



MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 11, 2016

TO: Governing Board
San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority

FROM: Sam Schuchat
Executive Officer
State Coastal Conservancy

SUBJECT: Ballot Access Costs: San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Agreements with East Bay Regional Park District and Sonoma County Water Agency

I recommend that the Authority adopt Resolution 11 authorizing the Chair to negotiate and execute agreements with the East Bay Regional Park District (“EBRPD”) and the Sonoma County Water Agency (“SCWA”) regarding contributions towards the Authority’s costs to place a parcel tax measure on the ballot in 2016.

Background

The Authority is considering whether to place a parcel tax measure on the ballot in 2016, but lacks sufficient funding for the costs to be charged by the nine counties for placing a measure on the ballot, which will be approximately \$2 million. On September 21, 2015, the Authority authorized execution of a memorandum of agreement with the Santa Clara Valley Water District (“SCVWD”) in which SCVWD agreed to pay up to \$1.5 million of the Authority’s costs to place a measure on the ballot, to be reimbursed out of tax revenues if the measure passes, and the Authority agreed to expedite review and consideration of SCVWD grant applications for the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project.

Memoranda of Agreement with EBRPD and SCWA

EBRPD provides open space, parks, trails, and recreational opportunities in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. In carrying out its mission, EPRPD undertakes bay restoration projects that provide a mix of tidal wetlands, related natural habitats, and wildlife-oriented public access and recreation along the San Francisco Bay shoreline in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. EBRPD supports the goals of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Act and an Authority parcel tax measure, which could result in additional funding for EBRPD’s bay restoration projects. EBRPD is willing to enter into an agreement with the Authority on terms similar to those in the SCVWD agreement; EBRPD would contribute \$250,000 toward the Authority’s costs to place a

parcel tax measure on the ballot, to be reimbursed if a revenue measure passes, and the Authority would agree to expedite EBRPD grant applications.

SCWA manages water resources in Sonoma County for the benefit of people and the environment. Passage of the Authority's parcel tax measure could result in additional funding for restoration and protection of wetlands and natural habitats along the San Francisco Bay shoreline in Sonoma County. SCWA intends to consider, at its January 12, 2016 meeting, whether to enter into an agreement with the Authority, on terms similar to those in the SCVWD agreement, in which SCWA would contribute \$250,000 toward the Authority's costs to place a parcel tax measure on the ballot, to be reimbursed if the measure passes.

Given that additional funds for ballot costs are needed beyond SCVWD's contribution, the Authority would benefit from these agreements with EBRPD and SCWA.

Attachment
Resolution 11