

Factsheet: Modernizing
State Water Infrastructure

Delta Conveyance Project

Securing a Critical Water Source

The State Water Project is a collection of 700 miles of canals, pipelines, reservoirs and hydroelectric power facilities that deliver water flowing from the Sierra Nevada Mountains to the taps of 27 million Californians and 750,000 acres of farmland. Critical to the success of the state's economy, on average this water source provides about 30% of the water used in Southern California, but can provide even more in wet years.

To protect this water source from challenges brought by climate change, weather extremes, seismic risks and sea-level rise, Gov. Gavin Newsom's Delta Conveyance Project proposes to modernize the state's aging water infrastructure in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The project is designed to improve the system's ability to capture and move water during periods of abundant rainfall or high run-off from snowpack, while meeting all water quality and endangered species protections, and deliver it to reservoirs and groundwater basins throughout the state.

New Delta conveyance has been studied for more than a decade. Planning for the latest proposal – the DCP – began in 2020, drawing in part from prior designs and study of California WaterFix and the Bay Delta Conservation Plan.

Next Steps

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and other participating public water agencies are funding the preconstruction environmental review, design, planning and permitting for the DCP. Metropolitan's Board of Directors approved funding its share of the preconstruction costs in 2020 and 2024, amounting to about \$300 million through calendar year 2027.

A future decision would come before Metropolitan's board in 2027 based on further design and permitting, as well as updates to the cost estimate and further details of project benefits, to determine whether Metropolitan will participate in the construction of the project.

Proposed Delta Conveyance Project



A Smarter, Smaller Project Shaped by Community Input

The current project is significantly refined from past proposals, reflecting extensive community input. It cuts the construction footprint in half, reroutes infrastructure to avoid the central Delta and the need to use barges to move materials. It also avoids known tribal cultural resources and includes an estimated \$960 million in environmental mitigation and a \$200 million Community Benefits Program.

Project features:

- Two new intakes in the North Delta equipped with state-of-the-art fish screens with a capacity to divert up to 6,000 cubic feet per second when hydrology, water quality and species regulations permit.
- One below-ground, 45-mile tunnel that is more earthquake resilient.
- A new pumping plant to lift water into the existing Bethany Reservoir on the California Aqueduct, creating redundancy in case levee failures draw high-salinity water into the south Delta or the Banks pumping plant otherwise goes offline.



Understanding Facts of Delta Conveyance Streamlining Trailer Bill Language

CLAIM	RESPONSE
Community and Environmental Impacts	
<i>Claim: The trailer bill would set aside consideration of the Delta Conveyance Project's community and environmental impacts</i>	The California Department of Water Resources disclosed, analyzed and adopted mitigation measures for project impacts. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have imposed additional mitigation in their permits. The Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority estimates the cost for mitigation is \$960 million. In addition, DWR approved a \$200 million Community Benefits Program that will address non-environmental community impacts.
<i>Claim: The DCP would only benefit a portion of California, while harming Californians north of the Delta.</i>	The DCP would directly support water supplies for 2/3 of Californians, including the Bay Area, the San Joaquin Valley, Central Coast and Southern California. The SWP supports our state's entire economy, which generates tax revenues that fund state government programs that benefit every community in California. The DCP has no negative impacts on anyone or the environment north of the Delta.
<i>Claim: The trailer bill would eliminate critical environmental protections provided under the State Water Board's permitting process</i>	Nothing in the budget trailer bill removes environmental protections. Protestants at State Water Board proceedings remain free to raise environmental concerns, and the State Water Board remains free to impose terms and conditions.
<i>Claim: The DCP will damage, or possibly even destroy, the Delta's disadvantaged communities and Tribal Cultural Resources.</i>	DWR studied the environmental impacts of the DCP, including impacts to disadvantaged communities and Tribal Cultural Resources, in consultation with those communities. None of the impacts would result in the permanent damage or complete destruction of any communities. DWR has committed to continue working with impacted communities and tribes throughout project implementation to ensure both environmental and non-environmental community impacts are avoided and mitigated to the extent feasible. In addition, there are numerous disadvantaged communities in the SWP service area that need access to safe, affordable and reliable SWP supplies. Their futures should be considered as well.

Policy Issues Moving through the Budget	
<i>Claim: This trailer bill should move through the normal policy committee process, allowing for thorough engagement, analysis and review by the public and experts.</i>	Policy issues are commonly adopted through the budget trailer bill process, at the discretion of the Governor and Legislature. In fact, the Governor's last infrastructure streamlining package in 2023 was adopted through budget trailer bills and passed through the Legislature. The budget committee process on DCP included significant public engagement, detailed analysis from committee staff, as well as subject matter expertise presented by the DWR, the Legislative Analyst Office and the Department of Finance.

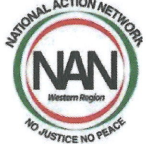
NAACP
California Hawaii
STATE CONFERENCE



CalChamber



ACEC
California



Rebuild SoCal
Partnership

Association of California Cities
Orange County

LOS ANGELES AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



BizFed
Los Angeles
County
Business
Federation
Strengthening the Voice of Business Since 2008

CICWQ
Construction Industry
Coalition on Water Quality



The Chamber
Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce



InlandAction

SCLC
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



San Diego County
Water Authority



ORANGE COUN
BUSINESS COUNCIL



SWCLC Southwest California
Legislative Council



California
Business
Roundtable

SCCA
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
CONTRACTORS
ASSOCIATION



June 5, 2025

Governor Gavin Newsom
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Senate President Pro Tempore Mike
McGuire
1021 O St., Suite 8518
Sacramento, CA 95814

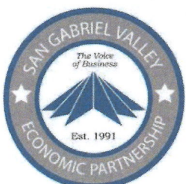
Speaker of the Assembly Robert
Rivas
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0029



RE: Support for Delta Conveyance Project Streamlining Trailer Bill

Dear Governor Newsom, Pro Tem McGuire, and Speaker Rivas,

On behalf of a broad coalition of labor, business, infrastructure, social justice and nonprofit organizations, we would like to express our strong support for the budget trailer bill that is





union construction jobs and stimulate local economies, especially in areas hardest hit by economic downturns and drought-related agricultural cutbacks.

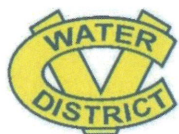
For these reasons, **our coalition urges you to support the DCP trailer bill**. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to working with you to advance this important legislation.



Sincerely,

Deven Upadhyay, General Manager
**The Metropolitan Water District of
Southern California**

Rick Callender, President
NAACP California Hawaii State Conference



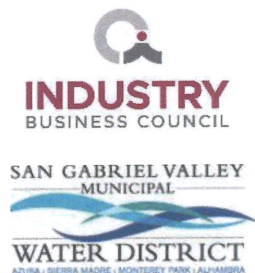
Joe Cruz, Executive Director
California State Council of Laborers

Kristopher Anderson, Policy Advocate,
Water, Agriculture and Resources
California Chamber of Commerce



Matthew Cremins, Legislative Consultant
**CA/NV Conference of Operating
Engineers**

Michael Quigley, Executive Director
California Alliance for Jobs



Dan Denham, General Manager
San Diego County Water Authority

Ernesto Medrano, Executive Secretary
**LA/OC Building & Construction Trade
Council**

Tyler Munzing, Director of Government
Affairs
**American Council of Engineering
Companies – California**

Robert Saucedo, Chairman
Groundswell for Water Justice

Peter Tateishi, Chief Executive Officer
**Associated General Contractors of
California**

Thomas D. McCarthy, General Manager
Kern County Water Agency



Kris Murray, Executive Director
**Association of California Cities – Orange
County**

Valerie Pryor, General Manager
Zone 7 Water Agency



Adrian Covert, Senior Vice President of
Public Policy
Bay Area Council

Aaron Baker, P.E., Chief Operating Officer –
Water Utility
Santa Clara Valley Water District



Jeff Montejano, Chief Executive Officer
**Building Industry Association of
Southern California**

Richard Lambros, Managing Director
Southern California Leadership Council



Tracy Hernandez, CEO
**Los Angeles County Business Federation
(LA BizFed)
New California Coalition**

Charley Wilson, Executive Director
Southern California Water Coalition

Jon Switalski, Executive Director
Rebuild SoCal Partnership

Dave Sorem, President
Secure Water Alliance

Dan Dunmoyer, President & CEO
California Building Industry Association

Ahmad Thomas, CEO
Silicon Valley Leadership Group



Matthew Hargrove, President & CEO
California Business Properties Association

Pat Fong Kushida, President & CEO
California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce

Rob Lapsley, President
California Business Roundtable

Lance Eckhart, General Manager
San Geronio Pass Water Agency

Aldo E. Schindler, City Manager
City of Tustin

Monica Farias, President & CEO
Greater West Covina Business Association

Randall Reed, Board President
Cucamonga Valley Water District

Victoria Hernandez, Executive Director
South Orange County Economic Coalition

Matthew Litchfield, General Manager
Three Valleys Municipal Water District

Donna Duperron, President & CEO
Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce

Paul Shoenberger, General Manager
Mesa Water District

Justin M. Scott-Coe, General Manager
Monte Vista Water District

Tom Love, General Manager
Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Upper Water)

Louise Lamparra, Executive Director
Ventura County Coalition of Labor, Agriculture and Business (CoLAB)

Edward J. Caldwell, General Manager
West Basin Municipal Water District

Jim Barrett, General Manager
Coachella Valley Water District

Harvey De La Torre, General Manager
Municipal Water District of Orange County

Adam Eventov, President
Murietta Temecula Group

John Kennedy, General Manager
Orange County Water District

Eileen Hupp, President & CEO
Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce

Jason Martin, General Manager
Rancho California Water District

Mara Santos, President & CEO
Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce

Marisa Creter, Executive Director
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

Robb Grantham, General Manager
Santa Margarita Water District

Dennis Cafferty, General Manager
El Toro Water District

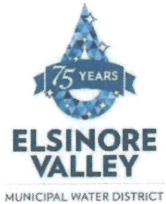
Mandip Samra, General Manager
Burbank Water and Power

Pete Martinez, General Manager
Channel Islands Beach Community Services District

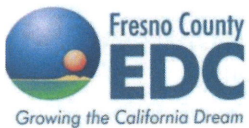
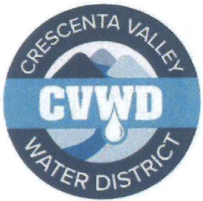
Dennis D. LaMoreaux, CEO/General Manager
Palmdale Water District

Darin Kasamoto, General Manager
San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

Heather Dyer, General Manager
San Bernardino Valley MWD



PASADENA
Water & Power



Monica Garcia-Diaz, Executive
Director
Wilmington Chamber of Commerce

Lynda Noriega, President
**California Domestic Water
Company**

Chris Neighbor, President & CEO
SummerHill Homes

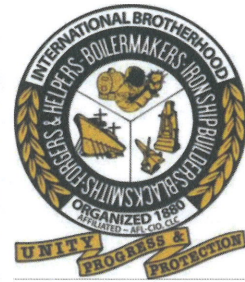
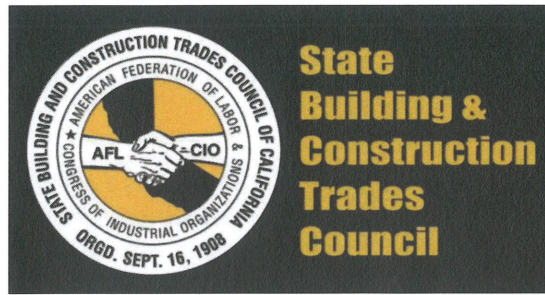
David Ellis, President
Delta Ventures, Inc

Kimberly A. Thorner, General Manager
Olivehain Municipal Water District

Caren Spilsbury, Executive Director
Norwalk Chamber of Commerce

CC:

Members of the Assembly
Members of the Senate



Honorable Gavin Newsom, Governor
State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Honorable Mike McGuire
Senate President pro Tempore
California State Senate

Honorable Robert Rivas
Assembly Speaker
California State Assembly

Honorable Scott Wiener, Chair
Senate Budget Committee
California State Senate

Honorable Jesse Gabriel, Chair
Assembly Budget Committee
California State Assembly

Honorable Brian Jones
Senate Republican Leader
California State Senate

Assemblymember James Gallagher
Assembly Republican Leader
California State Assembly

RE: Support for Delta Conveyance Project Streamlining Trailer Bill

Dear Governor Newsom, President pro Tempore McGuire, Speaker Rivas, Senators Wiener and Allen, and Assemblymembers Gabriel and Bennett:

On behalf of the State Building and Construction Trades Council and the undersigned unions, we write in strong support of the Delta Conveyance Streamlining trailer bill. Californians rely on water supplies funded and delivered through the California State Water Project—our state's backbone water supply infrastructure. It is not only a critical source for 27 million people and 750,000 acres of farmland, but also one of the most affordable long-term options available to working Californians.

Every year of delay in constructing the Delta Conveyance Project costs water ratepayers—including nearly 8 million residents of disadvantaged communities—an estimated \$500 million. That translates to higher utility bills for families already burdened by housing costs, inflation, and



June 5, 2025

Honorable Gavin Newsom, Governor
State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Honorable Mike McGuire
Senate President pro Tempore
California State Senate

Honorable Scott Wiener, Chair
Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
California State Senate

Honorable Brian Jones
Senate Republican Leader
California State Senate

Honorable Robert Rivas
Assembly Speaker
California State Assembly

Honorable Jesse Gabriel, Chair
Assembly Budget Committee
California State Assembly

Assemblymember James Gallagher
Assembly Republican Leader
California State Assembly

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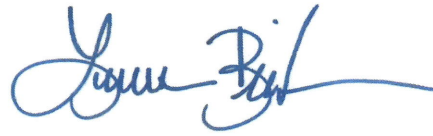
Dear Governor Newsom, President pro Tempore McGuire, Speaker Rivas, Senators Wiener and Allen, and Assemblymembers Gabriel and Bennett:

As representatives of Californians who rely and depend upon water supplies paid for and provided through the State Water Project, which continues to be California's backbone water supply infrastructure and one of the most affordable water supply options available for 27 million people and 750,000 acres of farmland, we write in support for the budget trailer bill that is intended to streamline processes for advancing the Delta Conveyance Project to a point where informed decisions can be made regarding construction investment.

California's water supply and infrastructure system is highly complex and interconnected, but the State Water Project remains the centerpiece of the entire system and absolutely fundamental to California's water supply and economic success. Now is the time for California to update and upgrade this critical infrastructure to ensure that families, businesses, and farmers get the water they need, when they need it, and to avoid catastrophic results for millions of Californians if we fail to modernize this system in advance of a significant natural disaster event.



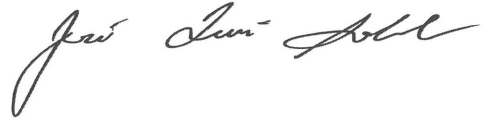
MARK GONZÁLEZ
54th Assembly District



LAURA RICHARDSON
35th Senate District



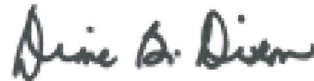
ELOISE GOMEZ REYES
29th Senate District



JOSE LUIS SOLACHE
62nd Assembly District



TRI TA
70th Assembly District



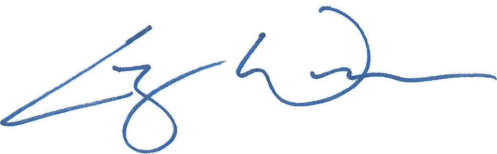
DIANE DIXON
72nd Assembly District



ALEXANDRA MACEDO
33rd Assembly District



ROSILICIE OCHOA BOGH
19th Senate District



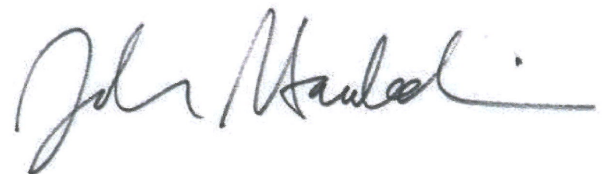
GREG WALLIS
47th Assembly District



LAURIE DAVIES
74th Assembly District



KATE SANCHEZ
71st Assembly District



JOHN HARABEDIAN
41st Assembly District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Tangipa", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

DAVID TANGIPA
8th Assembly District

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Fong", with a stylized, looped design.

MIKE FONG
49th Assembly District