



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Public Works and Parks



Date: October 19, 2012
Board Meeting Date: November 20, 2012
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: James C. Porter, Director of Public Works and Parks

Subject: California Department of Boating and Waterways Grant

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Director of Public Works and Parks, or his designee, to accept a California Department of Boating and Waterways grant for the Coyote Point Recreation Area Promenade Western Shoreline Improvements Project in the amount of \$500,000.

BACKGROUND:

In the late 1920's, the Coyote Point Promenade was built as part of the Pacific City amusement park as a pathway alongside the San Francisco Bay. Since the County acquired Coyote Point Recreation Area in the 1940's, use of the site has always included a shoreline trail and access to the Bay for non-motorized users.

For over thirty years, this site has been heavily used by beginner to advanced windsurfers and kite boarders. A growing population of sea kayakers and stand up paddlers also use the site year-round and also those who want to walk, jog or bicycle while viewing the San Francisco Bay. Open water swimmers have long swam back and forth parallel to the Promenade and used the existing sand bag ramps. Working with local windsurfers and kite boarders and the park concessionaire Boardsports, the vision to restore the site to greater sustainable use has been a high priority for County Parks.

The Promenade is recognized in two regional trail plans. It is an important spur to the San Francisco Bay Trail as it connects to the Coyote Point Bay Trail and allows pedestrians and cyclists to travel from the City of San Mateo through the Coyote Point Recreation Area. It is also listed as a high opportunity site in the San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Plan and could be included as a permanent site once improvements have been completed.

DISCUSSION:

Strong winds and tides have deteriorated the western shoreline pathway, levee and access ramps of the Promenade to the extent that an engineered solution is essential to prevent permanent closure of the site for all use. Private funding was secured to develop a full set of construction plans, permits, and specifications. Philip Williams and Associates, an experienced Bay Area engineering firm, was hired to perform hydraulic modeling to determine the best solution for the Promenade and completed this work in 2011. These plans facilitated the successful solicitation of alternative funding for project construction. The Department of Boating and Waterways announced the award of this \$500,000 grant in October 2012. The decision on a \$400,000 grant should be announced in mid-November 2012.

This project will rebuild failed shoreline protection structures and erosion control, rehabilitate an existing 1,050-foot-long by 13-foot-wide recreational pathway along the San Francisco Bay and create three new launch ramps into the Bay for windsurfers, kite boarders, standup paddlers and kayakers. The improvements will protect the adjacent shoreline area from erosion and structural damage as well as the parking area and other park amenities from projected sea level rise or periodic flooding during high tide events.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the Resolution as to form.

Approval of this Resolution contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of an Environmentally Conscious Community as execution of the grant agreement furthers the number and quality of natural experiences and recreational opportunities for County Park visitors. Each visitor gains a greater appreciation of the natural environment and the need for its preservation.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This \$500,000 grant award is a reimbursable grant. When project expenditures are made from the Park Acquisition and Development Fund, reimbursements can be sought from the Department of Boating and Waterways and deposited into the Park Acquisition and Development Fund. A \$400,000 grant proposal has also been submitted to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Cosco Busan Oil Spill Settlement Recreational Use Grant Program with a decision anticipated by mid-November 2012. The balance of \$241,400 of the estimated \$1,141,400 engineer's cost estimate will be provided by the San Mateo County Parks Foundation.