

Bay Area Toll Authority Oversight Committee

July 9, 2025

Agenda Item 5f-25-0975

Funding Agreement Amendment – Bay Restoration Regulatory Integration Team: San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority

Subject:

A request that the Committee authorize the Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA) Executive Director to enter into a funding agreement amendment with the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (SFBRA) for an amount not to exceed \$500,000 and extend the agreement to June 30, 2030, 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 established the 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 build or enhance flood management features that protect transportation infrastructure in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area, including the State-owned toll bridges. BATA supports the operation of the BRRIT to accelerate the permitting of multi-benefit wetland restoration and associated flood management and public access projects on the shoreline.

BRRIT's efforts will streamline the environment permitting process for future shoreline resilience projects within the BATA project portfolio.

In 2019, this Committee approved five years of support for BRRIT with an annual contribution of \$100,000. Staff recommends that BATA continue to support BRRIT by extending the funding agreement for another five years until June 30, 2030, with an annual contribution of \$100,000 and the condition that BATA will have an option to end the funding agreement after three years (June 30, 2028) depending on its ongoing permitting needs.

Issues:

None identified.

Recommendations:

Staff requests the Committee authorize the Executive Director or designee to negotiate and enter into a funding agreement amendment with the SFBRA for the operation of the BRRIT in an amount of \$100,000 per year until June 30, 2030, with an option to end the funding agreement on June 30, 2028.

Attachments:

- Request for Committee Approval Sheet – Summary of Funding Agreement Amendment with Bay Restoration Regulatory Integration Team: San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority



Andrew B. Fremier

Request for Committee Approval

Summary of Proposed Funding Agreement Amendment

Work Item No.:	1251
Consultant:	San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (SFBRA)
Work Project Title:	Bay Restoration Regulatory Integration Team (BRRIT)
Purpose of Project:	Providing financial assistance for the operation of the Bay Restoration Regulatory Integration Team.
Brief Scope of Work:	SFBRA established the 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.
Funding Amount Not-to-exceed:	<p>This amendment: \$100,000 per year for five years for a not to exceed amount of \$500,000 with an option to end on June 30, 2028</p> <p>Total contract agreement value before this amendment: \$500,000</p> <p>Maximum contract agreement amounts after this amendment: \$1,000,000</p>
Funding Source:	BATA Toll Bridge Program Operating Budget, subject to BATA approval
Fiscal Impact:	\$100,000 in funding is included in the FY 2025-26 Toll Bridge Program Operating Budget. Funds for fiscal years FY 2026-27, FY 2027-28, FY 2028-29, and FY 2029-30 are subject to the approval of future 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 July 9, 2025; 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.
Bay Area Toll Authority:	Nate Miley, Vice Chair
Approved:	July 9, 2025