

Max Overland

Subject: June 25, 2024 Item 3.4. Water Supply Master Plan 2050
Attachments: Comments on WSMP update item 3-4 062524.pdf

From: Katja Irvin <katja.irvin@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Sunday, June 23, 2024 7:20 PM

To: Clerk of the Board <clerkoftheboard@valleywater.org>; Board of Directors <board@valleywater.org>

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Dear Valley Water Board and Staff,

Thank you for the opportunity for public input on the Water Supply Master Plan Update 2050. My comments for this agenda item are attached.

I have many other comments, but these seem the most important for this agenda item. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss these with staff.

Thank you for your consideration,

Katja Irvin
San Jose Resident

Board Meeting, June 25, 2024
Item 3.4. Water Supply Master Plan 2050

Public comment from Katja Irvin

Dear Valley Water Board and Staff,

Thank you for the opportunity for public input on the Water Supply Master Plan Update 2050. I am providing some comments for your consideration.

Storage Goals. Surface Water and Groundwater Storage Goals (capacity and put/take) are needed in addition to the Conservation Goal and Potable Reuse Goal. Otherwise, there is no goalpost for the storage projects and the need to invest in so many storage projects is arbitrary.

Storage Capacity vs. Yields. In addition to capacity, it seems important to compare projects based on put and take restrictions and estimated yields to really evaluate storage projects on a meaningful level.

Local Control Strategy. Please explain reasoning behind the local control theme/strategy. Any project that is dependent on imported water, including Pacheco, should not be included in this strategy since we do not have control of CVP and SWP operations which will determine any water supply benefits from these projects.

Environmental Strategy. A more meaningful theme/strategy would be one that aims to reduce environmental impacts and to increase climate change resiliency. At least some of us believe this should be more important than local control.

Environmental Portfolios. The Diversified portfolio from Attachment 4 that includes San Jose Direct Potable Reuse, Palo Alto Potable Reuse, B.F. Sisk Dam Raise, Groundwater Banking, and South County Recharge would be an excellent "Environmental" portfolio. Refinery Recycled Water Exchange and Los Vaqueros Expansion could also be included in Environmental portfolios.

Adaptive Management. Please explain how this is different from the MAP (Monitoring and Assessment Program) for the 2040 WSMP which did not result in any adjustments to investment decisions. Also explain how each of the triggers would result in adjustments (i.e. removing or adding projects to the WSMP). Additional important triggers to consider are: "New project cost estimates," "Extension of project schedules," and "New regulatory and permitting issues."

WSMP Update Schedule. The timing for completion of the WSMP by the end of 2024 is problematic because new milestones and cost estimates are expected for several important projects in the first half of 2025 (Pacheco, Los Vaqueros, BF Sisk, Sites, etc). If you extend the update process by six months, the plan will be starting with a more realistic base for the next five years.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.