

## 2019 Annual Accomplishments Report: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: February 2020

The annual work plan establishes a framework for committee discussion and action during the annual meeting schedule. The committee work plan is a dynamic document, subject to change as external and internal issues impacting the District occur and are recommended for committee discussion. Subsequently, an annual committee accomplishments report is developed based on the work plan and presented to the District Board of Directors.

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
1	Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committee Elects Chair and Vice Chair for 2019. <b>(Action)</b></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Accomplished January 7, 2019:</u></b> The Committee elected Mr. David Vanni as 2019 Committee Chair and Mr. Jan Garrod as 2019 Committee Vice Chair.</p>
2	Annual Accomplishments Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and approve 2018 Accomplishments Report for presentation to the Board. <b>(Action)</b></li> <li>Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Accomplished January 7, 2019:</u></b> The Committee reviewed and approved the 2018 Accomplishments Report for presentation to the Board.</p> <p><i>The Board received the Committee's presentation at its March 26, 2019, meeting.</i></p>
3	Open Space Credit Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the Open Space Credit Policy. <b>(Action)</b></li> <li>Provide comment to the Board in the implementation of the District's mission as it applies to the Open Space Credit Policy.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Accomplished January 7, 2019:</u></b> The Committee reviewed and commented to the Board on the Open Space Credit Policy with the following action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Committee approved not to support staff's recommendation and would like to receive more analysis for them to make a more informed decision.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Accomplished April 8, 2019:</u></b> The Committee reviewed and commented to the Board on the Open Space Credit Policy with the following action: The Committee approve submitting the following letter to the Board of Directors, April 8, 2019:</p>

*Blue = Action taken by the Board of Directors*

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			<p>The AWAC opposes the proposed changes in the Open Space Credit policy at this time.</p> <p>Members of the AWAC currently have the understanding that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Valley Water apparently at this time does not have a precise, comprehensive valuation of the benefits that agricultural lands and open space provide in Santa Clara County with respect to mitigating flood risk,</li> <li>2) Valley Water apparently at this time does not have precise estimates of the effect on flood risk that would result from various levels of urbanization of agricultural lands and open space in Santa Clara County,</li> <li>3) Diverting funding from the Open Space Credit for the purpose of flood control may be counterproductive, and maintaining agricultural lands and open space may be among the most cost effective means of mitigating flood risk,</li> <li>4) Agricultural land that is not under Williamson Act or conservation easement is the land that is most at risk for conversion to non-agricultural use.</li> <li>5) At the moment when the County of Santa Clara has just launched a comprehensive Agricultural Plan with state and county funding to sustain agriculture and retain its many important benefits, this would be an unfortunate time to raise the cost of groundwater to most agricultural producers by almost 20%, and would undermine the hoped-for trust and collaborative spirit among diverse interests that will be needed for success of the plan.</li> </ol>

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			<p>6) Headlines about the proposed reduction in Open Space Credit might well read: Valley Water hits farmers with 20% increase in water costs at time when county launches major effort to preserve threatened farming and open space and Valley Water's price hike to farmers in response to 2017 flooding may increase flood risks and costs.</p> <p><i>The Board received the Committee's information at its April 23, 2019, meeting.</i></p>
4	<p><b>Review of Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive and review the 2018 Board-approved Committee work plan. <b>(Action)</b></li> <li>• Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Accomplished January 7, 2019:</u></b> The Committee reviewed the 2019 work plan and took the following action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Committee agreed to add updates on: Anderson Dam, CA WaterFix and One Water Plan.</i></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Accomplished April 8, 2019:</u></b> The Committee reviewed the 2019 work plan and took no action.</p> <p><b><u>Accomplished July 1, 2019:</u></b> The Committee reviewed the 2019 work plan and took no action.</p> <p><b><u>October 7, 2019:</u></b> There was no quorum, therefore the Committee took no action.</p>

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5	<u><b>Standing Items Reports/Fiscal Year 2019:</b></u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Finalize the Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaboration Effort (FAHCE) (Report from the FAHCE Ad Hoc Committee)</li> <li>2. Actively Pursue Efforts to Increase Water Storage Opportunities (Report from the Water Storage Exploratory Committee)</li> <li>3. Actively Participate in Decisions Regarding the California WaterFix (Report from EWRC Board Representative)</li> <li>4. Advance Recycled and Purified Water Efforts with the City of San Jose and Other Agencies (Report from the Recycled Water Committee)</li> <li>5. Advance Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project (Report from the Capital Improvement Program Committee)</li> <li>6. Provide for a Watershed-Wide Regulatory Planning and Permitting Effort (Report from the Capital Improvement Program Committee)</li> <li>7. Ensure Immediate Emergency Action Plans and Flood Protection are Provided for Coyote Creek (Report from the Coyote Creek Flood Risk Reduction Ad Hoc Committee)</li> <li>8. Foster a Coordinated Approach to Environmental Stewardship Effort (Report from EWRC Board Representative)</li> <li>9. Advance Diversity and Inclusion Efforts (Report from the Diversity and Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee)</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive quarterly reports on standing items. <b>(Information)</b></li> </ul>	<u><b>Accomplished April 8, 2019:</b></u> The Committee received report on the new standing items reports for Fiscal 2019 and took no action.
6	<b>Review and Comment to the Board on the Fiscal Year 2019 - 2020 Proposed Groundwater Production Charges.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and comment to the Board on the Fiscal Year 2020 Proposed Groundwater Production Charges. <b>(Action)</b></li> </ul>	<u><b>Accomplished April 8, 2019:</b></u> The Committee reviewed and commented to the Board on the Fiscal Year 2020 Proposed Groundwater Production Charges as follows:

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide comments to the Board, as necessary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The motion failed: 3 Ayes, 5 Nays, 3 abstained.</li> </ul>
7	<p><b><u>Standing Items Reports Fiscal Year 2020:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Finalize the Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE). (Assigned to FAHCE)</b></li> <li><b>Actively Pursue Efforts to Increase Water Storage Opportunities. (Assigned to Water Storage Exploratory Committee)</b></li> <li><b>Actively Participate in Decisions Regarding the California Delta Conveyance. (Assigned to California Delta Conveyance Working Group)</b></li> <li><b>Lead Recycled and Purified Water Efforts with the City of San Jose and Other Agencies. (Assigned to Recycled Water Committee)</b></li> <li><b>Engage and educate the community, local elected officials and staff on future water supply strategies in Santa Clara County. (Assigned to Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee)</b></li> <li><b>Advance Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project. (Assigned to Capital Improvement Program Committee)</b></li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Receive quarterly reports on standing items. <b>(Information)</b></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Accomplished July 1, 2019:</u></b> The Committee received report on the new standing items reports for Fiscal 2020 and took no action.</p> <p><b><u>October 7, 2019:</u></b> There was no quorum, therefore the Committee took no action.</p>

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	<p>7. Provide for a Watershed-Wide Regulatory Planning and Permitting Effort. (Assigned to FAHCE)</p> <p>8. Attain net positive impact on the environment when implementing Valley Water's mission.</p> <p>9. Promote the protection of creeks, bay, and other aquatic ecosystems from threats of pollution and degradation (E-4.1.3). (Assigned to Homeless Encampment Ad Hoc Committee)</p> <p>10. Advance Diversity and Inclusion Efforts. Carry forward to FY20. (Assigned to Diversity and Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee)</p> <p>11. Understand if the level of services Valley Water provides to the public are reasonable and the costs of providing services are affordable and effective. (Assigned to Revenue Working Group)</p>		
8	<p><b>Water Supply Master Plan Update</b> <i>See Board Priority Standing item #5</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive an update on the Water Supply Master Plan. <b>(Action).</b></li> <li>• Provide comments to the Board, as necessary.</li> </ul>	<p>Link to 1/18/19 Board Agenda  <a href="https://scvwd.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=3833245&amp;GUID=B2A7EFC8-34C3-4EF8-BF2A-FC11774B9CF1&amp;Options=ID Text Attachments &amp;Search=January+18%2c+2019">https://scvwd.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=3833245&amp;GUID=B2A7EFC8-34C3-4EF8-BF2A-FC11774B9CF1&amp;Options=ID Text Attachments &amp;Search=January+18%2c+2019</a></p> <p><b>Accomplished July 1, 2019:</b>  The Committee received an update on the Water Supply Master Plan and took no action.</p>

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10	<b>Discuss Proposed Collaborative to Identify Sources of Revenue to Subsidize Agricultural Water Rates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss Proposed Collaborative to Identify Sources of Revenue to Subsidize Agricultural Water Rates <b>(Action)</b></li> <li>Provide comments to the Board, as necessary</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Accomplished July 1, 2019:</u></b> The Committee discussed proposed collaborative to identify sources of revenue to subsidize agricultural water rates and took the following action: The Committee unanimously carried to approve the formation of a team of stakeholders, farm bureau, ag businesses and other interested parties to discuss the Agricultural Plan, potential open space credit funding, agricultural lands, subsidy concerns, environmental and financial impacts and research available source agencies.</p> <p><i>The Board received the Committee's information at its July 23, 2019, meeting.</i></p>
11	<b>Discuss Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study <b>(Information)</b></li> <li>Provide comments to the Board, as necessary</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Accomplished July 1, 2019:</u></b> The Committee discussed the agricultural water use baseline study and took no action.</p>
12	<b>Update from Stakeholders on Efforts to Identify Sources of Revenue to Subsidize Agricultural Water Rates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Receive update from Stakeholders on Efforts to Identify Sources of Revenue to Subsidize Agricultural Water Rates <b>(Action)</b></li> <li>Provide comments to the Board, as necessary</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>October 7, 2019:</u></b> There was no quorum, therefore the committee took no action.</p>

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13	Special Meeting with SCC Farm Bureau Retain Open Space Credit Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss retaining Open Space Credit</li> </ul>	<p><b>Accomplished December 16, 2019:</b> The Committee discussed retaining Open Space Credit and took the following action: The Committee by unanimous vote, approved the recommendation that the Board consider endorsing the Collaborative Team, the SCC Farm Bureau along with the Open Space Authority efforts in exploring alternative funding for water projects in order to ensure the stability of groundwater agricultural rates through a measure patterned after Measure P adopted by the Mountain View voters in November 2018.</p> <p><i>The Board received the Committee's information at its January 14, 2020, meeting.</i></p>
14	One Water Plan Update <i>See Board Priority Standing item #8</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Receive information on One Water Plan. <b>(Information)</b></li> <li>Provide comments to the Board, as necessary</li> </ul>	
15	California Delta Conveyance (formerly CA WaterFix)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Receive information on California Delta Conveyance. <b>(Information)</b></li> <li>Provide comments to the Board, as necessary</li> </ul>	
16	Update on Anderson Dam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Receive information on Anderson Dam. <b>(Information)</b></li> <li>Provide comments to the Board, as necessary.</li> </ul>	

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17	Climate Change Mitigation – Carbon Neutrality by 2020 Program Update, Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Adaptation – Water Supply, Flood Protection, Ecosystems Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Receive information on climate change mitigation – carbon neutrality by 2020 program update. <b>(Action)</b></li> <li>Provide comments to the Board, as necessary.</li> </ul>	<a href="https://scvwd.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=3834299&amp;GUID=3DE58FF2-BB43-4305-81C4-916B18DBE118&amp;Options=&amp;Search=">https://scvwd.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=3834299&amp;GUID=3DE58FF2-BB43-4305-81C4-916B18DBE118&amp;Options=&amp;Search=</a>

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