



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Board of Supervisors



Date: May 27, 2014
Board Meeting Date: June 3, 2014
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Supervisor Dave Pine

Subject: Acceptance of California State Coastal Conservancy Grant

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution authorizing:

- A) The County of San Mateo, in partnership with the City and County of San Francisco acting by and through the San Francisco International Airport, to receive a grant in the amount of \$200,000 from the California State Coastal Conservancy for the purpose of preparing a sea level rise vulnerability assessment and adaptation study; and
- B) The County Manager or his designee to execute an Agreement with San Francisco International Airport and the Coastal Conservancy to receive this grant.

BACKGROUND:

The economic value of property located in San Mateo County at risk from sea level rise exceeds that of any other county in California. Of particular concern is San Francisco International Airport (SFO) which is critical to the Bay Area economy but faces a substantial risk of being submerged in several feet of water in the event of a 100 year storm and/or projected sea level rise. SFO has been addressing the risks posed by sea level rise by building seawalls and undertaking a comprehensive shoreline protection study of its property. However, SFO cannot be protected from sea level rise hazards without also collaboratively addressing the contiguous properties both northwest and southwest of the airport.

The Coastal Conservancy's Climate Ready grants are intended to encourage local governments and non-governmental organizations to act now to prepare for a changing climate by advancing planning and implementation of on-the-ground actions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and lessen the impacts of climate change on California's coastal communities and natural resources.

DISCUSSION:

On January 23, 2014, the Coastal Conservancy awarded a grant in the amount of \$200,000 jointly to the City and County of San Francisco, acting by and through SFO, and the County for the purpose studying the impacts of sea level rise due to global warming on the shoreline area northwest of the airport where the San Bruno and Colma creeks enter the San Francisco Bay.

The study area contains residential neighborhoods that have been subject to severe flooding, habitat for threatened and endangered species, and substantial public infrastructure including two major highways, Caltrain and BART lines, the San Francisco Bay Trail, two sanitary sewage treatment plants, and multiple flood control channels and pump stations. SFO and the County will convene a multi-agency working group to study the vulnerability of this shoreline area to sea level rise and prepare adaptation strategies.

The study will complement the airport's SFO Shoreline Protection Feasibility Study, whose purpose is to develop a shoreline protection system that will protect the airport from flooding and rising seas.

Based on discussions with SFO representatives, SFO has agreed to be the fiscal agent for the grant funds and SFO will be responsible for contracting with one of its existing consultants to prepare the study. No matching funds are required from either SFO or the County in connection with the receipt of the grant funds.

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

FISCAL IMPACT:

There will be no Net County Cost.