Valley Water FY21 Strategic Planning Retreat

February 18, 2020

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CEO, CivicMakers

* Indicates updated slide







Introductions



Your facilitator:

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Your notetaker:

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What We Do



Improve Programs & Services

Strategic Planning
Design Thinking
Service Design



Build Internal Capacity

Organizational Development
Change Management
Facilitation & Training



Increase Engagement

Stakeholder Engagement
Outreach strategy
Engagement strategy



Agenda Overview

Open Strategic Planning Retreat	10:10am Segment 1
Summary of Input from Board Members and Staff	10:15am Segment 2
Board Discussion on Key Issues	10:30am Segment 3
FY20 Work Plan Review and FY21 Work Plan Development	11:30am Segment 4
Break	12:30pm
FY20 Work Plan Review and FY21 Work Plan Development (Continued)	12:45pm Segment 4
Summarize Key Issues	2:15pm Segment 5



- Be here now. (Don't email or text while in the room)
- No sidebar conversations. One speaker at a time.
- "Step Up" to voice your thoughts. "Step Back" to let others speak too.
- Be additive, not repetitive.
- Listen actively (seek to understand, keep an open mind).
- Actively pursue areas of agreement. Consensus means "I can live with it."
- Help the facilitator to keep things on-time.



Summary of Input from Board Members and Staff SEGMENT 2



Retreat Planning Process

Board & Staff Interviews

December 2019 - January 2020

A total of 10 one-on-one and group interviews were conducted with the members of the Board of Directors, Chiefs, and other executive leadership staff.



January 2020

An 18-question survey was sent out to 33 leadership team staff. 14 completed the survey.



February 2020

To finalize the agenda of the Board Work Plan Retreat FY21, a 14-question survey was sent out to and completed by members of the Board of Directors.



Board Work Plan Retreat

February 18, 2020 (Today!)

Themes of our questions

General strategic planning process

What works well? What could be improved? How aligned and consistent is it with budget planning, the Business Area work plans, and other planning efforts?

Board strategic planning retreat

What went well at the previous years' retreats? What could be improved? What do you hope to accomplish this year? What challenges does the Board and/or staff face? What topics should be discussed?

Board and staff collaboration

How does the Board and staff communicate with each other? Are the Board's directions and priorities clear? How does staff keep track and report progress to the Board?



Summary of Board & Staff Input

- Board Work Plan accomplishes its purpose but needs to more clearly articulate priorities and actionable goals
- Board Work Plan needs to be more explicitly tied to Staff efforts
- Strategic planning process needs more alignment with budget planning
- Board desires to be more future-thinking and needs to better articulate their long-term vision
- Committee structure is generally helpful, but time-consuming and not always productive
- Tracking and reporting progress can be improved







Top Discussion Topics

- (4:1) Increasing community engagement and public communications efforts
- Water supply & water storage
 - (3:3) Water storage exploration
 - (3:3) Clarity with regards to Water Supply Master Plan and potential overinvestment in water supply requiring new "trade of water" business model
- Future of significant projects & long term funding M&O
 - (3:3) Long term funding for operations and maintenance
 - (3:3) Future of significant Valley Water projects and programs (including Anderson Reservoir)
- (3:2) How to improve collaboration with municipalities and other public agencies

(X:Y) - X: Cover at retreat; Y: Important, but don't cover at retreat







Goal 1:	Ensure current and future water supply for municipalities, industries, agriculture and the environment is reliable*
Board Strategy 1	Finalize the Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE)
Challenge/ Opportunity	For almost 20 years, Valley Water 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. Challenges include: obtaining federal and state

Monitoring

Impacted Plans

FY20 Expedite early implementation of feasibility studies, monitoring activities, and planning and **Implementation** construction of various fish passage improvements. Guidance

permits from multiple regulatory agencies, refining and processing water rights change

petitions and finalizing a Fish Habitat Restoration Plan and Environmental Report.

Continue to monitor and develop strategies through the FAHCE Ad Hoc Committee.

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Challenge/ Opportunity	For almost 20 years, Valley Water 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. Challenges include: obtaining federal and state permits from multiple regulatory agencies, refining and processing water rights change petitions and finalizing a Fish Habitat Restoration Plan and Environmental Report.
FY20 Implementation Guidance	Expedite early implementation of feasibility studies, monitoring activities, and planning ar construction of various fish passage improvements.
Monitoring	Continue to monitor and develop strategies through the FAHCE Ad Hoc Committee.
Impacted Plans	

and

FY20 Work Plan Review and FY21 Work Plan Development

Strategies	Progress			
SUPPLY - Strategy 1: Finalize the Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE).	1	2	3	0
SUPPLY - Strategy 2: Actively Pursue Efforts to Increase Water Storage Opportunities.	0	0	4	2
SUPPLY - Strategy 3: Actively Participate in decisions regarding the CA Delta Conveyance.	0	0	2	4
SUPPLY - Strategy 4: Lead Recycled and Purified Water Efforts with the City of San Jose and Other Agencies.	0	4	1	1
SUPPLY - Strategy 5: Engage and educate the community, local elected officials and staff on future water supply strategies in Santa Clara County.	0	1	1	4
SUPPLY - Strategy 6: Advance Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project.		3	0	0
FLOOD - Strategy 1: Pursue opportunities to expedite regulatory permit processes and streamline permit reviews.	0	6	0	0
STEWARDSHIP - Strategy 1: Attain net positive impact on the environment when implementing flood protection and water supply projects.	0	2	2	2
STEWARDSHIP - Strategy 2: Promote the protection of creeks, bay, and other aquatic ecosystems from threats of pollution and degradation.	0	1	2	3
MANAGEMENT - Strategy 1: Advance diversity and inclusion.	1	2	2	1
MANAGEMENT - Strategy 2: Maintain appropriate staffing levels and expertise.	0	1	5	0
MANAGEMENT - Strategy 3: Provide affordable and effective cost level of services.	0	4	2	0



FY20 Work Plan Review and FY21 Work Plan Development

Strategies	Drop	Revise	Carry Over
SUPPLY - Strategy 1: Finalize the Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE).	1	3	2
SUPPLY - Strategy 2: Actively Pursue Efforts to Increase Water Storage Opportunities.	0	1	5
SUPPLY - Strategy 3: Actively Participate in decisions regarding the CA Delta Conveyance.	0	1	5
SUPPLY - Strategy 4: Lead Recycled and Purified Water Efforts with the City of San Jose and Other Agencies.	1	4	1
SUPPLY - Strategy 5: Engage and educate the community, local elected officials and staff on future water supply strategies in Santa Clara County.	1	1	4
SUPPLY - Strategy 6: Advance Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project.	1	4	1
FLOOD - Strategy 1: Pursue opportunities to expedite regulatory permit processes and streamline permit reviews.	0	2	4
STEWARDSHIP - Strategy 1: Attain net positive impact on the environment when implementing flood protection and water supply projects.	1	1	4
STEWARDSHIP - Strategy 2: Promote the protection of creeks, bay, and other aquatic ecosystems from threats of pollution and degradation.	1	0	5
MANAGEMENT - Strategy 1: Advance diversity and inclusion.	0	2	4
MANAGEMENT - Strategy 2: Maintain appropriate staffing levels and expertise.	0	3	3
MANAGEMENT - Strategy 3: Provide affordable and effective cost level of services.	0	1	5



***FY20 Work Plan Review** Opportunities or Challenges Identified For Each Goal

GOAL 1: WATER SUPPLY - Ensure current and future water supply for municipalities, industries, agriculture and the environment is reliable.

- "Alternative solutions [for] seismic retrofit [of] Anderson"
- [Add] "And affordable"
- "We need to take all storage we can, even if there is some public opposition"



Strategy 1: Finalize the Fisheries & Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE)		Drop		Revise
Strategy 1. I mailze the Fisheries & Aquat	rtegy 1. Finalize the Fisheries & Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FALICE)		3	2
Progress	Challenges	Focus/Guidance		
 Held three Technical Workgroup meetings with FAHCE regulators and NGOs Coyote Creek element of FAHCE joined Anderson Project and FAHCE Initialing Parties (IP) have convened twice Integration of FAHCE Coyote measures w/ Anderson & Coyote Creek Projects to ensure Adaptive Management Program is consistent and ecologically effective. Initiated fishery monitoring program with Coyote Creek and expanded monitoring in Guadalupe River watershed. 	 Coordinating priorities and CEQA and environmental needs between projects and beneficial uses Managing stakeholder expectations Technical complexity of the fisheries impacts analysis—3 watersheds, more than 100 miles of creek, two fish species and six critical life stages/fish 	implen feasibil monito plannir of vario	xpedite ea nentation o ity studies oring activit ng and con ous fish pa rements.	of , ties, and estruction



Strategy 2: Actively Pursue Efforts to Increase Water Storage Opportunities.		ategy 2: Actively Pursue Efforts to Increase Water Storage Opportunities. Drop 0 1			
Progress	Challenges	Focus/Gu			
 Continued coordination with other agencies on Sites Reservoir, Los Vaqueros Expansion, and Groundwater Banking opportunities Pacheco: In initial phase of field investigations and preparation of feasibility plans and cost estimates. Held four workshops with the fish and wildlife regulatory agencies. 	 Valley Water's level of participation for all projects Valley Water's role in governance Funding to continue participation in feasibility and planning for all projects Pacheco: Site access, compressed environmental and design schedule 	surface storage with Va mission water e	unities to and grou projects alley Wate	indwater that align r's nally, seek and	



Strategy 3: Actively Participate in decision	Drop 0	1	Revise 5	
Progress	Challenges	Focus/Gu	iidance	
 Board member's active participation on the boards of both the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) and the Delta Conveyance Finance Authority (DCFA). Staff is active in Agreement in Principle (AIP) negotiations with DWR Participated in continued strategic Executive Partnering meetings with DWR (Department of Water Resources) and DCA (Delta Conveyance Authority) 	 Public education of the project Environmental and permitting process is challenging Cash flow for the project in advance of AIP may be problematic this coming fiscal year Legal challenges to the project Yet to be seen whether Bureau of Reclamation to participate and if we can effectively move our Central Valley Project contract water through the project 	Northe contin negoti on the Desigr Author Board Princip	As a voice for Californue to engalate, through Delta Consisty and Firmity in adhermal Coursts.	nia, ge and gh serving veyance truction nance erence to Guiding



Strategy 4: Lead Recycled and Purified Water Efforts with the City of San Jose and Other Agencies.		Drop 1	4	Revise 1
Progress	Challenges	Focus/Gui	dance	
 Executed Partnership Agreement between Valley Water, City of Palo Alto, and City of Mountain View to Advance Resilient Water Reuse Programs in Santa Clara County Developed Roadmap to Potable Reuse Master Plan Development 	 Obtaining consensus from our local partners on alternatives to Countywide Water Reuse Master Plans Securing contractual rights to wastewater Declining flows at wastewater treatment plants Monitoring and treating Constituents of Emerging Concern (CECs) Determine optimal site with partners to site or expand a regional Purified Water Plant(s) 	water a water so identifie	nced purind secure ources as as as	fied e recycled



Strategy 5: Engage and educate the com	munity, local elected officials and staff on	Drop		Revise	
future water supply strategies in Santa Cl	ara County.	1 1		4	
Progress	Challenges	Focus/Gui	Focus/Guidance		
 Annual Water Walk Tours of key water supply facilities for elected officials and key advocacy stakeholders 30+ community events and festivals w/ Water Truck Educate and engage elected officials through regular briefings, Mayor/City Manager meetings, joint meetings Launch of the next Water 101 Academy Public outreach at media events, ribbon cuttings, groundbreakings, or project update meetings Development of fact sheets, informational one-pagers, FAQs, and other collateral Produce visual content shared through social media Provide educational activities and programming in the classroom Provide grants to the community to engage in water conservation activities 	 Shifts in water supply strategies due to external factors (such as redirection on Delta Conveyance from the governor that impacts our imported water supply) may result in modification of messaging that differ from initial versions of collateral/visuals; that may cause confusion among public. Getting support among organizational partners that may not be in full agreement with our water supply strategies, through sharing of public materials via social media platforms, email distributions, testimonial videos, letters to the editors, etc. 	package the 204 Master emphas role in i	ggressive lent "No R e as ident 0 Water S Plan, with sis on a le mplemen ordinance	Regrets" ified in Supply a sadership otting the	



rategy 6: Advance Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project.		Advance Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project. Drop R 1 4					
Progress	Challenges	Focus/Guid	dance				
 Elevation of project involvement with Congresswoman Lofgren and development of quarterly Tiger Team Meetings on Anderson Board adoption of Anderson Project Goals: Public Safety, Water Supply, Environmental Enhancements and Financial Sustainability Project Description submitted to FERC Monthly environmental and permit coordination meetings with FERC, bimonthly interagency meetings, monthly fisheries technical workgroup meetings. 	Oversight by multiple regulatory agencies with conflicting priorities	approp to revie for all p Release the Dra Continu and nei project constru Deliver Balance supply, require annual comple	ue to work wi riate regulate w and obtain project design e for review a aft Environme ue to inform ighborhoods progress and action timelin y). e flood protect and environ ments appro- operations p tition of the co- creson Dam Se t (Rule Curve)	ory agencies in approval in plans. In approval in plans. In and certify ental Report. It is public of the individual of			



***FY20 Work Plan Review** Opportunities or Challenges Identified For Each Goal

GOAL 2: NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION - Provide natural flood protection for residents, businesses and visitors and reduce the potential for flood damages.

- "Need to clarify what streams we actually maintain"
- "Need to solve problems with safety issues on Anderson Dam."
- "There needs to be more focused efforts and resources to protect past Flood protection investments. Completed flood protection projects should be monitored, maintained and repaired when necessary."



*FY20 Work Plan Review Goal 2: Natural Flood Protection

Strategy 1: Pursue opportunities to expedite regulatory permit processes and				Revise
streamline permit reviews:		0	2	4
Progress	Challenges	Focus/Gu		
 Currently developing comprehensive watershed plans under One Water, which may allow opportunities for a more holistic and streamlined permitting process, balancing benefits and impacts watershed wide. Working to develop long range mitigation plans that account for expected capital and maintenance activities. 	Staff time and data needed to complete planning projects and development time to prepare long range mitigation plans.	Waters regulat permit pursue state a	Provide for shed-Wide tory planni ting effort e other effo nd federal te permit r	ng and and orts at the level to



FY20 Work Plan Review Opportunities or Challenges Identified For Fach Goal

GOAL 3: ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP - : Protect and restore creek, bay, and other aquatic ecosystems.

 "Given the potential not to get Measure B re-passed, we should look at lowering this leg of our tripod - less environmental stewardship"



*FY20 Work Plan Review: Goal 3: Environmental Stewardship

Strategy 1: Attain net positive impact on the environment when implementing flood		Drop		Revise
protection and water supply projects.		1	1	4
Progress	Challenges	Focus/Gui	dance	
 Completed countywide framework for integrated water resource plan (One Water) and neared completion of Coyote Watershed Plan. Supported Board Financial Sustainability Workgroup to define stewardship and flood protection level of service goals Hired fellow to develop environmental stewardship guiding principles for project planning and design process. Continue implementing multi-objectives projects and planning and implementing projects that avoid or minimize impacts to the environment. 	 Staffing challenges due to other high priority needs. Due to limited instream lands, it may not be feasible to provide compensation measures at the same locations where project-related impacts occur. Compensation measures may have to be at another location and may not be in the same watershed. 	Water p develop water r each water approp monito impacts	s part of tolanning potential and integrates partershed, riate metrer Valley Was on and beironment.	rocess, rated lan for including rics to ater's enefit to



*FY20 Work Plan Review: Goal 3: Environmental Stewardship

Strategy 2: Promote the protection of creeks, bay, and other aquatic ecosystems from threats of pollution and degradation.		Drop 1	Carry _J over	Revise 5
Progress	Challenges	Focus/Gu	idance	
 Extended funding agreement with SJPD to support enforcements along creeks. Developing new science on methylmercury reduction in four reservoirs – two reservoirs have downward trend in fish tissue mercury Completed Stormwater Resource Plan for Santa Clara Basin and developing South County Stormwater Resource Plan to prioritize beneficial projects. 	Increased prevalence of homeless encampments along creeks	protect water bodies infrast our en safe w Such e prever polluti impler storm addres polluti	Continue eff t the ecosys quality of ou t, the integri ructure, and opployees ha ork environ fforts include on, increase mentation of water infras ssing mercu on, and hon opment clea	etem and our water ty of our d ensure ve a ment. de water ed f green tructure, ry



*FY20 Work Plan Review Opportunities or Challenges Identified For Each Goal

GOAL 4: BUSINESS MANAGEMENT - Provide affordable and effective cost level of services

- "We don't measure ourselves much against out peers."
- "What will we cut if new ballot measure doesn't pass."
- "We are too expensive and way too slow"



*FY20 Work Plan Review: Goal 4: Business Management

Strategy 1: Advance diversity and inclusion.		Drop		Revise
Strategy 1. Advance diversity and inclusion.		0	2	4
Progress	Challenges	Focus/Guidance		
 Presented to D&I Ad Hoc Committee HR programs and partnerships that support providing equal opportunity employment by Research on D&I best practices showed our D&I program is in line with or ahead of Fortune 500 firms. Established preliminary D&I Program Measurements and Resources needed. Employee Resource Groups (ERGs) continue to be active hosting events and giving back to the community Valley Water recognized for 2nd year in a row as "Healthiest Employer in the San Francisco Bay Area" Expanded Sexual Harassment and Abusive Conduct Prevention Training to all employees 	Additional staff resources are needed to establish dedicated continuing work with external community partners.			



*FY20 Work Plan Review: Goal 4: Business Management

Charles - 2 National Associate Office I		Drop		Revise
Strategy 2: Maintain Appropriate Staffing Levels and Expertise		0	3	3
Progress	Challenges	Focus/Guidance		
 Talent Development programs including: Analyst Certificate, Lead Worker Academy, Facilitator Academy, Management 101, EA & ES Rotation Programs, Competency and Technical Trainings, external Leadership Academies, Tuition Assistance Program, Coaching and Conflict Resolution Support and a new Mentoring Program. Contracted with three on-call recruitment services firms to overcome high vacancy rates. Developing long-term staffing strategy to address competencies needed for next 10-15 years. Develop classification career ladders to provide understanding of requirements for professional growth. Intern program recognized as top 3 finalist in 2019 Partnerships for Industry and Education (PIE) Contest by CA Economic Summit Partnerships w/ SJSU's MESA Engineering Program, CSUEB, Gavilan Community College, Bright Futures, Next Gen Regional and Baywork. 	 Additional staff resources needed on projects that possess expertise in classification methodologies, project management, and an overall understanding of Valley Water's current and future projects. Although training attendance is overall very high, there are sometimes lastminute training cancellations due to heavy workload or other priorities. The high number of recruitments per recruiter makes it difficult to be proactive and build candidate pipelines. 			



FY20 Work Plan Review: Goal 4: Business Management

Strategy 3: Provide affordable and effective cost level of services.		Drop 0	Carry _T over	Revise 5
Progress	Challenges	Focus/Guidance		
 Reviewed opportunities to assess fees related to city/county development plans. Reviewed and discussed flood protection related ends policies. Reviewed Redevelopment Agency (RDA) Successor Agency revenue historical actuals and forecast. Discussed potential Safe Clean Water renewal effort. 	Controlling expectations with regard to what Valley Water can achieve and what it can afford to do (i.e. countering the perception that Valley Water has deep pockets).			



FY21 DRAFT Work Plan (Placeholder)

Strategy

SUPPLY - Strategy 1: Finalize the Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE).

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STEWARDSHIP - Strategy 2: Promote the protection of creeks, bay, and other aquatic ecosystems from threats of pollution and degradation.

MANAGEMENT - Strategy 1: Advance diversity and inclusion.

MANAGEMENT - Strategy 2: Maintain appropriate staffing levels and expertise.

MANAGEMENT - Strategy 3: Provide affordable and effective cost level of services.







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Thank you!

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