

August 31, 2023

Board of Directors  
Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency  
27234 Bouquet Canyon Road  
Santa Clarita, CA 91350

Honorable Board Members,

By this letter, I am providing comment on Agenda Item 6.3 for the September 5, 2023, SCV Water Board Meeting concerning renaming a facility after distinguished Board member Jerry Gladbach.

We can all agree that Director Gladbach was an exceptional human being who gave of his time and energy to serve our community through his long-term directorship of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency and its predecessor agency, Castaic Lake Water Agency; and that he represented SCV Water to various other agencies with distinction.

I wholeheartedly agree that SCV Water should honor Director Gladbach's legacy of public service. However, the Financial Considerations section of this item's report indicates that there may be considerable effort and expense involved in renaming the Rio Vista Water Treatment Plant facility. These efforts and costs would be at the expense of SCV Water customers, yet they would not advance SCV Water's mission of "[p]roviding responsible water stewardship to ensure the Santa Clarita Valley has reliable supplies of high-quality water at a reasonable cost."

Perhaps a more cost-efficient way to honor Director Gladbach's service would be to name a new facility in his honor (perhaps a new PFAS treatment plant or other new facility that will be constructed in the near future). The Board might also consider creating a permanent scholarship at a local college or university in Director Gladbach's name to be awarded to students pursuing careers in water management or public administration to foster passion and vocation for public service in future generations.

Thank you for your service to our community and for your careful consideration of this alternate viewpoint.

SCV Water Customer