

DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION

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October 20, 2016

Nahideh Madankar
 Small Communities Flood Risk Reduction Program Lead
 California Department of Water Resources
 3464 El Camino Avenue, Suite 200
 Sacramento, CA 95821

Re: Support for Solano County Water Agency Grant Application for
 Small Communities Flood Risk Reduction (SCFRR) Program

Dear Mr. Madankar:

The Delta Protection Commission is a state agency charged with ensuring orderly, balanced conservation and development of Delta land resources and improved flood protection. The Commission strongly supports the Solano County Water Agency's (SCWA) grant application for the Small Communities Flood Risk Reduction (SCFRR) Program. The application concerns the city of Rio Vista, which partially lies within the Legal Delta (as defined in Water Code Section 12220).

The goal of the SCWA's proposed feasibility study is to identify a preferred alternative to reduce flood risk to the city of Rio Vista and surrounding areas through analysis of potential structural and nonstructural alternatives. This study is a critical first step in protecting not only Rio Vista's, but the Delta's culture and important social, economic, and public services. Rio Vista is the largest of the Delta's historic legacy communities (Public Resources Code Section 32301(f)) and contains a large portion of the commercial activity and population within the Delta's rural heartland.

Commission policies have long supported efforts to improve Delta levees, particularly around communities. The *Vision 2030 Strategic Plan* (adopted May 21, 2015) calls for the Commission to advocate for levee funding for minimum PL 84-99 level of protection for the entire Delta. Similarly, the *Land Use and Resource Management Plan* (adopted February 25, 2010) includes policies championing a multi-year funding commitment for project and non-project levees and cost-effective levee improvements.

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The Commission strongly supports this application and respectfully requests the Department of Water Resources give favorable consideration to this important community project.

Sincerely,

Mary N. Piepho
Chair