



Statement from Chief Executive Officer Nicole Sandkulla to the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission About Water for East Palo Alto, San Jose and Santa Clara At the June 14, 2016 Commission Meeting

Good afternoon Commissioners:

In 2008, this Commission adopted the Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the Water System Improvement Program (WSIP). As part of it, the Commission adopted level-of-service goals for water supply, reliability, and quality. Also, several critical water-supply decisions were deferred until the end of 2018.

The SFPUC staff has initiated planning studies related to those deferred water-supply decisions in its Water Management Action Plan (WaterMAP) to support the decisions that this Commission must make by December 31, 2018.

BAWSCA and its member agencies expect the SFPUC to meet the level of service goals that are part of the PEIR. These commitments, including a commitment to water-supply reliability, are also in the 2009 Water Supply Agreement between San Francisco and BAWSCA's member agencies. Each of your wholesale customers is basing its long-term water-supply planning on this commitment. BAWSCA supports the necessary investments to maintain the Regional Water System's delivery reliability and ensure that the level of service goals is achieved.

You have received letters from Mayor Donna Rutherford of East Palo Alto, Mayor Sam Liccardo of San Jose, and Mayor Lisa Gillmor of Santa Clara about their requests.

The City of East Palo Alto needs an additional 1.5 million gallons per day (mgd) of normal year water supply to meet its planned growth. Mayor Rutherford says "The lack of water restricts our ability to be a leader in affordable housing and equitable economic growth."

The cities of San Jose and Santa Clara are asking to become permanent customers and have continuing access to water from your Regional Water System. San Jose wants to purchase up to 9.5 mgd. Santa Clara wants to purchase 5 mgd. In both cases, access to a guaranteed permanent supply is critical to meeting the water-supply needs of their residents and businesses.

East Palo Alto, San Jose and Santa Clara are long-standing customers of the SFPUC and have continued to pay their share of the cost of critical improvements to the Regional Water System. In 2008, as part of the PEIR, each of these cities made similar requests that were deferred by the SFPUC.

BAWSCA strongly supports these three requests and urges the Commission to direct the SFPUC staff to execute the engineering and environmental work to support effective decision making for these requests. And BAWSCA is prepared to work closely with the SFPUC on the WaterMAP on behalf of all the SFPUC wholesale customers.

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