

## SUMMARY FOR FEBRUARY 2025 Office of Government Relations



### FEDERAL ADVOCACY EFFORTS



Capitol Building in Washington, D.C.

#### Staff Advocates to Protect Federal Funds for Valley Water Projects

Amid the Trump Administration's efforts to freeze federal funding, staff has been working closely with our congressional delegation to keep them apprised of any challenges Valley Water is facing with receiving already-secured federal funds. Fortunately, there do not appear to be any issues at this time, but staff will continue to monitor this evolving situation and advocate for protecting water infrastructure funding. Staff is now preparing Valley Water's funding requests for federal Fiscal Year 2026, which staff will bring to the Board for adoption next month. Staff prepares these funding requests in advance of Valley Water's spring and fall advocacy trips to Washington, D.C.; the spring trip is scheduled for April 28-30, 2025.

### STATE ADVOCACY EFFORTS



State Capitol and Downtown Sacramento, California.

#### State Budget Advocacy Meetings

In February, staff met with members of the Santa Clara County legislative delegation to advocate for critical state budget priorities. During these meetings, staff urged legislators to reject the Governor's proposed budget cuts, specifically the \$50 million reduction in Dam Safety Program funding and the \$51 million cut to the Water Recycling Program. Valley Water supports the appropriation of \$231 million for dam safety, which enhances public safety and mitigates risks from aging infrastructure. Additionally, Valley Water supports the proposed \$153.4 million for water recycling, which would help expand advanced water purification and direct potable reuse efforts. For sea level rise protection, Valley Water is advocating for the \$173 million included in the budget to fund coastal resilience projects, such as the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project.

Staff will continue advocating for Valley Water's priorities as the State Budget process progresses through the legislative session. Staff is committed to securing state appropriations that provide opportunities for critical infrastructure needs in Santa Clara County.

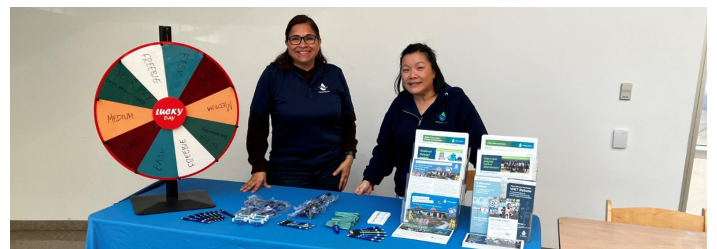
### LOCAL ADVOCACY AND ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS

#### Valley Water Celebrates Black History Month at the City of San José

On February 7, Valley Water participated in the City of San José's annual Black History Month celebration and flag raising ceremony. The vibrant community event was held in celebration of the achievements and contributions of Black Americans and was hosted by Vice Mayor Rosemary Kamei and San José-Silicon Valley NAACP. The event included a ceremonial raising of the Pan-African flag, followed by remarks from local leaders and special musical performances. Valley Water staff hosted an informational booth inside the San José City Hall Rotunda to provide information on flood preparedness resources, water conservation, available rebate programs, and regional water policy issues.



February 7: Standing room-only at the City of San José's Black History Month event.



February 7: Staff at the Valley Water informational booth inside the San José City Hall Rotunda.

#### RECENT EVENTS

- FEB 01** San José Chapter of the Links' Emergency Preparedness Workshop
- FEB 07** City of San José District 1 Black History Month Flag Raising

#### FUTURE EVENTS

- MAR 29** Cupertino Education Endowment Foundation 5k and Fun Run Booth

## 2025 State Legislation with Board-Approved Positions

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
AB 259 (Blanca Rubio)	Open Meetings Teleconferences	Support	Pending - Assembly Local Government Committee
AB 269 (Bennett)	Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program	Oppose	Pending - Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee
AB 707 (Soria)	San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority: B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion Project	Support	Pending - Assembly Rules Committee
SB 72 (Caballero)	The California Water Plan: Long-Term Supply Targets	Support	Pending - Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee

## 2025 Federal Legislation with Board-Approved Positions

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
S. 337 (Costa)	Groundwater Technical Assistance Act	Support	Introduced
S. 338 (Costa)	Every Drop Counts Act	Support	Introduced