



July 2, 2021

The Honorable Chappie Jones
Vice Mayor of San Jose
200 East Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95112

Subject: Purified Water Project Negotiations

Dear Vice Mayor Jones:

Thank you for your letter dated June 18, 2021, related to the Purified Water Project (PWP) negotiations and for your continued effort towards moving this project forward between the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) and the City of San José.

As you are probably aware, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors recently proclaimed a local emergency in response to extreme drought conditions, an action that was preceded by our own Board of Directors' declaration of a Water Shortage Emergency Condition. As such, the realities of the current drought make the PWP even more critical to not only Valley Water and the City of San José, but also to the entire County and State of California.

With these circumstances considered, I would like to restate and emphasize that our Board of Directors feels it is necessary for negotiations to include policy makers, as well as staff, to ensure workable solutions to our issues of common interest. This approach of including policy makers was used successfully in developing our ongoing purified water collaboration at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center (SVAWPC) and could similarly help advance progress and consensus pertaining to the PWP. In response to your request, I would like to respectfully accept your suggestion and offer for an executive steering committee consisting of both Valley Water Board and staff, and City Council representatives and staff, for informal conversations to discuss the project's scope and expected timeline.

I would also like to bring to your attention that our Board will be hearing an update on the partnership with the City of San Jose on the PWP on our July 13, 2021, Board of Directors agenda and invite you to attend and share your insight from the elected official point of view. I would request City staff participate as well in order to provide any technical expertise or input.

Should the Council reconsider its position, please know we remain committed to negotiating the terms for all needed items to ensure the PWP can move forward including water, land, Reverse Osmosis concentrate and integration agreement amendment. We stand ready to partner with you and collaborate for future phases of potable reuse expansion at the SVAWPC given the urgency of the

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drought emergency. Don Rocha, Deputy Administrative Officer of Government Relations, is available for questions or follow-up at (408) 630-2338 or DRocha@valleywater.org.

Sincerely,

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Estremera".

Tony Estremera
Chair, Board of Directors

cc: Board of Directors (7)
kn:fd
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