# CEO BULLETIN



To: Board of Directors

From: Norma J. Camacho, CEO

## Chief Executive Officer Bulletin Week of November 16 - 22, 2018

#### **Board Executive Limitation Policy EL-7:**

The Board Appointed Officers shall inform and support the Board in its work. Further, a BAO shall 1) inform the Board of relevant trends, anticipated adverse media coverage, or material external and internal changes, particularly changes in the assumptions upon which any Board policy has previously been established and 2) report in a timely manner an actual or anticipated noncompliance with any policy of the Board.

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#### FY18 Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program Annual Report

As authorized by the board on October 9, 2018, the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program Annual Report – Year 5 was finalized with audited financials on November 16, 2018. The report is available on the Program webpage (<a href="https://www.valleywater.org/sites/default/files/SCW\_FY18%20Annual%20Report\_111618%20JC\_optimized.pdf">https://www.valleywater.org/sites/default/files/SCW\_FY18%20Annual%20Report\_111618%20JC\_optimized.pdf</a>) and was distributed electronically on November 16, 2018, to the Independent Monitoring Committee (IMC), the board, and Program staff. Additional hard copies are available to the public upon request and the report will be sent out electronically through the district's eNewsletter.

In addition to incorporating the text adjustments approved by the board, the report has incorporated the recommendations made by the IMC. One (1) such recommendation was to include the 5-Year Implementation Plan Glossary as a new appendix. Additionally, two (2) of the other appendices from the 5-Year Implementation Plan have been incorporated into the Year 5 Safe, Clean Water Annual Report as Appendices G and H, which are designed to help the reader understand the projects by organization structure and mission area, respectively.

Other improvements to enhance the reader's experience include tabs for each priority in hard-copy reports, as well as an interactive electronic PDF, which will be available online in the coming week.

The IMC is scheduled to reconvene on December 12, 2018. The agenda includes receiving presentations from the district as recommended in the IMC's Report reviewing the FY17 Safe, Clean Water Annual Report. Additionally, the IMC will be setting the schedule and process for its review of the FY18 Safe, Clean Water Annual Report.

For further information, please contact Ngoc Nguyen at (408) 630-2632.

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## District's November 16, 2018, Emergency Operations Center Exercise

On November 16, 2018, the district hosted an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Exercise. The exercise scenario was based on a credible bomb threat at Lenihan Dam. This was a functional exercise where the scenario moved in real time with different pieces of information coming into the EOC at different times, which initiated emergency coordination and support actions. The functional exercise simulated all aspects of the emergency outside of the EOC, which included district and external agency activities.

The EOC was activated at Level 1 (full activation), with two (2) EOC teams working through the scenario. The objectives of the exercise focused on EOC processes, situational awareness, and internal and external communications. The EOC teams were able to navigate through three (3) EOC Planning Process briefings and meetings while building parts of the EOC Action Plan. Both Water Utility and Watersheds Divisions were activated in the EOC with different scenario aspects applying to the divisional responsibilities.

60 district staff participated during the exercise. In addition, a control and simulation team of 11 people was used to conduct the exercise. Personnel from the cities of Palo Alto, Morgan Hill and Gilroy (retired emergency manager) supported the planning and exercise implementation. Some lessons learned include the need for additional trainings/workshops, building out status boards, reevaluation of EOC position staffing, recommendations for updates to EOC tools (Planning Process meetings/briefings and agendas), and the need for more physical space to support EOC functions.

Overall, the exercise was a success. In a no-fault environment, this exercise allowed the district to identify opportunities for improvement while dealing with a different type of emergency. By using a bomb threat (potential terrorist) incident at one of our dams, it created a sense of uncertainty because of the various scenario factors. By using a new scenario, it allowed the EOC to focus more on process rather than falling back into familiar response instincts. An After Action Report will be created to capture the findings from this exercise and recommend action items for improvement moving forward.

For further information, please contact Tina Yoke at (408) 630-2385.

#### **Annual Floodplain Mailer Distribution**

As part of the district's Flood Awareness Campaign, the annual flood awareness mailer will be distributed countywide to more than 52,000 properties within FEMA 100-year flood zones.

The poster-sized mailer comes in four languages (English, Spanish, Chinese and Vietnamese) and includes a countywide map that features our county's streams and indicates the FEMA flood-zone.

As part of the district's participation in FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS), district outreach efforts help reduce flood insurance premiums for residents. The district earns CRS points through our targeted outreach, which transfer into discounts for residents. The floodplain mailer is one of our highest CRS point-earning projects. It is an extensive piece of literature with information about flood risks, flood insurance, preserving creeks and flood safety tips and resources.

Additionally, the district participates in a Program for Public Information (PPI) under the CRS program, which consists of a specific multi-jurisdictional outreach plan among participating cities in Santa Clara County with nine (9) key CRS point-earning messages. The PPI allows the district to earn a greater number of points. This year's floodplain mailer highlights these nine (9) key messages, detailing measures residents can take to protect themselves from flooding.

The floodplain mailer will be mailed the week of November 19, 2018, the same week the paid flood awareness campaign begins. This year's campaign theme is 'Climate Changed" and features a flooding scene from the 2017 Coyote Creek flood. An electronic copy of the mailer, adapted for viewing online is available at <a href="https://www.valleywater.org/floodready">www.valleywater.org/floodready</a>.

For further information, please contact Rick Callender at (408) 630-2017.

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## Chair Santos Leads District Delegation on Washington, DC, Advocacy Trip

On November 13-15, 2018, Chair Santos led a district delegation to Washington, DC, to advocate for the board's and the district's interests with the administration and Congress. Under the Chair's leadership, the district advocated for several high priority projects and initiatives in more than 20 meetings with the district's Congressional delegation, elected and appointed officials, agency leadership, and congressional committee staff. That advocacy included: Phase II funding for the Shoreline Project; continued support and funding for the Upper Guadalupe Project; Phase II construction funding for the Llagas Creek Project; funding and support for the Pacheco Project; Central Valley Project Contract Conversion; and funding and support for Title XVI Program projects, to name just a few. The district is now following up on several action items to ensure that these district priorities continue to advance with federal decision makers and regulators. The board will be kept apprised of developments on these projects and initiatives.

For further information, please contact Rachael Gibson at (408) 630-2884.

### Improving Water Supply Planning with the Water Supply Planning Database

Water supply planning activities require complete and accurate data to support analysis, modeling, reporting and planning. The Water Supply Planning Database (WSPDB) project is a collaborative effort between the Water Supply, Raw Water O&M, Financial Planning and Management and IT Divisions to address three (3) significant challenges with respect to water supply planning activities:

- A system that is obsolete and no longer supported;
- A lack of a central and authoritative repository for water supply and consumption data; and
- Inefficiencies from redundant and cumbersome data entry.

Completed in October of 2018, the WSPDB project better supports the district's planning and operations by:

- Enabling faster and more flexible, accurate, and consistent development of water production and consumption reports;
- Automating manual processes;
- · Providing data visualization and analytics; and
- Significantly saving staff time.

Additional enhancements and reports are now underway.

For further information, please contact Tina Yoke at (408) 630-2385.

#### 2nd Annual Volunteer Recognition Event - Monday, December 3, 2018

On Monday, December 3, 2018, the district will be hosting the 2nd Annual Volunteer Recognition Event. The event will be held in the Boardroom at District Headquarters. The event is held in appreciation of volunteers who contributed personal time and energy to improve the quality of life for the community and our local waterways. The Volunteer Recognition Event is a visible acknowledgment of the vital role volunteers play in our Adopt-A-Creek Program, National River Cleanup Day, and Coastal Cleanup Day efforts and helps foster continued volunteer service and creek stewardship.

Seven (7) individuals will be recognized from each district and have been selected by their respective directors. These volunteers were nominated based on the 2018 trash removal and volunteer engagement data. The selected individuals are motivating and inspiring volunteers who continue to spread a positive message, show appreciation of fellow volunteers, and resonate the district's mission through their on-going support.

All Directors, CEO, Chiefs and volunteers/site-coordinators from the Adopt-A-Creek Program, National River Cleanup Day and Coastal Cleanup Day have been invited to attend the event. The event will be held from 6 - 7:30 p.m. and appetizers will be provided.

For further information, please contact Rick Callender at (408) 630-2017.

#### District Holiday Tree at Christmas in the Park Event in San Jose

This year, in the spirit of celebrating the holidays and our collective efforts to keep our waterways clean and pollutant-free, the district is sponsoring a tree at the Christmas in the Park event in San Jose, adopting the theme "Trash to Treasure." All of the ornaments were hand-made by district employees using various items typically found during creek cleanups.

Ornaments include plastic spoons and wine corks turned into reindeers, plastic water bottles turned into poinsettias and snowflakes, and bottle caps turned into snowmen. During the All-Employee event, employees made more than 100 ornaments that will be used to decorate the

tree. The tree will be on display at Christmas in the Park from November 23 - December 25, 2018. The event will be held at the Plaza de Cesar Chavez on Market Street between San Fernando and San Carlos St. This is the district's first year sponsoring a tree at the event.

For further information, please contact Rick Callender at (408) 630-2017.

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