

ZONE 7 BOARD OF DIRECTORS WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, April 28, 2026
TIME: 3:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Boardroom
Zone 7 Administration Building
100 North Canyons Parkway
Livermore, California

Director Figuers
Director Green
Director Palmer

AGENDA

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda
3. Recommended Amendments to Zone 7's Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Permitting Requirements
4. Adjournment

DATE: April 28, 2026

TO: Water Resources Committee

FROM: Colleen Winey, Acting Senior Geologist
Michelle Parent, Water Resources Technician II

SUBJECT: Recommended Amendments to Zone 7's Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Permitting Requirements

SUMMARY:

- To support the Mission of delivering safe, reliable, efficient, and sustainable water, Zone 7 Water Agency implements the Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) Permitting Program to sustainably manage the Livermore Valley Groundwater Basin as the exclusive Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). This action aligns with Strategic Plan Goal D - Groundwater Management: Manage and protect the groundwater basin as the State-designated GSA, and implements Initiative #11 – Manage the GSA and implement the Groundwater Sustainability Plan.
- The Zone 7 Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 1037 in 1982, Resolution No. 1165 in 1985, and the Nutrient Management Plan in 2015 to protect groundwater basin water quality and establish the OWTS permit review process.
- Since the 1980s, State and local land use policies have evolved, and Alameda County's regulatory oversight and planning processes have been updated.
- In August 2025, staff presented an overview of Zone 7's current OWTS Permitting Program, identified inconsistencies with other permitting agencies, and outlined potential areas for updates.
- Staff recommends amendments to the permitting process, as included in Zone 7's Wastewater Management Plan and Nutrient Management Plan, to align with the current regulatory environment and land use policies while continuing to protect groundwater basin quality, as described in Attachment A.

FUNDING:

No funding is requested at this time.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends that the Water Resources Committee discuss the proposed amendments and forward them to the full Board for adoption at the June Board meeting.

ATTACHMENT:

Attachment A: Proposed Changes to the OWTS Permitting Process.

Attachment A – Proposed Changes to the OWTS Permitting Process

1. Maintain current requirements for loading and advanced treatment.
2. Replace the 5-acre minimum lot size requirement and loading table in the Nutrient Management Plan with an updated table that allows loading limits proportional to smaller lot sizes.
3. Modify the provisions of the Wastewater Management Plan to allow subdivision of parcels into lots smaller than 5 acres
4. In the Wastewater Management Plan, replace the language “demonstrate improvement in groundwater quality” with “will not cause nitrogen concentrations to increase.”
5. In the Wastewater Management Plan, replace the language “wastewater treatment plans in Alameda County above Niles not operated by LAVMA agencies should be operated and maintained by Zone 7” with “require Zone 7 Board approval for new wastewater treatment plants.”
6. Rescind Resolution No. 1037.
7. Rescind Resolution No. 1165.
8. Amend Resolution No. 15-71.