

Pure Water Soquel:

Perspectives from a Fishbowl



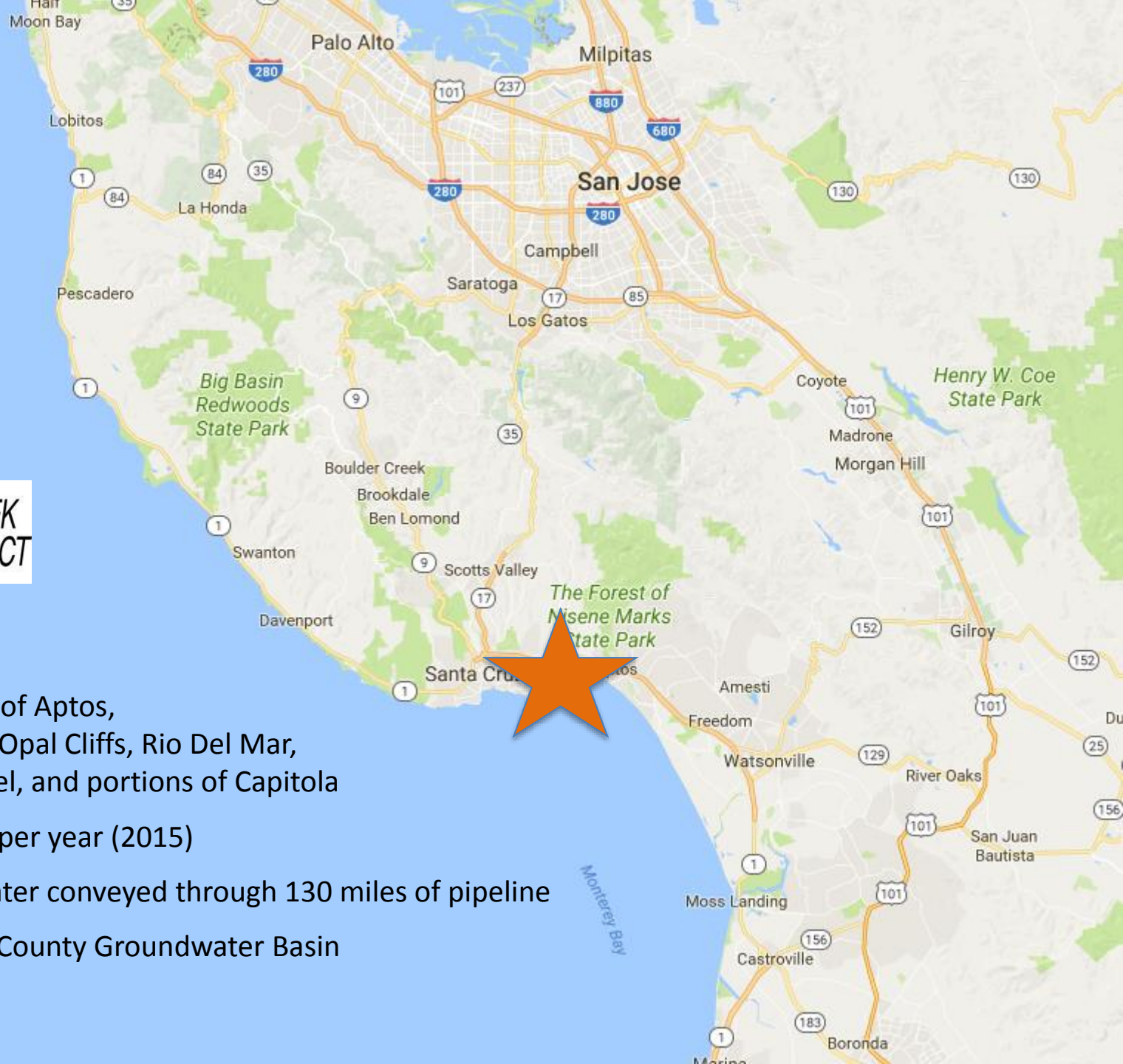
Melanie Mow Schumacher, PE

Special Projects-Communications Manager

melanies@soquelcreekwater.org

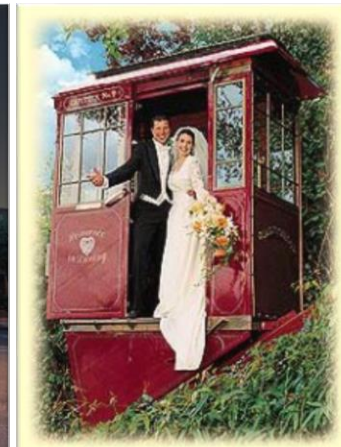
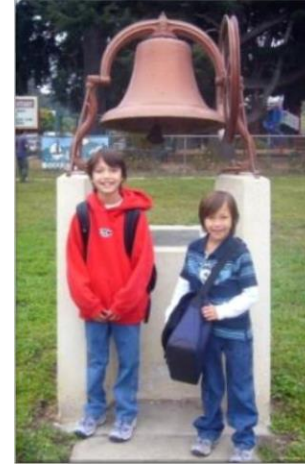


- 47 employees
- Serve the areas of Aptos, La Selva Beach, Opal Cliffs, Rio Del Mar, Seascapes, Soquel, and portions of Capitola
- 3,100 acre-feet per year (2015)
- 100% groundwater conveyed through 130 miles of pipeline
- Santa Cruz Mid County Groundwater Basin

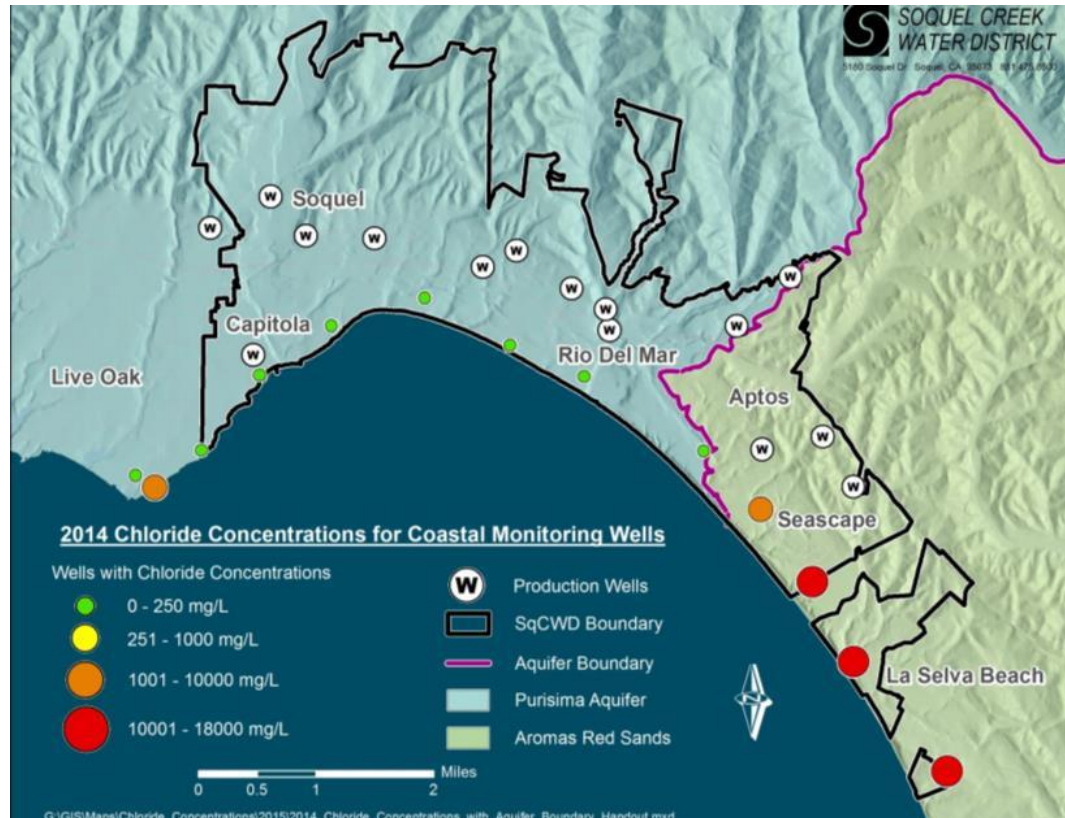


Our Service Area

- Population: 40,400
- Employment: 18,000
- 22 parks, 18 schools
- 80% residential, 20% commercial, industrial, schools, irrigation and other. We serve no agriculture.
- 100% groundwater
- Average water use per person is currently 50 gallons per day



Our Challenge: Seawater Intrusion and Overdrafted Groundwater Basin

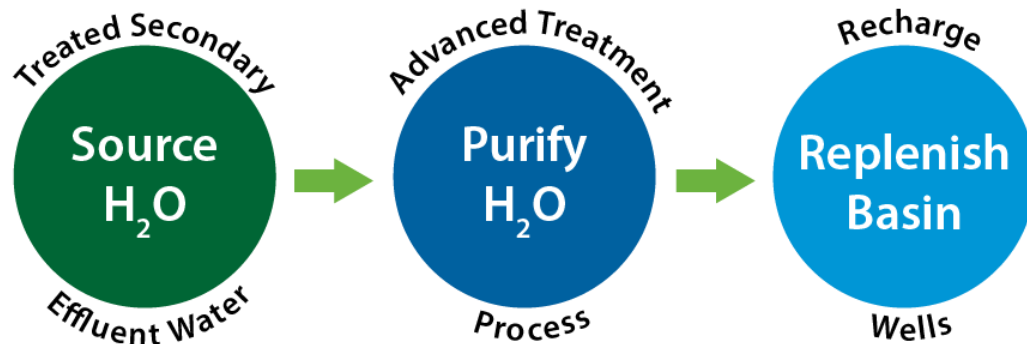


PUREWater Soquel

Replenishing Mid-County Groundwater

Meets our Community's values for a new supply source:

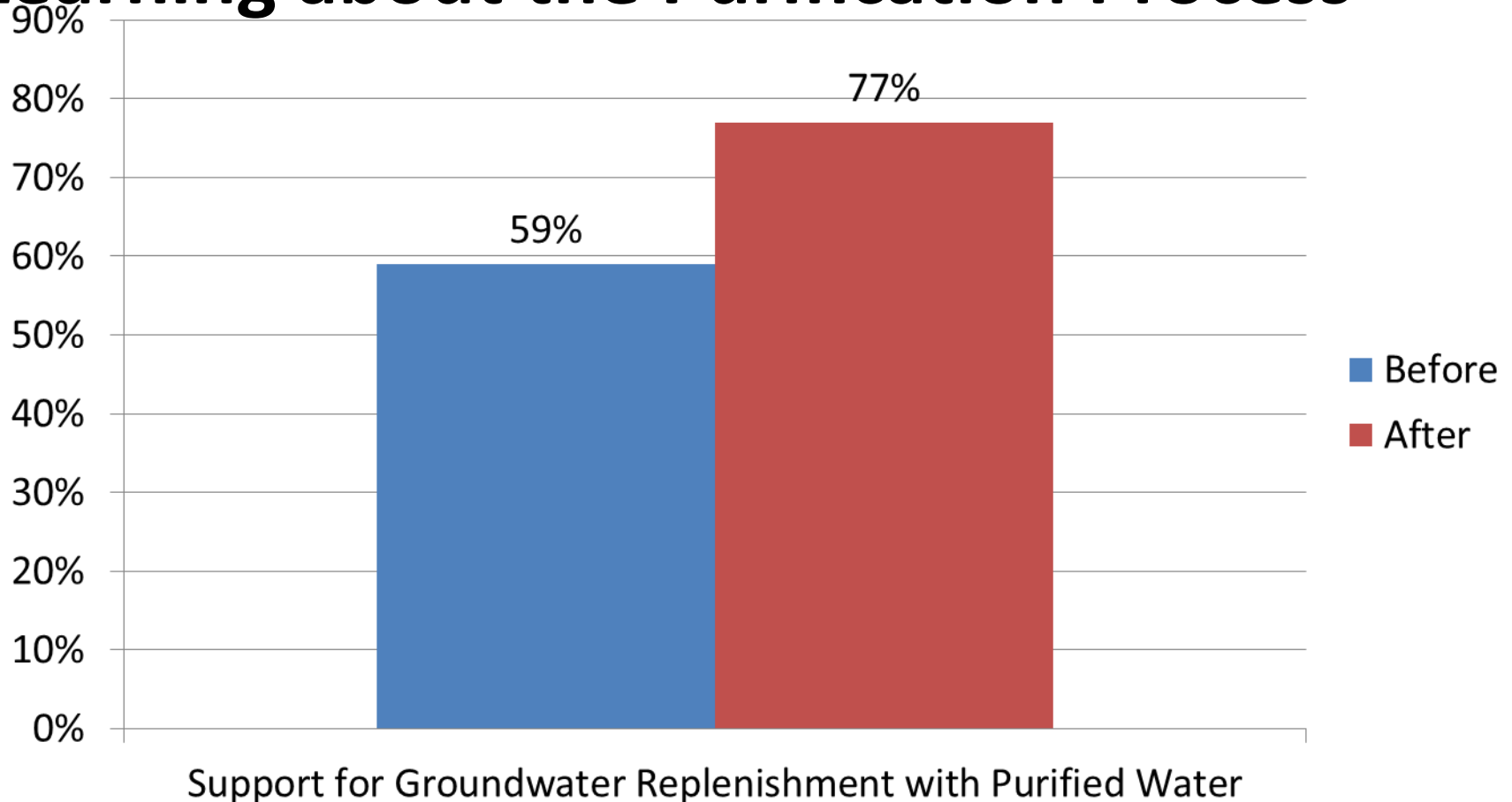
- Water Quality
- Reliable
- Timeliness



Working with:



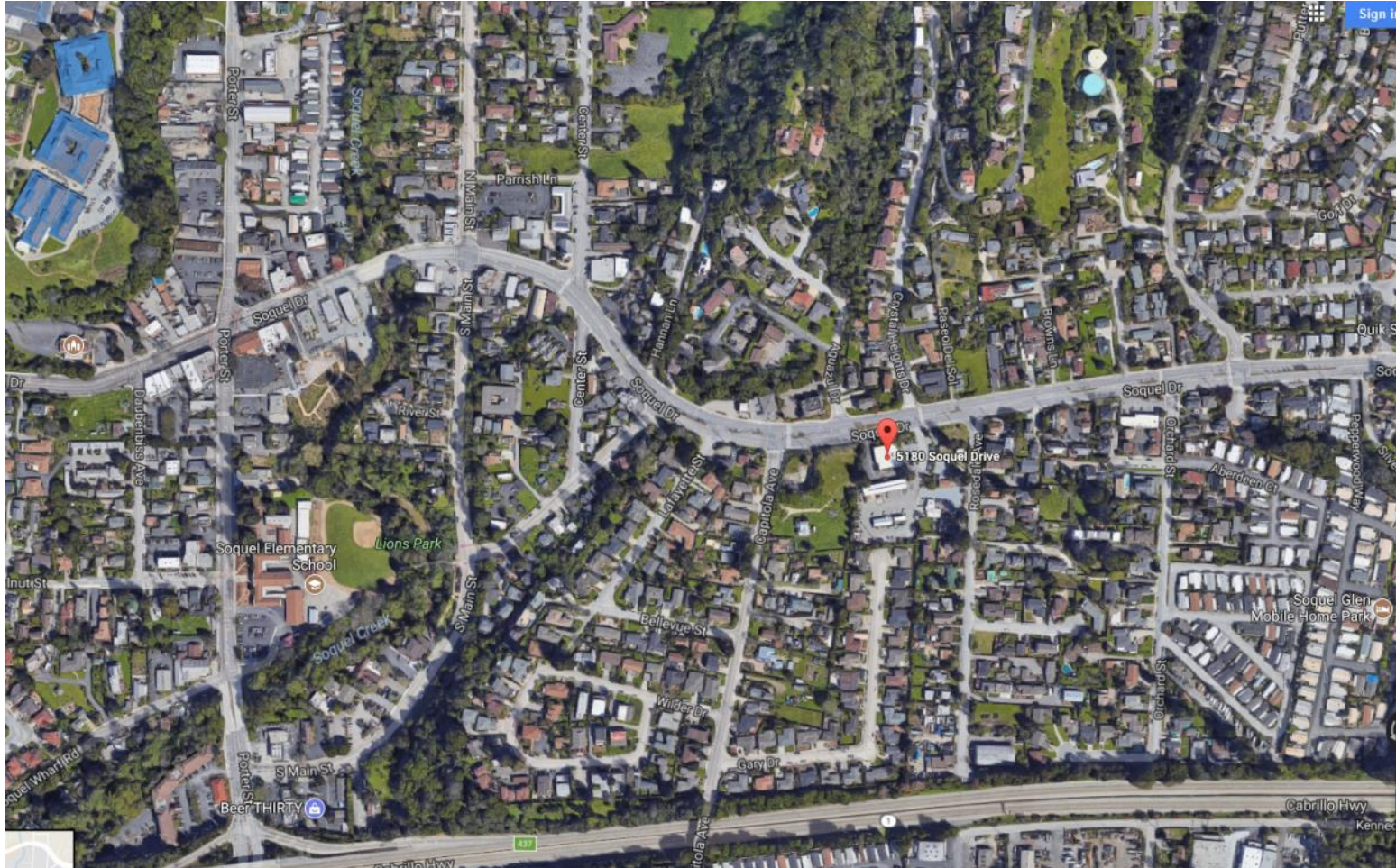
2015 Phone Survey Results: Before and After Learning about the Purification Process



Fishbowl?



We are a Local Agency, Not a Wholesaler



Front Yard Signs

RAW? WASTEWATER SEWER PLANT

Location across the street

Proposed by Soquel Creek Water District

ODOR
NOISE

LIGHTS
POLLUTANTS

PUBLIC MEETING

Wed. Dec. 7th--2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Twin Lakes Church, 2701 Cabrillo College Dr. Building 700, Aptos

...and more signs



Sewage Treatment Plant in *OUR* Neighborhood If We Don't Act *NOW*



Industrial installation in a **RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD**
Loss of **HOME EQUITY**, **FOUL ODOR**, **NOISE**, Traffic Impacts

Night Lighting Glare, Ground Borne Vibration, Visual Blight, 3 Years of Construction

Potentially Significant: **"SUBSTANTIAL ADVERSE EFFECTS ON HUMAN BEINGS AND ENVIRONMENT"**

Sign the Petition @ www.goo.gl/BUfzj7
(case sensitive)

or

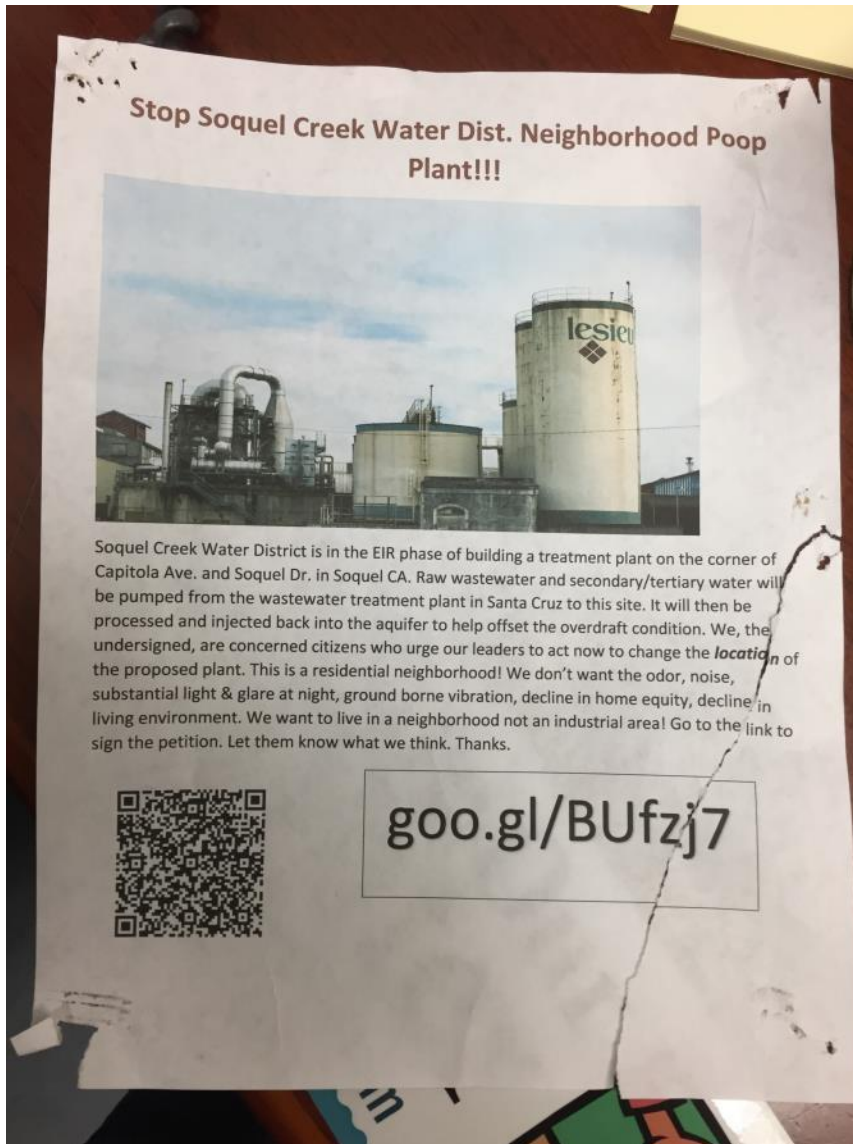
Go to www.change.org
And search Soquel



Surface Water Transfer Info
www.waterforsantacruz.com

Soquel Creek Water Dist. Notice of Preparation
(This is their environmental info)
goo.gl/Gtk3mx (case sensitive)

Flyers and Petitions



change.org

Start a petition Browse Membership

Log in

Petitioning President of the Board Dr. Tom LaHue and 2 others


Stop Soquel Creek Water Dist. RAW WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS!!!

 **Bob Mettalia** Soquel, CA



Soquel Creek Water District is in the EIR phase of building two treatment plants on the corner of Capitola Ave. and Soquel Dr. in Soquel CA. Raw wastewater and secondary/tertiary water will be pumped from the wastewater treatment plant in Santa Cruz to this site. It will then be processed and injected back into the aquifer to help offset the overdraft condition. We, the undersigned, are concerned citizens who urge our leaders to act now to change the *location* of the proposed plants. This is a

Sign this petition

 Your info will stay private.

189 supporters

11 needed to reach 200

First name

Last name

Email

☐  Share with Facebook friends

Sign

By signing, you accept Change.org's [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#), and agree to receive occasional emails about campaigns on Change.org. You can unsubscribe at any time.

Large Crowds & Protests



Phone Message:
**“Melanie- I recommend you
drink your own sewage
water”**

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT
SOQUEL CREEK WATER DISTRICT'S
PUREWATER SOQUEL PROJECT

1) THE DISTRICT IS RE-STARTING THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW SCOPING PROCESS BECAUSE OF CITIZEN OUTCRY REGARDING FORMER PLANS TO PLACE A SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT IN THE RESIDENTIAL AREA NEAR THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

2) PUREWATER SOQUEL IS ONLY ONE OF FOUR POSSIBLE SUPPLEMENTAL WATER SUPPLY OPTIONS BUT THE DISTRICT IS ALREADY BUDGETING FOR THAT OPTION ALONE.

WATER RATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETS JULY 17, 3pm-4pm

3) THE DISTRICT 2018-2019 BUDGET INCLUDES A 17% RATE PAYER INCREASE TO COVER COSTS OF THE PUREWATER SOQUEL PROJECT.

4) DISTRICT CONSULTANTS ADMIT THE PUREWATER SOQUEL TREATMENT PROCESS IS ENERGY-INTENSIVE AND WILL NOT BE ABLE TO COMPLETELY REMOVE CARCINOGENIC CONTAMINANTS, SUCH AS NDMA, DRUG MIXTURES. LEARN MORE ABOUT CONTAMINANTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED PROJECT:

WWW.WATERBOARDS.CA.GOV/DRINKING_WATER/CERTLIC/DRINKINGWATER/NDMA.SHTML AND ALSO :
WWW.WATERBOARDS.CA.GOV/DRINKING_WATER/CERTLIC/DRINKINGWATER/DOCUMENTS/RW_DPR_CRITERIA/APP_B_AG_RPT.PDF

VISIT: WWW.WATERFORSANTACRUZ.COM FOR SOLUTIONS

Being in the Fishbowl....

Here's What We're Doing...



Explaining that the Solution is Larger than Just a Reuse Project



COMMUNITY WATERPLAN

Our Path to a Reliable Water Supply

4 Potential Water Supply Options



Conservation



Well Management



**Water Supply
Sustainability**

Listening and Meeting with LOTS and LOTs of People in the Community



Over 60 one-on-ones

30 supporters of the Community Water Plan and evaluation of Pure Water Soquel

Boothing at Community Events and Giving Lots of Presentations



Recurring Column in Local Paper, Active on NextDoor and Social Media

Featured Columnist

Is it Time To End The Use of 'Disposable' Water?

By Melanie Mow Schumacher

The Santa Cruz County community is a leader in implementing "The Three Rs" – reduce, reuse, recycle. Not only a plastic bag ban, but as of 2017 no plastic straws or stir sticks, and only compostable cups, lids, containers, and cutlery for County food-service establishments. Our community recognizes the importance of recycling and reducing single-use products that are otherwise discarded.

Water is another important resource that our community is beginning to embrace as a natural resource that can be beneficially reused and not wasted or discarded.

**REUSE
REDUCE
RECYCLE**

Did you know that currently about 6 – 8 million gallons a day of treated wastewater is disposed of in the Pacific Ocean? (Or that Soquel Creek Water District (District) is evaluating a project called Pure Water Soquel project that would recapture that water, purify it, and then replenish the groundwater basin to prevent further seawater intrusion?) This month, our column focuses on how water is being – or can be – recycled and reused, both locally and beyond.

Water Recycling in Santa Cruz County
In Pajaro Valley and Scotts Valley, recycled water is being used to irrigate parks,

schools, roadway medians, and farm fields. Pasatiempo Golf Course is moving toward recycled water to keep its fairways green. Also, the City of Santa Cruz recycles a small amount of water for uses at its wastewater treatment facility such as washing down equipment and on-site landscaping.

While this is a great start to water recycling, our community can do more.

Recycling and Purifying Water in Southern California

Many communities in California have incorporated recycled water as an important component in their water supply portfolios – embracing the concept of "one water" and using and reusing it. One example is Orange County Water District's Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS) that produces 100 million gallons a day of recycled, purified water to replenish its groundwater basin and serve its community, including Disneyland. "We are so fortunate to have the GWRS — the world's largest water purification project of its kind — right in our backyard," says Frank Dela Vara, director of environmental affairs at the Disneyland Resort. "We wanted to take advantage of the possibility of recycling all of our water, so we embarked on a multiyear project that put the infrastructure in place to allow it to happen. Today, almost all the water used at the Resort is recycled in this manner."

This is a great example of water reuse – but in the Santa Cruz Mid-County region, all of the water that we currently pump out of the ground is essentially a "single-use" product as it enters the sewer system and is eventually discarded into the ocean. We're steadily moving toward changing that.

Latest News on Pure Water Soquel



intrusion/contamination from moving farther inland, and meet the state mandate of basin sustainability by 2040.

At its March 7th meeting the District Board of Directors voted to remove from consideration the use of untreated (raw) wastewater as a potential source of water for this project, and to focus the environmental evaluation on purifying treated secondary or tertiary treated water from the City of Santa Cruz. In addition to exploring an advanced purification facility site next to its headquarters office and the PG&E substation in Soquel, the District Board approved including the Santa Cruz Wastewater Treatment Facility as another possible water purification site in its environmental review, and directed staff to further explore the merits of a few other sites that the District recently re-evaluated.

The draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Pure Water Soquel project is anticipated to be released in summer 2017. For more info: www.socquelcreekwater.org/planning-our-water-future/purewatersoquel

Disposable plastic bags, straws, cups, containers, and cutlery are a thing of the past in Santa Cruz County. Soon, we could also see the end of "disposable" water! ■

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As always, if you have any questions about this month's topic, our Community Water Plan, or anything else related to Soquel Creek Water District, feel free to contact Melanie



Post in General

Public Outreach Coordinator Rebecca Rubin, Soquel Creek Water District AGENCY

Soquel Creek Water District joins Nextdoor

My name is Rebecca Rubin, and I'm excited to let you know that the Soquel Creek Water District has joined Nextdoor. We're looking forward to periodically sharing information and updates, meeting and workshop schedules, emergency notifications, and other important news that you, as a customer or a neighbor in the District, will find relevant and interesting.

Let me assure you that the Nextdoor neighborhood conversations within your own neighborhoods remains private to you and your neighbors; we will only be able to see your replies to our posts, and private messages that you send directly to us.

If you have an emergency, please contact us directly at 831-475-8500. We cannot ensure a timely response to Nextdoor requests.

We look forward to connecting with you on Nextdoor!

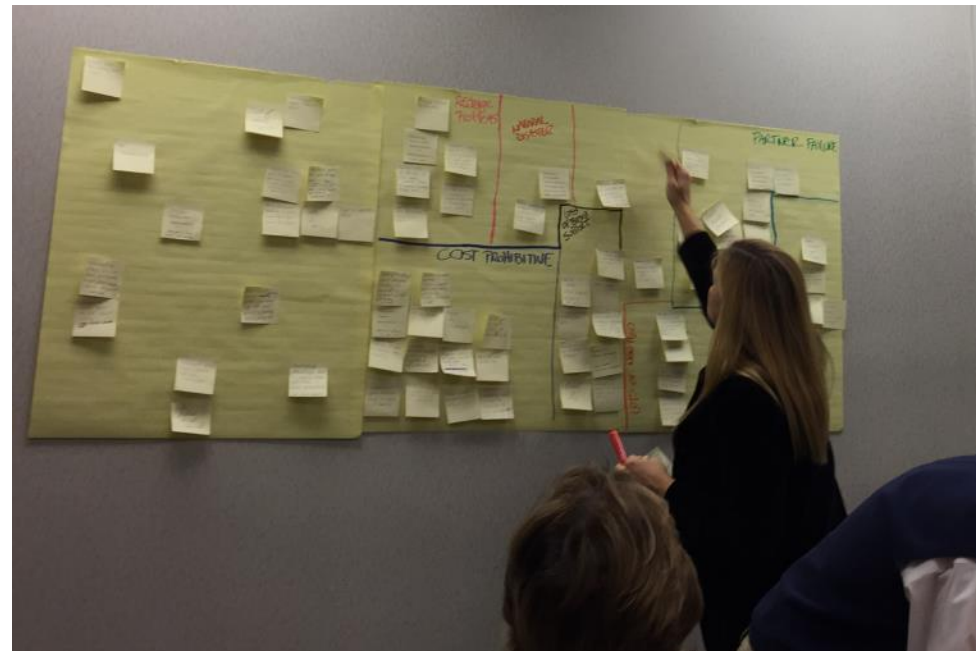
Edited 18 Apr · Soquel Creek Water District

Thank Reply

40 Thanks · 24 Replies

facebook

Listening and Meeting with Staff Regularly




Bringing Elected and Key Officials to Attend Tours and Conferences



Convened Independent Technical Advisory Panel

National Water Research Institute
Creating New Sources of Water...
Home About Us News & Events Research Services Outreach Publications Clarke Prize Resources Store Search

Quick Links
Upcoming Events
e-Publications
Project Proposals
Fellowship Program
Corporate Associates
News Releases
e-Newsletter
Mailing List
Water Blog
Donations
Contact Us
Site Map

NWRI Independent Advisory Panel
 **SOQUEL CREEK
WATER DISTRICT**
**Soquel Creek Water District (SqCWD)
Groundwater Replenishment Project**
Consultants to SqCWD include [Carollo Engineers, Inc.](#) and [Brown & Caldwell](#).
[Click Here](#) to subscribe to e-mail updates on this panel's activities.
Soquel Creek Water District's Pure Water Program: Public Meeting
[CLICK HERE](#) to access the Final Report from Panel Meeting #1, held February 2017
A public meeting of the NWRI Independent Advisory Panel created to support the Pure Water Soquel project will be held in September or October 2017, at a location to be determined in Soquel, California. At this meeting, the Soquel Creek Water District's Project Team will provide an overview of the Pure Water Groundwater Replenishment Project. All interested persons are invited to attend and comment on the matter. Written comments will continue to be accepted via email at ssharkey@nwri-usa.org for five business days following the meeting.
The materials to be discussed at the meeting will be posted here at least two weeks before the meeting date, and will likely include:

1. Notice of Public Meeting
2. Agenda
3. Overview of the Panel Process
4. Overview of Soquel Creek's Pure Water Project
5. Groundwater Replenishment Feasibility Study
6. Geochemical Characterization
7. Constituents of Emerging Concern (CEC) Sampling Plan and Water Quality Study

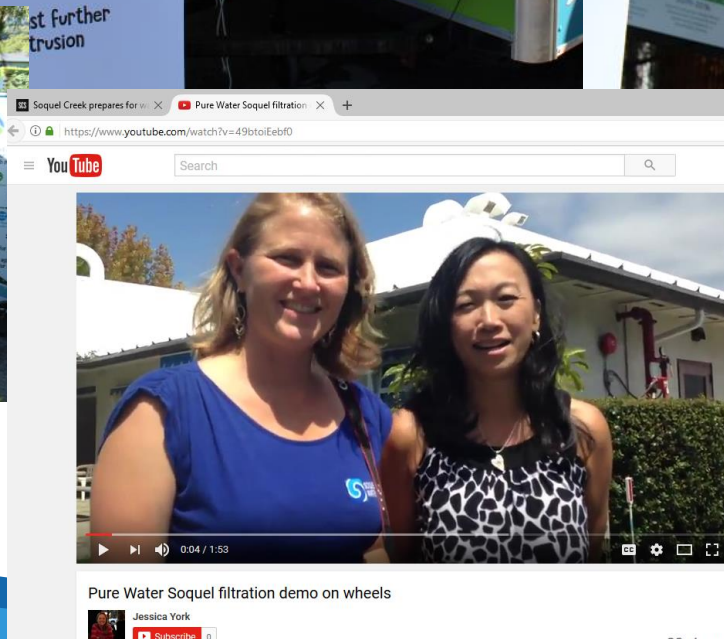


Created our Own Signage with Banners in the Village



Created a Mobile Education Trailer







So be sure when you **STEP**,
Step with **CARE** and great **TACT**.
And remember that Life's
A great **Balancing Act!**

—Dr. Seuss



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