



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



Date: December 3, 2012
Board Meeting Date: January 8, 2013
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

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

Subject: Federal Highway Administration Public Lands Highway Program
Discretionary Grant Application

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution authorizing application for and acceptance of a Federal Highway Administration Public Lands Highway Program Discretionary Grant for the Crystal Springs Regional Trail South of Highway 92 project in the amount of \$550,000.

BACKGROUND:

The Federal Highway Administration's Public Lands Highway Program Discretionary (PLHD) Grants Program was originally established in 1930 by the Amendment Relative to Construction of Roads through Public Lands and Federal Reservations. The intent of the program is to improve access to and within the Federal lands of the nation. The program has continued with every highway or transportation act.

The California Department of Transportation administers the program within California. In accordance with 23 U.S.C. 204(b)(5), the PLHD funds are available for "any kind of transportation project eligible for assistance under Title 23, United States Code, that is within, adjacent to, or provides access to" Federal lands or facilities. PLHD funds are available for transportation planning, research, engineering, and construction of the highways, roads, and parkways, and of transit facilities within the Federal public lands.

DISCUSSION:

The Crystal Springs Regional Trail South of Highway 92 Project is a proposed 0.9 mile segment of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail located within the 23,000-acre San Francisco Watershed and has a "Grant of Scenic Easement" and "Grant of Scenic and Recreational Easement" over the watershed lands with the Secretary of the Interior for the National Park Service's Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

If successful, the grant will provide the final funding needed to meet the estimated \$1,194,549 cost of the Crystal Springs Regional Trail South of Highway 92 Project. Construction of the Project will be fully funded through grant monies. Other grants include the award of a \$195,549 grant from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Transportation Development Act Article 3 Program and pending award decisions for a \$200,000 grant from the California State Parks and Recreation Habitat Conservation Fund Program and \$250,000 from the California State Parks and Recreation's Land and Water Conservation Fund.

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 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:

There is no Net County Cost associated with applying for this grant program. Staff time to prepare the grant application is included in the current Parks Division budget.