

# COUNTY OF SAN MATEO Inter-Departmental Correspondence Parks



**Date:** August 21, 2014

Board Meeting Date: September 30, 2014

Special Notice / Hearing: None Vote Required: Majority

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**From:** Marlene Finley, Parks Director

**Subject:** Amend Agreement with Go Native, Inc.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a Resolution authorizing an amendment to the agreement with Go Native, Inc. for the provision of invasive species eradication at Devil's Slide Trail, maintaining the term through June 30, 2016, and increasing the amount by \$153,768 to an amount not to exceed \$253,268.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The County opened Devil's Slide Trail (Trail) on March 27, 2014. The Trail showcases significant natural resources such as its unique geology, seabird populations, resident pair of peregrine falcons, and some areas of nearly pristine coastal scrub habitat. In other areas where landslides have disturbed the soil, the habitat has been recolonized by jubata grass (*Cordaderia jubata*), a plant that the California Invasive Plant Council rates as highly invasive.

County Parks entered into Agreement No. 39000-14-D036 with Go Native, Inc. to provide invasive species and native plant restoration services at the Trail for the term of May 23, 2014 through June 30, 2016 in the amount of \$99,500. Since execution of this agreement, several things have occurred leading to this request to amend the agreement.

Greater numbers of jubata grass (*Cordaderia jubata*) colonies that were not visible from the Trail have since been identified. Staff consulted with other land management agencies as to their best practices for effective eradication of this particular invasive species. Due to the prevalence of this invasive species on surrounding lands, a strong campaign of eradication of this invasive species, monitoring and restoration of native vegetation is needed. Additional grant funding in the amount of \$123,268 for this work became available after the completion of a different project.

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### **DISCUSSION:**

The Department's Natural Resource Manager met with the Go Native contractor to develop a broader and more intensive scope of services for the invasive species eradication particularly for the jubata grass (*Cordaderia jubata*) colonies. The term of the original agreement is sufficient for these services but the labor, time and materials to accomplish the expanded scope of services would require an additional \$153,768, \$123,268 of which would be grant funding.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the Amendment to Agreement No. 39000-14-D036 and the Resolution as to form.

Approval of the Resolution to amend the agreement with Go Native, Inc. contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of an Environmentally Conscious Community as the provided invasive species eradication and native plant restoration services increase and enhance the quality of sensitive ecosystems at Devil's Slide Trail and the experiences and recreational opportunities for County Park visitors.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

Funding for this agreement has been included in the Parks FY 2014-15 budget and represents a total increase of \$30,500 in Net County Cost.