

FEDERAL ADVOCACY EFFORTS

Staff Advocates with Congress to Expand Access to WIFIA Loans

As the federal government pauses or cancels grant awards, Valley Water is advocating for expanded access to financing programs like the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Program and the Corps Water Infrastructure Financing Program (CWIFP). Staff has met with several congressional committees in June to discuss why it is important for water agencies with congressionally authorized projects to use WIFIA and CWIFP to help finance costly and critical water infrastructure projects. Current law prohibits local project sponsors like Valley Water from using these programs to finance the local share of Army Corps-partnered projects such as the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project or the Upper Guadalupe River Project. Staff is working to advance legislation that would change these rules, expanding access to federal financing and reducing the burden on local taxpayers.

STATE ADVOCACY EFFORTS

Legislators Reject Audit for Delta Conveyance Project

A proposed audit of the Delta Conveyance Project did not pass the Joint Legislative Audit Committee after a coalition of organizations opposing it highlighted the existing robust transparency, public participation, and oversight requirements covering the project. Valley Water joined the California Department of Water Resources, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the State Water Contractors, and a coalition of water agencies and community organizations to testify against the requested audit. State Senators Josh Becker (D-Menlo Park) and Dave Cortese (D-San Jose) were among those who refused to vote for the unnecessary, duplicative, and costly request.



California State Capitol.

LOCAL ADVOCACY AND ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS

Purified Water Outreach at Community Events

The Office of Government Relations and the Office of Civic Engagement continued their collaborative effort in June to advocate for expanding purified water in Santa Clara County through the Community Events Booth Program. Staff educated the community about purified water, distributed chilled purified water bottles, and also provided information on additional programs and resources Valley Water offers the public. To date, 2,000 purified water bottles have been distributed to the public!



June 14: Vice-Chair Santos and Valley Water staff at the Dia de Portugal Festival.

RECENT EVENTS

- JUN 7-8 Sunnyvale Chamber Art and Wine Festival Booth
- JUN 13 Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana WEPA Fest Booth
- JUN 14 AACSA's 44th Annual Juneteenth Festival Booth
- JUN 14 Dia de Portugal Festival Booth

FUTURE EVENTS

- JULY 4 San Jose Council District 8 4th of July Fireworks Booth
- JULY 5 Morgan Hill Chamber Night Music Series Booth
- JULY 16-17 Mountain View Technology Showcase Booth

2025 State Legislation with Board-Approved Positions

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
AB 11 (Lee)	The Social Housing Act	Support	Pending - Senate Housing Committee
AB 259 (Blanca Rubio)	Open Meetings Teleconferences	Support	Pending - Senate Local Government Committee
AB 269 (Bennett)	Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program	Oppose	Pending - Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee (2 Yr Bill)
AB 514 (Petrie-Norris)	Emergency Water Supplies	Support	Pending - Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee (2 Yr Bill)
AB 532 (Ransom)	Water Rate Assistance Program	Support	Pending - Senate Environmental Quality Committee
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 Committee (2 Yr Bill)
AB 1319 (Schultz)	Protected species: California Endangered Species Act	Oppose Unless Amended	Pending - Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee
SB 31 (McNerney)	Water Quality: recycled water	Support	Pending - Senate Environmental Quality Committee
SB 72 (Caballero)	The California Water Plan: Long-Term Supply Targets	Support	Pending - Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee
SB 454 (McNerney)	State Water Resources Control Board: PFAS Mitigation Program	Support	Pending - Assembly Appropriations Committee
SB 466 (Caballero)	Drinking water: hexavalent chromium: civil liability: exemption	Support	Pending - Assembly Environmental Safety & Toxic Materials Committee
SB 496 (Hurtado)	Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation: appeals advisory committee: exemptions	Support	Pending - Senate Appropriations Committee (2 Yr Bill)
SB 598 (Durazo)	Construction Manager/General Contractor Project Delivery Method	Support	Pending - Assembly Local Government Committee
SB 599 (Caballero)	Atmospheric rivers: research: forecasting methods: experimental tools	Support	Pending - Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee
SB 601 (Allen)	Water: waste discharge	Oppose Unless Amended	Pending - Assembly Judiciary Committee
SB 682 (Allen)	Environmental health: product safety: perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances	Support	Pending - Assembly Environmental Safety & Toxic Materials Committee
SB 695 (Cortese)	Transportation: climate resiliency: projects of statewide and regional significance	Support	Pending - Assembly Transportation Committee
SB 753 (Cortese)	Special business regulations: shopping carts	Support	Pending - Assembly Local Government Committee

2025 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)	Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act of 2025	Support	Introduced
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)	Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center (WaterISAC) Threat Protection Act	Support	Introduced
S. 1118 (Markey)	Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center (WaterISAC) Threat	Support	Introduced
H.R. 2766 (Fallon)	Special District Fairness and Accessibility Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 2774 (Harder)	Safeguarding Our Levees Act	Support	Introduced