



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence

County Manager's Office

DATE: April 10, 2007

BOARD MEETING DATE: May 15, 2007

SPECIAL NOTICE/HEARING: None

VOTE REQUIRED: Majority

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: John L. Maltbie, County Manager

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Understanding with the San Mateo County
Resource Conservation District regarding the Pilarcitos Creek
Restoration Workgroup

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing the President of the Board of Supervisors to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the San Mateo County Resource Conservation District regarding the establishment of the Pilarcitos Creek Restoration Workgroup and authorizing the Deputy County Manager for Community Services or her designee to be the primary county contact for the workgroup.

VISION ALIGNMENT:

Commitment: Responsive, effective and collaborative government

Goal 22: County and local governments effectively communicate, collaborate and develop strategic approaches to issues affecting the entire County.

BACKGROUND:

The San Mateo County Resource Conservation District (SMC/RCD) was established in 1939 to be the focal point for local land and water conservation efforts in the coastal area of the County. The district covers over 157,000 acres of rural, agricultural and open space lands including all the watersheds that drain into the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. SMC/RCD works collaboratively with

landowners and public and private agencies to develop and implement resource management plans and projects within district bounds.

In 1996, under the auspices of the SMC/RCD, nineteen federal, state, local and nonprofit agencies, including the County of San Mateo, joined together to form the Pilarcitos Creek Advisory Committee. The Committee provided public comments on the Pilarcitos Creek Restoration Plan and advised the SMC/RCD on the management of the restoration project. The agencies have now decided to convene a new Pilarcitos Creek Restoration Workgroup up update the 1996 Watershed Management Plan.

DISCUSSION:

San Mateo County has been asked to join the new Pilarcitos Creek Workgroup and participate in the development of the revised watershed management plan. The purpose of the watershed plan is to achieve an ecologically sustainable watershed that supports steelhead trout. The workgroup will meet every two months and staff support will be provided by the SMC/RCD. A technical team led by an independent consultant will also support the workgroup.

To participate in the workgroup, all agencies must sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that establishes the Workgroup. The MOU states that participation in the workgroup is voluntary, that all signatory agencies will establish a primary contact and that the agencies will keep the workgroup informed of all restoration work they are conducting in the Pilarcitos watershed.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Other than staff time associated with participating in the workgroup, there is no cost associated with signing the MOU. The State Water Resources Control Board is supporting this project with a 2005/2006 grant of \$202,500. This money is coming through the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) and they are also providing a cost share contribution of \$67,500. The majority of the funding, \$190,000 will pay for the technical consultants. The balance of the funds will go to the SMC/RCD for workgroup support.