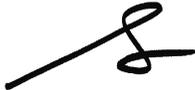




**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

DATE November 5, 2024
TITLE Authorization to Apply for Grant Funds from the California Coastal Commission's Whale Tail Grants for the Living Bay Lab Programs at Doug Siden Visitor Center at Crab Cove in an Amount up to \$20,000
DIVISION Finance and Management Services
FROM Katy Hornbeck, Grants Manager
Deborah Spaulding, Assistant General Manager of Finance and Management Services
APPROVED Sabrina Landreth, General Manager 

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize an application for grant funds from the California Coastal Commission's Whale Tail Grants for the Living Bay Lab Programs at Doug Siden Visitor Center at Crab Cove in an amount up to \$20,000.

BACKGROUND

The California Coastal Commission was established by voter initiative in 1972 (Proposition 20) and later made permanent by the Legislature through adoption of the California Coastal Act of 1976. In partnership with coastal cities and counties, the Coastal Commission plans and regulates the use of land and water in the coastal zone. Development activities, which are broadly defined by the Coastal Act to include (among others) construction of buildings, divisions of land, and activities that change the intensity of use of land or public access to coastal waters, generally require a coastal permit from either the Coastal Commission or the local government. The Coastal Commission is committed to protecting and enhancing California's coast and ocean for present and future generations. It does so through planning and regulation of environmentally sustainable development, rigorous use of science, strong public participation, education, and effective intergovernmental coordination.

The California Coastal Commission's Whale Tail Grants fund projects that connect youth and adults to the California Coast and its watersheds through education, stewardship, and outdoor experiences. Eligible projects must fall into one or more of the following four categories: 1) youth education programs, 2) programs for educating the general public or adults, 3) climate change education and stewardship, 4) shoreline cleanup and enhancement programs. Grants can take place anywhere in California, coastal or inland. Grants up to \$50,000 may be awarded. Whale Tail Grants focus on reaching communities that have historically received fewer marine education and stewardship opportunities and can engage youth or adults anywhere in California. After review of the grant program priorities and criteria, staff recommends an application requesting funds for the Living Bay Lab programs at Doug Siden Visitor Center at Crab Cove.

ANALYSIS

The Living Bay Lab programs include two programs: Intertidal Resource Inventory and Oyster Base Camp.

Intertidal Resource Inventory

This program will be a collaborative effort with local high school students, and students from Merritt College, as well as volunteers and trained public participants. The goal is to produce a sample field guide intended for amateur and professional naturalists, teachers, college students, and scientists who are interested in the intertidal species of the Crab Cove Marine Protected Area of Robert W. Crown Memorial State Beach. The sample field guide will be developed using observations taken by program participants at low and high tide, with tools like iNaturalist, magnifying tools to see details of species for identification purposes, as well as other scientific resources to confirm information.

Oyster Base Camp Program (Wild Oyster Observation & Data Collection)

In partnership with the Wild Oyster Project, the East Bay Regional Park District (Park District) is identifying areas suitable for the restoration of wild oysters to the San Francisco Bay within our parks. This program includes recycling oyster shells to build native oyster reefs which can protect against erosion and rising sea levels. The Oyster Base Camp Program will collect essential data on thriving oyster locations. Once the base camps are in place, there will be regular observations to look for the presence and growth of oysters. Data will be collected and shared with Wild Oyster Project, iNaturalist, and pollution burden data will be used from CalEnviroScreen.

FISCAL IMPACT

There will be no fiscal impact to the Park District. If awarded grant funds, they will be budgeted into a new project. Grant funds will cover the cost of both programs to be completed during the grant performance period.

ATTACHMENTS

None.



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 2024 – 11 -
NOVEMBER 5, 2024**

**AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION'S WHALE TAIL GRANTS FOR THE LIVING BAY LAB
PROGRAMS AT DOUG SIDEN VISITOR CENTER AT CRAB COVE IN AN
AMOUNT UP TO \$20,000**

WHEREAS, the California Coastal Commission's Whale Tail Grants fund projects that connect youth and adults to the California Coast and its watersheds through education, stewardship, and outdoor experiences; and

WHEREAS, the East Bay Regional Park District (Park District) is seeking funding up to \$20,000 for the Living Bay Labs programs at Doug Siden Visitor Center at Crab Cove; and

WHEREAS, the Living Bay Labs programs support the Whale Tail Grant criteria and priorities; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby approves the filing of an application for the Living Bay Labs program; and

1. Certifies the Grantee understands the assurances and certification in the application form and grant administration guide; and
2. Certifies that if the grant is awarded, the Grantee has or will have sufficient funds to operate the programs; and
3. Authorizes and directs the General Manager or Assistant General Manager of Finance and Management Services/CFO, on behalf of the Park District 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 appropriated to accomplished the intentions of this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer 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 5, 2024, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: