



**Delta
Stewardship
Council**

A CALIFORNIA STATE AGENCY

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CHAIR
Julie Lee

VICE CHAIR
Gayle Miller

MEMBERS
Diane Burgis
Susan T. Eggman
Maria Mehranian
Ann Patterson
Daniel Zingale

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Jessica R. Pearson

For immediate release on February 12, 2026

COUNCIL WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBER, ALONG WITH THE REAPPOINTMENTS OF CHAIR AND TWO MEMBERS

SACRAMENTO – **The Senate Rules Committee has appointed former California State Senator Susan T. Eggman** to the Delta Stewardship Council (Council), effective February 6, 2026. Her first Council meeting will be on February 26, 2026.

“Dr. Eggman’s distinguished public service career and experience representing California’s Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta bring a valuable perspective to the Council,” says Chair Julie Lee. “Her decades of community-focused leadership and deep understanding of Delta issues will strengthen our work.”

Eggman, of Stockton, has served in several public office roles, including as a state senator serving District 5 – which includes San Joaquin County, a portion of Stanislaus County, and the Sacramento County community of Galt – from 2020 to 2024; as a state assembly member from 2012 to 2020; and as a Stockton city council member from 2006-2012, during which she served on the Delta Protection Commission. She has also served as a commissioner on the California Commission on the Status of Women & Girls and as a professor of social work at California State University, Sacramento, where she now chairs the department.

“What happens in the Delta impacts all Californians,” says Eggman. “I look forward to working with my fellow Council members toward water supply reliability and ecosystem resilience in a way that enhances the region as the important place that it is.”

Eggman is a U.S. Army veteran, having joined out of high school and served four years as a medic. After her service, she attended California State University,

Stanislaus, where she completed a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in social work. She worked as a mental health provider and medical social worker before completing a Ph.D. at Portland State University.

Former California State Senator Ben Hueso last occupied the Senate Rules Committee-appointed Council seat from 2023-2026.

Of the Council's seven members, four are appointed by the Governor, one each by the State Senate and Assembly, and the seventh is the chair of the Delta Protection Commission.

California Governor Gavin Newsom has reappointed Council Chair Julie Lee and Board Member Ann Patterson, effective February 11, 2026. Lee was initially appointed to the Council by Governor Newsom in 2022, and the Council elected her chair in 2024. Patterson was initially appointed to the Council by Governor Newsom in 2025.

California Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas has reappointed Board Member Maria Mehranian to the Council, effective February 4, 2026. This is her third appointment to the Council. Mehranian served as a Senate-appointed Council member from 2018 to 2022, and as an Assembly-appointed member since 2023.

For more information, email media@deltacouncil.ca.gov.

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About the Council

The Delta Stewardship Council was created by the California Legislature in 2009 to advance California's water supply reliability and the Delta's ecosystem resiliency in a manner that protects and enhances the region's unique characteristics. It is composed of seven members, advised by an independent 10-member science board, and supported by a dedicated staff. For more information, visit the Council's website [at deltacouncil.ca.gov](https://deltacouncil.ca.gov).