

Focused Panel Discussion Third Draft of Delta Plan

Summary: The Delta cities have been invited to participate in a focused panel discussion on priorities to be addressed in a Delta Plan.

Background

Panelists from the Delta cities have been invited by the Council to address specific questions presented in Attachment 1. Panelists will have up to five minutes to identify priorities that a Delta Plan should include. Each panelist has been requested to provide a handout listing recommended priorities in bulleted format. Individual panelist presentations will be followed by a facilitated dialog among Council members and panelists addressing recommended priorities. At the conclusion of the panel there will be a limited amount of time reserved for comments from members of the public.

List of Attachments

Attachment 1: Questions for May 12, 2011 Delta Cities Panel

Contact

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May 12 Delta Stewardship Council Panel: Delta Cities

Your participation as a panelist is greatly appreciated. The Delta Stewardship Council has identified the following questions as having potential significance for development of a Delta Plan. Please consider these questions and your city's interests in your preparations for the May 12 panel discussion.

1. The Legislature has acknowledged that the statutory Delta is “inherently a flood prone area wherein the most appropriate uses are agriculture, wildlife habitat, and . . . recreational activities,” [PRC 29704]. The Legislature has also directed that the Delta Plan “shall attempt to reduce risks to people, property, and state interests in the Delta by promoting effective emergency preparedness, appropriate land uses, and strategic levee investments.” [WC 85305]

- What are the interests of your city regarding flood risk and land use in the Primary Zone and/or Secondary Zone of the Delta?
- For purposes of reducing Delta flood risk, how are the interests of your city and the surrounding county similar, and how do they differ?
- What are your city's priorities in considering how to balance flood plain protection with pressures for development in the Secondary Zone?

2. The Third Staff Draft Delta Plan, in Chapter 7, contains proposed policies designed to reduce flood risk in the Delta [RR P1-P6], along with proposed recommendations [RR R1-R8].

- How well do the policies and recommendations identified in the Third Staff Draft address your key interests?
- Are there different approaches or policies available to the Council to achieve its statutory mandate?
- In general terms, what would be the cost of your alternative approach or policy, and who would pay?

3. The Third Staff Draft Delta Plan, in Chapter 7, also contains proposed performance measures intended to assist in evaluating progress.

- How useful will the proposed performance measures be in evaluating progress?
- Are there different performance measures available to the Council to achieve its statutory mandate?
- In general terms, why is your proposed performance measure more likely to be useful?

4. The Third Staff Draft Delta Plan, in Chapter 5, contains proposed policies [ER P1-P6] and recommendations [ER R1-R5] designed to meet the co-equal goal of “protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem.”

- How well do the policies and recommendations identified in the Third Staff Draft address your key interests?
- Are there different approaches or policies available to the Council to achieve its statutory mandate?

- In general terms, what would be the cost of your alternative approach or policy, and who would pay?

5. The Third Staff Draft Delta Plan, in Chapter 5, also contains proposed performance measures intended to assist in evaluating progress.

- How useful will the proposed performance measures be in evaluating progress?
- Are there different performance measures available to the Council to achieve its statutory mandate?
- In general terms, why is your proposed performance measure more likely to be useful?

6. The Third Staff Draft Delta Plan, in Chapter 6, contains proposed recommendations [WQ R1-R9] designed to improve water quality in order to meet the co-equal goals.

- How well do the policies and recommendations identified in the Third Staff Draft address your key interests?
- Are there different approaches or policies available to the Council to achieve its statutory mandate?
- In general terms, what would be the cost of your alternative approach or policy, and who would pay?

7. The Third Staff Draft Delta Plan, in Chapter 6, also contains proposed performance measures intended to assist in evaluating progress.

- How useful will the proposed performance measures be in evaluating progress?
- Are there different performance measures available to the Council to achieve its statutory mandate?
- In general terms, why is your proposed performance measure more likely to be useful?

8. The Third Staff Draft Delta Plan, in Chapter 8, contains proposed recommendations [DP R1-R7] designed to meet the Legislature’s direction to achieve the co-equal goals “in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resources, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place.” [29702(a)]

- How well do the recommendations identified in the Third Staff Draft address your key interests?
- Are there different approaches or policies available to the Council to achieve its statutory mandate?
- In general terms, what would be the cost of your alternative approach or policy, and who would pay?

9. The Third Staff Draft Delta Plan, in Chapter 8, also contains proposed performance measures intended to assist in evaluating progress.

- How useful will the proposed performance measures be in evaluating progress?
- Are there different performance measures available to the Council to achieve its statutory mandate?
- In general terms, why is your proposed performance measure more likely to be useful?