



Date: November 9, 2018

To: BARC Governing Board

From: Allison Brooks, Executive Director

Re: **Recommendation to Approve California State Coastal Conservancy as Non-voting Member of the BARC Governing Board**

Over the last six years, the Bay Area Regional Collaborative has been focused on helping the Bay Area region adapt to a changing climate, strengthening our resiliency to increased flooding and sea level rise. The California State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) has been and continues to be an important partner in this work, helping to accelerate the Bay Area's progress in restoring wetlands and natural habitats, supporting healthy watersheds, and fostering a more resilient shoreline.

Working with BARC, the SCC has provided financial support and served on Executive Committee of the Resilient by Design Bay Area Challenge, while also dedicating staff to provide technical support to the design teams working in nine different vulnerable shoreline communities across the Bay Area. Additionally, SCC leadership and staff have served a critical technical resource and sounding board on a range of BARC projects including:

- Serving on Project Management Team for the SB1 Adaptation Planning Grant project
- Development of the *Raising the Bar on Regional Resilience* Report
- Participation in monthly BARC cross-agency meetings where staff are able to share updates and exchange information about climate adaptation work underway across the region and highlight upcoming opportunities.

The SCC helps staff the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (BRA) responsible for distributing the annual \$25 million in Measure AA funds to support wetland restoration. Additionally, the SCC has been a driving force behind the establishment of the Bay Restoration Regulatory Integration Team (BRRIT) which has the goal of improving the permitting process for multi-benefit wetland restoration projects and associated flood management and public access infrastructure in San Francisco Bay by dedicating agency representatives to review project information and permit applications as a team in the most efficient manner.

Given the important role the SCC plays in the region in supporting nature-based solutions to climate change, and the ongoing partnership opportunities between SCC and the BARC member agencies, it is recommended the BARC Governing Board approve the request of Samuel Schuchat, Executive Officer of SCC, to have SCC serve as a non-voting member of the BARC Governing Board. The engagement of SCC Executive Leadership on the BARC Governing Board will serve to inform and enhance discussion and strategy development related to BARC's work in climate adaptation and resiliency.