentation by Chairperson Peter Van Dyke and approved the 2025 AWAC Work Plan at the March 11, 2025 meeting.</i> <u>Accomplished April 7, 2025</u> The Committee received and noted the Work Plan and the upcoming July 7, 2025, 1:30 p.m. regular meeting without discussion and took no formal action. <u>Accomplished July 7, 2025</u> The Committee received and noted the updated Work Plan without discussion and took no formal action

BOARD WORK PLAN GOALS:

1. **Integrated Water Resources Management** - Goal: Efficiently manage water resources across business areas.
2. **Water Supply** – Goal: Provide a reliable, safe, and affordable water supply for current and future generations in all communities served.
3. **Natural Flood Protection** – Goal: Provide natural flood protection to reduce risk and improve health and safety.
4. **Environmental Stewardship** – Goal: Sustain ecosystem health while managing local water resources for flood protection and water supply.
5. **Addressing Encampment of Unsheltered People** – Goal: Humanely assist in the permanent relocation of unsheltered people on Valley Water lands along waterways and at water supply and flood risk reduction facilities in order to address the human health, public safety, operational, and environmental challenges posed by encampments.
6. **Climate Change** – Goal: Mitigate carbon emissions and adapt Valley Water operations to climate change impacts.
7. **Business Management** – Goal: Promote effective management of water supply, flood protection, and environmental stewardship through responsive and socially responsible business services.

Yellow = Update Since Last Meeting

Blue = Action taken by the Board of Directors

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0736

Agenda Date: 10/6/2025

Item No.: 5.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Standing Items Report.

RECOMMENDATION:

Standing Items Report

This item allows the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee to receive verbal or written updates and discuss the Board's Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Work Plan Strategies. These items are generally informational; however, the Committee may request additional information and/or provide collective input to the assigned Board Committee.

SUMMARY:

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee was established to assist the Board with policy review and development, provide comment on activities in the implementation of Valley Water's mission, and to identify Board-related issues.

On January 2022, the Board of Directors approved aligning the Board Advisory Committees' agendas and work plans with the Board's yearly work plan.

The new agenda format will allow regular reports on the Board's priorities from the Board's committees and/or Board committee representative and identify subjects where the committees could provide advice to the Board on pre-identified subjects in a timely manner to meet the Board's schedule and distribute information/reports that may be of interest to committee members.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

The Standing Items Report is not subject to environmental justice analysis.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Board Work Plan Standing Items Report

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

FY2024-2025 BOARD WORK PLAN – STANDING ITEMS REPORT

January-June 2025

INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT GOAL: Efficiently manage water resources across business areas.	
Objective 1:	Protect and maintain existing assets and infrastructure and advance new projects.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On March 25, 2025, the Board approved changes to the Board Governance Policy Executive Limitations 6 (EL-6): Asset Management. EL-6 serves as a governance policy of the Board providing clear directives regarding protecting and maintaining Valley Water's intangible assets, including intellectual property and water rights, as well as physical assets, such as real property, facilities, and infrastructure. Revisions are intended to clarify the existing EL-6 provisions to improve their practical application. On April 22, 2025, the Board adopted a resolution certifying the final program environmental impact report (EIR) and approved the Pipeline Maintenance Program. The PMP is primarily a process and procedural manual that provides long-term guidance for the implementation of pipeline inspection and maintenance work. The most recent Pipeline Maintenance Program work includes updating the environmental documents, program budget, and creating projects to inspect and rehabilitate the pipelines that Valley Water owns or maintains to ensure the delivery of clean and safe water to Valley Water customers. On May 23, 2025, the Board approved Valley Water's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Final Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-2030 Five-Year Plan. The CIP Five-Year Plan describes Valley Water's capital investment priorities. It provides information on the planned capital projects and Valley Water's intended source(s) of funding. The CIP Final FY 2026-30 Five-Year Plan includes 76 funded projects distributed among the following categories: 43 Water Supply, 14 Flood Protection, 12 Water Resources Stewardship, 3 Buildings and Grounds, and 4 Information Technology projects, for a total CIP value of \$10.321B. On June 24, 2025, the Board accepted the work for the Snell Pipeline Inspection and Rehabilitation Project as complete. Snell Pipeline consists of approximately 8.5 miles of 60-inch to 72-inch prestressed concrete cylinder pipe, reinforced concrete cylinder pipe, embedded cylinder pipe, and welded steel pipe. It conveys treated water from Santa Teresa Water Treatment Plant to Evergreen and Parallel East Pipelines. Snell Pipeline is included in Valley Water's Pipeline Maintenance Program (PMP) and is an identified capital effort under the 10-Year Pipeline Inspection and Rehabilitation Program.
Objective 2:	Improve internal capacity to negotiate and acquire regulatory permits.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On April 2, 2025, Chair Estremera kicked off the first environmentally focused stakeholders meeting of the year hosted by Valley Water. Chair Estremera greeted a diverse cross-section of environmental leaders at the virtual meeting and introduced Director Ballard, who was also in attendance. Valley Water staff conducted an informational presentation on the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project and shared an update on the Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study. Attendees participated in a lively discussion during the meeting, engaged Valley Water directors and staff with questions, and provided valuable feedback on Valley Water projects through an environmental stewardship lens.

Objective 3:	Educate the community, elected officials and external stakeholders on our management of water resources in Santa Clara County.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In December 2024, staff launched a new branding campaign that focuses on building Valley Water’s visibility and reputation in the community. The campaign emphasizes that our agency provides safe, clean water, flood protection, and environmental stewardship to Santa Clara County. The campaign’s first phase includes two 15-second movie theater ads and interior bus ads. The movie theater and bus ads will run for six months and feature San Jose Sharks defenseman Mario Ferraro and Valley Water’s mascot, H2Cool. • On April 11, 2025, Valley Water hosted a tour of Valley Water’s critical water infrastructure in Santa Clara County. Tour guests included elected officials across ten cities, county and special district staff, as well as state and federal representatives and business leaders. The tour served as an opportunity to educate and engage regional stakeholders on the various projects’ benefits and to advocate for legislative needs. Tour stops included the Anderson Dam and Reservoir, Alamos Groundwater Recharge Ponds, Coyote Creek Flood Protection Project, South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project, and the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center. • On May 14, 2025, Valley Water hosted the second Santa Clara County Community Rating System Users’ Group/Program for Public Information (PPI) Committee Meeting. There were 26 participants, including staff from 11 local jurisdictions and Valley Water. Topics included program updates, results from Valley Water’s FY 2025 Flood Awareness Campaign, planning for the FY 2026 Campaign, and updates to the Valley Water website. • On May 20–21, 2025 Valley Water Director Ballard and Director Beall led senior staff in 19 meetings with California state legislators and Governor Newsom administration officials to advocate for Valley Water’s top priorities. Key topics included budget needs, the Delta Conveyance and Anderson Dam projects, and broader water policy issues. These Sacramento meetings are a critical part of our advocacy efforts, with outcomes anticipated in the upcoming state budget and legislative decisions. • In FY2025, Valley Water’s Civic Engagement Education Outreach Program reached 12,823 youth in 271 classrooms. • In FY2025, Valley Water’s Water Supply Outreach Program reached 1,567 attendees at various community events, and 262 community members who took public tours at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center.

WATER SUPPLY GOAL: Provide a reliable, safe, and affordable water supply for current and future generations in all communities served.	
Objective 1:	Pursue new and diversified water supply and storage opportunities.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On June 10, 2025, the Board received an update on Valley Water’s Draft Water Supply Master Plan 2050. The Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP) is Valley Water’s guiding document for long-term water supply investments to ensure water supply reliability for Santa Clara County. Updated approximately every five years, this long-range plan assesses projected future county-wide demands and evaluates and recommends water supply and infrastructure projects to meet those demands to achieve Valley Water’s level of service goal through the planning horizon. Valley Water has developed the WSMP 2050 to evaluate and respond to changing conditions such as severe drought, reductions in imported water supplies, shifting water demands, and concerns about affordability. The WSMP 2050 addresses both existing and emerging challenges and identifies strategies to maintain the reliable water supply system for Santa Clara County through 2050.

Objective 2:	Secure existing water supplies and water supply infrastructure
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On February 25, 2025, the Board received an update on the B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion Project and approved the San Luis and Delta-Mendoza Water Authority's execution of the Management and Cost Share Agreement with the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation. • On April 8, 2025, the Board received an update on the B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion project and approved an increase of Valley Water's storage capacity to a minimum of 63,560 Acre Feet, or up to 70,000 Acre Feet if space becomes available and authorized an increase of Valley Water's share of project planning costs up to \$2.18M. • On June 10, 2025, the Board received an update on Valley Water's Draft Water Supply Master Plan 2050. The Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP) is Valley Water's guiding document for long-term water supply investments to ensure water supply reliability for Santa Clara County. Updated approximately every five years, this long-range plan assesses projected future county-wide demands and evaluates and recommends water supply and infrastructure projects to meet those demands to achieve Valley Water's level of service goal through the planning horizon. Valley Water has developed the WSMP 2050 to evaluate and respond to changing conditions such as severe drought, reductions in imported water supplies, shifting water demands, and concerns about affordability. The WSMP 2050 addresses both existing and emerging challenges and identifies strategies to maintain the reliable water supply system for Santa Clara County through 2050.
Objective 3:	Lead purified water efforts with committed partners.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On June 10, 2025, the Board authorized the Interim CEO advance agreements with the City of San Jose and the City of Santa Clara to construct and operate a Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) Demonstration Facility to perform needed studies for permitting and to inform the eventual design and operation of a larger, full-scale, permanent DPR facility to comply with state regulations. The proposed DPR demonstration facility would include a visitor learning center for tours, education, outreach, and to garner public support. • In June 2025, Valley Water's Office of Government Relations and the Office of Civic Engagement continued their collaborative effort to advocate for expanding purified water in Santa Clara County through the Community Events Booth Program. Staff engaged with residents, shared information about Valley Water's programs and services, and distributed chilled purified water bottles to event attendees. To date, over 2,000 bottles have been shared with the community, raising awareness and building support for the future of local water supply.
Objective 4:	Complete the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On February 25, 2025, the Board certified the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and approved the Engineer's Report for the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project. • On June 10, 2025, the Board received an update on the Anderson Dam Tunnel Project (ADTP) . Major elements of the ADTP construction that have been completed including: tunnel excavation and initial lining of the tunnel were completed in April 2024; conclusion of tunneling and tapping into the reservoir was completed in August 2024; construction of the DOS outside the downstream tunnel portal was completed in June 2024; and work to reopen the North Channel was completed in November 2024.

Objective 5:	Make water conservation a California way of life in Santa Clara County.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On April 1, 2025, Valley Water launched the 2025 Spring Water Conservation Campaign. This campaign promotes our landscape rebate program, which includes irrigation upgrades, rainwater harvesting, outdoor water-wise surveys, and graywater rebates. It uses a multichannel media approach that encompasses digital platforms, social media, email, multilingual newspapers, and television. Additionally, follow-up postcards will be sent to visitors of the multilingual program marketing pages. Valley Water has partnered with retailers to extend the messaging and encourage community participation in water-saving initiatives, further amplifying our outreach efforts. In FY25, Safe, Clean Water funding continues to support Valley Water’s Landscape Rebate Program, allowing for the \$2 per square foot lawn conversion rate to continue. In FY25, the Landscape Rebate Program led to the conversion of over 960,000 sq ft of lawn, 750,000 sq ft of which was eligible for Safe, Clean Water funding.

NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION	
GOAL: Provide Natural Flood Protection to reduce risk and improve health and safety.	
Objective 1:	Protect people and property from flooding in all regions of the County, prioritizing disadvantaged communities, by applying a comprehensive, integrated watershed management approach that balances environmental quality, environmental justice impacts, sustainability, and cost.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On March 11, 2025, the Board certified the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Coyote Creek Flood Protection Project and approved the Coyote Creek Flood Protection Project. On June 10, 2025, the Board accepted the work on the Upper Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project Phase 1 as complete. The Phase 1 Project completed its civil work, which included mitigation planting and irrigation installation in April 2022. The remaining Phase 1 Project scope of work, completed in March 2025, was a three-year plant establishment and maintenance period. On June 24, 2025, the Board accepted the work for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Order Compliance Project Coyote Creek Flood Management Measures Project (CCFMMP), Stage 1 - Civil Work as complete. The immediate objective of CCFMMP is to reduce the risk of flooding to homes, schools, businesses, and transportation networks from flows associated with water releases from Anderson Dam that may occur after construction of Valley Water’s Anderson Dam Tunnel Project (ADTP), currently underway and scheduled to be completed in 2025.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP GOAL: Sustain ecosystem health while managing local water resources for flood protection and water supply.	
Objective 1:	Plan and design projects with multiple benefits, including protecting ecosystem functions, enhancing habitat, and improving connectivity in all regions of the County.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A small defunct dam and steep pass fish ladder on Little Arthur Creek (known as Pickell's Dam) was removed for mitigation credit for the Stream Maintenance Program (SMP). The removal of the dam that is over 100 years old provides access to ~3.5 miles of high quality spawning and rearing habitat for South Central California Coast Steelhead. The removal also allows for a more natural state of stream processes by allowing habitat feature formation that was previously impacted by the full spanning concrete structure. The project construction was completed on private property under a non-consultant agreement with Trout Unlimited; where Valley Water O&M staff provided training, funding, permitting, and oversight for project implementation. The project's success will be monitored by Valley Water's SMP Team over the next 5 years following construction as part of mitigation monitoring for the SMP. Environmental staff believe this is a good model to follow for future projects, identifying strategies to implement mitigation/restoration projects that are cost effective, beneficial to the ecosystem, and meaningful to the community/stakeholders.
Objective 2:	Protect creeks, bay, and other aquatic ecosystems from threats of pollution and degradation.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On May 17, 2025, Valley Water, in partnership with the Creek Connections Action Group, organized another successful National River Cleanup Day in Santa Clara County. More than 700 community members volunteered approximately 2,300 hours of their time to remove roughly 17,181 pounds of litter from 43 cleanup sites throughout the county. Valley Water's Youth Commission hosted a cleanup site along Coyote Creek in Milpitas. As part of the Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program, Valley Water created the Creekside Neighbor Rebate Program to provide financial assistance to property owners who undertake creek maintenance projects such as bank stabilization (erosion repair); sediment, vegetation, or debris removal; and/or storm drain outfall repair. Rebates of up to \$150,000 are available for qualifying construction and permit costs. The Program went live on May 30, 2025. Information and application is available at valleywater.org/CreeksideNeighborRebateProgram. From February 14-May 30, 2025, 263.27 tons of trash were removed from unhoused encampments.
Objective 3:	Complete and implement the Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE) agreement.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On June 11, 2025, Valley Water's Stream Planning and Operations Committee took a site tour of Uvas Creek, Bolsa Road Fish Passage Improvements Site. The Uvas Creek, Bolsa Road Fish Passage Project improved fish passage by gradually raising the bed over 1,800 feet of channel length by creating a sequence of eleven riffles and pools. The project was named the 2024 Project of the Year Award by the American Public Works Association (APWA) Silicon Valley Chapter. The APWA Silicon Valley Chapter recognized the Bolsa Road Fish Passage Improvements Project as a public works project that demonstrated excellence in its planning, design, construction and efforts between various stakeholders to complete the project.

ADDRESSING ENCAMPMENTS OF UNSHELTERED PEOPLE GOAL: Humanely assist in the permanent relocation of unsheltered people on Valley Water lands along waterways and at water supply and flood risk reduction facilities in order to address the human health, public safety, operational, and environmental challenges posed by encampments.	
Objective 1:	Collaborate with agencies and other service providers to address the challenges posed by encampments and their impacts to waterways and water supply and flood risk reduction facilities, including supporting the provision of outreach, counseling, transitional or affordable housing, or other services by these agencies and service providers.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In February 2025, Valley Water’s Youth Commissioners assembled 100 hygiene kits for distribution to unhoused youth through the Bill Wilson Center, each containing essentials such as shampoo, hand sanitizer, a comb, a toothbrush, toothpaste, and a trash bag. On February 23, the commissioners toured the Bill Wilson Center with Dir. Beall to deliver the kits to the unhoused youth and learn more about the center's efforts to support and improve the lives of youth in the county. • On March 13, 2025, Valley Water’s Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee reviewed Valley Water’s Agreements with the County of Santa Clara and the City of San José related to services for unhoused individuals and help identify proactive collaborative methods that can be pursued to collectively make meaningful progress with the unhoused living along the waterways in Santa Clara County.
Objective 2:	Collaborate with the County and municipal partners to secure the safety of unsheltered people living on Valley Water lands along waterways and at water supply and flood risk reduction facilities, as well as secure the safety of residential neighbors and Valley Water staff.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On November 26, 2024 the Board adopted the Water Resources Protection Ordinance establish water resources protection zones (WRPZ) along creeks, waterways, water supply facilities, and other lands where Valley Water holds land rights. The Ordinance is intended to improve water quality, to protect water supply facilities and riparian habitats, and to support staff safety by prohibiting camping and encampment-related activities, reducing encampments, and preventing re-encampments within the WRPZ. The Ordinance went into effect December 26, 2024. • In 2025, the number of unsheltered individuals on Valley Water land was 264, down from 904 in 2023 and the number of encampment structures was 224 in 2025, down from 452 in 2023.

EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS GOAL: Mitigate carbon emissions and adapt Valley Water operations to extreme weather events.	
Objective:	Address future impacts of extreme weather events to Valley Water’s mission and operations.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On June 9, 2025, Valley Water’s Board Policy and Monitoring Committee received an update on Valley Water’s Draft Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan (GHGRP), including baseline emissions inventory, emissions forecast, emissions reduction measures for achieving carbon neutrality by 2045, and stakeholder input received on the Draft GHGRP.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT GOAL: Promote effective management of water supply, flood protection, and environmental stewardship through responsive and socially responsible business services.	
Objective 1:	Maintain budgeted staffing levels and expertise, prioritize the safety of our staff, and build and sustain an inclusive and equitable working environment for all staff and partners while ensuring fair employment.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In FY 2025, despite a hiring pause, Valley Water made 65 hires from 141 recruitments, promoted 76 staff, expanded outreach to underrepresented groups, and launched monthly Supervisor Core Training to equips leaders at Valley Water with the essential technical skills and tools needed to excel in their supervisory role at Valley Water. • In FY 2025, Valley Water launched a Security Safety Resources Page that provides tools, training, policies, and plans addressing safety issues for staff. Valley Water also launched an agency-wide real-time alert system that can be deployed to all staff in the event of a safety concern.
Objective 2:	Provide affordable and cost-effective level of services.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On March 25, 2025, the Board received the Single Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2024. The Single Audit is a rigorous, organization-wide audit of an entity that expends \$750,000 or more of federal assistance received for its operations. The Single Audit's objective is to provide assurance to the U.S. federal Government as to the management and use of such funds by recipients. The audit is performed by an independent certified public accountant and encompasses both financial and compliance components. There were no findings in Valley Water's Fiscal Year 2024 Single Audit Report. • On March 25, 2025 staff presented to the Board long-range financial planning models for three of Valley Water's major funds: the Water Utility Enterprise Fund, the Watersheds Stream Stewardship Fund and the Safe, Clean Water Fund. These forecasts, ranging from 30-45 years depending on the fund, include assumptions regarding repair and rehabilitation of large assets beyond the typical 10-year forecasts presented annually. This information provided the Board with a comprehensive financial picture to inform Board decisions impacting the agency's long-term future. • On May 23, 2025, the Board approved Valley Water's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Final Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-2030 Five-Year Plan. The CIP Five-Year Plan describes Valley Water's capital investment priorities. It provides information on the planned capital projects and Valley Water's intended source(s) of funding. The CIP Final FY 2026-30 Five-Year Plan includes 76 funded projects distributed among the following categories: 43 Water Supply, 14 Flood Protection, 12 Water Resources Stewardship, 3 Buildings and Grounds, and 4 Information Technology projects, for a total CIP value of \$10.321B. • On May 23, 2025, the Board adopted the FY 2025-2026 Operating and Capital Rolling Biennial Budget of \$1.080 billion, less \$131.7 million in intra-district reimbursements. The total net proposed budget is \$948.1 million. • On June 24, 2025, the Board received information on a consultant study regarding Valley Water's water use projections, water demand elasticity and customer affordability. Key takeaways from the study showed that Valley Water's approach is consistent with our comparable water agencies and its forecast-to-actual water sales have been largely accurate. The study offered areas to further refine data and forecasting assumptions for consideration. • Grant awards for Fiscal Year 2025 to date total \$92 million, which includes the execution of the \$80M grant agreement with NRCS for the Upper Llagas Phase 2B project plus \$4.6M and \$7.4M from the State Coastal Conservancy for the Shoreline Project Reaches 1-3 and Reaches 4 & 5 respectively.

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