



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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' SPECIAL MEETING - RESOURCES/ENGINEERING
2:00 PM Tuesday, May 12, 2026

ZOOM INFORMATION

Online: <https://sbvmwd.zoom.us/j/88452499078>

Telephone: (877) 853-5247 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 884 5249 9078

PASSCODE: 3802026

If you are unable to participate online or by telephone, you may submit your comments and questions in writing for Board consideration by emailing 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 no later than 6 p.m. the day prior to the meeting. 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.

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 Informational Report on ACWA's Vision for Our Water Future Initiative (30 min.) - Page 15
[Staff Memo - ACWA Vision for Our Water Future Initiative](#)
[ACWA Vision Document](#)

ACWA Vision Fact Sheet

- 3.2 Consider Approval of Resolution No. 1201 Establishing the Appropriation Subject to Limit for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (30 min.) - Page 11
[Staff Memo - Consider Approval of Resolution 1201 Establishing the Appropriation Subject to Limit for Fiscal Year 2026-27](#)
[Resolution 1201 - Establishing the Appropriations Subject to Limit for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Appropriations Limit calculations for Fiscal Year 2026-2027](#)
- 3.3 Update on Hidden Valley Creek and Anza Creek Restoration Projects (30 min.) - Page 15
[Staff Memo - Update on Hidden Valley Creek and Anza Creek Restoration Projects](#)
[Project Location](#)

4) **FUTURE BUSINESS**

5) **ADJOURNMENT**



DATE: May 12, 2026

TO: Board of Directors' Special Meeting – Resources/Engineering

FROM: Heather Dyer, CEO/General Manager
Adekunle Ojo, Manager of Integrative Planning

SUBJECT: Informational Report on ACWA's Vision for Our Water Future Initiative

Recommendation

Provide direction to staff if the Board desires to formally support this document through adoption of resolution at a future meeting.

Background

The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) launched an initiative on April 20, 2026, to elevate water policy ahead of the 2027 gubernatorial transition and to ensure that water issues are central to upcoming state leadership campaigns. As early as fall-2025, ACWA recognized the need to start emphasizing water as a critical issue to potential gubernatorial candidates because they were mainly focused on affordability, economy, jobs, and housing. The input for the initiative came through many sources including a member survey on advocacy priorities, a roundtable discussion at the 2025 fall conference, regional member briefing sessions, region board meetings, and committee meetings. ACWA constituted a General Manager Working Group representing ACWA's 10 regions to integrate these various perspectives and craft a unified document. San Bernardino Valley and Eastern Municipal Water District represented Region 9 on the Working Group, which met from January to March to ensure that this policy document is launched ahead of this pivotal election cycle.

The Working Group avoided creating a long list of individual projects across the State; instead, a Draft Action Plan was prepared in addition to the Vision Document, which contains a wide range of projects and actions that the State and water agencies can implement to actualize the Vision. The Draft Action Plan represents a menu of options that can be recommended at the appropriate time after further refinement by an ACWA Committee (for example, Groundwater, Water Quality, Water Management, or Finance) and the Working Group before they are advanced for implementation.

On March 20, 2026, the ACWA Board of Directors unanimously adopted the “Vision for Our Water Future” as a policy framework that defines statewide water priorities and provides a unified approach to engaging California’s next Administration. Through this initiative, ACWA will be reaching out directly to the candidates and campaigns to elevate water as a top policy priority and campaign message. The goal is to ensure water is treated as a priority issue and recognized as the foundation for the state’s economy, quality of life, and environmental stewardship.

Through this work, ACWA is positioning itself as a trusted voice and essential partner to the future governor. The initiative will also amplify members’ voices and vision, ensuring the unified priorities of ACWA’s diverse membership are reflected in the next administration’s agenda. The initiative is complementary to ongoing efforts and projects that San Bernardino Valley has championed including Senate Bill 72 (The California Water Plan: Long-Term Supply Targets) and science-based decision-making such as Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations.

ACWA is encouraging members to promote the Vision Document in various ways including but not limited to adopting a resolution or proclamation in support and requesting other local boards and councils to do the same; sharing support for the Vision with local media, social media, and with local elected officials, legislators, candidates, and other community leaders using the Fact Sheet; and to submit case studies that exemplify the need for the priorities outlined in the Vision.

If it is the Board’s desire, staff will bring back a resolution or proclamation at a future meeting to formally support the initiative.

Fiscal Impact

There are no fiscal impacts related to approving this item.

Attachment

ACWA Vision Document

ACWA Vision Fact Sheet

VISION

FOR OUR WATER FUTURE



Setting the Vision

The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) represents approximately 470 public water agencies that collectively deliver approximately 90 percent of the water used by Californians — in their homes, on their farms, and for their businesses.

Water agencies are being proactive and are on the front lines of the state’s most pressing challenges — from droughts, floods, and wildfires to aging infrastructure and the need for more housing. Meaningful progress requires state partnership with local water suppliers to achieve common goals. Bold leadership from the governor is critical to setting a unified direction, accelerating action, and delivering results to prepare California for the future. Action is needed now.

Why Water Matters

Water is the foundation upon which California is built. This State is the world’s fourth-largest economy, the nation’s breadbasket, a global technology leader, and home to extraordinary ecosystems. None of it functions without water.

Water is not a single-sector issue. It is the backbone every other sector depends on. It determines where homes can be built, whether farms can produce, how businesses operate and grow, and whether species can survive a changing climate. A safe, reliable, and affordable water supply is one of the most important investments California can make.

ACTION IS NEEDED NOW



**Lead
on Water**



**Protect
Affordability**



**Deliver Critical
Infrastructure**



**Modernize Water
Management**

California Thrives With Water

- › **Housing:** California must plan for 2.5 million new homes in the next decade. Every unit requires a reliable water supply.
- › **Agriculture:** California agriculture is 12% of the state's economy, contributing \$60 billion; employing over 400,000 people; and producing more than half of the nation's fruits, nuts, and vegetables. Both surface and groundwater are fundamental to California's agriculture sector.
- › **Economy:** California's \$4 trillion economy spans technology, innovation, manufacturing, trade, and tourism. Every dollar of it depends on a reliable water supply.
- › **Environment:** California's extraordinary ecosystems — its rivers, wetlands, and floodplains — depend on the same water system managed by local water suppliers. A thriving California requires managing water to sustain both communities and ecosystems.
- › **Public Health:** Water suppliers are California's first line of public health defense, delivering safe, clean drinking water to every community in the state.
- › **Climate Resilience:** Climate whiplash — the swing between extreme droughts and extreme floods — is increasing, snowpack is diminishing, and wildfires are growing more severe. Water suppliers are modernizing, but they cannot do it alone.

Building A Modern System

Securing California's water future requires more than incremental fixes. It demands a fundamental shift in how the State leads, invests, and operates. The Vision for Our Water Future provides an essential framework for ensuring a resilient and reliable water system.

Funded, built, and managed for extreme conditions, our modern water system is resilient, coordinated, and flexible — meeting the needs of California's communities, economy, and environment.

- › **Anchored by Backbone Infrastructure:** The State Water Project and Central Valley Project form the foundation of the statewide water system. These assets capture and manage California's highly variable hydrology and move water where and when it is needed.
- › **Strengthened by Regional Resiliency:** Regional and watershed-based partnerships strengthen local water reliability under changing hydrologic conditions and during emergencies through coordinated planning, interconnected infrastructure, diversified supplies, and shared responsibility.
- › **Delivered Locally:** Water is delivered by local suppliers, even when conveyed through or interconnected with statewide or regional systems. Local agencies set rates and policies — ratepayers fund approximately 85% of California's water system costs — while navigating structural constraints from Proposition 218, regulatory mandates, and permitting complexity.

Key Elements of A Modern Water System

- › Designed and upgraded for the future
- › Flexible and responsive to changing climate conditions
- › Supported by aligned state permitting, regulatory, and investment frameworks
- › Informed by technology, data, and science
- › Grounded in long-term affordability

A modern water system must be resilient, coordinated, and flexible to meet California's evolving needs.



LEAD ON WATER

Recognize water as an essential resource and the infrastructure that underpins California's economy, housing growth, food production, environmental health, and community resilience. Sustained executive leadership is needed to improve water supply reliability, accelerate climate resilience, and ensure coordinated action across state government.

- › **Set a Bold Water Agenda (First 100 Days):** Establish a focused statewide water agenda aligned with this Vision for Our Water Future.

- › **Appoint Leaders to Deliver Results:** Appoint and empower leaders to deliver measurable outcomes.
- › **Unify State Agencies:** Direct state agencies to align under unified statewide water priorities and jointly advance implementation in partnership with local, regional, and federal water managers. Designate a cabinet-level water policy executive, reporting directly to the Governor, to align agencies and organize state resources to implement California's water priorities.



PROTECT AFFORDABILITY

Ensure safe and reliable water remains affordable by strengthening sustained state investment and funding partnerships with local, regional, and federal agencies to address rising infrastructure, climate, and regulatory costs. California's ratepayers fund more than 85% of the system. Without predictable investment, these costs will increasingly fall on households, businesses, and farmers.

- › **Secure Sustainable Water Funding:** Create a reliable sustainable state funding source for water infrastructure that provides predictable, long-term investment. This funding should support critical water infrastructure projects, environmental needs, and California's Human Right to Water while leveraging federal, regional, and local investment.

- › **Accelerate Funding:** Improve funding programs and coordination so investments reach projects faster — reducing administrative delays, lowering project costs, and accelerating infrastructure delivery.
- › **Integrate Investments Across Sectors:** Align state investments and integrate water infrastructure funding across energy, housing, and climate and hazard mitigation to advance multi-benefit projects and maximize federal, state, and regional investment.



3

DELIVER CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Future-proof California’s critical water infrastructure to ensure reliable supplies in the face of climate change, growing economic and community demands, and escalating emergency risks. This requires strengthening the statewide water system, including both built and natural infrastructure, while advancing regional resilience to maximize systemwide reliability.

- › **Strengthen the State’s Water Backbone:** Upgrade, repair, and optimize California’s essential backbone infrastructure — the California State Water Project and Central Valley Project.
 - ◆ **Modernize and Protect Infrastructure:** Advance a durable Delta conveyance solution, strengthen Delta levees, safeguard critical infrastructure from subsidence and seismic risk, and upgrade system technologies — including Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations, snowpack measurement, and remote monitoring control.

- ◆ **Improve Coordinated Operations:** Integrate operations of the California State Water Project and Central Valley Project to increase system flexibility, expand the storage and movement of water, and enhance water supply reliability.
- › **Safeguard Colorado River Water Supplies:** Protect California’s Colorado River allocation, consistent with the State’s legal entitlements and the efforts of the Colorado River Board of California.
- › **Empower Regional Water Solutions:** Champion regional and watershed-based solutions. State policy should empower regions with the tools, flexibility, and investment needed to advance regional planning, partnerships, and projects that diversify water supplies, strengthen system connectivity and operational efficiency, and restore ecosystem functions to ensure reliable water supplies.

4

MODERNIZE WATER MANAGEMENT

Improve California’s regulatory and operational systems so water projects can move forward reliably and efficiently, infrastructure can be operated more flexibly, and agencies can respond more rapidly to changing conditions. California’s regulatory framework should deliver clear, coordinated decisions grounded in the best available science, while maintaining environmental protections, public transparency, and California’s existing water rights priority system.

- › **Improve Permitting Performance:** Enhance the clarity, coordination, and efficiency of state permitting processes to accelerate infrastructure and operational improvements; eliminate avoidable costs; and ensure state and local agencies deliver timely, accountable results.
 - ◆ **Integrate Permit Requirements:** Integrate requirements and processes across regulatory agencies to eliminate redundancy and inconsistency.
 - ◆ **Enhance Regulatory Certainty:** Establish transparent procedures, clear criteria for permit approval, and accountable timelines for agency decisions — developed in direct partnership with water suppliers.

- ◆ **Streamline Pathways:** Create efficient pathways to advance multi-benefit, climate-resilient water supply projects.
- › **Modernize Water Operations:** Advance operational approaches that reflect changing climate realities to improve water supply reliability across environmental, agricultural, and urban sectors. This may include coordinated reservoir management, flexible diversion rules tied to real-time hydrology, accelerated groundwater recharge and conjunctive use, expanded water transfers, and other adaptive strategies.
- › **Strengthen Water Data and Science:** Invest in integrated, science-based statewide data systems and technology that improve transparency, inform real-time decisions, and strengthen regulatory and operational performance to increase efficiency and better manage water resources.

VISION
FOR OUR WATER FUTURE



Vision for Our Water Future is an initiative of the Association of California Water Agencies, representing approximately 470 public water agencies in California.

VISION

FOR OUR WATER FUTURE

CALIFORNIA THRIVES WITH WATER

Water is the foundation upon which California is built. As the world's fourth-largest economy, the nation's breadbasket, a global technology leader, and home to extraordinary ecosystems, the prosperity of the Golden State depends on safe, resilient, and affordable water supply — now and into the future.

WATER IS AN ESSENTIAL RESOURCE

Catastrophic wildfires, prolonged droughts, more intense storms, land subsidence, and aging infrastructure are reshaping California's risk landscape. Meeting these challenges demands that we acknowledge the seriousness of the threat, act with urgency and intention, and work together to advance our shared priorities.

IT STARTS WITH A VISION

The Association of California Water Agencies' (ACWA) Vision for Our Water Future seeks to elevate water as a top priority for California's next governor, legislative leadership, and state officials. It provides a clear, focused framework to secure a reliable, affordable, and modern water system that supports California's economy, communities, and environment.



BOLD LEADERSHIP IS NEEDED NOW

State and local water suppliers are on the front lines of California's water management to sustain communities, agricultural land and economy.

Water managers across the state are already pursuing local, practical and innovative solutions, but long term, meaningful progress requires a strong state partnership to achieve these shared goals. Bold leadership is needed to set a unified direction, accelerate action and deliver results that prepare California for an increasingly uncertain future.



VISION FOR OUR WATER FUTURE

Securing California’s water future requires more than incremental fixes — it demands a fundamental shift in how the state leads, invests, and operates. The Vision for Our Water Future provides an essential framework for our next administration to:

1. LEAD ON WATER

Recognize water as an essential resource and the infrastructure that underpins California’s economy, housing growth, food production, environmental health, and community resilience. Sustained executive leadership is needed to improve water supply reliability, accelerate climate resilience, and ensure coordinated action across state government.

2. PROTECT AFFORDABILITY

Ensure safe and reliable water remains affordable by strengthening sustained state investment and funding partnerships with local, regional, and federal agencies to address rising infrastructure, climate, and regulatory costs. California’s ratepayers fund more than 85 percent of the system. Without predictable investment, these costs will increasingly fall on households, businesses, and farmers.

3. DELIVER CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Future-proof California’s critical water infrastructure to ensure reliable supplies in the face of climate change, growing economic and community demands, and escalating emergency risks. This requires strengthening the statewide water system, including both built and natural infrastructure, while advancing regional resilience to maximize systemwide reliability.

4. MODERNIZE WATER MANAGEMENT

Improve California’s regulatory and operational systems so water projects can move forward reliability and efficiently, infrastructure can be operated more flexibly, and agencies can respond more rapidly to changing conditions. California’s regulatory framework should deliver clear, coordinated decisions grounded in the best available science, while maintaining environmental protections, public transparency, and California’s existing water rights priority system.

KEY ELEMENTS OF A MODERN WATER SYSTEM



Designed and upgraded for the future



Flexible and responsive to changing climate conditions



Supported by aligned state permitting, regulatory, & investment frameworks



Informed by technology, data, & science



Grounded in long-term affordability-term





DATE: May 12, 2026

TO: Board of Directors' Special Meeting – Resources/Engineering

FROM: Cindy Saks, CFO / Deputy General Manager
Matthew Olivo, Senior Accountant

SUBJECT: Consider Approval of Resolution No. 1201 Establishing the Appropriation Subject to Limit for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

Staff Recommendation

Consider approval of Resolution No. 1201 establishing the Appropriations Subject to the Limit for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Summary

San Bernardino Valley is required annually to calculate the appropriation limit as required by Article XIII B of the California Constitution and Section 7910 of the Government Code.

Background

The appropriation limit sets the amount of property taxes San Bernardino Valley can expend. The law does exempt certain types of expenditures from the appropriation limit which include outlay for capital projects and facilities and debt service on voter approved bonds used to finance San Bernardino Valley's State Water Contract.

In November 1979 the voters of the State of California approved Proposition 4, commonly known as the Gann Initiative. The Proposition placed limits on the amount of revenue, which can be spent by all entities of government. These limits are based on the amount of appropriations in the 1978-79 "base" year. In June of 1990 voters approved Proposition 111. Proposition 111 provides new adjustment formulas which make the Appropriations Limit more responsive to local growth issues.

The factors used to adjust and calculate the limit are the percentages of change in population in San Bernardino and the per capita personal income as calculated by the California Department of Finance.

As shown in the calculations on following pages, San Bernardino Valley's appropriation limit for fiscal year 2026-2027 is \$43,372,683. The calculations are being reviewed by San Bernardino Valley's auditors. The amount of General Fund property tax revenue budgeted and spent by San Bernardino Valley each fiscal year is less than \$17 million dollars. This total is well below the appropriation limit.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact to San Bernardino Valley for setting the Appropriations Limit.

Attachments

1. Resolution No. 1201 Establishing the Appropriation Subject to Limit for Fiscal Year 2026-2027
2. Appropriations Limit calculations for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

RESOLUTION NO. 1201

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER
DISTRICT ESTABLISHING THE APPROPRIATIONS
SUBJECT TO LIMIT FOR FISCAL YEARS 2026-2027**

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that, in accordance with Article XIII B of the California State Constitution, the Board of Directors of the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District hereby establishes \$43,372,683 as the appropriations subject to limit for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

ADOPTED this 12th day of May 2026.

San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water
District

By: _____
T. Milford Harrison
President

ATTEST:

Heather Dyer
Secretary



**SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
 APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT
 2026 ~ 2027 FISCAL YEAR**

2025 - 2026 APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT			41,516,879
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Ratio</u>	
2026 - 2027 ADJUSTMENT FOR PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN:			
CALIFORNIA PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME - PER CAL DEPT OF FINANCE	4.95	1.0495	
POPULATION PERCENT CHANGE 2025 TO 2026	-0.46	0.9954	
PERCENT CHANGE AS A FACTOR			104.47%
2026 - 2027 APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT			<u><u>43,372,683</u></u>



DATE: May 12, 2026

TO: Board of Directors' Special Meeting – Resources/Engineering Workshop

FROM: Kai Palenscar, Environmental Compliance and Permitting Program Manager
Aaron Jones, Senior Engineer

SUBJECT: Update on Hidden Valley Creek and Anza Creek Restoration Projects

Staff Recommendation

Receive and file.

Background

On October 21, 2025, the Board of Directors authorized construction bid award to J/K Excavation and Grading Co., Inc., for the Hidden Valley Creek and Anza Creek Restoration Projects. The restoration of Anza Creek and Hidden Valley Creek (Location, Attachment 1) are two of the mitigation measure projects included in the Upper Santa Ana River Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Conservation Strategy and are intended to offset impacts to Santa Ana sucker and other aquatic and semi-aquatic species resulting from the many water supply projects proposed throughout the watershed. San Bernardino Valley has been awarded approximately \$9 million from three grants to complete the work (SARCCUP and two Bureau of Reclamation grants).

The Board of Directors has been presented with the Upper Santa Ana River Habitat Conservation Plan starting in 2014, with contracts awarded for the preparation of the HCP and subsequent plans to enhance land and waterways for habitat restoration and mitigation purposes. The HCP is currently under final review by the USFWS legal counsel (U.S. Solicitor), and the permit is expected to be issued to San Bernardino Valley and our co-permittee partner agencies. The permit(s) will provide environmental compliance coverage for the construction, operations, and maintenance of approximately 100 water supply-related projects over the 50-year term of the permit. Several projects have been constructed in advance of the Section 10 HCP permit issuance (under separate Biological Opinions but tied to the HCP Conservation Strategy), such as the Sterling Natural Resource Center and the Enhanced Recharge Project (ERP). The proposed water projects will cumulatively have significant impacts on the amount and quality of aquatic habitat within the Santa Ana River, specifically a loss of suitable native fish habitat within the mainstem River. This loss is

mainly due to a decrease in wastewater effluent baseflow resulting from recycled water projects and a reduction of gravel/cobble substrate moving into the Santa Ana sucker-occupied portion of the River because of stormflow capture from our ERP/Active Recharge/PERC projects (gravel/cobble is key for native fish foraging and reproduction).

To offset these and other impacts, the HCP provides conservation or mitigation measures that replace lost habitat ecological values. For native fishes, the loss of ecological value in the mainstem River will be offset by restoring off-stream channels (tributaries) to provide wetted habitat, coarse substrate, and safe refuge from high flow events. As with all environmental compliance strategies, the goal is to provide enough benefit to the species through the implementation of mitigation measures to adequately offset the loss or impact to the species from certain projects. The Hidden Valley Creek and Anza Creek Restoration Projects will provide replaced habitat ecological values for native fishes.

During the meeting staff will provide an update on construction progress at Hidden Valley Creek and Anza Creek. Both projects are ahead of schedule with completion of construction and demobilization anticipated prior to May 31, 2026.

District Strategic Plan Application

The Projects will contribute to mitigation requirements necessary to offset impacts associated with current and future water supply reliability projects proposed in Incidental Take Permit (ITP) applications that will facilitate the capture and recharge of approximately 87,000 AFY of local water in compliance with federal and state Endangered Species Acts. Existing and forthcoming projects relying on the Hidden Valley Creek and Anza Creek Tributary Restoration Projects include:

Existing permits:

Sterling Natural Resources Center (EVWD project)
Tertiary Treatment System Recycled Water Project (SBMWD project)
Enhanced Recharge Phase 1B

Forthcoming permits:

IEUA Recycled Water Project
City of Rialto Recycled Water Project
City of Riverside Recycled Water Project
PERC/Active Recharge (9 projects)
IEUA stormwater capture (12 projects)
IEUA dry weather capture (6 projects)

Additionally, grant monies applied to these Projects will support San Bernardino Valley's mission to provide a reliable and sustainable water supply, meeting the changing needs of our region's people and environment, and achieving the priority of cost-effective projects by maximizing benefits from ratepayer investments.

Fiscal Impact

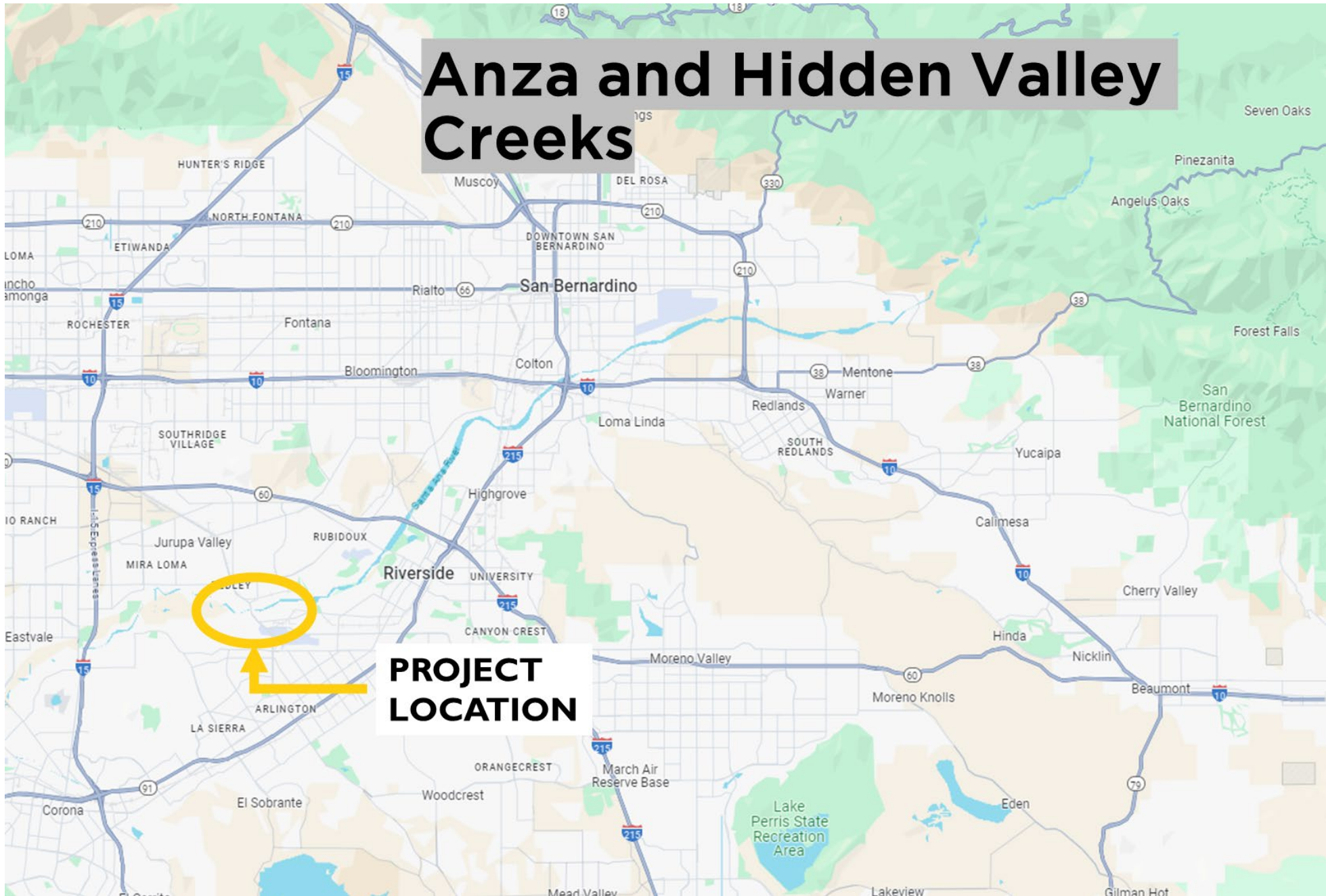
Informational update.

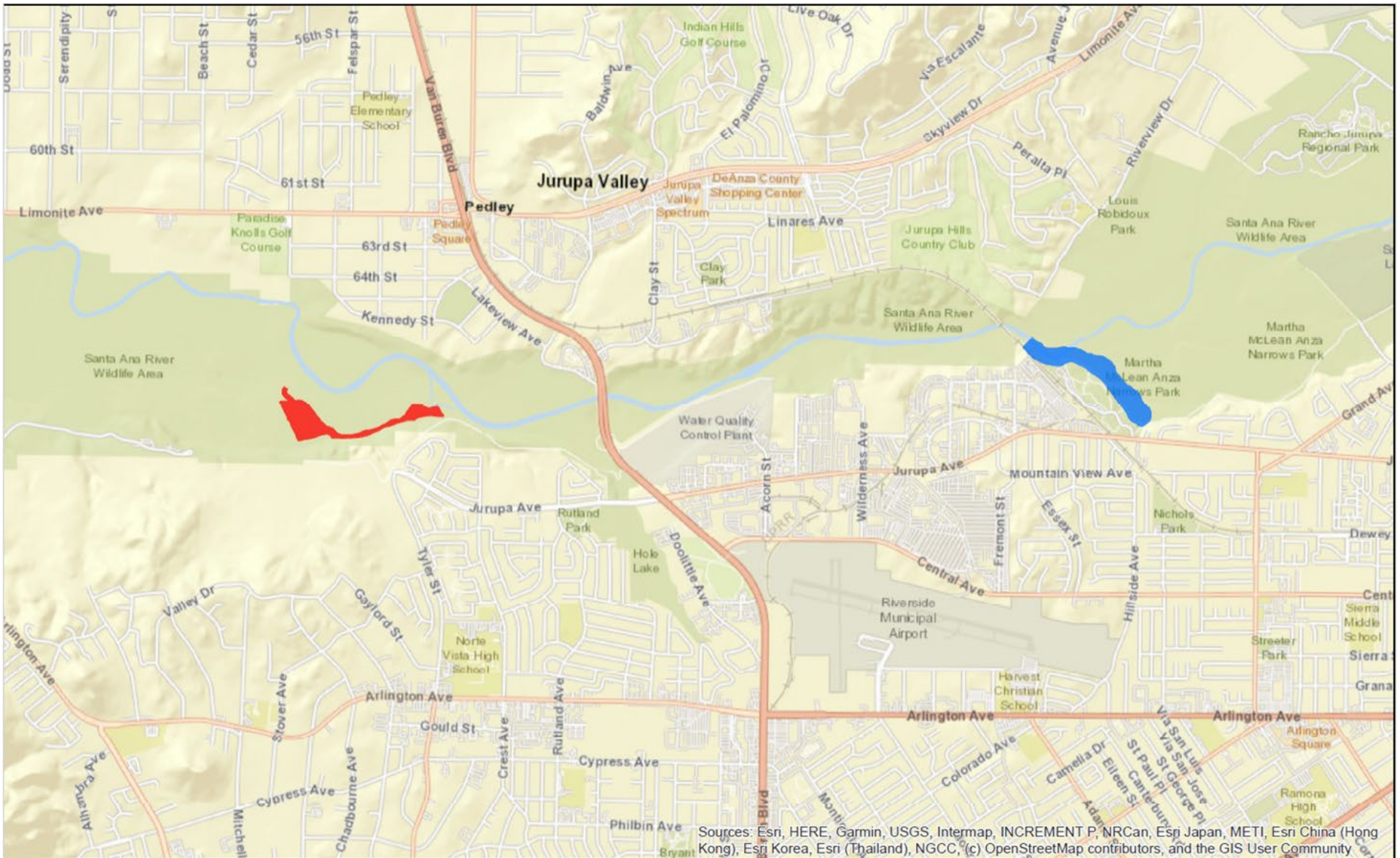
Attachments

1. Project Location

Anza and Hidden Valley Creeks

PROJECT LOCATION





Anza Creek and Hidden Valley Creek Tributary Restoration Projects

