

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT**

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-

**AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OR THEIR DESIGNEE TO SIGN THE
EQUITY IN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT PLEDGE ON BEHALF OF
THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, the Equity in Infrastructure Project (EIP) is a non-profit organization seeking to build generational wealth and reduce the racial wealth gap by promoting and building a coalition of public and private agencies committed to improving public infrastructure contracting practices to enhance equity access to contracting opportunities for historically underutilized business (HUBs); and

WHEREAS, as of today, the EIP coalition consists of 74 public and private agencies whose CEOs have already signed the EIP pledge, which include federal and state organizations, and among these California's largest water agency; and

WHEREAS, the EIP pledge signatories are invited to commit to the advancement of infrastructure equity for HUBs by ("the Pledge"):

- Increasing the number, size and proportion of contracting opportunities going to HUBs;
- Increasing the number, size and proportion of contracting opportunities going to HUBs as prime contractors;
- Streamlining the administration of contracting with HUBs to centralize certification, improve payment time, and standardize transparent data collection;
- Increasing the amount and type of financing available to HUBs aiming to meet infrastructure contracts by working with private and public partners; and
- Expanding the number of signatories to this Pledge.

WHEREAS, Valley Water holds equity, fairness, diversity, and environmental justice as core values to its mission and the Pledge is aligned with these values.

WHEREAS, past and current efforts by the Santa Clara Valley Water District, including the adoption of Ordinance 23-0657 directing the establishment of construction contracting procedures within the Small Business Enterprise Outreach Program Policy, are also closely aligned with the intent of the Pledge and signing it will further demonstrate Valley Water's commitment to equity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Santa Clara Valley Water District hereby authorize the Chief Executive Officer to sign the Equity in Infrastructure Pledge on behalf of Valley Water, thereby strengthening Valley Water's commitment to support the actions outlined in the Pledge.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Santa Clara Valley Water District by the following vote on January 14, 2025.

AYES: Directors

NOES: Directors

ABSENT: Directors

ABSTAIN: Directors

SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

TONY ESTREMER
Chair, Board of Directors

ATTEST: MAXIMILLION OVERLAND, CMC

Interim Clerk, Board of Directors