AFFIRMING THE URGENCY AND CRITICAL NEED FOR NEW REGIONAL FUNDING FOR SAN FRANCISCO BAY RESTORATION

Whereas, the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (Authority) was created by the California State Legislature in 2008 with the mission of raising and allocating resources for the restoration, enhancement, protection, and enjoyment of wetlands and wildlife habitat in the San Francisco Bay and along its shoreline; and

Whereas, the Authority has worked to determine an approach to new Bay restoration funding most likely to secure necessary support from Bay Area residents and voters; and that in evaluating strategies for new Bay restoration funding has solicited input from well over 100 stakeholders throughout the region; and

Whereas, outreach by the Authority and community stakeholders has resulted in thousands of conversations about the urgent need for Bay restoration, improvement of flood protection infrastructure, and expanded public access to the Bay shoreline; and that those conversations resulted in a broad regional consensus in support of the Authority’s work, including hundreds of local leaders from business, government, organized labor, local public agencies, environmental groups, scientists, and community leaders united behind the mission of the Authority; and

Whereas, members of the Advisory Committee and other partners provided critical input and content for a draft ballot measure, detailed expenditure plan, and list of potential projects; and

Whereas, polling conducted by both the Authority and private entities consistently showed that, with education about the opportunity to make San Francisco Bay clean and healthy for the next generation, 70% of Bay Area voters would support a modest parcel tax to advance the Authority’s mission; and

Whereas, the consensus recommendation from political consultants, pollsters, and key stakeholders is to propose a ballot measure to voters when resources are available for a robust, independent political campaign to educate voters; and the Governing Board has determined that such resources have not yet been secured by supporters of a parcel tax to ensure such a campaign in 2014.
Resolution 9

AFFIRMING THE URGENCY AND CRITICAL NEED FOR NEW REGIONAL FUNDING FOR SAN FRANCISCO BAY RESTORATION

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Board of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority will continue to pursue its mission to promote restoration, enhancement, protection, and enjoyment of wetlands and wildlife habitat in the San Francisco Bay and along its shoreline; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governing Board directs staff to develop a planning calendar and work plan for a potential 2016 ballot measure; and that the Board encourages partners to continue educational outreach and engagement activities that increasing awareness and support from Bay Area elected officials, community leaders and residents; and that the Board seeks input from the Advisory Committee and the public to evaluate opportunities to develop new local funding for San Francisco Bay restoration.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority at its meeting on June 19, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES: Governing Board Members ________________________________

NOES: Governing Board Members ________________________________

ABSENT: Governing Board Members ________________________________

ABSTAIN: Governing Board Members ________________________________

____________________________________
John Gioia
Vice Chair

I, Frederick Castro, Clerk of the Governing Board of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the Governing Board of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority at its meeting of June 19, 2014, which Resolution is on file in the office of this regional governmental entity.

____________________________________
Frederick Castro
Clerk of the Governing Board