



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Parks



Date: March 8, 2016
Board Meeting Date: April 12, 2016
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: 4/5ths

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Marlene Finley, Parks Director

Subject: Accept Donation from Friends of Fitzgerald Marine Reserve

RECOMMENDATION:

- A) Adopt a resolution authorizing the acceptance of a donation from the Friends of Fitzgerald Marine Reserve to support a dedicated Park Aide-Extra Help position in the amount of \$8,000 for FY 2015-2016; and
- B) Approve an Appropriation Transfer Request (ATR) in the amount of \$8,000 from Gifts and Donations to Extra Help Hours - Regular Pay.

BACKGROUND:

The Friends of Fitzgerald Marine Reserve (FFMR) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization of volunteers providing tours of the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve/Montara State Marine Protected Area's tide pools and funding for rocky intertidal research, education, and stewardship activities. FFMR volunteers have been conducting programs at the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve (Reserve) for over 40 years. In addition, they provide docent training, youth educational camps within the park and roving visitor education to protect marine resources, including the protection of harbor seals and seal pups hauled out on the sand.

DISCUSSION:

In 2015, Board members of FFMR identified the need for an increased presence in Parks staff at the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve to protect sensitive resources and manage crowds, especially during extreme low tides and when harbor seals are birthing and rearing their pups. Understanding the limited staffing and expanding responsibilities of County Parks, the FFMR offered to donate \$8,000 to help fund a Park Aide-Extra Help position to be assigned at Fitzgerald Marine Reserve during low tides, weekends and pupping season.

In December 2015, County Parks hired a Park Aide-Extra Help employee who reports directly to the Supervising Park Ranger for Park District IV-Mid-coast. The Supervising Park Ranger schedules the employee's work at the Reserve and other Mid-coast County Parks.

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

This donation contributes to the 2025 Shared Vision of an Environmentally Conscious Community as it supports and advances educational and interpretive programs, stewardship and natural resource protection at the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The FFMR's donation supplements the County's funding for a Park Aide-Extra Help position, and enhances park operations, including resource protection at Fitzgerald Marine Reserve. This Appropriation Transfer Request represents the unanticipated revenue and expenditures of \$8,000. There is no impact on Net County Cost.