

The Board of Directors
Valley Water (SCVWD)
5700 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, CA 95118

December 6, 2019

Subject: Item 2.7 Recycled Water Expansion in Palo Alto and Mountain View

Dear Chair LaZotte, Vice Chair Hsueh, Directors Varela, Keegan, Santos, Estremera & Kremen,

On behalf of Sustainable Silicon Valley, I would like to express our strong support for the proposed agreement between Valley Water, the City of Mountain View and the City of Palo Alto. SSV has long championed innovative approaches to water use and reuse, regional cooperation and smart efforts to ensure adequate water supply. This admirable achievement, structured primarily through the hard work and inspiration of planning staff who did everything but think of a catchy name, addresses many needs, checks many boxes and stands as a towering landmark to forward-thinking intergovernmental cooperation. It is a "Win-Win-Win" in many ways.

If ever there were a time for sensible investment in a reliable, localized recycled water infrastructure, this is that time. The joint water recycling plan takes advantage of scale economies, stable technologies and Valley Water's strong domain experience delivering "purified" water. In addition to strengthening regional supply capacity, increasing water reuse will reduce treated wastewater discharge to our Bay and will benefit the Tuolumne River and the San Joaquin-Sacramento Bay Delta.

Across the Bay Area, there has been no escaping the sense of living in interesting times. We breath the smoke from an ever-lengthening fire season, we see the flood effects of rising Bay tides and we experience increasingly shorter, more intense and disruptive rainy seasons. The test before us is how well we adapt, as a civil society, to the challenges of our changing world. Among other impacts, a warming climate places greater stress upon our water resources as demand grows and traditional sources of supply become less reliable. When dependability of the mountain snowpack yields to the prospect of snow droughts, a resilient, forward-thinking city needs a sustainable plan like the one before you.

As we counseled fellow SSV partners Palo Alto and Mountain View, we urge approval of the agreement pending before the Board. Valley Water has a proud ninety-year history; we look ahead to seventy-six more years of continued clean water prosperity across this great Valley of Heart's Delight.

Sustainable Silicon Valley is a "think & do" tank focused on monitoring, measuring and improving air and water quality in a decarbonizing Bay Area. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Dennis Murphy
Water Director
Sustainable Silicon Valley
dmurphy@sustainablesv.org

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK