

BOARD PRIORITIES					
	Description	FY18 Challenges and Budget Priorities	FY18 Progress	Additional Board or Committee Identified Challenges/Issues, and Strategies/Opportunities	BPPC Recommendation(s)
1	Make Key Decisions Regarding the California WaterFix	As part of the budget process, the Board has included all resources necessary to ensure that the Board is able to consider the best possible result and outcome for Silicon Valley if we are to participate in the WaterFix.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The District is committed to developing approaches for improving local and regional water supply reliability and meeting future demands, and is currently updating its Water Supply Master Plan to evaluate local, regional, and statewide water supply projects, including the WaterFix. Significant progress has been made in the development of the planning documents and permits for the WaterFix project. Sufficient information has been developed to support a Board decision to approve participation in the WaterFix project on October 17, 2017, subject to guiding principles. These principles include: <p>Principle 1: Santa Clara County needs are the primary drivers in all our decisions involving the WaterFix project</p> <p>Principle 2: We will not allow Silicon Valley values and priorities to be placed at a disadvantage relative to Central Valley Agriculture or Southern California</p> <p>Principle 3: We are advocating for a flexible approach that addresses Silicon Valley stakeholder and community input.</p> <p>Principle 4: As water is a human right, we must make investments to make sure our water supply meets future needs at a cost affordable by everyone.</p> <p>Principle 5: Equity and costs are important.</p> <p>Principle 6: Any final arrangement must provide flexibility to acquire supplemental water by taking advantage of future wet years to ensure residents have a reliable water supply, no matter what extreme weather the changing climate brings.</p> <p>Principle 7: Keep negotiating for the best deal for Santa Clara County.</p>	None.	Continue as Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Board Priority.
2	Prioritize the Care of District Facilities and Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate Winfield warehouse property for best use of the property Explore how to utilize surplus properties to address the homeless situation in Satna Clara County or explore other beneficial uses in FY2018 Complete workspace planning and needed facility repairs and restore and protect our facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilities staff has approval from the City of San Jose for a revised Planned Development (PD) permit to allow for trailers to be located on the Winfield site for up to 5 years for the Vegetation staff. District surplus properties have been offered to outside agencies; one property is actively being pursued by the County for possible use for homeless options. The district has been studying its workspaces since the inception of the Employee Workspace Project in 2016. 	Maximize public benefit of District-Owned facilities, e.g. better utilization of Education Centers and undertake a programming effort.	Not needed as Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Board Priority. Place discussion on Board Policy Calendar a discussion on the utilization of educational centers, and conduct a feasibility study of their use by the public for educational purposes.
3	Advance the District's Interest in Countywide Storm Water Resource Planning	The budget includes continued funding to explore the District's role in countywide stormwater resource planning and management. This effort should identify stormwater and dry weather capture projects and programs that satisfy water management objectives and provide multiple benefits, including identifying opportunities to improve surface water quality; enhance habitat and open space; augment water supply; and/or use publicly owned lands and easements for stormwater capture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District is working with SCVURPPP (Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program) and its member agencies of Santa Clara County and the thirteen northern cities within, by being the grant manager for a Prop 1 Planning Grant to develop a Stormwater Resource Plan (SWRP). The Stormwater resource planning effort has many of the same requirements as the Green Infrastructure Plans the cities are carrying out as part of permit requirements. In addition, a SWRP is required for obtaining future implementation funding from Prop 1. The grant funds amount to \$471,708, with similar matching funds from SCVURPPP (which includes significant contributions from the District). Watershed and Water Supply staff are serving on the Technical Advisory Committee because the SWRP as well as City Green Infrastructure Plans are also relevant to the Water Supply Master Plan. Coordination with the City of San Jose on green infrastructure related to their Storm Drain Master Plan has occurred with two potential joint projects being discussed: Lake Almaden and Martial Cottle Park. 	Continue approach of participating in SCVURPPP efforts to develop a SWRP.	Not needed as Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Board Priority. Continue assigning to BPPC for monitoring and identifying relevant policy issues for Board discussion.
4	Provide for a Watershed-Wide Regulatory Planning and Permitting Effort	The FY 2018 budget includes continued funding to complete planning for a watershed wide look that will assist in expediting our permitting efforts and will provide for a better collaborative approach with regulatory agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the Board's Legislative Priorities for 2018, staff is continuing to pursue legislative and administrative solutions to resolve regulatory and permitting issues at the federal and state levels. At both levels, efforts will focus on coordinating mitigation requirements, streamlining permit processes, ensuring flexibility on financial assurance mechanisms for long-term mitigation, removing permitting for routine maintenance, and requesting adequate funding for regulatory and permitting agencies to process permits. At the federal level, additional efforts will focus on expediting US Fish and Wildlife Service permit processes by imposing a requirement that if a permit is not issued within 60 days, then it is deemed approved, and exploring colocation of federal regulatory agency staff in the same building as other agency staff, which streamlines the permit review process. At the State level, additional efforts will focus on expediting permits for projects that meet certain life-safety criteria, such as projects located in high flood risk watersheds, projects to address high hazard dams with seismic restrictions, and high risk tidal flood zones of national economic importance, among others. This approach would expedite permits by requiring permit decisions on these projects within specified time frames. 	None.	Continue as Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Board Priority. Continue assigning to CIP Committee for monitoring.
5	Foster a Coordinated Approach to Environmental Stewardship Efforts	The District is a leader in environmental stewardship. These efforts, whether they relate to the Water Utility or Watersheds activities, should be coordinated under one division to maximize their positive impact. It is understood that such a consolidation of efforts will take time to phase in, and this budget takes into consideration that effort.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE) was moved into the Watersheds Area to ensure that Water Utility and Watersheds staff work together effectively to design a comprehensive water resources solution. Four new staff resources were allocated to Watersheds Design and Construction to oversee the planning, design and construction of habitat restoration projects. Staff has completed field investigations and has been working with Santa Clara County Parks staff on feasibility evaluations of Ogier Ponds. The draft feasibility study report for Ogier Ponds is expected to be presented to the Board in December 2017. Staff is requesting proposals from consultants to conduct an evaluation of fish barriers along Stevens Creek. As part of the Board's Legislative Priorities for 2018, staff is continuing to pursue legislative and administrative solutions to resolve regulatory and permitting issues at the federal and state levels, including pursuit of streamlined permit processes, requirements for permit approvals within specified time frames, potential colocation of permit reviewers from different agencies in one building, and coordinated mitigation requirements between agencies, to name a few. Together, these solutions can help advance environmental stewardship efforts District-wide, and move these projects forward faster. 	None.	Continue as Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Board Priority. Continue assigning to CIP Committee for monitoring of fish passage removal capital projects.

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6	Advance the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As our largest reservoir, Anderson serves not just as a critical water supply facility, but also supports the District's mission of flood protection and environmental stewardship. Recently, the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project's scope has changed dramatically with the discovery of trace faults and other engineering issues related to the dam, which has significantly extended the estimated date for project completion.• Given Anderson's critical importance to ensuring safe, clean water and flood protection for our communities and to protect public safety, it is imperative that the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project move forward proactively while ensuring that the planned project achieves all the project's objectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The project team continues to engage with residents in Morgan Hill, CA. A project update public meeting was held on September 13, 2017; a CEQA scoping meeting will be held on November 27, 2017; and staff will provide a project update to the Morgan Hill City Council at its November 15, 2017 meeting.• At the September 13, 2017 public meeting, the community was informed that the project's 30% Design and 30% Construction Sequencing Plan are both complete, the CEQA process is underway, and there are upcoming geotechnical investigations to support the 60% design.• The water district continues to work closely with the State's Division of Safety of Dams and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Both agencies have jurisdictional authority over the dam and reservoir, and the water district must obtain their review and approval for all project design plans.• The project work and deliverables are also reviewed and guided by an independent panel of dam experts. Environmental documents will be prepared to comply with federal and state regulations, and permits will be obtained from several regulatory agencies for water diversion activities during construction, including full dewatering of the reservoir.	None.	Continue as Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Board Priority. Continue assigning to CIP Committee for monitoring.
7	Advance Recycled and Purified Water Efforts with the City of San Jose and Other Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Given our previous direction to expedite purified water projects, and in light of the key role recycled and purified water will continue to play in the long-term sustainability of our county's water supplies, the execution of various Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with appropriate agencies, to expand the use of non-potable and the production and use of advanced purified water, is a high priority.• Key issues of land, treated wastewater quantity, and reverse osmosis (RO) concentrate management must be resolved with the City of San Jose before design and construction efforts for an expanded advanced purified water facility on Zanker Road can be pursued. In addition, it is expected that efforts to expand the use and availability of non-potable and advanced purified water with other agencies, both in north and south county, will increase in the next fiscal year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Although District and City of San Jose staff began meeting in 2015 with the purpose of developing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the expansion of purified water, and have met numerous times in 2016 and 2017, the following key terms of commitment for an MOU have not yet been resolved:<ul style="list-style-type: none">** A minimum volume of treated wastewater for purification purposes;** Use of the Regional Wastewater Facility's (RWF) outfall for discharge of Reverse Osmosis (RO) concentrate;** Adequate land area for expansion of advanced water purification facilities adjacent to the existing Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center• At the 10/10/17 board meeting, the board determined that it would prefer to exercise financial flexibility by moving forward with a Public-Private Partnership (P3) program delivery approach. The private financing for the design, construction, and operation of the Expedited Purified Water facilities will help\ manage the water rate increases in the near-term.• This is the first time the district is embarking on this alternative method of project delivery. As a result, there is still much work to be done to develop a contract that is robust and comprehensive to protect the rate- payers' interests.• While the Board has confidence in staff's operation and maintenance of the existing Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center (SVAWPC), the P3 approach offers cost certainty due to a transfer of risks associated with constructing and operating an expanded facility. The Board continues to have confidence in staff's ability to operate the SVAWPC and the decision should not be construed as an indication to outsource this work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Resolve issues with City of San Jose regarding Expedited Recycled Purified Water Program MOU, including escalating concerns to elected officials level if necessary• Engage with all cities within the county on Expedited Recycled Purified Water Program to determine county-wide interest and prioritization• Develop multi-media communications campaign and engage groups and public on potable reuse public outreach• Track DPR regulations and decide whether/how to implement DPR Project• Identify trigger points to facilitate selection of potable reuse projects	Continue as 2018-2019 Board Priority. Continuing assigning to Recycled Water Committee for monitoring and strategy development. Include discussion on upcoming joint City Council/District Board meeting agendas. Include communication strategy on the regular Communications update to the Board.
8	Finalize the Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE)	For almost 20 years, the District has been working to resolve a water rights complaint surrounding fish, wildlife, water quality, and other beneficial uses in Coyote Creek, the Guadalupe River, and Stevens Creek. We understand that the sheer scope of the actions involved in the resolution of the complaint — including filing water rights change petitions, preparing a Fish Habitat Restoration Plan and Environmental Impact Report and obtaining federal and state permits from several regulatory agencies — is large, but we believe that an adequately funded multi-disciplinary team can complete the planning, permitting, and other actions necessary to finalize resolution of the complaint.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The water supply and biological models are being developed and staff has received the initial results. Staff is analyzing the models and correcting for any issues.• Staff is developing a community outreach plan to improve communications with environmental groups and to ensure a wide variety of representation when receiving feedback on this priority. The Board continues to be involved in these discussions and receives regular updates.• Staff has met with the State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Water Rights to discuss the District's water right petitions.	None.	Continue as 2018-2019 Board Priority. Continuing assigning to FAHCE Ad Hoc Committee for monitoring and strategy development.

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9	Actively Pursue Efforts to Increase Water Storage Opportunities	Water storage capacity is an important tool for the District for capturing lower-value water for higher-value uses later. Such storage aids water supply, flood protection, and recreational uses and helps regulate downstream water quality and supply cold water flows for fish. As such, water storage is important for both human and environmental objectives and must fit within a large and diverse water and environmental portfolio.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In 2014, state voters approved Proposition 1, which included \$2.7B for additional storage. Twelve (12) funding applications have been submitted, requesting nearly \$5.8B. The District is either the lead, or is participating in three of the funding applications, including: Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project (District is the lead):• Expand reservoir capacity of approximately 6,000 AF to 140,000 AF• Total capital cost of \$969M• Requested \$484.5M from state (Prop 1 funding)• Expanding Pacheco Reservoir would provide water quality benefits, operational flexibility, emergency storage, flood protection, and ecosystem benefits.Sites Reservoir (District is a participating agency):• Reservoir capacity of 1.8 MAF• Total capital cost of \$5.176B• Requested \$1.662B from the state (Prop 1 funding)• Lead by Sites Project Joint Powers Authority, a consortium of local water districts and governments in the Colusa and Glenn County area.• Potential benefits to the District include additional water supply and the ability to store or bank surplus waterLos Vaqueros Expansion Project (District is a participating agency):• Expand reservoir from 160,000 AF to 275,000 AF• Project also includes adding a new pipeline connecting Contra Costa Water District’s (CCWD) distribution system to the California Aqueduct• Total capital cost of \$795M• Requested \$434M from state (Prop 1 funding)• CCWD is the lead, other potential partners include U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, East Bay Municipal Utility District, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Alameda County Water District, Zone 7, Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency, San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority, East Contra Costa Irrigation District, Byron Bethany Irrigation District, and the City of Brentwood.• Potential benefits for the District include:• Increased water supply by capture of surplus Delta water.• Banked State Water Project (SWP) and Central Valley Project (CVP) water during wet years for future dry year use.• Alternate route for transmitting North of Delta water supplies to the District during periods when State Water Project and Central Valley Project exports are restricted by regulatory requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Seek/secure additional funding sources.• Evaluate staff resources needed to successfully implement Board decisions.	Continue as FY2018-2019 Board Priority. Continuing assigning to Pacheco Reservoir Ad Hoc Committee. CONSIDER Renaming Committee to “Water Storage Exploratory Committee,” and expanding Committee scope to, “Receive and discuss information on issues related to additional water storage options.”
10	Advance Diversity and Inclusion Efforts	We can’t succeed without diversity in our ranks. By investing in diversity and inclusion, our employees feel respected and valued for who they are, therefore enabling them to bring far more of themselves to their jobs because they are required to suppress far less in order to better address the needs of the people of the Santa Clara County. Diversity and Inclusion efforts foster a pipeline for the development of our future workforce. These efforts include support for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) programs, internship programs, our educational work with high schools and the Youth Stewardship Commission, all of which serve as an incubator for talent. The budget includes resources to continue ongoing programs and enhanced levels of resources, if necessary, for development of future workforce.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This D&I program has recruited staff to participate in the SPARK mentorship program. This after-school mentoring program is designed to expose seventh grade students from underserved areas of the Santa Clara County to what is possible in their lives and careers. The District is the first public sector partner of this program in the South Bay and aims to expose students to the possibility of a career in public service generally, and in the water industry specifically. Twenty District employees have volunteered their time to mentor and serve as role models for students with a two-fold mission – first to provide a service to the community, and second to build a diverse early pipeline of potential Water District employees.• On August 3rd District staff participated in the Bay Area/Silicon Valley Bilingual & Diversity Professional Job Fair. Approximately 113 attendees visited the District’s booth to inquire about career opportunities. Recruiting for and having a diverse workforce is extremely important to the Water District as diversity in the workforce directly correlates with innovation, efficiency and production.• On October 5, the District hosted the Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet which is an organization of concerned community leaders who address societal issues impacting the African American community in the Silicon Valley. CEO Norma Camacho was the keynote speaker and addressed diversity in hiring, grants, and procurement. Maintaining strong relations with diverse and influential communities is imperative in the District’s ability to carry out its mission.• The Diversity & Inclusion Program continues to execute impactful diversity programing for the benefit of internal employees. In recent months, the D&I Program has screened 13th, a documentary on the prison industrial complex and how it has adversely impacted the black community in the United States and Food Chains which is about the farm workers battles in Florida. The D&I Program uses film as a universal medium that can bring about empathy in a powerful way. The Program has recently supported Employee Resource Groups with Hispanic Heritage Month and Disability Awareness Events and hurricane disaster relief drives. These initiatives encourage employees to collaborate cooperatively with each other for the betterment of our collective work quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We’re lacking in reports on our performance on recruitment and personnel, promotions, statistics.• Look at best practices of having Diversity & Inclusion review composition of interview panels.• We should benchmark with best Diversity & Inclusion (we’re doing better than most but can always improve)• We need to invest in education pathways to equip the future workforce to qualify for jobs at the district; help expand the pool.	Continue as FY2018-2019 Board Priority. Include subject discussion/reporting of Board-identified issues on Board Performance Monitoring Calendar. CONSIDER Establishing a Diversity and Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee to work on Board and Director identified issues. Include as a starting point, interviewing each Director to gather issues/concerns to be addressed.
11	Ensure Immediate Emergency Action Plans and Flood Protection are Provided for Coyote Creek	With the recent President’s Day flood event on Coyote Creek, the budget includes all items necessary to address the vulnerabilities encountered during this event. This budget allows for the review of our Security and Emergency Operations Unit’s resources to ensure that we have adequate funding and staffing to accomplish this important work. This budget moves forward the preparing of a joint Emergency Action Plan with the City of San Jose for Coyote Creek. This includes clear and practical thresholds that allow adequate response time and written actions that are agreed upon between all parties when a key threshold is imminent. In addition, this budget moves forward the mid Coyote project in FY 2018. While the ultimate project may not be possible prior to construction of Anderson Dam retrofits, the Board would like to see an intermediate project that provides protection to some of the most vulnerable communities move forward as soon as possible.	Emergency Action Planning (EAP): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emergency Action Planning (EAP): One of the main lessons learned from this past winter was that the development of a detailed and fully operational joint District/City of San Jose EAP is essential for future emergency events on Coyote Creek. A detailed update on the development of this EAP was presented to the Board at its August 22, 2017 meeting. Anderson Dam operation as a short-term flood risk reduction option for Coyote Creek: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The pump-over option would use a pumping system to increase the District’s ability to release incoming flows to Anderson Reservoir over the spillway, and thereby retain more storage volume for potential extreme events at a significantly increased cost and risk to the facility.• The alternative to pump-over would be to operate the reservoir at a reduced storage level. The reduced reservoir storage option would generally lower the operation rule curve and increase the available flood storage volume behind the dam during the winter season reducing the potential for exceeding the dam’s seismic restriction and reducing the risk of flooding downstream.• Both options would reduce the risk of flooding for the downstream communities. If there is a below average rainfall year, the reduced reservoir storage could result in reduction of water supply, water supply reliability, and cold water releases to Coyote Creek for fisheries, but it is immediately implementable. Given the current water supply conditions, it is recommended that staff be directed to operate the Anderson Reservoir system through the winter of 2017/2018 following the 40% exceedance rule curve to reduce the probability of exceeding the dam’s seismic restriction, reduce the risk of flooding along Coyote Creek and provide adequate water supply while balancing other beneficial uses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase awareness of property where the District does not have property rights and manage expectations/awareness of owners.• Emergency action planning for Coyote Creek should be expanded to include other hotspots in the county.	Continue as Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Board Priority. Staff to develop communication protocols for communications within District-indentec creek hot spots. Continuing assigning policy review of maintenance role/responsibility for District-Owned and Non-District Owned improved/natural creeks and creekside land to the BPPC.

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STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS					