

Governance Policies of the Board

III. Ends

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Title: Mission and General Principles

Category: Ends

Policy No. E-1

Adopted: June 15, 1999
Chair: Larry Wilson

Latest Revision: October 24, 2017
Chair: John Varela

The Board of Directors revised and adopted this policy at its public meeting on the latest revision date.

District Mission

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

General Principles

Accordingly, the Board of the District has adopted directions to the BAOs as to the intended results, organizational products, impacts, benefits, outcomes, recipients, and their relative worth (what good for which recipients at what costs). In implementing Board directions, staff will be guided by the following general principles:

- 1.1. An integrated and balanced approach in managing a sustainable water supply, effective natural flood protection, and healthy watersheds is essential to prepare for the future.
- 1.2. Effective public engagement in accomplishing the District mission is achieved through communication that involves the diverse community and key stakeholder groups in a transparent and open manner.
- 1.3. Collaboration with government, academic, private, non-governmental, and non-profit organizations is integral to accomplishing the District mission.
- 1.4. A net positive impact on the environment is important in support of the District mission and is reflected in all that we do.
- 1.5. Recognize that District services are critical to the economic vitality of Silicon Valley.
- 1.6. As standard practice, work products shall be visually pleasing, sustainable, cost-effective, and reflect the characteristics of the surrounding urban setting and natural habitat using appropriate materials, colors, shapes, art works, vegetation, and surface treatments.

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Title: Water Supply (WS)

Category: Ends

Policy No. E-2

Adopted: January 18, 2005
Chair: Richard Santos

Latest Revision: August 20, 2012
Chair: Linda J. LeZotte

The Board of Directors revised and adopted this policy at its public meeting on the latest revision date.

There is a reliable, clean water supply for current and future generations. [See BAO Interpretation](#)

Accordingly, the following goals and objectives are adopted:

WS GOAL

- 2.1. Current and future water supply for municipalities, industries, agriculture, and the environment is reliable.

WS Objective

- 2.1.1. Aggressively protect groundwater from the threat of contamination and maintain and develop groundwater to optimize reliability and to minimize land subsidence and salt water intrusion. [See BAO Interpretation](#)
- 2.1.2. Protect, maintain, and develop local surface water. [See BAO Interpretation](#)
- 2.1.3. Protect, maintain, and develop imported water. [See BAO Interpretation](#)
- 2.1.4. Protect, maintain, and develop recycled water. [See BAO Interpretation](#)
- 2.1.5. Maximize water use efficiency, water conservation, and demand management opportunities. [See BAO Interpretation](#)
- 2.1.6. Prepare for and respond effectively to water utility emergencies. [See BAO Interpretation](#)

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WS GOAL

- 2.2. Raw water transmission and distribution assets are managed to ensure efficiency and reliability.

WS Objective

- 2.2.1. Raw water transmission and distribution assets are managed to ensure efficiency and reliability. *See BAO Interpretation*

WS GOAL

- 2.3. Reliable high quality drinking water is delivered.

WS Objective

- 2.3.1. Meet or exceed all applicable water quality regulatory standards. *See BAO Interpretation*
- 2.3.2. Maintain effective relationships with the retailer and other stakeholders to ensure high quality, reliable drinking water. *See BAO Interpretation*

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Title: Natural Flood Protection (NFP)

Category: Ends

Policy No. E-3

Adopted: December 21, 2004
Chair: Joe Judge

Latest Revision: July 22, 2013
Chair: Nai Hsueh

The Board of Directors revised and adopted this policy at its public meeting on the latest revision date.

There is a healthy and safe environment for residents, businesses and visitors, as well as for future generations. [See BAO Interpretation](#)

Accordingly, the following goals and objectives are adopted:

NFP GOAL

3.1. Provide natural flood protection for residents, businesses, and visitors.

NFP Objective

- 3.1.1. Protect parcels from flooding by applying an integrated watershed management approach that balances environmental quality and protection from flooding. [See BAO Interpretation](#)
- 3.1.2. Preserve flood conveyance capacity and structural integrity of stream banks, while minimizing impacts on the environment and protecting habitat values. [See BAO Interpretation](#)

NFP GOAL

3.2. Reduce potential for flood damages.

NFP Objective

- 3.2.1. Promote the preservation of flood plain functions. [See BAO Interpretation](#)
- 3.2.2. Reduce flood risks through public engagement. [See BAO Interpretation](#)
- 3.2.3. Prepare and respond effectively to flood emergencies countywide to protect life and property. [See BAO Interpretation](#)

Governance Policies of the Board

Title: Water Resources Stewardship (WRS)

Category: Ends

Policy No. E-4

Adopted: April 20, 2004
Chair: Joe Judge

Latest Revision: July 28, 2014
Chair: Tony Estremera

The Board of Directors revised and adopted this policy at its public meeting on the latest revision date.

There is water resources stewardship to protect and enhance watersheds and natural resources and to improve the quality of life in Santa Clara County. [See BAO Interpretation](#)

Accordingly, the following goals and objectives are adopted:

WRS GOAL

4.1. Protect and restore creek, bay, and other aquatic ecosystems.

WRS Objective

4.1.1. Preserve creeks, bay, and ecosystems through environmental stewardship. [See BAO Interpretation](#)

4.1.2. Improve watersheds, streams, and natural resources. [See BAO Interpretation](#)

4.1.3. Promote the protection of creeks, bay, and other aquatic ecosystems from threats of pollution and degradation. [See BAO Interpretation](#)

4.1.4. Engage and educate the community in the protection of water quality and stream stewardship. [See BAO Interpretation](#)

4.1.5. Prepare and respond to emergencies that threaten local waterways. [See BAO Interpretation](#)

4.1.6. To the extent within practicable control of the District, adopt a strategy to restore the salmonid fishery on identified salmonid streams within fifteen years of strategy adoption by creating suitable accessible spawning and rearing habitats.

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WRS GOAL

- 4.2. Improved quality of life in Santa Clara County through appropriate public access to trails, open space, and District facilities.

WRS Objective

- 4.2.1. Support healthy communities by providing access to additional trails, parks, and open space along creeks and in the watersheds. [See BAO Interpretation](#)
- 4.2.2. Support healthy communities by providing appropriate public access to District facilities. [See BAO Interpretation](#)

WRS GOAL

- 4.3. Strive for zero net greenhouse gas emission or carbon neutrality.

WRS Objective

- 4.3.1. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions to achieve carbon neutrality by 2020. [See BAO Interpretation](#)