

# Investing in Water Quality

At San Jose Water Company (SJWC), the quality of the water we serve influences every decision we make — from investing in our reservoirs, tanks, and pipes to operating our distribution system. As we do every year, SJWC is making significant investments to replace and upgrade key components of its water system. In that spirit, SJWC is planning to upgrade its Montevina Water Treatment Plant (Plant) and to use the best available technology that will provide our customers with a source of reliable and low cost water from its existing water supply. The upgrade of the Plant will allow uninterrupted treatment during winter storms when the source water turbidity is high. Of equal importance, the quality of the treated water will also be improved by the ability of the upgraded Plant to remove naturally occurring taste and odor causing compounds during the warmer months of the year, to reduce disinfection by-products, and to provide an enhanced barrier to potentially harmful organisms.

To bolster its commitment to water quality, SJWC is involved in several research projects, all aimed at accurately monitoring and optimizing the quality of the water we serve. This year, we are co-funding a research study with other utilities and the Water Research Foundation to look into the sources, fate



and treatment of hexavalent chromium. SJWC is also studying ways to optimize the mixing of the water in its distribution system tanks, where needed, to ensure that the high quality water we produce is maintained all the way to your tap.

SJWC has been serving its customers for 146 years. This long history of service has only been possible because the Company has continuously invested in maintaining and improving its water system. For instance, SJWC has joined the American Water Works Association's Partnership for Safe Water Distribution System Optimization program. This newly established program, supported by EPA and other water industry organizations, will help SJWC continue to meet all drinking water regulations and to focus on a process of continuous improvement targeted at the reliability and quality of the water we provide our customers.

