

**AGENDA ITEM 7: Receive presentation on Delta Socioeconomic Indicators Project**

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**Requested Action: Receive presentation on Delta Socioeconomic Indicators Report**

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Background: In 2012, the Commission submitted a “Proposal to Protect, Enhance, and Sustain the Unique Cultural, Historical, Recreational, Agricultural and Economic Values of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta as an Evolving Place” to the Delta Stewardship Council. Based on its Economic Sustainability Plan (ESP), the Proposal included policies and recommendations to be incorporated into the Delta Plan. Among these, Proposal 8.3 called for “Maintaining an “Economic Sustainability Scoreboard” to track progress.” Later that year, the Delta Stewardship Council accepted this proposal, noting that performance measures would be developed for Delta Plan Chapter 5, to “Protect and Enhance the Unique Cultural, Recreational, Natural Resource, and Agricultural Values of the California Delta as an Evolving Place.”

The Delta Protection Commission initiated the “Delta Socioeconomic Indicators Project” in June 2016, with the goal of compiling a regional set of data that would describe the overall economic and social well-being of the Delta region. Results and findings are presented as a snapshot that can replicated in the future and tracked over time. The researchers developed the list of indicators with input from multiple sources and discussed the project with the Commission at its November 2016 meeting. The researchers compiled data for the Legal Delta, disaggregating (when possible) the data by Primary and Secondary Zones. The data sources used in the report are updated regularly and can be available for use in future reports.

The indicators are presented in narrative and graphic forms that highlight trends across the Delta region. The data for the report has been collected and is being compiled into the final report. It is intended that the report be used to inform Commission actions and policies as well as the Delta Plan. It can be replicated at discreet points in the future to determine a trends analysis for the Delta. The indicators selected for the report are in the following categories: Jobs and the Economy, Working Lands, Housing and Roads, Education, and Demographics.

Researchers from the U.C. Davis Center for Regional Change are finalizing the report for the Delta Socioeconomic Indicators project. Dr. Catherine Brinkley is an Assistant Professor of Community and Regional Development at UC Davis and a lead researcher on this project. She will present an overview of the Delta Socioeconomic Indicators research effort.