# **Delta Conveyance Project** May 2021



# COMMUNITY BENEFITS PROGRAM SUGGESTED FUNDING IDEAS

The following is a list of suggested ideas\* that could potentially be included if a fund were set up in the Delta as part of a Community Benefits Program. The suggestions were provided to the Department of Water Resources in the 44 community interviews conducted, Workshop 1 and in written input received through a variety of channels.

### **Water and Air Quality**

- Clean up trash and garbage
- Address algal blooms, pollutants, invasive plant species and salt water intrusion
- Provide clean drinking water systems
- Remove derelict boats
- Water hyacinth removal
- Manage dust
- Address road congestion (related to air quality)
- Establish waste water treatment or provide access to regional sanitation

## **Public Safety and Emergency Response**

- Address homeless encampments
- Coordinate Sheriff response so someone comes out when you call
- Increase law enforcement throughout the Delta
- Swimming lessons for all Delta residents
- Help counties and towns deal with illegal dumping and constant theft
- Create a community center that can be used for emergencies and educational workshops and other activities
- Fire protection
- Make sure recreation areas stays safe and clean and provides benches and shade



#### Recreation

- Develop safe, shady and clean fishing, walking and picnicking recreation places throughout the Delta
- Connect urban river walk/bike trails throughout the Delta
- Create a history/culture walking trail along Mormon Slough from Scotts Ave to the river
- Connect green space at Reyes Park to the boat launch
- Work with youth to plant trees and community gardens all along the slough
- Access to river for non-motorized boaters
- Walking and biking trails including Rails to Trails
- Fishing access especially from shore
- After construction, convert the construction roads to walking and biking routes
- Complete the Great Delta Trail with campgrounds
- Reopen Delta Shores State Park
- Public access to natural places
- Support hatcheries within recreation as part of fisheries
- Connect the missing portion of the Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail between Oakley and Pardee



#### **Habitat Conservation**

- Elk Slough Project
- Protect Golden Eagle habitat in hills behind Clifton Court
- Funding to farmers to put some of their land in habitat maybe in conjunction with NRCS
- Wildlife easements
- Land acquisition and purchase easements essential to connect the refuge habitats throughout the Delta
- Land acquisition to protect habitat from urban encroachment
- Funding for easements for a greater variety of habitat types than the NRCS Wetland Reserve Program funds

### **Culture and History**

- Put up history and culture interpretative signs to connect to indigenous culture and other history
- Develop a community center large enough for whole community to meet in and for larger events
- Community center with multiple uses
- Prop 68 should guide the benefit types
- Land purchase for history and culture
- Beyond Legacy communities, includes cultural landscape, towns that no longer exist like old Chinatown







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### **Economy**

- Visitor and Education Center at Junctions of Highways 12 and 160
- Facilitate multi-agency funding of the Isleton Community Plan
- Develop water-related jobs related to the River as a source of work
- Fund a Rural Main Street program similar to SACOG's to fund implementation of local community plans
- Provide communities assistance to people to develop ideas and write proposals
- Equal economic opportunity
- Communities need early planning, engineering, or architectural expertise
- Need more anchor businesses to attract tourists
- Economic development for local Delta residents
- Natural resource tourism
- Funds for legacy towns for board walks and main streets
- Address housing code violations-Sac and FEMA issues
- Recreational tourism
- County regulations of AirBnB to encourage more of that type of rental in the Delta
- Marketing the region for tourism



#### **Infrastructure**

- Improve infrastructure: roads, levees, communication, power
- Improve transportation corridors
- Access to reliable highspeed internet
- Use buses used in construction for a Delta shuttle
- More bus service to major cities and towns



# **Education and Workforce Development**

- Environmental education
- Schools have a backlog of infrastructure needs
- In-person, long-term, comprehensive, hands-on agricultural education
- Workforce development for low-skilled workers with emphasis on people with disabilities and youth



 Provide paid internship opportunities for young people

### Agriculture

- After construction, dedicate the construction roads to agricultural transport
- Marketing and tourism grants to hire staff that could work with agriculture businesses
- Incentivize agricultural innovations
- Incentivize wildlife-friendly agriculture
- Land and easement purchase
- Assistance for conversion to agriculture that can participate in carbon markets
- Housing for farm labor closer to agricultural areas (would improve traffic)



# Levee Maintenance

- Diversions should have fish screens
- Infrastructure investments especially levees
- Financing for abandoned lands
- Support for Reclamation Districts and levee maintenance
- Address subsidence
- Raise the level of flood protection to Legacy communities
- Add funding for the Delta Levee Subventions and Special Projects programs

