

SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY
1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, CA 92223



**SAN GORGONIO PASS
WATER AGENCY**
A California State Water Project Contractor

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
February 23, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

AGENDA

This meeting is being held virtually and in person.
Link and telephone option provided is available for the
convenience of the public.

TO JOIN VIA ZOOM: [Zoom Link Board Meeting](#)

TO JOIN THE MEETING BY TELEPHONE

CALL: 669-900-6833 | MEETING ID: 926 3191 5535

Members of the public who wish to comment on any item within the jurisdiction of the Agency or any item on the agenda may submit comments by emailing mcabral@sgpwa.com or may do so during the meeting. Comments will become part of the Board meeting record.

***In order to reduce feedback, please mute your audio when you are not speaking.**

Assistance for those with disabilities: If you have a disability and need accommodation to participate in the meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (951) 845-2577, at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to ensure availability of the requested service of accommodation. You may also contact the Clerk of the Board in writing at San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency, 1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, CA 92223.

Esta reunión se llevará a cabo virtualmente y en persona.

El enlace y la opción telefónica proporcionada
es para la comodidad del público.

PARA UNIRSE VÍA ZOOM: [Zoom Link Board Meeting](#)

PARA UNIRSE A LA JUNTA CON LA OPCIÓN TELEFONICA

LLAMAR: 669-900-6833 | ID DE REUNIÓN: 926 3191 5535

Los miembros del público que deseen comentar sobre cualquier tema dentro de la jurisdicción de la Agencia o cualquier tema en la agenda pueden enviar comentarios por correo electrónico a mcabral@sgpwa.com o pueden hacerlo durante la reunión. Los comentarios pasarán a formar parte del registro de la reunión de la Junta.

***Para reducir los comentarios, silencia el audio cuando no estés hablando.**

Asistencia para personas con discapacidad: Si usted tiene una discapacidad y necesita asistencia para ser partícipe de la junta, por favor de contactar a la Secretaria de la Junta Directiva al (951) 845-2577, por lo mínimo con 24 horas de anticipo de la junta para asegurar la disponibilidad del servicio o asistencia que requiere. También puede contactar a la secretaria de la junta directiva por escrito al San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency, 1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, CA 92223.

President

Robert Ybarra

Vice President

Larry Smith

Treasurer

James Tickemyer

Secretary

Sarah Wargo

Directors

Dr. Blair M Ball

Chander Letulle

Mickey Valdivia

General Manager

Lance Eckhart,

PG, CHG

Legal Counsel

Holland Stewart

1. Call to Order, Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

3. Adjustment and Adoption of Agenda

4. Public Comment:

Members of the public may address the Board at this time concerning items relating to any matter within the Agency's jurisdiction. There will be an opportunity to comment on specific agenda items, as the items are addressed. Speakers are requested to keep their comments to no more than five (5) minutes. Under the Brown Act, no action or discussion shall take place on any item not appearing on the agenda, except that the Board or staff may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed for the purpose of directing statements or questions to staff for follow-up.

5. Consent Calendar:

If any board member requests that an item be removed from the Consent Calendar, it will be removed so that it may be acted upon separately.

- A. Approve Minutes of the February 2, 2026, Regular Meeting of the San Geronio Pass Water Agency Board of Directors, [\(pg. 4\)](#)

6. Reports – Staff

- A. General Manager's Report
- B. General Counsel's Report

7. Informational Presentations and Updates:

- A. Water Conditions Report, [\(pg. 9\)](#)
- B. State Water Project Fundamentals, [\(pg. 17\)](#)
- C. Beaumont Basin Watermaster Overview, [\(pg. 25\)](#)
- D. Local Venders Information Update, [\(pg. 36\)](#)
- E. County Line Road Construction Update, [\(pg. 43\)](#)

8. New Business – Discussion and Possible Action

- A. Authorize the General Manager to Execute a Change Order for the 4th Street fence as part of the County Line Road Recharge Basin Project, in a not-to-exceed amount of \$151,000, and authorize staff to finalize and implement the fencing configuration, [\(pg. 62\)](#)
- B. Approve and Ratify the issuance of a Letter of Support endorsing Vice President Lawrence Smith for the position of LAFCO Regular Special District Member – Western Riverside County, and provide direction to the Board President regarding completion of the Special District Selection Committee (SDSC) ballot, [\(pg. 75\)](#)

9. Ordinance for Adoption

- A. Adopt Ordinance No. 19 Establishing New Times for Board Meetings and Affirming the Location of Board Meetings, and Rescind Ordinance No. 18, ([pg. 84](#))

10. Reports – Directors and Committees

11. Board Requests for Future Agenda Items

12. Closed Session Agenda

- A. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
(Gov. Code § 54956.8)
Property: Whitewater Flume and related properties/ROWs
Agency Negotiator: Lance Eckhart, GM
Negotiating Parties: SGPWA, U.S. Forest Service, City of Banning, Banning Heights
Mutual Water Company, Southern California Edison
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

13. Reconvene

- A. Report out of Closed Session

14. Announcements

- A. Urban Water Institute Spring Conference, February 25 – 27, 2026, Indian Wells
B. Regular Board Meeting, March 2, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.
C. Regular Board Meeting, March 16, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
D. Finance & Budget Committee Meeting, March 26, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

15. Adjournment

Pending Agenda Items:

<i>Request</i>	<i>Requester</i>	<i>Date of Request</i>	<i>Status</i>

(1) Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt public records that relate to open session agenda items and are distributed to a majority of the Board less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection at the Agency's office, during regular business hours. When practical, these public records will also be made available on the Agency's website, accessible at: www.sgpwa.com (2) Any person with a disability who requires accommodation in order to participate in this meeting should telephone the Agency at least 48 hours prior to the meeting in order to make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation.

SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY
1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, California 92223

Official Minutes
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
February 2, 2026

THIS MEETING WAS HELD IN PERSON,
WITH PUBLIC AVAILABILITY PROVIDED VIA ZOOM.

1. Call to Order, Invocation, and Pledge of Allegiance

The San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Board of Directors meeting was called to order by President Robert Ybarra at 1:30 p.m., Monday, February 2, 2026, at the office of the Agency. Director Valdivia provided the invocation and Vice President Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

President Ybarra requested a roll call.

Board Present:

Robert Ybarra, President
Larry Smith, Vice-President
James Tickemyer, Treasurer
Sarah Wargo, Secretary
Blair M Ball, Director
Mickey Valdivia, Director

Absent:

Chander Letulle, Director

Staff Present:

Lance Eckhart, General Manager
Thomas Todd, Jr., Chief Financial Officer
Maricela Cabral, Exec. Asst./Clerk of the Board
Emmett Campbell, Director of Water Resources
Matt Howard, Operations Manager

Consultant Present:

Holland Stewart, Legal Counsel

A quorum was present.

3. Adoption and Adjustment of Agenda

General Manager Eckhart requested Item. 7.E, Review of the Investment Report for Fourth Quarter 2025, be moved up the agenda to accommodate the consultant's availability.

4. Public Comment

Mike Pollack, General Manager of Cabazon Water District, addressed the Board and expressed appreciation for the Agency's partnership and collaboration on water system improvements benefiting the Cabazon community. Mr. Pollock also

announced his retirement after 45 years in the water industry and thanked the Board and staff for their professional relationships and support.

5. Consent Calendar

- A. Approve Minutes of the January 26, 2026, Regular Meeting of the San Geronio Pass Water Agency Board of Directors
- B. Approve Board Committee Assignment Alternates for Calendar Year 2026
- C. Approve Finance & Budget Committee Meeting report for January 29, 2026

On a motion by Director Valdivia, seconded by Treasurer Tickemyer, the board approved the Consent Calendar as presented.

Approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Valdivia, Wargo, Smith, Tickemyer, Ball, Ybarra

Noes: None

Absent: Letulle

Motion passed 6-0.

6. Reports

A. General Manager's Report

General Manager, Lance Eckhart reported on the following:

- 1. Procurement Update
- 2. Water Portfolio Update
- 3. SGPWA History Book
- 4. Update on Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Discussions

B. Legal Counsel's Report

Counsel Stewart provided an update regarding United Water Conservation District's petition before the U.S. Supreme Court related to a federal takings matter.

7. Informational Presentations and Updates:

A. State Water Project Fundamentals

General Manager Eckhart provided an overview of the Agency's 1962 State Water Project contract, including its proportional share and long-term financial obligations. Staff will compile a historical summary of contract amendments for future Board review.

B. TFG Grant and Advocacy Report Presentation

Nicole Sibliski, Senior Grant Specialist updated the Board on the Grant and Advocacy report and potential funding opportunities, including WaterSMART, Title XVI, WIFIA, and State Revolving Fund programs. Priority projects discussed included Phase II of the Backbone Pipeline and the City Creek Tunnel Project.

C. 2026 Water Portfolio Update

General Manager Eckhart provided an update on the 2026 Water Portfolio reviewing projected State Water Project supplies, current allocation levels, carryover status, and recharge planning for the upcoming year. He emphasized the Agency's strategy to maximize recharge during favorable conditions and maintain a diversified portfolio to ensure long-term reliability.

D. CV Strategies Update

Beatrice Eslamboly, CV Strategies, presented a quarterly communications update highlighting media coverage, public outreach events, and website redevelopment efforts.

8. New Business – Discussion and Possible Action:

A. Review and Approve FY 2025-26 Mid-Year Review

Chief Financial Officer Todd provided an overview of the fiscal year 2025-26 Mid-Year Review.

On a motion by Treasurer Tickemyer, seconded by Director Valdivia, the board approved the fiscal year 2025-26 mid-year review.

Approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Valdivia, Wargo, Smith, Tickemyer, Ball, Ybarra

Noes: None

Absent: Letulle

Motion passed 6-0.

9. Ordinance for Adoption

A. Adopt Proposed Ordinance No. 19, Establishing Revised Board Meeting Times and Affirming the Location of Board Meetings

The Board discussed potential modifications to regular meeting times.

1st motion:

Director Smith moved to adopt Proposed Ordinance No. 19 establishing revised Board meeting times and setting both regular meetings at 1:30 p.m. Director Tickemyer seconded the motion.

Substitute motion:

A substitute motion was made by Director Ball, seconded by Treasurer Tickemyer to have both board meetings at 4:00 p.m. Motion was seconded by Treasurer Tickemyer. The Board voted on the substitute motion to schedule both regular meetings at 4:00 p.m.

Ayes: Tickemyer, Ball

Noes: Valdivia, Wargo, Smith, Ybarra

Absent: Letulle

Motion failed 4-2.

The Board then voted on the original motion to schedule both regular meetings at 1:30 p.m.

Ayes: Wargo, Smith, Ybarra

Noes: Valdivia, Tickemyer, Ball

Absent: Letulle

Motion failed 3-3.

9. Reports - Directors and Committee Report

The following meetings were reported on:

- January 27, 2026, Banning City Council Meeting (Wargo, Vald)

- January 28, 2026, IERCD Know Your Water Program (Wargo)
- January 28, 2026, San Geronio Pass Regional Water Alliance (Tickemyer)
- January 28, 2026, Capital Improvement Committee Meeting (Valdivia, Ybarra)
- January 29, 2026, Budget & Finance Committee Meeting (Valdivia, Ybarra)
- January 29, 2026, Calimesa Annual Installation of Officers & Community Awards Dinner (Ybarra)

Directors Ball and Smith had no report.

The Board acknowledged Mr. Pollack's retirement and expressed appreciation for his years of service.

10. Topics for Future Agendas

Board discussion was centered around the removal of items pending. Vice President Smith requested the ordinance for the changing of board meeting times be brought back to a future agenda for further discussion when the full board is present.

11. Closed Session Agenda

A. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS

(Gov. Code § 54956.8)

Property: Water Purchase

Agency Negotiator: Lance Eckhart, GM

Negotiating Parties: San Geronio Pass Water Agency, City of Yuba City

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

12. Reconvene

A. Report out of Closed Session Action

President Ybarra opened the meeting into open session. Counsel Stewart announced there was no reportable action.

13. Announcements

President Ybarra reviewed the following announcements:

- A. Water Conservation & Education Committee Meeting, February 10, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.
- B. IERCD/SGPWA Community Workshop, February 12, 2026 at 5:00 p.m., Banning Senior Center
- C.. Office closed February 16, 2026, in observance of President's Day\
- D. IERCD/SGPWA Community Workshop, February 19, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. Noble Creek Community Center
- E. Regular Board Meeting, February 23, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

14. Reconvene

A. Report out of Closed Session Action

President Ybarra opened the meeting into open session. Counsel Ferre announced there was no reportable action.

15. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, President Ybarra adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, February 23, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Maricela V. Cabral, CMC, CPMC
Deputy Secretary of the Board

DRAFT

Water Conditions Report

**Board of Directors Meeting
February 23, 2026**



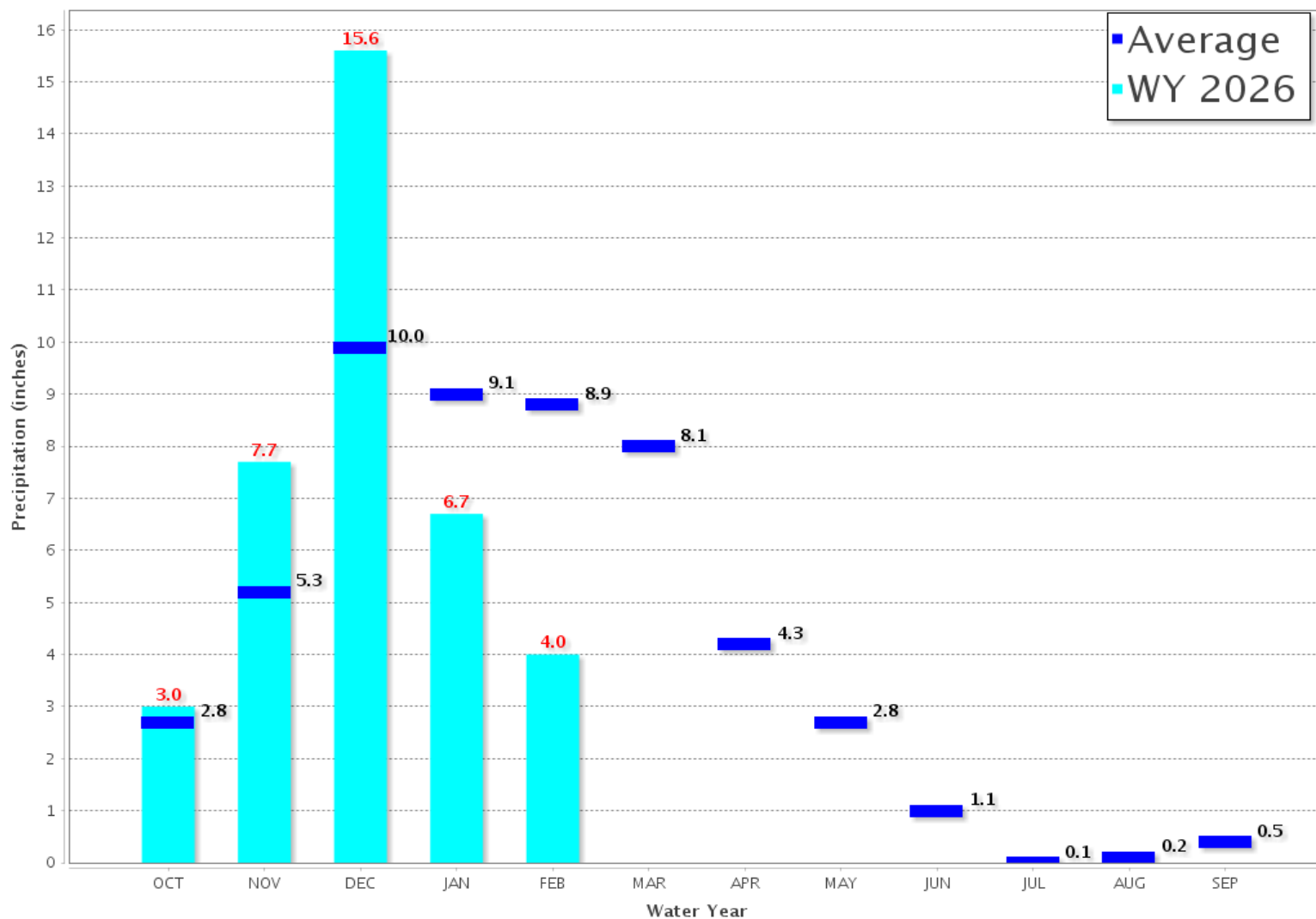


Northern Sierra 8-Station

Precipitation Index for Water Year 2026 – Updated on February 18, 2026 12:48 PM

Note: Monthly totals may not add up to seasonal total because of rounding

Water Year Monthly totals are calculated based on Daily precipitation data from 12am to 12am PST

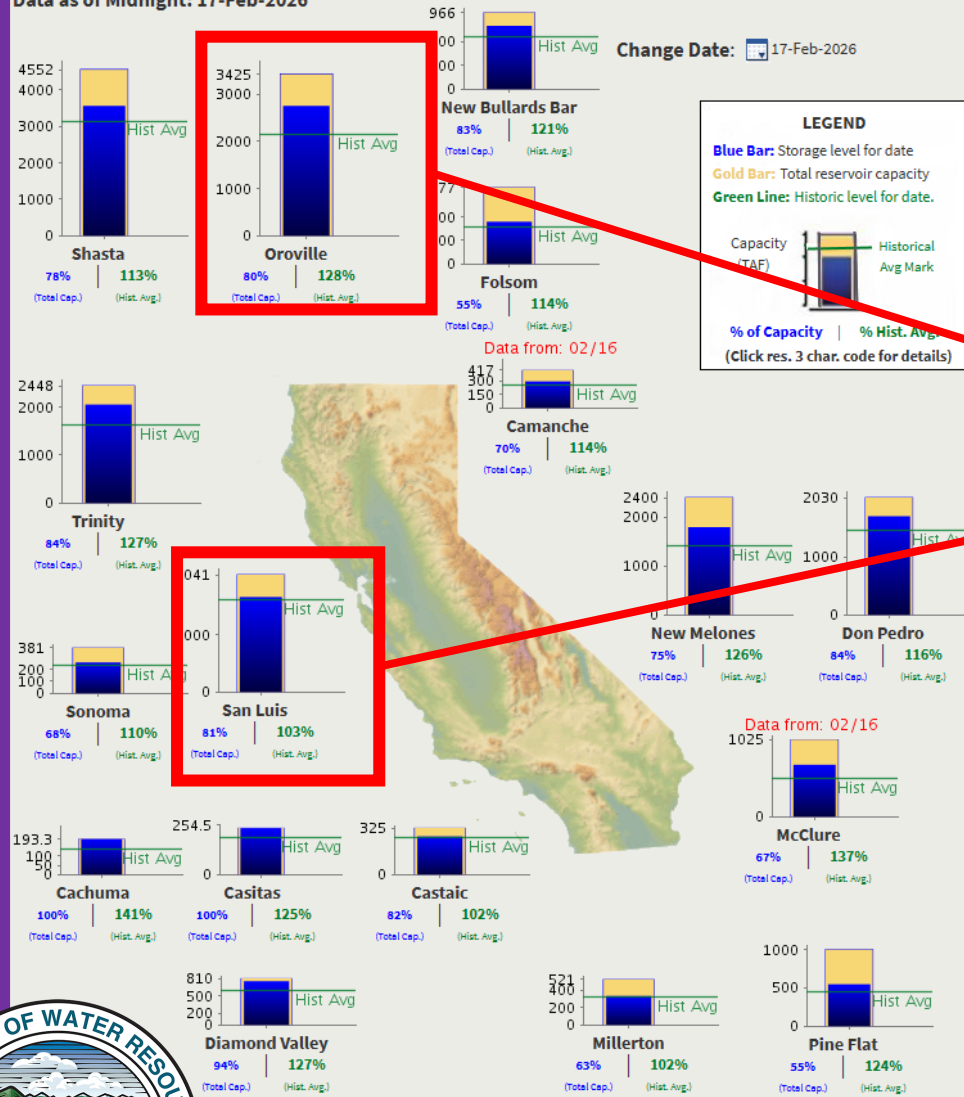


State Precipitation Stations – North Sierra

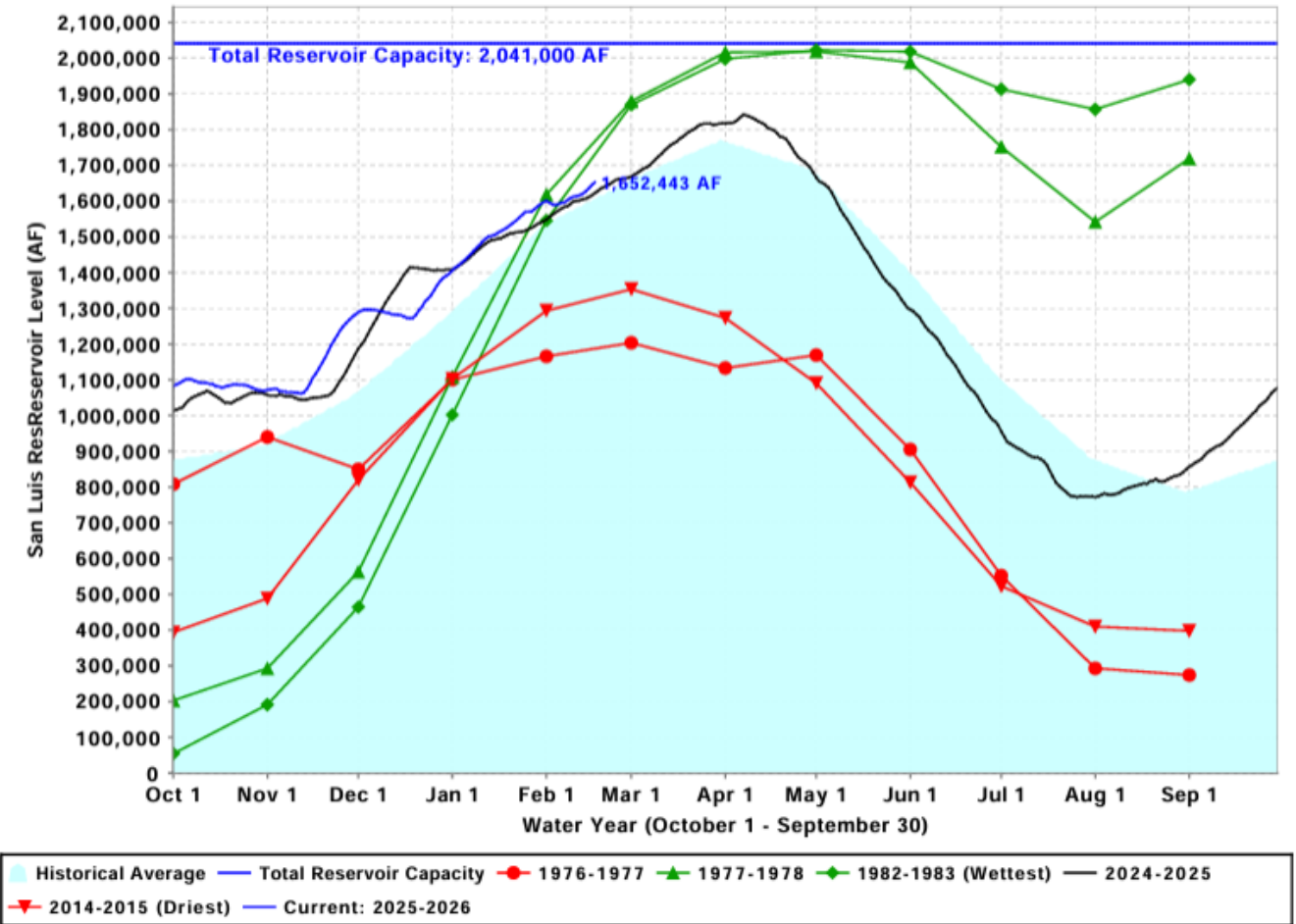


CURRENT CONDITIONS: MAJOR WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS:17-FEB-2026

Data as of Midnight: 17-Feb-2026



San Luis Res Levels: Various Past Water Years and Current Water Year, Ending At Midnight February 17, 2026

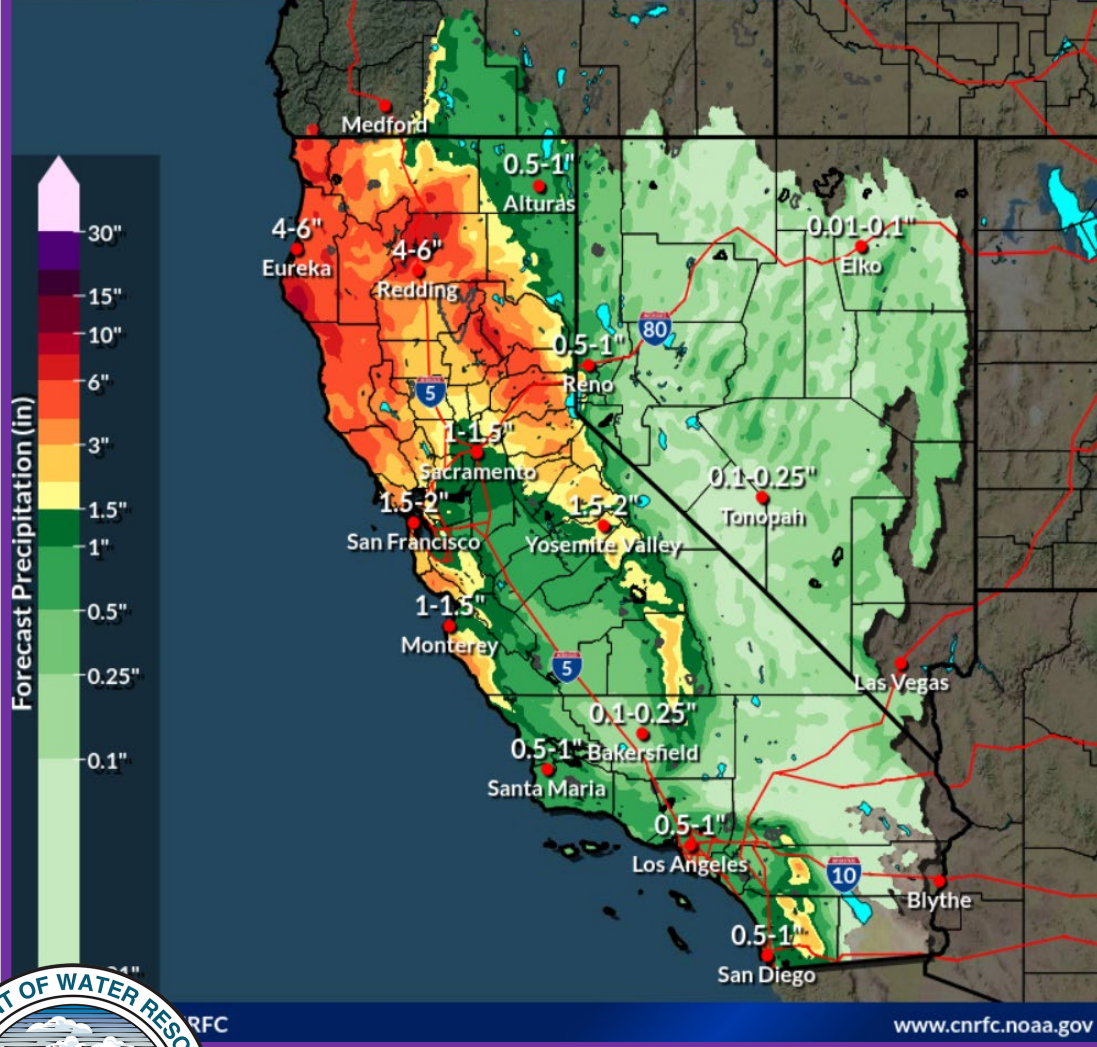


Current Reservoir Conditions

6-Day Forecast Precipitation

Wed Feb 18, 2026 4 AM PST to Tue Feb 24, 2026 4 AM PST Issued Feb 18, 2026 12:48 PM PST

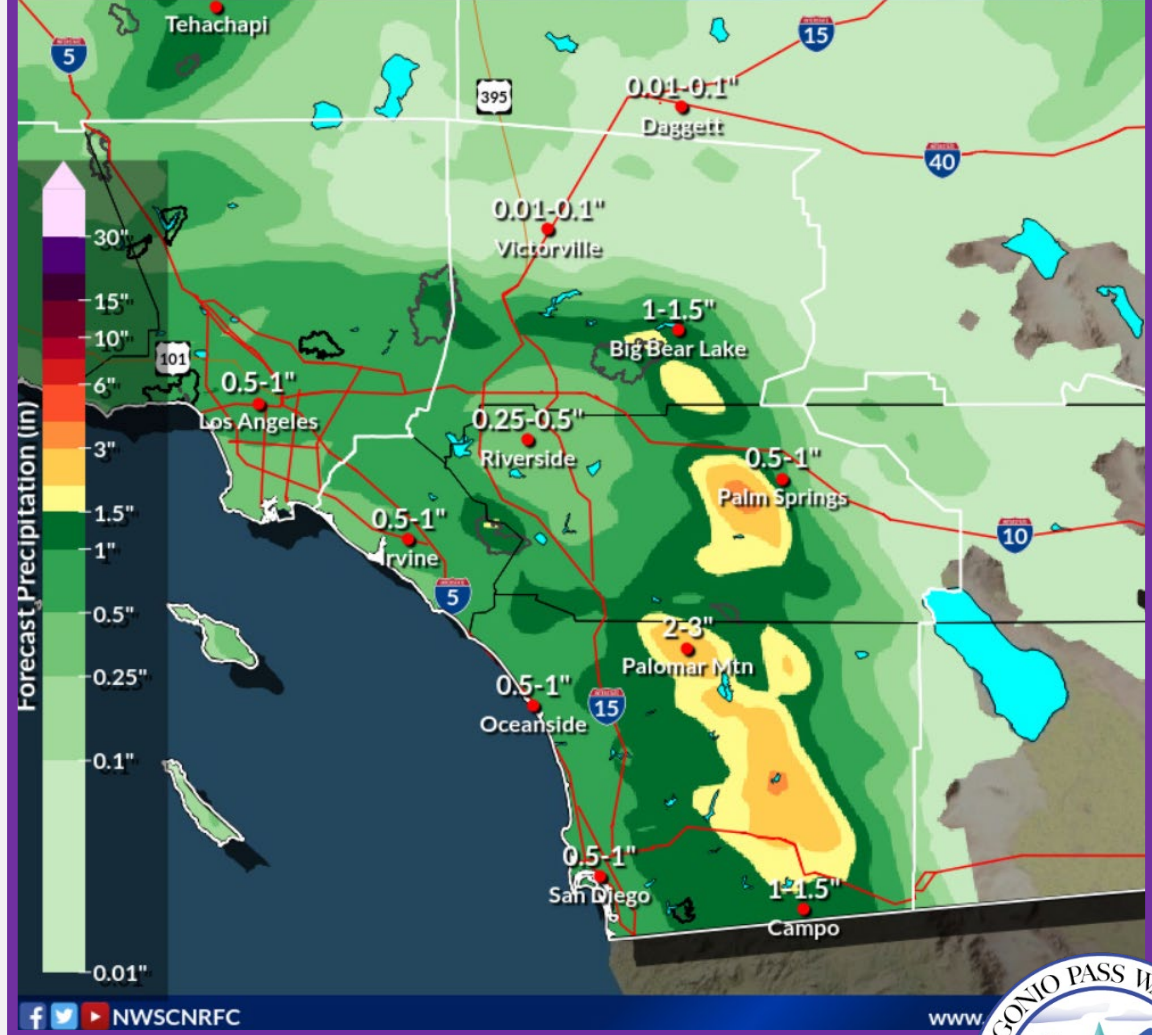
River Forecast Center
Sacramento, CA



6-Day Forecast Precipitation

Wed Feb 18, 2026 4 AM PST to Tue Feb 24, 2026 4 AM PST Issued Feb 18, 2026 12:49 PM PST

River Forecast Center
Sacramento, CA



f t v NWSCNRFC

www



Forecasted Hydrologic Conditions

CURRENT REGIONAL SNOWPACK FROM AUTOMATED SNOW SENSORS

% of April 1 Average / % of Normal for This Date



NORTH	
Data as of February 18, 2026	
Number of Stations Reporting	33
Average snow water equivalent (Inches)	10.1
Percent of April 1 Average (%)	38
Percent of normal for this date (%)	50

CENTRAL	
Data as of February 18, 2026	
Number of Stations Reporting	54
Average snow water equivalent (Inches)	15.1
Percent of April 1 Average (%)	54
Percent of normal for this date (%)	70

SOUTH	
Data as of February 18, 2026	
Number of Stations Reporting	25
Average snow water equivalent (Inches)	18.3
Percent of April 1 Average (%)	72
Percent of normal for this date (%)	94

STATE	
Data as of February 18, 2026	
Number of Stations Reporting	112
Average snow water equivalent (Inches)	14.3
Percent of April 1 Average (%)	53
Percent of normal for this date (%)	69

Statewide Average: 53% / 69%



Snowpack Report

SWP Allocation Timeline

2026 Table A Allocation Timeline

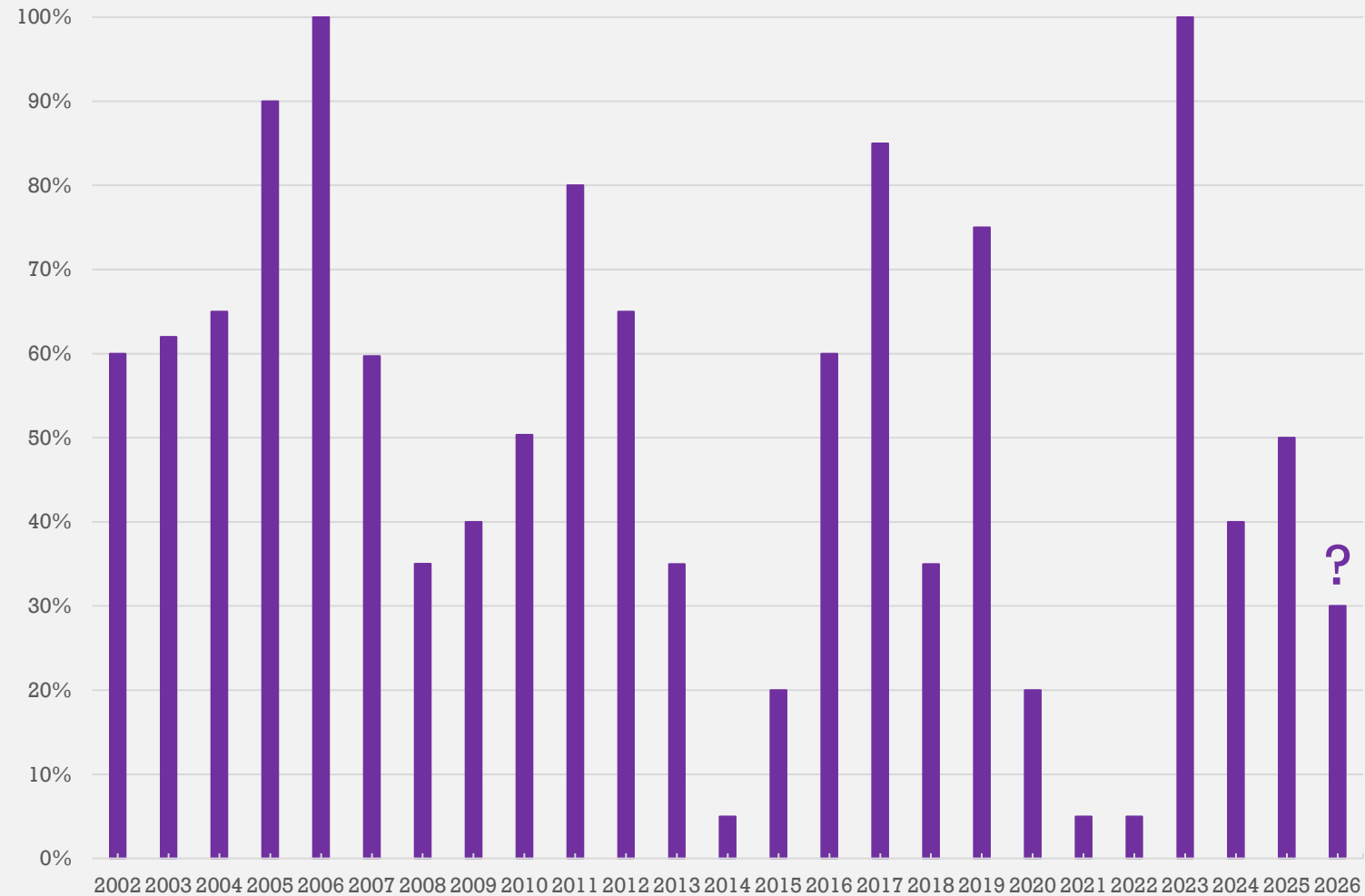
December 1, 2025: 10% allocation

January 29, 2026: 30% allocation

SGPWA Portfolio @ 30%

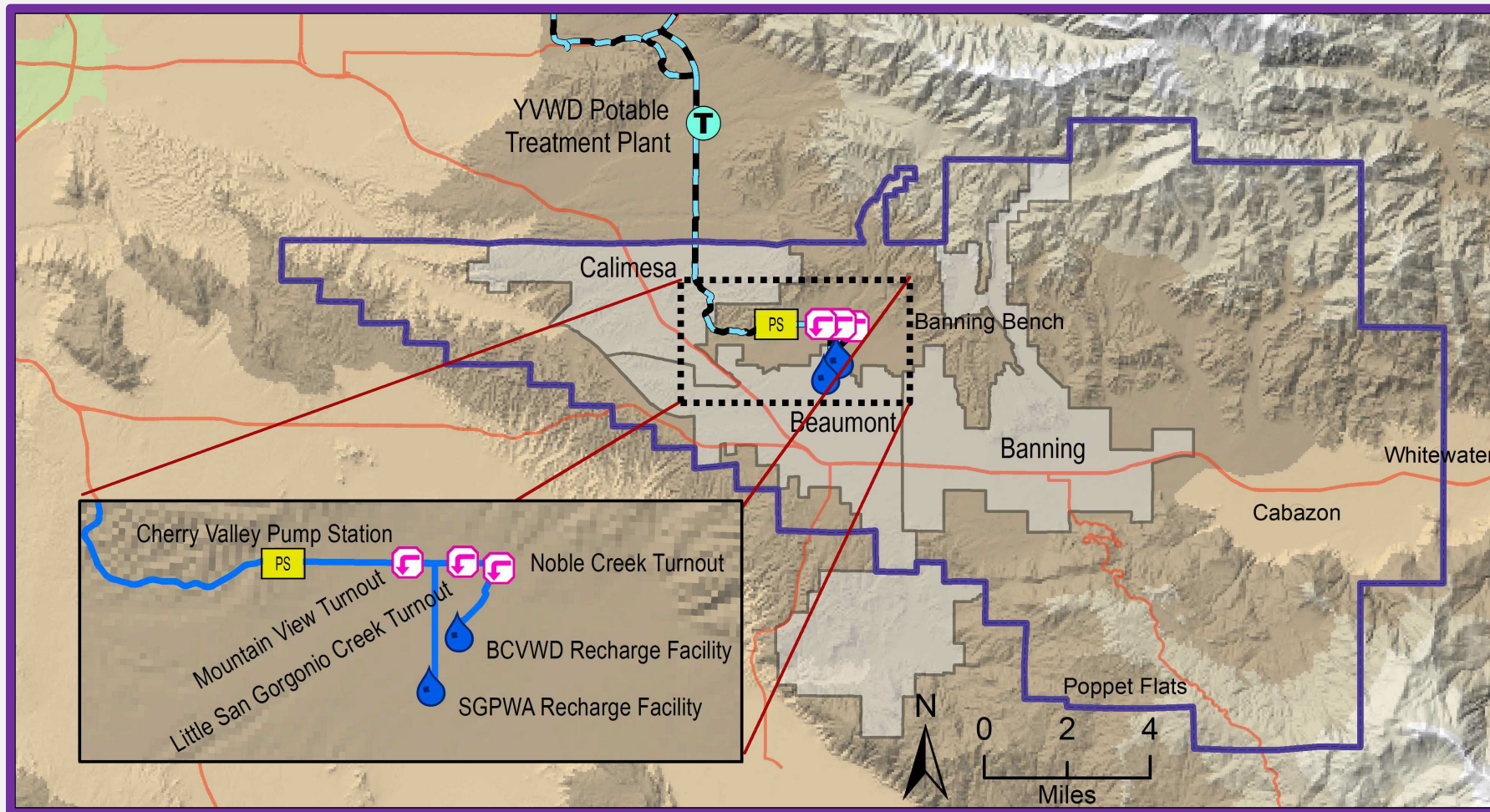
Source	Total (AF)	Delivered
SWP – Carryover	50	✓
SWP – Table A	5,190	
SWP – Ventura	3,000	✓
Non-SWP - Nickel Water	1,700	
<u>Total Available Supply</u>	<u>9,940</u>	

Historic SWP Allocations



2026 SWP Allocation & Portfolio Update





	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Recharge	1,327	1,700	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,027
Direct	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0

**Estimated*

**From Local Storage*



Local Deliveries 2026 (acre-feet)

Subject to Final Verification





Brookside East Recharge Facility



BCVWD Recharge Facilities



February Recharge Photos

State Water Project Fundamentals

Table A and Allocations

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FEBRUARY 23, 2026

Previous State Water Project Fundamentals

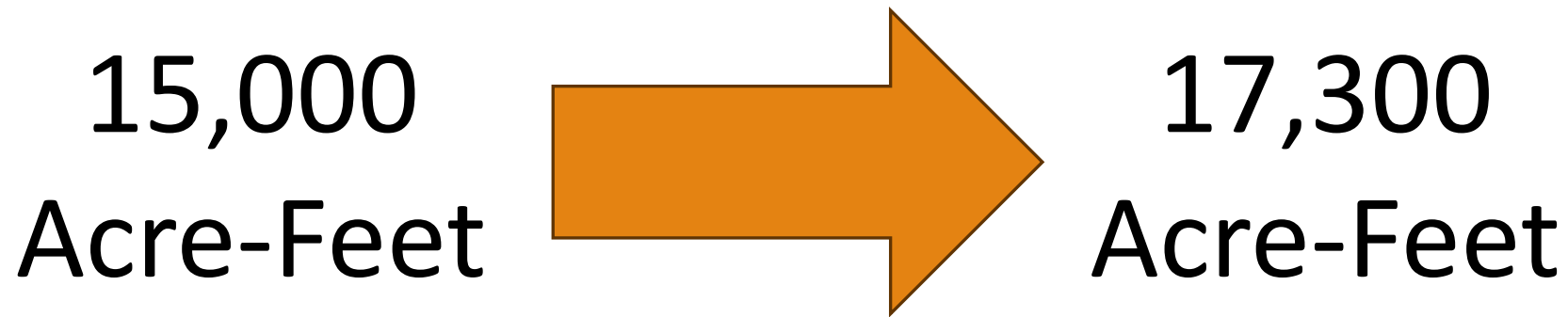
- SWP Overview
- Water Supply Contract

An acre-foot is...

- A unit of volume
- Equal to 325,000 gallons
- Enough water for approximately 3 households each year

Table A is a table in the water supply contract that states how much water the Agency is entitled to on an annual basis

The Agency originally contracted for 15,000 acre-feet but increased it to 17,300 in 1964



The 17,300 acre-feet is an “up-to” amount; the State makes the final decision on how much water is available and proportionally allocates water to all the State Water Contractors



The State allocates water based on the Agency’s proportional share of the project



SGPWA has about 0.4% of the total share of the State Water Project



There is about 4 million acre-feet of Table A spread among 29 State Water Contractors

EXAMPLE: If
DWR commits
to delivering 2
million acre-feet
in a year

This translates into a 50%
allocation



SGPWA would get 50% of the
contracted 17,300 acre-feet or
8,650 acre-feet

To be continued...

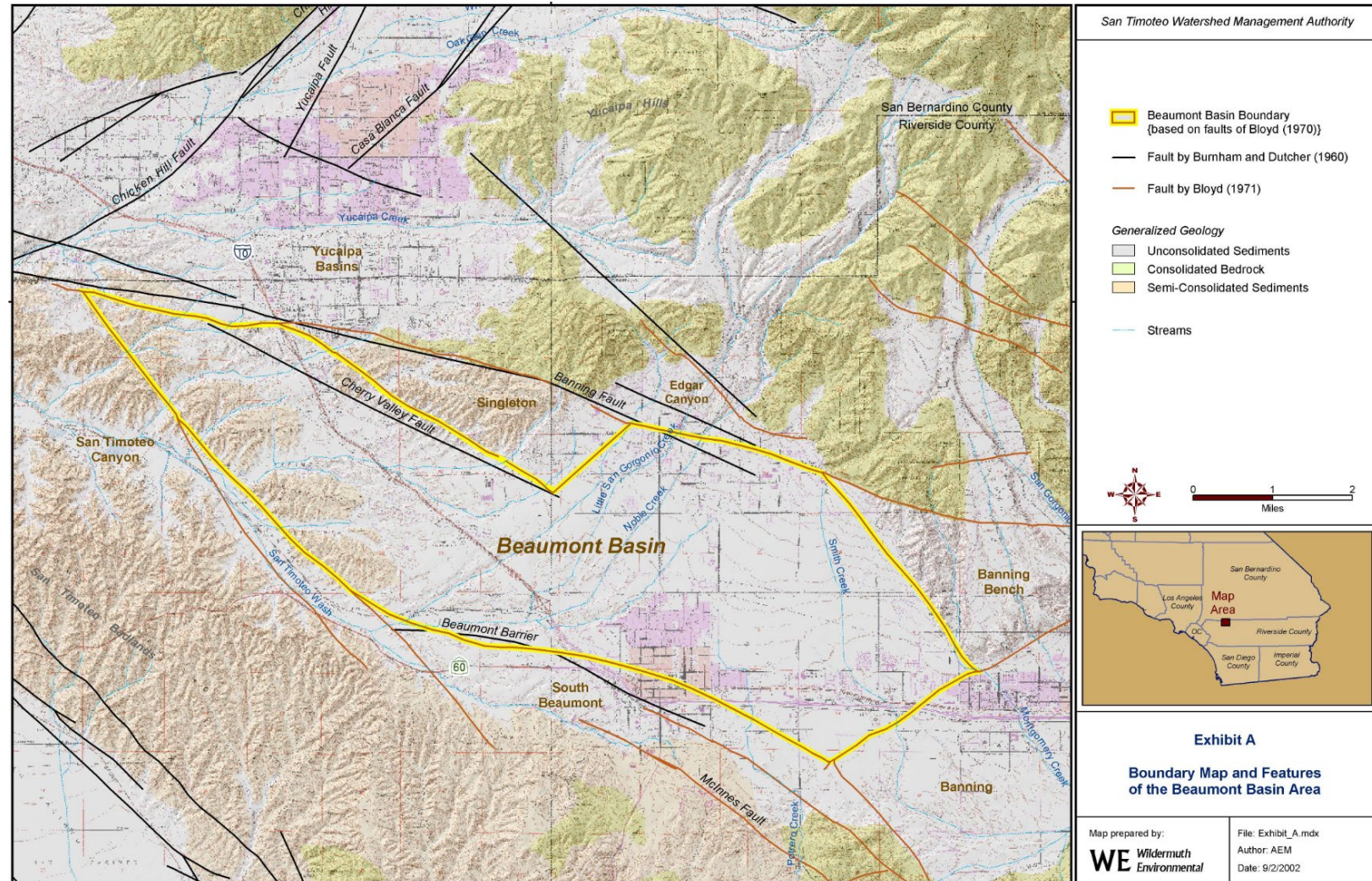


Beaumont Basin Watermaster Overview

UNDERSTANDING THE ADJUDICATION AND HOW IT WORKS

What is the Beaumont Basin?

- A groundwater basin underlying Beaumont, Banning, Cherry Valley, and Calimesa
- Common source of supply for:
 - Cities and water districts (appropriators)
 - Overlying landowners (ag, golf, private lands)
- Historically overdrafted
- Court-adjudicated in 2004



COPY
ORIGINAL

1 JOSEPH S. AKLUF (Bar No. 68619)
2 AKLUF AND WYSOCKI
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4 Riverside, California 92501
5 (909) 682-5480 Office
6 (909) 682-2619 Fax

7 Attorneys for Plaintiff, SAN TIMOTEO
8 WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

NO FILING FEE REQUIRED PER
GOVERNMENT CODE, SEC. 6103

FILED
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

FEB - 4 2004

9 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
10 FOR THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, RIVERSIDE COURT

11 SAN TIMOTEO WATERSHED)
12 MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY, a public)
13 agency,)

14 Plaintiff,)

15 vs.)

16 CITY OF BANNING, a municipal)
17 corporation; BEAUMONT-CHERRY VALLEY)
18 WATER DISTRICT, an irrigation)
19 district; YUCAIPA VALLEY WATER)
20 DISTRICT, a county water district;)
21 PLANTATION ON THE LAKE LLC, a)
22 California limited liability)
23 company; SHARONDALE MESA OWNERS)
24 ASSOCIATION, an unincorporated)
25 association; SOUTH MESA MUTUAL)
26 WATER COMPANY, a mutual water)
27 company; CALIFORNIA OAK VALLEY)
28 GOLF AND RESORT LLC, a California)
limited liability company; OAK)
VALLEY PARTNERS LP, a Texas limited)
partnership; SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA)
SECTION OF THE PROFESSIONAL GOLFERS)
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, a)
California corporation; SUNNY-CAL)
EGG AND POULTRY COMPANY, a)
California corporation; MANHEIM,)
MANHEIM & BERMAN, a California)
General Partnership; WALTER M.)
BECKMAN, individually and as)
Trustee of the BECKMAN FAMILY TRUST)
dated December 11, 1990; THE ROMAN)
CATHOLIC BISHOP of San Bernardino,)

CASE NO. RIC 389197

STIPULATION FOR ENTRY OF
JUDGMENT ADJUDICATING
GROUNDWATER RIGHTS IN THE
BEAUMONT BASIN

Why was it adjudicated?

- Safe yield estimated at 8,650 acre feet per year
- Production exceeded safe yield
- Rapid planned development increased demand
- Need to:
 - Protect overlying and appropriative rights
 - Prevent continued overdraft
 - Enable recharge and storage projects
- Adjudication was about stabilizing the basin and protecting long-term reliability

What is safe yield?



According to the Judgment, the Safe Yield is the “maximum quantity of water which can be produced annually without causing long-term depletion



Safe Yield in the Beaumont Basin was initially set to 8,650 acre-feet per year



The Safe Yield forms the basis for allocating water rights



The Judgment requires that the Safe Yield be updated every 10 years

2013 Safe Yield update = 6,700 acre-feet per year

2023 Safe Yield update = 7,100 acre-feet per year

The Judgment requires a “Physical Solution” to bring the basin into balance

- The Physical Solution:
 - Allowed continued pumping
 - Avoids waste and damage to the basin and/or the other parties to the Judgment
 - Provides flexibility across the basin
 - Supports recharge, groundwater storage, and conservation efforts
- The Physical Solution is the engine that makes the adjudication functional by encouraging:
 - Groundwater replenishment
 - Storage of imported water
 - Development of conjunctive use programs

Water rights are allocated first to the overlyer pumpers and the remainder is allocated to the appropriators

OVERLYER PUMPER

- Landowners over the basin
- Have water rights tied to land ownership
- Groundwater is typically pumped and used on the overlyer property
- Overlyers were assigned water rights in the initial Judgment, which allows them to pump up to that amount annually

APPROPRIATIVE PARTY

- Pumpers that pump from one property to distribute water to another property
- Typically water districts/companies that pump for municipal supply
- In the Beaumont Basin, appropriators have no set water right, but rather a percentage of the water that the overlyers did not pump

The appropriative parties also received a 10-year “controlled-overdraft” of the basin



This was known as “temporary surplus” water



The intent of the temporary surplus was to provide the appropriators with time to implement water supply projects, while also creating space for storing water



This amount was not to exceed 160,000 acre-feet in the first 10 years of the Judgment



After the 10-year period expired, the temporary surplus water was placed into the appropriator storage accounts for future use

The Watermaster is the court-appointed administrator of the Judgment

- The Watermasters tasks include:
 - Monitors pumping in the basin
 - Administers replenishment
 - Manages storage agreements
 - Levys assessments to pumpers in the basin
 - Prepares annual reports
 - Administers and enforces the Judgment
- The Court retains full jurisdiction over the Beaumont Basin. The Watermaster is a court appointed contract administrator.

The Judgment outlines who is to sit on the five member Watermaster board

Banning, City of

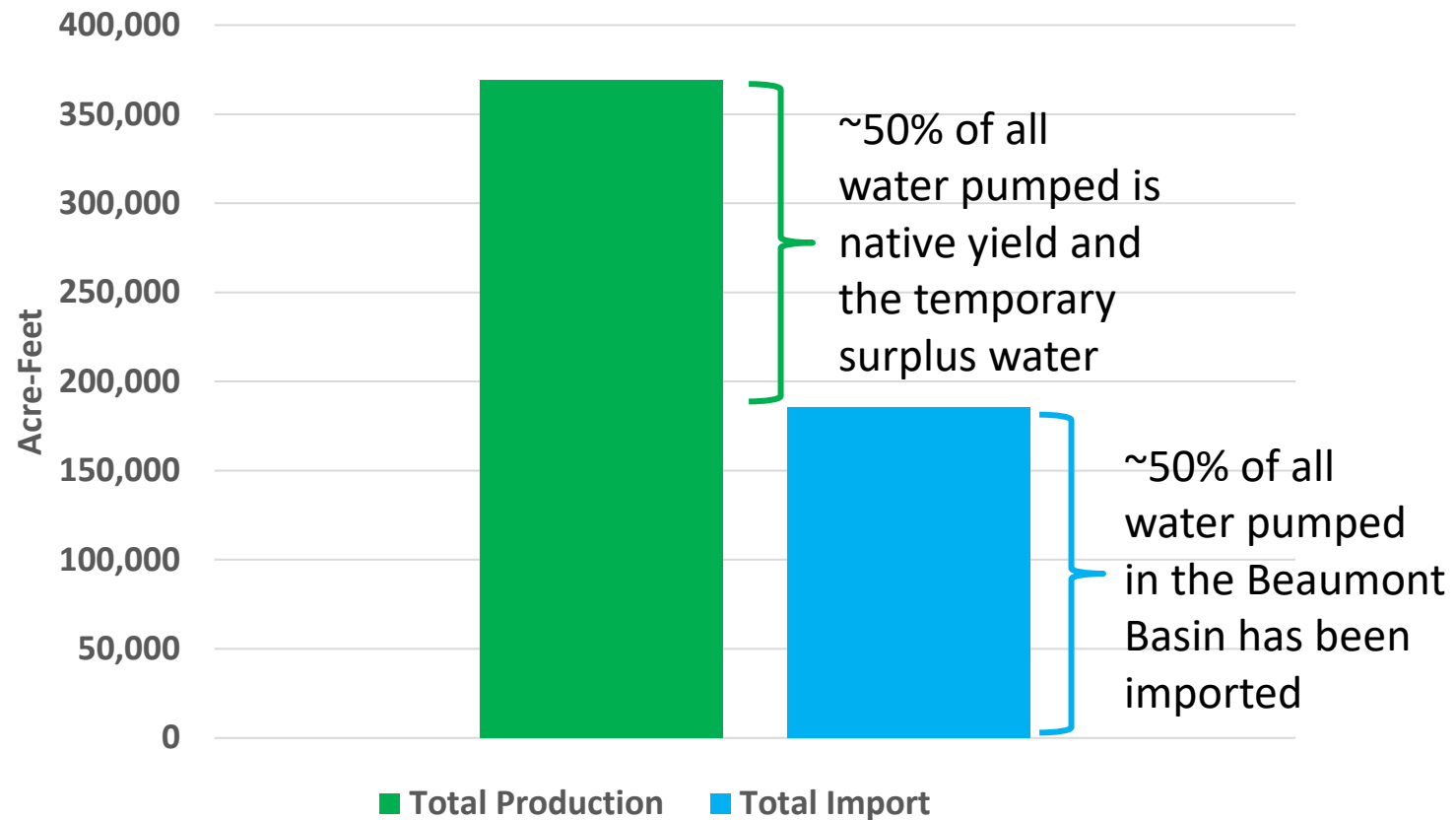
Beaumont, City of

Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District

South Mesa Water Company

Yucaipa Valley Water District

Total Imported Water vs. Total Production in the
Beaumont Basin
2003 - 2025



How has the
Judgment
performed
over 23
years?

An aerial, high-angle view of a multi-lane highway. The road is light gray with white dashed lane markings. Several vehicles, including cars and trucks, are visible traveling along the road. The background is a soft, hazy blue sky. The text "Thank you" is overlaid on the lower left portion of the image.

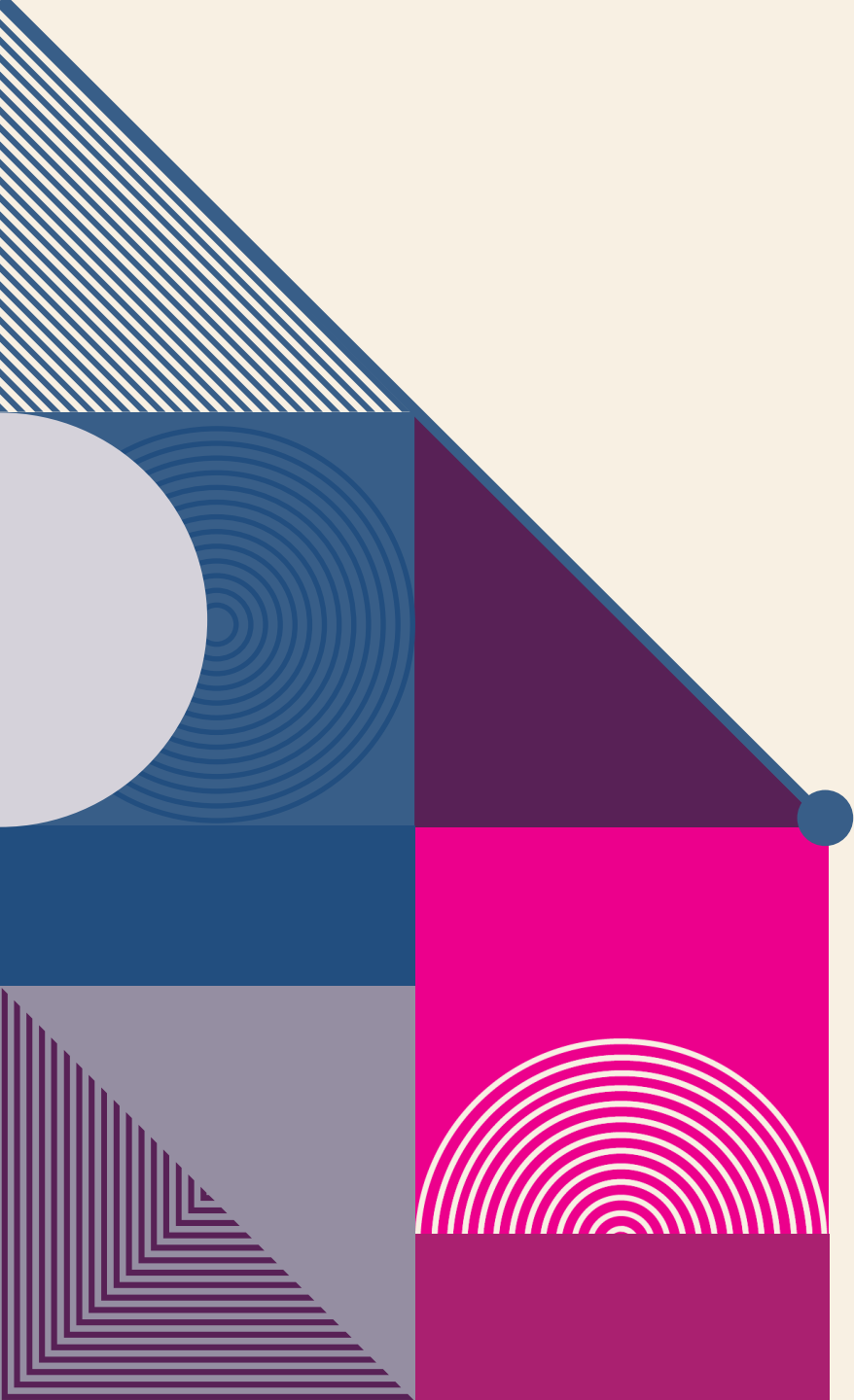
Thank you



VENDORS

A BRIEF DISCUSSION

Board of Director's Meeting
February 23, 2026



GENERAL PRINCIPLE

Contracting laws in the state of California are designed to give a fair chance to any entity seeking to provide goods or services to a public agency.



AGENCY PROCUREMENT POLICY

THREE TYPES OF PURCHASES

- Construction: clear procedures for advertising and accepting bids for projects, as well as guidance for awarding a contract
- Personal Service Agreements: do not require bids; Agency policy requires solicitation of two or three quotes, depending on the amount of the proposed expense
- Materials, Supplies and Equipment: also do not require bidding, selection is similar to Personal Service Agreements



AGENCY DECISION-MAKING

FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION

- Competence
- Experience
- Ability to complete proposed service or provide proposed equipment
- Responsiveness to proposal
- Timeliness in fulfilling proposal
- Value
- Previous relationship with Agency
- Cost



LEGAL COUNSEL INPUT

- A local preference policy could be enacted by the Board, but it must be carefully crafted and limited to no more than 1-5%.
- Could only be applied to vendors providing goods or non-professional services.
- Concerns:
 - What is local? Beaumont, Agency service area, Riverside County, Inland Empire?
 - Percentage? Of value of services or number of vendors?
 - How to track and report enactment of policy?
 - How does this serve the public interest?

LOCAL VENDORS OFTEN MEET PURCHASING REQUIREMENTS

Local providers are often selected to provide goods and services for the Agency because they do the best job at meeting the requirements as listed above.

Examples of local vendors used by the Agency

Land Engineering Consultants
MT Fencing
Matthew Pistilli Landscape Service
Rodriguez Disking
HCN Bank
Sharp Designs
Basic Backflow
Beaumont Print
Control Temp A/C and Heating
Flow-Pro Plumbing
Inland Empire Resource Conservation District
Slugg Bug Pest Control



STAFF RECOMMENDATION

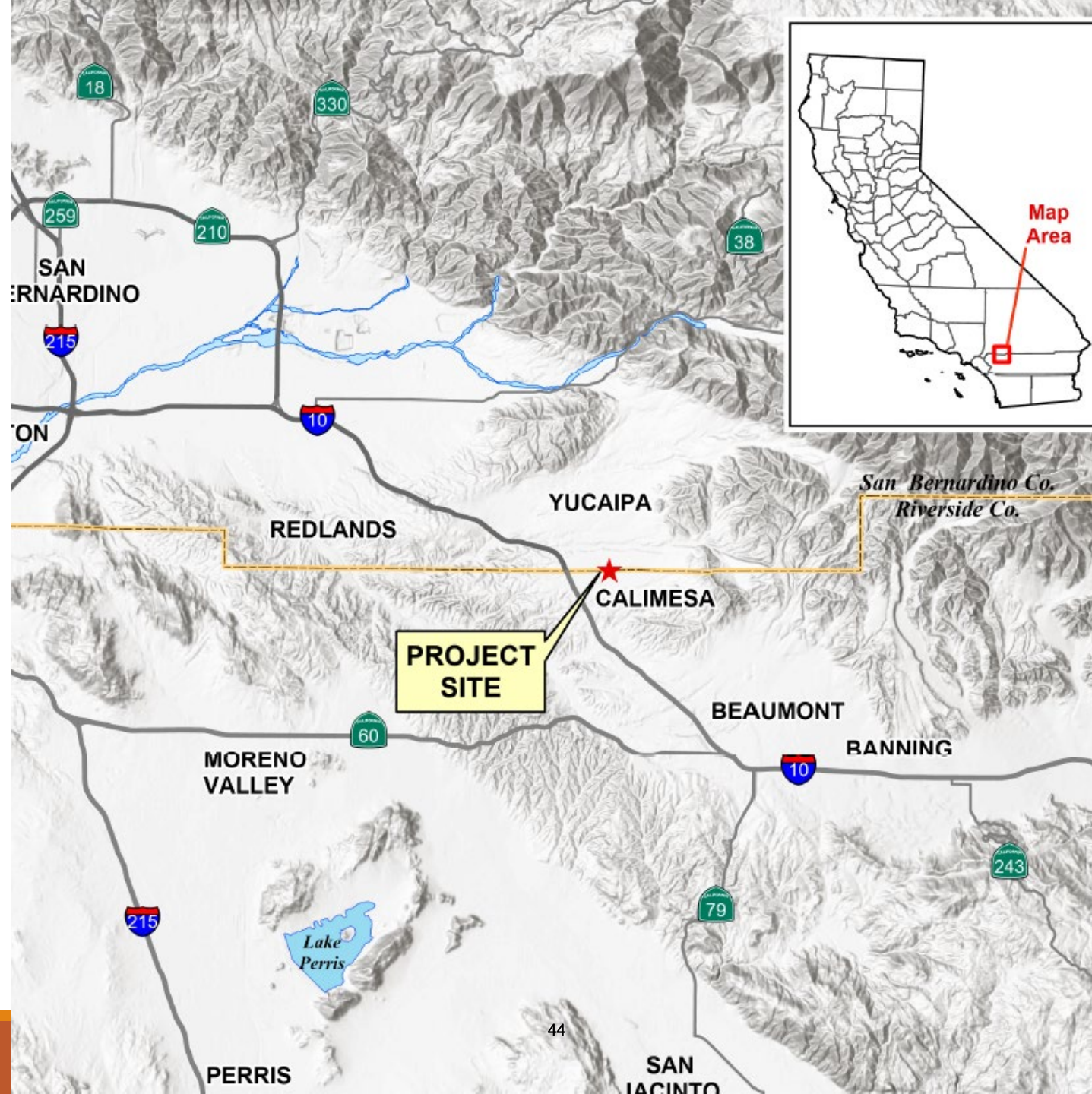
- The Agency already meets many of the reasons for using local vendors by following the Board approved Procurement Policy.
- The list of local vendors in this presentation shows that the Agency exceeds the maximum percentages recommended by Legal Counsel without a change to the current policy.
- Staff recommend no changes to the Procurement Policy at this time.

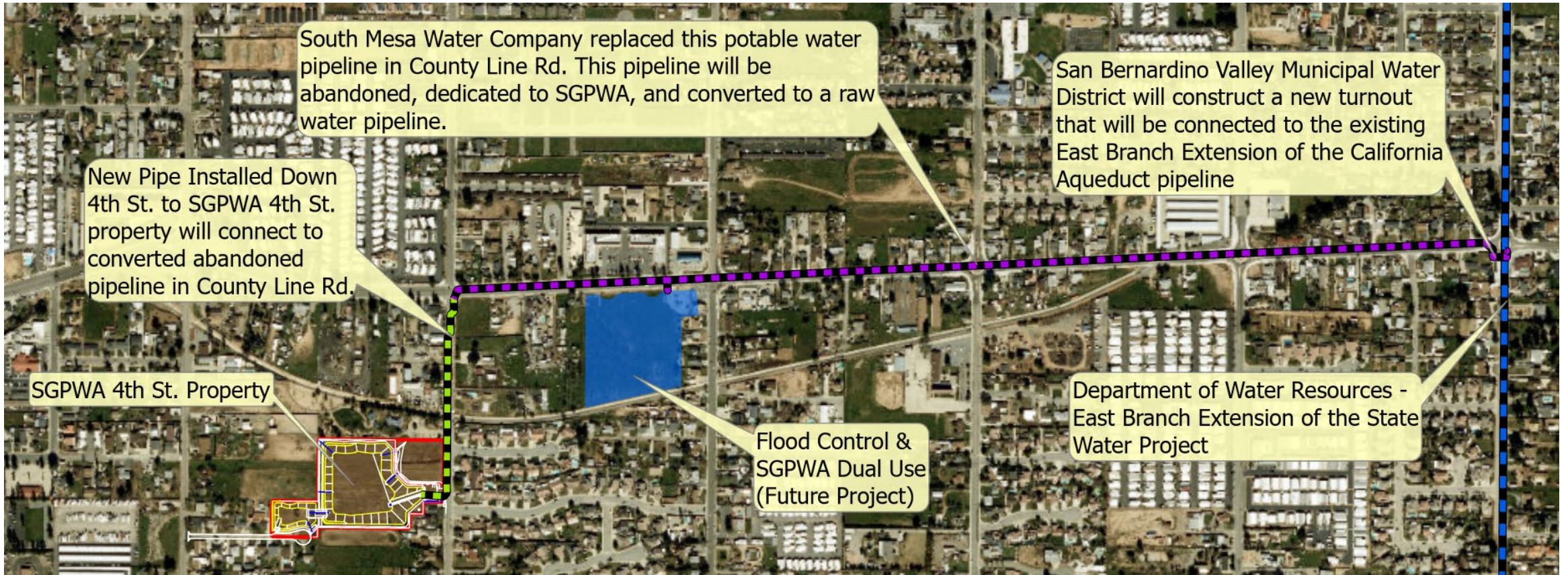
A construction site at sunset. In the background, an excavator is visible against the orange and yellow sky. In the foreground, a large white truck is parked on a dirt road. A worker in a yellow safety vest is standing near the truck. The scene is dimly lit, with the primary light source being the setting sun.

County Line Rd Construction Update

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FEBRUARY 23, 2026





County Line Rd Recharge Basin and Turnout Project

Ongoing Activities

SMWC 8-inch pipe relocation – Ongoing

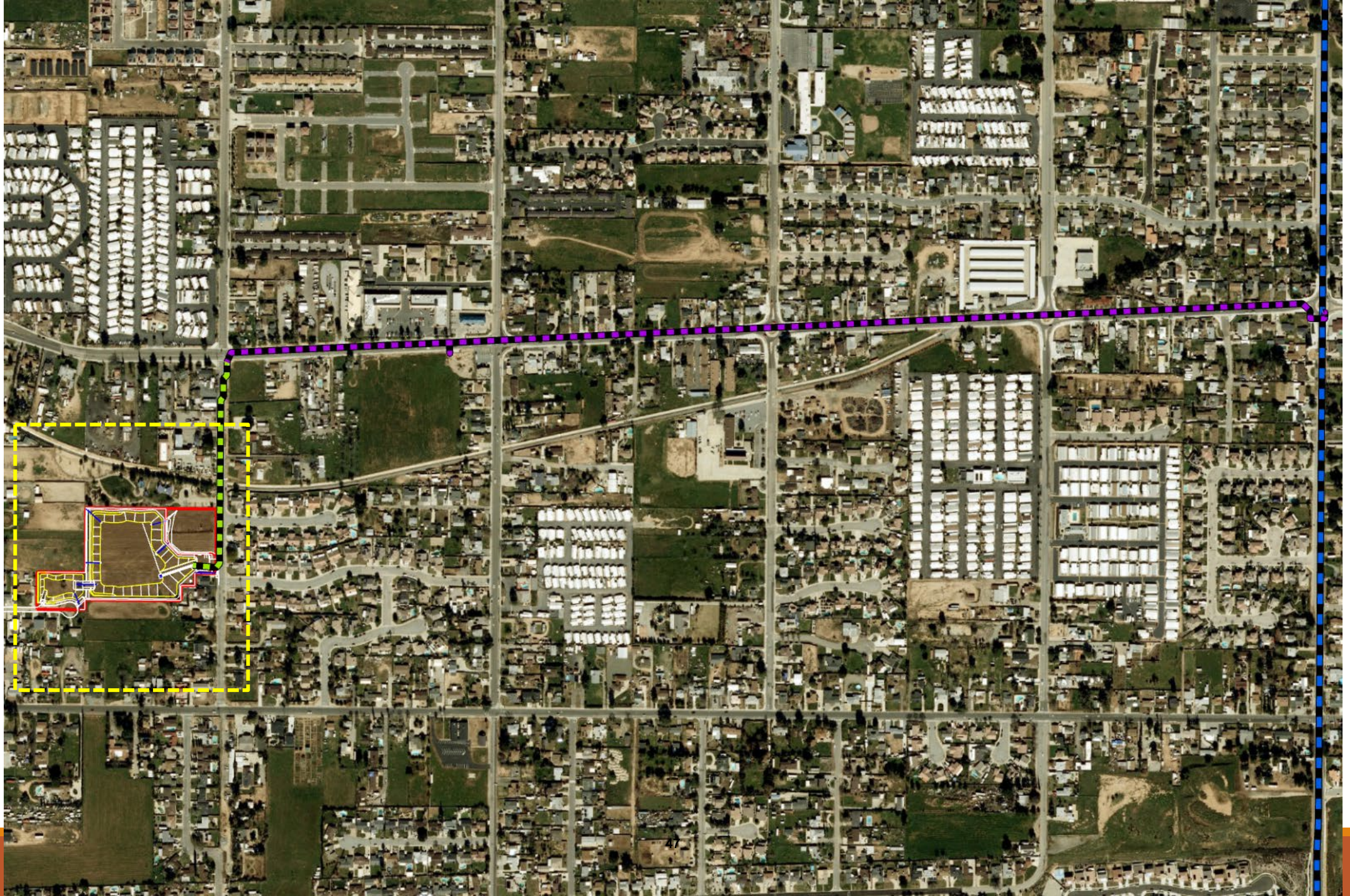
County Line Rd 14-inch pipeline rehab - Ongoing

Basin excavation – Ongoing

Metering Vault Installation – Completed

Flow Structure Forming – Ongoing

Archaeo/Paleo/Tribal monitoring - Ongoing





Basin Excavation



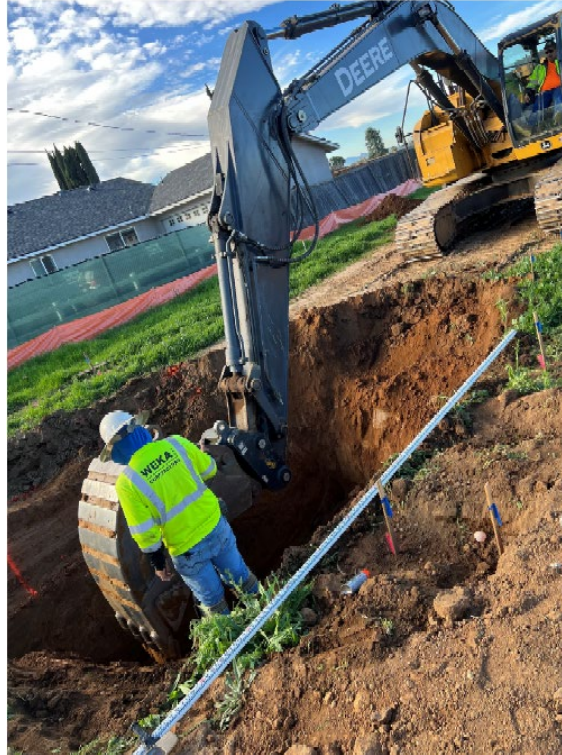
Basin Excavation



Basin Excavation



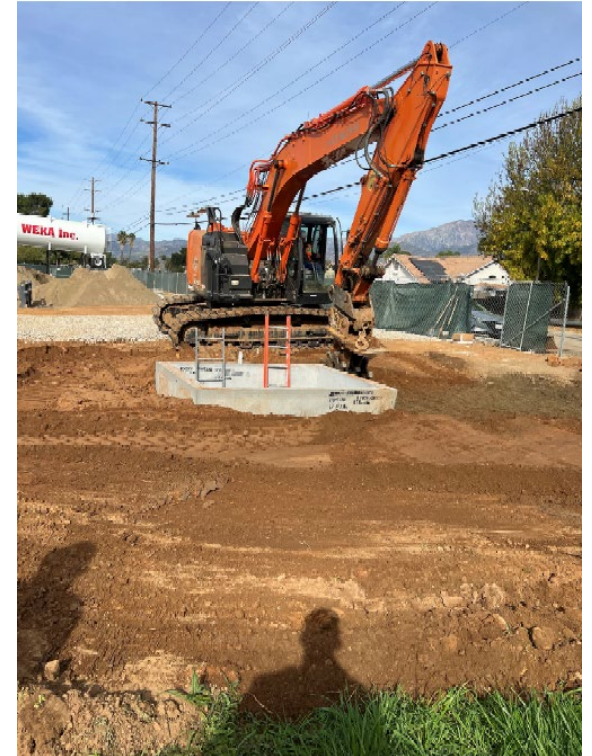
Basin Excavation



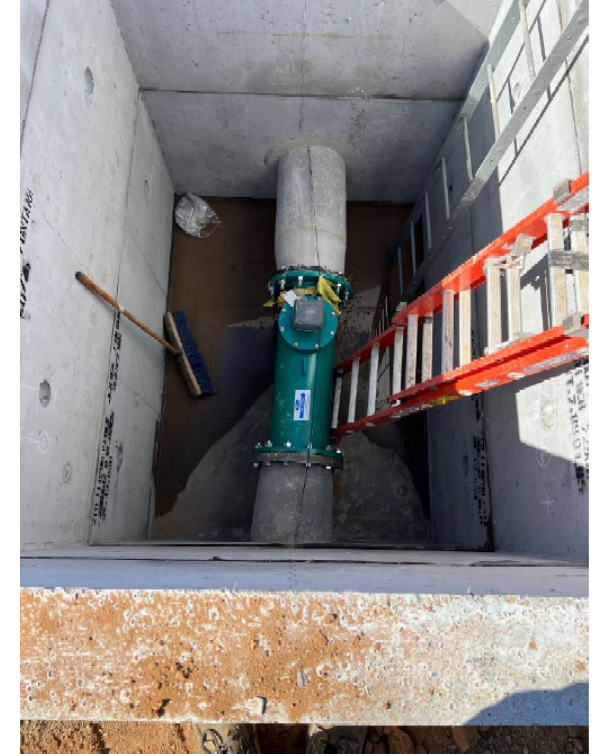
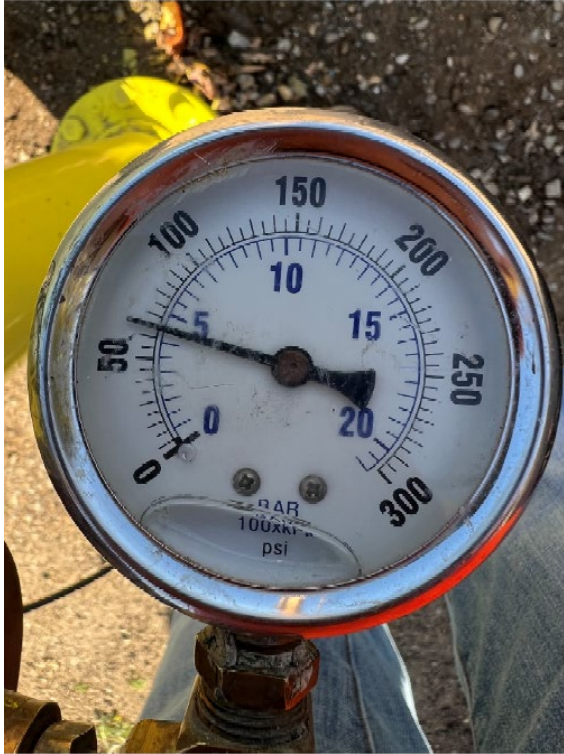
Metering Vault Installation



Metering Vault Installation



Metering Vault Installation



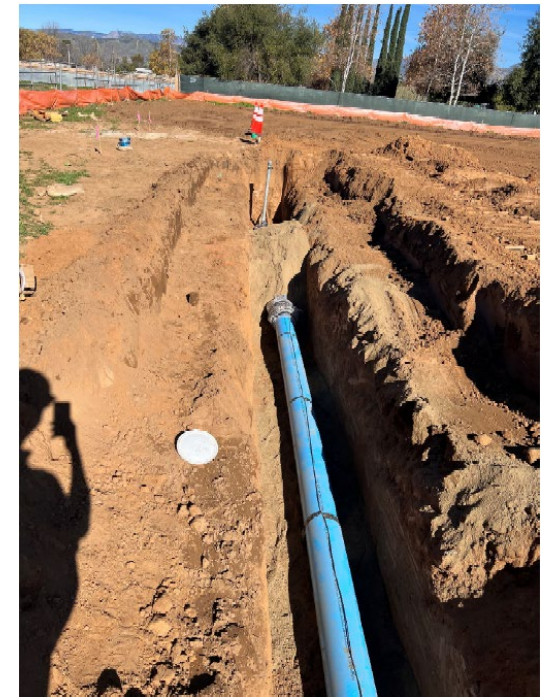
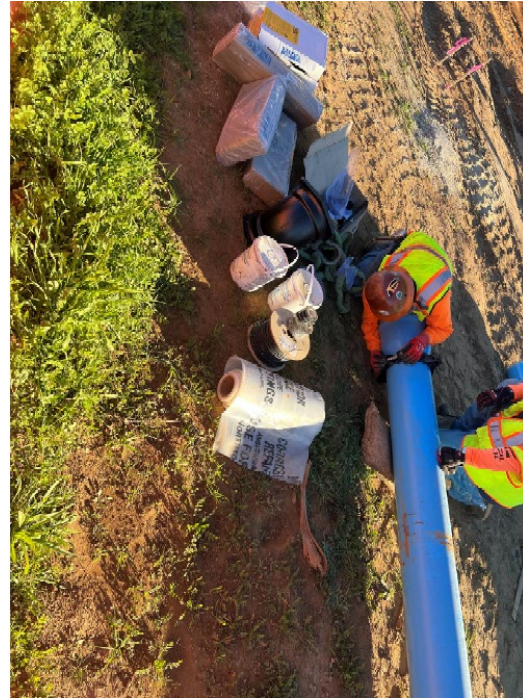
Pressure Testing



Storm Drain Installation



Storm Drain Installation



8 Inch Main Relocation





An aerial, high-angle view of a multi-lane highway with several vehicles traveling in both directions. The road is light gray with white lane markings. The background is a soft, hazy blue sky.

To be continued...

San Geronio Pass Water Agency

DATE: February 23, 2026

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Lance Eckhart, General Manager

BY: Emmett Campbell, Director of Water Resources

SUBJECT: Consideration of Change Order for 4th Street Fence for the County Line Road Recharge Basin Project

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the General Manager to execute a Change Order for the 4th Street Fence as part of the County Line Road Recharge Basin Project, in a not-to-exceed amount of \$151,000, and authorize Staff to finalize and implement the fencing configuration.

PREVIOUS CONSIDERATIONS

- October 7, 2024 – Board of Directors adopted the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the County Line Road Recharge Basin and Turnout Project.
- October 21, 2024 – Board of Directors approved the American Rescue Plan Act funding agreement with Riverside County for the County Line Road Recharge Basin and Turnout Project.
- January 6, 2025 – Board of Directors approved a professional services agreement with CRM Tech for Archeological and Paleontological services for the County Line Road Recharge Basin and Turnout Project.
- May 5, 2025 – Board of Directors approved a paving agreement with the City of Calimesa to be completed in conjunction with the County Line Road Recharge Basin and Turnout Project.
- May 19, 2025 – Board of Directors approved a construction management services professional services agreement with Land Engineering Consultants, Inc., for the County Line Road Recharge Basin and Turnout Project.
- June 16, 2025 – Board of Directors authorized staff to advertise construction bids for the County Line Road Recharge Basin Project.
- August 4, 2025 – Board of Directors rejected all bids for the County Line Road Recharge Basin Project and instructed staff to rebid the project.
- September 15, 2025 – Board of Directors awarded the County Line Road Recharge Basin Project to WEKA, Inc.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

The County Line Recharge (“CLR”) Basin Project is currently under construction. The project was awarded to WEKA, Inc. for \$4,676,332.00. The major elements of the project include:

1. Inspection and relining of the South Mesa Water Company 14” waterline.
2. Installation of pipe in 4th St.
3. Grading and excavation of groundwater basin on the 4th St. property.

As of today’s date, there have been three approved change orders totaling \$38,000. This represents an overall increase in the contract amount of 0.8%.

During coordination with the City of Calimesa, concerns were raised regarding the proposed fencing material along the park frontage. The original design specified chain link fencing topped with barbed wire. The City expressed reservations about the appropriateness of this material adjacent to a public park. Along the 4th Street frontage, the project instead proposes a welded steel fence.

From a security standpoint, both fencing systems provide similar levels of site protection. Chain link with barbed wire serves as an effective deterrent to climbing and unauthorized access. The welded steel fence incorporates anti-climb design features and offers superior resistance to cutting. Welded steel fencing is generally considered more visually compatible with a park-adjacent setting and requires less long-term maintenance relative to chain link with barbed wire.

Staff requested that WEKA provide a cost proposal to upgrade the fencing along the park frontage to welded steel. In addition, Staff requested pricing to upgrade the entire perimeter fencing of the 4th Street property to welded steel. It should be noted that the unit cost per linear foot of welded steel fencing decreases as the overall quantity increases, reflecting economies of scale associated with fabrication, material procurement, and installation.

Staff presented multiple fencing options at a Capital Improvement Project (“CIP”) Ad-Hoc Committee meeting. After discussion, the Committee recommended a hybrid approach that prioritizes the use of welded steel fencing along public-facing and high-visibility frontages, while retaining chain link with barbed wire in less visible and lower-exposure areas. This strategy balances long-term durability, aesthetics, and cost efficiency.

As a result, the fencing plan was revised accordingly. Under the updated configuration, approximately 60% of the total fence length will consist of welded steel fencing, with the remaining 40% constructed of chain link fencing with barbed wire.

Final costs for the change order are still pending, but staff has a range of probable fencing costs to effectuate this new fencing plan. The cost ranges as follows:

- Low Cost: \$249,000
(+\$94,000, +2.0% contract increase, welded steel fence = \$107/LF)

- Middle Cost: \$275,000
(+\$123,000, +2.6% contract increase, welded steel fence = \$125/LF)
- High Cost: \$302,000
(+\$151,000, +3.2% contract increase, welded steel fence = \$140/LF)

Based on the upper-end estimate, Staff is requesting authorization of a not-to-exceed amount of \$151,000 for this change order to ensure sufficient budget coverage pending final pricing.

Additionally, the CIP Ad-Hoc Committee expressed interest in establishing a formal fencing policy or standard to guide material selection on future projects. Staff will initiate development of a fencing policy to provide consistency in security, durability, aesthetic considerations, and lifecycle cost evaluation for future capital improvements.

STRATEGIC PLAN NEXUS

The fence change order for the CLR Basin Project and the initiation of the Agency fencing policy helps advance various aspects of the Agency's Strategic Plan, including:

- Strategic Goal 2: Ensure a reliable delivery system that advances efficiency and resiliency.
 - ✓ Objective 2 – Develop additional recharge facilities to support conjunctive use.
 - ✓ Objective 10 – Maintain resilient telemetry and security systems.
- Strategic Goal 3: Sustain long-term financial stability by engaging in prudent planning to guide informed decision making.
 - ✓ Objective 2 – Assess and update policies and ordinances to align with the Agency's mission, vision, and values.

FISCAL IMPACT

The FY 2025–26 General Fund Budget (Green Bucket) includes a line item for construction of the County Line Road Recharge Basin Project titled “County Line Recharge – Construction” (Line #115) within the Major and Capital Expenditures section. The total budgeted amount for this line item is \$6.5 million, which is intended to cover the construction contract and associated project-related costs.

As reflected in the January 2026 budget report, approximately \$500,000 has been expended to date. Approval of the proposed change order, in a not-to-exceed amount of \$151,000, would be absorbed within the existing project budget. Even under the high-cost scenario, sufficient appropriations remain in Line #115, and the overall project is expected to remain within the adopted budget.

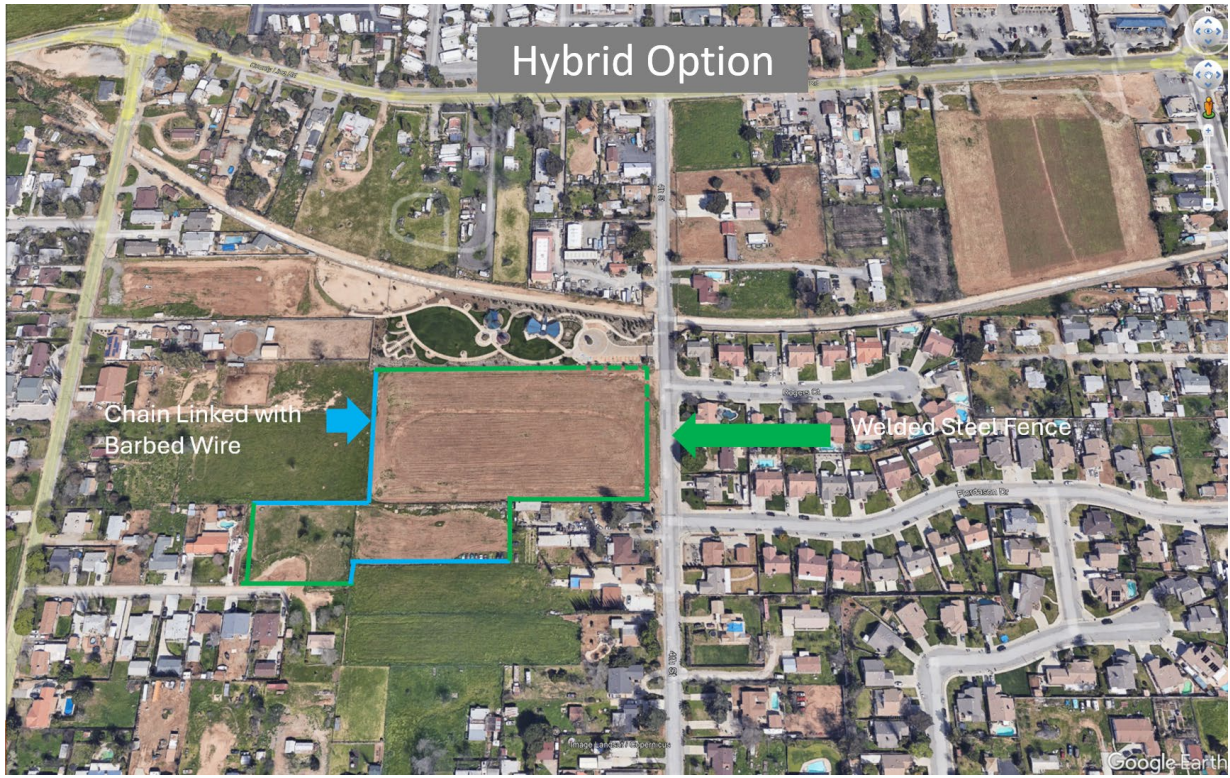
ACTION

Authorize the General Manager to execute a Change Order for the 4th Street Fence as part of the County Line Road Recharge Basin Project, in a not-to-exceed amount of \$151,000, and authorize Staff to finalize and implement the fencing configuration.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Fencing Hybrid Option Exhibit

Fencing Hybrid Option Exhibit



A photograph of a road at sunset or sunrise, with a title overlay.

County Line Rd Fencing Material Discussion

Existing Fencing Plan



- Primarily chain linked fence with barbed wire
- A small portion on the 4th St. frontage is welded steel fence
- The City of Calimesa had concerns regarding the barbed wire up against the park

Staff presented alternative options to the CIP Ad-Hoc for fencing around the 4th St property

Three options were presented

First option was changing to welded steel fencing along the park frontage

Second option was to use welded steel around the whole fence perimeter

Third option was to use welded steel around the whole fence perimeter and to move the fence line forward to 4th St.



Commercial Wrought Iron Fence Gallery

Welded Steel Fence



Use the welded steel fence along any public or high visibility frontage



Use the chain linked with barbed wire along frontage that are open areas



With this, staff revised the fencing plan



The CIP Ad-Hoc also directed staff to develop a policy or standard for fencing. Staff will begin to work on this and bring something back at a future board meeting.

The CIP Ad-Hoc recommends hybrid approach to the fencing configuration

Hybrid Option

Chain Linked with
Barbed Wire



Welded Steel Fence



Hybrid fencing probable costs

- Low Cost: \$249,000 (+\$94,000, +2.0% contract increase, welded steel fence = \$107/LF)
- Middle Cost: \$275,000 (+\$123,000, +2.6% contract increase, welded steel fence = \$125/LF)
- High Cost: \$302,000 (+\$151,000, +3.2% contract increase, welded steel fence = \$140/LF)

Recommendation

Authorize the General Manager to execute a Change Order for the 4th Street Fence as part of the County Line Road Recharge Basin Project, in a not-to-exceed amount of \$151,000, and authorize Staff to finalize and implement the fencing configuration.

San Geronio Pass Water Agency

DATE: February 23, 2026

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Lance Eckhart, General Manager

BY: Maricela V. Cabral, Exec. Asst./Clerk of the Board

SUBJECT: Riverside LAFCO 2026 Special District Selection Committee Election, Regular Special District Member – Western Riverside County

RECOMMENDATION

Approve and ratify the issuance of a letter of support endorsing Vice President Lawrence “Larry” Smith for the position of LAFCO Regular Special District Member – Western Riverside County and provide direction to the Board President regarding completion of the Special District Selection Committee (SDSC) ballot.

BACKGROUND

The Riverside Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) is responsible for overseeing municipal boundary changes, annexations, incorporations, and changes in service areas throughout Riverside County. The LAFCO Board includes representatives from the County, cities, and special districts. Special district representatives are selected through a vote of the Special District Selection Committee (SDSC), which is composed of presiding officers or authorized board members from eligible special districts.

Riverside LAFCO has initiated the 2026 SDSC election for the position of Regular Special District Member – Western Riverside County, with a term running from May 4, 2026, through May 6, 2030. Seven (7) eligible nominations were received for this position, including Vice President Smith. The election will be conducted using Instant Runoff Voting (IRV), allowing voting members to rank candidates in order of preference. Completed ballots must be submitted to Riverside LAFCO no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 9, 2026.

ANALYSIS

The purpose of this item is to provide the Board with information regarding the Riverside LAFCO 2026 Special District Selection Committee election and to request direction regarding the Agency’s participation. Consistent with prior LAFCO SDSC elections, the Board is asked to consider whether to formally support a candidate and to provide direction to the Board President for completion of the SDSC ballot.

Vice President Smith has been nominated for the position of Regular Special District Member – Western Riverside County. Staff has prepared a letter of support endorsing Vice President Smith’s candidacy for the Board’s consideration. No additional analysis is required beyond Board direction on this matter.

FISCAL IMPACT

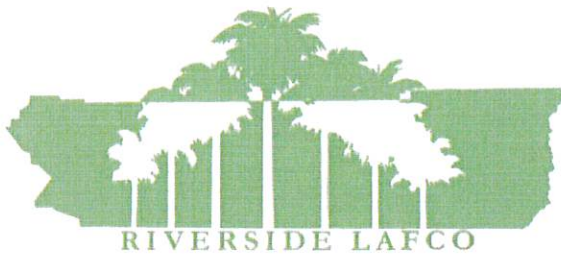
There is no fiscal impact associated with approving the letter of support or participating in the Special District Selection Committee election.

ACTION

Provide direction to the Board President regarding support for a candidate in the Riverside LAFCO 2026 Special District Selection Committee election, including completion and submission of the SDSC ballot, and ratify the issuance of the letter of support endorsing Vice President Smith.

ATTACHMENTS

Letter of Support for Vice President Larry Smith
Riverside LAFCO 2026 Special District Selection Committee Ballot



February 9, 2026

via electronic mail

**2026 SPECIAL DISTRICT SELECTION COMMITTEE (SDSC) BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS
FOR SPECIAL DISTRICT MEMBER OF THE RIVERSIDE LOCAL AGENCY
FORMATION COMMISSION**

To Special District Selection Committee Members:

Please read these instructions carefully before completing your ballot. As previously announced, a physical meeting of the Special District Selection Committee (SDSC) is not feasible at this time, therefore, the selection proceedings are being conducted by electronic mail or regular USPS mail. A nomination period for the position in the title above was opened December 2, 2025, and closed at 5:00 p.m. on February 2, 2026.

Enclosed you will find your ballot.

LAFCO Regular Special District Member – Western Riverside County: A total of 7 nominations were received for this position.

All members of the SDSC may cast a ballot for a regular member.

Pursuant to procedures adopted by the Selection Committee in 2016, the election for the LAFCO regular position will be conducted using Instant Runoff Voting (IRV). IRV eliminates the requirement for the expensive and lengthy process of sending out a second runoff ballot to achieve a majority. An example demonstrating how IRV works is attached.

Please fill out your ballot by ranking each nominee in the order of preference, using "1" for your first choice, "2" for your second choice and so on. Please note ranking more than one candidate will not work against your first choice candidate, however, voting for only one candidate is allowed. Do not mark the same number beside more than one candidate and do not skip numbers.

General Instructions and Information:

- Completed ballots must be delivered via electronic mail to rholtzclaw@lafco.org and cc: info@lafco.org, or hand-delivered or by regular mail addressed to the LAFCO office at 6216 Brockton Avenue, Suite 111-B, Riverside CA 92506 **no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 9, 2026.**
- Only the presiding officer or another board member authorized by your board of directors to vote may cast the ballot. Board members designated by their district board to vote in place of the presiding officer must provide that authorization (in the form of a resolution or minute order) to LAFCO no later than the time the ballot is cast. District managers or other staff members may not vote.
- The voting member must print his or her name on the ballot as well as sign and date the certification indicating he or she is authorized to vote for the district.
- We must receive a ballot with an original signature. However, if you deliver your ballot via electronic mail, you may return a scanned copy of the signed ballot by email to rholtzclaw@lafco.org and info@lafco.org.
- Failure to follow these instructions will invalidate the ballot.

Finally, these positions ensure special districts are appropriately represented on our local boards. Appointments are only valid if ballots representing a quorum, from 29 of our 55 independent special districts, are returned. Please return your ballots in a timely manner.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at (951) 369-0631.

Sincerely,



GARY THOMPSON
Executive Officer

Attachments:

2026 Special District Selection Committee – Ballot
Instant Runoff Voting Election Process (IRV)

SPECIAL DISTRICT SELECTION COMMITTEE
Regular Special District Member of the
Local Agency Formation Commission – Western Region

2026 BALLOT

Name of District: _____
Print District Name Here (required)

Certification of voting member:

I, _____ hereby certify that I am (check one):
Print Name Here (required)

- ☐ The presiding officer of the above-named district.
- ☐ A member of the board of the above-named district authorized by the board to vote in place of the presiding officer. [Authorization: ☐ previously transmitted ☐ attached]

Signature (required) _____
Date (required)

LAFCO Regular Special District Member – Western Region
 (Term running May 4, 2026 through May 6, 2030)

Please rank the candidates in preferential order, “1” being the first preference, “2” being the second and so on.

		Circle rank for each candidate						
1	STEVE PASTOR, Lake Hemet Municipal Water District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	LESLIE ALTAMIRANO, Rubidoux Community Services District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	STEVE CORONA, Eastern Municipal Water District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	ROBERT GRIFFITH, Mission Springs Water District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5	LARRY SMITH, San Geronio Pass Water Agency	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	JOHN FLORES, Beaumont-Cherry Valley Rec & Park District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	DANIEL SLAWSON, Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Listed in random drawing order conducted on 2/03/2026 at 11:00 a.m.

Completed ballots must be delivered via electronic mail to rholtzclaw@lafco.org and info@lafco.org, or by regular mail or hand delivered to the LAFCO office at 6216 Brockton Avenue, Suite 111-B, Riverside CA 92506 **no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 9, 2026.**

INSTANT RUNOFF VOTING (IRV) ELECTION PROCESS

Introduction

In 2016, the Special District Selection Committee voted to utilize instant runoff voting (IRV) for all future elections to select members to the Riverside Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO). IRV is a method of conducting elections with three or more candidates whereby a majority determines the winner without the need to have a second ballot/runoff proceeding. A separate runoff election could cause a delay of more than 90 days, as well as causing LAFCO additional expense.

The explanation below and example that follows illustrates how the instant runoff voting method will be used for determining the winner in a fictional election for the "Porcupine LAFCO" Special District Commissioner open seat. A process similar to the one explained below will be utilized to determine the Riverside LAFCO Special District Member.

Ballot Specifications and Directions to Voters

The ballot will allow a voter to rank candidates in order of preference. All nominated candidates are listed on the ballot. Voters will vote for candidates by indicating their first-choice candidate, their second-choice candidate, their third-choice candidate, and so on.

The voter will indicate his/her first choice by marking or circling the number "1" beside a candidate's name, the second choice by marking or circling the number "2" by that candidate's name, the third choice by marking the number "3," and so on, for as many choices as the voter wishes.

Voters are free to rank only one candidate, however, doing so does not offer any additional advantage to that candidate, as ranking additional candidates cannot help defeat a voter's first-choice candidate. Voters must not mark the same number beside more than one candidate or skip rank numbers.

Ballot Counting

The ballots cast will be tabulated and the result declared by the official responsible for conducting the election. Votes will be counted for each candidate using the following procedure:

- The first choice marked on each ballot shall be counted. If any candidate receives a majority of the first choices, that candidate shall be declared elected.
- A majority is a number of votes greater than half (50%+1) of the total number of ballots received.

- If no candidate receives a majority of first choices, the candidate who received the fewest first choices shall be eliminated and each vote cast for that candidate shall be transferred to the next-ranked candidate on that voter's ballot. If, after this transfer of votes, any candidate has a number of votes constituting a majority, that candidate shall be declared elected.
- If no candidate receives a majority of votes from the continuing ballots after a candidate has been eliminated and his/her votes have been transferred to the next-ranked candidate, the continuing candidate with the fewest votes from the continuing ballots shall be eliminated. All votes cast for that candidate shall be transferred to the next-ranked continuing candidate on each voter's ballot. This process of eliminating candidates and transferring their votes to the next-ranked continuing candidates shall be repeated until a candidate receives a majority of the votes from the continuing ballots. This candidate shall be declared elected.

Example:

Four candidates are running for the Porcupine LAFCO Special District Commissioner open seat: Paul Alto, Mort Bragg, Charlene Newberry, and Samantha Cruz. 60 ballots are cast, therefore a candidate needs a majority of 31 votes to win the election:

- Alto is ranked #1 on 10 ballots
- Bragg is ranked #1 on 25 ballots
- Newberry is ranked #1 on 5 ballots
- Cruz is ranked #1 on 20 ballots

In the first round no one receives the required majority of 31 votes. Newberry, as the candidate receiving the fewest first (#1) choice votes, is eliminated. Those 5 ballots that had Newberry ranked as their first (#1) choice are reviewed for their second (#2) choice. On those 5 ballots:

- Alto is ranked #2 on 3 of those 5 ballots
- Bragg is ranked #2 on 1 of those 5 ballots
- Cruz is ranked #2 on 1 of the 5 ballots.

These second (#2) choice votes, which are now first (#1) choice votes for the succeeding candidates, are added to the results of the first (#1) choice count in round one as follows:

- Alto has 10 plus 3 for a total of 13 votes
- Bragg has 25 plus 1 for a total of 26 votes
- Cruz has 20 plus 1 for a total of 21 votes

Thus, in the second round, no one receives the required majority of 31 votes. Alto, as the candidate receiving the fewest adjusted first (#1) choice votes in this round is eliminated. Those thirteen ballots that had Alto ranked as their adjusted first (#1) choice are reviewed

for their second (#2) choice, or (third (#3) choice, if adjusted from the previous round). On those 13 ballots:

- Bragg is ranked #2 (plus one adjusted #1 from the first round) on 8 of those 13 ballots
- Cruz is ranked #2 (plus one adjusted #1 from the first round) on 4 of the 13 ballots.

These second (#2) choice or third (#3) choice votes, are now designated as first (#1) choice votes for the succeeding candidates, and are added to the results of the adjusted first (#1) choice count from the second round as follows:

- Bragg has 26 plus 8 for a total of 34 votes
- Cruz has 21 plus 4 for a total of 25 votes
- One of the ballots did not pick a second or third choice candidate.

Bragg wins with 34 votes (the required majority was 31) and Cruz is second with 25 votes.



SAN GORGONIO PASS
WATER AGENCY
A California State Water Project Contractor

February 10, 2026

To Special District Board Presiding Officers and Clerks

To Whom it May Concern:

The San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency (SGPWA) is proud to endorse Lawrence "Larry" Smith for the upcoming seat on the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) as the Regular Special District Member – Western Riverside County.

Mr. Smith was elected to the SGPWA Board of Directors on December 4, 2020, and currently serves as Vice President. He represents Division 5, including the communities of Calimesa and Beaumont, and works diligently to ensure the region maintains a high-quality, reliable, and affordable water supply. These communities along with Yucaipa have experienced some of the highest growth rates in the region, making thoughtful land use planning, service delivery, and infrastructure coordination especially critical. Mr. Smith is a strong advocate for clean water, transparent governance, and public accountability principles that align directly with LAFCO's mission.

Mr. Smith brings decades of public service experience, including four years of service on the Hemet City Council, where he was selected to serve as Mayor in 2014, and his tenure as a two-time President of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency. In these roles, he addressed complex issues related to land use planning, annexations, service delivery, infrastructure development, and intergovernmental coordination core responsibilities of LAFCO, particularly in rapidly growing communities.

In addition, Mr. Smith has served on several regional boards, including the Riverside County Transportation Commission, Western Council of Governments, and the Southern California Association of Governments, providing him with a strong regional perspective on growth management, infrastructure investment, and coordinated service delivery.

Mr. Smith holds a degree in Business Management from the University of Redlands and has more than thirty years of experience in the construction industry, including work on major roadway, dam, and bridge projects. This background provides him with a practical understanding of infrastructure planning, capital financing, and complex contract negotiations expertise that is highly relevant to LAFCO deliberations in fast-growing regions.

The San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency strongly believes Vice President Smith would be an exceptional asset to LAFCO and a trusted representative for local agencies throughout Western Riverside County. We respectfully request your support for his candidacy and appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lance Eckhart, PG, CHG
General Manager

President
Robert Ybarra

Vice President
Larry Smith

Treasurer
James Tickemyer

Secretary
Sarah Wargo

Directors
Dr. Blair Ball
Chander Letulle
Mickey Valdivia

General Manager
Lance Eckhart,
PG, CHG

Legal Counsel
Holland Stewart

San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency

DATE: February 23, 2026

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Lance Eckhart, General Manager

BY: Maricela V. Cabral, Exec. Asst./Clerk of the Board

SUBJECT: **Adopt Ordinance No. 19 Establishing New Times For Board Meetings and Affirming the Location of Board Meetings, and Rescind Ordinance No. 18**

RECOMMENDATION

Discuss and consider action to adopt Ordinance No. 19, establishing revised Board meeting times and affirming the location of Board meetings, and Rescind Ordinance No. 18, thereby returning the Board's regular meetings to the first and third Monday of each month at 1:30 p.m.

BACKGROUND

At the October 6, 2025, Board meeting, the Board requested that staff evaluate the effectiveness of evening Board meetings, specifically whether the evening meeting format achieved its intended purpose of increasing public attendance and community participation.

Since that time, staff has monitored and evaluated public attendance trends, in-person participation, and remote engagement for both daytime and evening meetings. The evaluation period included review of in-person attendance, public comment participation, and remote access usage through Zoom and telephone conferencing. At the February 2, 2026, Board meeting, the Board considered staff's recommendation but could not reach a consensus.

The Agency continues to provide robust public access options, including live video and telephone participation via Zoom, ensuring that members of the public may attend and participate in meetings without being physically present. These tools have significantly expanded accessibility beyond traditional in-person attendance.

ANALYSIS

Staff's evaluation indicates that evening meetings have not resulted in increased in-person public attendance or broader community participation. In contrast, daytime meetings have demonstrated higher overall engagement, including:

- Increased in-person attendance during daytime meetings
- Greater participation from partnering agencies, regional stakeholders, and collaborating retailers

- Consistently strong remote participation through Zoom during daytime meetings
- Improved staff coordination and inter-agency collaboration during regular business hours

Data trends show that the availability of remote participation has become the primary driver of public accessibility rather than meeting time alone. The ability to attend via Zoom or telephone has provided flexible access to community members, reducing the necessity for evening meeting hours as a participation strategy.

Additionally, daytime meetings align more effectively with Agency operations, staff availability, and inter-agency coordination, allowing for more efficient governance, improved collaboration, and consistent attendance by stakeholders who regularly engage with Agency programs and projects.

Based on staff's monitoring and evaluation, the evening meeting format has not achieved its intended purpose, while daytime meetings, supported by remote access technology, have proven more effective in supporting public engagement, accessibility, and operational efficiency.

FISCAL IMPACT

N/A

ACTION

1. Adopt Ordinance No. 19, Establishing New Times For Board Meetings and Affirming the Location of Board Meetings
2. Rescind Ordinance No. 18

ATTACHMENTS

Ordinance No. 18
Draft Ordinance No. 19

**SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY
ORDINANCE NO. 19**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING NEW TIMES FOR
BOARD MEETINGS AND AFFIRMING THE LOCATION
OF BOARD MEETINGS**

WHEREAS, the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency (“Agency”) is a State Water Project Contractor and wholesale water agency organized and operating under the Chapter 101 of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Law set forth in the Water Code Appendix (“Law”). Section 11 of the Law provides that the Board of Directors shall provide for the time and place of holding its meetings and the manner in which its special meetings may be called; and

WHEREAS, the Board has adopted a number of ordinances and resolutions over the years designating changes in the date, time, and place of Board meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to change the times for Board meetings as set forth below and to affirm the place of Board meetings. The Board desires to take this action in order to have, in one ordinance, all of the information as to the time, place, and dates of regular meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Board has the authority under the Law, and pursuant to the requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code §§ 54950 *et seq.*), to change the date, time, and/or place of Board meetings for a particular meeting or on a more permanent basis so long as certain procedures are followed.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1 Incorporation Of Recitals All of the foregoing Recitals are true and correct and the Board so finds and determines. The Recitals set forth above are incorporated herein and made an operative part of this Ordinance.

Section 2 Place Of Board Meetings Board Meetings shall be held at the Agency offices located at 1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, CA 92223.

Section 3 Regular Board Meetings Regular meetings of the Board shall convene on the following dates and times:

The first Monday of each month at 1:30 PM; and
The third Monday of each month at 1:30 PM.

Section 4 Ordinance To Be Controlling All ordinances, resolutions, or other Board actions, or parts thereof, that are inconsistent with any provision of this Ordinance are hereby superseded to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 5 New Schedule Commences As Of March 1, 2026 The President of the Board of Directors shall sign this Ordinance and the Secretary of the Board of Directors shall attest thereto, and this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon adoption. The new

dates and times of Board meetings, as set forth herein, shall go into effect as of March 1, 2026 and shall apply to the applicable meetings scheduled after March 1, 2026.

Section 6 Severability If any section, subsection, clause or phrase in this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby. The Board hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases or the application thereof be held invalid.

ADOPTED this 23rd day of February 2026, by the Board of Directors of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency.

SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY

Robert Ybarra
President of the Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Sarah Wargo
Secretary of the Board of Directors