

Attachment 1

Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program Background

In November 2020, Santa Clara County voters overwhelmingly approved Measure S, a renewal of Valley Water's Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program. Voters first approved a community-focused program to address our waterways and water supply in 2000 as the Clean, Safe Creeks and Natural Flood Protection Plan, then again in 2012 as the Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program.

The Safe, Clean Water Program addresses the following six community priorities:

- Priority A:** Ensure a Safe, Reliable Water Supply
- Priority B:** Reduce Toxins, Hazards, and Contaminants in Our Waterways
- Priority C:** Protect Our Water Supply and Dams from Earthquakes and Other Natural Disasters
- Priority D:** Restore Wildlife Habitat and Provide Open Space
- Priority E:** Provide Flood Protection to Homes, Businesses, Schools, Streets, and Highways
- Priority F:** Support Public Health and Public Safety for Our Community

Each of these priorities has specific operational and capital projects, which have key performance indicators (KPIs) to keep them on track in meeting the overall Safe, Clean Water Program priorities. KPIs are considered the measurement for the delivery of each project and represent Valley Water's commitment to the voters.

The renewed Safe, Clean Water Program will continue to be monitored by the Independent Monitoring Committee to ensure transparency, accountability, and fiscal responsibility. The Program also requires that staff develop five-year implementation plans, implement a change control process, and conduct independent audits at least every five years.

As changes may be required throughout the implementation of the Safe, Clean Water Program, staff has developed a change control process, which outlines the differences between adjustments and modifications to the Program and identifies the different processes for implementing both. In summary, "adjustments" are project changes that do not impact KPIs, such as updates to text, financial allocation, or schedule, and can be approved by the Valley Water Board during a public board meeting. Any changes to KPIs are considered "modifications." Modifications to KPIs or a decision to "Not Implement" a project require a public hearing, which must be publicly noticed.

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