



MEMORANDUM

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TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Director John L. Varela
JWRC 2025 Chair

SUBJECT: Joint Water Resources Committee
(JWRC) with Gilroy/Morgan Hill
October 1, 2025 Regular Meeting Summary

DATE: November 25, 2025

This memorandum summarizes agenda items from the meeting of the Joint Water Resources Committee (JWRC) held on October 1, 2025.

Receive South County Water Reuse Collaboration Update and Provide Feedback.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and expressed interest in confirming the developer near the Southern alignment and noted the collaborative process of pipe upsizing with developers and Valley Water. The Committee noted that securing federal and state funding for water projects is increasingly competitive and expressed support for utilizing available tools to expedite the process, including a possible joint outreach letter from Valley Water and the elected officials of the Cities of Gilroy and Morgan Hill. The Committee noted that a feasibility study is required, which may take up to 2 years before construction funding can be requested, and expressed interest in continuing to explore strategies to advance South County in the queue for priority funding. The Committee expressed support for utilizing upcoming meetings and conferences to continue engaging with federal and state representatives. The Committee confirmed the status of the pressurized pipeline connection to the Glen Loma Ranch development and noted that the developer may begin construction around April 2026. The Committee confirmed the general feasibility study process, including reviewing and ranking projects, consideration of the cost effectiveness and public benefit, supporting funding sources, community support, and agency collaboration, all of which assist projects in rising to the top for evaluation. The Committee confirmed the current recycled and purified water percentages versus the overall goal and expressed support for pursuing an accelerated timeframe for stakeholder workshops in Gilroy and Morgan Hill. The Committee noted staff's success in collaborating on grant opportunities and discussed potential water purification locations, as well as the challenges related to water availability, costs, and delays associated with federal and procurement processes.

Review and Discuss the Joint Water Resources Committee 2025 Work Plan; and Confirm the Next Meeting Date.

The Committee reviewed and discussed the JWRC 2025 Work Plan, noted appreciation for the enthusiasm and collaboration, expressed having the next meeting upon receiving an update to the feasibility study and for further discussion of the game plan and expediting timelines, and Councilmember Martinez Beltran expressed interest in a future potential site visit.

John L. Varela
Director, District 1
Joint Water Resources Committee

The next regular JWRC meeting is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on January 7, 2026.

Board member comments and suggestions can be forwarded to Nicole Merritt, Deputy Clerk (Committee Meetings), at (408) 630-3262 or by email to nmerritt@valleywater.org.