

November 18, 2021

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 Keegan
Director Linda J. LeZotte, Committee Chair

Staff Support of the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee:

Rick 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
Anthony Fulcher, Senior Assistant District Counsel
Gregory Williams, Deputy Operating Officer, Raw Water Division
Vincent Gin, Deputy Operating Officer, Water Supply Division
Bhavani Yerrapotu, 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, Water Supply Division
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, November 22, 2021, 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> or <https://www.valleywater.org/sites/default/files/WCaDMC-Agenda-11222021.pdf>.



November 22, 2021, Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://valleywater.zoom.us/s/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, November 22, 2021
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 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
(Staff Liaison)

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

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

Santa Clara Valley Water District
Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee

REGULAR MEETING
AGENDA

Monday, November 22, 2021

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.

[21-1225](#)

Recommendation: Approve the October 25, 2021, Meeting Minutes

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

Attachments: [Attachment 1: 10252021 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. [21-1226](#)
- 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 Presentaton](#)
[Attachment 2: Drought Response Report](#)
- Est. Staff Time: 15 Minutes
- 4.2. Overview of the North San Benito Groundwater Sustainability Plan. [21-1227](#)
- Recommendation: A. Receive an update on the North San Benito Groundwater Sustainability Plan; and
B. Recommend bringing the plan to the December 14, 2021, Board of Directors meeting for public hearing and plan adoption.
- Manager: Gregory Williams, 408-630-2867
- Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint Presentation](#)
- Est. Staff Time: 15 Minutes
- 4.3. Zone of Controlled Drinking Water Well Construction for the Purified Water Project. [21-1228](#)
- Recommendation: Receive information on the zone of controlled drinking water well construction required by state regulations for Valley Water's purified water project at the Los Gatos Recharge System.
- Manager: Gregory Williams, 408-630-2867
- Attachments: [Attachment 1: Proposed Zones of Controlled Drinking Water Well](#)
[Attachment 2: Resolution 18-04](#)
[Attachment 3: Powerpoint](#)
- Est. Staff Time: 15 Minutes

4.4. Standing Items Report. [21-1229](#)

- Recommendation: A. This agenda item allows the Committee to receive verbal or written updates and discuss the following 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 11/22/2021, meeting if there is reportable/updated information.*
1. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)
(Separate agenda item 11/22/2021)
 2. Flood MAR and Agricultural 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. [21-1231](#)

- 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: WCaDMC Work Plan](#)
Est. Staff Time: 5 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, December 27, 2021.



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 21-1225

Agenda Date: 11/22/2021

Item No.: 3.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee

SUBJECT:

Approval of Minutes.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the October 25, 2021, 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: 10252021 WCaDMC Draft Minutes

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193



WATER CONSERVATION AND DEMAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2021
11:00 AM**

A regular scheduled meeting of the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee was held on October 25, 2021, via zoom in San Jose, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Committee Chair Director Linda J. LeZotte called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

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).

Staff members in attendance were: Joseph Aranda, Aaron Baker, Ricardo Barajas, Roseryn Bhudsabourg, Neeta Bijoor, Glenna Brambill, Justin Burks, Theresa Chinte, Vanessa De La Piedra, Phil Dolan, Melissa Fels, Paola Giles, Vincent Gin, Alexander Gordon, Andy Gschwind, Jason Gurdak, Linh Hoang, Katrina Holden, Candice Kwok-Smith, Carlos Orellana, Metra Richert, Don Rocha, Mary Samar, Ashley Shannon, Nice Simard, Sherilyn Tran, Kirsten Struve, Toni Vye, and Jing Wu.

Guest Agencies in attendance were: Michael Bolzowski (California Water Service Company), Clint Byrum and Anthony Eulo (City of Morgan Hill), Anona L. Dutton and Kate Wuelfing (EKI Environment and Water, Inc.- Contractors), Tim Guster (Great Oaks Water Company), Jessie Maxfield (CA Depart of Fish and Wildlife-CDFW), John Tang (San Jose Water Company) and Martha Wien (County DEH).

Public in attendance were: Hon. Jim Beall, Nicole Harvie, Brian Manning, Doug Muirhead, and Esther.

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 Nai Hsueh, seconded by Director Barbara Keegan, and carried by unanimous vote, to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2021, 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 and Ms. Linh Hoang reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

Neeta gave a special verbal report on the following:

These efforts at Valley Water can help promote water wise requirements in new developments:

- ✚ First, Valley Water is encouraging jurisdictions to adopt the Model Ordinance for New Development, also called MWENDO, which provides water-efficiency requirements for new developments.
- ✚ Valley Water staff is timing the rollout of the MWENDO to coincide with the municipal Title 24 triennial building code update beginning this winter 2021 through February 2022.
- ✚ The 2022 version of Title 24 is now under development and expected to become effective on January 1, 2023, after a codification and publication period, which will run from February 2022 to July 2022. The publication date will be July 1, 2022.
- ✚ As mentioned, the MWENDO adoption advocacy was initiated at Valley Water's 2021 Drought Summit on Saturday (October 23, 2021).
- ✚ Next, Valley Water is working on the strategy to engage land use agencies on how to better integrate water management into land use planning including adding water wise features to new developments.
- ✚ The plan is to have annual 1:1 meetings with major cities and build relationships. The meetings will start early next year and are expected to be ongoing. Meetings with cities at the senior staff level are expected to occur from February to June next year, with follow-up actions thereafter.
- ✚ In addition, Valley Water comments on environmental review documents for large developments, for example the Water Supply Assessment for the Google development in San Jose and the Notice of Preparation for Cambrian Park Plaza.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee discussed the following: flow restrictors, City of San José Ordinance, drought tolerant landscaping/plants selections, City of San José usage/boundaries, consistent messaging is needed, Planning Commissions/Trades, Model Ordinance-large projects-water wise (potential work plan addition), Proposition 218 test, and aggregate water usage.

Mr. Tim Guster, Mr. Don Rocha, Director Nai Hsueh, Mr. Anthony Eulo, Ms. Ashley Shannon, Mr. Vincent Gin, Ms. Kirsten Struve, Ms. Metra Richert, and Mr. John Tang were available to answer questions.

Public Comments received:

Mr. Doug Muirhead commented on allocations fees, penalties and industrial utilities, Urban Water Management Plan and City of Morgan Hill is discussing wastewater plans at the end of the year. Suggested Valley Water track what agencies are doing regarding wastewater issues.

Mr. Anthony Eulo commented on reaching out to the Trades, requiring dual plumbing it may cost more but sustainable idea for new developments-housing growth.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

The Committee thanked staff for the work they did with the drought summit on Saturday, October 23rd (well attended, great response and feedback from the participants).

4.2 2021 WATER CONSERVATION STRATEGIC PLAN

Mr. Justin Burks reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee discussed the following: obstacles faced by lower income communities with landscape designs, offering classes for under-represented communities would be a great outreach tool, lawn buster budget increase, county programs as resources (home composting education program and Master Gardeners), and landscaping for small site customers (commercial strip malls) possibly finding organizations to inform them about water conservation.

Ms. Kat Wuelfing (EKI Environment and Water, Inc.- Contractors) was available to answer questions.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

4.3 2021 GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE (ALTERNATIVE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT PLAN)

Mr. Jason Gurdak reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee discussed the following: modified outcome measures on bar chart, slide #7.

Public Comment Received:

Mr. Doug Muirhead is concerned about the shallow wells in the un-incorporated areas, stakeholders input process to include those living on top of the basin being able to give input, the framework is missing or needs a gate that corresponds to the urgency of the undesirable conditions and wanting to see action moving forward.

Ms. Vanessa De La Piedra was available to answer questions.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

4.4 STANDING ITEMS REPORT

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

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

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

Ms. Glenna Brambill and Mr. Vincent Gin reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

Agenda Items for next meeting: Monthly Drought updates.

Work Plan additions: outreach messaging for water-wise concerns and review major developments within the county and working on contacting the Building Trades and Planning Commissions on adopting the Model Ordinances.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, November 22, 2021, 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 recognized Hon. Jim Beall and adjourned at 12:55 p.m., to the next regularly scheduled meeting Monday, November 22, 2021, 11:00 a.m.

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

Approved:



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 21-1226

Agenda Date: 11/22/2021

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 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.

The U.S. Drought Monitor Report from November 2, 2021, indicates that the majority of the County is in extreme drought, and the northeastern portion of the County is in exceptional drought. On August 30, 2021, statewide snowpack was 0% of average and the Sierra Nevada snowpack, a primary source of imported water, was at 0% of average. The latest snowpack data will be reported once available.

Reflecting critically dry conditions across the state, the Central Valley Project and State Water Project have drastically reduced imported water allocations, which comprise half of Valley Water's typical annual water supply. Valley Water has been negotiating purchases of emergency transfer water supplies; however, potential state regulatory actions continue to pose significant uncertainty to water transfers. An additional Central Valley Project Municipal and Industrial Public Health and Safety increment of 28,500 AF is to be delivered during the second half of 2021. To date in 2021, Valley Water has secured agreements for about 58,000 AF of transfer supplies (not taking into account conveyance losses across the Delta).

Furthermore, Valley Water is impacted by the unavailability of Anderson Reservoir as a surface water storage facility for the duration of the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project, which is expected to last 10 years. The loss of Anderson, lower imported water supplies, and uncertainty over emergency water transfers could result in rapid and significant drops in our groundwater levels and resulting in the potential for subsidence and dry wells. In South County, groundwater is the only drinking water

supply.

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

Water Conservation Outreach

Valley Water's multilingual water conservation campaign continues to promote water conservation as a way of life, being drought-ready, and Valley Water's many conservation programs. The campaign includes ads on TV, radio, online, social media and print.

Media interest continues to be high for drought and water-conservation content. Requests come in frequently for information and interviews. Valley Water continues to generate drought and water conservation awareness through proactive media outreach. The second half of October saw rain across the Bay Area and Santa Clara County. While the rain is good for the drought conditions, the drought emergency has not ended. Several messages, including a statement from Chair Estremera and other social media posts, included a call to shut off outdoor irrigation and continue to conserve. Valley Water participated in Imagine a Day Without Water 2021 on October 21, 2021 by posting messages, graphics and videos, including a statement from Chair Estremera, on social media platforms. The nationwide education campaign is designed to help raise awareness and educate America about the value of water. Outreach for the drought and conservation Speakers Bureau was increased on social media, including Nextdoor.

On Saturday, October 23, Valley Water convened a diverse cross-section of elected officials and stakeholders such as business leaders, water retailers, and environmental advocates from throughout Silicon Valley to engage in a working session at the Valley Water Drought Summit 2021 to discuss ways to address the drought together. The virtual Summit offered an opportunity for Valley Water subject matter experts to share community feedback and insights, water supply projections, and information on water conservation tools and resources with our stakeholders that we can use to lead our communities through this drought emergency.

Water Conservation Programs

Valley Water has received a significant increase in applications for our landscape rebates, requests for water-saving devices, and reports of water waste in 2021. In October, Valley Water received 268 applications for the Landscape Rebate Program, 175 orders for water-efficient devices from our website, and 163 water waste reports. These are signs that people are taking this drought seriously and are taking actions to support water use reduction. Valley Water's website and rebate application have been updated to inform applicants of a backlog in application processing. An auto-reply describing the backlog is being sent for email inquiries. Onsite pre-inspection processes have been expanded to include expedited options through Google Earth or self-guided measurements. Valley Water is working to bring on a vendor as soon as possible to mitigate and eliminate the backlog of field work. A vendor, AdMail, began processing orders on November 1, 2021 to assist in mitigating and eliminating eCart backlog.

Countywide Water Use Reduction

Valley Water is engaging with retailers and cities to encourage drought response actions. As of October 31, 2021, the County of Santa Clara and 12 cities in Santa Clara County have taken action to their Councils or have implemented administrative measures in response to the extreme drought conditions and to Valley Water's call to reduce water use by 15% compared to 2019 levels. In March 2021, water use in Santa Clara County was 25% higher when compared to March 2019. In September 2021, Santa Clara County used 7% less water compared to September 2019. San Jose saw no rain in September 2021, which can result in an increase in water use. During the last drought, it took nine months before the mandatory reduction in water use was first reached. Valley Water does not expect the percentage of water savings to be a straight line due to seasonal fluctuations. Staff is increasing media outreach encouraging residents, businesses, farms, and others to save water.

Staff will also provide a description of the California Green Building Standards Code (CalGreen). The code sets minimum requirements for sustainable practices for residential and commercial construction projects and addresses incorporation of water wise features in new development.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

Attachment 2: October 2021 Drought Response Report

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Kirsten Struve, 408-630-3138



Monthly Drought Emergency Response and Water Supply Update

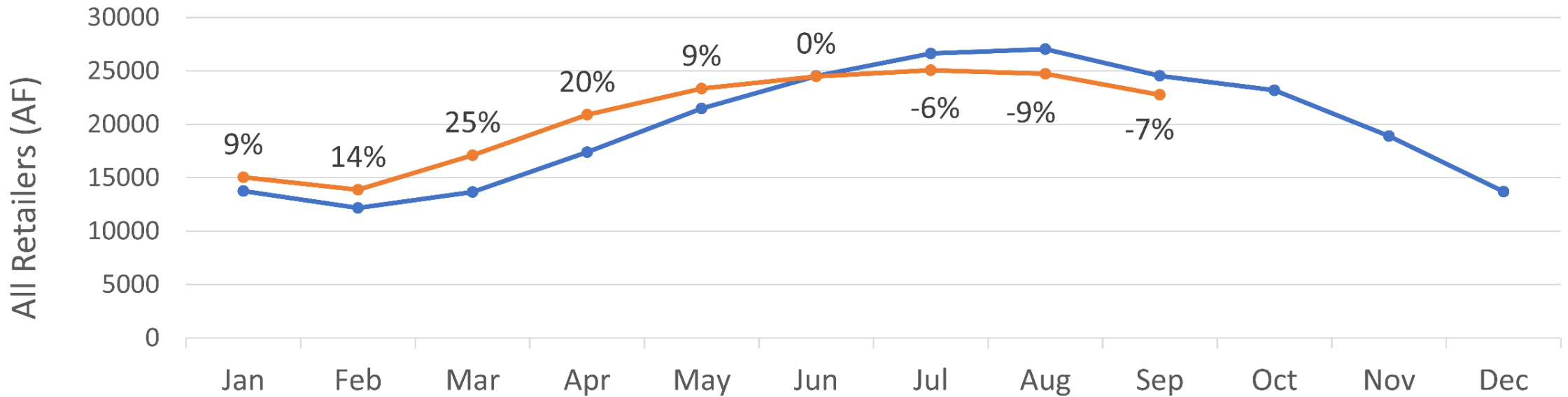
Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee
November 22, 2021

Retailer water use compared to 2019

2

—●— 2019 —●— 2021

The percent increase (+) or percent decrease (-) in water use from 2019 to 2021 is shown for each month.



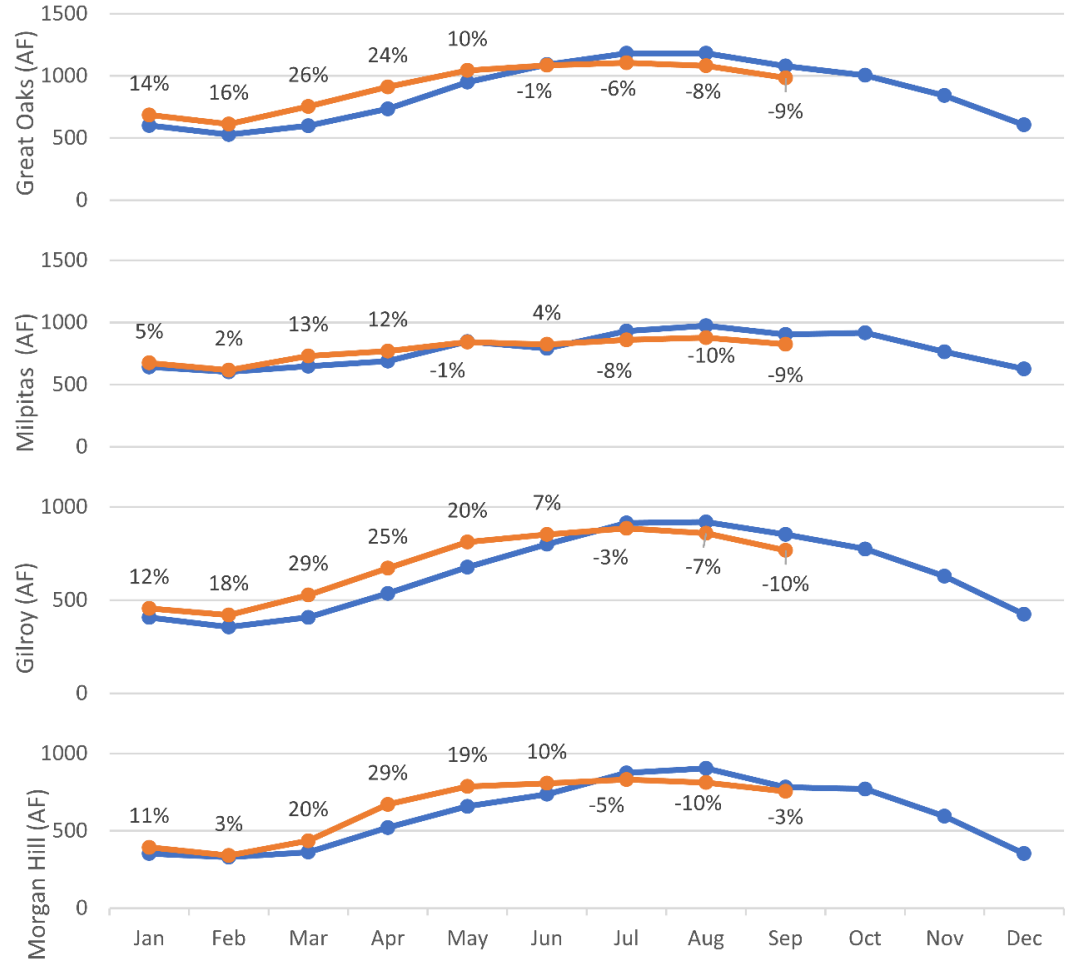
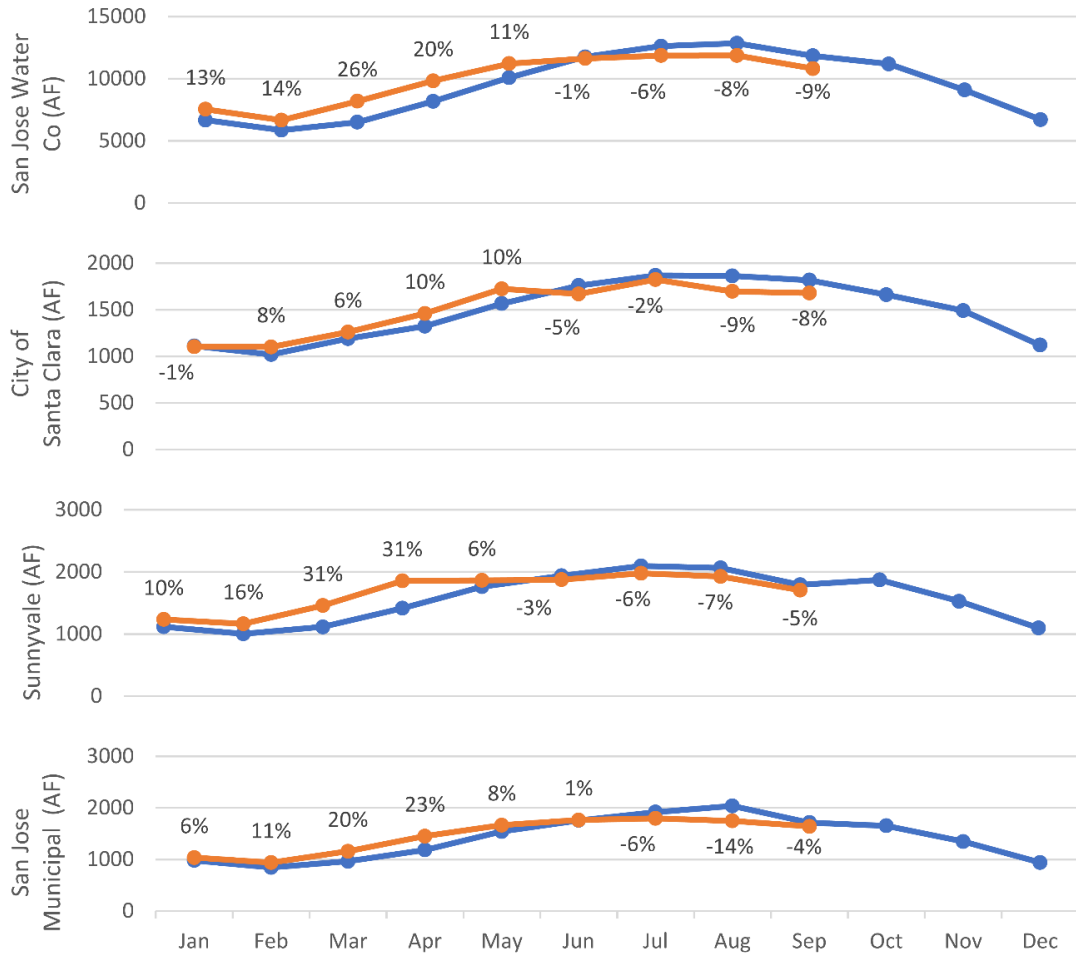
valleywater.org

Retailer Progress in Water Use Reduction

3

— 2019 — 2021

The percent increase (+) or percent decrease (-) in water use from 2019 to 2021 is shown for each month.

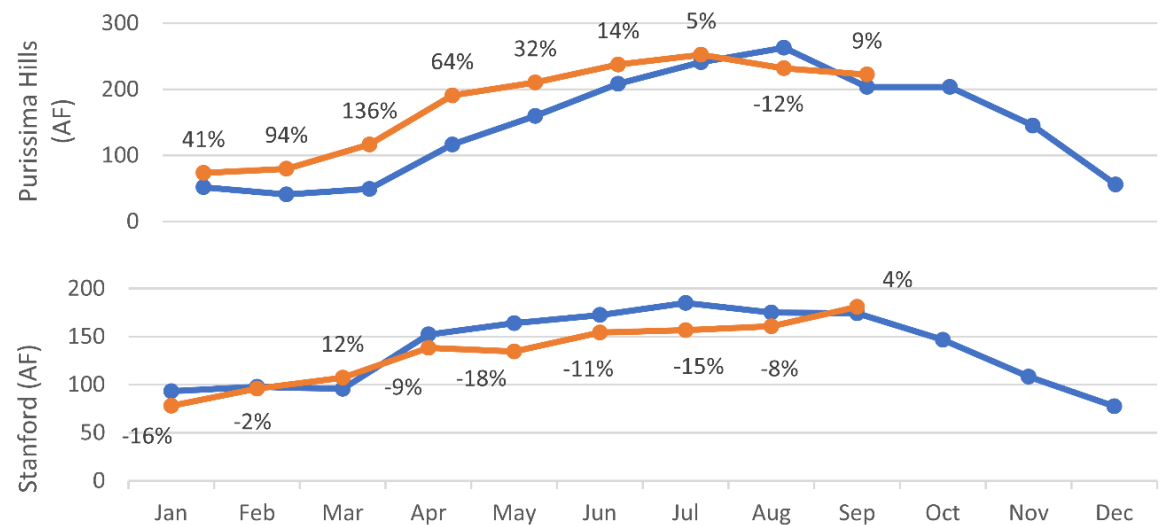
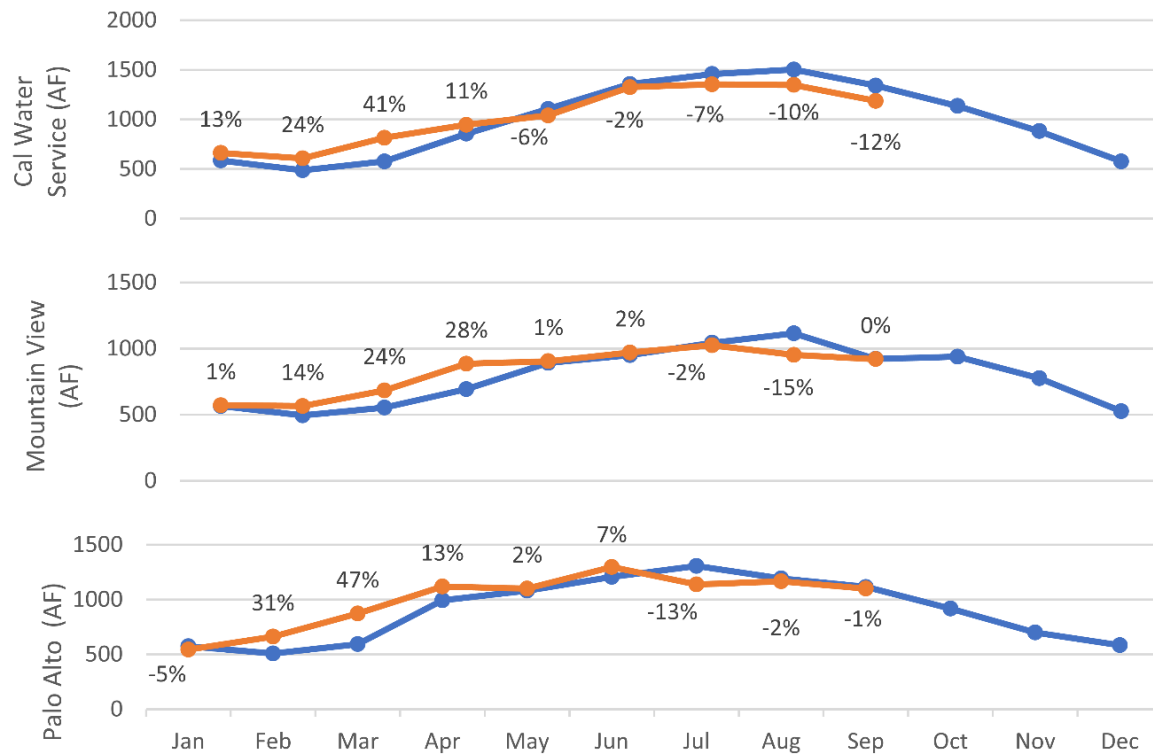


valleywater.org

Retailer Progress in Water Use Reduction (cont'd)



The percent increase (+) or percent decrease (-) in water use from 2019 to 2021 is shown for each month.



Drought and Conservation Public Outreach

Multilingual digital, print, TV, radio, videos

Media outreach

Social media campaigns

Speakers Bureau outreach

Water Ambassadors

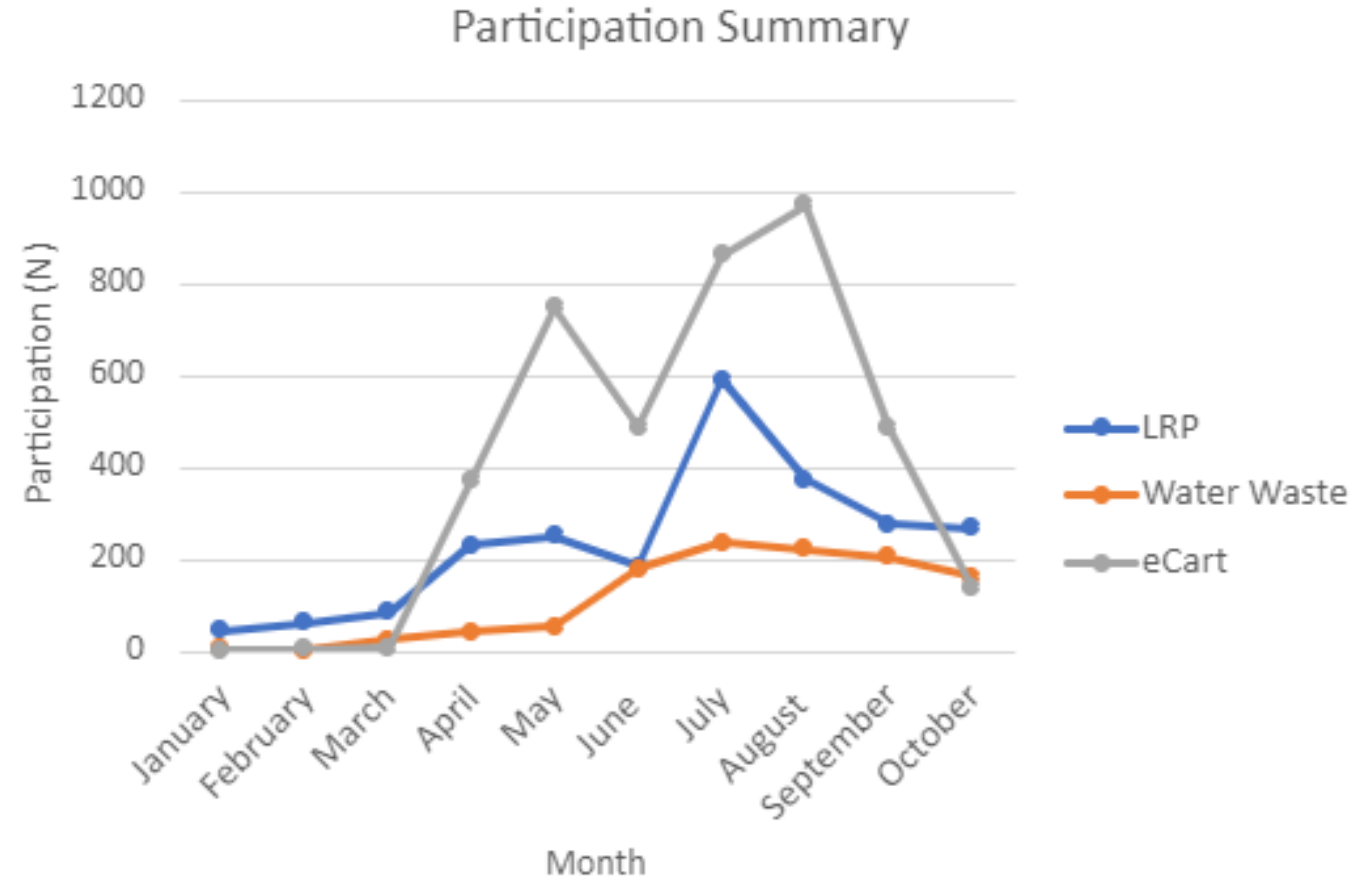
Education



Water Conservation Programs

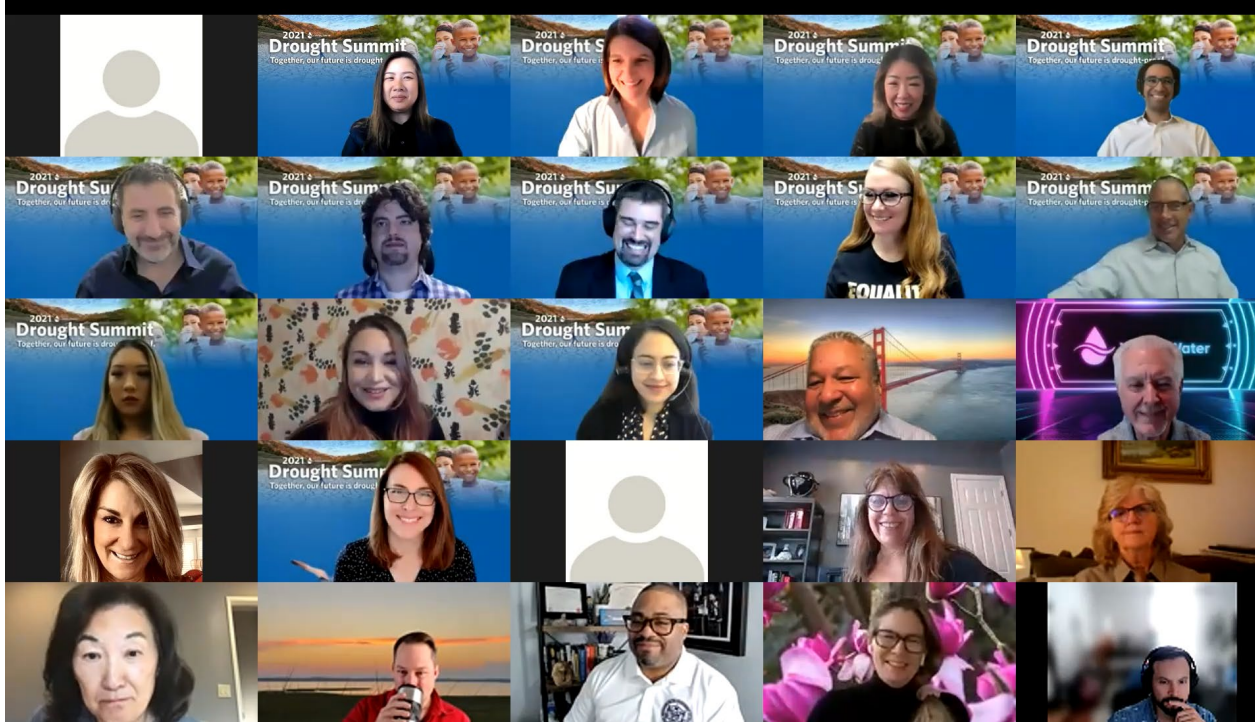


- Increased Participation
- FT Recruitments Completed
- eCart vendor begins shipping orders November 1st



Drought Summit

7



"Together, Our Future is Drought Proof"

Convened elected officials, community leaders to discuss ways to address drought together

Presentations on water supply, conservation tools and resources, community insights

Small group breakout sessions

valleywater.org

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Drought Emergency Response Report

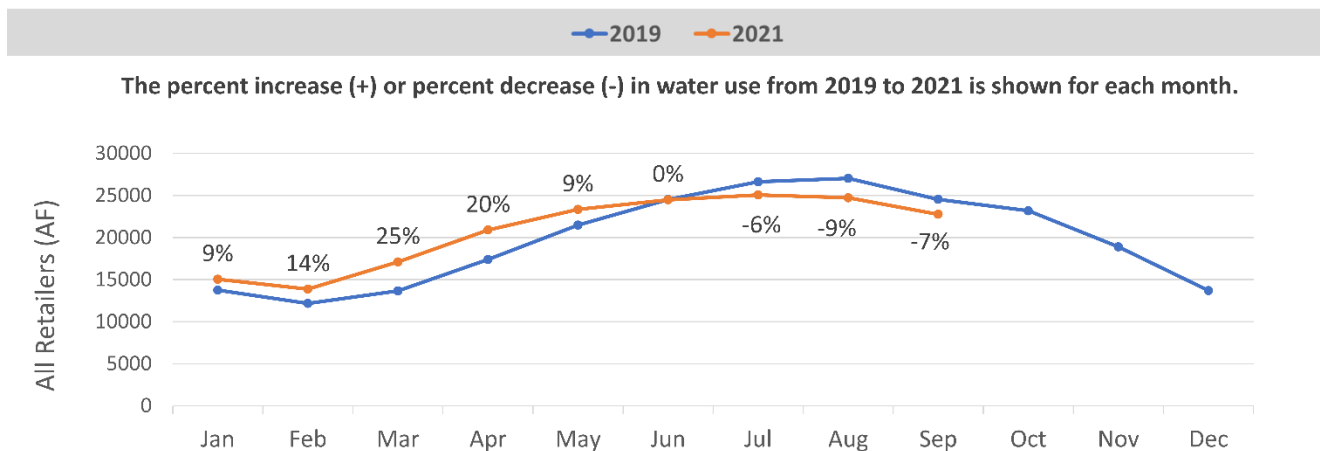
OCTOBER 2021

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 restrictions 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.



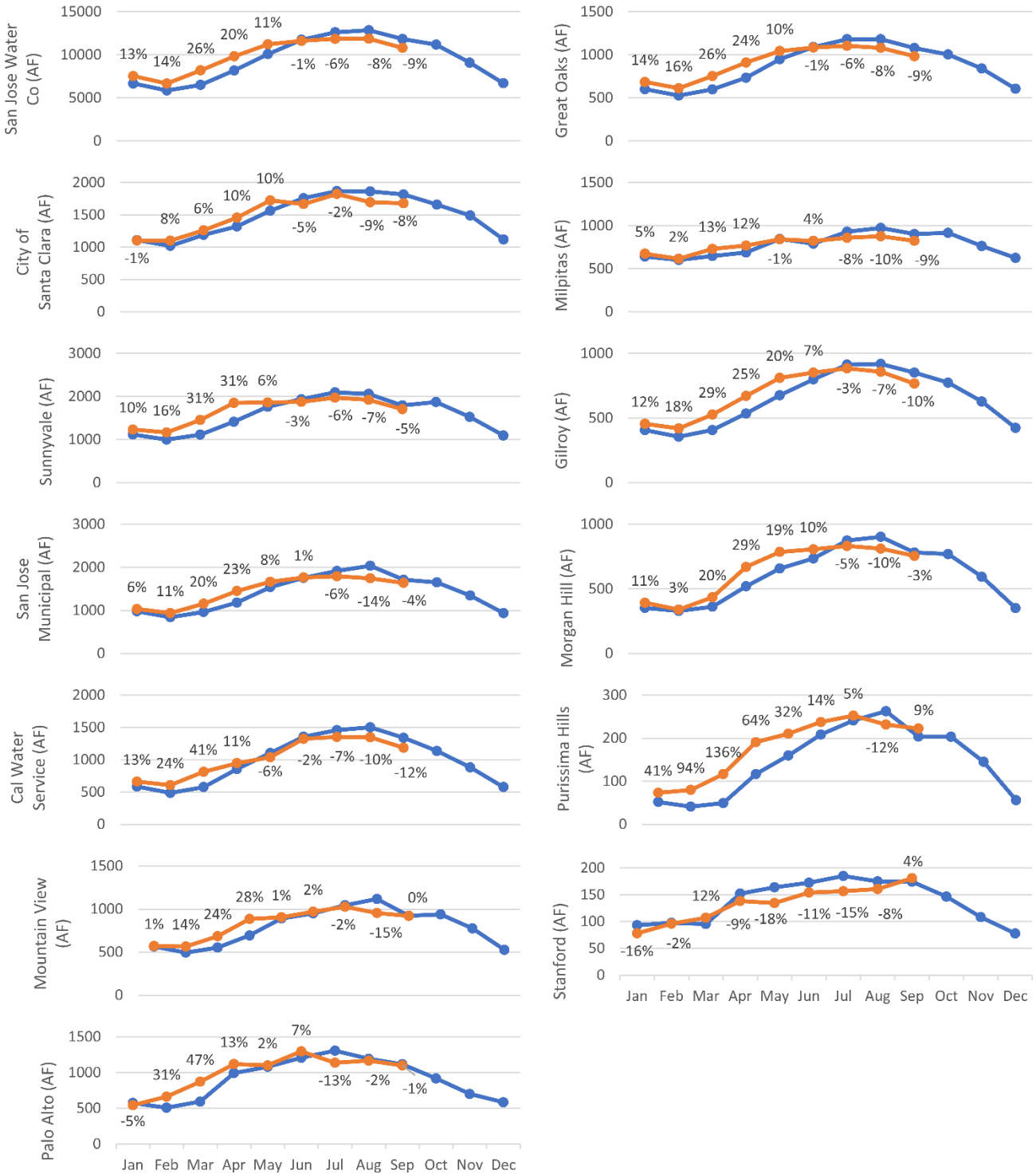
- Valley Water’s retailers used 7% less water in September 2021 compared to September 2019.
- While we need to reach the 15% water use reduction as soon as possible, we do not expect it to be a straight line due to seasonal fluctuations.
- During the last drought, it took nine months before the mandatory reduction in water use was first reached.
- San Jose saw no rain in September, which can result in an increase in water use.
- Staff is increasing our media outreach encouraging residents, businesses, farms, and others to save water.

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.

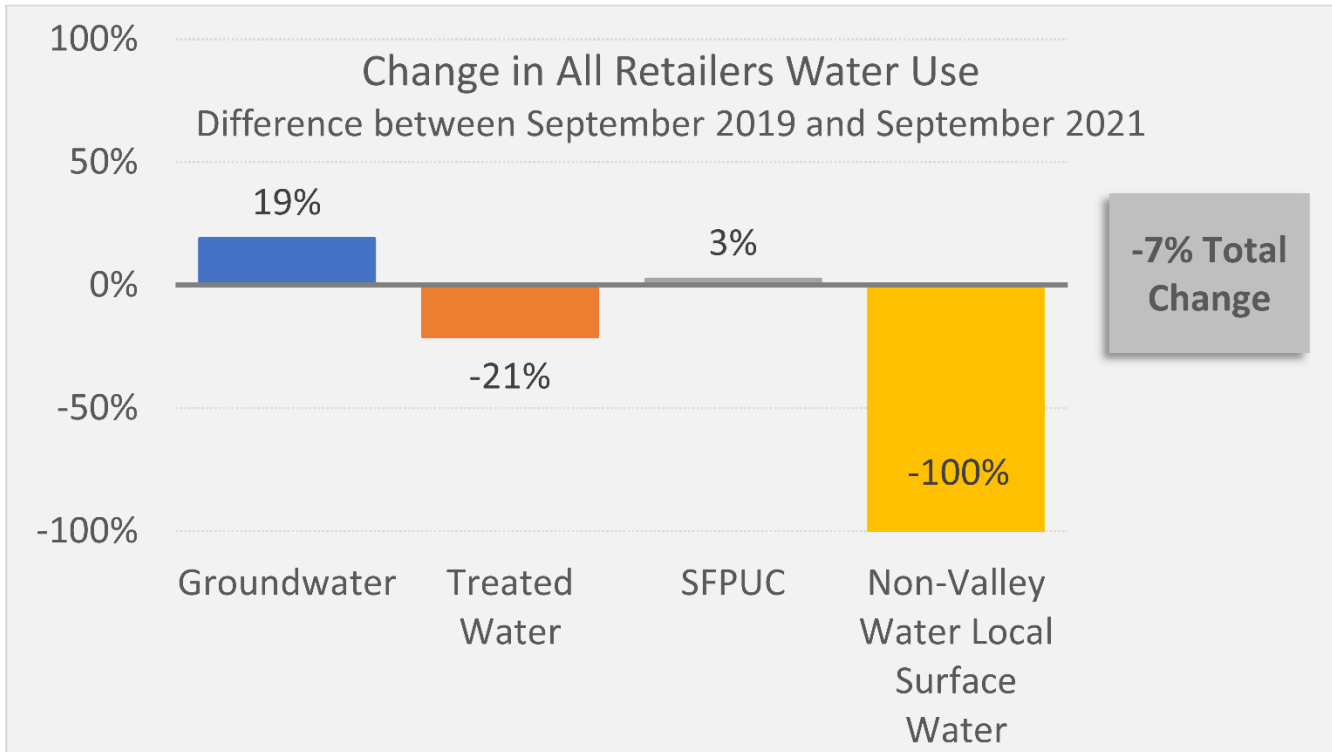
Monthly Water Use by Retailer (AF)

— 2019 — 2021

The percent increase (+) or percent decrease (-) in water use from 2019 to 2021 is shown for each month.



The graph below depicts changes between the retailers' different types of water use and shows that Valley Water retailers' total water use in September 2021 was 7% lower than in September 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 - Sep 2019)					Total Water Use in Acre-Feet (Jan - Sep 2021)				
	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	21,780	49,757	-	14,832	86,369	42,522	46,296	-	795	89,613
Santa Clara, City	7,462	3,518	2,538	-	13,518	7,834	2,860	2,827	-	13,521
Sunnyvale	73	6,031	8,192	-	14,297	96	7,081	7,886	-	15,062
San Jose Municipal Water	719	8,576	3,639	-	12,934	784	8,900	3,506	-	13,190
California Water Service	1,889	7,378	-	-	9,267	3,234	6,046	-	-	9,280
Palo Alto	-	-	8,572	-	8,572	-	-	8,999	-	8,999
Mountain View	186	776	6,270	-	7,231	104	731	6,644	-	7,479
Great Oaks	7,941	-	-	-	7,941	8,258	-	-	-	8,258
Milpitas	-	2,381	4,643	-	7,024	-	2,645	4,372	-	7,017
Gilroy	5,865	-	-	-	5,865	6,247	-	-	-	6,247
Morgan Hill	5,518	-	-	-	5,518	5,830	-	-	-	5,830
Purissima Hills Water	-	-	1,335	-	1,335	-	-	1,616	-	1,616
Stanford	-	-	1,310	-	1,310	-	-	1,207	-	1,207
Total	51,433	78,416	36,499	14,832	181,180	74,907	74,559	37,056	795	187,317

Collaboration with the County, Retailers, and Cities

- As of October 31, 2021, the County of Santa Clara and 12 cities in Santa Clara County have taken action to their Councils or have implemented administrative measures in response to the extreme drought conditions and to Valley Water's call to reduce water use by 15% compared to 2019 levels. These actions ranged from adopting local emergency resolutions to encouraging residents and businesses to use less water through ceremonial drought awareness proclamations and social media campaigns, as well as providing information on Valley Water's water conservation rebates and programs on cities' websites. Many jurisdictions also activated their citywide Water Shortage Contingency Plans to immediately implement mandatory water-use restrictions or implemented other conservation measures through operational means to meet Valley Water's water use reduction goal.
- Valley Water continues to meet with retailers at numerous Subcommittee meetings to provide drought updates, track progress towards drought response efforts, and ensure consistent messaging. Valley Water has also initiated a monthly Ad Hoc Retailer Drought Subcommittee, and a monthly Subcommittee meeting for drought-related operational updates.
- On October 23, 2021, Valley Water virtually convened the Valley Water Drought Summit 2021 as an opportunity for experts to share community feedback and insights, water supply projections, and information on water conservation tools and resources with stakeholders in order to help lead communities through the drought emergency. The Drought Summit incorporated interactive break-out sessions and participants highlighted the following takeaways and goals from their small group discussions: unify stakeholder drought response messaging, strengthen partnerships and education, explore tailored drought response approaches to jurisdictions, highlight successful cases to serve as regional models, and partner with Valley Water to implement the Model Water Efficient New Development Ordinance (MWENDO). The Summit is described in further detail in Appendix A.

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 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 has received a significant increase in applications for our landscape rebates, requests for water-saving devices, and reports of water waste in 2021. The table below shows monthly participation data available from 2021. In October, Valley Water received 268 applications for the Landscape Rebate Program, 175 orders for water-efficient devices from our website, and 163 water waste reports. These are signs that people are taking this drought seriously and are taking actions to support water use reduction.
- Valley Water's website and rebate application have been updated to inform applicants of a backlog in application processing. An auto-reply describing the backlog is being sent for email inquiries.
- Onsite pre-inspection processes have been expanded to include expedited options through Google Earth or self-guided measurements.
- Procurement and Conservation continue to collaborate to bring on a vendor as soon as possible to mitigate and eliminate the backlog of field work.
- A vendor, AdMail, began processing orders on November 1, 2021 and to assist in mitigating and eliminating eCart backlog.

Program	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Total
Landscape Rebate Program Applications¹	47	64	87	233	252	185	592	376	278	268	2,382
Water-saving Device Orders²	2	7	9	372	748	488	865	974	485	175	4,125
Water Waste Reports	5	4	26	42	53	180	238	223	206	163	1,140

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.

²The eCart Program, launched in April, led to an increase in conservation device orders.

Drought and Water Conservation Outreach

Valley Water’s multilingual water conservation campaign promotes water conservation as a way of life, being drought-ready, and Valley Water’s many conservation programs. The campaign includes ads on TV, radio, online, social media and print.

- In October, media interest continues to be high for drought and water-conservation content. Requests come in frequently for information and interviews. Valley Water continues to generate drought and water conservation awareness through proactive media outreach.
- The second half of October saw significant rain across the Bay Area and Santa Clara County. While the rain is good for the drought conditions, the drought emergency has not ended. Several messages, including a statement from Chair Estremera and other social media posts, included a call to shut off outdoor irrigation and continue to conserve.
- Valley Water participated in Imagine a Day Without Water 2021 on October 21, 2021 by posting messages, graphics and videos, including a statement from Chair Estremera, on social media platforms. The nationwide education campaign is designed to help raise awareness and educate America about the value of water.
- Outreach for the drought and conservation Speakers Bureau was increased on social media, including Nextdoor.
- Statistics for public outreach efforts are shown below.

Outreach Type	Oct 2021
Social Media¹	
Impressions ²	2,987,051
Engagements ³	33,191
Link Clicks	7,946
Video Views	507,920
Website Page Views	
Water conservation webpages	93,870
BeHeard.ValleyWater.org/drought-information	675
Media	
Media Mentions ⁴	598
Speakers Bureau	
Presentations ⁵	4

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 October, the Education Outreach team reached 586 students through 24 virtual classroom presentations. The team also supported 24 educators through classroom programs. The team engaged 165 members of the public through four “Wonders of Water Wednesdays” after-school enrichment programs and one public library program. All programs contain drought and water conservation messaging.
- The table below shows participation rates in the education programs in 2021. Participation tends to be higher when school is in session.

Program	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct
Educators/Teachers	52	19	93	8	20	24
Classes/Groups	58	18	27	8	11	24
Students	1,483	415	499	99	292	586

- Additionally, in October, Valley Water’s Water Ambassadors assisted in completing 200 Do-It-Yourself Water Wise Indoor Survey Kits to help support our Conservation team. One of our Water Ambassadors wrote an opinion piece that was featured in the Almaden Times (October 15 – 28, 2021) on the need for conservation. More Water Ambassadors have expressed similar interests in writing for their local papers and staff is working with them on those efforts.

Committee Updates

- Drought-related updates are being provided regularly at Committee meetings to receive feedback and guidance. These updates were provided to the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee on October 4, 2021, Environmental and Water Resources Committee on October 18, 2021, Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee on October 25, 2021, and to the Santa Clara Valley Water Commission on October 27, 2021.

Water Supply Operations and Outlook

Following rainfall in October 2021, especially during the atmospheric river during October 22-24 timeframe, there was a slight increase in local reservoir storage. Between October 14 and October 27, 2021, local storage in Valley Water's 10 reservoirs increased by 0.6%. Local reservoir storage was 11.7% of capacity on October 27, 2021.

Imported Water

- State Water Project (SWP) and Central Valley Project (CVP) allocations have remained stable at the following:
 - SWP – 5%
 - CVP Agricultural - 0%
 - CVP Municipal and Industrial (M&I) – 25%
- Additional CVP M&I Public Health and Safety increment of 28,500 AF is to be delivered during the second half of 2021.
- As of the end of October, total storage in San Luis Reservoir is approximately 200,000 AF. Valley Water continues to closely monitor the water quality at the reservoir and will adjust the treatment process as needed to mitigate water quality impacts.
- There were slight increases in State reservoir volumes as a result of precipitation events between October 19, 2021 and October 27, 2021. As a result, Shasta Reservoir's percentage of capacity filled increased from 21% to 22%, Oroville Reservoir's percentage of capacity filled increased from 22% to 27%, and San Luis Reservoir percentage of capacity filled increased from 10% to 11%.
- To date in 2021, Valley Water has secured agreements for about 58,000 AF of emergency transfer supplies, before taking into account conveyance losses across the Delta.
- In addition, recovery of Valley Water's supplies at the Semitropic Groundwater Storage Bank continue as scheduled with Valley Water regularly coordinating with DWR to secure reliable delivery of this supply, about 35,000 AF, in 2021. Valley Water is coordinating with DWR and other Semitropic banking partners on delivery of Valley Water's banked water next year if 2022 is a dry year.

Treated Water

- Due to the ongoing drought, San Luis Reservoir continued to remain at a low level. Cyanotoxins levels at the reservoir remained low in the month of October, while taste and odor causing compounds levels were elevated.
- Staff continued to carry out proactive process optimization at the affected treatment plants and there were no reports of treated water quality issues in October 2021.
- All other treated water quality parameters continued to be within acceptable ranges.
- To encourage less groundwater pumping and offset groundwater usage with that of surface water; the treated water contract delivery schedule amounts for the months of October, November, and December have been increased by 10%.

Groundwater Recharge

- Releases for managed groundwater recharge have been higher during August-October timeframe relative to May-July 2021. Valley Water increased the recharge in the Los Gatos Ponds System and parts of the Guadalupe Ponds System, as well as to Coyote Creek downstream of Anderson Reservoir.
- The increase in imported water releases was possible due to additional Public Health and Safety supplies received this year. Despite the increased groundwater recharge in the last three months, we are still below normal recharge levels for an average year.

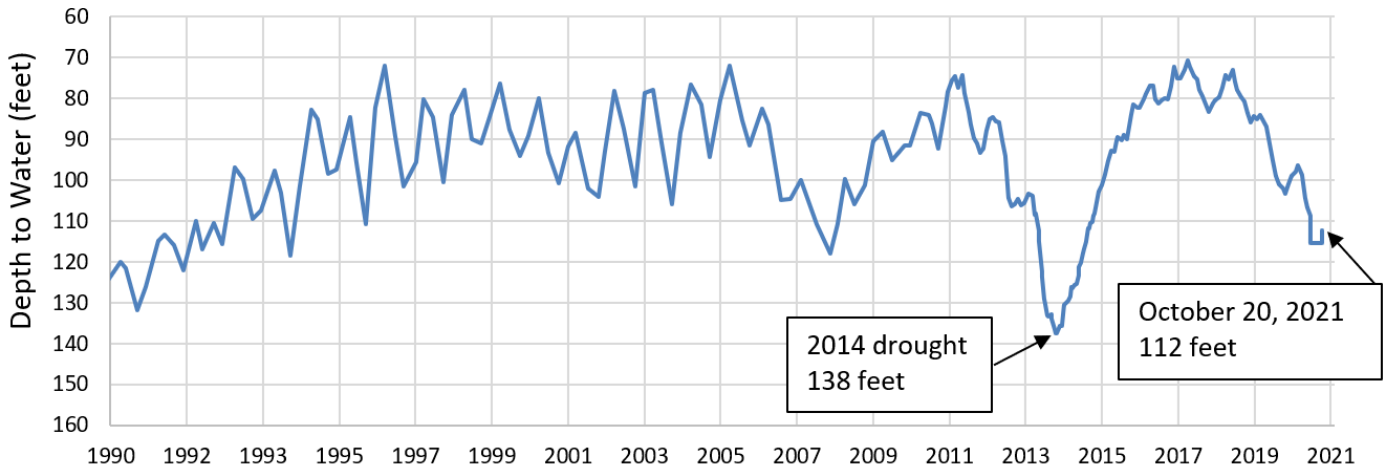
Groundwater Conditions:

- Since last month, groundwater levels have continued to decline in some parts of the county, while they have stabilized or increased in other areas of the county. Emergency imported water supplies and additional water use reduction by the community have begun to help slow groundwater level declines. However, projected 2022 groundwater storage is similar to what was observed in 2014, which would increase the risk in 2022 of resumed subsidence in North County and wells going dry, particularly in South County. Current conditions in both areas are described below.
- North County Conditions
 - Groundwater pumping is 128% of the five-year average.
 - As shown below, groundwater levels in the Santa Clara Plain index well have declined over recent months, with a similar pattern as the 2012–2016 drought. However, the current water level has increased by four

feet since last month and is about 26 feet above the minimum water level in 2014. The water level at this well has dropped about 9 feet compared to this time last year.

- Groundwater levels are more than 55 to 100 feet above thresholds established to minimize the risk of permanent subsidence.
- No reports of dry wells have been received.

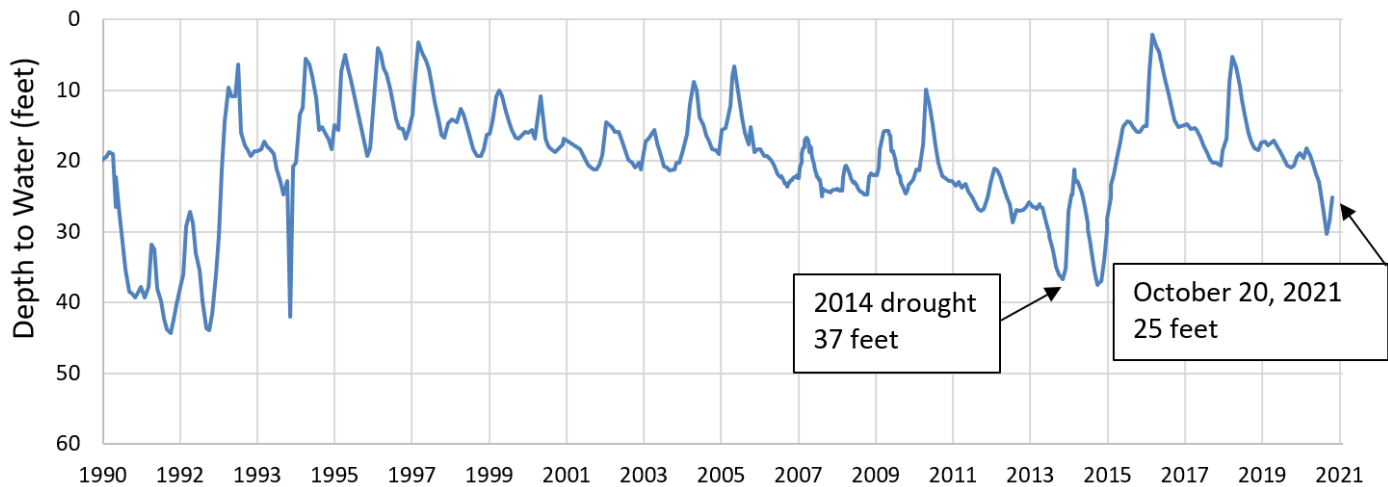
Santa Clara Plain Index Well



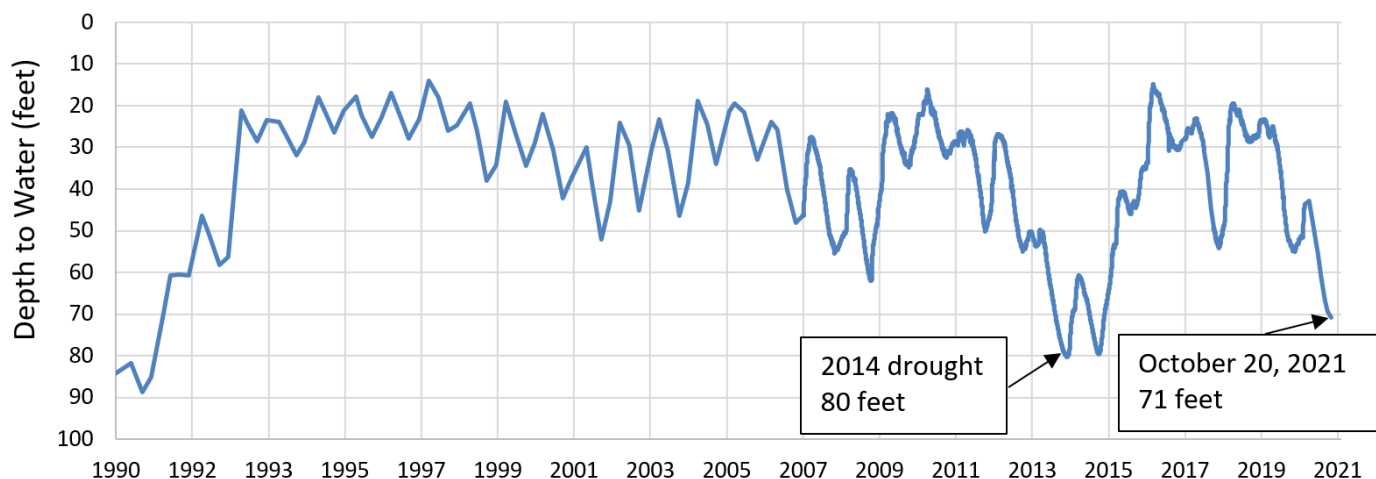
• South County Conditions

- Groundwater pumping is 117% to 102% of the five-year average in the Coyote Valley and Llagas Subbasin, respectively.
- Groundwater levels in the Coyote Valley and Llagas Subbasin index wells have dropped about 5 to 16 feet, respectively, compared to this time last year. However, the Coyote Valley index well water levels have risen about three feet since last month. The current water level in the Coyote Valley and Llagas Subbasin index wells is about 12 and 9 feet above the respective minimum water levels in 2014.
- 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.

Coyote Valley Index Well



Llagas Subbasin Index Well



State Coordination

- The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) delivered on its promise to manage water right curtailments in real time, based on actual water availability in particular watersheds. As weather forecasts showed the advance of atmospheric river storms that swept through California on October 22 - 25, the State Water Board suspended many of the curtailments of water rights in the Delta watershed, including on the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers and their tributaries.
- Also included were water rights for the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project both in the Sacramento River watershed and in the “Legal Delta.” By suspending the curtailments, the State Water Board authorized diversions by water right holders. This benefits Valley Water through the increased storage of water in Lake Shasta and Lake Oroville which are sources of imported water supply for Santa Clara County.

Staffing and Resources

- Two new Public Information Representative II staff were hired for drought response activities.
- Conservation finished recruiting a Management Analyst who started on October 18, 2021 and two Water Conservation Specialists who will start November 1, 2021. Recruitments for temporary Water Conservation Specialists to further increase program support are underway.
- The eCart Program that distributes water-efficient gear and resources to the public has transitioned to the vendor, AdMail Express, Inc. The vendor will begin shipping orders November 1, 2021.
- The Conservation and Procurement teams continue their collaboration to advance a vendor for outdoor conservation field services.
- Drought emergency expenses are expenditures supplemental to the regular budget that would have been adopted had there been no drought. The only expense 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 September FY22 totaled approximately \$23.65 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, and labor expenses for staff time bringing together Valley Water’s drought response program.

Expanded Opportunities

Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study

Valley Water is conducting an Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study (Study), expected to be completed in 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 UC Merced team conducting the study has made progress using a remote-sensing based data approach to determine patterns in crop distribution and irrigation technology verification. Staff will be providing a project update to the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee at their November meeting.

Appendix A: Valley Water Drought Summit 2021 – Overview and Summary

Overview

- On Saturday, Oct. 23, Valley Water convened a diverse cross-section of elected officials, business leaders, water retailers, and environmental advocates from throughout Silicon Valley to engage in a working session at the Valley Water Drought Summit 2021 to discuss ways to address the drought together.
- The virtual Summit offered an opportunity for Valley Water subject matter experts to share community feedback and insights, water supply projections, and information on water conservation tools and resources with our stakeholders that we can use to lead our communities through this drought emergency.

Highlights

- Chair Estremera provided welcoming and opening comments that emphasized Valley Water’s commitment to partner with external partners on how they can take actions needed to help communities reduce water use, and help our region combat this drought emergency.
- The Chair introduced a pre-recorded video message by Ahmad Thomas, CEO of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group (SVLG). SVLG cosponsored the Summit, similar to their support of the previous 2015 Summit, and the CEO stated the importance of working together on solutions, including expanded conservation efforts and investments in technology, such as recycled and purified water as a truly drought-proof water supply.
- Chair Estremera then introduced keynote speaker, California State Senator John Laird, who spoke to his tenure as the California Secretary of Natural Resources during the previous drought emergency in our state, and how it is the responsibility of elected and community leaders to lead with the education and message of conservation. Senator Laird said it is up to individuals to conserve in order for us to get past a drought emergency, but that we all have to work together on resilient long-term solutions in order to truly meet the challenge of addressing ongoing water supply challenges.
- Chief Operating Officer Aaron Baker led a presentation titled “Multi-Year Droughts: Possible Solutions for a New Normal” on the current status of the drought. The presentation provided an overview of regional solutions and possibilities and covered the following topics:
 - Water Supply Outlook and Drought Emergency Response
 - Overview of Water Conservation and Rebate Programs
 - Reusing Water: Purified Water Project
 - Water Conservation Policies for New and Existing Developments
- Michael Mermelstein of Nichols Research provided a presentation drought attitudes based on recently conducted poll and focus groups providing insight on what our communities and constituencies feel is important to them and their water supply needs during this extreme drought.
- Director LeZotte provided closing remarks for the Drought Summit to conclude the event.

Attendees

- 6 Directors were in attendance: Chair Tony Estremera, Vice Chair Gary Kremen, Director Barbara Keegan, Director Richard Santos, Director Linda J. LeZotte, Director Nai Hsueh
- At peak attendance, 61 people were present on the Zoom meeting, including:
 - Elected officials from the cities of: Campbell, Cupertino, Gilroy, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, Saratoga, and Sunnyvale
 - Staff representing San Jose and the office Congressman Anna Eshoo

Key Takeaways from Breakout Sessions

Formulating Regional Approaches to Drought Response

- A regional drought response starts with unified stakeholder messaging—retailers, cities, and Valley Water all need to be on same page and consistent with response to drought.
- There should be a focus on education, rather than messaging that utilizes “scare tactics.”
- Partnerships are key on both the conservation and supply side; no one solution is the “silver bullet.” Because different jurisdictions have different water-use portfolios, the one-size-fits-all approach does not work.
- There needs to be coordination on the uniformity and equity/fairness on incentives and also on enforcement.

Implementing Regional Approaches to Drought Response

- Implementing regional approaches to drought response needs to include stronger partnerships between all stakeholders, and decisionmakers really need to help push the issue to drive conservation.
- Retailers are in lock-step with Valley Water in terms of messaging and conservation, but continued partnerships and a focus on consistent communication are key to addressing long-term responses to drought and water supply emergencies.
- Highlight cities, businesses, and organizations that can be used as “models” and lead by example for what successful conservation and water use efficiency should look like.
- Cities generally support water conservation but staff bandwidth is limited so continued partnerships with Valley Water are essential in implementing and prioritizing efforts like adopting a Model Water Efficient New Development Ordinance (MWENDO).



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 21-1227

Agenda Date: 11/22/2021

Item No.: 4.2.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee

SUBJECT:

Overview of the North San Benito Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. Receive an update on the North San Benito Groundwater Sustainability Plan; and
- B. Recommend bringing the plan to the December 14, 2021, Board of Directors meeting for public hearing and plan adoption.

SUMMARY:

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires that groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) managing medium- or high-priority basins prepare and implement a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) or an authorized alternative to a GSP. As the GSAs for the medium priority North San Benito Subbasin, San Benito County Water District (SBCWD) and Valley Water have prepared a GSP for this basin. The North San Benito Subbasin is about 200 square miles and largely in San Benito County with small areas (about 5 square miles) in Santa Clara County. Valley Water is the GSA for the portion of the GSP area in Santa Clara County. SBCWD and Valley Water have agreed to collaborate in preparing the GSP with SBCWD taking the lead and with cooperative implementation of the GSP in the future.

This update to the Committee provides an overview of the major elements of the North San Benito GSP, Valley Water's roles and responsibilities, and the process to submit the final GSP to DWR. On July 29, 2021, the draft GSP was posted to SBCWD's website at <https://www.sbcwd.com/gsp-development/> for the 90-day public comment period required by SGMA, which ended on October 27, 2021. A link to the draft GSP was also available from Valley Water's Sustainable Groundwater Management website at: <https://www.valleywater.org/your-water/where-your-water-comes/groundwater/sustainable/>. A public hearing to adopt the GSP by the SBCWD Board of Directors will take place on November 17, 2021, followed by the proposed public hearing and plan adoption by the Valley Water Board of Directors on December 14, 2021. As required by SGMA, the GSP is due to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) by January 31, 2022.

GSP Overview

Based on sustainability indicators defined by SGMA, the GSP describes that the North San Benito Subbasin has been managed sustainably, given the availability of imported Central Valley Project (CVP) water. Accounting for current conditions, climate change, and anticipated growth, future projections indicate that the basin can continue to remain sustainable, assuming reasonable

availability of CVP water, with implementation of projects and management actions to avoid undesirable results. These projects and management actions do not include any long-term planned reduction in groundwater pumping.

The North San Benito GSP provides detailed information on the following major elements, several of which are further described below:

- GSP development and sustainability goals
- plan area
- hydrogeologic conceptual model
- current and historical groundwater conditions
- water balances
- sustainable management criteria
- monitoring
- project and management actions, and
- implementation plan.

GSP Development and Sustainability Goals

The North San Benito GSP was prepared with the participation of the public, local water and planning agencies, state agencies, and non-governmental organizations. SBCWD organized a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to support GSP development with multiple meetings open to the public; Valley Water staff served on the TAC. Additionally, SBCWD conducted six public workshops, provided regular updates at public meetings of the SBCWD Board of Directors, and distributed outreach materials.

The goal of the GSP is to sustain groundwater resources for the current and future beneficial uses of the North San Benito Subbasin in a manner that is adaptive and responsive to the following objectives:

- to provide a long-term, reliable, and efficient groundwater supply for agricultural, domestic, and municipal and industrial uses
- to provide reliable storage for water supply resilience during droughts and shortages
- to protect groundwater quality
- to prevent subsidence
- to support beneficial uses of interconnected surface waters, and
- to support integrated and cooperative water resource management.

Plan Area

The North San Benito Subbasin is about 200 square miles and largely in San Benito County with only

about 5 square miles in Santa Clara County. The plan area of the GSP includes the valley areas characterized by productive agriculture, urban areas including the cities of Hollister and San Juan Bautista, rural communities, and upland areas with grazing land. Groundwater is the main source of water in the plan area, supplied to municipal, agricultural, and domestic users through more than 1,000 production wells. Imported water from the CVP is the other major source of water.

Current and Historical Groundwater Conditions

The North San Benito groundwater storage has been stable for the long term, given availability of imported CVP supplies since 1987. The basin's groundwater levels have been near historical highs for the last twenty years. Inelastic (permanent) subsidence has not been a known issue in the North San Benito Subbasin. Nonetheless, the GSP recommends monitoring of land surface elevation and maintaining groundwater levels above the historical lows levels to avoid inelastic subsidence. SBCWD will continue to monitor groundwater levels and quality in the basin. The GSP also identifies interconnected surface water and groundwater, including the location of groundwater dependent ecosystems.

Project and Management Actions

The GSP notes that groundwater conditions are sustainable in the North San Benito Subbasin. However, long-term sustainability requires continuation of monitoring, reporting, and management actions that are adaptive to climate change, water supply, and water demand conditions. The GSP presents ongoing, new, and recommended projects and management actions needed to maintain sustainability.

Potential projects will either increase water supply or reduce water demand, and include the following categories:

- develop surface water storage (Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project)
- expand manage aquifer recharge
- enhance conjunctive use
- enhance water conservation.

Given the small area of the basin in Santa Clara County, these potential projects are largely focused on the San Benito County portion of the basin, within the jurisdiction of SBCWD. The notable exception is the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project, which is located in Santa Clara County but will benefit portions of the basin in both counties.

Potential management actions provide a framework for groundwater management, and include the following categories:

- improve monitoring program and data management system
- develop response plans
- enhance water quality improvement programs

- reduce potential impacts to groundwater dependent ecosystems
- provide long-term basin-wide funding mechanisms
- provide administration, monitoring, and reporting.

Again, these management actions are applicable mostly to the San Benito County portion of the basin, within the jurisdiction of SBCWD. However, Valley Water and SBCWD will continue to share information and coordinate on actions benefiting both counties.

Implementation Plan

Since over 97% of the basin is in San Benito County, SBCWD is largely responsible for the implementation of the GSP. Implementation will begin in 2022 and continue until 2042, and includes SGMA compliance and administration, basin monitoring, expanded reporting, and five-year updates. SBCWD's expanded management will involve increased annual costs. As described in the GSP, funding methods include an acreage-based fee for parcels in the basin benefitting from groundwater management and a groundwater-extraction based fee that supports annual measurement of groundwater pumping. A groundwater management fee was established by SBCWD Board of Directors Resolution No. 2021-13.

The Santa Clara County portion of the basin includes 3,354 acres; related Valley Water costs for the first five years of GSP implementation will be less than \$20,000 per year and will be funded by non-rate related revenue. Throughout GSP implementation, Valley Water and SBCWD will continue to coordinate on basin data and conditions and on potential management actions affecting the portion of the basin in Santa Clara County.

Coordination and Outreach

Throughout preparation of the GSP, periodic updates have been provided to the Committee and interested stakeholders. SBCWD hosted a virtual public meeting to describe the draft GSP on August 4, 2021. As noted above, a link to the draft GSP was posted to Valley Water's website <https://www.valleywater.org/your-water/where-your-water-comes/groundwater/sustainable> during the 90-day public comment period from July 29 to October 27, 2021.

Public Hearing and Plan Adoption

Valley Water is targeting the December 14, 2021 Board of Directors meeting for a public hearing on the North San Benito GSP, followed by Board consideration of the plan for adoption. After plan adoption, SBCWD will submit the GSP to DWR by January 31, 2022, as required by SGMA.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: PowerPoint Presentation

File No.: 21-1227

Agenda Date: 11/22/2021
Item No.: 4.2.

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:
Gregory Williams, 408-630-2867



San Benito County
Water District GSA



Valley Water

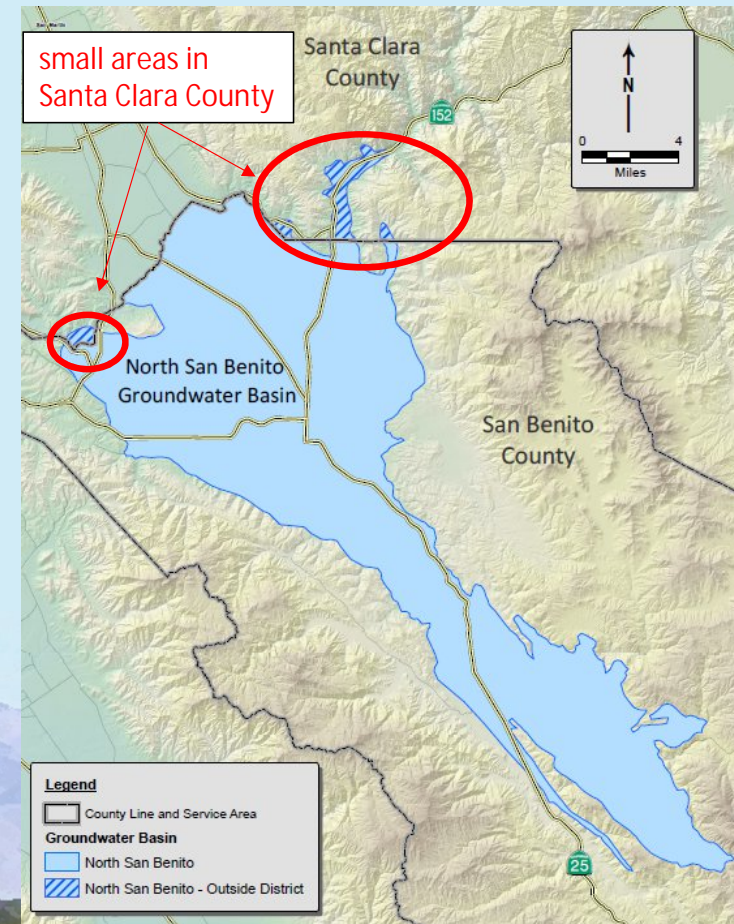
Groundwater Sustainability Plan North San Benito Groundwater Basin Final Draft

Presentation to
Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee
Valley Water
November 22, 2021



North San Benito Groundwater Sustainability Plan

- North San Benito Subbasin of Gilroy Hollister Basin
- Collaborative effort of Valley Water and San Benito County Water District
 - Both agencies are GSAs
 - 2017 MOU defined responsibilities for GSP development
- San Benito County Water District
 - Lead on GSP development, outreach, implementation
- Valley Water
 - Support GSP development and serve on Technical Advisory Committee
 - Inform local stakeholders



North San Benito Sustainability Goal

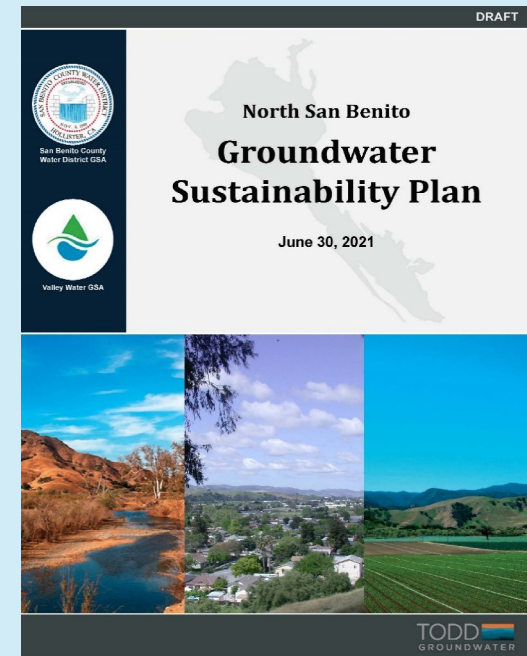
To sustain groundwater resources for the current and future beneficial uses of the North San Benito Basin in a manner that is adaptive and responsive to the following objectives:

- Provide a long-term, reliable, and efficient groundwater supply for agricultural, domestic, and municipal and industrial uses
- Provide reliable storage for water supply resilience during droughts and shortages
- Protect groundwater quality
- Prevent subsidence
- Support beneficial uses of interconnected surface waters, and
- Support integrated and cooperative water resource management.



GSP contents

- GSP development and sustainability goals
- plan area
- hydrogeologic conceptual model
- current and historical groundwater conditions
- water balances
- sustainable management criteria
- monitoring
- project and management actions, and
- implementation plan.



Key findings of GSP

- Groundwater conditions are sustainable in North San Benito Basin with continued CVP import
- Long-term sustainability requires continued monitoring, reporting, and management that is adaptive to changing conditions
- Ongoing, new, and recommended projects and management actions are presented to maintain sustainability
- These projects and management actions do not include any long-term planned reduction in groundwater pumping.

Summary of public review

- Conducted virtual Public Workshop, August 4, 2021
- Provided Draft GSP document on SBCWD website (Valley Water link)
- Provided public notice of public adoption hearing
- Provided 90-day public review period, July 29 through October 27, 2021
- Received comments and developed responses



Two public comment letters were received

GSI Water Solutions, Inc. for Sustainable Water for Agriculture

- County planning and water supply
- Water quality and minimum thresholds
- Interconnected surface water and GDEs
- Subsidence and groundwater pumping

The Nature Conservancy, Audubon, Local Government Commission, Union of Concerned Scientists, and Clean Water Action/Clean Water Fund

- Beneficial uses/users
- Engaging stakeholders
- Sustainable management criteria
- Climate change
- Data gaps
- Projects and management actions



Steps to complete GSP and submit to DWR

- Compile Final GSP and appendices and upload to website
- Convene adoption hearings
 - SBCWD, November 17, 2021
 - Valley Water, December 14, 2021
- Upload to DWR Portal by January 31, 2022
 - DWR sets 60-day comment period and receives/posts comments
 - DWR evaluation within two years: Approved/Incomplete/Inadequate

➤ GSAs to continue implementation



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 21-1228

Agenda Date: 11/22/2021

Item No.: 4.3.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee

SUBJECT:

Zone of Controlled Drinking Water Well Construction for the Purified Water Project.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive information on the zone of controlled drinking water well construction required by state regulations for Valley Water's purified water project at the Los Gatos Recharge System.

SUMMARY:

To increase water supply reliability and help avoid groundwater depletion, Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) plans to use highly treated recycled water (purified water) for groundwater replenishment at the existing Los Gatos Recharge System in Campbell. To meet state regulatory requirements, Valley Water will need to establish a zone of controlled drinking water well construction (well control zone) near the recharge ponds where purified water is used. Within this zone, the construction of new drinking water wells will be prohibited as one of many project safeguards.

Valley Water has not historically prohibited well construction, and the Board of Directors adopted Resolution 18-04 to memorialize the process to regulate groundwater extraction under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), if needed. To limit well construction for the purified water project, Valley Water should follow the process outlined in Board Resolution 18-04, which was developed through this Committee in coordination with stakeholders. This item is being brought to the Committee since an issue that will require limitations on well construction has been identified. There is no viable mitigation or alternative option to meet this state regulatory requirement if Valley Water implements the purified water project.

A summary of the state requirements, Valley Water's proposed well control zone, and the next steps are presented below.

Zone of Controlled Drinking Water Well Construction

Groundwater replenishment reuse projects (also known as indirect potable reuse projects) are regulated under Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations. These regulations are designed to protect groundwater basins and those who rely on groundwater for their drinking water supply.

Section 60320.124 of Title 22 requires both a primary and secondary zone of controlled drinking water well construction. The primary zone must be established based on the larger of the underground travel time approved for pathogen control (pathogen reduction time) or the response

retention time, which are summarized below. No drinking water wells can be constructed in the primary zone. The secondary zone delineates an area where more study or potentially mitigating activities may be required prior to drilling new drinking water wells.

Indirect potable reuse projects must meet specified requirements for pathogen removal, which are achieved by a combination of at least three separate treatment processes and underground travel time. Projects must also ensure adequate time to identify treatment failures and implement actions to protect public health, if necessary. This response retention time must be at least 2 months.

In developing the primary zone, state regulations require a correction factor depending on the method used to develop the retention time estimate, with less advanced methods requiring higher factors for uncertainty. The proposed primary zone of controlled drinking water well construction for Valley Water’s purified water project is 6 months modeled travel time from the Los Gatos Recharge System and the proposed secondary zone is 9 months modeled travel time.

State regulations require that the underground travel time be confirmed with a tracer test conducted shortly after recharge with purified water begins. Depending on the results of this tracer test, the well control zone may need to be adjusted. Given the conservative approach and modeling correction factor, it is not anticipated that the well control zone will need to be expanded to include a larger area.

Area Affected by Proposed Well Control Zones for the Purified Water Project

A map of the proposed well control zones is included in Attachment 1. The area included in the proposed primary zone, where drinking water wells will be prohibited, is approximately 0.7 square miles and includes about 760 parcels. The area included in the proposed secondary zone, where more study or mitigation may be required prior to drilling new drinking water wells, is approximately 0.2 square miles and includes about 240 parcels. The entire area included in the proposed primary and secondary zones is within the service area of San Jose Water Company.

There is one private domestic well within the proposed primary zone, however no pumping has been reported in several years. There are no additional drinking water wells in the secondary zone.

Process for Limiting Well Construction

To implement the well control zones required by state regulation, Valley Water will need to prohibit the construction of drinking water wells. Valley Water has this authority under the Santa Clara Valley Water District Act and SGMA. As noted above, Valley Water will need to follow the process laid out in Board Resolution 18-04 (Attachment 2). This resolution was developed through the Committee in collaboration with stakeholders in response to significant water retailers concerns over SGMA authorities to regulate pumping.

The process steps outlined in Resolution 18-04 are summarized below, along with their applicability to Valley Water’s purified water project.

Resolution 18-04 Step	Status/Applicability to Valley Water’s Purified Water Project
1: Normal Operations	Not applicable.

2: Issue Identified	As identified in this memo, limitations on well construction are required by state regulation near indirect potable reuse projects.
3: Preliminary Assessment	There is no viable mitigation or alternative option to meet this state requirement if Valley Water implements the purified water project.
4: Initial Stakeholder Consultation	Following consultation with the Division of Drinking Water, staff plans to conduct outreach to well and property owners in the proposed well control zones in winter 2021.
5: Action Plan	Required future actions will include a public hearing on a proposed ordinance to limit drinking water well construction near the recharge area for the purified water project.
6: Voluntary Action	Not applicable.
7. Potential Well/Pumping Regulation	To meet the state regulatory requirement, the Board will need to adopt an ordinance limiting drinking water well construction near the recharge area for the purified water project.
8. Implementation, Monitoring, and Reporting	Valley Water’s Well Ordinance Program will limit drinking water well construction near the recharge area for the purified water project in accordance with the ordinance ultimately adopted by the Board.

This memo identifies the need to regulate pumping within a limited area near the recharge area for the purified water project and notes there is no viable alternative if Valley Water implements the project.

Next Steps

Staff plans to meet with the Division of Drinking Water in November 2021 to provide an update on the purified water project and discuss the proposed well control zone. While state regulations only require that the well control zone be established when recharge with purified water begins, Valley Water should initiate the stakeholder consultation outlined in Resolution 18-04 before the draft Environmental Impact Report for the project is released.

Barring concerns from the Division of Drinking Water regarding the proposed zones, staff plans to initiate the stakeholder consultation required under Resolution 18-04 in December 2021. This will include notifying all potentially impacted stakeholders, which are the property and water supply well owners within the proposed zones. Staff intends to hold a public meeting in early 2022 to discuss the project with potentially impacted stakeholders and to get their feedback.

After initial stakeholder consultation, staff plans to come back to the Committee to present any modifications to the proposed zones, share any stakeholder feedback received, and to present a draft ordinance limiting well construction for discussion in terms of next steps and Board

consideration.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Proposed Zones of Controlled Drinking Water Well Construction

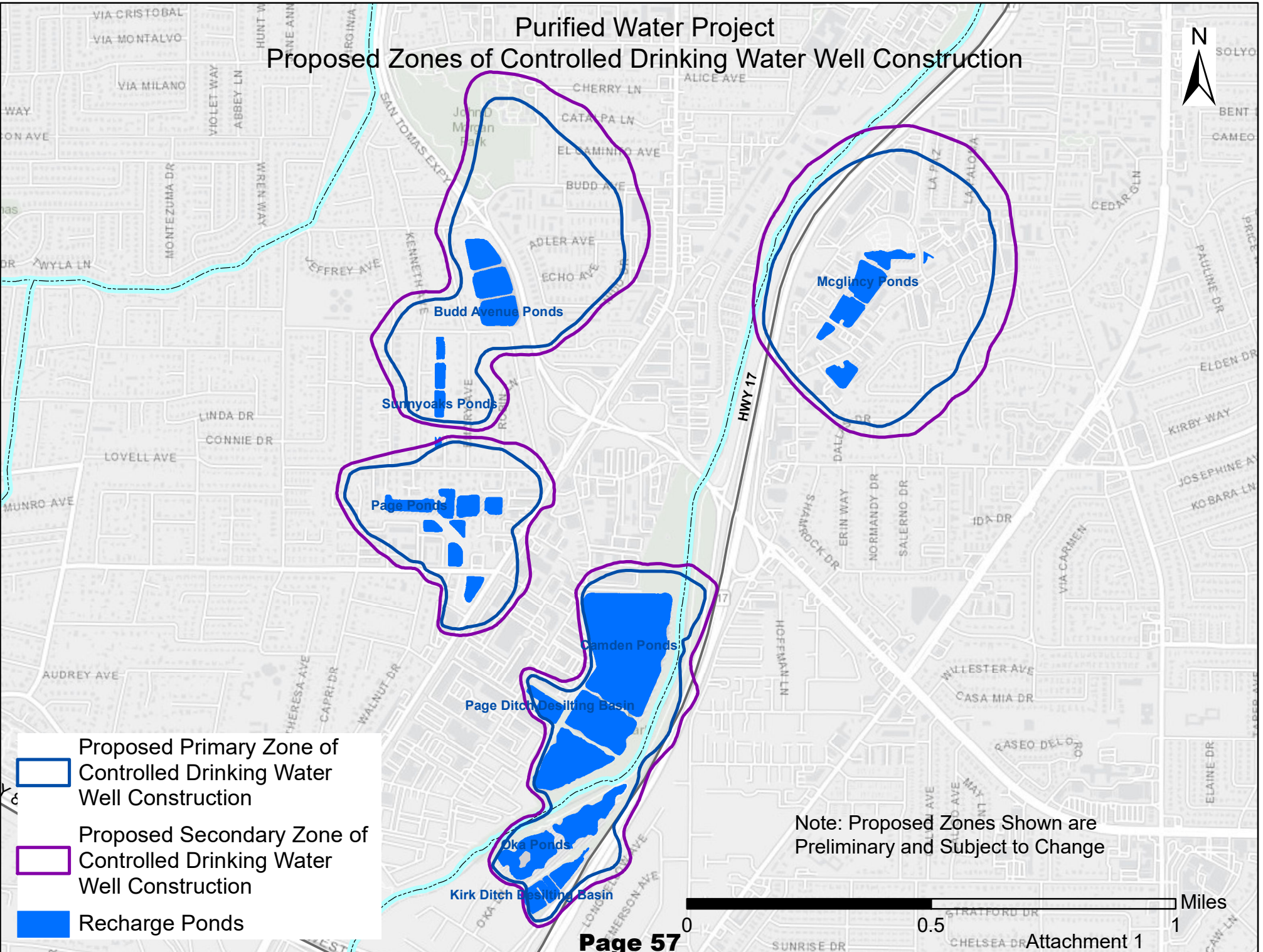
Attachment 2: Resolution 18-04




Attachment 3: PowerPoint Presentation

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

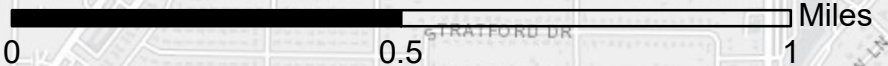
Gregory Williams, 408-630-2867

Purified Water Project Proposed Zones of Controlled Drinking Water Well Construction



-  Proposed Primary Zone of Controlled Drinking Water Well Construction
-  Proposed Secondary Zone of Controlled Drinking Water Well Construction
-  Recharge Ponds

Note: Proposed Zones Shown are Preliminary and Subject to Change



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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT**

RESOLUTION NO. 18- 04

**RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PROCESS TO REGULATE
GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION UNDER THE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER
MANAGEMENT ACT, IF NEEDED**

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara Valley Water District Act (California Water Code Appendix, Chapter 60) provides the District with broad groundwater management authority, including the authority to protect, spread, store, retain, and cause water to percolate in the soil within Santa Clara County; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2014, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) was signed into law and adopted into the California Water Code, commencing with Section 10720; and

WHEREAS, Water Code Section 10720.1 states that, in enacting SGMA, the intent of the legislature is to provide for the sustainable management of groundwater basins, to enhance local management of groundwater consistent with rights to use or store groundwater, to establish minimum standards for sustainable groundwater management, to provide local groundwater agencies with the authority and the technical and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater, and to achieve other listed intents; and

WHEREAS, on May 24, 2016, the District Board of Directors adopted Resolution 16-51 on the Decision to Become the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Santa Clara and Llagas Subbasins; and

WHEREAS, on June 13, 2017, the District Board of Directors adopted Resolution 17-38 on the Decision to Become the GSA for the Portions of the Hollister and San Juan Bautista Subbasins Located Within Santa Clara County; and

WHEREAS, Water Code Section 10733.6(b)(1) identifies a plan developed pursuant to Part 2.75 (commencing with Section 10750) or other law authorizing groundwater management as an acceptable alternative to a Groundwater Sustainability Plan; and

WHEREAS, the 2016 Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP) describes the District's comprehensive framework to ensure continued, sustainable groundwater conditions in the Santa Clara and Llagas Subbasins; and

WHEREAS, on November 22, 2016, the District Board of Directors adopted the GWMP through Resolution 16-78; and

WHEREAS, the District submitted the GWMP to the California Department of Water Resources as an alternative pursuant to SGMA; and

WHEREAS, the GWMP acknowledges new authorities granted by SGMA, including the potential to regulate groundwater extraction, control well spacing or operation, and collect different types of fees, within the constraints identified in SGMA; and

Resolution Memorializing the Process to Regulate
Groundwater Extraction under the Sustainable
Groundwater Management Act, if Needed

Resolution No. 18- 04

WHEREAS, the existing groundwater management framework, which includes coordination with water retailers and other stakeholders, is expected to support continued, sustainable groundwater conditions; and

WHEREAS, the District Board of Directors directed the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee (Committee) to engage stakeholders in evaluating the new SGMA authorities as potential tools that may be needed to ensure continued sustainability; and

WHEREAS, the Committee engaged water retailers and other interested stakeholders during nine publicly-noticed meetings between December 2016 and December 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Committee considered stakeholder input in developing the Process to Regulate Groundwater Extraction under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, if Needed, attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the Process to Regulate Groundwater Extraction under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, if Needed, describes the approach to respond to worsening basin conditions, including the steps that would be taken prior to implementing SGMA authorities to regulate extraction.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Santa Clara Valley Water District:

1. Hereby adopts the Process to Regulate Groundwater Extraction under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, if Needed; and
2. All the recitals in this Resolution are true and correct and the District so finds, determines, and represents.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Santa Clara Valley Water District by the following vote on February 27, 2018:

AYES: Directors N. Hsueh, T. Estremera, B. Keegan, G. Kremen, L. LeZotte,
J. Varela, R. Santos

NOES: Directors None

ABSENT: Directors None

ABSTAIN: Directors None

SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

By: 

RICHARD P. SANTOS
Chair/Board of Directors

ATTEST: MICHELE L. KING, CMC


Clerk/Board of Directors

EXHIBIT A COVERSHEET

PROCESS TO REGULATE GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION UNDER THE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT, IF NEEDED

No. of Pages: 6

Exhibit Attachment: Attachment 1: Process to Regulate Groundwater Extraction under
the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, if Needed

PROCESS TO REGULATE GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION UNDER THE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT, IF NEEDED

INTRODUCTION

The Santa Clara Valley Water District (District) has sustainably managed the Santa Clara and Llagas Subbasins for many decades under the authority of the District Act. In 2014, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) was enacted as California's first comprehensive, statewide regulatory program for groundwater. SGMA provides Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs), like the District, with various authorities to manage groundwater.

SGMA authorities include the ability to regulate pumping and assess different types of groundwater charges. These authorities have been discussed in various meetings of the District Board of Directors (Board) Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee (Committee) in an open forum and with input from interested stakeholders.

The existing, proven groundwater management approach, which includes strong partnerships with large groundwater pumpers, is expected to result in continued, sustainable groundwater management in the future and is the preferred approach to addressing future challenges. This document describes the approach to implementing SGMA authorities to regulate groundwater extraction, should such regulation become needed in the future.

BACKGROUND

SGMA established new requirements for GSAs, including the development of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) or prescribed Alternatives. In 2016, the District prepared the 2016 Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP), which was approved by the Board following a public hearing on November 22, 2016. The District submitted the GWMP as an alternative to a GSP to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) in December 2016. The GWMP acknowledged the new SGMA authorities and committed the District to work collaboratively with groundwater pumpers and other stakeholders to further evaluate the authorities. The Board referred related stakeholder engagement to the Committee.

The Committee, stakeholders, and the Board have indicated interest in the use of a fixed charge as a component of the groundwater production charge, and the District will further explore this concept. Committee items on the potential regulation of pumping and related discussion with stakeholders have led to the development of this process, or implementation framework.

SGMA provides GSAs with various authorities to ensure groundwater management and use do not cause undesirable results, which are defined as one of more of the following per Water Code §10721:

1. Chronic lowering of groundwater levels indicating a significant and unreasonable depletion of supply if continued over the planning and implementation horizon.
2. Significant and unreasonable reduction of groundwater storage.
3. Significant and unreasonable seawater intrusion.
4. Significant and unreasonable degraded water quality, including the migration of contaminant plumes that impair water supplies.

5. Significant and unreasonable land subsidence that substantially interferes with surface land uses.
6. Depletions of interconnected surface water that have significant and unreasonable adverse impacts on beneficial uses of the surface water.

Per Water Code §10726.4(a), in regulating groundwater extraction, SGMA allows a GSA to:

1. impose spacing requirements on new wells and impose reasonable operating regulations on existing wells to minimize well interference by restricting or suspending well production;
2. control groundwater extractions by regulating, limiting, or suspending extractions, new well construction, well enlargement, or abandoned well reactivation, or by establishing allocations;
3. authorize temporary and permanent transfers of extraction allocations; and
4. establish rules to allow unused extraction allocations to be carried over from one year to another and voluntarily transferred.

However, SGMA acknowledges limitations on the regulation of pumping. Local agencies are not authorized to make a binding determination of the water rights of any person or entity (Water Code §§ 10720.5(b) and 10726.8(b)). Also, any actions to control extractions generally must be consistent with the city or county general plans (Water Code §§ 10726.4, 10726.8(f), and 10726.9).

Research into the use of similar authorities in other jurisdictions indicates that few agencies regulate pumping, and highlights related challenges. Where used, pumping regulation has been in response to significant basin problems like long-term overdraft or salt water intrusion, most commonly through the well permitting process. These agencies have struggled with well owner concerns, enforcement, and legal challenges. Others have decided against regulation due to concerns with water rights and the potential to trigger adjudication, focusing instead on financial incentives or groundwater replenishment.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The District's existing groundwater management framework has maintained sustainable groundwater conditions over many decades. This proven framework, including strong collaboration with stakeholders, is the preferred approach to address future challenges. However, SGMA authorities are available as potential tools if the need arises. The process to regulate groundwater extraction, if needed, is based on these guiding District principles:

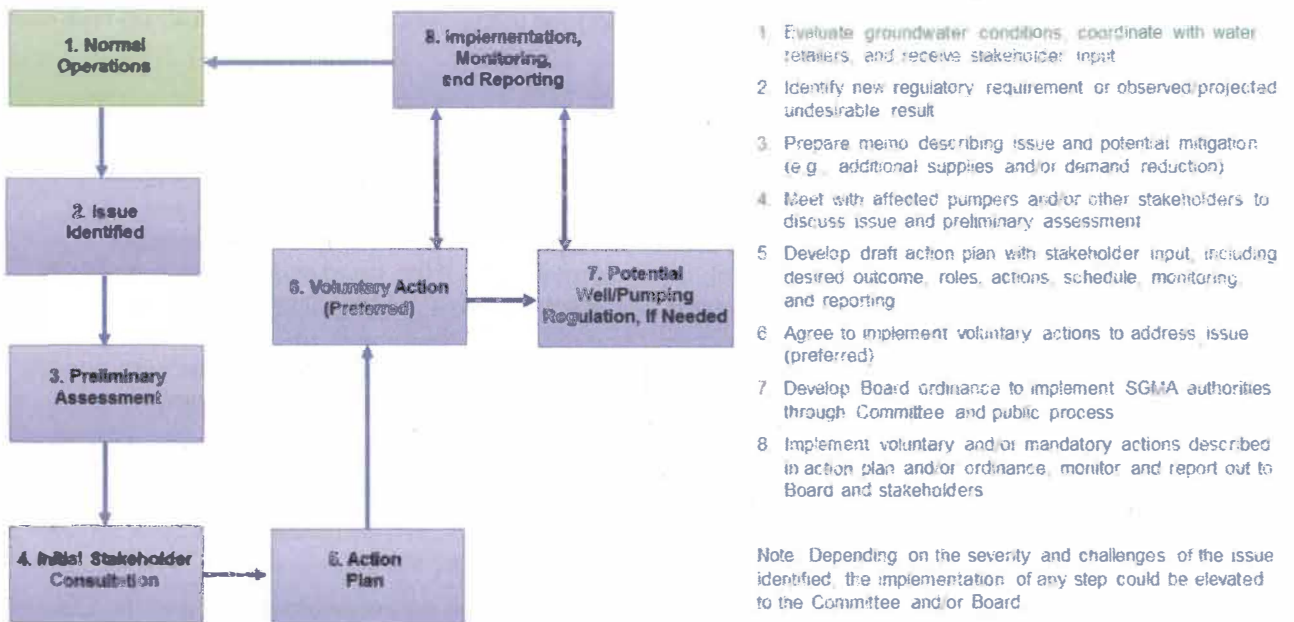
1. The District will sustainably manage local groundwater as part of our mission to provide Silicon Valley safe, clean water for a healthy life, environment, and economy.
2. The District will continue to conduct comprehensive water supply planning and invest in diverse water supplies to ensure reliability and avoid chronic shortages.
3. Through ongoing water supply operations, the District will continue to optimize the use of available water supplies while protecting groundwater storage.
4. Transparency in fulfilling the District mission remains an important driver and the District will continue to encourage input and participation from all interested stakeholders.

5. The District will continue to seek solutions that effectively and efficiently address identified water supply issues as they arise.
6. The District will work with water retailers and other stakeholders to continue to improve our understanding and management of groundwater basins and conditions, including sustainable use.
7. Strong partnerships with water retailers and other large groundwater users have been effective in avoiding undesirable results and are critical to future sustainability.
8. Collaboration with groundwater users and interested stakeholders will continue to be the preferred approach to address observed or projected undesirable results, and District regulation of pumping will only be considered if there is no viable alternative.
9. Given the uncertainty in the timing, location, and severity of potential future undesirable results, the process to regulate groundwater extraction avoids prescriptive triggers and requirements; instead, it clarifies how to respond to worsening conditions. This will maintain maximum flexibility to respond to changing conditions and avoid unnecessary or ineffective actions.

PROCESS TO REGULATE GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION, IF NEEDED

The existing groundwater management framework is expected to support continued, sustainable conditions, and pumping regulation may never be needed. The process described below and summarized in Figure 1 describes the fundamental approach to respond to worsening basin conditions, including the steps that would be taken prior to implementing SGMA authorities to regulate extraction. As mentioned above, the focus is on providing certainty as to the process, while avoiding prescriptive requirements that may not be appropriate. This process allows for moving between the various steps linearly or using feedback loops.

Figure 1. Process to Regulate Groundwater Extraction, if Needed



Step 1: Normal Operations

Comprehensive planning through the District's Urban Water Management Plan and Water Supply Master Plan ensures long-term water supply reliability (including groundwater) in accordance with level of service targets. Development of these plans includes coordination with water retailers and land use agencies, and the District encourages input from interested stakeholders. This regular, proactive planning avoids chronic shortages.

Operations planning helps meet near-term demands, protect groundwater reserves, and ensure adequate carryover supplies. Through this ongoing process, District staff develops operations scenarios based on the availability of imported and local supplies, including their optimal use and distribution. Water supply conditions are discussed with water retailers at least quarterly through Water Retailers Committee and Groundwater Subcommittee meetings, but operational or water supply issues often require more frequent communication and coordination. Current water supply information is also communicated to interested stakeholders through monthly Water Tracker updates and Groundwater Condition Reports, and the availability of groundwater level and other water supply data at www.valleywater.org.

Receiving input on groundwater management issues from interested stakeholders is an important part of normal operations. Accordingly, the District maintains a list of interested parties that includes water retailers, land use agencies, regulatory agencies, adjacent GSAs, non-governmental organizations, community groups, agricultural users, and private individuals, among others. The District notifies these interested parties of upcoming groundwater-related Board and Committee items and relevant information such as completion of the Annual Groundwater Report. The District also provides updates to all well owners on general topics of interest through regular mailings.

The District will continue to explore ways to ensure interested stakeholders are aware of groundwater management activities and opportunities for engagement, including participation in public meetings, Board correspondence, Access Valley Water inquiries, or direct communication with staff. The District evaluates all input and inquiries to determine if additional action is needed to protect groundwater resources.

Step 2: Issue Identified

Through the ongoing assessment of groundwater conditions described above, an issue requiring further action may be identified. This could be a new regulatory requirement, such as the need to limit water supply well construction near an indirect potable reuse project, or an observed or projected undesirable result as defined in Water Code §10721 and listed above. The GWMP identifies numeric outcome measures related to groundwater conditions that indicate the need for action; observed or projected failure to meet one of the outcome measures could lead to an undesirable result. There may also be unanticipated situations that do not trigger failure of an outcome measure, but require action to protect groundwater resources. If an issue requiring further action is identified, the District will inform potentially affected stakeholders and immediately move to the next step in the process.

Step 3: Preliminary Assessment

Once an issue requiring further action has been identified, District staff will use available information to evaluate the issue and summarize the findings in a technical memorandum. The memorandum will describe the nature and extent of impacts, suspected cause(s), potential

effects of taking no action, and potential mitigation options. These options may include District action, such as more focused monitoring, recommended shortage response per the Water Shortage Contingency Plan, efforts to acquire supplemental supplies, or incentives for the use of treated water. Mitigation options could also include the reduction of pumping within the impacted area.

Step 4: Initial Stakeholder Consultation

After completing the prior step, District staff will meet with selected stakeholders within the affected area to discuss groundwater conditions and the preliminary assessment. This initial consultation targets those likely needing to take action to help address the issue. In most cases this is expected to include higher-volume pumpers like water retailers that more strongly influence basin conditions. Depending on the nature of the issue, other affected stakeholders may also be consulted during this stage.

The District will work with stakeholders to evaluate additional data and update the preliminary assessment as necessary. The District and affected stakeholders will identify the schedule to develop an action plan as well as related roles and responsibilities.

It should be noted that this consultation may result in quick consensus on the need to act and what needs to be done. This occurred in 2014 when the District met with staff from the San Jose Water Company and the City of Santa Clara to discuss concerns with groundwater levels approaching subsidence thresholds within their service areas. In that case, a single meeting led to quick agreement on the need to voluntarily adjust pumping. This process is intended to support similar decisive action at the staff level when possible.

Step 5: Action Plan

Based on the timeline and roles identified during the initial stakeholder consultation, District staff and/or affected stakeholders will develop a draft action plan to address the issue. This action plan will identify the desired outcome and clearly define actions needed, roles and responsibilities, implementation schedule, and how the issue will be monitored. The action plan will also explain the mechanism and timing of status reports to the Board and interested stakeholders. If the proposed mitigation involves pumping curtailment, staff recommends that affected pumpers have the first opportunity to propose an action plan to meet the desired outcome.

In the 2014 example mentioned above, District and retailer staff collaborated quickly and effectively to reduce localized pumping and minimize the risk of subsidence. Similarly, it is expected that some issues can be effectively resolved at the staff level, with ongoing reporting to the Board Committee and stakeholders as appropriate. However, effective action plans for more severe, challenging, or widespread issues may need to be elevated to allow for more extensive input. In these cases, it may be appropriate to develop the action plan in consultation with all potentially interested stakeholders through the open forum of the Board Committee.

Step 6: Voluntary Action (Preferred Option)

Staff, affected pumpers, and other interested stakeholders will work to finalize an action plan that is likely to be effective in addressing the identified issue. This is the preferred option, which avoids resorting to the need to potentially regulate pumping under SGMA authorities. If

agreement for voluntary action is reached, all entities responsible for implementing the action plan will need to concur with the action plan prior to implementation.

Step 7: Potential Well/Pumping Regulation, if Needed

The District and affected pumpers may not reach consensus on a voluntary action plan or implementation of a voluntary action plan may not prove effective in addressing the identified issue. In those cases, the District may need to consider implementing any of the authorities provided by SGMA under the following process:

1. Discuss groundwater conditions and the potential need for pumping regulation at the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee and receive input from the Committee and stakeholders;
2. Implement action recommended by the Committee, which may include, but not be limited to, discussion with the full Board, further District action, or additional attempts to reach consensus on voluntary action;
3. Prepare a draft ordinance to regulate groundwater extraction in accordance with Water Code §10726.4 or otherwise exercise authorities provided by SGMA; and
4. Conduct a public hearing for Board consideration of the proposed ordinance.

Step 8: Implementation, Monitoring, and Reporting

The District, affected pumpers, and other identified stakeholders will implement the voluntary and/or mandatory actions described in the action plan and/or ordinance. District staff will monitor the status of action commitments, groundwater conditions, and performance in meeting the desired outcome. Related reporting to the Committee and/or Board as well as interested stakeholders will be in accordance with the action plan or ordinance. Based on the monitoring results and progress toward meeting the desired outcome, operations may return to normal or the voluntary/mandatory action may need to be modified. Successful execution of this step will require close tracking/monitoring and good communication.

TIME FRAME FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROCESS

There are no fixed time frames assigned to each step above due to the wide range of possibilities in terms of potential issues and related action needed, including whether it is voluntary or mandated. Staff anticipates that, for more manageable issues, effective voluntary action could be implemented within six months. More severe or widespread issues may take longer to address, even through voluntary action, as they may require consideration by a city council, board, or regulatory agency, or due to implementation lead time.

It is expected that if pumping regulation became necessary, implementation of the process listed under Step 7 would take several months to provide adequate noticing and opportunity for input. This time frame should be considered to correspond to the most extreme and severe conditions, with more time likely needed to fully engage potentially affected pumpers and interested stakeholders on this complex and controversial issue.

The severity of the issue will correspond to the response, with more resources and urgency allocated to more extreme issues. In any case, the District will work to expedite an effective response to minimize the risks to beneficial users or groundwater resources, and will remain committed to prioritizing voluntary collaboration over regulation whenever possible.



Zone of Controlled Drinking Water Well Construction for the Purified Water Project.

Presented by: George Cook, Groundwater Management Unit

Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee November 22, 2021

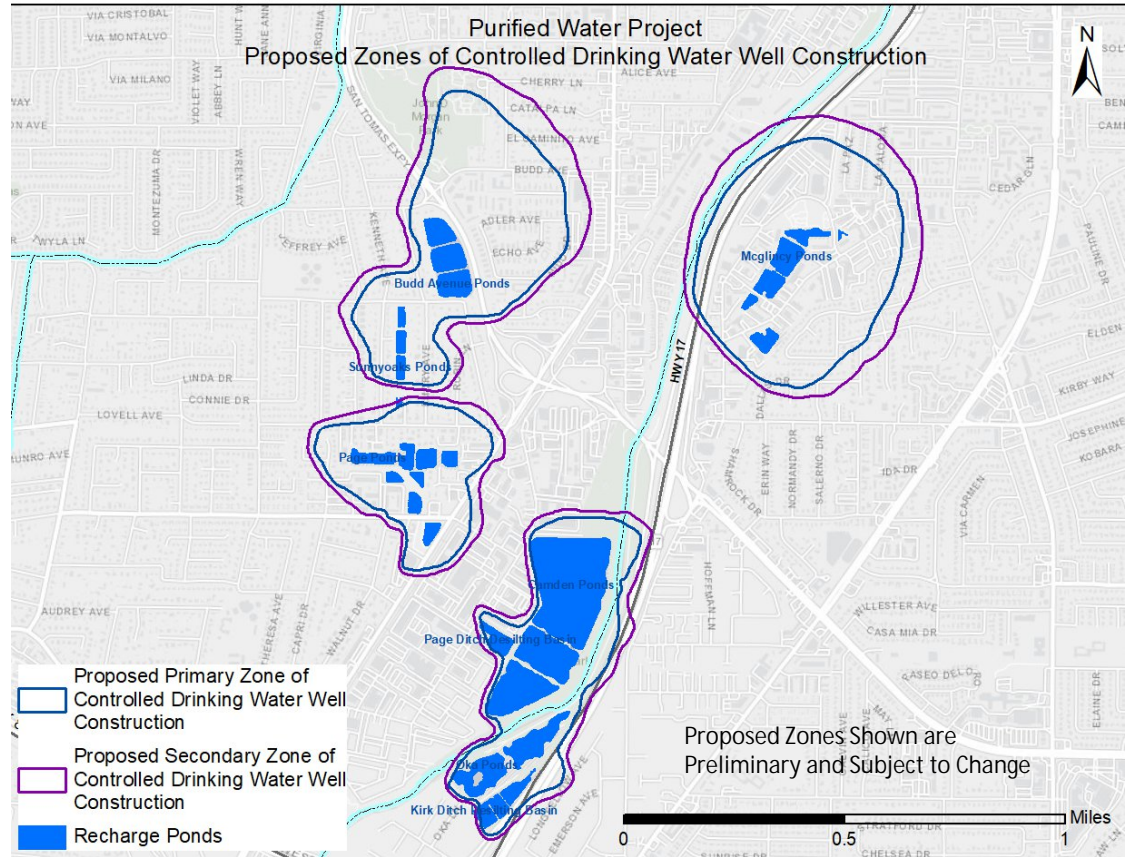


Purified Water Project

- Using purified water at the Los Gatos Recharge System will increase water supply reliability and help avoid groundwater depletion.
- State regulations require a zone of controlled drinking water well construction (well control zone) near areas where purified water is used for recharge as one of many project safeguards.
- Board Resolution 18-04 establishes a process Valley Water must follow prior to regulating pumping.

Proposed Well Control Zones

- Primary Zone
 - Based on 6-month travel time
 - Drinking water well construction prohibited
- Secondary Zone
 - Based on 9-month travel time
 - Additional study or mitigating actions may be required for new wells



Potentially Affected Area

- Primary zone contains about:
 - 0.7 square miles
 - 760 parcels
 - 1 domestic well
- Secondary zone contains about:
 - 0.2 square miles
 - 240 parcels
- Both zones are within the service area of San Jose Water Co.

Process for Limiting Well Construction

Resolution 18-04 Step	Status/Applicability to Valley Water's Purified Water Project
1: Normal Operations	Not applicable.
2: Issue Identified	As identified in this memo, limitations on well construction are required by state regulation near indirect potable reuse projects.
3: Preliminary Assessment	There is no viable mitigation or alternative option to meet this state requirement if Valley Water implements the purified water project.
4: Initial Stakeholder Consultation	Following consultation with the Division of Drinking Water, staff plans to conduct outreach to well and property owners in the proposed well control zones in winter 2021.

Process for Limiting Well Construction (cont.)

Resolution 18-04 Step	Status/Applicability to Valley Water’s Purified Water Project
5: Action Plan	Required future actions will include a public hearing on a proposed ordinance to limit drinking water well construction near the recharge areas for the purified water project.
6: Voluntary Action	Not applicable.
7. Potential Well/Pumping Regulation	To meet the state regulatory requirement, the Board will need to adopt an ordinance limiting drinking water well construction near the recharge areas for the purified water project.
8. Implementation, Monitoring, and Reporting	Valley Water’s Well Ordinance Program will limit drinking water well construction near the recharge areas for the purified water project in accordance with the ordinance ultimately adopted by the Board.



Proposed Next Steps

- Notify potentially affected stakeholders within proposed well control zones
- Hold public meeting (early 2022)
- Return to Committee with any modifications to zones, summary of stakeholder feedback, and draft ordinance to limit drinking water well construction near the recharge areas of the project

Questions?





Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 21-1229

Agenda Date: 11/22/2021

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 following 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 11/22/2021, meeting if there is reportable/updated information.
 - 1. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)
(Separate agenda item 11/22/2021)
 - 2. Flood MAR and Agricultural 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



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 21-1231

Agenda Date: 11/22/2021

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

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Work Plan 2021

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) August 2021 November 2021 August 2021 October Monthly	Discussion/Action Items	<p style="background-color: yellow;">Accomplished March 30, 2021:</p> <p>The Committee reviewed and discussed voluntary call for conservation and took the following action: The Committee voted unanimously to increase the Landscape Rebate Program to \$2.00 a square foot. <i>Board approved at its meeting on April 27, 2021.</i></p> <p style="background-color: yellow;">Accomplished April 12, 2021:</p> <p>The Committee received updated information on the 2021 Water Supply Conditions and Water Conservation Program and took the following action: The Committee by a roll call vote unanimously approved</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support maintaining current voluntary call for conservation 2. Recommends the Board direct staff to increase water conservation messaging, programs to inspire additional water savings, and 3. The Committee also recommended the outreach messaging include the following

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				<p>suggestions since the messaging is being developed to tailor the message:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To those that are conserving vs those that are not, (what should be done if someone is not conserving), • Encourage those that are already conserving and what tools/suggestions for them to continue, • To be user-friendly, • That the 20% water conservation message mention the base year (2013 or other year) • Conservation goal objective be clear—whether a number of 15% or 20% is going to be used (or not). <p><i>Board approved at its meeting on April 27, 2021, with a recommended conservation goal objective of 25%.</i></p> <p>Accomplished May 10, 2021: The Committee received an update on the Water Conservation Program and Spring and Summer Outreach Campaigns and took no action.</p>

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				<p><u>Accomplished June 21, 2021:</u> The Committee received an update on the Water Conservation Programs and activities following the Board’s adoption of a resolution declaring a water shortage emergency condition calling for water use restrictions and urging the County of Santa Clara to proclaim a local emergency and took no action.</p> <p><u>Accomplished July 26, 2021:</u> 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><u>Accomplished August 30, 2021:</u> 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><u>Accomplished September 27, 2021:</u> The Committee received the monthly update on progress towards Valley Water Resolution 21-68’s water use reduction target and</p>

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				drought-related water conservation efforts and took no action. Accomplished October 25, 2021: 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.
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 	October 2021 September 2021	Discussion/Action Items	Accomplished October 25, 2021: The Committee received the information on the 2021 Water Conservation Strategic Plan and took no action.
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.				

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Item No.	Work Plan Item	Meeting Date	Discussion/Action Item	Accomplishment Date and Outcome
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) 	August 2021 August 2021	Discussion/Action Items	Accomplished August 30, 2021: The Committee received verbal updates on the Flood MAR and Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study 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	

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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	<p><u>Accomplished May 10, 2021:</u> The Committee received an update on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and took no action.</p> <p><u>Accomplished July 26, 2021:</u> The Committee received a verbal update on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and took no action.</p> <p><u>Accomplished August 30, 2021:</u> The Committee received a verbal update on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and took no action.</p> <p><u>Accomplished September 27, 2021:</u> The Committee received a verbal update on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and took no action.</p> <p><u>Accomplished October 25, 2021:</u> The Committee received a report on the 2021 Groundwater Management Plan Update (Alternative Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Plan) and took no action.</p>

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Future Demand Projections				
7	Monitor progress and recommend policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monitoring and Assessment Program Risk Assessment and Climate Analysis ● Urban Water Management Plan ● CCAP water supply portion ● Water Shortage Contingency Plan update 	Done Done January 2022	Discussion/Action Items	<p>Accomplished May 10, 2021: The Committee received a presentation on the Monitoring Assessment Program Update: Risk Assessment and Climate Analysis and took no action.</p> <p>The Committee received an update on the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan and took the following action: By unanimous roll call vote the Committee approved staff's recommendation to take the 2020 Urban Water Management plan to the Board on June 8th for the Board to consider a public hearing and adoption of the Plan.</p>
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	<p>Accomplished March 30, 2021: The Committee reviewed and discussed the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Work Plan and took no</p>

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				<p>action, however, the Committee would like to connect items to the 2040 Water Supply Master Plan.</p> <p>Accomplished April 12, 2021: The Committee reviewed and discussed the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Work Plan and took no action, however, Committee Vice Chair Nai Hsueh will work on the Committee's work plan since meeting with the Chair would constitute a quorum.</p> <p>Accomplished May 10, 2021: The Committee reviewed and discussed the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Work Plan and took no action, however, Committee Vice Chair Nai Hsueh will work on the Committee's newly revised work plan with staff for future meetings</p> <p>Accomplished June 21, 2021: The Committee reviewed and discussed the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Work Plan and took no action, will use the new work plan and making assignments.</p>

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				<p><u>Accomplished July 26, 2021:</u> The Committee reviewed and discussed the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Work Plan and took no action, however, Director LeZotte will meet with staff on meeting agendas.</p> <p><u>Accomplished August 30, 2021:</u> The Committee reviewed and discussed the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Work Plan and took no action.</p> <p><u>Accomplished September 27, 2021:</u> The Committee reviewed and discussed the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Work Plan and took no action.</p> <p><u>Accomplished October 25, 2021:</u> The Committee reviewed and discussed the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee Work Plan and took no action.</p>

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Item No.	Work Plan Item	Meeting Date	Discussion/Action Item	Accomplishment Date and Outcome
Additional Items:				
9	<p>Outreach messaging for water-wise concerns.</p> <p>Review major developments within the county and work on contacting the Building Trades and Planning Commissions on adopting the Model Ordinances.</p>			