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July 23, 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





intended to streamline processes for advancing the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) to a point where informed decisions can be made regarding construction investment.

This budget trailer bill is NOT about circumventing public engagement and review – this budget trailer bill is all about breaking through redundant, archaic processes that have resulted in endless delays, duplicative reviews, and millions upon millions of dollars of additive costs, while impeding the State’s ability to complete the DCP and other critical, needed infrastructure projects.

The DCP is a critical component of California’s plans to fortify the State Water Project (SWP) in preparation for the impacts of extreme weather and climate change. The SWP delivers water to more than 27 million Californians and 750,000 acres of farmland and is the engine that powers California’s economic success. However, this system is vulnerable to extreme weather and unpredictable precipitation patterns and, as a result, our state’s main water supply is at serious risk.

According to the Department of Water Resources’ SWP Delivery Capability Report, the SWP is expected to lose up to 23% of its supply in the next 20 years due to changing flow patterns and extreme weather shifts. It is critical that we act *NOW* by advancing the DCP to prepare California’s water infrastructure to protect the long-term reliability and affordability of water for the millions of Californian homes and businesses that rely upon the SWP.

The 2024 Benefit/Cost Analysis of the Delta Conveyance Project found that water conveyed through the SWP is the most affordable source of water compared to alternatives like desalination or recycling. These alternative sources are necessary, but the volume of water delivered by the SWP cannot be replaced.

For decades, the DCP has been stalled by frivolous lawsuits and duplicative reviews. These are the universal problems facing major infrastructure throughout California, and foundational to why it is so difficult to do big things in our state and bring major infrastructure to completion.

The budget trailer bill proposal restores balance to this process – ensuring legitimate concerns are addressed, while removing tools for obstruction and delay. Every year of delay in construction of the DCP costs California’s water ratepayers – including nearly 8 million people living in disadvantaged communities – approximately \$600 million. The budget trailer bill proposal reduces bureaucratic red tape, which translates into real savings for Californians and for the State budget.

The proposed trailer bill smooths administrative processes to help move the Delta Conveyance Project in a way that balances environmental protections while improving the efficiency of the review and approval process.

It needs to be said, that this DCP *“is not your grandparent’s water conveyance project.”* The DCP has been redesigned to be smaller, more environmentally responsive, and less intrusive to Delta communities. At the same time, the DCP will generate thousands of good-paying



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**

Joe Cruz, Executive Director
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Matthew Cremins, Legislative Consultant
**CA/NV Conference of Operating
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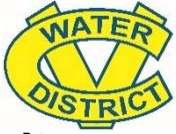
Charley Wilson, Executive Director
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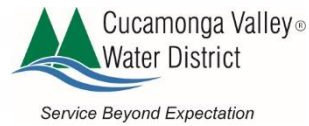
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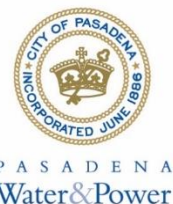


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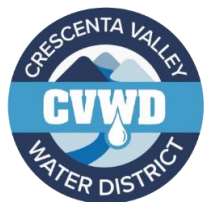


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CC: Members of the Assembly
Members of the Senate