



May 29, 2025

Senator Susan Rubio
Chair, San Gabriel Valley Caucus
1021 O St., Ste. 8710
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 Senator Rubio, Pro Tem McGuire and Speaker Rivas,

On behalf of a coalition of San Gabriel Valley cities and water agencies, we urge your strong support for Governor Newsom’s legislative package seeking to streamline processes for advancing the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) to a point where informed decisions can be made regarding construction investment.

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.

Locally, the SWP provides long-term reliability and resiliency to the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Basin (Basin) which provides the local water supply for the many San Gabriel Valley communities we serve. The Basin is dependent on 20% of imported water from the SWP for groundwater replenishment, which averages approximately 40,000 acre-feet a year for the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District's service area. This replenishment is critical to ensure that our Basin remains resilient during times of extreme climate changes, which has pushed our Basin to historic lows.

In the San Gabriel Valley, we have worked together to implement Conservation as a Way of Life and encourage water use efficiency best practices to our residents and businesses. We have also invested in and supported local water supply projects, such as recycled water, to reduce our dependency on the imported water system. However, our region cannot control the weather and climate change continues affecting our local rain and snow melt making imported water deliveries from the SWP critical in maintaining sustainable groundwater levels. It is also important to note that the SWP is the region's sole source for imported water.

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 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.

For decades, the DCP has been stalled by frivolous lawsuits and duplicative reviews. The Governor's budget trailer bill proposal restores balance to this process – ensuring legitimate Delta 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 \$500 million. The budget trailer bill proposal reduces bureaucratic red tape, which translates into real savings for Californians and creates a modernized State Water Project that will meet the demands of our growing communities and economy.

For these reasons, our coalition urges you to support the Governor's budget trailer bill proposal. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to working with you to advance this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Thomas Love, General Manager
Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

Darin Kasamoto, General Manager
San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

Randy Schoellerman, Executive Director
San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority

Kelly Gardner, Executive Secretary
San Gabriel Valley Water Association

Matthew Litchfield, General Manager
Three Valleys Municipal Water District

Martin Zvirbulis, Vice President
San Gabriel Valley Water Company

Dave Michalko, General Manager
Valencia Heights Water Company

Jose Martinez, General Manager
Valley County Water District

Lynda Noriega, President
California Domestic Water Company

Roy Frausto, General Manager
La Puente Valley County Water

Dave Schickling, Vice President of Operations
Golden State Water Company

Chris Marcarello, City Manager
City of Covina

Dave Michalko, President
Covina Valley Water Company

Sheryl L. Shaw, P.E., General Manager/Chief
Engineer
Walnut Valley Water District

Craig Gott, President
Suburban Water Systems

Tom Coleman, General Manager
Rowland Water District

James Prior, General Manager
San Gabriel County Water District

Antenah Tesfaye, Deputy Director of Public
Works
City of South Pasadena

CC: Members, San Gabriel Valley Caucus
Honorable Scott Wiener, Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
Honorable Roger Niello, Vice-Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
Honorable Benjamin Allen, Chair, Senate Budget Subcommittee 2
Honorable Jesse Gabriel, Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
Honorable Heath Flora, Vice-Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
Honorable Steve Bennett, Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee 4
Honorable Brian Jones, Senate Republican Leader
Honorable James Gallagher, Assembly Republican Leader
Members, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
Members, Assembly Budget Committee