

**Association of Bay Area Governments
ABAG Administrative Committee**

February 14, 2025

Agenda Item 6c

Authorization to amend a Cooperative Agreement between the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG)/San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP) and the City of Palo Alto for the construction and delivery of the Palo Alto Horizontal Levee Project

Subject:

Authorization to amend a Cooperative Agreement between the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG)/San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP) and the City of Palo Alto for the construction and delivery of the Palo Alto Horizontal Levee Project

Background:

The SFEP staff requests authorization to amend a previously negotiated Cooperative Agreement with the City of Palo Alto for the construction and delivery of the Palo Alto Horizontal Levee Project (Project). The goals of the Project are to enhance the ecological function of the Harbor Marsh and improve resilience to sea level rise.

The Project began design in 2018, in a unique collaboration between SFEP and the City of Palo Alto. Project development included extensive community and stakeholder engagement, including outreach workshops focused on engaging disadvantaged communities, environmental stakeholders, and surrounding residents. In addition, the project has incorporated community-based participatory research and education.

The ABAG/SFEP-City of Palo Alto Cooperative Agreement outlines the responsibilities of the parties for project completion. Some of the key components of the Cooperative Agreement include general obligations, roles and responsibilities for both parties, available funds, and a description of how the parties will coordinate for the completion of the project.

The ABAG Executive Board authorized the Executive Director to negotiate and enter into the Collective Agreement on October 13, 2023. The amendment adds an anticipated award of \$2,000,000 from the State Coastal Conservancy under ABAG's contribution and reduces the City of Palo Alto's contribution by a commensurate amount. Funds from this grant will support SFEP staff time and construction of the project.

Issues:


None identified.

Recommendations:

Requests ABAG Administrative committee approval to authorize the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, or designee, to amend the Cooperative Agreement between the Association of Bay Area Governments/San Francisco Estuary Partnership and the City of Palo Alto for the construction and delivery of the Palo Alto Horizontal Levee Project to add \$2,000,000 from the State Coastal Conservancy under ABAG's contribution and reducing the City of Palo Alto's contribution by a commensurate amount.

Attachments:

- Request for ABAG Administrative Committee Approval



Andrew B. Fremier

Request for Committee Approval

Summary of ABAG Administrative Committee Approval

Work Item No.: 1720

Funder: US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA)
Oakland, CA

Work Project Title: San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP) – Amended City of Palo Alto Cooperative Agreement for the Palo Alto Horizontal Levee Project

Purpose of Project: Outline the responsibilities of the parties for the construction and delivery of the Palo Alto Horizontal Levee Project

Brief Scope of Work: Construction of the Palo Alto Horizontal Levee Project will enhance the ecological function of the Harbor Marsh and improve resilience to sea level rise. The Cooperative agreement covers all the responsibilities of the parties related to construction, construction management, planting and monitoring. The Cooperative Agreement needs to be amended to add an additional fund source.

Project Cost Not to Exceed: \$6,528,793

Funding Source: US EPA, State Coastal Conservancy

Fiscal Impact: Funds programmed in Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Motion by Committee: The ABAG Administrative Committee is requested to authorize the Executive Director of the ABAG Executive Board, or designee, to amend the Cooperative Agreement between the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG)/SFEP and the City of Palo Alto for the construction and delivery of the Palo Alto Horizontal Levee Project for the purpose described above and in the ABAG Administrative Committee Summary Sheet dated February 14, 2025.

ABAG Administrative
Committee:

Belia Ramos, President

Approved: February 14, 2025