

To: Board of Directors
From: Tina Yoke, Acting CEO

Weeks of December 20, 2024 – January 9, 2025

Board Executive Limitation Policy EL-7:

The Board Appointed Officers shall inform and support the Board in its work. Further, a BAO shall 1) inform the Board of relevant trends, anticipated adverse media coverage, or material external and internal changes, particularly changes in the assumptions upon which any Board policy has previously been established and 2) report in a timely manner an actual or anticipated noncompliance with any policy of the Board.

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1. 2025 State Water Project Allocation Update

On Dec 23, 2024, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced that the State Water Project (SWP) allocation for 2025 will increase from 5% to 15%. This adjustment follows increased precipitation from late November and early December storms which have increased reservoir levels and helped boost statewide precipitation levels to just above average for this time of year. DWR will continue to monitor precipitation and snowpack conditions throughout the winter and update the SWP allocation as additional information becomes available. The next update will likely come in January and will incorporate information from the first snow surveys of the season.

For further information, please contact Vincent Gin at (408) 630-2633.

2. Cost Share Agreement Between Valley Water and City of San Jose for Design of Montague Expressway Bridge Improvements, as part of the Lower Guadalupe Capacity Restoration Project

The Lower Guadalupe Capacity Restoration Project (Project), which recently entered the design phase, aims to restore 100-year flood capacity to the Lower Guadalupe River between Tasman Drive and Highway 101. As part of the Project, existing headwalls on the Montague Expressway Bridge will be raised.

The City of San Jose (City) is simultaneously working on a plan to incorporate an additional vehicular travel lane on the Montague Expressway bridge and an adjacent bicycle/pedestrian crossing that connects to the Guadalupe River Trail network.

Valley Water and the City have agreed to work together on a cost share agreement for the design of both party's required improvements at the Montague Expressway bridge. Valley Water will lead the design effort and will use the City's financial contributions for design consultant costs, project management labor costs, environmental permitting, and other incidental expenditures required to complete design.

The agreement has been drafted and is currently under review by the City and Valley Water staff. Once both parties complete their reviews and the agreement terms are finalized, the agreement will be routed for approval by Valley Water's CEO per EL.5.5.1. At the City council meeting on 12/17/2024 the City adopted a resolution authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute the cost-share agreement. It is anticipated that the agreement will be finalized and executed in early 2025.

For further information, please contact Bhavani Yerrapotu at (408) 630-2735.

3. Golden Mussels found in the California Delta

Golden mussel, an invasive mollusk native to China and Southeast Asia, was recently discovered in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. This discovery is the first known occurrence of golden mussels in North America. Like quagga and zebra mussels, golden mussels pose a significant ecological threat to California's native species, ecosystems, and water infrastructure due to their ability to colonize hard surfaces, clogging water intakes, screens, and pipes.

Golden mussels are similar in appearance, biology, and impacts to quagga and zebra mussels, but can establish themselves in waters with significantly lower calcium levels, higher salinity and has a wider temperature tolerance compared to quagga and zebra mussels.

In response to the recent discovery, staff is collaborating closely with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Department of Water Resources, and other local stakeholders to assess the extent of golden mussel infestation and implement measures to mitigate its potential spread. These measures include expanding Valley Water's existing invasive mussel monitoring program to include golden mussels, establishing decontamination protocols for vessels and associated equipment used by Valley Water's staff and contractors before entering Valley Water's reservoirs, exploring exit vessel inspections at Calero and Coyote reservoirs in close coordination with Santa Clara County Parks, and enhancing public education and outreach efforts.

Staff will continue to actively monitor this rapidly evolving issue and collaborate with stakeholders and regulatory agencies to mitigate or eliminate its impact to our ecosystem and infrastructure.

For further information, please contact Sam Bogale at (408) 630-3505.

4. Beall

Regarding gate replacements on the Coyote-Alamitos canal, Director Beall would like background communication on the trail/public use of the canal and the cost so far on the gate replacements
IBMR-24-0020

The Coyote Alamos Canal was used several decades ago to move water from Coyote Valley to the Almaden Lake area along the Santa Teresa Foothills for more than 8 miles. This canal is no longer used to transport water and even though it crosses through lands owned by City of San Jose, County of Santa Clara, and private individuals, Valley Water is still responsible for maintaining and repairing the canal which at times fills with rainwater/runoff. There is a maintenance road along the canal that has multiple gates that are of various styles and in various conditions. Most gates are located at the boundary of a different landowner. Several have been vandalized or are missing. For many years, community members have used this as an unofficial trail, but it is not a public trail and in fact users are trespassing when they hike along it. Valley Water and various agencies have posted no trespassing signs, fences, and gates with limited success.

Recently, Valley Water staff received complaints from several property owners/residents who live right below the canal that trespassers and late-night activities had increased. The complaints about trespassers and illegal use on the Coyote Alamos Canal access road led staff to initiate a project to replace missing or vandalized gates along the canal from Miracle Mile Road to Monterey Road.

Cost for the gate replacements for the two gates built so far are as follows, \$7,638.74 for labor and \$987.04 for materials, for a grand total of \$8,625.78.

For further information, please contact Rachael Gibson at (408) 630-2884.

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