

FEDERAL ADVOCACY EFFORTS

Valley Water Advocates for Federal Priorities with U.S. Representative Zoe Lofgren

Staff joined Directors John Varela and Shiloh Ballard in San Jose in a meeting with U.S. Representative Zoe Lofgren (CA-18) to share updates on and advocate for continued support for the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project, Coyote Creek Flood Protection Project, and the Upper Guadalupe River Flood Protection Project. Rep. Lofgren provided valuable insight into the current federal outlook, including working with the administration and congressional leadership to advance shared priorities. Valley Water thanked her for her steadfast support of all our projects. Staff plans to schedule more of these in-district meetings with our congressional delegation in 2026.



December 5 - From left to right: Director Shiloh Ballard, Rep. Zoe Lofgren and Director John Varela

STATE ADVOCACY EFFORTS

Senate Leadership and Committee Membership Update

President pro Tempore Monique Limón (D-Santa Barbara) recently announced Senate leadership and committee appointments for the remainder of the legislative session. Members of Valley Water's legislative delegation have received key assignments that closely align with Valley Water's priorities. Senator Josh Becker (D-Menlo Park) will serve as Chair of the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee, a critical policy committee for water supply, flood protection, and environmental stewardship. Senator Aisha Wahab (D-Silicon Valley) was reappointed Assistant Majority Leader and also serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee, a key fiscal committee. Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose) continues to serve in leadership as an Assistant Majority Whip, and holds committee assignments relevant to infrastructure, local government, and public safety. In addition, Senator John Laird's (D-Santa Cruz) appointment as Chair of the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee should be of benefit, given his deep experience on water issues and his strong working relationship with Valley Water.

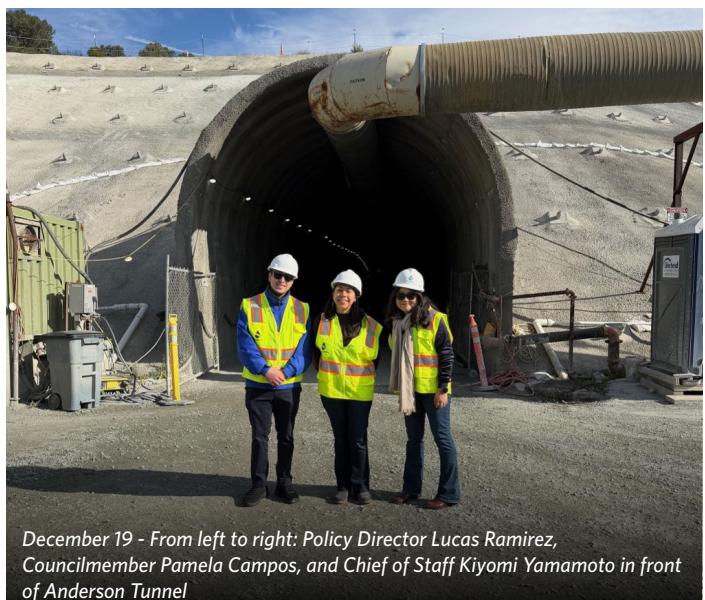
LOCAL ADVOCACY AND ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS

Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project Tour with Councilmember Pamela Campos

On December 19, Valley Water staff hosted Councilmember Pamela Campos and her staff for a tour of the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project. The visit highlighted how the project's benefits extend into Council District 2, which includes southern San José and borders the City of Morgan Hill. The tour strengthened ongoing collaboration and provided Councilmember Campos and her team an opportunity to understand the project's impacts and learn more about Valley Water's work.



December 19 - From left to right: Supervising Program Administrator Roselyn Bhudsaborg, Policy Director Lucas Ramirez, Director John Varela, Councilmember Pamela Campos, Deputy Operating Officer Ryan McCarter, and Chief of Staff Kiyomi Yamamoto



December 19 - From left to right: Policy Director Lucas Ramirez, Councilmember Pamela Campos, and Chief of Staff Kiyomi Yamamoto in front of Anderson Tunnel

2025-26 State Legislation with Board-Approved Positions

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
AB 11 (Lee)	The Social Housing Act	Support	Pending - Senate Housing Committee (2 Yr Bill)
AB 35 (Alvarez)	Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria	Support	Pending - Assembly Natural Resources Committee
AB 259 (Blanca Rubio)	Open Meetings Teleconferences	Support	Pending - Senate Judiciary Committee (2 Yr Bill)
AB 269 (Bennett)	Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program	Oppose	Pending - Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee (2 Yr Bill)
AB 454 (Kalra)	Migratory Birds: California Migratory Bird Protection Act	Support	Signed by the Governor
AB 514 (Petrie-Norris)	Emergency Water Supplies	Support	Pending - Assembly Appropriations Suspense File (2 Yr Bill)
AB 532 (Ransom)	Water Rate Assistance Program	Support	Pending - Senate Appropriations Committee - Suspense File (2 Yr Bill)
AB 707 (Soria)	San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority: B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion Project	Support	Pending - Assembly Rules Committee (2 Yr Bill)
AB 810 (Irwin)	Local Government Internet Websites and Email Addresses	Oppose	Pending - Assembly Appropriations Suspense File (2 Yr Bill)
AB 1319 (Schultz)	Protected species: California Endangered Species Act	Oppose Unless Amended	Signed by the Governor
SB 31 (McNerney)	Water Quality: recycled water	Support	Signed by the Governor
SB 72 (Caballero)	The California Water Plan: Long-Term Supply Targets	Support	Signed by the Governor
SB 454 (McNerney)	State Water Resources Control Board: PFAS Mitigation Program	Support	Vetoed by the Governor
SB 466 (Caballero)	Drinking water: hexavalent chromium: civil liability: exemption	Support	Signed by the Governor
SB 496 (Hurtado)	Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation: appeals advisory committee: exemptions	Support	Pending - Senate Appropriations Suspense File (2 Yr Bill)
SB 598 (Durazo)	Construction Manager/General Contractor Project Delivery Method	Support	Signed by the Governor
SB 599 (Caballero)	Atmospheric rivers: research: forecasting methods: experimental tools	Support	Pending - Assembly Appropriations - Suspense File (2 Yr Bill)
SB 601 (Allen)	Water: waste discharge	Oppose Unless Amended	Pending - Assembly Appropriations Committee - Suspense File (2 Yr Bill)
SB 650 (Cabaldon)	The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009.	Support	Signed by the Governor
SB 682 (Allen)	Environmental health: product safety: perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances	Support	Vetoed by the Governor
SB 695 (Cortese)	Transportation: climate resiliency: projects of statewide and regional significance	Support	Signed by the Governor
SB 753 (Cortese)	Special business regulations: shopping carts	Support	Signed by the Governor

2025-26 Federal Legislation with Board-Approved Positions

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
H.R. 337 (Costa)	Groundwater Technical Assistance Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 338 (Costa)	Every Drop Counts Act	Support	Introduced
S. 322 (Padilla)	Improving Atmospheric River Forecasting Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 1267 (Gluesenkamp Perez)	Water Systems PFAS Liability Protection Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 403 (Swalwell)	Preventing Our Next Natural Disaster Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 1382 (Huffman)	San Francisco Bay Restoration Program Technical Correction Act	Support	Reported Out of Committee
H.R. 605 (Costa)	Headwaters Protection Act of 2025	Support	Introduced
H.R. 1871 (Huffman) S. 857 (Curtis)	Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act of 2025	Support	Introduced
H.R. 1894 (Calvert)	Federally Integrated Species Health (FISH) Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 2594 (Crawford)	Water Risk and Resilience Organization Establishment Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 2344 (Schakowsky) S. 1118 (Markey)	Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center (WaterISAC) Threat Protection Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 2766 (Fallon)	Special District Fairness and Accessibility Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 2774 (Harder)	Safeguarding Our Levees Act	Support	Introduced
S. 1760 (Curtis)	Restoring WIFIA Eligibility Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 2907 (Stanton)	Save Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (Save BRIC) Act	Support	Introduced
S. 324 (Rosen)	Smarter Weather Forecasting for Water Management, Farming, and Ranching Act of 2025	Support	Introduced
S. 1481 (Wicker)	Lifting Our Communities through Advance Liquidity for Infrastructure (LOCAL Infrastructure) Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 1255 (Kustoff)	Investing in Our Communities Act	Support	Introduced
S. 1246 (Tillis)	FEMA Independence Act of 2025	Support	Introduced
H.R. 4733 (Sorensen)	Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program Establishment Act	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 3572 (Valadao)	Farm to Market Road Improvement Act	Support and Amend	Introduced
S. 1413 (Padilla)	To authorize additional funding for the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act	Support	Introduced
S. 1477 (Padilla) H.R. 2945 (Lieu)	Housing for All Act of 2025	Support and Amend	Introduced

This page intentionally left blank.