

June 30, 2022

MEETING NOTICE & REQUEST FOR RSVP

TO: AGRICULTURAL WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	Representative	Representative
District 1	Russ Bonino	Mitchell Mariani
District 2	James Provenzano	
District 3	William Cilker	David Vanni
District 4	Sheila Barry	Brent Bonino
District 5	Jan F. Garrod	Michael Miller
District 6	Tim Chiala	Robert Long
District 7	Sandra Carrico	
Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District	Peter Van Dyke	
Private Well Owner (Non-Retail)	Dhruv Khanna	

The regular meeting of the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee is scheduled to be held on Monday, July 11, 2022, at 1:30 p.m., at Headquarters Building Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118.

Enclosed are the meeting agenda and corresponding materials. Please bring this packet with you to the meeting. Additional copies of this meeting packet are available on our new website at https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/committees/board-advisory-committees.

A majority of the appointed membership is required to constitute a quorum, which is fifty percent plus one. A quorum for this meeting must be confirmed at least <u>48 hours</u> prior to the scheduled meeting date or it will be canceled.

Further, a quorum must be present on the day of the scheduled meeting to call the meeting to order and take action on agenda items.

Members with two or more consecutive unexcused absences will be subject to rescinded membership.

Please confirm your attendance no later than 1:00 p.m., Thursday, July 7, 2022, by contacting Ms. Glenna Brambill at 1-408-630-2408, or gbrambill@valleywater.org.

Enclosures

Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Meeting

Public and Non-presenting staff may Join Zoom Meeting: https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/98850905996

Meeting ID: 988 5090 5996 One tap mobile +16699009128,,98850905996# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 988 5090 5996



Santa Clara Valley Water District Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Meeting

Headquarters Building Boardroom
5700 Almaden Expressway
San Jose CA 95118

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Monday, July 11, 2022 1:30 PM

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

Jan Garrod, Chair Peter Van Dyke, Vice Chair

BOARD REPRESENTATIVES: Director Nai Hsueh Director Richard P. Santos Director John L. Varela All public records relating to an 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 for public inspection at the Office of the Clerk of the Board at the Santa Clara Valley Water District Headquarters Building, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118, 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 attend Board of Directors' meeting. Please advise the Clerk of the Board Office of any special needs by calling (408) 265-2600.

Mr. Darin Taylor, (Staff Liaison)

Ms. Glenna Brambill, (COB Liaison) Management Analyst II gbrambill@valleywater.org 1-408-630-2408

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

Santa Clara Valley Water District Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Monday, July 11, 2022 1:30 PM HQ Building Boardroom

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 wear a mask.

In accordance with the requirements of Gov. Code Section 54954.3(a), members of the public wishing to address the Board/Committee at a video conferenced meeting, during public comment or on any item listed on the agenda, should use the "Raise Hand" tool located in the Zoom meeting link listed on the agenda, at the time the item is called. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Board Chair in the order requests are received and granted speaking access to address the Board.

Valley Water, in complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), requests individuals who require special accommodations to access and/or participate in Valley Water Board of Directors/Board Committee meetings to please contact the Clerk of the Board's office at (408) 630-2711, at least 3 business days before the scheduled meeting to ensure that Valley Water may assist you.

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. seg. and has not been prepared with a view to informing an investment decision in any of Valley Water's bonds, notes or other obligations. Any projections, plans or other forward-looking statements included in the information in this agenda are subject to a variety of uncertainties that could cause any actual plans or results to differ materially from any such statement. The information herein is not intended to be used by investors or potential investors in considering the purchase or sale of Valley Water's bonds, notes or other obligations and investors and potential investors should rely only on information filed by Valley Water on the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board's Electronic Municipal Market Access System for municipal securities disclosures and Valley Water's Investor Relations Wide Web maintained on the World at https://emma.msrb.org/ https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/financebudget/investor-relations, respectively.

Under the Brown Act, members of the public are not required to provide identifying information in order to attend public meetings. Through the link below, the Zoom webinar program requests entry of a name and email address, and Valley Water is unable to modify this requirement. Members of the public not wishing to provide such identifying information are encouraged to enter "Anonymous" or some other reference under name and to enter a fictional email address (e.g., attendee@valleywater.org) in lieu of their actual address. Inputting such values will not impact your ability to access the meeting through Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting: https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/98850905996 Meeting ID: 988 5090 5996 Join by Phone: 1 (669) 900-9128, 98850905996#

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 Committee on any item not listed on the agenda should access the "Raise Hand" tool located in Zoom meeting link listed on the agenda. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Committee Chair in order requests are received and granted speaking access to address the Committee. Speakers comments should be limited to two minutes or as set by the Chair. The law does not permit Committee action on, or extended discussion of, any item not on the agenda except under special circumstances. If Committee action is requested, the matter may be placed on a future agenda. All comments that require a response will be referred to staff for a reply in writing. The Committee may take action on any item of business appearing on the posted agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

3.1. Approval of Minutes.

22-0726

Recommendation: Approve the April 4, 2022, Meeting Minutes.

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

Attachments: Attachment 1: 04042022 Ag Wtr DRAFT Mins

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

4.1. Drought Emergency Response and Water Supply Update.

Recommendation: Receive Drought Emergency Response and Water Supply

Update.

Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

Attachments: Attachment 1: PowerPoint Presentation

Est. Staff Time: 20 Minutes

4.2. One Water - Upper Pajaro River Watershed Plan - Information on Plan <u>22-0729</u> Scope, Overview and Stakeholder Feedback.

Recommendation: A. Receive an overview of the One Water effort and the

Upper Pajaro River Watershed Plan, and

B. Provide initial feedback on the Upper Pajaro River

22-0728

Watershed Plan information provided.

Manager: Lisa Bankosh, 408-630-2618

Attachments: Attachment 1: Executive Summary One Water Countywide Frame

Attachment 2: Upper Pajaro River W Fact Sheet

Est. Staff Time: 15 Minutes

4.3. Review Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes <u>22-0730</u>

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.

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

Attachments: Attachment 1: AWAC Work Plan 2022

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

5. INFORMATION ITEMS:

Recommendation: Standing Items Reports

This item allows the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee to receive verbal or written updates and discuss the Board's Fiscal Year 2022 Work Plan Strategies. These items are generally informational; however, the Committee may request additional information and/or provide collective input to the

assigned Board Committee.

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

Attachments: Attachmentt 1: Standing Items

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

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. REPORTS:

- 7.1. Director's Report
- 7.2. Manager's Report
- 7.3. Committee Member Report
- 7.4. Informational Links:

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

- Board Policy and Planning Committee (BPPC)
- Water Storage Exploratory Committee (WSEC)

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

•Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee (WCaDMC)

https://www.valleywater.org/your-water/water-supply-planning/monthly-water-tracker

Water Tracker

8. ADJOURN:

8.1. Adjourn to Regular Meeting at 1:30 p.m., on Monday, October 3, 2022.

Santa Clara Valley Water District



File No.: 22-0726 **Agenda Date:** 7/11/2022

Item No.:3.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

SUBJECT:

Approval of Minutes.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the April 4, 2022, Meeting 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.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: 04042022, Ag Water Draft Meeting Mins.

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193



AGRICULTURAL WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2022

A regular scheduled meeting of the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee was held on April 4, 2022, Teleconference via Zoom in San Jose, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Committee Chair Jan Garrod called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

Members in attendance were:

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Representative</u>
District 1	Russ Bonino*
	Mitchell Mariani
District 2	James Provenzano
District 3	William Cilker
	David Vanni
District 4	Brent Bonino
District 5	Jan Garrod
District 6	Tim Chiala
	Robert Long
District 7	Sandra Carrico*
Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District	Peter Van Dyke
Private Well Owner (Non Retail)	Dhruv Khanna

Members not in attendance were:

JurisdictionRepresentativeDistrict 4Sheila BarryDistrict 5Michael Miller

Board members in attendance were: Director Nai Hsueh (District 5), Board Alternate, Director Richard P. Santos (District 3), and Director John L. Varela (District 1), Board Representatives.

^{*}Committee Members logged on as indicated below.

Staff members in attendance were: Jennifer Abadilla, Aaron Baker, Glenna Brambill, Justin Burks, Vanessa De La Piedra, Vincent Gin, Samantha Greene, Christopher Hakes, Candice Kwok-Smith, Ryan McCarter, Carmen Narayanan, Metra Richert, Don Rocha, Ashley Shannon, Kirsten Struve, and Darin Taylor.

Guests in attendance were: Dr. Michael Kiparsky and Ms. Nell Green Nylen (UC Berkeley), and Dr. Andrew Fisher (UC Santa Cruz).

Public in attendance were: Irina Kogan, Julie Nussbaum, and Nick Perry.

*Ms. Sandra Carrico logged on at 1:34 p.m.

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

There was no one present who wished to speak.

Committee Member Mr. Dhruv Khanna asked about when in-person meetings would begin again.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Peter Van Dyke, second by Mr. David Vanni and by roll call and majority vote approved the January 3, 2022, Agricultural Water Advisory Committee meeting minutes, as presented. Mr. Dhruv Khanna abstained.

4. ACTION ITEMS:

4.1 DROUGHT RESPONSE UPDATE

Ms. Kirsten Struve reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee discussed the following: L.A. basin, increasing water-reliable source, infrastructure, pipeline, climate change, and expanding recycled water.

Mr. Vincent Gin and Director John L. Varela were available to answer questions.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took no action.

*Mr. Russ Bonino logged on at 1:45 p.m.

4.2 REVIEW PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 GROUNDWATER PRODUCTION CHARGES AND RECEIVE COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

Ms. Carmen Narayanan reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee discussed the following: Agricultural growth, agricultural usage, capital projects issues (permitting and delays), rate per acre feet, Zone 7, Open Space, set-back restrictions, surface water concerns, tax dollars, Anderson Reservoir, and the difference of north and south county charges.

Attachment 1 Page 2 of 4

Directors Richard P. Santos, John L. Varela, Mr. Darin Taylor, and Director Nai Hsueh were available to answer questions.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took the following action: It was moved by Mr. Tim Chiala second by Mr. David Vanni and by roll call and unanimous vote approved staff's report.

4.3 FLOOD-MANAGED AQUIFER RECHARGE PRELIMINARY FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Ms. Samantha Greene, Dr. Michael Kiparsky, Ms. Nell Green Nylen (UC Berkeley), and Dr. Andrew Fisher (UC Santa Cruz), reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee discussed the following: Arizona's new developments, mitigation of flood waters, catch basin-run-off/capture, existing flood control projects, water crisis, getting restrictions waived, and financial aid to owners.

Ms. Kirsten Struve, Director John L. Varela, and Mr. Vincent Gin were available to answer questions.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took no action.

4.4 REVIEW AGRICULTURAL WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN, THE OUTCOMES OF BOARD ACTION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS; AND THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Ms. Glenna Brambill reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda.

Chair Jan Garrod will work with staff for the July agenda items.

Agenda Items for July:

Drought Update, and, Flood-MAR.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took no action.

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS TO THE BOARD

Ms. Glenna Brambill reported there one action item for Board consideration.

Agenda 4.2:

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took the following action: by roll call and unanimous vote approved staff's report.

6. REPORTS

6.1 Director's Report

Director John L. Varela reported on:

• Legislative Summit, Friday, April 22, 2022, 11:00 a.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn in Gilroy, Join the Chamber for our 9th Annual Legislative Summit. This

Attachment 1 Page 3 of 4

event brings together almost all of the elected officials who represent South County. Attendees will hear from each of the elected officials regarding important issues affecting residents in Gilroy, San Martin and Morgan Hill. The ticket price is \$45 and includes a three-course meal.

6.2 Manager's Report

Mr. Christopher Hakes gave updates: Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project

history, schedule and cost

Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project

cost and schedule for the

Mr. Aaron Baker reminded Committee:

Drought is serious, please use water wisely and efficiently.

6.3 Committee Member Reports

None.

6.4 Informational Link Reports

Links were provided in the Committee's agenda packet.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Jan Garrod adjourned the meeting at 3:35 p.m. to the regular meeting on Monday, July 11, 2022, at 1:30 p. m.

Glenna Brambill
Board Committee Liaison
Office of the Clerk of the Board

Approved:

Santa Clara Valley Water District



File No.: 22-0728 **Agenda Date: 7/11/2022**

Item No.: 4.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

SUBJECT:

Drought Emergency Response and Water Supply Update.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive Drought Emergency Response and Water Supply Update.

SUMMARY:

Drought Conditions

On June 9, 2021, the Valley Water Board of Directors through Resolution 21-68 declared a water shortage emergency condition pursuant to California Water Code §350, called for water use reduction of 15% compared to 2019, and urged the County of Santa Clara (County) to proclaim a local emergency. Valley Water Resolution 22-20 amended Valley Water Resolution 21-68 on April 12. 2022 to call for no more than 2 days of irrigation in a week for ornamental lawns and prohibit excessive runoff, midday irrigation, and irrigation after rainfall. On May 24, 2022, the Board approved Ordinance 22-02 to enforce these restrictions.

In 2022, the County and California entered the third year of drought, and experienced the driest January, February and March on record. In 2021 and 2022, Valley Water's Federal and State imported water allocations were drastically reduced to historic lows. On March 28, 2022, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-7-22 to call on local water suppliers to move to Stage 2 of their water shortage contingency plans, at a minimum. The U.S. Drought Monitor Report from June 9, 2022 indicates that the County is in severe drought. The northern Sierra Nevada snowpack, a primary source of imported water, is 16% of normal as of June 13, 2022. Staff will provide additional updates regarding latest drought conditions.

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has announced a 2022 State Water Project (SWP) allocation of 5 percent, which equates to an allocation of 5 Thousand Acre Feet (TAF) for Valley Water. DWR has approved Valley Water's request for additional water to meet our critical human health and safety needs. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Central Valley Project (CVP) water supply allocations for south-of-Delta CVP contractors, including Valley Water, are currently set to a municipal and industrial allocation of public health and safety water only and an agricultural allocation of zero percent. Reclamation has approved Valley Water's request for public health and safety water.

Groundwater levels in May have continued the seasonal decline, which typically occurs in spring and summer due to higher temperatures, increased water demand, and associated increased pumping. Greater than average declines in groundwater levels are expected this year because of the drought.

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Item No.: 4.1.

Water levels in the North and South County index wells have generally declined since 2018 due to dry conditions, with a similar pattern as the 2012-2016 drought. Achieving the Board's water use reduction target is essential to minimize the risk of resumed subsidence in North County and wells going dry, particularly in South County. That risk increases as the drought persists.

Consequently, conservation is an important strategy to help reach the 15% call for water use reduction and mitigate negative impacts.

Water Conservation Outreach

In May 2022, media interest focused on the Board of Directors' unanimous approval of the watering restrictions enforcement ordinance. The May 24 board meeting garnered national and regional television, online, print and radio coverage. The "Say Yes" water conservation campaign was launched, encouraging residents to reduce outdoor watering for non-functional landscapes and engage in simple actions to save water. In addition to running in newspapers, the campaign is on social, digital, streaming and radio platforms.

Valley Water also conducts outreach to the Farm Bureau and publishes information on conservation programs in Farm Bureau publications. An update on Farm Bureau outreach will be provided.

Countywide Water Use Reduction

Valley Water received a significant increase in applications for our landscape rebates, requests for water-saving devices, and reports of water waste since 2021. Water use in the county is trending in the right direction with water use in April less than in March. Slightly more water, 2%, was used in April 2022 compared to April 2019.

Santa Clara County's cumulative water savings from June 2021 - April 2022 is 3%, compared to 2019. The State uses a baseline year of 2020 for the conservation call. The cumulative water savings from July 2021 - April 2022 is 8%, compared to 2020, while the State's savings during this period is 2%. While the county is performing better than the State in water savings, much more progress needs to be made to achieve Valley Water's water savings call to ensure reliable supplies through this drought.

Water Waste Enforcement

At the May 24th Board meeting, Valley Water passed Resolution 22-02 to establish mandatory outdoor conservation measures for properties served potable water directly or indirectly from Valley Water sources. These mandatory measures include limiting irrigation of non-functional turf to a maximum two days per week, and not irrigating any outdoor landscape during and within 48 hours of measurable rainfall, between 9 AM and 6 PM, or in a manner that causes runoff. These restrictions do not apply to agricultural crop irrigation. The Water Waste Program will continue its educational mission while enforcing the mandatory outdoor measures.

Executive Order N-7-22 Well Permitting Requirements

On March 28th, Governor Newsom adopted Executive Order N-7-22 (Order) in response to the

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statewide drought emergency. Among other mandates related to drought response, the Order contains several provisions related to well permitting that are applicable to Valley Water as the county's primary well permitting agency.

The Order prohibits a public agency from issuing a permit for a new or modified well unless it first:

- Obtains verification from the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) that pumping from a proposed well in a medium- or high-priority basin under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) is generally consistent with the applicable Groundwater Sustainability Plan.
- Determines that pumping from the proposed well is (1) not likely to interfere with the
 production and functioning of existing nearby wells, and (2) not likely to cause subsidence that
 would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.

Permits for wells that will provide less than two acre-feet per year for individual domestic users or that will exclusively provide water to a public water supply system are excluded from these requirements. The above requirements became effective in late March when the Order was signed and will affect well permitting for agricultural users and other wells subject the Order, including large domestic wells and industrial wells. As the local GSA, Valley Water will evaluate whether the proposed well is generally consistent with the adopted SGMA plan. Permit applicants seeking to drill non-public water supply system wells that produce more than two acre-feet per year will be responsible for obtaining a report signed by a licensed professional demonstrating the well will not impact nearby wells or cause subsidence. This report will be reviewed by Valley Water, who will issue the well permit once all related requirements are met. For well permits subject to the Order, permit applicants should expect additional costs and time needed to secure a well permit.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint Presentation

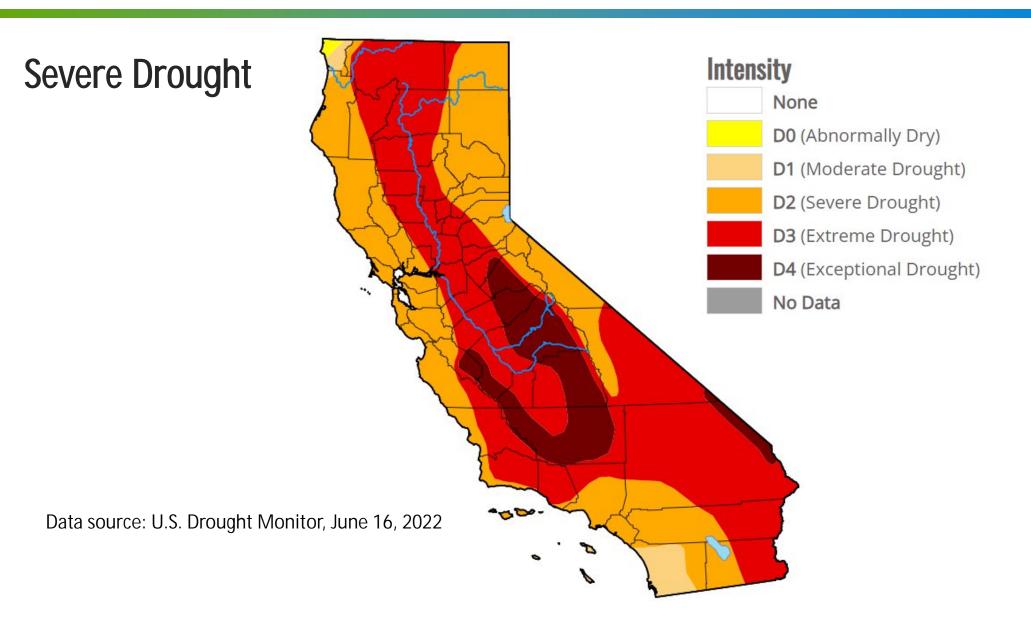
UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138



Drought Emergency Response and Water Supply Update

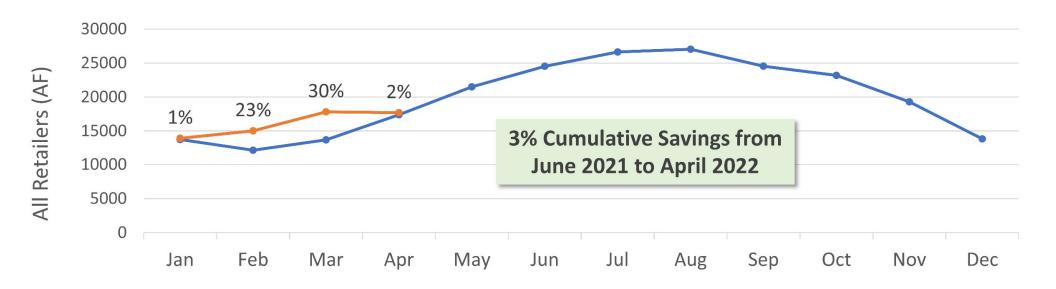
Agricultural Water Advisory Committee July 11, 2022



Countywide Water Savings

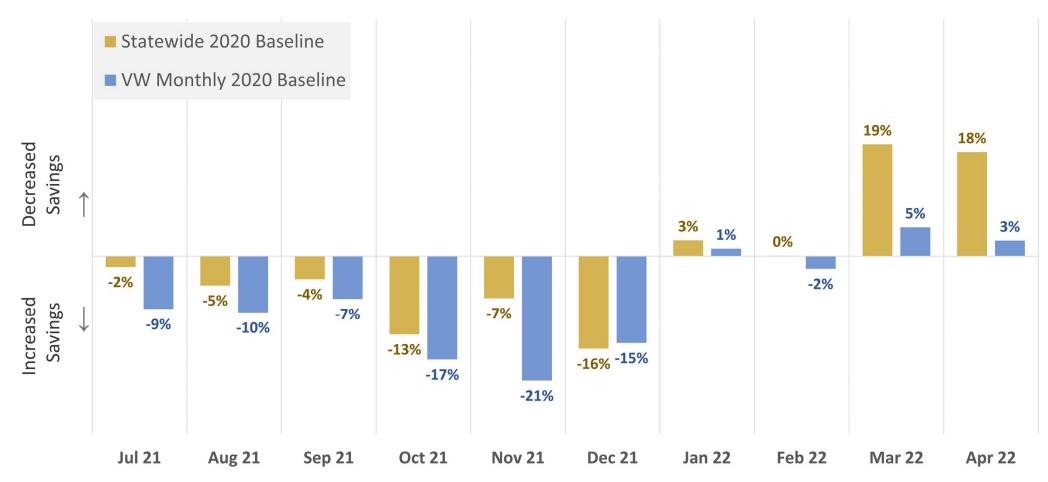


The percent increase (+) or percent decrease (-) in water use from 2019 to 2022 is shown for each month.



Water use headed in the right direction

County compared to State Savings



Historically Low 2022 Imported Water Allocations

- State Water Project 5% and minimum Human Health and Safety needs
- Central Valley Project Public Health and Safety only, 0% for Ag
- Semitropic water bank withdrawal
- Emergency transfers

Groundwater

- Recharge remains below average, but would be much lower without Public Health and Safety supplies
- Water levels have declined but remain above 2014 levels due to emergency imported water supplies

Water Conservation

- High participation
- E-cart
 - 4,872 orders
- Water waste enforcement
- Commercial program enhancements



Water Use Reduction Enforcement Updates

- Ordinance passed on May 24, 2022.
- Ordinance published in newspaper.
- Enforcement began on June 1.
- Reports are coming in via phone, email, and app.









Santa Clara County is in a severe drought.

Reducing water use in your home by 20 gallons a day can save about 15%. Find more tips at *WaterSavings.org*



New Well Permitting Requirements under Executive Order N-7-22

- Permit for a new or modified well issued if:
 - Verification received from GSA for certain groundwater basins
 - Proposed extraction not likely to interfere with nearby wells or cause subsidence
- Exceptions include individual domestic wells pumping less than 2 AF/year and public water supply wells

How These Requirements Will Affect Ag Users

- New or modified ag wells subject to Executive Order
- Valley Water will evaluate consistency with SGMA
- Permit applicants to provide analysis of subsidence and potential impacts to nearby wells
 - Must be signed by licensed professional, will be reviewed by Valley Water
- Permit applicants subject to Executive Order should expect additional costs and time

QUESTIONS



Santa Clara Valley Water District



File No.: 22-0729 Agenda Date: 7/11/2022

Item No.: 4.2.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

SUBJECT:

One Water - Upper Pajaro River Watershed Plan - Information on Plan Scope, Overview and Stakeholder Feedback

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. Receive an overview of the One Water effort and the Upper Pajaro River Watershed Plan, and
- B. Provide initial feedback on the Upper Pajaro River Watershed Plan information provided.

SUMMARY:

One Water, Valley Water's comprehensive, long-range planning process for watershed management, comprises the One Water Countywide Framework (Framework, Attachment 1) and five watershed plans. The vision, goals, and measurable objectives of the Framework provide key guidance to be applied at the watershed-scale.

On March 22, 2022, the Valley Water Board of Directors adopted the One Water Countywide Framework and the first of the five watershed level plans, the Coyote Creek Watershed Plan. The next step is to develop the remaining watershed plans: the Upper Pajaro River and Guadalupe River Watershed Plans in 2022, and West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Plans in 2023.

Staff is beginning broad stakeholder outreach to ensure each watershed's community views and input are represented in One Water master planning. At this time, staff would like to provide an overview of the ongoing Upper Pajaro River Watershed planning effort to the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee, with an opportunity to receive input from the Committee (see Attachment 2 for additional ways to provide input).

<u>Upper Pajaro River Watershed Plan</u>

The Upper Pajaro River Watershed is comprised of the approximately 360 square miles of the Pajaro River Watershed that lies within Santa Clara County. The watershed is home to approximately 120,000 people, with most of the population clustered around south San José, Morgan Hill, Gilroy and the community of San Martin. Major land use categories in this area include 54% rural land (agricultural lands and ranchlands), 34% open space and parks (state and regional parks, conservation lands, and tribal lands), 8% urban landscapes between south San José and Gilroy, and

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4% rural residential land use (see Attachment 3).

The Upper Pajaro River Watershed can be divided into four subwatersheds that include Pajaro River, Uvas Creek, Llagas Creek, and Pacheco Creek. The major source of water supply within the watershed is groundwater, followed by imported water. The Llagas groundwater subbasin, managed by Valley Water, is located within the boundary of the watershed.

Currently, 101 external stakeholder groups have initially been identified and contacted to collaborate and provide input to the master planning effort. These stakeholders have been categorized into 10 different cohorts which include:

- Subject matter experts
- Municipal/land use agencies
- Educational institutions
- Residents and community-based organizations
- Water resource agencies and special districts
- Special joint organizations and coalitions
- Governing bodies and regulatory agencies
- Open space conservation and recreation
- Environmental organizations
- Agricultural organizations/groups

Key challenges and opportunities identified early on within this watershed include:

- Continued groundwater sustainability within the context of drought and the onset of climate change
- Protection of groundwater from contamination
- Sustainability of urban expansion and growth
- Flood risk reduction
- Protection and conservation of cultural and sacred sites
- Agricultural and ecosystem resource protection
- Endangered species recovery
- Open space preservation
- Natural landscape restoration
- Meaningful inclusion of disadvantaged communities into the decision-making process

ATTACHMENTS:

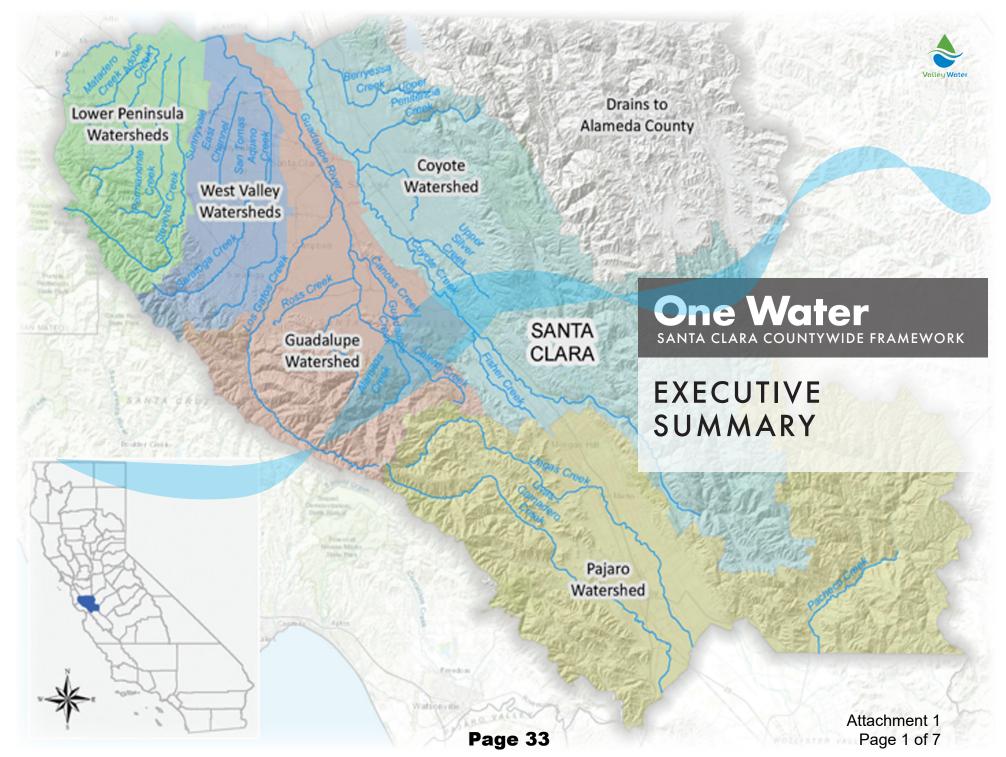
Attachment 1: One Water - Countywide Framework Executive Summary

Attachment 2: Upper Pajaro River Watershed Fact Sheet

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Lisa Bankosh, 408-630-2618

Santa Clara Valley Water District Page 2 of 2 Printed on 6/30/2022



ONE WATER

Integrated Watershed Master Planning

Water is an essential resource, serving multiple critical purposes for the community. As droughts, floods, population growth, and other changing conditions all place increasing demands on California's water resources, Valley Water recognizes the importance of an integrated and equitable approach to water resources management. This approach will enable the organization to efficiently fulfill its mission and Board policies.

Valley Water's central challenges in the years ahead are to deliver reliable water supply, maintain and improve flood risk reduction, and preserve and enhance natural resources. To do this well, Valley Water needs a decision-making process that enables it to strategically allocate limited resources to those actions that achieve its mission and service to the community most efficiently. The One Water planning effort described in this report meets this need and provides an important new roadmap for integrated resource planning on a watershed scale.

Development of the One Water Countywide Framework engaged stakeholders at all levels and stages of a multi-year planning process. Stakeholders included local cities and county agencies; regional, state and federal resource management and regulatory agencies; scientists and academia; representatives of cultural and ethnic interests; as well as environmental advocacy groups, chambers of commerce, water retailers, and neighborhood and volunteer organizations.

Valley Water's One Water planning effort consists of a Countywide Framework (this report) and individual watershed plans for the Coyote, Guadalupe, Pajaro, West Valley, and Lower Peninsula watersheds, which Valley Water hopes to complete as early as 2023. The framework will guide development of the watershed plans as it sets out goals, measurable objectives, and strategies for prioritizing actions that will improve watershed health. Improvements to watershed health will be based on the extent to which watershed objective metrics measure up against achievable targets.

VISION

One Water's vision and goals were developed to support both Valley Water's mission and Board governance policies, which in part call for integrated water resources services for the community. The vision is supported by integrated goals and measurable objectives to optimimize Valley Water's management of water resources for Santa Clara County.

One Water Vision

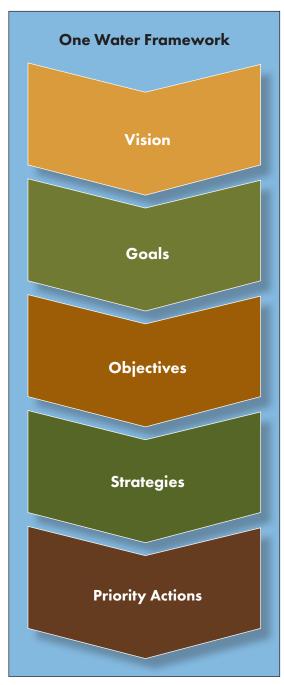
Manage Santa Clara County water resources holistically and sustainably to benefit people and the environment in a way that is informed by community values.

GOALS

To reach the long term One Water vision, Valley Water developed goals that go beyond individual management disciplines. The resulting goals address and integrate all aspects of water resources management:

1. RELIABLE WATER SUPPLY

This One Water reliable water supply goal aims to provide enough clean water for both people and the environment. Under this goal, Valley Water seeks to ensure that its supplies for people and the environment are reliable under uncertain conditions such as climate change, drought and changing laws. For Valley Water this means to efficiently manage the diverse supplies and substantial infrastructure already in place and continuing to aggressively implement and promote its water conservation program with the community to manage demand.



2. IMPROVED FLOOD PROTECTION

This One Water flood protection goal aims to reduce flood risk and protect the community from flooding by working with nature to the greatest extent possible. For Valley Water, this means enhancing stream corridors to support the conveyance of flood flows while at the same time providing benefits for natural communities and ecosystems. The goal of improving flood protection includes maintaining existing facilities, improving facilities that require additional risk reduction, and keeping the community prepared and informed of potential flood risks.

3. HEALTHY AND RESILIENT ECOSYSTEMS

This One Water goal underscores the importance of healthy and resilient watershed, riparian and tidal ecosystems, and the species that rely on these habitats to thrive. Making ecosystem health more relevant to every management decision is a key concept in One Water planning. For Valley Water to effectively manage ecosystems, it will be important to protect, enhance and sustain these important natural resources.

OBJECTIVES and METRICS

The One Water planning framework comprises five objectives, each with individual metrics and targets. Valley Water designed these objectives to meet the framework's three goals and achieve the One Water vision.

In developing the five One Water objectives, Valley Water provided meaningful opportunities for diverse Santa Clara County communities to engage in the planning process. Valley Water's commitment to community engagement is woven throughout the five One Water objectives. As such, it is not represented as an end in itself but rather as a means to gathering community support for future priorities that protect, enhance and sustain water resources.

Each of the five objectives includes specific attributes, which are the defining characteristics that describe the objective (see Chapter 3). Each attribute in turn contains a series of metrics, which are parameters that can be measured to track the status of the attributes. To assess progress, each metric will be assigned a target, which is an achievable end result to maintain or strive for within each metric.

One Water Plan Objectives



A: Protect and Maintain Water Supplies



B: Protect and Improve Surface and Ground Water Quality



C: Reduce Flood Risk

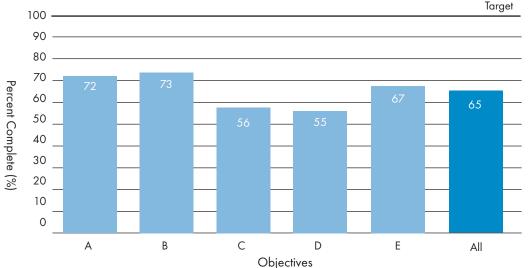


D: Protect, Enhance and Sustain Natural Ecosystems



E: Mitigate and Adapt to Climate Change

One Water Objective Results



Draft Data for One Water Objectives (Countywide and Coyote Watershed). Note: Some metrics are still being evaluated and are not included in the results. A (Water Supply), B (Water Quality), C (Flood Risk Reduction), D (Habitat), E (Climate Change)

arget

Complete metrics table in Chapter 4

METRIC EXAMPLES FOR FRAMEWORK Metric A.1.1 - Operational capacity at Valley Water **Objective A** reservoirs Metric B.3.1 - Trends in concentrations of nitrate, **Objective B** chloride and total dissolved solids in index wells. Metric C.2.1 - Number of parcels subject to frequent **Objective C** flooding (25-year flood event) Metric D.2.4 - Number of human-made in-channel **Objective D** barriers that hinder steelhead trout movement Metric E.2.2 – Volume of water supply treated by **Objective E** green Infrastructure projects

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APPROACHING MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES IN A MORE INTEGRATED WAY

The One Water approach identifies challenges to successful water resources management ranging from drought and pollution to the destruction of riparian habitats. Meeting the water resources needs of the community through management of these challenges and constraints is often considered by planning area (see table). For Valley Water, these have included water supply, water quality, flood protection, and ecological and landscape resources.

The One Water approach offers a decision-making process that helps address management challenges through multi-benefit projects or portfolios of coordinated activities. This approach offers a few key strengths in addition to meeting the outlined goals and objectives as it defines the process and prioritizes activities.

One strength of Valley Water's One Water approach is the opportunity to revisit how data is collected and utilized to prioritize activities. For flood risk, as an example, the new approach updates the Waterways Management Model criteria used in the past to include additional important factors that characterize the true risks of flooding for the community. Some of these factors are health and safety issues like flood depth and velocity, the varied social vulnerability of the flood prone communities, actual flood history, and business risk exposure.

Another strength of the One Water approach is a more comprehensive perspective on ecological resources. Efforts to protect threatened and endangered species have long created a management focus on specific species of flora and fauna. One Water expands from this focus to address habitats and natural communities, and to support the approach taken by the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan, which covers much of the county landscape. This broader area of management interest allows for improvements to overall habitat that will reduce invasive species and support threatened and endangered species, as well as other native species.

A third strength of One Water's coordinated planning framework is the strong guidance on integrated water management it will provide to each of its five supporting watershed plans. These more detailed action plans will then serve as Valley Water's flood management and stewardship plans at a watershed scale.

Taken as a whole, One Water planning provides an opportunity to address multiple management challenges in parallel, and within an integrated, watershed-based framework. That framework, with its vision, goals and objectives will therefore provide the guidance for future prioritized work.

DIVERSE CHALLENGES CALL FOR COORDINATED ACTION

PLANNING AREA

CHALLENGES

Water Supply



Multi-year droughts
Hydrologic variability
Declining imported water reliability
Increasing demand
Complex operating environment
Aging infrastructure
Invasive species impacts

Water Quality



Impervious surfaces
Urban and agricultural runoff
Homeless encampments
Legacy mercury
Climate change impacts

Flood Protection



Continued risk of flooding
Expense of future projects
Aging infrastructure
Changing climate
Increasing development, decreasing buffer zones
Impervious surfaces
Erosion and sediment management for capacity
Rising sea levels and permit acquisition

Ecological & Landscape Resources



Limited and costly land for trails and open space
Recreational impacts on habitat and water quality
Maintenance impediments and costs
Planning for future flood protection
Ongoing land use changes
Altered drainage network and hydrologic regime
Destruction and disconnection of riparian habitats
Non-native species
Loss of sediment and woody debris
Habitat fragmentation
Ecological adaptation to climate change

Baylands



Rising sea levels
Weak and aging levees
Sediment deficit
Mercury mobilization
Under-insured businesses

Attachment 1

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SETTING PRIORITIES AND TAKING ACTION

The One Water Framework provides overarching countywide guidance for five subsequent watershed plans in Coyote, Guadalupe, Pajaro, West Valley, and Lower Peninsula Watershed areas. The process for applying the framework includes the following steps (see diagram):

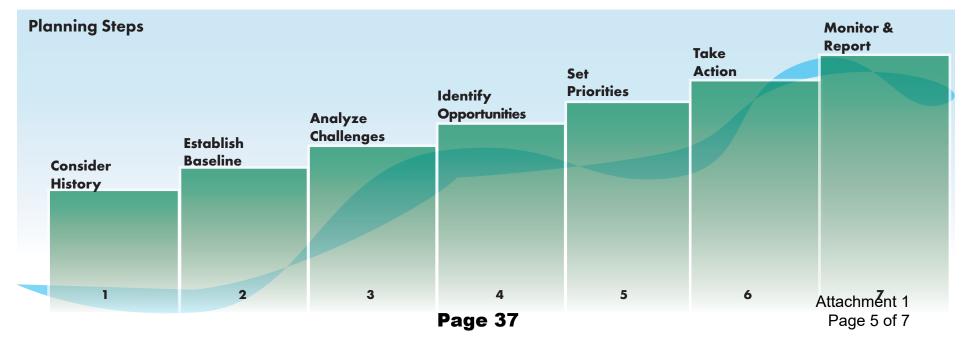
- Describe the landscape and its water resources history (Step 1).
- Establish the current baseline conditions for One Water objectives (Step 2).
- Identify which are the most challenging objectives to meet in terms of targets, and thus potential areas of improvement (Steps 3 and 4).
- Prioritize those actions that most efficiently and effectively improve conditions and meet the highest needs (Step 5).
- Select actions for programming and implementation through funding plans, grants, partnerships, and other means. Follow up with appropriate construction, maintenance, and management actions (Step 6).
- Carry out monitoring and reporting on progress of actions toward meeting targets (Step 7).

One Water watershed plans are not designed to be static, one time documents; rather, they are anticipated to be updated every 5 years. This important follow-up should include updates of metrics and targets information supporting each One Water objective. This will be done in part through the use of the San Francisco Estuary Institute data tool EcoAtlas, which now has a module designed to track One Water metrics and targets. Such updates would in turn help to demonstrate progress being made in improving watershed health, reducing flood risk, and ensuring reliable water supply.

Both the Framework and the individual plans will not only guide Valley Water but also serve as a resource for local government, NGOs, community groups, and other partner organizations.

Beyond the individual watershed plans, the Framework itself provides a list of potential projects, programs, policies and partnerships which are appropriate at a countywide scale. Examples include: Continue Coordinated Effort on the Shorline Study, Expand Invasive Plant Removal Program, Implement Stormwater Resources Plan, and Proactive Right of Way Identification and Acquisition. These actions may be addressed countywide or implemented piece-by-piece at a watershed-scale.



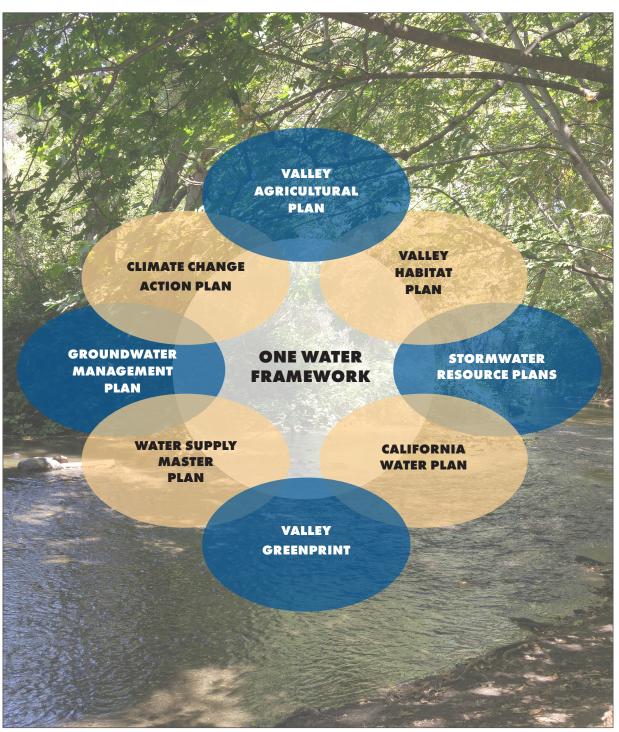


PLANNING THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

The One Water Framework can be most successful through robust participation of Valley Water staff, as well as partner agencies and organizations. Close coordination with existing plans and programs allows One Water to build on successful endeavors and incorporate relevant expertise, and it also allows for One Water and its vision to become integrated into corresponding planning and implementation efforts.



Long range planning at the local, regional, and state level covers many of the same topics as One Water and gives Valley Water a path to addressing larger regional and statewide challenges at the local level, including climate resilience, reliable water supply, and stormwater resource management. As Valley Water rolls out the One Water Framework and subsequent watershed plans, it will strive to gain support for improved water resources management and watershed conditions.



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WEAVING COMMUNITY AND EQUITY INTO WATERSHED PLANNING

Valley Water has remained committed to providing meaningful opportunities for community engagement in watershed planning throughout the development of the One Water Countywide Framework. This commitment will be further reflected and refined as watershed plans seek to address both one water objectives but also make them locally relevant to the people living in each watershed. By engaging stakeholders throughout the community, Valley Water can build on their strengths and expertise to create a plan that speaks to all of our water resource needs.

Equitable access to clean water and management of our shared water resources will be an ongoing challenge that One Water can help address. As new challenges such as climate change and income inequity mount in the years ahead, Valley Water will continue to deliver clean water, reduced flood risk, and resilient healthy landscapes to all the people of Santa Clara County.

One Water brings together Valley Water's mission, its policies, its priorities, and provides a long-term management plan to meet the needs of our community. Through this endeavor, Valley Water seeks to balance the management of all water and those that depend on it now and into the future.



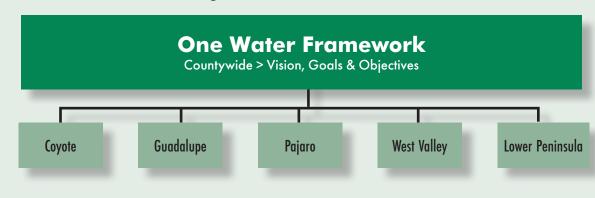
Community meeting presenting proposed interim flood protection improvements along Coyote Creek. Photo: Valley Water

What's included in the One Water Framework?

- Overviews of past and present conditions including detailed maps of water supply infrastructure, flood control channels, descriptions of sensitive habitats and species, and discussion of management impacts on local communities, agriculture, groundwater, trails, conservation efforts, and other current topics.
- Framework goals, objectives and metrics spelled out.
- Examples of integrated projects already occurring on a countywide scale including the restoration of the South Bay salt ponds, the Shoreline Study for coastal flood protection levee on the bayshore, a plan to capture more stormwater as a resource,

- efforts to clean up homeless encampments, nearwater recreation and hazardous tree abatement programs, and more.
- Clear guidance for more detailed watershed plans. By way of example, appropriate One Water actions may include projects such as expanded riparian habitat, offstream flood detention, and improved fish habitat and passage.
- Reference appendices on special status plant, animal and fish species, as well how One Water relates to other Valley Water and partner plans, regulations, and policies.

Watershed-Based Planning Structure



Executive Summary: One Water, Santa Clara Countywide Framework, Valley Water (186 pages)

Version 8.2. February 2022

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Upper Pajaro River Watershed Plan



About One Water

One Water is a water resources master plan and prioritization process which will enable Valley Water to strategically allocate resources where needed the most.

The One Water planning effort consists of two phases:

- 1) A countywide framework to develop the vision, goals and objectives as guidance for the plan.
- 2) Watershed planning efforts specific to each of the five watersheds located within Santa Clara County.

One Water Goals:

Reliable Water Supply
Improved Flood Protection
Healthy and Resilient Ecosystems

One Water Objectives:



A) Protect and Maintain Water Supplies



B) Protect and Improve Surface and Ground Water Quality



C) Reduce Flood Risk



D) Protect, Enhance, and Sustain Natural Ecosystems



E) Mitigate and Adapt to Climate Change



Uvas Dam

Upper Pajaro River Watershed

The Upper Pajaro River Watershed is the southernmost watershed in Santa Clara County and covers approximately 360 square miles. Its major tributaries are Uvas Creek, Llagas Creek and Pacheco Creek originating from both the Santa Cruz Mountains and Diablo Range.

The One Water Upper Pajaro River Watershed Plan is the second of five watershed plans that will encompass and complement the on going One Water planning effort. This plan analyzes the Upper Pajaro River Watershed's flooding, water supply and ecosystem management challenges. It also identifies areas needing improvement and prioritizes actions for the future.

In the process, the One Water Upper Pajaro River Watershed Plan will bring multiple division and jurisdictions together, heightening the focus on multi-benefit projects.



Uvas-Carnadero Creek

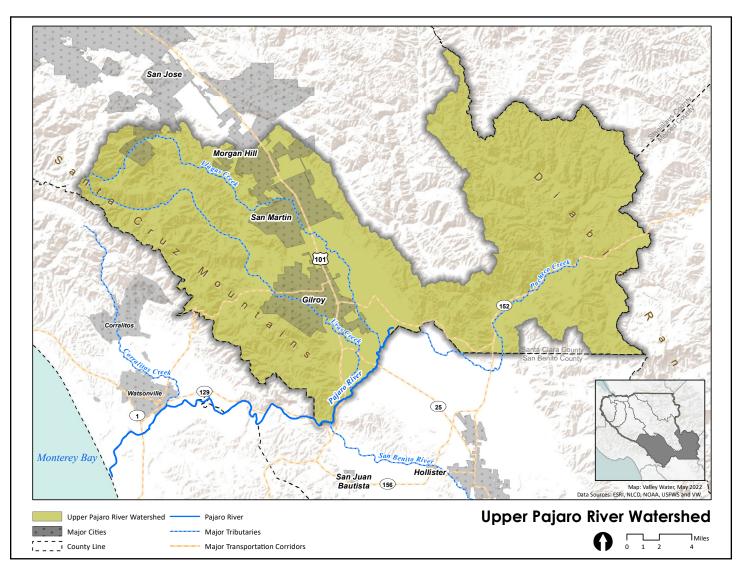


Chesbro Dam

Attachment 2 Page 1 of 2

Your Input is Welcome

We invite you to learn more about this master planning effort and provide us your input by visiting our **Be Heard Upper Pajaro River Watershed** webpage. On this interactive website, you'll be able to **map your concerns** and also take an informational survey. Please visit our **One Water** webpage for more details or email Project Manager Damaris Villalobos-Galindo, **DVillalobos-Galindo@valleywater.org**.



Be Heard page: https://beheard.valleywater.org/upper-pajaro-river-watershed-one-water-plan
One Water page: https://www.valleywater.org/project-updates/one-water-plan
Map Your Concerns Survey: https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/151b03cbac194f9b856ca61de073db0e



Santa Clara Valley Water District



File No.: 22-0730 **Agenda Date: 7/11/2022**

Item No.: 4.3.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

SUBJECT:

Review Agricultural Water Advisory 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.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee 2022 Work Plan

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

Update: June 2022

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 2022	January 3	Committee Elects Chair and Vice Chair for 2022 (Action)	Accomplished January 3, 2022: The Committee unanimously approved Mr. Jan Garrod as the 2022 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Chair and Mr. Peter Van Dyke as the 2022 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Vice Chair.
2	Annual Accomplishments Report	January 3	 Review and approve 2020 Accomplishments Report for presentation to the Board. (Action) Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate. 	Accomplished January 3, 2022: The Committee unanimously approved the 2021 Annual Accomplishments Report. The Board received the Committee's presentation at its March 8, 2022, meeting.
3	Quarterly Drought Response Update.	January 3 April 4 July 11	Receive an update on the Drought Response (Information)	Accomplished January 3, 2022: The Committee received an update on the Drought Response and took no action. Accomplished April 4, 2022: The Committee received an update on the Drought Response and took no action.

Yellow = Update Since Last Meeting

Blue = Action taken by the Board of Directors

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ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE		INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
4	Review and Comment to the Board on the Fiscal Year 2022 – 2023 Preliminary Groundwater Production Charges	January 3	•	Review and comment to the Board on the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Preliminary Groundwater Production Charges. (Action)	Accomplished January 3, 2022: The Committee received a presentation on the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Preliminary Groundwater Production Charges and took no action.
5	Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study Update.	January 3	•	Receive information on the Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study. (Information)	Accomplished January 3, 2022: The Committee received a presentation on the Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study and took no action.
6	Injection Wells for Groundwater Recharge	January 3	•	Receive information on the Injection Wells for Groundwater Recharge (Information)	Accomplished January 3, 2022: The Committee received information on the Injection Wells for Groundwater Recharge and took no action.
7	Review of Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda	January 3 April 4 July 11 October 3	•	Receive and review the 2022 Board-approved Committee work plan. (Action) Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate.	Accomplished January 3, 2022: The Committee received updates and reviewed the 2022 Board-approved Committee work plan and took no action. Accomplished April 4, 2022: The Committee received updates and reviewed the 2022 Board-approved Committee work plan and took no action.
8	Standing Items Report Fiscal Year 2022 Goals and Strategies:	January 3 July 11	•	Receive quarterly reports on standing items, FY2022. (Information)	Accomplished January 3, 2022: The Committee received the quarterly reports on standing items and took no action.

Yellow = Update Since Last Meeting

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ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCO	MPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
GOA			FY22 FOCUS AREAS		MONITORING COMMITTEE
	Strategy #1 Protect and maintain existing assets and infrastructure and advance new infrastructure projects.	Water Program. Advance new infrastruct Maintenance Plan. Increase engagement w	Advance new infrastructure projects identified in the Asset Management Plan and Operations		
INTEGRA WATE RESOUF MANAGE	capacity to acquire regulatory permits.	Continue to provide for agency-wide regulatory planning and permitting effort and pursue other efforts at the state and federal level to expedite permit review. Continue to foster better relationships with regulatory agencies and open dialogue with environmental, environmental justice and other stakeholders. Implement memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Regional Water Quality Control Board.			
	Strategy #3 Engage and educate the community, elected officials and staff on our management of water resources in Santa Clara County	 Continue to apply strategies for effective outreach, engagement, and education. Continue to develop and refine metrics to understand and improve the return on investment (ROI) of outreach strategies. Continue increasing efforts to educate the public about the mix of different types of water in Valley Water's portfolio, as well as our flood protection and environmental stewardship efforts. Engage directly with local government jurisdictions through joint meetings. 			
GOA	Strategy #1 Actively Pursue New Water Supply and Storage Opportunities.	FY22 FOCUS AREAS Explore opportunities to develop new surface and groundwater storage projects that align with Valley Water's mission. Determine level of participation for projects and decisions about partnerships in accordance with the Water Supply Master Plan andwater affordability. Make decisions on the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project following review of the project's Environmental Impact Report (EIR).		Water Storage Exploratory Committee (WSEC)	
	Strategy #2 Actively Participate in decisions regarding the CA Delta Conveyance.	As a voice for Northern Delta Conveyance Designation	California, continue to engage and negotiate, throughseign and Construction Authority and Finance Authority and Finance to Board approved Guiding Principles, to	l Stakeholder	Board of Directors

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ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCO	MPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
	Strategy #3 Lead Recycled and Purified Water Efforts with committed partners.	Proposal (RFP) for at least one Locally Sponsor Implement the Countywir Continue to monitor Directimplement actions as needed. Finalize negotiations on water and agreement	Purified Water Program by releasing a Request for ored Project. de Water Reuse Master Plan. ct Potable Reuse (DPR) guidance and term sheet for South County recycled		Recycled Water Committee (RWC)
	Strategy #4 Advance Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project.	On governance. Continue construction on the Anderson Dam Tunnel Project (ADTP). Continue to work with appropriate regulatory agencies to advance the ADSRP. Release for review the Draft Environmental Report for the ADSRP. Continue to educate and engage the public, key stakeholders, decision makers, and elected officials of the project progress and construction timeline. Coordinate long term ADSRP operations with the Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative			Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Stream Planning and Operations Committee (SPOC)
	Strategy #5 Promote Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life in Santa Clara County.	Increase communication and education outreach to promote Valley Water's water conservation programs to customers. Increase collaboration with retailers to promote Valley Water's water conservation programs. Implement new water conservation programs and engagement strategies identified within the Water Conservation Strategic Plan. Engage and support private-sector stakeholders, local, state, and federal agencies that promote water conservation.		Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee (WCaDMC)	

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GOAL STRATEGY FY22 FOCUS AREAS Continue to advance Shoreline EIA 11 levee construction. Finalize the One Water Coyote Creek Watershed plan and make significant progress on the Guadalupe and Pajaro watershed plans. NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION FY22 FOCUS AREAS Continue to advance Shoreline EIA 11 levee construction. Finalize the One Water Coyote Creek Watershed plan and make significant progress on the Guadalupe and Pajaro watershed plans. Use a holistic approach to maintaining streams for flow conveyance and habitat enhancement. Complete construction of Phase Loft the Lipper Llarges Flood Protection Project.	MONITORING COMMITTEE CIP BPPC
Plan, design and maintain flood protection projects with multiple benefits, including protecting ecosystem functions and FLOOD Plan, design and maintain flood protection projects with multiple benefits, including protecting ecosystem functions and FLOOD Plan, design and maintain Finalize the One Water Coyote Creek Watershed plan and make significant progress on the Guadalupe and Pajaro watershed plans. Use a holistic approach to maintaining streams for flow conveyance and habitat enhancement.	
● Complete construction of Phase I of the Upper Llagas Flood Protection Project, a multi-benefit project providing flood protection while restoring habitat and benefiting the environmental ecosystem.	
Strategy #2 Provide flood protection equitably in all regions of the County, prioritizing disadvantaged communities. • Advance One Water Countywide Framework in a comprehensive manner that includes diverse community-wide stakeholders and the incorporation of environmental justice policies in all planning efforts. • Continue progress on flood protection capital projects consistent with Valley Water's commitment to the Safe, Clean Water Program and equitably in all regions.	CIP BPPC

GOAL	STRATEGY	FY22 FOCUS AREAS	MONITORING COMMITTEE
	Strategy #1 Attain net positive impact on the environment when implementing flood protection and water supply projects.	 As part of the One Water Countywide Framework planning process, continue to develop an integrated water resource plan for each watershed, including appropriate metrics to monitor Valley Water's impacts on and benefit to the environment. Ensure that stewardship efforts are integrated and not focused primarily onmitigation. 	ВРРС
	Strategy #2 Promote the protection of creeks, bay, and other aquatic ecosystems from threats of pollution and degradation.	Continue efforts to protect the ecosystem and water quality of our water bodies and the integrity of our infrastructure. Such efforts include preventing stormwater pollution, increased implementation of green stormwater infrastructure, addressing mercury pollution, and homeless encampment clean ups.	Homeless Encampment Committee
ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP		Continue partnerships and investments on a regional scale such as the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration and Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program (SCVURPPP).	(HEC) SPOC
	Strategy #3 Continue the Fisheries and Aquatic	Continue implementation of feasibility studies, monitoring activities, and planning and construction of various fish passage improvements.	

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ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DA OUTCOME	ATE AND
 Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE). Advance the Guadalupe River and Stevens Creek Environmental Impact Report (EIR) consistent with all stakeholder agreements. Develop a programmatic approach to implementing FAHCE settlement. Advance Adaptive Management Plan to encompass all three creeks. 		S	SPOC		

GOAL	STRATEGY	FY22 FOCUS AREAS	MONITORING COMMITTEE
BUSINESS MANAGEMENT	Strategy #1 Advance racial equity, diversity, and inclusion.	 Begin implementation of best practices to address internal and external disparities and build an organizational culture consistent with the Board's Resolution addressing racial equity, diversity, and inclusion. Remain committed to environmental justice and the fair treatment and meaningful engagement of all people regardless of race, color, gender identity, disability status, national origin, tribe, culture, income, immigration status, or English language proficiency, with respect to the planning, projects, policies, services, and operations of Valley Water. 	Diversity and Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee (D&I)
	Strategy #2 Maintain appropriate staffing levels and expertise and ensure the safety of our staff.	 Develop and finalize a long-term staffing strategy that aligns with future capital and operational needs. Develop classification career ladders to provide understanding of requirements for professional growth. Advance the development of a skilled trades apprenticeship program. Maximize the safety of staff working in creeks, homeless encampments and Valley Water facilities and continue to promote health & safety guidance to protect staff from public health emergencies and environmental impacts. 	D&I
	Strategy #3 Provide affordable and cost- effective level of services.	Continue to establish benchmarking with other agencies, particularly water agencies, in order to understand areas for improvement. Research and identify best practices from other agencies around water affordability, particularly with disadvantaged communities. Establish Valley Water as a statewide leader in conversations around water affordability.	Financial Sustainability Working Group (FSWG) Board Audit Committee (BAC)

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ITEM		WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME	
GOAL	•	STRATEGY	FY22 FOCUS ARE	AS	MONITORING COMMITTEE	
CLIMA	TE CHANGE	Strategy #1 Address future impacts of climate change to Valley Water's mission and operations.	Begin implementat	ion of Climate Change Action Plan.	inge Action Plan. BPPC	
9	the Fiscal	nd Comment to the Board on I Year 2022 – 2023 Proposed ater Production Charges	April 4	Review and comment to the Board on the Fiscal Year 2023 Proposed Groundwater Production Charges. (Action)	Accomplished April 4, 2022: The Committee received Review and comment to the Board on the Fiscal Year 2023 Proposed Groundwater Production Charges and took the following action: The Committee unanimously approved staff's report.	
10	Flood-Managed Aquifer Recharge Preliminary Feasibility Study for Santa Clara County		April 4	Receive a presentation on the Flood- Managed Aquifer Recharge Preliminary Feasibility Study for Santa Clara County (Information)	Accomplished April 4, 2022: The Committee received a presentation on the Flood-Managed Aquifer Recharge Preliminary Feasibility Study for Santa Clara County and took no action.	
11	Watershe	er – Upper Pajaro River d Plan – Information on Plan verview and Stakeholder	July 11	Receive a presentation on One Water Upper Pajaro River Watershed Plan Information on Plan Scope, Overview and Stakeholder Feedback (Action)		
12		Revisions to the Untreated Vater Program	July 11	Receive a presentation on the potential revisions to the Untreated Surface Water Program.		

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ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
13	Drought Response Plan Update – Benchmark Study	October 3	Receive a presentation on the Drought Response Plan Update – Benchmark Study (Information)	
14	Review FY2023 Board Work Plan	October 3	Review the FY2023 Board Work Plan. (Information)	

Yellow = Update Since Last Meeting

Blue = Action taken by the Board of Directors

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Santa Clara Valley Water District



File No.: 22-0731 **Agenda Date: 7/11/2022**

Item No.: 5.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

SUBJECT:

Standing Items Report.

RECOMMENDATION:

Standing Items Reports

This item allows the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee to receive verbal or written updates and discuss the Board's Fiscal Year 2022 Work Plan Strategies. These items are generally informational; however, the Committee may request additional information and/or provide collective input to the assigned Board Committee.

SUMMARY:

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee was established to assist the Board with policy review and development, provide comment on activities in the implementation of the District mission, and to identify Board-related issues.

On August 2020, the Board of Directors approved aligning the Board Advisory Committees' agendas and work plans with the Board's yearly work plan.

The new agenda format will allow regular reports on the Board's priorities from the Board's committees and/or Board committee representative and identify subjects where the committees could provide advice to the Board on pre-identified subjects in a timely manner to meet the Board's schedule and distribute information/reports that may be of interest to committee members.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Standing Items Report.

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith. 408-630-3193

FY2021-2022 BOARD WORK PLAN – STANDING ITEMS REPORT

June 2022

	GOAL: INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT					
Strategy 1:	Protect and maintain existing assets and infrastructure and advance new infrastructure projects.					
Focus:	 Be strategic in managing existing flood protection assets consistent with the Safe Clean Water Program. Advance new infrastructure projects identified in the Asset Management Plan and Operations and Maintenance Plan. Increase engagement with cities on flood plain management, Community Rating System (CRS) program, and emergency action plans. 					
Updates:	 In March 2022, the California Department of Water Resources approved Valley Water's 2020 Urban Water Management Plan, which documents current and projected water supplies and demands over the next 25 years during normal and drought years, as well as shortage contingency planning and conservation efforts. In March 2022, Valley Water's Office of Emergency Services met with staff from the City of San Jose and Santa Clara County to exercise the Joint Emergency Action Plan focusing on a potential flood event scenario on the Guadalupe River. In May 2022, Valley Water participated in the 2022 Dam Sector Information Sharing Drill, a two-day dam security exercise hosted by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). The purpose of the drill was to validate effectiveness of our emergency plans and procedures in the case of a terrorist threat targeting dams. May 2022, Valley Water Board of Directors adopted the Fiscal Year 2023-2027 Five-Year Capital Improvement Program. 					
Strategy 2:	Pursue opportunities to improve internal capacity to acquire regulatory permits.					
Focus:	 Continue to provide for agency-wide regulatory planning and permitting effort and pursue other efforts at the state and federal level to expedite permit review. Continue to foster better relationships with regulatory agencies and open dialogue with environmental, environmental justice and other stakeholders. Implement memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Regional Water Quality Control Board. 					
Updates:	Valley Water continues to hold and participate in regular technical and permitting discussions with resource agencies for the Federal Energy Regulatory commission (FERC) Ordered Compliance Project (FOCP) and the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project. These meetings include bimonthly interagency meetings, monthly Technical Work Group meetings, regular technical sub-group meetings for instream design work, and several single agency meetings with National Marine Fisheries Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, CA State Water Resources Control Board, Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.					

Strategy 3:	Engage and educate the community, elected officials and staff on our management of water resources in Santa Clara County.
Focus:	 Continue to apply strategies for effective outreach, engagement and education. Continue to develop and refine metrics to understand and improve the return on investment (ROI) of outreach strategies. Continue increasing efforts to educate the public about the mix of different types of water in Valley Water's portfolio, as well as our flood protection and environmental stewardship efforts. Engage directly with local government jurisdictions through joint meetings
Updates:	 Since the Valley Water Board of Directors declared a drought emergency in June 2021, staff have provided regular monthly updates on water supply, groundwater conditions and water conservation efforts during Board Meetings. In February 2022, Valley Water's Board of Directors held a Joint Special Meeting with the City of Santa Clara. In March 2022, the Board led a series of advocacy meetings with officials in Washington D.C. to advocate for the funding and advancement of major Valley Water projects and priorities. In May 2022, the Board led Sacramento Legislative Days, a series of meetings with state public officials to advocate for the funding and advancement of major Valley Water projects and priorities. In Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22), Valley Water's Education Outreach Team have engaged over 6,600 students and educators and over 1,000 members of the public through virtual classroom presentations. In FY22, Valley Water's Water Supply Outreach Team have provided water infrastructure education and tours of the advanced water purification center to over 1,800 people.

GOAL: WATER SUPPLY	
Strategy 1:	Actively Pursue New Water Supply and Storage Opportunities.
Focus:	 Explore opportunities to develop new surface and groundwater storage projects that align with Valley Water's mission. Determine level of participation for projects and decisions about partnerships in accordance with the Water Supply Master Plan and water affordability. Make decisions on the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project following review of the project's Environmental Impact Report (EIR).
Updates:	 Valley Water released the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project on November 17, 2021 and closed the public review period on February 15, 2022. In March 2022, the California Water Commission allocated an additional \$7.5 million to Valley Water's Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project from the unallocated Proposition 1 bond funds remaining in the Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP). In March 2022, the Board authorized the CEO to execute an agreement for participation and a funding commitment for the Sites Reservoir Project.

Strategy 2:	Actively Participate in decisions regarding the CA Delta Conveyance.
Focus:	As a voice for Northern California, continue to engage and negotiate, through serving on the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority and Finance Authority and Stakeholder Engagement Committee in adherence to Board approved Guiding Principles, to protect Santa Clara County's interests.
Updates:	 In April 2022, the Valley Water Board of Directors adopted a Resolution approving the funding of preliminary planning and design costs with the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) for the Delta Conveyance Project for calendar years 2023 and 2024. A draft Community Benefits Program Framework is now available on DWR's Delta Conveyance Project website. The Framework provides information on the steps DWR will take to plan and implement a Community Benefits Program separate from, and in addition to, mitigation required under environmental regulation and will be part of the upcoming Public Draft Environmental Impact Report.
Strategy 3:	Lead Recycled and Purified Water Efforts with committed partners.
Focus:	 Advance the Expedited Purified Water Program by releasing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for at least one Locally Sponsored Project. Implement the Countywide Water Reuse Master Plan. Continue to monitor Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) guidance and implement actions as needed. Finalize negotiations on term sheet for South County recycled water and agreement on governance.
Updates:	 In April 2022, the California Water Environment Association selected the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center as the 2021-2022 Tertiary Recycled Water Plant of the Year. In June 2022, the Board approved a consultant agreement for the Purified Water Project to provide additional project management resources through the entire procurement, design, and construction of the Project.
Strategy 4:	Advance Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project.
Focus:	 Continue construction on the Anderson Dam Tunnel Project (ADTP). Continue to work with appropriate regulatory agencies to advance the ADSRP. Release for review the Draft Environmental Report for the ADSRP. Continue to educate and engage the public, key stakeholders, decision makers, and elected officials of the project progress and construction timeline. Coordinate long term ADSRP operations with the Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE)
Updates:	 In January 2022, the Board received a project update that the ADSRP cost would increase by \$589 million due to the extension of the construction schedule from 5 to 10 years, additional environmental and permitting related costs, design changes, dam safety regulator mandated modifications and previous undervaluation of project costs. Construction on the Anderson Dam Tunnel Project continues, and the ADTP received the remaining required phased project approvals from the California Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) and Phase 3 approval from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. A Public Meeting on the Anderson Dam Project was held in June 2022 in Morgan Hill to give an update on construction efforts as well as provide the public an opportunity to ask questions.

Strategy 5:	Promote Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life in Santa Clara County.
Focus:	 Increase communication and educational outreach to promote Valley Water's water conservation programs to customers. Increase collaboration with retailers to promote Valley Water's water conservation programs. Implement new water conservation programs and engagement strategies identified within the Water Conservation Strategic Plan. Engage and support private-sector stakeholders, local, state, and federal agencies that promote water conservation.
Updates:	 In FY22, Valley Water's Landscape Rebate Program has received over 3,100 applications, over 1,600 reports of water waste, and over 8,700 orders for free watersaving devices. In February 2022, Valley Water utilized social media "influencers" in a campaign for water conservation that reached over 720,000 people in multiple languages throughout the county. In April 2022, Valley Water's Youth Commission launched their Drought Awareness Campaign Toolkit on the Commission's webpage to engage their peers about the ongoing drought in our region. In May 2022, Valley Water launched the "Say YES to Saving Water" campaign, with multilingual ads running on using multiple social and traditional media channels, including ads on billboards, bus shelters, buses, and magnetic ads on Valley Water's fleet. In May 2022, Valley Water's Board of Directors adopted an Ordinance to adopt drought outdoor water conservation enforcement measures, effective June 1, 2022.

GOAL: NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION	
Strategy 1:	Plan, design and maintain flood protection projects with multiple benefits, including protecting ecosystem functions and enhancing habitat.
Focus:	 Continue to advance Shoreline EIA 11 levee construction. Finalize the One Water Coyote Creek Watershed plan and make significant progress on the Guadalupe and Pajaro watershed plans. Use a holistic approach to maintaining streams for flow conveyance and habitat enhancement. Complete construction of Phase I of the Upper Llagas Flood Protection Project, a multibenefit project providing flood protection while restoring habitat and benefiting the environmental ecosystem.
Updates:	 In March 2022, the Board adopted the One Water Countywide Framework, which is a long-term plan for flood protection and environmental stewardship, incorporating water supply goals in the development of our watershed management plans. The Board also adopted the Coyote Creek Watershed Plan. In April 2022, Valley Water hosted a groundbreaking ceremony to celebrate the first phase of the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project construction. In May 2022, the Board accepted the completion of work for Phase 1 of the Upper Llagas Flood Protection Project, Milestones #1 and #2.

Strategy 2:	Provide flood protection equitably in all regions of the County, prioritizing disadvantaged communities.
Focus:	 Advance One Water Countywide Framework in a comprehensive manner that includes diverse community-wide stakeholders and the incorporation of environmental justice policies in all planning efforts. Continue progress on flood protection capital projects consistent with Valley Water's commitment to the Safe, Clean Water Program and equitability in all regions.
Updates:	 In November 2021, Valley Water's Board of Directors adopted a revised Ends Policy E-3: Flood Protection to "reduce risk and improve health and safety for residents, businesses, and visitors, now and into the future." In March 2022, the Board adopted the One Water Countywide Framework and Coyote Creek Watershed Plan. The Framework directly addresses equity and environmental justice, prioritizing and reporting on actions impacting disadvantaged communities.

GOAL: ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP	
Strategy 1:	Attain net positive impact on the environment when implementing flood protection and water supply projects.
Focus:	 As part of the One Water Countywide Framework planning process, continue to develop an integrated water resource plan for each watershed, including appropriate metrics to monitor Valley Water's impacts on and benefit to the environment. Ensure that stewardship efforts are integrated and not focused primarily on mitigation.
Updates:	In March 2022, the Board adopted the One Water Countywide Framework, which is a long-term plan for flood protection and environmental stewardship, incorporating water supply goals in the development of our watershed management plans. The Board also adopted the Coyote Creek Watershed Plan.
Strategy 2:	Promote the protection of creeks, bay, and other aquatic ecosystems from threats of pollution and degradation.
Focus:	 Continue efforts to protect the ecosystem and water quality of our water bodies and the integrity of our infrastructure. Such efforts include preventing stormwater pollution, increased implementation of green stormwater infrastructure, addressing mercury pollution, and homeless encampment clean ups. Continue partnerships and investments on a regional scale such as the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration and Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program (SCVURPPP).
Updates:	 In May 2022, Valley Water hosted a National River Cleanup Day event at the Sanchez Ponds cleanup site with several other cleanup sites as part of this collaborative action with the Creek Connections Action Group. 596 Volunteers collected over 25K pound of trash over 36+ miles. Through FY22 Q3, 861 cubic yards of trash and debris were cleaned up along Santa Clara County waterways during 120 litter cleanup events.

Strategy 3:	Continue the Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE)
Focus:	 Continue implementation of feasibility studies, monitoring activities, and planning and construction of various fish passage improvements. Advance the Guadalupe River and Stevens Creek Environmental Impact Report (EIR) consistent with all stakeholder agreements. Develop a programmatic approach to implementing FAHCE settlement. Advance Adaptive Management Plan to encompass all three creeks.
Updates:	 The Draft FAHCE Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was released for public comment and review from June 30, 2021 to October 15, 2021. Valley Water continues to categorize and analyze comments from resource agencies, Initialing Parties, California Department of Transportation, environmental groups and interested members of the public and are proceeding with preparing responses and identifying next steps for finalizing the EIR. Coordination of the Fish and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE) and Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project (ADSRP) remains an ongoing effort. This includes continuing monthly coordination and collaboration with the resource agencies and partners in support of federal and state permits for ADSRP. In March 2022, an update on the FAHCE Fish Monitoring Program was presented to Valley Water's Stream Planning and Operations Committee. The Fish Monitoring Program provides a better understanding of our watershed, helps to assess trends, and informs management decisions to protect important species and wildlife.

GOAL: BUSINESS MANAGEMENT	
Strategy 1:	Advance racial equity, diversity and inclusion.
Focus:	 Begin implementation of best practices to address internal and external disparities and build an organizational culture consistent with the Board's Resolution addressing racial equity, diversity and inclusion. Remain committed to environmental justice and the fair treatment and meaningful engagement of all people regardless of race, color, gender identity, disability status, national origin, tribe, culture, income, immigration status, or English language proficiency, with respect to the planning, projects, policies, services and operations of Valley Water.
Updates:	 In January 2022, an "Environmental Justice Impact Statement" was added to all Board Agenda Memos to ensure that every item that goes to the Board takes into consideration environmental justice impacts. The Valley Water Board of Directors passed Resolutions observing the following: Recognizing February as African-American/Black History Month, Recognizing March as Women's History Month, Recognizing March as Irish-American Heritage Month, Declaring March 27-April 2 a Week of Public Service in honor of Cesar Chavez, Recognizing April as Middle Eastern North African Heritage Month, Recognizing May as Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Recognizing May as Jewish American Heritage Month, Recognizing June as PRIDE Month, Recognizing June as National Caribbean-American Heritage Month, and Declaring June 19, 2022 as Juneteenth Independence Day, marking the end of slavery in the U.S Valley Water's Board of Directors and its Leadership Team completed baseline training in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) and training on Unconscious Bias was offered to all staff. The Office of Racial Equity, Diversity and inclusion are spearheading efforts to develop a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Master Plan for Valley Water, with a draft report anticipated in the Summer of 2022.

Strategy 2:	Maintain appropriate staffing levels and expertise and ensure the safety of our staff.
Focus:	 Develop and finalize a long-term staffing strategy that aligns with future capital and operational needs. Develop classification career ladders to provide understanding of requirements for professional growth. Advance the development of a skilled trades apprenticeship program. Maximize the safety of staff working in creeks, homeless encampments and Valley Water facilities, and continue to promote health & safety guidance to protect staff from public health emergencies and environmental impacts.
Updates:	 In January 2022, the Board adopted and executed a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) negotiated with the Santa Clara and San Benito Counties Building Trades Council. The PLA is a multi-union pre-hire agreement that governs wages, benefits, work rules, and other terms and conditions of employment at a construction site. Valley Water successfully competed contract negotiations with its three bargaining unions for four-year terms. In Fiscal Year 2022, Valley Water completed more than 200 recruitments, 107 of which were external new hires. Valley Water continues to coordinate two Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Activations for COVID-19, and the Drought. All EOC efforts have been successful in maintaining Valley Water operations. The COVID-19 EOC activation continues to focus on maintaining employee and workplace safety as a priority.
Strategy 3:	Provide affordable and cost-effective level of services.
Focus:	 Continue to establish benchmarking with other agencies, particularly water agencies, in order to understand areas for improvement. Research and identify best practices from other agencies around water affordability, particularly with disadvantaged communities. Establish Valley Water as a statewide leader in conversations around water affordability.
Updates:	 Valley Water's Water Rate Assistance Program disbursed over half a million dollars to more than 1,000 households in Santa Clara County, in partnership with Sacred Heart Community Services. The Water Rate Assistance Program was renewed by the Board in April 2022 for another year with \$1M in additional funding. In May 2022, the Board of Directors approved and adopted the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Operating and Capital Budget, the first biennial budget brought to the Board in over 20 years.

GOAL: CLIMATE CHANGE	
Strategy 1:	Address future impacts of climate change to Valley Water's mission and operations.
Focus:	Begin implementation of Climate Change Action Plan.
Updates:	Since the Board's adoption of Valley Water's Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP), Valley Water is currently developing an agency-wide Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Plan. A team of consultants have been brought on to expand Valley Water's emissions inventory to account for additional GHG sources, develop innovative measures to reduce GHG emissions, and ultimately achieve net zero emissions. The GHG Reduction Plan will also include a review of GHG offset programs that Valley Water may utilize to offset GHG emissions from large capital projects.