

Chairwoman Gloria Gray
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
700 N. Alameda Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012



Letter of Support for the Delta Conveyance

Dear Chairwoman Gray,

On behalf of the Orange County Black Chamber we are writing in strong support of Metropolitan Water District funding of the state's environmental review and planning process for the single-tunnel Delta conveyance project, our best source of reliable, high-quality and affordable water. The recommended funding share ensures the environmental review is advanced and necessary planning can proceed.

This action is key to ensuring that Metropolitan continues to have a seat at the table in the project planning approach, and preserves access to the benefits of the project, should the Board choose to move forward on the project construction in 2024.

After decades of accumulating data and environmental planning efforts, Delta Conveyance is still the most cost-effective and achievable effort to protect California's water supply.

In fact, investment costs for the Colorado River Aqueduct was almost three times more expensive per person than the cost of Delta Conveyance. The Los Angeles Aqueduct was four times the cost per person. Without keeping water infrastructure projects affordable, California businesses will not be able to thrive and will negatively impact the California economy — the fifth largest economy in the world.

This is not an either/or situation; it is a both/and situation. Southern California is working diligently to reduce its reliance on the Delta. The Delta conveyance project is one of many steps we must take to ensure the region's water resiliency. Southern California is doing its part – actively diversifying its portfolio by developing local projects and investing in water efficiency. Still, the success of these local projects, including recycling projects, depends on a reliable supply of the higher quality water from Northern California. Besides, this is good for business!

The Orange County Black Chamber urges the Metropolitan's Board of Directors to help fund the environmental review and planning process for the project. Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,


Robert V. "Bobby" McDonald
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cc: Director Stephen J. Faessel
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Director Adán Ortega
City of Fullerton

Director Linda Ackerman
Municipal Water District of Orange County

Director Satoru "Sat" Tamaribuchi
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