



BAY AREA TOLL AUTHORITY
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Memorandum

TO: BATA Oversight Committee

DATE: February 6, 2019

FR: Executive Director

W. I. 1251

RE: Funding Agreement – Bay Restoration Regulatory Integration Team: San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (\$500,000)

This memorandum requests that the Committee authorize the Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA) Executive Director to enter into a funding agreement with the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (SFBRA) for an amount not to exceed \$500,000 to support the Bay Restoration Regulatory Integration Team (BRRIT) with flood management and public access on the San Francisco Bay shoreline, subject to the approval of future BATA budgets.

Background

The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Act established the SFBRA as a regional entity for the protection and enhancement of tidal wetlands and other wildlife habitat in and surrounding San Francisco Bay.

SFBRA is establishing a BRRIT with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board to improve 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. The regulatory process is one of the most significant hurdles to accelerating the pace and scale of wetlands restoration and shoreline resilience projects in San Francisco Bay.

The restoration projects will build or enhance flood management features that will protect transportation infrastructure in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area, including the State-owned toll bridges. BATA supports the formation of the BRRIT to accelerate the permitting of multi-benefit wetland restoration and associated flood management and public access projects on the shoreline.

Funding Agreement

SFBRA is providing approximately \$650,000 per year for five years towards BRRIT and is seeking additional matching funds to support the BRRIT from other organizations in the San Francisco Bay Area that undertake multi-benefit wetlands restoration projects with associated flood management and public access on the San Francisco Bay shoreline. Staff recommends that BATA support BRRIT with a contribution of \$100,000 a year for five years for a total of \$500,000. BRRIT will facilitate environmental permitting for BATA rehabilitation projects on the toll bridges and approaches and other toll funded projects on the Bay, including State Route 37. The first installment will be funded

from the BATA Toll Bridge Rehabilitation Program with future installments to be funded from the BATA Toll Bridge Program Operating Budget, subject to annual BATA budget approvals.

Recommendation

Staff requests the Committee authorize the Executive Director or designee to negotiate and enter into a funding agreement with the SFBRA for implementation of the BRRIT in an amount of \$100,000 per year for five years for a not to exceed amount of \$500,000, subject to the approval of future BATA budgets.



Steve Heminger

SH:pl
Attachments

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REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL
Summary of Proposed Funding Agreement

Work Item No.:	1251
Party Agencies:	San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (SFBRA)
Work Project Title:	Bay Restoration Regulatory Integration Team (BRRIT)
Purpose of Project:	Establish a Bay Restoration Regulatory Integration Team
Brief Scope of Work:	SFBRA is establishing a BRRIT with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board to improve 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.
Project Cost Not to Exceed:	\$100,000 per year for five years for a not to exceed amount of \$500,000
Funding Source:	First year from Toll Bridge Rehabilitation Program Funds and subsequent years from the BATA Toll Bridge Program Operating Budget, subject to BATA approval
Fiscal Impact:	\$100,000 in Toll Bridge Rehabilitation Program Funds are included in the FY 2018-19 Toll Bridge Rehabilitation Program Budget. Future funds for each additional fiscal year are subject to the approval of the FY 2019-20, FY 2020-21, FY 2021-22, and FY 2022-23 Toll Bridge Program Operating Budgets.
Motion by Committee:	That the Executive Director or designee is authorized to negotiate and enter into a funding agreement with SFBRA as described above and in the Executive Director's memorandum dated February 6, 2019; and the Chief Financial Officer is directed to set aside funds in the amount of \$500,000 for such funding agreement, subject to the approvals of future BATA Budgets.
BATA Oversight Committee:	<hr/> Amy Worth, Chair
Approved:	February 13, 2019