Association of Bay Area Governments

Executive Board

September 18, 2025 Agenda Item 6.h.

San Francisco Estuary Partnership

Subject:

Authorization to negotiate and enter into a contract with Sherwood Design Engineers for the Emeryville Crescent Horizontal Levee Feasibility Study through December 31, 2026 and up to \$250,000 on behalf of the San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP)

Background:

The San Francisco Estuary Partnership is part of the National Estuary Program, a non-regulatory program of the EPA created through the Clean Water Act. Our planning area encompasses the San Francisco Estuary and its watersheds, from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to the San Francisco Bay. The Estuary Partnership sits within the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), the regional housing, land use, and transportation planning agencies. We are a regional governmental organization with a federal mandate to protect and restore the nationally significant San Francisco Estuary.

The Estuary Partnership, through ABAG, entered into a Funding Agreement with the Bay Area Toll Authority to advance regional innovation on nature-based solutions in conjunction with critical transportation assts. Funding was authorized on December 13, 2024 by the ABAG Administrative Committee. As part of this effort, the Estuary Partnership is partnering with local implementers on the Emeryville Crescent Horizontal Levee Feasibility Study. This project proposes to assess the feasibility of a horizontal levee along a portion of the Emeryville Crescent. A horizontal levee is a nature-based shoreline adaptation project type that provides multiple benefits. Instead of a traditional levee to protect against storm surges, a horizontal levee uses vegetation on a gentle slope to break waves. The ecosystems that live on horizontal levees can thrive while helping to further process wastewater from treatment plant. This study will help elucidate those benefits, the opportunities and challenges for the project to advance toward design. Key partners on the project include the East Bay Municipal Utility District (East Bay MUD), Port of Oakland, Caltrans, and City of Emeryville.

Contractor Selection Process

ABAG/SFEP staff conducted a procurement via a Request for Proposals (RFQ). The RFQ was posted on June 11, 2025 and closed July 22, 2025. One firm, Sherwood Design Engineers, submitted a proposal. Their total cost proposal was for \$250,000.

Attachments:

- A. Summary Approval
- B. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Small Business Enterprise Status

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Recommendations:

The Executive Board is requested to authorize the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, or his designee, to negotiate and enter into contract with Sherwood Design Engineers for a feasibility study of the Emeryville Crescent Horizontal Levee, in the amount not to exceed \$250,000 on behalf of the San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP).

Reviewed:

Andrew Fremier

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