

CALIFORNIA WATERFIX: PROJECT DELIVERY

WaterFix is a modern and ambitious infrastructure project that will require world-class engineering, efficient construction management, aggressive cost containment, and transparent business operations.

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has closely studied other large infrastructure projects such as the Eurasia Tunnel in Turkey, the Lee Tunnel in London, the Port of Miami Tunnel in Florida, the Bay Tunnel in San Francisco and many others to learn from their experiences and develop proven best practices. Based on this, DWR recommends creating an organization that will be uniquely capable of delivering the WaterFix project.

The proposed new organization, a Joint Powers Authority (Authority), would mirror the strength and success of the Central Coast Water Authority and construction of the Coastal Branch Aqueduct in 1997.

The Authority would provide a modern, innovative, efficient, and cost-effective way to complete one of the largest infrastructure projects in the world.

The State of California, through DWR, would retain oversight of regulatory obligations, environmental mitigation and quality control, and would own and operate the completed facilities.

PROJECT DELIVERY FRAMEWORK OVERVIEW



Public water agencies participating in and funding the project would form the Authority to take responsibility for completing design of the facilities according to predetermined specifications and constructing the WaterFix project under the supervision of DWR.



The Authority would be a public agency organized pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, and would be guided by a detailed agreement specifying roles and responsibilities of the participating public water agencies. DWR would maintain ultimate oversight and responsibility, consistent with state law, for ensuring that the project fulfills its permitting and mitigation obligation, and is designed and constructed to required engineering and safety standards.



DWR would coordinate with the Authority to ensure rapid review of all necessary plans and procedures. Ultimate oversight of all aspects of WaterFix design and construction would rest with the DWR Director.



CONSTRUCTION AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- ▶ Requests for Qualification for design and pre-construction activities are expected in early fall 2017. The Authority would be set up to manage construction contractors, cost containment, financing, strategies, human resources and staffing, safety, project best practices and standards, and technology.
- ▶ The Authority would dissolve once construction is complete.