



**SAN BERNARDINO
VALLEY** | A REGIONAL WATER
AGENCY SINCE 1954

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS WORKSHOP - POLICY/ADMINISTRATION
2:00 pm Thursday, March 7, 2024**

In Person:

380 East Vanderbilt Way
San Bernardino, CA 92408

Online via Zoom:

<https://sbvmwd.zoom.us/j/89386241472>

Meeting ID: 893 8624 1472

PASSCODE: 3802020

By Telephone:

Dial-in Info: (877) 853 5247 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 893 8624 1472

PASSCODE: 3802020

If you are unable to participate online or by telephone, you may also submit your comments and questions in writing for the District's consideration by sending them to comments@sbvmwd.com with the subject line "Public Comment Item #" (insert the agenda item number relevant to your comment) or "Public Comment Non-Agenda Item". Submit your written comments by **6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 6, 2024**. All public comments will be provided to the Board President and may be read into the record or compiled as part of the record.

IMPORTANT PRIVACY NOTE: Online participants **MUST** log in with a Zoom account. The Zoom app is a free download. Please keep in mind: (1) This is a public meeting; as such, the virtual meeting information is published on the World Wide Web and available to everyone. (2) Should you participate remotely via telephone, your telephone number will be your "identifier" during the meeting and available to all meeting participants; there is no way to protect your privacy if you elect to call in to the meeting.



SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
380 E. Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino, CA 92408

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' WORKSHOP - POLICY/ADMINISTRATION
2:00 PM Thursday, March 7, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

1) **INTRODUCTIONS**

2) **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Members of the public may address the Board regarding any item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board; however, no action may be taken on off-agenda items except as authorized by law. Each speaker is limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes.

3) **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS**

3.1 Inland Solar Challenge Update (20 min) - Page 2
[Staff Memo - Inland Solar Challenge Update](#)

3.2 Sonoran Institute - California Growing Water Smart Workshop (20 min) - Page 5
[Staff Memo - Sonoran Institute - California Growing Water Smart Workshop](#)

3.3 Progress Update on the Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan (CARP) Development (20 min) - Page 7
[Staff Memo - Progress Update on the Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan \(CARP\) Development](#)
[Pathway to Resilience](#)

4) **FUTURE BUSINESS**

5) **ADJOURNMENT**

DATE: March 7, 2024

TO: Board of Directors' - Policy/Administration

FROM: Shavonne Turner, Engagement and Water Conservation Program Manager
Kelly Malloy, Strategic Communications Manager

SUBJECT: Inland Solar Challenge Update

Staff Recommendation

Receive and file.

Summary

San Bernardino Valley has proudly sponsored the Inland Solar Challenge (ISC) since 2008. As part of the FY 2023-24 Budget process, the Board of Directors approved a significant increase in sponsorship funding while also requesting that the program consider expanding, involving more schools, incorporating career pathways in water, and enhancing program marketing efforts. Staff and ISC Planning Committee Members will provide an update on the progress of the program for the 2024 event.

Background

The first ISC took place in May 2008. Each year, students are required to build a solar-powered boat, complete multiple races, and prepare and present water-related reports. Through this event, students learn the importance of water conservation, water resources, and environmental resource conservation during the eight-month program.

Today, the ISC provides students with an educational experience that expands their knowledge through hands-on activities that promote innovation, problem-solving, creativity, and the exploration of career pathways. In the months preceding the event, students engage in the construction of boats and the preparation of two technical reports, culminating in a three-day period of racing sixteen-foot solar-powered boats and presenting a Public Service Announcement. This initiative offers students a practical application of their skills in a real-world context, while also opening their eyes to the diverse career opportunities available in the water industry.

The ISC program has successfully expanded outreach efforts, attracting more schools and securing increased sponsorship opportunities. This expansion reflects the growing support and recognition for the impact of the program. Through these combined efforts, new avenues have opened for students to explore career pathways in the water industry, further enhancing the impact and relevance of the program.

The 2024 event will take place on May 17-19 at Yucaipa regional park. This year, eleven high schools will be participating in the 2024 ISC including:

1. Banning High School
2. Cajon High School
3. Cathedral City High School
4. Colony High School
5. Colton High School
6. Desert Hot Springs High School
7. Desert Mirage High School
8. Redlands East Valley High School
9. Rialto High School
10. San Andreas High School
11. Yucaipa High School

The ISC is organized by a volunteer group of staff members from local water retail agencies. The team commits countless hours of time to communicating with local school representatives, maintaining the 501c3 status, and organizing the event. A key to the event success is the use of Yucaipa Regional Park as a local option for the boat races and a unique overnight camping field trip for students within a close proximity to the Planning Committee's service area. This venue lends itself to rapid operational support from Planning Committee Members, especially Yucaipa Valley Water District and East Valley Water District.

District Strategic Plan Application

The ISC aligns with the District's mission of *working collaboratively to provide a reliable and sustainable water supply to support the changing needs of our region's people and environment.* By sponsoring the ISC it helps the Agency achieve its goal to *Build trust by being a collaborative and resourceful partner through effective communication and engagement.*

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact related to this update. Sponsorship of the Inland Solar Challenge was approved in the FY 2023-24 Budget.

DATE: March 7, 2024

TO: Board of Directors' - Policy/Administration

FROM: Shavonne Turner, Engagement and Water Conservation Program Manager
Kelly Malloy, Strategic Communications Manager

SUBJECT: Sonoran Institute – California Growing Water Smart Workshop

Staff Recommendation

Consider authorizing the CEO/General Manager to execute a Sponsorship Agreement with Sonoran Institute for partnership on the 2024 California Growing Water Smart Workshop.

Summary

San Bernardino Valley strives to foster trust, collaboration, and innovation. With a similar goal in mind, the Sonoran Institute has set out on a mission to connect people and communities with the natural resources that nourish and sustain them. One element of their efforts brings together local elected officials, water resource managers, and land use planners to create water-smart communities and facilitate a new level of process integration between agencies and interorganizational departments. The Growing Water Smart workshop offers tools, strategies, and public engagement opportunities to achieve this goal.

San Bernardino Valley and the Sonoran Institute are seeking the opportunity to host a local workshop that would be available to agencies and community stakeholders within our service area.

Background

The Growing Water Smart workshop is a 2.5-day event designed to bring together communities to align water and land use planning. Participants gain insights into how climate trends impact water supply, explore strategies to meet water conservation and efficiency goals, and collaborate to develop regional water resilience action plans. The workshop would offer presentations, team-oriented working sessions, and networking opportunities. Upon completion of the workshop, teams would be eligible to apply for technical assistance grants of up to \$10,000 to implement

their action plans. In the past, technical assistance has supported land use code audits, stakeholder engagement, and strategic communication plans.

The workshop would be open to counties, municipalities, and water retailers served by the San Bernardino Valley. Teams typically consist of six to eight individuals representing diverse disciplines, including elected officials, land use planners, water utility representatives, and community stakeholders. Teams are selected based on their composition, commitment to addressing water sustainability, severity of local water conditions, and capacity to encourage dialogue among agencies overseeing land use planning and water resource management.

The total budget for the Growing Water Smart program amounts to approximately \$158,000, with San Bernardino Valley's budgeted contribution of \$35,000. Additionally, the technical assistance grant budget of \$61,440, to cover four grants, staff time, and indirect costs, if approved, would be allocated in next fiscal year's budget.

The City of Rialto participated in last year's workshop, and their involvement was a success and contributed to overall outcomes. Their positive impact highlighted the effectiveness and value of their engagement in the program. Additionally, interns from the Mayor's office in the City of Rialto also participated, further enhancing the city's representation and engagement in the workshop.

District Strategic Plan Application

The Growing Water Smart workshop aligns with the strategic goals of the San Bernardino Valley by promoting water conservation and resilience. By integrating water conservation and efficiency strategies into land use planning, the workshop supports the district's efforts to ensure sustainable water management practices. Additionally, promoting collaboration among local governments, water utilities, and other stakeholders demonstrates the district's commitment to partnership and community engagement.

Fiscal Impact

The FY 2023-24 budget includes partnering with Growing Water Smart for a local event with San Bernardino Valley contributing \$35,000. Additionally, the program is requesting consideration for next year's budget to include \$61,440, which would cover four grants to fund participation of four retail agencies within our service area, plus indirect costs associated with the workshop administration. Funds for these services in the amount of \$35,000 are available in the Water Conservation and Education, 6640 line item of the approved FY 2023-2024 General Fund Budget.

DATE: March 7, 2024

TO: Board of Directors' Workshop – Policy/Administration

FROM: Wen Huang, Assistant General Manager/Chief Operating Officer
Greg Woodside, Chief of Planning and Watershed Resilience
Adekunle Ojo, Manager of Water Resources

SUBJECT: Progress Update on the Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan (CARP) Development

Staff Recommendation

That the Board of Directors review and provide feedback on the Climate Adaptation and Resilience (CARP) Plan development process prior to the release of the Draft CARP next month.

Summary

One of the strategies within the San Bernardino Valley Strategic Plan is to achieve climate resilience through prioritized adaptation and mitigation. The development of the Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan started in late 2021 and provides a comprehensive planning framework for the District to identify and prioritize adaptation and mitigation measures to achieve climate resilience.

The Board of Directors established the Climate Resilience Committee comprised of Director Hayes and Director Longville to engage with staff and Rincon; the Committee has since met eight (8) times and will review the Draft CARP in April prior to a review by the Board in May.

The Draft CARP will include key sections namely:

- Note from the Board of Directors
- Message from the CEO/General Manager
- Executive Summary with clear overview of climate change, purpose of the Plan, and impact of climate risks on San Bernardino Valley
- Glossary of Key Terms
- Sections 1 through 5 addressing the District's roles and responsibilities, vulnerability to climate change, adaptation and resilience measures and actions, and phasing and implementation.

- Appendices documenting background information and process in detail, such as the public outreach process.

Background

On September 21, 2021, the San Bernardino Valley Board of Directors approved a professional services agreement with Rincon Consultants, Inc. for the development of a Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan; the consulting team included BluePoint Planning for stakeholder engagement and RAND for climate modeling. The first stage of the project included preparing a Communications Plan, conducting stakeholder interviews and listening sessions, and conducting a Vulnerability Assessment and a Greenhouse Gas Inventory & Forecast; this stage was largely completed by the summer of 2022. The next stage of developing climate adaptation and resilience strategies started in the fall of 2022 and the process has included several small group discussions with stakeholders, and two (2) virtual community workshops in addition to several department/staff sessions and meetings of the Climate Resilience Committee. The project is currently within the transitional area between the second and final stages, which will include Board hearing and adoption of the Plan as depicted below.



District Strategic Plan Application

This item is consistent with being a trusted partner and working collaboratively to provide a reliable, resilient, and sustainable water supply to the region’s people and environment. This item implements the strategy identified in the Strategic Plan to ‘Achieve climate resilience through prioritized adaptation and mitigation.’

Fiscal Impact

None

Attachment

Pathway to Resilience Infographic

Creating Resilient Water Utilities

CLIMATE RESILIENCE EVALUATION AND AWARENESS TOOL (CREAT)

Plan, Prepare, and Build Resilience to a Changing Climate

CREAT is a risk assessment tool that helps water and wastewater utilities assess their risks from current and future climate conditions. Assessing your risks is one part of becoming a more resilient water utility.



INCREASE AWARENESS



Understanding regional climate impacts increases awareness of your potential risks.



PROTECT INFRASTRUCTURE



Identifying consequences related to vulnerable assets helps to identify actions to protect your utility and business operations from a changing climate.



MAINTAIN SERVICE



Adaptation planning assists in implementing strategies that protect your utility and allow for uninterrupted service to people and businesses in your community.



INVEST WISELY



Risk assessment justifies anticipated costs for resilience-building actions and engages colleagues and partners to address climate related impacts.



BUILD RESILIENCE



Developing scenarios to address potential changes in water quality, water supply, and extreme weather events informs decision-making for water infrastructure financing.