

March 14, 2022

MEETING NOTICE

WATER CONSERVATION AND DEMAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Members of the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee:

Director Nai Hsueh, Committee Vice Chair
Director Barbara F. Keegan
Director Linda J. LeZotte, Committee Chair

Staff Support of the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee:

Rick L. Callender, Esq., Chief Executive Officer
Melanie Richardson, Assistant Chief Executive Officer
Aaron Baker, Chief Operating Officer, Water Utility
Rachael Gibson, Chief of External Affairs
J. Carlos Orellana, District Counsel
Gregory Williams, Deputy Operating Officer, Raw Water Division
Vincent Gin, Deputy Operating Officer, Water Supply Division
Sam Bogale, Interim Deputy Operating Officer, Treated Water Operations & Maintenance Division
Don Rocha, Deputy Administrative Officer, Office of Government Relations
Bart Broome, Assistant Officer, Office of Government Relations
Antonio Alfaro, Government Relations Advocate, Office of Government Relations
Kirsten Struve, Assistant Officer, Water Supply Division
Vanessa De La Piedra, Groundwater Management Manager, Groundwater Monitoring and Analysis Unit
Metra Richert, Unit Manager of the Water Supply Planning and Conservation Unit
Samantha Greene, Senior Water Resources Specialist, Water Supply Planning & Conservation Unit
Jing Wu, Senior Water Resources Specialist, Water Supply Planning & Conservation Unit
Justin Burks, Senior Water Conservation Specialist, Water Supply Planning & Conservation Unit

The regular meeting of the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee is scheduled to be held on **Monday, March 21, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.**, Join Zoom Meeting Link: <https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/92597340524>.

The meeting agenda and corresponding materials are located on our website: <https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/committees/board-advisory-committees>



Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/92597340524>

Meeting ID: 925 9734 0524

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,92597340524# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 925 9734 0524



Santa Clara Valley Water District Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Meeting

Teleconference-via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/92597340524>

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

**Monday, March 21, 2022
11:00 AM**

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

BOARD REPRESENTATIVES:
Director Nai Hsueh, Committee Vice
Chair
Director Barbara F. Keegan
Director Linda J. LeZotte, Committee
Chair

During the COVID-19 restrictions, all public records relating to an open session item on this agenda, which are not exempt from disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, that are distributed to a majority of the legislative body, will be available to the public through the legislative body agenda web page at the same time that the public records are distributed or made available to the legislative body. Santa Clara Valley Water District will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities wishing to participate in the legislative body's meeting. Please advise the Clerk of the Board Office of any special needs by calling (408) 265-2600.

Mr. Vincent Gin
Ms. Kirsten Struve
(Staff Liaisons)

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
Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee
REGULAR MEETING
AGENDA

Monday, March 21, 2022

11:00 AM

Teleconference-via Zoom

BY VIRTUAL TELECONFERENCE ONLY

Pursuant to California Government Code section 54953(e), this meeting will be held by teleconference only. No physical location will be available for this meeting; however, members of the public will be able to participate in the meeting as noted below.

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.

Santa Clara Valley Water District (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 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. seq. 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 website, maintained on the World Wide Web at <https://emma.msrb.org/> and <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/92597340524>

Dial by your location
+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 925 9734 0524

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.

[22-0362](#)

Recommendation: Approve the February 23, 2022, Meeting Minutes

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

Attachments: [Attachment 1: 02232022 WCaDMC DRAFT Mins](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

4. ACTION ITEMS:

- 4.1. Monthly update on progress towards Valley Water Resolution 21-68's water use reduction target and water conservation efforts related to the drought emergency. [22-0363](#)
- Recommendation: Receive an update on progress towards meeting the Board's call for water use reduction in response to the water shortage emergency condition and water conservation efforts relevant to the overall drought emergency response, and provide feedback to staff.
- Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138
- Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint Presentation](#)
[Attachment 2: February Drought Report](#)
- Est. Staff Time: 15 Minutes
- 4.2. Improving Water Wise Features for New Developments. [22-0364](#)
- Recommendation: Receive an update on Valley Water's efforts to ensure new developments in Santa Clara County have improved water wise features and provide feedback as necessary.
- Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138
- Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint Presentation](#)
- Est. Staff Time: 15 Minutes
- 4.3. Drought Response Plan Update - Benchmark Study. [22-0365](#)
- Recommendation: Receive and Discuss update for the Drought Response Plan.
- Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138
- Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint Presentation](#)
- Est. Staff Time: 15 Minutes

4.4. Standing Items Report.

[22-0366](#)

Recommendation: A. This agenda item allows the Committee to receive verbal or written updates and discuss the below subjects. These items are generally informational; however, the Committee may request additional information from staff:

B. This is informational only and no action is required. *Staff may provide a verbal update at the 3/21/2022, meeting if there is reportable/updated information.*

1. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)
2. Flood MAR
3. Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study

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

Est. Staff Time: 10 Minutes

4.5. Review Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests; and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda.

[22-0367](#)

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: 2022 WCaDMC Work Plan](#)

Est. Staff Time: 10 Minutes

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS.

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

6. ADJOURN:

6.1. Adjourn to Regular Meeting at 11:00 a.m., on Monday, April, 25, 2022.

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 22-0362

Agenda Date: 3/21/2022

Item No.: 3.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee

SUBJECT:

Approval of Minutes.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the February 23, 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 meeting.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: 02232022 WCaDMC Draft Minutes

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

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WATER CONSERVATION AND DEMAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2022

A regular scheduled meeting of the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee was held on February 23, 2022, via zoom in San Jose, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Director Linda J. LeZotte called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

1.1. ROLL CALL

Committee Board Members in attendance were: Committee Vice Chair, Director Nai Hsueh (District 5), Director Barbara Keegan (District 2), Committee Chair, Director Linda J. LeZotte (District 4) establishing a quorum.

Staff members in attendance were: Joseph Aranda, Aaron Baker, Roseryn Bhudsabourg, Neeta Bijoor, Glenna Brambill, Justin Burks, Vanessa De La Piedra, Melissa Fels, Paola Giles, Vincent Gin, Samantha Greene, Linh Hoang, Alexander Johanson, Michael Martin, Colin Resch, Melanie Richardson, Metra Richert, Don Rocha, Kirsten Struve, Gregory Williams, Jing Wu, and Beckie Zisser.

Guest Agencies in attendance were: Michael Bolzowski (California Water Service Company), Brian Boyer (Cinnabar Hills Golf Club), Kurt Elvert and Curt Rayer (San Jose Water Company-SJWC), and Katja Irvin (Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter).

Public in attendance was: Hon. Jim Beall, and Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D.

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

There was no one present who wished to speak.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Director Barbara Keegan, seconded by Director Nai Hsueh, and carried by roll call and unanimous vote, to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2022. Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee meeting as presented.

4. ACTION ITEMS

4.1 MONTHLY UPDATE ON PROGRESS TOWARDS VALLEY WATER RESOLUTION 21-68'S WATER USE REDUCTION TARGET AND WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS RELATED TO THE DROUGHT EMERGENCY

Ms. Neeta Bijoor reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee discussed the following: high water usage, 2019 comparison numbers, shutting off outside watering, continuing outreach message on conserving, xeriscaping needs to be defined-drought resistant landscaping, educating the users about 'low' watering, have conservation incentives awarding those conserving (young children/schools).

Ms. Kirsten Struve, Ms. Linh Hoang, and Mr. Aaron Baker were available to answer questions.

Public Comment: Dr. Arthur Keller suggested using the definition of xeriscaping rather than the actual term. Also, encouraging realtors to put in low tolerant plantings instead of lawns when trying to sell houses.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

4.2. DROUGHT RESPONSE PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Michael Martin reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee discussed the following: differences between the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Drought Response Plan, scheduling, outreach messaging reaching those underserved communities, reaching out to the housing development agencies, realtors for adoptions of Model Ordinances, looking at vulnerability assessment versus the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for project completion, and working with the retailers' having differing water conservation requirements, or mandates.

4.3 STANDING ITEMS REPORT

Committee Chair Director Linda J. LeZotte reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

There were no verbal updates for:

1. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)
2. Flood MAR
3. Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

**4.4 REVIEW WATER CONSERVATION AND DEMAND MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE WORK PLAN, THE OUTCOMES OF BOARD ACTION OF
COMMITTEE REQUESTS; AND THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA**

Ms. Glenna Brambill and Ms. Kirsten Struve reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

Agenda Items for next meeting:
Monthly Drought Information
Land Use
Drought Response Plan Benchmark Study
E-cart

April agenda items:
Monthly Drought Information

The Committee's next scheduled meeting is Monday, March 21, 2022, 11:00 a.m.

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE'S REQUESTS

Ms. Glenna Brambill stated there were no action items for Board consideration.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Director Linda J. LeZotte adjourned at 10:54 a.m., to the next regularly scheduled meeting Monday, March 21, 2022.

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

Approved:

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 22-0363

Agenda Date: 3/21/2022

Item No.: 4.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee

SUBJECT:

Monthly update on progress towards Valley Water Resolution 21-68's water use reduction target and water conservation efforts related to the drought emergency.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update on progress towards meeting the Board's call for water use reduction in response to the water shortage emergency condition and water conservation efforts relevant to the overall drought emergency response, and provide feedback to staff.

SUMMARY:

On June 9, 2021, the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Board of Directors 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 to proclaim a local emergency. The County adopted a Resolution ratifying the proclamation of a local emergency due to the drought on June 22, 2021.

Despite storms received since October 2021, Santa Clara County remains in drought. 2022 had one of the driest January and February periods on record for both California and our county. The U.S. Drought Monitor Report from March 3, 2022 indicates that the County is in severe drought. The northern Sierra Nevada snowpack, a primary source of imported water, is below normal as of March 7, 2022.

Valley Water entered 2022 with over 65,000 acre-feet of imported supplies stored in San Luis Reservoir. This amount is higher than normal and is intended to provide reliability in the event dry conditions continue in 2022, while also mitigating for the reduction in storage in Anderson Reservoir. The 2022 State Water Project allocation is 15 percent, which may be adjusted for human health and safety. The Central Valley Project (CVP) Municipal and Industrial allocation is 25%, and the Agricultural allocation 0%.

Estimated groundwater storage at the end of 2021 was at the low end of the normal stage. Although groundwater levels have declined over recent years due to the drought, groundwater conditions improved in fall 2021 due to seasonal recovery, emergency imported water supplies, and water use reduction by the community. However, if dry conditions continue and the Board's water use reduction target is not met, there remains some risk of resumed subsidence in North County and wells going dry, particularly in South County. That risk increases as the drought persists.

Consequently, water conservation is an important strategy to help mitigate negative impacts.

Water Conservation Outreach

Valley Water continues to provide multi-language radio, TV, digital and social media ads to increase conservation and expand our county's use of purified water. In February 2022, Media interest focused on the drought during the dry months of January and February, water conservation, water supply issues, the latest snowpack survey, and the initial water allocation from the Central Valley Project. A media advisory was shared in advance of Chair Kremen's State of Valley Water address and was reported on by NBC Bay Area, ABC7, CBS5, KRON4, and KCBS Radio.

On social media, Valley Water's purified water influencer campaign continues to run. To date, a total of 157 posts have been shared, reaching an audience of over 722,000 Santa Clara County residents, with over 1 million impressions. Influencers are sharing the message that purified water is a locally sourced, drought-proof solution. Messages are also being posted in Spanish. Valley Water also launched a series promoting water conservation habits on social media. These posts highlight easy activities residents can do to save water during the winter months such as reducing or turning off outdoor irrigation, taking five-minute showers and fixing leaks. The posts are being boosted on Facebook to reach a larger audience.

Speakers Bureau teaser videos were released featuring all seven Valley Water Board members. These videos urge individuals or groups to schedule a 30-minute Speakers Bureau presentation focused on the drought, our future water supply and ways to conserve water. There were three Speakers Bureau Program presentations in February. Chair Kremen and staff gave a Zoom presentation about the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project to the Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District Board of Directors. Staff gave a drought presentation to the Sons in Retirement Branch 125. Director Santos and staff provided a drought presentation to the Japantown Neighborhood Association.

Water Conservation Programs

Valley Water received a significant increase in applications for our landscape rebates, requests for water-saving devices, and reports of water waste since 2021. Compared to February 2021, there has been significant growth in program participation in February 2022. Landscape Rebate program participation more than doubled. The spike in Landscape Rebate Program applications typically seen in spring occurred in February this year. There were 4 water waste reports in February 2021, and 66 reports in February 2022. There were 7 orders for water efficient devices in February 2021, and over 2,500 orders in February 2022.

Requests for all conservation programs are being addressed within one week. Vendors have been assisting to expedite processing. Valley Water is considering a vendor to help increase available goods for the eCart Program.

Countywide Water Use Reduction

Valley Water is engaging with retailers and cities to encourage drought response actions. As of March

8, 2022, the County of Santa Clara and 14 cities in Santa Clara County have taken formal action to their elected boards in response to the drought and to Valley Water's call to reduce water use by 15% compared to 2019 levels. All cities in Santa Clara County have increased conservation messaging in response to the drought.

Santa Clara County has made consistent progress in reducing water use since Valley Water's call to reduce water use in June 2021. The cumulative water savings from June 2021 - January 2022 is 8%. Valley Water's retailers used less water in January 2022 compared to December 2021 and used the least amount of water in January 2022 compared to other months following Valley Water's call in June 2021.

Slightly more water, 2%, was used in January 2022 compared to pre-COVID January 2019. With no measurable precipitation in January 2022 and higher than average temperatures, more people may have turned their outdoor irrigation systems on. Comparing against January 2021 when COVID was present, 7% less water was used in January 2022. Valley Water continues its multilingual, multi-platform outreach to the media and community to encourage residents, businesses, farms, and others to save water in order to achieve a cumulative 15% reduction in water use in 2022.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

Attachment 2: February 2022 Drought Response Report

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

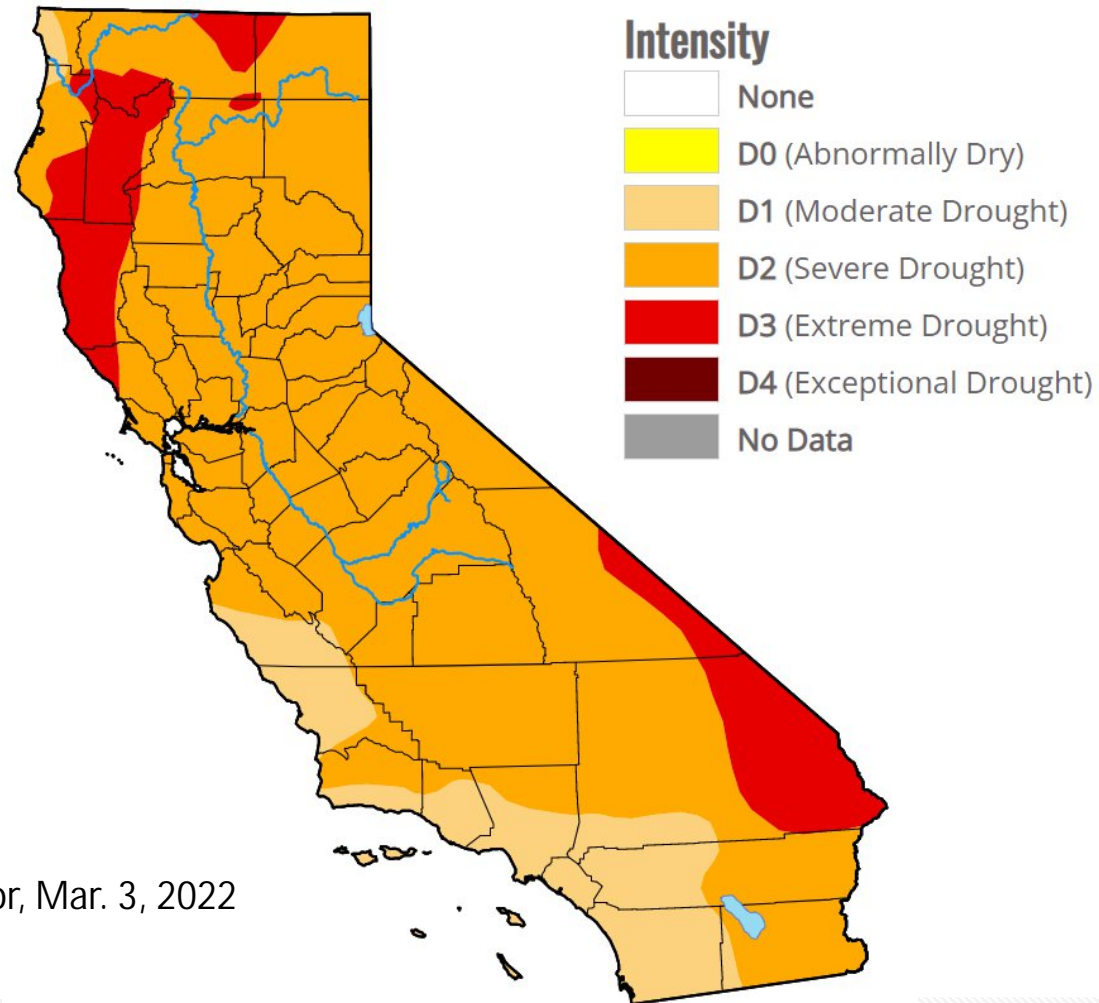
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Monthly Drought Emergency Response and Water Supply Update

Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee
March 21, 2022

Drought Status



Data source: U.S. Drought Monitor, Mar. 3, 2022

Countywide Water Savings

- June 2021 – January 2022 Cumulative Savings - 8%
- Winter use mostly indoor (essential) use
- Greatest savings expected during spring and summer, when irrigation is used more

Drought and Conservation Public Outreach

4

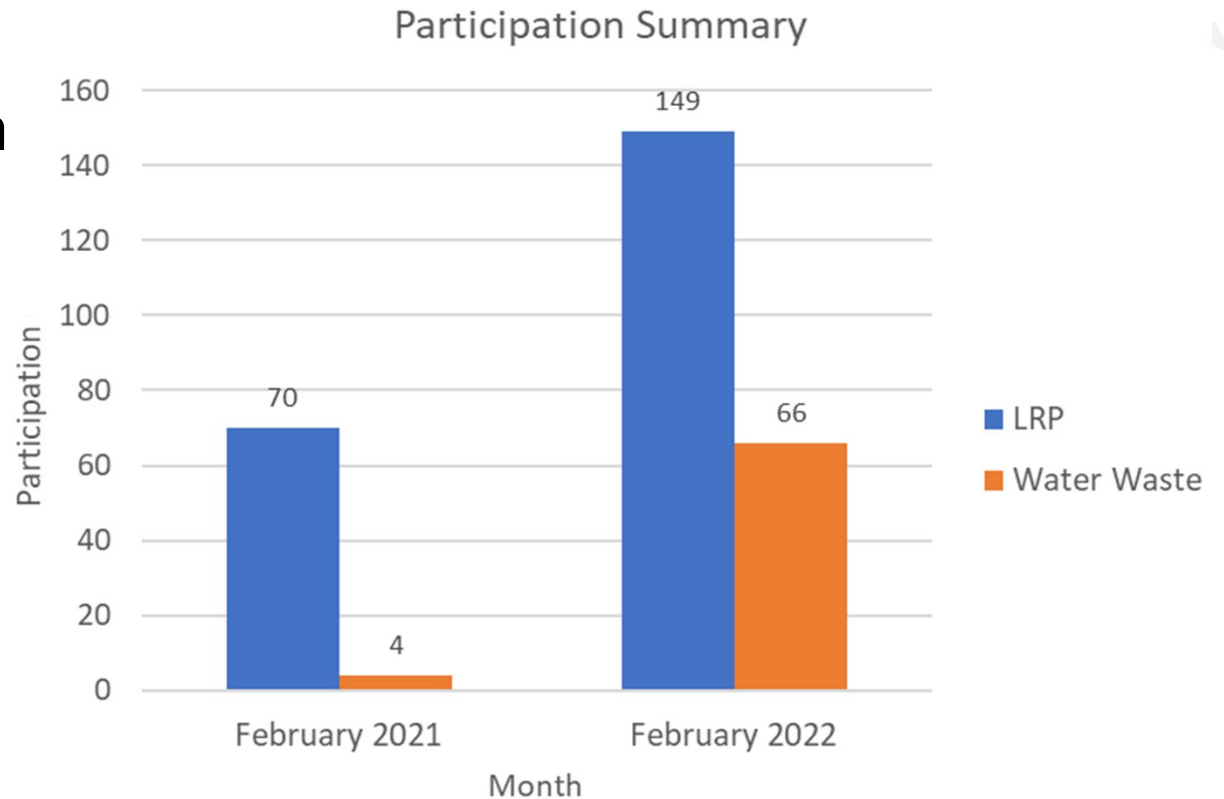
Board of Directors videos
Media Outreach
Social media messaging
Speakers Bureau presentations



valleywater.org

Water Conservation

- Participation remains high
- Vendor assistance
- eCart Participation
 - 7 in Feb 2021
 - 2,516 in Feb 2022



QUESTIONS



Drought Emergency Response Report

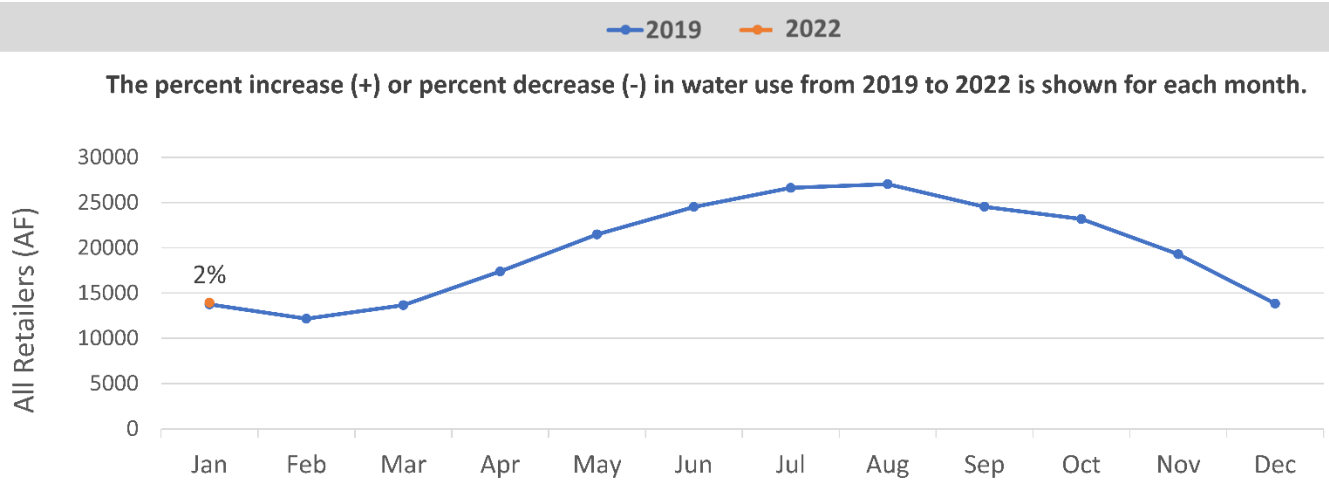
FEBRUARY 2022

Resolution 21-68 Implementation

On June 9, 2021, the Board adopted Valley Water Resolution 21-68 which 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. The County adopted a Resolution ratifying the proclamation of a local emergency due to the drought on June 22, 2021. California’s Governor included Santa Clara County as part of a drought emergency proclamation on July 8, 2021, and this proclamation included all California counties on October 19, 2021. Valley Water activated its Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on June 16, 2021 to assist with resolution implementation and other drought-related efforts.

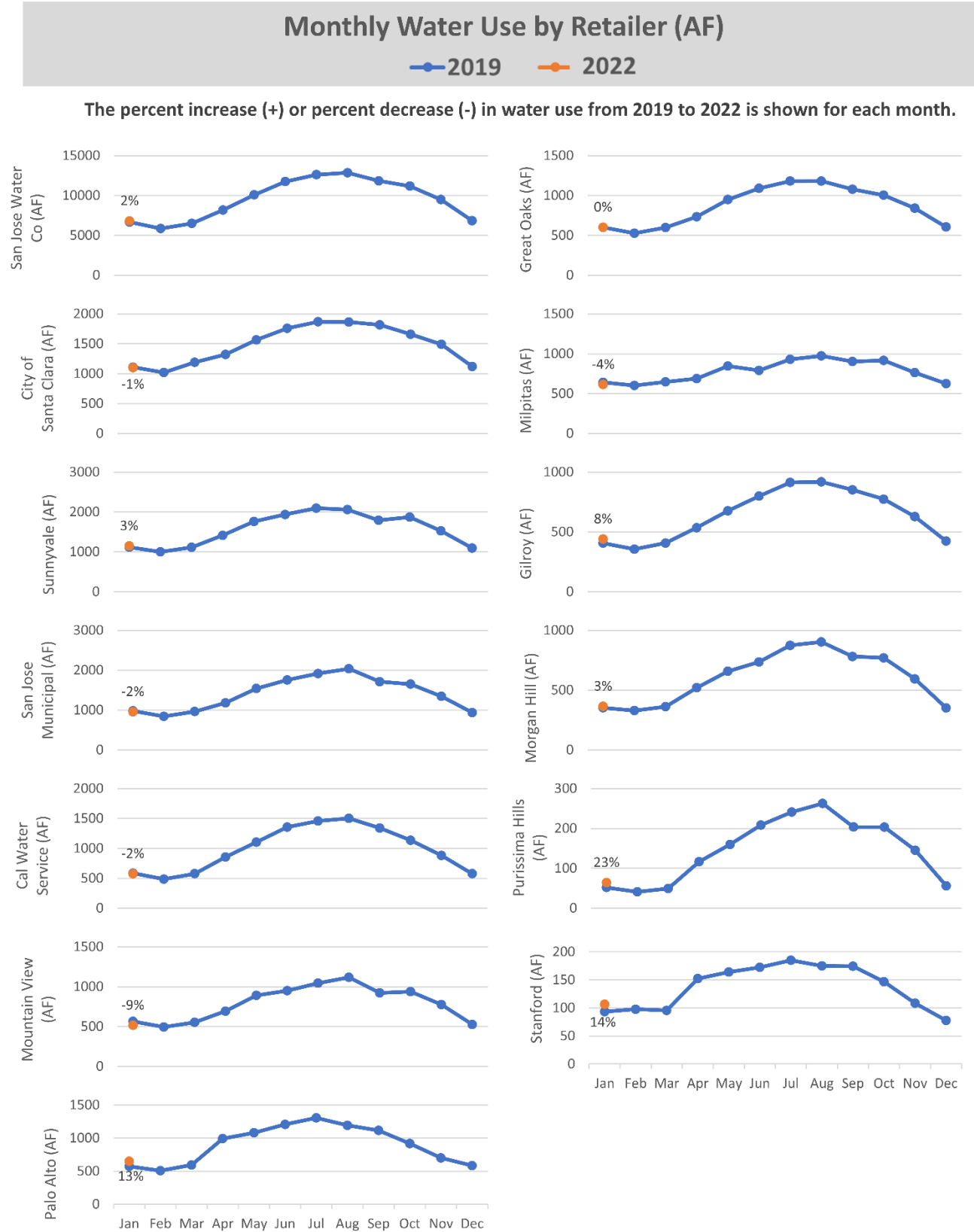
Retailer Water Use Reduction

The graph below depicts total water use from the 13 retailers in Santa Clara County to help track progress towards achieving Valley Water’s 15% call for water use reduction made in June 2021.

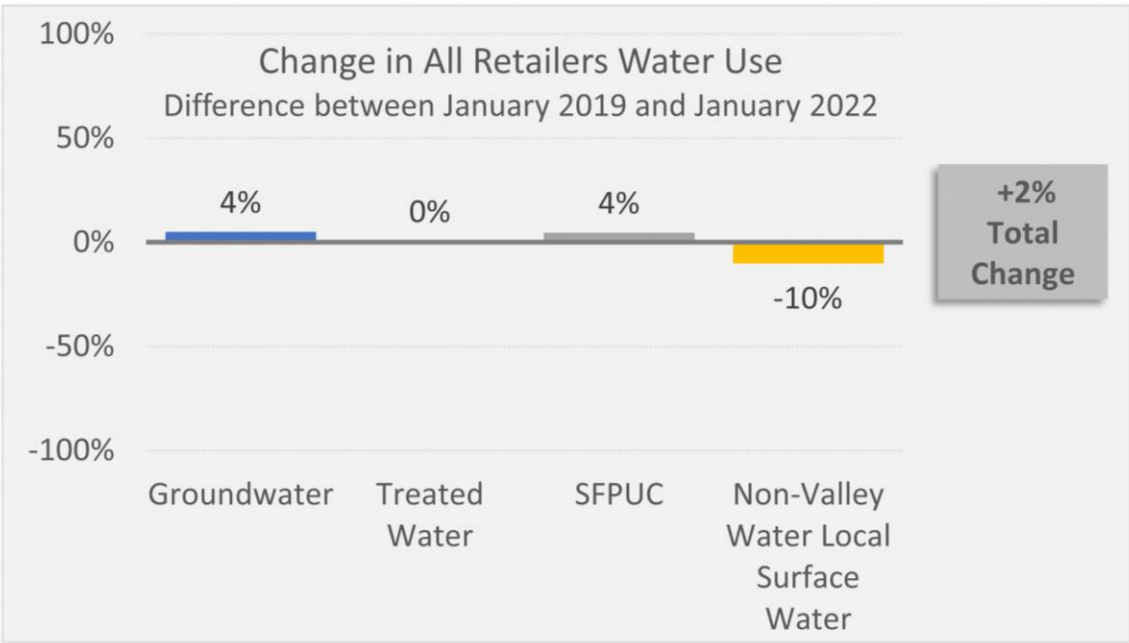


- Santa Clara County has made consistent progress in reducing water use since Valley Water’s call to reduce water use in June 2021. The cumulative water savings from June 2021 – January 2022 is 8%.
- Valley Water’s retailers used less water in January 2022 compared to December 2021, and used the least amount of water in January 2022 compared to other months following Valley Water’s call in June 2021.
- Slightly more water, 2%, was used in January 2022 compared to January 2019. One possible explanation why water use was higher is that due to COVID-19, a greater number of people may have been working or going to school from home in January 2022 as compared to pre-COVID January 2019. Comparing against January 2021 when COVID was present, 7% less water was used in January 2022.
- Winter months reflect indoor water use as most homes reduce or shut off irrigation during these months. As indoor water use is less discretionary and more difficult to cut back than outdoor use, we anticipate that consistently maintaining a 15% reduction in water use during winter months will be particularly challenging.
- With no measurable precipitation in January 2022 and higher than average temperatures some of the days, it is possible that more people turned their outdoor irrigation systems on.
- Valley Water continues its multilingual, multi-platform outreach to the media and community to encourage residents, businesses, farms, and others to save water in order to achieve a cumulative 15% reduction in water use in 2022.

These graphs depict water use by each of Valley Water’s 13 retailers to help track progress towards achieving the 15% call for water use reduction made in June 2021. Note that City of Palo Alto Utilities (Palo Alto) and Purissima Hills Water District (Purissima) normally do not use Valley Water sources of water. A large proportion of water used by the City of Mountain View Public Works (Mountain View) and Stanford Utilities (Stanford) is not from Valley Water sources.



The graph below depicts changes between the retailers’ different types of water use and shows that Valley Water retailers’ total water use in January 2022 was 2% higher than in January 2019. As expected, the proportion of groundwater use tends to increase during drought.



The table below shows Valley Water retailers’ water usage volumes by type.

Water Retailer	Total Water Use in Acre-Feet (Jan 2019)					Total Water Use in Acre-Feet (Jan 2022)				
	Groundwater	Treated Water	SFPUC	Non-Valley Water Local Surface Water	SUM	Groundwater	Treated Water	SFPUC	Non-Valley Water Local Surface Water	SUM
San Jose Water Company	2,300	3,400	-	1,000	6,700	2,200	3,700	-	900	6,800
Santa Clara, City	600	300	200	-	1,100	600	300	300	-	1,100
Sunnyvale	-	600	500	-	1,100	-	600	500	-	1,100
San Jose Municipal Water	100	600	300	-	1,000	100	600	300	-	1,000
California Water Service	-	500	-	-	600	300	200	-	-	600
Palo Alto	-	-	600	-	600	-	-	600	-	600
Mountain View	-	100	500	-	600	-	-	500	-	500
Great Oaks	600	-	-	-	600	600	-	-	-	600
Milpitas	-	300	400	-	600	-	300	300	-	600
Gilroy	400	-	-	-	400	400	-	-	-	400
Morgan Hill	400	-	-	-	400	400	-	-	-	400
Purissima Hills Water	-	-	100	-	100	-	-	100	-	100
Stanford	-	-	100	-	100	-	-	100	-	100
Total	4,400	5,800	2,600	1,000	13,700	4,600	5,800	2,700	900	14,000

Collaboration with the County, Retailers, and Cities

- As of February 28, 2022, the County of Santa Clara and 13 cities in Santa Clara County have taken formal action to their elected boards in response to the drought and to Valley Water's call to reduce water use by 15% compared to 2019 levels. All cities in Santa Clara County have increased conservation messaging in response to the drought.
- In February, Valley Water continued to conduct outreach to municipalities for adoption of the Model Water Efficient New Development Ordinance (MWENDO).

Water Conservation Programs

Valley Water is actively promoting ways people can save water through rebates, free water-saving devices, and behaviors. The Landscape Rebate Program (LRP) provides rebates for converting high-water use landscape to low-water use landscape, as well as retrofitting existing irrigation equipment with approved high-efficiency irrigation equipment. The Shopping Cart (eCart) Program offers free water-saving devices to homes and businesses. The Water Waste Program enables callers to confidentially report water waste and leaks, which Valley Water addresses by providing educational assistance to the owner of the leak.

- Valley Water received a significant increase in applications for our landscape rebates, requests for water-saving devices, and reports of water waste since 2021. February LRP participation was 113% higher than February 2021, showing that participation continues to grow since last year. Weekly LRP application submittals also tripled in the last two weeks of this February compared to the first two weeks, suggesting the typical winter lull in application submittals is ending.
- Estimated applications received for 2022 are shown below.

Program	Jan 2022	Feb 2022
Landscape Rebate Program Applications ¹	106	149
Water-saving Device Orders	274	2,516
Water Waste Reports	70	66

¹Starting July 1, 2021, the landscape rebate was increased from \$1 to \$2 per square foot and the maximum rebate was increased from \$2,000 to \$3,000 for single-family homes.

Drought and Water Conservation Outreach

- In February 2022, Speakers Bureau teaser videos were released featuring all seven Valley Water Board members. These videos urge individuals or groups to schedule a 30-minute Speakers Bureau presentation focused on the drought, our future water supply and ways to conserve water.
- Media interest focused on the drought during the dry months of January and February, water conservation, water supply issues, the latest snowpack survey, and the initial water allocation from the Central Valley Project. A media advisory was shared in advance of Chair Kremen’s State of Valley Water address and was reported on by NBC Bay Area, ABC7, CBS5, KRON4, and KCBS Radio.
- Valley Water’s purified water influencer campaign continues to run on social media. To date, a total of 157 posts have been shared, reaching an audience of over 722,000 Santa Clara County residents, with over 1 million impressions. Influencers are sharing the message that purified water is a locally sourced, drought-proof solution. Messages are also being posted in Spanish.
- On social media, Valley Water launched a series promoting water conservation habits. These posts highlight easy activities residents can do to save water during the winter months such as reducing or turning off outdoor irrigation, taking five-minute showers and fixing leaks. The posts are being boosted on Facebook to reach a larger audience.
- There were three Speakers Bureau Program presentations in February. Chair Kremen and staff gave a Zoom presentation about the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project to the Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District Board of Directors on February 9. Staff gave a drought presentation to the Sons in Retirement Branch 125 at Three Flames Restaurant in San Jose on February 15. Director Santos and staff provided a drought presentation to the Japantown Neighborhood Association via Zoom on February 16 during its regularly scheduled meeting.
- Statistics for public outreach efforts are shown below.

Outreach Type	February 2022
Social Media¹	
Impressions ²	3,845,314
Engagements ³	40,844
Link Clicks	15,010
Video Views	436,498
Website Page Views	
Water conservation webpages	22,738
BeHeard.ValleyWater.org/drought-information	191
Media	
Media Mentions ⁴	772
Speakers Bureau	
Presentations ⁵	3

¹Includes Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn
²Impressions are the number of times a post is displayed in a newsfeed.
³Engagements are the number of times a user interacts with a post, such a retweet, click, and more.
⁴Includes TV, radio, social media, online and print
⁵ Office of Communications and Government Relations

Drought and Water Conservation Education

- In February, the Education Outreach team supported 51 educators and reached 1,210 students through 44 virtual classroom presentations. They engaged 76 members of the public through four Wonders of Water

Wednesdays after-school enrichment programs. The team presented at six Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) events, and three public library programs.

- The table below shows Educational Outreach efforts in 2022, all of which included drought and conservation messaging.

Program	Jan 2022	Feb 2022
Educators/Teachers	97	51
Classes/Groups	22	44
Students	563	1,210

- Valley Water’s Youth Commission hosted a virtual Job Shadow Day on February 24. Over 45 students attended the event. Drought messaging was woven throughout the event’s program, including during remarks from both Director LeZotte and Vice Chair Varela, who addressed the drought conditions. Drought messages were also shared during the featured speakers' presentations on their careers, and the students were presented with a short purification center tour and a presentation of Valley Water’s conservation campaign.
- Additionally, the Youth Commission launched their own Drought Awareness Social Media Campaign, where they encouraged their peers to post messages on how they conserve water on Instagram along with the hashtag #droughtproof. The Youth Commission is also preparing to launch a drought toolkit on their website as a resource for their peers to access information and other fun activities to help spread the word on drought awareness and conservation.

Committee Updates

- Drought-related updates are being provided regularly at Committee meetings to receive feedback and guidance. These updates were provided to the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee in February 2022.

Water Supply Operations and Outlook

On February 24, 2022, the U.S. Drought Monitor indicated that all of Santa Clara County was in severe drought. The cumulative rainfall in San José this rainfall year, through February, has been 7.64 inches or 75% of the long-term average for the valley floor, for this date. The rainfall year is July 1 – June 30.

Imported Water

- While storms in October and December provided a wet start to the water year, California has had one of its driest January and February periods on record. Statewide runoff projections continue to decline, and reservoir levels remain below average. As of February 28, 2022, the northern Sierra Nevada snowpack, a primary source of imported water, is at 60% of normal for this date and 53% of the April 1 average, which is the date at which snowpack has historically been at its annual maximum.
- As of February 27, 2022, total state reservoir storage is below the historical average. Shasta Reservoir is at 52% of normal for this date, having gained only 68 thousand acre-feet (TAF) in February; Oroville Reservoir is at 75% of normal for this date, having gained only 18 TAF in February; and Folsom Reservoir is at 108% of normal for this date, with storage volumes holding steady due to flood control releases in February.
- As of February 27, 2022, storage in San Luis Reservoir is approximately 902 TAF, which is a decrease of approximately 25 TAF from its storage in mid-February.
- Valley Water entered 2022 with over 65 TAF of imported supplies stored in San Luis Reservoir. This includes emergency transfer supplies purchased in 2021, previously undelivered State Water Project (SWP) supplies, and water recovered from the Semitropic Groundwater Bank. This amount is higher than normal and is intended to provide reliability in the event dry conditions continue in 2022, while also mitigating for the reduction in storage in Anderson Reservoir.
- The 2022 SWP allocation is 15 percent, which equates to 15 TAF for Valley Water. This may be adjusted for human health and safety. Valley Water continues to work with California Department of Water Resources to determine the amount allocated and requested an exception to the minimum health and safety need of 55 gallons per capita per day.
- On February 23, 2022, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation announced its initial allocations on the Central Valley Project (CVP). For south-of-Delta CVP contractors, including Valley Water, the agricultural allocation is zero percent, and the municipal and industrial allocation is 25 percent, which equates to 32,500 AF for Valley Water. Valley Water is evaluating its water supply outlook and may request an adjustment to its allocation for Public Health and Safety.
- Valley Water will continue to withdraw previously stored supplies from the Semitropic Groundwater Bank in 2022 if SWP and CVP allocations remain low. Staff continues to work with DWR and other Semitropic Banking

partners and anticipates that at least 31.5 TAF would be available for delivery to Valley Water, which is the contractual minimum recovery amount at low SWP allocations.

- Valley Water previously executed several long-term water transfer agreements that could provide emergency transfer supplies in 2022. Staff is also pursuing other water transfer opportunities for additional supplemental supplies.

Treated Water

- Taste and odor and cyanotoxins compound levels are low for all source water.
- Elevated total organic carbon (TOC) levels are reported for both Delta and San Luis Reservoir water. Staff are proactively monitoring water quality data and are mitigating the impact by implementing source water blending and treatment process optimization.
- No reports of significant water quality issues for the treated water in February 2022 and no complaints were received from retailers.

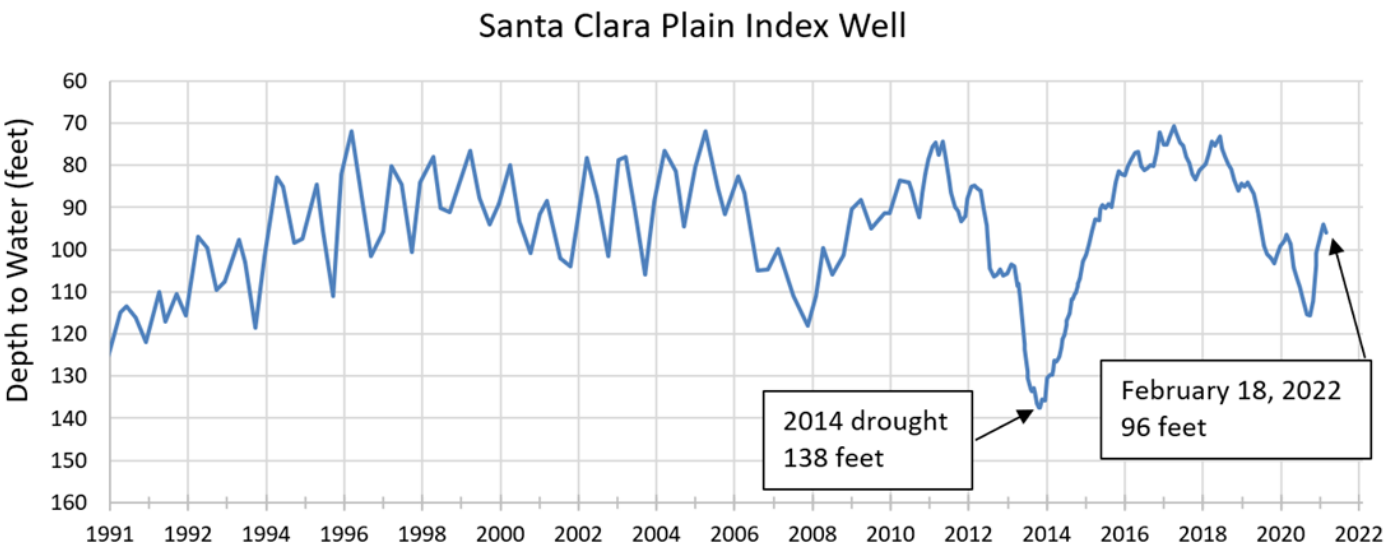
Groundwater Recharge

- Releases for managed groundwater recharge in February 2022 were reduced from January 2022 due to pipeline maintenance, though they were still higher relative to May - June 2021.
- Despite the overall increased groundwater recharge that began in August 2021, recharge is still below that of an average year.

Groundwater Conditions:

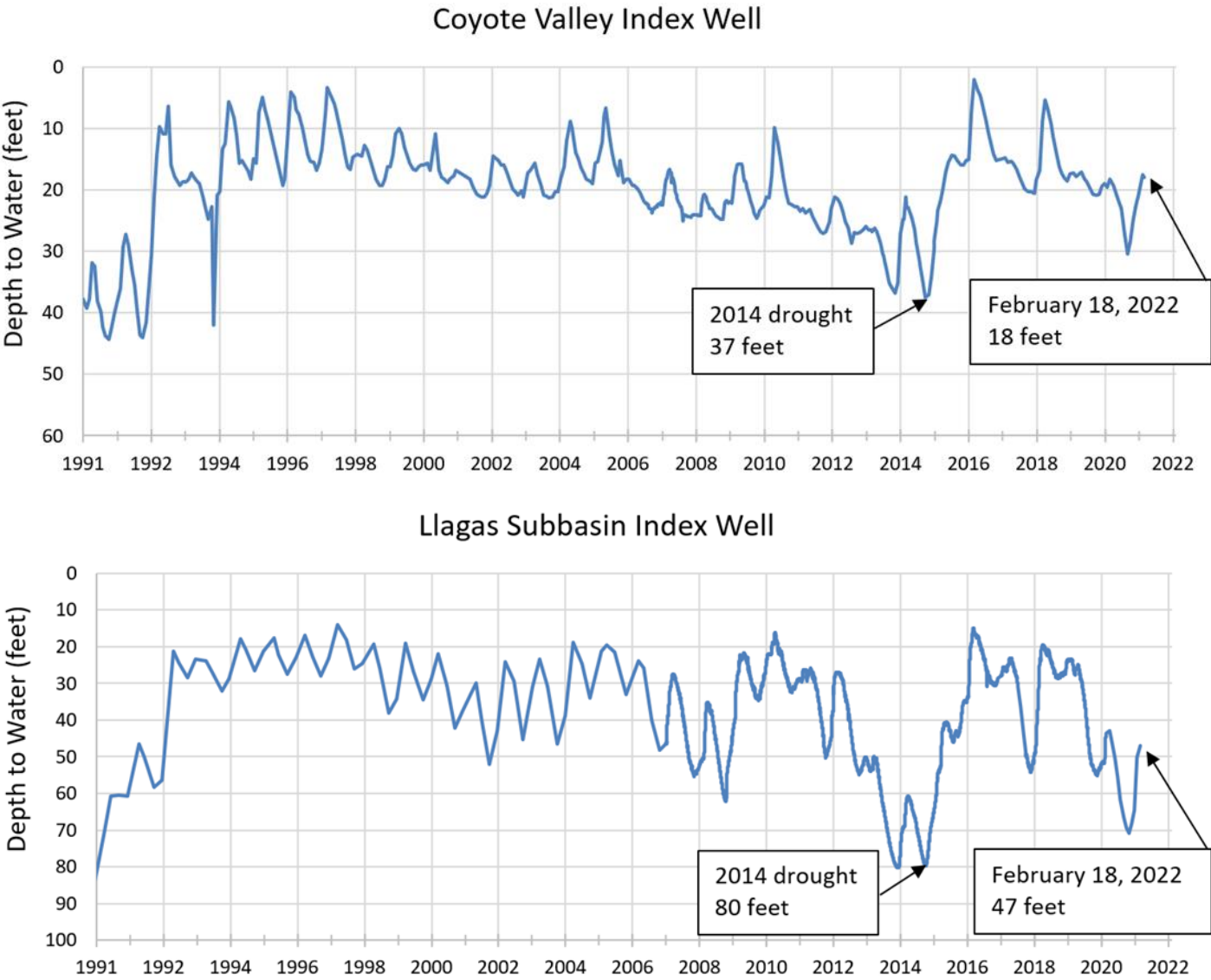
Estimated groundwater storage at the end of 2021 was in the low end of the normal stage. Although groundwater levels have declined over recent years due to the drought, groundwater conditions improved this winter due to seasonal recovery, emergency imported water supplies, and water use reduction by the community. However, if dry conditions continue and the Board’s water use reduction target is not met, there remains some risk of resumed subsidence in North County and wells going dry, particularly in South County. That risk increases as the drought persists. Current conditions in both areas are described below.

- North County Conditions
 - As shown below, water levels in the Santa Clara Plain index well have generally declined since 2018 due to dry conditions, with a similar pattern as the 2012–2016 drought. The current water level has decreased by 2 feet since last month and is about 42 feet above the minimum water level in 2014. Additionally, the water level at this well is about 1 foot higher compared to this time last year.
 - Groundwater levels are more than 60 to 100 feet above thresholds established to minimize the risk of permanent subsidence.
 - No reports of dry wells have been received.



- South County Conditions
 - As shown below, water levels in the Coyote Valley and Llagas Subbasin index wells have generally declined since 2018 due to dry conditions, with a similar pattern as the 2012–2016 drought. The current water levels in these wells have remained stable or increased by 3 feet, respectively, since last month, and are about 19 and 33 feet, respectively, above the minimum water level in 2014. Additionally, the water levels in these wells are about the same and 4 feet lower, respectively, compared to this time last year.

- One report of a dry well has been received. The well is in unincorporated area within the southwestern Coyote Valley and is close to the foothills where well yield is generally less reliable.



State Coordination

- On February 22, 2022, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) continued water rights curtailments in the Delta Watershed due to reduced flow conditions, but none impact Valley Water’s imported water sources.
- State Water Board curtailments are based on the revised Water Unavailability Methodology for the Delta Watershed, together with consideration of water supply forecasts from the California Nevada River Forecast Center. The imposition or suspension of water right curtailments is being assessed by the State Water Board on a weekly basis.
- On January 4, 2022, the State Water Board adopted an emergency regulation that prohibits certain wasteful water use practices statewide and encouraged Californians to monitor their water use more closely while building habits to use water wisely. On January 18, 2022, the emergency regulation became effective and in addition to being enforceable by the State Water Board, any local agency, city, or county (or city and county) that has authority to enforce infractions will be able to enforce these prohibitions at their discretion.

Staffing and Resources

- Drought emergency expenses are expenditures supplemental to the regular budget that would have been adopted had there been no drought. The only expenses for drought emergency costs included in the FY 2021-22 Adopted Budget are \$20 million for supplemental water and an additional \$3.3 million for water banking expenses to bring approximately 32,000 acre-feet of water banked at Semitropic Water Storage District into the county. Budget adjustments will be brought to the Board for any additional expenses incurred during the year.
- Expenses through the month of January FY22 totaled approximately \$26.13 million spent or encumbered primarily for supplemental water tied to contracts executed in FY21, a relatively small draw of water from

Semitropic Water Storage District in August, operating supplies, and labor expenses for staff time bringing together Valley Water's drought response program.

- In late 2021, Valley Water identified a consultant that would provide much needed support to various conservation programs. This consultant was fully brought on board in February 2022, thus funding for this consultant was encumbered in the amount of \$650,000 for FY 2022. Additionally, \$400,000 was encumbered in FY 2022 for the Fixture Replacement Program which will provide sufficient resources to replace nearly 9,000 inefficient toilets as well as other inefficient plumbing fixtures.
 - The eCart Program obtained a vendor for order fulfillment in November 2021. However, the eCart Program's primary inventory Purchase Order is almost completely expended. Valley Water has identified a vendor to address the inventory issues for the eCart Program as a single-source contract agreement which will be brought to the Board on March 22, 2022 for approval. If the Board approves, Valley Water will encumber an additional \$400,000 in FY 2022 for the eCart Program to ensure sufficient inventory of water-saving devices for the public.
-

Expanded Opportunities

Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study

Valley Water is conducting an Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study expected to be completed by the end of 2022. The study aims to better understand current agricultural water use practices and identify opportunities to expand water conservation programs offered to the agricultural community.

- The University of California - Merced team performing the study made additional progress in using a remote-sensing based evaluation approach to determine patterns in crop distribution and irrigation technology verification.
- The team is now analyzing spatial datasets and developing recommendations.

Purified Water Project

The Purified Water Project will replenish groundwater supplies with purified water and expand usage of recycled and purified water, a drought-resilient, locally-controlled water source.

- Valley Water continues to collaborate with Palo Alto and their Regional Water Quality Control Plant on an advanced water purification facility. This includes needed agreements and outreach.
- Valley Water continues developing the Request for Proposal and draft Environmental Impact Report for the Purified Water Project.

Flood-Managed Aquifer Recharge (Flood-MAR) Study

Valley Water is collaborating with a team of water resources researchers from the University of California system (referred to as UC Water) to complete a reconnaissance study for Flood-MAR implementation in Santa Clara County. The study began in 2021 to develop a GIS-based tool to identify potential sites for Flood-MAR projects in Santa Clara County and to evaluate institutional/regulatory requirements for implementing Flood-MAR projects.

- Continued work in February 2022 includes detailed evaluations of institutional needs and potential participation incentives for Flood-MAR implementation projects in Santa Clara County and the development of the GIS-based tool, including the identification of potential pilot site locations.
- Valley Water and UC Water will provide an update to the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee on April 4, 2022.

Drought Response Plan

Valley Water is developing a Drought Response Plan (DRP) to improve water supply reliability in Santa Clara County during times of future shortage through a WaterSMART grant from the Bureau of Reclamation. Valley Water's DRP will evaluate new approaches for determining when to request water use reductions from the public and develop a response framework to employ during future droughts.

- Comments received from internal and external stakeholders on the draft Benchmark Study were incorporated into the final report.
- The consultants have begun the Vulnerability Assessment and are currently meeting with Valley Water staff to better understand current and potential future drought vulnerabilities.
- An update on the DRP was provided to the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee in February.



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 22-0364

Agenda Date: 3/21/2022

Item No.: 4.2.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee

SUBJECT:

Improving Water Wise Features for New Developments.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update on Valley Water's efforts to ensure new developments in Santa Clara County have improved water wise features and provide feedback as necessary.

SUMMARY:

Staff will provide an update on Santa Clara Valley Water District's (Valley Water) efforts to promote water efficiency in new developments, as requested by Board Member Request R-21-0004. In addition, the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee workplan includes finding opportunities to ensure new developments have improved water wise features. Valley Water's efforts include tracking State requirements, encouraging more stringent requirements, providing recommendations to specific new developments, coordinating with land use agencies, and supporting Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) credits for recycled water use. Through State requirements and Valley Water's conservation efforts towards new and existing developments, water use in Santa Clara County decreased over the past 15 years despite a 25% increase in population.

Tracking State Requirements

Valley Water tracks conservation requirements such as CALGreen and the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO) and assesses their water conservation and supply impacts. CALGreen is California's building code for positive environmental impact. Its current version is formally known as the 2019 California Green Building Standards Code, Title 24, Part 11, of the California Code of Regulations. CALGreen addresses water efficiency and conservation as well as planning and design, energy efficiency, material conservation, resource efficiency, and environmental quality. CALGreen applies to the planning, design, operation, construction, use, and occupancy of every newly-constructed building or structure on a statewide basis with few exceptions. Alterations to existing buildings which increase conditioned area, volume, or size are also covered. CALGreen includes mandatory measures, as well as more restrictive requirements for Tier 1 and Tier 2 compliance, with the Tier 2 provisions being the most efficient. Local jurisdictions must adopt measures and may choose to adopt Tier 1 and Tier 2 measures as mandatory requirements for additional efficiency. If Tier 1 and Tier 2 measures are not required by a local jurisdiction, projects may choose to comply with them voluntarily. CALGreen is enforced by local building departments. CALGreen requires a 20% reduction of indoor water use. For compliance, it uses both a performance

method and a prescriptive method, which provides technical features that need to be followed.

The MWELO is the state regulation designed to prevent water from being wasted on irrigated landscapes. MWELO was last updated during the drought in 2015. The California Department of Water Resources estimates that a typical California landscape will use 12,000 gallons less a year, or 20 percent less than allowed by the previous 2009 ordinance, and that commercial landscapes will cut water use by 35%. All local land use agencies must adopt, implement, and enforce MWELO or an ordinance that is at least as effective as the MWELO. MWELO compliance is needed on development projects with landscaped areas of 500 square feet or more that require a permit, plan check, or design review. Rehabilitated landscape projects requiring permits are regulated by MWELO at 2,500 square feet or greater. The Maximum Applied Water Allowance (MAWA) is the water budget used for compliance and is an annual water allowance based on landscape area and local evapotranspiration rate.

Model Water Efficient New Development Ordinance

Valley Water is working with local jurisdictions to encourage adoption of even more stringent requirements than CALGreen and MWELO. Valley Water worked with jurisdictions, Santa Clara County (County), and non-profit organizations to develop the Model Water Efficient New Development Ordinance (MWENDO) for consideration and adoption by cities and towns within the County. Adoption of MWENDO would add additional required water efficiency measures to local ordinances beyond CALGreen's mandatory measures. Some of the additional water efficiency measures would align with voluntary Tier 1 and Tier 2 CALGreen measures, but some are not already included in CALGreen.

MWENDO was highlighted at the Valley Water Drought Summit on October 23, 2021. Valley Water has conducted outreach to all City Managers within the County and the County of Santa Clara on MWENDO adoption, with municipalities expressing initial interest in this ordinance. In its current form, MWENDO references the 2019 version of Title 24, so while jurisdictions can adopt MWENDO at any time, some jurisdictions are planning to align these measures with the upcoming building code update to avoid duplicating the work when the new building standards are in place. MWENDO is designed to be easily customizable for each jurisdiction and covers a variety of topics, including hot water recirculation systems, graywater dual distribution plumbing, alternate water sources and recycled water, onsite treated non-potable water systems, cooling towers, water meters, commercial kitchens, and pool/spa covers. There are 17 individual measures in total within MWENDO. However, the ordinance is intended to be treated like a menu for local priorities and is not required to be adopted as a whole. As such, cities that already have existing water efficient municipal codes that overlap with MWENDO are evaluating additional individual measures to include as part of their building code update.

New Development Review

Valley Water provides water conservation recommendations on specific new developments when cities provide documents during the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review process. Larger developments also require the water retailer prepare a Water Supply Assessment that evaluates future water supplies available to the project in normal and dry conditions, which is

reviewed by Valley Water staff through the CEQA process. Valley Water encourages relevant measures such as irrigation efficiency, recycled water usage, graywater usage, and smart meters. Valley Water has provided water conservation recommendations for approximately 60 developments since 2018, including the Google and the Cambrian Park developments in San José. Staff worked with the developers of the Vallco property in Cupertino to promote water efficiency and recycled water.

Engagement with Planning Departments

Valley Water also plans to promote better integration between water resources management and land use planning through stronger staff-level relationships with land use agencies. Having these relationships and continuous engagement with land use agencies will enable Valley Water to be engaged earlier and more substantially in land use planning processes so water resource management can be considered earlier in development plans. This is an agency-wide effort covering Valley Water's three mission areas (water supply, flood protection, and stewardship), and water conservation is one of the focus areas. The objectives related to conservation include determining ways to collaborate on conservation efforts and contributing conservation feedback to General Plans, ideally at an early stage. The plan is to have annual one on one meetings with major cities and develop long-term relationships. Initial topics planned for the first year of discussion include cities' projected growth in response to Regional Housing Number Allocation, Plan Bay Area 2050, and new housing bills. The MWENDO will be integrated into this discussion.

Incorporating recycled water in LEED credits

Valley Water also works to encourage expansion of recycled water use. Valley Water participated in the development of additional United States Green Building Council (USGBC) LEED Credits to provide to developers for participating in the expansion of centralized recycled water systems.

Next Steps

For next steps, Valley Water will continue to track water efficiency requirements and updates to them. Valley Water will continue to follow up and meet with cities to offer technical assistance on MWENDO and encourage its adoption. Staff is also seeking opportunities to engage with the Santa Clara County Association of REALTORS to present MWENDO and water conservation/drought messaging to their Board of Directors. Valley Water will continue to provide recommendations for environmental review and permitting documents based on the latest water conservation methods and best management practices. For coordination with land use agencies, staff will set up initial meetings with cities and the County, and will provide regular updates on coordination efforts to the Board via non-agenda memos and/or presenting at Committee or Board meetings. Valley Water will also continue to coordinate with cities to further enable developers and property owners to expand recycled water distribution systems.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

File No.: 22-0364

Agenda Date: 3/21/2022
Item No.: 4.2.

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138



Improving Water Wise Features for New Developments

Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee
March 21, 2022



Valley Water's efforts for improved water wise features

2

- Track existing requirements
- Encourage more stringent requirements
(Model Water Efficient New Development Ordinance)
- Provide recommendations to specific developments
- Coordinate with land use agencies
- Support LEED credits for recycled water use

Track requirements: CALGreen

- Stringent requirements
- Applies to
 - all residential and commercial buildings
 - remodels that increase area or volume
 - every phase of construction
- Mandatory and Voluntary (Tier 1 and Tier 2) Measures
- Reduces indoor water use by at least 20%



Track requirements: Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance

4

- MWELO applies to landscapes 500 sq. ft. or greater and most retrofits
- Maximum Applied Water Allowance (MAWA)
- Enforced by cities
- Features
 - High efficiency sprinklers
 - Dedicated landscape water meters
 - Flow sensors that detect leaks



Model Water Efficient New Development Ordinance (MWENDO) 5

- Customizable for each jurisdiction
- Outreach to jurisdictions and realtors
- Triennial building code update

New development review

- Comments provided in environmental documents
 - Google San Jose (Downtown West) EIR/WSA
 - Cambrian Park NOP and EIR
- Valley Water encourages irrigation efficiency, recycled and graywater usage, submeters, and smart meters

Coordination with Land Use Agencies

7

- Enable conservation and water resource management to be considered earlier in planning process
- 1:1 meetings with cities and County
- Valley Water-wide effort covering three mission areas
 - Conservation is one focus area

Coordination with Land Use Agencies (continued)

8

Objectives related to conservation:

- Identify opportunities to collaborate
- Provide feedback on General Plans

Initial topics: Cities' projected growth in response to Regional Housing Number Allocation, Plan Bay Area 2050, new housing bills

LEED Credits for Recycled Water

Participate in development of Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Credits for recycled water systems



Next steps

10

- Track updates to existing requirements
- Outreach and technical assistance to cities for adoption of MWENDO
- Recommendations on EIRs based on latest water conservation methods
- Set up 1:1 meetings with cities and the County for coordination
- Continue to coordinate with cities to expand recycled water systems

QUESTIONS



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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 22-0365

Agenda Date: 3/21/2022

Item No.: 4.3.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee

SUBJECT:

Drought Response Plan Update - Benchmark Study.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and Discuss update for the Drought Response Plan.

SUMMARY:

Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) is developing a Drought Response Plan (DRP) with a grant from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) to provide guidance to Valley Water and its stakeholders on how to plan for and respond to future droughts efficiently and effectively. Valley Water's DRP will evaluate new approaches for determining when to request water use reductions from the public and develop a response framework to employ during droughts. Developing a robust approach for requesting water use reductions and improving Valley Water's ability to prepare during the early phases of a drought will improve Valley Water's ability to effectively respond to future droughts.

The first element of the DRP is a benchmark study to gather background information related to Valley Water's and other water supply agencies' approaches for determining when to trigger water shortage responses and how agencies responded to the 2012-2016 and current droughts. A benchmarking analysis was conducted comparing Valley Water's drought triggers, response actions, and effectiveness of past drought response strategies to peer agencies. The purpose of the benchmark study is to highlight strategies, potential measures and actions that have proved to work well for inclusion in the DRP.

Key findings of the benchmark study include the following:

- Some of Valley Water's peer agencies more explicitly incorporate projections and indicators of other supplies into drought triggers. Valley Water's trigger is based on projected end-of-year groundwater levels, which incorporates available storage and imported water allocations. Some peer agencies look at a wider array of factors such as flows to the Delta, snowpack and soil moisture.
- Agencies and regions with more diverse supply portfolios and larger storage reserves were generally able to delay mandatory drought restrictions until later into the drought and tended to rescind drought restrictions earlier.
- Valley Water and its peer agencies generally fared well during the 2012-2016 drought. Each

agency was able to maintain delivery of safe, clean water to their customers and were able to meet or exceed water use reduction targets set locally and/or by state mandates. Analysis of historical water use data suggests that water supply shortage restrictions were effective in reducing demands.

- Throughout the 2012-2016 drought, communication and collaboration between Valley Water and Santa Clara County retailers and local agencies were critical for achieving targeted water use reductions. However, the differences in drought response actions and requested use reductions between state, regional, and local agencies made communication challenging.
- The drought was financially challenging for water suppliers. Financial lessons learned include diligently building reserves during non-drought times, increasing the mix of fixed revenue versus variable revenue when possible, and considering increasing the debt service coverage target to better absorb future revenue loss.

Next Steps

Staff will incorporate comments from the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee into the Benchmark Study and then finalize the report by April 2022. The final report will then be presented to the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee and Environmental and Water Resources Committee in April 2022.

- Work on the Vulnerability Assessment is currently underway and a draft technical memorandum is anticipated to be completed in spring 2022
- Drought Monitoring and Water Shortage Response work will occur through the summer 2022
- The Drought Response Framework will be prepared in fall 2022
- The draft plan will be completed by the end of the year.
- Reclamation will have an opportunity to review and comment on the DRP before the final document is brought to the Board for approval in summer 2023.

Valley Water will provide regular updates to the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee and interested advisory committees on the progress of the DRP development.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint Presentation

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138



Valley Water Drought Response Plan

Presented by: Michael Martin, Water Supply Planning and Conservation Unit
March 21, 2022

Valley Water's Drought Response Plan Goals

2

Be more proactive regarding droughts

1. Update Water Shortage Contingency Plan

- Refine drought response triggers
- Determine early indicators of drought

2. Establish a toolbox of actions to prepare for a drought and to take during a drought

3. Promote consistency in drought response by Valley Water, retailers, and municipalities

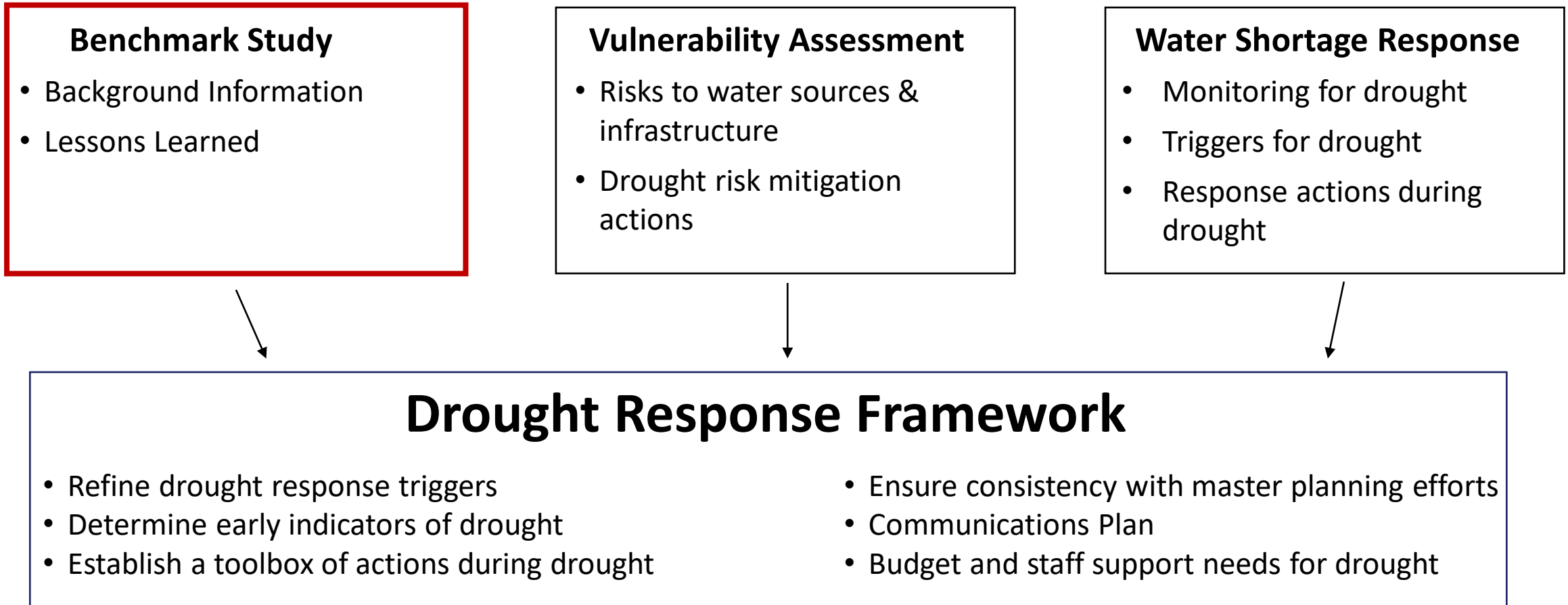
Valley Water WSCP

Stage	Title	Projected End-of-Year GW Storage (AF)	Short-term reduction in water use
1	Normal	> 300,000	None
2	Alert	< 300,000	0-10%
3	Severe	< 250,000	10-20%
4	Critical	< 200,000	20-40%
5	Emergency	< 150,000	Over 40%

Below 150,000 AF

Where Does the Benchmark Fit in the DRP?

3



Benchmark Study

Goal: Collect background information to support the development of the Drought Response Plan

- Compare peer agencies' drought response strategies
- Review Valley Water and peer agencies' response to the 2012 – 2016 drought
- Inform areas to explore in next phases of DRP

Peer Agencies in the Benchmark

Selected based on similarities in size, water supply sources, and organizational structure



Components of Peer Agency Drought Response

6

Red items overlap with Valley Water drought response



Triggers

- **Groundwater storage (projected and obs.)**
- Surface water flow
- Surface water storage
- Imported water availability
- Retail agency supplies
- Weather
- Watershed (e.g., snowpack, soil moisture)



Supply Actions

- **Draw on local storage reserves**
- **Draw on regional storage and groundwater banks**
- **Transfers / exchanges**
- **Leak detection and repair**
- **Optimize treatment and other operations**

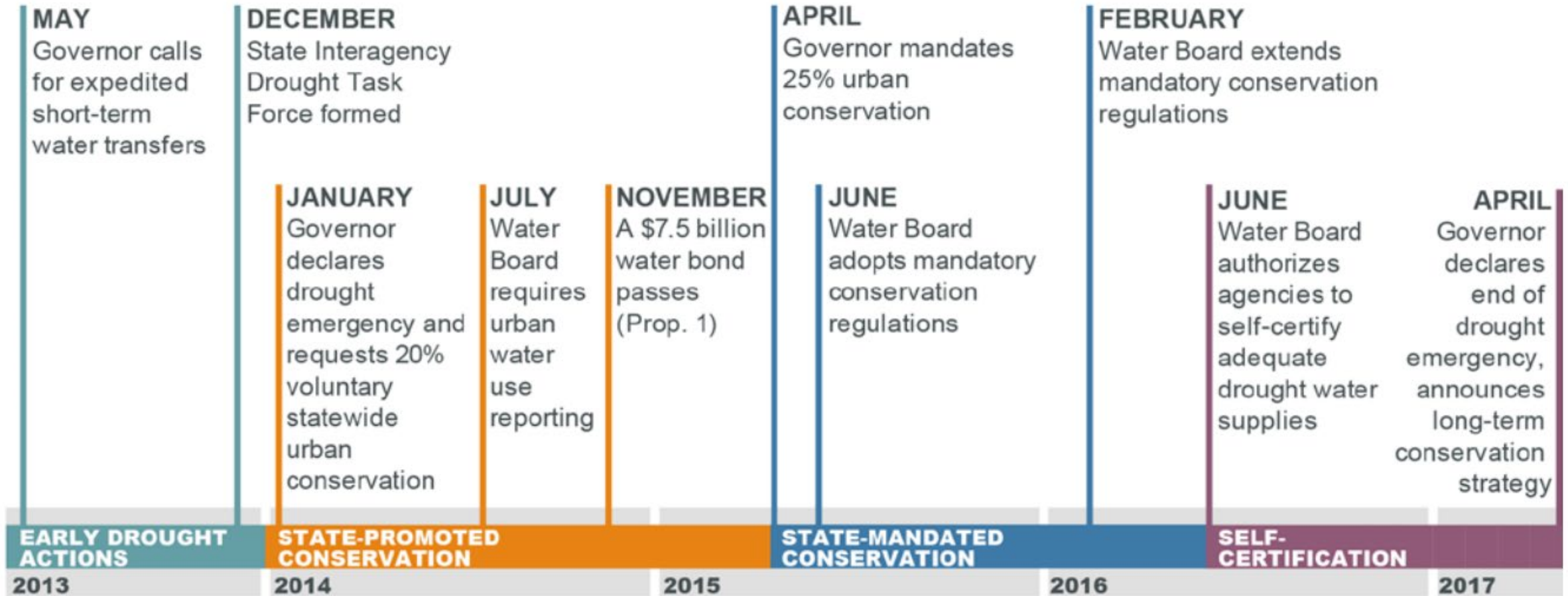


Demand Actions

- **Increased communication and outreach**
- **Promote conservation programs**
- Customer water audits
- **Restrictions on outdoor use**
- **Limits on water deliveries**
- Water supply allocation plans (WSAPs)
- **Financial tools**

Key Events in the 2012-2016 Drought

7

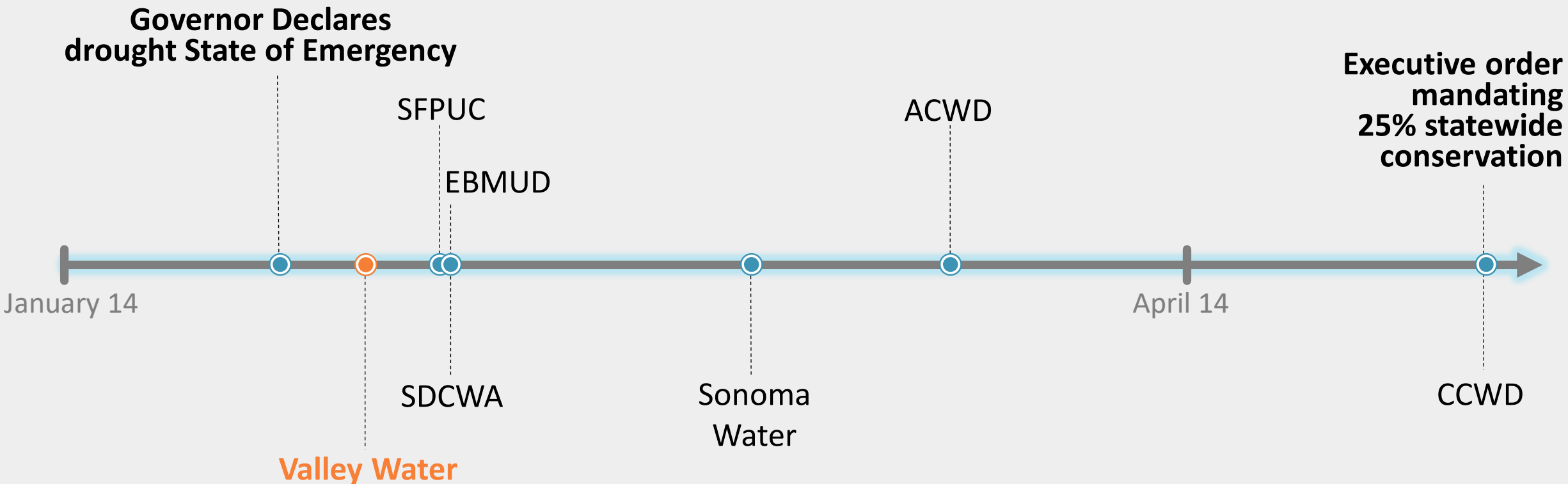


valleywater.org

When Did Valley Water and Peers Implement Actions?



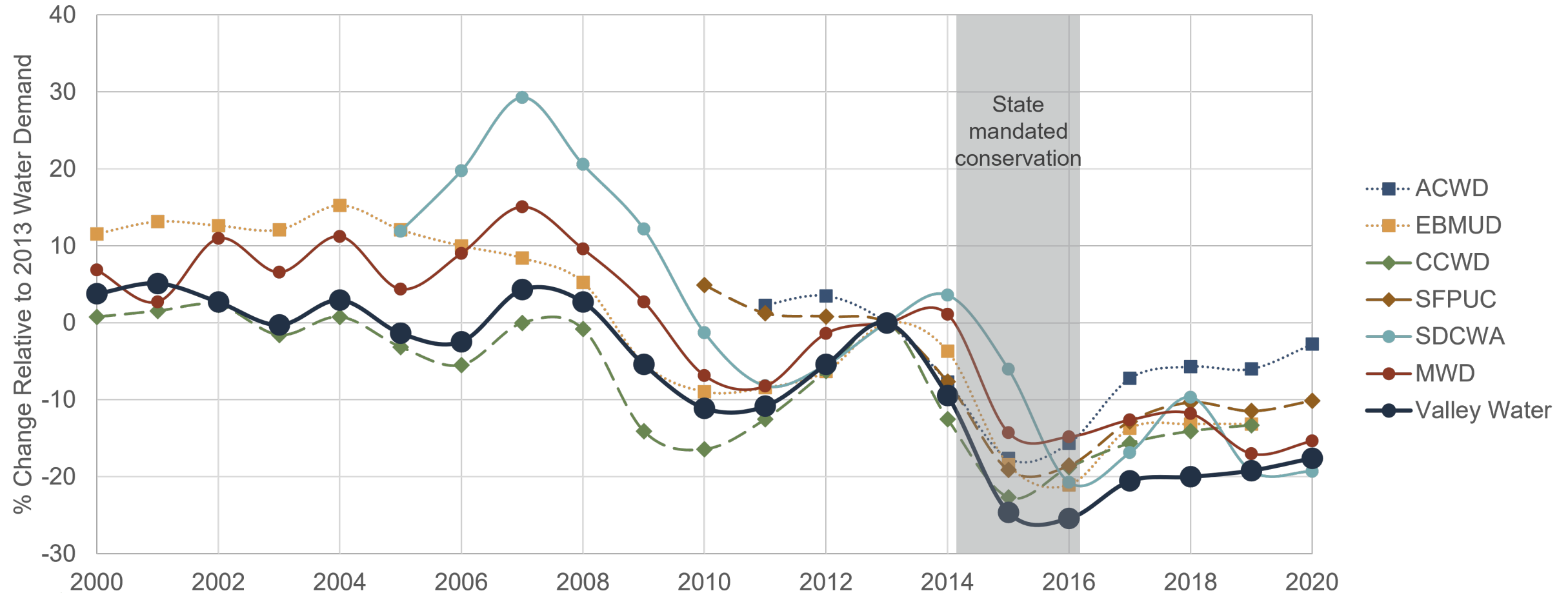
Timeline of Initial Implementation of Drought Restrictions by Valley Water and Peer Agencies



How Did Valley Water and its Peers Perform?

9

Peer Agency Historical Water Use Relative to 2013



Key Takeaways

- Most peer agencies consider a wider array of indicators triggering drought
- Importance of supply diversity / storage, coordination, and flexible water supply operations
- Diversity in response actions and requested use reductions can make communications challenging
- Differences in drought response actions made communication challenging



San Luis Reservoir in the 2012-2016 Drought

Schedule

11

2022	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Tasks	Benchmark Study			Drought Monitoring / Water Shortage Response								FINAL DRAFT
		Vulnerability Assessment							Drought Response Framework			★
External Task Force		◆			◆				◆			◆
WCDM Committee		◆			◆				◆		◆	

2023

Spring – Respond to Reclamation comments and finalize plan

Summer – Bring Final Drought Contingency Plan for Board approval

Next Steps

- Vulnerability assessment underway
- Present Benchmark Study to the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee and the Environmental and Water Resources Committee (April 2022)
- Next update to WCDM Committee in late spring/early summer 2022



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 22-0366

Agenda Date: 3/21/2022

Item No.: 4.4.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee

SUBJECT:

Standing Items Report.

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. This agenda item allows the Committee to receive verbal or written updates and discuss the below subjects. These items are generally informational; however, the Committee may request additional information from staff:
- B. This is informational only and no action is required.
Staff may provide a verbal update at the 3/21/2022, meeting if there is reportable/updated information.
 - 1. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)
 - 2. Flood MAR
 - 3. Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study

SUMMARY:

Standing Items will allow regular reports from staff on subjects that may be of interest to the committee members.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 22-0367

Agenda Date: 3/21/2022

Item No.: 4.5.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee

SUBJECT:

Review Water Conservation and Demand Management 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 approved topics for discussion to be able to prepare policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation. The work plan is agendaized at each meeting as accomplishments are updated and to review additional 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: WCaDMC Work Plan

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Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Work Plan 2022

Item No.	Work Plan Item	Meeting Date	Discussion/Action Item	Accomplishment Date and Outcome
Water Supply Master Plan Strategy 1: Secure Existing Supplies Goal: 99,000 AF conservation by 2030				
1	Monitor progress in achieving water conservation goal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amount of water conserved Water conservation program success metrics (participation, lawn conversion, etc.) Water conservation outreach success metrics Collaboration with retailers Communicating about water waste Engage and support private-sector stakeholders, local, state, and federal agencies that promote water conservation. Drought Updates – progress toward 15% reduction compared to 2019, specific actions 	Annually (April) Monthly	Discussion/Action Items	<p>Accomplished January 24, 2022: The Committee received the monthly update on progress towards Valley Water Resolution 21-68's water use reduction target and drought-related water conservation efforts and took no action.</p> <p>Accomplished February 23, 2022: The Committee received the monthly update on progress towards Valley Water Resolution 21-68's water use reduction target and drought-related water conservation efforts and took no action.</p>
2	Recommend policies towards water conservation goal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Conservation Strategic Plan Making Water Conservation a Way of Life Review the current 15% call for water use reduction compared to 2019 water use New programs SCW funding 	TBD	Discussion/Action Items	

Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Work Plan 2022

Item No.	Work Plan Item	Meeting Date	Discussion/Action Item	Accomplishment Date and Outcome
Water Supply Master Plan Strategy 2: Increase Water Conservation and Stormwater Capture Goal: Increase water conservation to 109,000 AF/year and increase stormwater capture to 1,000 AF/year by 2040.				
3	Monitor progress in achieving the long-term water conservation and stormwater capture goal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investments in no-regrets package/stormwater resource plan implementation Ag Water Use Baseline study Collaboration with UC Water on Flood Managed Aquifer Recharge (Flood MAR) 	January 2022 January 2022	Discussion/Action Items	Accomplished January 24, 2022: The Committee received presentations on the Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study and on the Flood MAR and took no action.
4	Recommend policies towards achieving long-term water conservation goal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaboration on ordinances 	2022	Discussion/Action Items	
Water Supply Master Plan Strategy 3: Optimize the Use of existing supplies and infrastructure				
5	South County Recharge	TBD	Discussion/Action Items	

Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Work Plan 2022

Item No.	Work Plan Item	Meeting Date	Discussion/Action Item	Accomplishment Date and Outcome
6	Sustainable Groundwater Management Plan (SGMA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates on our 2021 Groundwater Management Plan • New Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for North San Benito Subbasin 	Monthly	Discussion/Action Items	Accomplished January 24, 2022: The Committee received a verbal update on the Groundwater Sustainability Plans and took no action.
Future Demand Projections				
7	Monitor progress and recommend policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Water Management Plan • CCAP water supply portion • Water Shortage Contingency Plan update (Drought Response Plan update) 	February 2022 March 2022	Discussion/Action Items	
Work Plan Updates				
8	Review Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests; and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda.	Monthly	Discussion/Action Items	Accomplished January 24, 2022: The Committee reviewed and discussed the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Work Plan and took no action.

Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Work Plan 2022

Item No.	Work Plan Item	Meeting Date	Discussion/Action Item	Accomplishment Date and Outcome
				Accomplished February 23, 2022: The Committee reviewed and discussed the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Work Plan and took no action.
Additional Items:				
9	Outreach messaging for water-wise concerns.			
10	Find opportunities to ensure new development have improved water wise features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proactively engage to ensure new development have improved water wise features and review major developments within the county Work on contacting the building trades about water conservation practices. Work on contacting Planning Commissions on adopting the model ordinances 	March 2022		

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