



## Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission

HQ. Bldg. Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California  
Join Zoom Meeting: <https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/87431067568>

### REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

**Wednesday, November 19, 2025  
6:00 PM**

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

SCVWD Youth Commission  
Aditya Shivakumar - Commission  
Chairperson  
Ellie Zhou - Commission Vice Chairperson

**BOARD REPRESENTATIVES**  
Director John Varela - District 1  
Director Shiloh Ballard - District 2  
Director Nai Hsueh - District 5

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.

Kristen Yasukawa (Staff  
Liaison)

Dave Leon (COB Liaison)  
Assistant Deputy Clerk II  
[daveleon@valleywater.org](mailto:daveleon@valleywater.org)

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

**Santa Clara Valley Water District**  
**Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**AGENDA**

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Wednesday, November 19, 2025

6:00 PM

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

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/87431067568>

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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>

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

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

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**Join Zoom Meeting:**

**<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/87431067568>**

**Meeting ID: 874 3106 7568**

**Join by Phone:**

**1 (669) 900-9128, 87431067568#**

**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 September 30, 2025 Commission Meeting Minutes.

[25-1021](#)

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193  
Attachments: [Attachment 1: 09302025 Youth Commission Minutes](#)  
Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

**4. INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY**

**5. REGULAR AGENDA:**

- 5.1. Receive Update from Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission's Project Groups and Make Recommendations to the Board as Necessary. [25-0993](#)

Recommendation: Receive updates from project groups, staff and make recommendations to the Board, as necessary.

Manager: Rachael Gibson, 408-630-2884

Attachments: [Attachment 1: 2025-2026 Project Group Teams](#)

Est. Staff Time: 10 minutes

- 5.2. Review Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Commission Requests; and discuss possible items for the Commission's Next Meeting Agenda. [25-0994](#)

Recommendation: Review the Youth Commission work plan to guide the commission's discussions regarding policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation and make recommendations as necessary.

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

Attachments: [Attachment 1: FY26 Work Plan](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

**6. MANAGER'S REPORT**

**7. 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.*

**8. ADJOURN:**

- 8.1. Adjourn. The Next Regular Meeting is Scheduled at 6:00 p.m. on January 28. 2026.



# Santa Clara Valley Water District

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**File No.:** 25-1021

**Agenda Date:** 11/19/2025

**Item No.:** 3.1.

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## **COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM** **Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission**

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

### **SUBJECT:**

Approval of September 30, 2025 Commission Meeting 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:**

There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1: 09302025 Youth Commission Minutes

### **UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

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SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING

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# DRAFT MINUTES

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**TUESDAY, September 30, 2025**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A special meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission (Youth Commission) was held on September 30, 2025, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters Building Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Youth Commission Vice Chairperson Ellie Zhou called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**1.1 ROLL CALL**

A quorum was established with 13 members present.

**Members in attendance were:**

District 1: Aadrit Talukdar

District 2: Alonso Jose and Betalem Berhanu

District 3: Nina Yuan

District 4: Agata Bak, Ellie Zhou, and Bryce Chen

District 5: Aditya Shivakumar, Simran Soni, and Ethan Cheung

District 6: Ruhan Upreti

District 7: Doyoon Kim and Mina Van Roy

**Members not in attendance were:**

District 1: Ishaan Mandala and Abigail Ha-Neul Kim

District 2: Andrew Lomio

District 3: Prathik Janakiram

District 6: Sinit Hadgu and David Huynh

Members Parnika Sadhu and Ishika Anand arrived as noted below.

Directors in attendance were: Director Nai Hsueh, District 5.

Valley Water Staff in attendance were: Ricardo Barajas, Stephanie Simunic, and Kristen Yasukawa.

No members of the public were in attendance.

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

There was no one who wished to speak.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

**3.1. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 20, 2025 COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES.**

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

It was moved by Member Kim, seconded by Chairperson Shivakumar, and unanimously carried, to approve the August 20, 2025 Commission meeting minutes as submitted.

**4. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS**

**4.1. DISCUSS, DETERMINE AND APPROVE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION PROJECT(S) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026; AND ASSIGN YOUTH COMMISSIONERS TO WORK ON APPROVED PROJECTS.**

Recommendation:

- A. Review and discuss proposed Youth Commission Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (FY 26) projects;
- B. Select and approve up to three projects to recommend to the Santa Clara Valley Water District Board of Directors to place on the Youth Commission's FY 26 work plan for implementation; and
- C. The Chair, in consultation with Youth Commissioners and staff, will assign each Youth Commissioner to work on at least one approved project, upon the Board of Directors approval of the FY 26 work plan.

Kristen Yasukawa and Ricardo Barajas reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1, and were available to answer questions.

It was noted that the Commission can approve up to three of the proposed projects which can include those listed in the agenda packet or other proposals made during discussion of the item.

Member Sadhu arrived at 6:20 p.m. and Member Anand arrived at 6:34 p.m.

Member Kim created Project H, which combined Projects C, D, and E.

Chairperson Shivakumar created Project I, which combines Projects C, D, and F.

Member Soni created Project J, which combines Projects A and E.

It was moved by Member Kim, seconded by Vice Chairperson Zhou, and unanimously carried to approve proposed Project J.

It was moved by Member Soni, seconded by Member Upreti, and carried by a vote of 14-1 to approve proposed Project I, with Member Talukdar voting no.

It was moved by Member Sadhu, seconded by Chairperson Shivakuma, and unanimously carried to approve proposed Project G.

The members then noted their interest in serving on one of the three approved project committees.

**4.2. RECEIVE THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT, RECOGNITION OF THE 2025 OUTGOING SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION MEMBERS AND FORWARD THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT TO THE BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION.**

Recommendation:

- A. Receive and accept the Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission's Accomplishments Report;
- B. Acknowledge and recognize the 2025 outgoing Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission Members; and
- C. Forward the Accomplishments Report to the Board for consideration.

It was moved by Chairperson Shivakumar, seconded by Member Talukdar, and unanimously carried, to accept the Accomplishments Report and forward it to the Board for consideration.

**5. MANAGER'S REPORT**

Kristen Yasukawa provided information relating to Coastal Cleanup Day on Saturday, September 20, 2025.

**6. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMISSION REQUESTS TO THE BOARD**

Without discussion, the Commission took no formal action.

**7. ADJOURN**

Chairperson Shivakumar adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Dave Leon  
Assistant Deputy Clerk II  
Office of the Clerk of the Board

Approved:

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# Santa Clara Valley Water District

**File No.:** 25-0993

**Agenda Date:** 11/19/2025

**Item No.:** 5.1.

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## **COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM** **Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission**

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

### **SUBJECT:**

Receive Update from Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission's Project Groups and Make Recommendations to the Board as Necessary.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive updates from project groups, staff and make recommendations to the Board, as necessary.

### **SUMMARY:**

The Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission's (Commission) approved project groups will work on issues and policies that the Commission has on their work plan for the year.

This will be a standing agenda item.

### **BACKGROUND:**

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

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

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

### **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:**

There are no environmental justice impacts associated with this item.

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**File No.:** 25-0993

**Agenda Date:** 11/19/2025  
**Item No.:** 5.1.

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**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1: 2025-2026 Project Group Teams

**UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

Rachael Gibson, 408-630-2884

## 2025-2026 Youth Commission Project Group Team Members

One Water Pitch	Data Accessibility Project	Creekside Community Care Project
Simran Soni	Simran Soni	Doyoon Kim
Ethan Cheung	Ethan Cheung	Agata Bak
Bryce Chen	Ishika Anand	Betalem Berhanu
Mina Van Roy	Ellie Zhou	Aadrit Talukdar
Parnika Sadhu	Nina Yuan	Alonso Jose
Aditya Shivakumar	Ruhan Upreti	Bryce Chen
Ishika Anand	Aditya Shivakumar	Mina Van Roy
Nina Yuan	Ishaan Mandala	Ellie Zhou
Alonso Jose	Abigail Kim	David Huynh
Prathik Janakiram	Andrew Lomio	Sinit Hadgu

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# Santa Clara Valley Water District

**File No.:** 25-0994

**Agenda Date:** 11/19/2025

**Item No.:** 5.2.

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## **COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM** **Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission**

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

### **SUBJECT:**

Review Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Commission Requests; and discuss possible items for the Commission's Next Meeting Agenda.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Review the Youth Commission work plan to guide the commission's discussions regarding policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation and make recommendations as necessary.

### **SUMMARY:**

The attached Work Plan outlines the approved topics for discussion to be able to prepare policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation. The work plan is agendized at each meeting to review accomplishments from prior meetings, updates to the work plan, and additional assignments by the Board.

This will be a standing agenda item.

### **BACKGROUND:**

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

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

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

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

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:**

There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1: FY26 Work Plan

**UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

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 Valley Water occur and are recommended for committee discussion. Subsequently, an annual committee accomplishments report is developed based on the work plan and presented to the Valley Water Board of Directors.

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
1	Election of Chair and Vice Chair	8-20-2025	<b><u>Accomplished August 20, 2025:</u></b> The Youth Commission elected Aditya Shivakumar as the 2025-2026 Chair and Ellie Zhou as the 2025-2026 Vice Chair.
2	Oath of Office - Youth Commission Members	8-20-2025	<b><u>Accomplished August 20, 2025:</u></b> Dave Leon administered the Oath of Office to new Youth Commissioners in attendance.
3	Brown Act Review and Training	8-20-2025	<b><u>Accomplished August 20, 2025:</u></b> Andrew Gschwind gave a review and training on the Brown Act. The Youth Commission took no action.
4	Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission Orientation	8-20-2025	<b><u>Accomplished August 20, 2025:</u></b> Ricardo Barajas gave an orientation presentation to the Youth Commission along with the expectations and regulations for the Commission to follow when attending and conducting meetings. The Youth Commission took no action.
5	Review Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests, and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda	8-20-2025 9-30-2025 10-28-2025 11-19-2025 01-28-2026 04-30-2026	<b><u>Accomplished August 20, 2025:</u></b> Chairperson Aditya Shivakumar reported that the Creek Stewardship and Water Quality Outreach Project Group created a series of videos, which began with a visit to the water quality lab, including a chain of custody simulation. A video of the lab day was screened for the Commission. He further noted that the project group hosted a National River Cleanup Day site where 32 bags of trash were collected from the waterways.  Member David Huynh reported that the Education Outreach Program Project Group hosted a live informational outreach webinar to provide information relating to grant opportunities to school personnel and students.

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
			<p>Member Andrew Lomio reported that the Creekside Community Care Initiative Project Group is finalizing a blog that will highlight the projects completed by the Commission during the year.</p> <p><b><u>Accomplished September 30, 2025:</u></b>  The Youth Commission held a special meeting to review and vote on submitted project proposals. Following a comprehensive discussion, a straw poll was conducted to gauge overall interest and prioritize options. Each commissioner identified their top three preferred projects by placing up to three dot stickers on a board corresponding to project titles. Based on this process, the Youth Commission selected and approved the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>One Water Pitch</b></li> <li>• <b>Data Accessibility Project</b></li> <li>• <b>Creekside Community Care Project</b></li> </ul> <p>Additionally, the Youth Commission reviewed and accepted the Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission's Accomplishments Report and Work Plan and agreed to forward the report to the Board of Directors for consideration on September 30, 2025.</p> <p><b><u>Accomplished October 28, 2025:</u></b>  The Board received the Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission's Accomplishments Report and recognized the 2025 Outgoing Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission Members.</p> <p>The Valley Water Board of Directors approved the Fiscal Year 2026 Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission Work Plan, which includes the Youth Commission's project recommendations, on October 28, 2025.</p>
6	Youth Commission Annual Retreat	8-23-2025	<p><b><u>Accomplished August 23, 2025:</u></b>  The Youth Commission attended the Annual Youth Commission</p>

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
			Retreat via Zoom. The Youth Commission participated in various interactive activities to get to know each other and learn about Valley Water.
7	One Water Pitch: A Youth Video Competition on Water Sustainability	11-19-2025 01-28-2026 04-30-2026	
8	Data Accessibility Project, based on Water Watch, Microplastic Interception Program and Trash Pollution Heatmap	11-19-2025 01-28-2026 04-30-2026	
9	Creekside Community Care Project, with elements from Providing Safe Drinking Water	11-19-2025 01-28-2026 04-30-2026	
10	Recognition of Outgoing Youth Commission Members	04-30-2026	

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