



SAN MATEO, SANTA CLARA & SAN BENITO COUNTIES

November 19, 2019

Valley Water Board of Directors
5750 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, CA 95118

RE: November 20, 2019 Agenda Item 2.3 Adopt Water Supply Master Plan

Dear Chair LeZotte and Board Members,

The Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter would like to commend staff who worked on the Water Supply Master Plan 2040 (WSMP) for doing more to acknowledge public input than is typical at Valley Water. Staff's effort to respond specifically to each public comment in writing, and even update the document in some cases, should become standard practice.

However, we are disappointed the final Water Supply Master Plan 2040 was only available to the general public on Friday November 15, just five days before the hearing. Therefore, we are unable to submit meaningful comments on this version of the Plan.

Since we intend to continue to follow water supply planning, we do have a few comments related to next steps, as follows:

1. We would like to note that fully 11 comment responses refer to the Monitoring and Assessment Plan (MAP). Therefore, we ask that draft MAPs be made available for public comment and the public is given sufficient time to review those documents.
2. If new information is included only in the MAP reports it will be confusing and difficult to get a comprehensive picture of water supply planning. Therefore, we suggest that staff create annotated versions of the WSMP each year to include or refer to changes resulting from the MAP.
3. Since environmental water won't be addressed until the next WSMP update, that update should happen soon. Please commit to adopting an update by December 2024.
4. We request that the new demand model use updated population projections and not use the ABAG 2013 estimates.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katja Irvin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katja Irvin
Conservation Committee Co-Chair
Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter

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