



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Parks



Date: September 18, 2014
Board Meeting Date: October 21, 2014
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Marlene Finley, Parks Director

Subject: Application for a Habitat Conservation Fund Grant for the San Vicente Creek Restoration Project

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing the County Parks Director, or her designee, to submit a grant application to the California Department of Parks and Recreation Habitat Conservation Fund grant program to be used for Phase II of the San Vicente Creek Restoration Project and execute all documents associated with acceptance of said grant program funding in the amount of \$70,000.

BACKGROUND:

The James V. Fitzgerald Marine Reserve has 32 acres of upland and riparian habitat along San Vicente Creek. This riparian area has been heavily affected by historic and on-going human activity and the effects of invasive plant species. A San Vicente Creek Habitat Enhancement Assessment was completed in May 2014 and identified priority restoration work. The San Vicente Creek Restoration Project (Project) is planned to occur in three phases.

Phase I restoration work will be completed during the fall of 2014 using funds secured through a grant from the US Fish and Wildlife Services' Community Impact Assessment Program. The Phase II restoration effort will focus on areas determined to be high priority for invasive species eradication and control.

DISCUSSION:

To accomplish Phase II, the Parks Department has an opportunity to apply for grant funding to the California Department of Parks and Recreation Habitat Conservation Fund grant program in the amount of \$70,000. Phase II would continue the restoration of high priority areas with work conducted over 0.4 acres. Ice plant, Pittosperum, Monterey cypress, mirror plant and English ivy will be removed using a contractor,

conservation corps and volunteers. Re-vegetation will include the seeding and applying of rice straw to all treatment areas and planting with native creeping wild rye grassland plugs and California strawberry plugs.

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 the San Vicente Creek Restoration Project preserves natural resources through environmental stewardship and management.

FISCAL IMPACT:

If awarded, the \$70,000 grant award would be a reimbursable grant. Project expenditures matched with volunteer, conservation corps and ranger hours would be paid out of the Parks Acquisition and Development Fund. Demand requests would be made under the grant agreement to the California Department of Parks and Recreation, and reimbursement funds would be deposited into the Parks Acquisition and Development Fund.