



November 25, 2020

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Chairwoman Gloria Gray  
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
P.O. Box 54153  
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

**RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR MWD FUNDING OF DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT**

Dear Chairwoman Gray,

On behalf of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG), I am writing in support of Metropolitan 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. Based on our understanding, this effort is largely consistent with California Water Fix Alternative 4A, which the SGVCOG Governing Board adopted a resolution to support. Therefore, the request for funding supported in this letter is intended to be consistent with the position taken by our Governing Board on October 15, 2015 (Attachment A).

Metropolitan's tradition of leadership and strong stewardship starts with good planning. Continued investment in the environmental review and planning process for an updated Delta conveyance system ensures this process, which is essential for future decision-making, moves forward in a timely fashion and avoids further costly delays for this critically important project.

Nearly one-third of Southern California's water supply comes from the Sierra Nevada. This resource provides the backbone water supply for about 29 million people statewide, millions of acres of farmland, Southern California's \$1.6 trillion economy and our environment. Modernizing the aging system that delivers this water is vitally important. It will help ensure we are better prepared for the effects of climate change and earthquakes and bring greater resilience to the Delta waterways and its ecosystem.


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.

Governor Newsom's Water Resilience Portfolio prioritizes a one-tunnel Delta conveyance system as essential to ensuring reliable water for generations to come. We continue to support efforts that advance this project because Southern California depends on the reliability the proposed Delta project will provide. With our largest and most affordable supply at risk, Metropolitan needs to provide funding now, ensuring the project continues

to move forward with needed environmental planning and permitting work so that an informed decision on the project itself can be made in the future.

We urge Metropolitan's Board of Directors to help fund the environmental review and planning process for the project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marisa Creter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marisa Creter  
Executive Director

cc: Members of the MWD Board of Directors

**RESOLUTION NO. 15-29****RESOLUTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (SGVCOG) IN SUPPORT OF ALTERNATIVE 4A OF  
THE BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN/CALIFORNIA WATER FIX**

**WHEREAS**, water supplies from Northern California that move across the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta are vital to the economy of California, serving 25 million people from the Bay Area to the Mexican border and supporting agriculture throughout the Central Valley; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bay Delta is the 550,000-acre estuary where the rivers of the Sierra Nevada merge before heading west to the San Francisco Bay; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bay Delta is in a state of environmental stress due to the loss of wetlands habitat, invasive species, pesticide runoff, a depletion of native food supplies, pumping operations, and other factors; and

**WHEREAS**, the decline in the Bay Delta's health threatens the unique environment and water supplies that are key to the California economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bay Delta's levees are not engineered to protect the State's water supply distribution systems from a major earthquake, and multiple levee failures could disrupt water deliveries and the State economy for up to three years, particularly in the San Gabriel Valley region of Southern California, where significant areas are 100% dependent on the State Water Project for imported water supplies; and

**WHEREAS**, State and Federal agencies, via the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) process, have worked for nine years towards developing a comprehensive package of ecosystem and water system improvements to address both current conflicts in the Bay Delta and long-term threats to the State's water supplies; and

**WHEREAS**, the modified preferred alternative, "Alternative 4A", delineates a new approach, with the WaterFix intake/conveyance improvements proceeding as a stand-alone project; and

**WHEREAS**, the approximately 30,000 acres of proposed Delta ecosystem improvements, would proceed on a parallel, but separate program now known as California EcoRestore; and

**WHEREAS**, the rationale of the modification, "Alternative 4A", is to identify an achievable path to permitting given overwhelming scientific uncertainty on how to best manage the Delta in the coming decades; and

**WHEREAS**, a successful final plan would accomplish several water supply reliability needs, such as a consistent ability to capture wet-period supplies, and would improve reliability of deliveries in an average year and would protect supplies long-term; and

**WHEREAS**, “Alternative 4A” continues to advance the objective of improving water quality of State Water Project supplies and the objective of avoiding conflicts with migrating fish species; and

**WHEREAS**, “Alternative 4A” continues to provide the necessary design and system redundancy to reduce both seismic and climate change risks, as reducing these risks is paramount to water supply reliability; and

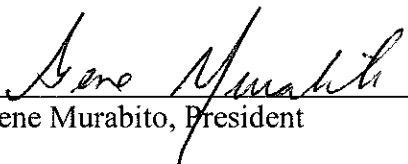
**WHEREAS**, failure to take decisive actions would be an unacceptable risk to the environment of the Bay Delta and the economy of California, specifically in Southern California and the San Gabriel Valley; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Board supported the Bay Delta Conservation Plan by adopting Resolution 14-03 in February 2014 and continues to support the overall proposed configuration of the water supply improvements;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Governing Board hereby supports “Alternative 4A” of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan/California Water Fix process and the concepts in the modified Plan advanced by Governor Brown and Interior Secretary Jewell.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Governing Board of San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, County of Los Angeles, in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, on the 15th day of October, 2015.

San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gene Murabito, President

Resolution 15-29

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**Attest:**

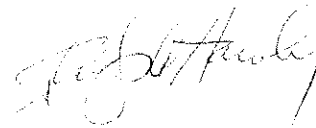
I, Philip A. Hawkey, Executive Director and Secretary of the Board of Directors of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, do hereby certify that Resolution 15-29 was adopted at a regular meeting of the Governing Board held on the 15th day of October, 2015, by the following roll call vote:

**AYES:** Alhambra, Arcadia, Azusa, Covina, Claremont, Diamond Bar, Duarte, Glendora, La Canada Flintridge, Monrovia, Monterey Park, Pasadena, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Gabriel, South El Monte, South Pasadena, Temple City, Walnut, West Covina, Fourth District (LA County), First District (LA County), SGV Water Districts

**NOES:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**ABSENT:** Baldwin Park, Bradbury, El Monte, Industry, La Puente, La Verne, Montebello, Monterey Park, Pomona, San Marino, Sierra Madre, South Pasadena, Fifth District (LA County)



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Philip A. Hawkey, Secretary