

2024 El Camino Real Specific Plan Water Supply Assessment

City of Santa Clara Water and Sewer Utilities

July 18, 2024

**for Compliance with California Water Code Section 10910
Approved by City Council
Resolution # TBD**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	INTRODUCTION	2
2.	WATER DEMAND	3
3.	WATER SUPPLIES	5
3.1	Water Sources	5
3.2	Groundwater	7
3.3	Recycled Water.....	12
4.	WATER SUPPLY PROJECTIONS	14
4.1	Supply Volumes	14
4.2	Projected Water Supply	15
4.3	Water Supply Reliability	16
5.	PROPOSED PROJECT WATER DEMANDS	22
5.1	Water Demand to be Met by Recycled Water	22
5.2	Summary of Existing and Estimated Water Demands.....	22
5.3	Projected Water Demand for Other Proposed Projects	23
6.	CONCLUSION	24
	APPENDIX A	26

1. INTRODUCTION

Senate Bill 610 (2001) codified at Water Code Section 10910 et seq, requires detailed information on water supply availability for certain projects that meet or exceed the following criteria:

- A residential development of more than 500 dwelling units
- A proposed shopping center or business establishment employing more than 1,000 persons or having more than 500,000 square feet of floor space.
- A proposed commercial office building employing more than 1,000 persons or having more than 250,000 square feet of floor space.
- A proposed hotel or motel, or both, having more than 500 rooms.
- A proposed industrial, manufacturing, or processing plant, or industrial park planned to house more than 1,000 persons, occupying more than 40 acres of land, or having more than 650,000 square feet of floor area.
- A mixed-use project that includes one or more of the projects specified in this subdivision.
- A project that would demand an amount of water equivalent to, or greater than, the amount of water required by a 500 dwelling-unit project.

El Camino Real Specific Plan ("Specific Plan"), a project located in the City of Santa Clara ("City") is subject to a Water Supply Assessment ("WSA" or "Assessment") in accordance with the California Water Code and the California Environmental Quality Act. The proposed Specific Plan will demolish existing commercial buildings to redevelop a 3.2 mile corridor along El Camino Real between western city boundary and Pratt Place. The Specific Plan proposes construction of 4,392 residential units, 524,467 sq ft of retail space, and 162,891 sq ft of irrigable landscape. The proposed construction and demolition is further categorized into the following planning horizons:

The City of Santa Clara's City Council approved and adopted a 2020 Urban Water Management Plan in 2021 ("UWMP" or "2020 UWMP"). The Specific Plan was previously proposed and evaluated under the 2015 Urban Water Management Plan but was not adopted. New projections were provided in 2024 and will be evaluated under the 2020 UWMP. The 2020 UWMP included projected increases in water demand due to densification and intensification of both residential and non-residential land uses. Projected uses within the proposed development are described in further detail in the Projected Water Demand for the Proposed Specific Plan section.

This Assessment relies on the data contained in and used to develop the 2020 UWMP to analyze the availability of the City's water supply to serve the Specific Plan along with existing and planned future uses. Unless noted, all figures in this Assessment are in acre-feet (AF) and are for total water demand or supply, i.e. both potable and recycled water.

The findings of this Assessment will be submitted to the City Council for approval and included in the environmental review process. The City's approval, denial, conditional approval or any act on this Assessment does not guarantee that the Specific Plan will be approved and does not obligate the City to approve, deny, conditionally approve, take any action, or make any decision on the Specific Plan application.

2. WATER DEMAND

The Demand Study projections were developed using the Demand Side Management Least Cost Planning Decision Support System model (DSS Model) developed by Maddaus Water Management for long-term projections. The DSS Model (also "end use" model type) projected long-term demand based on expected service area growth for population and employment. The model also considers conservation measures using benefit-cost analysis and benefit-to-cost ratio as economic indicators. Demands were also projected based on savings from the plumbing code and active conservation programs. Another model used in the study was the Econometric Model, which was used to develop future rebound water demands associated with short term effects. The Econometric Model projects future demands based on historical post-drought recovery demands considering factors such as economy, rate increases, conservation activity and weather.

The basic methodology of the DSS Model required forecasting demands based on customer billing data categorized by user type. The model was calibrated by comparing water use data with available demographic data to characterize water usage for each user type in terms of number of users per account and per capita water use.¹ In order to calibrate the volume of water allocated to specific end uses in each customer category, published data on average per capita indoor water use and average per capita end uses were combined with the number of water users. After calibration was completed, the projected population and employment projections were incorporated. The population and employment projection data in models utilized 2019 ABAG data provided by the City's Community Development Department. The 2020 UWMP demand projections are inclusive of passive water conservation savings.

The resulting projected water demand by category is shown in **Table 2-1** and only includes potable water demands.

¹ Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Regional Water Demand and Conservation Projections, June 2020

Table 2-1 Retail: Demands for Potable Water - Projected						
Use Type	Additional Description	Projected Water Use Report to the Extent that Records are Available				
		2025	2030	2035	2040	2045 (opt)
Single Family		4,683	4,893	5,076	5,206	5,336
Multi-Family		4,458	4,659	4,833	4,957	5,080
Commercial		6,184	6,461	6,704	6,875	7,046
Industrial		1,748	1,826	1,895	1,943	1,991
Institutional/Governmental	Institutional	672	702	729	747	766
Institutional/Governmental	Municipal	560	585	607	623	638
Losses	6.0% Losses (5-yr average)	1,168	1,221	1,267	1,299	1,331
TOTAL		19,473	20,348	21,111	21,649	22,189
NOTES: Total sum may not be exact due to rounding. Units of volume in AF.						

Table 2-2 shows total water demands including both potable and recycled water. Recycled water demands were estimated based on anticipated growth in recycled water use due to new development (landscape irrigation, data centers, dual plumbing), including proposed infrastructure upgrades to supply new developments, and historical demand.

Table 2-2 Retail: Total Gross Water Demands (Potable and Non-Potable)						
	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045 (opt)
Potable Water Demand From Table 2-1	18,302	19,473	20,348	21,111	21,649	22,189
Recycled Water Demand	3,499	4,570	5,489	6,586	7,908	9,488
TOTAL WATER DEMAND	21,801	24,043	25,836	27,697	29,557	31,676
NOTES: Units of volume in AF.						

Table 3 calculates projected changes in water demand during each 5-year planning horizon through 2045. The Project's proposed water demand will be analyzed against this table to determine whether demands fall within growth projections in the 2020 UWMP.

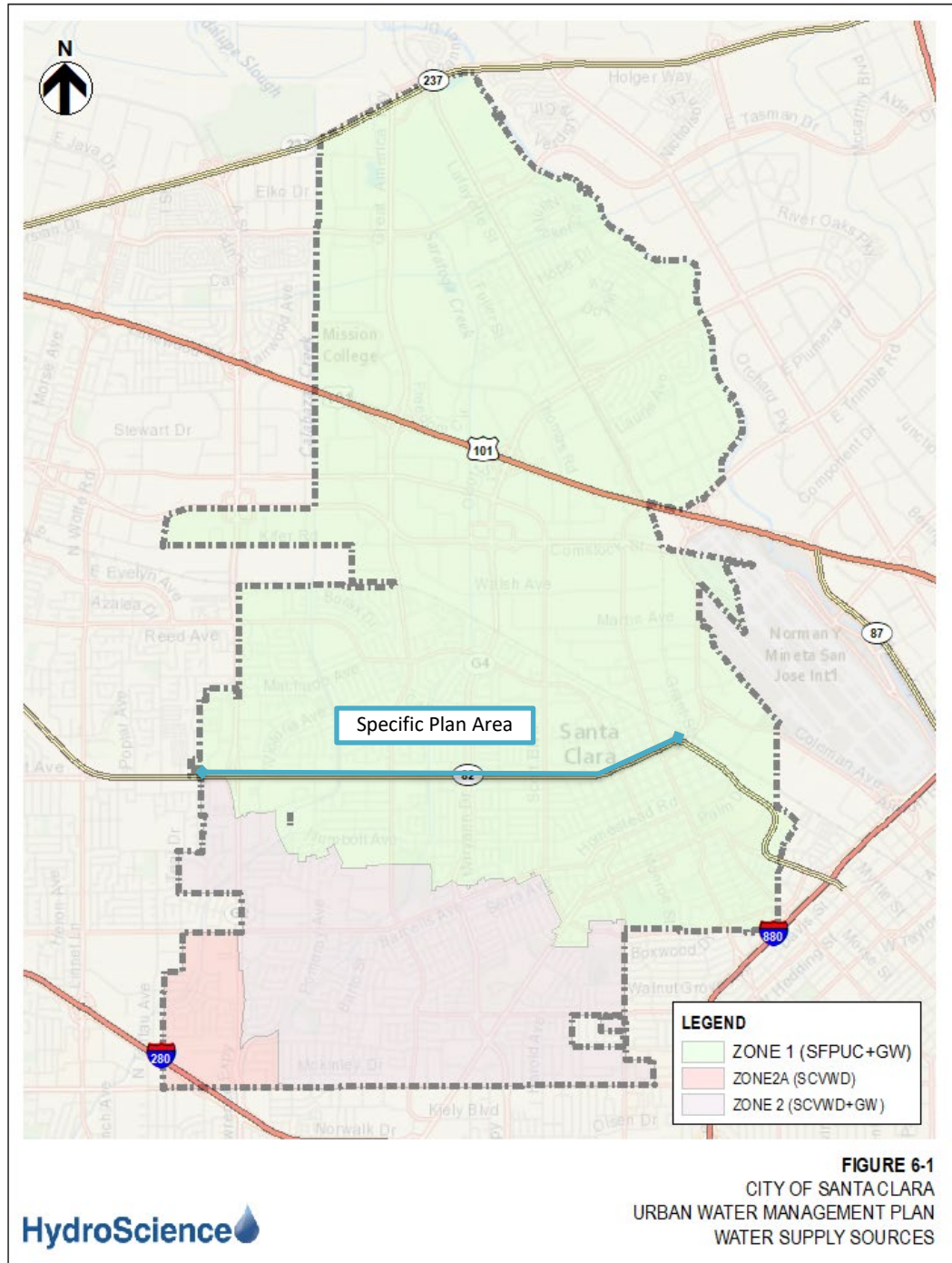
Table 3 – Projected Changes in Water Demands (AF) – 2020 UWMP					
	2021-2025	2026-2030	2031-2035	2036-2040	2041-2045
Single Family	225	210	183	130	130
Multi-Family	-264	201	174	124	123
Commercial	877	277	243	171	171
Industrial	138	78	69	48	48
Institutional	110	30	27	18	19
Municipal	215	25	22	16	15
Recycled	1,071	919	1,097	1,322	1,580
Losses	-131	53	46	32	32
Total	2,241	1,793	1,861	1,861	2,118

3. WATER SUPPLIES

3.1 Water Sources

The City relies on four water supply sources; surface water from San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), treated surface water from Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water or SCVWD), groundwater (GW), and recycled water. Surface water from the two wholesalers, SFPUC and Valley Water, provides less than half of the City's water supply, averaging about 40% since 2015. City owned and operated-wells provide approximately 60%. Since a portion of the City's water supply is reliant on SFPUC and Valley Water, the City is directly affected by the water supply conditions faced by each wholesaler. Additionally, the City water system is separated into three interconnected zones (Zone 1, 2 and 2A) in order to provide optimum pressures throughout the City. The zones and water source by area are shown in **Figure 3-1** on the next page.

Figure 3-1: Pressure Zones and Water Source by Area

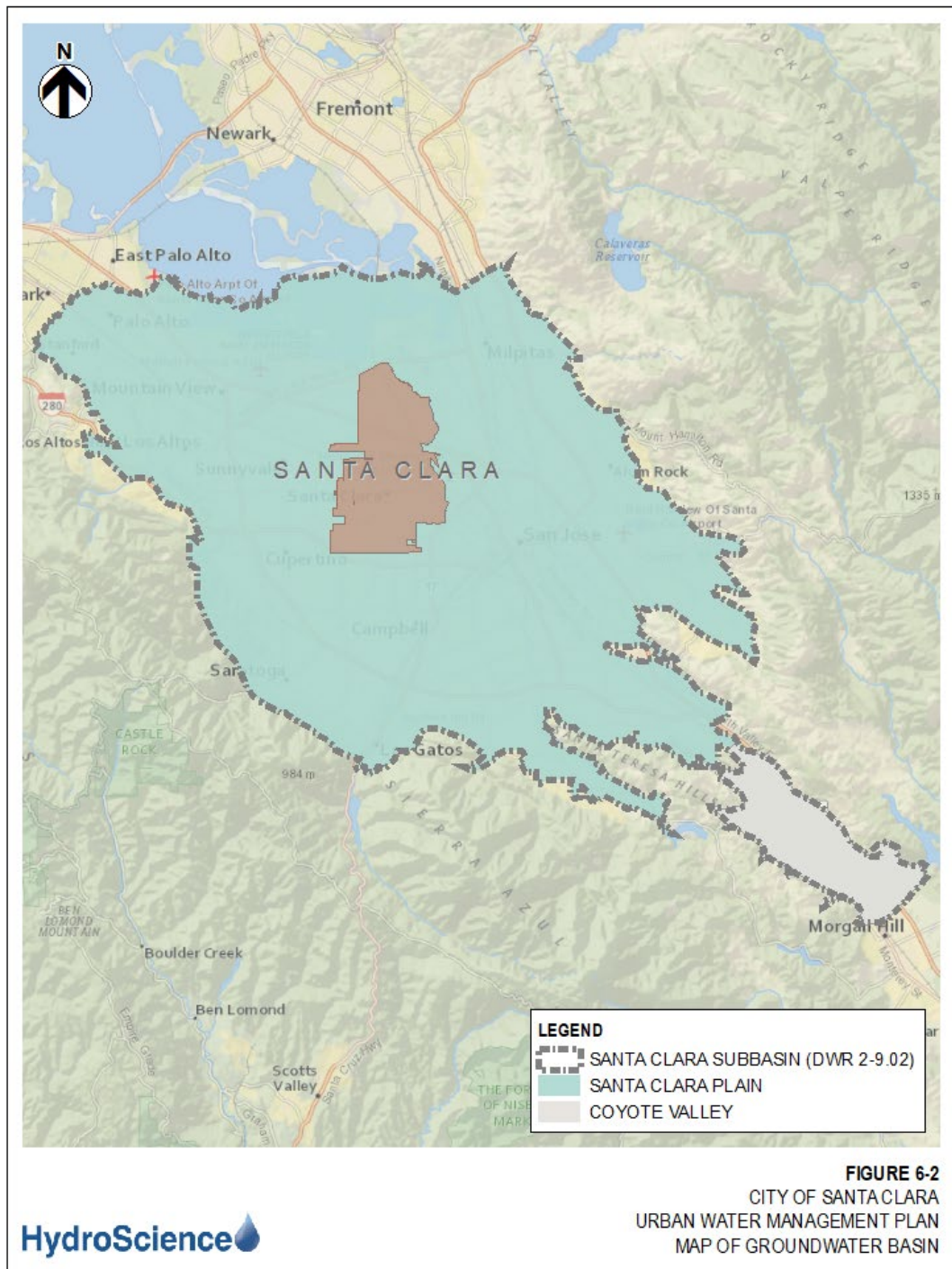


3.2 Groundwater

The City's source of groundwater is supplied by the Santa Clara subbasin (DWR Basin 2-9.02²). The Santa Clara subbasin is part of the Santa Clara Valley Basin which is divided into four subbasins, including the Santa Clara subbasin. The Santa Clara subbasin extends from the Coyote Narrows near Metcalf Road to the southern San Francisco Bay as the northern boundary. It is bounded on the west by the Santa Cruz Mountains and on the east by the Diablo Range. The two mountain ranges converge at the Coyote Narrows to form the southern limit of the subbasin. The Santa Clara subbasin covers a surface area of 189,581 acres. The subbasin is further divided into two groundwater management areas based on differences in hydrogeology, land use and water supply management: Santa Clara Plain and Coyote Valley with the City overlaying the Santa Clara Plain (**Figure 3-2**).

² https://water.ca.gov/-/media/DWR-Website/Web-Pages/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Bulletin-118/Files/2003-Basin-Descriptions/2_009_02_SantaClaraSubbasin.pdf

Figure 3-2: Map of Santa Clara Plain Groundwater Basin



The Santa Clara subbasin is designated as a high-priority subbasin. Basin prioritization was previously based on the 2015 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Basin Prioritization program, which included overlying population, projected growth, number of public wells, number of total wells, irrigation acreage, groundwater reliance, and documented groundwater impacts as criteria for basin priority designation. The current version, updated in 2019, includes the addition and emphasis of “adverse impacts on local habitat and local streamflows” as a specific component for the designation of basin priority.³ This component only adds a maximum of two points toward the total points used to designate subbasin priority. With a total of 24.5 points, the Santa Clara subbasin falls above the minimum threshold of 21 points for high-priority designation.

Valley Water manages the groundwater supply in Santa Clara County and works with various water retailers in the area to prevent subsidence and overdraft of the basin to ensure reliable water supplies. The Santa Clara Valley Basin is not adjudicated or currently listed as overdrafted.⁴ This can be attributed to Valley Water’s network of imported surface water supplies, groundwater recharge system, water supply long-term planning, and aggressive conservation efforts through community outreach and rebate programs. The Santa Clara Valley Basin is shown in **Figure 6-3** and is the largest of three interconnected groundwater basins occupying approximately 246,000 acres of the 835,000 acres of Santa Clara County.

Development and agricultural needs in the 1920s increased the water demand within the Santa Clara Valley. This increased extraction of groundwater led to subsidence in several of the aquifers. The Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation District (currently Santa Clara Valley Water District and referred to as Valley Water) was originally formed in 1929 to alleviate land surface subsidence and stop groundwater overdraft. The rapid development of Santa Clara County occurred again in the 1960s and the corresponding increased demand on the water supply again resulted in groundwater level decline, land subsidence and observed saltwater intrusion of shallow aquifers adjacent to San Francisco Bay.⁵

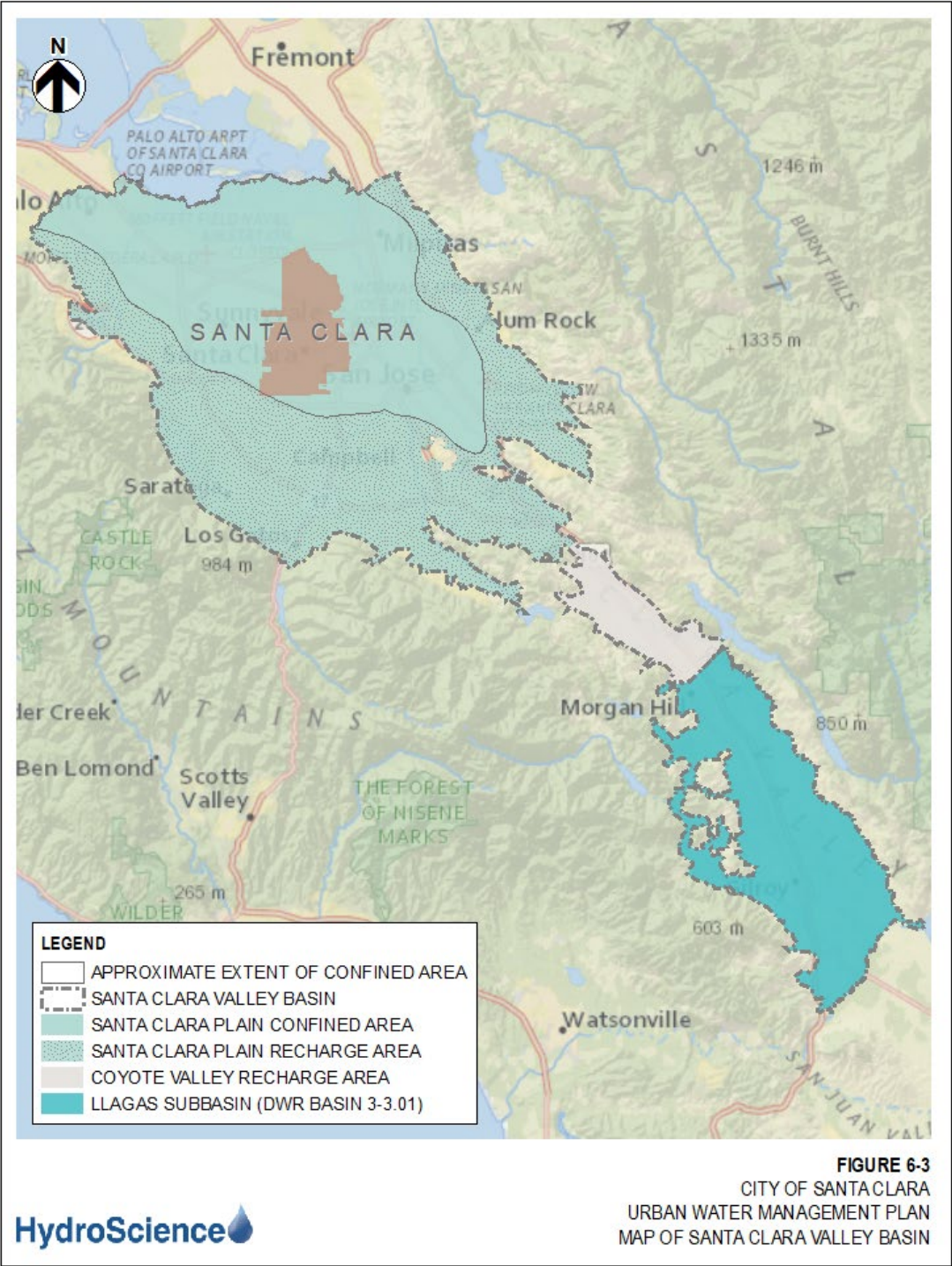
The continued overdrafting of the basin resulted in a significant lowering of the groundwater table, significant subsidence of the land in the northern portion of the valley and compaction of several aquifers. When an aquifer is compacted the storage capacity of the aquifer can be substantially reduced. Once lost, storage capacity cannot be regained.

³ Department of Water Resources, SGMA 2019 Basin Prioritization Results – <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Basin-Prioritization>

⁴ Department of Water Resources, California’s Groundwater Interim Update 2016, DWR Bulletin 118

⁵ Valley Water 2016 Groundwater Management Plan

Figure 3-3: Map of Santa Clara Valley Basin



To avoid any further subsidence and loss of aquifer capacity, Valley Water has attempted to operate the basin to maintain or increase groundwater storage through managed recharge with local supplies augmented with imported raw water. In the late 1960s, Valley Water’s conjunctive management of surface water and groundwater effectively halted overdrafting and resulting subsidence. Valley Water is currently using projected supply, carryover capacity and anticipated demand to predict potential water shortages. The 2016 Santa Clara Valley Water District Groundwater Management Plan (GMP) ⁶ describes the groundwater recharge program in detail.

The Santa Clara subbasin currently provides about 60% of the City’s potable water supply. The City’s wells are strategically distributed around the City adding to the reliability of the water system and minimizes the possibility of localized subsidence due to overdrafting. To minimize the possibility of long-term overdraft conditions, the City monitors groundwater levels and meters the groundwater pumping for all City owned production wells. To further ensure that no overdrafting is occurring the City operates a recycled water system and requires new development along the recycled water distribution system to use recycled water for approved irrigation and industrial uses. The City also encourages and promotes water conservation to minimize groundwater usage.

The allowable withdrawal or safe yield of groundwater by the City is dependent upon multiple factors including withdrawals by other water agencies, quantity of water recharged and the carry over storage from the previous year. Valley Water’s current (2022) groundwater report shows the City as being the second highest user of groundwater pumping, at 15%, for the Santa Clara Plain subbasin designated as North County (Zone W-2).⁷

Table 4 shows the City’s annual groundwater pumping volumes in acre-feet from 2019 to 2023. In 2023, a total of 10,431 AF was pumped from the current production wells within the City. In 2023, groundwater from wells accounted for 50.5% of all water used in the City (including recycled water) and 62.5% of the total potable water supply.

Table 4: Retail Groundwater Volume Pumped – Potable						
Groundwater Type	Location or Basin Name	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Alluvial Basin	Santa Clara Valley	9,779	10,835	9,816	10,329	10,431
NOTES: Units of volume in AF.						

⁶ <https://s3.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/assets.valleywater.org/2016%20Groundwater%20Management%20Plan.pdf>

⁷ 2012 Valley Water Annual Groundwater Report.

3.3 Recycled Water

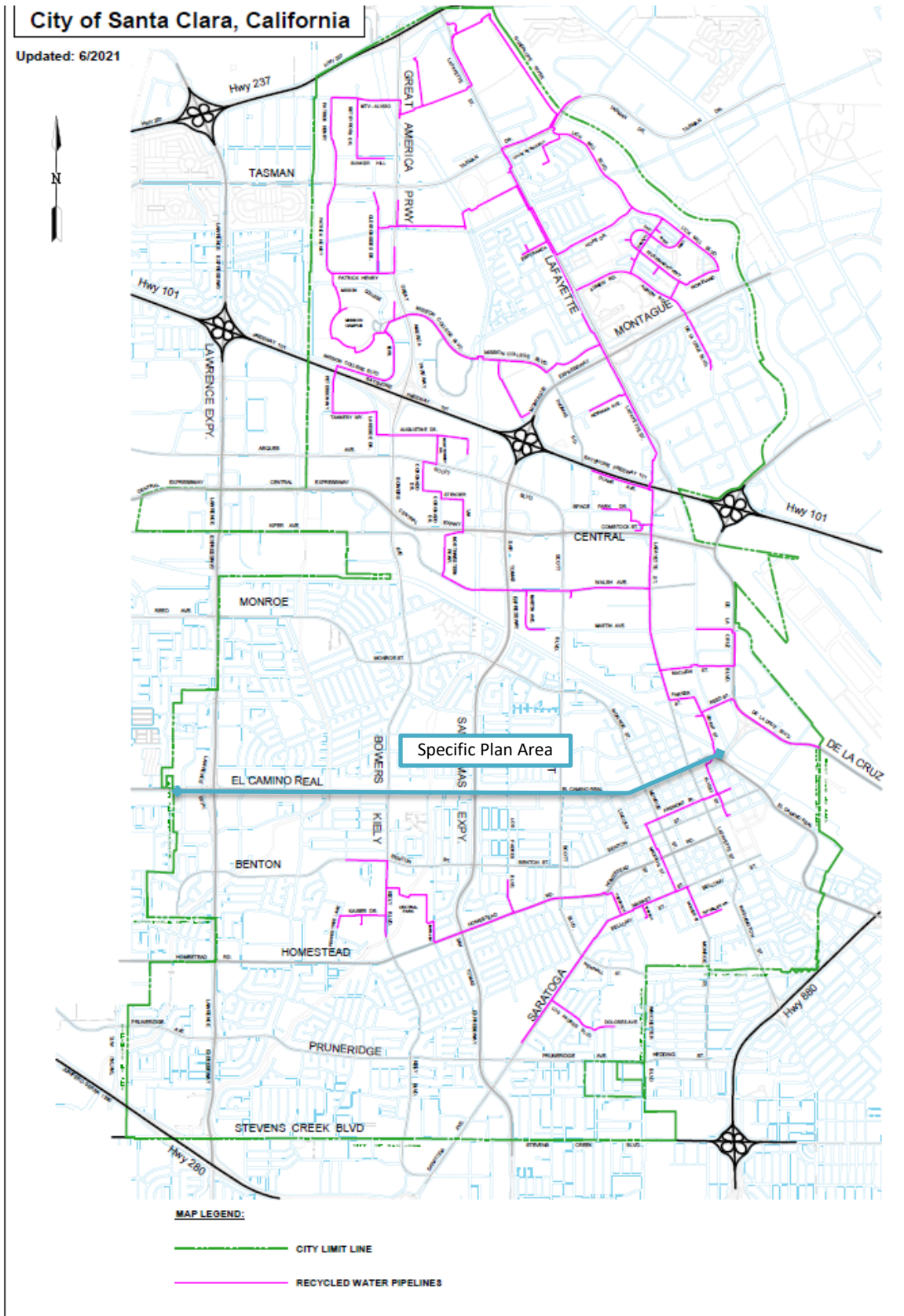
Recycled water within the City is supplied from the jointly owned San Jose-Santa Clara RWF through South Bay Water Recycling (SBWR). This recycled water meets the requirements of the CCR Title 22, Division 4. The City and all users of recycled water must ensure that a number of regulatory requirements specified in CCR Title 22 are met. CCR Title 22 specifies the types of use and the conditions under which the use of recycled water is allowed. SBWR provides oversight, promotes recycled water, operates the recycled water distribution system, and provides technical guidance to recycled water customers.

The existing recycled water distribution system was laid out to maximize service to large potential recycled water customers. Recycled water is currently used within the City for irrigation at parks, landscape street medians, multi-family residential units and schools. Several industries use recycled water in industrial processes, cooling towers and for toilet flushing in dual plumbed facilities such as hotels and commercial buildings.

The recycled water distribution system is shown in **Figure 3-4**.

It is the purpose and intent of the City Council to require the use of recycled water for all non-potable uses where recycled water is made available per Santa Clara City code Article IV, Regulation of Recycled Water Service and Use, Section 13.15.160. Recycled Water must be utilized for this project to the maximum extent possible to supplant the use of potable water. Utilization of recycled water for approved uses is addressed during the development application process in order to promote sustainability and conservation of the City's potable water supply. Expansion of the existing recycled water system is required to serve future uses.

Figure 3-4: Recycled Water Distribution System



4. WATER SUPPLY PROJECTIONS

4.1 Supply Volumes

Historically, groundwater has been the predominant source of water used to meet water demand in the City. Since the last UWMP, the amount of recycled water used within the City has risen steadily. In 2023, recycled water represented 19.2% of total water sales. Purchased treated water from SFPUC and Valley Water represented 30.4% of the water portfolio during this period. There are efforts to minimize reliance on imported purchased water and maximize local groundwater resources. **Table 5** shows the volume of water supplied for 2023.

Table 5: Water Supplies — Actual				
Water Supply	Additional Detail on Water Supply	2023		
		Actual Volume	Water Quality	Total Right or Safe Yield (<i>opt</i>)
Purchased or Imported Water	Valley Water	3,339	Drinking Water	4,560
Purchased or Imported Water	SFPUC	2,933	Drinking Water	5,041
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Wells	10,431	Drinking Water	23,048
Recycled Water	SBWR	3,968	Recycled Water	--
Total		20,671		32,649
NOTES: Purchased water from Valley Water is based on current contractual amount (total right). Purchased water from SFPUC is based on current contract allocation (total right). Groundwater safe yield is system capacity. Units of volume in AF.				

4.2 Projected Water Supply

Table 5-1A and **Table 5-1B** below show the City’s projected potable water supplies for 2025 to 2045. **Table 5-1A** accounts for the possibility of an interruption of the City’s SFPUC water supply.

Table 5-1A: Water Supplies — Projected						
Water Supply	Additional Detail on Water Supply	Projected Water Supply				
		2025	2030	2035	2040	2045 (opt)
		Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume
Purchased or Imported Water	Valley Water	4,560	4,560	4,560	4,560	4,560
Purchased or Imported Water	SFPUC	5,041	0	0	0	0
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Wells	23,048	23,048	23,048	23,048	23,048
Recycled Water	SBWR	4,570	5,489	6,586	7,908	9,488
Total		37,219	33,097	34,194	35,516	37,096
NOTES: Assumes interruption of SFPUC water supply after 2028. Units of volume in AF.						

Table 5-1B: Water Supplies — Projected						
Water Supply	Additional Detail on Water Supply	Projected Water Supply				
		2025	2030	2035	2040	2045 (opt)
		Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume
Purchased or Imported Water	Valley Water	4,560	4,560	4,560	4,560	4,560
Purchased or Imported Water	SFPUC	5,041	5,041	5,041	5,041	5,041
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Wells	23,048	23,048	23,048	23,048	23,048
Recycled Water	SBWR	4,570	5,489	6,586	7,908	9,488
Total		37,219	38,138	39,235	40,557	42,137
NOTES: Assumes no interruption of SFPUC water supply after 2028. Units of volume in AF.						

4.3 Water Supply Reliability

The water service reliability assessment requires the comparison of supply and demand projections for three scenarios: (1) a normal year, (2) a single dry year, and (3) five consecutive dry years. The percent of total annual supply available for each scenario is based on projected availability of water supplies identified and cutbacks determined by the City's wholesalers. Because allowable groundwater pumping is based only on the sustainable yield, groundwater supply availability is not expected to decrease during dry years. Additionally, recycled water is not dependent on climatic effects and is assumed to be unaffected by any drought conditions.

Table 6 presents the base years for each of the three conditions described above as well as the corresponding percentages of average water supply available during each year under these conditions.

Table 6: Basis of Water Year Data (Reliability Assessment)			
Year Type	Base Year	Available Supplies if Year Type Repeats	
		Quantification of available supplies is provided in this table as either volume only, percent only, or both.	
		Volume Available	% of Average Supply
Average Year	2020	32,649	100%
Single-Dry Year	1977	31,293	96%
Consecutive-Dry Years 1st Year	1988	31,293	96%
Consecutive-Dry Years 2nd Year	1989	31,529	97%
Consecutive-Dry Years 3rd Year	1990	29,686	91%
Consecutive-Dry Years 4th Year	1991	29,686	91%
Consecutive-Dry Years 5th Year	1992	29,686	91%
NOTES: All City water sources combined. Base years represent the year for which Valley Water's analysis is based. Volume available and percent of average supply is calculated based on the combination of available sources. Units of volume in AF.			

Using the water supply and demand projections and the portion of supplies available during normal year, single dry year, and five consecutive dry year conditions summarized above, this section presents the comparison between projected supply and projected demand for each condition in five-year increments through 2045.

The City relies on imported water from Valley Water and the SFPUC. The City's contract with the SFPUC is interruptible and may be unavailable after 2028. The SFPUC is scheduled to decide whether to make the City a permanent customer by December 2028. If the SFPUC supplies are interrupted, the City may need to increase use of Valley Water supplies.

In December 2018, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) adopted amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary Bay-Delta Plan (BDP) to establish water quality objectives to maintain the health of the Bay-Delta ecosystem. The SWRCB is required by law to regularly review this plan. The adopted Bay-Delta Plan was developed with the stated goal of increasing salmonid populations in three San Joaquin River tributaries (the Stanislaus, Merced, and Tuolumne Rivers) and the Bay-Delta. The BDP requires the release of 30-50% of the "unimpaired flow" on the three tributaries from February through June in every year type. In SFPUC modeling of the new flow standard, it is assumed that the required release is 40% of unimpaired flow.

If the Bay-Delta Plan is implemented, the SFPUC will be able to meet the projected water demands presented in this UWMP in normal years but would experience supply shortages in single dry years or multiple dry years. Implementation of the Bay-Delta Plan will require rationing in all single dry years and multiple dry years. The SFPUC has initiated an Alternative Water Supply Planning Program to ensure that San Francisco can meet its Retail and Wholesale Customer water needs, address projected dry years shortages, and limit rationing to a maximum 20% system-wide in accordance with adopted SFPUC policies. This program is in early planning stages and is intended to meet future water supply challenges and vulnerabilities such as environmental flow needs and other regulatory changes; earthquakes, disasters, and emergencies; increases in population and employment; and climate change. As the region faces future challenges – both known and unknown – the SFPUC is attempting to negotiate a voluntary agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta that meets the State Board’s objectives for the Bay Delta while providing a reliable water supply for the water users in Alameda, Santa Clara, and San Mateo Counties. Additionally, SFPUC is considering this suite of diverse non-traditional supplies and leveraging regional partnerships to meet Retail and Wholesale Customer needs through 2045. On November 9, 2022, SFPUC signed a Memorandum of Understanding with a term of eight years with the State Water Resources Control Board that will provide increased flows to the Tuolumne River, improved fish habitat and ensure a reliable source of water supply for SFPUC residential and commercial customers. This MOU may lead to a permanent voluntary agreement.

Due to the uncertainty of the interruptible supply from the SFPUC, the City has analyzed supply reliability under two primary scenarios in the 2020 UWMP:

- Scenario 1: supply interruption due to contract termination in 2028.
- Scenario 2: continued SFPUC supply beyond 2028.

Table 7-1A/B through **Table 7-3A/B** presents the service supply reliability assessment for each condition.

During normal water years, there are no reductions in supplies to retailers due to BDP implementation and water supplies should be adequate to meet projected demands in the 2025 to 2045 planning period as shown in the tables.

Table 7-1A: Normal Year Supply and Demand Comparison - (Scenario 1)					
	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045 (Opt)
Supply totals	37,219	33,097	34,194	35,516	37,096
Demand totals	24,043	25,836	27,697	29,557	31,676
Difference	13,176	7,261	6,497	5,959	5,420
NOTES: Assumes SFPUC supply does <i>not</i> exist beyond 2028 and BDP implementation in 2023. Units of volume in AF.					
Table 7-1B: Normal Year Supply and Demand Comparison - (Scenario 2)					
	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045 (Opt)
Supply totals	37,219	38,137	39,235	40,557	42,136
Demand totals	24,043	25,836	27,697	29,557	31,676
Difference	13,176	12,301	11,538	11,000	10,460
NOTES: Assumes continued allocation from SFPUC beyond 2028 and BDP implementation in 2023. Units of volume in AF.					

During a single dry year, the City projects no reduction in supplies from groundwater.

SFPUC has indicated that during a single critical dry year it will follow the Tier 2 reduction plan described in Section 7.3.2 of the 2020 UWMP. Under Scenario 1, the City can expect up to a 36% cutback in SFPUC supply through 2028 before supply termination. Under Scenario 2, the City can expect up to a 46% cutback in a single-dry year through 2045.

During a single critical dry year, there are no projected shortfalls in total available water supplies independent of whether the City receives or does not receive SFPUC water after contract negotiations with SFPUC in 2028.

Table 7-2A: Single Dry Year Supply and Demand Comparison					
	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045 (Opt)
Supply totals	35,404	33,097	34,194	35,516	37,096
Demand totals	24,043	25,836	27,697	29,557	31,676
Difference	11,361	7,261	6,497	5,959	5,420
NOTES: Assumes SFPUC supply does <i>not</i> exist beyond 2028 and reduced allocation from SFPUC due to BDP in 2023. Units of volume in AF.					
Table 7-2B: Single Dry Year Supply and Demand Comparison					
	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045 (Opt)
Supply totals	35,404	36,323	37,420	38,692	39,818
Demand totals	24,043	25,836	27,697	29,557	31,676
Difference	11,361	10,486	9,723	9,135	8,141
NOTES: Assumes continued allocation from SFPUC beyond 2028 and reduced allocation from SFPUC due to BDP in 2023. Units of volume in AF.					

During a multiple dry year event, the City projects no reduction in supplies from groundwater. Valley Water is expected to continue to manage groundwater recharge for the sub-basin.

Based on supply reductions to the SFPUC RWS, during multiple dry years under Scenario 1, the City can expect a reduction of up to 45% by 2028. Under Scenario 2, the City can expect a cutback as much as 54% of normal by the 4th and 5th years of a dry consecutive period beginning in 2045.

Table 7-3A: Multiple Dry Years Supply and Demand Comparison						
		2025	2030	2035	2040	2045 (Opt)
First year	Supply totals	35,404	33,097	34,194	35,516	37,096
	Demand totals	24,043	25,836	27,697	29,557	31,676
	Difference	11,361	7,261	6,497	5,959	5,420
Second year	Supply totals	34,951	33,097	34,194	35,516	37,096
	Demand totals	24,043	25,836	27,697	29,557	31,676
	Difference	10,908	7,261	6,497	5,959	5,420
Third year	Supply totals	34,951	33,097	34,194	35,516	37,096
	Demand totals	24,043	25,836	27,697	29,557	31,676
	Difference	10,908	7,261	6,497	5,959	5,420
Fourth year	Supply totals	34,951	33,097	34,194	35,516	37,096
	Demand totals	24,043	25,836	27,697	29,557	31,676
	Difference	10,908	7,261	6,497	5,959	5,420
Fifth year	Supply totals	34,951	33,097	34,194	35,516	37,096
	Demand totals	24,043	25,836	27,697	29,557	31,676
	Difference	10,908	7,261	6,497	5,959	5,420
NOTES: Assumes SFPUC supply does not exist beyond 2028 and reduced allocation from SFPUC due to BDP in 2023. Units of volume in AF.						

Table 7-3B: Multiple Dry Years Supply and Demand Comparison						
		2025	2030	2035	2040	2045 (Opt)
First year	Supply totals	35,404	36,323	37,420	38,692	39,818
	Demand totals	24,043	25,836	27,697	29,557	31,676
	Difference	11,361	10,486	9,723	9,135	8,141
Second year	Supply totals	34,951	35,869	36,916	38,238	39,818
	Demand totals	24,043	25,836	27,697	29,557	31,676
	Difference	10,908	10,033	9,219	8,681	8,141
Third year	Supply totals	34,951	35,869	36,916	38,238	39,818
	Demand totals	24,043	25,836	27,697	29,557	31,676
	Difference	10,908	10,033	9,219	8,681	8,141
Fourth year	Supply totals	34,951	35,869	36,916	37,936	39,414
	Demand totals	24,043	25,836	27,697	29,557	31,676
	Difference	10,908	10,033	9,219	8,379	7,738
Fifth year	Supply totals	34,951	35,869	36,715	37,936	39,414
	Demand totals	24,043	25,836	27,697	29,557	31,676
	Difference	10,908	10,033	9,018	8,379	7,738
NOTES: Assumes continued allocation from SFPUC beyond 2028 and reduced allocation from SFPUC due to BDP in 2023. Units of volume in AF.						

Given the supply and demand comparison presented previously, the results of the supply reliability assessment can be summarized as follows:

- **Normal Year** – The City can anticipate meeting all water demands through 2045 under normal year supply conditions given the stated assumptions.
- **Single Dry Year** – The City can anticipate meeting all water demands through 2045 under single dry year supply conditions given the stated assumptions.
- **Five Consecutive Dry Years** – The City can anticipate meeting all water demands through 2045 under consecutive five dry-year supply conditions given the stated assumptions.

As shown in the tables above, the City would be able to increase the amount of groundwater pumped to meet reasonably anticipated deficiencies from other sources, thus supply is projected to be sufficient to meet demand out to 2045. The Santa Clara groundwater basin is not adjudicated, which means the right to pump groundwater from the basin has not been given by judgment of a court or board.

For each of the five-year increments presented above, the five-year dry period indicates that supplies will be able to meet demands through increased groundwater pumping and implementation of drought conservation programs. The City will be able to address the projected demands without rationing.

5. PROPOSED SPECIFIC PLAN WATER DEMANDS

El Camino Real represents an increase in water demand of 491.8 AF/yr across the proposed Specific Plan area and over the historic water demand of 146.9 AF/yr. Average historical usage was calculated using the Project's existing water demand from 2016-2020. The projected increase in demand, tabulated in **Table 10** of this section, is within the modeled 2020 UWMP growth projections (**Table 3** of this Assessment).

5.1 Water Demand to be Met by Recycled Water

Recycled water is currently available at the proposed Specific Plan location with potential connections at Grant Street, Lafayette Street, Madison Street, Monroe Street, Los Padres Boulevard, and Kiely Boulevard. As such, the Specific Plan will be required to connect to the existing recycled water system.

Santa Clara City Code, Chapter 13.15, Article IV - Regulation of Recycled Water Service and Use, Section 13.15.160 states that "(a) It is the purpose and intent of the City Council to prohibit the use of potable water for landscape irrigation where recycled water is made available and meets all applicable standards." It also states that "(b) It is also the purpose and intent of the City Council to require the use of recycled water for all other non-potable uses where recycled water is made available, meets all applicable standards for those uses and is determined to be suitable and economically feasible therefor." The Assessment has determined that the existing recycled water system is available to serve the Project and pending approval by South Bay Water Recycling and State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), recycled water should be utilized for this project to the maximum extent possible to supplant the use of potable water. Utilization of recycled water for approved uses and requirements is addressed during the development application process in order to promote sustainability and conservation of the City's potable water supply. Expansion of the recycled water system to serve future uses may be required as deemed necessary.

The Specific Plan shall implement all applicable recycled water uses on-site including those not specifically addressed in this Assessment. Applicable recycled water uses would include those identified in Table 8 (i.e. irrigation). This development type has an overall water demand of approximately 14.1 AF/yr which could be offset by recycled water. This Specific Plan shall make every effort to offset the use of potable water. All recycled water line extensions for on-site use and demand would require approval from the City, South Bay Water Recycling, and State Water Resources Control Board - Division of Drinking Water.

5.2 Summary of Existing and Estimated Water Demands

A summary of the existing and estimated water demands for the Specific Plan is found in **Table 8**. The construction schedule for the Specific Plan is summarized in **Table 9**. The existing and estimated water demands are further broken down in **Table 10** into projected annual demand increases based on construction schedule submitted by the Applicant. Water demands are provided in units of acre-feet/ yr.

Table 8 – Existing and Estimated Water Demand per Year for 2024 El Camino Real Specific Plan						
	Status	Water Source	Development	Units	Gal/Day	Acre-Ft/Yr
Residential	Proposed	Potable	4,392	units	531,432.0	595.3
Retail - Commercial	Proposed	Potable	524,467	Sq ft.	26,223.4	29.4
Irrigation	Proposed	Potable/Recycled	162,891	Sq ft.	12,542.6	14.1
Historic	Existing	Potable	Commercial		(131,127.1)	(146.9)
Total Demand (increase per year)					439,070.9	491.8

Table 9 – 2024 El Camino Real Specific Plan Construction Schedule					
	2021-2025	2026-2030	2031-2035	2036-2040	2041-2045
Residential (units)	0	2,196	1,229	614	353
Commercial (Sq. ft.)	(Existing Demolition)	288,457	164,857	42,002	29,151
Irrigation (square feet)	0	69,156	58,635	34,854	246

Table 10 – 2024 El Camino Real Specific Plan Water Demand Increase (Acre-Ft/Yr)					
	2021-2025	2026-2030	2031-2035	2036-2040	2041-2045
Residential	0	297.6	166.6	83.2	47.8
Commercial	(146.9)	16.2	9.2	2.4	1.6
Irrigation	0	6.0	5.1	3.0	0.02
Total	(146.9)	319.8	180.9	88.6	49.5

5.3 Projected Water Demand for Other Proposed Projects

Table 11 shows a summary of the current projected water demand changes. **Table 12** shows a summary of projected water demand changes including both the current projects and 2024 El Camino Real Specific Plan. The values in **Table 11** and **Table 12** are categorized by user type and the planning period in which the change is expected to occur. All values are in units of acre-feet per year. The listed user categories of Single Family, Multi-Family, Commercial, Industrial, Institutional, and Municipal match the user categories utilized in the development of the 2020 UWMP. Recycled water is included as an additional category. If a proposed project resulted in a change of use, such as a commercial building being converted to single-family residential housing, the existing water demand was subtracted from the corresponding category and the new water demand was added to the category for the new use.

Table 11 – Current Changes in Water Demand (Excluding 2024 El Camino Real Specific Plan)					
	2021-2025	2026-2030	2031-2035	2036-2040	2041-2045
Single Family	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Multi-Family	(25.8)	311.8	277.8	54.2	16.8
Commercial	(56.1)	405.2	142.9	111.4	27.9
Industrial	26.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Institutional	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Municipal	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Recycled	465.6	91.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	410.4	810.7	420.7	165.6	44.7

Table 12 – Changes in Water Demand (Including 2024 El Camino Real Specific Plan)					
	2021-2025	2026-2030	2031-2035	2036-2040	2041-2045
Single Family	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Multi-Family	(25.8)	609.4	444.4	137.4	64.6
Commercial	(203.0)	421.4	152.1	113.8	29.5
Industrial	26.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Institutional	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Municipal	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Recycled	465.6	97.7	5.1	3.0	0.02
Total	263.5	1,130.5	601.6	254.2	94.1

Appendix A summarizes proposed water demands for projects assessed since the adoption of the 2020 UWMP. Projected water demands listed in Appendix A include: 2901 Tasman Drive, Tasman East Specific Plan Amendment, 960 Central Expressway, Downtown Precise Plan, Mission Point Specific Plan, and El Camino Real Specific Plan.

6. Conclusion

This Assessment analyzed the impacts of changes in contractual limitations on water supply, proposed development projects, and other additional factors that have occurred since the original 2020 UWMP was developed and adopted. When the El Camino Real Specific Plan's water demand was assessed with previous projects' water demands, summarized in Table 12, the Specific Plan's water demand was found to be within the growth projections shown in Table 3. Based on the analysis contained in this

Assessment, the City of Santa Clara Water Utility has determined that supplies would be sufficient to provide service for the proposed Specific Plan.

Although the City has reverted the Water Shortage Contingency Plan Stage 2 back to Stage 0, the project is still encouraged to implement conservation and uphold water efficiency standards. In May of 2023, Santa Clara's City Council adopted a resolution to terminate the Proclamation of Emergency Drought Conditions while continuing Stage 2 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and established a 15% Voluntary Water Use Reduction in keeping with Santa Clara Valley Water District's Policy. In July of 2023, the Council adopted a resolution to rescind the Stage 2 Water Shortage Contingency Plan while continuing to implement SWRCB Water Use restrictions. The City continues to implement the State's rulemaking around "Making Conservation a California Way of Life", and the State's Water Use Efficiency requirements as the City continues to lower its residential gallons per capita per day (RGPCD) and overall GPCD. As climate change continues to contribute to more frequent and severe droughts, developments must conserve water and increase the use of recycled water. The City is permanently adopting the drought adaptations it has made, making a conservation mindset and lifestyle that sustains Santa Clara regardless of California's weather fluctuations.

Additionally, alternative water supplies should be utilized to the maximum extent possible, such as recycled water (see Water Demand to be Met by Recycled Water, Section 5.1). As identified in Section 5.1, applicable recycled water uses would include those identified in Table 8, such as irrigation. These development types have an overall water demand of approximately 11.2 AF/yr which could be offset by recycled water. This project is recommended to make every effort to offset the use of potable water for multiple applications such as dual-plumbed and industrial facilities. Additionally, rainwater/stormwater capture and reuse, greywater reuse, reclaiming wastewater onsite or other water supplies might need to be developed to offset potable water demand for this project.

Appendix A

Project	Address	Number	Units	Development	Proposed Water Demand (AF/yr)	Historical Water Demand (AF/yr)	Water Demand Increase (AF/yr)	Recycled Water Available?	Buildout Completion Date
2024 El Camino Real Specific Plan	Corridor from western City boundary to Pratt Pl	4,392	Dwelling Units	Residential	595.3	146.9	491.8	No	2045
		524,467	Sq. ft	Commercial	29.4			No	
		162,891	Sq. ft	Irrigation	14.1			No	
Mission Point	3005 Democracy Way	1,800	Dwelling Units	Residential	244.0	2.3	646.4	No	2027
		3,103,000	Sq. ft	Commercial	311.0			No	
		10,000	Sq. ft	Institutional	2.0			No	
		1,063,000	Sq. ft	Irrigation	91.7			Yes	
Downtown Precise Plan	TBD	1,574	Dwelling Units	Residential	213.3	72.3	512.4	No	2045
		867,400	Sq. ft	Commercial	371.3			No	
960 Central Expressway*	960 Central Expressway	44,600	Sq. ft	Commercial	4.5	126.8	363.5	No	2025
		866,612	Sq. ft	Industrial	468.3			Yes	
		204,554	Sq. ft	Irrigation	17.6			Yes	

Tasman East Specific Plan Amendment	TBD	1,500	Dwelling Units	Residential	203.3	--	208.3	No	2035
		50,000	Sq. ft	Commercial	5.0			No	
2901 Tasman Drive	2901 Tasman Drive	1,070,344	Sq. ft	Commercial	131.9	16.9	121.4	No	2023
		74,524	Sq. ft	Irrigation	6.4			Yes	

*Scenario 1 for 960 Central Expressway assessed to account for the maximum water demand that may be selected for future development