Michele King

Subject: FW: Extension Request to Review Valley Water's 2020 Urban Water Management Plan
Attachments: FOR Valley Water 2020 UWMP Extension Request Letter 05282021.pdf

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From: Ashley Overhouse <ashley@friendsoftheriver.org>
Sent: Friday, May 28, 2021 11:55 AM
To: Board of Directors <board@valleywater.org>
Cc: Eric Wesselman <Eric@friendsoftheriver.org>
Subject: Extension Request to Review Valley Water's 2020 Urban Water Management Plan

Dear Mr. Callender, Chair Estremera, and Directors Varela, LeZotte, Vogler, Santos, Kremen and Hsieh,

Please find attached a letter from Friends of the River Foundation respectfully requesting additional time to review and comment on Valley Water District's 2020 Urban Water Management Plan. We sincerely appreciate consideration of this request, and welcome additional dialogue.

On a personal note, I'm a resident of San Jose on the border of Valley Water Districts 2 and 3. Thank you for your dedication and leadership to a sustainable water future for myself and other community members.

Sincerely,

Ashley Overhouse
Resilient Rivers Director
Friends of the River
1418 20th Street, Ste. 100
Sacramento, CA 95811
(408) 472-4522
Pronouns: she, her, hers
Help us protect California's rivers

FRIENDS OF THE RIVER

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May 28, 2021

Rick Callender, Chief Executive Officer
Tony Estremera, District 6, Chair, Board of Directors
John Varela, District 1, Board Member
Linda LeZotte, District 4, Board Member
Barbara Keegan, District 2, Board Member
Richard Santos, District 3, Board Member
Gary Kremen, District 7, Board Member
Nai Hsieh, District 5, Board Member

Valley Water District
5750 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, CA 95118

Re: Request for Additional Time to Review the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan

Dear Mr. Callender, Chair Estremera and Directors Varela, LeZotte, Vogler, Santos, Kremen and Hsieh,

Friends of the River is a statewide organization that is dedicated to saving rivers through revolutionary water solutions. We envision a climate resilient water future with healthy rivers, safe and affordable drinking water, and a thriving sustainable economy for all Californians. Friends of the River thanks Valley Water District for its dedication to providing Silicon Valley with safe, clean water for a healthy life, environment, and economy, and for the extensive time and preparation given to updating the critical planning document, the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP).

Friends of the River respectfully requests additional time to review the UWMP and important associated documents such as the Water Storage Contingency Plan and Appendix H, Reduced Delta Reliance. The plan was first released to the public this past Monday, May 24, 2021. This gives only a short two weeks before the Public Hearing on June 8, 2021. This is also the first time the draft Plan will be presented in its entirety before the full Board. The UWMP document alone is hundreds of pages detailing the District's modeling and analysis for the sustainable water future of the Silicon Valley and the Guadalupe River watershed. This does not include review of the Water Storage Contingency Plan or associated UWMP Appendices.

In light of the new legislative requirements from AB 1668 and SB 606 in addition to the worsening drought, Friends of the River would appreciate an additional two weeks to review the Plan and submit comments to the Board. Friends of the River recognizes that the legal deadline for Valley Water to submit its plan to the California Department of Water Resources is July 1, 2021. Friends of the River therefore recommends the Board hold an informational workshop on June 8, 2021 and then hold the formal hearing at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting on June 22, 2021. This additional time will allow both Friends of the River and the public to truly understand and appreciate the state of the District's water supply, projected demand and planned actions to secure this important region's sustainable water future.

The Board's Policy Priority #4 states the intention to "Engage and Educate the Community, Elected Officials and Staff on Future Water Supply Strategies in Santa Clara County." Friends of the River thanks the Valley for this effort and believes this extension request aligns with the Board's motivations while still ensuring the District adheres to legal requirements.

Friends of the River looks forward to engaging with Valley Water in response to these c mments and reviewing the draft Urban Water Management Plan with the intent to inform Valley Water's important future water planning efforts. Please feel free to contact our Executive Director, Eric Wesselman, eric@friendsoftheriver.org, or Resilient Rivers Director, Ashley Overhouse, ashley@friendsoftheriver.org, if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Eric Wesselman
Executive Director
Friends of the River
1418 20th Street, Ste. 100
Sacramento, CA 95811
(916) 442-3155 x218
(510) 775-3797

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