

Association of Bay Area Governments

Executive Board

November 19, 2020

Agenda Item 6.e.

Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN)

Subject: Authorization to amend a Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) contract with the Regional Climate Protection Authority, on behalf of Sonoma County jurisdictions in an amount not to exceed \$248,870 for services for BayREN implementation through December 31, 2022

Background: Since 2013, BayREN has implemented a portfolio of energy efficiency programs across the region. The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) serves as the program administrator and lead agency for a 10-member unincorporated association of local government entities.

On May 31, 2018 the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) issued Decision 18-05-041¹ which among other things, authorized funding for BayREN through 2025, allowed for modifications to the existing portfolio, and increased the portfolio's total and annualized budget.

In October 2019, the CPUC removed the pilot designation and has made BayREN a permanent Program Administrator. The CPUC has also allowed PG&E and BayREN to negotiate contract terms independent of the CPUC. Accordingly, PG&E has agreed to enter into a contract amendment for three years (through 2022).

ABAG has contracts with BayREN member agencies² and with third party consultants that were selected through a competitive process to assist in the implementation of the programs. The overall BayREN budget is developed each calendar year and the contracts have historically been amended on an annual basis or as needed.

The Regional Climate Protection Authority (RCPA) is the lead agency for BayREN's Water Upgrades \$ave program, which partners with municipal water utilities to provide water efficiency improvements at no upfront cost and resulting in immediate savings on utility bills. The program has proven its model successful through the development and implementation of on-bill water conservation pilot programs at the Town of Windsor, the City of Hayward, and with the East Bay Municipal Utility District.

¹ <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M215/K706/215706139.PDF>

² The budgets for each member agency are determined by the amount of activities the agencies select and if an agency is the lead for a particular program.

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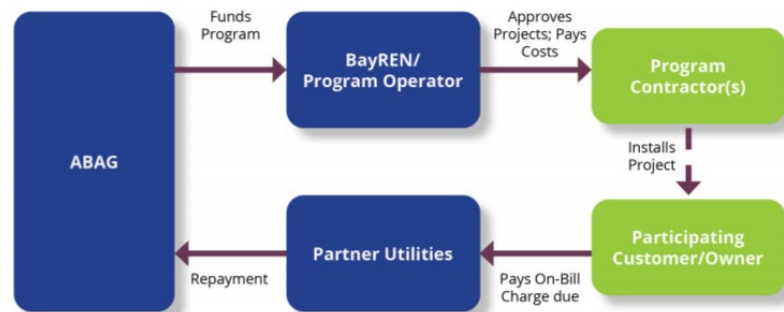
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To-date, 584 multifamily units and 247 single family projects have been completed with an average water savings of 30% for multifamily units and 20% for single family homes.

Program efforts during 2020 focused on finalizing a Master Agreement for formalizing the program model, summarized below, to allow for scalable regionalization through enrolling additional water utilities. BayREN works with partner utilities to establish project eligibility, marketing and outreach activities, and participation targets. This proposed funding augmentation will further the program's expansion in 2021 by highlighting the program's accomplishments in order to partner with additional utilities.



Issues:

None

Recommended Action:

The ABAG Executive Board is requested to authorize the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, or her designee, on behalf of the Association of Bay Area Governments and the Bay Area Regional Energy Network, to enter into a contract amendment with the Regional Climate Protection Authority, on behalf of Sonoma County jurisdictions, in an amount not to exceed \$248,870 for a total contracted amount of \$3,844,046 to provide services for BayREN implementation through December 31, 2022.

Attachments:

Summary Approval – Regional Climate Protection Authority

Reviewed:

Therese W. McMillan