



TO: Board of Directors FROM: Homeless Encampment
Ad Hoc Committee

SUBJECT: 8/31/20 Homeless Encampment Ad Hoc DATE: September 8, 2020
Committee Meeting Summary

This memorandum summarizes the Homeless Encampment Ad Hoc Committee (Committee) meeting held August 31, 2020, where the following workplan items were discussed:

1. Update on Valley Water's Activities to Address the Effects of Homeless Encampments Along Local Waterways.

The Committee received an update on Valley Water's homelessness-related activities and associated impacts of state and local restrictions imposed due to the COVID19 pandemic, including updates on:

- Stream Maintenance Program: Received an update on trash and debris removed from creeks and winter preparedness activities, creek safety conditions, and the status of encampment abatements during the pandemic;
- Creek Conditions: Received an update on current water quality conditions in local creeks and related impacts of homeless encampments;
- Valley Water Volunteer Cleanup Events: Received an update on events canceled due to the pandemic and activities to gear up for modified Coastal Cleanup events during the month of September, and continued encouragement for communities to clean up their own neighborhoods while adhering to social distancing protocols;
- Land use for Homeless Housing: Received an update on potential excess Valley Water properties that could be used in partnership to establish housing for the homeless;
- Veterans Housing Project: Received an update on potential properties that could be used in partnership to establish housing for veterans; and
- Property Easements: Received an update on efforts to secure property easements with the County, City of San Jose and San Jose Unified School District to allow Valley Water access to creeks for needed maintenance due to impacts of homeless encampments.

2. Updates From Valley Water's External Partners Regarding Efforts to Address Homelessness in Santa Clara County.

The Committee received updates from the County, City of San Jose and other advocacy groups on recent activities to address homelessness and the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on their efforts. The Downtown Streets Team gave a presentation on new policies and procedures implemented to support volunteer cleanup efforts, weekly success meetings, contract milestones for areas along the Penitencia Creek and the El Camino in Sunnyvale supporting cleanup efforts, and how Valley Water funding supports their programs.

3. Update From Destination Home Regarding Efforts to Address Homelessness.

This item was continued to a future meeting.

Board member comments and suggestions can be forwarded to Natalie Dominguez, Assistant Deputy Clerk II, at (408) 630-2659 or by email to ndominguez@valleywater.org.

Richard P. Santos

Richard P. Santos
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Homeless Encampment Committee Chairperson