

SUMMARY FOR NOVEMBER 2022 Office of Government Relations Activities



FEDERAL ADVOCACY EFFORTS



October 8: Rep. Ro Khanna's staff listening to a presentation at Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Environmental Education Center.

Shoreline Project Tour for Rep. Ro Khanna's Staff

On October 18, staff coordinated a tour of the Shoreline Project (Phase 1) for 15 of Rep. Ro Khanna's staff. Staff educated the attendees about the importance of flood protection, environmental justice, planning for sea level rise adaptation, and engineering with nature. Staff also provided a brief history of the disadvantaged community of Alviso, along with the multi-purpose benefits of the Shoreline Project. After viewing Alviso Marina County Park, staff brought the attendees to Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Environmental Education Center where they viewed the project from an elevated level in the "Crow's Nest" and learned about Ohlone land, traditional ecological knowledge, as well as protecting wildlife and endangered species. The attendees were interested and engaged throughout the duration of the tour and expressed continued support and advocacy for the project.



October 28: Chair Pro Tem Varela, Rep. Jimmy Panetta, and staff overlooking the Anderson Dam.

Anderson Dam Tour for Rep. Jimmy Panetta

On October 28, Chair Pro Tem Varela hosted Rep. Jimmy Panetta on a tour of the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project. Chair Pro Tem Varela provided welcoming remarks and staff shared how critical the project is to our communities and our regional water supply for generations to come. After the presentation, staff led Rep. Panetta on a walking tour of the site, which provided a clear view of the construction work, and

reiterated the need for his continued support of the project through the "Tiger Team" meetings at the federal level, to help ensure the project keeps making forward progress.

STATE ADVOCACY EFFORTS



California State Capitol in Sacramento.

Assemblymember Robert Rivas Elected Speaker-Designee

On November 10, the State Assembly's Democratic Caucus convened to discuss who will become the next Speaker of the State Assembly. The Democratic Caucus voted to name Assemblymember Robert Rivas (D-Hollister) as Speaker-Designee with a transition from the current Speaker, Anthony Rendon (D-Lakewood), set for June 30, 2023. A letter of congratulations was sent to Assemblymember Rivas on behalf of the Valley Water Board by Chair Pro Tem John L. Varela.

Assemblymember Rivas has been a tireless advocate for Valley Water's priorities and a great champion for the region. Mr. Rivas authored two bills to facilitate the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project, including AB 271 which was enacted in 2021. He led the effort in 2022 to establish a state-funded dam safety grant program, securing a promise from the Administration and legislative leaders to appropriate \$100 million for dam safety in FY 2023-24.

The November 10 Democratic Caucus vote is a precursor to an official selection of the Speaker and Speaker-Designee in an organizational meeting of the Legislature on December 5, 2022.

LOCAL ADVOCACY AND ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS



October 14: Chair Pro Tem John L. Varela welcoming attendees of the VIP Water Walk Tour.



October 14: VIP Water Walk Tour Attendees at Anderson Dam.

VIP Water Walk Tour

On October 14, Valley Water hosted elected officials, staff, and key advocacy stakeholders from the public, non-profit, and private sectors on the VIP Water Walk Tour of our critical water infrastructure projects to educate and engage them on the projects' benefits and advocate for funding and legislative needs. Chair Pro Tem Varela kicked off the tour with welcome remarks at Valley Water Headquarters and Director Richard Santos welcomed tour attendees at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center (SVAWPC). The tour featured visits to Anderson Dam, Alamitos Groundwater Recharge Ponds, the Upper Guadalupe River Flood Protection and South San Francisco Shoreline Projects, and SVAWPC.



October 26: Director Santos delivers welcome remarks at the Silicon Valley Central Chamber of Commerce Annual Mayors' Breakfast.

Silicon Valley Central Chamber of Commerce's Annual Mayors' Breakfast

On October 26, Director Santos gave welcome remarks at the Silicon Valley Central Chamber of Commerce's annual

Mayors' Breakfast and spoke about the drought and Valley Water's water conservation programs and resources. Following his remarks, Director Santos introduced Santa Clara Mayor Lisa Gillmor. The event featured presentations by Santa Clara Mayor Lisa Gillmor, San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo, and Cupertino Mayor Darcy Paul on drought response, sustainability, affordable housing, and economic development efforts in their respective cities.

Community Events



October 29: Valley Water Staff tabling at the Dia de los Muertos Walk/Run.

Dia de los Muertos Walk/Run

On October 29, Valley Water hosted a booth at the Dia de los Muertos Walk/Run in Alviso. Staff greeted the local community and provided them with flood preparedness materials, information on Valley Water rebate programs, and the water conservation online shopping cart. Community members enjoyed spinning the wheel for water trivia and prizes and were also given the opportunity to answer flood related questions for an emergency starter kit.

UPCOMING EVENTS

 **DEC 10** 2022 Santa Visits Alviso (Booth)

Federal Legislation Active in November 2022 with Board-Approved Positions

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
S. 91 (Sinema) H.R. 535 (Garamendi)	Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act of 2021	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 610 (Speier)	San Francisco Bay Restoration Act	Support	Incorporated into Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (H.R. 3684), which became Public Law 117-58
H.R. 1015 (Napolitano)	Water Recycling Improvement and Investment Act	Support	Incorporated into Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (H.R. 3684), which became Public Law 117-58

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
H.R. 737 (Valadao)	Responsible, No-Cost Extension of Western Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (RENEW WIIN) Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 848 (Thompson)	Growing Renewable Energy and Efficiency Now (GREEN) Act of 2021	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 866 (Calvert)	Federal Integrated Species Health (FISH) Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 644 (Calvert)	Reducing Environmental Barriers to Unified Infrastructure and Land Development Act	Support	Introduced
S. 101 (Markey)	Environmental Justice Mapping and Data Collection Act of 2021	Support	Introduced
H.R. 1319 (Yarmuth)	American Rescue Plan Act	Support and Amend	Became Public Law 117-2
H.R. 3684 (DeFazio)	Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act	Support and Amend	Became Public Law 117-58
S. 4231 (Feinstein)	Support To Rehydrate the Environment, Agriculture, and Municipalities (STREAM) Act	Support and Amend	Introduced
S. 1179 (Feinstein) H.R. 2552 (Costa)	Canal Conveyance Capacity Restoration Act	Support	Introduced
S. 914 (Duckworth)	Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021	Support and Amend	Incorporated into Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (H.R. 3684), which became Public Law 117-58
H.R. 1915 (DeFazio)	Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2021	Support	Pieces incorporated into Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (H.R. 3684), which became Public Law 117-58
H.R. 1848 (Pallone)	Leading Infrastructure for Tomorrow's America (LIFT America) Act	Support	Pieces incorporated into Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (H.R. 3684), which became Public Law 117-58
H.R. 3404 (Huffman)	Furthering Underutilized Technologies and Unleashing Responsible Expenditures for Western Water Infrastructure and Drought Resiliency Act (FUTURE Western Water Infrastructure and Drought Resiliency Act)	Support and Amend	Pieces incorporated into Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (H.R. 3684), which became Public Law 117-58
H.R. 3293 (Blunt Rochester)	Low-Income Water Customer Assistance Programs Act of 2021	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 1512 (Pallone)	Climate Leadership and Environmental Action for our Nation's Future Act (CLEAN Future Act)	Support	Introduced
H.R. 2337 (Neal)	Public Servants Protection and Fairness Act of 2021	Support	Introduced
S. 2185 (Barrasso)	Western Water Infrastructure Act of 2021	Support and Amend	Introduced
S. 872 (Duckworth)	Environmental Justice for All Act	Support	Introduced
S. 2334 (Cortez Masto)	Large Scale Water Recycling Project and Drought Resiliency Investment Act	Support and Amend	Pieces incorporated into Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (H.R. 3684), which became Public Law 117-58

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
S. 2377 (Manchin)	Energy Infrastructure Act	Support and Amend	Incorporated into Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (H.R. 3684), which became Public Law 117-58
S. 2454 (Padilla)	Water Reuse and Resiliency Act of 2021	Support	Pieces incorporated into Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (H.R. 3684), which became Public Law 117-58
H.R. 4375 (Kuster) S. 2356 (Feinstein)	Twenty-First Century Dams Act	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 2197 (Cicilline) S. 939 (Whitehouse)	Innovative Materials for America's Growth and Infrastructure Newly Expanded (IMAGINE) Act	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 3701 (Delgado)	Protecting Infrastructure and Promoting the Economy (PIPE) Act	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 1563 (Garcia)	To Extend the Authorities Under the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act of 2016 Providing the Operational Flexibility, Drought Relief, and Other Benefits to the State of California	Support	Introduced
H.R. 2895 (Peters) S. 1499 (Warner)	Reinventing Economic Partnerships and Infrastructure Redevelopment (REPAIR) Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 3282 (McKinley)	Drinking Water Funding for the Future Act of 2021	Support	Introduced
H.R. 3228 (Velazquez)	National Coastal Resilience Data and Services Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 4647 (Huffman)	Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act	Support	Incorporated into the Build Back Better Act (H.R. 5376), which passed the House in Nov. 2021
H.R. 4712 (Levin)	Desalination Development Act	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 4915 (McClintock)	Water Supply Permitting Coordination Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 4235 (Pallone)	Living Shorelines Act	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 4413 (DeLauro)	National Infrastructure Development Bank Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 5716 (Harder)	Securing Access for the central Valley and Enhancing Water Resources (SAVE Water Resources) Act	Support and Amend	Introduced
H.R. 5781 (Lofgren)	National Wildland Fire Risk Reduction Program Act	Support	Introduced
S. 3282 (Kelly) H.R. 6088 (Gallego)	Water Infrastructure Modernization Act of 2021	Support and Amend	Introduced
S. 3624 (Carper)	Shoreline Health Oversight, Restoration, Resilience, and Enhancement Act	Support	Introduced
S. 4136 (Carper) H.R. 7776 (DeFazio)	Water Resources Development Act of 2022	Support and Amend	Passed the House on Jun. 8, 2022
S. 4279 (Padilla) H.R. 7847 (McNerney)	Water Efficiency, Conservation, and Sustainability Act of 2022	Support	Introduced
H.R. 3112 (McNerney)	Western Water Recycling and Drought Relief Act of 2021	Support and Amend	Introduced

Bill (Author)	Subject	Position	Status
H.R. 1352 (Lawrence) S. 916 (Sanders)	Water Affordability, Transparency, Equity, and Reliability Act of 2021	Support	Introduced
S. 4494 (Cortez Masto) H.R. 8434 (S. Lee)	Facilitating Large-Scale Water Recycling and Reuse Projects Act	Support	Introduced
H.R. 8300 (Blumenauer)	Empowering Resilient Local Communities Act	Support	Introduced

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