



Santa Clara Valley Water District Environmental and Water Resources Committee Meeting

HQ Boardroom
5700 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, CA 95118

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

**Monday, April 21, 2025
6:00 PM**

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

Charles Ice, Committee Chair
Arthur M. Keller, Committee Vice Chair

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

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John Bourgeois
Vincent Gin
(Staff Liaisons)

Dave Leon, (COB Liaison)
Assistant Deputy Clerk II
daveleon@valleywater.org
1-408-630-2006

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

Santa Clara Valley Water District
Environmental and Water Resources Committee
REGULAR MEETING
AGENDA

Monday, April 21, 2025

6:00 PM

HQ. Bldg. Boardroom, 5700 Almaden
Expressway, San Jose, California

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/94403145442>

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Join by Phone:
1 (669) 900-9128, 94403145442#

1. CALL TO ORDER:

1.1. Roll Call.

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

Notice to the public: Members of the public who wish to address the Board/Committee on any item not listed on the agenda may do so by filling out a Speaker Card and submitting it to the Clerk or using the "Raise Hand" tool located in the Zoom meeting application to identify yourself to speak. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Board/Committee Chair in the order requests are received and granted speaking access to address the Board/Committee. Speakers' comments should be limited to three minutes or as set by the Chair. The law does not permit Board/Committee action on, or extended discussion of, any item not on the agenda except under special circumstances. If Board/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 Board/Committee may take action on any item of business appearing on the posted agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

3.1. Approval of January 27, 2025 Environmental and Water Resources Committee Minutes.

[25-0397](#)

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.
Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193
Attachments: [Attachment 1: 102124 EWRC minutes](#)
Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

- 4.1. Receive Information and Provide Feedback on Valley Water's Water Supply Master Plan 2050. [25-0333](#)
Recommendation: Provide feedback on the development of Water Supply Master Plan 2050.
Manager: Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138
Attachments: [Attachment 1: Table 1](#)
[Attachment 2: PowerPoint](#)
Est. Staff Time: 15 minutes
- 4.2. Receive Update and Provide Feedback on West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Master Plans. [25-0396](#)
Recommendation: Receive an update on the West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Master Plans and provide feedback as necessary.
Manager: Lisa Bankosh, 408-630-2618
Attachments: [Attachment 1: Existing Conditions Report Outline](#)
[Attachment 2: PowerPoint](#)
Est. Staff Time: 20 Minutes
- 4.3. Review and Receive Updates on the Environmental and Water Resources Committee's Working Groups. [25-0384](#)
Recommendation: A. Review and receive updates on the Environmental and Water Resources Committee's Working Groups, and
B. Provide comments to the Board on implementation of Valley Water's mission applicable to working groups' recommendations.
Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193
Attachments: [Attachment 1: EWRC Working Groups April 2025](#)
[Attachment 2: EWRC FINAL Working Group Restructure](#)
Est. Staff Time: 5 minutes
- 4.4. Review Environmental and Water Resources Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests; and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda. [25-0385](#)
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: EWRC 2025 Work Plan](#)
[Attachment 2: EWRC Work Plan Appendix](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 minutes

5. STANDING ITEMS

5.1. Director's Reports.

5.2. Manager's Reports.

6. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS.

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

7. ADJOURN:

7.1. Adjourn to Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on July 21, 2025.

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0397

Agenda Date: 4/21/2025

Item No.: 3.1.

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

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

SUBJECT:

Approval of January 27, 2025 Environmental and Water Resources Committee Minutes.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes.

SUMMARY:

In accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act, a summary of Committee discussions, and details of all actions taken by the Capital Improvement Program Committee, during all open and public Committee meetings, is transcribed and submitted to the Committee for review and approval.

Upon Committee approval, minutes transcripts are finalized and entered into the Committee's historical record archives and serve as the official historical record of the Committee's meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: 012725 EWRC Minutes

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

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ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES

Monday, January 27, 2025

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Environmental and Water Resources Committee (Committee) Meeting was held on January 27, 2025, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters Building, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

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

Members in attendance were:

District 1: Loren Lewis
District 2: Chairperson Charles Ice
District 3: Bill Roth
District 4: Bob Levy
District 5: Patrick Kwok
District 6: Eleni Jacobson, Rebecca Gallardo
District 7: Tess Byler, Vice Chairperson Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D.

Members not in attendance were:

District 1: Swanee Edwards
District 3: Charles Taylor*
District 5: Mike Michitaka
District 6: Jim Piazza

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

Staff members in attendance were: Aaron Baker, Lisa Bankosh, John Bourgeois, James Downing, Chris Hakes, Candice Kwok-Smith, Dave Leon, Kurt Lueneburger, Becky Manchester, Nick Mascarello, and Kirsten Struve.

Public in attendance were: Ileana Alvarado, Jill Bicknell, Bryn, Tanya Carothers, Katja Irvin, and Peter Schultze-Allen.

*Member Taylor attended virtually as a member of the public.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

2.1. Election of Committee Chair and Vice Chair.

Recommendation: Elect 2025 Committee Chair and Vice-Chair

It was moved by Member Byler and seconded by Member Kwok, and unanimously carried that Chairperson Ice and Vice Chairperson Keller continue to serve in their current respective positions.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

It was moved by Member Lewis, seconded by Vice Chairperson Keller, and carried by a vote of 8-0, to approve the October 21, 2024 Committee meeting minutes as submitted. Member Kwok abstained.

4. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

4.1. GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Recommendation: Receive an update on the status of Green Stormwater Infrastructure Implementation in Santa Clara County.

Jill Bicknell, EOA Inc., and Ileana Alvarado and Tanya Carothers, City of Morgan Hill, reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1. James Downing, Jill Bicknell, Ileana Alvarado, and Tanya Carothers were available to answer questions.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

4.2 GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION PLAN UPDATE

Recommendation:

- A. Receive information on Santa Clara Valley Water District's Draft Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan; and
- B. Provide input on Draft Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan to Staff.

Lisa Bankosh and Nick Mascarello reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachments 1 and 2, and was available to answer questions.

Member Roth left the meeting at 6:59 p.m., and Member Byler left the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

4.3 REVIEW AND APPROVE 2024 ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT FOR PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD

Recommendation:

- A. Approve the 2024 Accomplishments Report for presentation to the Board; and
- B. Provide comments to the Committee Chair to share with the Board as part of the Accomplishments Report presentation pertaining to the purpose, structure, and function of the Committee.

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

It was moved by Member Lewis, seconded by Vice Chairperson Keller, and carried by unanimous vote, to approve the 2024 Annual accomplishments Report as amended to incorporate minor grammatical edits and forward it to the Board for consideration.

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

Recommendation:

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

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

Vice Chairperson Keller volunteered to serve as the Chairperson of the Water Supply Working Group and the Natural Flood Protection Working Group. Chairperson Ice noted that Member Byler volunteered to serve as the Chair of the Integrated Water Resources Management Working Group and as a member of the Natural Flood Protection Working Group. Member Gallardo volunteered to serve as a member of the Environmental Stewardship Working Group.

The Committee took no formal action.

4.5 REVIEW ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE WORK PLAN, THE OUTCOMES OF BOARD ACTION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS, THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA, AND RECOMMEND THE PROPOSED 2025 EWRC WORK PLAN TO THE BOARD

Recommendation:

Review the Committee work plan to guide the committee's discussions regarding policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation; and recommend the proposed 2025 EWRC Work Plan to the Board.

Dave Leon and John Bourgeois reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachments 1 and 2 and were available to answer questions.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

It was moved by Member Lewis, seconded by Member Levy, and carried by unanimous vote, to approve the 2024 Annual Committee Work Plan as amended to incorporate minor grammatical edits and forward it to the Board for consideration.

5. STANDING ITEMS

5.1 DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Chairperson Ice congratulated Director Ballard on her election to the Board of Directors.

Director Hsueh noted that Director Estremera will attend the next Committee meeting.

Member Lewis noted the passing of former EWRC member Reverend Jethroe Moore II.

5.2 MANAGER'S REPORTS

No reports were given.

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

The Committee took no action.

7. ADJOURNMENT

7.1 ADJOURN

Chairperson Ice adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m. to the next regular meeting on Monday, April 21, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Dave Leon
Assistant Deputy Clerk II

Date approved:



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0333

Agenda Date: 4/21/2025

Item No.: 4.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Environmental and Water Resources Committee

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

SUBJECT:

Receive Information and Provide Feedback on Valley Water's Water Supply Master Plan 2050.

RECOMMENDATION:

Provide feedback on the development of Water Supply Master Plan 2050.

SUMMARY:

The Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP) is Santa Clara Valley Water District's (Valley Water) guiding document for long-term water supply investments to ensure water supply reliability for Santa Clara County. Updated approximately every five years, this long-range plan assesses projected future county-wide demands and evaluates and recommends water supply and infrastructure projects to meet those demands and achieve Valley Water's level of service goal through the planning horizon. Valley Water's level of service goal, as established in Board Ends Policy E2, is to "Meet 100 percent of annual water demand during non-drought years and at least 80 percent of demand in drought years."

Valley Water is working on developing the WSMP 2050. At the October 2024 Committee meeting, staff presented the third update on the development of the WSMP 2050, including project evaluation, cost analysis for projects and portfolios, representative portfolios that meet water supply needs under three themes, and an adaptive management approach to support decision-making in the face of uncertainty. It also included recommended water conservation and potable reuse goals. This memorandum summarizes the progress since then, including the adopted potable reuse goal, discussion of community impacts of water shortages, and refined adaptive management roadmap with recommendations.

Potable Reuse Goal

Potable reuse is a locally controlled and drought-resilient supply that is effective in mitigating drought risks. On December 10, 2024, the Board adopted a goal of 24,000 acre-feet per year (AFY) of potable reuse by 2035, which can be achieved with a project in collaboration with the Cities of San José and Santa Clara, and a long-term vision to maximize water reuse in the county up to 32,000

AFY by 2050. This long-term vision includes additional potable and non-potable reuse, desalination, stormwater capture, and other alternative water sources. Including a 2035 goal with the long-term vision promotes a phased approach that accounts for uncertainty with future demand and wastewater availability while balancing affordability and risk of overinvestment.

Impacts of Water Shortage

The WSMP analysis indicated that without investment, Valley Water will experience shortages in the future, which means a reduced service level. While a reduced service level would reduce or forego the needed level of investment, it could have an immediate and real impact on residents and businesses and adversely and chronically affect economic development in the county, including potentially lower quality of life (i.e., rationing of water use during certain times of day), disruption of business operations (data centers, restaurants, tourism, recreation, etc.), and no irrigation for parks and trees. Agricultural production could be impacted by reduced water supply. If the shortage condition becomes chronic, it could lead to permanent land subsidence, which historically happened in the county and took several decades of aggressive investment and management to halt. The reduced service level would also negatively impact Valley Water's operations and finances and put Valley Water outside the normal range of other water agencies' levels of service.

The cost of shortage would also be staggering. According to previous studies and preliminary cost-benefit analysis, the cost of shortage for the residential sector was estimated to be between \$1.6 billion and \$2.8 billion. For the agricultural sector, it will range from \$220 million to \$280 million. The cost of water shortage for businesses could range from \$1.2 billion for 10 percent water rationing and \$14.2 billion for 30 percent rationing. All costs are expressed in 2023 dollars. In addition, if the shortage condition becomes chronic, groundwater overdraft could lead to land subsidence and widespread and costly infrastructure damage over time.

Water Supply Strategy

As presented at the October 2024 meeting, potential investment strategies were developed based on three themes - **lower cost**, **local control**, and **diversified** - to help outline investment options and present tradeoffs. The representative portfolio for each strategy was summarized in Attachment 1, along with the total lifecycle cost.

These three potential strategies represent different approaches to water supply reliability, but each comes with tradeoffs. **Lower Cost strategy** focuses on affordability and minimizing costs, but it has high risks, as all four major projects require partnership and institutional agreements to be successful. **Local Control strategy** focuses on projects within Santa Clara County which Valley Water has more control over, however, it has the highest cost, as it includes the three most expensive projects being considered. **Diversified** strategy focuses on diversifying the existing system with a mix of local and imported supplies as well as storage projects to build more resilience, but it has a relatively high cost and more institutional complexity since it includes more projects. The strategies provide the foundation for adaptive management in decision-making in the face of uncertainty.

Adaptive Management Framework

An adaptive management approach was proposed to provide the Board with flexibility and the ability

to make incremental investment decisions in the face of deep uncertainty associated with future conditions and project development and implementations. The adaptive framework is intended to define a consistent, stepwise process of making project and program investment decisions. The framework includes a roadmap and annual reporting. The roadmap outlines near- and mid-term actions and defines indicators and conditions to guide project decisions. The annual reporting tracks project progress and provides up-to-date information to help inform decision-making.

The proposed roadmap was refined to include more specific recommended actions at different timelines, especially immediate actions as the starting point of the adaptive management framework:

- **Now** - focus on the **Lower Cost** strategy, which includes San José Potable Reuse, B.F. Sisk Dam Raise, Delta Conveyance Project, Groundwater Banking, and South County Recharge; Continue planning for Pacheco and Sites; Continue the Desalination feasibility study; Continue implementing conservation programs.
- **Near-term (2-3 years)** - Assess success/progress on project planning and implementation; Make project funding, participation, or go/no-go decisions based on indicators, new information, and actual conditions; Continue planning for other projects.
- **Mid-term (5 years)** - Assess progress on project implementation; Update demand projections and water supply outlook; Update WSMP

Staff recommends the **lower cost strategy** while continuing to plan for other projects as a way to balance affordability and reliability. Given that large water supply projects and partnerships can have uncertain outcomes, continued planning for additional projects is recommended.

Annual reporting through the Monitoring and Assessment Program (MAP) will be a critical component of the adaptive management framework. A standard MAP report will be devised to include key elements of the WSMP, including progress on projects, conditions of indicators, and whether any adjustments are recommended. The timing of the MAP will be aligned with the annual CIP Five-Year Plan and Water Rate-Setting Cycle to support related decision-making.

In the next few years, major decisions will come up for several projects. Through this adaptive management framework, the Board will have multiple opportunities along each project's trajectory to make informed decisions on investments. It also allows the WSMP to be closely linked to the annual CIP and rate-setting processes, fulfilling its role as the guiding document for long-term investment strategy.

Next Steps

Staff is working to put together the draft plan, continue stakeholder outreach, and prepare for the plan adoption later this year.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

The Water Supply Master Plan addresses water supply equity by ensuring a cost-effective, high-quality supply is available for all of Santa Clara County, including disadvantaged communities.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Table 1

Attachment 2: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138

Table 1 Multiple Strategies for Water Supply Reliability

Strategies	Projects ¹	Portfolio Cost ² (Billion)
Lower Cost	San José Direct Potable Reuse, Delta Conveyance Project, B.F. Sisk Dam Raise, Groundwater Banking (250,000 AF), South County Recharge	\$4.0
Local Control	San José Direct Potable Reuse, Palo Alto Potable Reuse, Pacheco without Partners, Groundwater Banking (150,000 AF), South County Recharge	\$5.9
Diversified	San José Direct Potable Reuse, Delta Conveyance Project, Pacheco with Partners, B.F. Sisk Dam Raise, Groundwater Banking (350,000 AF), South County Recharge	\$5.3

¹Conservation is factored in the demand.

²Portfolio cost includes the sum of the present value of the total cost for each project.

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Water Supply Master Plan 2050

Environmental and Water Resources Committee, April 21, 2025

Recap of Last Update

- Water conservation goal
- Project evaluation
- Cost analysis
- Representative portfolios under three themes
- Adaptive management approach

Board Adopted Potable Reuse Goals

- 24,000 AFY by 2035
- Long-term vision to maximize water reuse up to 32,000 AFY by 2050
- Phased approach addresses uncertainty with future demand & wastewater availability
- Balances affordability and risk of overinvestment



Community Impacts of Water Shortages

4

- Potential impacts of lower level of service on residents and business
 - Quality of life
 - Economic impact
 - Irrigation for parks and trees
 - Agricultural production
 - Subsidence



Cost of Shortage Estimates (2023\$)

- Residential – \$1.6 - \$2.8 Billion
- Agricultural – \$220 - \$280 Million
- Business – \$1.2 - \$14.2 Billion
- Subsidence – hard to quantify, potentially billions of damages

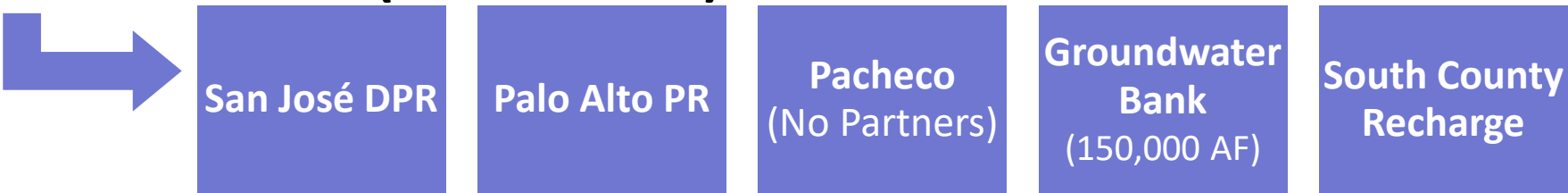
Strategies for Water Supply Reliability

6

Lower Cost (\$4 Billion)



Local Control (\$5.9 Billion)



Diversified (\$5.3 Billion)



Adaptive Management Framework

- Planning under deep uncertainty
 - Projects still evolving
 - Uncertainty with forecasted future supply and demand
- Adaptive management framework to provide flexibility for making incremental investment decisions
- Roadmap and annual reporting

Adaptive Management with Recommendations

NOW

- Focus on Lower Cost Portfolio
- Continue planning for other projects (Pacheco, Sites)
- Start Desal feasibility study
- Continue implementing conservation programs

NEAR-TERM (2-3 YEARS)

- Assess progress on project planning and implementation
- Make project decisions based on triggers, new information, and actual conditions
- Continue planning for other projects

MID-TERM (5 YEARS)

- Assess progress on project implementation
- Update demand projections and water supply outlook
- Update WSMP

Annual MAP report

INDICATORS



Sisk negotiation
DPR project progress
Project decisions

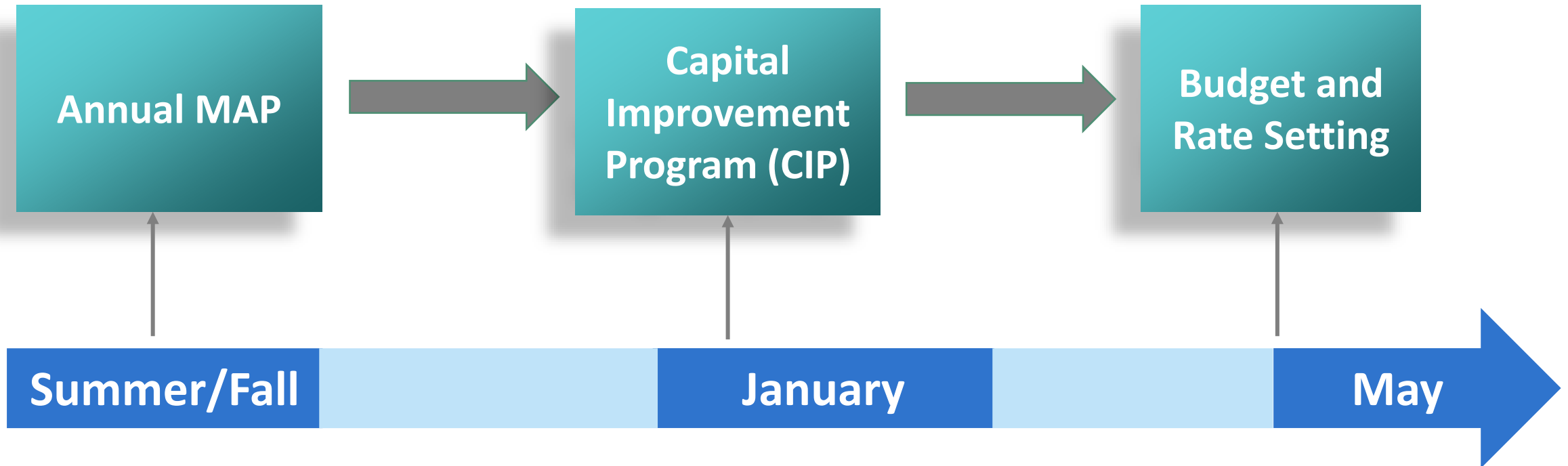
Annual Reporting

- Track project progress
- Report conditions of indicators
- Recommend actions as needed

- **Indicators**

- Sisk negotiation
- DPR project progress
- Upcoming project decisions
- Groundwater Bank negotiation
- Regulatory and permitting issues
- Annual supply
- Annual water use
- Conservation progress
- Growth trend/demand
- Regional agreements and decisions by other agencies

Annual MAP to Support Decision-Making 10



Projects	Estimated Decision Points					Project Online Date
	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	
B.F. Sisk Dam Raise		Planning Funding Decision	Planning Funding Decision	Final Funding Decision		2032
Sites Reservoir		Final Funding Decision				2032
Pacheco			Final EIR/EIS Certification	Final Partnership Negotiations		2035
San José Direct Potable Reuse						2035
Delta Conveyance Project		Funding Decision		Final Contract Decision	Attachment 2 Page 11 of 12	2045

Next Steps

- Plan development
- Stakeholder outreach
- Plan adoption



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0396

Agenda Date: 4/21/2025

Item No.: 4.2.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Environmental and Water Resources Committee

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

SUBJECT:

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

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update on the West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Master Plans and provide feedback as necessary.

SUMMARY:

Valley Water is developing Watershed Master Plans for the West Valley and Lower Peninsula watersheds. The Watershed Master Plans are Santa Clara Valley Water District's (Valley Water's) public planning process to identify watershed management needs in each of Valley Water's five watersheds and identify actions to address them. These plans draw from and align with existing plans and policies, but also seek new opportunities to reflect community values, improve watershed health, and integrate environmental stewardship into everything Valley Water does. Staff will provide an overview of the planning process and see Committee feedback on their communities' watershed management concerns.

Background

Valley Water's Watershed Master Planning, previously referred to as One Water, consists of: 1) a countywide framework to develop the vision, goals, and objectives used across all watersheds, and 2) Watershed Master Plans specific to each of the five watersheds located within Santa Clara County. In March 2022, the Board of Directors adopted the One Water Countywide Framework and Coyote Watershed Plan. In April 2024, the Board of Directors adopted the Guadalupe Watershed Plan and the Upper Pajaro Watershed Plan. Valley Water is now developing the final two plans.

Planning is based on five measurable objectives addressing water supply, water quality, flood risk, natural ecosystems, and climate change. A set of metrics and specific targets are identified for each objective. Then, actions that aid in meeting those targets are identified (Priority Actions). For water supply and climate change objectives, the Watershed Master Plans incorporate information from the Water Supply Master Plan, Climate Change Action Plan, Asset Management Plans, and other

relevant planning documents to identify Priority Actions. For water quality, flood risk, and natural ecosystems objectives, Priority Actions are identified through an analysis of existing watershed conditions, gap identification using metric and target data, external stakeholder outreach, and expert staff review.

The planning process builds stakeholder and regulatory support for Valley Water's watershed management through an extensive public engagement process. Draft Watershed Master Plans, including Priority Actions, are vetted through an executive steering committee and then presented to the Environmental and Water Resources Committee and other relevant Board Committees and Advisory Committees before each Watershed Master Plan is considered by the full Board for adoption.

Status

Development of the West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Plans is underway. Work is underway on the existing conditions report, flood vulnerability assessment, and metrics development for each watershed. The existing conditions report thoroughly analyzes and synthesizes past and present conditions at a watershed scale. Then using the conditions analysis, it identifies challenges and opportunities for watershed management. The West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watersheds are likely to present unique challenges and opportunities in that the lower watersheds are highly urbanized and channelized systems. Attachment 2 contains a brief draft outline of what will be included in the existing conditions report for Committee feedback.

The flood vulnerability assessment utilizes a procedure that was developed as a part of the Guadalupe and Upper Pajaro Watershed Master Plans. The procedure incorporates hydraulic modeling and spatial data of physical hazards, statistical hazards, and social vulnerabilities to assess flood vulnerability in the watershed. Physical hazards include flood extent for the 25-year (4%) return interval storm, as well as locations where water is deep or fast-moving. Statistical hazards include locations of recurring floods identified by the Field Information Team (FIT) program. Social vulnerability includes the location of underserved communities and critical facilities. A spatial overlay of these data creates a map that identifies the extent and severity of vulnerability to flooding and allows staff to identify and prioritize potential projects that can help mitigate it. Initial flood modeling on the West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watersheds is nearly complete.

In March 2025, Valley Water started the public engagement process. Valley Water presented an introduction to the plans and accepted early feedback on March 4 to our community network and on March 5 to the Los Altos Chamber of Commerce. The community network is made up of 12 main cohorts that represent diverse interest areas such as environmental justice, conservation, stewardship, agriculture, recreation, and more. On March 4, there were 63 attendees outside of Valley Water staff, including representatives from cities, community groups, regulatory agencies, environmental nonprofits, and academic institutes. Participants actively engaged and asked questions on the scope and inclusion of factors such as stream health, recreation, sea level rise, and water quality. Early feedback indicated there was a general interest on improving ecological health through the urbanized channels and on flood risk reduction.

Next Steps

Valley Water expects to complete the draft Existing Conditions Report and collect preliminary data to address metrics by November 2025. It is anticipated that this item will return to the Environmental and Water Resources Committee by early 2026 to receive input on metric and target data for the West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Plans. In addition, the latest updates on these plans will be posted on Valley Water's Be Heard platform at <https://beheard.valleywater.org/>.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY IMPACT:

The Watershed Master Planning process directly addresses equity and environmental justice by providing for targeted outreach to environmental justice communities, returning decision-making power to the historically underrepresented. The Framework also incorporates a protocol for flood protection planning to address the health and safety of the most vulnerable, prioritizing actions that reduce flood risk in disadvantaged communities, and reporting progress through an environmental justice metric. Finally, the planning process is objective and data-driven, ensuring transparency and equity.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Existing Conditions Report Outline

Attachment 2: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Lisa Bankosh, 408-630-2618

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WEST VALLEY AND LOWER PENINSULA WATERSHED SETTING REPORTS

Report Outline - **DRAFT**

Prepared for
Santa Clara Valley Water District

January 2025



Insert Photo

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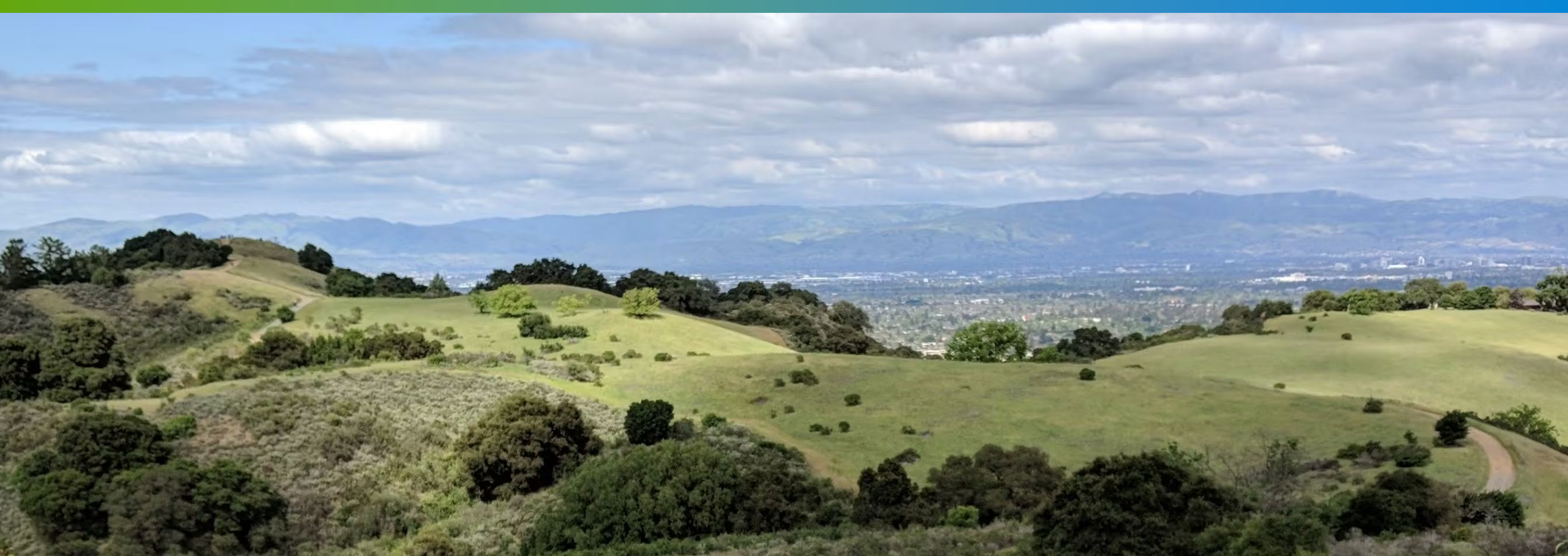
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Appendices

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Lower Peninsula and West Valley Watershed Master Plans

Presented by: **Samantha Greene**, Unit Manager, Water Resources Planning and Policy Unit
Environmental and Water Resources Committee, April 21, 2025

Agenda

- Receive an overview of Watershed Master Planning
- Receive an update on the status of West Valley and Lower Peninsula Watershed Plans
- Discuss Next Steps



What is Watershed Master Planning?

Water Supply



Natural Ecosystems



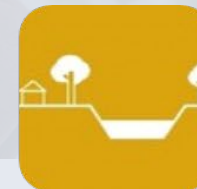
Water Quality



Climate Change



Flood Risk Reduction



Why it Matters

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

Guiding doc for watershed management

Reflection of community values

Path for multi-benefit solutions

Springboard for project partnerships

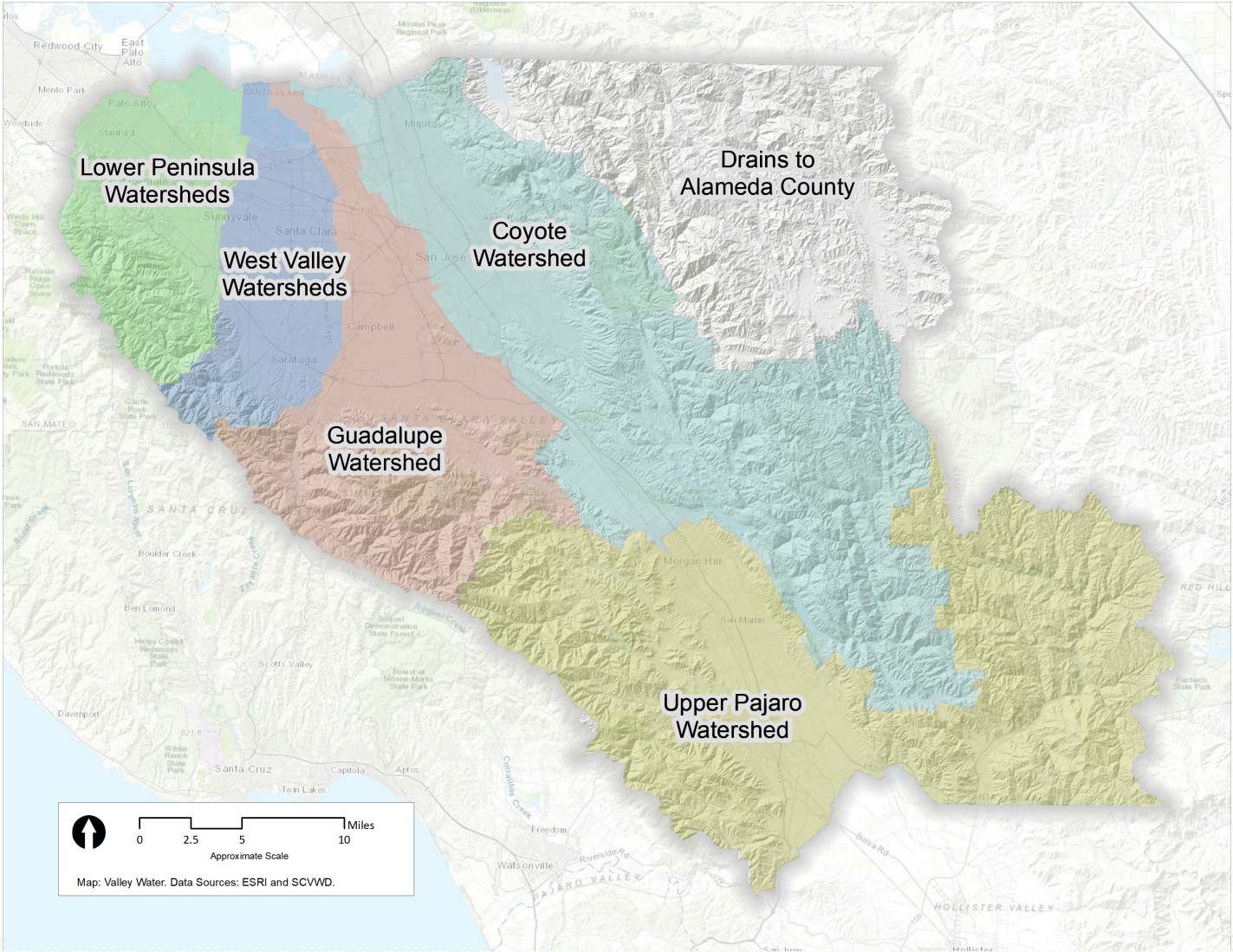
Tool for decision makers

Informational resource on the watersheds

Countywide Framework

5

valleywater.org





Key Elements of Plan

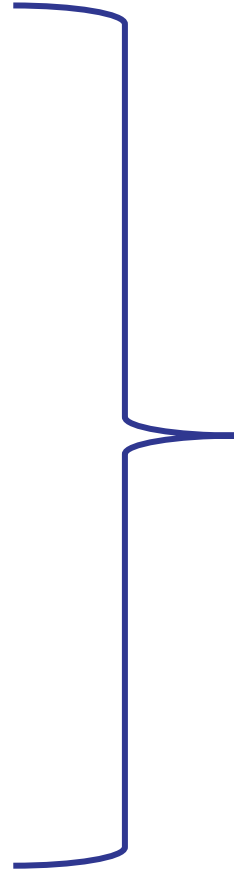
Setting

+

Metrics

+

Priority Actions



Watershed Master Plan

7


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Setting Element


- Summarizes existing conditions of the watershed
- Based on the in-depth Existing Conditions Report
- Identifies Challenges and Opportunities for Watershed Management




Objectives, Metrics, and Targets Element 9




Objective A
Protect and Maintain Water Supplies




Objective B
Protect and Improve Surface and Ground Water Quality



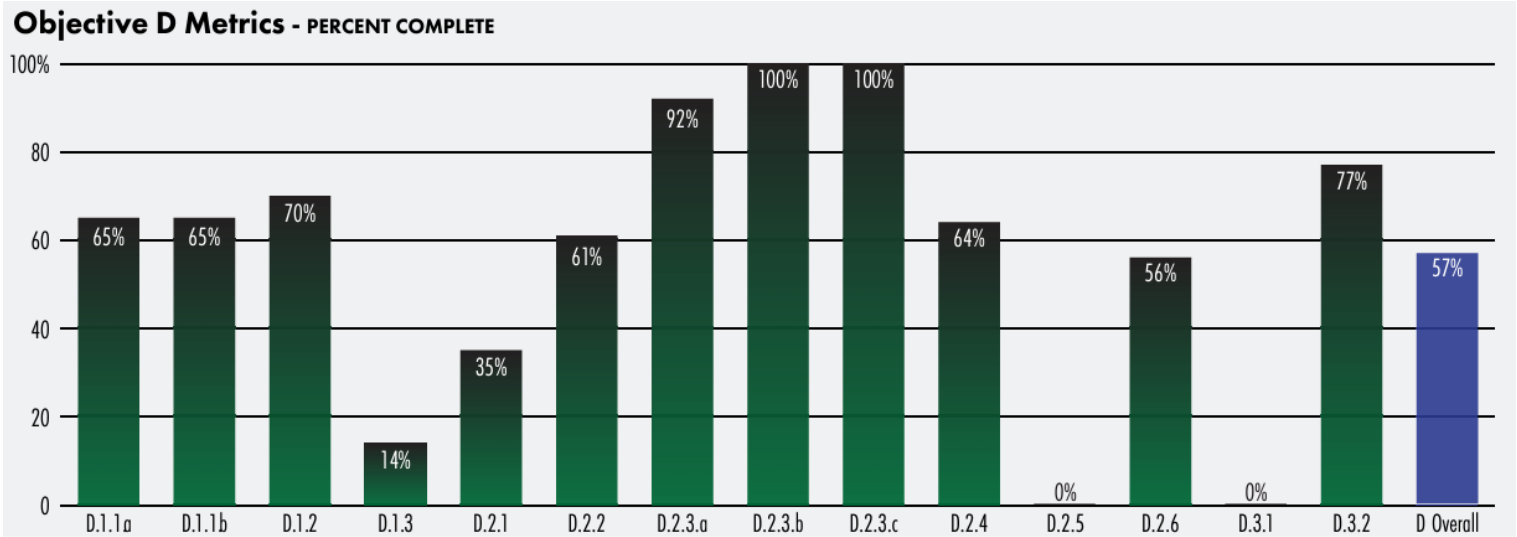
Objective C
Reduce Flood Risk



Objective D
Protect, Enhance and Sustain Natural Ecosystems



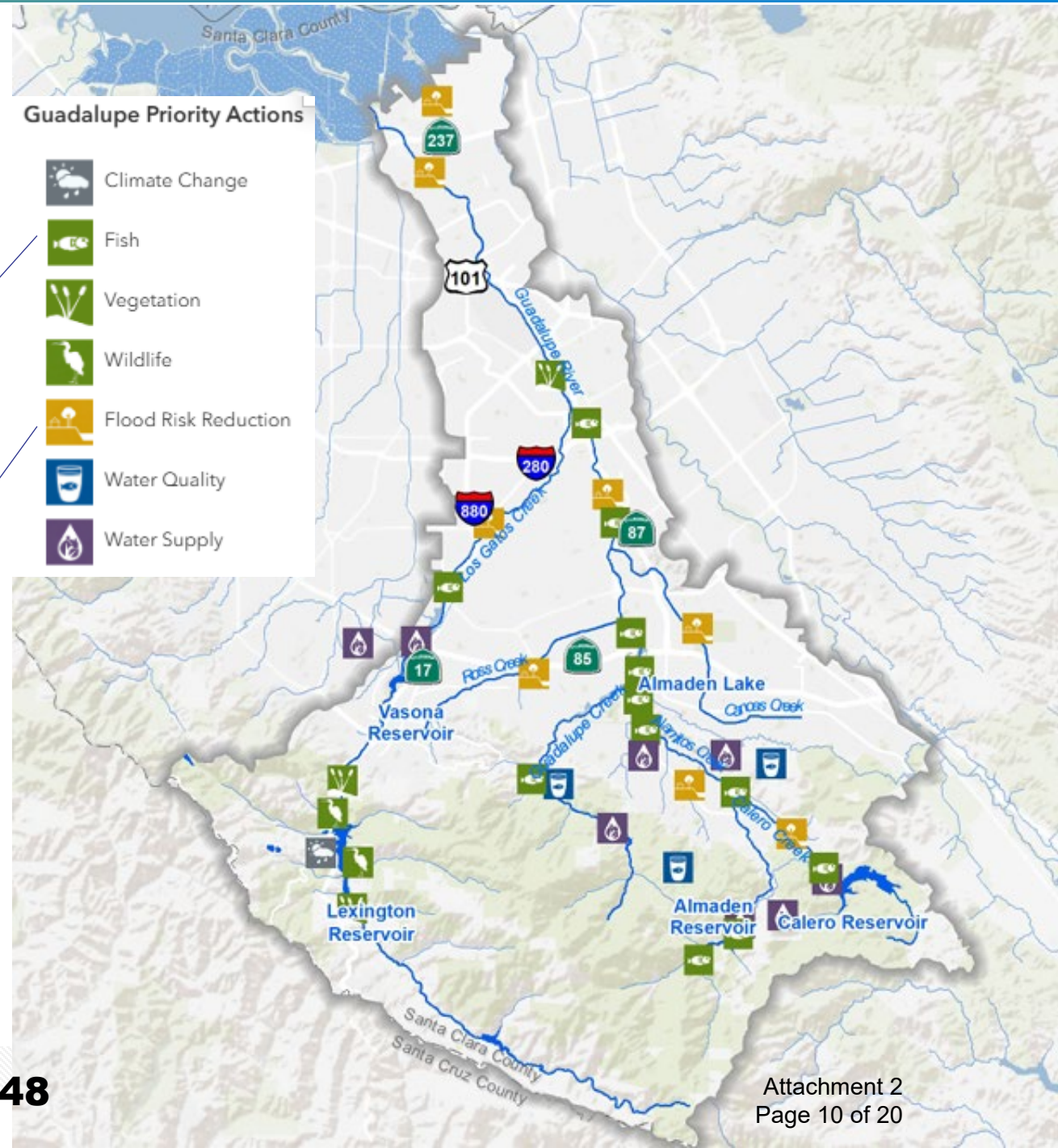
Objective E
Mitigate and Adapt to Climate Change



Priority Actions Element

Ecology Example: Gravel Augmentation and Large Woody Debris Placement- identifies specific locations for steelhead habitat

Flood Risk Example: Lower Guadalupe Project - provides natural flood protection for residents and businesses



Community Network

List of Groups to Engage

Agricultural/Ranching

Economic Vitality & Sustainability

Educational Institutions

Tribes/ Environmental Justice

Environmental Org./Stewardship

Governing Bodies - Regulatory Agencies

Municipalities/Land Use Agencies

Open Space Conservation/Recreation

Residents/Community-Based Org.

Special Joint Organizations/Coalitions

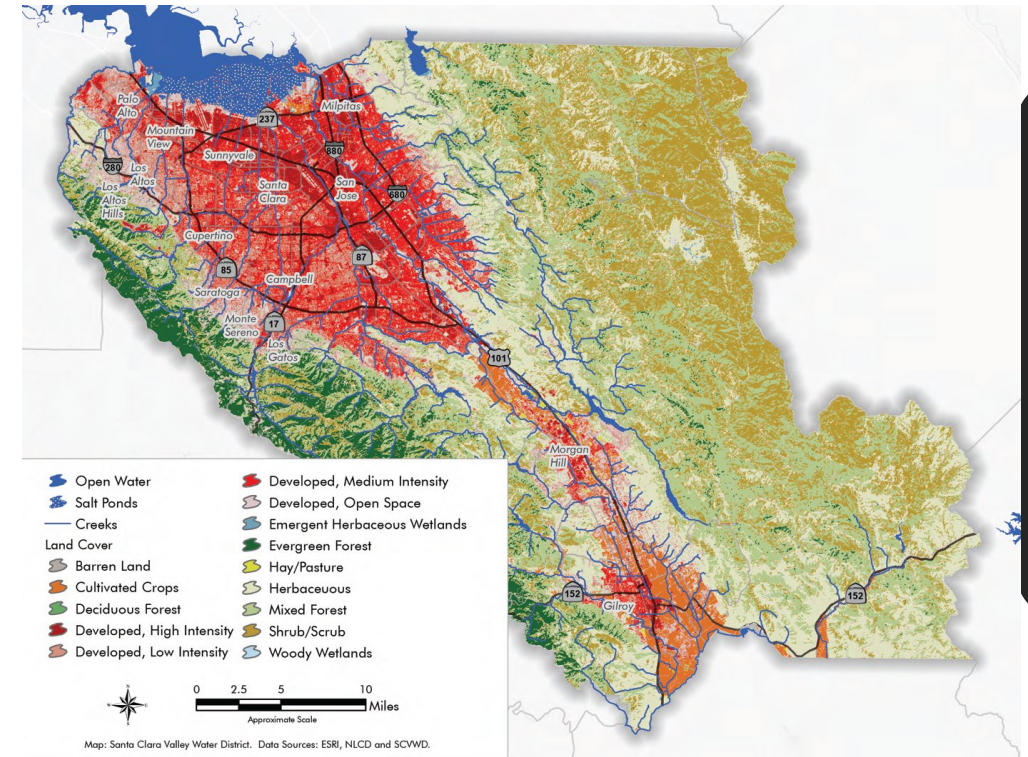
Subject Matter Experts/Research & Data

Water Resource Agencies / Special Districts

Existing Conditions Report

12

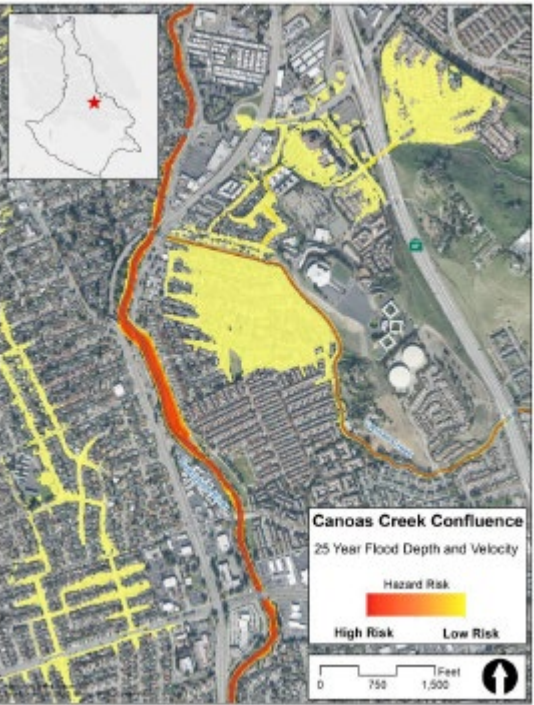
- Sections on climate change, land use, ecology, water supply, water quality, and flood risk
- Each section will describe:
 - Past, present, and future conditions
 - Challenges and opportunities



Flood Vulnerability Assessment

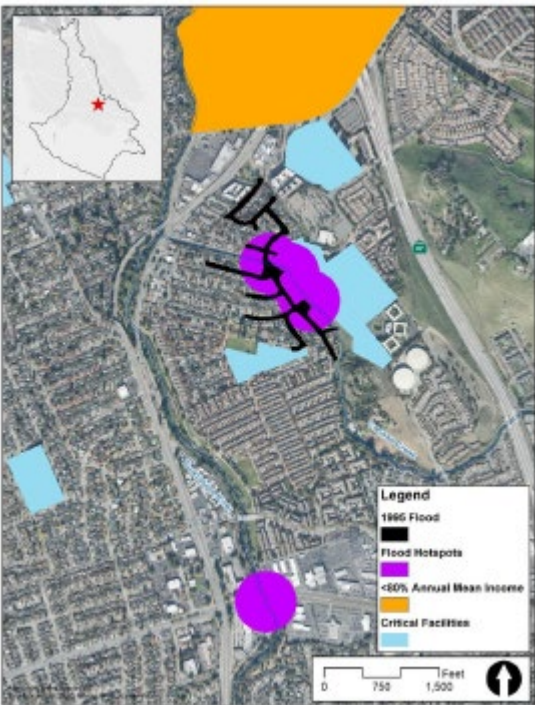
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Physical



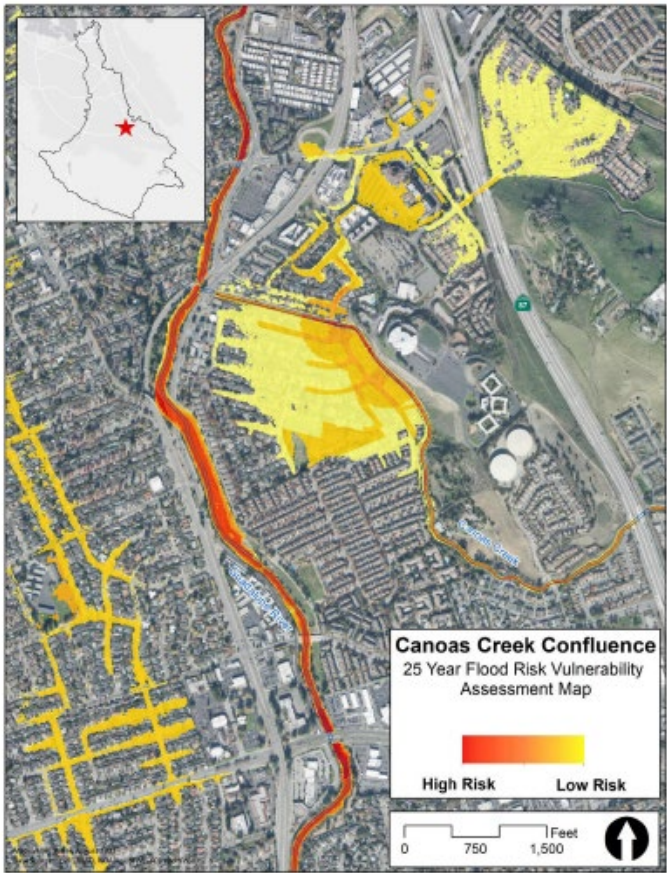
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Statistical and Social



=

Combined Vulnerability Map



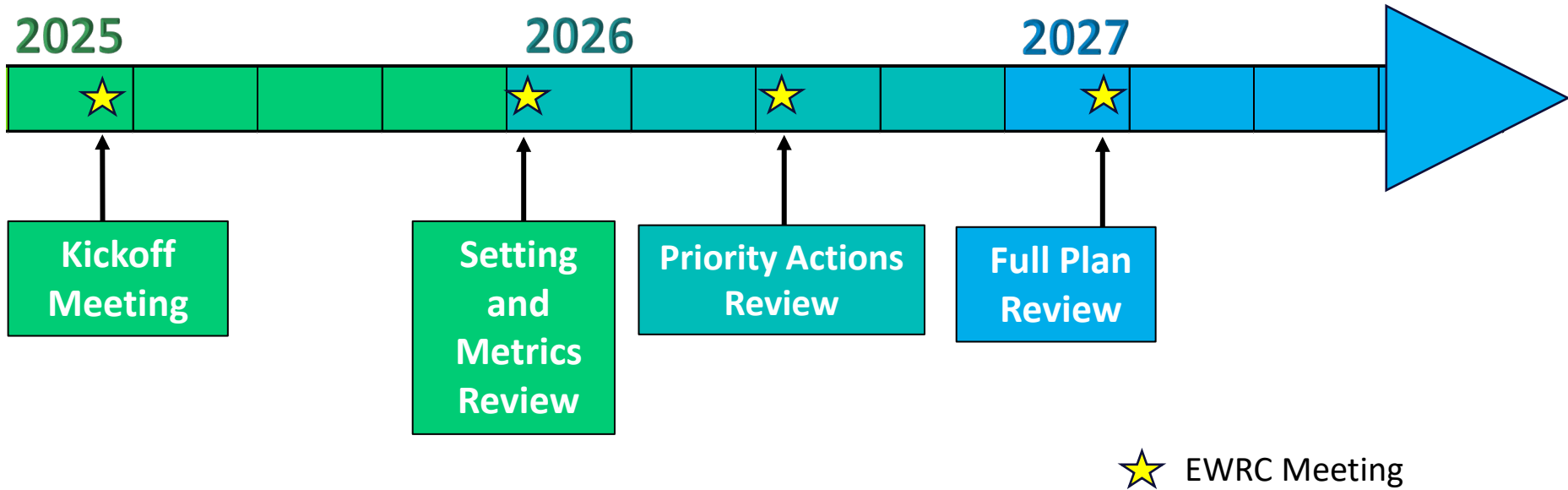
Community Network Meeting

14

- Kick off meeting on March 4, 2025
- Over 60 attendees represented cities, community groups, regulatory agencies, environmental groups, academic institutes, etc.
- Interest in improving watershed ecological health and flood risk reduction.



Project Schedule



Next Steps

- Return to EWRC Jan 2026 for input on Existing Conditions and Metrics
- Return to EWRC July 2026 for input on Priority Actions



Discussion

What environmental issues within the watersheds should the plans cover?

What concerns for the watersheds do you want to make sure we look into?

Any questions?

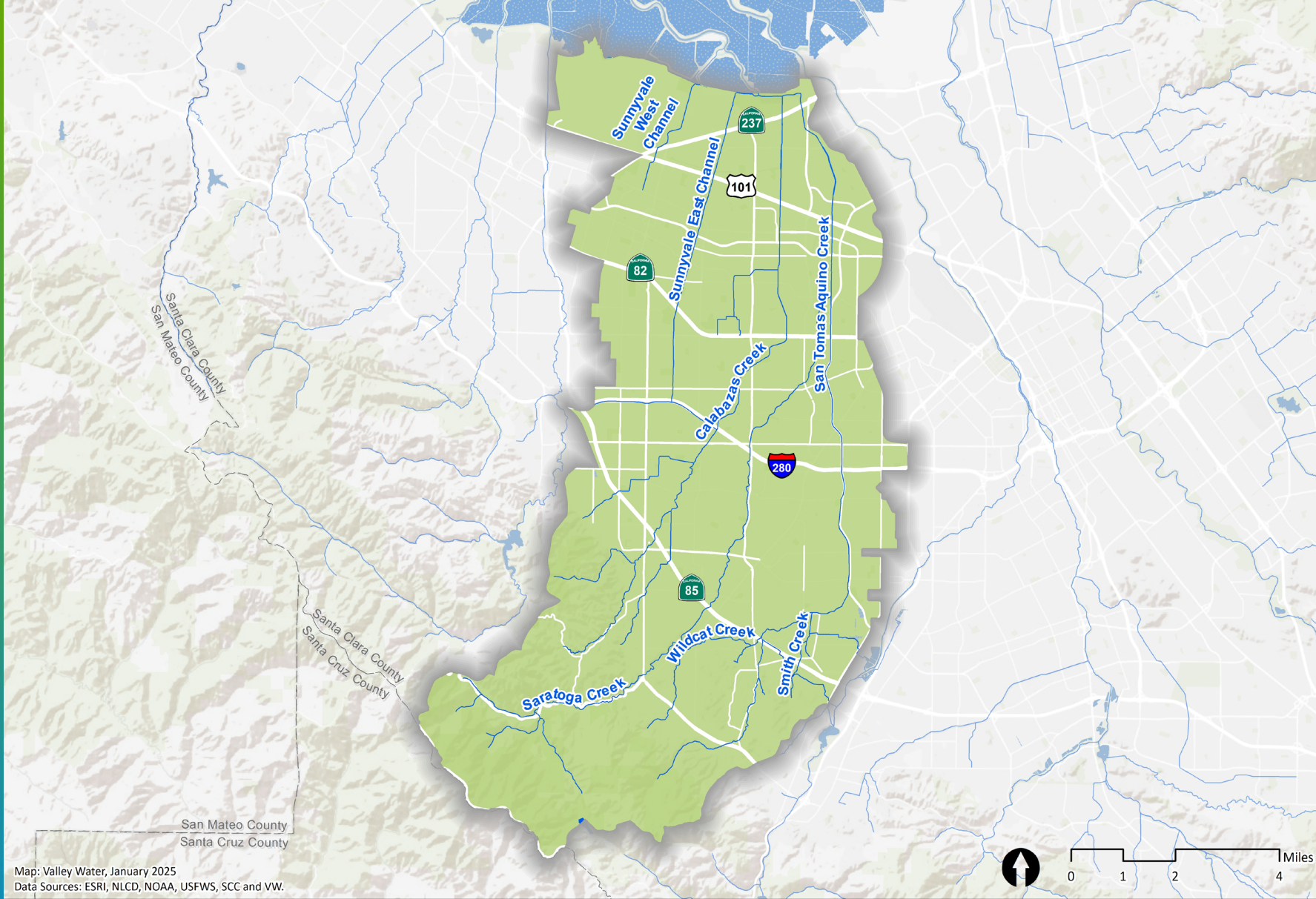


QUESTIONS



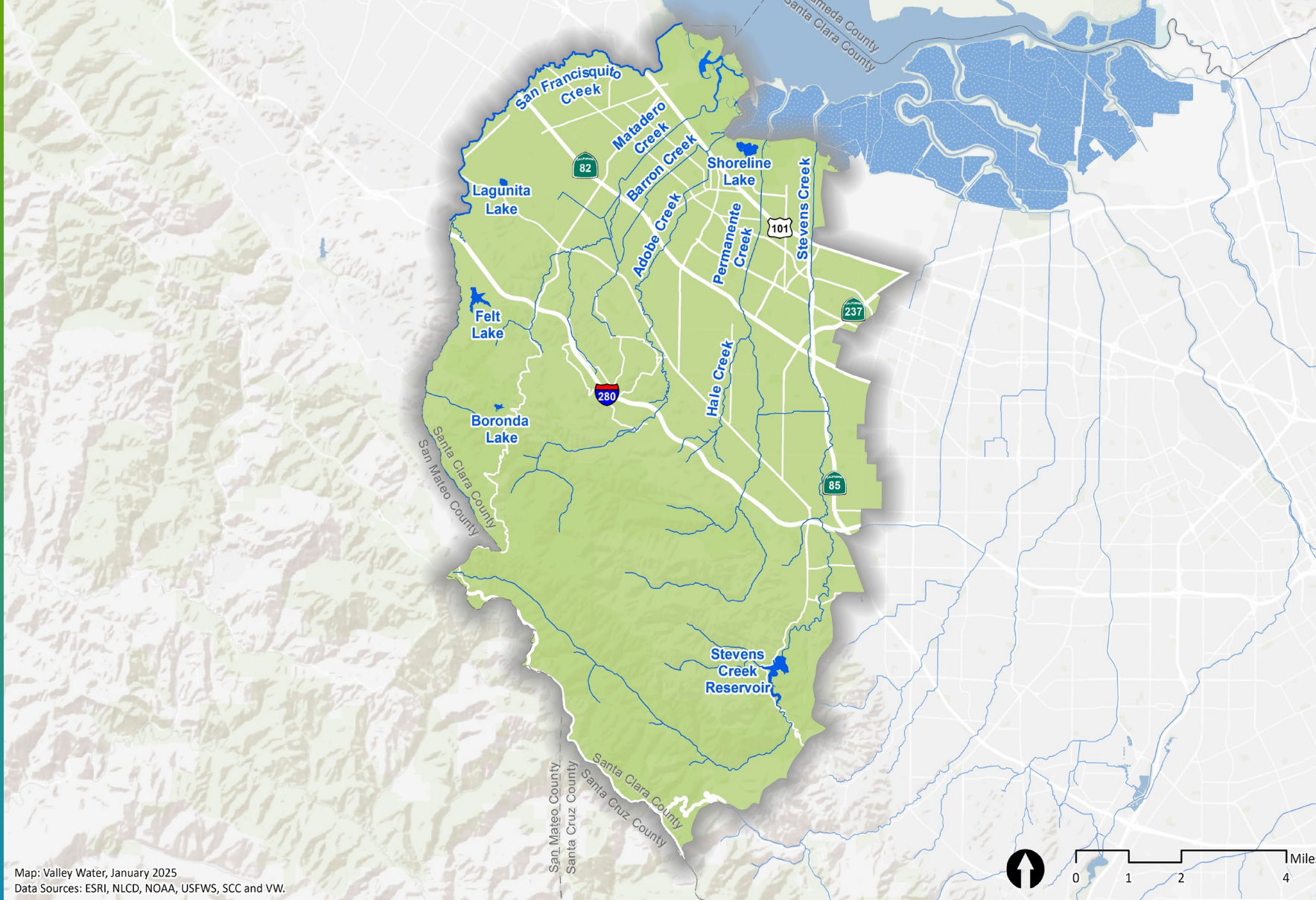
West Valley

- 85 sq miles
- Highly urban and channelized
- Select areas support native rainbow trout
- Waterways connect to Guadalupe Slough in south San Francisco Bay



Lower Peninsula

- 98 sq miles
- Highly urban and channelized
- Several streams supports native steelhead
- Valley Water is part of San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority





Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0384

Agenda Date: 4/21/2025

Item No.: 4.3.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Environmental and Water Resources Committee

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

SUBJECT:

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

RECOMMENDATION:

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

SUMMARY:

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

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

This will be a standing agenda item.

BACKGROUND:

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

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

the implementation of District programs and projects, other than to receive information and provide comment.

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: EWRC Working Groups April 2025

Attachment 2: EWRC FINAL Working Group Restructure

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

FY 2025 EWRC Working Groups

Working Group Number/Title		Member Name	Lead	Total Members
EWRC Oversight Manager: John Bourgeois, jbourgeois@valleywater.org, 1-408-630-2990				
1	INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT:			
Valley Water Staff Liaison: Heidi Williams, heidiwilliams@valleywater.org, 1-408-630-3112		Tess Byler, Charles Ice, Loren Lewis	Tess Byler	3
2	WATER SUPPLY:			
Valley Water Staff Liaison: Jing Wu, jwu@valleywater.org, 1-408-630-2330		Arthur M. Keller, Patrick S. Kwok, Mike Michitaka, Jim Piazza	Arthur Keller	4
3	NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION:			
Valley Water Staff Liaison: Katie Muller, kmuller@valleywater.org, 1-408-630-2934		Arthur M. Keller, Mike Michitaka, Charles Taylor, Tess Byler	Arthur Keller	4
4	ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP:			
Valley Water Staff Liaison: John Bourgeois, jbourgeois@valleywater.org, 1-408-630-2990		Swanee Edwards, Bob Levy, Jim Piazza, Rebecca Gallardo	Bob Levy	4
5	CLIMATE CHANGE:			
Valley Water Staff Liaison: Nick Mascarello, nmascarello@valleywater.org, 1-408-630-3147		Bob Levy, Charles Taylor	Bob Levy	2

FY 2025 EWRC Working Groups

Working Group Number/Title	Member Name	Lead	Total Members
Lead Member			
<p>SPECIAL NOTES: See 2021 EWRC Working Group Restructure Guidelines. Members should limit the number of working groups they participate in because of possible Brown Act Violations (2-3 groups only). Please Note: You will be sharing your phone number and email address with the other members when signing up for a working group. When planning meetings, the Group Chair (Lead) should contact Dave Leon via email (daveleon@valleywater.org) and John Bourgeois (jbourgeois@valleywater.org) with meeting date/time and location and how many members are expected to attend.</p>			

Environmental and Water Resources Committee

Draft Work Plan Revisions, Working Groups

Originated on August 10, 2021

(Latest revision: October 19, 2021)

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

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

The defined roles of the EWRC are to:

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

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

Policy and Implementation Input (roles 1 and 2 above)

The formation of 5 Working Groups:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Board and Committee Liaisons (roles 1 and 2 above)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Stakeholder Engagement (role 3 above)

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

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

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

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

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

...

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

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

...

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

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

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

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

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



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 25-0385

Agenda Date: 4/21/2025

Item No.: 4.4.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Environmental and Water Resources Committee

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

SUBJECT:

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

RECOMMENDATION:

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

SUMMARY:

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

BACKGROUND:

Governance Process Policy-8:

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

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

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

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: EWRC 2025 Work Plan

Attachment 2: EWRC Work Plan Appendix

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

2025 Work Plan: Environmental and Water Resources Committee

Updated April 2025

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 2025	January 27	•Committee Elects Chair and Vice Chair for 2025. (Action)	<u>Accomplished January 27, 2025</u> The Committee elected Charles Ice as Chairperson and Arthur Keller as Vice Chairperson
2	Annual Accomplishments Report	January 27	•Review and approve 2024 Accomplishments Report for presentation to the Board. (Action)	<u>Accomplished January 27, 2025</u> The Committee approved the Accomplishments Report with minor grammatical edits.
3	Update Status of Working Groups	January 27 April 21 July 21 October 20	•Receive updates on the status of the working groups. (Action) •Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate.	<u>Accomplished January 27, 2025</u> The Committee received the information and took no formal action.
4	Review of Environmental and Water Resources Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda	April 21 July 21 October 20	•Receive and review the 2025 Board-approved Committee work plan. (Action) •Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate.	
5	Standing Items Report Fiscal Year 2025 Goals and Strategies:	April 21 July 21 October 20	•Receive quarterly reports on standing items. (Information)	

2025 Work Plan: Environmental and Water Resources Committee

Updated April 2025

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
6	One Water Plan – Lower Peninsula and West Valley Watershed Plans	April 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Receive information on the two draft Watershed Plans. •Provide feedback to staff. (Action) 	
7	Water Supply Master Plan Update	April 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Provide feedback on the Water Supply Master Plan 2050 portfolio development and analysis. 	
8	Upper Pajaro Native Ecosystem Enhancement Tool	July 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Receive information on the Upper Pajaro Native Ecosystem Enhancement Tool. •Provide feedback to staff 	
9	Baylands Projects Update	October 20	Receive an update on the various VW projects occurring along SF Bay.	
10	Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Update	October 20	Receive an update on the status of the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit project.	
11	Review Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Board Work plan	October 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Review Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Board Work Plan (Information) 	

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GOAL	OBJECTIVE	FY23 TACTICS	MONITORING COMMITTEE
INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT <i>"Efficiently manage water resources across business areas."</i>	<u>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>The maintenance of Valley Water's infrastructure is crucial to ensuring we continue to provide safe, clean water and critical flood protection for our communities. Timely maintenance is the most cost-effective investment, whereas deferred maintenance disproportionately increases costs and causes unplanned outages and failures risking the population of the county. In addition, aging assets are reaching the end of the design life and will require major recapitalization.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a Fuel Management Policy to guide the incorporation of wildfire planning efforts in an integrated and programmatic way. • Continue a robust preventive maintenance program including monitoring asset condition and risk. • Strategically plan for larger infrastructure renewal projects through Safe Clean Water Project F8 – Sustainable Creek Infrastructure for Continued Public Safety; Water Treatment Plant, Distribution System, and SCADA Implementation Plans; Watersheds and Water Utility Operations and Maintenance Plans; and various Asset Management Plans. • Advance infrastructure renewal projects identified in strategic planning efforts by initiating new Capital or Small Capital Projects, or by conducting work as part of ongoing operations projects. • Develop comprehensive infrastructure master plans for all water utility treatment plant and distribution infrastructure (e.g. pipelines and pump stations) to plan out 30-year capital investments that meet future regulatory requirements, and fold in projects identified in the Asset Management and Operations & Maintenance Plans. • Expedient execution of the adopted Capital program and projects. 	Board Policy and Planning Committee (BPPC) CIP Committee (CIPC)
	<u>Objective #2 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>Valley Water continues to pursue legislative and administrative solutions to resolve regulatory and permitting issues at the federal and state levels. The Board's efforts will continue to focus on improving internal capacity when applying for permits, as well as continuing to build relationships with regulatory agencies and staying abreast of the regulatory environment.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Continue to work with the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) under the terms of our memorandum of understanding (MOU) to expedite issue resolution and prevent regulatory overreach. • Collaborate with RWQCB on the Steelhead Regional Temperature Study. 	BPPC
WATER SUPPLY <i>"Provide a reliable, safe, and affordable water supply for current and future generations in all communities served."</i>	<u>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>Half of Santa Clara County's water supply is imported from outside the county. At this time, when there is a lot of water, Valley Water may not be able to take advantage of these supplies due to limitations in existing storage and transmission infrastructure as well as regulatory constraints. Having a diverse portfolio of storage options helps Valley Water be resilient. Therefore, Valley Water is evaluating whether diversifying its storage portfolio could help maximize our use of storage and stored water recovery under future conditions. Water storage in reservoirs also</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore opportunities to develop new surface and groundwater storage projects that help Valley Water meet future water supply needs and be resilient to climate change. • Determine level of participation for projects and decisions about partnerships in accordance with the Water Supply Master Plan and water affordability. • Explore partnership opportunities for the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project • Validate Valley Water's continued participation in the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project during the MAP review process, bi-annual budget development, and following review and certification 	Water Storage Exploratory Committee (WSEC)

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	<i>provides environmental, recreational, and incidental flood risk reduction benefits. Challenges include determining the appropriate level of participation for Valley Water in collaborative water storage projects and prioritizing projects within funding constraints.</i>	of the project's Environmental Impact Report (EIR).	
	<u>Objective #2 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>The Water Supply Master Plan's "Ensure Sustainability" strategy includes securing existing water supplies and infrastructure. Valley Water's local and imported water supplies are vulnerable to climate change impacts, droughts, earthquake, and regulatory requirements that may restrict the amount of available water.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in and influence decisions regarding the Delta Conveyance Project. • Participate in regional water supply resilience efforts. • Build and maintain effective partnerships to increase resiliency. • Complete and implement infrastructure master plans and asset management plans. • Partner with the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to ensure reliability of the South Bay Aqueduct. 	Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee (WCaDMC) (Groundwater) CIPC (infrastructure projects)
	<u>Objective #3 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>Recycled and purified water is a drought resilient, locally controlled water supply important to long-term sustainability. The Water Supply Master Plan includes developing up to 24,000 acre-feet per year of purified water by 2040. Purified water is recycled water that has been treated further using reverse osmosis and other advanced treatment to make it fit for drinking. Valley Water is pursuing indirect potable reuse which would use this purified water to replenish our groundwater. Implementation challenges include securing wastewater supply contractual agreements with wastewater agencies, available land, stringent regulatory requirements, and implementation costs.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the first phase of the Purified Water Program, including release of a Request For Proposal (RFP) and enter into a contract for an Indirect Potable Reuse project that is implemented via a Public Private Partnership. • Implement the Countywide Water Reuse Master Plan. • Develop a Comprehensive Water Reuse Agreement for South County to advance water reuse and its production, distribution, and wholesaling in South County. • Continue to actively be involved with the Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) guidance and ensure Valley Water is positioned to implement a DPR project in the future. • Continue collaboration on the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center including building a strong collaborative relationship with the San José-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility to expand the facility. 	Recycled Water Committee (RWC)
	<u>Objective #4 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>As our largest reservoir, Anderson serves not only as a critical water supply facility, but also supports Valley Water's mission of flood protection and environmental stewardship. Given the reservoir's critical importance to ensuring safe, clean water for our communities and to protect public safety, it is imperative that the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project (ADSRP) move forward expeditiously. This includes the reconstruction of the Dam and completion of the interim risk reduction measures resulting from the February 20, 2020, directive from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the Anderson Reservoir level at the FERC directed level. • Complete the construction on the Anderson Dam Tunnel Project (ADTP). • Complete the design of the ADSRP. • Continue to work with appropriate regulatory agencies to advance the ADSRP. • Release the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the ADSRP. • Obtain all necessary permits for ADSRP construction. • 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). 	CIPC Stream Planning and Operations Committee (SPOC)
	<u>Objective #5 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>Droughts are a recurring feature of California's climate and may intensify with climate change. Water conservation is an essential component in providing a reliable water supply and Valley Water has set a water conservation goal for annual water savings of 99,000</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue communication and educational outreach to promote Valley Water's water conservation programs. • Increase collaboration with our retailer partners to promote Valley Water's water conservation programs. • Implement new water conservation programs and engagement strategies identified within the Water Conservation Strategic Plan. 	WCaDMC

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	<i>acre-feet (AF) by 2030 and 109,000 AF by 2040. As Valley Water faces challenges from climate change and drought, water conservation will continue to be amongst the most cost-effective tools for efficiently meeting current and future demands while mitigating droughts.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Engage and support private-sector stakeholders, local, state, and federal agencies that promote water conservation. •Develop and implement a Drought Response Plan with support and input from our retailer partners and the broader community to guide short-term behavioral changes during water shortages. 	
NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION “Provide Natural Flood Protection to reduce risk and improve health and safety.”	<u>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>Valley Water is challenged to sustain ecosystem health while managing local water resources for flood protection and water supply. By using an integrated approach to planning and designing flood protection planning, there is an opportunity to create projects with multiple benefits.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Make significant progress on One Water plans for the Guadalupe and Pajaro watersheds. •Complete construction of Reaches 1-3 of the Shoreline Phase I Project and pursue funding alternatives for Reaches 4-5 to provide 100-year coastal flood risk management, ecosystem restoration, recreational opportunities, and resiliency for sea level rise. •Complete construction of Phase 2A of the Upper Llagas Flood Protection Project to provide flood protection and habitat enhancement. •Advance the Palo Alto Flood Basin Project into construction, a repair project to ensure a functional flood basin with wetland habitat. •Advance the Sunnyvale East/West Channels Project into construction to provide 100-year storm water flood protection. •Complete the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Upper Guadalupe River Project General Reevaluation Study to provide 100-year flood protection. •Advance the San Francisquito Creek upstream 101 Project into construction to provide flood protection. •Advance the Coyote Creek Flood Mitigation and Flood Protection Projects into construction to provide flood protection for an event equivalent to the 2017 storm event. 	CIPC BPPC
	<u>Objective #2 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>As Valley Water continues to advance flood protection projects, the Board has an opportunity to strengthen relationships and improve coordination with conservation and environmental justice groups, as well as other local jurisdictions, with a specific focus on ensuring the voices of disadvantaged communities are equitably represented.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •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. •Plan flood risk reduction projects to provide a minimum level of protection countywide. 	CIPC BPPC
ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP “Sustain ecosystem health while managing local water resources for flood protection and water supply.”	<u>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>Valley Water’s projects and programs require integrated planning to ensure capital improvements, operations, and maintenance activities are balanced with environmental stewardship goals. Valley Water strives to protect and restore habitats to support native species throughout Santa Clara County.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •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. •Implement high priority actions included in the Climate Change Action Plan. •Make significant progress on the grant-funded planning study for the San Tomas Aquino Calabazas Creek Realignment Project. •Advance construction for the Bolsa Creek and Hale Creek projects to 	BPPC

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		<p>begin in Summer 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advance Almaden Lake Improvement Project to begin construction in 2023. • Continue to develop and build on partnerships with environmental organizations and tribal communities when developing projects. 	
	<p><u>Objective #2 Challenge/Opportunity</u> Valley Water continues to coordinate with local cities and agencies to improve the health of our local waterways, including pollution prevention and addressing threats to water quality. Opportunities exist to further collaborate with the County, cities, and social services agencies on encampment abatement efforts and to develop long-term solutions for the homeless to keep our creeks clean.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Coordinate with the County, cities, and other service providers to try to ensure the permanent removal of homeless encampments from creeks and trails. • 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). 	Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee (ECCC) (SPOC)
	<p><u>Objective #3 Challenge/Opportunity</u> For nearly 20 years, Valley Water has been working to resolve a water rights complaint surrounding fish, wildlife, water quality, and other beneficial uses in Coyote Creek, Guadalupe River, and Stevens Creek watershed areas. Challenges include completing the environmental review process, obtaining federal and state permits from multiple regulatory agencies, refining and processing water rights change petitions, the technical complexity of the fisheries impacts analysis, coordination with other ongoing related projects and managing stakeholder expectations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize the June 2021 Guadalupe River and Stevens Creek Environmental Impact Report (EIR) consistent with existing stakeholder agreement. • Advance 10 water right change petitions for securing water right orders. • Continue to implement the pilot flow program in Guadalupe and Stevens Creek. • Continue to implement feasibility studies, monitoring activities, and Planning and construction of various fish passage improvements as identified in existing stakeholder agreement. • Continue fisheries monitoring program. • Continue to support an adaptive management program that encompasses all three creeks. 	SPOC
CLIMATE CHANGE “Mitigate Carbon Emissions and Adapt Valley Water Operations to Climate Change Impacts.”	<p><u>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</u> Valley Water’s ability to fulfill its mission will be challenged in the future by warmer temperatures, changing precipitation patterns, reduced snowpack, and rising sea levels. Valley Water has been working on greenhouse reduction efforts since 2008 and many adaptation actions over the past decade; however, with adoption of the Climate Change Action Plan there is an opportunity for greater impact.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update carbon accounting and establish new emissions reduction goal if needed. • Make significant progress on development of an agency-wide greenhouse gas reduction plan. 	Climate Adaptation and Sustainability Committee (CAaSC)
BUSINESS MANAGEMENT “Promote effective management of water supply, flood protection, and environmental stewardship through responsive and socially responsible business services.”	<p><u>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</u> Valley Water is committed to creating and maintaining a diverse, inclusive, and equitable work environment that is devoid of discrimination and harassment and provides equal opportunity employment and advancement. Valley Water aims to implement the same values in the community through its flood protection, water supply, and environmental stewardship projects, and has an opportunity to serve as a leader for racial equity, diversity, and inclusion throughout the state.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Master Plan that institutes best practices to address internal and external disparities and builds an organizational culture that is 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, national origin, religion, gender identity, disability status, tribe, culture, income, immigration status, or English language proficiency, with respect to the planning, projects, policies, services, and operations of Valley Water. 	Diversity & Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee (DIAHC)

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to collaborate with external stakeholders that are engaged in developing diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives and actively participate in and provide leadership for diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts throughout the state.• Advance and foster mutually beneficial partnerships with regional tribal communities.	
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