

Proposed Delta Conveyance Project

Community Benefits Program Tribal Workshop

May 17, 2021 • Workshop Begins at 1:00pm



Welcome



Objectives



- Ensure participants understand how the Community Benefits Program would fit into the Delta Conveyance Project (if the Delta Conveyance Project were approved)
- Ensure participants understand the objectives of Community Benefits Program
- Opportunity to provide input on the Community Benefits Program and the process to develop the program



Agenda

1:00 - 1:15 pm

Welcome and Introductions

1:15 - 1:25 pm

Agenda Review and How to Participate

1:25 - 1:40 pm

How the Community Benefits Program Would Fit Into the Delta Conveyance Project

1:40 - 1:55 pm

Community Benefits Program Overview and Engagement/Input Summary

1:55 - 2:55 pm

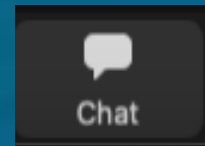
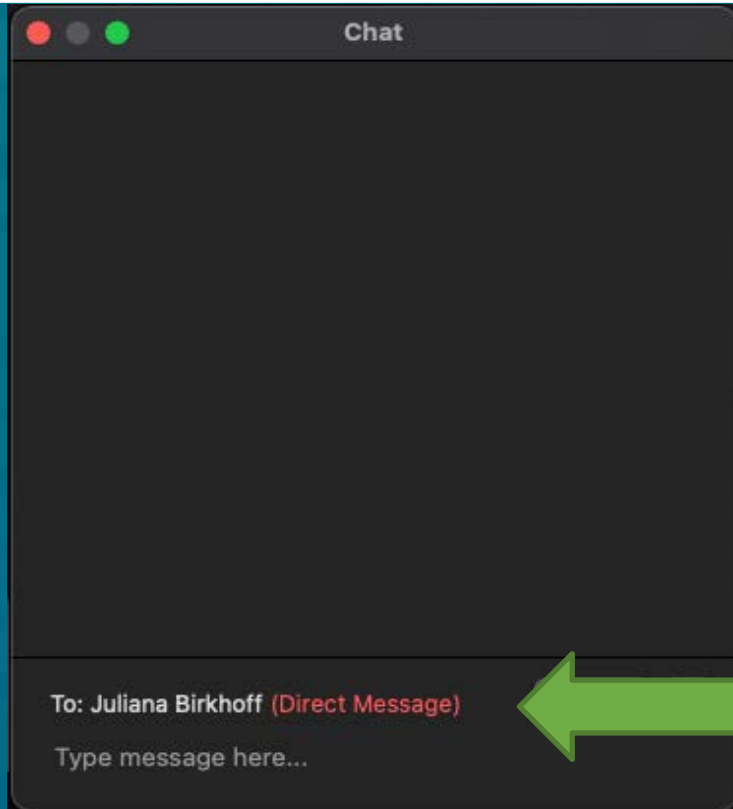
Discussion and Input

2:55 - 3:00 pm

Next Steps



If You Have a Question - Chat

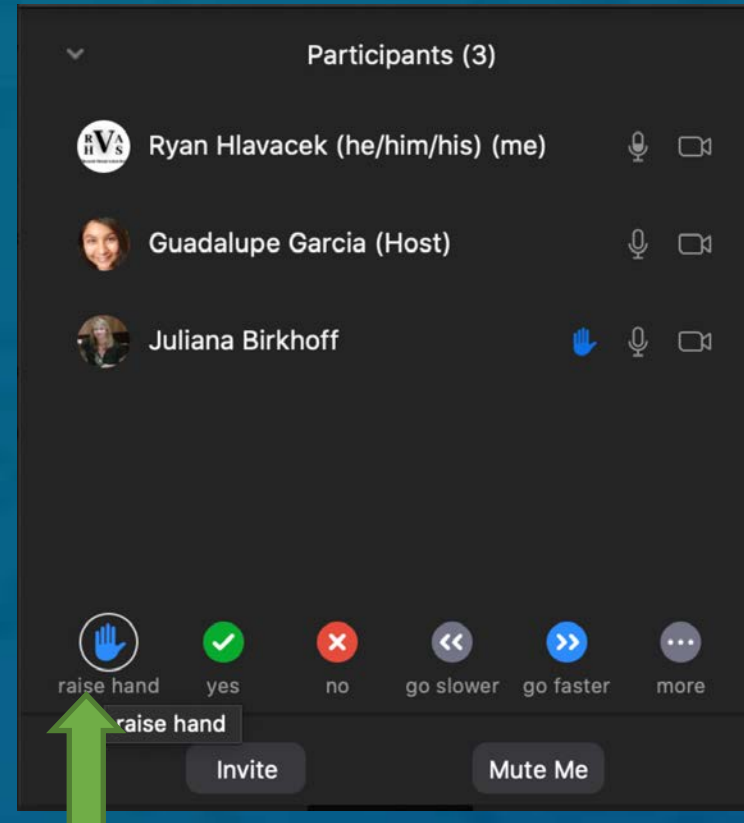
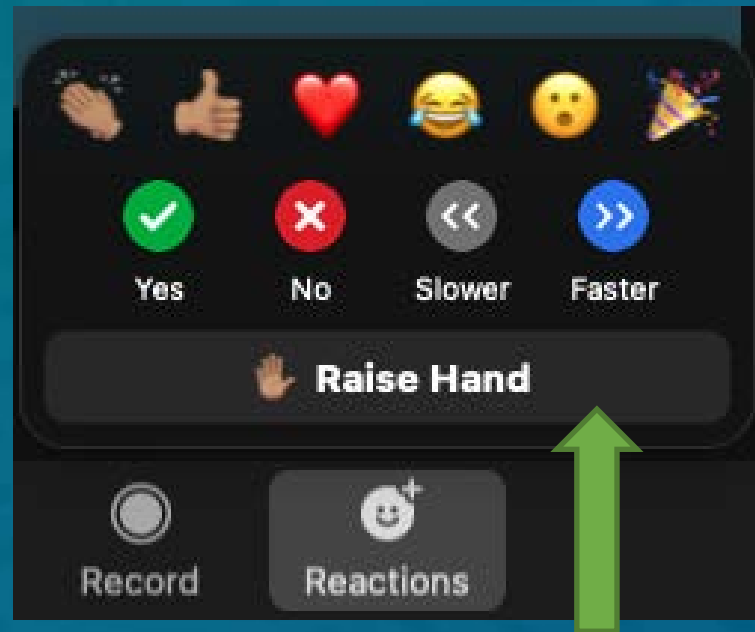


If you have a question during the presentation Click on “Chat”

Your question will be seen by the host and DWR will do their best to answer questions





How to Provide Input



To provide input, click the **Raise Hand** icon and the facilitator will send you a note to unmute your microphone



How to Provide Written Input

-  **Form on the DWR Website**
<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project/Delta-Conveyance/Community-Benefits-Program>
-  **Email**
DeltaConveyanceCBP@water.ca.gov



May 17, 2021

Delta Conveyance Project Overview

Carrie Buckman

Environmental Program Manager

Delta Conveyance Project Purpose and Objectives

Purpose

Modernize the aging SWP infrastructure in the Delta to restore and protect the reliability of SWP water deliveries in a cost-effective manner, consistent with the State's Water Resilience Portfolio.

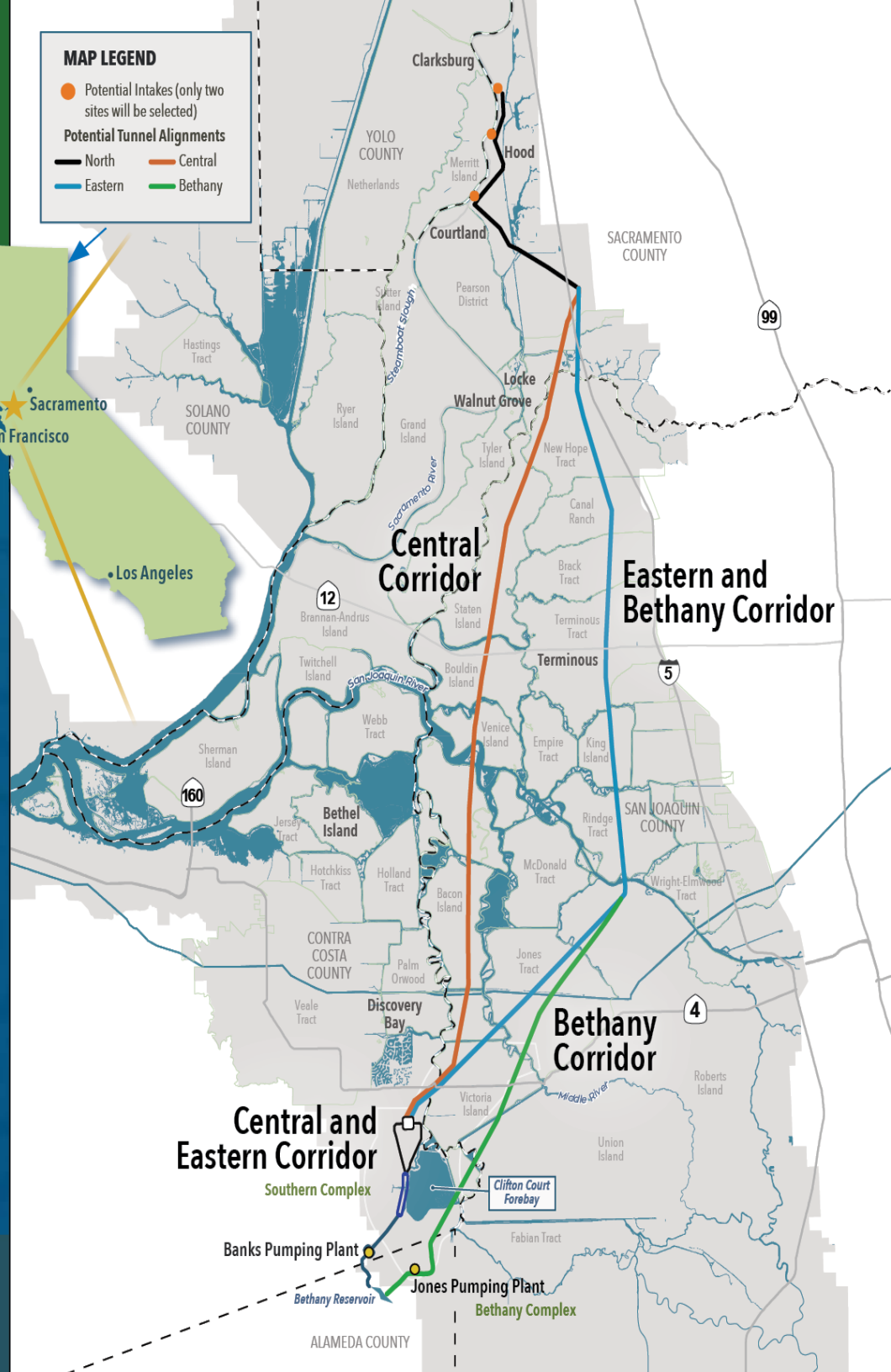
Objectives

- Address sea level rise and climate change
- Minimize water supply disruption due to seismic risk
- Protect water supply reliability
- Provide operational flexibility to improve aquatic conditions



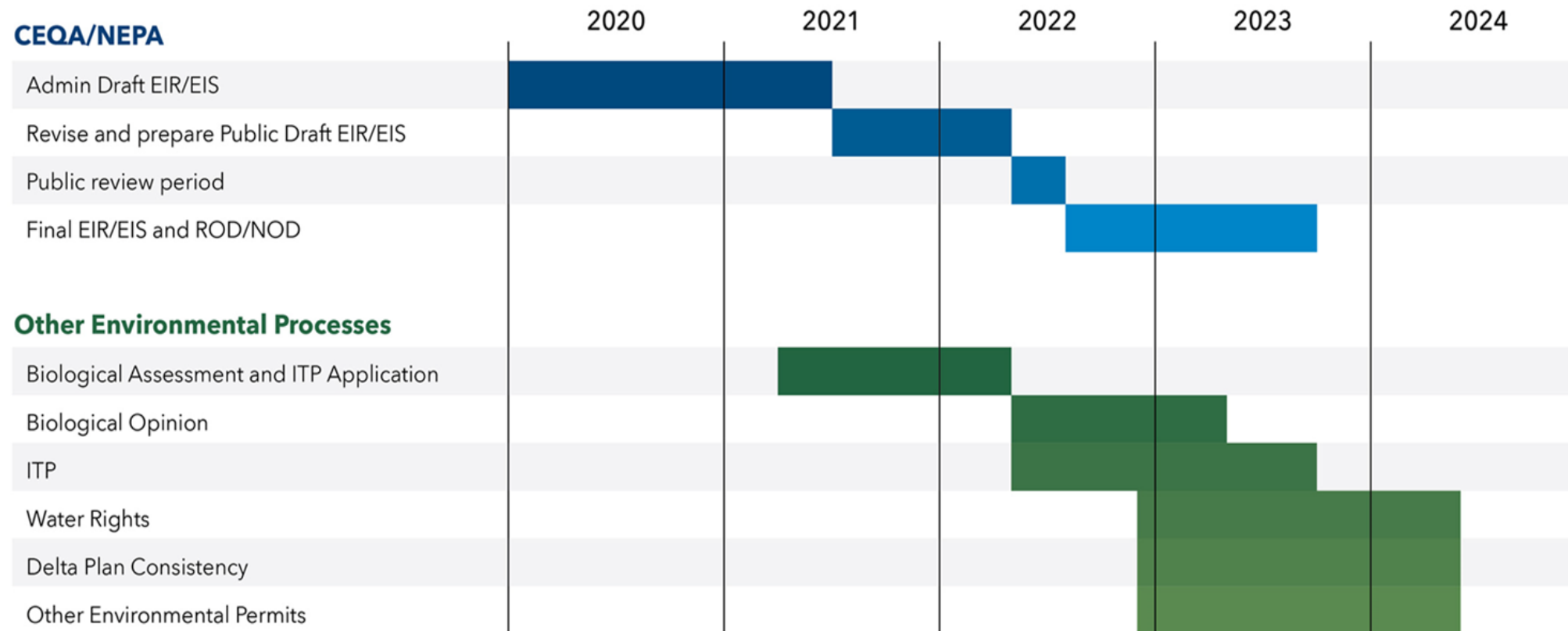
Proposed Project Features

- Intake facilities on the Sacramento River
- Tunnel reaches and tunnel shafts
- Pumping plant
- Forebay
- South Delta conveyance facilities



Updated Project Schedule

Delta Conveyance Project Schedule



Three Distinct But Complementary Processes

Regulatory Mitigation

Purpose: Address project impacts related to specific regulatory requirements (e.g., CEQA/NEPA)

Community Benefits Program

Purpose: Provide resources to direct benefits toward communities most impacted by implementation, based on community collaboration.

Ombudsman Program

Purpose: Clearinghouse single point of contact to streamline information, support and claims. Includes ensuring just compensation as a result of direct construction impacts.



Community Benefits Program and Tribal Consultation

The commitments that would be included as part of the Community Benefits program:

- Separate and apart from required permit terms or environmental mitigation
- Go beyond traditional mitigation and commitments made during government-to-government Tribal consultation under AB 52 or DWR's Tribal Engagement Policy



Core Commitments

If the Delta Conveyance Project is approved, core commitments for a potential Community Benefits Program would include:

1

Transparent

Open process to collaborate effectively

2

Constructive

Participation in good faith with community to create a positive legacy

3

Inclusive

Broad stakeholder participation to expand capture of voices

4

Fair

Benefits related to localized nature of effects

5

Unconditional

Community benefits are not dependent on support for project



May 17, 2021

About the Proposed Community Benefits Program

Janet Barbieri

Communication and Public Outreach Manager

We Need Your Input

- Community Benefits Program Concept
 - Purpose and Objectives
 - Components
- Benefit Categories and Funding Idea Examples
- Implementation Commitments and Community Involvement in Developing the Program



Road Map

- Meeting report summarizing your input and questions
- Public Workshop May 25, 6:00-8:00pm (focusing on implementation commitments and public participation process)
- Draft Community Benefits Program Framework will be included as an appendix in the Draft EIR, expected mid-2022



Community Interview Summary

- 44 interviews from 2/1/21 – 3/19/21
- Majority support the concept of a Community Benefits Program
- **Concerns included:**
 - Complexity and feasibility
 - Trust; need for oversight and enforceable commitments
 - Timing of the effort (premature)
 - Lack of in-Delta capacity
 - Longevity of the program
 - Wanting more CEQA information first (impacts assessment; mitigation)





Community Interview Summary *(continued)*

Recommendations included:

- Fund existing programs / avoid competing with existing programs
- Utilize existing community action plans, other plans
- Fund savings accounts for residents to use for education/job training
- Fund lump sums for legacy communities
- Ensure planning and oversight are locally driven
- Broad input about different types of projects to consider



What Did We Learn From Workshops 1 & 2?

- People do not like the Delta Conveyance Project but are prepared to discuss the Community Benefit Program and think the proposed purpose and objectives of the proposed program need some refinement.
- People suggested some language refinements for the Community Benefits Program.
- People ranked natural resources, water quality, recreation, agriculture and culture/ history as important benefit categories.
- Reiterated feedback on funding ideas.
- New funding ideas.



Why Create a Community Benefits Program?

- Acknowledge that the majority of direct project benefits (e.g. State Water Project reliability) are not located inside the Delta.
- Acknowledge that if the project is approved it could have potential adverse effects that Delta communities may endure through construction.
- Acknowledge the limitations of traditional CEQA “environmental mitigation” typically affords.



Community Benefits Program Concept

A defined set of commitments made by project proponents and created in coordination with the local community to create lasting, tangible and potentially significant economic and social benefit to the Delta residents, businesses and organizations facing project impacts.



Community Benefits Program Purpose and Objectives

Purpose

Harness the Delta Conveyance Project—a major capital works project—to create measurable economic, social and other benefits in the local Delta community

Objectives

1. Provide a mechanism for the Delta community to identify opportunities for local benefits
2. Provide a mechanism for the project proponents to demonstrate good faith, transparency and accountability to the community through formal commitments developed with stakeholder input
3. Address potential effects outside environmental regulatory processes to enhance the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place



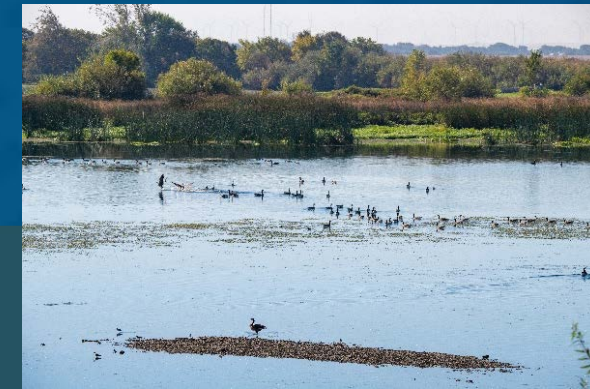
Proposed Community Benefits Program Components

Delta As Place Fund

Grassroots framework for fund development and management that integrates the local community

Project Implementation Commitments

- Hiring targets and jobs training and education
- Local business utilization
- Multipurpose facilities



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



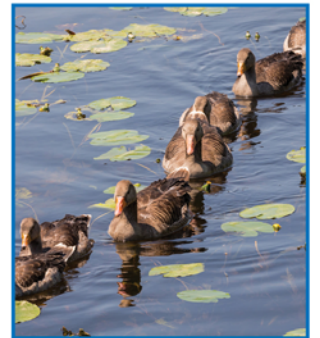
Recreation

- 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



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)



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
- Improve academics in schools
- Provide paid internship opportunities for young people



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



Proposed Implementation Commitments

Economic Development and Integrated Infrastructure Opportunities

Targeted Hiring

- Opportunity to increase participation of socially or economically disadvantaged workers in a project
- Helps create long lasting economic stability for workers
- May include partnerships with existing jobs training, pre-apprenticeship and other workforce development organizations to help create a pipeline of qualified workers

Local Business Utilization

- Increase participation of disadvantaged businesses in public contracting
- Create guidance that a percentage of all services, goods or materials be contracted to targeted businesses
- Direct contracting or contracting advantage to specific business types where a characteristic such as location may provide benefit in performance of the work
- Help create sustainable businesses and economic stimulus

Leave-Behind Infrastructure

- Site development that integrates a public benefit with the functional requirements of the project (example suggested including sports fields added to rehabilitated stockpile area at maintenance or retrieval shaft sites)
- Utility development that creates a permanent utility benefit (example suggested adding a permanent bike path along a haul route corridor)



Tribal and Community Involvement to Develop the Program

- Grassroots input—including Disadvantaged Communities—is vital to the ongoing development of the proposed Delta Conveyance Project Community Benefits Program.
- Working collaboratively ensures the local community has a voice in generating and prioritizing ideas that can provide local benefits from the Delta Conveyance Project, if approved.
- The economic and social opportunities could be significant and will benefit from local insight as the program is developed.
- Most community benefits programs/agreements are formed with a formal community group. At this early stage of program development, we are looking for input on what these group(s) might look like.



Discussion & Input



General Input & Feedback

00:02:00



Next Steps

- Meeting report summarizing your input
- Public Workshop May 25, 6:00-8:00pm (focusing on implementation commitments and public participation process)
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Thank You for Participating!



Ways to Stay Informed



water.ca.gov

- Programs
 - State Water Project
 - Delta Conveyance



Project Hotline

866.924.9955



Twitter

@CA_DWR



Project Email

DeltaConveyance@water.ca.gov

