

# CEO BULLETIN



**To: Board of Directors**  
**From: Rick L. Callender, CEO**

## **Weeks of September 24 – October 7, 2021**

**Board Executive Limitation Policy EL-7:**

*The Board Appointed Officers shall inform and support the Board in its work. Further, a BAO shall 1) inform the Board of relevant trends, anticipated adverse media coverage, or material external and internal changes, particularly changes in the assumptions upon which any Board policy has previously been established and 2) report in a timely manner an actual or anticipated noncompliance with any policy of the Board.*

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### **1. 37th California Coastal Cleanup**

Valley Water, in partnership with the Creek Connections Action Group (CCAG), hosted the 37<sup>th</sup> annual Coastal Cleanup Day on Saturday, September 18, 2021 in Santa Clara County.

This year, the CCAG came together to host a hybrid effort, with Valley Water organizing in-person sites near the creeks as well as independent neighborhood cleanups where volunteers took to the streets using the CleanSwell app to track their own clean-up efforts. A total of 913 volunteers cleaned 99.5 miles of creeks and streets, removing approximately 28,085 pounds of trash, which included 1,347 pounds of recyclables. Some of the most interesting items that volunteers picked up included the following: sewing machine, unopened bag of golf tees, cell phone, firecrackers, piano, ceramic lawn ornaments, rubber duck, Christmas ornaments, toilet, and polaroid camera.

Valley Water will continue to leverage the momentum from the event to encourage volunteers to sign up for the Adopt-A-Creek Program and other Valley Water volunteer efforts, such as National River Cleanup Day in May of next year.

The CCAG is a consortium of public agencies and non-profit organizations that share a goal of protecting Santa Clara County's waterways. These agencies include Valley Water (Chair), Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation, the City of San José (Parks Recreation and Neighborhood Services, Environmental Services Department), City of Santa Clara, City of Palo Alto, City of Sunnyvale, City of Milpitas, City of Cupertino, West Valley Clean Water Program (City of Campbell, City of Monte Sereno, City of Saratoga, and the Town of Los Gatos), City of Morgan Hill, City of Gilroy, and City of Los Gatos.

For further information, please contact Marta Lugo at (408) 630-2237.

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### **2. Safe, Clean Water Grant Closeout: City of Campbell's Los Gatos Creek Trail Interpretive Signage and Receptacle Expansion Project**

In Fiscal Year 2018, Valley Water awarded the City of Campbell (Grantee) a \$33,731.28 Safe, Clean Water Program B7 Grant for their Los Gatos Creek Trail Interpretive Signage and Receptacle Expansion Project. The Grantee completed the Project in August of 2021 and provided the closeout materials in September of 2021.

The City of Campbell partnered with the Town of Los Gatos to install ten environmental outreach stations along the Los Gatos Creek Trail, adjacent to the Los Gatos Creek and percolation ponds. These stations included educational interpretive signage with environmental stewardship messages about litter and the health of riparian corridors. The Grantee installed pet waste and refuse/recycling stations next to the signs to encourage litter disposal to prevent stormwater pollution. The Grantee also conducted a month-long survey to track how community members utilize the trail and engage with the signage.

#### **Key Outcomes:**

- Installed 10 environmental outreach stations across 6.3 miles of the Los Gatos Creek Trail in Campbell and Los Gatos.
- Collected 12.25 tons of trash and 7.28 tons of recyclable materials a year after installation.
- Conducted a month-long survey with responses from 82 trail users:
  - 34% used the trail multiple times a week.
  - 76% of participants utilized the trash or recycling cans.
  - 73% of participants have noticed a reduction in trash and pet waste along the trail since August 2020.

For further information, please contact Marta Lugo at (408) 630-2237.

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### **3. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Compliance Update**

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires that a groundwater sustainability agency managing a medium- or high-priority basin adopt and implement a groundwater sustainability plan or prescribed Alternative. Valley Water's comprehensive 2016 Groundwater Management Plan for the high-priority Santa Clara and Llagas subbasins was approved by the Department of Water Resources as an Alternative in 2019. In accordance with SGMA, a five-year update of the Alternative is due to the state by January 1, 2022.

Valley Water plans to post the draft 2021 Groundwater Management Plan on October 8, 2021 for public review at the following website: <https://www.valleywater.org/your-water/where-your-water-comes/groundwater/sustainable>. An overview of the draft 2021 Groundwater Management Plan, including notable changes from the 2016 plan, will be provided at Valley Water's Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee meeting scheduled for October 25, 2021. The final 2021 Groundwater Management Plan is expected to be brought to the November 23, 2021 Board of Directors meeting for public hearing and plan adoption.

For further information, please contact Greg Williams at (408) 630-2867.

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4. Kremen

**Staff is to Provide Director Kremen with a copy of the first draft of the various financial schedules that will be included in the FY21 Annual Financial Report.**

**I-21-0006**

On October 1, 2021, Valley Water provided Director Kremen with an excel file that contains a draft version of the various schedules to be incorporated into the Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Financial Report. A copy of the file can be obtained by contacting the Clerk of the Board.

For further information, please contact Darin Taylor at (408) 630-3068.

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