



## MEMORANDUM

FC 14 (01-02-07)

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Water Conservation and  
Demand Management  
Committee

**SUBJECT:** Water Conservation and Demand  
Management Committee Meeting Summary  
for April 25, 2022

**DATE:** May 10, 2022

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This memorandum summarizes agenda items from the Zoom meeting of the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee held on April 25, 2022.

### **Attendees:**

Board Members in attendance were: Committee Vice Chair, Director Nai Hsueh (District 5), Committee Chair, Director Linda J. LeZotte (District 4).

Staff members in attendance were: Antonio Alfaro, Aaron Baker, Roseryn Bhudsabourg, Neeta Bijoor, Glenna Brambill, Bart Broome, George Cook, Paola Giles, Samantha Greene, Andy Gschwind, Jason Gurdak, Janet Hedley, Linh Hoang, Alexander Johanson, Cindy Kao, Matt Keller, Candice Kwok-Smith, Carlos Orellana, Colin Resch, Metra Richert, Don Rocha, Mary Samar, Clarissa Sangalang, Ashley Shannon, Kirsten Struve, Sherilyn Tran, Gregory Williams, and Jing Wu.

Guest Agencies in attendance were: Brian Boyer (Cinnabar Hills Golf Club), Katja Irvin (Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter), and Curt Rayer and Bill Tuttle (San Jose Water Company-SJWC).

Public in attendance was: Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D., Christophe LaBelle, and Julia Nussbaum.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **4.1 MONTHLY UPDATE ON PROGRESS TOWARDS VALLEY WATER RESOLUTION 21-68'S WATER USE REDUCTION TARGET AND WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS RELATED TO THE DROUGHT EMERGENCY**

Ms. Neeta Bijoor reported on the following:

#### **Summary from Meeting Agenda Memo:**

On June 9, 2021, the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Board of Directors through Resolution 21-68 declared a water shortage emergency condition pursuant to California Water Code §350, called for water use reduction of 15% compared to 2019, and urged the County of Santa Clara (County) to proclaim a local emergency. On April 12, 2022, this resolution was amended to restrict irrigation of ornamental landscapes and lawns to no more than 2 days.

In 2022, the County and California entered the third year of drought, and experienced the driest January, February and March on record. In 2021 and 2022, Valley Water's Federal and State imported water allocations were drastically reduced to historic lows. On March 28, 2022, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-7-22 to call on local water suppliers to move to Stage 2 of their water shortage contingency plans, at a minimum. The U.S. Drought Monitor Report from April 5, 2022, indicates that the County is in severe drought. The northern Sierra Nevada snowpack, a primary source of imported water, is 16% of normal as of April 12, 2022. Staff will provide additional updates regarding latest drought conditions.

On March 18, 2022, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) reduced the 2022 State Water Project (SWP) allocation from 15 percent to 5 percent, which equates to an allocation of 5 thousand acre-feet for Valley Water. This may be adjusted for human health and safety need. Valley Water continues to work with DWR to determine the amount allocated and requested an exception to the minimum health and safety need of 55 gallons per capita per day. On April 1, 2022, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation reduced its water supply allocations on the Central Valley Project (CVP). For south-of-Delta CVP contractors, including Valley Water, the agricultural

allocation is zero percent, and the municipal and industrial allocation was lowered from 25 percent to public health and safety water only.

Although groundwater levels have declined over recent years due to the drought, groundwater conditions improved due to fall rains, emergency imported water supplies, and water use reduction by the community. Groundwater levels will begin to decline this spring as pumping increases due to higher temperatures and increased water needs. Given continued dry conditions, achieving the Board's water use reduction target is essential to minimize the risk of resumed subsidence in North County and wells going dry, particularly in South County. That risk increases as the drought persists.

Consequently, the 2-day irrigation limit is an important strategy to help reach the 15% call for water use reduction and mitigate negative impacts. Staff will also discuss planning efforts with retailers, cities and other stakeholders to determine feasibility for possible additional drought response actions. Collaboration with our retailers is essential in ensuring the success of our drought response actions.

### **Water Conservation Outreach**

Valley Water continues to provide multi-language radio, TV, digital and social media ads to increase conservation and expand our county's use of purified water. In March 2022, media interest focused on the drought and the record-setting dry start to the year, water conservation, water supply issues, the latest snowpack survey, and the diminished water allocations from both the SWP and the CVP. On social media, staff shared a graphic highlighting the severity of the drought. It included a bar graph with the top five driest starts to a year, with 2022 the driest on record.

Valley Water social media accounts recognized Fix a Leak Week and Ground Water Awareness Week highlighting our programs, including our Purified Water Project. Staff continues to post links to our conservation programs to promote participation and encourage water-saving habits. Valley Water partnered with the City of Gilroy to run six advertisements highlighting the importance of purified water and conservation in the movie theater. Beginning on March 4, the ads began rotating for what will be a 26-week run. It is expected to produce more than 160,000 impressions. Staff also scheduled several upcoming Speakers Bureau presentations.

Staff is working on launching the Spring/Summer water conservation campaign which will support our call to reduce water use by 15% compared to 2019 levels. The campaign was expanded to create awareness of the 2-day irrigation limit, and includes multi-language messaging on social media, radio, TV, print, as well as a countywide mailer and text messaging. The campaign will also promote our water conservation tools and rebates, such as landscape, irrigation and graywater rebates, as well as our indoor and outdoor water surveys and shopping cart. Valley Water is collaborating with water retailers to expand our outreach through bill inserts and direct emails. We are also collaborating with community organizations to make our free water conservation tools easily available to disadvantaged communities.

### **Water Conservation Programs**

Valley Water received a significant increase in applications for our landscape rebates, requests for water-saving devices, and reports of water waste since 2021. In March 2022, the Landscape Rebate Program received a 123% increase in applications from March 2021. The eCart Program received over 900 orders in March 2022, compared to only 9 in March 2021. In March 2022, there was a 258% increase in water waste complaints from March 2021. Valley Water plans to expand its water waste reporting program through increased messaging and by obtaining a vendor to address more reports.

### **Countywide Water Use Reduction**

Valley Water is engaging with retailers and cities to encourage drought response actions. As of April 13, 2022, the County and 14 cities in the County have taken formal action to their elected boards in response to the drought and to Valley Water's call to reduce water use by 15% compared to 2019 levels. All cities in the County have increased conservation messaging in response to the drought.

The County has made progress in reducing water use since Valley Water's call to reduce water use in June 2021. The cumulative water savings from June 2021 – February 2022 is 6%, compared to the same months in 2019. February 2022 water use was 23% higher than February 2019. In February 2019, rainfall was 5.5 inches and in February 2022, our county received no measurable rainfall and had higher than average temperatures on some days. January, February, and March 2022 are the driest on record in California.

Thus, it is likely that more people turned their outdoor irrigation systems on. Water use in February 2022 was 2% lower than February 2020. Winter months reflect primarily indoor water use as most homes reduce or shut off irrigation during these months. As indoor water use is less discretionary and more difficult to cut back than outdoor use, maintaining a 15% reduction in water use during winter months is particularly challenging. Valley Water strives to meet the 15% call on a cumulative basis in 2022, while continuing to track water use monthly.

### **Water Supply Outlook**

Drought scenarios as well as resulting forecast of potential water supply conditions will be presented for Committee review and feedback. The scenarios include critically dry conditions and modeled estimates of end-of-year groundwater storage for 2022 and 2023 will be provided.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee discussed the following: treated water reduction % contract amount, low groundwater recharge-2023 minimal/extremely low scenarios (PHS allocation), 1 pager-actions associated with stage 3 of water shortage contingency plan, water waste notification letters sent to community, bill inserts-suggested having a picture of a dry reservoir (font is small) to get the attention of the reader, outreach-communication target audiences/commercial/general public, what is the vendors' role vs Valley Water's messaging, information on the door hangers, an Ordinance discussion, enactment of the State Water's (Executive Order) release of the draft regulations and when they take effect, and non-functional turf.

#### **Public Comments:**

Dr. Arthur M. Keller asked about the 2021 delivery reduction and how many violations existed?

Mr. Aaron Baker, Ms. Kirsten Struve, Mr. Jason Gurdak, Ms. Metra Richert, and Mr. Bart Broome were available to answer questions.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

## **4.2. WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM SAVINGS UPDATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 (FY21)**

Mr. Justin Burks reported on the following:

### **Summary from Meeting Agenda Memo:**

Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) has provided a robust water conservation program since 1992. In November 2019, the Board approved the 2040 Water Supply Master Plan that updated the long-term conservation targets to 99,000 acre-feet per year (AFY) and 109,000 AFY by 2030 and 2040, respectively. In October 2021, the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee received Valley Water's updated Water Conservation Strategic Plan to guide staff on how best to achieve the long-term targets. Valley Water staff tracks progress towards the long-term conservation targets using a custom, Excel-based Water Conservation Savings Model (Savings Model).

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update on total annual savings from the water conservation program for FY21, participation rates for FY 2022 through March 2022, to provide information on recent enhancements to existing programs, and to receive recommendations for planned programs in FY 2023. Information about current conservation programs can be found at [www.watersavings.org](http://www.watersavings.org).

### **Background**

Valley Water uses the Savings Model to evaluate the cost effectiveness (\$/acre foot) of water conservation programs and progress towards Valley Water's long-term conservation targets. Over time programs have transitioned from focusing on indoor conservation programs like high-efficiency toilet and clothes washer rebates to outdoor conservation programs like the popular Landscape Rebate Program (Attachment 2). Every year, Staff inputs annual participation totals from the prior fiscal year into the Savings Model to track progress towards the long-term conservation targets. The current drought has increased interest in the conservation programs which will contribute to both short-term and long-term savings.

### **Savings Update**

Long-term water conservation increased 2,386 acre-feet from 74,198 AFY in FY 2020 to 76,584 AFY in FY 2021 from a 1992 baseline. Since these data are only through June 30, 2021, it does not reflect the impressive participation in Valley Water's water conservation programs in response to Valley Water Resolution 21-68. Savings are anticipated to accelerate once the FY 2022 data is incorporated into the Savings Model in Winter 2022.

### **Program Enhancements in FY 2022**

The Strategic Plan determined that Valley Water's water conservation programs are broad, robust, and comprehensive to meet Valley Water's long-term savings targets if participation rates are increased. To accomplish this, Valley Water increased permanent staffing, temporary staffing, and vendors to support the water conservation programs. Geographic areas with greater potential (lower historic participation) detailed in the Strategic Plan are being planned for targeted messaging. The program enhancements identified herein will directly contribute to increasing participation rates and increase the likelihood of meeting the long-term savings targets.

Beginning on July 1, 2021, the Landscape Rebate Program's Landscape Conversion Rebates increased from \$1 per square foot to \$2 for all qualifying properties and increased the maximum rebate from \$2,000 to \$3,000 for single-family homes, as was done in April 2014 during the last drought. Applications increased 167% between calendar year 2020 and 2021. Through the end of March, FY 2022 applications are already 63% higher than FY 2021's total applications. Staff has onboarded a vendor to further increase capacity and facilitate additional participation. This vendor will also be supporting the Water Waste Program and Water Wise Outdoor Surveys

Two of Valley Water's newest water conservation programs are expected to produce significant savings in FY 2022: the eCart Program and the Fixture Replacement Program. The eCart Program continues to demonstrate incredible success that will increase the savings expected in FY 2022. Specifically, over 900 orders were received in March 2022 compared to only 9 last March. Through March, this program has received over 7,500 orders since July 1, 2021 compared to slightly more than 1,600 in FY 2021 (more than a 360% increase with three months remaining in the fiscal year). An order-fulfillment vendor and an inventory vendor have been procured to further increase capacity. The Fixture Replacement Program is a direct installation service for multi-family, commercial, industrial, and institutional properties to upgrade and install high-efficiency plumbing fixtures including toilets, urinals, showerheads, etc. An update on the Fixture Replacement Program's first year can be provided at a future date.

Additional program enhancements have focused on outreach and engagement. The Large Landscape Program offers landscape water budgets to over 3,800 properties (up from 3,015 in July 2021). Landscape water budgets are a critical water-management tool that helps multifamily, commercial, institutional, and industrial water account holders, property managers, and landscapers critically track water use against a site-specific water budget.

Staff is preparing to launch its first vendor-supported water conservation webinar series. Between April and September, the 6 webinars will increase awareness of water conservation best practices and provide information to motivate the public to successfully participate in Valley Water's rebate programs.

Lastly, Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) continues to advance in Valley Water's service area. Valley Water and City of Milpitas entered a cost-sharing agreement in FY 2022 to provide funding to assist City of Milpitas to install AMI meters. AMI provides near real-time customer water consumption data, sends leak and high-usage alerts, and allows customers to monitor their own water usage more regularly through an online portal. Valley Water has provided grant funding to advance AMI with City of Gilroy, an existing cost-agreement with City of Morgan Hill, and are exploring negotiations with additional water retailers.

### **Planned Programs for FY 2023**

Staff will continue to leverage the Strategic Plan. The maps of lower and higher participation rates will be turned into a dynamic, internal GIS tool that will increase access to these datasets. The Strategic Plan also identified the need to consider expanding programs specific to customer-side water loss. To that effect, Staff is pursuing three pilots in FY 2023:

1. **Leak Detection and Repair Certification Training Project.** A partnership between Valley Water, Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA), and the California Water Efficiency Partnership (CalWEP) will develop a certification training framework detailing training scope, curriculum requirements, preliminary program structure, and other key components of a certification. The results from this work will inform development of a formal leak detection and repair certification program for tradespeople to address residential customer-side leaks.
2. **Leak Assessment and Repair Pilot.** This vendor-supported pilot is leveraging an existing program between the vendor (Richard Heath and Associates, Inc. or RHA) and PG&E's Energy Savings Assistance (ESA) Program. It will be targeted to single-family homes in low-income, disadvantaged, or underrepresented communities to retrofit leaking fixtures and sprinklers, in addition to performing a meter-

check for leaks and providing water conservation resources. Approval of this pilot is moving through the Purchasing and Contracts Unit.

3. Toilet Repair and Retrofit Pilot. This pilot is structure similarly to the Leak Assessment and Repair Pilot but will replace 1.6 or greater gallon per flush toilets with 0.8 gallon per flush toilets. Approval of this pilot is moving through the Purchasing and Contracts Unit.

Staff will continue identifying new ways to incorporate the Strategic Plan into Staff's processes and programs offered to the public.

### **Conclusion**

Long-term water savings increased to 76,584 AFY in FY 2021. Staff anticipates the significant participation in FY 2022 to yield significantly higher savings, especially with investments in improving processes, increasing staffing, and increasing vendor-supported programs. Plans for FY 2023 will continue this approach as well as developing programs, resources, and tools to help the program find leaks and motivate them to fix them.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee discussed the following: existing data on number of participants in lawn replacement program (% of rebates vs applications), water savings, how is low-income determined, and use of PG&E's pilot program regulations.

Ms. Ashley Shannon, Ms. Metra Richert and Ms. Kirsten Struve were available to answer questions.

Public Comment:

Dr. Arthur M. Keller uses a hot water recirculation pump system, so it doesn't waste water waiting to get hot.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

### **4.3. ONE-YEAR CHECK-IN FOR THE ONLINE SHOPPING CART (ECART) PROGRAM FOR FREE WATER-SAVING DEVICES**

Mr. Alexander Johanson reported on the following:

#### **Summary from Meeting Agenda Memo:**

Launched on April 20, 2021, the Online Shopping Cart Program (eCart Program) is one of Valley Water's newest water conservation programs. Valley Water has been giving away free water-saving resources to customers and in bulk to water retailers since 2001, however, the eCart improved the process for the public's benefit. The eCart Program offers a simple, easy-to-use, one-stop-shop experience for customers to request free water saving devices and literature that helps them reduce their water consumption. The purpose of this memo is to report on lessons learned and outcomes from the first year of the eCart Program.

First conceived during the 2012-2016 drought, the eCart Program was developed to streamline distribution of water saving devices to a larger audience to achieve both short term drought and long-term water conservation savings help safeguard Santa Clara County's water supply now and in future years. Valley Water's water supply condition during this current drought has necessitated increasing the output of these resources to help Valley Water meet the water reduction targets as stipulated in Resolution 21-68 to reduce water use 15% compared to 2019. The Water Supply Master Plan sets a long-term conservation target of 99,000 acre-feet of savings per year by 2030. When used to upgrade and replace inefficient, outdated fixtures, change behaviors, and educate customers, the eCart Program will ultimately help Valley Water successfully achieve these targets. For example, the most ordered item in the eCart are the Toilet Leak Detection Tablets. Leaking toilets are estimated to lose 1,000 gallons per month. By detecting those leaks and replacing broken toilet flappers with those offered through the Program, the eCart offers critical and timely water savings. Additionally, the showerheads offered in the eCart are WaterSense certified, and the average family could save up to 2,700 gallons per year by installing these fixtures. WaterSense products have gone through rigorous, independent testing to meet the Environmental Protection Agency's specifications for water efficiency and performance, without sacrificing product quality.

The popularity and participation of the eCart Program has been unprecedented. From April 20, 2021, to December 31, 2021, there were a total of 5,474 orders, compared to the 48 total received in all of 2020 under the previous program. This represents an 11,304% increase in requests for devices. As of February 28, 2022, there have been 8,288 orders. The two biggest challenges for this program have been order fulfillment and inventory management

### *Order Fulfillment*

When the eCart Program launched, Valley Water had only allocated one full-time, temporary staff to manage the eCart Program. Within the first two months after launch, it became evident that Valley Water would need to allocate more staff time to the eCart Program as monthly order counts skyrocketed and the time it took to complete an order went from days to weeks. By July 2021, it was taking up to six weeks for an order to be completed. To counteract this delay, Valley Water hired additional temporary staff and began offering overtime to other Valley Water units to assist with order fulfillment. Media coverage of the program in August 2021 resulted in almost 350 orders within 24 hours, the highest daily orders received by that date, requiring additional strategies. Over the course of the next two months, Valley Water was able to allocate additional funding and expedite onboarding AdMail Inc. (AdMail) through a cooperative agreement between AdMail and the East Bay Municipal Utility District. By November, AdMail was packaging orders and fully handled order fulfillment. By December 2021, orders were taking only two days to be completed, marking the first major success for this program.

### *Inventory Management*

The second challenge has been ensuring sufficient inventory to meet demand. In summer 2021, worldwide shipping delays meant that certain products were unavailable for months. In response, Staff established quantity limits for specific items and reprioritized ordering based on popularity, cost, and anticipated water savings. As of the date of this memorandum, inventory constraints are still an outstanding issue. A solution to this issue will be presented as a single-source agreement to the Board of Directors on March 22, 2022, to increase the amount available to purchase goods from AM Conservation. AM Conservation supplies the 6 most-ordered items in the eCart at lower prices compared to competitors. That solution would allow Valley Water to order inventory at higher quantities which would allow the eCart Program's inventory to be stocked longer, promoted consistently while increasing Staff efficiency to manage the eCart Program. Additionally, Staff is currently working on securing two new vendors to diversify the items in the inventory, which would allow for a broader suite of products to help customers save water in more ways.

### *Customer Engagement and Response*

After 6 months of being in operation, Staff sent a survey to all eCart Program participants to ask questions that would help staff determine the next steps for program improvement. The results of this survey indicated that our initial assumptions on product installation were incorrect: close to 75% of products were installed, which is higher than Staff assumed (50% installed). Results also indicated the need to improve educational resources for customer use, such as having customers check their fixtures first before ordering items to make sure they're able to properly install the requested items. Additionally, the reviews by customers were positive. Most customers indicated that the eCart Program offers incredible assistance to individuals who want to save water but don't always have the financial ability to purchase these items themselves, and that offering multiple resources in different languages has been instrumental in helping more people save water.

### *Next Steps*

Other successes include continual development and improvement of the online portal to make it easier for customers to use. We now have "Out of Stock" icons that let customers know when an item is no longer available for ordering, which has drastically reduced the number of calls and emails sent to Staff. Valley Water has also added new products, updated old and out of date resources, provided new translations for multiple resources, and improved the behind-the-scenes reporting features to increase program management efficiency.

Future goals for this program include reporting on total water saved in the first year, using targeted outreach to increase participation in neighborhoods outlined as low participation by the 2021 Water Conservation Strategic Plan, including an environmental justice focus that would promote the eCart in disadvantaged communities who could benefit most from free water saving resources, incorporating the eCart Program's application process to leverage public interest in Valley Water's other Water Conservation Programs that can save even more water, and finalize the application process to be applied to all sector types, not just residential single- and multi-family homes.

All this will be in the next phase of program management once the current inventory and shipping issues have been addressed.

### *Public Comment:*

Dr. Arthur M. Keller is there a 'wait' list for out-of-stock items? (Staff took note)

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

#### **4.4 YOUTH COMMISSION DROUGHT AWARENESS AND CONSERVATION TOOLKIT**

Ms. Janet Hedley reported on the following

##### **Summary from Meeting Agenda Memo:**

During the Youth Commission Meeting on November 17, 2021, Director Nai Hsueh suggested that the Youth Commission consider incorporating a drought and conservation component to their workplan. The Youth Citizen Science Network (YCSN) working group decided to develop a toolkit to engage their peers and bring attention to the severity of the drought conditions in Santa Clara County. The commissioners wanted to come up with engaging ways to bring attention to the issue and also get their peers to take action as climate change and severe drought conditions will have lasting impacts into the future.

##### **Social Media Campaign**

Since many young people use social media, the YCSN decided that would be a great platform to get the message out. They put a call out to all their fellow commissioners to share photos and tips on how they each do their part to save water. The photos and water savings tips were then collected and turned into social media posts with the hashtag #droughtproof. These posts are currently being shared on Valley Water's Instagram page and the public are encouraged to tag their friends and share their own water savings tips.

##### **Drought Awareness Stickers**

The YCSN also developed a series of drought awareness stickers to distribute to the public. Those who engage in the social media campaign are sent these stickers. Stickers will also be made available on the Online Shopping Cart (eCart) for members of the public to order. The stickers will also be distributed through various outreach and engagement programs.

##### **Other Resources**

In addition to the ongoing social media campaign and the drought awareness stickers, the YCSN will be looking to create animated videos to continue to spread the word on the drought conditions and ways that young people can do their part to save water. All of the resources developed by the YCSN will be made available on the Youth Commission's webpage and commissioners will continue to promote this resource to their peers

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee noted the Youth Commission is a great way to 'change' behavior and helping with getting the message out and suggested sending this presentation to the full Board.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

#### **4.5 DISCUSS PROPOSED ZONES OF CONTROLLED DRINKING WATER WELL CONSTRUCTION FOR THE PURIFIED WATER PROJECT**

Mr. George Cook reported on the following

##### **Summary from Meeting Agenda Memo:**

To increase water supply reliability and help avoid groundwater depletion, Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) plans to use highly treated recycled water (purified water) for groundwater replenishment at the existing Los Gatos Recharge System in Campbell. To meet state regulatory requirements, Valley Water will need to establish zones of controlled drinking water well construction (well control zones) near the recharge ponds where purified water will be spread for percolation into the aquifer. Within the primary well control zone, the construction of new drinking water wells must be prohibited as one of many project safeguards. Valley Water must also establish a secondary zone of potential controlled drinking water well construction.

Information on the well control zones and the process to regulate groundwater extraction under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Resolution 18-04) was provided at the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee meeting on November 22, 2021. This Committee update summarizes the March 10, 2022 public meeting on the well control zones and outlines the next steps in the process to establish the zones

##### **Zone of Controlled Drinking Water Well Construction Public Meeting**

A virtual public meeting was held on March 10, 2022. Letters were sent to approximately 1,000 property owners who would be included in the zones (Attachment 1). The letters provided information on the need for the well control zones and meeting details. The public meeting began with an introduction to the purified water project followed by a discussion of the zones, including how they may affect property owners. The meeting concluded

with time for anyone to ask questions or provide feedback. The presentation for the meeting is included as Attachment 2 and a recording of the meeting is posted to the Valley Water website at <https://www.valleywater.org/project-updates/purified-water-project-ensuring-reliable-groundwater-supply>.

The meeting was attended by four members of the public. There was no public feedback or questions on the purified water project or the well control zones during the meeting.

### **Well Control Zones Ordinance**

As discussed at the November Committee meeting, an ordinance is needed to establish the well control zones for compliance with state regulations. Staff is preparing a draft ordinance under the following conceptual framework:

- Minimize the area impacted: The area to be included within the zones will be no larger than the minimum area necessary to meet regulatory requirements.
- Limit restrictions to drinking water wells: The regulatory requirements are specific to drinking water wells.

### **Next Steps**

Implementation of the well control zones will require several steps, including Committee discussion and Board approval. The proposed timeline for implementation is below.

- June 2022: Bring draft ordinance to Committee for review
- Finalize draft ordinance, incorporating feedback from the Committee
- Fall 2022: Board public hearing on ordinance
- By early 2023: Implement ordinance as directed by the Board

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee would like to see the Ordinance when ready.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

## **4.6 STANDING ITEMS REPORT**

Committee Chair Director Linda J. LeZotte reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

### **Summary from Meeting Agenda Memo:**

Standing items will allow regular reports from staff on subjects that may be of interest to the committee members.

There were verbal updates for:

1. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)  
Mr. Jason Gurdak reported:  
SGMA requires annual reports submitted to DWR by April 1, 2022, for the previous water year (Oct 1st to Sept 30th).
  - Valley Water submitted the Water Year 2021 report for the Santa Clara and Llagas Subbasins to DWR before that April 1st deadline. Also, a link was posted at our Valley Water groundwater website.
    - The report documents continued sustainable groundwater conditions and provides information on the implementation of the approved Alternative over the prior year.
  - San Benito County Water District submitted the Water Year 2021 report for the North San Benito Subbasin – a small portion of that subbasin is in Santa Clara County.
  - All the Water Year reports are also publicly available on the DWR SGMA portal.

📌 This update on the SGMA Water Year reports was also highlighted in the most recent CEO Bulletin (weeks of April 8 to April 21).

📌 Valley Water also sent out an email with this update to our interested stakeholders, with links where they can download the reports.
2. Flood MAR  
No report.

Vice Chair Director Hsueh advised the committee and staff that the Environmental and Water Resources Committee (EWRC) would like to receive a presentation for their July meeting.



3. Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study  
No report.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is to be determined.

If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact me at, [gbrambill@valleywater.org](mailto:gbrambill@valleywater.org) or 1.408.630.2408.

Thank you!

Glenna Brambill, Management Analyst II,  
Board Committee Liaison  
Office of the Clerk of the Board

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