



SAN FRANCISCO BAY
RESTORATION AUTHORITY

Resolution No. 96

Approving Letter in Support of Projects that Protect Existing Baylands Habitats

Whereas, the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (“Authority”) was established by the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Act, California Government Code Section 66700 et seq. (“Act”) as a regional entity to generate and allocate resources for the protection and enhancement of tidal wetlands and wildlife habitat in San Francisco Bay and along its shoreline; and

Whereas, the conversion of existing baylands habitat to other uses may destroy tidal wetlands, impact special status and endangered species, and eliminate the natural transition zone that would allow tidal marsh migration inland as sea levels rise; and

Whereas, protecting baylands habitat is consistent with the Authority’s mission.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Authority approves the attached letter, as amended, to Christy Fischer, Trust for Public Land, expressing support for projects that protect existing baylands habitats.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority at its meeting on April 22, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: Governing Board Members Pine, Gioia, Holman, Peskin, Lieber, Gorin, Hahn

NOES: Governing Board Members _____

ABSENT: Governing Board Members _____

ABSTAIN: Governing Board Members _____

DocuSigned by:
Dave Pine
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Dave Pine, Chair

I, Anulika White, Clerk of the Governing Board of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the Governing Board of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority at its

meeting of April 22, 2022, which Resolution is on file in the office of this regional governmental entity.

DocuSigned by:
Anulika White
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Anulika White, Clerk



SAN FRANCISCO BAY
RESTORATION AUTHORITY

Governing Board

Sup. Dave Pine
Chair
County of San Mateo

Sup. John Gioia
County of Contra Costa

Sup. Susan Gorin
County of Sonoma

Councilmember Sophie Hahn
City of Berkeley

Director, Karen Holman
Midpeninsula Regional Open
Space District Board

Councilmember Sally Lieber
City of Mountainview

Sup. Aaron Peskin
City & County of SF

Amy Hutzel
Executive Officer

Address:
c/o State Coastal Conservancy
1515 Clay Street, 10th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Telephone: 510-286-7193

Email: info@sfbayrestore.org

Web: www.sfbayrestore.org

April 22, 2022

Christy Fischer
Trust for Public Land
101 Montgomery Street, Suite 900
San Francisco, CA 94104

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL: Christy.Fischer@tpl.org

Dear Ms. Fischer:

On behalf of the Governing Board of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, I am writing to express support for projects that protect existing baylands habitats, such as the Trust for Public Land's proposal, "Newark Baylands – Acquisition, Interim Management, and Restoration Planning." The project as described below represents an opportunity of large scale and importance to fulfilling the goal of Bay restoration. We further understand the urgency.

The project is the fee-title acquisition of 430 acres of Newark Baylands (Area 4) on Mowry Slough along the San Francisco Bay and the western boundary of the City of Newark. It is adjacent to the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge). It is our understanding that, if not protected, the property will be developed into 432 luxury homes, filling historic tidal wetlands, impacting special status and endangered species, and losing a natural transition zone that would enable tidal marsh migration inland as sea levels rise. The goal of the project is to protect these bayland resources from loss, degradation, and imminent development, as well as protect the opportunity for future tidal wetland restoration and public access.

The proposal states the Trust for Public Land's intent to convey the property for long-term ownership and management to the Refuge, which will take the lead on the property's future restoration and development of public access. The Refuge's letter of support confirms that the property is within the Refuge's congressionally approved acquisition boundary. It also states that acquisition and conveyance to the Refuge is consistent with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Tidal Marsh Ecosystem Recovery Plan, as well as the *Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals Science Update 2015*.

SFBRA understands the urgency of this request. We also recognize the potential for significant and permanent impact to the Newark Baylands and ask that you provide staff with a willing seller letter and an appraisal as soon as they become available. In addition, we have directed staff to work with you to evaluate any project updates as they develop.

Sincerely,

Dave Pine, Chair