

**MEMORANDUM**

FC 14 (01-02-07)

**TO:** Board of Directors**FROM:** Joint Recycled Water Policy Committee (Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, Mountain View)**SUBJECT:** Joint Recycled Water Policy Committee (Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, Mountain View) Summary for June 4, 2021**DATE:** June 22, 2021

This memorandum summarizes agenda items from the regular meeting of Joint Recycled Water Policy Committee (Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, Mountain View) held on June 4, 2021.

**Attendees:**

Committee Members in attendance were: City of East Palo Alto Mayor/Councilmember: Hon. Lisa Gauthier; City of Mountain View Councilmember: Hon. Pat Showalter, City of Palo Alto Council Member: Hon. Alison Cormack and Hon. Eric Filseth; Valley Water Board Representatives: Director Tony Estremera (District 6), Director Gary Kremen (District 7), and Director Richard P. Santos (District 3).

Valley Water Staff in attendance were: Gina Adriano, Hossein Ashktorab, Henry Barrientos, Rechelle Blank, Glenna Brambill, Domingo Candelas, Phillippe Daniel (Contractor), Sunshine Julian, Albert Le, Marta Lugo, Heath McMahon, Kirsten Struve, Sherilyn Tran, and David Tucker.

Guests in attendance were: City of East Palo Alto: Bartool Zaro, City of Palo Alto: Karla Dailey, Diego Martinez Garcia, and Karin North, City of Mountain View: Lisa Au, and Silicon Valley Advisors LLC: Pete Carrillo.

Public attendees were: Greg Bazydola, A. Bowers, Sanjay Reddy, and Director John L. Varela (Valley Water, District 1).

**4. ACTION ITEMS:****4.1 UPDATE ON PURIFIED WATER PROJECT**

Ms. Kirsten Struve and Ms. Sherilyn Tran reviewed the following:

**Summary from Agenda Memo:**

Per Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Board direction, staff continues to advance an approximately 11,000 acre-feet indirect potable reuse project (i.e., groundwater recharge) using a fixed-price Design-Build-Finance-Operate-Maintain delivery method as a Public Private Partnership (P3).

Valley Water staff continues to make progress on the Purified Water Program. Since the February 22, 2021, Joint Recycled Water Policy Committee with the Cities of Palo Alto, East Palo Alto and Mountain View, the following progress has been made:

CEQA: Release of Notice of Preparation (NOP) and public scoping meeting on March 29, 2021. Outreach was conducted to encourage attendance at the scoping meeting via an outreach mailer, announcements at tours of the Silicon Valley Advanced Purification Center, and continued engagements with staff from the Cities of San Jose and Palo Alto to reach key stakeholder groups. Prior to the release of the NOP, Valley Water staff and consultants met with the planning department staff of both Palo Alto and San Jose

as these cities will be the responsible agencies under CEQA. Also, pertinent environmental investigations have been completed at the San Jose site. Meanwhile, following the execution of a short-term access agreement for the Palo Alto site (at the Former Los Altos Treatment Plant) in May, similar activities will be conducted at the Palo Alto site including delineation of the existing wetlands.

**Procurement:** Valley Water held an Industry Day to provide an overview of the project to interested potential private partners on March 30, 2021. The project is receiving strong attention by potential firms both domestically and from overseas. A Request for Qualifications was released on April 30 to shortlist P3 entities.

**Technical Analyses:** Following the completion of the environmental investigations, geotechnical field investigations at the potential site of the future advanced water purification facility (AWPF) in San Jose were completed in April. Currently similar field investigations at the Palo Alto site are scheduled for May. In addition, staff is pursuing the preliminary geotechnical investigations along the pipeline alignment from both the sites in Palo Alto and San Jose, to the Los Gatos Recharge System in the City of Campbell. The results of these investigations will be included in the P3 Request for Proposal planned for release later this fall. Outreach to cities along the conveyance route is planned.

**Land Lease:** Palo Alto staff provided draft lease terms to Valley Water during April 2021 and staff from both agencies met in May 2021.

**Reverse Osmosis Concentrate Management:** Palo Alto and Valley Water met several times since March 2021 to discuss the management of the Reverse Osmosis Concentrate (ROC) from the future AWPF. Staff from both agencies discussed additional technical analysis requested by Palo Alto, timeline and strategy to meet with the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) to propose the ROC management plan for the future AWPF.

The plan would focus on using the existing Regional Water Quality Control Plant outfall and associated discharge permit known as NPDES permit. In addition, Palo Alto expressed concerns about risk allocation for their existing discharge permit with the Regional Board. This is an important issue and will be addressed by Valley Water based on mutual agreed upon terms.

**Outreach:** Palo Alto and Valley Water staff are meeting regularly to collaborate on outreach related to this project. Staff conducted virtual tours of the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center for two stakeholder groups in Palo Alto: Oshman Family Jewish Community Center and the Palo Alto Fellowship Forum. Staff will begin reaching out to other key stakeholder groups including faith-based organizations, neighborhood associations and environmental groups. Palo Alto staff will liaison to coordinate a meeting with key environmental organizations located in the Peninsula Conservation Center, which is in close proximity to the former Los Altos Treatment Plant, a proposed site for the new purification facility.

The Joint Recycled Water Policy Committee (Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, Mountain View) discussed the following: suggested outreach organizations in Mountain View (Carbon Free Mountain View and Mountain View Coalition for Sustainable Planning), wetlands have been delineated, risk allocation defined, schedule, check presentation event on June 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m., and drought emergency.

Ms. Karin North and Director Tony Estremera were available to answer questions.

The Joint Recycled Water Policy Committee (Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, Mountain View) took no action.

## **4.2 DISCUSS SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO BAY SHORELINE PHASE II FEASIBILITY STUDY**

Ms. Rechelle Blank reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

### **Summary from Agenda Memo:**

Staff plans to provide the Committee information about the Shoreline Phase II Feasibility Study (Study).

This Study is a partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), California State Coastal Conservancy, and regional stakeholders to provide tidal flood protection, restore and enhance tidal marsh and related habitats, and provide recreational and public access opportunities.

The Study focuses on Economic Impact Area's 1-4, from San Francisquito Creek in Palo Alto to Permanente Creek in Mountain View.

The Joint Recycled Water Policy Committee (Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, Mountain View) discussed the following: San Mateo-Safer Bay project, cost share-percentages of construction, Charleston Slough. A1/A2W Restoration projects, salt ponds and levees, noted that these type of projects began approximately 15 years ago to emphasize habitat restoration but also vital for sea level rise and flood protection.

Ms. Lisa Au gave an update on the Ponds A1 and A2W managed by the California State Coastal Conservancy (CSCC). Started with eastern pond in Mountain View is A2W. CSCC will be hauling in soil this summer after receiving excavation permit. Also, CSCC is near completion of the design plans, once final, they will go out to bid to hire contractor to start South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project A2W. Mountain View is continuing to work on design of A1, along with Coast Casey Levee, coordination with the Charleston Slough and Palo Alto subbasin.

The Joint Recycled Water Policy Committee (Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, Mountain View) took no action.

If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact me at, [gbrambill@valleywater.org](mailto:gbrambill@valleywater.org) or 1.408.630.2408.

Thank you.

Glenna Brambill, Management Analyst II,  
Board Committee Liaison  
Office of the Clerk of the Board

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK