



Office of Vice Mayor Charles "Chappie" Jones

City of San Jose District 1

June 18, 2021

CEO Rick Callender and Board of Directors
Santa Clara Valley Water District
5750 Almaden Expressway
San José, CA 95118

Subject: Water Purification Project Negotiations

Dear Mr. Callender and Board Members,

I hope this letter finds you well. Over the course of the past year and a half there has been ongoing communication between City of San José staff and Valley Water staff in an attempt to reach an agreement pertaining to the development and expansion of purified water in our City. After recent council discussions regarding this item, my colleagues and I on the San José City Council recommended that staff from both parties enter into a three-party agreement with a mutually agreed upon consultant to facilitate negotiations between the City and Valley Water for six months, and to create an executive steering committee consisting of elected officials and staff should the negotiations require additional guidance. Following these negotiations, City staff have expressed a willingness to continue conversations regarding additional items such as the Ground Lease and Property Use Agreement for the existing Advanced Water Treatment Facility, an amended or new Recycled Water Facilities and Programs Integration Agreement, and continued discussions on reverse osmosis concentrate (ROC).

I am respectfully requesting that the Valley Water Board of Directors direct staff to return to the negotiating table with the City of San José so that we can engage in a meaningful and productive conversation without any additional preconditions. The City of San José is committed to working with Valley Water in order to bring this deal to fruition. Both parties understand and acknowledge the significance of this project and the urgency of expanding and increasing our local, drought-resilient water. Should the Board of Directors prefer to move forward with a different municipality, I respectfully ask that you let the City of San José know. In January 2020, I met with Valley Water staff in good faith, and committed to do everything in my power to move this project forward. I intend to see that commitment through. I sincerely hope that you will join me.

Respectfully,

Charles "Chappie" Jones
Vice Mayor, City of San José - Council District 1

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