SUBJECT: Mayoral Appointment to the Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD or District) Recycled Water Joint Committee

BACKGROUND
On June 4, 2012, the Chair of the District Board sent a letter (Attachment A) to Mayor Anthony Spitaleri expressing interest in establishing a collaborative process to discuss policy issues and work closely with the City of Sunnyvale to advance common interests.

On September 5, 2012, the City Manager met with the District’s CEO, Beau Goldie. Both agencies recommended forming a Joint Committee comprised of two council members and two District Board members.

EXISTING POLICY
Policy EM-1.2: Maximize recycled water use for all approved purposes both within and in areas adjacent to the City, where feasible.

Policy EM-7.4: Produce quality recycled water and seek to maximize the use of this resource.

DISCUSSION
The Joint Committee will develop a long term proposal of how Sunnyvale and the District can work together on recycled water opportunities. Other key issues that the Committee will address and discuss:

- Future water needs in the county;
- potential to further expand the use of recycled water;
- institutional structure and financing mechanism;
- governance structures including roles and responsibilities;
- quantity and quality of recycled water;
- rates and charges; and
- operation and maintenance.
FISCAL IMPACT
There is no fiscal impact associated with the formation of the Recycled Water Joint Committee.

PUBLIC CONTACT
Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City's official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall, at the Sunnyvale Senior Center, Community Center and Department of Public Safety; and by making the agenda and report available at the Sunnyvale Public Library, the Office of the City Clerk and on the City's Web site.

ALTERNATIVES
1. Authorize the Mayor to appoint two council members to the Recycled Water Joint Committee.
2. Do not appoint council members to the Joint Committee.

RECOMMENDATION
Staff recommends Alternative 1: Authorize the Mayor to appoint two council members to the Recycled Water Joint Committee. This committee will discuss recycled water partnership opportunities between the City and District as well as other regional partnerships that will benefit the City.

Reviewed by:

John Stufflebean, Director, Environmental Services
Prepared by: Mansour Nasser, Water & Sewer Systems Division Manager

Approved by:

Gary M. Luebbers
City Manager

ATTACHMENT: District letter to Mayor Anthony Spitaleri
June 4, 2012

The Honorable Anthony Spitaleri
Mayor of the City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
P.O. Box 3707
Sunnyvale, CA 94088-3707

Dear Mayor Spitaleri:

Recently, the City of Sunnyvale’s (City) Council voted to support development of a Sunnyvale Recycled Water Master Plan. The Santa Clara Valley Water District (District) shares the City’s interest in the expansion of recycled water as an important component of supply in meeting Santa Clara County’s future water needs. We would welcome the opportunity to work more closely with the City to advance our common interests, and would like to suggest that the City and District establish a collaborative process to facilitate policy discussion and sharing of technical information on recycled water issues.

As background, the District’s Board of Directors has set a goal of meeting 10 percent of the County’s water demands with recycled water by the year 2025. The Board also established a Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee to provide greater focus and support for achieving this goal. Currently, the District is working with the Cities of San José and Santa Clara to develop the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center, and we are completing a feasibility study on potential expansion of recycled water through indirect potable reuse. Discussions with City of Sunnyvale staff in the last several months have highlighted some concepts that our District would like to explore further.

For follow up, please request that Mr. Gary Luebbers, City Manager, contact Mr. Beau Goldie, Chief Executive Officer at (408) 265-2600, to discuss the City’s interest in establishing a collaborative process and work out next steps we might take to move forward.

Sincerely,

Linda J. LeZotte
Chair/Board of Directors

cc: Gary Luebbers, City Manager, City of Sunnyvale
John Stufflebean, Director of Utilities, City of Sunnyvale
Board of Directors (7), B. Goldie, M. King, J. Fiedler

The mission of the Santa Clara Valley Water District is a healthy, safe and enhanced quality of living in Santa Clara County through watershed stewardship and comprehensive management of water resources in a practical, cost-effective and environmentally sensitive manner.