

December 13, 2021

Teresa Alvarado  
Chair, California Water Commission and Commissioners  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, California 94236-0001

RE: Water Storage Investment Program: Support for Continued Eligibility and Feasibility Determination of the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project

Dear Chair Alvarado and Commissioners:

The Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) is one of the sponsors of the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project (Pacheco Project); and we urge the California Water Commission (Commission) to make the appropriate finding for eligibility and feasibility as required by Water Code Section 79757 established by Proposition 1. Since the Commission made the maximum conditional eligibility determination (MCED) for the Pacheco Project in July 2018, several new California Water Commissioners have been appointed. With that in mind, we have attached to this letter the full list of supporters of the Pacheco Project to underscore the broad-based support from business, agriculture, disadvantaged community advocates, labor, cities and counties, water agencies, elected officials, and natural resources organizations.

Many of the key supporters of the Pacheco Project are sending updated letters of support, including members of the Legislature. The common sentiment being expressed is that the current drought has demonstrated that our region's water supply security is at great risk due to climate change and the disappearance of Sierra snowpack. The Pacheco Project will provide a much needed, in-region, emergency water supply. If the expanded Pacheco Reservoir were available today, Valley Water would not have had to declare an emergency water shortage condition in June 2021. That declaration remains in effect as we look to uncertain water future in 2022 and beyond.

The critical importance of ensuring a secure and resilient water supply for Silicon Valley can not be overstated. The local, regional, state, and national economies depend on the economic miracle in our technology sector that has propelled the United States and California as preeminent global leaders in technology development. Maintaining an adequate water supply to support growth in housing as well as in our region's commercial, institutional, and industry needs is a prerequisite to the economic success of California and our nation.

The Pacheco Project not only improves the regional water supply for the economically vital technology sector of Silicon Valley, it also reduces flood risk for disadvantaged communities, supports sustainable groundwater recharge, and expands habitat for wildlife, including for a federally threatened species.

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Valley Water urges the Commission to continue your full support of the Pacheco Project and make the appropriate finding for continued eligibility and feasibility.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bart Broome". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bart Broome

Assistant Officer for State Government Relations

Attachment: List of Supporters of the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project



### **Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project Supporters**

The Santa Clara Valley Water District, Pacheco Pass Water District, and the San Benito County Water District are working together to secure funding for this project to ensure the availability of clean, reliable water to our region. The project will expand Pacheco Reservoir's storage capacity to provide for increased emergency water supplies, improved water quality, and benefit ecosystems throughout our region and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

A diverse list of 62 environmental, community, non-profit and business organizations along with elected leaders submitted letters supporting this project and requesting the California Water Commission allocate funding for this project. Individuals and organizations alike recognize the value in investing and building now for continued reliable and local water sources.

The following list includes supporters of this project as of 8/3/18.

- Congresswoman Anna Eshoo
- Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren
- Congressman Jimmy Panetta
- Senator Jerry Hill
- Senator Jim Beall
- Senator William Monning
- Assembly Member Marc Berman
- Assembly Member Anna Caballero
- Assembly Member Kansen Chu
- Assembly Member Evan Low
- Supervisor David Cortese
- Supervisor Mike Wasserman
- Alameda County Water District
- Bay Area Council
- Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency (BAWSCA)
- Bay Planning Coalition
- CA Dept of Water Resources - Division of Safety of Dams (Pleased the project is being pursued.)
- California Chamber of Commerce
- Central California Irrigation District
- Cities Association of Santa Clara County
- City of Gilroy
- City of Hollister
- City of Milpitas
- City of Morgan Hill
- City of Palo Alto
- City of San Jose
- City of Santa Clara

- City of Watsonville
- County of Santa Cruz Flood Control and Water Conservation District - Zone 7
- East Bay Leadership Council
- Family Farm Alliance
- Gilroy Chamber of Commerce
- Grassland Water District
- Jerry J. Smith, Ph.D. - Fisheries Biologist & San Jose State University Professor
- La Raza Roundtable
- Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District
- Merced County Board of Supervisors
- Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
- Monterey County Board of Supervisors
- Morgan Hill Chamber of Commerce
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
- North Bay Leadership Council
- Pacheco Pass Water District
- Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority
- Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency
- Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Communities Services District
- Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County
- San Benito County Board of Supervisors
- San Benito County Farm Bureau
- San Benito County Water District
- San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC)
- San Jose Water Company
- San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority
- San Mateo County Economic Development Association
- Santa Clara & San Benito Counties Building & Construction Trades Council
- Santa Clara Chamber of Commerce
- Santa Clara County Farm Bureau
- Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority
- Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau
- San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
- Silicon Valley Black Chamber of Commerce
- Silicon Valley Chamber Coalition
- Silicon Valley Leadership Group
- Silicon Valley Organization
- South Bay Clean Creeks Coalition
- Sunnyslope County Water District
- Sustainable Silicon Valley
- Westlands Water District

**Total: 68 supporters**