

ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

Representing City and County Governments of the San Francisco Bay Area



ABAG

Date: September 9, 2014
To: ABAG Executive Board
From: Judy Kelly
Director, San Francisco Estuary Partnership
Subject: **Background on Proposed Water Bond Proposition 1**

Executive Summary

Pivotal decisions are pending on water-related issues that will have significant long-term impacts to the quality of life and economy of the San Francisco Bay-Delta region. One of these decisions is the outcome of Proposition 1 on the November ballot.

California Proposition 1, the **Water Bond** (Assembly Bill 1471), is on the November 4, 2014, ballot in California as a legislatively-referred bond act. The measure, upon voter approval, would enact the **Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014** and would:

Authorize \$7.12 billion in general obligation bonds for state water supply infrastructure projects, such as public water system improvements, surface and groundwater storage, drinking water protection, water recycling and advanced water treatment technology, water supply management and conveyance, wastewater treatment, drought relief, emergency water supplies, and ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration.

Appropriate money from the General Fund to pay off bonds and require certain projects to provide matching funds from non-state sources in order to receive bond funds. Specific spending proposals in the proposition include:

- \$520 million to improve water quality for “beneficial use,” for reducing and preventing drinking water contaminants, disadvantaged communities, and the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund Small Community Grant Fund.
- \$1.495 billion for competitive grants for multi-benefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects.
- \$810 million for expenditures on, and competitive grants and loans to, integrated regional water management plan projects.
- \$2.7 billion for water storage projects, dams and reservoirs.
- \$725 million for water recycling and advanced water treatment technology projects.
- \$900 million for competitive grants, and loans for, projects to prevent or clean up the contamination of groundwater that serves as a source of drinking water.
- \$395 million for statewide flood management projects and activities.

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Governor Brown called on the legislature to replace the previous \$11.14 billion bond with a \$6 billion bond on June 25, 2014. The legislature passed the new \$7.12 billion bond on August 13, 2014. The water bond was moved twice. Originally certified to be on the state's 2010 ballot, it was removed and placed on the 2012 ballot. On July 5, 2012, the state legislature approved a bill to take the measure off the 2012 ballot and put it on the 2014 ballot. [Source: ballotpedia.org]

Speaker

Briefing us on the Proposition will be John Coleman. In addition to his position as Executive Director of the Bay Planning Coalition, Mr. Coleman also serves as a Director of the East Bay Municipal Utilities District and in the following capacities: President of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Board of Directors; Board Member of Freeport Regional Water Authority (FRWA); Chair of the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority (UMRWA); Board Member of Contra Costa Leadership Council; Board Member of DERWA, the joint powers authority for recycled water service provided by EBMUD and the Dublin-San Ramon Services District; and member of the East Bay Economic Development Alliance Legislative Committee and of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Advisory Committee.

Recommended Action

Information

Attachment

None