



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Type: Board of Directors
Title: Update on Water Supply Roadmap
From: Paul Sellier, Water Resources Director
Through: Ben Horenstein, General Manager
Meeting Date: January 21, 2025

TYPE OF ACTION: Action X Information Review and Refer

RECOMMENDATION: Receive an update on the Water Supply Roadmap focused on criteria for evaluating longer-term water supply projects

SUMMARY: On February 2023, the Board selected the Integrated Roadmap for improved water supply resiliency (Roadmap). Since that time, staff has been implementing the early action projects while in parallel working to advance the longer term, more complex projects. The project team will review the short-listed Roadmap projects and describe the proposed evaluation criteria that will assist in differentiating the longer-term projects and help to identify a preferred project to move forward through the design, environmental review and permitting process. Staff will provide a presentation reviewing the projects and the proposed process leading to a preferred project.

DISCUSSION: The overarching goal of the Roadmap is to enhance the reliability, flexibility, and resiliency of the District’s water system to improve service to Marin Water customers. The Roadmap consists of five broad strategies for achieving this goal and developing a resilient water supply, including Water Efficiency, In-District Improvements, Sonoma-Marin Partnership, Local Storage Enlargement, and New Supply Development (which includes desalination and recycled water). At the January 7th Board meeting staff reviewed the longer term projects in terms of the evaluation criteria.

Evaluation Criteria

For the purpose of evaluating different drought water supply projects and to aid in the selection of a preferred project, the project team developed the proposed criteria as follows:

- **Reliability and Sustainability:** How well does the project contribute to dry year supply and substantially and improve reliability of the system and system response to disaster.
- **Flexibility and Resiliency:** How well does the project improve operational flexibility and resiliency of the system and integrate and maximize regional systems.
- **Schedule and Implementation:** Timeframe for project implementation, considering regulatory complexity and constructability.

- **Water Quality:** How well does the project meet current and future drinking water quality standards; the water is of the same quality as existing water supplied by the District.
- **Environmental:** How well does the project continue to meet the District's commitment to environmental stewardship; consider extent of environmental impacts during and post construction.
- **Social Stewardship:** Extent of disruption to existing land uses or other social impact
- **Economic and Financial:** Consideration of project lifecycle costs relative to water supply yield; Consider extent to which project uses existing infrastructure and may qualify and perform well for potential grant awards.

At the upcoming January 21st Board meeting, staff will incorporate Board feedback received at the January 7th meeting and present an evaluation of the alternatives against the criteria. Staff will return to the board in February, having incorporated further board discussion and guidance, with a recommendation for selection of a preferred project alternative to move into design and environmental review.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: Not applicable.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

ATTACHMENT(S): None.