

## Where are we now in the General State Budget Timeline?

- **FY 2016/17**
  - Governor's proposed budget has just been released in early January
  - Preparing for start of legislative hearings on the budget. These will continue through the spring.
  - Preparing several Spring Finance Letters that, if approved by Department of Finance, will be included in the May revise of the Governor's proposed budget
- **FY 2017/18**
  - Beginning planning for FY 2017/18 budget:
    - Initial discussions of Budget Change Proposals at the executive level

## General State Budget Timeline:

- **January**
  - State Constitution: Governor required to submit a balanced budget to the legislature by January 10<sup>th</sup>.
  - Incorporates revenue and expenditure estimates based upon the most current information available through mid-December of the previous year.
  - Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee and the Assembly Budget Committee hear the Budget Bill.
  - Preparation of any Spring Finance Letters: These could be proposed budget changes based on new information or Fall Budget Change Proposals that have been held over by Finance
  - Planning begins for Budget Change Proposals for Fall budget process
- **February**
  - Legislative Analyst's Office issues the "Analysis of the Budget Bill".
  - Mid-February: Spring Finance Letters due to Finance
- **February – April**
  - Department of Finance proposes adjustments to the Governor's Budget during budget hearings through Finance Letters

- Budget Hearings:
  - Legislature hears the various issues under consideration and vote to either approve or deny the requests.
  - Conference Committee attempts to reconcile the differences between Assembly and Senate versions of the Budget Bill.
- April to June: Budget Change Proposal Concepts prepared by Water Board staff for next fiscal year (after the fiscal year beginning in July)
  - Initial approval is at Executive level at State Water Board
  - Second level of approval is at CalEPA Agency Secretary level
- **May – June**
  - Governor’s May Revision of January Budget released.
    - DOF submits revised revenue and expenditure estimates for both the current and budget years to the Legislature.
    - Includes approved Spring Finance Letters
  - Additional Assembly and Senate Budget Hearings take place to review and approve/deny the changes from the May Revision.
  - Budget Conference Committee: Reconciles differences between the Assembly and Senate versions of the budget and submits a final budget to the Governor for adoption.
- **June – enacted State budget**
  - State Constitution requires that the Legislature pass the Budget Bill by June 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Requires a majority vote by the Legislature to pass the Budget Act (Proposition 25).
  - Governor allowed to reduce or eliminate an appropriation (line-item veto).
  - State Budget is enacted upon the Governor’s signature.

- Once the Budget is enacted upon the Governor's signature, State Water Board staff update resource allocations to reflect the final Budget Act. Ensures all funds are allocated to the appropriate program areas.
- **July – New Fiscal Year Begins**
- **August and September**
  - Full Budget Change Proposals for approved concepts prepared and submitted to CalEPA for final approval/signature
  - September: Agency approved Budget Change Proposals sent to Department of Finance for review and approval
- **October-November:** Department of Finance review and approval of Budget Change Proposals. Negotiations, if necessary, with Agency, Department of Finance and Governor's Office on any Budget Change Proposals denied by Department of Finance.
- **December:** BCPs Approved by Department of Finance become part of Governor's Budget