



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 21-1013

Agenda Date: 10/12/2021
Item No.: *2.10.

BOARD AGENDA MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT:

Monthly Drought Emergency Response and Water Supply Update (PREVIOUSLY LISTED AS ITEM 2.8).

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update on water supply conditions in Santa Clara County and staff's drought response efforts and provide direction to staff, as necessary.

SUMMARY:

On June 9, 2021, the Board declared a water shortage emergency condition pursuant to California Water Code §350, that called for water use restrictions of 15% compared to 2019 and urged the County to proclaim a local emergency.

Reflecting critically dry conditions across the state, Valley Water has received drastic reductions in imported water allocations, which comprise about half of Valley Water's typical annual water supply. Furthermore, Valley Water is impacted by the unavailability of Anderson Reservoir as a surface water storage facility for the duration of the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project, which is expected to last 10 years. The loss of Anderson, lower imported water supplies, and uncertainty over emergency water transfers could result in rapid and significant drops to our groundwater levels, resulting in the potential for subsidence in North County and dry wells throughout the county. In South County, groundwater is the only drinking water supply.

Valley Water has been conducting a wide array of efforts to respond to the drought and the resulting water shortage emergency condition. These efforts along with the latest water supply condition in the County will be described in current month's Water Tracker Report and Drought Response Report.

These reports will be added in the 3-day supplemental agenda item.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There are adequate funds in the Adopted FY 2021-22 Budget and Water Utility Enterprise (WUE) reserves to carry out the operations described in this memo. There are adequate funds in the Safe Clean Water Program to carry out the expansion of Landscape Rebate Program in addition to the ongoing Water Utility funded water conservation program efforts. With the rebate amount increase,

additional staffing resources are needed to support the expanded conservation program. A budget adjustment from WUE reserves for these additional resource needs may be brought to the Board in FY 2021-22.

CEQA:

The recommended action does not constitute a project under CEQA because it does not have a potential for resulting in direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.

ATTACHMENTS:

- *Supplemental Agenda Memo
- *Supplemental Attachment 1: PowerPoint
- *Supplemental Attachment 2: Drought Response Report
- *Supplemental Attachment 3: October 2021 Water Tracker

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Aaron Baker, 408-630-2135