

Water Blueprint



for the San Joaquin Valley

Water Blueprint hosts Congressman Costa, Senator Hurtado, Michele Canales, Senior Policy Analyst for the Office of Senator Caballero & PPIC's Ellen Hanak

On Wednesday, March 15, Water Blueprint for the SJV hosted Congressman Jim Costa, California Senator Melissa Hurtado, Michele Canales, Senior Policy Analyst for the Office of Senator Anna Caballero, and Ellen Hanak, Vice President and Director of the Public Policy Institute of California Water Policy Center at the organization's first Large Group meeting of 2023 on Wednesday, March 15th.

Just under 100 stakeholders (in person and via zoom) from various regions of the San Joaquin Valley participated in the 1.5 hour meeting at the International Agri-Center in Tulare.

The group had the pleasure of hearing from four special guests. If you missed the meeting, here is a brief recap of what they shared:

Thank you [Congressman Jim Costa](#) for stopping by and joining us! Congressman Costa highlighted the importance of Water Blueprint for the SJV and working to find solutions to forge a policy that creates sustainability in California.

[Senator Melissa Hurtado](#), California Senator, 16th District. Senator Hurtado highlighted global water issues and water infrastructure projects. Senator Hurtado is proud of the work the Water Blueprint of the SJV has done to secure funding for the Friant-Kern Canal. Senator Hurtado's goal as Agriculture Committee Chair is to secure a hearing to discuss food security. She stressed that if we become reliant on other nations for our own food supply, this becomes a national security concern.

[Michele Canales](#), Senior Policy Analyst, Office of Senator Anna Caballero.

Senator Caballero is looking forward to working with Water Blueprint for the SJV on two significant water bills: [SB 23 - Water Permit Streamlining](#) and [SB 366 - California Water for All](#)

[Ellen Hanak](#), VP and Director of Public Policy Institute of California Water Policy Center, presented her [policy brief: The Future of Agriculture in the San Joaquin Valley](#). The brief involves in-depth modeling and provides scenarios that show what the valley will look like, given some estimates on regional overdraft.

Thank you to our guest speakers and everyone who joined us both in person and virtually to engage in important discussions surrounding the issues related to California water and how the Water Blueprint can play a pivotal role in helping address those concerns by collaborating with stakeholders, legislators and government agencies.

Mission

Unifying the San Joaquin Valley's voice to advance an accessible, reliable solution for a balanced water future for all.

Vision

The Water Blueprint serves as the united voice to champion water resource policies and projects to maximize accessible, affordable, and reliable supplies for sustainable and productive farms and ranches, healthy communities, and thriving ecosystems in the San Joaquin Valley.

