



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

DATE	February 6, 2024
TITLE	Authorization Approving Application for Specified Grant Funds from the Budget Act of 2023, 19.561(b)(66) for Improvements to Roddy Ranch
DIVISION	Finance and Management Services
FROM	Katy Hornbeck, Grants Manager Dr. Ana Alvarez, Deputy General Manager
APPROVED	Sabrina Landreth, General Manager 

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the approval of an application for Specified Grant Funds from the Budget Act of 2023, item 19.561(b)(66) for Improvements to Roddy Ranch in the amount of \$5,000,000.

BACKGROUND

As part of its fiscal year 2023-24 budget, the State Legislature has appropriated \$5,000,000 to East Bay Regional Park District (Park District) for improvements to the former Roddy Ranch Golf Course. Senator Steve Glazer was instrumental in securing this funding. To receive the funding, the Park District must submit an application and enter into a grant agreement with California State Parks.

ANALYSIS

The project at the former Roddy Ranch Golf Course will convert 84-acres of former golf course to functional grasslands and wetlands to support special status species and provide public access features for passive recreation across 230-acres.

The 230-acre former Roddy Ranch Golf Course in Antioch was acquired by the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy (Conservancy) and the East Bay Regional Park District (Park District) in 2018. The golf course operated from 2000 until its closing in 2016. The construction of the golf course involved the grading of 600,000 cubic yards of material over 170 acres. The features that remain today are six miles of golf cart paths, a subsurface drainage system, three irrigation ponds, several water quality basins, a 142-space parking lot, a septic system, rest rooms, and a pump house. Ruderal (weedy) vegetation has colonized the former fairways, sand traps, and other golf course remnants.

The goal of this project is to restore grasslands and wetlands as habitat for special status species and provide infrastructure for passive recreation in an open space preserve. This design and approach has been approved by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, as well as the Park District and Conservancy. The 230 acres are part of a larger planned 3,700-acre Deer Valley Regional Preserve owned and protected by the Park District and the Conservancy which will eventually form a new regional preserve.

This funding will go towards the grassland, drainage, and seasonal wetland restoration on 80+ acres of the 230-acre site. This will result in approximately 0.6 acres of restored seasonal wetlands, nearly a mile of restored drainages/ephemeral creeks, and 83.5 acres of restored grasslands. Additionally, the existing parking lot will be converted to serve as the staging area for public access with modifications for accessible parking and equestrian trailer parking, and new picnic tables, drinking fountains, a shade structure/shade pavilion, and restrooms. The golf cart paths will be replaced with 2.3 miles of multi-use trails and an additional 1.6 miles of accessible multi-use trails. The trail system will include viewpoints, interpretive signage, and will avoid sensitive habitat areas. The park entry intersection will be realigned for public safety.

The 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 a grant application in an amount up to \$5,000,000. Once a grant agreement is executed, funds will be budgeted into project #160300. The estimated total project cost for construction is \$12 million. When completed, this project will increase the long-term operational cost of the Park District.

ATTACHMENTS

None.



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 2024 – 02 -
FEBRUARY 6, 2024**

**AUTHORIZATION APPROVING APPLICATION FOR SPECIFIED GRANT FUNDS
FROM THE BUDGET ACT OF 2023, 19.561(B)(66) FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO
RODDY RANCH**

WHEREAS, the State Department of Parks and Recreation has been delegated the responsibility by the Legislature of the State of California for the administration of a grant to the East Bay Regional Park District, setting up necessary procedures governing applications; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the State Department of Parks and Recreation require the applicant's Governing Body to certify by resolution the approval of project application before submission of said applications to the State; and

WHEREAS, the applicant will enter into a contract with the State of California to complete project; and

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

1. Approves the filing of project application for specified grant project; and
2. Certifies that said applicant has or will have available, prior to commencement of project work utilizing specified grant funds, sufficient funds, including those provided by this grant, to complete the project; and
3. Certifies that the applicant has reviewed, understands, and agrees to the General Provisions contained in the contract shown in this Procedural Guide; and
4. Delegates the authority to the General Manager or Assistant General Manager of Finance and Management Services/CFO, or designee to conduct all negotiations, sign and submit all documents, including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, and payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the project scope; and
5. Agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations and guidelines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Assistant General Manager of Finance and Management Services/CFO or Budget Manager is authorized to amend the current year's budget, without further Board action, upon receipt of the executed grant 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 grant contract

Moved by Director _____, and seconded by Director _____, and adopted February 6, 2024, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: