



**SAN FRANCISCO BAY**

**RESTORATION AUTHORITY**

# **Update on Development of Tribal Engagement Recommendations**

Sara Haugen, Project Manager  
Advisory Committee Meeting  
November 3, 2023

# Work on Tribal Engagement Recommendations to date

- **May-June 2022**: Staff presented [Memo on developing a Tribal Engagement Policy \(Recommendations\)](#) to Advisory Committee (AC) and Board
- **Fall 2022-Spring 2023**: Staff reviewed external recommendations gathered through surveys and reports by other natural resource agencies to develop preliminary recommendations
- **May 2023**: Governing Board adopted an [Interim Tribal Consultation Policy](#)
- **Summer 2023**: Staff reached out to California Native American tribes of the SF Bay Area and discussed preliminary recommendations



# What was the purpose of the outreach?

---

Authority staff asked tribes how we can provide better access to the Authority's Measure AA grant program

**Process:** Co-develop recommendations with tribes and bring to AC for review and to Governing Board for approval

We welcomed input from Bay Area tribes and tribal organizations regardless of federal or state recognition.





# DRAFT Recommendations

1. Applications and Grants
2. Project Benefits
3. Meaningful Engagement
4. Outreach and Partnerships
5. Representation
6. Accountability and Transparency

# 1. Applications & Grants

Reduce barriers for tribes to access and manage grants.

## Examples of key actions:

- Offer technical assistance to tribes for project development and applications
- Actively match tribes with restoration partners, fiscal sponsors, and/or technical experts
- Reduce barriers to completing an application and managing a grant based on feedback from tribes



An aerial photograph of a coastal city and its surrounding wetlands. The city is visible in the background, with buildings and a harbor. The foreground shows a large body of water, likely a bay or estuary, with a complex network of channels and marshes. The lighting suggests a sunset or sunrise, with a warm, golden glow over the scene.

## 2. Project Benefits

Increase shoreline projects benefitting tribes and their communities.

### **Examples of key actions:**

- Provide more culturally relevant public access amenities to tribes
- Prioritize projects that protect culturally significant spaces
- Provide clear guidance on benefits to tribes that can be funded as a part of a shoreline restoration project

# 3. Meaningful Engagement

Improve communication and engagement;  
Ensure that engagement from the Authority is thoughtful and beneficial to tribes.

## Examples of key actions:

- Gain an understanding of where our programs can meet some of tribes' interests and needs
- Support inclusion of tribes' perspectives and tribal ecological knowledge
- Encourage non-tribal applicants to include tribal engagement in project scopes
- Internal staff training



## 4. Outreach & Partnerships

Increase outreach to tribes and build relationships that will allow for meaningful and timely communication and coordination.

### **Examples of key actions:**

- Streamline early communications to tribes related to projects of interest and opportunities for collaboration
- Conduct joint outreach to tribes with other agencies where appropriate
- Repeatedly go back to tribes to offer opportunities to engage, as their capacity and interests may shift



## 5. Representation

Increase representation of tribes in decision making, project advisory roles, environmental careers, and as leads on shoreline projects.

### **Examples of key actions:**

- Invite members of tribes to Authority leadership committees
- Prioritize tribes as project applicants
- Support workforce development and career training for tribes
- Seek qualified native and nonnative representatives who are embedded in and trusted by the tribal community

## 6. Accountability & Transparency

Develop accountability measures and transparent processes; Incorporate culturally relevant metrics in monitoring

### Examples of key actions:

- Co-develop metrics to track the Authority's success in advancing tribal equity goals
- Incorporate culturally relevant environmental indicators
- Provide multiple avenues for outreach and feedback

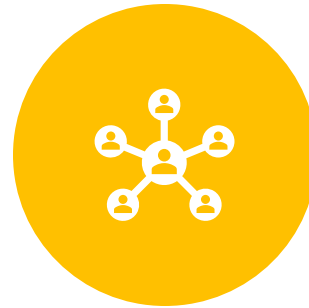
# Next Steps



Collect feedback from tribes and AC on this redline version



Present this draft to the Governing Board in December



Incorporate input from tribes, AC and Governing Board



Bring final version for recommendation by AC and adoption by Governing Board