



Santa Clara Valley Water District Recycled Water Committee Meeting

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

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

**Tuesday, December 16, 2025
12:00 PM**

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

RECYCLED WATER COMMITTEE

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

All public records relating to an open session item on this agenda, which are not exempt from disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, that are distributed to a majority of the legislative body, will be available to the public through the legislative body agenda web page at the same time that the public records are distributed or made available to the legislative body. Santa Clara Valley Water District will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities wishing to participate in the legislative body's meeting. Please advise the Clerk of the Board Office of any special needs by calling (408) 265-2600.

KIRSTEN STRUVE
Committee Liaison

NICOLE MERRITT
Deputy Clerk
(Committee Meetings)
Office/Clerk of the Board
(408) 630-3262
nmerritt@valleywater.org

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

**Santa Clara Valley Water District
Recycled Water Committee
SPECIAL MEETING
AGENDA**

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

Join Zoom Meeting:

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

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

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

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

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Join Zoom Meeting:

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

Meeting ID: 995 1815 3521

Join by Phone:

1 (669) 900-9128, 99518153521#

1. CALL TO ORDER:

1.1. Roll Call.

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

Notice to the public: Members of the public who wish to address the Board/Committee on any item not listed on the agenda may do so by filling out a Speaker Card and submitting it to the Clerk or using the "Raise Hand" tool located in the Zoom meeting application to identify yourself to speak. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Board/Committee Chair in the order requests are received and granted speaking access to address the Board/Committee. Speakers' comments should be limited to three minutes or as set by the Chair. The law does not permit Board/Committee action on, or extended discussion of, any item not on the agenda except under special circumstances. If Board/Committee action is requested, the matter may be placed on a future agenda. All comments that require a response will be referred to staff for a reply in writing. The Board/Committee may take action on any item of business appearing on the posted agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 3.1. Approval of September 24, 2025, Recycled Water Committee Minutes. [25-1065](#)
- Recommendation: Approve the minutes.
- Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193
- Attachments: [Attachment 1: 09242025 RWC Meeting Minutes](#)
- Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

- 4.1. Receive Purified Water Program Update Including Partnerships With Cities of San Jose and Santa Clara. [25-1002](#)
- Recommendation: Receive an update on the following topics:
- A. Demonstration Facility and Full-Scale Direct Potable Reuse Facility at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center;
 - B. Negotiation of an Agreement with the City of San Jose and Microsoft Corporation to move the purification center visitor trailer and construct certain improvements;
 - C. Bottling Efforts
- Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138
- Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes
- 4.2. Receive Update on the 8th Independent Advisory Panel Meeting. [25-1015](#)
- Recommendation: Receive information on the 8th meeting of the Independent Advisory Panel for evaluation of Valley Water's Purified Water Program.
- Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138
- Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)
- Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes
- 4.3. Receive South Santa Clara County Water Reuse Collaboration Update and Provide Feedback. [25-1017](#)
- Recommendation: Receive an update and provide feedback on South Santa Clara County water reuse collaboration supporting Valley Water's recycled and purified water programs.
- Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138
- Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)
- Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

- 4.4. Receive Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study Update. [25-1026](#)

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

Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)

Est. Staff Time: 20 Minutes

- 4.5. Receive Purified Water Public Outreach Update and Provide Feedback. [25-1028](#)

Recommendation: Receive information and provide feedback on the 2025 public outreach highlights for the Purified Water Program.

Manager: Rachael Gibson, 408-630-2884

Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)

Est. Staff Time: 10 Minutes

- 4.6. Receive and Discuss the 2025 Recycled Water Committee (RWC) Work Plan, and Provide Feedback on Upcoming Discussion Items, and Next Meeting Date. [25-1076](#)

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

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

Attachments: [Attachment 1: 2025 RWC Work Plan](#)

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS.

This is an opportunity for the Clerk to review and obtain clarification on any formally moved, seconded, and approved requests and recommendations made by the Committee during the meeting.

6. ADJOURN:

- 6.1. Adjourn. The Next Regular/Special Meeting is Scheduled as TBD per Committee.

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-1065

Agenda Date: 12/16/2025

Item No.: 3.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Recycled Water Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Approval of September 24, 2025, Recycled Water Committee Minutes.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes.

SUMMARY:

In accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act, a summary of Committee discussions, and details of all actions taken by the Committee, during all open and public Committee meetings, is transcribed and submitted to the Committee for review and approval.

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

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: 09242025 RWC Meeting Minutes

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

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RECYCLED WATER COMMITTEE MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2025
12:00 PM**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A regular meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Recycled Water Committee (Committee) was called to order in the Valley Water Headquarters Building Boardroom at 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California, and by Zoom teleconference, at 12:00 p.m.

1.1. Roll Call.

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

Staff members in attendance were: Hossein Ashktorab, Aaron Baker, Roseryn Bhudsabourg, Jiana Escobar, Vincent Gin, Jason Gurdak, Candice Kwok-Smith, Francesca Lomotan, Nicole Merritt, Carlos Orellana, Mario Rivas, Ray Ruiz, Kirsten Struve, Charlene Sun, David Tucker, and Kristen Yasukawa.

Public in attendance were: Pedro Hernandez and Sanjay Reddy (Carollo Engineers) and Arthur Keller (Minerva Consulting.)

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

Chairperson Estremera declared time open for public comment on any item not on the agenda.

Arthur Keller expressed support for a report on the desalination in Antioch per a recent article in the San Jose Mercury News.

Kirsten Struve confirmed there is a desalination plant in Antioch using river water which is slightly saline, and noted staff are tracking this information for inclusion in the desalination feasibility study update.

Director Beall noted interest in a desalination tour in Antioch.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

3.1. Approval of July 30, 2025, Recycled Water Committee Meeting Minutes.

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

The Committee considered the attached minutes of the July 30, 2025 Committee meeting.

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

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

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

Recommendation: Receive an update on the following topics:
A. Demonstration Facility and Full-Scale Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) Facility at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center; and
B. Ongoing Outreach Activities

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

Kirsten Struve and Kristen Yasukawa were available to answer questions.

Public Comments:
None.

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

- The Committee expressed appreciation for staff's efforts on the purified water tours, and emphasized the importance of prioritizing school outreach through the county by coordinating with school superintendents to arrange additional opportunities for student participation in the tours.
- The Committee noted staff's outreach to the Santa Clara County Office of Education regarding Valley Water's water education program and the purification center tours.
- The Committee confirmed the original purified water bottle supply is expected to run out around October 1, 2025, and noted staff will continue to use the same bottling process per the state's Division of Drinking Water (DDW).
- The Committee acknowledged the importance of continued outreach to community leaders, the distribution of purified water bottles, and expressed support for staff's progress.

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

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

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

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

Kirsten Struve, Nicole Merritt, and Aaron Baker were available to answer questions.

Public Comment:
None.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and noted without further discussion, the updated RWC Work Plan, support for staff's accomplishments, and interest in a future upcoming legislative agenda item regarding state/federal funding for water projects and server farm guidelines.

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS:

This is an opportunity for the Clerk to review and obtain clarification on any formally moved, seconded, and approved requests and recommendations made by the Committee during the meeting.

None.

6. Adjourn:

- 6.1. Adjourn. The Next Regular Meeting is Scheduled at 12:00 p.m. on October 29, 2025.

Chairperson Estremera adjourned the meeting at 12:22 p.m. The next regular meeting on October 29, 2025, was subsequently canceled. The next special meeting is scheduled to occur at 12:00 p.m. on December 16, 2025.

Nicole Merritt
Deputy Clerk (Committee Meetings)

Date Approved:

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-1002

Agenda Date: 12/16/2025

Item No.: 4.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Recycled Water Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Receive Purified Water Program Update Including Partnerships With Cities of San Jose and Santa Clara.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update on the following topics:

- A. Demonstration Facility and Full-Scale Direct Potable Reuse Facility at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center;
- B. Negotiation of an Agreement with the City of San Jose and Microsoft Corporation to move the purification center visitor trailer and construct certain improvements;
- C. Bottling Efforts

SUMMARY:

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

Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) and the Cities of San Jose and Santa Clara (Cities) continue to meet on a regular basis to work on various elements of the Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) Demonstration facility. The Option Agreement approved by the Valley Water Board and City Councils in June is currently routing for execution. The team continues to develop the charter, which provides a framework for the development of the full-scale facility agreements. Major items to be discussed include wastewater flow availability and reverse osmosis concentrate management. Valley Water and the Cities' staff are also working on the Exclusive Negotiation Agreement to reserve space for the full-scale facility.

The procurement for design services for the DPR Demonstration Facility is ongoing as is coordination with the Division of Drinking Water. An Independent Advisory Panel (IAP) meeting was held on September 12 through the National Water Research Institute to further discuss the concept proposal and regulatory roadmap. The IAP supports the project concept proposal. A more detailed item on the IAP's report will be provided to the Committee in the future.

Valley Water staff will be co-leading a new Potable Reuse Committee formed by WaterReuse California.

B. Update on Negotiation of an Agreement with the City of San Jose and Microsoft Corporation to move the purification center visitor trailer and construction of certain improvements

Microsoft Corporation (Microsoft) is developing a new data center on a private property to the east of the existing Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center (SVAWPC). As part of this project, Microsoft will be widening McCarthy Lane. Microsoft's project conflicted with the current location of the SVAWPC visitor center trailer on McCarthy Lane. To address this conflict, Microsoft, Valley Water, and the City of San Jose are negotiating an agreement (the Site Works Agreement) to construct a new parking lot and certain required improvements and move the visitor center trailer. Concurrently, the City of San José is negotiating a master easements agreement with Microsoft to convey permanent easements for utilities, temporary construction easements, extension of McCarthy Lane, and widening and improvements of Zanker Road. The Site Works Agreement, if approved must be executed prior to, or simultaneous with, the Master Easement Agreement.

The City is requesting authority to negotiate and execute both these agreements at their Treatment Plant Advisory Committee on November 13 and Council meeting on November 18. Valley Water staff plans to ask the Committee to recommend negotiating and executing the Site Works Agreement to the Board at the January meeting.

At the same meetings, the City will be requesting selection and development of exclusive negotiation agreements for a developer for 159 acres at San José-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility along the frontage of Highway 237. The preferred developer is proposing to develop the entire acreage with data centers.

C. Bottling Efforts

In 2022, Valley Water produced 2000 gallons of purified water, which was analyzed to demonstrate public health protection, and subsequently bottled into 16,000 eight-ounce bottles for educational and outreach purposes. This October, Valley Water utilized its last case of this bottled purified water for outreach.

In early 2025, staff began working with the California Division of Drinking Water (DDW) to replenish its supply of bottled purified water and continue its potable reuse outreach efforts. Staff has worked with DDW staff to define the production and regulatory requirements to process another batch of purified water produced at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center for bottling purposes. In September, Valley Water received approval from both DDW and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to proceed with purified water production and bottling of this water.

On November 18th staff conducted a successful bottling production run which included observation by DDW staff. Following purified water production, the purified water was transported to a bottling facility

in Los Angeles where a total of 16,000 eight-ounce bottles will be produced and properly labeled for outreach purposes. Laboratory analyses will be conducted to demonstrate the quality of the water produced and provide monitoring information to seek final approval from CDPH.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no environmental justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-1015

Agenda Date: 12/16/2025

Item No.: 4.2.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Recycled Water Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Receive Update on the 8th Independent Advisory Panel Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive information on the 8th meeting of the Independent Advisory Panel for evaluation of Valley Water's Purified Water Program.

SUMMARY:

In 2012, Valley Water entered into a contract with the National Water Research Institute (NWRI) to form an Independent Advisory Panel (IAP) composed of water reuse scholars, industry experts, and regulatory authorities to evaluate and offer insights on the evolving Purified Water Program of Valley Water. Since that time, the IAP has convened multiple times to assess technical documents and furnish recommendations regarding program advancements.

The NWRI initiated the Independent Advisory Panel Program to deliver impartial, third-party scientific evaluations of initiatives or programs within the water and wastewater sectors. NWRI Panels are utilized by public entities, state organizations, and corporations when a project presents complex challenges that would benefit from an independent scientific and technical assessment by national specialists.

On September 12, 2025, Valley Water staff provided the IAP with updates on actions taken since the previous meeting and highlighted the transition from the Palo Alto Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR) project to the San Jose Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) project, referred to as Pure Water Silicon Valley (PWSV), which is set to feature an Advanced Water Purification Facility (AWPF) with a production capacity of 24 million gallons per day (MGD). The principal components of the PWSV Project were presented to the IAP to solicit feedback, input, and guidance, and included the following:

- Overview of the PWSV Project
- DPR Regulatory History and Introduction to the PWSV Concept Proposal

- Key Elements of PWSV (e.g., Source Water, Treatment Trains, etc.)
- Meeting DPR Regulatory Requirements
- DPR Permitting Roadmap
- PWSV Permitting Schedule
- Valley Water Outreach Efforts

The IAP meeting was attended by approximately 55 participants including retailers, regulators, project partners, environmental advocates, and consultants.

The Panel's report on input and comments on the Concept Proposal and PWSV has since been drafted and was provided to Valley Water staff on November 5, 2025. Upon review and feedback by Valley Water staff, the report will be finalized and sent back to Valley Water by NWRI.

Based on the feedback received so far, the IAP endorses the project and indicates that the Concept Proposal is in accordance with California DPR regulations and safeguards public health, contingent upon the validation of assumptions with the Division of Drinking Water (DDW) and the completion of essential studies that affirm the PWSV Concept Proposal is technically robust, compliant with regulations, and protective of public health.

Staff will continue to work with the project consultants to address the feedback and comments received from IAP and is planning for additional IAP meetings that would focus on various elements of the PWSV such as the following:

- Temporary Pilot Facility
- Testing and Monitoring Plan
- Validation Protocols
- Water Safety Plan

It is anticipated that the next IAP session would be held in the first quarter of 2026.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138



Update on the Independent Advisory Panel Meeting

Recycled Water Committee
December 16, 2025



INDEPENDENT ADVISORY PANEL MEMBERS

Chair: Adam Olivieri - Recycled Water Technical and Regulatory Policy
DrPH, PE, EOA, Inc.

Katherine Cushing - Environmental Policy
PhD, San Jose State University

Paul Anderson – Public Health Expertise
PhD, Independent Consultant

Daniel Gerrity – Microbiology
PhD, PE, Southern Nevada Water Authority

Mehul Patel – Executive Director of Operations and Maintenance
PE, BCEE, Orange County Water District

Rupam Soni – Communications
PE, RCE, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Sunny Wang - Water Resources Manager
PE, City of Santa Monica

Lan Wiborg – Industrial Pretreatment & Pollutant Control
Orange County Sanitation District

Independent Advisory Panel Meeting #8

3

- Meeting held at Valley Water on September 12, 2025.
- Over 55 attended the session including project partners, regulators, environmental advocates, etc.
- Updates on transition from the Palo Alto IPR project to Pure Water Silicon Valley (PWSV).
- Presentation of the Concept Proposal for PWSV.

Independent Advisory Panel Meeting #8

4

Presentations:

- Overview of the Pure Water Silicon Valley (PWSV) Project
- DPR Regulatory History and Introduction to the PWSV Concept Proposal
- Key Elements of PWSV (e.g., Source Water, Treatment Trains, etc.)
- Meeting DPR Regulatory Requirements
- DPR Permitting Roadmap
- PWSV Permitting Schedule
- Valley Water Outreach Efforts



NWRI's November 5th Draft Report

- Included feedback and recommendations
- Indicated PWSV concept meets California DPR requirements
- Overall, the IAP concluded that the PWSV Concept Proposal is technically sound, regulatory-compliant, and protective of public health.

Next Steps

- Staff, in coordination with the project consultants, will resolve IAP comments and convene future targeted IAP sessions to advance critical PWSV elements.
- **Future Topics:**
 - Temporary Pilot Facility
 - Testing and Monitoring Plan
 - Validation Protocols
 - Water Safety Plan





Valley Water

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-1017

Agenda Date: 12/16/2025

Item No.: 4.3.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Recycled Water Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Receive South Santa Clara County Water Reuse Collaboration Update and Provide Feedback.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update and provide feedback on South Santa Clara County water reuse collaboration supporting Valley Water's recycled and purified water programs.

SUMMARY:

Since 1999, the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water), the City of Gilroy, and the City of Morgan Hill have collaborated to support non-potable water recycling in South Santa Clara County (South County). In 2017, the Board of Directors established the Joint Water Resources Committee (JWRC) to advance purified and recycled water reuse in South County, and identify funding opportunities for implementation. The Recycled Water Committee received a South County water reuse update in February 2025. The JWRC received an update in October 2025 and expressed interest in planning activities and recycled water expansion.

Feasibility Study Update

Staff will provide status of South County Recycled Water System Feasibility Study (FS) funded by a 2023 United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) planning grant. The South County FS will evaluate opportunities for purified and recycled water reuse in South County and updated planning strategy. Valley Water has procured technical services and has initiated technical data gathering and preliminary engineering. The South County FS is intended to support grant applications for the future design and construction of water reuse projects under the USBR Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program.

South County Recycled Water Pipeline

The Southern Recycled Water Pipeline Alignment (Southern Alignment) was introduced in the 2004 Master Plan, confirmed in the 2015 Master Plan Update, and subsequently supported through developer partnerships. Since 2015, Valley Water has implemented agreements with the City of Gilroy to construct portions of the Southern Alignment as several developers have expanded neighborhoods in the Glen Loma Development. Only one remaining pipeline segment, approximately

800 feet in length, remains to be constructed in the Glen Loma Development. Staff will provide an update of developer negotiations, agreement development with the City of Gilroy, tentative project schedule, and anticipated cost to construct this remaining segment.

In 2024, Valley Water completed the South County Recycled Water Pipeline Project that completed a major portion of the planned Southern Alignment. This Project connected the existing recycled water pipeline system at Glen Loma to the South County Recycled Water Authority (SCRWA) wastewater treatment plant, except for one ancillary pipeline connection (Phase 1C) to the existing Northern Alignment. Valley Water has procured construction services to complete this critical pipeline segment that will support future data center water reuse. Staff will provide a project update including timeline and cost to complete this segment that will significantly increase system capabilities and system redundancy.

Future Interagency Collaborations

In 2021, the JWRC formed a Technical Working Group (TWG) to discuss and evaluate options to advance water reuse and purified water production and distribution in South County. In 2023, the City of Gilroy conveyed that staffing resource constraints would indefinitely defer the TWG's assessment of South County interagency agreements. In 2024, the TWG completed its review of South County water reuse master planning and presented the JWRC with their final report, the 2024 South County Recycled Water Master Plan Update. Since these earlier resource constraints are expected to be resolved in the coming months, staff will present future opportunities for the TWG to facilitate collaboration to advance non-potable and potable reuse in South County, and completing its review of the existing South County interagency agreements.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There is no environmental justice impact associated with this item. This action is unlikely to or will not result in adverse impacts.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

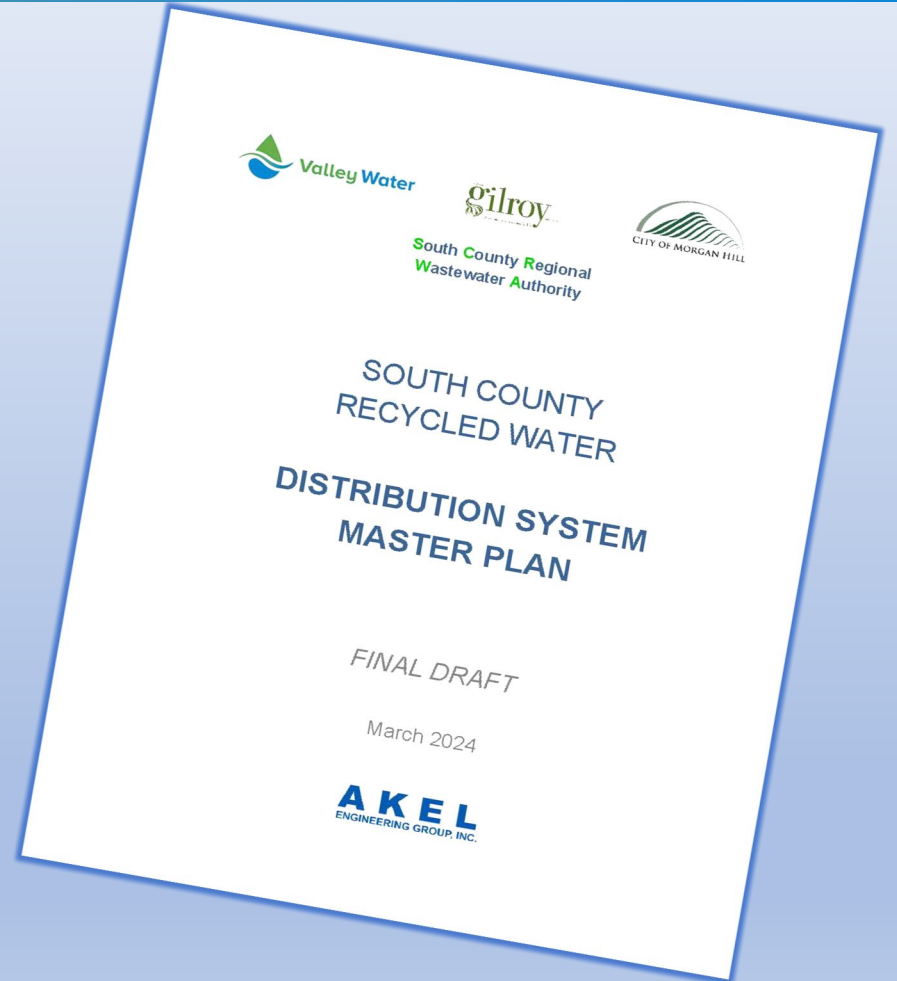


South Santa Clara County Water Reuse Collaboration

Recycled Water Committee Meeting
December 16, 2025

South County Feasibility Study

- 2023 USBR Planning Grant
- 2024 Grant Agreement
- 2025 Technical Support
- 2027 Study Completion



South County Recycled Water Pipelines

- **Phase 1C Segment**
- **Canyon Creek**
- **Pipeline Master Planning**



Future South County Collaboration

- **Future Funding Strategy**
- **Feasibility Study Completion**
- **Interagency Agreements**





Valley Water

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-1026

Agenda Date: 12/16/2025

Item No.: 4.4.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Recycled Water Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Receive Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study Update.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update on the Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study.

SUMMARY:

This memorandum provides an update on the Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study. Since the last update to the Recycled Water Committee (RWC) on June 25, 2025, Valley Water has completed the Fatal Flaw Analysis, initiated the alternatives analysis, conducted additional regulatory and environmental partner coordination, and begun refining feasible alternatives for further evaluation.

BACKGROUND

Valley Water continues to assess desalination as a potential future water supply source. This includes participation in the Bay Area Regional Desalination Project (BARDP), a collaborative effort with Contra Costa Water District, Zone 7 Water District, and the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, as part of the Bay Area Regional Reliability Partnership.

Between 2012 and 2015, BARDP partners evaluated site-specific studies for regional desalination project sites. Although several sites were evaluated, Mallard Slough in eastern Contra Costa County was ultimately selected as the most feasible location. The partners completed supporting studies—including a wheeling study, greenhouse gas analysis, pilot plant operations, and a permitting review—which collectively demonstrated the technical feasibility of a regional desalination project.

In 2023, Valley Water completed the Desalination Environmental Feasibility and Planning Study (DEFPS), which identified intake options, facility locations, and brine management strategies and were presented to RWC in October 2023. These elements form the foundation for the ongoing engineering-level evaluations and the preliminary findings were presented to the RWC in February and June 2025.

ENGINEERING FEASIBILITY STUDY

The ongoing Engineering Feasibility Study has two components, the Fatal Flaw Analysis and Alternatives Analysis:

- 1. Fatal Flaw Analysis:** The Fatal Flaw Analysis screened potential desalination alternatives identified in the DEFPS, along with options newly proposed by Valley Water. Alternatives that were unlikely to receive environmental or regulatory approval, were technically infeasible, or did not meet the 10-40 million gallons per day (MGD) production target were removed from further consideration.

- 2. Alternatives Analysis:**

Intake Options

Valley Water is assessing intake alternatives based on applicable guidance from the California Water Code, San Francisco Basin Plan, and relevant sections of the California Ocean Plan (COP). Intake locations under evaluation include:

- Deep South San Francisco Bay
- Mouth of Coyote Creek
- Northern portion of Guadalupe Slough

Potential intake structures include on-bank/near-shore intakes and offshore submerged intakes using passive screen technologies.

Facility Siting

Potential facility locations were evaluated based on physical benefits and regulatory, technical, geotechnical, and land-use considerations. The three remaining siting options are:

- Sunnyvale Baylands
- Palo Alto near Adobe Creek Trail
- San Jose near the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Facility

Brine Management

Potential brine discharge alternatives include:

- Commingling with effluent from the San Jose wastewater treatment facility
- Use of a deep-water South Bay outfall

REGULATORY COORDINATION AND OUTREACH

Given the significant permitting requirements for intake structures, facility siting, and brine management, Valley Water has continued to coordinate closely with regulatory agencies and environmental partners. Since the last update, staff has met with the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board), the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board), and environmental organizations to inform them of the Study progress.

At a meeting on October 3, 2025, regulators agreed with Valley Water's conclusion that the California Ocean Plan does not apply to the South Bay. State Board staff will review our technical findings and potentially issue a concurrence letter. This determination, combined with hydrogeologic conditions showing disconnected aquifers and widespread impermeable Bay mud, supports the continued evaluation of surface intake options over subsurface intakes.

Valley Water also engaged with the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), Mid-Peninsula Open Space District, and the Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge (CCCR). Staff additionally presented updates through the Environmental and Water Resources Committee (EWRC) to maintain stakeholder awareness and input.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will continue engagement with regulatory agencies and environmental partners while completing the detailed alternatives analysis. Additional updates will be provided at the 50% and 100% milestones of the Alternatives Analysis Report. A final update on the Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study will be presented to the Board upon Study completion in spring 2026.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

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Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study-Update

Santa Clara Valley Water District

Recycled Water Committee, December 16, 2025



Agenda

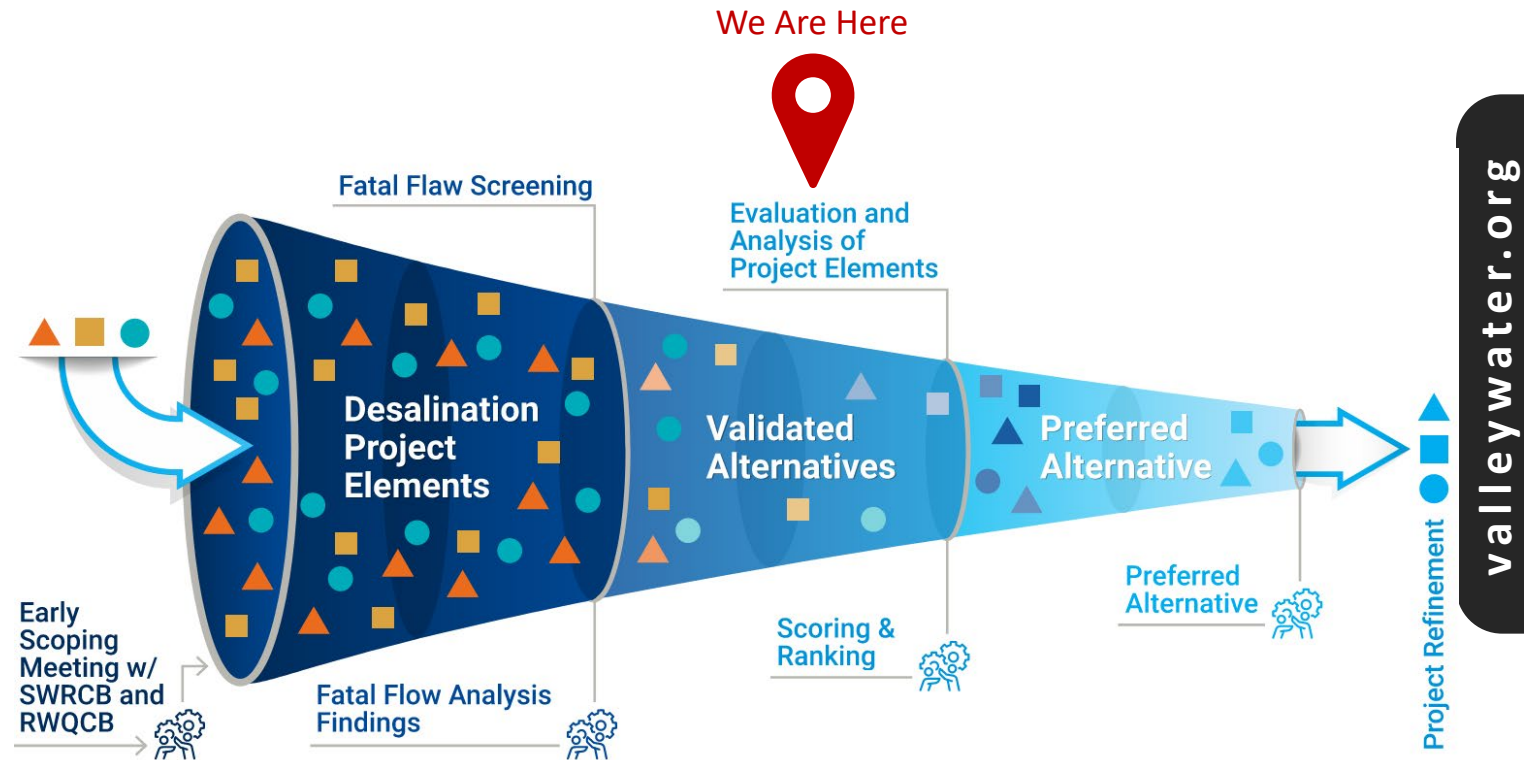
- Overview
- Fatal Flaw Analysis Results
 - Subsurface Intakes
 - Screened Surface Intakes
 - Siting Facility
 - Brine Management
- Alternatives Analysis
- Next Steps

Study Overview & Approach

Fatal Flaw Analysis Components

4

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

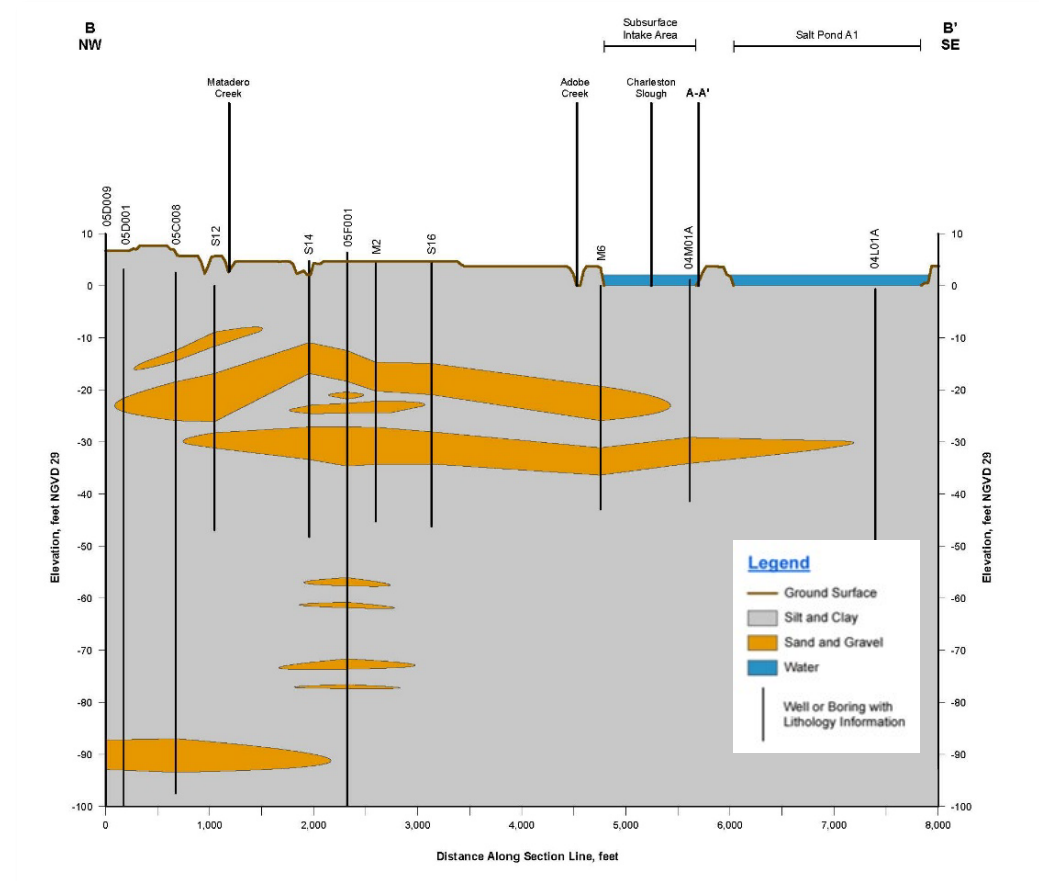


Fatal Flaw Analysis Results

Subsurface Intake Wells

Preliminary Findings

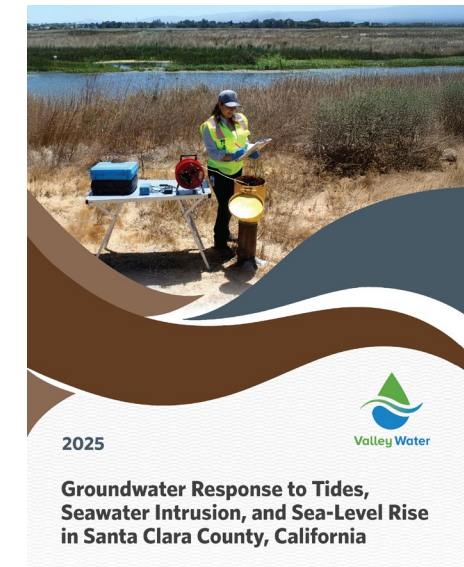
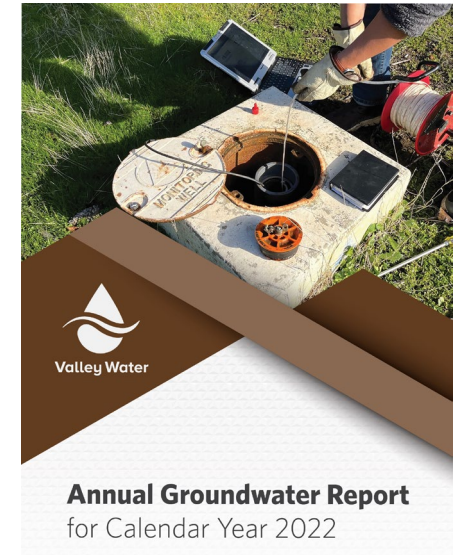
- Shallow aquifer near the Bay has thin, discontinuous water pockets
- No direct lateral connection to the Bay.
- A minimum demand of ~20 MGD would require ~700 wells
- Require to acquire large areas of land



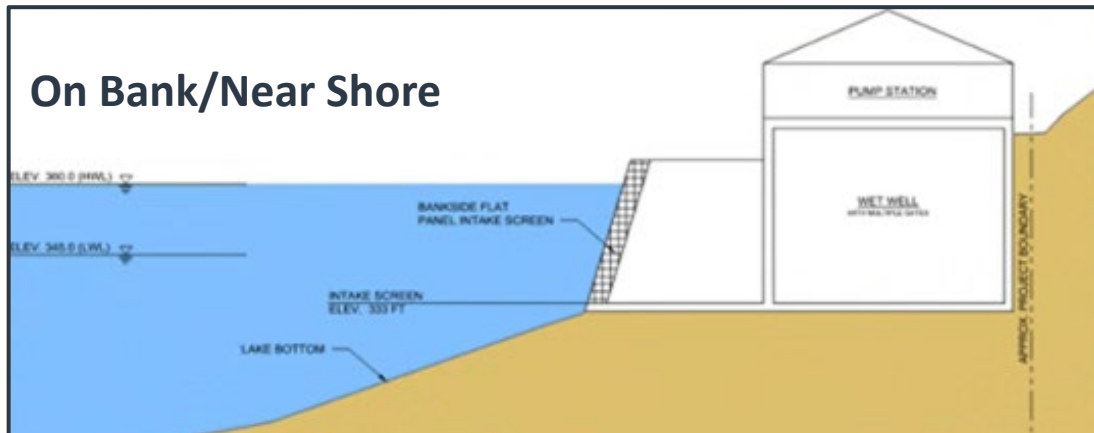
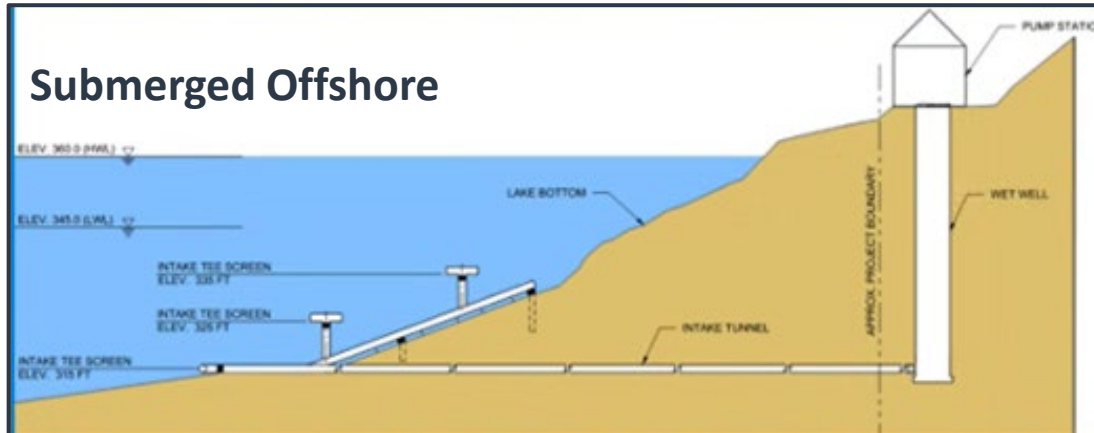
Subsurface Intake Wells

Basis for Findings

- Extensive history of groundwater basin
- Ongoing and comprehensive monitoring and reporting
 - Annual groundwater reports
 - Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)
 - Special studies related to seawater level rise and potential impacts

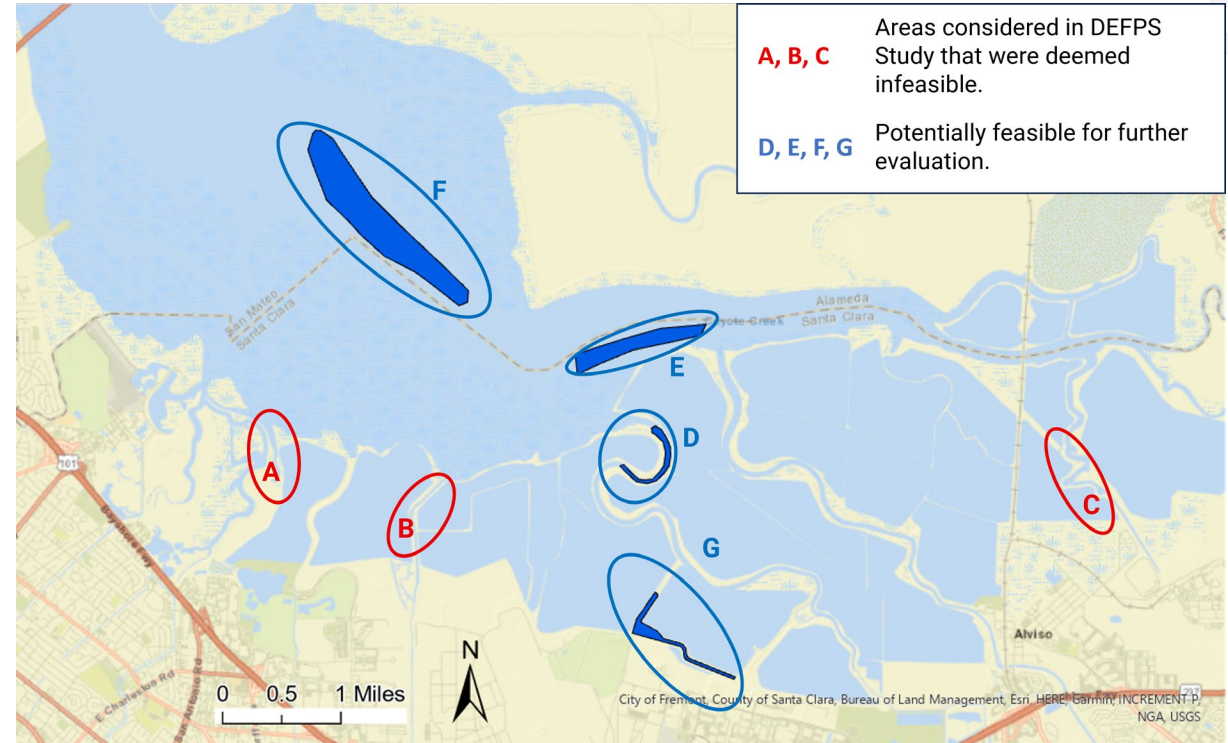


Intake Alternatives



Intake Types

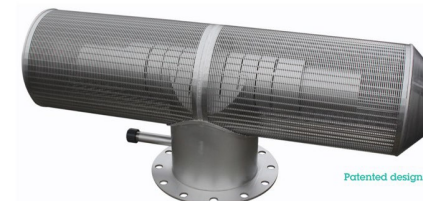
Intake Locations



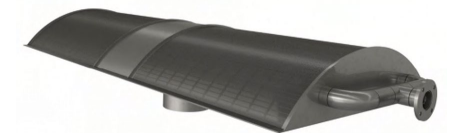
Conical Screen



Cylindrical Screen



Hemispherical Screen



Screen Options

Facility Siting: 12 Locations Evaluated



- Shortlisted Sites
- Fatal-Flawed Sites
- Other Sites

- ★ Local WWTP
- Preferred Site
- Potentially Infeasible Site
- Other Site

Brine Management

Options Evaluated

- Comingling with Treated Wastewater Effluent from Existing WWTP
- New deep Bay Outfall with Brine Diffuser
- Horizontal Levee
- Cargill Salt



Fatal Flaw Analysis Summary

- **Intakes**

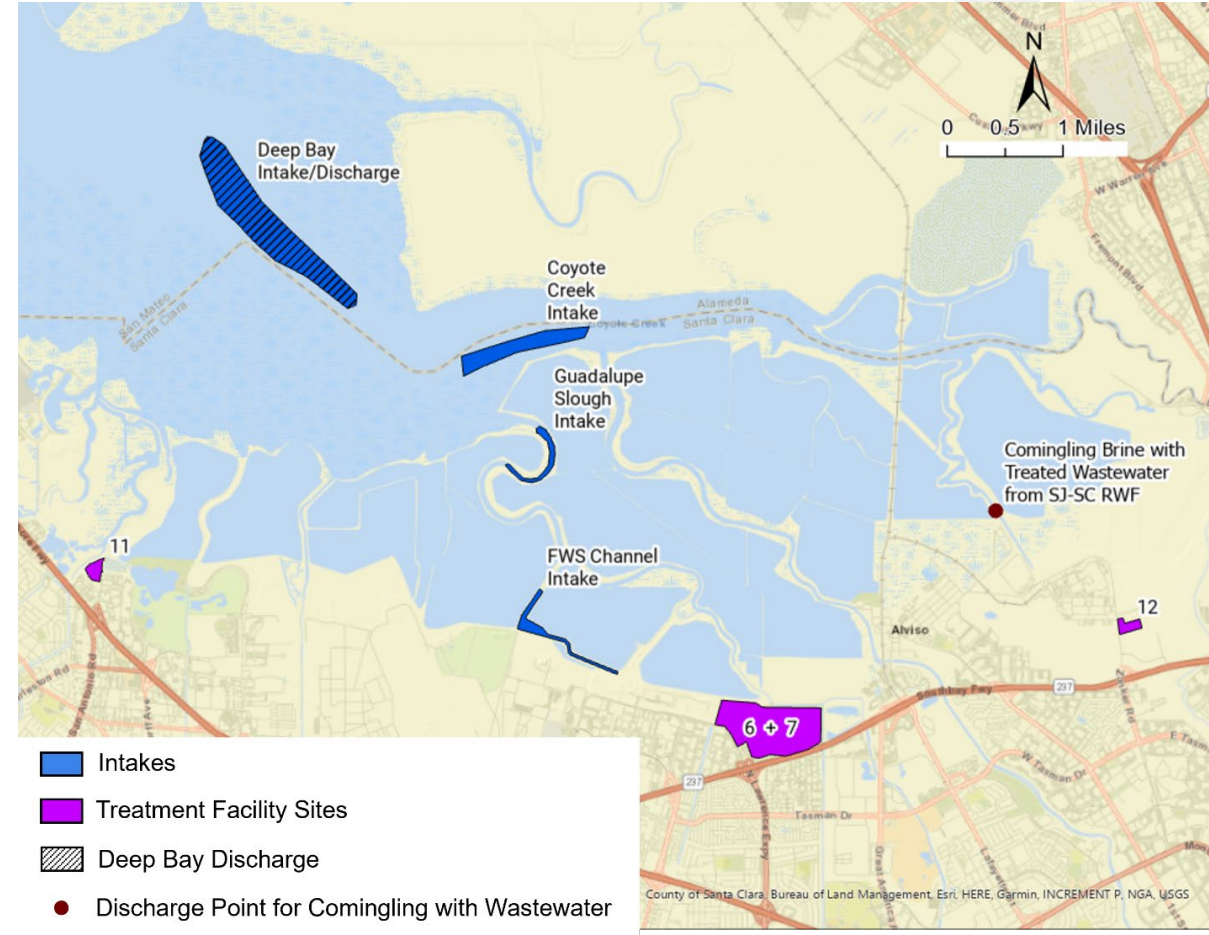
- Subsurface – infeasible
- Screened surface intake
 - 3 locations potentially feasible
 - 3 screen types (conical, cylindrical, and hemispherical)

- **Facility Siting**

- Multiple sites analyzed
 - 3 sites potentially feasible

- **Brine Management**

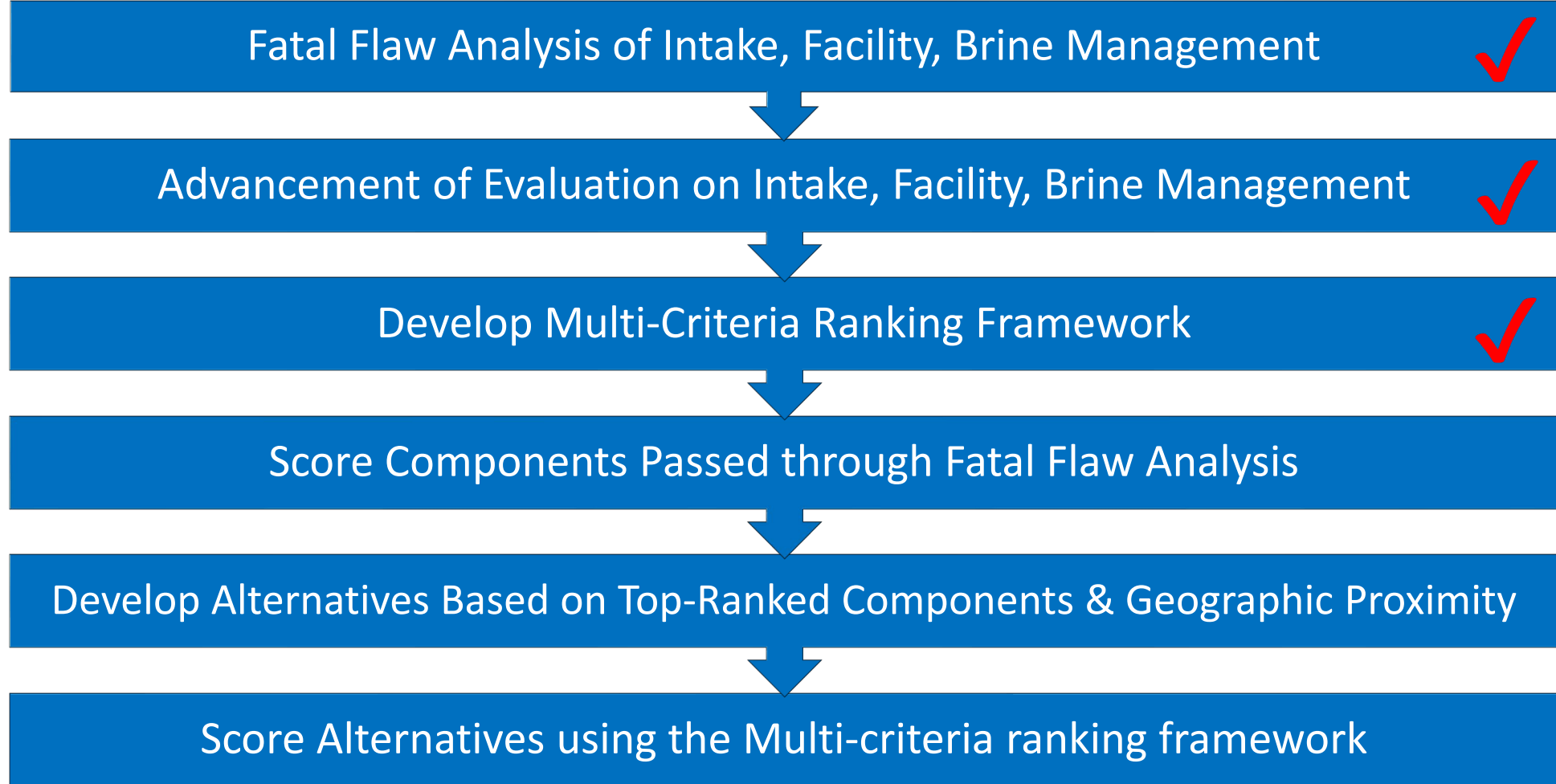
- Comingling brine with treated wastewater
- New Deep outfall with diffusers
- Horizontal levees – infeasible
- Cargill use – infeasible



Alternatives Analysis

Alternatives Analysis

Summary Approach to Alternative Development and Screening



13

Alternatives Analysis -Intake Conveyance and Distribution

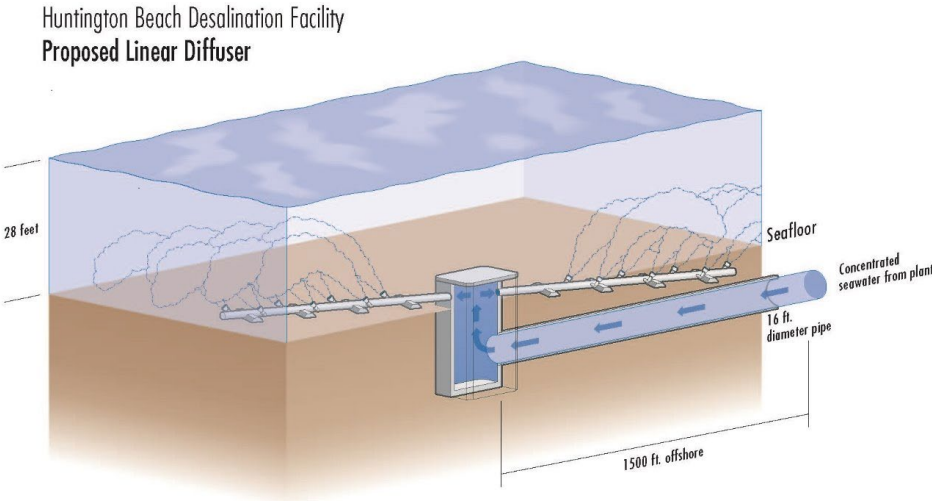
Intake Volumes vs Produced Water at 42% Recovery Rate

Intake Water (MGD)	Produced Water (MGD)
24	10
47	20
95	40

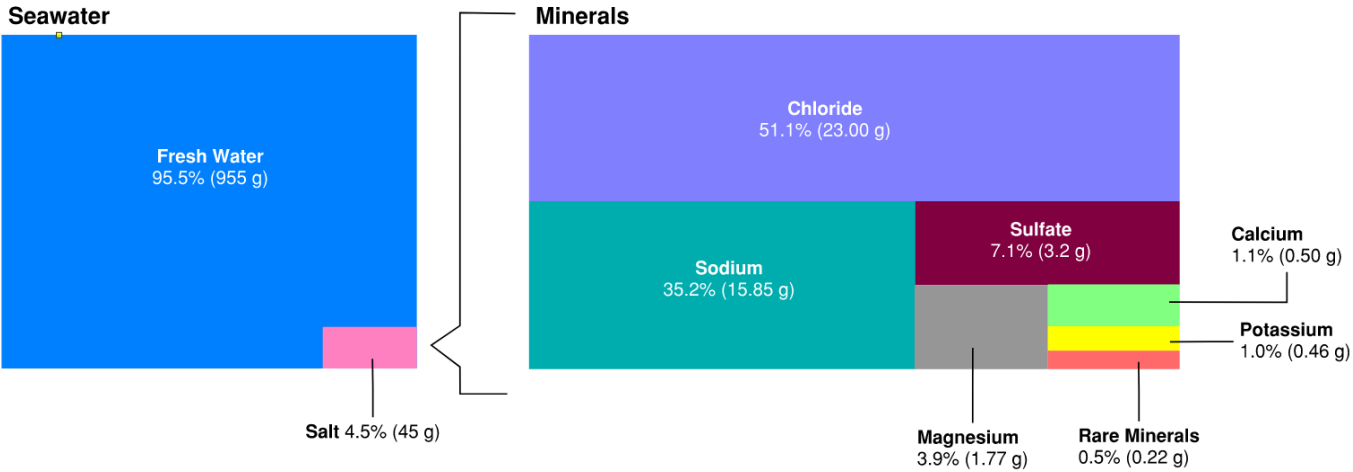


Possible Conveyance to Existing Distribution System

Alternatives Analysis - Brine Discharge Considerations

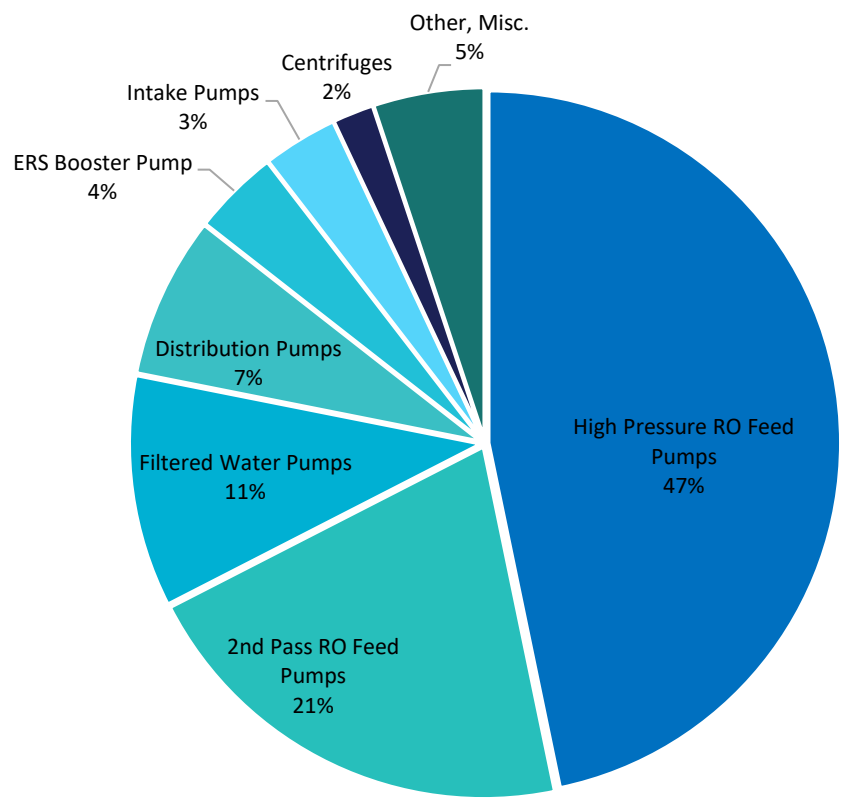


Conceptual Graphic of a Multi-Port Brine Diffuser for a Deepwater Discharge System

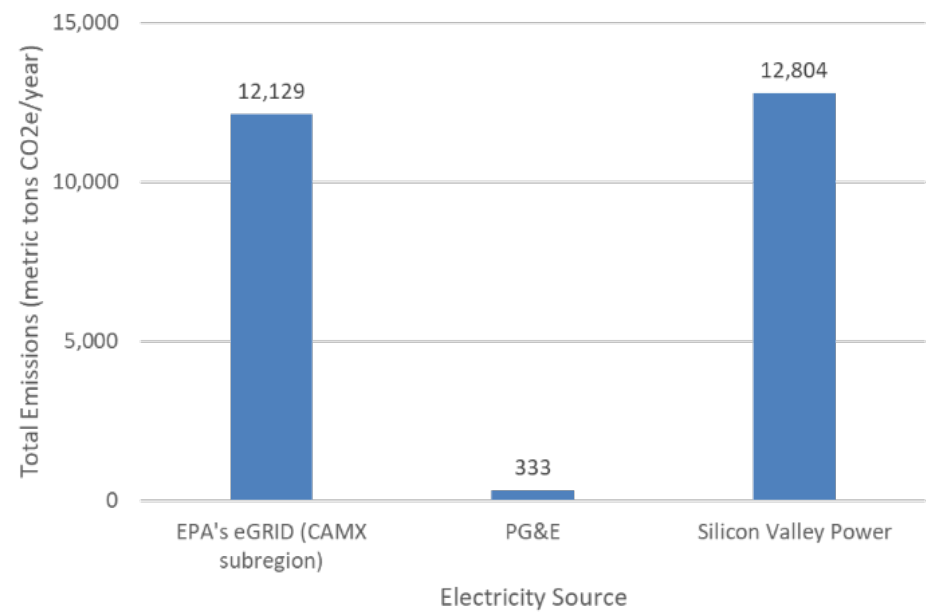


Resource Recovery-Constituents in Seawater

Alternatives Analysis-Energy Use Considerations



- High Pressure RO Feed Pumps
- 2nd Pass RO Feed Pumps
- Filtered Water Pumps
- Distribution Pumps
- ERS Booster Pump
- Intake Pumps
- Centrifuges
- Other, Misc.



GHD Emissions by Electricity Source

Next Steps

Next Steps

- **Complete** Alternative Analysis Report.
- **Plan to meet** with the Recycled Water Committee after completion of Alternative Analysis Report – First Quarter of 2026
- **Plan to engage** with relevant interest groups during development of Alternative Analysis Report – First Quarter of 2026

Where We Are Today



Thank you!



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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-1028

Agenda Date: 12/16/2025

Item No.: 4.5.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Recycled Water Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Receive Purified Water Public Outreach Update and Provide Feedback.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive information and provide feedback on the 2025 public outreach highlights for the Purified Water Program.

SUMMARY:

To ensure a reliable water supply that keeps Silicon Valley thriving well into the future, based on the Water Supply Master Plan, Valley Water works diligently to expand water reuse for non-potable and potable purposes and explore water reuse opportunities with regional partners in Santa Clara County. As Valley Water expands its water reuse portfolio, staff actively engages the public in all related efforts to promote awareness and build support for advanced purified water for drinking.

Other water reuse projects throughout the state and country have proven that public acceptance is significant to the implementation of potable reuse projects. Decades of some negative media coverage and over-simplified explanations of the water reuse process have contributed to negative perceptions amongst the general public. Significant investment in public outreach, awareness and engagement can help to educate the public about the advanced water purification process and water quality, as well as about the importance of developing a locally controlled water supply for our future.

Since 2011, staff has implemented ongoing public outreach strategies based on:

1. Industry research, best practices and data - Identifying key messages and public perception trends through annual public perception polls, tour surveys, and water reuse industry research.
2. Interactive engagement opportunities - Providing hands-on opportunities for the public to learn about purified water because seeing is believing and tasting is trusting.
3. Influence-based outreach - Identifying and establishing partnerships with trusted leaders and spokespeople to become ambassadors of purified water.

Inspiring behavior change and shifting public perception is a long-term, ongoing effort. Highlights from Valley Water's purified water public outreach efforts in 2025 are described below.

Industry Research, Best Practices and Data

Past public opinion surveys have shown overall support for potable reuse using purified water. Staff continue to build on previous outreach efforts and updates and modify strategies as necessary based on results of the countywide poll on public perception of recycled and advanced purified water, the pre- and post-tour surveys and industry research and best practices.

- **Pre- and Post-Tour Surveys** - As part of Valley Water's robust tour program for the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center (Purification Center), tour participants take a brief survey before and after they take a tour. These tour surveys help gauge the effectiveness of the tours in increasing public support. Tour attendees take a pre- and post-tour survey to measure their understanding of purified water and what they learned on the tour. In 2025, the tour surveys showed an 11.6% increase in general support for purified water (85% to 97%), an 18.2% increase in support for Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR) (76% to 94%), and a 15.9% increase in support for Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) (77% to 93%).
- **Water Reuse Industry Research and Best Practices** - Staff is actively engaged in and participates in water reuse industry associations and initiatives at the local, state and national levels. Locally, staff facilitate quarterly Bay Area Potable Reuse Outreach Collaboration meetings for local water and wastewater agencies to share progress on local water reuse projects and best practices for outreach. At the state level, staff participate in the WaterReuse California Communications Collaborative Group and the WaterReuse Outreach and Education Committee. Both groups are a collective of water professionals in the water reuse industry that share best practices on effective communication and outreach strategies to build support for potable reuse. Additionally, staff continue to stay informed of industry trends and best practices by attending the annual WaterReuse conferences. At the national level, staff are working with the WaterReuse Association, the Environmental Protection Agency, and consulting firm Envirospectives on a Water Reuse Action Plan toolkit for water agencies across the country to reference best practices when conducting outreach and support from the medical community. Staff will continue to align their outreach efforts with the industry standards and learn from other water agencies.
- **National Water Research Institute (NWRI) Independent Advisory Panel** - On September 12, 2025, Valley Water hosted the NWRI Independent Advisory Panel for a workshop focused on the Pure Water Silicon Valley Project. Staff presented on the purified water public outreach efforts and the plans and considerations for the future.

While there are established outreach best practices from other water agencies that can be applied, they are primarily regarding purified water for Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR). Valley Water is at the forefront of the water reuse industry for its planning for DPR, paving the way on the technical side as well as for outreach messaging.

Interactive Engagement Opportunities

The research and data show that seeing is believing and tasting is trusting. Hands-on and interactive experiences are vital to public awareness and support for purified water for drinking. Valley Water's interactive engagement efforts include an educational tour program of the Purification Center and tasting the bottled purified water.

- **Tours of the Purification Center** - The tour program for the Purification Center continues to serve as the flagship outreach strategy and the most effective tool to increase public awareness and support for purified water. The tour includes walking through the operating Purification Center and seeing the treatment process up close, with opportunities to touch samples of the filters and membranes. Staff hosts tours for the public twice a month. Public tours are promoted through Valley Water's various social media platforms, and through other Valley Water programs and presentations in the community. Members of the public can request a private tour of the facility for a minimum of 10 attendees.

In 2025, staff hosted 1,591 members of the public through 86 tours (in-person). Since the Purification Center opened in 2014, staff have hosted 21,451 members of the public through 988 tours, including recurring in-person public and private group tours, VIP tours, special events, and virtual tours.

- **Bottled Demonstration Water Taste Tests** - Valley Water is the first agency to bottle purified water for outreach purposes under new regulations established in 2017, the second agency in California, and third in the nation to bottle purified water for outreach and demonstration purposes as part of its comprehensive education program. The purified water bottles were approved for distribution by the Division of Drinking Water and the California Department of Public Health in February and March 2024, respectively. Sharing the bottled purified water for the public to taste during the tours and events helps to boost the public's assurance of the quality of purified water for drinking and support for the overall use of purified water.

In 2025, staff distributed 11,064 bottles at Purification Center tours, Valley Water events, community events, and through industry partners. All the purified water bottles were distributed before they expired in October 2025, and staff distributed a total of nearly 16,000 bottles between 2024 and 2025 which has been a great success. Staff are in the process of producing additional purified water bottles for distribution in 2026.

- **Learning Center** - As part of the Pure Water Silicon Valley Project, staff are working on a new, future interactive engagement opportunity: a Learning Center to accompany the DPR demonstration facility. The Learning Center is expected to be developed by 2031 to educate the public, including a target audience of students as young as 5th grade, on recycled water and purified water and the importance of these sustainable resources for Santa Clara County's water portfolio. The Learning Center is envisioned to incorporate interactive exhibits, a purified water tasting station, community gathering spaces, and enhancements to the tour experience. Outreach staff are leading the exhibits development for the Learning Center. In 2025, staff conducted benchmarking with the Palo Alto Junior Museum & Zoo, The Tech Interactive, the

Oakland Museum of California, and the Chabot Space & Science Center to gather information that can be incorporated into the approach for the Learning Center development.

Additionally, staff formed a Technical Advisory Group of subject matter experts in exhibits, museums and water reuse:

- Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose
- City of San Jose
- City of Santa Clara
- Data Instincts
- Palo Alto Junior Museum & Zoo
- The Tech Interactive
- Valley Water - Education Outreach
- Valley Water - Recycled and Purified Water Unit
- Water Replenishment District

Technical Advisory Group members will provide their expertise, ideas and recommendations to Valley Water for the Learning Center and exhibits. The members will support the selection of an exhibit design firm and review exhibit design concepts for consideration.

Influence-based Outreach

Staff have provided various tailored engagement opportunities for key groups throughout the community, including academic and science professionals, local elected officials, environmental groups, faith-based leaders, ethnic community leaders, water industry professionals, and the media.

- **Employee Engagement** - Internal employees can be powerful ambassadors for purified water. Their knowledge and enthusiasm can demonstrate Valley Water's commitment to safe, sustainable water and help build public trust. To strengthen this connection, staff launched the More than a Bottle campaign (referring to sample bottles of purified water), engaging staff through multiple communication channels to deepen their understanding of purified water and inspire them to share its value with the broader community - at work, and at home. Campaign elements included articles and other educational resources on an intranet page; information items in the News You Can Use email; special Purified Water Aguas Frescas Tasting events; and testimonial videos from staff across the agency. Approximately 167 employees tasted aguas frescas made from purified water. Staff administered a survey as part of the campaign and received 69 responses, indicating that 90% of respondents would feel "Very Comfortable" or "Somewhat Comfortable" using advanced purified water as part of our drinking water supply. Additionally, 16% of respondents stated that it was their first time trying the purified water.
- **Medical Community Partnerships** - Partnering with the medical community is a critical strategy to garner overall public support for purified water for drinking. Scientists and doctors have been identified as the most trusted messengers for purified water advocacy; this was recently confirmed in the 2024 public perception poll results. In July 2025, staff hosted a

conversation during which three doctors met with water industry professionals to discuss the importance of water reuse. The participating physicians were from Santa Clara County; El Paso, Texas; and Southern California. El Paso Water is planning to open the Pure Water Center, a DPR project, and the physician who participated in the conversation is a county health officer and serves on the board that governs El Paso Water. The Southern California physician who participated in the conversation is the past president of the Los Angeles County Medical Association and supports the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo. Following the conversation, in collaboration with staff, Dr. Stephen Jackson, the Santa Clara County Medical Association's (SCCMA) Environmental Health Committee Co-Chair, wrote a featured article titled, "Physicians Join Together to Advocate for Potable Reuse," for SCCMA's magazine, *The Bulletin*. SCCMA represents over 4,500 physicians and *The Bulletin* is published quarterly online and in print. The recently published article in *The Bulletin* included information about the Pure Water Silicon Valley Project and steps physicians can take to support DPR locally, and was sent to 675 physicians in Santa Clara County.

- **Youth Advocates** - When youth learn about purified water early, they can build a strong foundation of understanding that will serve them as informed water stewards in the future. Staff developed and delivered *The Water We Share*, a lesson for grades 4-12 aligned with the nationally recognized Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). The lesson introduces students to local water sources and the science of purification, then challenges them to design posters, projects, and messages showing how they would build public support for purified water in their communities. To date, 15 classes and 484 students have been reached.
- **Older Adult Outreach** - Based on the 2024 public perception poll results, adults aged 50 and over are the least favorable toward purified water. Consequently, staff have implemented tailored outreach efforts to reach the older adult audience. In 2025, staff presented to the Almaden Lions Club, participated in Happy Hollow Park & Zoo's Senior Safari events, and engaged older adults during tours at the Purification Center.
- **Retailers and Partners** - Staff meet regularly with the City of San Jose and the City of Santa Clara to discuss opportunities for collaboration on purified water outreach. In 2025, the cities assisted with the distribution of purified water bottles to their communities and networks. Staff also provided tours to staff from both cities, presented to employees of the San Jose-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility, and jointly presented with the City of San Jose on purified water to Evergreen Valley College. Additionally, staff provided updates on purified water outreach at the Valley Water Retailers Recycled Water Subcommittee Meetings, which include representatives from the water retailer partners.
- **VIP Tours and Engagement** - Staff provided tours and/or presentations to the following key groups in 2025:
 - Valley Water's VIP Water Walk Tour (included elected officials and their representatives at the local, state and federal level)
 - San Jose Councilmember Pamela Campos
 - San Jose Councilmember Michael Mulcahy
 - San Jose Councilmember Anthony Tordillos

-
- California Assemblymember Alex Lee's Young Legislators Program
 - San Jose City College
 - Evergreen Valley College (co-presented with the City of San Jose at the San Jose-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility)
 - Almaden Lions Club
 - City of Santa Clara
 - City of San Jose
 - Rotary Club of Cupertino
 - Environmental Volunteers
 - Public Policy Institute of California
 - PureWater Peninsula Parties

Outreach Next Steps

The public outreach and engagement efforts for purified water will continue and be modified as necessary to align with the research and data, tailored based on Valley Water's water reuse approach, and as the purified water projects are developed and ultimately implemented.

Staff are currently focusing on the following priority outreach initiatives in 2026:

- ***Public Perception Poll and Focus Groups*** - Staff plan to implement a public perception poll and are exploring in-person focus groups to collect data on public perception toward water reuse and test the effectiveness of key messages.
- ***Consider Recommendations from the NWRI Independent Advisory Panel*** - Staff plan to consider incorporating the outreach-related recommendations provided by the NWRI Independent Advisory Panel in their technical memorandum for the Pure Water Silicon Valley Project.
- ***VIP Tours and Engagement*** - Staff plan to continue outreach to, or engage with, key groups and community leaders, especially elected officials, school officials, and court members to bolster awareness of and support for purified water for drinking.
- ***Expand Medical Community Partnerships*** - Staff will continue to build on the success of the SCCMA endorsement and continue to engage with the medical community. Staff are working to secure support from more medical leaders and organizations in the form of letters, video testimonials or endorsements in support of purified water for drinking purposes, which has proven to help gain public trust and support for potable water reuse. Staff are working with staff at the County of Santa Clara, Public Health Department, to identify areas for collaboration and potentially secure support for purified water.
- ***Tailored Older Adult Outreach*** - Staff plan to continue tailoring outreach opportunities for the older adult community through presentations and tours.

-
- **Focused Outreach to Environmental Organizations** - Staff plan to continue to engage with environmental organizations on water reuse options, including purified water, through focused meetings, special tours and general outreach.
 - **Expand Youth and Student Outreach** - Staff plan to continue to partner with local universities and colleges and work with the Youth Commission to promote the tour program and purified water to youth in Santa Clara County.
 - **Regional Outreach and Partnerships** - Staff plan to continue to facilitate quarterly Bay Area Potable Reuse Outreach Collaboration meetings for local water and wastewater agencies to share progress on local water reuse projects and best practices for outreach. Staff also plan to continue meeting regularly with the City of San Jose and the City of Santa Clara to discuss opportunities for collaboration on purified water outreach. Additionally, staff plan to continue providing updates on purified water outreach at the Valley Water Retailers Recycled Water Subcommittee Meetings.
 - **Develop Learning Center** - As part of the Pure Water Silicon Valley Project, staff will continue to work with the Purified Water Project team on the specifications for a learning center to accompany the DPR demonstration facility and explore local partnership opportunities. The Technical Advisory Group for the Learning Center exhibit development is expected to be active from December 2025 to December 2027.
 - **Pure Water Silicon Valley Project Communications and Outreach** - In addition to the ongoing general purified water public outreach efforts, Valley Water is also developing a tailored outreach strategy for the planned Pure Water Silicon Valley DPR Project. This will include engagement with the project neighbors and community, as well as collaboration with the project partners, the cities of San Jose and Santa Clara.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no environmental justice impacts associated with receiving an update on the 2025 purified water outreach. However, the general purified water outreach efforts include engaging with disadvantaged communities through multi-lingual communications materials and trusted community leaders.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Rachael Gibson, 408-630-2884

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2025 Purified Water Outreach Highlights

Presented by **Kristen Yasukawa**, Civic Engagement Manager
Recycled Water Committee – December 16, 2025

Purified Water Public Outreach

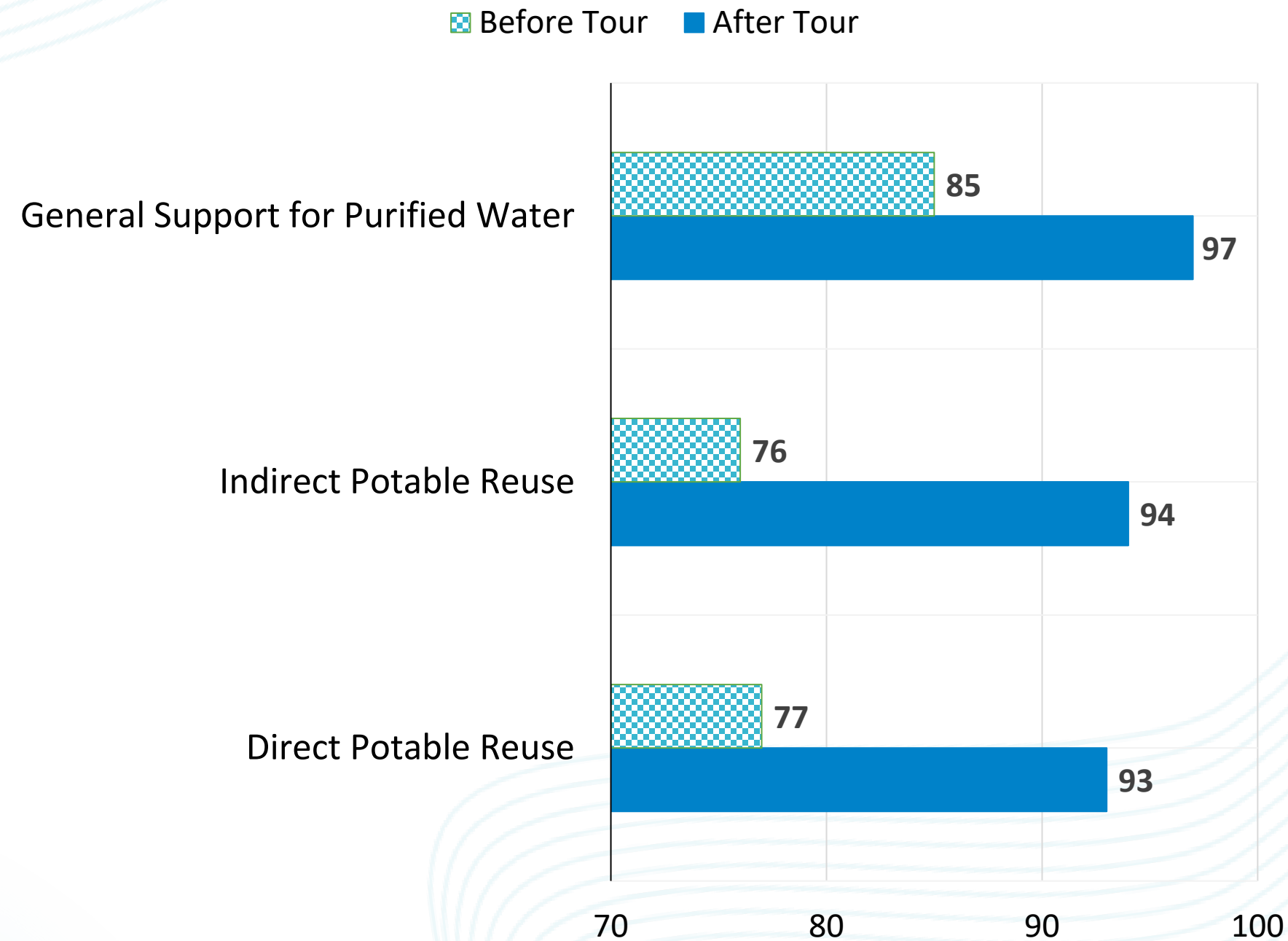
Since 2011, staff have implemented ongoing public outreach strategies based on:

- Industry research, best practices and data;
- Interactive engagement opportunities; and
- Influence-based outreach

Our Goal: To educate, promote awareness, and build support for advanced purified water for drinking.

Industry Research, Best Practices and Data

Pre- and Post-Tour Surveys for 2025



Industry Research, Best Practices and Data

Engaging with Water Reuse Industry Professionals

WaterReuse Outreach and Education Groups



Bay Area Potable Reuse Outreach Collaboration



U.S. EPA's Water Reuse Action Plan (WRAP)



National Water Research Institute (NWRI) Independent Advisory Panel



Interactive Engagement Opportunities

Tours of the Purification Center



1,591 In-Person Tour Attendees in 2025
21,451 Tour Attendees Total



86 In-Person Tours in 2025
988 Tours Total



Interactive Engagement Opportunities

Bottled Demonstration Water Taste Tests

 11,064 bottles distributed in 2025



Interactive Engagement Opportunities

Learning Center for the Pure Water Silicon Valley Project




Technical Advisory Group



Influence-based Outreach

Employee Engagement






OrganizationEmployee ServicesWork ResourcesPoliciesNewsLinksHelp



Home > Purified Water


Purified Water


**Taste and Learn:
It's more than a bottle!**
Try purified water and learn
how you can support the project.

Join us for free aguas frescas on
August 28 and September 23.



ADVANCED WATER
PURIFICATION CENTER




News You Can Use

 PEOPLE/PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

- NEW** [Jeff Madden joins Valley Water as a Water Plant Operator](#)
- NEW** [Ari Mendosa joins Valley Water as a Maintenance Worker I](#)
- NEW** [Christian Orellana joins Valley Water as a Maintenance Worker I](#)
- NEW** [Passing of Retiree Robert \(Bob\) Peterson](#)
- [Valley Water Night 2025 Recap and highlights!](#)
- [Submit Your Photos for the 2026 Valley Water Calendar](#)

 CEO/ACEO/BOARD

- NEW** [Watch the August 14, 2025 Employee Town Hall](#)

 PURIFIED WATER

- NEW** [Explore the new Purified Water intranet page for resources and updates](#)
- NEW** [Free Aguas Frescas on August 28 and September 23!](#)
- NEW** [Purified Water Bottle Request Form](#)

water bottles
water
event
form

ity standards through advanced water
help reduce our dependency on imported

Influence-based Outreach

Santa Clara County Medical Association





PHYSICIANS JOIN TOGETHER TO ADVOCATE FOR POTABLE REUSE

STEPHEN M. JACKSON MD
Co-Chair, SCCMA Environmental Health Committee

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SCCMA physicians are not alone among medical professionals advocating for healthy, sustainable and affordable water supplies. When our SCCMA Environmental Health Committee (EHC) endorsed local plans to produce advanced purified recycled water for potable reuse, we joined a growing movement of physicians serving as trusted sources of information about the process. I recently had the opportunity to join colleagues from Texas and Southern California who also endorse their local water utilities' efforts to reuse water in a discussion about how physicians can help ensure their communities have adequate water supplies in the face of a changing climate.

Background

In late 2021, our EHC studied the science of water reuse and water pollution with professionals from Valley Water, the agency responsible for most of Santa Clara County's water supply. Fortified with this scientific knowledge, the SCCMA accepted our recommendation to formally endorse Valley Water's advanced water purification project. The EHC then authored a Resolution to the CMA's House of Delegates in support of the safety and public health value of this advanced purification process for producing potable (drinking) water. The SCCMA also published a special issue of *The Bulletin* (2022) titled "Water and Health" in which we shared our understanding of the public health value and relevant technical and regulatory information. Since then, Valley Water has issued a request for proposals for the design of the **Pure Water Silicon Valley** demonstration facility direct potable reuse project, which is proposed to add 24 million gallons per day (mgd) to our local water supply by 2035. The project will reduce dependence on imported water, enhance drought resilience, and reduce land subsidence and saltwater intrusion.

In 2023, at the invitation of the national WaterReuse Association, SCCMA physicians, Dr. Ken Yew and Dr. Santosh Pandipati, spoke about the benefits of creating a dialogue between physicians and water professionals. Their message inspired the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to sponsor a national initiative, led by SCCMA and Valley Water, to further develop this collaborative engagement by bringing together physicians and utility managers from around the country.

Panel on Physicians and Water Reuse

On July 31, 2025, I joined two other physicians in a conversation facilitated by Valley Water about the nexus between water and health and how we communicate with patients and others about the need for water reuse in our communities. El Paso, Texas pediatrician Hector Ocaranza MD now serves as the county health officer and sits on the board of El Paso Water, which is currently building a **Pure Water Center** to supply 10 mgd of potable water by 2028. Cardiologist Sion "Shy" Roy MD, past president of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, supports the efforts of the Las Virgenes-Triunfo Joint Powers Authority (JPA) to build the **Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo** to serve Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, one element of a larger strategy to recycle most of the wastewater produced in Southern California. Our conversation centered on the essential role that physicians play in educating the public about the need for clean purified water for potable reuse in our communities and the safety of advanced water reuse technology.

As El Paso's public health officer, Dr. Ocaranza became aware of water reuse in response to questions about water from parents seeking the opinion of a knowledgeable and trusted physician. "We as practicing physicians get questions from our patients about the safety of the water, and they look to us as a trustworthy source of information," Dr. Ocaranza said. "Even though a lot of people get their research through social media, when we see these patients in the office they ask us, which is an incentive to us to become more knowledgeable about water."

After two decades of adding treated recycled water to their groundwater supplies, El Paso Water broke ground this year on a project to send further purified water directly to their water treatment facility. In view of the stringent regulations for direct potable reuse, Dr. Ocaranza emphasized that physicians need to know enough about the way water is purified to effectively communicate scientifically based information to the public. To that end, he recommended that doctors schedule a visit to the local water recycling plant. "Although we know a fair amount about microbiological contaminants in drinking water and the toxicology of chemical pollutants found in water supplies, until I saw the facility for myself, I had no idea that all this was going on right here in our community," he recalled. "Now I can attest to the quality of the water and tell them for sure that this project is going to be good for those of us who live in a desert area."

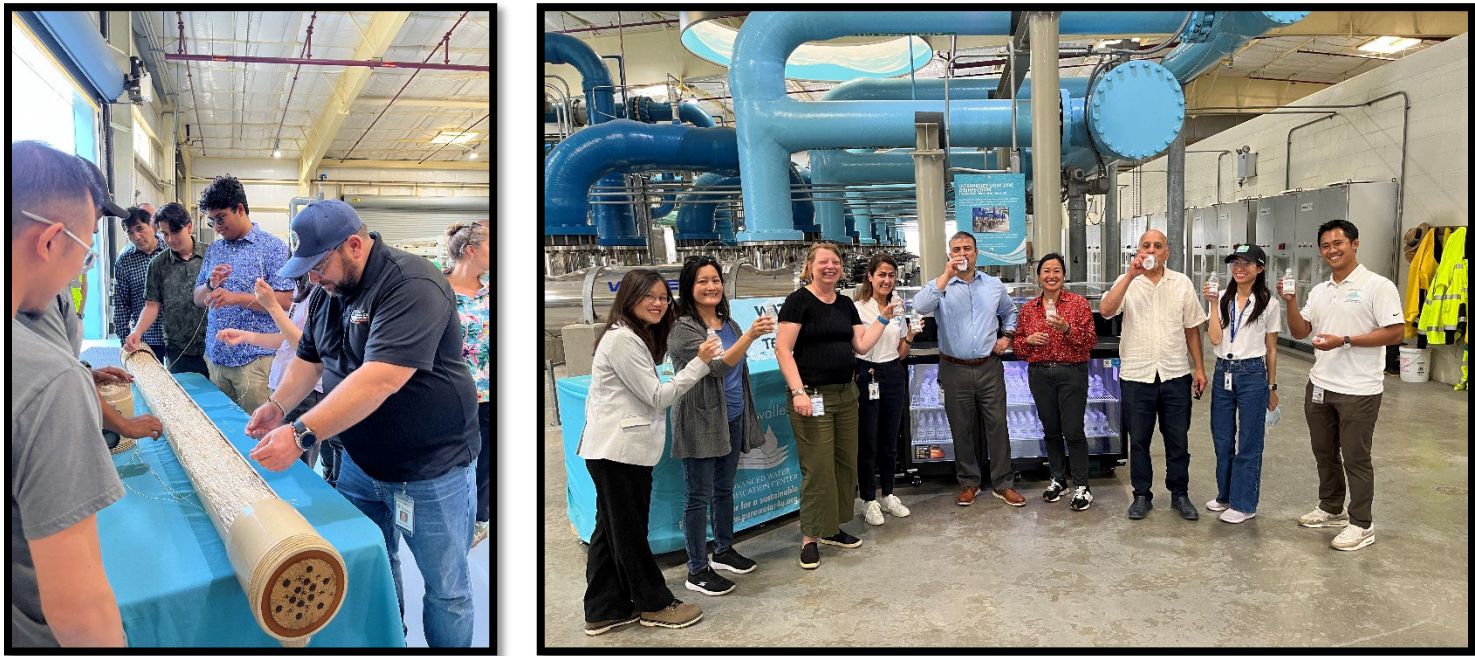
Dr. Roy offered a personal example of how important it is for physicians to become well-informed about the safety of purified water. "We're in this age of incredible information dissemination," he observed, "and I think everybody is having a hard time finding truth in all the information out there. I lost my home in the Palisades fire, and a lot of chemicals from ash and debris wound up in our underground aquifers. Even when the authorities told us that the water was safe to drink, I tested

Reverse Osmosis

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Influence-based Outreach

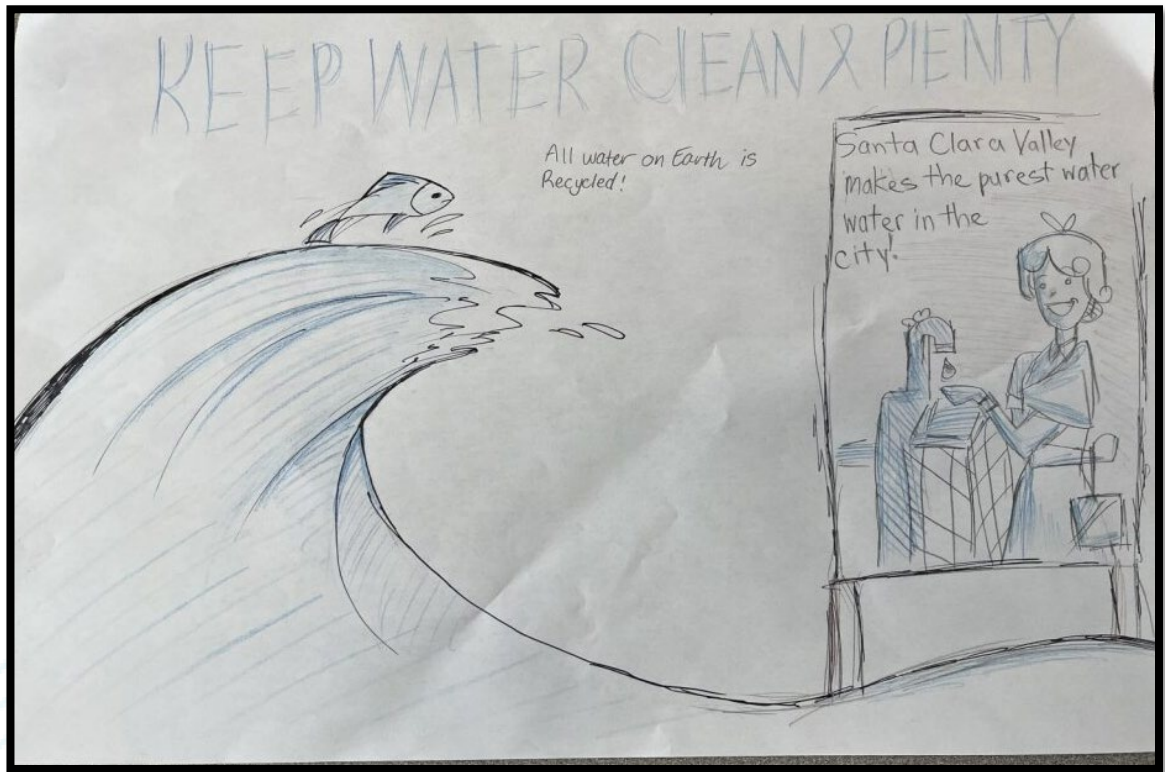
Retailers and Partners



Older Adult Outreach



Youth Advocates



Influence-based Outreach

VIP Tours and Elected Officials



VIP Water Walk Tour



State Assemblymember Alex Lee's Young Legislators Program



**City of San José
Councilmember Campos**



**City of San José
Councilmember Tordillos**



**City of San José
Councilmember Mulcahy**

Next Steps for 2026

General Purified Water Outreach Goals

- Public Perception Poll and Focus Groups
- Consider Recommendations from the NWRI Independent Advisory Panel
- VIP Tours and Engagement
- Expand Medical Community Partnerships
- Tailored Older Adult and Environmental Organization Outreach
- Expand Youth and Student Outreach
- Regional Outreach and Partnerships

Pure Water Silicon Valley Outreach Goals

- Develop Learning Center with newly formed Technical Advisory Group
- Pure Water Silicon Valley Communications and Outreach



Questions?

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-1076

Agenda Date: 12/16/2025

Item No.: 4.6.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Recycled Water Committee

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

SUBJECT:

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

RECOMMENDATION:

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

SUMMARY:

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

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

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

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

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: 2025 RWC Work Plan

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

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

*Blue Strikes - Items added on updated Work Plan.

*Red Strikes - Items deleted from updated Work Plan.

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