




Date: May 6, 2020

To: **Water Resources and Watershed Committee**
Maria Gutzeit, Chair
B.J. Atkins
Edward Colley
William Cooper
Jeff Ford
E.G. "Jerry" Gladbach

From: Steve Cole, Assistant General Manager 

The **Water Resources and Watershed Committee** is scheduled to meet via teleconference on **Wednesday, May 13, 2020 at 6:00 PM**, dial information is listed below.

**TELECONFERENCE ONLY
NO PHYSICAL LOCATION FOR MEETING**

TELECONFERCING NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order N-29-20 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 17, 2020, any Director may call into an Agency Committee meeting using the Agency's

Call-In Number 1-866-899-4679 Access Code 563-561-061
or GoToMeeting by clicking on the link

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/563561061>

without otherwise complying with the Brown Act's teleconferencing requirements.

Pursuant to the above Executive Order, the public may not attend the meeting in person. Any member of the public may listen to the meeting or make comments to the Committee using the call-in number or GoToMeeting link above. Please see the notice below if you have a disability and require an accommodation in order to participate in the meeting.

We request that the public submit any comments in writing if practicable, which can be sent to cfowler@scvwa.org or mailed to Cheryl Fowler, Administrative Analyst, Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, 26501 Summit Circle, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. All written comments received before 4:00 PM the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Committee members and posted on the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency website prior to the meeting. Anything received after 4:00 PM the day of the meeting will be posted on the SCV Water website the following day.

MEETING AGENDA

<u>ITEM</u>		<u>PAGE</u>
1.	Public Comments – Members of the public may comment as to items not on the Agenda at this time. Members of the public wishing to comment on items covered in this Agenda may do so now or at the time each item is considered. (Comments may, at the discretion of the Committee Chair, be limited to three minutes for each speaker.)	
2.	* Recommend Authorizing the General Manager to Enter into a Contract with Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. to Provide Data Visualization Support Services	5
3.	* Recommend Authorizing the General Manager to Execute an Amendment to the Reservoir Agreement for Sites Reservoir to Fund Necessary Planning Costs	7
4.	* Recommend Authorizing the General Manager to Enter into a Contract with Encompass Consultant Group, Inc. for Conservatory Garden Refurbishment Engineering Design Services	15
5.	Water Resources Director’s Report	
	5.1 Status of Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation	
	5.2 Review of Watershed Recharge Feasibility Study	
	5.3 Status of Delta Conveyance Facility Agreement in Principles Negotiations	
6.	* Update on Conservation Activities & Performance	19
7.	* Committee Planning Calendar	21
8.	Adjournment	
*	Indicates Attachment	
◆	Indicates Handout	

NOTICES:

Any person may make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation needed for that person to be able to participate in the public meeting by telephoning (Insert Name and Title), at (insert Phone Number), or in writing to Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency at 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. Requests must specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested. A telephone number or other contact information should be included so that Agency staff may discuss appropriate arrangements. Persons requesting a disability-related accommodation should make the request with adequate time before the meeting for the Agency to provide the requested accommodation.

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 Committee less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection at the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, located at 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350, during regular business hours. When practical, these public records will also be made available on the Agency's Internet Website, accessible at <http://www.yourscvwater.com>.


Posted on May 6, 2020.

MGS

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COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 30, 2020
TO: Water Resources and Watershed Committee
FROM: Dirk Marks 
Director of Water Resources
SUBJECT: Recommend Authorizing the General Manager to Enter into a Contract with Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. to Provide Data Visualization Support Services

SUMMARY

SCV Water is currently undertaking complex analyses relating to the groundwater basin that will be critical to meeting the mission of providing reliable water supplies for the service area. To facilitate analysis of large quantities of data as well as facilitate effective and clear public communication, staff proposes the development of three-dimensional data visualization tool. Staff's investigated alternative software platforms and initial testing has resulted in a recommendation to contract with Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. (Geosyntec) in an amount not to exceed amount of \$150,000.

DISCUSSION

SCV Water faces several groundwater related challenges including preparation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan, several groundwater quality issues and understanding the interaction between surface water and groundwater. In late 2019, SCV Water engaged Geosyntec to review SCV Water's Water Supply Reliability Planning and Modeling and assess applicability of alternative visualization tools for different management and planning objectives. Following an evaluation of available modeling platforms, staff determined that a 3D visualization tool by Seequent, called Leapfrog Works (Leapfrog), best addresses SCV Water's needs at this time.

SCV Water uses numerous simple-to-complex tools and data to manage water resources planning, communication and decision making. Examples include, but are not limited to water level hydrographs, groundwater extraction records, water quality information, geographical information system (GIS) data, geologic reports, a water operations model, and a numerical groundwater flowmodel (MODFLOW-USG).

Integrating information from these tools and data for communication and decision making has become more difficult, principally because tools and data have become more powerful and complex, and at the same time complexity of water agency communication and decision types have increased. Today, certain three-dimensional visualization tools (3D tools) are designed specifically to incorporate multiple formats of data in a way to facilitate communication and improve decision making.

These 3D tools are very powerful and can be used to communicate to the Board and stakeholders information in a 3D rendering, such as map data or geologic data, and they can be used to layer in different data sets for viewing (i.e. land use and geology). They can also present animations, such as raising and lowering water elevations, contaminant plume concentrations, and other information not otherwise viewable without a 3D tool. They also have the ability to perform visual and numerical comparisons of different information (i.e. comparing a geologic cross section to a groundwater flowmodel layer in a particular area of interest) to determine where improvements can be made.

SCV Water sought and received a proposal from Geosyntec to take the 3D tool to an implementation stage. To confirm selection of Leapfrog, staff directed Geosyntec to initiate preliminary work for several of the following tasks:

1. Import MODFLOW input parameters
2. Import other relevant hydrologic, geologic, environmental, and cultural data
3. Import MODFLOW Output
4. Compare MODFLOW output from multiple scenarios
5. Ongoing visualizations and related support

This first phase of work is anticipated to be completed in June 2020. Much of the work under Task 1 and 2 is completed, or in progress, and other data planned for data input is not available at this time. Geosyntec will continue to coordinate with the GSI Water Solutions, Inc., the Agency's groundwater modeler, for Task 3.

Upon authorization from SCV Water, the remainder of Tasks 1 and 2 would be completed and remaining tasks would continue through June 2021. This memo to the Board seeks authorization for this second phase of work. It would include completion of not yet completed work under Tasks 1, 2, and 3, and initiation and completion of Task 4, and ongoing visualization support under Task 5.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The fee estimates \$150,000 for the balance of remaining work, assuming an average monthly effort from Geosyntec of roughly \$10K to \$11K. Depending on the number of scenarios and visualization specifics selected by SCV Water, additional funding may be required at a later date. Proposed data visualization services are included in the FY 2020/21 Water Resources Operating Budget.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Water Resources and Watershed Committee recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. to provide data visualization support services.

RDV

MGS



COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 30, 2020

TO: Water Resources and Watershed Committee

FROM: Dirk Marks *DM*
Director of Water Resources

SUBJECT: Recommend Authorizing the General Manager to Execute an Amendment to the Reservoir Agreement for Sites Reservoir to Fund Necessary Planning Costs

SUMMARY

The Sites Reservoir is an off-stream reservoir that would supplement SCV Water's imported water supplies. SCV Water is the successor to the Castaic Lake Water Agency May 2016 agreement to fund initial planning costs for the Sites Reservoir Project. The project has undergone a value engineering process that has reduced the size, cost and environmental impact of the project to a viable project to meet the needs of both north and south of Delta participants. Additional work to better define permitting and regulatory requirements is advisable prior to committing to fund design and construction of the project. The Sites Authority and its Reservoir Committee propose an amendment to the existing participation agreement to fund the necessary work.

DISCUSSION

The Sites Reservoir has been evaluated as a water supply project for more than 30 years. It was originally envisioned as part of, what was called at the time, Stage II of the State Water Project and was administered by DWR until 2010 when the Sites Reservoir Authority was formed to take over the project and move it forward. At that time, the project was envisioned as an off-stream reservoir with 1.3 to 1.8 million acre-feet of capacity that would be filled from several Sacramento River diversions.

The Sites Reservoir Project could benefit SCV Water by further diversifying the Agency's water supply portfolio and mitigating further reduction of SWP imported supplies. In addition, being a surface supply (and the fact that current available Delta pumping windows occur in the summer), delivery of this supply is more readily scheduled in high demand summer months than groundwater banking supplies. Thus, this supply could reduce the need for additional investments in groundwater banking programs.

Since SCV Water's initial involvement with the Sites Reservoir Project, extensive discussions with regulatory agencies and a value engineering effort has led to a revised project description of a 1.5 MAF reservoir that incorporates greater reliance on existing conveyance facilities. Attachment A contains an Executive Prospectus summarizing the revised project. These changes have resulted in the estimated cost of \$3.0-3.3 billion and an average 243,000 AF annual yield available to participants. Incorporating more stringent regulatory requirements than originally anticipated resulted in an estimated cost of approximately \$600 to \$650 per AF north of the Delta. If a Delta conveyance facility is not constructed, water supplies would be

subject to Delta carriage losses that could decrease available water supplies between 15-35% depending on specific conditions experienced in a given year.

SCV Water currently participates at a 5,000 AF participation level which is roughly equivalent to the annual yield anticipated from the project or approximately 2% of the projected project yield.

The cost to complete this next phase of planning is approximately \$31.75 million. These expenses would be met through early Prop 1 funding provided by the State of California and a \$100/AF cash call from participating agencies. SCV Water's share would be \$500,000. The goal of this planning phase of work is to provide the participants by December 31, 2021, with enough information/certainty to participate in final planning, design and construction phases of the project. These work efforts include:

- Improving certainty related to reservoir operations and degree of integration with the State Water Project and Central Valley Project to characterize water supply benefits.
- Improving certainty related to project permitability through focused consultations with permitting agencies and preparation of applications for key federal and state permits.

These include:

- Administrative draft of water rights application
- Submittal of Biological Assessment
- Submittal of an incidental take permit from the California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
- Largely completing environmental analysis and documentation required under CEQA and NEPA including revised draft EIR/EIS documents.
- Improving certainty relating to affordability by advancing engineering and implementing risk management to improve the accuracy of the cost estimates and by pursuing low-interest financing and potential grants.
- Cultivating and strengthening partnerships with local landowners and key stakeholders that represent environmental, business, labor and other interests.
- Meeting Prop 1 (WSIP) milestones to remain eligible to receive \$775 million in construction funding.
- Identifying future Go/No-Go decision points and associated cash calls, and developing financial and successor participation agreements including a plan to advance the project beyond December 2021.

Reservoir Project Agreement

At the direction of the CLWA Board, staff executed the Reservoir Project Agreement for Sites Reservoir in May of 2016. In 2019 and 2020, after Board concurrence, staff executed no cost amendments that extended the work period through September 2020. The proposed

amendment would provide for funding the work plan to advance planning as discussed above. This would be accomplished through an additional cash call of no more than \$100/AF. The work plan would be completed by December 31, 2021.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Fiscal Year 2020/21 Capital Budget contains \$500,000 for participation in the Sites Reservoir planning costs. At SCV Water's current 5,000 AF participation level, the budget would cover the proposed \$100/AF assessment proposed in the amendment.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Water Resources and Watershed Committee recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to execute an Amendment to the Reservoir Agreement for the Sites Project to fund necessary planning costs through December 2021.

DSM

Attachment

MGS

Attachment A



EXECUTIVE PROSPECTUS

A 21st Century Solution

Sites Reservoir is a generational opportunity to construct a multi-benefit water storage project that helps **restore flexibility, reliability, and resiliency** to our statewide water supply. Simply put, no other storage project currently under consideration in California can **positively influence the operational efficiencies of our existing statewide water.**

Perhaps what makes Sites Reservoir so unique is that it is **not** a “traditional” reservoir project. It is an **off-stream facility** that **does not dam a major river system** and would **not block fish migration or spawning.** Rather, Sites Reservoir offers a significant water storage opportunity that benefits both people and the environment.



Sites Reservoir **captures and stores stormwater flows** from the **Sacramento River**—after all other water rights and regulatory requirements are met—for **release in dry and critical years** for **environmental use** and for California **communities, farms, and businesses** when it is so desperately **needed.** Sites Reservoir is designed to be **adaptable to a changing climate.** As snowpack declines due to **climate change** and more of our water comes in the form of **atmospheric rivers** - Sites Reservoir will become **even more vital to the future resiliency of our statewide water supply.**

28 participants span California

Our participants serve:



Cities/
Neighborhoods



Farmland/
Irrigation



State/
Environment

equating to **24+ million people** and
over **500,000 acres of farmland**

MEMBER	RESERVOIR
Public Water Agencies	
North of Delta	52,142 AF
South of Delta	140,750 AF
Subtotal Public Water Agencies	192,892 AF
State of C.A. (WSIP)	~40,000 AF
Total Requirement	~230,000 AF

Delivering Success: Key Accomplishments



Named in the Governor's Water Resiliency Plan as one of two critical projects



Reduced the construction cost by over \$2B through the value planning process



Leveraged your investment dollars against other federal and state dollars. For every dollar you invested we stretched it into \$1.50



Collaborated with State and Federal permitting agencies to define criteria for project permitability

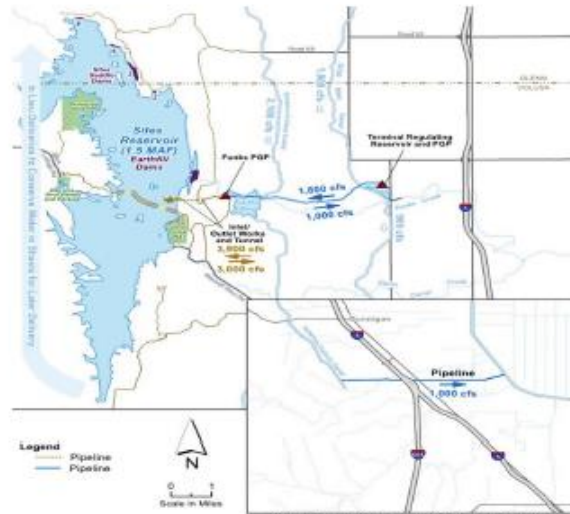
Value Planning

The Sites Project Authority conducted a rigorous value planning effort to review the project's proposed operations and facilities to develop a project that is **"right-sized"** for our investors and participants while still providing water supply reliability and enhancing the environment.

This right-sized reservoir is:

- Responding to extensive member-agency, community, NGO and regulatory input
- Resulting in a smaller footprint
- Optimizing operations for climate conditions

It is essential that we build a project now that makes sense for all our participants - local, state, and federal. This means rightsizing and optimizing the project for current conditions, while maintaining flexibility to expand and adapt the project to address future conditions.



Benefits



Off-stream Storage

Does not create a barrier to native fish migration



Federal and State Agencies Manage Environmental Water

Adaptable to current and future conditions and priorities



Local Leadership and Cooperation

Aligns with Sacramento Valley's values and fosters regional and statewide collaboration



Cooperative Operation

Increases effectiveness and efficiency of existing water storage infrastructure



Adaptable to Climate Change

Contributes to system reliability and performance with climate change



Dry Year Water Supply

Reliable dry year water supply for California communities, farms and businesses



Recreational Opportunities

Provides northern Sacramento Valley with additional opportunities for recreation



Environmental Support

Provides environmental water in drier periods for native fish, and habitat for native species and birds

Environmental Planning & Permitting

- Over 60 meetings to date
- Focused on:
 - » Criteria for diverting water from Sacramento River Into Sites Reservoir
 - » Methods of analysis for ESA permits
- Discussions continue with CDFW, NMFS and USFWS
- Initial analysis shows annual deliveries of 200,000 - 250,000 acre-ft on average
- Range may be refined as discussions continue and permits finalized

Operations

Reservoir operations being refined and integrated with the State Water Project and Central Valley Project to improve certainty related to the project's permissibility

YEAR TYPE	1,000 CFS RELEASE CAPACITY (TAF/YEAR)
Wet	90 - 120
Above Normal	260 - 290
Below Normal	245 - 275
Dry	355 - 385
Critically Dry	210 - 240
Long Term Average	~240

Sites Reservoir:

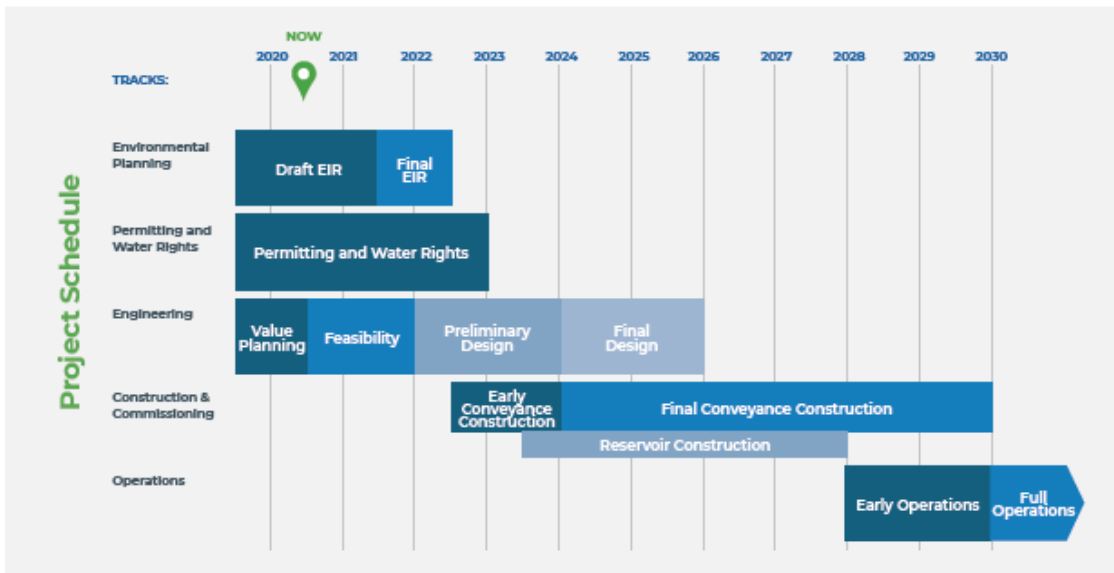
Improves the state's water management system in drier periods, restores much-needed flexibility and reliability

Dedicates water to the environment to be managed by state resources agency managers who will decide how, and when, this water would be used

Creates a water asset for members and for the state that does not currently exist

Affordability Overview

ANNUAL REPAYMENT COSTS PER ACRE FOOT OF RELEASE	
Reservoir Size (MAF)	1.5
Project Cost (2019\$, billions)	\$2.4 - \$2.7
Contingency Cost (2019\$, billions)	\$0.6
Total Project Cost (2019\$, billions)	\$3.0 - \$3.3
Annualized AF/year release (AF/year)	~240
Range of Annual Costs During Repayment Without WIFIA Loans (2020\$, \$/AF)	\$650 - \$710
Range of Annual Costs During Repayment With WIFIA Loans (2020\$, \$/AF)	\$600 - \$660



Next Steps to 2021

Improves the state's water management system in drier periods, restores much-needed flexibility and reliability

Dedicates water to the environment to be managed by state resources agency managers who will decide how, and when, this water would be used

Creates a water asset for members and for the state that does not currently exist



Looking Ahead

Our participants are what makes Sites Reservoir such a unique and promising storage project. We have accomplished a great deal in recent years and are moving into a critical time as we transition to this next phase. As we move forward, we will continue to **strengthen partnerships with local landowners, communities, and key stakeholders** that represent **environmental, business, labor, and other interests** and continue to **pursue funding** to move the project forward through the **planning and feasibility stage** and into **implementation** beginning in 2022.


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COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 1, 2020

TO: Water Resources and Watershed Committee

FROM: Matthew S. Dickens, MPA 
Resource Conservation Manager

SUBJECT: Recommend Authorizing the General Manager to Enter into a Contract with Encompass Consultant Group, Inc. for Conservatory Garden Refurbishment Engineering Design Services

SUMMARY

SCV Water staff seeks to procure a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) to develop and design construction Plans, Specs and Estimates (PS&E) for the Conservatory Garden refurbishment and transformation project. The project goals are to transform the existing garden from an events-based space to an education-centric facility capable of supporting state-of-the-art interactive experiences for SCV Water's learning programs.

DISCUSSION

The Conservatory Garden, located at the Rio Vista Water Treatment Plant, was originally constructed in the 1990's to house child/adult education programs and serve as an events space. In the aftermath of 9/11, increased security concerns including those specific to drinking water have influenced accessibility to the garden for event purposes, with little impact to educational programming. Today, more than 12,000 SCV school children visit the garden each year to participate in a variety of water education programs as required by State curriculum standards. However, while the garden supports some education activities, significant opportunities for improvement exist.

In 2018, staff from Conservation, Education and Engineering formed the Conservatory Garden Technical Advisory Group (CONGA-TAG) to review and revise research compiled via legacy efforts. Initially, the refurbishment project intended to update the plant palette, irrigation system, and existing pavers. As the group progressed, it became evident that transformation of the space and refurbishment of existing components was critical to supporting SCV Water's educational programming needs.

To meet SCV Water's objectives, the Conservatory Garden (garden) will be reduced in size from the current ~9-acre site to ~1 acre (44,431 sf). The garden layout will include, but is not limited to, the following nine distinct areas (Attachment A):

- a. Globe
- b. The Entrance Garden
- c. Pruning Garden
- d. The Pavilion (Outdoor Classroom/Meeting Space)
- e. Quad 1 (Exhibit Space)
- f. Amphitheatre

- g. Quad 2 (Exhibit Space)
- h. Sustainability Shack
- i. Urban Forest

In addition to the areas listed above, the project will include, but is not limited to, updating/painting peripheral components, new permeable pavers, shade structures, utilities, IT access (Pavilion), irrigation planting and distribution system upgrades.

Currently, staff is working with Bowman Change, Inc. to develop design plans for the State Water Project Exhibit which will be in Quad 1. Additionally, the consultant will provide schematics on various configurations of future exhibits to be used for utility design and access.

For PS&E services, staff submitted an RFP via PlanetBids on April 10, 2020, and received one submission on April 27, 2020, from SCV-based Encompass Consultant Group, Inc. (ECG). ECG’s proposal, including subconsultant support from Lucci and Associates, Earth Systems, and Pacific Coast Land Design, for PS&E will cost \$184,041 (See Figure 1).

<u>Task</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Fee</u>
1.	Schematic Design	\$16,820
2.	Preliminary Plans	\$18,490
3.	Construction Documents (75%, 90% and 100% PS&E)	\$45,100
<u>Subconsultants</u>		
	Lucci and Associates (Electrical)	\$28,589
	Earth Systems (Geotechnical)	\$14,190
	Pacific Coast Land Design (Optional Landscape Architectural Services)	\$60,302
Total including Landscape Architectural Services		\$184,041

Figure 1 - Cost Schedule (Excluding Reimbursable Expenses)

The following items summarize the work that will be completed by the task descriptions, and proposed schedule is depicted in Figure 2.

Task 1: Schematic Design – Collaboration and finalization of conceptual designs, stakeholder input, reconnaissance of existing infrastructure and initial 3D renderings.

Task 2: Preliminary Plans – Coordination with design team, electrical engineers and landscape architect to develop and review 30% Plans.

Task 3: Construction Drawings – Consultant will draft and submit for review construction drawings for 75%, 90% and 100% PS&E. The final construction drawings will be used to inform the construction RFP process.

PROJECT MILESTONES SCHEDULE	
Name	Finish
Notice to Proceed (Assumed)	Mon 6/1/20
Kick off meeting	Fri 6/5/20
Submit Schematic Plan	Mon 7/27/20
30% design kick off meeting	Mon 8/24/20
Submit 30% Plans and Estimates	Mon 9/14/20
75% kick off meeting	Mon 10/12/20
Submit 75% PS&E	Thu 10/22/20
90% Kick off meeting	Thu 11/19/20
Submit 90% PS&E	Thu 12/3/20
Submit 100% Final PS&E	Fri 1/15/21

Figure 2 - Proposed Project Schedule

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

As previously noted, the total cost for the Conservatory Garden Refurbishment Design Engineering Services is \$184,041. Figure 3 provides a comprehensive overview of both actual and estimated costs associated with the refurbishment project and includes projected schedules. For planning support, staff completed the initial ADA Compliance Audit, Site Topo Map, and launched the State Water Exhibit design process. Additionally, staff received proposals for the Storm Water Pollution and Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and Biological Resources Inventory and CEQA Support; which are scheduled for completion in Fiscal Year (FY) 2020/21. Considering Committee and Board schedules, the site design process can begin in mid-June 2020, and would be completed by December 2020, or January 2021. Cost estimates for Construction and Construction Management, Inspection, and Engineering Services will be clarified and updated during the engineering design process. Upon approval, construction could begin in Q3/4 of FY 2020/21 and would conclude in FY 2021/22.

Garden Components	Actual or Estimate	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	FY 21/22	Total
Conservatory Garden					
Planning Support*	Actual	\$13,500.00	\$ 15,593.00		\$ 29,093.00
Site Design**	Actual		\$184,041.00		\$ 184,041.00
Site Construction	Estimate		\$230,051.00	\$ 690,154.00	\$ 920,205.00
Construction Management, Inspection, Engineering Services	Estimate		\$ 80,517.85	\$ 241,553.90	\$ 322,071.75
State Water Project Exhibit					
Exhibit Design	Actual	\$50,000.00	\$ 25,000.00		\$ 75,000.00
Fabrication Estimate	Estimate		\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 150,000.00
Total		\$63,500.00	\$610,202.85	\$ 1,006,707.90	\$ 1,680,410.75
Notes:					
*Includes ADA Compliance Audit, Site Topo Map, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and CEQA support.					
**Budget for Conservatory Garden Refurbishment Engineering Design Services					

Figure 3 - Conservatory Garden Refurbishment (Cost Actuals and Estimates)

Sufficient funds are included the FY 2019/20 and FY 2020/21 Major Capital budget to conduct the proposed work.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Water Resources and Watershed Committee recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Encompass Consultant Group, Inc. for Conservatory Garden Refurbishment Engineering Design Services.

MD

Attachment

MGS



COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 13, 2020
TO: Water Resources and Watershed Committee
FROM: Matthew S. Dickens, MPA *MSD*
Resource Conservation Manager
SUBJECT: Update on Conservation Activities and Performance

SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION

General Conservation Program Updates

Virtual Conservation Support – WaterSMART Workshop – As discussed in previous reports, SCV Water suspended its Check-Up Programs in response to COVID-19 safety considerations and guidelines. Shortly before the Check-Up Program pause, Conservation launched the online WaterSMART Workshop to provide new engagement and education opportunities to customers seeking water use efficiency support. As of May 1, 2020, over 253 customers have participated in the program (188 Completed Workshops, 65 Active, 74.3% Completion Rate). Staff continues to work with the developer to both improve the tool and to enhance UIUX (User Interface & User Experience) capabilities.

CII Program Updates

Saugus Union School District (Phase I) – Staff is currently working with the Saugus Union School District (SUSD) to support its water conservation and water use efficiency goals. For Phase I of the project, SUSD identified four locations including the SUSD District Office and the Rio Vista, Tesoro Del Valle, and North Park Elementary Schools. Current efforts will focus on developing learning landscapes utilizing water use efficient plants, high-efficiency irrigation, and other smart landscape practices. Staff from SCV Water and SUSD have established weekly standing meetings to share resources, identify conservation program support opportunities, and to maintain project inertia. Future phases of the project will focus on water use efficiency improvements for special landscape areas (turfgrass play areas) and indoor end-uses of water (toilets, urinals, aerators, pre-rinse spray valves, other fixtures as needed).

Landscape Program Updates

Lawn Replacement Program Review – Staff is finalizing a contract with an external consultant to evaluate transformation opportunities for SCV Water's Lawn Replacement Program (LRP). Utilizing historic LRP data, industry standards, practices, and planned activities, the project will evaluate, identify, and recommend smart strategies and practices essential to program improvement, community acceptance, and green-industry development. The evaluation will include comprehensive qualitative and quantitative analysis of current engagement activities and suggested alternatives. Additionally, the evaluation will test alternatives to program rules, practices, and engagement tactics to determine statistical significance and internal/external validity for potential scale.

Status of Special Projects

Bridgeport Pocket Park – Conservation staff, with consultant and collaborative design team support, submitted draft planting and irrigation plans to City of Santa Clarita staff for feedback and approval. Once the plans are finalized and approved, staff will solicit requests for proposals for construction of the pocket park and report findings and recommendations to the Water Resources Committee and SCV Water Board of Directors.

Recycled Water Customer Engagement – SCV Water has initiated a contract with an external engineering consultant to provide services related to the development of recycled water conversion drawings and permit application materials for Phases 2B and 2D end-use customers. The recycled water conversion drawings will inform SCV Water's Purple PREP (Planning, Retrofitting, and Effectuating Program) needs for customer conversion support. Staff held the project kickoff meeting on April 29, 2020 and have scheduled regular standing meetings. The project is expected to conclude in September 2020 following successful conversion of customers located in the project areas.

State Water Project Exhibit – SCV Water has initiated a contract with an exhibit design firm to develop design plans for the State Water Project exhibit (SWPe) for use in the Conservatory Garden. The SWPe will be a functional model representative of the system, including, but not limited to the following components: reservoirs, aqueducts, power plants and pumping. The model will demonstrate normal, drought, and flood conditions. The model may use fresh water or other means to display reservoir filling (Lake Oroville) and conveyance to aqueducts through the central area of the exhibit, landscaped with herbs to represent food crops in the Central Valley. The model will then represent the Edmonston Pumping Plant (which lifts water over the Tehachapi mountains) and end point emptying into Castaic Lake. At the end of the modeled system, the exhibit will demonstrate local aquifer geology. Additionally, SWPe will incorporate low water using plants and efficient irrigation. Staff held the kickoff meeting on April 29, 2020 and have scheduled weekly standing meetings for the duration of the project.

MGS

**Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
Water Resources & Watershed Committee and Board Calendar**

ITEM NO.
7

FY 2019/20

Item	Jul 2 Board	Jul 10 Comm	Aug 6 Board	Aug 14 Comm	Aug 20 Board	Sep 3 Board	Sep 11 Comm	Oct 1 Board	Oct 9 Comm	Oct 15 Board	Nov 5 Board	Nov 13 Comm <i>Cancelled</i>	Dec 11 Comm	Dec 17 Board	Jan 7 Board	Jan 8 Comm <i>Cancelled</i>	Feb 4 Board	Feb 12 Comm	Mar 3 Board	Mar 11 Comm	Apr 7 Board	Apr 8 Comm	May 5 Board	May 13 Comm	Jun 2 Board	Jun 10 Comm	
1 Update on Conservation Activities & Performance		C		C			C		C			CNL	C					C		C			C		P		P
2 Update on Conservatory Garden & Pocket Park Pilot Projects		C				C																					
3 Update on Conservation Strategies																											
4 Update on Recycled Water New Drop Program							C																				
5 Devil's Den Semi-Annual Report		C																C									
6 Status of Water Supply and Water Banking Programs		C					C													C							
7 Status of Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation				C								CNL	C							C					P		
8 Status of Delta Conveyance Facility Agreement in Principles Negotiations																									P		
9 Status of Recycled Water Program																											
10 Status of Sites Reservoir Project									C																		
11 Status of Efforts Relating to Groundwater Spreading Pilot Program																											
12 Status of Water Supplies													C					C									
13 Update on Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Activities		C																									
14 Status of Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Update																											
15 Status of Upper Santa Clara River Salt and Nutrient Management Plan		C																C									
16 Status of Rosedale Rio-Bravo Water Storage District Banking and Exchange Program Extraction Facilities		C																									
17 Presentation on the Rosedale-RioBravo Drought Relief Project											C																
18 Status of Devil's Den Solar Generation Facilities																		C									
19 Recommend Approval of a Resolution of Application by SCVWA Requesting Los Angeles LAFCO Initiate Proceedings For Annexation of Tesoro Del Valle, Making Responsible Agency Findings Pursuant to CEQA and Approving the Project in SCVWA's Limited Role as Responsible Agency		C	C																						P		
20 CLOSED SESSION: Water Transfer/Exchange				C	C	C																					

**Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
Water Resources & Watershed Committee and Board Calendar**

ITEM NO.
7

FY 2019/20

Item	Jul 2 Board	Jul 10 Comm	Aug 6 Board	Aug 14 Comm	Aug 20 Board	Sep 3 Board	Sep 11 Comm	Oct 1 Board	Oct 9 Comm	Oct 15 Board	Nov 5 Board	Nov 13 Comm <i>Cancelled</i>	Dec 11 Comm	Dec 17 Board	Jan 7 Board	Jan 8 Comm <i>Cancelled</i>	Feb 4 Board	Feb 12 Comm	Mar 3 Board	Mar 11 Comm	Apr 7 Board	Apr 8 Comm	May 5 Board	May 13 Comm	Jun 2 Board	Jun 10 Comm
21	Status of Activities to Recover Stored Water from Existing Water Banking or Exchange Programs to Meet 2020 Imported Water Demands																									
22	Recommend Authorizing the General Manager to Enter Into a Contract with Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. to Provide Data Visualization Support Services																									
23	Recommend Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the General Manager to Enter into a Funding Agreement with DWR for Preliminary Planning and Design Costs Related to a Potential New Delta Conveyance Option																									
24	Recommend Authorizing the General Manager to Execute an Amendment to the Reservoir Agreement for Sites Reservoir to Fund Necessary Planning Costs																									
25	Recommend Approval of Resolution Adopting CEQA Findings for State Water Project Water Management Tools and Authorizing the General Manager to Execute a Contract Amendment for the State Water Project Water Management Tools																									
26	Review of Watershed Recharge Feasibility Study																									
27	Recommend Adopting a Resolution Approving an Agreement in Principle to Amend the Agency's Water Supply Contract with the California Department of Water Resources for a Delta Conveyance Facility and Authorizing the General Manager to Enter into a Cost Sharing Agreement for Facility Planning																									
28	Recommend Authorizing the General Manager to Enter Into a Contract with Encompass Consultant Group, Inc. for Conservatory Garden Refurbishment Engineering Design Services																									
29	CLOSED SESSION: Anticipated Litigation																									
30	Review and Discussion of FY 2019/20 and FY 2020/21 Water Resources Operating Budget and Minor and Major Capital Projects Budgets																									
31	Recommend Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the General Manager to (1) Apply for a Round 3 Sustainable Groundwater Management Program Grant on Behalf of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency, Identifying SCV Water as the Agency Responsible for the Local Cost Share and (2) Execute an Agreement with the State of California for a 2019 Sustainable Groundwater Management Planning Grant																									
32	Recommend Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the General Manager to Submit an Application for a Round 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Implementation Grant and Execute a Grant Agreement with the California Department of Water Resources																									

**Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
Water Resources & Watershed Committee and Board Calendar**

ITEM NO.
7

FY 2019/20

	Item	Jul 2 Board	Jul 10 Comm	Aug 6 Board	Aug 14 Comm	Aug 20 Board	Sep 3 Board	Sep 11 Comm	Oct 1 Board	Oct 9 Comm	Oct 15 Board	Nov 5 Board	Nov 13 Comm <i>Cancelled</i>	Dec 11 Comm	Dec 17 Board	Jan 7 Board	Jan 8 Comm <i>Cancelled</i>	Feb 4 Board	Feb 12 Comm	Mar 3 Board	Mar 11 Comm	Apr 7 Board	Apr 8 Comm	May 5 Board	May 13 Comm	Jun 2 Board	Jun 10 Comm
33	Recommend Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the General Manager to Enter Into a Contract with WaterWise Consulting, Inc.									C	C																
34	Adopt a Resolution Requesting LAFCO Initiate Proceedings for Annexation and Sphere of Influence Amendment for the Area Formerly Served by the Valencia Water Company												CNL		C												
35	Comparison of GSA, IRWM and Measure W Structures and Program Activities													C													

P = Planned
C = Completed
CNL = Cancelled
CNT = Continued Item