

ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

Representing City and County Governments of the San Francisco Bay Area



ABAG

Date: August 25, 2016

To: ABAG Executive Board

From: Caitlin Sweeney, Director
Director, San Francisco Estuary Partnership

Subject: **Authorization to Submit a Full Proposal and Accept a Grant from the U.S. EPA Bay Water Quality Improvement Fund to Undertake a Project on Multi-Benefit Urban Greening and Tidal Wetlands Restoration in Silicon Valley**

Executive Summary

SFEP/ABAG was selected as a finalist to receive funding from the 2016 San Francisco Bay Water Quality Improvement Fund and has been requested U.S. EPA to submit a full proposal application for the project, “Healthy Watersheds, Resilient Baylands: Multi-Benefit Urban Greening and Tidal Wetlands Restoration in Silicon Valley,” an effort to catalyze and demonstrate how resilience to climate change can be enhanced through implementation of multi-benefit projects. Outcomes will include 10 multi-benefit urban greening projects in Sunnyvale, Mountain View, and East Palo Alto, reducing stormwater runoff and creating 13 acres of wetland, riparian, and native plant habitat; 2 creeks realigned to deliver sediment to a restored tidal marsh; 10 acres of tidal transition zone and seasonal wetlands; reduced risk of flooding and associated contamination to the community of Alviso; reduced PCB and mercury delivery to the Bay; reduced methylmercury production in the baylands; and reduced risk of landfill contamination to the Bay.

Partners include: San Francisco Estuary Institute, South Bay Salt Ponds Restoration Project, Santa Clara Valley Water District, City of Sunnyvale, City of East Palo Alto, Google, SF Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, San Francisco Bay Joint Venture, Bay Area Ecosystems Climate Change Consortium, Bay Planning Coalition, Bay Area Flood Protection Agencies Association, Acterra, Canopy, and Peninsula Open Space Trust.

The total project cost is \$3,335,366. The total amount of federal funding expected under this grant is \$1,667,683. Match funds of approximately 50% of the project total will be provided by the partners. The expected award date is September, 2016.

Recommended Action

The Executive Board is requested to authorize approval of submittal of a full proposal to U.S. EPA and for the Executive Director or designee to sign an agreement with U.S. EPA to accept a grant for the *Healthy Watersheds, Resilient Baylands* project. The project assists with implementation of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) for the San Francisco Estuary.