

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

April 14, 2023

Agenda Item 6b

Authorization to enter into a subaward with the City of Alameda for the San Leandro Operational Landscape Unit (OLU) Adaptation project for \$300,000 between March 1, 2023 and October 31, 2025

Subject:

Authorization to negotiate and enter into a subaward agreement with the City of Alameda for the San Leandro OLU Adaptation project for the Association of Bay Area Governments in connection with the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$300,000, for the purposes of implementing the San Francisco Estuary Blueprint as funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law through the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Background:

The San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP) is one of 28 programs mandated under Section 320 of the Clean Water Act, the National Estuary Program (NEP). The Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act passed by Congress in November 2021 included \$132 million for the National Estuary Program over five years. The US EPA will allocate the funding to each of the 28 National Estuary Programs for the implementation of Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plans, known as the Estuary Blueprint for the San Francisco Estuary. Funding for the San Francisco Estuary Partnership for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 is \$909,800.

Locally Driven, Regionally Supported Adaptation Planning in the San Leandro Operational Landscape Unit

The San Leandro Bay/Oakland-Alameda Estuary Adaptation Working Group (Working Group) is an existing group organized around the San Leandro OLU, which stretches from the Bay Bridge touchdown in the north to Oyster Bay in the south, and includes jurisdictions, agencies and community-based organizations (CBOs) that have an interest in the shoreline within the OLU, as well as regional and state collaborators. The San Leandro OLU is a highly urbanized and dense area with major critical infrastructure, residential neighborhoods in Oakland and Alameda with under-resourced communities vulnerable to climate change, and industrial and commercial uses. While OLUs cross jurisdictional boundaries, they adhere to natural and physical boundaries of tides, waves, watersheds, and sediment movement. Planning at an OLU

scale requires novel governance and information-sharing approaches, deep coordination and commitment to mutual support to advance a vision across many jurisdictions and community groups jointly.

Objective

The Working Group will co-create a coordinated and inclusive action plan and subregional organizational structure to accelerate sea level rise adaptation and enhance critical infrastructure, natural habitat, recreational opportunities and access, and community resilience within the San Leandro OLU. The Working Group will pilot locally-driven adaptation planning with regional partnership and support, providing a model that can be replicated in other OLUs along the San Francisco Bay and other coastal areas worldwide with complex, urban shorelines with multiple landowners and stakeholders.

Blueprint Implementation

This project implements Estuary Blueprint Action 1 to “Plan for increased climate resilience that incorporates natural resource protection” and Action 3 to “Overcome challenges to accelerate the implementation of climate adaptation projects that prioritize natural and nature-based strategies.”

Issues:


None identified.

Recommendations:

The Administrative Committee is requested to authorize the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, or his designee, to enter into and execute a subaward agreement with the City of Alameda for the San Leandro Operational Landscape Unit (OLU) Adaptation project for the Association of Bay Area Governments in connection with the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$300,000, for the purposes of implementing the San Francisco Estuary Blueprint as funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law through the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Attachments:

None.


Andrew B. Fremier

Request for Committee Approval

Summary of Proposed Subaward Agreement

Work Item No.: 1720 and 1349

Subawardee: City of Alameda
Alameda, CA

Work Project Title: San Leandro Operational Landscape Unit (OLU) Adaptation project

Purpose of Project: Implement Estuary Blueprint

Brief Scope of Work: Create an inclusive action plan and subregional organizational structure to accelerate sea level rise adaptation and enhance critical infrastructure, natural habitat, recreational opportunities and access, and community resilience within the San Leandro OLU

Project Cost Not to Exceed: \$300,000

Funding Source: United States Environmental Protection Agency, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

Fiscal Impact: Funds programmed into Fiscal Year (FY) 23-24 and will be programmed into the FY 24-25 and 25-26 Budgets

Motion by Committee: That the Executive Director or designee is authorized to negotiate and enter into a subaward agreement with City of Alameda for the San Leandro Operational Landscape Unit (OLU) Adaptation project described above and in the Operations Committee Summary Sheet dated April 14, 2023 and that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to set aside \$300,000 for such agreement.

Operations Committee:

Jesse Arreguin, Chair

Approved: April 14, 2023