



Clarification Requested on Measure S KPI E5 and San Francisquito Creek Flood Protection

From Hamilton Hitchings <hitchingsh@yahoo.com>

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To Board of Directors <board@valleywater.org>

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Dear Chair and Members of the Valley Water Board,

Ahead of the July 14 discussion of Measure S KPI E5 for San Francisquito Creek Flood Protection, I am writing to request clarification on Valley Water's ongoing role, technical participation, and funding commitment to the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority.

At the June 23 Valley Water Board meeting, staff publicly assured the community that the proposed KPI E5 modification would change only how Valley Water measures the success of its work with the JPA, not Valley Water's participation, role, or funding allocation. Specifically, during the staff presentation, staff stated:

"This proposed KPI modification has no impact on Valley Water's participation with or role with the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority or on the project's funding allocation. The KPI revision is only pertinent to how we track Safe Clean Water Program and Project Performance."

That assurance was helpful. However, I am concerned that Director Hsueh's comments at the April 21 Valley Water Board Policy and Monitoring Committee meeting may suggest a more restrictive interpretation. Director Hsueh stated that Valley Water stands ready to provide technical support, but that such support must be initiated by the JPA through an agreement with clear roles and responsibilities. I have included the video link and timestamp for reference:

https://scvwd.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=3&clip_id=2406 timestamp starting at 17:02

I respectfully request that Valley Water staff and Director Hsueh clarify the following for the public, the City of Palo Alto, and the SFC JPA:

1. Does Valley Water agree that the existing JPA member agreement remains sufficient for the SFC JPA to request and receive Valley Water technical support?
2. Is Valley Water saying that a new agreement is needed before technical support can continue?
3. Will Valley Water continue to make its experienced technical staff and subject matter experts available to support the Reach 2 project when requested by the SFC JPA?
4. Will eligible Valley Water technical support for this project continue to be funded through Measure S, consistent with past practice?

I believe this clarification should be stated clearly on the record and, ideally, reflected in the KPI

language. Regardless of which agency serves as project lead, Valley Water's technical participation and subject matter expertise are vital to the success of San Francisquito Creek flood protection. Handout 3.4-A 07/14/2026

Finally, Valley Water's website, last updated in April 2026, currently lists \$53.5 million in funding for this project. Please clarify whether that funding amount remains unchanged under the proposed KPI modification. In addition, has Valley Water provided the SFC JPA, and made public, how much Measure S funding has been spent so far on San Francisquito Creek Flood Protection and, at least at a high level, how those funds were used? This information is necessary for the SFC JPA, Palo Alto, and the public to understand the remaining funding available and to plan the Reach 2 project responsibly.

Thank you for your consideration and for clarifying these issues before or during the July 14 discussion.

Sincerely,

Hamilton Hitchings