Our meeting this month is being conducted remotely in accordance with the Governor’s Executive Order N-25-20 issued on March 12, 2020, and Executive Order N-29-20 issued on March 17, 2020, in order to adopt prudent measures to reduce community transmission of COVID-19.

As I mentioned at our February meeting, staff will ask the Council at this meeting to withdraw its proposed rulemaking process for the Delta Levees Investment Strategy (DLIS) and amend the current version of Delta Plan Chapter 7 to reflect the interim Risk Reduction Policy 1. The California Department of Water Resources recently published new Light Detection and Ranging (or LiDAR) elevation imaging of the Delta and Suisun Marsh. This information provides updated information about the height of levees and island floors and needs further evaluation to inform whether the priorities identified in Delta Plan Policy RR P1 (2018), and the proposed regulation, require modification because of changed levee or island conditions.

Staff also will present one new contract and three contract amendments for Council approval:

- Consideration of a contract with the United States Geological Survey to fund Operation Baseline 2.0 Studies
- Amendment of a contract with the University of California, Davis for acoustic telemetry studies
- Amendment of a contract with the University of California, Davis for Chinook Salmon re-introduction studies
- Amendment of a contract with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. for Delta Plan Amendments development support

Given the circumstances, we will keep the meeting focused mainly on action items and ensure that we have adequate time for Council questions, discussion, and public comment. If I can answer any questions or provide any other information, please contact me at (916) 445-4500 or jessica.pearson@deltacouncil.ca.gov.

“Coequal goals” means the two goals of providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem. The coequal goals shall be achieved in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place.”

– CA Water Code §85054