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MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 1, 2019

TO: Advisory Committee
San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority

FROM: Jessica Davenport, Deputy Manager
San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority

SUBJECT: Summary of Advisory Committee Impact, 2017-2018

The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Advisory Committee (AC) took several actions that influenced Governing Board decisions or staff work in the period from 2017 to 2018. They are summarized below.

Input on the RFP and Grant Guidelines. The AC provided extensive input to staff on the request for proposals (RFP) and Grant Program Guidelines in both 2017 and 2018. Two of the most significant contributions were the following:

- **Economically disadvantaged communities (EDCs) Definition**—An ad hoc subcommittee worked with additional environmental justice experts to draft a definition of EDCs that was approved by the full AC and then the Governing Board, with some minor edits.
- **Guidelines for Acquisitions**—Based on the advice of the AC, staff made clarifications to the Grant Program Guidelines and the request for proposals (RFP) about what types of acquisitions would be eligible and how staff would ensure that land acquired would be used for purposes of Measure AA. these changes were adopted by the Governing Board.

Performance Measures Development. An ad hoc subcommittee developed a memo exploring options for performance measures and recommending specific ones to use in Authority's first annual report. The recommendation was brought to the full AC for adoption and then to the board as an information item. At the board meeting, staff agreed to follow the AC recommendations regarding performance measures to the extent feasible. Staff included a performance measures table in the *Annual Report, Fiscal Year 2017/2018*, and the Governing Board approved the report at its February 2019 meeting. The AC will have another opportunity to comment on how performance measures are being reported when it reviews and comments on the annual report, as required by Measure AA.

Environmental Justice Panel. An informal subgroup of AC members convened an Environmental Justice (EJ) Panel to provide suggestions regarding how to ensure that the Authority effectively engages EDCs in its work. The panel provided the impetus for the staff to develop a proposal for how to better engage EDCs and generally apply an equity lens to the Measure AA grant program. An ad hoc subcommittee has been formed to work with staff and a consultant on this effort. The work is expected to lead to a proposal to the Governing Board in 2019 to fund a multi-year community engagement effort in EDCs and/or other recommendations that result from the work of the subcommittee, the full AC, the consultant, and staff.

Special Project Proposal Review. Staff presented a recommendation for the Governing Board to fund a coordinated permitting proposal that would support dedicated regulatory agency staff to work together as a team to review projects and issue permits for multi-benefit wetland restoration projects. The team is called the Bay Restoration Regulatory Integration Team (BRRIT). The AC was asked to make a recommendation to the Governing Board on whether to fund the proposal. Some AC members raised concerns about whether regulatory coordination was a proper use of Measure AA funds. Due to a lack of consensus on the topic, the AC shifted from its usual consensus-based decision-making and took a vote. The vote resulted in a majority decision to support the BRRIT. The AC Chair presented this recommendation to the Governing Board, noting that a minority of AC members did not support the recommendation. The Governing Board authorized \$650,000 per year for five years and authorized the acceptance and disbursement of up to \$600,000 per year for five years in matching funds, with both totals including annual increases for inflation. Matching funds will be provided by the State Coastal Conservancy, Santa Clara Valley Water District, East Bay Regional Park District, and Bay Area Toll Authority.

Communications Plan Input. An ad hoc subcommittee worked with the authority's Public Information Officer to develop a Communications Plan for the Authority. It was taken to the full AC for additional input. The Communications Plan is an internal staff document that will not be taken to the Governing Board but will help guide collaboration between the Authority and the agencies and organizations that AC members represent, helping to spread Authority messages to a broad constituency.