



CALIFORNIA  
**WATERFIX**  
RELIABLE. CLEAN. WATER

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
of the  
**DELTA CONVEYANCE DESIGN**  
and **CONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY (DCA)**



# CALIFORNIA'S PRIMARY CLEAN WATER SUPPLY THAT 25 MILLION PEOPLE DEPEND ON IS OUT OF DATE, UNRELIABLE AND INEFFICIENT

## PINNACLE OF A SUCCESSFUL CAREER

*It's not often that a hallmark position such as this arises in one's career. Not only with the magnitude and scope of the infrastructure, but the sheer impact the completed project will have on millions and millions of Californians for decades to come.*

*This mega project, possibly surpassing the "Big Dig" in Boston and the build-out of the English Channel, will be well-matched to only a select few highly accomplished professionals. Ideal experience will include extensive knowledge of water issues impacting California and the Nation.*

*Ultimately, the top executive and superior leader selected as the Executive Director for the California WaterFix will have already achieved a high-level of credibility in his/her professional career and this incredibly important position will be his/her professional capstone and pinnacle of a successful career.*

## BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW

Modernizing and improving California's water system is essential for the reliable delivery of water supplies to much of the state. The Delta's declining ecosystem and 1,100 miles of levees are increasingly vulnerable to earthquakes, flooding, saltwater intrusion, climate change, and further environmental degradation. California WaterFix is the product of more than a decade of review, planning, and rigorous scientific and environmental analysis by water experts, engineers, and conservationists as well as unprecedented public input and comment. The proposed project is basically a seismic upgrade that will improve the reliability of the water system by strengthening and repairing aging infrastructure as well as constructing new, state-of-the-art facilities using innovative technologies and engineering best practices. Significant planning work

for the design and construction and engineering firms has been conducted and determined the project is buildable. Details of the project approach to design and construction including key program goals are summarized below:

### Key Program Goals

- Secure clean drinking water supplies for 27 million Californians and irrigation for 3 million acres of California farmland producing fruits and vegetables for the nation;
- Improve the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta's (Delta) ecosystem; and
- Update California's aging water system.

An extensive planning process evaluated various alignments, facility configurations, and system options have been completed during the last decade. Under the oversight of DWR, the DCA will be implementing those plans and completing design and construction of the project on time and on budget for final delivery to DWR as the owner/operator.

### Water Delivery Upgrade

- The project would be capable of diverting up to 9,000 cubic feet-per-second from the Sacramento River and capturing additional wet period water supplies after all environmental flow and water quality criteria are met; and
- Proposed construction plans, including the use of dual 40-foot diameter tunnels up to 150 feet below the ground, are well within common practices in the engineering construction industry and will provide operational redundancy.

Specific steps were taken during the planning effort to reduce or eliminate the impact of the new facilities on the environment and Delta communities. As a result of input during the environmental planning process, the following changes were made to the original project concept:

## ***Improved River Flows and Ecosystem Health***

- Reduced size of overall project;
- Expanded use of tunnels rather than canals for conveyance;
- Revised tunnel alignment;
- Reduced size and location of intermediate forebay;
- Reduced pumping requirements; and
- Reduced construction impacts along the Sacramento River.

## ***Environmental Enhancements***

Based on ongoing review of potential construction and operational impacts, mitigation for California WaterFix construction, and operation will include 2,300 acres of habitat restoration and up to 13,300 acres of habitat protection (e.g. conservation easements). This additional acreage will focus primarily on preserving habitat and wildlife-friendly agriculture in the Delta. All habitat restoration and protection costs for California WaterFix will be funded exclusively by water agencies benefitting from the project.

## **GOVERNING STRUCTURE**

The Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) has been formed as a Joint Powers Authority by participating public water agencies. The DCA is charged with the final design and construction of WaterFix facilities, under the oversight of the Department of Water Resources (DWR). This model will allow the State of California and the public water agencies funding the project to assign roles and responsibilities that align with a shared vision to safely and transparently design and build WaterFix on time and on budget.

Further information about the DCA and the Delta Conveyance Finance Authority (DCFA) are available at [www.dcdca.org](http://www.dcdca.org).

## **THE IDEAL CANDIDATE**

- The Executive Director must have a minimum of fifteen (15) years of experience in progressive management positions, with at least five years in an executive

leadership position. The experience should be in an organization that has designed and constructed major public services infrastructure projects and/or public-sector development activities.

- The experience should include: developing and maintaining relationships with the highest levels of local, state and federal organizations to ensure collaboration and transparency. In addition, the experience should include: development of annual financial and strategic plans and initiatives to meet the public agency's goals and objectives, as well as overseeing the preparation of board agenda packages, providing board support, interfacing with media and facilitating selection of consultants and contractors. Experience with implementation of joint powers authorities is desirable.
- The candidate must demonstrate that they reported directly to a board of directors (or other executive-level reporting body) from which the position received general and policy direction and, in turn, translated that direction into specific procedures, program practices, strategic planning, initiative development, performance evaluation, fiscal budgeting and organizational development. The ability to provide support staff is desirable.
- Knowledge of and experience with California water policy and politics is highly desirable, as is an advanced degree. Excellent communication skills are required.

## **APPOINTMENT TYPE**

This is an at-will contractual position reporting to a DCA Board supported under a contractual professional services agreement. The individual selected will NOT be an employee of the DCA. Compensation (based on an hourly wage and grossed-up to include the equivalent cost of executive level benefits) will be highly competitive. Payment for services will be made directly to the appointed individual or through a professional affiliation with an established firm. As a contract employee of the DCA, annual payments to the Executive Director (or through a firm) should be considered as consulting income. Administrative support, if needed, can be included in the professional services contract. Specific details on compensation may be discussed with the Executive Search Firm.





## OFFICE LOCATION / AVAILABILITY

This position will require the Executive Director to have extensive time working in the Sacramento Office for the DCA (yet to be established), periodic site visits to the project area(s), as well as frequent meetings at the State Capitol, with the Department of Water Resources and other regulatory agencies. Periodic trips to Washington D.C. may be warranted throughout various phases of this extensive project. Travel and related expenses will be budgeted and reimbursable based on specific state guidelines.

## QUALIFYING EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

**Experience** - Suitability and match for this executive position will be evaluated based on a variety of factors including submitted materials, career history, reputation for delivering results, and verifiable track record of success in delivering major programs and accomplishments.

With the Board's desire to consider a broad field of candidates, candidates will be presented in two broad areas of career expertise: (1) large scale capital and infrastructure program delivery executives (highly desired); and (2) those with experience running a major enterprise. Experience in both areas is an advantage.

Extensive knowledge of California water issues is strongly desired by the DCA Board although all highly qualified candidates will be given full consideration.

**Education** – A Bachelor's degree is required. An advanced degree is a plus.

**Professional License / Certification** – Not required although licensed as a Professional Engineer or other related disciplines would be extremely beneficial combined with an accomplished career history.

## TO BE CONSIDERED

This is a confidential process and will be handled accordingly throughout the various stages of the process. References will not be contacted until mutual interest has been established. This position will be considered "open" until a final selection is made. Interested candidates should apply by **Monday, October 15, 2018**. Electronic submittals to [apply@ralphandersen.com](mailto:apply@ralphandersen.com) are strongly preferred and should include the following:

- Compelling cover letter;
- Comprehensive resume; and
- Listing of notable accomplishments / achievements.

Only the most highly qualified candidates will be invited for an interview with the DCA Board. Interviews by the Board will be conducted during November 2018 with possible additional introductions/interviews with key stakeholders to follow. Detailed backgrounds and an offer are anticipated during December.

Confidential inquiries and questions regarding this career opportunity should be directed to Ralph Andersen & Associates' Search Team at 916-630-4900:

**Ralph Andersen & Associates' Search Team**  
Ms. Heather Renschler, Project Director  
Mr. Robert Burg, Co-Project Director



*California Water Fix is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages all qualified individuals to apply for this exciting career opportunity.*