



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Frazier: Santa Clara Valley Water District's decision to flip-flop on twin tunnels a potential disaster for Delta

SACRAMENTO – Assemblymember Jim Frazier (D-Discovery Bay) released the following statement after the Santa Clara Valley Water District voted today to reverse course and support the Delta twin tunnels and potentially commit hundreds of millions of dollars to the project.

“Today, with one vote, a majority of the Santa Clara Valley Water District Board decided to tie its ratepayers to what could become the most expensive boondoggle in the state’s history and endanger the environment and economy of the entire Delta region. The decision to flip-flop on the choice it made six months ago is as unconscionable as it is fishy. After Westlands Water District opted out of the tunnels plan in September, SCVWD’s board in October decided its ratepayers should not be in the business of subsidizing agricultural water districts in the San Joaquin Valley. Nothing has changed since then. As the Mercury News and the East Bay Times noted in a recent editorial, it is irresponsible for a seven-member board, without a vote of its ratepayers, to commit astronomical sums of money to a project that has never had a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis or accurate cost estimate, threatens to destroy an entire ecosystem and way of life and does not create a single drop of new water. These ill-conceived tunnels would be the biggest infrastructure project in the state’s history. We know from painful experience how quickly costs spiral out of control on projects of this type. You need look no further than the Bay Bridge and High Speed Rail. The vast majority of those who spoke at

today's meeting vehemently opposed SCVWD participating in this disastrous project. The Board's decision clearly violates the wishes of the ratepayers it represents."

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Assemblymember Frazier represents the 11th Assembly District, which includes the communities of Antioch, Bethel Island, Birds Landing, Brentwood, Byron, Collinsville, Discovery Bay, Fairfield, Isleton, Knightsen, Locke, Oakley, Pittsburg (partial), Rio Vista, Suisun City, Travis AFB, Vacaville and Walnut Grove.

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