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### About Valley Water

Valley Water manages an integrated water resources system that includes the supply of clean, safe water, flood protection and stewardship of streams on behalf of Santa Clara County’s 2 million residents. The district effectively manages 10 dams and surface water reservoirs, three water treatment plants, an advanced recycled water purification center, a state-of-the-art water quality laboratory, nearly 277 acres of groundwater recharge ponds and more than 275 miles of streams.




We provide wholesale water and groundwater management services to local municipalities and private water retailers who deliver drinking water directly to homes and businesses in Santa Clara County.

# South County Recycled Water Pipeline Project Valley Water

## Project Overview

In mid-March 2022, Valley Water and its contractor will begin work on the South County Recycled Water Pipeline Project. The project will expand the distribution of additional recycled water in Gilroy, serve new customers, improve service delivery through system redundancy during outages, and support future system expansions.

The work includes:

-  Construction of approximately 3.5 miles of pipeline ranging between 18-inch and 36-inch diameter.
-  Connection to the existing recycled water system and recycled water pipeline.
-  Upgrading the pipeline connection to the South County Recycled Water Authority (SCRWA) wastewater treatment plant facility.

Project construction is estimated to be completed by the end of summer 2023 and is being coordinated with the City of Gilroy and SCRWA, both long-term Valley Water partners, to supply recycled water in Gilroy.

As with many projects, Valley Water is proactive in researching and receiving state and federal grants for its construction prospects. Valley Water is receiving a \$5.7 million grant from the United States Bureau of Reclamation from its Water Reclamation and Reuse Program to help reduce the project’s \$23 million cost.

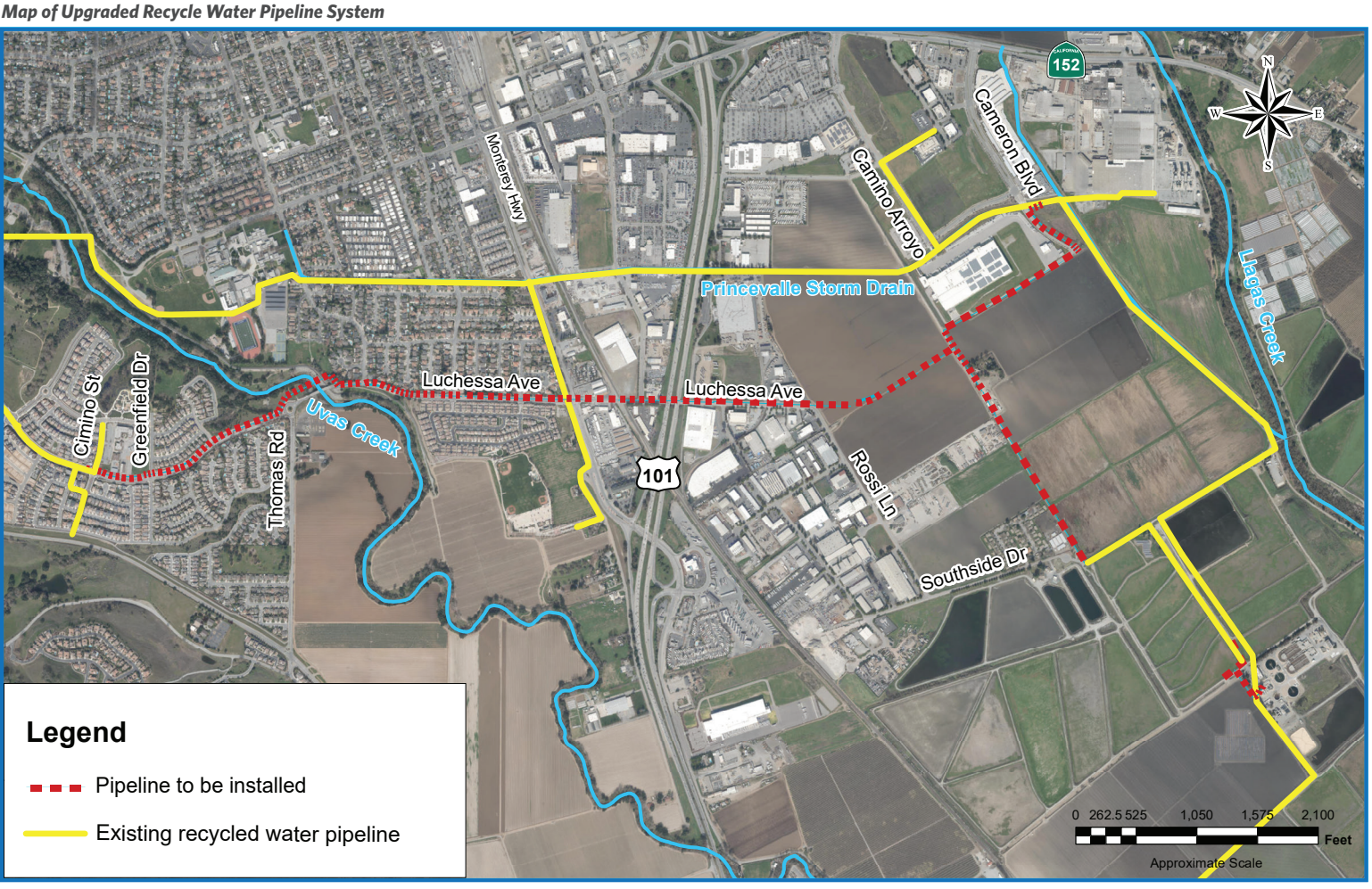
## South County Recycled Water Pipeline Project Valley Water



### What is Recycled Water?

As Santa Clara County faces water supply challenges driven by reoccurring droughts and the unpredictability of imported water supplies, Valley Water is investing in locally reliable, sustainable, and efficient water supplies such as recycled and purified water. Recycled water is wastewater that is cleaned through multiple levels of treatment. Recycled water pipes are commonly referred to as purple pipes, as they are easily recognizable by that distinctive color.

Purple pipes are used to identify the recycled water system.











Crews working on pipe transportation efforts.

Is recycled water safe, and how is it used?

Although it cannot be used for drinking, recycled water is safe for its intended uses and treated to strict standards set by the Division of Drinking Water. Recycled water is rigorously monitored by local, state, and federal agencies to ensure it continuously meets those standards. All recycled water in Santa Clara County meets or exceeds standards set by the state for the various uses of recycled water. Multiple benefits of recycled water include irrigation, industrial and agricultural uses.

Benefits of recycled water:

-  Conserves drinking water supplies.
-  Provides a dependable, drought-proof, all weather, and locally-controlled water supply.
-  Helps restore and preserve our saltwater and tidal habitats by reducing freshwater discharge to the bay.
-  Economical and environmentally sustainable because it is less energy-intensive with a lower carbon footprint than other water supply sources.

Form more information on Valley Water’s recycled and purified water projects, visit

[valleywater.org/your-water/recycled-and-purified-water](https://valleywater.org/your-water/recycled-and-purified-water). You can also tour our Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification center to learn about the advanced water treatment processes and the role of recycled and purified water as a future sustainable water supply at [purewater4u.org](https://purewater4u.org).

Valley Water also partners with the South County Recycled Water Authority (SCRWA), a joint powers authority established to manage wastewater treatment for the cities of Gilroy and Morgan Hill. SCRWA operates the recycled water facility located at the treatment plant site in Gilroy. The SCRWA plant was built in 1990 and is a model of energy efficiency and cost-effective operation. It uses state-of-the-art, fully automated, high-efficiency equipment to save costs and resources. The SCRWA reliably meets the steadily increasing demand for recycled water to irrigate local parks, golf courses, sports complexes, landscape medians, agricultural and industrial uses.

Construction activities and safety

Valley Water is committed to working with the City of Gilroy to ensure nearby streets remain safe for pedestrians, bicyclists, and local traffic throughout construction. During construction, trucks, work crews, and equipment will travel on Southside Drive, Rossi Lane, East Luchessa Avenue, West Luchessa Avenue, Monterey Road, and Cimino Street.

Please use caution when driving on these identified streets and obey all traffic control measures in place,

such as flaggers. For your safety, please comply with all construction signage and fencing to avoid entering active construction areas where large equipment and personnel will be working. Trespassers place themselves and construction workers in danger, as onsite crews pay attention to large equipment and work activities—they may not be able to hear or see trespassers.

The work activities will result in an increase in truck traffic, noise, and dust. The contractor will implement extensive traffic control measures to allow vehicle traffic to flow during construction safely. Work in front



The project work will include similar sized pipes, equipment and activities like those shown in the above images.

of Las Animas Elementary School will take place in summer 2022, to lessen impacts to school traffic and safety concerns.

During construction, the walking trail at West Luchessa Avenue may have potential intermittent closures. Detour signs will be placed to direct and inform the public should a temporary trail closure be required.

Please contact Public Information Representative **Jose Villarreal** with project questions at **(408) 630-2879** or [jvillarreal@valleywater.org](mailto:jvillarreal@valleywater.org).



Work hours

Valley Water and its contractor will use best management practices to minimize construction impacts to residents and businesses. Construction hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Weekend work will occur when permitted by the City of Gilroy.