



Santa Clara Valley Water District Environmental and Water Resources Committee

HQ. Bldg. Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California
Join Zoom Meeting: <https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/94403145442>

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

**Monday, July 20, 2026
6:00 PM**

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

Bob Levy, Committee Chair
Rebecca Gallardo, Committee Vice
Chair

Director Shiloh Ballard, District 2
Director Nai Hsueh, District 5
Director Tony Estremera, District 6

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John Bourgeois
Kirsten Struve
(Staff Liaisons)

Dave Leon, (COB Liaison)
Assistant Deputy Clerk II
daveleon@valleywater.org
(408) 630-2006

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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Environmental and Water Resources Committee
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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 April 20, 2026 Environmental and Water Resources Committee Minutes. [26-0557](#)
Recommendation: Approve the minutes.
Manager: Wendy Ho, 408-630-3874
Attachments: [Attachment 1: 04202026 EWRC minutes](#)
Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

- 4.1. Receive Informational Overview of the Stream Maintenance Program. [26-0620](#)
Recommendation: Receive an informational overview and general update on the Stream Maintenance Program; including objectives, activities, and environmental mitigation strategy.
Manager: Jennifer Codianne, 408-630-3876
Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)
Est. Staff Time: 10 Minutes
- 4.2. Receive an update on Pure Water Silicon Valley Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) project. [26-0581](#)
Recommendation: Receive an update on Pure Water Silicon Valley Direct Potable Reuse project.
Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138
Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)
Est. Staff Time: 20 Minutes
- 4.3. Receive Update on West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Master Plans. [26-0556](#)
Recommendation: Receive an update on the West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Master Plans.
Manager: Lisa Bankosh, 408-630-2618
Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)
[Attachment 2: Draft Priority Actions](#)
Est. Staff Time: 15 Minutes
- 4.4. Review and Receive Updates on the Environmental and Water Resources Committee's Working Groups. [26-0558](#)
Recommendation: A. Review and receive updates on the Environmental and Water Resources Committee's Working Groups, and
B. Provide comments to the Board on implementation of Valley Water's mission applicable to working groups'

recommendations.

Manager: Wendy Ho, 408-630-3874

Attachments: [Attachment 1: EWRC Working Groups July 2026](#)
[Attachment 2: EWRC FINAL Working Group Restructure](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

- 4.5. Review Environmental and Water Resources Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests, and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda. [26-0587](#)

Recommendation: Review the Committee work plan to guide the committee's discussions regarding policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation.

Manager: Wendy Ho, 408-630-3874

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

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

5. **STANDING ITEMS**

- 5.1. Director's Reports
- 5.2. Manager's Reports
- 5.3. Announcements

6. **CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS.**

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

7. **ADJOURN:**

- 7.1. Adjourn. The Next Regular Meeting is Scheduled at 6:00 p.m. on October 19, 2026.

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 26-0557

Agenda Date: 7/20/2026

Item No.: 3.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Environmental and Water Resources Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Approval of April 20, 2026 Environmental and Water Resources 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 Environmental and Water Resources 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 the Committee's historical record archives and serve as the official historical record of the Committee's meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: 04202026 EWRC Minutes

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Wendy Ho, 408-630-3874

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ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES

Monday, April 20, 2026

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Environmental and Water Resources Committee (Committee) Meeting was held on April 20, 2026, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters Building, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Committee Chair Bob Levy called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. A quorum was established with nine members present.

Members in attendance were:

District 2: Uyen Mai

District 4: Chairperson Bob Levy, Matthew Frazier

District 5: Patrick Kwok, Mike Michitaka, Rachel Lam

District 6: Rebecca Gallardo, Douglas Peterson

District 7: Arthur M. Keller

Members not in attendance were:

District 1: Loren Lewis

District 2: Charles Ice, Edgar Echevarria

District 3: Charles Taylor

District 4: Mitchell Ehrlich

District 7: Tess Byler

Board members in attendance were: Director Shiloh Ballard (District 2), and Director Nai Hsueh (District 5).

Staff members in attendance were: Lisa Bankosh, John Bourgeois, Samantha Greene, Dave Leon, Judy Nam, and Kirsten Struve.

Members of the public in attendance were: Director Richard Santos.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 APPROVAL OF JANUARY 26, 2026 ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

It was moved by Member Kwok, seconded by Member Frazier, and unanimously carried to approve the January 26, 2026 Committee meeting minutes as submitted.

4. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

4.1 RECEIVE INFORMATION ON CALABAZAS AND SAN TOMAS AQUINO CREEK-MARSH CONNECTION PROJECT STAFF RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE

Recommendation: Receive Information on the Staff Recommended Alternative for Calabazas and San Tomas Aquino Creek-Marsh Connection Project, Project No. 20444001.

Judy Nam reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1. Judy Nam, John Bourgeois, and Lisa Bankosh were available to answer questions.

Discussion ensued relating to Caltrans involvement in the project, sources for construction funding, transport of sediment, public and stakeholder investment in the project, district plans to monitor the site, minimizing flood risk, cost differences between the alternatives, costs of water transportation, and potential project timelines.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

4.2 RECEIVE UPDATE ON SAFE, CLEAN WATER AND NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION PROGRAM'S PROJECT D7: PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE CONSERVATION OF HABITAT LANDS. (SARGENT RANCH UPDATE)

Recommendation: Receive an update on Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program's Project D7: Partnerships for the Conservation of Habitat Lands regarding Valley Water's partnership with Peninsula Open Space Trust to acquire and permanently protect Sargent Ranch.

Lisa Bankosh reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1, and was available to answer questions.

Discussion ensued relating to the grant issued by Valley Water to the Peninsula Open Space Trust and restrictions associated with the grant funding, the percentage of available money used for the project, the beginning of the next cycle, and planning efforts to determine use of the lands.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

4.3 REVIEW AND RECEIVE UPDATES ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE'S WORKING GROUPS

Recommendation:

A. Review and receive updates on the Environmental and Water Resources Committee's Working Groups, and

B. Provide comments to the Board on implementation of Valley Water's mission applicable to working groups' recommendations.

Without discussion, the Committee received the information and took no formal action.

4.4 REVIEW AND APPROVE ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE WORK PLAN, THE OUTCOMES OF BOARD ACTION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS, THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Recommendation: Review the Committee work plan to guide the committee's discussions regarding policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation.

John Bourgeois reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1. John Bourgeois and Kirsten Struve were available to answer questions.

Discussion ensued relating to the timetable for the desalination feasibility study scheduled to come to the Committee in October 2026 and the item's tentative presentation to the Recycled Water Committee in May or June, 2026.

5. STANDING ITEMS

5.1 DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

No reports were given.

5.2 MANAGER'S REPORTS

Kirsten Struve reported that there will not be a drought this year, but a drought in upcoming years is possible due to the light snowpack.

5.3 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Director Ballard noted that the Board is currently in the process of recruiting a new CEO and a public input session will be held on April 23, 2026.

6. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

6.1 STANDING ITEMS REPORT

Recommendation: Standing items report.

The Committee took no action.

7. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE'S REQUESTS TO THE BOARD

The Committee took no action.

8. ADJOURNMENT

8.1 ADJOURN

Chairperson Levy adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m. to the next regular meeting on Monday, July 20, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Dave Leon
Assistant Deputy Clerk II

Date approved:



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 26-0620

Agenda Date: 7/20/2026

Item No.: 4.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM **Environmental and Water Resources Committee**

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

SUBJECT:

Receive Informational Overview of the Stream Maintenance Program.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an informational overview and general update on the Stream Maintenance Program; including objectives, activities, and environmental mitigation strategy.

SUMMARY:

The Stream Maintenance Program (SMP or Program) has been implemented continuously since 2002 to guide, manage, and conduct routine maintenance of streams, improved channels, and related flood risk reduction facilities. Under the SMP, Valley Water conducts maintenance work needed to preserve flood conveyance capacity and maintain Valley Water lands. The SMP integrates the guiding principle of resource management protection directly into its activities. Program elements are designed to avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential impacts in balance with the need to conduct work in streams to carry out Valley Water's mission.

The SMP includes three major categories of work: sediment removal, vegetation management and bank stabilization. Additional categories include minor maintenance (e.g., fence installation and repair, trash and debris removal), management of animal conflicts, and downed tree management.

Valley Water manages more than 300 miles of streams and channels across Santa Clara County under the SMP. The SMP uses a balanced approach to maintain these waterways for flood protection, while planning and implementing routine maintenance activities with the goal of avoiding and minimizing potential impacts on the environment.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

This action is not subject to Environmental Justice Analysis because no likely adverse impacts are expected.

ATTACHMENTS:

File No.: 26-0620

Agenda Date: 7/20/2026
Item No.: 4.1.

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:
Jennifer Codianne, 408-630-3876



Stream Maintenance Program (SMP)

Environmental and Water Resources Committee
July 20, 2026



What is the Stream Maintenance Program (SMP)?

The regulatory mechanism by which Valley Water is authorized to conduct routine flood protection maintenance work

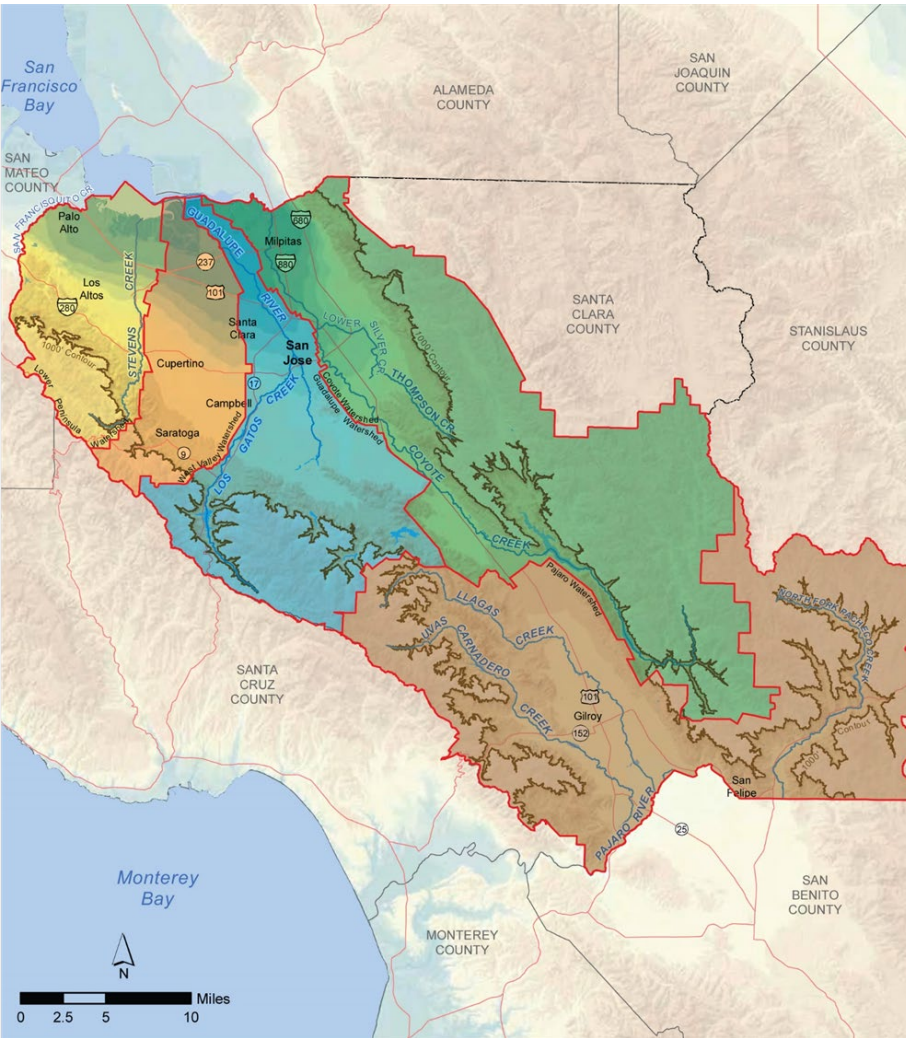
Stream Maintenance Program Goals

1. Maintain flow conveyance capacity of Valley Water channels and flood risk reduction facilities.
2. Maintain the structural and functional integrity of VW flood risk reduction facilities and lands.



Crews work on a bank stabilization project along Guadalupe River north of Willow Street in San José.

SMP Objectives



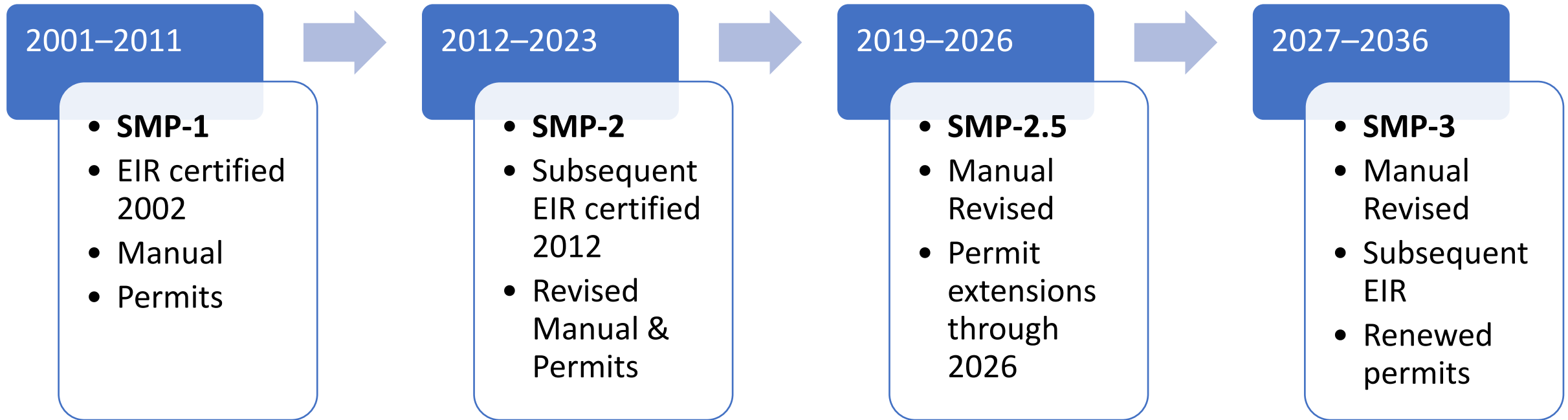
- **Maintain flood capacity and safety** while preserving habitat through targeted sediment removal
- **Manage vegetation strategically** to support access, flood protection, fire risk reduction, and ecosystem health
- **Ensure levee integrity** by maintaining vegetation for inspection and maintenance access
- **Stabilize channels** to protect infrastructure, public safety, water quality, and habitat
- **Prioritize environmental stewardship** by avoiding, minimizing, and mitigating impacts during maintenance

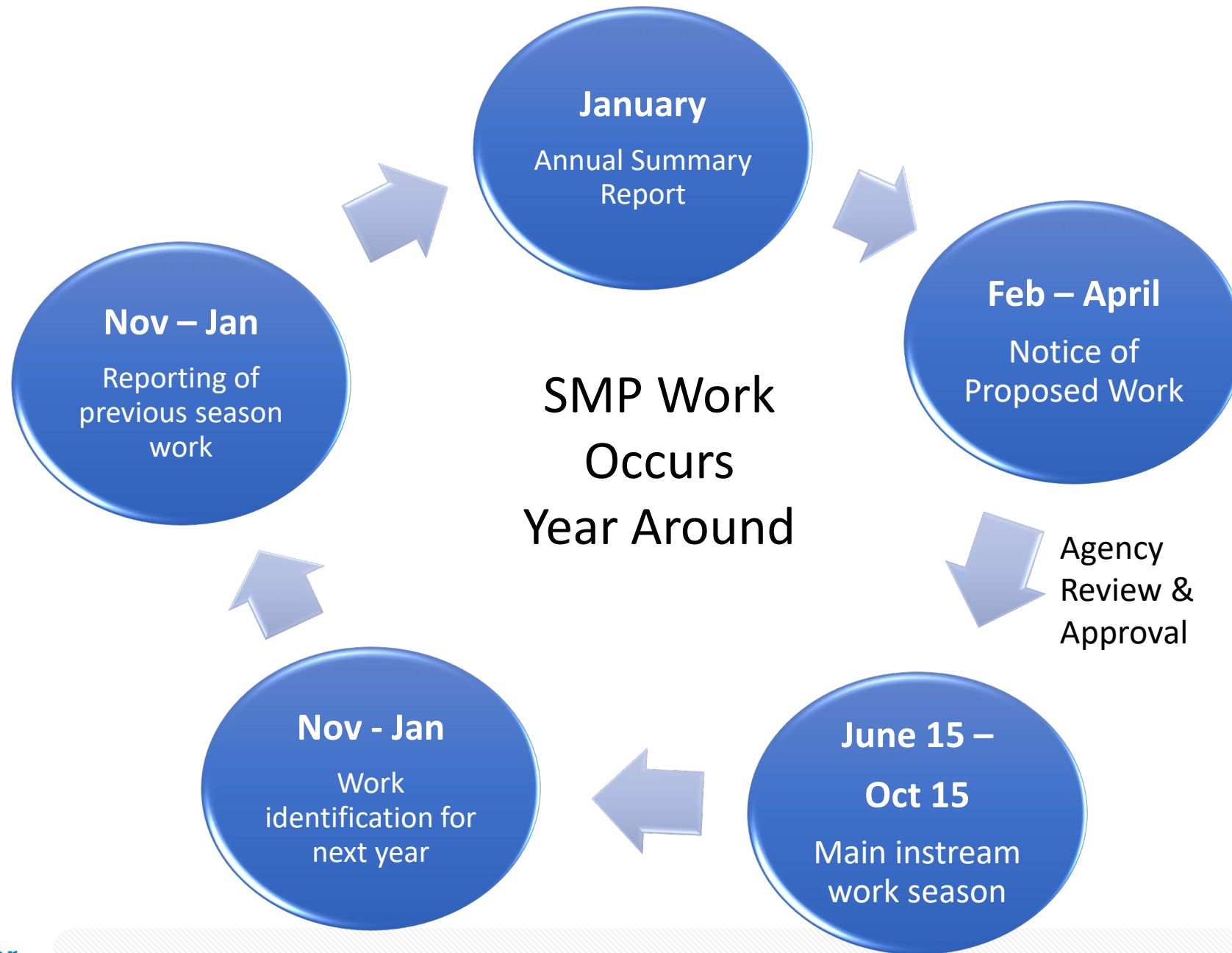
SMP Authorizations





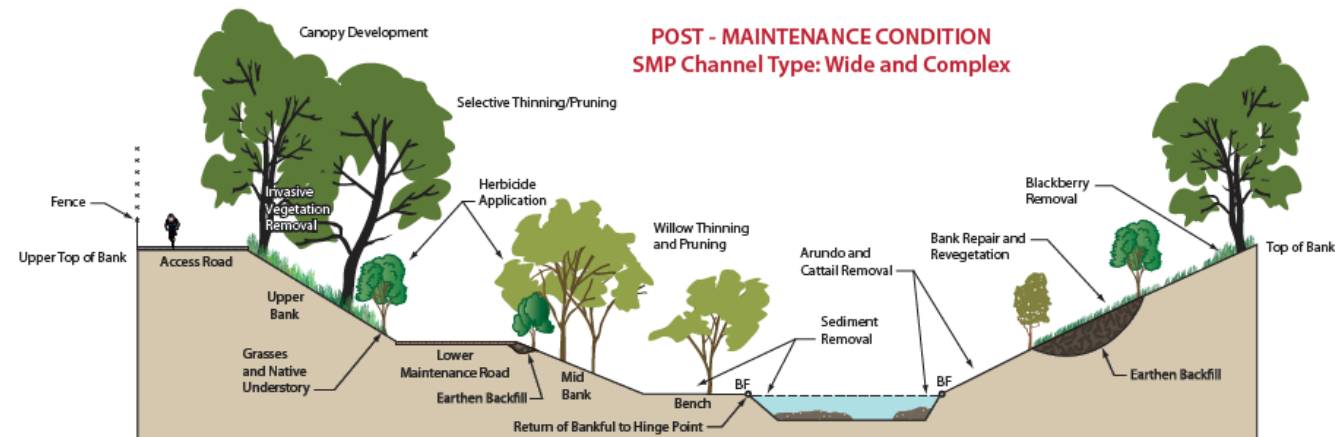
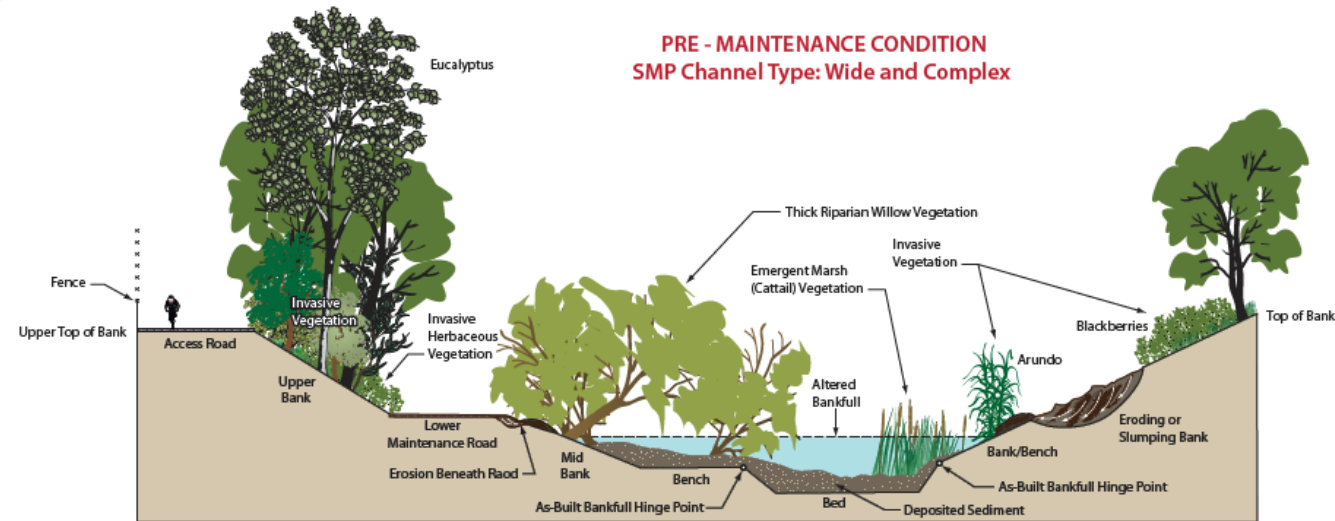
Stream Maintenance Program (SMP) Overview





Program Activities

- Sediment Removal
- Bank Stabilization
- Vegetation Management
- Management of Animal Conflicts
- Minor Maintenance
- Down Tree Management



Note 1 - for flood control channels that include engineered levees, the upper bank portion of this typical cross section is analogous to the inboard levee. Many SCVWD levees also have a visible outboard slope that slopes outside and away from the channel to the adjacent land.

Note 2 - the areas in the typical cross-section identified as "bank" or "bench" are typically combined into a single geographic area type "bank/bench" for the purposes of SCVWD maintenance work projections.

Sediment Removal

- Maintains flow conveyance capacity at acceptable levels
- Allows facilities to function as intended
- Allows fish passage and access to fish ladders



2002-2025: >920,000 CY sediment removed



Bank Stabilization

- Repairs eroding channel banks, beds and levees
- Reduces risk of further erosion



2002-2025: >66,000 LF of eroded bank repaired



Vegetation Management

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2002-2025: ~12,500 acres vegetation treated and removed

- Restores flow conveyance
- Reduces public safety threats such as fire hazards
- Provides access to creek corridors for both Valley Water staff and the public
- Controls invasive plants



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Management of Animal Conflicts

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- Burrowing rodents into levees and banks threatens structural integrity
- Physical barrier installation
- Ground squirrel trapping
- Barn owl nest box



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Minor Maintenance

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- Trash and debris removal
- Repair and installation of fences/gates
- Repairs to maintenance roads
- Repair of structures in-kind
- Removal of obstructions
- Stream gauge maintenance
- Minor erosion repair

Down Tree Management

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- Down trees may reduce flow conveyance capacity
- May also provide habitat for salmonids



Avoid or Minimize Impacts!

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- Water quality
- Wildlife habitat
- Riparian habitat
- Wetlands
- Species



If we can't avoid impacts: We mitigate

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- Native Plant Revegetation
- Invasive Plant Management
- Salmonid Habitat Improvements
- Land acquisition
- Encampment-related



2002-2025: ~300 acres riparian and wetland vegetation planted, monitored, and maintained

Dam Removal: Little Arthur Creek

- Partners: Trout Unlimited, NMFS, CDFW, Amah Mutsun Tribe, Private Landowner
- Opened 3+ miles of high-quality steelhead habitat
- Allows for stream processes
- Win-win project

Youtube:
Dam Removal: California's Little Arthur Creek





Thank you!

For more information on SMP:

Website: www.valleywater.org/project-updates/stream-maintenance-program

Or Contact Jon Jankovitz, Environmental Services Manager JJankovitz@valleywater.org

QUESTIONS





Valley Water

Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 26-0581

Agenda Date: 7/20/2026

Item No.: 4.2.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Environmental and Water Resources Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Receive an update on Pure Water Silicon Valley Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) project.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update on Pure Water Silicon Valley Direct Potable Reuse project.

SUMMARY:

Background

Santa Clara County relies on imported water for half its water supply, which becomes vulnerable as the snowpack shrinks due to climate change. Climate change also makes our community more vulnerable to extreme weather conditions, including periods of long-term drought and more intense wet-weather events. To prepare for this future, Valley Water is committed to developing recycled water as a locally controlled, drought proof water supply. The recently adopted Water Supply Master Plan 2050 identifies a Direct Potable Reuse project as essential for future water supply reliability.

Valley Water and the Cities of San Jose and Santa Clara (Cities) are collaborating on developing the Pure Water Silicon Valley (PWSV) direct potable reuse (DPR) project using treated wastewater from the San Jose-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility (RWF) as the source water. The San Jose City Council and Valley Water Board met on August 19, 2025, to reaffirm support for the Pure Water Silicon Valley (PWSV) direct potable reuse project collaboration. The following progress has been made on PWSV since the last update to the Committee.

Agreements

The following agreements have been executed:

- Staff funding agreements with the Cities of San Jose and Santa Clara to support development of the Pure Water Silicon Valley project
- Option Agreement to support development of the demonstration facility and learning center, including an amended lease, integration agreement and operations and maintenance

agreement. Once environmental review is complete, the option can be exercised.

- Exclusive Negotiations Agreement to reserve land for the future full-scale DPR facility while full-scale agreements, including a land lease, are developed.

City and Valley Water staff are jointly developing a charter to serve as the framework for the agreements and studies required for a full-scale DPR facility. The framework establishes a shared vision and outlines key topics that will need to be addressed in the new agreements, including wastewater quality and quantity, facility pretreatment, reverse osmosis concentrate management, and source control.

Procurement

Valley Water procured a design consultant for the Demonstration Facility. The agreement with AECOM Technical Services was approved by the Valley Water Board on June 9, 2026, for a not-to-exceed amount for \$4,499,917. The agreement includes design and bid award services for the Pure Water Silicon Valley Demonstration Facility Project which is composed of 200 gallons per minute (gpm) DPR Pilot Treatment Facility inside the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center (SVAWPC) site and new 2-acre state of the art Learning Center complex adjacent to the purification center. AECOM's work will include preparation of two sets of design documents for separate constructions of the Pilot Facility and the Learning Center to expedite the full-scale DPR Project.

Valley Water staff have also amended an agreement with their CEQA consultant and have conducted site visits to support development of the Learning Center. The Demonstration Facility is essential to enabling permitting of the full-scale DPR facility.

Capital Improvement Program

The Demonstration Facility and Learning Center are included in Valley Water's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) with a total project cost of \$100 million. This includes design, construction, and engineering services for the Demonstration (pilot) Facility (\$29.2 million), the Learning Center (\$21.3 million), into which the pilot will eventually be relocated-and related project components such as stakeholder engagement, CEQA review, initial full-scale planning, and regulatory permitting. Completion is anticipated by 2030. The full-scale facility was added to Valley Water's CIP in 2026. The estimated total project cost is \$2.45 billion, with completion anticipated by 2035.

Regulatory Coordination and Technical Studies

The final DPR regulations took effect on October 1, 2024. Valley Water's Project Management Consultant, with support from subconsultant Trussell Technologies, Inc.-a firm that helped develop these regulations and is recognized for expertise in potable reuse permitting-has prepared a roadmap to guide PWSV project permitting. Valley Water is also meeting monthly with the California State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (DDW) to support regulatory coordination, including development of a Concept Proposal and Pilot Testing and Monitoring Plan.

The DPR regulations require establishment of an Independent Advisory Panel (IAP). Valley Water's

IAP is managed by the National Water Research Institute (NWRI) and has convened twice to date to review technical and regulatory aspects of the project, including the Concept Proposal, Testing and Monitoring Plan, water quality considerations, and pathogen control strategies, etc. Based on the feedback received to date, the IAP has expressed support for the project and indicated that the Concept Proposal is consistent with California DPR regulations and is protective of public health. Staff will continue to engage with the IAP and plan to hold additional meetings throughout 2026 and beyond to review other elements of the PWSV project as it advances. Overall, the regulatory process is designed to ensure multiple safeguards are in place so that water produced by a DPR facility meets stringent potable reuse safety requirements and public health is fully protected.

City of San Jose and Valley Water have also met with the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) to discuss reverse osmosis concentrate (ROC) management, including completed and planned technical studies led by Valley Water. RWQCB staff emphasized the importance of these studies, particularly those evaluating nature-based solutions (NBS) for potential ROC treatment pathways and analyses supporting long-term permitting and ROC management strategies.

Grants and Feasibility Study

Valley Water and City staff are coordinating on a feasibility study funded by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. Once complete, the study will position the project to pursue construction grant funding. Separately, a Community Project Funding award of \$1,092,000 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the Demonstration Facility was included in the FY26 Interior-Environment Appropriations bill passed by Congress in January 2026.

Outreach Activities, Purified Water Bottling, and Learning Center Development

Valley Water staff continue to offer in-person and virtual tours of the SVAWPC. 1,568 guests toured the SVAWPC in 2025.

In January 2026, staff received approval from DDW and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) for the second batch of 16,000 purified water bottles for outreach, making Valley Water the first agency in California approved under the new DPR regulations.

Staff continue to coordinate outreach with the Cities and regionally facilitated Bay Area Potable Reuse Outreach Collaboration Meetings to share knowledge with other local water agencies.

In March 2026, Valley Water received a WaterReuse Award for Excellence in the Outreach and Education category for its innovative efforts supporting purified water awareness in Santa Clara County. The award was given to Valley Water for its outreach strategy, which made the science and benefits of purified water accessible to diverse audiences of employees, students and older adults.

Furthermore, in collaboration with Valley Water 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*. The article, published in October 2025, included information about the PWSV Project and

steps physicians can take to support DPR locally, and was sent to 675 physicians in Santa Clara County.

As part of the PWSV Project, staff continue to advance development of the Learning Center that will accompany the DPR Demonstration Facility. The Learning Center is envisioned to include interactive exhibits, a purified water tasting station, community gathering spaces, and enhancements to the facility tour experience. Progress to date includes benchmarking other water reuse and science learning centers and forming a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) comprised of subject matter experts in exhibits, museums, and water reuse, as well as representatives from the City of San Jose and the City of Santa Clara. The TAG has provided input on the development of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for an exhibit designer to ensure the RFP aligns with industry standards and incorporates feasible, cost-effective exhibit design approaches.

Next Steps

The focus for the next six months is initiating design for the Demonstration Facility and Learning Center, initiating procurement for Learning Center exhibits, finalizing the charter and agreement terms for the full-scale DPR Facility, continuing technical studies, maintaining engagement with the RWQCB and DDW, and advancing public outreach and engagement efforts related to purified water. Outreach activities will be refined as needed based on research findings and data, including results from public perception polling and focus group feedback.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no environmental justice impacts associated with this agenda item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

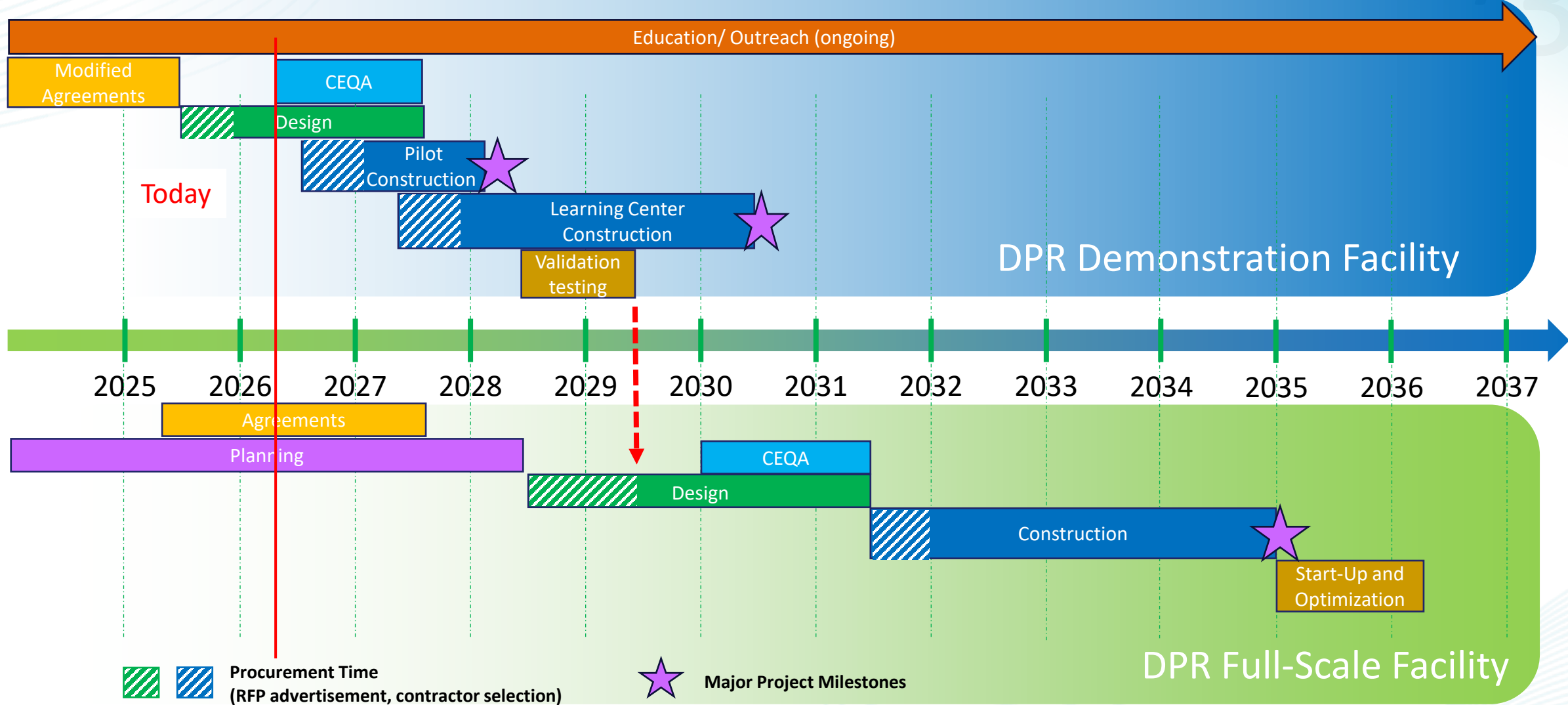


Update on Pure Water Silicon Valley Project Environmental and Water Resources Committee

Date: July 20, 2026

Presented by: Kirsten Struve

Draft Timeline for Pure Water Silicon Valley



Potable Reuse: Agreements

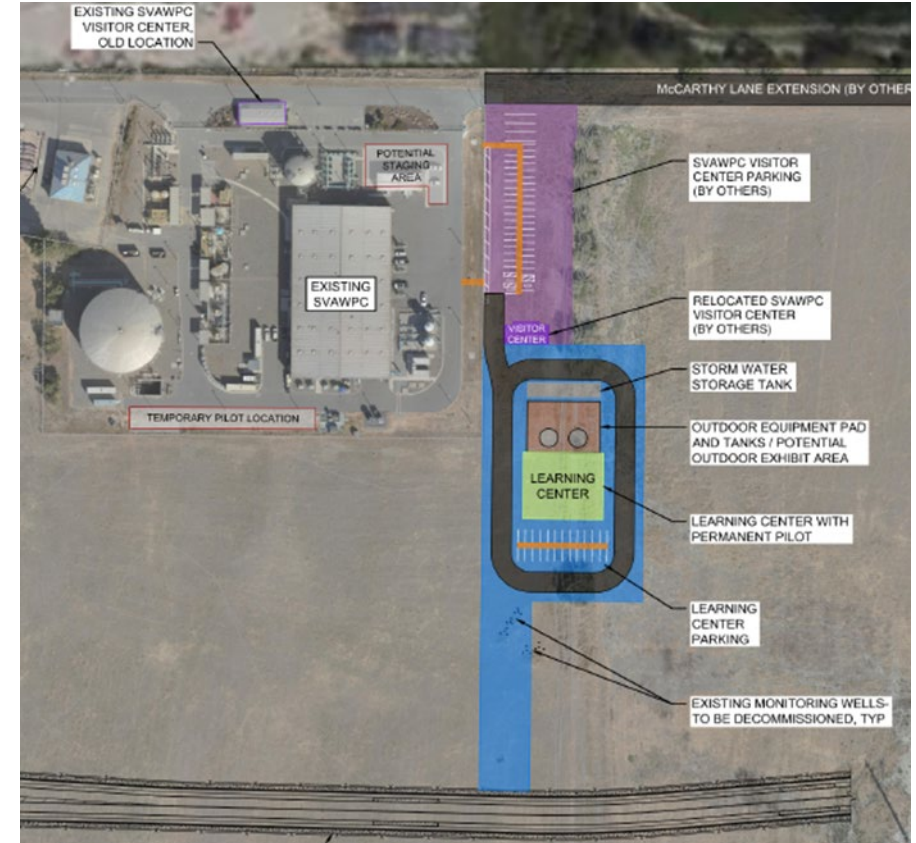
Letter of Intent with the Cities:

- VW Board & San José City Council directed aggressive pursuit of joint project to meet local supply needs that is the largest size practicable within funding, env. & technical constraints.
- Staff funding agreements with cities
- Option Agreement for Demonstration Facility/Learning center, including amended lease, integration agreement and O&M agreement
- Exclusive Negotiation Agreement to set aside land for Full Scale facility
- Charter to guide new agreements for full scale facility: water availability, lease, O&M, RO Concentrate



Demonstration Facility Progress

- Procurement for Design Services for Demonstration Facility Completed
- Learning Center Exhibit RFP under development
- Total Project Cost: \$100M



CIP: Pure Water Silicon Valley Full Scale cost

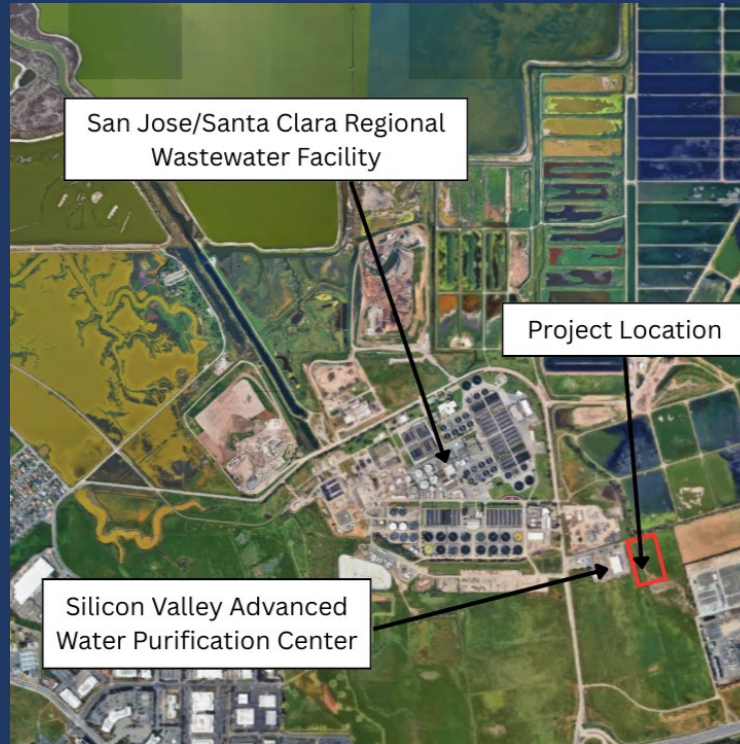
TPC: \$2.45B

Funding: Funds 61*

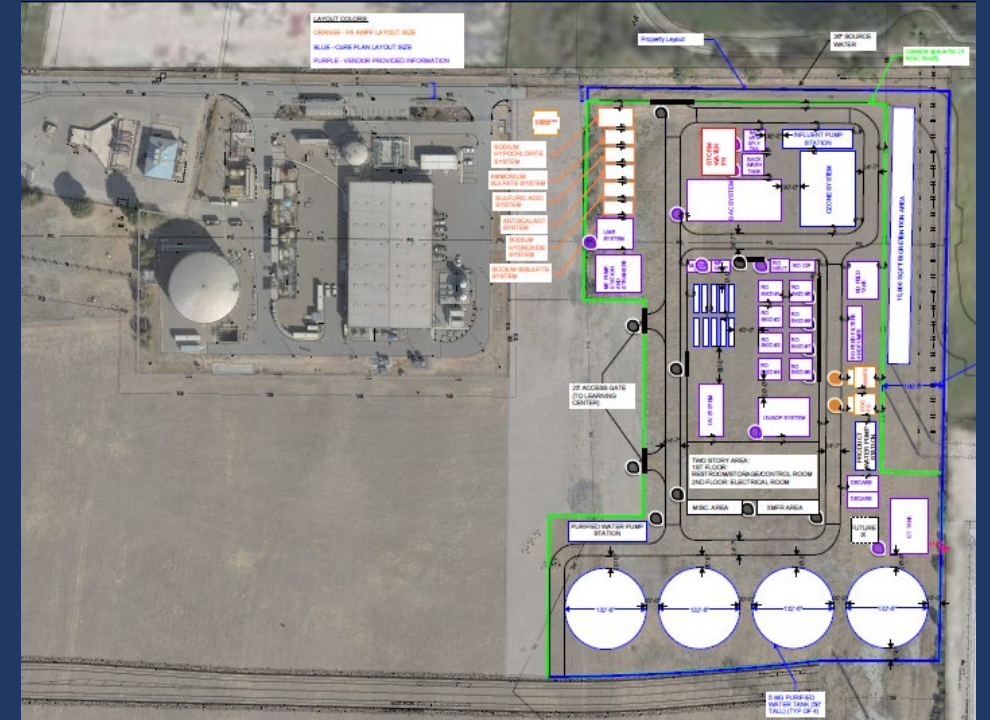
Duration: 7-10 Years

Location: San Jose, CA

Facility near SVAWPC



Direct Potable Reuse Facility



Objectives:

1. Provide a drought-proof and locally controlled water supply
2. Design, construct and permit a Direct Potable Reuse Full-Scale Facility
3. Meet the Board's approved goal of 24,000 Acre-Feet per Year (AFY) of potable reuse by 2035

* Placeholder dollars for this project are included in the 2025 PAWS Report.

Regulatory Coordination & Technical Studies

7

Science-Based Implementation

- Monthly coordination with the **Division of Drinking Water (DDW)**
- Permitting roadmap developed and presented to DDW
- Completed the **Concept Proposal and Pilot Testing Plan**
- Independent Advisory Panel (IAP) managed by the **National Water Research Institute (NWRI)** reviewing technical approach
- Continuing evaluations and studies on Reverse Osmosis Concentrate (ROC) management (e.g., Nature-Based Solutions)
- Coordination with **Regional Water Quality Control Board**

Grants & Feasibility Studies

8

Federal Support

- **U.S. Bureau of Reclamation:**
 - Funding provided for the core Feasibility Study.
 - Study supports future construction grant eligibility.
- **EPA Support:**
 - Secured **\$1,092,000** in Community Project Funding for Demonstration Facility planning.
 - Included in **FY26 Interior-Environment Appropriations Bill.**

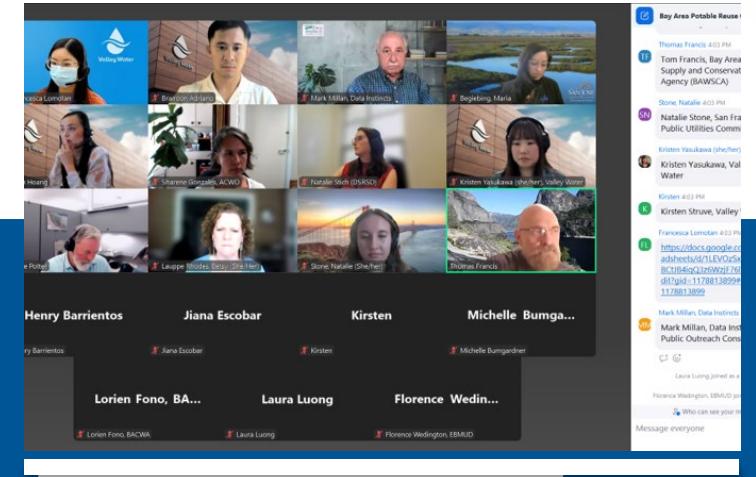
Purified Water Outreach



Tours



Recognition



Bay Area Collaboration

Build trust in purified water

Purified Water Bottling & Learning Center

- Second batch of **16,000 purified water bottles** approved (Jan 2026) for educational sampling.
- Hosted **Bay Area Potable Reuse Outreach Collaboration**.
- Pure Water Silicon Valley Learning Center.



Purified Water Bottling Project Team



Purified Water Bottle



Pure Water Silicon Valley
and Learning Center Site

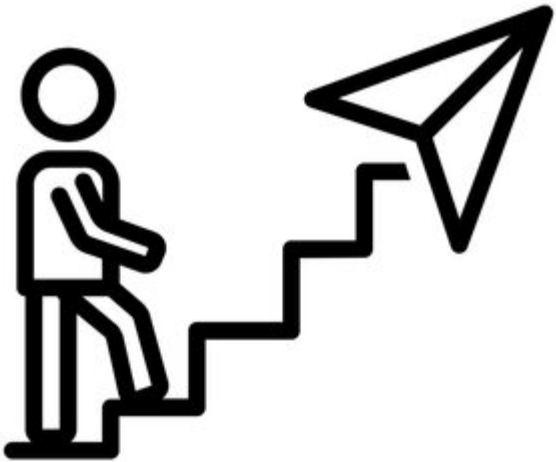
Next Steps

11

Moving Forward

The path to 2030 will be:

- Complete **design** for the Demonstration Facility & Learning Center.
- Begin procurement for **Learning Center educational exhibits**.
- Finalize **Project Charter and DPR facility agreements**.
- Continue **technical studies and regulatory coordination**.
- Refine **public outreach** and maintain **stakeholder engagement**.



QUESTIONS





Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 26-0556

Agenda Date: 7/20/2026

Item No.: 4.3.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM **Environmental and Water Resources Committee**

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

SUBJECT:

Receive Update on West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Master Plans.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update on the West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Master Plans.

SUMMARY:

Background

Valley Water's Watershed Master Plans identify watershed management needs and develop prioritized, multi-benefit actions aligned with existing policies, programs, and community values. Watershed Master Planning includes the One Water Countywide Framework and watershed-specific plans that translate this framework into actions. The Board adopted the Framework and Coyote Watershed Plan in March 2022, followed by the Guadalupe and Upper Pajaro Watershed Plans in April 2024. Valley Water is currently developing the final two plans, the West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Plans, anticipated for completion in early 2027.

The Watershed Master Plans are developed through a structured process based on five objective areas: natural ecosystems, flood risk, water quality, water supply, and climate change. The process includes three primary components: establishing existing watershed conditions (the setting), performance metrics, and priority actions. Setting reports establish baseline conditions and identify key challenges and opportunities, which inform development of metrics and targets used to evaluate performance and identify gaps. Based on this analysis, Priority Actions are developed to address challenges and gaps and advance progress toward objectives.

The watershed planning process includes extensive engagement with internal subject matter experts, partner agencies, community organizations, and the public to inform and refine plan development. Priority Actions for flood risk, natural ecosystems, and water quality are developed through analysis of watershed conditions, metrics, and this internal and external input. Priority Actions for water supply and climate change are predominantly generated through separate planning processes, such as the Water Supply Master Plan and Climate Change Action Plan, and are integrated with watershed management actions where possible.

Public and external partner engagement has been ongoing since a virtual kickoff in March 2025, followed by a public workshop at the Los Altos Community Center in September 2025 and participation in the Friends of Stevens Creek “Stevens Creek Watershed Summit” in March 2026. These efforts engaged local agencies, community and environmental organizations, and members of the public, and have informed refinement of watershed priorities, metrics, and draft actions. Staff have also coordinated with Board advisory committees, including the Environmental and Water Resources Committee (April 2025), Board Policy and Monitoring Committee (June 2025 and May 2026), and Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (July 2025 and July 2026).

Current Update

Since June 2025, development of the West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Master Plans has progressed through completion of baseline assessment and into metric evaluation and initial action development. The watershed setting reports, completed in December 2025, document baseline conditions and identified key challenges and opportunities, including highly urbanized creek systems, limited riparian habitat, water quality impairments, and localized flood risks, as well as opportunities for habitat enhancement, nature-based flood management, and improved watershed connectivity.

Staff have developed and finalized performance metrics and targets to evaluate watershed conditions relative to desired outcomes. Initial analysis indicates that while some objectives, such as flood protection and water supply, are progressing toward targets, others-particularly related to ecological condition, riparian connectivity, and channel modification-show greater gaps. These results help identify where focused investment and action are needed and provide a consistent, data-driven basis for tracking progress.

Using the settings and metrics analysis, staff have begun developing draft priority actions across flood protection, ecological health, water quality, water supply, and climate resilience (Attachment 2). The initial list is informed by existing Valley Water plans and programs, including the Water Supply Master Plan, Climate Change Action Plan, and Watershed Asset Management Program, as well as projects identified through ongoing operations and capital planning efforts. The list also incorporates input from partner agencies, community groups, and external partners gathered through outreach to date. Early actions emphasize multi-benefit approaches such as creek naturalization, fish passage improvements, riparian habitat enhancement, and nature-based flood risk reduction.

Committee Feedback Requested

Staff are seeking feedback from the Environmental and Water Resources Committee on the draft priority actions developed to date for the West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Master Plans (Attachment 2). Committee input will help refine and validate the proposed actions before the draft plans are shared more broadly with external stakeholders and incorporated into the final watershed master plans anticipated for completion in early 2027.

Next Steps

Staff will continue refining and validating priority actions through external partner engagement and technical evaluation throughout 2026. Final priority actions and draft plans are anticipated to be presented to the Environmental and Water Resources Committee and other advisory committees in

early 2027.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

The Watershed Master Planning process addresses environmental justice through targeted outreach to disadvantaged communities and by incorporating community input into decision-making. The Framework includes protocols to prioritize actions that reduce flood risk and improve health and safety for vulnerable populations, with progress tracked through environmental justice metrics. The process is objective and data-driven, ensuring transparency and equitable outcomes.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint
Attachment 2: Draft Priority Actions

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Lisa Bankosh, 408-630-2618

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Lower Peninsula and West Valley Watershed Master Plans

Presented by: **Elizabeth Mercado**, Senior Engineer, Water Resources Planning and Policy Unit
Environmental and Water Resources Committee - July 20, 2026

Agenda

Purpose: Provide update on the West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Master Plans

- Background
- Public Engagement
- Settings Overview
- Metrics Overview
- Priority Actions Development – Opportunity for Input
- Next Steps

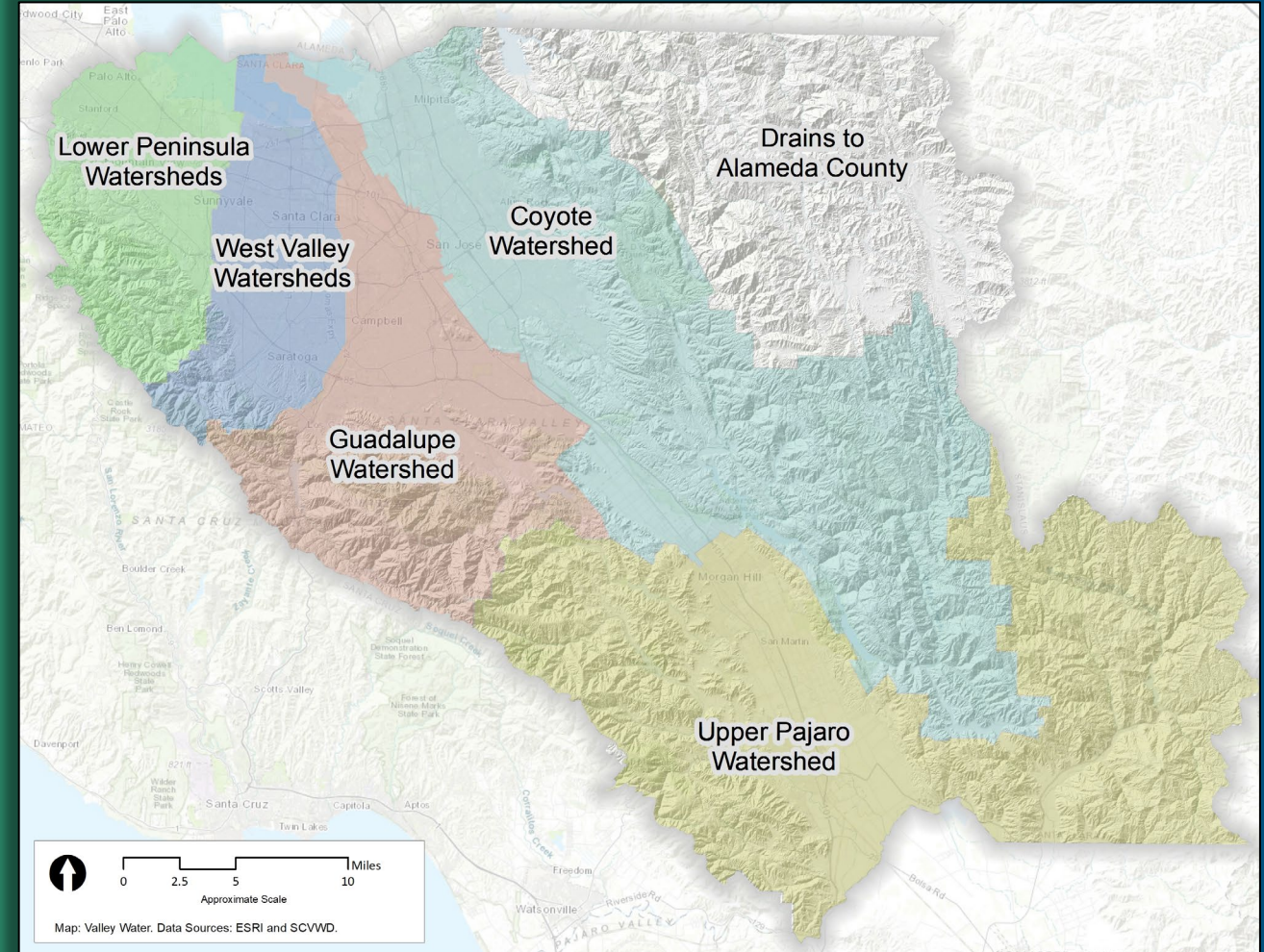
Watershed Master Plans - Progress

3

**West Valley
Lower Peninsula**
IN PROGRESS

**Upper Pajaro
Guadalupe**
2024

**Countywide Framework
Coyote**
2022



Watershed Master Plan - Objectives



**Natural
Ecosystems**



**Flood Risk
Reduction**



**Water
Quality**



**Water
Supply**



**Climate
Change**

Watershed Master Plan – Elements

Setting

+

Metrics

+

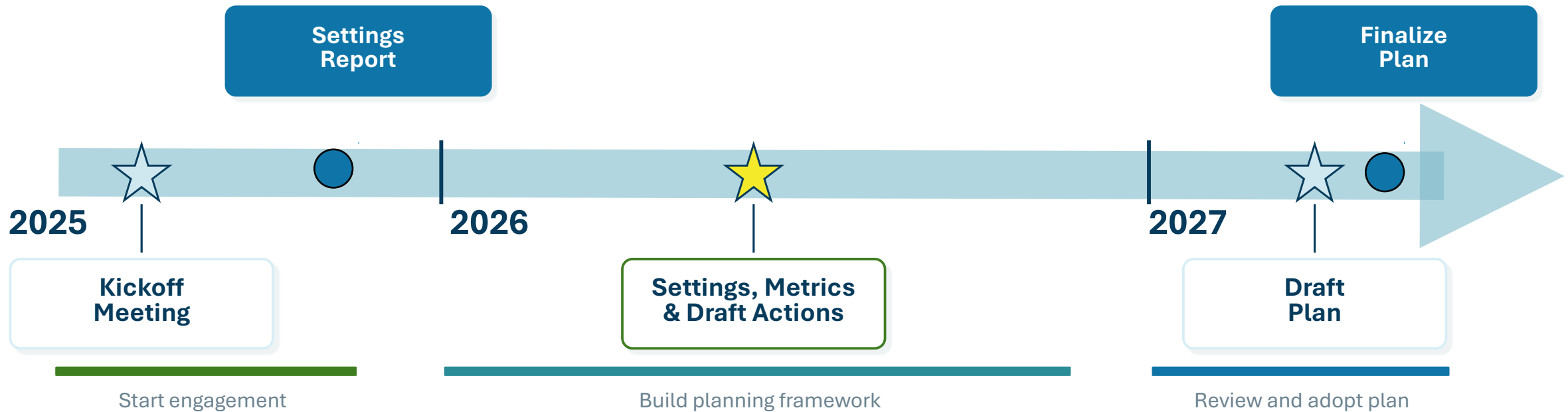
Priority Actions



West Valley & Lower Peninsula Watershed Master Plans

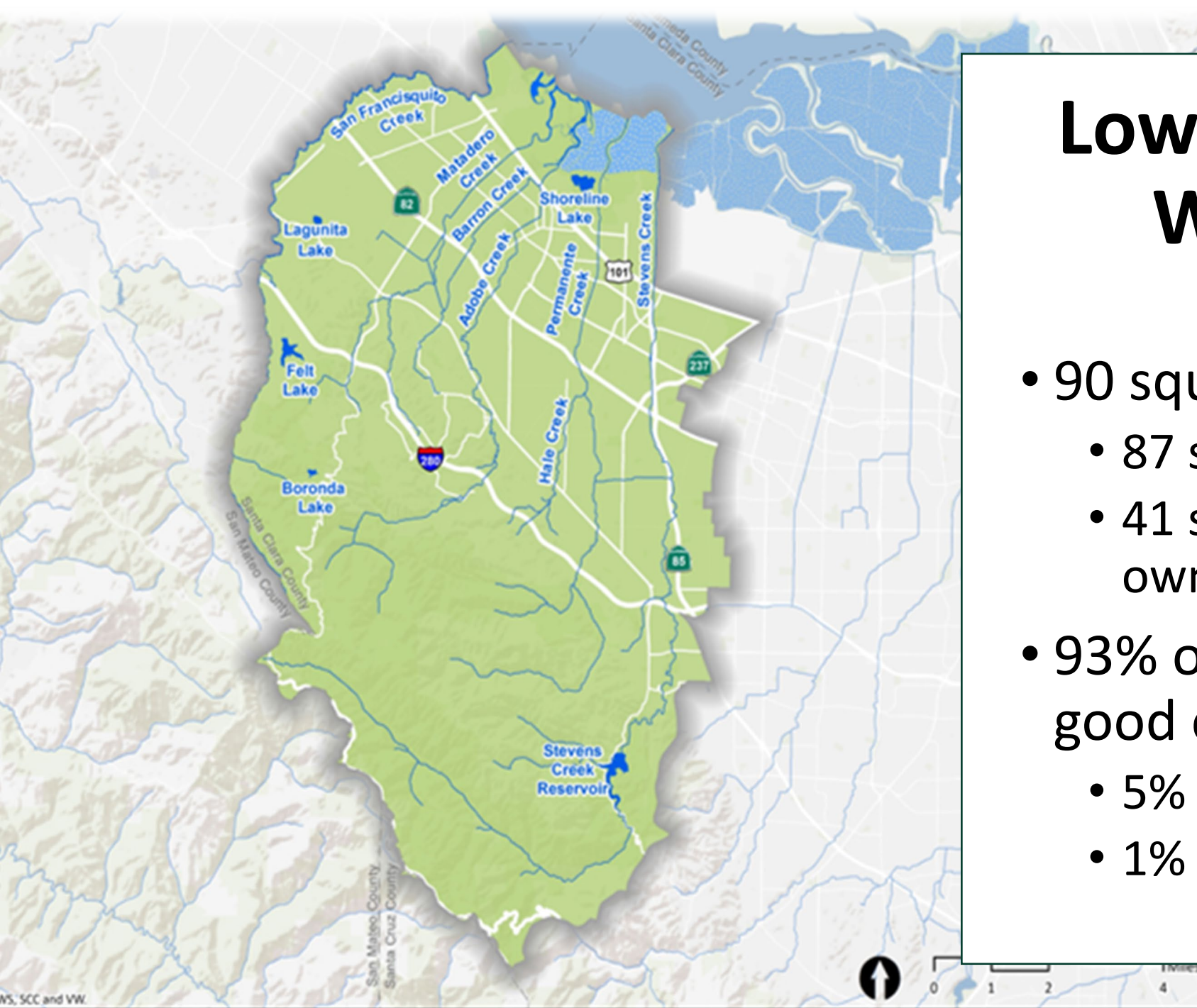
Planning Timeline

6



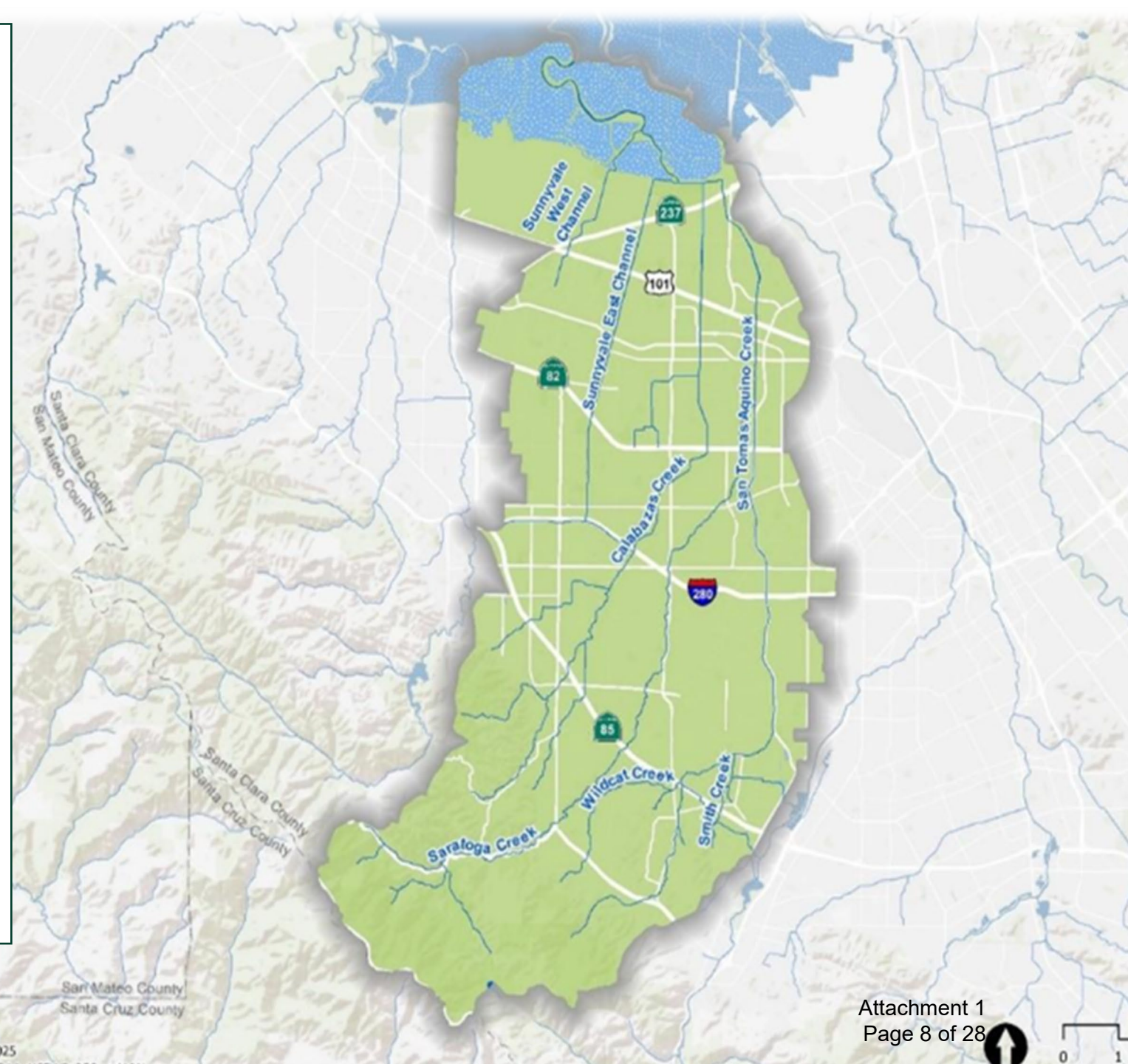
Lower Peninsula Watershed

- 90 square-mile area
 - 87 sq miles of creek
 - 41 sq miles of District-owned creek
- 93% of the creek is in good condition
 - 5% - shows signs of wear
 - 1% - poor condition



West Valley Watershed

- 85 square-mile area
 - 68 sq miles of creek
 - 55 sq miles of District-owned creek
 - Smallest watershed
- 88% of the creek is in good condition
 - 10% - shows signs of wear
 - 2% - poor condition



Community Network

List of Groups for Engagement

Agriculture/Ranching

Economic Vitality & Sustainability

Educational Institutions

Tribes/Environmental Justice

Environmental Org./Stewardship

Governing Bodies - Regulatory Agencies

Municipalities/Land Use Agencies

Open Space Conservation/Recreation

Residents/Community-Based Orgs

Special Joint Organizations/Coalitions

Subject Matter Experts/Research & Data

Water Resource Agencies / Special Districts

Outreach and Engagement

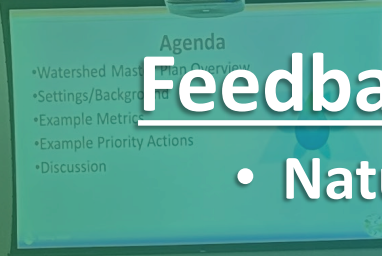
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Community Meetings:

- March 2025 – Kickoff
- Sept. 2025 - Los Altos
- March 2026 - Stevens Creek Summit

Feedback:

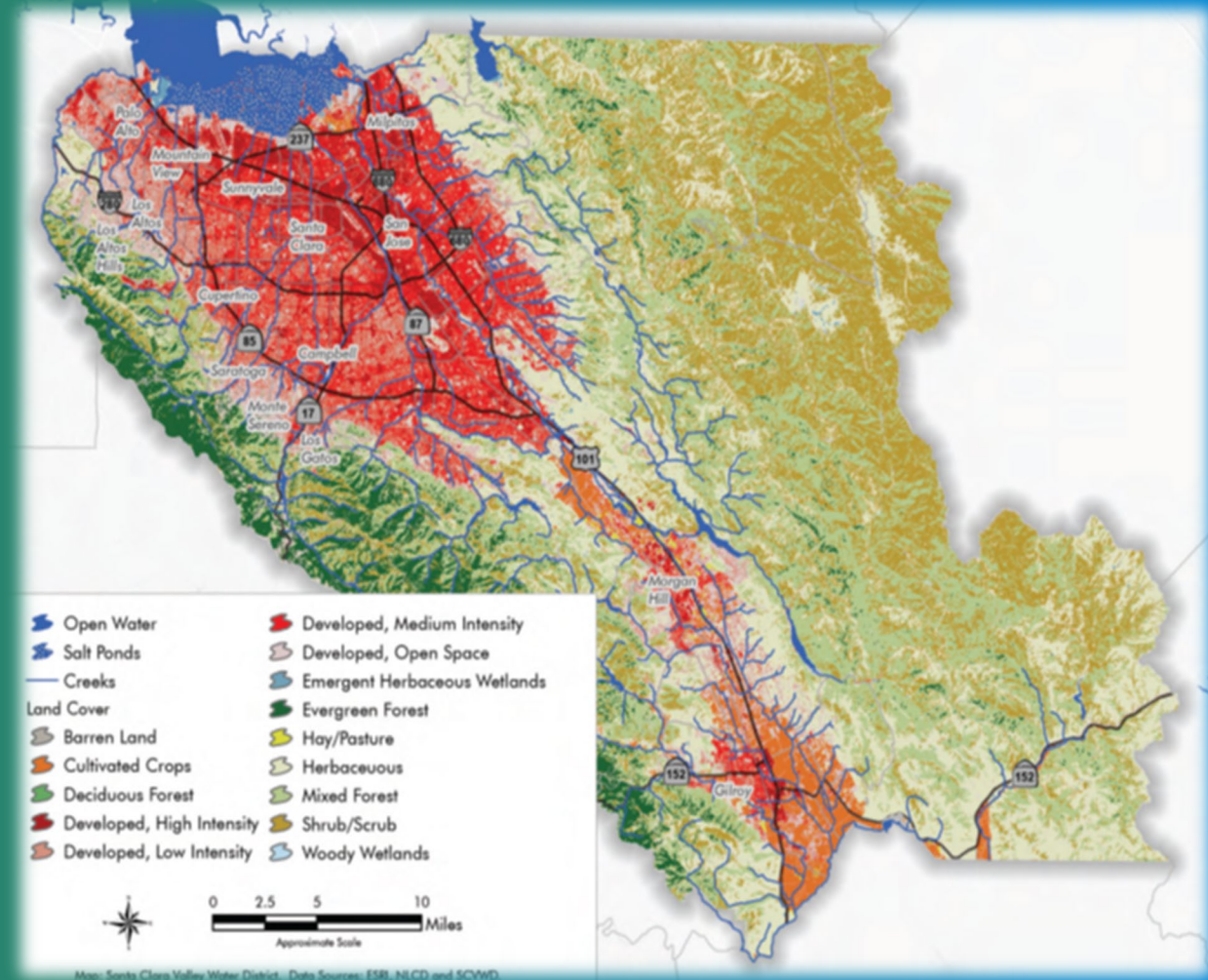
- Nature-based creek restoration
- Removal of fish passage barriers (i.e. Stevens Creek near Hwy 101)
- Expand trails and creek trail connectivity
- Increase riparian setbacks for future urban development
- Improve bird and pollinator habitat



Watershed Setting Reports

11

- Describes existing conditions
- Detailed assessment for each objective
- Identifies challenges and opportunities



Challenges

Highly constrained, urban
creeks

Aging flood protection
infrastructure

Degraded habitat and limited
connectivity

Water quality impairments
from urban runoff

Climate change impacts

Opportunities

Multi-benefit projects

Nature-based solutions

Regional partnerships

Strategic asset renewal

Urban and Bayland
restoration

Existing Flood Protection Conditions 13



San Tomas Aquino

Existing Concrete Conditions



Existing Ecological Conditions

15



Moffett Fish Ladder

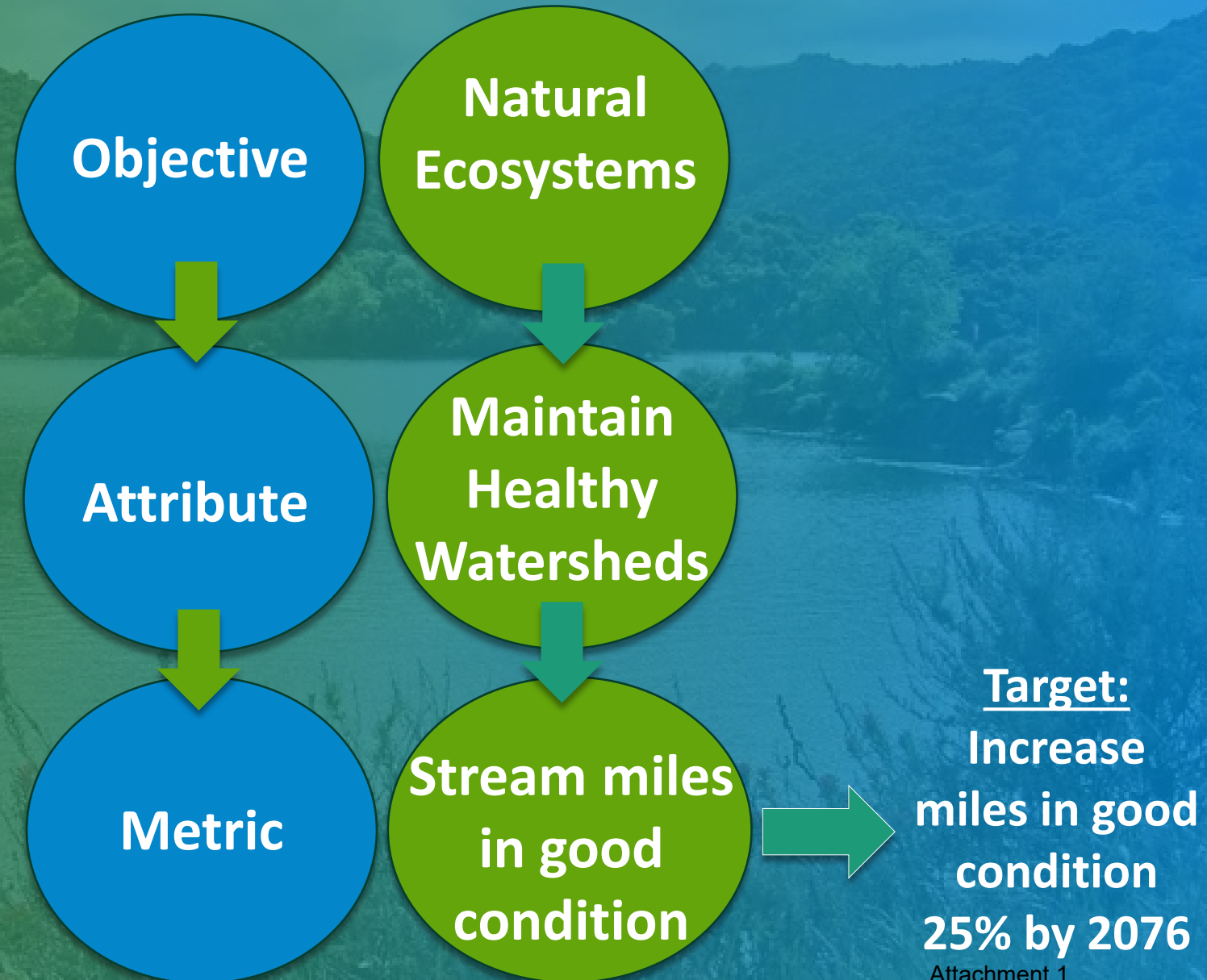
Existing Urbanization Conditions



Metrics

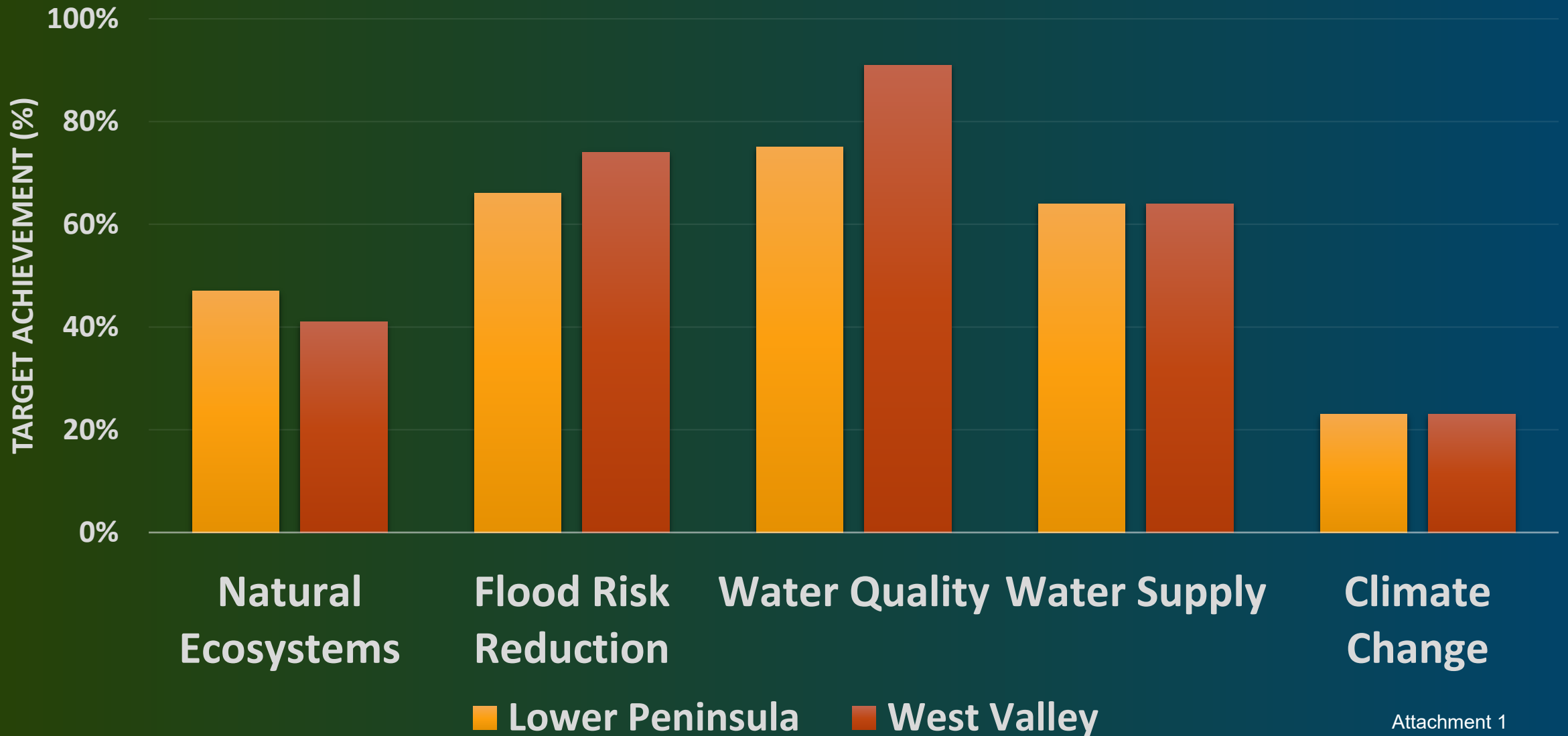
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- Metrics are measurable components to show status and movement toward a target



Current Results

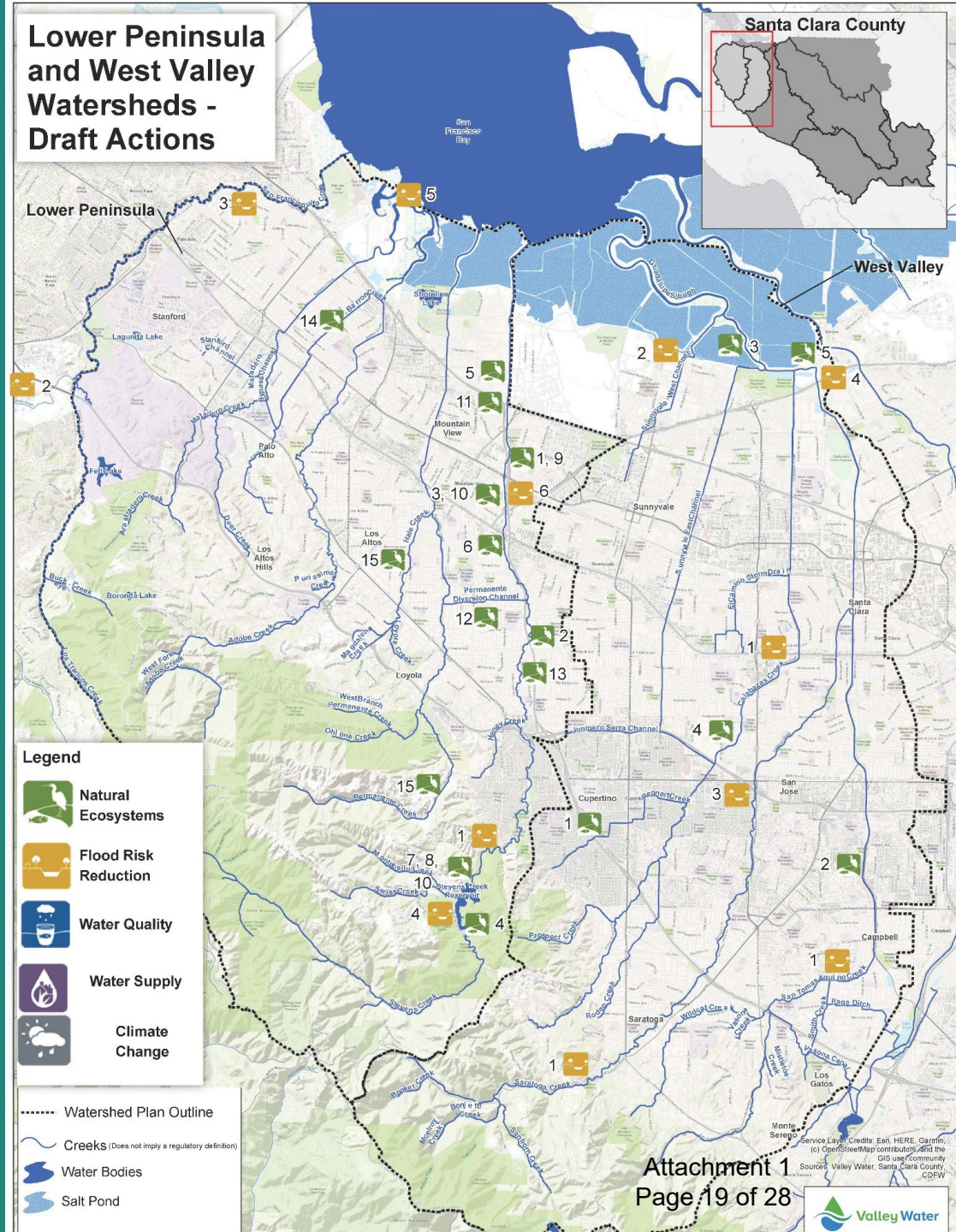
18



Priority Actions

- Existing and potential future projects within the watershed
- Actions address priorities set by metrics and community input

*Draft Actions Map of Lower Pen
and West Valley Watershed*



Draft Priority Actions in the Lower Peninsula & West Valley

- Aquatic Habitat Improvements
- Baylands Restoration
- Rehabilitation of Existing Infrastructure
- Hydrology Studies
- Groundwater Management
- Water Quality Improvement

Natural Ecosystems

21

Fish Passage Improvements

Implementation of identified priority sites for fish passage improvements.
(i.e. Lower Pen - ECO-2, ECO-3, ECO-4)



Aquatic Habitat Augmentation

Enhancing aquatic habitat with placement of gravel and large woody debris.
(i.e Lower Pen - ECO-1, ECO-9)



Flood Risk Reduction

22

Hydrology Studies

Estimating frequency, duration, and intensity of flood flows.

(i.e. Lower Pen FRR-1, West Valley FRR-1)



Flood Conveyance Improvements

Enhancing the capacity of floodplains to manage floodwaters effectively.

(i.e. Lower Pen FRR-3, West Valley FRR-2)

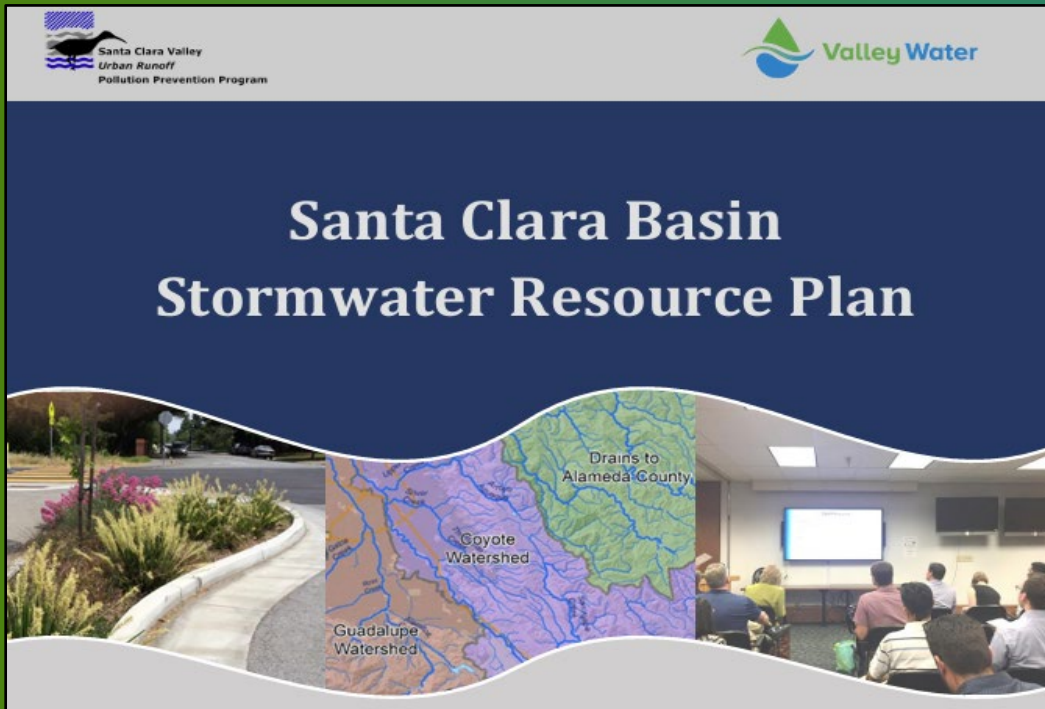


Water Quality

23

Support Water Resources Plan Updates

Partner and support local municipalities and agencies on the updates of the Stormwater Resource Plan and Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan. (i.e. WQ-1, WQ-2)



Trash Boom Partnerships

Partnering to prevent trash and debris from entering the Baylands.

(i.e. IP-3 in Lower Pen)

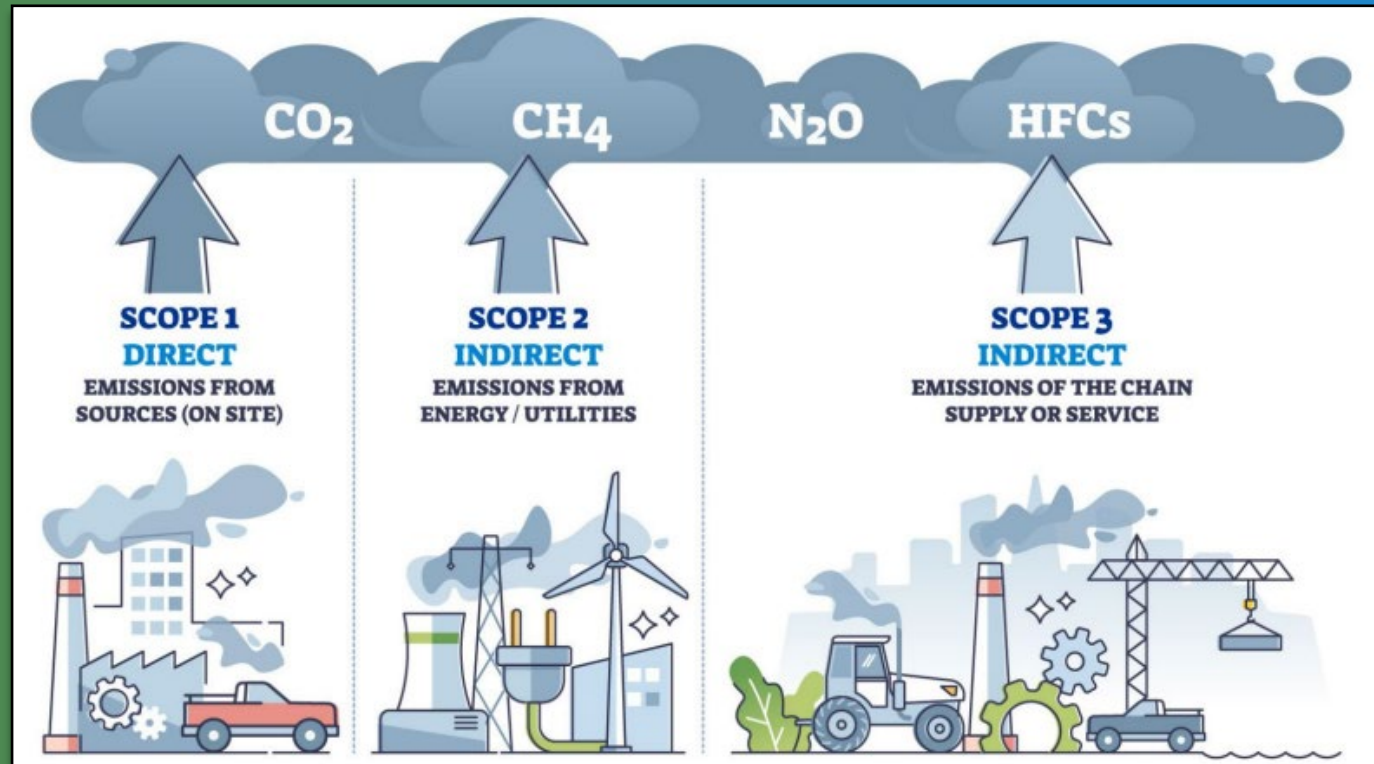


Climate Change

24

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Measures

Identifying and implementing GHG reduction measures to achieve Valley Water's carbon neutrality objectives.
(i.e. CC-1, CC-2, CC-3)



Overview of Completed and Ongoing Efforts

Water Supply (WS)	Water Quality (WQ)	Natural Ecosystems (ECO)
Groundwater Management of the Santa Clara Subbasin	Trash Capture Device Maintenance	Hale Creek Enhancement Project
Water Supply Master Plan 2050	Urban Runoff & Green Stormwater Infrastructure Program	Invasive Spartina Project
Climate Change	Good Neighbor Program – Encampment Cleanup	Integrated Invasive Plant Management Program
Reservoir Greenhouse Gas Emission Study	Mercury Monitoring & Reservoir Water Quality Studies	Early Detection & Rapid Response (EDRR) Program
Flood Risk Reduction (FRR)		San Tomas Aquino Creek Watershed Sediment Assessment
Emergency Response & Flood Forecasting System Upgrades		Saratoga Creek Hazard Tree Removal & Habitat Restoration
		Reservoir Greenhouse Gas Emission Study

Feedback Requested!

Your turn! Give input today and...

Visit the project's webpage at
valleywater.org/project-updates/watershed-master-plan

Contact Elizabeth Mercado
Emercado@valleywater.org

We'd love to hear from you at any time!
<https://beheard.valleywater.org/west-valley-watershed-plan>

<https://beheard.valleywater.org/lower-peninsula-watershed-plan>



West Valley & Lower Peninsula Watershed Master Plans

Planning Timeline

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QUESTIONS



Attachment 2: Draft Priority Actions for Lower Peninsula and West Valley Watersheds

Flood Risk Reduction Actions

Action ID	Watershed	Title	Brief Description	Activity Type
FRR-1	LP	Stevens Creek Hydrology Update Study	Update flood hydrology and hydraulic models to improve flood risk estimates and support future watershed planning.	Assessment / Study
FRR-2	LP	Searsville Watershed Restoration Project	Partner with Stanford to restore a free-flowing creek system, improve floodplain function, and reconnect natural sediment transport processes.	Partnership
FRR-3	LP	San Francisquito Creek Flood Protection (Reach 2)	Support flood protection improvements and bridge upgrades to reduce flood risk along lower San Francisquito Creek.	Partnership
FRR-4	LP	Stevens Creek Dam Seismic Stability Assessment	Evaluate dam performance under earthquake and extreme flood conditions and identify potential improvement options.	Assessment / Study
FRR-5	LP	Palo Alto Tide Gate Rehabilitation	Rehabilitate aging tide gates that help protect nearby communities, infrastructure, and creek systems from coastal flooding.	Project
FRR-6	LP	Stevens Creek Flood Protection Project	Develop flood protection improvements in high-risk reaches of Stevens Creek to reduce flood risk to nearby properties and facilities.	Project
FRR-1	WV	West Valley Watershed Hydraulic Analysis	Refine watershed hydraulic models and flood risk assessments to support future planning and project development.	Assessment / Study
FRR-2	WV	Saratoga Creek Flood Protection Project	Evaluate and develop flood risk reduction improvements along a reach of Saratoga Creek near Stevens Creek Boulevard.	Project
FRR-3	WV	San Tomas Aquino Creek Watershed Sediment Assessment	Assess sediment movement, erosion areas, and future watershed conditions to support resilient sediment management strategies.	Assessment / Study
FRR-4	WV	Sunnyvale West Channel Enhancement Project	Improve flood protection along the West Channel through infrastructure upgrades to reduce flood risk near the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant, surrounding businesses, and transportation corridors. The project will be developed in coordination with the City of Sunnyvale.	Project
FRR-5	WV	Sunnyvale East Channel Enhancement Project	Upgrade bridges, levees, floodwalls, and other flood management infrastructure along the East Channel to improve system performance and reduce flood risk in the Moffett Park and Sunnyvale area.	Project

Natural Ecosystem Actions

Action ID	Watershed	Title	Brief Description	Activity Type
ECO-1	LP	Improve Spawning & Rearing Habitat for Steelhead	Add gravel, large wood, pools, and other habitat features to improve conditions for native fish in Stevens Creek.	Project
ECO-2	LP	SF35 Gage Fish Passage Improvement	Improve fish passage conditions at the Stevens Creek SF35 gaging station.	Project
ECO-3	LP	Fremont Fish Ladder Improvement	Upgrade fish ladder infrastructure to improve fish movement and habitat connectivity on Stevens Creek.	Project
ECO-4	LP	Hetch Hetchy Drop Structure Fish Passage	Support the improvement of fish passage at the SFPUC-owned drop structure on Stevens Creek.	Partnership
ECO-5	LP	Landels Park Fish Passage Improvement	Support the improvement of fish passage at two drop structures near Landels Park to support steelhead migration on Stevens Creek.	Partnership
ECO-6	LP	Vernon Avenue Fish Passage Improvement	Improve passage conditions for juvenile and adult steelhead near Vernon Avenue on Stevens Creek.	Project
ECO-7	LP	El Camino Real Fish Passage Improvement	Support the improvement of fish passage near El Camino Real and adjacent storm drain infrastructure on Stevens Creek.	Partnership
ECO-8	LP	Gaging Weir 44 Fish Passage Improvement	Support the improvement of fish passage at Weir 44 on Stevens Creek while maintaining stream monitoring capabilities.	Partnership
ECO-9	LP	Stevens Reservoir Trap-and-Truck Study	Evaluate the feasibility of transporting steelhead around Stevens Creek Reservoir to improve access to habitat.	Assessment / Study
ECO-10	LP	Stevens Creek Multiport Outlet Study	Evaluate reservoir outlet modifications that could improve downstream water temperatures and habitat conditions.	Assessment / Study
ECO-11	LP	Moffett Fish Passage Improvement	Improve the existing Moffet fish ladder for performance and habitat connectivity on Stevens Creek.	Project
ECO-12	LP	Evelyn Avenue Fish Passage Improvement	Restore stream habitat and improve fish passage opportunities near Evelyn Avenue.	Project
ECO-13	LP	Highway 101 Fish Passage Improvement	Support the improvement of fish passage barriers at the CalTrans-owned Highway 101 crossing on Stevens Creek.	Partnership
ECO-14	LP	Permanente Creek Diversion Study	Assess opportunities to improve fish passage along the Permanente Creek Diversion.	Assessment / Study

ECO-15	LP	Stevens Creek Channel Stabilization	Stabilize eroding creek reaches while enhancing habitat and channel function.	Project
ECO-16	LP	Barron Creek Channel Improvements	Improve aging channel infrastructure while enhancing ecological conditions.	Project
ECO-17	LP	Permanente & Hale Creek Channel Improvements	Improve aging channel infrastructure while enhancing ecological conditions.	Project
ECO-1	WV	Regnart Creek Channel Stabilization	Address channel erosion and instability along Regnart Creek through targeted improvements that reduce maintenance challenges while enhancing ecological function and watershed resilience.	Project
ECO-2	WV	San Tomas Aquino Creek Channel Improvements	Evaluate erosion, sediment, maintenance challenges, and habitat conditions along San Tomas Aquino Creek to identify long-term, sustainable solutions that improve watershed resilience and ecological function.	Project
ECO-3	WV	Pond A4 Resilient Habitat Restoration	Restore habitat within Pond A4 using nature-based approaches that improve ecological conditions, support wildlife, and enhance long-term resilience to climate change and sea level rise.	Project
ECO-4	WV	Calabazas Creek Channel Improvements	Evaluate opportunities to improve channel stability, flood risk management, and long-term maintenance effectiveness along lower Calabazas Creek. A study will first identify sustainable and cost-effective solutions to address ongoing sediment, vegetation, erosion, and infrastructure challenges.	Project
ECO-5	WV	Calabazas and San Tomas Aquino Creek-Marsh Connection	Reconnect Calabazas Creek and San Tomas Aquino Creek to adjacent tidal marsh habitats to improve ecological connectivity, support native wildlife, and enhance long-term ecosystem resilience.	Project
ECO-18 ECO-6	LP & WV	Modified Channel Ecological Enhancement Planning	Identify and prioritize opportunities to enhance habitat and ecological function within modified creek channels. Potential projects will be evaluated based on ecological benefits, feasibility, and their ability to maintain flood protection while providing additional community and environmental benefits where appropriate.	Assessment / Study

Climate Change Actions

Action ID	Watershed	Title	Brief Description	Activity Type
CC-1	LP & WV	Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan Update	Implement Valley Water's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan to support progress toward net-zero emissions goals and improve climate resilience.	Plan
CC-2	LP & WV	Carbon Budget Tracking Program	Develop a carbon budget tracking tool and procedures to help monitor greenhouse gas emissions and track progress toward Valley Water's reduction targets.	Program

Water Quality Actions

Action ID	Watershed	Title	Brief Description	Activity Type
WQ-1	LP & WV	Partner with Local Municipalities to implement Stormwater Resource Plan	Valley Water plans to partner with municipalities throughout Santa Clara County to update the existing Santa Clara Basin Stormwater Resource Plan and identify projects that improve stormwater management and enhance the water quality of local creeks and waterways.	Partnership
WQ-2	LP & WV	Support and Advance Sea Level Rise Groundwater Studies	Support and expand studies evaluating the effects of sea level rise and saltwater intrusion on groundwater conditions, to further identify, prioritize, and develop adaptation projects and management strategies that improve long-term watershed resilience.	Partnership

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 26-0558

Agenda Date: 7/20/2026

Item No.: 4.4.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Environmental and Water Resources Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Review and Receive Updates on the Environmental and Water Resources Committee's Working Groups.

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. Review and receive updates on the Environmental and Water Resources Committee's Working Groups, and
- B. Provide comments to the Board on implementation of Valley Water's mission applicable to working groups' recommendations.

SUMMARY:

At the Committee's October 2021, meeting, the Committee approved the working groups' structure to align with the issues and policies that the Board of Directors has on their work plan and calendar for the fiscal year.

The Board will continue to keep the Committee informed of the working groups' activities and results.

This will be a standing agenda item.

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no environmental justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: EWRC Working Groups July 2026

Attachment 2: EWRC FINAL Working Group Restructure

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Wendy Ho, 408-630-3874

FY 2026 EWRC Working Groups ☐

Working Group Number/Title		Member Name	Lead	Total Members
EWRC Oversight Manager: John Bourgeois, jbourgeois@valleywater.org, 1-408-630-2990				
1	INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT:			
Valley Water Staff Liaison: Heidi Williams, heidiwilliams@valleywater.org, 1-408-630-3112		Tess Byler, Charles Ice, Loren Lewis, Douglas Peterson	Tess Byler	4
2	WATER SUPPLY:			
Valley Water Staff Liaison: Jing Wu, jwu@valleywater.org, 1-408-630-2330		Arthur M. Keller, Patrick S. Kwok, Mike Michitaka	Arthur Keller	3
3	NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION:			
Valley Water Staff Liaison: Katie Muller, kmuller@valleywater.org, 1-408-630-2934		Arthur M. Keller, Mike Michitaka, Charles Taylor, Tess Byler	Arthur Keller	4
4	ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP:			
Valley Water Staff Liaison: John Bourgeois, jbourgeois@valleywater.org, 1-408-630-2990		Bob Levy, Rebecca Gallardo, Matthew Frazier	Bob Levy	3
5	CLIMATE CHANGE:			

FY 2026 EWRC Working Groups ☐

Working Group Number/Title	Member Name	Lead	Total Members
Valley Water Staff Liaison: Nick Mascarello, nmascarello@valleywater.org, 1-408-630-3147	Bob Levy, Charles Taylor, Douglas Peterson	Bob Levy	3
Lead Member			
SPECIAL NOTES: Members should limit the number of working groups they participate in because of possible Brown Act Violations (2-3 groups only). Please Note: You will be sharing your phone number and email address with the other members when signing up for a working group. When planning meetings, the Group Chair (Lead) should contact Dave Leon via email (daveleon@valleywater.org) and John Bourgeois (jbourgeois@valleywater.org) with meeting date/time and location and how many members are expected to attend.			

Environmental and Water Resources Committee

Draft Work Plan Revisions, Working Groups

Originated on August 10, 2021

(Latest revision: October 2025)

The Environmental and Water Resources Committee (EWRC) has a broad mandate that includes all aspects of the Valley Water mission (see attached excerpt from Board Resolution 17-75). However, this broad mandate can at times result in a dilution of purpose. These draft work plan revisions are aimed at focusing the EWRC's efforts in a way that takes better advantage of the resources and experience of a strong and diverse membership, while strengthening the advisory role of the EWRC to the benefit of the Valley Water Board and staff.

The EWRC takes its direction from the Board. Action items as directed by the Board will take top priority in Committee business.

The defined roles of the EWRC are to:

1. Provide input on policy.
2. Provide comment on activities in the implementation of Valley Water's mission.
3. Act as a link between Valley Water and the public.
4. Produce and present an Annual Accomplishments Report.

With these simple guiding principles in mind, to make the committee more directly connected to its stated purpose, we propose the following structure:

Policy and Implementation Input (roles 1 and 2 above)

The formation of 5 Working Groups:

1. **Integrated Water Resources Management** (sample topics: One Water Plan [Integrated Water Resources Master Plan], Flood-MAR [Managed Aquifer Recharge], Green stormwater infrastructure); staff liaison: Senior Water Resources Specialist overseeing One Water (currently Heidi Williams)
2. **Water Supply** (sample topics: Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit project, Purified Water, Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project); staff liaison: Senior Water Resources Specialist (currently Jing Wu)
3. **Natural Flood Protection** (sample topics: Shoreline Phase 2, Upper Penitencia Creek); staff liaison: Unit Manager (currently Katie Muller)
4. **Environmental Stewardship** (sample topics: FAHCE, habitat connectivity and riparian corridors, fish passage including gravel and LWD); staff liaison: Unit Manager (currently John Bourgeois)
5. **Climate Change** (sample topics: Climate Change Action Plan [CCAP] Implementation, GHG methodology updates); staff liaison: Senior Water Resources Specialist overseeing CCAP (currently Nick Mascarello)

Access to the staff liaisons should be used respectfully, with the intent of 1) clarifying questions on specific topics and 2) obtaining access to background information and/or resources being provided to other committees.

Each Working Group will have 4-8 members and will designate a Lead.

Assigned Work: Assigned tasks by the Board will take priority for the EWRC. When input on an issue is desired by the Board, the item will go first to the Working Group (unless time does not permit and the WG feels the item can go straight to the full Committee). The Working Group will then present recommendations to the full committee for action if deemed appropriate.

Proactive Topics: If there are items that the EWRC would like more information on, and they are not an item requested from the Board, we suggest the following process:

- When applicable, EWRC liaison (see below) will attend the relevant Board or Committee where the item is being discussed.
- Discuss the item at the Working Group level to see if there is consensus on whether an item is appropriate to be brought to the entire Committee.
- Bring the item to the full EWRC during the standing agenda item to review the work plan and vote on whether or not to fully agendaize the item for discussion at a subsequent meeting. If time is short, the Working Group Lead may bring the item to the Chair and Vice Chair of the EWRC who will consult with staff and may agendaize it for the next meeting.
- Questions to consider when voting on an item:
 - Is the item being adequately addressed in another forum (see Standing Items Report for updates)?
 - Will the item, if brought to the EWRC, fall under one of the stated purposes of the Committee?
 - Can the EWRC positively contribute to the item to benefit Valley Water and the community?
 - Is there support from the Board liaisons for spending time on this item?

Board and Committee Liaisons (roles 1 and 2 above)

We recommend that EWRC assign a liaison (plus an alternate) to each Board Committee and that these Committee members briefly report out at each quarterly EWRC (as done under the Working Groups Update, a standing item on the agenda). The Chair will assign at-large appointments, and each Working Group will assign those liaisons for committees designated to that Working Group (see below). Updates will include any items that may be of interest to the EWRC and/or pertinent to the Committee Work Plan.

The Board Committees that we recommend designated liaisons include (with Working Group designation in parenthesis):

- Board Audit Committee (At-Large)
- Board Policy and Planning Committee (At-Large)
- Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Committee (At-Large)
- Diversity and Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee (At-Large)
- Homeless Encampment Committee (Environmental Stewardship)
- Recycled Water Committee (Water Supply)

- Stream Planning and Operations Committee (Environmental Stewardship)
- Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee (Water Supply)
- Water Storage Exploratory Committee (Water Supply)

Roles and responsibilities: The Board Committee liaisons are expected to regularly attend their designated Board Committee meetings, alerting their alternate if they are unable to attend. At those meetings, they will represent EWRC interests, report back to EWRC any items of interest, and elevate recommendations within their Working Groups on any items desired for proactive engagement (see above). The meeting schedule of these committees can be located as part of the regular meeting minutes and ongoing agenda item (Informational Link Reports), as well as at the below links. Typical meeting frequency and duration are listed below but are subject to variances.

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

- Board Policy and Planning Committee (BPPC) (typically 1 meeting per month, 2 hours)
- Stream Planning and Operations Committee (SPOC) (formerly FAHCE Ad Hoc Committee, typically every other month, 2 hours)
- Homeless Encampment Committee (typically every other month, 2 hours)
- Water Storage Exploratory Committee (WSEC) meetings are scheduled as called for by the Committee Chair, but typically 2 hours

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

- Redistricting Advisory Committee (RAC) this is a special Committee for Redistricting and will be completed by March 2022.
- Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee (WCaDMC) (typically 1 meeting per month, 2 hours)

Stakeholder Engagement (role 3 above)

The EWRC represents a vital cross-section of the Valley Water constituency. We want to emphasize the EWRC's role in being an extension of the larger community. As such, we request that EWRC members perform three vital functions:

1. Communicate relevant Valley Water issues and project updates to your network.
2. Bring to the Committee any environmental and water resources concerns or issues you are hearing in the community.
3. Bring to the Committee any environmental justice concerns or issues you are hearing in the community.

EWRC members have been carefully selected by Board members to represent a broad cross-section of the community. As leaders in the community, the Board values and relies on the EWRC members to assist in two-way communication with stakeholders and residents.

Pertinent excerpts from Board Resolution 17-75 on the functions of advisory committees.

RESOLUTION 17- 75
PROVIDING FOR AND DEFINING THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION OF
ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND REPEALING RESOLUTION

...

1.2 The Committees are established to assist the Board with policy review and development, provide comment on activities in the implementation of the District's mission for Board consideration, and to identify Board-related issues pertaining to the following:

1.2.2 Environmental and Water Resources Committee: ***water supply, flood protection, and environmental stewardship.***

...

1.3 In accordance with Governance Process Policy-8, the specific duties of the Committees are to:

1.3.1. Provide ***input on policy alternatives*** for Board deliberation.

1.3.2 Provide ***comment on the activities in the implementation*** of the District's mission for Board consideration.

1.3.3 Produce and present to the Board an ***Annual Accomplishments Report*** summarizing the outcomes of the Committee's annual Board-approved work plan.

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



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 26-0587

Agenda Date: 7/20/2026

Item No.: 4.5.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM **Environmental and Water Resources Committee**

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

SUBJECT:

Review Environmental and Water Resources Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests, and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda.

RECOMMENDATION:

Review the Committee work plan to guide the committee's discussions regarding policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation.

SUMMARY:

The attached Work Plan outlines the topics for discussion to be able to prepare policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation. The work plan is agendized at each meeting as accomplishments are updated and to review any work plan assignments by the Board.

BACKGROUND:

Governance Process Policy-8:

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

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

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

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: EWRC 2026 Work Plan

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Wendy Ho, 408-630-3874

2026 Work Plan: Environmental and Water Resources Committee

Updated July 2026

The annual work plan establishes a framework for committee discussion and action during the annual meeting schedule. The committee work plan is a dynamic document, subject to change as external and internal issues impacting the District occur and are recommended for committee discussion. Subsequently, an annual committee accomplishments report is developed based on the work plan and presented to the District Board of Directors.

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
1	Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2026	January 26	Committee Elects Chair and Vice Chair for 2026. (Action)	Accomplished January 26, 2026 The Committee unanimously elected Bob Levy as Chairperson and Rebecca Gallardo as Vice Chairperson.
2	Annual Accomplishments Report	January 26	Review and approve 2025 Accomplishments Report for presentation to the Board. (Action)	Accomplished January 26, 2026 The Committee unanimously approved the 2025 Accomplishments Report for presentation to the Board.
3	Update Status of Working Groups	January 26 April 20 July 20 October 19	Receive updates on the status of the working groups. (Action) Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate.	Accomplished January 26 and April 20, 2026 The Committee received the information and took no formal action.
4	Review of Environmental and Water Resources Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda	January 26 April 20 July 20 October 19	Receive and review the 2026 Board-approved Committee work plan. (Action) Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate.	Accomplished January 26, 2026 The Committee unanimously approved to recommend the proposed 2026 EWRC Work Plan to the Board. Accomplished April 20, 2026 The Committee received the information and took no formal action.
5	Standing Items Report Fiscal Year 2026 Goals and Strategies:	April 20 July 20 October 19	Receive quarterly reports on standing items. (Information)	Accomplished April 20, 2026 The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

2026 Work Plan: Environmental and Water Resources Committee

Updated July 2026

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
6	Anderson Dam and FAHCE	January 26	Receive Update on Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project and Incorporation of Fish and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE) Conservation Measures for Coyote Creek.	Accomplished January 26, 2026 The Committee received the information and took no formal action.
7	Stream Maintenance Program Update	July 20	Receive an update on SMP 3.	
8	San Tomas/Calabazas realignment	April 20	Receive update on San Tomas/Calabazas realignment project and provide feedback on alternatives.	Accomplished April 20, 2026 The Committee received the information and took no formal action.
9	Sargent Ranch purchase	April 20	Receive an update on Valley Water's contribution to Sargent Ranch purchase.	Accomplished April 20, 2026 The Committee received the information and took no formal action.
10	Water Supply Master Plan Monitoring and Assessment Program	October 19	Receive update on MAP.	
11	Desalination Feasibility Study	January 26 October 19	Receive an update on the desalination feasibility study.	Accomplished January 26, 2026 The Committee received the information and took no formal action.
12	Pure Water Silicon Valley	July 20	Receive an update on the Pure Water Silicon Valley potable reuse project.	
13	West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Master Plans	July 20	Receive Update on West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Master Plans.	
14	Review Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Board Work plan	October 19	Review Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Board Work Plan. (Information)	

BOARD WORK PLAN GOALS:

1. **Integrated Water Resources Management** - Goal: Efficiently manage water resources across business areas.
2. **Water Supply** – Goal: Provide a reliable, safe, and affordable water supply for current and future generations in all communities served.
3. **Natural Flood Protection** – Goal: Provide natural flood protection to reduce risk and improve health and safety.
4. **Environmental Stewardship** – Goal: Sustain ecosystem health while managing local water resources for flood protection and water supply.
5. **Addressing Encampment of Unsheltered People** – Goal: safeguard water resources and facilities from encampment impacts.
6. **Extreme Weather Events** – Goal: Mitigate carbon emissions and adapt Valley Water operations to extreme weather events.
7. **Business Management** – Goal: Promote effective management of water supply, flood protection, and environmental stewardship

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