



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Department of Public Works



DATE: August 26, 2011
BOARD MEETING DATE: September 13, 2011
SPECIAL NOTICE/HEARING: None
VOTE REQUIRED: Majority

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: James C. Porter, Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation's Habitat Conservation Fund Program Grant for the Crystal Springs Regional Trail South of Highway 92 Project

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Director of Public Works, or his designee to:

- 1) Apply for and accept a California Department of Parks and Recreation Habitat Conservation Fund Program grant in the amount of \$200,000; and
- 2) Execute any other documents associated with the acceptance of the grant funding from California Department of Parks and Recreation in the amount of \$200,000; and
- 3) Make necessary grant assurances.

BACKGROUND:

The California Department of Parks and Recreation's Office of Grants and Local Services administers the Habitat Conservation Fund (HCF) Program. This competitive grant program's intent is to protect, restore, and enhance wildlife habitat and fisheries that are vital to maintaining California's quality of life. The impacts of the increase in the state's human population results in an urgent need to fund projects that protect rapidly disappearing wildlife habitats that support California's unique and varied wildlife resources.

In response to this need, the people of California voted to enact the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990 (Proposition 117), Chapter 9, Fish and Game Code (FGC) §2780 through 2799.6, which largely defines the HCF Program. The HCF is used for: (a) acquisition of habitat to protect deer and mountain lions; (b) acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened, or fully protected species; (c) acquisition of habitat to further implement the HCF Program; (d) acquisition, enhancement, or restoration of wetlands; (e) acquisition, restoration, or enhancement of aquatic habitat for anadromous

salmonids and trout resources; (f) acquisition, restoration, or enhancement of riparian habitat; (g) acquisition of wildlife corridors and urban trails, nature interpretation program; and other programs which bring urban residents into park and wildlife areas. This grant application is being developed to meet the criteria of the urban trails subprogram.

DISCUSSION:

The HCF Program grant will provide a portion of the funds necessary to complete the Project, which is described below. In order to obtain the HCF Program grant funds, the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) requires that applicants, among other things: certify by resolution their approval of a particular project, confirm they understand the grant terms and confirm that they will be able to complete and maintain the project and will follow applicable law.

With over 300,000 visitors annually, the Crystal Springs Regional Trail is one of the most popular non-motorized multiple-use trails in the Bay Area. This Project will help complete an uninterrupted non-motorized trail from the City of San Bruno to the City of Woodside for pedestrians, equestrians, roller skaters, and cyclists. The Project, which begins 950 feet south of the Highway 92 and Cañada Road intersection and ends 5,025 feet south of that intersection at Cañada Road across from the Ralston Bike Trail, will convert an existing 0.9 mile San Francisco Watershed service road into a 10-foot-wide paved and 3-foot-wide gravel shouldered multiple use trail.

Safety is a high priority goal of the Project as the Project will provide cyclists and pedestrians an opportunity to recreate and commute on a Class I bikeway independent of automobiles. The paved trail accommodates cyclists, in-line skaters, and mobility devices such as wheelchairs and strollers. The gravel shoulder separates use and provides a more desirable surface for runners and equestrians. Four benches, informational and entry signs, kiosks, four trash receptacles and a restroom will be added to support the visitor experience. Construction plans and specifications for the Project are complete, and all necessary permits have been obtained.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the Resolution as to form. The Resolution includes assurances which are required by the State Parks to be adopted by the Board.

Approval of this Resolution contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of an Environmentally Conscious Community as construction of a new Crystal Springs Regional Trail section increases the number and quality of natural experiences for County Park visitors. Each visitor that experiences the County's natural resources gains a greater appreciation of the need for their preservation.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The request for HCF Program grant funds is the second step in securing full funding for the Project's estimated cost of \$1,081,827. A \$194,549 Metropolitan Transportation Commission TDA Article 3 grant has already been secured. The Department of Public Works is currently working with state, and federal agencies for the remaining funds. The work will only begin after full project funding has been secured. There is no impact to the General Fund.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION

**AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, OR HIS DESIGNEE TO:
1. APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND
RECREATION HABITAT CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM GRANT IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$200,000; AND**

**2. EXECUTE ANY OTHER DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE
ACCEPTANCE OF THE GRANT FUNDING FROM
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION IN THE AMOUNT
OF \$200,000; AND 3. MAKE NECESSARY GRANT ASSURANCES**

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, the people of the State of California have enacted the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990, which provides funds to the State of California for grants to local agencies to acquire, enhance, restore or develop facilities for public recreation and fish and wildlife habitat protection purposes; and

WHEREAS, the State Department of Parks and Recreation has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of the Habitat Conservation Fund (HCF) Program, setting up necessary procedures governing project application under the HCF Program; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the State Department of Parks and Recreation require the applicant to certify by resolution the approval of application(s) before submission of said application(s) to the State; and

WHEREAS, the County will enter into a contract with the State of California to complete the project; and

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that the Board of Supervisors approves the filing of an application for the Habitat Conservation Fund Program; and

- 1) Certifies that said applicant has or will have available, prior to commencement of any work on the project included in this application, the required match and sufficient funds to complete the project; and
- 2) Certifies that the applicant has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project(s), and
- 3) Certifies that the applicant has reviewed, understands, and agrees to the provisions contained in the contract shown in the grant administration guide; and
- 4) Delegates the authority to the Director of Public Works to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the project.
- 5) Agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations and guidelines.

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