

**Melissa Stone**

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**From:** Katja Irvin [katja.irvin@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 21, 2016 4:21 PM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board; Teresa Alvarado; Garth Hall; Barbara Keegan; Jim Fiedler  
**Cc:** Mike Ferreira  
**Subject:** Re: Special board workshop on Delta WaterFix and EcoRestore plans

Santa Clara Valley Water District Board of Directors  
Transmitted via email

Re: January 26 2016 Special Meeting Agenda Item 2.2

Dear Chair Keegan, Board Members and Directors,

The Sierra Club has been following the Delta tunnels project and we have been coordinating with other concerned organizations and local stakeholders to make sure that Santa Clara Valley Water District truly evaluates the project and considers the range of possible risks and benefits. We are concerned about the special meeting planned for January 26, 2016 because the invited speakers are all state agency directors who have planned the project and are now making the rounds to promote it.

Therefore we suggest an alternative approach to allow broader public input on this subject at SCVWD Board meetings.

- First we request that the January 26 workshop be reorganized to allow more public comment. The posted presentations from the state agencies are designed to sell the project and do not specifically address local risks and concerns related to Santa Clara County. These presentations could be abbreviated to allow time for others to present information the Board should consider. The agency speakers could also benefit from hearing local constituents and stakeholders concerns.
- In addition we suggest the Board needs to spend more time on this project and should provide additional opportunities for public input that are more widely advertised several weeks in advance. We suggest the Board plan for another special meeting as soon as possible to get input from other experts on specific issues related to the proposed project.

Thank you for considering these ideas to improve public input on this important decision coming before the Board.

Sincerely,

Katja Irvin  
Water Committee Chair  
Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter  
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