



Date: September 14, 2015

To: Governing Board
San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority

From: Sam Schuchat
Executive Officer
California State Coastal Conservancy

Subject: **Ballot Access Costs—Memorandum of Agreement between San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority and Santa Clara Valley Water District**

Recommendation

The Governing Board is requested to adopt Resolution 10 authorizing the Chair to execute the attached memorandum of agreement with the Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD).

Background

SCVWD has a lead role in planning and implementation of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project (“Project”). The Project is the largest tidal wetland restoration project on the West Coast; it will restore 15,100 acres of industrial salt ponds to tidal wetlands and other habitats. SCVWD supports the goals of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Act and an Authority revenue measure, which could result in additional funding for the Project. The Authority is considering whether to place a revenue measure on the ballot in 2016, but lacks funding for the costs to be charged by the nine counties for placing a measure on the ballot, which will be approximately \$2 million. SCVWD is willing to pay up to \$1.5 million of the counties’ costs provided that the Authority reimburses SCVWD if a revenue measure passes.

Memorandum of Agreement

The attached memorandum of agreement between the Restoration Authority and SCVWD contains the following key provisions:

1. SCVWD will pay up to \$1.5 million towards the ballot access costs charged by the counties for placing a revenue measure on a ballot in 2016.

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2. If a revenue measure passes, the Authority will reimburse SCVWD out of tax revenues over a mutually acceptable period of time to be determined later.
3. Staff to the Authority will expedite review and consideration of any grant applications submitted by SCVWD for the Project.

Attachment

Memorandum of Agreement
Resolution 10