

Delta Conveyance Project Public Outreach and Community Engagement Plan for 2021-2022

January 2021

Purpose:

- 1) Provide tools for the public to meaningfully navigate and participate in the environmental review and planning process, especially as multiple activities are occurring simultaneously. Help build capacity among the public to better engage in the process and better understand the technical information ahead of the release of the Draft EIR.
- 2) Continue to advance planning activities for successful completion of required permitting and project approvals, including meeting regulatory standards for public participation.
- 3) Continue to refine the proposed project with regard to community benefits and impact minimization/mitigation development, based on public and stakeholder input.

	Public Information	Public Participation/ Public Notification	Tribal Consultation and Outreach	Informational Webinars	Community Benefits Program	Design-Focused Stakeholder Engagement (DCA SEC)	Agency Coordination
Objectives	Provide informational resources to help the public review, understand and react to public review documents (e.g. DEIR).	Provide meaningful opportunities to access public review documents and respond through formal public input processes.	Ensure compliance with AB 52. Also ensure input and engagement across all public information and public participation activities program-wide.	Provide informational resources to help the public review, understand and react to public review documents (e.g. DEIR).	Work with community to create a process for identifying commitments that protect and enhance the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place.	Use design/engineering to further reduce impacts or improve effectiveness of mitigation.	Ensure permit/planning process requirements are met or exceeded.
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing online virtual briefings to organizations in the Delta, in PWA service areas, and statewide. ▪ Present at conferences ▪ Publication of electronic updates and informational materials, including deep dive and other videos, fact sheets, FAQs, infographics, etc. ▪ Social media, website, print and digital media ▪ Timing: ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Formal public review and comment on the Draft EIR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – public workshops – public comment period ▪ Real estate coordination, with appropriate internal and external parties related to field work activities. ▪ Contact and coordination with local elected officials regarding upcoming project activities and actions. ▪ Timing: Some field work in 2021; CEQA/NEPA public review in mid 2022 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Formal consultation through AB 52 and DWR’s Tribal Engagement Policy ▪ Informal outreach and discussions with Tribes and Tribal members ▪ Example: Tribal Engagement Committee; larger scale informational sessions; other input/engagement as requested by Tribes and Tribal members. ▪ Annual Tribal Informational Meeting ▪ Assist with federal process Tribal outreach, as appropriate ▪ Timing: ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Webinars designed to provide the public at large with background information to aid in understanding technical or regulatory issues and approaches. ▪ Timing: through 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Early 2021: Preliminary outreach and input from community leaders about the conceptual approach to developing a Community Benefits Program. ▪ Through 2021: Focused and more extensive outreach and engagement in creating a Community Benefits Program Framework, including public workshops. ▪ 2022 and beyond: implement the framework. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SEC support of DCA’s efforts to reduce impacts through design changes or improvements. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Traffic – Agriculture – Emergency services – Noise – Air quality ▪ Resources for SEC members including providing updates, materials and other support, as needed ▪ Timing: through 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing collaboration with the various federal and state agencies who serve in a regulatory capacity. DWR will continue to engage with agencies for processes already in motion and initiate contact when appropriate for upcoming actions. ▪ Timing: 2021 and 2022
Environmental Justice and Disadvantaged Community Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Virtual workshops regarding proposed project, objectives, project-related impacts and benefits, and review opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Facilitate workshops designed to enhance EJ/DAC input into formal review periods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordination with DWR Tribal Liaison regarding intersection with EJ/DAC outreach, as needed ▪ Tribal Engagement Committee participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consultation on design and focus of webinars to ensure inclusion of environmental justice and DAC issues and audiences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Liaise with EJ/DAC leaders to support approach identified above ▪ Develop survey(s) to test perception and receptivity to community benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage EJ/DAC organizations to follow the work of the DCA and SEC; and to participate in the public comment portion of the meetings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consult with agencies to enhance issue identification and implementation of DWR commitments to EJ/DAC communities