

**SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT (VALLEY DISTRICT)
GENERAL MANAGER**



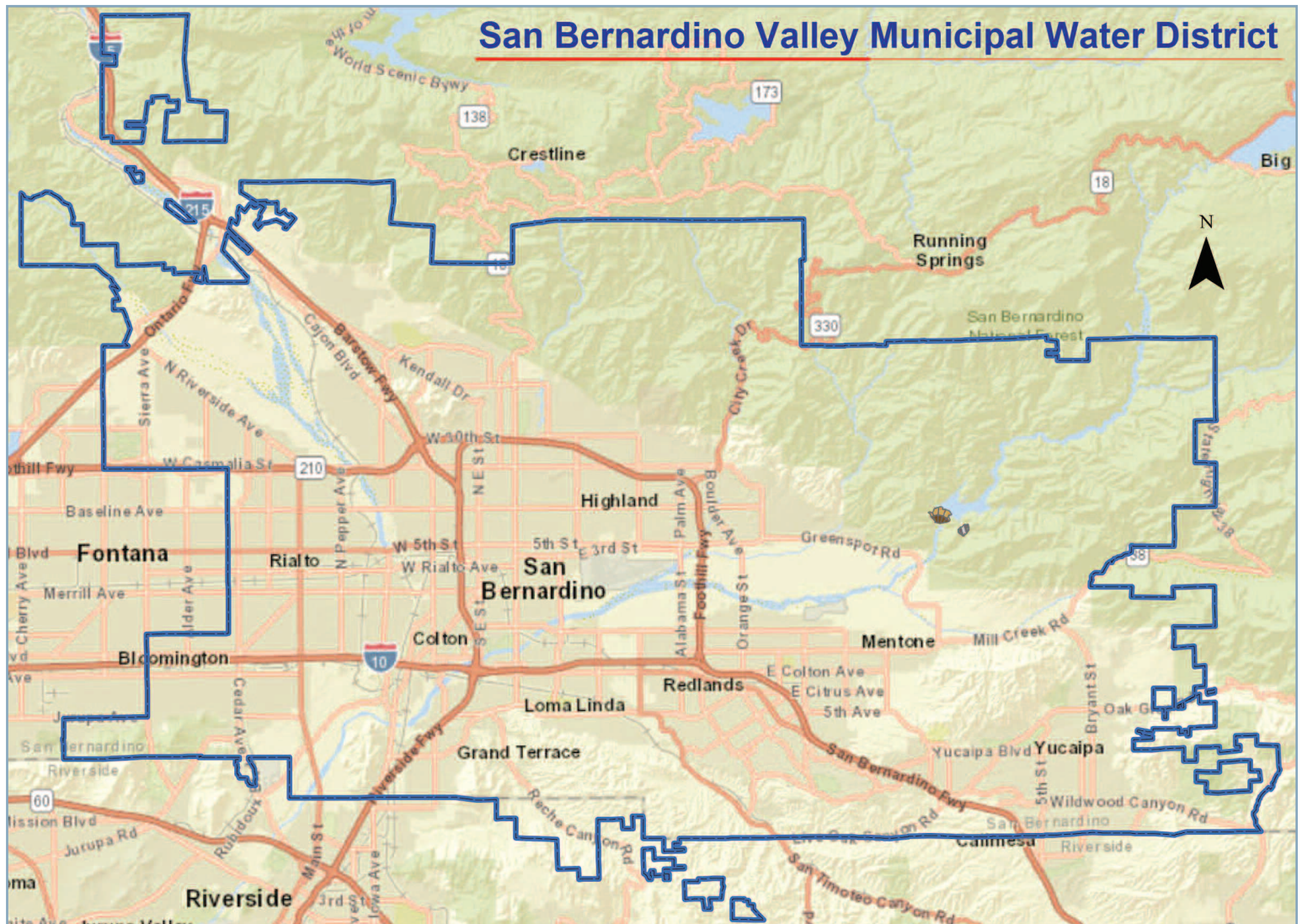
GENERAL MANAGER

**SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
(VALLEY DISTRICT)**

(San Bernardino, CA)

ROBERTS CONSULTING GROUP INC
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THE DISTRICT

The San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (Valley District) was formed in 1954 to find and deliver water to supplement the local surface water and groundwater supplies in the most densely populated areas of San Bernardino County.

As a State Water Contractor, Valley District works with the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and 28 other contractors to reliably manage the State Water Project (SWP). The State Water Project meets the needs of nearly 27 million Californians and 750,000 acres of agriculture. In 1960, the District signed a contract with DWR to purchase water from the Feather River, which became the State Water Project. For Valley District, the State Water Project provides a supplemental water supply to their retail water agencies, enhancing and ensuring the water supplies throughout the region, even during drought.

The District's primary water source is from the State Water Project via Silverwood Lake, also known as the East Branch of the State Aqueduct. There are currently 42 miles of 12" to 78" diameter pipelines in the delivery system. Valley District is the fifth largest of the 29 State Water Contractors that receive water from the SWP. The District's maximum annual entitlement for State Project

Water is 102,600 acre-feet, out of a total for all 29 contractors of 4,185,000 acre-feet. In order to ensure a reliable water supply for the future, State and Federal agencies want to modernize the SWP system through a program called Delta Conveyance (formerly California Water Fix). This will include building new intakes in the northern Delta, along with a tunnel to convey water to the existing aqueduct system in the southern Delta.

The 325 square-mile Valley District service area transitioned from agriculture into a growing community of residents with the businesses and industry to support it. Today, the region, which spans the eastern two-thirds of the San Bernardino Valley, includes an airport, a State university, two private universities, two community college campuses, hundreds of primary and secondary schools, and nearly 700,000 people.

Valley District is a wholesale water agency, so its customers are 13 retail water agencies that serve the cities and communities of Bloomington, Colton, Fontana, Grand Terrace, Highland, Loma Linda, Mentone, Redlands, Rialto, San Bernardino, and Yucaipa. These water agencies collectively depend on Valley District to provide them with roughly 25% of the region's water needs for their business and residential customers.

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In addition to developing and implementing long-range water acquisition strategies, Valley District has designed and built a state-of-the-art network of pipelines, pump stations, reservoirs, and canals that efficiently deliver water throughout the San Bernardino and Yucaipa Valleys for groundwater recharge, as well as direct use by other water agencies. Valley District also hired the RAND Corporation to perform an independent analysis of the water demands and supplies in the San Bernardino Valley Regional Urban Water Management Plan. They have completed their analysis of demands, and the evaluation of supplies will be completed in 2020.

In 2018, more than a dozen cities and water districts voted to participate in the Groundwater Council, a 21st century model for cooperation to achieve sustainable levels of water storage in the San Bernardino groundwater basin. An equitable cost allocation methodology was developed to share the cost of supplemental water for the long-term sustainability of the San Bernardino Basin Area (SBBA). In the first year alone, the SBBA purchased and delivered 18,000 acre-feet of water to the basin.

Valley District is governed by a five-member Board of Directors, elected by Division for four-year overlapping terms. The FY2019-20 General Fund and State Water Project combined budget is almost \$166 million and there are 26 authorized staff positions.

Vital Factors

In 2015, the District identified what was most important, or vital, to their long-term success. This process resulted in the following Vital Factors:

- * **Improve Water Supply Reliability** - Improve water supply reliability to meet demands in an extended drought, through water banking, stormwater, new imported water sources, recycled water, and water conservation.
- * **Improve Water Quality** - Avoid impacts to contamination plumes and help retail water agencies address water quality challenges.

- * **Improve Habitat and Open Space** - Take a leadership role in obtaining permits to build water supply projects through the development of the Upper Santa Ana River Habitat Conservation Plan.

- * **Customer Satisfaction** - Create customer satisfaction by adding value and creating a spirit of cooperation and collaborating with its retailers.

- * **Public Safety** - Minimize or eliminate damage caused by emergencies and strive to reduce the risk of liquefaction through good basin management.

- * **Stewardship** - Maximize the use of State Water Project water supply, reduce costs, identify alternative revenue sources, and obtain the most from the District's water investments.

Projects and Programs

Some of the more significant projects and programs that Valley District is currently undertaking include:

- * **Enhanced Recharge Project on the Santa Ana River: Phase 1A** - This is the first set of improvements to capture and use Santa Ana River water diverted by Valley District and Western Municipal Water District under two Water Rights Permits. When complete, these facilities will enable the diversion of up to 500 cubic feet of water per second and recharge up to 80,000 acre-feet of water in a single year. The intent of the Project is to put to beneficial use stormwater captured behind the Seven Oaks Dam by diverting flow from the Santa Ana River to spreading basins and pipeline deliveries to local agencies throughout the valley.

- * **Local Resources Investment Program (LRIP)** - In 2018, the Board of Directors developed the LRIP, offering a financial incentive to local retailers who construct projects that provide a new source of supplemental water to the Valley District service area, such as recycled water or stormwater capture. The LRIP has a program goal of securing an additional 15,000 acre-feet of supplemental water each year.



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* **Upper Santa Ana River Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)** - One of the most significant projects in Valley District's recent history is the development of the HCP. On behalf of 13 signatory agencies, Valley District is leading the development of a comprehensive environmental compliance program, which is creating a framework to acquire all necessary permits authorizing the construction, operation and maintenance of water supply projects. These projects have been identified as cost-effective alternatives to increase the water supply reliability of the region by approximately 70,000 acre-feet per year, especially during droughts.

* **Hydroelectric Facilities** - As water moves through the Valley District service area and is recharged into the local basins, hydroelectric power can be generated. The District has been able to take advantage of this clean energy source at a number of facilities throughout the service area, and has partnered with its retailers on these projects.

* **Inland Empire Brine Line (Brine Line)** - The Brine Line is a gravity pipeline that delivers non-reclaimable waste from the Santa Ana River watershed upstream of Orange County to a treatment plant in Orange County, owned and operated by Orange County Sanitation District. Valley District administers the Brine Line on behalf of various water agencies throughout its service area who purchased capacity.

* **Sites Project** - As a result of a series of endangered species protection decisions in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the average water supply reliability of the State Water Project has been reduced by about 20% (20,000 acre-feet per year reduction for Valley District) since 2007, with possible future reductions. Valley District staff continue to investigate replacement water supplies both locally and in other parts of the State to ensure that they can reliably meet supplemental water demands into the future. That is why Valley District is

investing in the Sites Reservoir Project. The Project will help Valley District mitigate the risk of further cutbacks on the State Water Project and prepare for droughts.

The Sites Project has been anticipated for more than 50 years and was originally envisioned as part of the State Water Project. It is an off-stream reservoir with 1.3 to 1.8 million acre-feet of storage capacity that would be filled from diversions off the Sacramento River. The water supply benefits, which have been studied for years, are estimated at between 400,000-to-500,000 acre-feet per year, enough water to serve 3.7 million people.

THE AREA

San Bernardino County has a population of 2.14 million, making it the fifth most populous county in California and the twelfth most populous county in the United States. It is racially and ethnically diverse. Slightly over half of the County residents are Latino.

With an area in excess of 20,000 square miles, it is the largest county in the contiguous United States. Located in southeastern California, San Bernardino County is bordered by Inyo County to the north, Kern and Los Angeles counties to the west, Orange and Riverside counties to the south, and the states of Nevada and Arizona to the east. The County is commonly divided into three distinct areas: the Valley Region, which contains the majority of the incorporated areas and is the most populous region (73% of the County's population); the Mountain Region, which is primarily comprised of public lands owned and managed by Federal and State agencies; and the Desert Region, which is the largest region (about 93% of the County's land area). There are 24 incorporated cities within the County, the largest of which are San Bernardino, Fontana, Rancho Cucamonga, Ontario, Victorville, Rialto, Hesperia, Chino, Chino Hills and Upland.

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National protected areas in the County include Mojave National Preserve and parts of the Angeles National Forest, Death Valley National Park, Havasu National Wildlife Refuge, Joshua Tree National Park, and the San Bernardino National Forest. Lake Arrowhead is a popular attraction, as are ski resorts such as Snow Summit and Bear Mountain.

Among the many colleges and universities in the County are California State University, San Bernardino; Loma Linda University; University of Redlands; and Chaffey College, among others.

The median price of a home in San Bernardino County is \$345,000, making it one of the more affordable areas in Southern California.

KEY CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Key challenges and opportunities facing Valley District include:

- * Water reliability and sustainability.
- * Addressing the impacts of climate change.
- * Keeping the water the District owns (e.g., recharge, stormwater recapture, leak prevention, coordinate releases with the Corps of Engineers, etc.).
- * Habitat and endangered species protection and Plan preparation.
- * Managing the projects currently underway and keeping them moving forward.
- * Strategic planning (a consultant has been hired to assist with this).
- * Ongoing litigation over water rights.
- * Avoiding “mission creep” - making sure that money is spent on water related activities.

THE POSITION

This is an at-will position reporting to the Board of Directors. The General Manager performs all duties, services, acts and functions necessary and proper to lawfully manage and conduct business of the District in accordance with all legal requirements and the policies, procedures, rules and regulations established from time to time by the District's Board of Directors. Responsibilities of the position include, but are not limited to: day-to-day leadership of the District; direct work supervision of all District personnel; management of all District financial matters; attending meetings and workshops of the Board of Directors; working closely with State water agencies and projects; and managing and conducting all business of the District. He/She will perform additional duties assigned and/or delegated that are necessary to achieve the Board's goals and objectives in a manner that protects and enhances the long-term financial capacity of the District.

THE CANDIDATE

Education and Experience

- * Desire a bachelor's degree in civil engineering, hydrology, environmental science, management or other relevant field. An advanced degree would be a plus.



- * Requires significant and relevant senior level management experience (as a chief executive or senior staff) in the water industry, including successful management of projects of the size and/or complexity of those Valley District is undertaking.
- * Familiarity with the California water industry and water law would be valuable. Must have demonstrated experience dealing with policy makers and regulatory agencies.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

The selected candidate should have excellent interpersonal, communication (written and oral), conflict management, and listening skills. In addition, he/she should have some knowledge of:

- * The Delta Conveyance Design & Construction Authority (DCA) and the State Water Project, as well as the Sites Reservoir (should have a basic understanding and be willing to become an expert and provide leadership in these projects).
- * The Santa Ana Watershed.
- * The water industry and management of engineers.
- * Laws related to water, environment, employment, and other areas relevant to the District's work.

The General Manager should also be able to:

- * Effectively interact with State and local politicians and staff, such as the Regional Water Quality Control Board, the State Water Resources Control Board, the Department of Water Resources, and the Department of Fish & Wildlife, among others.
- * Work with attorneys and be savvy about litigation.
- * Manage outside consultants and engineers.
- * Manage large projects.
- * Work with retailers to expand their infrastructure.

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Management Style and Personal Traits

The new General Manager should be someone who treats all Board members evenhandedly, works in partnership with the Board, and understands their role. This person should provide his/her best recommendations to the Board, but implement Board decisions even if different from his/her own. He/She should also support the efforts of the retailers and provide assistance to them, as needed, and serve the retailers with rate payers in mind.

The ideal candidate will be a strong, decisive leader while, at the same time, is collaborative and a team player, valuing and maintaining the excellent staff at Valley District. He/She should have high expectations of staff and delegate, but monitor and hold staff accountable. Everyone within the organization should be treated with respect and dignity.

This person should understand his/her limits, and know when to seek advice from experts, as needed. He/She should be able to handle stress and conflict, and help staff and the Board deal with this, as well. The General Manager should also be able to adjust his/her style to fit the particular situation. In addition, he/she should be willing and eager to find collaborative solutions with other agencies to achieve District goals.

It is important for the selected candidate to be honest, transparent, professional and ethical. He/She should be self-confident, have both personal and professional maturity, and be a good negotiator. Finally, this person should be savvy, able to multi-task, willing to take calculated risks, be a good public speaker, and fiscally conservative.

COMPENSATION

The salary for this position is open, with hiring dependent upon the qualifications and experience of the selected candidate. In addition, benefits are provided which currently include: vacation, executive leave, holidays, sick leave, and other types of leave;

District-paid medical, dental and vision insurance for both employees and spouse (for qualified dependents, the District will pay up to the average of all family plans available through the health care provider contracted by the District); District-paid short- and long-term disability insurance; \$10,000 life insurance coverage; automobile allowance; cell phone reimbursement; professional memberships; certification and licensing expenses; employee education reimbursement program; and employee assistance program. Retirement is through CalPERS. Classic members enter under a 2% at 60 benefit formula (for FY2019-20, there is a member contribution rate of .95% of reportable compensation). In accordance with the Public Employees' Pension Reform Act (PEPRA), the benefit formula for any employee hired after January 1, 2013, and not a classic CalPERS member, the formula is 2% at 62 with a member contribution rate at half the normal cost of the plan (currently at 7.5% of reportable compensation).

HOW TO APPLY

Send resumes (email preferred) by **November 4, 2019** to:

ROBERTS CONSULTING GROUP INC

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Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
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Email: robertsrcg@msn.com
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An Equal Opportunity/ADA Employer

***Female, Minority and
Disabled Candidates are
Encouraged to Apply***

Additional information about Valley District can be found on their website at www.sbvmd.com

