

FAQ About the DCA Stakeholder Engagement Committee

1. What is the Delta Stakeholder Engagement Committee?

An advisory committee formed by the DCA Board of Directors. The Committee is composed of two DCA Directors acting as Chair and Vice-Chair and up to sixteen public members representing various stakeholder groups in the Delta. The role of the committee will be two-fold: 1) to discuss and advise the DCA on matters related to engineering and design of a potential single-tunnel conveyance project; and 2) to serve as a liaison to other stakeholders in the community so that their views may be represented at the group.

2. What is the purpose of the Stakeholder Engagement Committee?

There are two primary goals: 1) to identify ways, through engineering and design, to avoid or minimize potential impacts, and 2) to identify possible win-wins in which temporary or permanent project features and construction elements may benefit the community in some way.

3. What are the application requirements for public members?

Public members should represent a Delta stakeholder group. Examples of these groups are listed on the application form. Please note that this includes an at large representative from each Delta County, and that this category may be used to identify an interest group category not already listed. Applicants should also be able and willing to: 1) participate in two meetings per month; 2) review informational materials ahead of each meeting; 3) obtain and bring input from other members of their interest group; and 4) fairly and accurately represent the sentiment of the interest group they represent. Committee members will need to comply with applicable law, including the Brown Act and Public Records Act.

4. What if applicants oppose the idea of a single-tunnel Delta conveyance project. Can they still participate?

Participants on the committee are not required or expected to support any proposed conveyance project, and in fact would be encouraged to register their concerns and input through either the Secretary's Delta Water Roundtable or through DWR's planned environmental review process under the California Environmental Quality Act. The role of the committee members will be focused on making sure their and their constituency's ideas for avoiding and minimizing impacts, and creating benefits, are clearly understood by the DCA.

5. Will the State Water Contractors or other non-Delta water users be included on the Committee?

Outside of the two DCA Directors acting as Chair and Vice-Chair, all public members should represent in-Delta stakeholder interests. No public seats will be filled by non-Delta stakeholders.

6. Who are the ex officio members?

In addition to the eighteen members described above, the Committee will have up to five ex officio members from potentially-affected state and local agencies. These members will participate in all meetings but will not be formal Committee members subject to the Brown Act. They represent groups that can provide expert advice to the Committee to help support the process based on their knowledge and experience as public officials. Examples of possible ex officio members include representatives of flood control districts, emergency response agencies, transportation departments, or other government entities that provide public services throughout the Delta. Applicants are welcome to identify other types of possible ex officio members if you feel important public organizations have been excluded.

7. Why won't the Delta Stakeholder Engagement Committee consider whether there should be a Delta Conveyance?

The Committee is an advisory committee formed by the DCA. The DCA is a separate public agency from the Department of Water Resources. It is providing engineering and design support to DWR during DWR's consideration of a potential Delta Conveyance and alternatives under CEQA. DWR will be conducting a new CEQA process that will include a scoping process to gain input on the evaluation of a range of alternatives including a no-project alternative. That process will include opportunities for the public and Delta stakeholders to provide input on a full range of environmental matters, including measures and alternatives that could avoid or reduce impacts of the proposed project. The DCA's role is separate: to provide, at DWR's direction and subject to its oversight, the engineering and design work to inform the details of a proposed project and alternatives. This committee will aid the DCA in that work by providing a forum for the community to help guide design and engineering matters.

8. How will the Delta Stakeholder Engagement Committee vote on matters?

The Committee will not vote in the traditional sense. As a forum for input, discussions and deliberations, the Committee will offer advice and make recommendations by consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, minority opinions may be developed to fully and fairly represent the views of the committee members.

9. When and where will meetings be held?

Meetings dates and times will be based on Committee members' availability. Meetings are expected to be held twice a month for the first six months. Meetings will be held in locations within the Delta and are expected to be about 2 ½ to 3 hours per meeting.

10. How do I apply for the Committee?

Please download the application and email it to stakeholderapp@dcdca.org or mail it to 1121 L Street, Suite 1045, Sacramento, Ca 95814. Applications must be received by email or postmarked by October 11th.