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Subject: FW: SCVWD Comments: ABAG's Plan Bay Area 2040 preferred scenario

The Santa Clara Valley Water District (District) appreciates the opportunity to provide input on the Plan Bay Area 2040 Draft Implementation Actions that were presented to the ABAG Regional Planning Committee on September 6, 2016. The District provides wholesale water supply, groundwater management, flood protection, and stream stewardship services for Santa Clara County. Our current comments focus on the resilience discussion in the draft Implementation Actions.

We agree that growth needs to proceed in a safe and smart manner that increases our region's resilience to current and future hazards. One of the hazards, drought, is acknowledged in the resilience discussion, but is not addressed by implementation actions. We strongly encourage you to add implementation actions that address the following:

- Land use decisions play a critical role in managing future increases in water demands. By focusing growth in multi-unit housing, requiring that new development implement water use efficiency practices that reuse and retain water on-site (e.g., rainwater capture, graywater, etc.), and minimizing the need for landscape irrigation, land use agencies can reduce the need for large water supply infrastructure investments and their associated costs and impacts.
- Managing water demands improves the region's resiliency to drought. Not only will lower demands put less stress on the water supply system, water suppliers can bank their wetter year supplies for use during droughts and times of shortage.
- Climate change is anticipated to result in increased frequency and magnitude of drought. Water suppliers are planning for supply portfolios that will adapt to climate change. However, land use agencies can play a key role in improving our resilience to drought by promoting and requiring land use practices that minimize future water demands.

The District is participating in ABAG's Regional Planning Committee's Infrastructure Subcommittee discussions about water, as well as regional water agency efforts to plan for droughts and emergencies, and looks forward to ongoing discussions with ABAG on

improved coordination and cooperation between land use and water planning efforts.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Tracy Hemmeter, Senior Project Manager, at (408) 630-2647 or themmeter@valleywater.org.

Thank you



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