

FEDERAL ADVOCACY EFFORTS

Staff Advocates for Valley Water Interests Despite Shutdown

Despite the federal government shutdown, Valley Water staff continued to advocate with congressional offices throughout October for Valley Water priorities. In particular, staff shared important updates on watersheds projects and coordinated advocacy with the San Luis & Delta Mendota Water Authority on the Sisk Dam Raise Project. Staff is also preparing submissions for next year's Water Resources Development Act, including proposals for improving the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Program and the Corps Water Infrastructure Financing Program. Staff will continue to seek opportunities to advance Valley Water interests as the shutdown persists.

STATE ADVOCACY EFFORTS



California State Capitol.

Governor Takes Action on Key Legislation

Governor Gavin Newsom had until midnight on October 13 to sign or veto legislation passed at the end of the legislative session. This year, he received 917 bills requiring action, signing 794 of them into law and vetoing 123. Several of these bills may impact Valley Water. A selection of notable bills signed by the Governor include: SB 31 (McNerney) expands the scope of allowable recycled water applications. SB 72 (Caballero) revises requirements for the contents of the California Water Plan, requires the Department of Water Resources to develop a long-term water supply planning target for 2050, and establishes an interim target to develop an additional nine million acre-feet of water by 2040. SB 695 (Cortese) requires Caltrans, the California Transportation Commission, and the California State Transportation Agency to create a prioritized list of highway projects that are of statewide and regional significance to better prepare the state for extreme weather-related events. SB 707

(Durazo) makes several changes to the Brown Act, including changes related to open meetings, teleconferencing, meeting disruptions, website requirements, translation requirements, and more. AB 1319 (Schultz) authorizes the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to extend protections under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) to a California native species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) if the federal government takes actions to decrease federal protections for that species under ESA.

A selection of notable bills vetoed by the Governor include: SB 454 (McNerney) would have created the PFAS Mitigation Fund in the State Treasury and authorized the State Water Resources Control Board to use the fund to cover or reduce the costs associated with treating PFAS. SB 682 (Allen) would have prohibited the distribution or sale of cleaning products, dental floss, juvenile products, food packaging, or ski wax containing intentionally added PFAS beginning January 1, 2028, and cookware containing intentionally added PFAS beginning January 1, 2030. AB 93 (Papan) would have required a data center operator to provide its estimated or actual water use to its water supplier as a condition of obtaining or renewing a business license issued by a city or county.

A list of bills with the Board's position and their status is included at the end of this monthly update.

LOCAL ADVOCACY AND



Councilmember Tordillos, Vice Chair Richard P. Santos, Water Utility Chief Aaron Baker, along with Council District 3 staff and Valley Water staff.

ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS

Newly Elected San Jose Councilmember Anthony Tordillos Visits the SVAWPC

On Oct. 16, Valley Water staff hosted San Jose District 3 Councilmember Anthony Tordillos and his team at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center (SVAWPC). Councilmember Tordillos began serving on the City Council in

August and represents downtown San Jose, Japantown, and the area around San Jose State University. Vice Chair Santos welcomed the group to the SVAWPC and Valley Water staff provided a presentation on purified water before leading the Councilmember and his staff on a walking tour of the facility. Councilmember Tordillos and the District 3 team were able to see firsthand the purification processes and learn more about water reuse and its benefits.



October 11: Valley Water booth at Pumpkins in the Park.

Community Engagement at Events

Staff kicked off the fall season with several community events throughout the county. Staff educated attendees on flood preparedness and provided literature on our resources, volunteer opportunities, and programs. Visitors spun the water wheel for a chance to answer water trivia, and were also provided information on water conservation, rebates, and climate resilience.



October 25: Valley Water booth staff tabling in Halloween spirit at Councilmember Candelas' Family Fall Festival!



October 11: Valley Water booth at the Cupertino Chamber Diwali Festival.

RECENT EVENTS

OCT 11

OCT 11

OCT 11

OCT 18

OCT 24-26

OCT 25

OCT 25

OCT 28-29

OCT 30

Martial Cottle Park's Fall Festival Booth

Guadalupe River Park Conservancy Pumpkins in the Park Booth

Cupertino Chamber Diwali Festival Booth

Valley Health Foundation Women's Leadership and Policy Summit Booth

CA/HI NAACP State Convention Luncheon Booth

Senator Cortese's 3rd Annual Picnic by the Lake Booth

Councilmember Candelas' Family Fall Festival

San Francisco Estuary Partnership Conference Table

City of San Jose D1 Disability Awareness Day Booth

2025 State Legislation with Board-Approved Positions

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
AB 11 (Lee)	The Social Housing Act	Support	Pending - Senate Housing Committee (2 Yr Bill)
AB 259 (Blanca Rubio)	Open Meetings Teleconferences	Support	Pending - Senate Judiciary Committee (2 Yr Bill)
AB 269 (Bennett)	Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program	Oppose	Pending - Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee (2 Yr Bill)
AB 454 (Kalra)	Migratory Birds: California Migratory Bird Protection Act	Support	Signed by the Governor
AB 514 (Petrie-Norris)	Emergency Water Supplies	Support	Pending - Assembly Appropriations Suspense File (2 Yr Bill)
AB 532 (Ransom)	Water Rate Assistance Program	Support	Pending - Senate Appropriations Committee - Suspense File (2 Yr Bill)
AB 707 (Soria)	San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority: B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion Project	Support	Pending - Assembly Rules Committee (2 Yr Bill)
AB 810 (Irwin)	Local Government Internet Websites and Email Addresses	Oppose	Pending - Assembly Appropriations Suspense File (2 Yr Bill)
AB 1319 (Schultz)	Protected species: California Endangered Species Act	Oppose Unless Amended	Signed by the Governor
SB 31 (McNerney)	Water Quality: recycled water	Support	Signed by the Governor
SB 72 (Caballero)	The California Water Plan: Long-Term Supply Targets	Support	Signed by the Governor
SB 454 (McNerney)	State Water Resources Control Board: PFAS Mitigation Program	Support	Vetoed by the Governor
SB 466 (Caballero)	Drinking water: hexavalent chromium: civil liability: exemption	Support	Signed by the Governor
SB 496 (Hurtado)	Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation: appeals advisory committee: exemptions	Support	Pending - Senate Appropriations Suspense File (2 Yr Bill)
SB 598 (Durazo)	Construction Manager/General Contractor Project Delivery Method	Support	Signed by the Governor
SB 599 (Caballero)	Atmospheric rivers: research: forecasting methods: experimental tools	Support	Pending - Assembly Appropriations - Suspense File (2 Yr Bill)
SB 601 (Allen)	Water: waste discharge	Oppose Unless Amended	Pending - Assembly Appropriations Committee - Suspense File (2 Yr Bill)
SB 650 (Cabaldon)	The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009.	Support	Signed by the Governor
SB 682 (Allen)	Environmental health: product safety: perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances	Support	Vetoed by the Governor
SB 695 (Cortese)	Transportation: climate resiliency: projects of statewide and regional significance	Support	Signed by the Governor
SB 753 (Cortese)	Special business regulations: shopping carts	Support	Signed by the Governor

2025 Federal Legislation with Board-Approved Positions

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
H.R. 337 (Costa)	Groundwater Technical Assistance Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 338 (Costa)	Every Drop Counts Act	Support	Introduced
S. 322 (Padilla)	Improving Atmospheric River Forecasting Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 1267 (Gluesenkamp Perez)	Water Systems PFAS Liability Protection Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 403 (Swalwell)	Preventing Our Next Natural Disaster Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 1382 (Huffman)	San Francisco Bay Restoration Program Technical Correction Act	Support	Reported Out of Committee
H.R. 605 (Costa)	Headwaters Protection Act of 2025	Support	Introduced
H.R. 1871 (Huffman) S. 857 (Curtis)	Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act of 2025	Support	Introduced
H.R. 1894 (Calvert)	Federally Integrated Species Health (FISH) Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 2594 (Crawford)	Water Risk and Resilience Organization Establishment Act	Support	Introduced

2025 Federal Legislation with Board-Approved Positions

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
H.R. 2344 (Schakowsky) S. 1118 (Markey)	Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center (WaterISAC) Threat Protection Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 2766 (Fallon)	Special District Fairness and Accessibility Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 2774 (Harder)	Safeguarding Our Levees Act	Support	Introduced
S. 1760 (Curtis)	Restoring WIFIA Eligibility Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 2907 (Stanton)	Save Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (Save BRIC) Act	Support	Introduced
S. 324 (Rosen)	Smarter Weather Forecasting for Water Management, Farming, and Ranching Act of 2025	Support	Introduced
S. 1481 (Wicker)	Lifting Our Communities through Advance Liquidity for Infrastructure (LOCAL Infrastructure) Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 1255 (Kustoff)	Investing in Our Communities Act	Support	Introduced
S. 1246 (Tillis)	FEMA Independence Act of 2025	Support	Introduced
H.R. 4733 (Sorensen)	Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program Establishment Act	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 3572 (Valadao)	Farm to Market Road Improvement Act	Support and Amend	Introduced
S. 1413 (Padilla)	To authorize additional funding for the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act	Support	Introduced
S. 1477 (Padilla) H.R. 2945 (Lieu)	Housing for All Act of 2025	Support and Amend	Introduced