



# Santa Clara Valley Water District

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**File No.:** 20-0272

**Agenda Date:** 3/10/2020

**Item No.:** \*4.3.

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## BOARD AGENDA MEMORANDUM

### **SUBJECT:**

Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission's Recommendations and Associated Staff Analyses from the Commission's February 19, 2020 Meeting.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board consider the following recommendations by the Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission:

- A. Consider the Artist, Mr. Paul J. Gonzalez's drawings for the Adopt-A-Bench Project; and
- B. Consider the Commissioners having a signature on the seven benches from the 2019-2020 group for historical purposes.

### **SUMMARY:**

The Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission met on February 19, 2020, and made the following recommendations for Board consideration:

The Committee unanimously approved that the Board consider the Commission's two recommendations:

#### **Recommendation #1:**

That the Board consider approving the Artist, Mr. Paul J. Gonzalez's draft drawings of the 7 benches (1 for each District) for the Adopt-A-Bench Project.

#### **Staff Analysis #1:**

Staff agrees with the Commission's request and recommends the Board approve the artwork designs for the pilot Adopt-A-Bench project. Upon the Board's approval, the Commission will work with staff to present the artwork designs to the city arts commissions for review and approval, as applicable per their request, in March/April 2020. Following the approval of the artwork, the Youth Commission will work with the art advisor to paint tiles and install them on each bench in April 2020. The Youth Commission voted to develop a promotional event and/or video upon the completion of the project, expected in May 2020.

This project was approved by the Board on December 11, 2018. Valley Water owns more than 200 interpretive benches throughout the county. The benches were installed more than 20 years ago and

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many of the benches' conditions have deteriorated through the years. The pilot project engages the Youth Commission to adopt the first seven benches (one per Board district area) and revitalize them by working with an art advisor to help design the artwork and implement the design on the benches. Staff secured local artist Paul J. Gonzalez to serve as the art advisor. The Youth Commission created an Adopt-A-Bench working group that has worked with the art advisor on the draft artwork designs. The benches visually convey Valley Water's stewardship messages, include the nearest creek name to raise awareness of local creeks, and showcase regionally specific native plants and animals.

**Recommendation #2:**

That the Board consider approving having a signage on the seven benches from the 2019-2020 group for historical purposes.

**Staff Analysis #2:**

Staff agrees with the Commission's request and recommends the Board approve the Youth Commission to develop a signature to identify the 2019-2020 Youth Commission worked on the first seven benches for the pilot Adopt-A-Bench project. Staff will work with the Commissioners and art advisor to develop the signature and incorporate it into the final artwork designs.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Funds for the pilot Adopt-A-Bench project artist and supplies are budgeted in the Fiscal Year 2020 Office of Civic Engagement Project - 60171002.

**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:**

Attachment 1: Bench Artwork Designs.

**UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

Rick Callender, 408-630-2017