



Santa Clara Valley Water District Recycled Water Committee

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

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

**Wednesday, May 27, 2026
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) 630-2277.

KIRSTEN STRUVE
Committee Liaison

Stephanie Simunic
Assistant Deputy Clerk II
Office/Clerk of the Board
(408) 630-2408
ssimunic@valleywater.org

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

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Recycled Water Committee
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*****IMPORTANT NOTICES AND PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS*****

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

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

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

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

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

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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 matters not listed on the agenda may do so by completing a Speaker Card and submitting it to the Clerk, or by using the "Raise Hand" feature within the Zoom meeting application to request recognition. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Board/Committee Chair in the order requests are received and, when recognized, will be granted speaking access to address the Board/Committee.

Public comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes per speaker, or such other time as determined by the Chair. State law does not permit the Board/Committee to take action on, or engage in extended discussion of, any item not appearing on the posted agenda, except as otherwise authorized under applicable law. If Board/Committee action is requested, the matter may be scheduled for consideration at a future meeting.

All public comments requiring a response will be referred to staff for a written reply. The Board/Committee may take action on any item of business appearing on the posted agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 3.1. Approval of March 25, 2026 Recycled Water Committee Minutes. [26-0485](#)

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

Manager: Wendy Ho, 408-630-3874

Attachments: [Attachment 1: 03252026 RWC Minutes](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

- 4.1. Receive an Update on the Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study. [26-0470](#)

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

Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)
[Attachment 2: PowerPoint: Alternative Site Evaluation](#)

Est. Staff Time: 20 Minutes

- 4.2. Receive Pure Water Silicon Valley Update, Including Demonstration Facility and Full-Scale Direct Potable Reuse Facility at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center; and Ongoing Outreach. [26-0471](#)

Recommendation: Receive an update on Pure Water Silicon Valley, including the following topics:

- A. Demonstration Facility and Full-Scale Direct Potable Reuse Facility at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center; and
- B. Ongoing Outreach.

Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

Est. Staff Time: 10 Minutes

- 4.3. Receive an Update on the Site Works Agreement with the City of San Jose, Valley Water and Microsoft Corporation. [26-0472](#)

Recommendation: Receive an update on the Site Works Agreement with the City of San Jose, Valley Water, and Microsoft Corporation.

Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

Attachments: [Attachment 1: Draft Site Works Description](#)
[Attachment 2: PowerPoint](#)

Est. Staff Time: 10 Minutes

- 4.4. Review and Discuss the 2026 Recycled Water Committee (RWC) Work Plan and Make Adjustments as Necessary, and Confirm the Committees Next Meeting Date.

[26-0487](#)

Recommendation: Review and discuss the 2026 Recycled Water Committee (RWC) Work Plan and make adjustments as necessary, confirm the Committees next meeting date.

Manager: Wendy Ho, 408-630-3874

Attachments: [Attachment 1: 2026 RWC Work Plan](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS.

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

6. ADJOURN:

- 6.1. Adjourn. The Next Regular Meeting is Scheduled at 12:00 p.m., on Wednesday, June 24, 2026.



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 26-0485

Agenda Date: 5/27/2026
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 March 25, 2026 Recycled Water Committee Minutes.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes.

SUMMARY:

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

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

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

Approval of minutes is not subject to environmental justice analysis.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: 03252026 RWC Minutes

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Wendy Ho, 408-630-3874

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RECYCLED WATER COMMITTEE MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2026
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 12:03 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: Gina Adriano, Emmanuel Aryee, Aaron Baker, Henry Barrientos, Rachael Gibson, Vincent Gin, Jason Gurdak, Wendy Ho, Nicole Merritt, Carlos Orellana, Mark Poole, Mike Potter, Mario Rivas, Ray Ruiz, Blanca Sanchez-Cruz, Stephanie Simunic, Kirsten Struve, Darin Taylor, David Tucker, Beckie Zisser.

Public in attendance: Rene Guillen (Brown and Caldwell).

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

Chairperson Estremera declared time open for public comment on any item not on the agenda. There was no one present or online who wished to speak.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

3.1. Approval of February 25, 2026 Recycled Water Committee Minutes.

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

The Committee considered the attached minutes of the February 25, 2026 Committee meeting.

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

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

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

4.1. Receive Pure Water Silicon Valley Update, Including Demonstration Facility and Full-Scale Direct Potable Reuse Facility at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center; and Ongoing Outreach.

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

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

Kirsten Struve was available to answer questions.

Public Comments: None.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and noted the Option Agreement approved by the Valley Water Board and the City Councils was executed.

4.2. Receive Update on South Santa Clara County Water Reuse Collaboration and Projects and Plans.

Recommendation: Receive an update and provide feedback on South Santa Clara County water reuse collaboration and projects and plans.

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

Kirsten Struve, David Tucker, and Rene Guillen were available to answer questions.

Public Comments: None.

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

- Efforts continue relating to the construction of the Segment 1C pipeline, with the remaining work of putting in vaults, with an estimated completion by May or June 2026.
- Efforts continue with the City of Gilroy and the South County Regional Wastewater Authority (SCRWA) relating to providing non-potable recycled water to the future Amazon Data Center project.

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

- The project will be using about 300-acre feet per year of water when Phase 1 and 2 are completed.
- Gilroy is requiring their large commercial, industrial and institutional customers hook up to the Recycled Water System.
- Valley Water is not the provider of Recycled Water in south county nor would it receive water reuse applications, however, Valley Water is the wholesaler.
- A Recycled Water System is generally more straightforward; Direct Potable Reuse projects are more complex in scope and working with regulatory bodies.
- Valley Water continues to review grant opportunities for these projects.
- Discussion can occur with the Water Resources Group about funding.

The Committee requested that staff provide a report relating to data center policies of cities.

4.3. Review and provide feedback on the Draft Agenda for April 16, 2026 Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee with the Cities of San Jose and Santa Clara.

Recommendation: Review and provide feedback on the draft agenda for April 16, 2026 Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee.

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

Kirsten Struve was available to answer questions.

Public Comments: None.

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

- The Committee suggested a member request is made to legislative bodies relating to project funding.
- The Committee suggested that Aaron Baker talk to staff in Hollister relating to exploring a potential partnership around water recycling and financial partnerships.

4.4. Review and Discuss the 2026 Recycled Water Committee (RWC) Work Plan and Make Adjustments as Necessary, and Confirm the Committees Next Meeting Date.

Recommendation: Review and discuss the 2026 RWC Work Plan and make adjustments as necessary, and confirm the Committees next meeting date.

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

Kirsten Struve was available to answer questions.

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

Public Comment: None.

Kirsten Struve stated that items for the May RWC meeting include a debrief from the Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee, an update on the Purified Water Program, a possible update on the South County Water Reuse collaboration and desalination feasibility study, but these items may shift and staff will keep the Committee updated.

Director Beall requested an update on state and federal grants which is listed as an item on the workplan but does not have an assigned date.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

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 for Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at 12:00 p.m.

Chairperson Estremera adjourned the meeting at 12:46 p.m.

Stephanie Simunic
Assistant Deputy Clerk (Committee Meetings)

Date Approved:



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 26-0470

Agenda Date: 5/27/2026

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 an Update on the Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update on the Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study.

SUMMARY:

This memorandum provides an update on the Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study (DEFS). Since the last update to the Recycled Water Committee (RWC) on December 16, 2025, Valley Water is completing the draft final DEFS and will present the findings to date.

BACKGROUND

In 2023, Valley Water (VW) completed a Desalination Environmental Feasibility and Planning Study (DEFPS), which identified intake options, facility locations, and brine management strategies. These elements formed the foundation for the DEFS currently underway by Black and Veatch. Building on the conclusions of the DEFPS, the current work is focused on evaluating additional siting locations, intake options, brine management and conveyance options. In December 2025, the Fatal Flaw Analysis was completed, and more recently the Alternatives Analysis was completed, including a rough cost estimate for various alternatives. The following sections present the findings from these latest efforts, and provide an update on outreach efforts with regulators, stakeholders and other interested parties.

STUDY APPROACH

The DEFS evaluated the feasibility of a treatment facility with a production capacity of 10 to 40 million gallons per day (MGD) with the feed source from the Lower South San Francisco Bay (LSB). The four major components evaluated include a bay-water intake, facility siting, brine management and conveyance for distribution.

Intake locations including both subsurface and open intake options were evaluated as well as four intake types and five screen options for the protection of aquatic life while meeting hydraulic needs. Twelve sites were evaluated for multiple constraints such as constructability, environmental sensitivity, flood resilience and future facility expansion potential. Brine management options include commingling with treated effluent from a wastewater treatment facility, deep bay discharge, nature-based solution, beneficial use of salt production and discharge to the East Bay Discharges Authority (EBDA). Finally, conveyance was evaluated as conceptual level connections to local distribution systems and VW's existing infrastructure.

Following a progressive screening approach, the first screen applied fatal flaw criteria to remove concepts that were determined to be infeasible based on regulatory, environmental or technical constraints. Concepts that passed this screening step were then evaluated using a multivariable scoring framework that compared the intake, facility siting and brine management. In addition, feedback from environmental organizations obtained through several outreach efforts over the past 20 months was also considered.

FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

Intake Options

A hydrogeologic evaluation of the area determined that subsurface intake options were infeasible due to the lack of a direct lateral connection between the LSB and shallow aquifer system which leads to low well yields and would require a large number of intake wells. For ocean desalination intakes, the California Ocean Plan (COP) requires subsurface intakes as the primary inlet type. However, this does not apply to an enclosed bay including the LSB, as was communicated to VW by the California State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) in September 2025. Screened surface intakes were determined to be the only viable option to carry forward in this study. Further analysis included estimating intake volumes and pipe size as well as tunneling requirements, constructability, hydraulics, marine growth control mechanisms and other environmental considerations. Specifically, intake locations are required to be continuously submerged at water depths that allow steady water flow at all times and are not affected by tidal effects. The geologic setting, parcel ownership, designated land uses, environmental constraints, water quality and navigation impacts were also considered resulting in four possible intake locations at Guadalupe Slough, Coyote Creek, Deep Bay and Interconnecting Channel (South of Pond A4).

Facility Siting

Twelve sites for a desalination facility were evaluated across Palo Alto, Mountain View, Sunnyvale and San José. Approximately four to twelve acres of land would be required for a 10 to 40 MGD facility, respectively. After detailed evaluations of the twelve sites, it was determined that three would move forward for further analysis and could be located in Palo Alto (Site 11), Sunnyvale (Sites 6 and 7) and San José (Site 12). Other sites were not selected due to various reasons including geotechnical complications, land acquisition complexity, sensitive habitat, and flooding potential. For the three selected sites, facility layout, treatment technology process and additional environmental considerations were evaluated. The facility treatment technology assumed for this study was a two-pass reverse osmosis (RO) process with an average recovery rate of 42%. In essence, a 24 MGD

production facility would require approximately 57 MGD of bay-water at the inlet. The modular nature of a RO system would allow for the system to operate at different flow rates depending on demand and drought conditions.

Brine Management

Based on existing guidance and regulations for discharges to the LSB, several brine management options were evaluated. The analysis assessed the environmental, technical, and regulatory considerations for the viability of the three brine management options: shallow water discharge commingled with treated wastewater, deep bay discharge and nature-based solutions. For the first option, brine would be blended with available fully treated wastewater effluent from an existing wastewater treatment plant and discharged to a shallow water outfall in the LSB. The Basin Plan requires discharges to achieve a minimum of 10 to 1 initial dilution or provide an equivalent level of environmental protection. Variances in dilution credits are allowed provided hydrodynamic modeling demonstrates mixing zones can achieve the required dilution for salinity or other constituents. Deepwater bay discharges could be achieved by building a pipeline with multi-port diffusers to the northern LSB meeting the 10 to 1 dilution requirement, complying with water quality standards and protection of aquatic ecosystems.

A nature-based solution such as a horizontal levee could also be an alternative for brine management, but is an emerging technology primarily used to remove nutrients. Horizontal levees, characterized by a long slope, require extensive land to build and operate making them a less favored option. The use of salt obtained from brine processing was also evaluated for use at the Cargill Newark salt production facility. Limitations to this option are the constant rate of brine produced from a desalination facility compared to the much slower salt production from evaporation ponds. Discharge to EBDA was another option evaluated. However, this option would require a long pipeline and does not have sufficient capacity. As a result, these approaches were also discarded as viable options.

Conveyance and Distribution

Conveyance from a new desalination facility to an existing water distribution system in the South Santa Clara County was evaluated and included options for pipeline alignments, redundant connection points, storage needs and surge protection. Blending strategies were also considered to ensure existing infrastructure is protected. This comprehensive evaluation also identified some challenges such as seasonal demand fluctuations.

Five key factors evaluated are pipeline ownership and size, storage and hydraulic considerations, length and alignment of pipelines, water recipient and agency partnerships, and water quality compatibility. Several potential connections near the shortlisted sites in Palo Alto, Sunnyvale and San José were developed as well as benefits and challenges. While this evaluation provided enough information to develop cost estimates, there is additional work that needs to be completed to better address some of the unknowns like hydraulics, operations, capacity and storage.

DEVELOPMENT AND SELECTION OF ALTERNATIVES

Following the completion of the fatal flaw and alternatives analysis, VW proceeded to rank components and compare alternatives to identify combinations offering the greatest feasibility across environmental, permitting, supply reliability, engineering and financial considerations. The highest ranked components were then evaluated as conceptual configurations and cost estimates were also developed for each component and combinations.

Top Ranked Components and Cost

To determine the overall ranking of each component, two multi-criteria decision-making methods were used to evaluate and compare results. Of the shortlisted intake sites, the Interconnecting Channel ranked the highest followed by Guadalupe Slough. The treatment facility site ranking identified Site 12 (San José) as the top option. Finally, the highest ranked brine management option was commingling with treated wastewater followed by a Deep Bay Discharge. Unlike the intake and facility site rankings which were not affected by excluding financial criteria, the brine management options did swap places resulting in the Deep Bay Discharge ranking highest after the financial criteria was removed.

Cost estimates for construction or capital expenditures (CAPEX) and operating expenditures (OPEX) for the alternatives were developed as Class 5 (AACE, accuracy range -50%/+100%) baseline estimates. These estimates are planning level and reflect conceptual design including pipeline conveyance for distribution. While no specific desalination goal has been established, a range of 10 to 40 MGD was evaluated as bookends should there be a need to evaluate a facility in this range at a later date. A total of 18 combinations were developed of the different intake, facility siting and brine management components to assess how design choices affect the overall cost. In addition, a facility similar in size to the Pure Water Silicon Valley (PWSV) direct potable reuse (DPR) project of 24 MGD was also evaluated for CAPEX/OPEX and unit costs.

The resulting total CAPEX for the 18 different combinations ranges between \$800 million (M) and \$3.7 billion (B) in 2025 dollars. Unit costs are influenced by facility size, and this economy of scale results in a gradual increase in OPEX from a 10 to 40 MGD facility, ranging between \$30M and \$100M annually.

In addition, staff also compared cost estimates to PWSV, since both desalination and potable reuse are identified in the 2050 Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP) as possible water supply alternatives that could help meet a future water supply shortfall. The cost estimate for a 24 MGD desalination facility, assuming the top ranked components, resulted in an average CAPEX of \$1.7B, equal to a DPR facility of the same size. Due to the longer conveyance distances, the desalination costs for the intake and brine management are higher compared to a DPR facility. The DPR facility has higher treatment facility costs due to more complex and multi-barrier advanced treatment processes. On a unit cost basis, both the desalination and DPR facility have a CAPEX unit cost of \$2,100 per acre-foot (AF). The OPEX unit costs for a desalination and DPR facility are \$2,525/AF and \$2,133/AF, respectively. The primary difference for a higher OPEX unit cost is the energy consumption needed for both the intake and RO pumps at a desalination facility.

In summary, costs between a desalination facility and PWSV are similar, with OPEX costs for a desalination facility estimated to be slightly more than PWSV. As described in the WSMP, pursuing

DPR is the preferred option with desalination as a backup project.

OUTREACH

VW reached out to interested parties over the past 20 months and received positive feedback from various agencies and environmental partners. These included meeting with regulators at the Water Board, San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWB), Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (Mid-Pen), Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge (CCCR), Sierra Club, and the Environmental and Water Resources Committee.

REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS

While a future desalination project is technically feasible, the permitting pathway is complex and will require additional studies and extensive coordination with agencies such as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Water Board, RWB, BCDC and Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge). At this time, feedback has only been obtained from the Water Board, RWB, and BCDC. The permitting and environmental review process (California Environmental Quality Act and National Environmental Policy Act) is likely to take a minimum of six years. This is a planning level schedule and could be extended depending on factors such as additional studies which may be needed to further support facility siting, design development, technology selection, mitigation measures and the level of public and stakeholder engagement during the environmental review process.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will continue engagement with regulatory agencies and environmental partners as the DEFS is completed this summer. A final update on the DEFS will be presented to the Board of Directors (Board) upon completion in late summer of 2026.

As a result of the extensive work completed to date, there are certain areas which have been identified as needing further development. These areas include hydrodynamic modeling for the two brine management options (commingling with treated wastewater or deep bay outfall) and further investigation of the intake location near the Interconnecting Channel and adjacent Pond A4 to determine if impacts from the pond could affect water quality in the channel. To complete this additional scope of work, staff will develop an amendment to the Agreement upon the final study presentation to the Board.

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 and is not associated with an equity opportunity.

File No.: 26-0470

Agenda Date: 5/27/2026
Item No.: 4.1.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

Attachment 2: PowerPoint: Alternative Site Evaluation

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

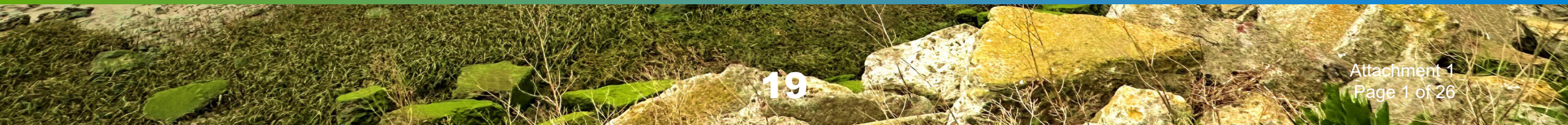


Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study-Update

Santa Clara Valley Water District

Recycled Water Committee

May 27, 2026



Agenda

- Study Overview and Approach
- Selection of Alternatives
- Production, Brine Discharge and Conveyance
- Project Alternatives Costs - CAPEX/OPEX
- Desal and DPR Costs
- Next Steps

Study Overview & Approach

Fatal Flaw Analysis (FFA)

4

Fatal Flaw

- May face permitting challenges when evaluated against relevant regulatory framework, such as the California Ocean Plan, Bay Plan, or SF Basin Plan.
- Alternative is unlikely to meet capacity needs.

Feasible as defined by CEQA and the CA Ocean Plan

- Feasible shall mean capable of being accomplished within a reasonable time, considering economic, environmental, social, and technological factors.

Fatal Flaw Analysis Components

- **Intakes**

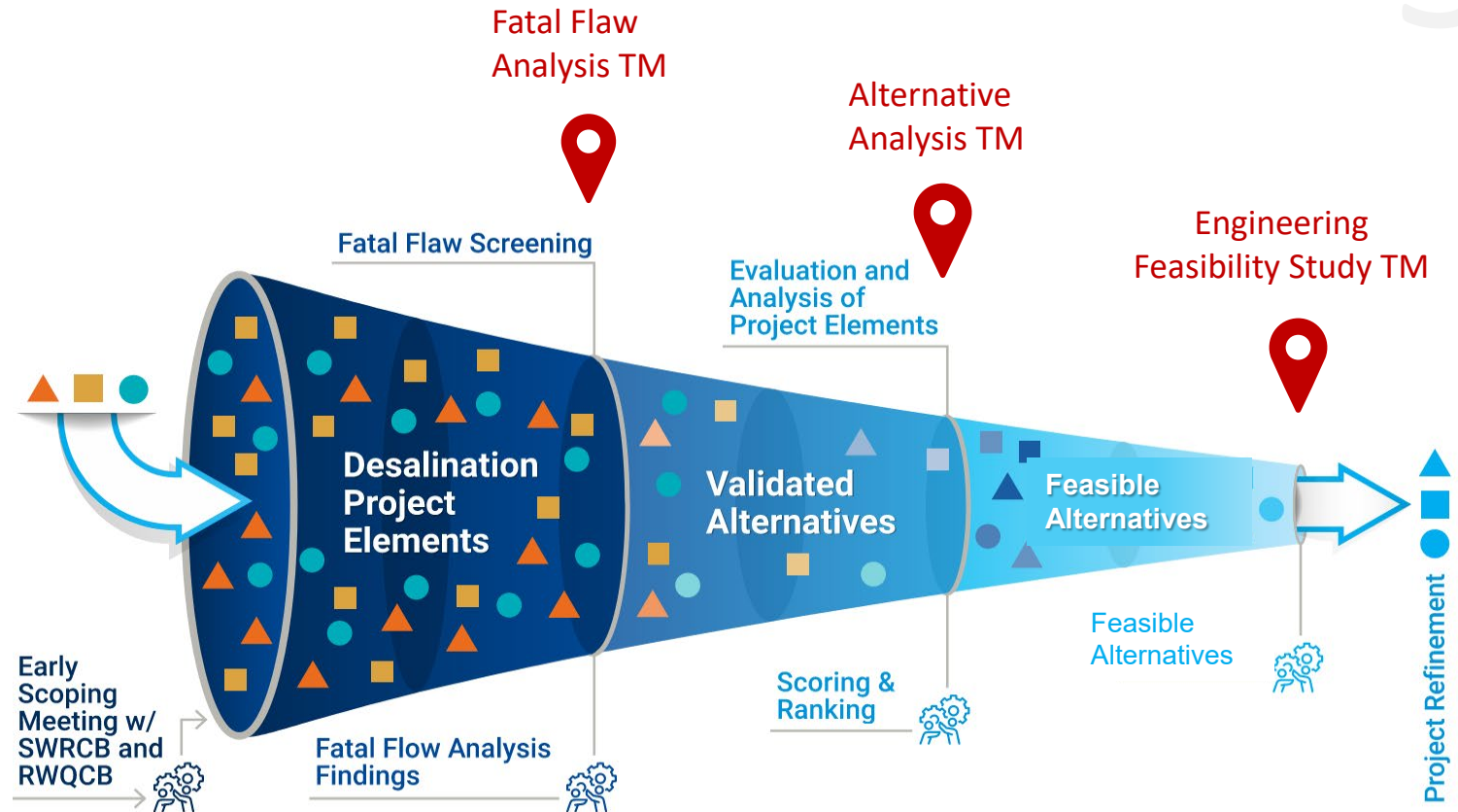
- Subsurface
- Open intake
 - Type, location, and screen options

- **Facility Siting**

- Several sites analyzed

- **Brine Management**

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



Regulatory Framework

6



California Water Code section 13142.5(b)

Excerpt: “... coastal industrial installations using seawater, the best available site, design, technology and mitigation measures feasible shall be used to minimize the intake and mortality of all forms of marine life.”

California Ocean Plan

CA Ocean Plan provides regulatory guidance for the application of CWC section 13142.5(b) to seawater desalination plants utilizing “ocean water”.

The San Francisco Bay is not subject to the CA Ocean Plan’s seawater desalination regulations; however, **the fatal flaw’s feasibility analysis utilizes the CA Ocean Plan as guidance** because it represents the most conservative regulatory scenario.

Selection of Alternatives

FFA-Open Intake Location

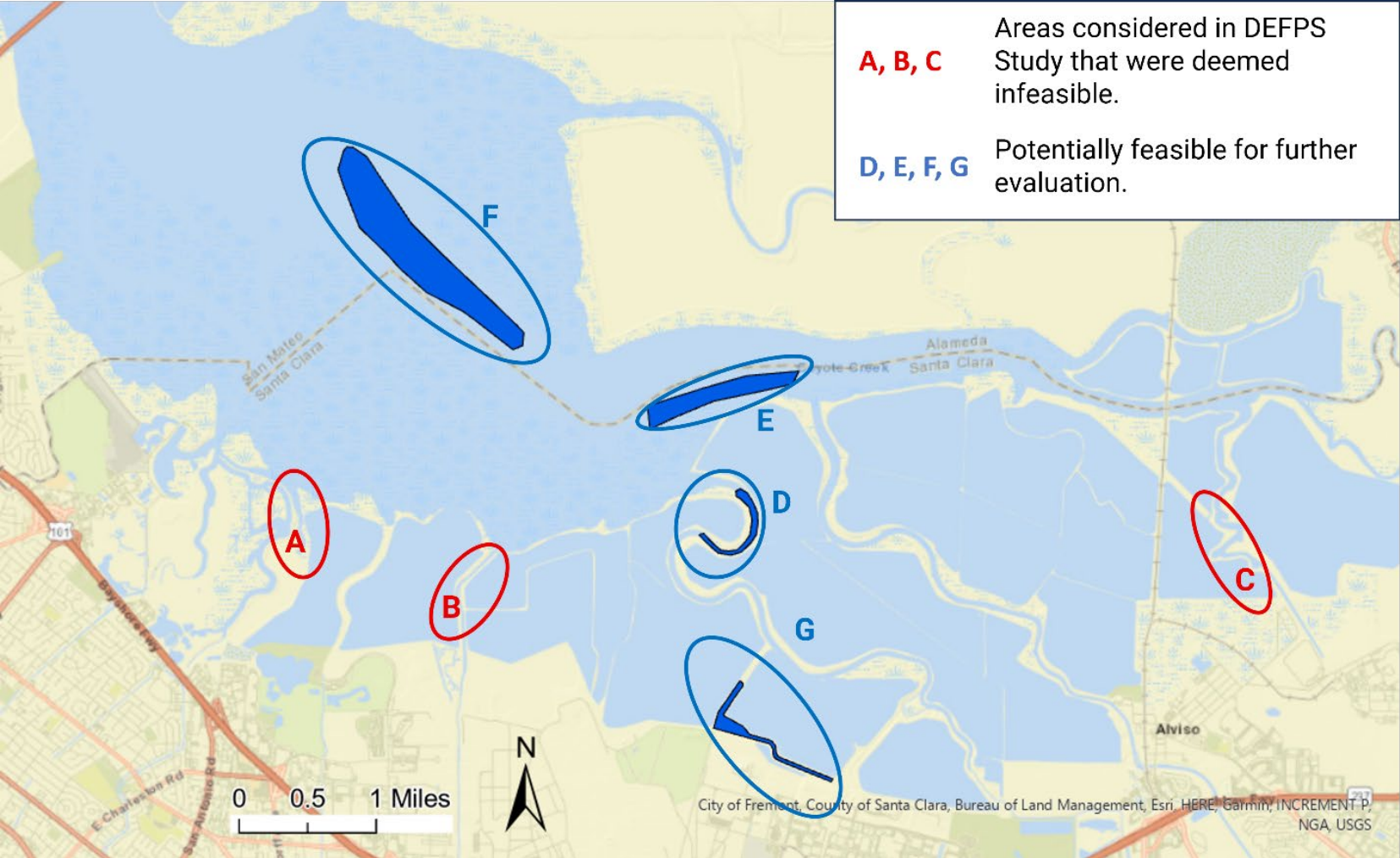
Open Intake Locations

Key Considerations:

- Sufficient depth
- Available Water
- Proximity to Treatment Sites
- Proximity to Inland locations for freshwater dilution

Passing Fatal Flaw Analysis

- ✓ **D** = Guadalupe Slough
- ✓ **E** = Coyote Creek
- ✓ **F** = Deep Bay
- ✓ **G** = Interconnecting Channel



FFA-Intake Screens

Conical Screens



Retrievable Cylindrical Screens



Vertical or Inclined Bank Screens



All screens can be outfitted with active brushing systems, removable modules and foul release coatings to increase lifespan and reduce O&M

Site Alternatives

10



Site No. 11, Palo Alto



Site No. 6 and 7, Sunnyvale



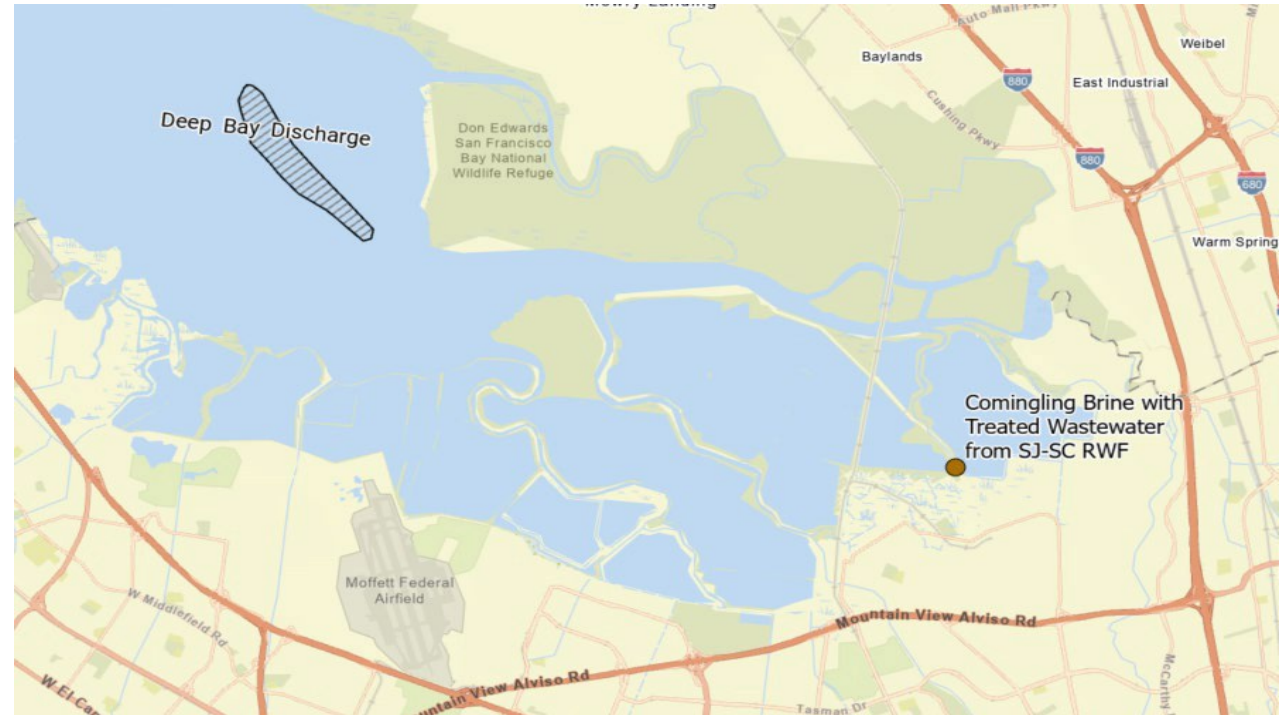
Site No. 12. San Jose

Brine Management

11

Options Evaluated

- Comingling with Treated Wastewater Effluent from Existing WWTP
- New Deep Bay Outfall with Brine Diffuser



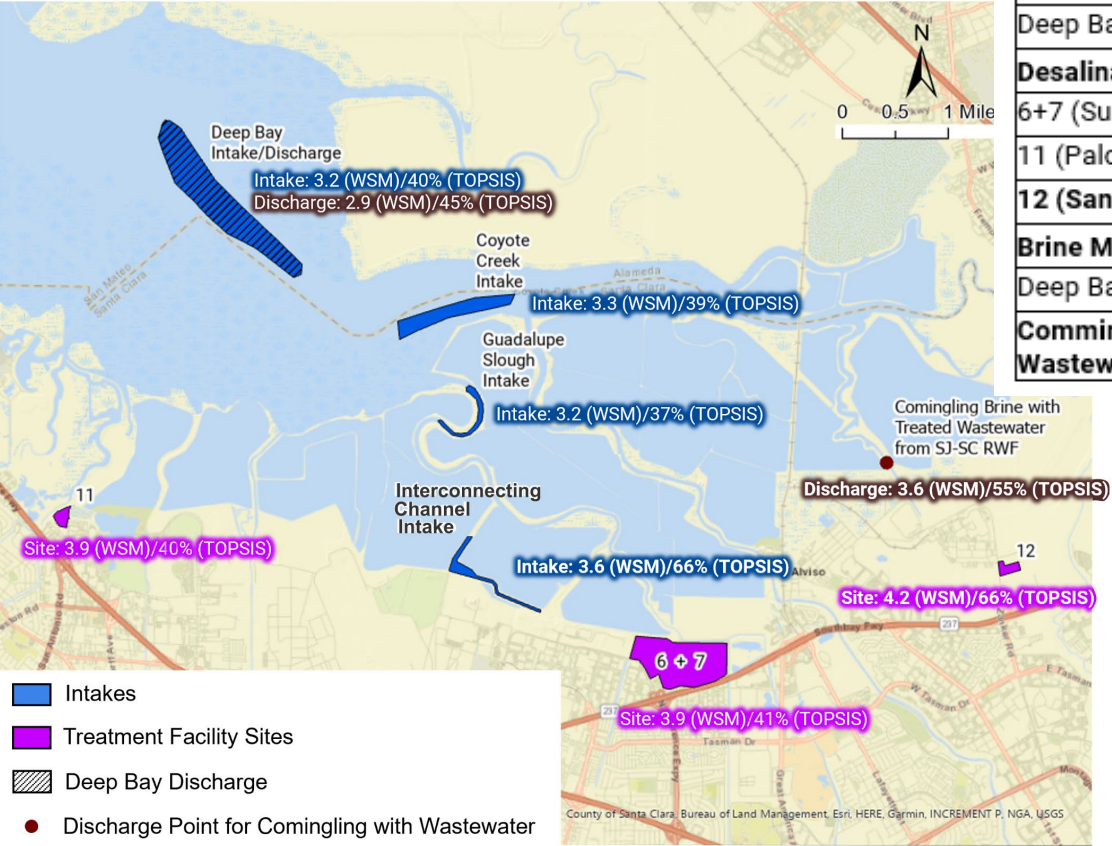
Feasible Alternatives



Ranking Alternatives

Table ES-1 Shortlisted Options with Scoring and Ranking Results

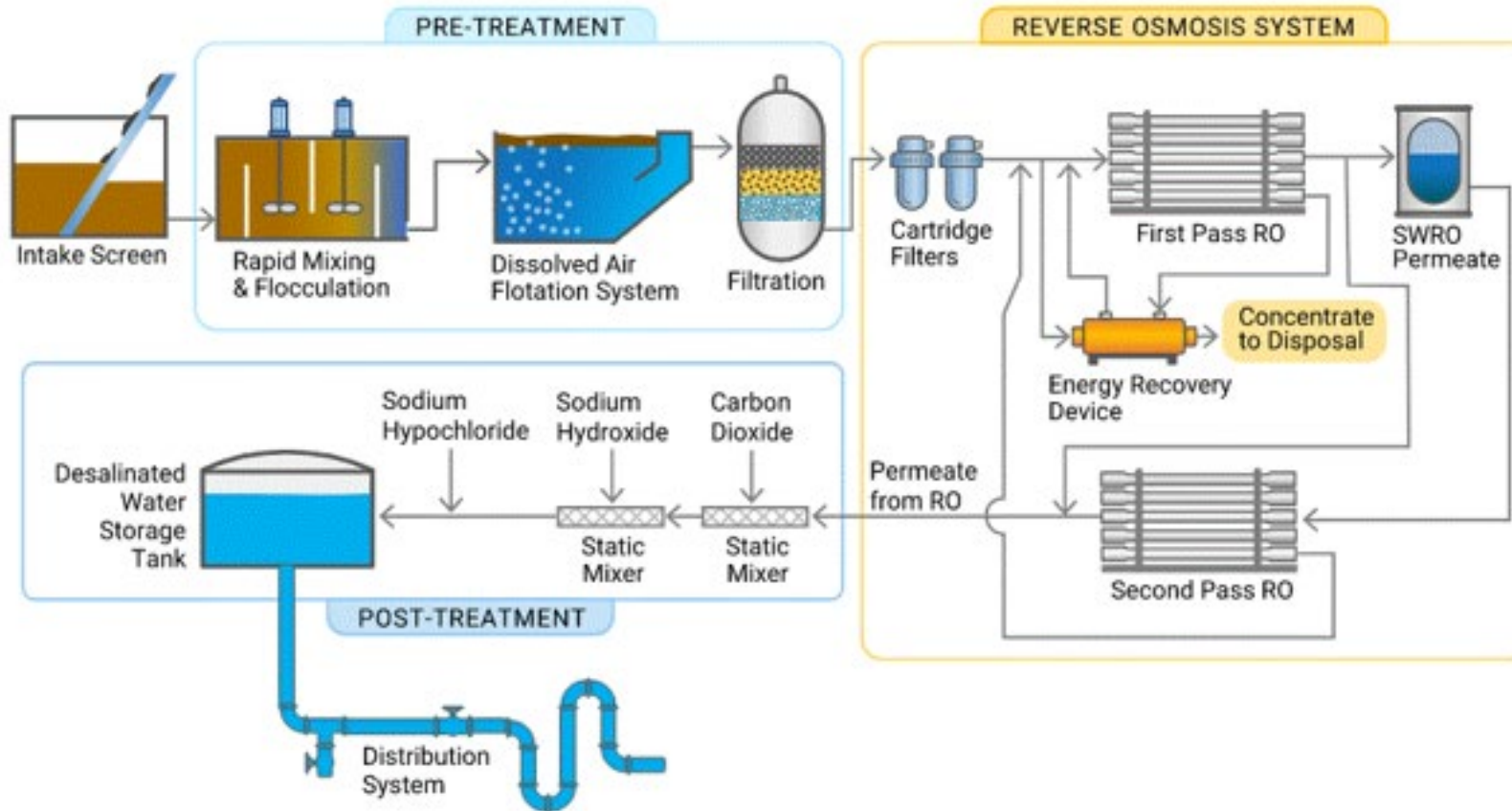
Options	Weighted Sum Method		TOPSIS	
	Aggregated Score	Option Ranking	Aggregated Score	Option Ranking
Intake				
Interconnecting Channel	3.6	1	66%	1
Guadalupe Slough	3.2	4	37%	4
Coyote Creek	3.3	2	39%	3
Deep Bay	3.2	4	40%	2
Desalination Facility Site				
6+7 (Sunnyvale)	3.9	2	41%	2
11 (Palo Alto)	3.9	2	40%	3
12 (San Jose)	4.2	1	66%	1
Brine Management				
Deep Bay Discharge	2.9	2	45%	2
Commingle with Wastewater	3.6	1	55%	1



Production, Brine Discharge and Conveyance

Typical Desalination Treatment Process

15



Product Water and Brine Produced

Table A. Product Water, Pipeline Diameter and Brine Produced

Source Water (MGD)	Product Water (MGD) @ 42% Recovery	Product Water Pipeline Diameter (inches)	Brine Discharge (MGD)
24	10	30	14
47	20	42	28
95	40	60	55

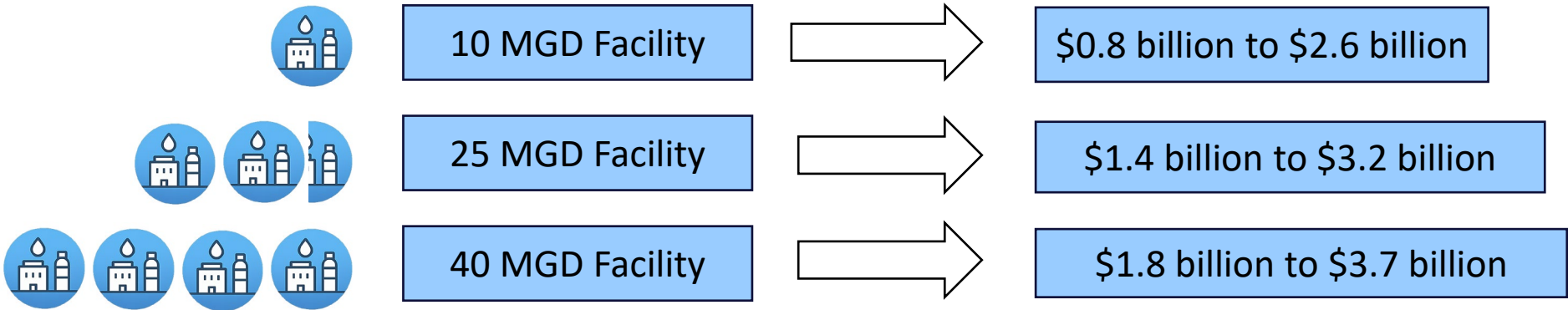


Project Alternatives Cost

Range of Capital Expenditures (CAPEX)

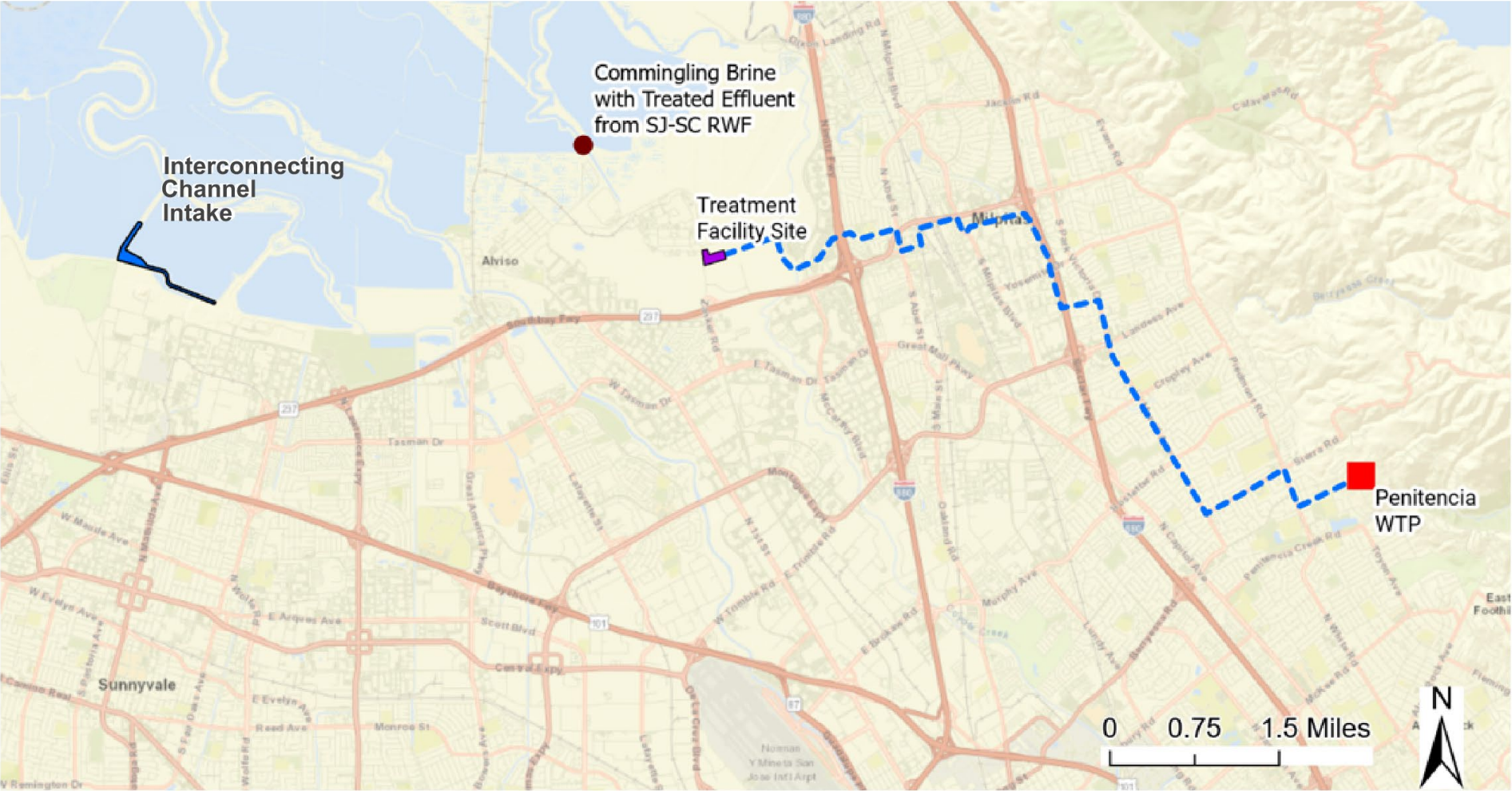
18 Distinct
Combinations with
2 Conveyance Options

Production Capacity
10, 25 and 40 MGD



Desal & DPR Costs

Top Alternative-24 MGD



Unit Cost & CAPEX- 24 MGD

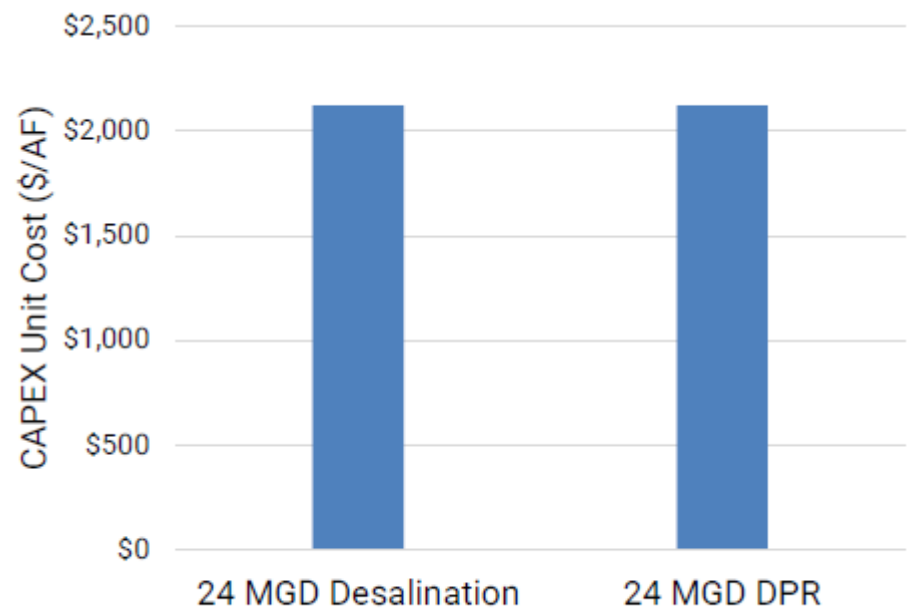


Figure 4 Comparison of CAPEX Unit Cost for Desalination and DPR

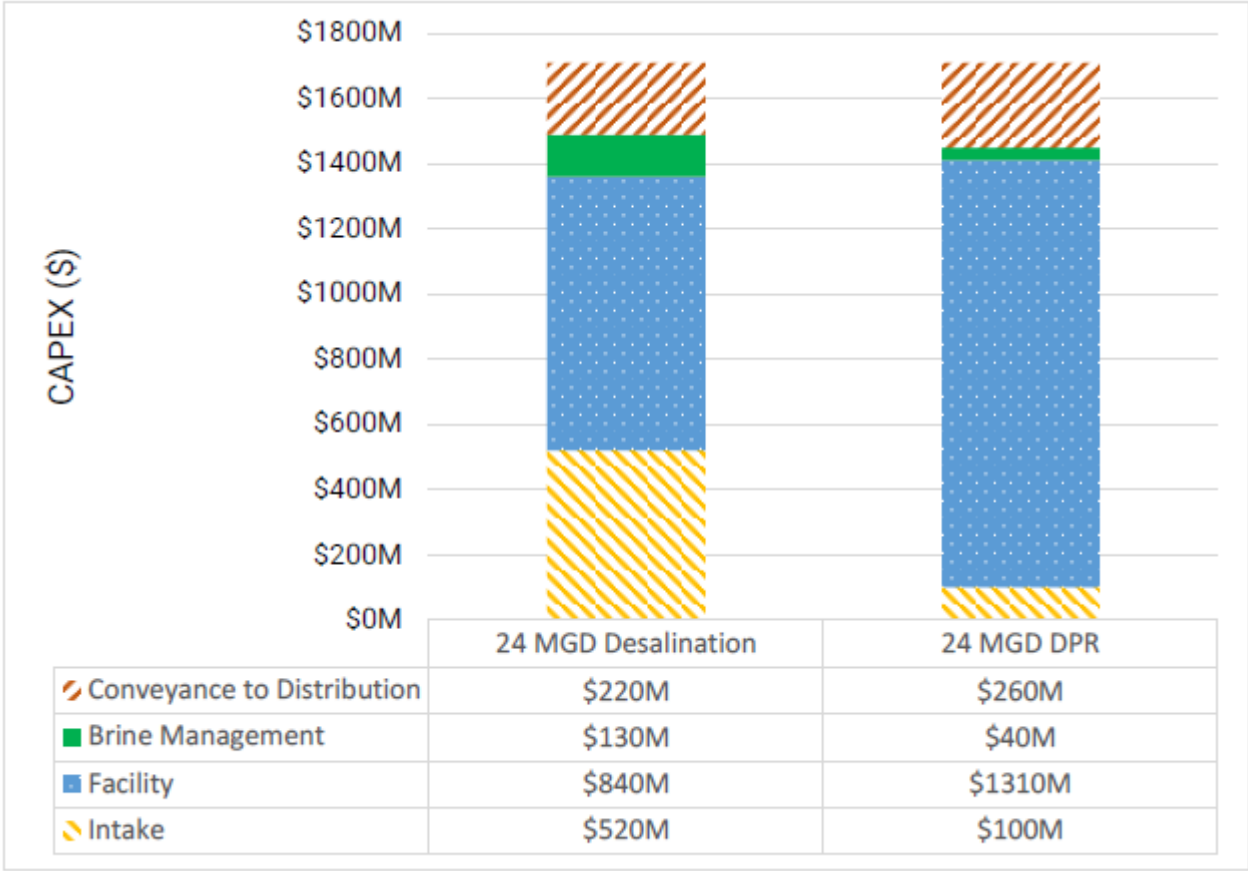
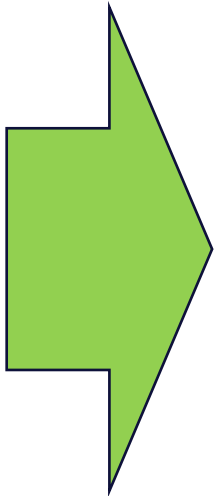


Figure 5 CAPEX by Component for Desalination and DPR

OPEX by Element- 24 MGD

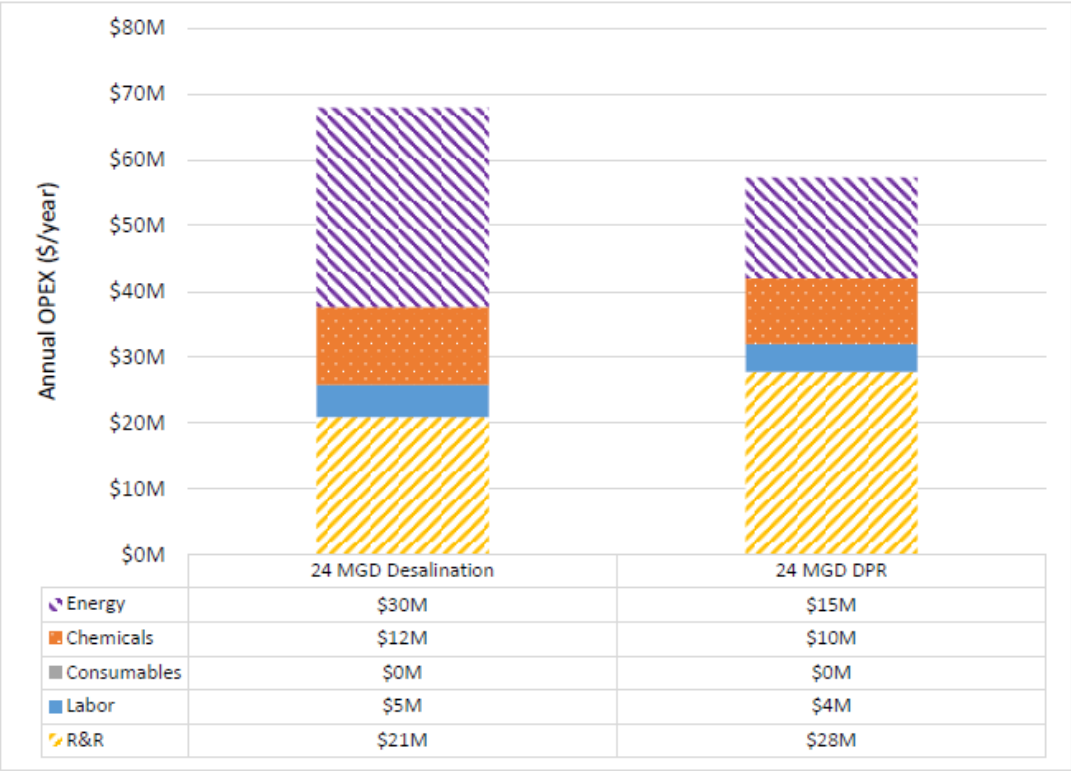


Figure 6 Annual OPEX by Element for Desalination and DPR (Note: consumables are considered negligible in the planning-level estimates for both programs)

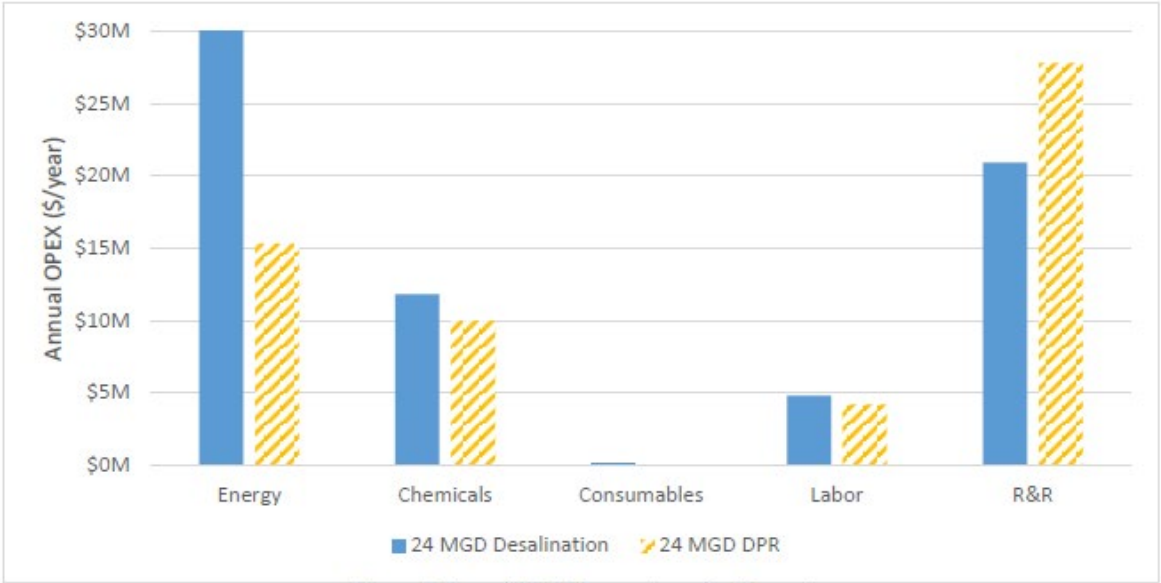
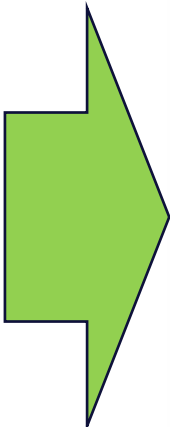


Figure 7 Annual OPEX Comparison by Element

Desal vs. DPR: Total Unit Cost (CAPEX + OPEX) 24 MGD

24

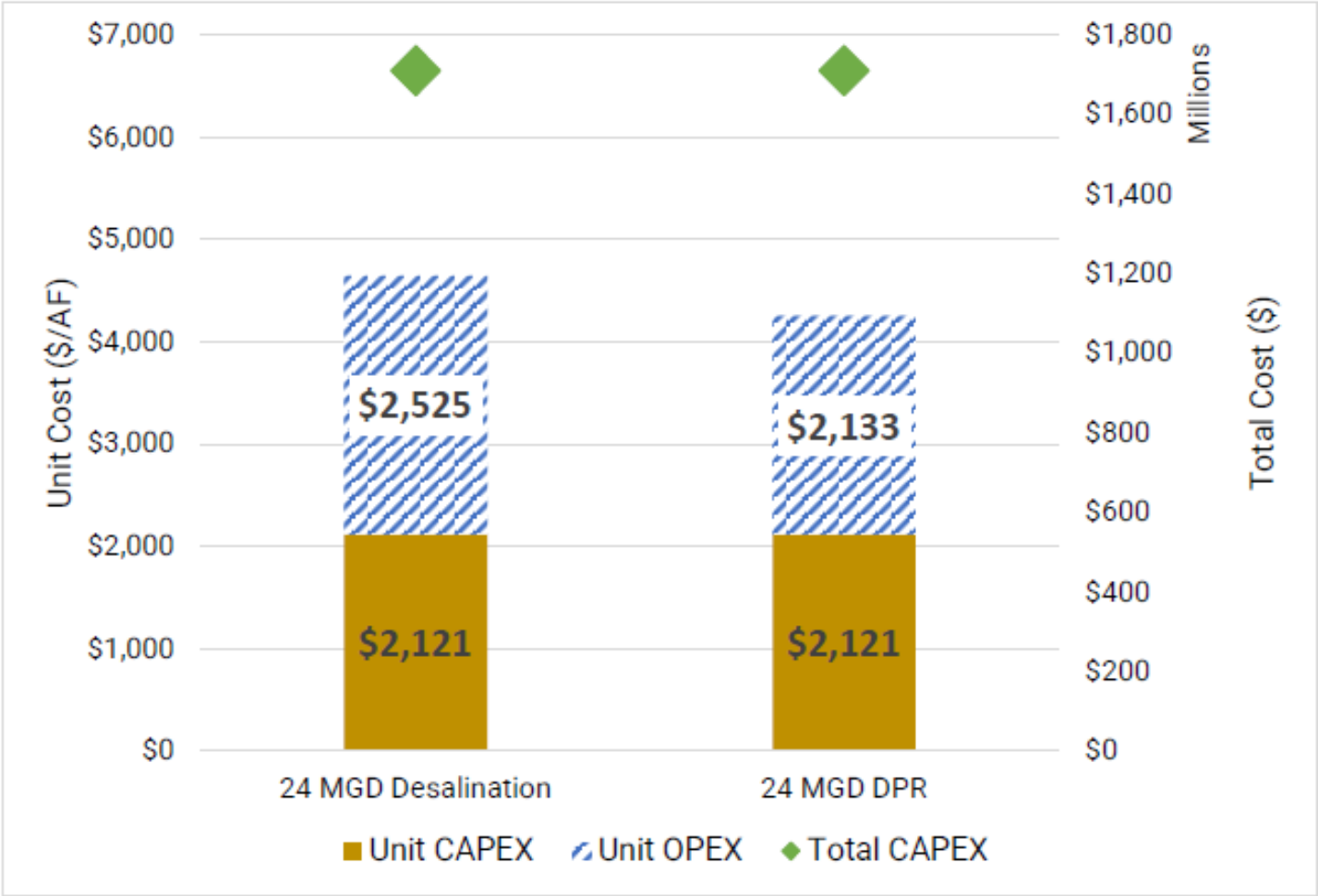


Figure 1 Comparison of Total CAPEX, Unit CAPEX, and Unit OPEX for 24 MGD Desalination and DPR

Desalination EFS - Staff Recommended Next Steps 25

Amend existing agreement with B&V to extend contract by one year and increase budget to complete additional work, including:

- Hydrodynamic and salinity modeling (San Jose/Deep Bay)
- Investigate water quality and bathymetry
- Investigate Interconnecting Channel near Sunnyvale Pond A4
- Additional regulatory and resource agency coordination



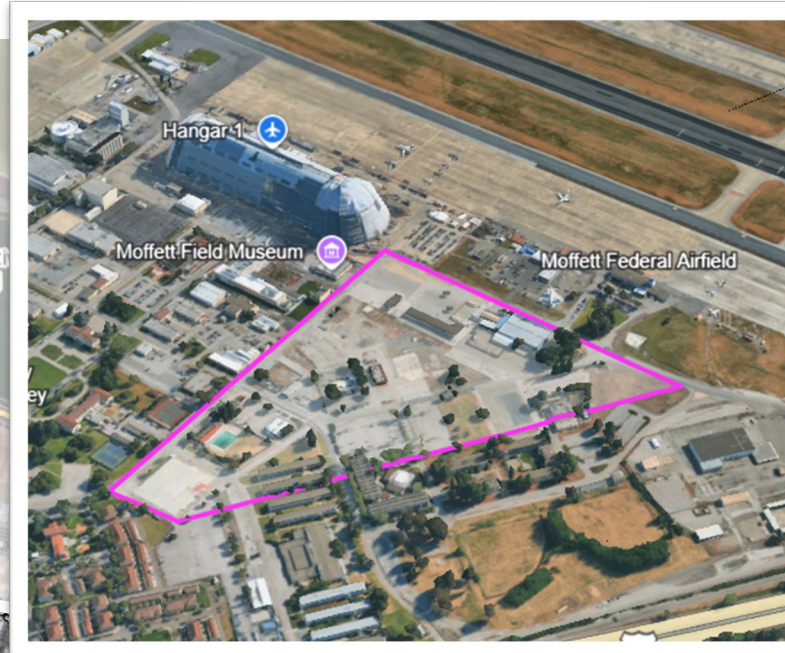
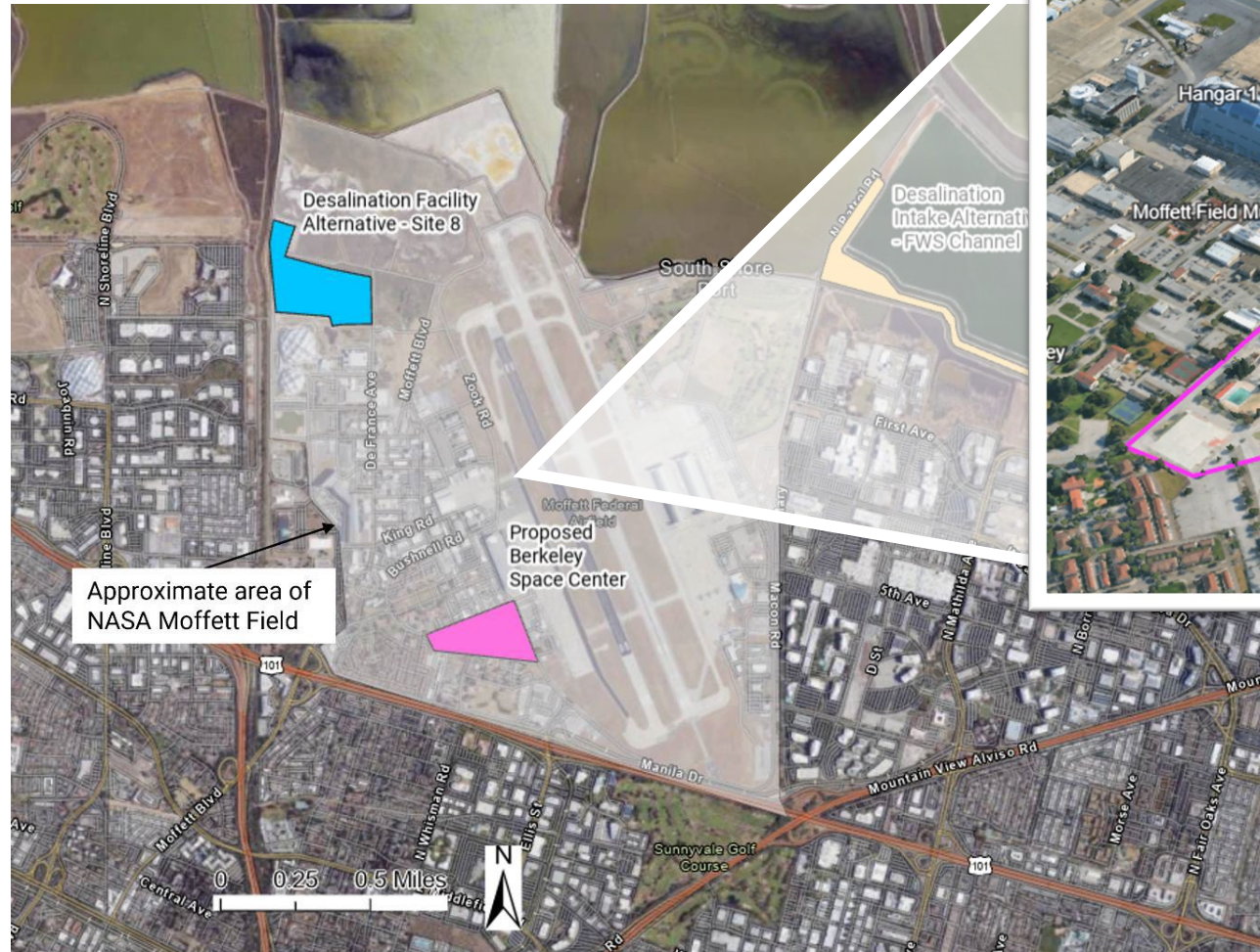
Valley Water

Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection

Recycled Water Committee

May 27, 2026 Meeting

Alternate Site Evaluation- Moffet Field



Alternate Site Evaluation- Moffet Field

Item	Key Challenges
Location	• Federal ownership and long-term campus plans limit flexibility • Incompatible with BCDP Airport Priority Use Area • Egress/Ingress challenges during emergency conditions next to secured federal lands
Intake	• Routing across airfield or adjacent to US101. • FAA requirements. Open/cut methods prohibited near runways. • TSA requirements and coordination
Infrastructure Development	• Lack of publicly accessible roads



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 26-0471

Agenda Date: 5/27/2026

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 Pure Water Silicon Valley Update, Including Demonstration Facility and Full-Scale Direct Potable Reuse Facility at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center; and Ongoing Outreach.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update on Pure Water Silicon Valley, including the following topics:

- A. Demonstration Facility and Full-Scale Direct Potable Reuse Facility at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center; and
- B. Ongoing Outreach.

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 the City Councils in June 2025 has been fully executed. The Exclusive Negotiation Agreement (ENA) to reserve space for the full-scale facility has been approved by the Cities and Valley Water and is routing for execution.

A Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee (JRWPAC) meeting was held on April 16, 2026. Committee members continue to support the Pure Water Silicon Valley project and expressed interest in meeting in the fall to receive updates on the project, discuss outreach, and grant funding.

The project team continues to develop the charter, which provides a framework for the development of the full-scale facility agreements and is beginning to develop terms for full-scale agreements. In March, the team held a workshop on Reverse Osmosis Concentrate management to further develop options for managing this waste stream.

The procurement for design services for the DPR Demonstration Facility is ongoing, with Board approval anticipated in June.

Coordination with regulatory agencies is ongoing with monthly meetings with the Division of Drinking Water (DDW) and a meeting in early March with the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Valley Water and City staff are also coordinating on the US Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) grant funded feasibility study, which, once completed, will make the project eligible for a construction grant.

B. Ongoing Outreach

General Purified Water Outreach

Staff continues to conduct tours of the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center (SVAWPC) and implement outreach initiatives to build support for potable reuse, which include:

- Purified Water Tour Program - As of April 2026, 1,352 visitors toured the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center (SVAWPC). This includes public tours, youth tours, and private tours with local businesses, elected officials, and other interest holders. For example, we hosted SJSU nursing students on a tour through our collaboration with the County Department of Public Health. Members of the public can find the public tour schedule and request private tours on the PureWater4U.org website. Public tours are typically held on the first Friday and second Saturday of each month.
- Demonstration Water Bottle Distribution - As of April 2026, 1,713 purified water bottles have been distributed in FY2026, including during tours and employee and community events.
- The Water We Share Lesson - The Water We Share lesson continues to be provided to Santa Clara County students through in-class presentations and school assemblies. The lesson provides education on purified water and engages students in an activity to create posters promoting purified water.

Outreach Coordination in Santa Clara County and the Bay Area

Staff continued to collaborate with the project partners, the City of San Jose and City of Santa Clara, on outreach efforts. On April 19, 2026, we were invited by the City of Santa Clara to participate in the STEM Zone event, which drew nearly 8,500 attendees. Staff will continue to meet regularly with partner agencies to identify and implement collaborative outreach opportunities.

Learning Center Development

As part of the Pure Water Silicon Valley Project, staff continue to work on developing the Learning Center to accompany the DPR demonstration facility. Staff continues to work on a draft Request for Proposals for an exhibit designer for the Learning Center.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no environmental justice impacts associated with this item.

File No.: 26-0471

Agenda Date: 5/27/2026
Item No.: 4.2.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 26-0472

Agenda Date: 5/27/2026

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 an Update on the Site Works Agreement with the City of San Jose, Valley Water and Microsoft Corporation.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update on the Site Works Agreement with the City of San Jose, Valley Water, and Microsoft Corporation.

SUMMARY:

Microsoft Corporation (Microsoft) is developing a new data center on private property east of the existing Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center (SVAWPC). As part of this project, Microsoft will be extending McCarthy Lane. Microsoft's project conflicts 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 completing negotiations on an agreement under which Microsoft would construct a new parking lot and required improvements and relocate the visitor center trailer. The Site Works contemplated in the agreement are attached (Attachments 1 and 2) and include:

- Construction of a new visitor parking lot with 48 vehicle and three bus parking spaces adjacent to the SVAWPC, including storm drainage, utility and communication connections and landscaping
- Relocate the current visitor center trailer to the new parking lot, including packing and unpacking of contents
- Relocate signage and install security fencing
- Move manhole for source water line serving SVAWPC outside of widened Zanker Road roadway

The Site Works are scheduled for 2027 and are at no cost to Valley Water. Microsoft is scheduled to break ground on the data center in June 2026.

Concurrently, the City of San Jose is negotiating a Master Easement 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.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no environmental justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Draft Site Works Description

Attachment 2: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

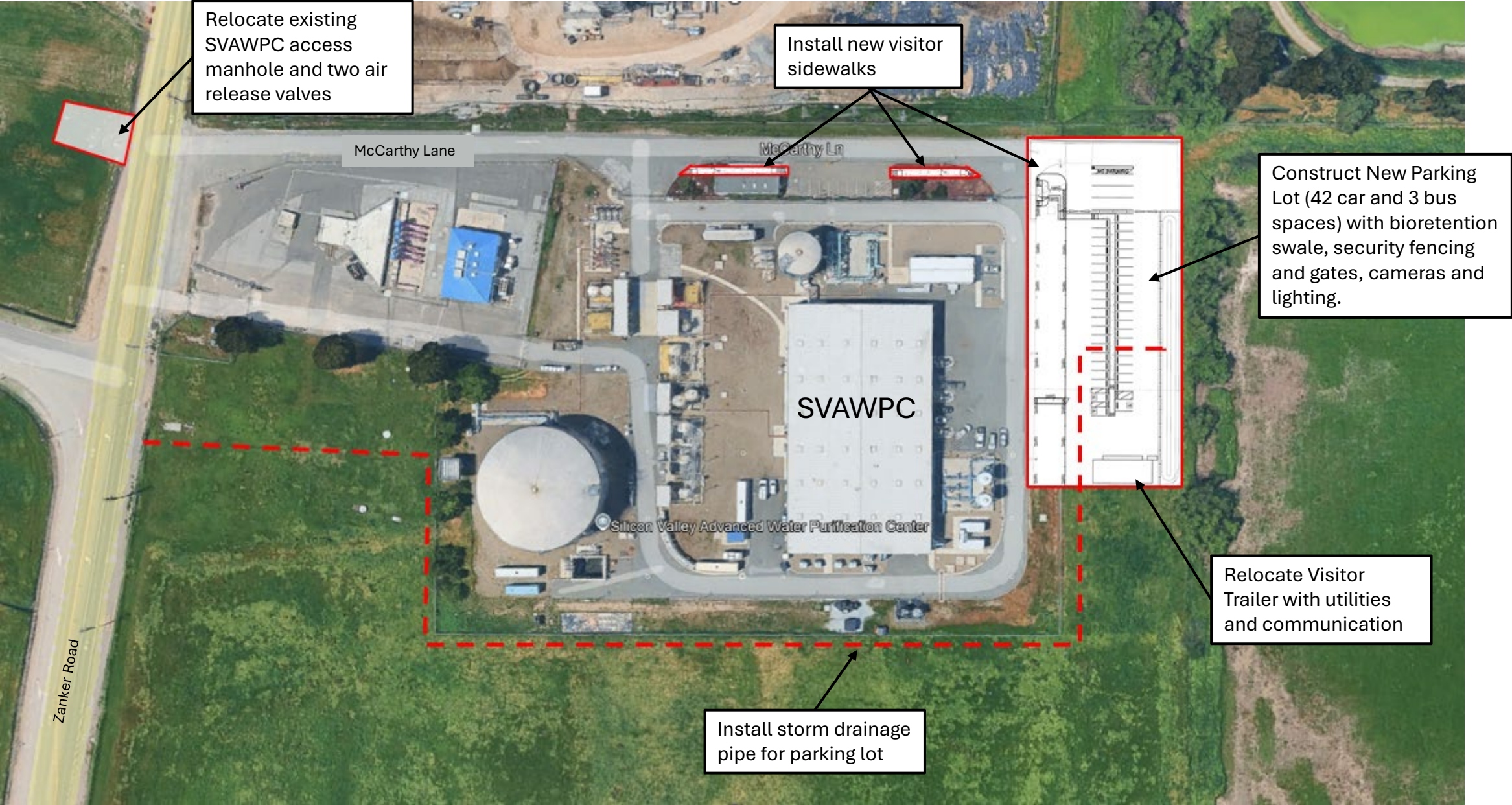
Attachment 1:

Draft Exhibit to Site Works Agreement: Description of Site Works

Subject to such changes as may be required by City pursuant to Section 2 of the Agreement, the Site Works shall consist of the following:

1. Conducting any and all other necessary activities to relocate the Visitor Center and construct the New Parking Lot within the VW Site, including, but not limited to, (i) disassembling, transporting, and reassembling the Visitor Center in accordance with the manufacturer's standard requirements, and (ii) packing, securely storing, and relocating all Valley Water personal property (e.g., files, furnishing, equipment, and other contents) from the Visitor Center to the Additional VW Area which shall include unpacking any boxed or stored items from the Visitor Center (if requested by Valley Water following its relocation);
2. Preparing the Additional VW Area in accordance with the Final Plans and Specifications, including fill, compaction, drainage, paving and any other necessary activities to raise the Additional VW Area to the same elevation as the SVAWPC, consistent with the Final Plans and Specifications;
3. Installing, extending or relocating all required electrical, water, sewer, communication, and other utility connections required for the relocated Visitor Center and the New Parking Lot within the VW Site in accordance with the Final Plans and Specifications;
4. In accordance with the Final Plans and Specifications, constructing the New Parking Lot and striping forty-eight (48) parking spaces for standard sized automobiles and three (3) parking spaces for regular sized school buses within the Additional VW Area;
5. Appropriately relocating, installing and replacing, as needed, the following Valley Water utilities and infrastructure located within the VW Property and the Zanker Improvements Area consistent with the Final Plans and Specifications: (i) the storm drain system and drainage grading (which shall be constructed to adequately collect and drain stormwater and other drainage away from the New Parking Lot, SVAWPC, and adjacent areas within the VW Site and successfully discharge it to the stormwater conveyance system with no flooding or ponding on the VW Site), and (ii), within the Zanker Improvements Area, an access manway and three air release valves west of the expanded Zanker Road vehicle path of travel, bike lane and sidewalk;

6. Appropriately installing and/or replacing, as needed, the following within the Zanker Improvements Area consistent with the Final Plans and Specifications: (i) the Zanker Road acceleration lane; (ii) new sidewalk and landscaping adjacent to the Zanker Road; (iii) the Regional Wastewater Facility property sign monument subject to City approval; and (iv) those areas of the curb, pavement and striping at the Environmental Services Building parking lot affected by the relocation of the Valley Water Visitor Center trailer, all of which shall be restored up to modern operational standards.
7. Relocating or replacing Valley Water-designated monuments and signage to locations within the VW Site designated by Valley Water in writing prior the start of construction works within the VW Site;
8. In accordance with the Final Plans and Specifications, ensuring that access to the relocated Visitor Center complies with the Americans with Disability Act and related state and federal laws;
9. In accordance with the Final Plans and Specifications and within the VW Site, installing all necessary security, lighting, fencing, landscaping and irrigation, sidewalks and curbs, ingress, and egress, including sufficient turning radius, and proper traffic flow in compliance with Valley Water Standards, state and local laws or regulations;
10. Install security fencing around the Additional VW Area and any other required areas within the VW Site and the Zanker Improvements Area, maintain such security fencing for the duration of Microsoft's work in such areas, and remove it upon completion of such works. Upon at least 14 days' written notice to Microsoft following Microsoft's completion of the Site Works, Valley Water may request an extension for removal of such security fencing of up to 45 days.



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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 26-0487

Agenda Date: 5/27/2026

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:

Review and Discuss the 2026 Recycled Water Committee (RWC) Work Plan and Make Adjustments as Necessary, and Confirm the Committees Next Meeting Date.

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and discuss the 2026 Recycled Water Committee (RWC) Work Plan and make adjustments as necessary, confirm the Committees next meeting date.

SUMMARY:

Under 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.

Discussion of topics as stated in the Plan have been described based on information from the following sources:

- Items referred to the Committee by the Board;
- Items requested by the Committee to be brought back by staff;
- Items scheduled for presentation to the full Board of Directors and
- Items identified by staff

At the February 25, 2026 meeting, the Committee approved the 2026 work plan that has agenda items necessary for the continuation of the recycled water projects.

An updated 2026 work plan (Attachment 1) lists items for the remaining meetings in the year.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

The discussion of the RWC Work Plan is not subject to environmental justice analysis.

File No.: 26-0487

Agenda Date: 5/27/2026
Item No.: 4.4.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: 2026 RWC Work Plan

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Wendy Ho, 408-630-3874

RECYCLED WATER COMMITTEE 2026 WORKPLAN

TASK	AGENDA ITEM	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
FY26 TACTIC 1: Continue developing Pure Water Silicon Valley, including initiating design for a demonstration facility, validation of a full-scale facility as a validated CIP project, and completion of a project charter and exclusive negotiation agreement for land for the full-scale facility by FY26													
1.1	Update on Purified Water Program Including Partnerships 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	C	X	X	C	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1.2	Update on Partnerships with Cities of Palo Alto and Mountain View	A	X		A								
FY26 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	N		X	N	X			X				
2.2	Update on SFPUC/BAWSCA Collaboration Efforts.	C			C		X						
2.3	Independent Advisory Panel.							X					
FY26 TACTIC 3: Develop a Comprehensive Water Reuse Agreement or amend the existing agreements 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.	E	X	X	E	X		X			X		
FY26 TACTIC 4: Continue to pursue recycled water grant funding, and complete project-specific feasibility studies to advance federal grant opportunities													
4.1	State and Federal grant opportunities	L			L								
4.2	Continue to investigate feasibility of desalination (local and regional)					X		X					
FY26 TACTIC 5: Continue working with the Palo Alto Regional Wastewater Facility and City of Sunnyvale on recycled and purified water projects													
5.1	Joint Mtg Prep/Debrief: Cities of Palo Alto/Mtn View.	E			E								
5.2	Joint Mtg Prep/Debrief: City of Sunnyvale												
FY26 TACTIC 6: Continue to expand communications strategies to increase public awareness and acceptance of the Purified Water Program													
6.1	Outreach comprehensive efforts	D			D								
ADDITIONAL ITEM													
Microsoft Agreement						X							

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