

## Board Policy and CEO Interpretations Related to a Long-Term Delta Solution

Board Governance Policy provides the following guidance in addressing Delta issues related to the District's imported water supplies (type in blue reflects recommended changes, pending the current Board review process [2015]):

### *Global Policy*

GP-1: The purpose of the Board, on behalf of the people of Santa Clara County, is to see to it that the District provides Silicon Valley safe, clean water for a healthy life, environment, and economy.

### *Ends Policies*

E-2: There is a reliable, clean water supply for current and future generations

WS Goal E-2.1: Current and future water supply for municipalities, industries, agriculture and the environment is reliable.

WS Objective 2.1.3: Protect, maintain and develop imported water.

CEO Strategy S.2.1.3.1: Develop and maintain imported water contracts and water management (e.g. transfers, exchanges) partnerships.

CEO Strategy S.2.1.3.2: Aggressively pursue the Delta solution(s) to achieve the coequal goals of providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem, all in a manner that protects and enhances in balance with the unique and ever-evolving cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place.

CEO Direction:

- D 2.1.3.2.a. The District's desired outcome is a cost-effective, comprehensive, long-term solution for the Delta that meets the water supply, water supply reliability, and water quality needs of Santa Clara County while balancing other beneficial uses and providing a sustainable Delta ecosystem.
- D 2.1.3.2.b. The District supports moving forward with completing environmental review and feasibility studies for a long-term Delta solution, including analyses of a dual Delta conveyance and a full range of isolated facility sizes.
- D 2.1.3.2.c. Continuing to rely solely on existing through-Delta conveyance for the District's imported water supplies is not acceptable because of the instability of existing Delta levees, underlying seismic risks, increasing threats of altered hydrology and sea level rise due to climate change, and ongoing regulatory uncertainty and concerns over the Delta's environmental health of the Delta.
- D.2.1.3.2.d. The Long-term Delta solution(s) should promote a resilient Delta ecosystem by basing all actions on sound science and addressing the full range of

environmental stressors, including toxics, invasive species, and all watershed diverters.

#### *Executive Limitations*

EL-4.2: The Board Appointed Officer shall “spend in ways that are cost-efficient.”

CEO Interpretation:

- *Costs of the long-term Delta solution should be allocated **equitably fairly to all beneficiaries**.*
- The District favors a flexible approach to cost allocation that maximizes the opportunity for discretionary allocations of cost based on incremental benefits.

EL-6.5: The Board Appointed Officer shall “protect water rights and rights of way.”

CEO Interpretation:

- Governance structures and operating agreements related to the long-term Delta solution must provide the ability to protect the value of the District’s imported water assets, including water supply and banking contracts.