Santa Clara Valley Water District
Board Policy and Planning Committee Meeting

Teleconference Zoom Meeting

REGULAR MEETING
AGENDA

Monday, November 23, 2020
2:00 PM

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

BOARD POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
Nai Hsueh - District 5, Committee Chair
Barbara Keegan - District 2, Committee Vice Chair
Linda J. LeZotte, District 4

The Board Policy and Planning Committee provides support to the Board in the areas of Board planning process; Board Committees’ principles and structures; Board and organization performance monitoring and; other tasks assigned by the Board.

Public records for this Committee are available for inspection in the Clerk of the Board's Office, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118. Materials are available to the public at the same time they are made available to the Committee.

The District will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities wishing to attend meetings. Please advise the Clerk of the Board of any special needs by calling (408) 265-2600.

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

COMMITTEE CLERK
Michele L. King, CMC
Clerk, Board of Directors
IMPORTANT NOTICES

This meeting is being held in accordance with the Brown Act as currently in effect under the State Emergency Services Act, the Governor’s Emergency Declaration related to COVID-19, and the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20 issued on March 17, 2020 that allows attendance by members of the Committee, staff, and the public to participate and conduct the meeting by teleconference, videoconference, or both.

Members of the public wishing to address the Committee during a video conferenced meeting on an item not listed on the agenda, or any item listed on the agenda, should use the “Raise Hand” or “Chat” tools located in Zoom meeting link listed on the agenda. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Committee Chair in the order requests are received and granted speaking access to address the Committee.

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.
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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" or "Chat" tools 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 three 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. 20-1039
Recommendation: Approve the October 26, 2020 minutes.
Manager: Michele King, 408-630-2711.
Attachments: Attachment 1: October 26, 2020 Minutes.

4. INFORMATION AND ACTION ITEMS:

4.1. Discuss Proposed Modifications to Board Governance Ends Policy General Principles E-1 and Glossary to Add Environmental Justice Language. 20-1038
Recommendation: Review and provide feedback on draft modifications to Board Governance Ends Policy General Principles E-1 and the Glossary relative to environmental justice.
Manager: Marta Lugo, 408-630-2237
Attachments: Attachment 1: Draft Amendment to General Principles and Glossary
Attachment 2: Draft amendment to General Principles and Glossary
Attachment 3: PowerPoint
4.2. Discuss Board Governance Ends Policy E-4.  
Recommendation: Review and provide feedback on the draft revised Board Governance Ends Policy E-4.  
Manager: Lisa Bankosh, 408-630-2618  
Attachments: Attachment 1: Revised Draft Ends Policy E-4

4.3. Climate Change Action Plan and Climate Change Ends Policy E-5.  
Recommendation: Review and provide input on the draft Climate Change Ends Policy E-5 and receive an update on the Climate Change Action Plan development process.  
Manager: Lisa Bankosh, 408-630-2618  
Attachments: Attachment 1: Draft Ends Policy E-5  
Attachment 2: CCAP Summary  
Attachment 3: PowerPoint

Recommendation:  
A. Review the Board Policy and Planning Committee’s Work Plan and Accomplishments Report and incorporate any new tasks; and  
B. Schedule Committee meetings as appropriate.  
Manager: Michele King, 408-630-211.  

6. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS.  
This is an opportunity for the Clerk to review and obtain clarification on any formally moved, seconded, and approved requests and recommendations made by the Committee during the meeting.

7. ADJOURN:  
7.1. Adjourn to Regular Meeting at 2:00 p.m., on December 28, 2020, in the Santa Clara Valley Water District Board Conference Room A-124, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California.
COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Board Policy and Planning Committee

SUBJECT:
Approval of Minutes.

RECOMMENDATION:
Approve the October 26, 2020 minutes.

SUMMARY:
A summary of Committee discussions, and details of all actions taken by the Committee, during all open and public Committee meetings, is transcribed and submitted for review and approval.

Upon Committee approval, minutes transcripts are finalized and entered into the District’s historical records archives and serve as historical records of the Committee’s meetings.

ATTACHMENTS:
Attachment 1: October 26, 2020 Minutes.

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:
Michele King, 408-630-2711.
Monday, October 26, 2020
2:00 PM

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

1. **Call to Order**
   
   **1.1 Roll Call**
   
   A regular meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Board Policy and Planning Committee (BPPC) was called to order at 2:00 p.m. on October 26, 2020, in the District Headquarters Building, Conference Room A-124, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California.

   Board Members in attendance in Conference Room A-124: Director Nai Hsueh-District 5; Board members attending by videoconference: Director Linda J. LeZotte-District 4; and Director Barbara Keegan-District 2, constituting a quorum of the BPPC.

   Staff members in attendance in Conference Room A-124: Michele King, Clerk of the Board; staff in attendance by videoconference: CEO Rick Callender, Aaron Baker, Lisa Bankosh, Rechelle Blank, Bart Broome, Theresa Chinte, Jerrys De La Piedra, Roslyn Fuller, Rachael Gibson, Vincent Gin, Marta Lugo, Mike Potter, Linda Nguyen, Melanie Richardson, Metra Richert, Kirsten Struve, Sue Tippets, Tony Vye Greg Williams, Bhavani Yerrapotu, and Tina Yoke.

   Mr. Arthur Keller, Environmental and Water Resources Chair was in attendance by videoconference.

2. **Time Open for Public Comment on any Item not an Agenda**

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

3. **3.1 Approval of Minutes – September 28, 2020.**

   The BPPC considered the attached minutes from the September 28, 2020 meeting. It was moved by Director Keegan, seconded by Director LeZotte, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes as presented.

4. **Information and Action Items**

   **4.1 Trails Policy Public Outreach Update.**

   Ms. Lisa Bankosh, Acting Deputy Operating Officer, Watershed Stewardship provided an update on the Trails Policy public outreach efforts, per the attached agenda memo and requested input on scheduling of community meetings.
The BPPC recommended that staff schedule a meeting in mid-November or beginning of December and encouraged staff to use their best judgment on selecting a date to ensure enough time for another meeting if additional input is necessary.

Staff will return to the BPPC in December with an update on the Draft Trails and Policy Criteria and Guidance, and a summary of the outcomes of the community meeting.

4.2 Board Governance Policy – Ends (E-2) – There is a Reliable, Clean Water Supply for Current and Future Generations.
BPPC Chair Hsueh informed the committee why she requested this item be placed on the agenda and provided a short overview and an introduction of the review process. The BPPC gave the following input on the restructuring of the E-2 policy:

- The structure should be reformatted to include BAO Interpretations.
- This policy should connect with the Water Supply Master Plan as well as reflect and incorporate strategies listed in all current master plans.
- Language needs to be incorporated that reflects the environmental, other beneficial, equitable and affordable uses of water.
- Revise water supply to water resources to better reflect all water uses.

Staff to return to the BPPC every two months, beginning in December, to review progress and provide review and input.

4.3 Planning for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Board Strategic Planning Meeting.
Chair Hsueh led the discussion on the proposed process for the strategic planning meeting for Fiscal Year 2021-22. The BPPC provided the following input:

- Suggested the scope of the strategic planning session be limited to a review and modification of the current year (FY 21) Board Work Plan.
- An outside facilitator should be engaged to run the session and assist in the review process.
- If needed, a special meeting should be scheduled in January 2021.

The BPPC also suggested that a second strategy session be held in August or September of 2021 to outline a process to transition to a two-year plan that will align with the two-year budget cycle planned to begin in Fiscal Year 2022-23 (FY23), and should include additional community engagement to ensure that the Board is capturing desired requests and needs.

4.4 Work Plan, Meeting Schedule and Accomplishments Report.
Ms. King reviewed the updates to the work plan and meeting schedule.

It was agreed that the items for November would be:
- Discussion on E-4 Policies
- Climate Change Action Plan
- Revised Water Resources Protection Ordinance

Items for December:
- Untreated Surface Water Program
• Outreach Plan for Use of District Property for Trails
• Bi-monthly discussion on E-2

5. **Clerk Review and Clarification of Committee Requests.**
Committee input was noted for items 4.1 and 4.2. Staff to prepare a Board agenda item for the November meeting for the Board to provide input and give final direction on the planning for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Board Strategic Planning Meeting.

6. **Adjourn:**
Committee Chair Hsueh adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:00 p.m.

Michele L. King, CMC
Clerk of the Board

Approved:
COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Board Policy and Planning Committee

SUBJECT:
Discuss Proposed Modifications to Board Governance Ends Policy General Principles E-1 and Glossary to Add Environmental Justice Language.

RECOMMENDATION:
Review and provide feedback on draft modifications to Board Governance Ends Policy General Principles E-1 and the Glossary relative to environmental justice.

SUMMARY:

On September 22, 2020 the Board approved the Resolution “Addressing Systematic Racism and Promoting Equity” after the creation of the new Office of Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (REDI). The resolution provides a new framework and model to inform potential changes to Valley Water internal policies, procedures, and trainings, that includes the creation of an Ends Policy relative to Environmental Justice.

At the September 28, 2020 Board Policy and Planning Committee (BPPC) meeting, Watershed Stewardship staff presented and discussed draft revised Board Governance Ends Policy E-4 and a proposed new Ends Policy E-5. The BPPC provided feedback to ensure that environmental justice language is incorporated into the new policy on Climate Change and for consideration and inclusion in all Board Governance Policies.

Following this feedback, staff has proposed draft modifications to Ends Policy General Principles E-1 and the Glossary; those changes are included in Attachment 1. Staff’s proposed changes include a more precise definition for environmental justice and disadvantaged community, after surveying current policies and definitions from other water agencies and environmental organizations. During this process, staff expanded the environmental justice definition, so that it now goes further than the federal EPA definition that has been referenced in past policies, including Valley Water’s Executive Limitation related to Environmental Justice that was approved in 2018. Staff expanded the definition in order to better adapt it to unique makeup of and needs for our communities.
Based upon input, staff will refine the policy and glossary verbiage, and return to the BPPC for further input and refinements or prepare the BPPC’s recommendation to the full Board for consideration.

ATTACHMENTS:
Attachment 1: Draft amendment to General Principles and Glossary
Attachment 2: Draft amendment to General Principles and Glossary track changes
Attachment 3: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:
Marta Lugo, 408-630-2237
Environmental Justice Amendments to Board Governance End Policies

Policy No. E-1: Mission and General Principles

A. Amend Ends Policy E-1 items 1.1—1.6 to reflect Valley Water’s Environmental Justice values to read as follows.

General Principles
Accordingly, the Board of Valley Water 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, socially equitable, and balanced approach in managing a sustainable water supply, natural flood protection, and healthy watersheds is essential to the future of all communities served.

1.2. Effective public engagement by Valley Water is achieved through transparent, open communication that informs and generates participation among all communities, including disadvantaged communities, communities of color, and communities with limited English proficiency, as well as other key stakeholders.

1.3. Collaboration with government, academic, private, non-governmental, and non-profit organizations, as well as diverse and disadvantaged communities, is integral to accomplishing the Valley Water mission.

1.4. A net positive impact on the environment and providing benefits equitably across all communities is required in order to accomplish the Valley Water mission.

1.5. Recognize that Valley Water services are critical to the economic vitality of Silicon Valley, ensuring that economic benefits are equitable for all communities that we serve.

1.6. As standard practice, work products shall be visually pleasing, sustainable, cost-effective, culturally appropriate, and reflect the characteristics of the surrounding urban setting and natural habitat using appropriate materials, colors, shapes, art works, vegetation, and surface treatments. This includes the naming of facilities in a manner that is respectful of all diverse communities.
B. Amend Ends Policy E-1 to add item 1.7, a General Principle focused on environmental justice, that would read as follows.

1.7 Valley Water is committed to environmental justice and shall provide for the fair treatment and meaningful engagement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, tribe, culture, income, immigration status, or English language proficiency, with respect to the planning, projects, policies, services, and operations of Valley Water. Environmental justice is achieved when all people receive:

- Equitable consideration in the planning and execution of flood protection, water supply, safe drinking water, water resources stewardship projects, and protection from environmental and health hazards; and

- Equal access to Valley Water's decision-making process.

Glossary

Amend the Glossary of the Board Governance Policies to include the following definition.

“disadvantaged community”
Disadvantaged community is an area whose residents are disproportionately impacted from a combination of economic, health, and environmental burdens, such as poverty, high unemployment, environmental pollution, the presence of hazardous waste, or environmental degradation. These communities often are comprised of people who have suffered historical discrimination based on race, color, national origin, tribe, culture, income, immigration status, or English language proficiency.

For the purposes of Valley Water policies, projects, services, and programs, disadvantaged communities include any of the following:

- Low-income households (Household incomes below 80 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI) in Santa Clara County), as of 2020 AMI for average household of three is $100,950, however AMI is updated annually;

- Low-income census tracts (Census tracts where aggregated household incomes are less than 80 percent of the Area Median Income for Santa Clara County), as of 2020 AMI for average household of three is $100,950, however AMI is updated annually.
An area defined by California Environmental Protection Agency (pursuant to Section 39711 of the California Health and Safety Code), using the CalEnviroScreen tool, which was developed to determine communities most burdened by environmental, socioeconomic and health factors.
Environmental Justice Amendments to Board Governance End Policies

Policy No. E-1: Mission and General Principles

A. Amend Ends Policy E-1 items 1.1—1.6 to reflect Valley Water’s Environmental Justice values to read as follows.

General Principles
Accordingly, the Board of Valley Water 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, socially equitable and balanced approach in managing a sustainable water supply, effective natural flood protection, and healthy watersheds is essential to prepare for the future of all communities served.

1.2. Effective public engagement by Valley Water in accomplishing the District mission is achieved through transparent, open communication that informs and generates participation among all communities, including disadvantaged communities, communities of color, and communities with limited English proficiency, as well as other involves the diverse community and key stakeholders in a transparent and open manner.

1.3. Collaboration with government, academic, private, non-governmental, and non-profit organizations, as well as diverse and disadvantaged communities, is integral to accomplishing the Valley Water District mission.

1.4. A net positive impact on the environment and providing benefits equitably across all communities is required in order to accomplish important in support of the Valley Water District mission and is reflected in all that we do.

1.5. Recognize that Valley Water District services are critical to the economic vitality of Silicon Valley, ensuring that economic benefits are equitable for all communities that we serve.

1.6. As standard practice, work products shall be visually pleasing, sustainable, cost-effective, culturally appropriate, and reflect the characteristics of the surrounding urban setting and natural habitat using appropriate materials, colors, shapes, art works, vegetation, and surface treatments. This includes the naming of facilities in a manner that is respectful of all diverse communities.
B. Amend Ends Policy E-1 to add item 1.7, a General Principle focused on environmental justice, that would read as follows.

1.7 Valley Water is committed to environmental justice and shall provide for the fair treatment and meaningful engagement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, tribe, culture, or income, immigration status, or English language proficiency, with respect to the planning, development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, projects, and policies, services and operations of Valley Water. Environmental justice is the goal of ensuring that everyone enjoys all people receive:

- Equitable consideration in the planning and execution of flood protection, water supply, safe drinking water, water resources stewardship projects, and the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards;
- Equal access to Valley Water’s decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work.

Glossary

Amend the Glossary of the Board Governance Policies to include the following definition.

“disadvantaged community”
Disadvantaged community is an area whose residents are disproportionately impacted from a combination of economic, health, and environmental burdens, such as poverty, high unemployment, environmental pollution, the presence of hazardous waste, or environmental degradation. These communities often are comprised of people who have suffered historical discrimination based on race, color, national origin, tribe, culture, income, immigration status, or English language proficiency.

For the purposes of Valley Water policies, projects, services, and programs, disadvantaged communities include any of the following:

- Low-income households (Household incomes below 80 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI) in Santa Clara County), as of 2020 AMI for average household of three is $100,950, however AMI is updated annually;
- Low-income census tracts (Census tracts where aggregated household incomes are less than 80 percent of the Area Median Income for Santa Clara County), as of 2020 AMI for average household of three is $100,950, however AMI is updated annually;
An area defined by California Environmental Protection Agency (pursuant to Section 39711 of the California Health and Safety Code), using the CalEnviroScreen tool, which was developed to determine communities most burdened by environmental, socioeconomic and health factors.
Board Policy and Planning Committee
Ends Policy Updates

Office of Racial Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (REDI)

November 23, 2020
Recommendation:

Review and give feedback on amendments to General Principles and Glossary relative environmental justice.
General Principles

Current Ends Policy

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.

Environmental Justice Update

1.1 An integrated, socially equitable, and balanced approach in managing a sustainable water supply, natural flood protection, and healthy watersheds is essential to the future of all communities served.

1.2 Effective public engagement by Valley Water is achieved through transparent, open communication that informs and generates participation among all communities, including disadvantaged communities, communities of color, and communities with limited English proficiency, as well as other key stakeholders.
General Principles

Current Ends Policy

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.

Environmental Justice Update

1.3 Collaboration with government, academic, private, non-governmental, and non-profit organizations, as well as diverse and disadvantaged communities, is integral to accomplishing the Valley Water mission.

1.4 A net positive impact on the environment and providing benefits equitably across all communities is required in order to accomplish the Valley Water mission.
General Principles

Current Ends Policy

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.

Environmental Justice Changes

1.5 Recognize that Valley Water services are critical to the economic vitality of Silicon Valley, ensuring that economic benefits are equitable for all communities that we serve.

1.6 As standard practice, work products shall be visually pleasing, sustainable, cost-effective, culturally appropriate, and reflect the characteristics of the surrounding urban setting and natural habitat using appropriate materials, colors, shapes, art works, vegetation, and surface treatments. This includes the naming of facilities in a manner that is respectful of all diverse communities.
Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful engagement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the planning, projects, policies, services, and operations of the Valley Water. Environmental justice is achieved when all people receive:

- Equitable consideration in the planning and execution of flood protection, water supply, safe drinking water, water resources stewardship projects and protection from environmental and health hazards; and
- Equal access to the Valley Water’s decision-making process.
A disadvantaged community is an area whose residents are disproportionately impacted from a combination of economic, health, and environmental burdens, such as poverty, high unemployment, environmental pollution, the presence of hazardous waste, or environmental degradation. These communities often are comprised of people who have suffered historical discrimination based on race, color, national origin, tribe, culture, income, immigration status, or English language proficiency.

For the purposes of Valley Water policies, projects, services, and programs, disadvantaged community includes any of the following:

- Low-income households (Household incomes below 80 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI) in Santa Clara County), as of 2020 AMI for average household of three is $100,950, however AMI is updated annually;

- Low-income census tracts (Census tracts where aggregated household incomes are less than 80 percent of the Area Median Income for Santa Clara County), as of 2020 AMI for average household of three is $100,950, however AMI is updated annually

- An area defined by California Environmental Protection Agency (pursuant to Section 39711 of the California Health and Safety Code), using the CalEnviroScreen tool, which was developed to determine communities most burdened by environmental, socioeconomic and health factors.
QUESTIONS
COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Board Policy and Planning Committee

SUBJECT:
Discuss Board Governance Ends Policy E-4.

RECOMMENDATION:
Review and provide feedback on the draft revised Board Governance Ends Policy E-4.

SUMMARY:
The Board Policy and Planning Committee provided feedback on a preliminary draft of the revised Board Governance Ends Policy E-4 at their September 29, 2020 regular meeting, including: Address protection of endangered species in Goal 4.1; clarify that environmental stewardship is optimized in project planning and operations in Goal 4.2; incorporate environmental justice principles throughout the policy; remove the climate change goal and develop and stand-alone climate change Ends Policy; as well as other minor wording changes. Staff has incorporated this direction and seeks further feedback or confirmation of the revised draft policy.

ATTACHMENTS:
Attachment 1: Revised Draft Ends Policy E-4

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:
Lisa Bankosh, 408-630-2618
Board Governance Ends Policy E.4. Water Resources Stewardship

*Water resources stewardship protects and enhances ecosystem health.*

**Goal 4.1** Use a science-based, inclusive approach to protect Santa Clara County’s watersheds and aquatic ecosystems for current and future generations.

1. Develop and share data to support resilient ecosystems and healthy populations of native species.
2. Monitor stream, reservoir, and Bay ecosystem health.
3. Use data to prioritize and equitably implement actions to reduce pollution, restore endangered species habitat, and enhance ecosystem function.

**Goal 4.2** Sustain ecosystem health while managing local water resources for flood protection and water supply.

1. Plan and design projects with multiple benefits, including protecting ecosystem functions and enhancing habitat, equitably in all regions of the county.
2. Operate Valley Water facilities to balance water supply, flood protection, and ecosystem sustainability.

**Goal 4.3** Encourage inclusive, sustainable management of water resources in the Bay-Delta and its watersheds to protect imported water supply.

1. Meet future water supply demand through diverse and coordinated water supply planning.
2. Promote holistic ecosystem management through science-based decision-making.
3. Actively engage in the protection of source water quality through collaboration and funding.

**Goal 4.4** Within Valley Water’s authority, prevent and address pollution of local streams, reservoirs, and the Bay, equitably across all communities.

1. Protect waterbodies from pollution and degradation.
2. Encourage stormwater capture, treatment, and reuse.
3. Prepare for and respond to spills and dumping that threaten local waterways.
4. Collaborate with agencies and nonprofits to address homelessness and its impacts to Santa Clara County Waterways.

**Goal 4.5** Engage the community to promote watershed stewardship by providing meaningful engagement in Valley Water programs for all people regardless of race,
color, national origin, tribe, culture, income immigration status, or English language proficiency.

1. Provide appropriate and equal public access to Valley Water’s streamside and watershed lands.
2. Engage and educate the community in stream and watershed protection.
3. Build partnerships to protect and enhance watersheds and aquatic ecosystems.
COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Board Policy and Planning Committee

SUBJECT:
Climate Change Action Plan and Climate Change Ends Policy E-5.

RECOMMENDATION:
Review and provide input on the draft Climate Change Ends Policy E-5 and receive an update on the Climate Change Action Plan development process.

SUMMARY:
In 2012, the Valley Water Board of Directors adopted a policy goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2020 and a methodology for calculating greenhouse gas emissions. This goal has been consistently achieved since 2014, and staff have provided annual updates to the Board on greenhouse gas mitigation and adaptation activities since that time. In 2017, the need for a comprehensive program to address climate change was recognized, and work began on the Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP). At its September 29, 2020 meeting, the Board Policy and Planning Committee directed staff to revise the climate change goal and objectives included in the Board Governance Ends Policy E-4, Water Resources Stewardship, to create a separate climate change ends policy that reflects the importance and broad reach of this issue. The draft Climate Change Ends Policy E-5 (Attachment 1) and Climate Change Action Plan (Attachment 2, CCAP Summary) provide an updated vision and framework, respectively, for Valley Water’s climate change response into the future.

The CCAP is a comprehensive plan to reduce Valley Water’s greenhouse gas emissions and address climate change risks to Santa Clara County’s water resources. Through the CCAP planning process, staff assessed potential impacts of climate change on Valley Water’s mission areas, and set clear goals for minimizing these impacts. Strategies and possible actions (many of which are currently underway) are identified, and a potential implementation plan is proposed to monitor and assess these actions. Possible new actions proposed in the CCAP include updating Valley Water’s greenhouse gas accounting practices, monitoring sea level rise, and updating the capital project planning process to include climate change adaptation and greenhouse gas reduction measures.

The CCAP is currently under review by external stakeholders and is anticipated to be presented to the Board for acceptance in early 2021. The Draft Climate Change Ends Policy E-5 reflects the CCAP’s mitigation and adaptation strategies as well as Valley Water’s environmental justice guiding principles.
ATTACHMENTS:
Attachment 1: Draft Ends Policy E-5
Attachment 2: CCAP Summary
Attachment 3: Presentation Slides

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:
Lisa Bankosh, 408-630-2618
ENDS POLICY E-5 CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION

Board Governance Ends Policy E-5. Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

Valley Water is carbon neutral and provides equitable, climate-resilient water supply, flood protection, and water resource stewardship to all communities in Santa Clara County.

Goal 5.1 Minimize greenhouse gas emissions from Valley Water’s operations.

1. Expand the use of clean technology in vehicles, equipment, and buildings, and develop carbon-efficient service delivery and construction practices.
2. Optimize energy use and expand renewable energy portfolio.
3. Encourage low carbon practices, projects, and efforts by employees, contractors, and partners.

Goal 5.2 Adapt Valley Water’s operations to reduce climate change impacts.

1. Improve the resiliency of Santa Clara County’s water supply to drought and other climate change impacts.
2. Provide equitable protection from sea level rise and flooding, prioritizing underserved communities.
3. Improve ecosystem resiliency through water resources stewardship.
4. Prepare for climate-related emergencies and provide equal access to information and services, particularly to disadvantaged communities.
Climate Change Action Plan: Overview

What is the Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP)?
Valley Water’s CCAP is a comprehensive guide to Valley Water’s current and future mitigation and adaptation efforts. It builds upon Valley Water’s existing climate change response efforts and presents goals and strategies to continue and expand these efforts.

What is the CCAP timeline?
The CCAP will be receiving feedback from stakeholders from November until December 2020. The CCAP team will take into consideration these comments prior to presenting to the board in early 2021. If the CCAP is accepted, implementation will begin immediately following acceptance by the board and will be a continual process to ensure Valley Water remains resilient to Climate Change over time.

How will Valley Water use the CCAP?
Valley Water will launch an implementation program to develop and coordinate CCAP actions following the CCAP’s acceptance by Valley Water’s Board of Directors. The implementation program will finalize, prioritize and facilitate climate actions, as well as monitor and report progress. This implementation will engage internal stakeholders extensively, as many of these actions align or overlap with other Valley Water’s plans. Furthermore, external stakeholder input will continuously guide the process.

What is in the CCAP?
The CCAP discusses Valley Water’s current greenhouse gas emissions and climate efforts, Santa Clara County’s climate and projected climate changes, Valley Water’s vulnerabilities and risks due to climate change impacts, and goals, strategies, and possible actions to mitigate and adapt to climate change. The CCAP also includes next steps towards the development of an on-going program to implement the CCAP. The following pages list each CCAP goal along with its associated strategies, with examples of possible actions.

Why does Valley Water need a CCAP?
Climate change is expected to alter local climate in Santa Clara County, Valley Water’s service area. Changes in air temperature, precipitation, and other climatic changes challenge Valley Water operations in numerous ways. For example, more droughts may lead to water supply challenges. Increasing storm intensity and sea level rise will complicate flood protection efforts. Local ecosystems may degrade in response to extreme weather and other climate change impacts. Valley Water’s CCAP seeks to make Santa Clara County’s water supply, flood protection efforts, and ecosystems more resilient to climate change impacts through this CCAP.

What is the role of stakeholders in the CCAP?
The CCAP team is currently seeking input on the CCAP’s goals, strategies and actions through sharing a survey on Facebook, Twitter, and email list-servs. Valley Water is also releasing a video along with this informational document to spread awareness about the CCAP in addition to seeking input from stakeholders. The CCAP team will continue to seek input from stakeholders during the implementation process.
### Goal 1: Reduce Direct Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions

**Reduce Valley Water Fleet Emissions**
- Continue adding electric vehicles and other fuel-efficient vehicles to Valley Water’s fleet
- Expand knowledge on vehicle emission reduction techniques, devices, and equipment, and offer sustainability training
- Expand the use of Valley Water pool vehicle(s), if possible

**Reduce GHG emissions from trips between Valley Water offices and work sites**
- Encourage remote and public transit options for off-site meetings
- Improve and maintain remote meeting technology throughout Valley Water
- Promote fuel-saving policies and protocols for Valley Water vehicles

**Reduce GHG emissions associated with Valley Water-owned equipment**
- Promote use of renewable energy for Valley Water field equipment
- Continue to replace various types of agency-owned equipment with fuel efficient or electric models
- Lower the emissions from and improve the efficiency of heating and cooling equipment at agency facilities

**Continue to update Valley Water’s GHG accounting practices**
- Continuously update the methods used to calculate Valley Water’s GHG inventory to utilize best practices
- Continue to expand the GHG inventory to account for additional sources and sinks

**Increase GHG sequestration on Valley Water properties and other areas**
- Continue to plant native and drought-tolerant plants with high carbon sequestration rates in mitigation, enhancement, and landscaping projects
- Evaluate the need for purchasing carbon offsets to sequester carbon in non-Valley Water areas, such as the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta region, as a method for maintaining carbon neutrality

**Minimize GHG emissions associated with planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of capital projects**
- Incorporate energy, water, and fuel efficiency into capital project planning, design, and long-term maintenance
- Update internal capital project work instructions to incorporate GHG reduction measures
- Promote knowledge and offer training on construction-related emission reduction technologies, devices, and equipment

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Valley Water • Climate Change Action Plan
Goal 2: Expand Renewable Energy and improve Energy Efficiency

Continue to support increased renewable energy in the agency’s energy portfolio

- Examine and pursue opportunities to increase renewable energy in Valley Water’s energy portfolio
- Continue to expand renewable and carbon-free procurement for the agency’s remaining energy demand

Continue to improve energy efficiency at agency facilities

- Improve efficiency of office equipment and expand energy and water saving measures
- Further develop a policy that improves building sustainability, maintain regular energy assessments, and implement energy-saving technologies as they are available
- Promote energy efficient behaviors through staff education
- Continue monitoring energy optimization practices and expand most impactful efforts

Strategies shown below include examples of actions to achieve the goal. If you have additional ideas, please submit these through the survey.
Goal 3: Reduce Indirect GHG Emissions

Strategies shown below include examples of actions to achieve the goal. If you have additional ideas, please submit these through the survey.

**Reduce emissions from Valley Water employee commutes**
- Incentivize in-county housing and support policies that allow alternative schedules
- Continue to invest in electric vehicle charging stations and improve their convenience

**Reduce waste produced at facilities**
- Expand waste reduction measures as a part of the Green Business Program
- Develop an agency-wide approach for diverting and minimizing waste
- Promote the use of reusable items and spread awareness on the climate impact of waste
- Expand electronic document management to minimize paper use, and make double-side printing the default

**Continue to create and expand other efforts to minimize indirect emissions**
- Spread awareness of Valley Water’s purchasing policy to consider environmental implications
- Continue to divest from major polluters
- Support California’s Department of Water Resources’ efforts to lower the carbon intensity of imported water
- Strengthen a sustainability training program for Valley Water employees
Goal 4: Water Supply Adaptation

Expand and diversify local water supplies
- Increase capture of stormwater and floodwater, such as through green infrastructure projects
- Resolve regulatory challenges to innovative local water solutions and increase coordination on alternative water uses
- Continue to implement local water supply projects

Improve demand management and support water conservation efforts
- Support programs to reduce pipeline leakage
- Promote efforts related to water conservation and reuse
- Increase coordination between Valley Water, land use agencies, and water retailers on water and land use management
- Engage in proactive, consistent, and coordinated drought and water shortage contingency planning

Support efforts to maintain and enhance source water quality
- Expand participation in collaborative projects focusing on protecting and improving imported source water quality
- Expand support for local and imported source water quality efforts, through outreach on water reuse and source water quality
- Continue to support improvements in local land management practices using latest science and technology to enhance local water quality

Expand and diversify local water supplies
- Design and develop invasive species control strategies for Valley Water’s facilities and conveyance structures that are specific to target organisms
- Promote and participate in research projects related to climate change impacts on source water quality
- Conduct a study to identify potential adaptive water treatment actions that increase the resilience and flexibility of treatment systems to the impacts of climate change

Implement source water improvement and water treatment actions
- Increase hydrologic forecasting to better adapt to changing hydrology and extremes
- Address aging infrastructure through continued implementation of the Infrastructure Reliability Plan
- Expand efforts to improve the resilience of local and imported storage, managed recharge facilities, and conveyance and increase groundwater storage
- Expand the development of asset management plans that incorporate the latest climate change science and solutions

Increase reliability of imported water
- Collaborate on and support Sierra Nevada watershed protection and restoration projects
- Support state efforts to develop emergency preparedness plans to respond to large Delta levee failure events that threaten imported water supplies
- Continue to collaborate with providers of imported water regional and statewide issues

Support ecological water supply management objectives
- Develop climate resilient water supply options to support fisheries and other aquatic and stream-dependent resources
- Continue to implement adaptive management to support fisheries
- Continue to participate in joint efforts with partner water agencies to support ecosystem restoration, research, and management and in statewide environmental flows discussions

Strategies shown below include examples of actions to achieve the goal. If you have additional ideas, please submit these through the survey.
Goal 5: Flood Protection Adaptation In Santa Clara County

Strategies shown below include examples of actions to achieve the goal. If you have additional ideas, please submit these through the survey.

Minimize flood risk in coastal areas
- Expand collaboration on fluvial and coastal flood protection projects
- Increase the connectivity of coastal habitats along the Bay’s shoreline with the tidal zones of streams
- Install tidal gages to monitor sea level rise
- Continue to work on capital projects and coordination with cities to address sea level rise related flooding risk
- Maintain efforts to incorporate sea level rise data in flood protection projects

Minimize riverine flooding risks
- Research, design, and implement multi-benefit flood protection projects such as green infrastructure to increase channel conveyance capacity and protect or improve ecosystem resilience
- Expand procedures to plan and design capital projects for long-term stream resilience
- Create natural floodplain areas, stream–upland transition areas, and upland buffers around streams
- Implement procedures to plan and design capital projects around long-term stream resilience

Improve the flood preparedness of people, property, and habitat
- Coordinate with land use agencies to protect and restore historic floodplain areas and vegetated buffers along creeks
- Consider relocation, purchase, and/or structure elevation of properties subject to recurring flooding risk, when possible
- Continue to obtain land in areas vulnerable to flooding for improved flood protection and channel restoration
- Continue to enhance monitoring and maintenance programs of flood protection infrastructure

Implement projects and plans to increase the flexibility and resilience of flood protection operations and assets
- Develop planning, design, and maintenance procedures to address assets’ climate related flood impacts
- Develop asset management plans for flood protection assets that incorporate climate change solutions and promote adaptation, resilience, and flexibility
- Implement projects that maximize stream climate resilience
- Implement the flood protection measures in existing Valley Water’s plans
- Continue to optimize reservoir management to build resilience and minimize impacts from extreme storm events

Expand the use of flood forecasting and modeling tools in the planning and design of agency projects to maximize protection from flood risks.
- Model predicted changes in the frequency and magnitude of flooding events to inform project planning and design
- Seek additional technologies to improve forecasting of floods, storm surges, and other events resulting from rising sea level and changing flood patterns
- Expand the use of rain and stream gauges in monitoring and maintenance of assets to help identify areas of risk
- Continue to leverage tools available to evaluate flood risk
Goal 6: Ecosystem Adaptation in Santa Clara County

Strategies shown below include examples of actions to achieve the goal. If you have additional ideas, please submit these through the survey.

Protect and enhance riverine, coastal, and other watershed ecosystems to improve climate resilience

- Identify and prioritize habitat enhancement needs and incorporate them into stream stewardship and mitigation projects
- Develop climate-resilient best practices to be used in the implementation of habitat conservation and restoration
- Consider adopting policies that promote environmental stewardship principles to address climate change impacts
- Expand efforts to protect, restore, enhance, and maintain riparian areas and wetlands, and transitional and upland buffers around those features

Develop and expand programs and plans that support more climate-resilient ecosystems

- Support mutually beneficial inter-agency programs, plans, and projects that restore regional ecosystems
- Continue to effectively manage surface water quality in creeks and reservoirs and address algal blooms and mercury contamination in Valley Water's reservoirs
- Develop policies and guidelines for handling effects of wildfires
- Consider adopting policies to promote habitat connectivity when planning, designing, operating, and maintaining Valley Water's flood protection and water supply infrastructure
- Expand the guidelines and standards for land use near streams to include climate change resilience considerations

Expand the availability of data on regional ecosystems to avoid detrimental climate change–related ecosystem impacts

- Research climate impacts on invasive species to guide efforts at prevention and removal
- Expand monitoring and modeling of the effects of climate change–related events on ecosystems, stream flows, and water quality
- Participate in research projects related to climate impacts on Valley Water's mission areas
- Continue collecting baseline information about natural assets to guide future restoration activities

Valley Water • Climate Change Action Plan
Goal 7: Emergency Preparedness

Maximize Valley Water’s emergency preparedness for climate related impacts
- Expand and improve procedures for responding to climate-related emergencies
- Expand safety and continued operation of Valley Water assets during climate-related emergencies
- Continue to develop a centralized approach to understand future climate changes and impacts. Develop climate modeling and analysis methods to better assess, predict, and respond to climate change

Interested in adding comments to our climate goals, or would you like to suggest new action ideas to achieve them? Take our survey!

Scan the code to take the survey or find the survey link on Valley Water’s Facebook.
Scan by holding your camera over the code or by using a "QR code scanner" app.
Board Governance Ends Policy E-5 & Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) Update

Neeta Bijoor, Ph.D., Associate Water Resources Specialist
Board Policy and Planning Committee, November 23, 2020
Ends Policy E-5: Climate Change Adaptation & Mitigation

Valley Water is carbon neutral and provides equitable, climate-resilient water supply, flood protection, and water resource stewardship to all communities in Santa Clara County.

5.1 Minimize greenhouse gas emissions from Valley Water operations

1. Expand the use of clean technology in vehicles, equipment, and buildings, and develop carbon-efficient service delivery and construction practices.
2. Optimize energy use and expand renewable energy portfolio.
3. Encourage low carbon practices, projects, and efforts by employees, contractors, and partners.

5.2 Adapt Valley Water’s operations to reduce climate change impacts.

1. Improve the resiliency of Santa Clara County’s water supply to drought and other climate change impacts.
2. Provide equitable protection from sea level rise and flooding, prioritizing underserved communities.
3. Improve ecosystem resiliency through water resources stewardship.
4. Prepare for climate-related emergencies and provide equal access to information and services, particularly to disadvantaged communities.
Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP)

Provides VW’s framework for climate change response

• Presents **goals and strategies**

• Proposes an **ongoing implementation program**

• Public-facing document
CCAP Process

Review & Compile → Synthesize → Benchmark → Review

Outcome:
Concise & Comprehensive Set of Goals and Strategies
CCAP Goals

• **Goal 1**: Reduce Direct Emissions (Scope 1)
• **Goal 2**: Improve Energy Efficiency (Scope 2)
• **Goal 3**: Reduce Indirect Emissions (Scope 3)

• **Goal 4**: Water Supply Adaptation
• **Goal 5**: Flood Protection Adaptation
• **Goal 6**: Ecosystem Adaptation

• **Goal 7**: Emergency Preparedness
CCAP Possible Actions

• 37% - Ongoing Actions

• 26% - Actions to Expand

• 37% - New Actions

90% of all actions align with other plans.
Proposed CCAP External Outreach Strategy

Goals of Outreach:

• Awareness

• Stakeholder Input
Proposed CCAP External Outreach Strategy

Awareness
- Social Media Video
- Website Update
- Summary Document

Stakeholder Input
- Survey
  - Review of goals and strategies
  - Additional action ideas for implementation
  - Prioritization of Goals
- Social Media Polls
  - “Hook” for survey
Success Metrics

- Awareness: 3,000 stakeholders made aware of CCAP
- Stakeholder Input: 200 stakeholders participate in full survey
Suggested Next Steps

• Revise Existing Carbon Neutrality Policy

• Develop and Launch Implementation Program
  • Additional stakeholder outreach
  • Budget development
  • Success metrics
Valley Water

Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection
COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Board Policy and Planning Committee

SUBJECT:
Work Plan, Meeting Schedule and Accomplishments Report.

RECOMMENDATION:
A. Review the Board Policy and Planning Committee's Work Plan and Accomplishments Report and incorporate any new tasks; and
B. Schedule Committee meetings as appropriate.

SUMMARY:
This item allows the Committee to review its 2020 Work Plan, meeting schedule and accomplishments report and identify additional tasks and schedule meetings as appropriate.

ATTACHMENTS:
Attachment 1: 2020 BPPC Work Plan & Accomplishments Report

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:
Michele King, 408-630-211.
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**Board Planning Process**

**Board Committees Principles and**

**Other Assignments Requested by Board**

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Attachment 1
11/17/2020
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