



MEMORANDUM

FC 14

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Recycled Water Committee

SUBJECT: Recycled Water Committee (RWC)
July 31, 2024 Special Meeting Summary.

DATE: September 10, 2024

This memorandum summarizes agenda items from the meeting of the Recycled Water Committee (RWC) held on Wednesday, July 31, 2024.

Receive Purified Water Program Update Including Partnerships with Cities San Jose and Santa Clara and Provide Feedback.

The Committee received the update, took no formal action, and noted staff's great job and their support for continued community outreach through tours and education. The Committee confirmed the timing of the demonstration facility has not changed and noted staff looks to release the Request for Proposal (RFP) for design early next year dependent upon lease amendment negotiations with the City of San Jose. The Committee confirmed that staff will include a preliminary review of the Master Plan for the full facility when staff works on the consultant agreement for the demonstration facility. The Committee confirmed if negotiations are completed before the end of the year that staff will continue to work towards expediting next steps for the project.

Discuss Recycled Water Goal for the Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP) and Recommend to Valley Water's Board a Water Reuse Goal for WSMP 2050.

The Committee received the update, took no formal action, and Director Beall noted support for increasing the water reuse goal beyond 24,000 AFY for WSMP 2050 and expressed opposition to the WSMP if the water reuse goal is not increased. Director Beall requested confirmation of the AFY, capacity or percentage that is currently recycled for comparison purposes and staff confirmed it was about 11% for the non-potable system for the City of San Jose. Director Beall noted support for confirming long-term water reuse goals beyond the demonstration and full-scale facility with the City of San Jose. Director Beall confirmed desalination options are being reviewed and the Palo Alto project is included in the long-term plan for potential direct potable reuse. Director Beall noted advanced water purification as a federal and state funding priority and support for a higher aspirational water reuse goal. The Committee noted support for remaining realistic while trying to do the maximum water reuse goal, avoiding a set up for failure, encouraging balance of selling water and conservation, and Director Santos noted a potential water reuse compromise of 35,000 AFY. The Committee confirmed that the City of San Jose staff working with Valley Water staff are researching and reviewing future design options to maximize flow for the filtration building and the next phase of the project and addressing sea level rise issues. Director Beall noted support of a presentation down the road from the City of San Jose to show future modernization plans for the treatment plant and review of documentation of the past brick sewer system. Director Beall requested continued discussion and research on increasing water recycling and water purification through alternate options like utilizing technology, potential clustering of server farms, and confirming heavy water commercial

users. Staff confirmed follow up could occur with City of San Jose at a future Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee (JRWPAC) meeting. The Committee noted staff's verbal recommendation of up to 48,000 AFY as a potential water reuse goal as the long-term vision and aspirational goal and requested for this agenda item to return with amended recommendation language and options for further discussion at the next August 2024 RWC meeting.

Receive and Discuss the 2024 Proposed Recycled Water Committee Work Plan and Provide Feedback on Upcoming Discussion Items, and Upcoming Meeting Date.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and confirmed the return of the water reuse goal for the WSMP at the next August 2024 RWC meeting. The Committee confirmed state proposition updates are brought routinely and directly to the Board.

The next regular RWC meeting was scheduled to occur at 12:00 p.m. on August 28, 2024.

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