



STATE WATER
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Press Release

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STATE WATER CONTRACTORS ANNOUNCE FORMATION OF JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY FOR CALIFORNIA WATERFIX

Sacramento, CA — Uniting Southern and Northern California in a collaborative water supply reliability vision, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD), Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) and Zone 7 Water Agency today announced their partnership and formation of the [Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Joint Powers Authority \(DCA\)](#) — the public agency that will be charged with the design and construction of [California WaterFix](#).

On a parallel path, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has now created the [Delta Conveyance Office \(DCO\)](#), which will oversee the work of the DCA. More information is available [here](#).

The DCA will hold its first meeting on [May 17, 2018](#). During this meeting, the DCA Board of Directors will consider entering into a management partnership with DWR.

The State Water Contractors (SWC), as a nonprofit mutual benefit corporation, does not hold a water supply contract with DWR and is accordingly not party to the DCA agreement. However, SWC member agencies that are not directly represented on the DCA Board will have an at-large representative. The SWC is pleased to announce those member agencies have selected Sarah Palmer, Director for the Zone 7 Water Agency, as its primary at-large representative and Doug Headrick, General Manager of the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, as its at-large alternate representative, assuming its Board of Directors elects to join the DCA.

“Our mission to modernize California’s primary water delivery system took another incredibly important step forward today,” said Jennifer Pierre, General Manager for the State Water Contractors. “Northern and Southern California public water agencies have united in a partnership to efficiently and responsibly advance the construction of one of the most important infrastructure projects of our lifetime. We anticipate several other public water agencies to join the DCA in the coming weeks and months.”

“Thoughtful decision-making, transparency and a commitment to public participation will be central to the mission of the DCA as it assumes responsibility for building California WaterFix,” added Pierre.

The State Water Contractors is a statewide, non-profit association of 27 public agencies from Northern, Central and Southern California that purchase water under contract from the California State Water Project. Collectively the State Water Contractors deliver water to more than 25 million residents throughout the state and more than 750,000 acres of agricultural land.



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BACKGROUND

THE EXPERTISE TO EXECUTE

- Under DWR's oversight, the DCA will pull the best and brightest from DWR, public water agencies and consultants throughout the industry to manage the design and construction of California WaterFix.
- As a public agency, the DCA will provide a means for the beneficiaries of the project to pool expertise and resources to safely design, construct and deliver the project on time, on budget and in accordance with approved specifications, while managing risk prudently and ensuring compliance with all applicable laws. It also allows the public to stay informed about the DCA's actions and investments, and the progress of the project.
- The DCA's responsibilities will be as follows:
 - Implement final planning and design, construction and all financial accounting
 - Develop the program's strategic spending and business plans
 - Let and manage construction contracts
 - Select and supervise the Executive Director, Engineering Design Manager and other staff/consultants
 - Develop and implement a program-wide safety policy and approach to risk management
 - Ensure compliance with construction specifications and mitigation measures
 - Provide regular updates and reports to DWR
 - Maintain transparency through the DCA Board and public information programs
 - Finalize remaining permits and ensure compliance with terms
- Construction of California WaterFix will begin once all the necessary permits are complete, which is anticipated to be toward the end of this year.
- The DCA will deliver the project to DWR after construction is complete.

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