



EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AGENDA STAFF REPORT

DATE	November 21, 2023
TITLE	Authorization to Apply for Grant Funds from Bay Area Rapid Transit's Safe Routes to BART Program for the Tassajara Creek Trail Project in an Amount up to \$2,000,000
DIVISION	Finance and Management Services
FROM	Katy Hornbeck, Grants Manager Dr. Ana M. Alvarez, Deputy General Manager
APPROVED	Sabrina Landreth, General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the East Bay Regional Park District (Park District) Board of Directors authorize a grant application to Bay Area Rapid Transit's (BART) Safe Routes to BART program for the Tassajara Creek Trail Project in an Amount up to \$2,000,000.

BACKGROUND

Safe Routes to BART (SR2B) is a Measure RR-funded grant program targeting improved active access to BART stations. SR2B grants assist local jurisdictions and partner agencies in delivering near term, active access infrastructure in the form of transportation capital projects primarily off of BART's property. Projects selected for funding will support BART's 2016 Station Access Policy goals, expand station access choices and improve the overall customer experience to access the BART system.

Approved by voters in 2016, Measure RR authorized BART to issue bonds for \$3.5 billion to rebuild the aging BART system through capital improvements. Recognizing the potential of local jurisdictions to improve active access through infrastructure improvements to municipal facilities that demonstrate a clear nexus to BART station access, BART has set aside \$25 million for the SR2B Grant Program. BART has awarded a total of \$5.84 million for Cycles 1 and 2. Approximately \$16 million in Measure RR funds will be made available for SR2B's final grant cycle 3 with funding disbursements ranging between approximately \$500,000 and \$3 million per agreement. SR2B provides grant funding for construction only.

ANALYSIS

The Tassajara Creek Trail Project is an eligible and competitive project for the SR2B program. The project will construct a .6-mile paved and .65-mile natural surface, multi-use connection of the Tassajara Creek Trail. The project includes perimeter fencing, security and safety infrastructure upgrades along the trail's boarder with the active Camp Parks U.S. Army Reserve Training Facility.

The Park District has successfully negotiated with the US Army to revise easements for two segments of trail totaling about 1 mile through the Camp Parks Reserve Forces Training Area (Camp Parks) in the City of Dublin. With the construction of the adjacent one-mile trail segment within the Wallis Ranch development, completion of the Camp Parks segments would create a 4-mile continuous

stretch of the Tassajara Creek Trail that connects residents from Dublin and San Ramon to the Dublin/Pleasanton BART and the Iron Horse Trail to the south and eventually to Mount Diablo State Park to the north. The Army approved the Park District's proposal and preliminary design of the trail alignment. The Trails Program Unit will continue to work with Land Acquisition to ensure the Army continues to draft the easements that will optimistically be dedicated and recorded in 2024. Approximately \$150,000 is currently appropriated for design and environmental studies. The total project cost estimates are approximately \$2.1 million, but the project scope has not been finalized.

This project would safely connect neighbors of Camp Parks to the Dublin-Pleasanton BART station (approximately 1.5-mile distance) and to the Iron Horse Trail – a 34-mile trail which connects the two East Bay counties paralleling the Interstate 680 corridor. The project will connect residents to major retail outlets at Hacienda Crossings and Persimmon Place, as well as multiple nationally significant business parks.

The Tassajara Creek Trail project also supports the state of California's 30x30 conservation initiative that calls for the protection of thirty percent (30%) of lands and waters by the year 2030 to meet the environmental challenges due to the devastating loss of the natural world and its life supporting systems.

FISCAL IMPACT

This action proposes submission of one grant application in an amount up to \$2 million. If awarded, funds would be budgeted into project #154500. When completed, the project will increase the long-term operational cost of the Park District.

ATTACHMENTS

None.



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 2023-11-
NOVEMBER 21, 2023**

**AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM BAY AREA RAPID
TRANSIT'S SAFE ROUTES TO BART PROGRAM FOR THE TASSAJARA CREEK
TRAIL PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$2,000,000**

WHEREAS, the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) has set aside \$25 million for the Safe Routes to BART (SR2B) program; and

WHEREAS, SR2B grants assist local jurisdictions and partner agencies in delivering near term, active access infrastructure in the form of transportation capital projects primarily off of BART's property. Projects selected for funding will support BART's 2016 Station Access Policy goals, expand station access choices and improve the overall customer experience to access the BART system; and

WHEREAS, the East Bay Regional Park District (Park District) is seeking up to \$2,000,000 from BART to construct approximately 1-mile of multi-use trail connection of the Tassajara Creek Trail; and

WHEREAS, the construction of the one-mile trail would create a 4-mile continuous stretch of the Tassajara Creek Trail that connects residents from Dublin and San Ramon to the Dublin/Pleasanton BART and the Iron Horse Trail to the south and eventually to Mount Diablo State Park to the north; and

WHEREAS, the Tassajara Creek Trail project supports the state of California's 30x30 conservation initiative that calls for the protection of thirty percent (30%) of lands and waters by the year 2030 to meet the environmental challenges due to the devastating loss of the natural world and its life supporting systems; and

WHEREAS, the Park District procedures require Board Approval for all grant applications and funding agreements; and

WHEREAS, said application contains assurances and certifications that the applicant must comply with in order to enter into an agreement with BART; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby

1. Approves the filing of an application with the Bay Area Rapid Transit; and
2. Certifies that Grantee understands the assurances and certification in the application form; and
3. Certifies that Grantee has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project;

and

4. Authorizes and directs the General Manager or Assistant General Manager of Finance and Management Services/CFO, on behalf of the Park District and in its name, to accept grant funds and execute and deliver such documents including, but not limited to applications, agreements, payment requests and amendments and to do such acts as may be deemed or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Assistant General Manager of Finance and Management Services/CFO or Budget Manager is hereby authorized to amend the current year's budget, without further Board action, upon receipt of the executed contract from the Grants Manager. The budget amendment will include an increase in budgeted revenue and a corresponding increase in appropriation for the amount stipulated in the contract.

Moved by Director _____, and seconded by Director _____, and adopted November 21, 2023, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: