# STAFF REPORT

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| **Meeting Type:** | Board of Directors |
| **Title:** | ACWA Vision for Our Water Future |
| **From:** | Carl Sanders, Natural Resources Program Manager |
| **Through:** | Shaun Horne, General Manager |
| **Meeting Date:** | November 17, 2026 |

**TYPE OF ITEM:** X Action Information

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve a resolution and letter of support for the Association of California Water Agencies *Vision for Our Water Future*

**SUMMARY:** The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) has developed *Vision for Our Water Future* (Vision), a member-driven initiative intended to inform California's next Administration on statewide water priorities and the actions necessary to secure a reliable, affordable, and resilient water future. The Vision advances four priority areas: 1) Lead on Water, 2) Protect Affordability, 3) Deliver Critical Infrastructure, and 4) Modernize Water Management. These priorities align closely with Marin Water's ongoing efforts to improve water supply reliability, invest in critical infrastructure, enhance climate resilience, and maintain affordable water service for customers.

Staff recommends adopting a resolution and authorize submission of a letter of support endorsing ACWA's Vision for Our Water Future. Adoption of the resolution would demonstrate the District's support for statewide policies and investments that strengthen California's water system and reinforce the critical role local water agencies play in delivering safe and reliable water supplies.

**DISCUSSION:** In April 2026, ACWA launched *Vision for Our Water Future* as a statewide framework for addressing California's evolving water challenges and advancing coordinated action among state, regional, federal, and local partners. The Vision was developed to help guide engagement with California's next Governor and Administration and emphasizes the need for executive leadership, sustainable investment, and coordinated implementation to improve water supply reliability and climate resilience.

The Vision recognizes water as foundational to California's economy, communities, environment, agriculture, housing development, and climate resilience, and calls for strong leadership, sustained investment, modernization of water management, and critical infrastructure improvements. The Vision is founded on the principle that water underpins nearly every aspect of California's future, including housing production, economic growth, agricultural productivity, environmental stewardship, public

health, and climate adaptation. As California faces increasing challenges associated with drought, flooding, wildfire, aging infrastructure, and changing hydrologic conditions, the Vision calls for a modern water system that is resilient, coordinated, and flexible enough to meet the needs of communities, businesses, agriculture, and ecosystems.

The Vision's four priority areas are consistent with many of Marin Water's strategic objectives. The first priority, *Lead on Water*, seeks to elevate water as a statewide priority through coordinated leadership and agency alignment. The second priority, *Protect Affordability*, advocates for reliable and sustainable funding partnerships to reduce pressure on local ratepayers and accelerate project delivery. The third priority, *Deliver Critical Infrastructure*, focuses on strengthening California's water backbone, safeguarding existing supplies, and advancing regional water reliability projects. The fourth priority, *Modernize Water Management*, promotes regulatory improvements, streamlined permitting, operational flexibility, and investments in science, data, and technology to support efficient water management and infrastructure implementation.

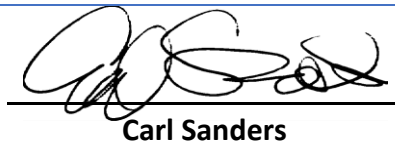
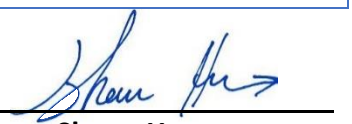
Supporting the Vision would communicate the District's support for a collaborative, science-based approach to addressing California's long-term water challenges and demonstrate alignment with other local public water agencies advocating for reliable, affordable, and resilient water supplies. Support would not commit the District to any specific project or financial obligation.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:** Not applicable.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Not applicable.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

1. Proposed Resolution

| DEPARTMENT OR DIVISION | DIVISION MANAGER | APPROVED |
|---|---|---|
| Watershed |  |  |
| | **Carl Sanders**<br>**Acting Watershed Resources Director** | **Shaun Horne**<br>**General Manager** |