

Starting this Saturday, I'll be traveling as a part of a delegation sponsored by the Community Foundation to take part in the Global Policy Leadership Academy's (GPLA) Social Housing Field Study program. The time in-country is paid for by the Silicon Valley Community Foundation and I am paying my own airfare. The study trip is part of a desire by the Community Foundation and GPLA to bring leaders together across jurisdictions, industries, and agencies to coordinate on housing challenges, Valley Water's slice being encampments in waterways. I look forward to sharing what I learn when I return.

In the meantime and since I'm missing the Board meeting next week, I wanted to convey some of thoughts on a few of the agenda items.

Agenda Item 3.4

Measure A: I'm glad to see this on the agenda as the County's ability to continue to operate as they have in the past will be significantly impaired by cuts at the federal level. This impacts our work in areas of overlap including the Parks Dept as well as services for those who live outside, and homelessness prevention programs. I strongly support Measure A and believe it is important for Valley Water as an Agency to do the same.

Agenda Item 8.1

Conflict of Interest: Thank you to staff for incorporating feedback regarding the onerousness of reporting requirements for average citizens who serve on our committees. I agree with the revised process and have two thoughts on the proposal:

1. Let's revisit this new policy in a year to see how it is working out.
2. I would recommend softening the language from "is grounds for removal" to "could be grounds for removal."

I agree with the notion that transparency and disclosure are important. I also am sensitive to community members who might not always be on top of all the rules and requirements. I advocate leniency and a compassionate approach if/when mistakes are made.

Agenda Item 5.2

Audit Committee Recommendation on JPAs: On Committee reports, I wanted to highlight a good conversation we had at the Audit Committee last month around the need for additional guidance to those of us who represent the Agency on JPAs regarding the ability to assess JPA health through a desired set of adopted policies.

For me, I am interested in a template of policies and practices that JPA representatives can use to guide our representation on JPAs in order to make sure they are structurally sound, have good financial practices, and we can trust that our money is being spent well. For example, does a JPA have a sound practice/policy in place for evaluating the CEO? What other policies, outside of a standard financial audit, do we want to make sure JPAs have in place?

It is my understanding that the BPMC will address this topic as a part of their workplan. I look forward to a future recommendation to the Board.

Shiloh