

## **MEMORANDUM**

FC 14

TO: Board of Directors FROM: Recycled Water Committee

**SUBJECT**: Recycled Water Committee (RWC) **DATE**: January 28, 2025

December 13, 2024 Special Meeting Summary.

This memorandum summarizes agenda items from the meeting of the Recycled Water Committee (RWC) held on Friday, December 13, 2024.

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

The Committee received and noted the information and took no formal action.

## Receive Update on the Purified Water Public Outreach and 2024 Public Perception Poll and Provide Feedback.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and noted support of staff's continued outreach work and the potential of including court officials and school administrators in future public engagement. The Committee noted that the drought may be a factor in the changes in the polling results and noted support for reaching out to news journalists. The Committee noted support of the survey and continued public education using simple cost comparative terms with purified water versus bottled water. The Committee confirmed the change of the polling group from registered voters to residents did not have a significant impact on the current polling results. The Committee confirmed that the polling environment had an increase in negativity which may have played a role in the downward polling trends in addition to the trend of increased cost sensitivity. The Committee confirmed these polling results were on track with other surveys done in California, and Director Beall noted interest in reviewing the survey polling results from the other parts of California. The Committee noted support of providing public outreach that includes examples of what the costs would be without purified water.

## Receive and Discuss the 2024 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 noted staff is currently working on the 2025 RWC Work Plan and confirmed the upcoming Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee (JRWPAC) regular meeting in April 2025 with a special meeting to be scheduled if there is an early completion of the agreements. The Committee noted support of the JRWPAC receiving the presentation for the Update on the Purified Water Public Outreach and 2024 Public Perception Poll. The Committee noted support of having a presentation on the topic of onsite reuse of recycled water for large water users like server farms and continuing the discussion of having a tour of the desalination plants in Southern California.

The next regular RWC meeting is scheduled to occur at 12:00 p.m. on February 26, 2025.

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.