



# Santa Clara Valley Water District

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**File No.:** 20-0362

**Agenda Date:** 4/28/2020

**Item No.:** 3.4.

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## BOARD AGENDA MEMORANDUM

### **SUBJECT:**

Adopt Resolution recognizing April 22, 2020 as Earth Day.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt the Resolution RECOGNIZING APRIL 22, 2020, AS EARTH DAY.

### **SUMMARY:**

Every year on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, over a billion people worldwide celebrate Earth Day. Earth Day is intended to raise awareness and appreciation for the Earth's natural environment. At a 1969 UNESCO Conference in San Francisco, peace activist John McConnell proposed a day to honor Earth and the concept of peace, and then-U.S. Senator Nelson formally established Earth Day on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1970. On that day 20 million people participated in rallies nationwide, which helped lead to the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency and the passing of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Acts.

Earth Day continues to serve as a platform to promote responsible and caring acts for the environment, thus improving quality of life. It is celebrated in more than 192 countries each year and promoted by the non-profit Earth Day Network.

According to the Earth Day Network, "the theme for Earth Day 2020 is climate action. The enormous challenge - but also the vast opportunities - of action on climate change have distinguished the issue as the most pressing topic for the 50th anniversary. Climate change represents the biggest challenge to the future of humanity and the life-support systems that make our world habitable."

The Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) currently has a wide range of programs that align with Earth Day objectives, including a carbon neutrality goal, an energy optimization program, and development of a Climate Change Action Plan; water conservation and pollution prevention programs; and habitat restoration and enhancement efforts both in streams and along the Bayshore. With this Resolution, Valley Water can further promote these environmental stewardship efforts while fulfilling its mission of providing Silicon Valley safe, clean water for a healthy life, environment, and economy.

This year, Valley Water will recognize and celebrate Earth Day with a News You Can Use Article prepared by the Green Team Employee Resource Group (ERG) to commemorate Earth Day. The

Green Team ERG serves as a resource to all employees to promote sustainable best practices, to support Valley Water's sustainability mission, and to help generate new sustainable ideas and solutions in the workplace.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

There is no financial impact associated with this item.

**CEQA:**

These recommended actions do not constitute a project under CEQA because they do not have a potential for resulting in direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1: Resolution

**UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

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