



SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

NON-AGENDA

January 09, 2026

Board Policy EL-7 Communication and Support to the Board

The BAOs shall inform and support the Board in its work.

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16	Letter from chair Estremera to Fahd R. Khan, MD, dated 12/03/25, thanking the Santa Clara County Medical Association and its Environmental Health Committee for their commitment to championing Valley Water's Pure Water Silicon Valley Project.

CEO BULLETIN

CEO BULLETIN



To: Board of Directors
From: Melanie Richardson, Interim CEO

Weeks of December 19, 2025 – January 8, 2026

Board Executive Limitation Policy EL-7:

The Board Appointed Officers shall inform and support the Board in its work. Further, a BAO shall 1) inform the Board of relevant trends, anticipated adverse media coverage, or material external and internal changes, particularly changes in the assumptions upon which any Board policy has previously been established and 2) report in a timely manner an actual or anticipated noncompliance with any policy of the Board.

Item	IN THIS ISSUE
<u>1</u>	Valley Water wins PR Daily 2025 Marketing Campaign Award for Water Conservation Campaign
<u>2</u>	Water Management Agreements Executed in April - December 2025

1. Valley Water wins PR Daily 2025 Marketing Campaign Award for Water Conservation Campaign

Valley Water's Office of Communications has been honored with the 2025 PR Daily Marketing Campaign Award for our 2024 Summer–Fall Water Conservation Campaign. The PR Daily Awards, hosted by Ragan Communications, are among the most respected honors in the communications industry. This national recognition, announced in New York City on December 2, 2025, celebrates excellence in public relations and marketing, spotlighting campaigns that deliver measurable impact and inspire meaningful change.

The PR Daily Award celebrated the innovative strategies Valley Water used to inspire water conservation across Santa Clara County. Our water conservation campaign was designed to reach residents where they are, online, in their communities, and in their homes, with inclusive, multilingual messaging that made participation easy and accessible. Importantly, all campaign creative was produced in-house, and our Office of Communications led the strategic marketing direction in collaboration with the Water Conservation Unit.

Valley Water's campaign encouraged Santa Clara County residents to replace water-intensive lawns with drought-tolerant landscapes and to schedule free outdoor water surveys. Recognizing that landscape irrigation accounts for more than half of residential water use, the multilingual effort focused on accessibility, clear calls to action, and culturally relevant stories of landscape transformations.

Key Strategies

Multilingual Digital Outreach: Ads and landing pages were launched in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Chinese, ensuring that our diverse community could connect with the message in culturally relevant ways. Landscape Rebate Program Stories: Multilingual resident-driven videos

highlighted real homeowners who transformed their yards, building trust and emotional connection while showcasing the benefits of drought-tolerant landscapes.

The campaign achieved measurable results, converting 270,303 square feet of lawn into California-friendly plants, generating 425 rebate applications, and significantly increasing survey requests and completions. Survey requests rose 142 percent compared to the prior year, and the cost per completed survey decreased by nearly 86 percent, marking a dramatic improvement in efficiency.

Through targeted messaging and storytelling, Valley Water reached the largest variety and number of community groups across Santa Clara County, building trust and inspiring lasting behavioral change. By combining digital innovation, storytelling, and community-centered engagement, Valley Water demonstrated how strategic communications can drive meaningful behavior change.

This award affirms Valley Water's leadership in data-driven, community-centered communications and highlights the power of multilingual outreach in achieving long-term water conservation.

For further information, please contact Rachael Gibson at (408) 630-2884.

2. Water Management Agreements Executed in April - December 2025

Pursuant to EL-5.5.5, the CEO is required to inform the Board on a timely basis when imported water management agreements are executed. This bulletin covers the imported water management agreements executed from April to December 2025:

- April 4, 2025 - Water Transfer Agreement (#A5401W) between Westside Mutual Water Company (via Westlands Water District) and Valley Water (VW). Provides for the transfer of up to 2,500 acre-feet (AF) of Central Valley Project (CVP) supplies from VW. Westside will compensate VW on a per-AF basis delivered to the point of delivery, using the final CVP south of Delta agricultural allocation to determine pricing.
- August 25, 2025- Activity Agreement establishing Valley Water's participation in the Yuba Water Purchase Agreement as an Activity Agreement Member under the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA). This Activity Agreement authorizes SLDMWA to negotiate, implement, and administer the "Agreement for the Supply and Conveyance of Water by DWR to SLDMWA under the Dry Year Water Purchase Program" (Yuba Dry Year Purchase Agreement).
- September 2, 2025- Agreement (#A5613W) between the United States and Valley Water providing for the storage and conveyance of non-project water. Allows Valley Water to continue receiving State Water Project (SWP) supplies and previously stored water withdrawn from Semitropic Water Storage District through the San Felipe Division facilities of the federal CVP through December 31, 2029.
- October 25, 2025- Water Transfer Agreement (#A5565W) among Blue Sky Farms (BSF), Westlands Water District, and Valley Water. BSF is a land owner in the Westlands Water District and purchased 4,000 AF of CVP supplies from Valley Water in 2025. Under the Agreement, BSF will pay Valley Water \$132.84 per AF delivered to the point of delivery.
- November 4, 2025- Letter Agreement updating the 2025 pricing for the 4,000 AF of optional water defined in Valley Water's existing 5-year Water Purchase and Transfer Agreement with Patterson Irrigation District (PID).
- November 24, 2025 - Temporary Additional Point of Delivery Agreement (#A5606W) for Valley

Water Project Supplies: allows for the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to deliver Valley Water's State Water Project (SWP) supplies and previously banked supplies from Semitropic Water Storage District to San Luis Reservoir for subsequent delivery through the San Felipe Division by the Bureau of Reclamation.

- December 2, 2025 - Water Transfer Agreement (#A5607W) between Valley Water and San Benito Water District: provides for the transfer of a portion of Valley Water's 2025 Central Valley Project supplies to San Benito Water District in 2025. This transfer occurred throughout December of 2025.

For further information, please contact Vincent Gin at (408) 630-2633.

BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS and Informational Items

Request	Request Date	Director	BAO/Chief	Staff	Description	20 Days Due Date	Expected Completion Date	Disposition
I-25-0009	12/18/25	Eisenberg	Gibson	Lugo	How much money (if any) Valley Water paid (donation or otherwise) to the following organizations (including affiliates, sub-groups and/or parent organizations) over the past 5 years: Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and Anti-Defamation League (ADL). Have we donated or provided funds to an Asian American/AAPR/Chinese-American/Vietnamese-American/Japanese-American/Korean-American/Taiwanese-American/Philippino-American/Singaporean-American/and etc. group like this as well?	01/07/26		

A monthly assessment of trends in water supply and use for Santa Clara County, California

Outlook as of January 1, 2026

On December 1, 2025, the California Department of Water Resources announced an initial State Water Project (SWP) allocation of 10% of contract amount for 2026. Locally, there was slightly below average rainfall in December as compared to the historical average. Total storage in local reservoirs, with the exception of Anderson Reservoir, is at about average levels for this time of year. Treated water deliveries were below average in December, and groundwater conditions remain healthy.

Weather

- Rainfall in San José:
 - » Month of December, City of San José = 2.20 inches
 - » Rainfall year total = 7.36 inches or 149% of average to date (rainfall year is July 1 to June 30)
- Northern Sierra snowpack was 49% of normal for this date

Local Reservoirs

- Total January 1 storage = 30,868 acre-feet

Reservoir Storage	All Ten Valley Water Reservoirs	All Reservoirs Except Anderson
Storage as % of unrestricted capacity	19%	36%
Storage as % of restricted capacity (1)	49%	46%
Storage as % of the 20-year average for January 1	49%	89%

(1) Per the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's order, the capacity of Anderson Reservoir was restricted to the deadpool storage as of October 1, 2020

- No imported water was delivered into Calero Reservoir during December 2025
- Total estimated releases to streams (local and imported water) during December were 5,500 acre-feet (based on preliminary hydrologic data)

Treated Water

- Below average demands of 3,200 acre-feet were delivered in December
- This total is 64% of the five-year average for the month of December
- Year-to-date deliveries are 78,224 acre-feet or 86% of the five-year average

Groundwater

- Groundwater conditions remain healthy throughout the county. Groundwater levels in most of the regional monitoring wells are higher than last month. While most of the water levels are lower relative to December 2024, all except one are the same as, or higher than, the prior five-year average for December. The end of 2025 groundwater storage is estimated to be in Stage 1 (Normal) of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan

	Santa Clara Subbasin		Llagas Subbasin
	Santa Clara Plain	Coyote Valley	
December 2025 managed recharge estimate	5,100	1,500	2,000
YTD managed recharge estimate	63,700	18,900	23,300
YTD managed recharge as % of five-year average	108%	126%	113%
November 2025 pumping estimate	6,400	1,100	3,400
YTD pumping estimate	67,000	13,300	40,400
YTD pumping as % of five-year average	103%	111%	104%
Current index well groundwater levels compared to December 2024	6 Feet Lower	1 Foot Higher	11 Feet Lower

All volumes are in acre-feet. All data is for 2025 except where noted. YTD = Year-to-date.

Imported Water

- In December (through December 31st), the SWP operated Banks pumping plant with an average daily export of 5,964 acre-feet, resulting in a total export of 184,869 acre-feet from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta for the month. This is the total amount pumped in December for the entire SWP to support the SWP allocation. Valley Water's SWP contract provides Santa Clara County 2.5% of the total SWP contract quantity available each year
- In December (through December 31st), the Central Valley Project (CVP) operated Jones pumping plant with an average daily export of 4,093 acre-feet, resulting in a total export of 126,875 acre-feet from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta for the month. This is the total amount pumped in December for the entire CVP to support the south-of-delta CVP allocation. Valley Water's CVP contract provides Santa Clara County 4.7% of the total CVP contract quantity available each year
- Delta flow and water quality requirements were controlling the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta export facilities this past month. Project facilities, including delta exports, were operated to maintain the Projects' respective flow requirements and water quality standards in the delta for the month of December

WY 2026 Imported Water Allocations	Allocation (%)	Allocation (acre-feet)	Details
SWP	10%	10,000	Initial Allocation Announced on 12/1/25
CVP	TBD	TBD	Allocation Announcement Expected in February
State-wide Reservoir Storage	Capacity	Current Storage (acre-feet)	Percent of Average for Date (as of 1/6/26)
Shasta Reservoir	80%	3,628,000	133%
Oroville Reservoir	75%	2,556,000	136%
San Luis Reservoir	70%	1,434,000	109%
Semitropic Groundwater Bank	Capacity	Current Storage (acre-feet)	Date of Data
	87%	304,084	1/6/26
Estimated SFPUC Deliveries	November 2025 (acre-feet)	2025 Total to Date (acre-feet)	Five-Year Annual Average (acre-feet)
	3,852	43,802	46,000

Conserved Water

- Saved 85,204 acre-feet in FY24 through Valley Water's long-term conservation program (baseline year is 1992)
- Long-term program goal is to save nearly 100,000 acre-feet by 2030, 110,000 acre-feet by 2040, and 126,000 acre-feet by 2050
- On June 13, 2023, the Board of Directors adopted a resolution to support water conservation as a way of life in Santa Clara County and an ordinance with a set of permanent water waste prohibitions

Recycled Water

- Estimated December 2025 production = 784 acre-feet
- Estimated year-to-date through December = 15,679 acre-feet or 93% of the five-year average
- Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center produced an estimated 1.6 billion gallons (4,950 acre-feet) of purified water in 2024. Since the beginning of 2025, about 4,387 acre-feet of purified water has been produced. The purified water is blended with existing tertiary recycled water for South Bay Water Recycling Program customers

CONTACT US

To find out the latest information on Valley Water projects or to submit questions or comments, email info@valleywater.org or use our **Access Valley Water** customer request system at <https://deliver.com/2yukx>.



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MEMORANDUM

FC 14 (01-25-23)

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Darin Taylor
Chief Financial Officer

SUBJECT: Response to IBMR 26-0001 from Director
Ballard requesting Monthly Water Bill
Comparison by Retailer

DATE: January 5, 2026

In November 2025, Director Ballard requested to see a summary of water rates for the main retail water providers in Santa Clara County when convenient for staff to do so.

She was provided the attached summary of monthly water bills for an average residential household across the various water retailers in Santa Clara County for the last three fiscal years (FY 2022-23, FY 2024-25 & FY 2024-25).

Rates are presented as a monthly bill for a 3–4-person single-family residence using 11 hundred cubic feet (HCF) of water per month with a 5/8 x 3/4-inch meter connection (excluding surcharges and credits).

For comparison, the estimated monthly cost for a private well-owner is also included by groundwater benefit zone; however, this does not account for costs associated with power, storage, or treatment.

Thank You,

Darin Taylor

Digitally signed by Darin
Taylor
Date: 2026.01.05 17:16:14
+08'00'

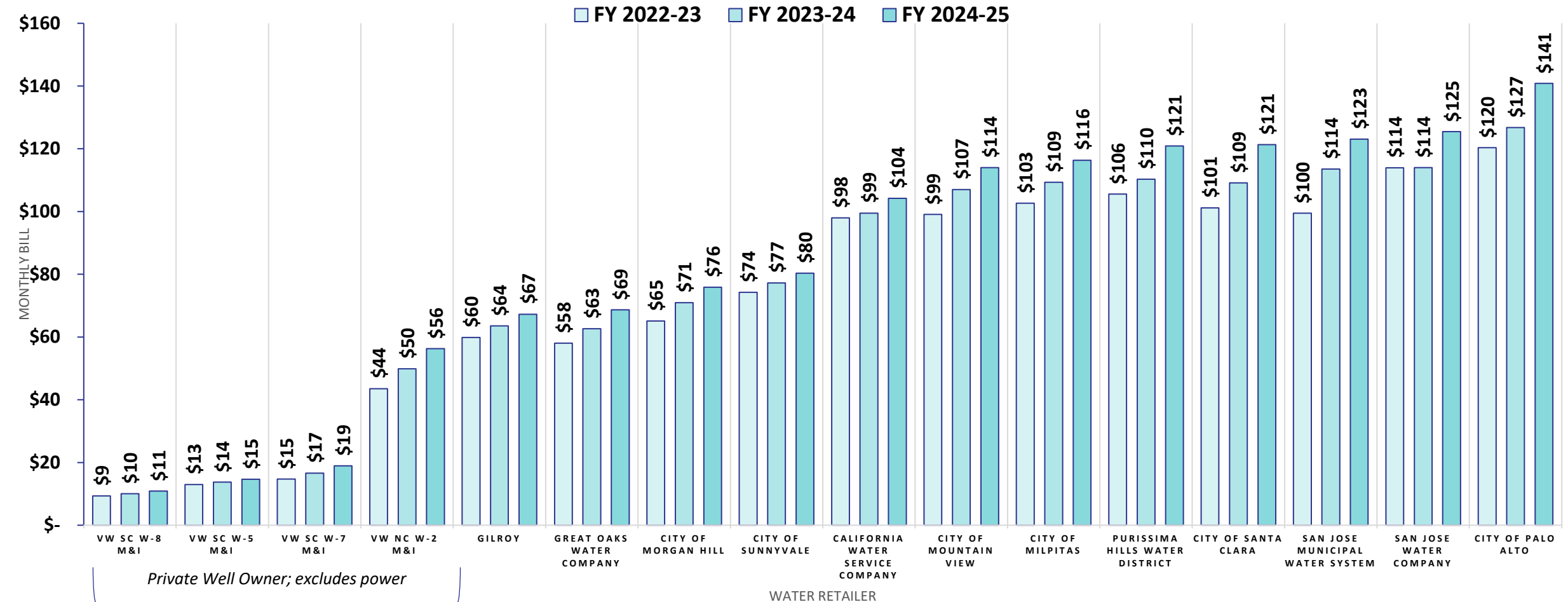
Darin Taylor
Chief Financial Officer

Attachment: Monthly Water Bill Comparison by Retailer

Monthly Water Bill Comparison by Retailer

WATER RETAILERS: MONTHLY COST TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER FY 2023 - FY 2025
11 HUNDRED CUBIC FEET USAGE | EXCLUDES SURCHARGES/CPUC CREDITS | ROUNDED \$\$

1



valleywater.org

INCOMING BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Board Correspondence (open)

Correspond No	Rec'd By District	Rec'd By COB	Letter To	Letter From	Description	Disposition	BAO/ Chief	Staff	Draft Response Due Date	Draft Response Submitted	Writer Ack. Sent	Final Response Due Date
C-25-0210	12/18/25	12/18/25	Beall	DAVID GUTHRIDGE	Letter from Light, Air & Space Construction to Director Jim Beall, received on 12/18/25, regarding Terraphase Engineering's award of the Environmental Sampling Services contract.	Refer to Staff	Yoke	Ndah	12/26/25	-	n/a	01/01/26
C-25-0215	12/29/25	12/30/25	Ballard	BRIAN FOX	Email from Brian Fox to Director Ballard, dated 12/29/25. regarding flooding issues from stormwater runoff. C-25-0215	Refer to Staff	Hakes	Codianne	01/07/26	-	n/a	01/13/26

From: [Joe Weiss](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: The need for appropriate Purdue Reference Model Level 0 cybersecurity training
Date: Monday, January 5, 2026 2:19:26 PM

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

These are the process sensors and actuators used throughout critical infrastructure and defense. This means that OT cybersecurity workforce development without addressing Level 0 is fatally flawed.

I expected by now there would be commercial and government organizations addressing the unique cybersecurity issues at Level 0. They are not. This disconnect highlights a fundamental problem: much of today's OT cybersecurity training assumes a security posture at Level 0 that simply does not exist. That is, just because Level 0 devices are not vulnerable to the threats network security are used to addressing does not mean Level 0 devices are not cyber vulnerable. The Calgary session, the SANS Level 0/1 conflation, and government inaccurate responses to Level 0 issues reinforce the same point: the industry is not teaching, distinguishing, or addressing Level 0 cybersecurity. This also means **there are no Level 0 cybersecurity procurement requirements**. Focusing on cyber mechanisms that only apply at higher Purdue levels leaves a critical blind spot in the protection of the physical process itself. What is needed is dedicated Level 0 cybersecurity training or the foundation of physical operations will remain vulnerable, regardless of how secure the upper layers of the system may appear. Adversarial nation-states are aware of the Level 0 gap and the reticence by cyber defenders to address it. **With the lack of Level 0 cybersecurity, authentication, and appropriate training, OT cybersecurity is built on a foundation of sand.**

<https://www.controlglobal.com/blogs/unfettered/blog/55337511/why-level-0-devices-require-dedicated-cybersecurity-measures>

Respectfully,
Joe

Joe Weiss PE, CISM, CRISC, ISA Life Fellow, IEEE Senior Member, Emeritus Managing Director ISA99,
Process Automation Hall of Fame
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Book: Protecting Industrial Control Systems from Electronic Threats

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OUTGOING BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

December 3, 2025

President, Fahd R. Khan, MD
Santa Clara County Medical Association
700 Empey Way
San Jose, CA 95128

Subject: Thank You Letter to The Santa Clara County Medical Association

Dear Dr. Khan:

On behalf of the Valley Water Board of Directors and the Recycled Water Committee, we would like to extend our appreciation to the Santa Clara County Medical Association (SCCMA) and its Environmental Health Committee for your commitment to championing Valley Water's water reuse efforts, particularly the Pure Water Silicon Valley Project.

Valley Water is responsible for providing safe, clean and reliable water to approximately two million residents in Santa Clara County. The Pure Water Silicon Valley Project, planned to deliver 24,000 acre-feet per year of drought-resilient, purified water by 2035, is key to our region's ability to respond to the increasing challenges of a changing climate. Since building public trust and understanding around purified water is essential to the success of this project, your endorsement of this program and your willingness to educate your member physicians are important elements of Valley Water's overall public engagement efforts.

We would also like to recognize the efforts of Environmental Health Committee Co-Chair Dr. Stephen Jackson. Since 2021, Dr. Jackson has been at the forefront of fostering trust in potable water reuse, beginning with his leadership in promoting your endorsement of the project. Dr. Jackson was also instrumental in producing the special "Water and Health" issue of *The Bulletin*, where he was joined by Dr. Ken Yew, Dr. Santosh Pandipati and Dr. Cindy Lee Russell in authoring articles on water reuse. Their commitment has earned recognition from the Environmental Protection Agency, the WaterReuse Association and water professionals across the country.

In commending SCCMA, we also reflect the appreciation of Valley Water staff Hossein Ashktorab, Medi Sinaki, Gina Adriano, Zachary Helsley, Francesca Lomotan and Lakeisha Bryant, who have been privileged to work with SCCMA members.

Thank you for your leadership, advocacy and commitment to this very important program. We look forward to continuing our strong partnership for the Pure Water Silicon Valley Project.

Sincerely,


Tony Estremera
Chair, Board of Directors

cc: Santosh Pandipati, MD, President-Elect
Cindy Lee Russell, MD, Co-Chair, Environmental Health Committee
Stephen Jackson, MD, Co-Chair, Environmental Health Committee

lb:cg
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INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Melanie Richardson, P.E.

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