



MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 18, 2014

TO: Governing Board
San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority

FROM: Amy Hutzler, Manager
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program
State Coastal Conservancy

SUBJECT: Obtaining a Loan for Ballot Advisory Costs

The Governing Board needs the assistance of consultants for ballot advice and a tracking poll leading up to possible adoption of a ballot measure resolution in late May. The Governing Board has not yet assembled the funding for the ballot advisors and pollster. Temporary funding would enable timely completion on tasks.

The director of the ABAG Finance Authority, a Joint Powers Authority managed by ABAG, has agreed to request Finance Authority board approval of a no-interest loan to cover the costs incurred by the ballot advisors and pollster until the Restoration Authority obtains donations to reimburse the Finance Authority. Upon receiving a request and suitable assurances from the Restoration Authority, ABAG staff would submit a request for a loan of up to \$85,000 for the consideration of its Finance Authority board at a March meeting.

The assurances requested by Finance Authority staff are as follows: The Restoration Authority will repay the loan regardless of whether it decides to place a tax measure on the ballot or regardless of the success of the measure in the November election. The Restoration Authority will repay the loan as soon as it has funds (i.e. the first proceeds of any fundraising by the Restoration Authority will repay the loan). If the Restoration Authority is unable to raise the funds needed to repay the loan, the loan will become a grant.

Upon approval by the Governing Board of these and/or other assurances to the Finance Authority, staff recommends that the Chair forward a request for the loan and a record of the approved assurances to the Finance Authority. Staff further recommends that the Governing Board authorize the Chair to negotiate and execute an agreement between the Restoration Authority and the Finance Authority to obtain and repay the loan.